

Edited by Wendy Carruthers, Lisa Lodwick & Vanessa Straker

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Please send copy to envarch.news@gmail.com

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EDITORIAL

This Newsletter contains further information about the Autumn Conference in Kiel. Please note the registration deadline of **July 12th** so as to avoid a late booking fee. We are grateful to several members for reports and photographs from conferences and meetings held over the last few months and encourage people to submit articles such as these for future editions of the Newsletter. The Committee requests nominations for Committee members, offers to host the Autumn 2014, both 2015 conferences and nominations for the John Evans dissertation prize in the section below.

We now have the results from the Newsletter questionnaire, having received 107 responses; a summary is presented on pages 3- 5. The broad consensus was that most material should stay within the newsletter itself (rather than move online) and that extra content would be welcomed. The first issue of the new format newsletter will be in August. We are seeking to include reports from the various working groups and new/ongoing projects, news from commercial units, recent PhD abstracts and obituaries. To facilitate this, a new online submission form for PhD abstracts has been added to the website. Any suggestions for content and offers of reports are always welcome – please note the new AEA Newsletter e-mail address envarch.news@gmail.com to which copy should be sent.

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS PLEASE!

The AEA Managing Committee seeks nominations for the following positions on the Managing Committee:

- **Chair** (four-year position)
- Three **Ordinary committee members** (each a four-year position);
- **Student Representative** (two-year position)

Elections will be held at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), will be hosted at the autumn meeting, September 27-29th 2013, Kiel.

General Committee information

The AEA Managing Committee usually meets four times a year (usually in April, July, October and January). The main items of business discussed are the organisation of conferences and the publication of the Journal, as well as issues relating to the Newsletter, website maintenance and membership. All nominees must be AEA members in good standing. There is some funding available to assist committee members travelling to meetings.

Roles seeking Nominations

For any further queries about each role, please contact the Secretary at the address given below.

The role of Chair

The Chair of the Managing Committee's role is largely to chair meetings of the committee and to the Association's Annual General Meeting. The Chair checks and agrees the minutes of meetings prepared by the Secretary and is also involved in agreeing agendas for forthcoming meetings. Alongside the AEA Secretary, the Chair acts as a channel for many communications to/from the Association.

The role of Ordinary Member

The committee includes 12 elected Ordinary Members, whose role is to contribute to committee activities and the management of the Association. Ordinary committee members may take on additional specific responsibilities, such as Conference Officer, Publicity Officer, Web Officer, etc, for some, or all of their term of office.

The role of Student Representative

The committee includes two Student Representatives, one new Student Representative being elected every year, and their term of office lasting two years. The post is open to both undergraduates and postgraduate students. During their first year of office, the newly elected Student Representative will 'shadow' the student completing their second year of office. During their second year of office, the student representative will take a more active role in the Committee, as well as guiding the newly elected student representative. The Student Representative will be expected to promote the AEA within the undergraduate and postgraduate communities, and also encourage the establishment of student-led meetings/seminars.

To make your nomination: Any AEA member can make a nomination, but this must be seconded by another AEA member. A brief personal statement from the nominee (which implicitly indicates the nominee's willingness to stand) should accompany nominations. This can be received by e-mail or regular mail. This statement will be published in the August Newsletter or, if received afterwards, posted at the AGM. Nominations can be received up to the time of the AGM, although the committee would like to encourage members to submit nominations before the August Newsletter deadline (20th July 2013).

Nominations and personal statements can be e-mailed or posted to the AEA Secretary, Fay Worley.

E-mail: fay.worley@english-heritage.org.uk

Postal address: See: <http://www.envarch.net/membership/committee.html>

Current Committee details can be found at: <http://www.envarch.net/membership/committee.html>

The AEA constitution is also on the AEA website: <http://www.envarch.net/membership/constitution.html>

AEA JOURNAL: *Environmental Archaeology* online system for submitting papers is now active. Further details and the link to submit manuscripts can be found at <http://env.edmgr.com/>.

AEA Conferences, 2014 and 2015

Offers are sought to host the annual Autumn 2014 and 2015 Association for Environmental Archaeology conferences. These meetings are traditionally held in the autumn and often include 2 days of papers with one or more optional trips. If you are interested in hosting this event, please contact the AEA conference officer: Rebecca Nicholson (rebecca.nicholson@oxfordarch.co.uk).

JOHN EVANS DISSERTATION PRIZE

John Evans (1941-2005) was an inspirational environmental archaeologist, responsible for advancing the discipline and fostering many of today's top researchers in the field. His many books continue to make a contribution to practical and theoretical aspects of environmental archaeology.

To honour the memory of John and his achievements within environmental archaeology, the Association for Environmental Archaeology (AEA) is announcing its annual dissertation competition. Prizes of £75 will be awarded to the best undergraduate and Masters dissertation, which may be on any aspect of environmental archaeology worldwide. Abstracts from the winning dissertations will be published in the AEA newsletter (this is a condition of entry that all entrants will be agreeing to on submission of their dissertation). The John Evans Dissertation Prize winners will also be encouraged to submit an abridged version of their dissertation for publication in the Association's journal, *Environmental Archaeology*, subject to the usual review process.

We invite each Department of Archaeology (or other relevant department) to submit the dissertation of their best candidate by **31st July 2013**. Submissions from individual students are not accepted. English is the preferred technical language of submission although the committee will accept submissions in French, Spanish, German and Dutch, although these must be accompanied by an English summary (max. 2 pages) to conform to the submission rules. Departments wanting to submit in other languages should contact the prize administrator to determine whether the submission can be accommodated.

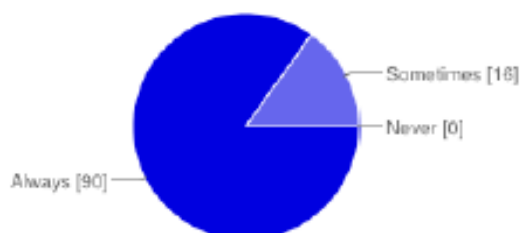
The result will be announced at the AEA autumn meeting in Kiel, Germany, 27-29 September 2013. Bound copies or pdf versions should be sent to Dr Robin Bendrey, who should also be contacted for further information:

Robin Bendrey
Department of Archaeology
University of Reading
Whiteknights Box 226
Reading, RG6 6AB
UK
r.bendrey@reading.ac.uk

AEA QUESTIONNAIRE: SUMMARY OF RESULTS

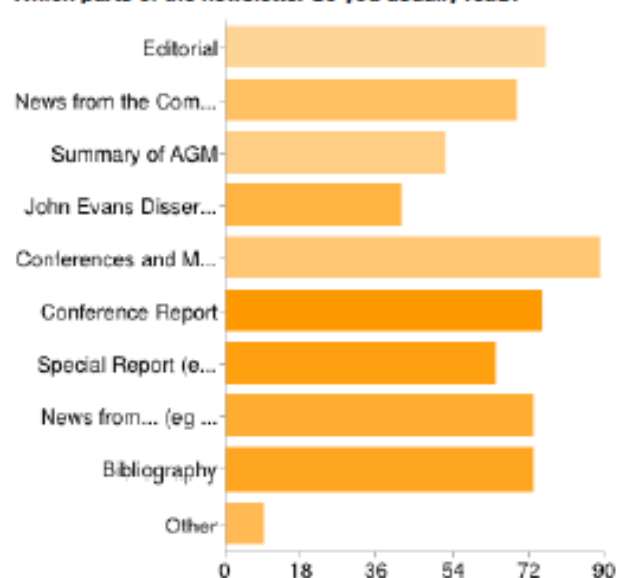
We apologise for the quality of the text.

How often do you open the AEA newsletter?



| | | |
|-----------|----|-----|
| Always | 90 | 84% |
| Sometimes | 16 | 15% |
| Never | 0 | 0% |

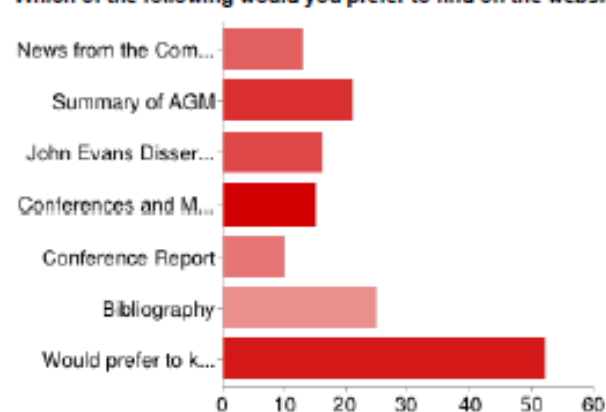
Which parts of the newsletter do you usually read?



| Part of Newsletter | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Editorial | 76 | 73% |
| News from the Committee | 69 | 66% |
| Summary of AGM | 52 | 50% |
| John Evans Dissertation Prize Winners | 42 | 40% |
| Conferences and Meetings | 89 | 86% |
| Conference Report | 75 | 72% |
| Special Report (eg Olympic Park, Nov 2012) | 64 | 62% |
| News from... (eg Wessex Archaeology, Aug 2012) | 73 | 70% |
| Bibliography | 73 | 70% |
| Other | 9 | 9% |

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

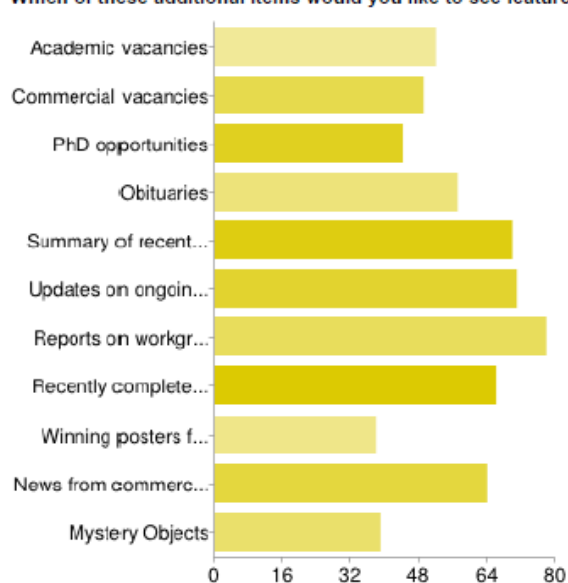
Which of the following would you prefer to find on the website rather than in the Newsletter?



| Item | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|---|-----------------------|------------|
| News from the Committee | 13 | 14% |
| Summary of AGM | 21 | 22% |
| John Evans Dissertation Prize Winners | 16 | 17% |
| Conferences and Meetings | 15 | 16% |
| Conference Report | 10 | 10% |
| Bibliography | 25 | 26% |
| Would prefer to keep them all in the Newsletter | 52 | 54% |

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

Which of these additional items would you like to see featured in the newsletter?



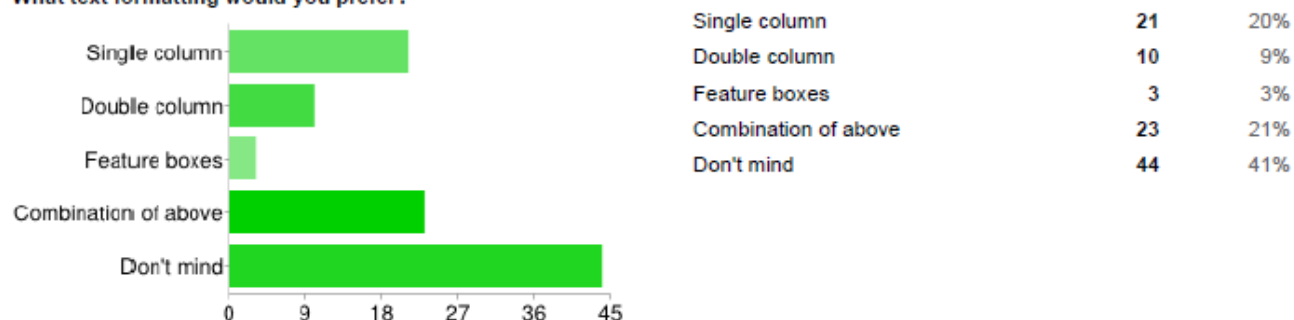
| Item | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|---|-----------------------|------------|
| Academic vacancies | 52 | 51% |
| Commercial vacancies | 49 | 41% |
| PhD opportunities | 44 | 41% |
| Obituaries | 57 | 51% |
| Summary of recent funding awards and new research projects | 70 | 61% |
| Updates on ongoing research projects | 71 | 71% |
| Reports on workgroup meetings (eg Archaeobotany Work Group, PZAF) | 78 | 71% |
| Recently completed Thesis abstracts | 66 | 61% |
| Winning posters from recent conferences | 38 | 31% |
| News from commercial and academic departments | 64 | 61% |
| Mystery Objects | 39 | 31% |

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

Is there a maximum file size you would like us not to exceed?

This ranged from “no bigger than present” to 10mb.

What text formatting would you prefer?



CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

AUTUMN MEETING, ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY (AEA) 27-29th September 2013, Kiel University

Social space and environment: landscape reconstruction in environmental archaeology *Registration is now open!*

Environmental archaeology is expanding beyond a collection of analytical approaches used to reconstruct palaeo-environments. A more holistic approach is evolving that integrates the reconstruction of landscapes at the interface of the natural environment and anthropogenic social space. This conference will explore how environmental dynamics and cultural processes shape the natural landscape, and how the shaped environment informs the configuration of human social terrains. Next to the organic and inorganic physical conditions, social values and individual as well as societal knowledge are increasingly recognised as the impetus for past landscape formation. The focus on monuments as landmarks that visualise social spaces in Northern European megalithic societies is one example for an integrated research design that links analyses of social differentiation with research on changing environmental conditions: Here, ritual spaces can be separated from economic spaces. Past human activity has led to the establishment of increasingly diverse habitats for wild and domestic plants, animals, and for man; the new physical habitats influenced societal knowledge and possibly stimulated technical innovations. The application of agriculture, as human-environment interaction, is one expression of the establishment, maintenance and reproduction of social relations. Thus, the environmental settings influence the range of social practices. From these given examples, we would like to open the stage for presentations on integrative environmental-archaeological research, to address questions such as:

- What are the underlying processes for the environmental dynamics and the cultural processes that influence the shaping of landscapes in space and time?
- Are complex societies developing in a social frame, independent from environments?
- How far do the natural settings predefine decisions of ancient societies?
- How do we identify complex societal structures and can we trace the individual in the bio-archaeological record?

We invite, in particular, papers that explore different lines of evidence, integrating the analysis and interpretation of bio-archaeological proxies with the reconstruction of social space; the latter including, besides functional interpretations of ancient economies, the embedding of ancient ideological concepts or values in individuals and societies.

Sessions:

1. Social space and farming communities
2. Social consequences of environmental restrictions
3. Novel methods and proxies to assess societal and environmental change
4. Quantification and modelling of environmental and economic processes

Excursions:

- Visit at the Viking Museum Haithabu/Schleswig (half day)
Themes: Winking age trade centre (museum, reconstructed houses), economy, craftsmanship, and

environmental change in the Haithabu area.

www.schloss-gottorf.de/haithabu

- Neolithic landscapes of East Holsatia plus visit at the outdoor museum on the Slavonic settlement of Starigard (full day)
Themes: megalithic burials, Neolithic culture and landscape; Slavonic fortification, history of christianisation, trade and arable economy, Baltic coast experience.
www.oldenburger-wallmuseum.de

Dates & Facts

- **Registration is now open**
- Deadline for abstract submission (papers and posters): July 12th, 2013
- Registration deadline: July 12th, 2013 (later registration will incur a late booking fee)
- Conference fees: AEA members 80 €, student AEA members 60 €; non-AEA members 90€, student non-members 70 € (fees cover participation in all sessions, as well as coffee breaks; accommodation, field trips and conference dinner are not included)

Preliminary schedule

Friday, September 27th

09.00-10.00 Registration

10.00-16.30 talks and posters

16.30-17.30 AEA organization annual meeting

17.30 Welcome Reception

Saturday, September 28th

09.00-18.00 talks and posters

19.00 Conference dinner

Sunday, September 29th

8.30 Excursions

An online registration form and further information are available at www.aea-conference.uni-kiel.de

Organising committee:

Wiebke Kirleis, Walter Dörfler, Johannes Müller, Mara Weinelt, Institute of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology/Graduate School Human Development in Landscapes and Ingmar Unkel, Institute for Ecosystem Research/ Graduate School Human Development in Landscapes

Association for Environmental Archaeology in Italy – second seminar to be held in Rome in June on classical archaeology and zooarchaeology at the American Academy in Rome

Assoc Prof Michael McKinnon will speak at the second 'AEA in Italy' seminar this year, on June 27th, at 6-7.30pm, in the Lecture Room at the American Academy in Rome, to be followed by drinks at the AAR bar. Prof McKinnon will speak on 'Zooarchaeology and Classical Archaeology: How to Balance the Line between the Sciences and the Humanities.' This seminar follows the well-attended inaugural presentation of what we hope will become a regular series. Our first seminar was held at the British School at Rome, on March 7th, 2013, where Prof Elda Russo Ermolli, of the University of Naples (Federico II) spoke on pollen analysis.

Michael MacKinnon has degrees in Biology, Anthropology, and Archaeology. Currently, he is Associate Professor of Classics in Winnipeg, Canada, but he has held posts as a Rome Scholar at the British School at Rome and the Malcolm Wiener Research Professor at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. He has worked at over 50 projects in Italy, Sicily, Tunisia, Greece, Albania, Portugal, Spain, Egypt, Turkey, and Romania, particularly as a zooarchaeologist, but seeking to do this through integration of archaeological, textual, and iconographic evidence.

The address is: Via Angelo Masina 5, 00153, Roma ITALIA, T) + 39 06 58461.

A third 'AEA in Italy' seminar is planned for October 2013, while it is hoped a further series will be possible in 2014. The series is aimed at highlighting and promoting the role of environmental archaeology in Italian archaeology. For any information about the upcoming or any future seminars, please write to Robyn Veal, rjv33@cam.ac.uk. We would be interested to hear from potential speakers for October. Seminars are usually given in English, but some knowledge of Italian would be desirable, as questions are taken in Italian and English, however, translation assistance is of course available. We thank the American Academy and in particular, Mellon Professor of Classical Studies, Kimberley Bowes, for their support.

Dr Robyn Veal

Personal Webpage www.robynveal.com

Anniversary Research Fellow
McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research
University of Cambridge, Downing St, Cambridge, CB2 3ER, UK

Research Fellow, Hughes Hall
M +44 (0) 7800 856 092 (UK) M +39 3392686802 (Ital)

International Workshop on Archaeological Soil Micromorphology & the DIG Conference 2013
2nd – 6th September 2013, University of Basel (Switzerland)

For further information see our homepage:
<http://geoarch.ipna.unibas.ch/WASM&DIG/home.html>

Organizing committee:

Philippe Rentzel
David Brönnimann
Kristin Ismail-Meyer
Christine Pümpin
Philipp Wiemann

Wood charcoal production, charcoal burners, charcoal kilns. Inventory of the knowledge and perspectives of research
September 12th & 13th 2013, Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines de l'Université de Limoges

The meeting will be structured around three themes:

First theme: The wood charcoal production as a socioeconomic phenomenon in the heart of territories: biological and forest spaces, economic spaces, social spaces;

Second theme: Knowledge, cultures and technical heritage: gestures, practices, tools;

Third theme: New approaches around the wood charcoal production: tools and methods.

Organising committee

Sandrine Paradis-Grenouillet (Géolab UMR 6042 CNRS), Romain Rouaud (Géolab UMR 6042 CNRS),
Philippe Allée (Géolab UMR 6042 CNRS), Sylvain Burri (LA3M UMR 7298 CNRS) et Graziella Rassat
(Géolab UMR 6042 CNRS)

Archaeology of Gatherings

International Conference: Institute of Technology, Sligo, Ireland, 25th to 27th October 2013

The Archaeology of Gatherings is a thematic international conference to bring together a range of speakers from different disciplines including both academics and professionals. The aim is to explore the material culture and psychology behind gatherings of people. With 2013 being the year of 'The Gathering' this theme was chosen to examine why people over millennia have come together, often in large numbers, for religious assemblies, social interaction, to exchange commodities and ideas, along with other reasons such as farewells, wakes, political opposition, inaugurations etc.

Organisers: Sam Moore, Fiona Beglane, Bridget Brennan, Ursula Garner. Applied Archaeology, Dept of Environmental Science, School of Science, IT Sligo, Ash Lane, Sligo, Ireland

archaeologyofgatherings@yahoo.com

www.archaeologyofgatherings.com

AEA and Conchological Society Joint Conference on *Molluscs in Archaeology*

The subject of *Molluscs in Archaeology* has not been dealt with collectively for probably 3-4 decades.

Next year's one-day Spring Conference (April 2014) will be dedicated to *Molluscs in Archaeology* and it is proposed that the conference will include speakers talking on all aspects of molluscs. Possible topics could include the following:

Marine molluscs
Middens - composition - food waste or bait waste
Isotopes
Trade
Jewellery
Dyes
Palaeo-ecology - long landscape/site histories - the chalklands, sand dunes etc
Experimental ecology
Ecology
Species studies
Regional perspectives
Period perspectives
Theoretical frameworks
Interpretational frameworks
Future research directions

I am currently still researching a suitable location but this will be announced, along with the date in due course.

It is also proposed to publish a book on Molluscs in Archaeology with Oxbow, covering aspects of Method, Theory and Interpretation, Diet and Economy, Landscape and Seascape.

Please contact Mike Allen for any further information or expressions of interest.

Mike Allen
Allen Environmental Archaeology aea.escargost@gmail.com

CONFERENCE AND MEETING REPORTS

We very are grateful to Richard Madgwick for the following photographs taken at the joint **UK Archaeological Sciences and AEA spring conference in Cardiff on 11th-14th April 2013**. The conference was a great success with 130 people attending and a packed schedule over the four days. Congratulations to the student paper and poster prize winners.



Student Paper prize

First prize to John Stewart,
University of York (pictured)
and second prize to Jennifer
Bates, University of
Cambridge



Student poster prize

First prize to Christopher Snoeck, University of Oxford and second prize to Joanna Simpson, University of York, pictured with AEA Chairman Andy Howard



The poster session

CONFERENCE REPORT: European Geosciences Union 2013, VIENNA

Where earth scientists meet Cleopatra: Geoarchaeology of rocks, sediments, soils and climate.

Conveners: Sjoerd Kluiwing, Max Engel, Vanessa Heyvaert, Andy Howard; Co-conveners: Matthieu Ghilardi, Kosmas Pavlopoulos, Helmut Bruckner

Report of EGU session GM4.6 co-organized with SSS11.2

The geoarchaeology session “Where earth scientists meet Cleopatra: Geoarchaeology of rocks, sediments, soils and climate” at the 2013 General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union (EGU) in Vienna on

Wednesday 10th of April was a great success. The oral presentations were held in a double session at the Vienna International Convention Center. The two rooms (G3 and G8) were fully packed during the lively sessions with roughly 80-100 participants present in both rooms. The session was designed around an open-call theme in geoarchaeology and is organised every year at EGU by a core team of conveners. The session's statistics indicate a continual growth in the number of papers submitted to the session and increased audience attendance, which demonstrates the growing interest in geoarchaeology within the broader framework of geomorphology. This year, the oral sessions were chaired by Sjoerd Kluiving, Vanessa Heyvaert, and Max Engel.

Andy Howard started with a solicited talk which provided a review of alluvial environments in the United Kingdom and a toolkit for geoarchaeological prospection. Alexandra Raab talked about the detection of hidden pre-industrial charcoal kilns by high-resolution LIDAR in the open cast mines in Brandenburg, Germany. Results show that the area of kilns is very extensive, and that historical charcoal production sites are underestimated components of contemporary landscapes. Hans de Beer reviewed the advantages and limitations of 3D geological mapping for cultural heritage management with an example from the World Heritage site of the city of Bryggen in Norway. The inclusion of monitoring data within a geological model results in an integrated geoarchaeological model that can be used for ground prediction and risk assessment with respect to issues such as in-situ preservation.

Erich Draganits discussed the mounds of the Viking age royal burial site of Borre (Norway) in the light of LIDAR-based coastal landscape reconstruction. One of the striking results of this research is the detection of harbour structures for landing at Borre in the Viking age from elevated beach ridges seen at 0-4 m asl. Peter Vos showed how a geological-genetic approach was applied in order to determine the optimal palaeoenvironmental locations for human settlement. A 3D palaeo-landscape model was constructed of a small area of the Yangtze harbour in the Port of Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Umberto Lombardo reconstructed the palaeo-environment of the first early Holocene inhabitants of the Bolivian Amazon. By linking together palaeo-ecological reconstruction and archaeology, this research aims to detect large-scale environmental changes, the nature of human-environment interactions, and the potential value of these sites as palaeo-environmental reconstruction using proxy data.

Don van den Biggelaar reported on the Meso- and Neolithic landscape of Flevoland, The Netherlands, on the buried Pleistocene land surface. The availability of a wide range of natural resources may have delayed the transition to a Neolithic agricultural life style.

Henk Weerts presented a reconstruction of the early 9th century city of Dorestad, The Netherlands, which emphasized its naturally strategic position. By combining geological, geomorphological and laser altimetry maps, he provided an insight into changing river activity, which may have not only been responsible for the wealth and importance of the city, but which may also have led to its possible demise.

Katrijn Dirix presented an integrated geochemical and magnetic prospection survey of the Roman to Byzantine city of Sagalassos (Turkey). Spatial and statistical analyses of geochemical results confirm the value of geochemistry as a tool in distinguishing anthropogenic signals from geological anomalies in the magnetic record.

Colin Forrestal used stable isotope analysis of *Sphagnum* moss as palaeoclimatic proxy indicator to analyse the climate and environmental conditions of Iron Age ancient trackways in an Irish raised bog at Longford Pass. Time lags before construction phases coincided with stagnation in the archaeological record, and further construction of the track way commenced during a period of higher water tables and was followed by a period of colder and wetter climate during the Dark Ages.

The final presentation was by Carolin Lubos who suggested that although the reconstruction of geochemical traces of settlement or other anthropogenic activity have become mainstream, studies that take an holistic approach to the sustainability of ancient societies are so far missing. A first geoarchaeological field campaign revealed differential slope deposits while comparing onsite and offsite data on the multilayered settlement mound of Çukuriçi Höyük, Turkey.

In addition, a Poster Summary Discussion (PSD) session was chaired by Andy Howard, where poster authors presented in 2 minutes why people should come and see their poster. In the evening, 15 posters were presented in the Blue Poster Hall, chaired by Max Engel, where vivid discussions were led in a relaxed atmosphere.

It can be argued that geoarchaeology is nothing more than geology or physical geography with archaeology acting as a dating tool. However, archaeology can provide much more than dating methods and can be used to aid our understanding of landscape reconstruction, human behavior, and cultural processes that are a backdrop to environmental change. Last year's EGU meetings made it clear that the importance of geoarchaeology as a

separate session is valid and that there is a growing demand for such studies, as demonstrated by the double session this year. The Valetta Treaty implying that the destroyer of cultural heritage is responsible for paying for research to mitigate the impact has resulted in variable measures in different European countries. The nature of archaeological research is interdisciplinary in itself, and definitely in need of scientific research from the beta domain. The contributions in this session show that geoarchaeological research differs highly in problem, methods, and areas. In itself it can be argued that a focus in research themes for future sessions is needed to bring a more coherent program for e.g. EGU General Assembly 2014. In addition the conveners agreed with the organizers of the Anthropocene session (GM4.2/SSS6.12) that we would aim to plan our sessions for the same day at next year's EGU's General Assembly and assemble a full day's program to attract an even wider audience.

The results of the Cleopatra session will be published in a Special Issue of the journal *Quaternary International*. All oral and poster presenters are invited to submit their papers. In this context, we would like to announce the publication of the Special Issue of EGU 2012's geoarchaeology session "Late Quaternary environments and societies: Progress in geoarchaeology" scheduled at the end of 2013 in the journal *Zeitschrift für Geomorphologie*.

Andy Howard

CHARCOAL & WOOD WORK GROUP MEETING – 16TH MARCH 2013

The second meeting of the recently established Charcoal & Wood Work group meeting took place on 16th March, at Worcestershire Archaeology, The Hive, Worcester, hosted by Liz Pearson. Gill Campbell presented recently published research on a burnt Saxon grubenhause at West Stow, Suffolk (Campbell and Kenward 2012), followed by Liz Pearson who presented results from a preliminary survey of a burnt Saxon hall at Bishops Wood Environmental Centre, Worcestershire (Elgy and Hurst 2012).

A discussion followed of how the two sites compared, how the data obtained to date from both sites could be used to further research into the taphonomy of Saxon houses (or those of similar construction), and what additional research could be carried out. Initially, the expectation was that the incidences of fire and the resulting burnt remains would be similar at both sites, but it became apparent following the presentations and discussion, that there were significant differences which emphasised the opportunity that these sites pose for further research. There are no standing structural remains at West Stow, although unexcavated soil deposits within the house cellar remain buried and selected timbers were buried for future research. At Bishops Wood there are substantial above ground burnt timbers and other fire destruction deposits. Potential research questions include how various factors affected the burning and survival of timbers, including the effect of fire quenching, the age of the building the presence or absence of a cellar, different construction techniques and the conditions of buried timber.



An afternoon visit was made to the Bishops Wood site to inspect the site of the burnt Saxon hall and compare with a similar newly built house. Approaches for some initial recording of the Bishops Wood site were discussed. Funding has yet to be sought, but initial work is likely to be at a basic level. Anyone interested in being involved

in the project or undertaking their own research at the site would be most welcome to contact Liz Pearson:
lpearson@worcestershire.gov.uk

The next CWWG meeting will be held at Liverpool, hosted by Eleni Asouti, in Spring 2014.

Liz Pearson and Dana Challinor

References

Campbell, G, and Kenward, H, 2012 Insect and plant remains, in J Tipper, *Experimental archaeology and fire: the investigation of a burnt reconstruction at West Stow, Anglo-Saxon Village*, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service 90 – 114

Elgy, C, and Hurst, D, 2012 Bishops Wood reconstructed Anglo-Saxon hall: a study in destruction by fire, *Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society*, **23** (2012)

ARCHAEOBOTANY WORK GROUP MEETING – SATURDAY 23RD MARCH

The AWG meeting was held at the Archaeology department of Durham University. Due to the inclement weather conditions, many were unable to make the journey, but those of us who made it had a very productive and interesting day. To begin, Allan Hall presented on botanical terminology and its use within archaeobotany, arguing for the importance of correct botanical terminology in data tables. We learnt the difference between prickles, thorns and spines, what a schizocarp is and that a coconut is a one seeded drupe. Recommended publications for correct botanical terminology are Beentje's 2010 handbook and older BSBI handbooks, such as Tutin 1980. Don O'Meara discussed some of the findings of his research on archaeobotanical taphonomy, highlighting the effects of chewing on different plant foods. Finally, Rosie Bishop, presented on her PhD research synthesising Mesolithic and Neolithic archaeobotanical data from Scotland as well as new data from Neolithic sites in Orkney and Harris.

Due to the freezing conditions, we decided not to venture out to the Durham Botanic Gardens, but instead heard from Mike Church about the experiments being undertaken there on coppicing, charcoal burning and crop cultivation. Mike and his team are keen to provide a resource for those wishing to undertake experiments and grow particular types of crops. Following lunch, we had a brief lab session looking at some archaeobotanical curiosities, including some teasel heads and a cypress cone. Thanks very much to Don and the team for hosting the event!

Lisa Lodwick

Bishop RR, Church MJ, Rowley-Conwy PA (2009) Cereals, fruits and nuts in the Scottish Neolithic. *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* 139: 47-103
Beentje H (2010) The Kew plant glossary. *Kew, Royal Botanic Gardens*
Tutin TG (1980) Umbellifers of the British Isles. *London, Botanical Society of the British Isles*

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that we report the deaths of two AEA members, the zooarchaeologist Professor Tony Legge and the zoologist Dr Derek Yalden who passed away on the 4th and 5th February 2013 respectively.

The McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research (<http://www.mcdonald.cam.ac.uk/news/130208/>), of which Professor Legge was a Senior Research Fellow, and the Mammal Society (<http://www.mammal.org.uk/node/239>), of which Dr Yalden was President, have each published statements. We send our sympathies to all who knew or worked with them.

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Many thanks to James Greig for the following information. James sends his thanks for references to Philip Armitage, Angela Monckton and Edith Schmidt .

Please send information for the Bibliography to jimi.gee@virgin.net

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