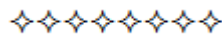




Séminaire International de Paléontologie, Évolution,  
Paléoécosystèmes et Paléoprimatologie  
Room 410, 3rd floor, North wing, Build. B35

Thursday, April 25 2024 – 2pm

## The evolution of amphibious hearing in seals

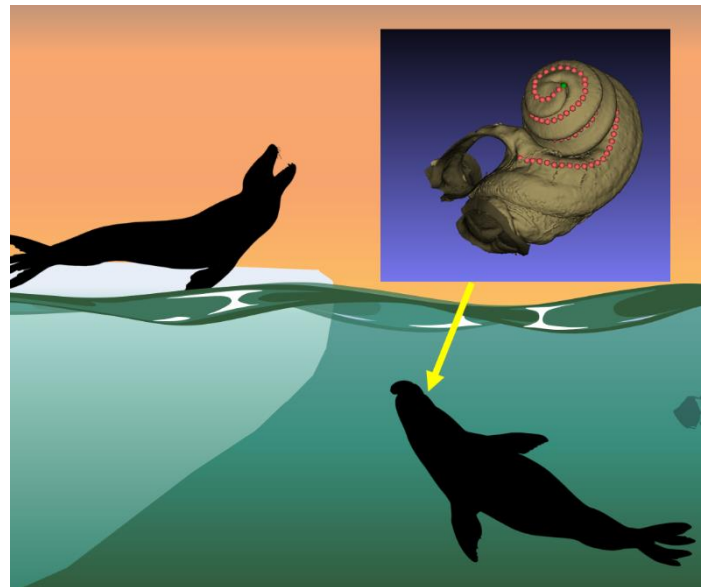


**James Rule**

UKRI Postdoctoral fellow  
Department of Life Sciences, Natural History Museum London



Seals are the only mammals with amphibious hearing (able to hear in-air and underwater). The functional adaptations behind this adaptation, and its evolution, are poorly understood. In this seminar, Dr James Rule will outline how a cavernous sinus within the ear of seals enables underwater hearing without affecting their airbourne hearing. By analysing the ear morphology of extant and fossil pinnipeds, Dr Rule will then outline how this remarkable adaptation evolved.



*Dr James Rule is currently a UKRI researcher at the Departement of Life Sciences at the Natural History Museum of London. He is also a research affiliate at the Evans EvoMorph Lab in Monash University, Australia, where he received his PhD. Dr. Rule studies the evolution and palaeobiology of seals with a current interest in the evolution of hearing in pinnipeds (seals, sea lions and walruses).*