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EDITORIAL

The last Newsletter of 2011 contains a conference report on the very successful Autumn Conference in Amsterdam in October, as well as details of the AGM held at the Conference. We are very grateful to Sarah Elliott and Jade Whitlam for their informative report. We would also like to thank Rebecca Nicholson from Oxford Archaeology South for starting off a new series of articles in the Newsletter presenting some highlights of Environmental Archaeological work recently published or currently underway at OA South. We would be grateful for volunteers to continue this series in future Newsletters, please (e-mail wendy.carruthers@virgin.net).

Please note that the Newsletter contains a reminder about checking your subscription details before the end of the year, and a first call for papers for the Spring and Autumn 2012 conferences in Plymouth and Reading.

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The time is fast approaching to **renew your AEA membership!** A renewal form for 2012 is printed at the end of the Newsletter. You do not need to complete this if you have already arranged to pay your membership fee by standing order. Please remember to let the Membership Secretary know if your contact details have changed.

We are delighted to announce that there will be no change in the membership fee, which remains at **£38 for waged** and **£28 for students/unwaged**. In addition, there is no postage charge for overseas members. Members are asked to submit their payment on time (**by end of December 2011**), as reminders from the Membership Secretary are both costly and time-consuming.

UK members – Standing Order: If you do not already have one and would like to set up a standing order to renew your membership automatically each year, please contact the AEA Treasurer (Jacqui Huntley: Jacqui.Huntley@english-heritage.org.uk) for further information and a standing order form. The first payment should be made for 1st January 2012. When you have received the form from the AEA Treasurer, please complete and return the form **no later than 15th December 2011**.

Eurozone members – IBAN payment: If you are living in the Eurozone, you may be interested in paying AEA membership fees using the IBAN (International Bank Account Number) electronic transfer system. With this system, an AEA member can go to their local bank and transfer money to an AEA account for a small fee. The AEA has set up a bank account in the Republic of Ireland to enable payment of membership fees using this method. Your bank's charge for payment will vary, depending on the bank and country, but the fee should be low (for example, some banks in the Republic of Ireland charge around €0.75 – check your local bank for their rates). AEA membership fees for IBAN transfers are: **€50 waged** and **€37 student/unwaged**. If you would like to use this method of payment, please contact the Membership Secretary (Ruth Pelling: membership@envarch.net) for further information.

Non-UK members – Payment by Visa can be made by non-UK members only. For reasons of security, the AEA do not hold members' Visa details. Members using this method of payment must therefore confirm payment each year, providing their payment details each time. Credit card details **should not be sent via email**. If you would like to use this method of payment, please complete the membership form at the end of the Newsletter.

Membership Secretary:

Dr Ruth Pelling
English Heritage
Fort Cumberland
Fort Cumberland Road
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Hampshire PO4 9LD
United Kingdom Email: membership@envarch.net

2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AEA held their 2011 AGM in Amsterdam during the autumn conference. Over 30 AEA members attended the AGM, joined by many non-member conference delegates. A review of the committee's activities and Treasurer's report were presented alongside announcement of the 2011 poster prize and John Evans Dissertation Prize winners. Elections for new committee members were also held. A summary of the AGM is presented below.

1. REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS UPDATE

The 2010 autumn meeting in Kyoto, Japan took place after the 2010 AGM, and was reported by Andy Howard, Gill Campbell & Maaïke Groot in the Feb 2011 Newsletter (Number 111). The meeting was organised by Professor Yoshinori Yasuda, Dr Junko Kitagawa, Dr Toshiyuki Fujiki and Dr Yoko Nojima, of the International Research Centre for Japanese Studies and funding bursaries were generously provided by the organising committee.

The spring 2011 meeting was to be held on 16th April 2011 at the University of Cambridge, on topic of 'The Archaeology of Hunger'. It was organised by Preston Miracle. Unfortunately the meeting had to be cancelled but at least one paper was retained for the Autumn 2011 conference.

The 2011 autumn meeting was held at VU University Amsterdam, October 21st-22nd. The focus of the meeting was 'Subsistence and Surplus Production' and it was organised by Maaïke Groot and Daphne Lentjes, (VU University) Jørn Zeiler (Archaeobone) and Laura Kooistra (BIAX Consult). The AEA conference fund offered six delegates financial assistance to attend the meeting.

All conference organizing committees were thanked for their efforts. It was then time to announce the winner of the **2011 student poster prize: Lisa Lodwick (University of Oxford)**, for her poster entitled *Urban food production in Late Iron Age to Early Roman Silchester, UK*. The posters were assessed on several criteria (clarity, impact, signposting, engaging design, structure, concise text), the judging panel commenting that the Lisa's poster demonstrated all these qualities, but also the integration of environmental and cultural information, in keeping with the ethos of the AEA.

The 2012 spring meeting will take place on 21st April 2012 at the University of Plymouth, UK. It will be organised by Richard Madgwick, Marta Perez and Wendy Howard and will be a student focused meeting.

The 2012 autumn meeting will be held during 10-12th November 2012 at the University of Reading, UK. Its theme will be *Environmental Archaeologies of Neolithization*. The meeting will be organised by Robin Bendrey and colleagues.

Offers to host future meetings were invited.

JOURNAL UPDATE

Under the coordinating editorship of Ingrid Mainland, *Environmental Archaeology* continues to be a successful publication with institutional subscriptions up slightly to 141 for 2011. The journal is available digitally and in hard copy and is published twice yearly, with issue 16.2 being sent out just after the meeting. Following a recent change, the journal can now be published with colour cover images. The committee is grateful to Ingrid Mainland, the editorial committee and to Maney, our publishers, for all their work with the journal over the last year.

NEWSLETTER AND DISCUSSION LISTS UPDATE

The newsletter continues to be produced quarterly and distributed to members thanks to the hard work of co-opted committee members Wendy Carruthers and Vanessa Straker. They welcome contributions from members. James Greig also continues to compile the AEA bibliography for each Newsletter. The committee would like to thank Vanessa, Wendy, James and contributors for producing the Newsletter.

In addition to the Newsletter we have two email lists, managed by Paul Davis. The first (aea@jiscmail.ac.uk) is a moderated list, which is intended for AEA related information only. The second list (env-arch@jiscmail.ac.uk) is our discussion list, open to mailing from any member about any environmental archaeology related notice or discussion, for example job adverts, etc. Members can opt out of this list with instructions at the bottom of every email sent. The committee encourages members to use the email lists and thanks Paul for his continued efforts in their management.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The current membership totals 335 fully paid up members (as of 29/09/2011) and four non-fee paying honorary members. Membership continues to be dominated by UK members. Ruth Pelling was thanked for her work as Membership Secretary over the last 12 months.

	Ordinary	Unwaged	Student	Honorary
<i>Non-European members</i>				
Australia	2		2	
Canada	9		1	
Israel	1			
Jordan	1			
New Zealand	1			
South Korea			1	
UAE	1			
USA	4	1	2	
Non-European total	19	1	6	0
<i>European members</i>				
Andorra	1			
Austria	6		1	
Belgium	2			
Czech Republic	1			
France	5			
Germany	11			
Gibraltar	1			
Iceland			1	
Ireland	7			
Italy	2			

Norway	1			
Portugal	1			
Slovenia	1			
Spain	3			
Sweden	1			
Switzerland	2			
The Netherlands	9		1	
UK	204	8	38	6
European total	258	8	41	6
WORLD total	277	9	47	6

Members were reminded that payments are due by 1st January each year, and that if payment is not received by 1st March their copy of the first issue of the journal will not be released until issue 2 is published around October. The AEA has several payment systems. Most UK members pay by Sterling cash, cheque or standing order/direct bank transfer. Members with an EU bank account can pay by IBAN. A number of overseas (non-EU) members have expressed an interest in PayPal or similar, which we hope to introduce in the near future.

Payment Method	UK	Eurozone	Other	Total
Standing Order	181	1	9	191
Cheque	61	1	2	64
Visa	1	13	21	35
IBAN	1	33	1	35
Cash/other	12	1		13

Proposals for changes

Members' opinions were sought on the following two proposals, the second being put to a vote (following clause 9 of the constitution):

1. **Non-UK Membership and proposal for regional subgroups**

The AEA continues to attract the vast majority of its members from the UK (252 of its 335 members). The remaining 83 members are based in 24 countries. The committee would like to ask delegates for opinions on increasing non-UK membership. For example, building links with national or international regional interest groups. A national interest group could, for example, hold informal meetings to discuss research projects or issues, or promote papers by members or assist with translation into English.

The discussion that followed concerned whether the official language of regional meetings would have to be English (it wouldn't) and it was reported by colleagues in the Netherlands that a number of regional/national specialist groups currently meet. Members commented that the international nature of the AEA and its meetings was seen as a benefit of the association, although English language presentations could be an issue for some specialists. It was suggested that subject focused working groups may be of interest. Members were invited to contact the committee if they were interested in moving forward with subgroups.

2. **Proposal for reduced fees initiative (two part proposal)**

1. Each AEA conference should have a slightly lower registration fee for members than that for non-members.

The membership were in support of this proposal

2. Where possible, at (non-AEA) conferences we should offer a membership deal where individuals get 20% off the price of AEA membership if they sign up and pay for two years in advance there and then.

When put to the membership approximately 20 members supported this proposal with no members voting against. The proposals were therefore passed.

PUBLICITY UPDATE

All seminars in the 2010-11 seminar series were presented and members were invited to suggest seminars for 2011-2. Seminars have been held in the UK and Ireland to date, but the committee welcomes suggestions from members in other countries. Attendance at the seminars is free and the AEA provide refreshments. Members were also introduced the Student Representative initiated Facebook page, which compliments the AEA website (www.envarch.net). Retiring Publicity Officer, Naomi Sykes, was thanked for her work whilst on the committee.

JOHN EVANS DISSERTATION PRIZE

After introducing the dissertation prize, the Committee sought assistance in its internationalisation from non-UK members. One member offered help at the meeting and all members were asked to email the committee if they would like to be involved. The winners of the 2011 prizes were announced as follows.

2011 Undergraduate John Evans Dissertation Prize Winner

Bennjamin J. Penny-Mason (University of Reading) '*Evaluating the application of faecal pollen analysis to archaeological and forensic science: an experimental approach*'

2011 Post-graduate John Evans Dissertation Prize Winner:

Andrea K. Thompson (Université de Montréal) '*A Zooarchaeological Analysis of a Late Dorset Faunal Assemblage from the KcFs-2 Site (Nunavik, Quebec)*'.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Overall our accounts remain healthy, but are slightly down on last year. The Euro account is proving extremely useful to our Eurozone members. Subscriptions are up slightly on 2009. Book income for 2010 is down considerably, although expenditure is up through a recent spate of useful titles; money for these has largely been received during early 2011. Book expenditure on the Euro account is largely related to the Digital Atlas where most of the income had been received in sterling and in the previous year. Maney royalties are not shown in the 2010 accounts as they were not received until January 2011.

All conference prizes offered have been taken up and there was no call on conference support in 2010 due to the generous support offered from Japan. Although several AEA seminars have been organised, very few receipts have been submitted. Jacqui Huntley was thanked for all her work throughout her term of office as Treasurer.

	STERLING ACCOUNT		EURO ACCOUNT	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
Assets at start of year				
Bank – current account	£6,473.58	£12,618.50	€8,490.88	€4,156.61
Bank – savings account	£18,765.08	£18,776.48	-	-
Total assets at start of year	£25,238.66	£31,394.98	€8,490.88	€4,156.61
Income				
Subscriptions	£10,075.25	£10,265.25	€1,417.72	€1,919.00
Books inc. journal back numbers	£6,036.40	£889.00	€1,192.00	€207.13
Interest earned	£11.40	£9.40	-	-
Fraud attempts	£3,000.00	£1,570.00	-	-
Maney Royalties and Editorial income	£1,456.94	-	-	-
Bank charges adjustment – due to frauds	£1.40	-	-	-
<i>Income sub-total</i>	<i>£20,581.39</i>	<i>£12,731.28</i>	<i>€2,609.72</i>	<i>€2,126.13</i>
Initial total assets excluding books in stock	£45,820.05	£44,128.63	€11,100.60	€6,282.74
Expenditure				
Office stationery, stamps, poster	£13.32	-	-	-
Credit card charges	£142.25	£113.42	-	-
Web page	£750.00	-	-	-
Journal production and postage (inc. back numbers)	£9,022.00	£9,100.00	-	-
Scanning Circaea	£315.00	-	-	-
Committee expenses/ meeting travel related	£244.50	£251.55	€-360.51	€-222.32
Book purchase	£250.00	£1,632.20	€-6,560.87	-
AEA Seminars	£30.61	£12.92	-	-
Conference support	£463.65	-	-	-
Standard bank charges	£193.74	£169.68	€-22.61	€-22.69
Fraud attempt	£3,000.00	£1,570.00	-	-

Conference prizes	-	£530.00	-	-
Expenditure subtotal	£14,425.07	£13,379.77	€6,943.99	-€245.01
Total assets minus expenditure	£31,394.98	£30,748.86	€4,156.61	€6,037.73
<i>End of Year</i>				
Bank – current account	£12,618.50	£11,962.98	€4,156.61	€6,037.73
Bank – savings account	£18,776.48	£18,785.88	-	-
	£31,394.98	£30,748.86	€4,156.61	€6,037.73

3. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The terms of office of the Treasurer (Jacqui Huntley), two Ordinary Members (Maaïke Groot and Naomi Skyes) and one Student Representative (Richard Madgwick) concluded at the AGM. Elections for Treasurer, three Ordinary Members and one Student Representative were held and the result announced at the conference the following day. In excess of 20 members voted and proxy votes were also taken into account. The elected candidates were:

As Treasurer – Jacqui Huntley;

As Ordinary Member – Richard Madgwick, James Morris and Hannah Russ;

As Student Representative – Lisa Lodwick.

The current committee structure is as follows: elected term in []

Dr Robin Bendrey (University of Reading, England) [2010-2014]

Emily Forster (University of Sheffield, England) [2010-2014]

Dr Ellen Hambleton (University of Bournemouth, England) [2008-2012]

Dr Zoë Hazell (English Heritage, England) [2008-2012]

Dr Andy Howard (University of Birmingham, England) – Chair [2009-2013]

Jacqui Huntley (English Heritage, England) – Treasurer [2011-2015]

Lisa Lodwick (University of Oxford, England) – Student Representative [2011-2013]

Dr Richard Madgwick (University of Bournemouth, England) – Publicity Officer [2011-2015]

Dr Preston Miracle (University of Cambridge, England) [2010-2014]

Dr James Morris (MoLA, London, England) [2011-2015]

Dr Rebecca Nicholson (Oxford Archaeology, England) – Conference Officer [2009-2013]

Dr Ruth Pelling (English Heritage, England) – Membership Secretary [2009-2013]

Marta Perez (University of Plymouth, England) – Student representative [2010-2012]

Dr Hannah Russ (University of Sheffield, England) [2011-2015]

Dr Fay Worley (English Heritage, England) – Secretary [2010-2014]

Dr Jørn Zeiler (ArchaeoBone, Netherlands) [2009-2013]

CO-OPTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wendy Carruthers (Llantrisant, Wales) – Co-editor of the Newsletter

Dr Paul Davies (Bath Spa University, England) – JISC-mail Manager

Dr Ingrid Mainland (UHI, Orkney, Scotland) – Co-ordinating Editor of the Journal

Vanessa Straker (English Heritage, England) – Co-editor of the Newsletter

Outgoing and current committee members were thanked for all their hard work throughout the year and their terms of office.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Discussions between the AEA and IfA, following the 2009 AGM, have been put on hold due to the current economic climate.

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Association for Environmental Archaeology Spring meeting, Plymouth, UK

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2012 spring meeting will take place on **21st April 2012 at Plymouth University, UK**. It will be organised by Richard Madgwick, Marta Perez, Lisa Lodwick and Wendy Howard and will be a student focused meeting, although attendance and presentation from practitioners from the commercial sector and more established

academics is encouraged. Oral and poster presentations on any aspect of Environmental Archaeology are welcomed and it is hoped that the full range of sub-disciplines of environmental archaeology will be represented. A limited number of travel bursaries will be available to student presenters. The deadline for abstract submission (250 words max) is 1st February. For further information or to submit an abstract please contact Marta Perez (marta.perez@plymouth.ac.uk).

Full details and a booking form will be included in the February 2012 Newsletter.

Association for Environmental Archaeology, Autumn Conference 10-12, November 2012

Environmental Archaeologies of Neolithisation, University of Reading (UK)

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

The origins and spread of Neolithic life-ways represent a pivotal change in human ecology and society. Communities transformed their relationships with the world around them, shifting away from reliance upon hunted and collected wild resources, to the management and domestication of plants and animals, alongside a pattern of increasing sedentism. These processes were played out at differing temporal and spatial scales; from the life-cycle of a single organism of a population on the path to domestication, to the dissemination of 'new' farming economies around the world.

The varied fields within environmental archaeology are providing increasingly detailed understanding of the agencies, processes and pathways in these transformations. These include work in the established fields of geoarchaeology, archaeobotany and zooarchaeology, alongside the major advances and exciting vistas opened in recent decades by techniques such as stable isotope analysis, geometric morphometrics and genetic studies, as well as interdisciplinary studies that integrate these approaches.

The organising committee invites oral and poster presentations that examine any aspect of Neolithisation at the varying scales of analysis that environmental archaeology can offer, from changes within a single site to those played out over continents. We encourage interdisciplinary contributions, as well as those that integrate archaeological science and cultural interpretations.

Please send proposals for papers and posters to AEA2012@reading.ac.uk. Abstracts should be sent as text documents (preferably in Word format) by 15 June 2012. Please include a title, complete name(s) of author(s), affiliation(s), and full postal and email addresses. Abstracts should be a maximum of 200 words and contain a clear description of the topic of the presentation.

The conference programme will devote two days to presentations and discussions and will offer a third day of optional field excursions. Further details will be posted on the websites of the Association for Environmental Archaeology and the University of Reading, Department of Archaeology:

www.envarch.net/events

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/archaeology/>

We will also be pleased to respond to informal enquiries (to be directed to the email address above).

Conference organisers: Robin Bendrey, Sarah Elliott, Wendy Matthews, Amy Richardson, and Jade Whitlam (Department of Archaeology, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Box 226, Reading, RG6 6AB, UK)

TAG Conference Sessions 14th-16th December 2011, Birmingham

Negotiating Coasts and Islands: Landscape and Environmental Perspectives

Organisers Matt Law (Cardiff University), Jacqui Mulville (Cardiff University) and David Smith (University of Birmingham)

Emails LawMJ@cardiff.ac.uk, MulvilleJA@cardiff.ac.uk, D.N.Smith@bham.ac.uk

2011 marks thirty years since the publication of Brothwell and Dimbleby's 'Environmental Aspects of Coasts and Islands', whose contributions presented several scientific frameworks for interpreting coastal and island sites and the biological assemblages they yield. Much has changed in thirty years, not least the refinement of isotopic analyses, the availability of larger palaeoecological datasets allowing more nuanced interpretation, and an increasing desire by workers in both camps to bridge the divide between cultural and environmental archaeology. In the UK, there has been a particularly rich range of coastal and island sites investigated thanks

to numerous research, volunteer, and developer-led projects. Coasts may be either central or marginal to past societies, and are ecotones that offer diverse natural resources as well as opportunities to spread goods, livestock, people and ideas. (<http://centraltag.wordpress.com/>).

Roots of the Modern World: The Archaeology of Scientific Discovery

James Morris (*Museum of London Archaeology*) and Don Walker (*Museum of London Archaeology*)

Emails jmorris@mola.org.uk, dwalker@mola.org.uk

In our modern lives we are ubiquitous users of science and technology, much of which developed from discoveries and innovations from the 18th century onwards. This is a period that saw the transition to an industrial society, intellectual advances, and revolutionary socio-economic change. Until recently historical archaeology has been ignored by the majority of the archaeological community. However, work by advocates and groups such as the Post-Medieval Society, Association for Industrial Archaeology and Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory (CHAT) have shown how historical archaeology is well placed to combine the material and the social.

The aim of this session is to explore how archaeology can inform our understanding of scientific development and its consequences from AD1700 onwards. We welcome papers that utilise archaeological evidence and other sources in association with contemporary theory, to investigate both grand and individual narratives. One such area for investigation is the material culture of scientific investigation and development. This can range from ceramics associated with apothecaries to the dissected remains of humans and animals. Methodologically we can contemplate how we identify and analyse such assemblages, but we also need to consider the narratives associated with them, as they often allow the archaeologist the rare opportunity to investigate the actions and motives of individuals. Archaeology is well placed to investigate the grander narrative of scientific discoveries and developments. For example the work of 'polite' gentleman scientists led to advances in medicine and other fields, altering society's view of death and the human body. Also in this period the agricultural and industrial revolutions resulted in changes to the rural and urban environs, changing people's relationship with each other, animals and the environment. <http://centraltag.wordpress.com/>

Johnson, M. 2009. Forward: Crossing paths or sharing tracks?. In A. Horning, and M. Palmer. (eds.). *Crossing Paths or Sharing Tracks? Future directions in the archaeological study of post-1550 Britain and Ireland*. Woodbridge. The Boydell press.XV-XVII

Human-Plant Geographies Association for American Geographers (AAG) New York 24th-28th February 2012

Human-plant relations have received limited attention in social studies and biogeographic work. This neglect is puzzling since human-plant relations are central to many sustainability debates (biodiversity protection, food security and production, natural resource management, ethical consumption, carbon sequestration, greening housing, invasive species control, etc.). Understanding the diversity of human-plant relationships requires active engagement from within the natural and social sciences. This session is intended to explore human-plant geographies in ways that do not always place humans at the centre. This session is inspired by ongoing debates among an international group of scholars, begun at the Institute of Australian Geographers Conference in Wollongong in July 2011. We aim to extend and elaborate conversations with others. We invite papers that approach human-plant relations from diverse disciplinary, theoretical, and methodological positions. Themes may include, but are not limited to:

- § Plants and people as co-producers of spaces and places;
- § Plant agency, reassessing the assumed object/passive status of plants;
- § Human-plant relations at different scales of space and time;
- § Methods for understanding human-plant relations ;
- § Issues of boundary-making and challenge, examining the practices and politics of human-plant belonging; and,
- § Possibilities and practicalities of ethico-political relations among people and plants.

Convenors:

Kathleen Buckingham (University of Oxford) and Catherine Phillips (University of Wollongong)

Chair: Jenny Atchison (University of Wollongong)

Discussants: Lesley Head (University of Wollongong) and Maan Barua (University of Oxford)

Early Farmers: the view from Archaeology and Science Cardiff University, May (14th-16th).

Booking information and further details can be found on the website:

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/share/newsandevents/events/archaeology/early-farmers-the-view-from-arch-and-science.html>

Conference Outline

Scientific and interpretative archaeology often speak to very different audiences despite shared interests in themes such as landscape, climate, subsistence, social structure and cultural identity. This conference challenges different disciplinary paths to find ways of talking to each other, taking the European Neolithic as its focal point. Contributors will cover a broad range of innovative approaches across different subjects, from archaeological theory to ancient DNA, bringing together vital new research that has forced the reconsideration of long held assumptions about the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition, the social organisation of the earliest farmers and individual biographies of past persons.

Speakers include

Kurt W. Alt (University of Mainz)
Marie Balasse (CRNS, Paris)
Alex Bentley (University of Bristol)
Amy Bogaard (University of Oxford)
Jean-Pierre Bocquet-Appel (CRNS, Paris)
John Chapman (University of Durham)
Gabriel Cooney (UCD)
Oliver Craig (University of York)
Richard Evershed (University of Bristol)
Linda Fibiger (University of Oxford)
Robert Hedges (University of Oxford)
Corina Knipper (University of Mainz)
Chris Knüsel (University of Exeter)
Clark Spencer Larson (University of Ohio)
Lynn Meskell (Stanford University)
Jessica Pearson (University of Liverpool)
John Robb (University of Cambridge)
Rick Schulting (University of Oxford)
Alison Sheridan (National Museums Scotland, Edinburgh)
Jessica Smyth (University of Bristol)
Marie Teschler-Nicola (Natural History Museum, Vienna)
Sébastien Villotte (University of Bradford)
Alasdair Whittle (Cardiff University)

Please get in contact with me if you have any questions or would like to display a poster

Dr. Penny Bickle

Research Associate

'The first farmers of central Europe: diversity in LBK lifeways'

Department of Archaeology and Conservation, Cardiff University,

Humanities Building, Colum Road,

Cardiff, CF10 3EU,

Wales

bicklepf@CF.AC.UK

2ND International Landscape Archaeology conference Freie Universität, Berlin June 6-9, 2012

Standing in the tradition of the 1st Landscape Archaeology Conference held in Amsterdam in 2010, LAC 2012 will provide a platform for archaeologists, geographers and researchers from neighbouring disciplines to present and discuss results in the broad field of geo- and landscape archaeology. The 2nd International Landscape Archaeology Conference will take place at the Science & Conference Center of the Freie Universität Berlin on June 6–9, 2012.

LAC2012 is offering the following themes:

- a) Ancient megastructures and their environment,
- b) Landscape resilience to human impact,

- c) Human adaptation to landscape changes,
- d) Spatial information systems in landscape archaeology,
- e) Theoretical concepts in landscape archaeology.

Important Dates

- **June 2011:** First circular
- **December 31 2011:** Deadline for abstract submission (250 words)
- **April 2012:** Deadline for registration
- **April 10, 2012:** Deadline for submission of extended abstracts.

All contributors of oral presentations are requested to submit extended abstracts (3500 words, up to two figures, references). These abstracts will be published in the online publication medium of the Excellence Cluster Topoi: eTopoi

For further information see the leaflet attached to this Newsletter.

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<http://www.vu.nl/lac2010>
<http://www.geo-logical.nl>
<http://www.scholingarcheologie.nl>
<http://www.geo.fu-berlin.de/lac2012>

Advancements in Soil Micromorphology 4th International Congress EUROSIL 2012, Bari, Italy 2-6 July 2012

This conference is planned a week before the 14th International Working Meeting on Soil Micromorphology planned in Lleida (Spain). It may give you a good chance to kill two birds with one stone or, if you prefer, to visit two countries still enjoying the same soil micromorphology (the EUROSIL2012 conference does also include another important micromorphological session S9.1 "Soil genesis and soil micromorphology").

Here follows a brief description of the main topic of the session "Advancement in soil micromorphology" (Convener: Terribile Fabio - University of Napoli Federico II – Italy)

Session Description (http://www.eurosoil2012.eu/d/39/9.Soil_Micromorphology/)

In the last decades, soil micromorphology has given important contribution to the advancement of soil science and its application in agriculture and forestry. This was possible thanks to the uniqueness of the approach that enable to observe and analyze the soil system at multiple scales of investigation and also to the development many different analytical approaches. The complexity of today's environmental challenges indeed require to rethink soil micromorphology and to develop new tools to better understand the physical, chemical and biological processes underlying soil functioning. This symposium aims to gather experts to present and discuss, through both case studies and/or methodological works, major advances in the micromorphology of the soil investigation including new approaches and new techniques such as ICP-laser ablation, new applications of micro-analytical techniques (EDS, WDS), synchrotron techniques, microdrilling of thin sections, X-ray microtomography, new procedures for image processing and other novel techniques

7th International Workshop for African Archaeobotany Vienna, 2 – 5 July 2012

The 7th International Workshop for African Archaeobotany will be organised at Vienna University by VIAS-Archaeobotany and will be hosted by the Department of African Studies. All scholars working in the field of African archaeobotany and in related areas are invited.

The first International Workshop for African Archaeobotany was organised by Krystyna Wasylkova and was held at Krakow in 1994. It reflected the growing interest in the origin and distribution of African crop plants as well as an ever increasing emphasis on African economic and social history. The primary focus of research and discussion has been on plant macro remains, i.e. fruits and seeds and their utilisation by man, but has been extended to other fields such as environmental reconstruction, ethnological and linguistic studies. Workshops

have been held regularly every three years and these have become important occasions where data and knowledge are exchanged on a wide range of topics.

<http://iwaa7.univie.ac.at/>

Pacific Palaeoethnobotany
8th International Conference on Easter Island and the Pacific. July 8-13, 2012
Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel, Santa Rosa, California

The conference will be held July 8-13, 2012 at the Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel (Santa Rosa, California), located in the heart of the famed Sonoma Wine Country. The general theme of the conference is Living in Changing Island Environments, with an overall emphasis on the relationships between people, climatic variation, and consequent changes introduced to environmental and social landscapes. More information about the conference can be found at <http://www.islandheritage.org>.

This session focuses on palaeoethnobotanical analysis in the Pacific Islands. Topics from any time period or culture area are welcome. Studies should use micro- or macrofossil analysis and may include (but are not limited to) analysis of past foodways, resource extraction and consumption or inequalities in resource use. Papers on methodological issues will also be considered. Presentations will be 15 minutes with 5 additional minutes for questions.

Participants should submit a 100-250 word abstract via email to Jen Huebert (jhuebert@gmail.com) by **November 15, 2011**.

Jennifer Huebert and Christopher Stevenson
Organizers
Jen Huebert jhuebert@GMAIL.COM

CONFERENCE REPORTS

AEA Report. Autumn Meeting 2011 VU University, Amsterdam

[Sarah Elliott and Jade Whitlam \(PhD students, University of Reading, England\)](#)

The 2011 AEA autumn meeting was held at the VU University, Amsterdam on 21-23rd October with a theme of 'Subsistence and Surplus Production'. Approximately seventy delegates registered with the majority coming from the Netherlands and United Kingdom, but also including delegates from Spain, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany. The conference was split into four sessions: Self-subsistent societies, Emerging markets, Urban societies and Methodology and commenced with a warm welcome by Maaïke Groot.

Jørn Zeiler chaired the first session and James Walker (Durham University) opened with an elegant methodology for establishing the dietary significance of shellfish titled 'Finding the Famine? An integrated approach to testing hypotheses of shellfish as a starvation food'. Stable oxygen isotope analysis on Periwinkles from Mesolithic shell middens on the island of Oronsay indicated harvesting took place over a period during which a modern ecological analysis suggests taste and calorific value are at a peak. This led to the conclusion that Periwinkles had been preferentially harvested, challenging commonly held perceptions of shellfish as a famine food. James would like to see this methodology explored further and applied to other shell middens.

Journeying South to the Sea of Marmara Canan Çakırlar (Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen) presented 'Re-thinking Neolithic subsistence at the gateway to Europe in the light of new archaeozoological evidence from Istanbul (Yenikapt-Marmaray site, ca. 6500-5500 BC)'. Integrating this new archaeozoological data with a range of published archaeobiological studies for the region demonstrated that Neolithic communities within this 'gateway to Europe' practiced a range of diverse and dynamic subsistence strategies. Canan urged us all to re-think our current understanding of the region and consider how these varied systems evolved and were transmitted into Western Europe.

A short coffee break followed before the session resumed with 'Neolithic food production within Northern German settlement systems' by Stefanie Kloöß (University in Kiel, Germany). Between 3600-3300 cal B.C. c. 50,000 megalithic monuments were erected in the region and through archaeobotanical and palynological studies Kloöß with her colleagues was able to elucidate the subsistence basis supporting this. Results from sites within local settlements indicated they had fulfilled specific functions concerning food production. A particular point of interest included possible evidence for surplus production and storage in the form of large

numbers of crab apple remains and this prompted a lively discussion about their edibility and how best to prepare them!

A change in the programme then saw Robin Bendrey (University of Reading) discussing 'Subsistence at the start of farming: preliminary Zooarchaeological findings from the Central Zagros Archaeological Project'. He gave a stimulating introduction to his new research on goat domestication and early animal management in the Eastern Fertile Crescent during the Early Neolithic. Excavations through the coming years should provide data allowing a closer examination of these issues along an important ecological transect in the region and through time. Evaluating preliminary archaeozoological evidence previously gathered from one of the Project's sites – Sheikh-e Abad, Iran (which included a ritual display of goat and sheep skulls in one room) Robin was able to share his thoughts and excitement about his future research.

The final paper of the session, given by Ilse Kamerling (University of Aberdeen) was the original 'Cultivation, reindeer herding and 'Norse'-indigenous interactions in northern Sweden – a palynological analysis'. Taking a palynological approach to address the cultural interaction between Sámi hunter-herders and 'Norse' farmers this insightful research included analysis of pollen, microcharcoal and coprophilous ascofungal spores associated with animal dung. This strategy is particularly advantageous as it provides evidence for the subsistence practices of the semi-nomadic Sámi whose presence has been difficult to trace through a poor artefact record. In the question session she confirmed analysis of her cores is on going and more information should be retrieved from sampling cores at a closer resolution.

After a short discussion and with food now firmly on the mind it was time for lunch, which also gave delegates the opportunity to scrutinize this year's conference posters. In all fifteen posters were displayed covering a wide range of periods and methodologies.

The second session focused on the theme of Emerging Markets and was chaired by Maaïke Groot. It commenced with a paper by Sue Stallibrass (English Heritage) who presented: 'Keeping your options open: a SWOT analysis of Northern Britain during the Roman period (SWOT: Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats). This was an interesting talk looking at troops on Hadrian's Wall in the Roman period. Sue discussed the issue of producing a surplus, an essential to feed the mass of professional soldiers stationed on Hadrian's Wall; the major food resources for soldiers being barley, spelt wheat, cattle, sheep and pigs. This paper examined local food production against long-distance transport of food.

The second talk was delivered by Sabine Deschler-Erb and Örne Akeret (Universität Basel, Switzerland) titled: 'Swiss cows for the Roman Army. A synthesis of archaeobiological data from villae in Roman Switzerland (1st Century AD). This paper discussed the archaeobotanical results from six sites in Switzerland, and the archaeozoological remains from seventeen sites. Analysis took into account important topographic and climatic variations around the sites, and looked at the slaughter age pattern and size variation. It concluded that the cattle came from villae in the region, with local meat production being favoured over importation.

The last talk of the day was a presentation, given by Anja Fischer and Heleen van Londen (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands); 'Forum Hadriani, a consuming market for food from Midden-Defland? Heleen gave an introduction to the project before Anja presented their results, obtained during a 1 year funded project by NWO. The project looked at connecting the towns and the country; specifically did the local farms produce for the towns? This was addressed successfully through an intra-site analysis that integrated archaeobotanical and archaeozoological analysis. Aiming to identify evidence for agriculture and indications of surplus production a change over time was identified, with some evidence that surplus production emerged in the second and third century AD.

Prior to coffee break, in lieu of an absent speaker, there was an opportunity for extended discussion. Andy Howard (University of Birmingham) made enquiries to Sue Stallibrass (English Heritage) about the Roman relationship with Ireland and Don O'meara (Durham University) highlighted the upcoming discovery programme based on a year's research on Ireland and the Roman Empire. The matter of how we define surplus was also debated. Following this discussion the Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place chaired over by Andy Howard. This year's student poster prize went to Lisa Lodwick from the University of Oxford who integrated cultural and environmental records and succeeded in putting her research into context. Next year's spring and autumn meeting were announced with the spring meeting to be held at the University of Plymouth on 21st April 2010. This will have an 'Open theme' and aims to have a student focus. The 2012 autumn meeting is to be held at the University of Reading on the 10-12th November with the theme of 'Environmental Archaeologies of Neolithisation'.

After the AGM the welcome reception was held in 'The Basket' on the campus square. The AEA had their own section of the bar/restaurant where a steady stream of drinks and snacks kept coming over a period of 3-4 hours. I think all will agree that this was a fantastic welcome reception with plenty of socialising, snacking and drinking in a warm and welcoming location.

On Saturday morning the second day of the conference began with session 3 titled 'Urban Societies' chaired by Marijke van der Veen. It commenced with a talk on 'Early Agriculture in North Eastern Syria: Botanical remains from Jerablus Tahani' by Ceren Kabukcu (University of Liverpool). Ceren presented the results of her master's thesis on Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Syria. She discussed how agricultural intensification correlates with rising states, looking for evidence for manuring and irrigation. Following Ceren's talk there was an interesting debate surrounding methodological issues of archaeobotanical recovery and the use of flotation versus dry sieving for the recovery of plant remains with the main conclusion being that methodological choices are site specific. Marijke van der Veen expressed the preferential use of bucket/hand flotation over mechanical flotation, but accepts that it is not always applicable for big projects.

The second paper was presented by Fabienne Pigière and Annick Lepot (Royal Belgium Institute of natural sciences and Université catholique de Louvain) on 'Food production and exchanges in the civitas Tungrorum.' This micro-regional study looking at Roman/Iron Age Northern Gaul focuses on the Caput Civitas of Tongeren and sites within a 20km radius. Two sites were compared; Velroux and Verlaine which are both set in the same agricultural landscape but interestingly have differential importance of domestic animals. At Velroux cattle dominates whereas at Verlaine the dominant domestic animal is pig.

The third talk was titled 'Entrepreneurs and traditional farmers: the effects of an emerging market in Middle Saxon England' and presented by Matilda Holmes (Consultant Archaeozoologist, Leicester). This interesting paper discussed sites of international trade in coastal areas (wics). These are situated mostly on the East/South coastline and have more cattle and pigs than other sites and low percentages of wild species. Holmes studied 12 inland sites in comparison with 15 coastal sites. Generally results indicated that animals were slaughtered when they were older at sites near wics, and there was little stress on inland sites to produce. Two contrasting theories were presented by Holmes as reasons for specialisations in relation to wics. Either the presence of the specialists gave rise to the wics or the wics are the reason for the initial specialisation.

The last talk of this session before coffee break was delivered by Lee Broderick (Bournemouth University): 'Make do and spend (the zooarchaeological assemblage from Medieval Exeter'. Exeter was the fourth largest city in England during the Medieval period and zooarchaeological material is used to suggest that considerations of social status may be applicable within urban assemblages, just as they are between rural assemblages. Broderick discussed how a large part of wealth in cities in the Medieval period lies with only ten per cent of the population. Thirty per cent of the population were poor and consumed urban domestic fauna such as pigs and chickens. High status populations commonly eat wild fauna in comparison to these low status populations with the pigs and chickens.

Following the afternoon coffee break a paper by Kristopher Poole (University of Nottingham): 'Waste not want not: the effect of urbanisation on patterns of production, consumption and disposal in Anglo-saxon England.' Poole discussed the comparison of quantities of waste in rural settings compared to urban settings. There is a low density of domestic waste in rural areas due to the utilisation of this waste in farming/food producing activities. Urban detritus was stated as having little further use while it is a valuable resource to rural communities. Overall the paper had a good summary of the different attitudes to waste; it really highlights the disparity between rural and urban communities.

The last paper of this session was presented by Don O'Meara (University of Durham): 'Scant evidence of great surplus: Investigations into the monastic site of Holm Coultrum, Cumbria, England.' This paper discusses the difficulty for the archaeological investigation in matching the quality of the historic record with archaeological evidence. Preservation conditions and coastal erosion has presented problems for the archaeological assemblages. O'Meara synthesised problems of identifying subsistence and surplus production. Next year's excavations of the midden which was located during recent excavations should bring promising evidence for both the archaeobotany and the archaeozoology. The examination of charcoal should in addition allow the study of woodland management in the future. A short discussion concluded this session prior to lunch.

'Methodology' was the theme of the final session with chair Bas van Geel taking the helm. Topics in this session neatly encapsulated the themes of the conference as a whole with papers on the role of plant preservation and surplus production, research into Neolithic Anatolian sheep herding practices, a look at prehistoric middens in Britain and a conceptual and computational model for elucidating Roman army food supplies in the Rhine delta.

Michèle Wollstonecroft (UCL institute of archaeology) presented 'More than simply saving it for later: the role of food plant preservation in human subsistence and surplus production'. Though archaeologists recognize storage as a key component of surplus little research has been done in regards to the activities that make this possible or its influence on human-plant relationships and subsequent shifts towards social complexity. Considering the biological and technological knowledge that makes storage possible in what was an insightful lecture Michèle argued for a greater consideration of the variables involved and recognition that surplus is just 'the tip of the iceberg'.

Next was a thoughtful presentation by Elizabeth Henton (UCL institute of archaeology) '1200 years of sheep herding success: the use of oxygen isotope and dental microwear analysis in elucidating effective herding

practices in later Neolithic Çatalhöyük, Central Anatolia'. 72 sheep teeth were studied to address aspects of birth patterns, herding environment and diet. Interpreting her results within the modelled palaeoenvironment for Çatalhöyük and with a consideration of sheep ethology, a method for interpreting the herding practices able to secure sustainable meat resources at this site was presented. In this way Elizabeth's research makes possible an interpretation and evaluation of the human decision making process involved in securing and maximizing meat resources at the site.

Richard Madgwick (Bournemouth University) followed with 'Management, Movement, and Motivation: Understanding Prehistoric Middens'. This engaging paper centred on one midden site in Llanmaes, South Wales, which contains an assemblage with a distinctive abundance of right-side forelimbs of pigs. Can this be explained taphonomically or is there a cultural explanation? To answer these questions integrated bioarchaeological research with a particular emphasis on stable isotope analysis was undertaken to isolate and address the factors that may have produced such a characteristic assemblage. This included aspects of taphonomy, diet, migration and the role of feasting.

Marieke van Dinter (Utrecht University) gave the final paper of the conference titled 'Could the local population of the lower Rhine delta supply the Roman army? A conceptual and computational model research based on interdisciplinary research'. This presented delegates with an ambitious approach to determining whether palaeoenvironment and local population of the lower Rhine delta could supply enough provisions for the settled Roman Army. The subsequent model indicated that landscape would not have restricted the provision of food supplies. It is hoped that in time this model will be adapted further to cover other time periods and regions while prompting the development of new models that take a more quantifiable approach to elucidating supply, demand and surplus.

With the end of the final session all that was left was for Maaïke to bring to a close a friendly, dynamic and thought-provoking conference. She spoke for all when talking about the enjoyment of listening to talks on a range of topics that had explored many different aspects of food from starvation to feast. Leaving us on a thoughtful note she underlined again a major question to have come out of the last two days; how do we define surplus?

Later that evening delegates headed into central Amsterdam and the superb Café Van Puffelen for the conference dinner. This provided attendees with the chance to socialise over plenty of fine food and drink within a wonderful setting. Social activities continued the next morning with a guided walk through the historic city, lunch at café Koosje, and a visit to the Botanic Gardens. 11 people went on the excursion to the Oostvaardersplassen, a relatively new marsh and wetland nature reserve in Flevoland, for which Maaïke Groot has reported the following:

"The weather was glorious. We first visited the new visitors' centre, which offers great views of the nature reserve, with its thousands of red deer, Heck cattle and Konik horses, as well as good coffee and cake. There was a bit of a wait before the white-tailed eagle made an appearance, but after we had seen one, they seemed to pop up everywhere. Highlight of the trip was when we saw three white-tailed eagles together: the breeding pair and this year's young. A short film about the nature reserve and a talk by a volunteer gave everyone some background knowledge. Then it was time for the obligatory inquiry from one of the zooarchaeologists what happened to the dead bodies of the cattle and horses... We drove to another visitors' centre along the dike, so that everyone could see the former sea, which has been turned into a lake (IJsselmeer). At the second centre, we had a packed lunch, and walked to a viewpoint from which we could see the horses. On the walk, the entomologist who was part of the group inspected some authentic Konik horse dung for insects, but did not find anything exciting. Several short stops on the way back gave us an opportunity to see the Koniks from close by, and to have one more sighting of an eagle."

On behalf of everyone we would like to thank the conference organizers; Maaïke Groot, Daphne Lentjes, Laura Kooistra and Jørn Zeiler who put together a fantastic event - with the task of organizing the 2012 AEA Autumn conference they've certainly given us a lot to live up to!

GEPEG

The Research Group for Palaeocological and Geoarchaeological Studies (GEPEG) of the University of Barcelona was created in 2005 with the purpose of, among others, conducting phytolith and mineralogical analyses of archaeological sediments to better understand the exploitation of plant resources by past populations, as well as to conduct climatic and vegetation reconstructions, taking into account the different postdepositional processes that can affect the archaeological material.

Along these years of research, GEPEG has created microphotographs of phytoliths that might serve as a reference catalogue to identify the phytoliths from the different areas of study.

We are pleased to present the GEPEG Phytolith-Core Reference Collection. This is a new phytolith catalogue

which is available at http://gepeg.org/enter_PCORE.html

The catalogue is based on phytolith images collected from three different sources:

- Modern reference plant material from the study areas.
- Modern soils collected from the same areas as modern plants or from areas that were previously described in terms of vegetation.
- Archaeological material.

The catalogue not only provides microphotographs of phytoliths but also related information such as provenience of the sample, date of collection, in the case of modern soil assemblages, description of the vegetation from where the samples were collected, etc.

We hope it is of interest to you,
GEPEG group
Marta Portillo mportillo@UB.EDU

News from Oxford Archaeology South

Rebecca Nicholson, Environmental Manager

This is the first in what the AEA intends will be a series of short new items highlighting the work undertaken by commercial archaeological units. Oxford Archaeology covers 3 UK offices, Oxford Archaeology South (Oxford) North (Lancaster) and East (Cambridge). While exciting projects have been undertaken by OA North and East, these are a selection of highlights just from OA South.

At Oxford Archaeology South we've had a busy year, though we are by no means immune from the general economic downturn with which we are all familiar. Field staff based at this office have dropped from 140 in 2009 to a current level of around 60. Staffing changes in 2010 led to the appointment of Kath Hunter as our archaeobotanist, replacing Wendy Smith. Lena Strid is our archaeozoologist while I report on fish remains. Elizabeth Stafford and Carl Champness cover geoarchaeology and Mollusca. For palynology, we are able to call on the skills of Elizabeth Huckerby, Denise Druce and Mairead Rutherford at OA North.. Many of the projects have also benefited from the expertise of many external specialists, too numerous to list here (but mostly members of the AEA).

Highlights of the last 18 months include the publication of a number of monographs covering a wide range of sites (see below). Of particular interest to AEA members will be the archaeobotanical and archaeozoological reports from two large urban excavations in Winchester and Southampton as well as assemblages from sites along the Channel Tunnel rail link (High Speed 1) and the integrated landscape study from the site of London Heathrow Terminal 5. Also nearly finished are monographs from the waterfront site of Bristol Finzel's Reach (evidence for riverside activities including tanning and textile production), as well as the landscape and prehistory of the East London wetlands: sites along the A13, and more volumes from the CTRL High Speed 1 line and the A2 in Kent.

Having finished a very large-scale multi-period excavation together with Wessex Archaeology along the line of the new East Kent Access Road (approximately 40 hectares along the entire 6.5km-long route) we are now embarking on a considerable programme of analysis. Some 2000 samples were taken from features ranging from a Neolithic henge, Bronze Age barrows, Iron Age trackways and extensive bone spreads to Roman sunken buildings and Saxon pits. Animal bones number some 67000 fragments and around 17000 marine shells were recovered.

We are also writing up the results of excavations at a saltmaking (red hill) site at Stanford-le-Hope, at the mouth of Mucking Creek, on the very edge of the Thames floodplain in Essex. Together with investigation of the sediments themselves, the analysis of charred macrofossils is helping to clarify the processes involved in salt-making, while waterlogged deposits from this site and from an extensive geophysical and borehole survey of an adjacent area, are providing an opportunities to investigate the evolution of the Thames estuary and the surrounding marshes. The contents of a possible cess pit are likely to give us an insight into the diet of people working the salterns, but particularly exciting for me this year has been the analysis of what is almost certainly a deposit representing Late Roman fish sauce (*garum* or more likely *allec*), which provides the UK's first direct evidence for the manufacture of a fish-based product at a Roman coastal site.

We have also excavated several sites in Oxford itself, recently completing excavations at Pembroke College, where we found evidence of a post-medieval malthouse and possible earlier brewery together with an early channel representing an offshoot of the river Thames. Features cut into the alluvium at the edge of this channel are likely to represent industrial or craft activity, possibly flax-retting.

Further afield, we are completing the analysis of a site close Saint-Brieuc, in northern Brittany which includes activity dated from the Bronze Age to the medieval period, but mostly dating to the later Iron Age (La Tene Finale), when the site comprised a square defensive enclosure with a large square courtyard building surrounded by a deep ditch and an extensive open settlement. Both the lower levels within the massive ditch as well as several wells within the settlement contained anaerobically preserved material, including wooden objects.

Current field projects include excavations at Borough High Street in Southwark, London; in conjunction with Pre-Construct Archaeology we have uncovered an apsidal-ended room of a Roman bath-house, while nearby at Bedale Street we are excavating what may be the first concrete evidence for the Late Saxon Burgh ditch (dating eagerly awaited).

Closer to home (for us) and very exciting, a large Roman pit from a site in Aylesbury has recently produced 3 complete eggs (sadly two were broken during lifting, but one remains intact). A preliminary viewing suggests these are from domestic fowl or duck (duck is the bird of choice of course - sorry, this will mean nothing to non UK members). Also surviving in this feature was a woven basket, coins and articulated animal remains.

As above, over the last 18 months, apart from journal papers we have published a number of monographs. Those containing a significant environmental and palaeoeconomic component include:

Powell, K, Smith, A and Laws, G. 2010 *Evolution of a Farming Community in the Upper Thames Valley: Excavation of a prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman landscape at Cotswold Community, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire* Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph No 31

Barclay, A, Bradley, P, Bradley, R, Garwood, P, Hey, G, Morigi, T, Robinson, M, Schreve D, and White, M (2011) *The Thames through Time: The formation and changing environment of the Thames Valley, and early human occupation, up to 1500 BC*. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph No 32

Boyle, A, Jennings, D, Miles, D, and Palmer, S (2011) *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Butler's Field, Lechlade, Gloucestershire: Volume 2: The Anglo-Saxon Grave Goods. Specialist Report, Phasing and Discussion*. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph No 33

Allen, T, Cramp, K, Lamdin-Whymark, H and Webley, L (2010) *Castle Hill and its Landscape; Archaeological Investigations at the Wittenhams, Oxfordshire*. Oxford Archaeology Monograph No 9

Lewis, J, Leivers, M, Brown, L, Smith, A, Cramp, K, Mephram, L and Phillpotts, C (2010) *Landscape Evolution in the Middle Thames Valley: Heathrow Terminal 5 Excavations, Volume Framework* Archaeology Monograph No 3 Framework Archaeology, a joint venture between Oxford Archaeology and Wessex Archaeology

Booth, P, Simmonds, A, Boyle, A, Clough, S, Cool, H E M and Poore, D 2010 *The late Roman cemetery at Lankhills, Winchester, excavations 2000-2005*. Oxford Archaeology Monograph No 10

Simmonds, A, Wenban-Smith, F, Bates, M, Powell, K, Sykes, D, Devaney, R, Stansbie, D and Score, K (2011) *Excavations in North-West Kent, 2005-2007: One hundred thousand years of human activity in and around the Darent Valley*. Oxford Archaeology Monograph No 11

Ford, B M, and Teague, S with Biddulph, E, Hardy, A and Brown, L (2011) *Winchester, a City in the Making: Archaeological Excavations between 2002 – 2007 on the sites of Northgate House, Staple Gardens and the former Winchester Library, Jewry Street*. Oxford Archaeology Monograph No. 12.

Brown, R, and Hardy, A (2011) *Trade and Prosperity, War and Poverty. An archaeological and historical investigation into Southampton's French Quarter*. Oxford Archaeology Monograph No. 15

Brown, R, and Hardy, A (2011) *Archaeology of the Newland: Excavations in King's Lynn, Norfolk 2003-5* East Anglian Archaeology Rep. 140

Andrews, P, Biddulph, E, Hardy, A and Brown, R (2011) *Settling the Ebbsfleet Valley. High Speed 1 excavations at Springhead and Northfleet, Kent. The Late Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval Landscape. Volume 1: The Sites* Oxford Wessex Monograph

Barnett, C, McKinley, J, Stafford, E, Grimm, J E and Stevens, C J (2011) *Settling the Ebbsfleet Valley. High Speed 1 excavations at Springhead and Northfleet, Kent. The Late Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval Landscape. Volume 3: Late Iron Age to Roman Human Remains and Environmental Reports*. Oxford Wessex Monograph

Andrews, P, Mephram, L, Schuster, J and Stevens, C J (2011) *Settling the Ebbsfleet Valley. High Speed 1 excavations at Springhead and Northfleet, Kent. The Late Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval Landscape. Volume 4: Saxon and Later Finds and Environmental Reports*. Oxford Wessex Monograph

JOB VACANCY

English Heritage – Fort Cumberland Research Assistant (Zooarchaeology: Regional reviews of animal bone evidence) – Temporary 4.5 month post, £22,507 pro rata, Grade D

English Heritage is undertaking, either directly or through external commissioning, a series of regional reviews covering the different types of environmental evidence from archaeological sites and palaeoenvironmental deposits. The purpose of these reviews is to determine the extent of our knowledge of the past as gained from the study of biological remains, sediments and soils in England. They seek to identify gaps in our current understanding and highlight priorities and directions for future research at both a local, regional and national level. As such the reviews and supporting databases provide essential research in support of the development of regional and national research frameworks.

We require a Research Assistant to work with the English Heritage Zooarchaeologists to complete the bibliography of published (and select unpublished) animal bone reports and to compile a database of the animal bone data.

The duties of the post will include:

- Completion of bibliographic list
- Acquisition and assessment of reports
- Data entry
- Data checking

Our ideal candidate will possess a MA/ MSc. in Zooarchaeology or have proven experience in Zooarchaeology, and possess a first degree in an archaeological or environmental science. Experience in the digital compilation and synthesis of published animal bone data is essential. Some knowledge of the Roman period of Southern England would be an advantage.

The post will be based in Fort Cumberland, Portsmouth. Travelling to libraries and commercial units holding relevant publications and reports will be required.

For further details please contact Polydora Baker 02392 856774
Polydora.baker@english-heritage.org.uk

Only online applications will be accepted. Please see <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/jobs/> and go to Search our jobs.

Please note we do not accept CV's

Closing date: 20th November

Interviews: 28th November

Start Date: 5th December

PUBLICATIONS

Many thanks to James Greig for the following information:

Please send information to jimi.gee@virgin.net

BOOKS

C. Bakels (2009) *The western European loess belt*. Springer, Heidelberg

N.F. Miller (2010) *Botanical aspects of environment and economy at Gordion, Turkey*. University of Pennsylvania Museum, Philadelphia

N.F. Miller, K.M. Moore and K. Ryan (2011) *Sustainable lifeways. Cultural persistence in an ever-changing environment*. University of Pennsylvania Museum, Philadelphia

M. Mondini, J.G. Martinez, H.J. Muscio, et al. (2011) *Poblaciones humanas y ambientes en el Noroeste argentino durante el holoceno medio [Human population and environments in NE Argentina in the mid Holocene, in Spanish]*. Taller de Arqueología, Córdoba, ISBN 978 987 27025 0 2

CHAPTERS

- A. Bienek (2007) Neolithic plant husbandry in the Kujawy region of central Poland. In S. M. Colledge and J. Conolly (eds.), *The origins and spread of domestic plants in SW Asia and Europe*. Left Coast Press, Walnut Creek, Ca pp. 327-342.
- M.A. Blumler and J.G. Waines (2009) On the potential for spring sowing in the ancient Near East. In A. S. Fairbairn and E. Weiss (eds.), *From foragers to farmers*. Oxbow, Oxford pp. 19-26.
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## General Information

Standing in the tradition of the 1<sup>st</sup> Landscape Archaeology Conference held in Amsterdam in 2010, **LAC 2012** will provide a platform for archaeologists, geographers and researchers from neighbouring disciplines to present and discuss results in the broad field of geo- and landscape archaeology.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Landscape Archaeology Conference will take place at the Science & Conference Center of the Freie Universität Berlin on June 6–9, 2012.

## Important Dates

- ✦ June 2011  
First circular
- ✦ December 31, 2011  
Deadline for abstract submission (250 words)
- ✦ April 2012  
Deadline for registration
- ✦ April 10, 2012  
Deadline for submission of extended abstracts.

All contributors of oral presentations are requested to submit extended abstracts (3500 words, up to two figures, references). These abstracts will be published in the online publication medium of the Excellence Cluster Topoi: eTopoi

## Conference Fee

Early registration until 31 March 2012  
Regular **150 Euro** | Students **75 Euro**

Regular registration until 30 April 2012  
Regular **175 Euro** | Students **150 Euro**

The fees include VAT (where applicable)

## Organisation | Contact

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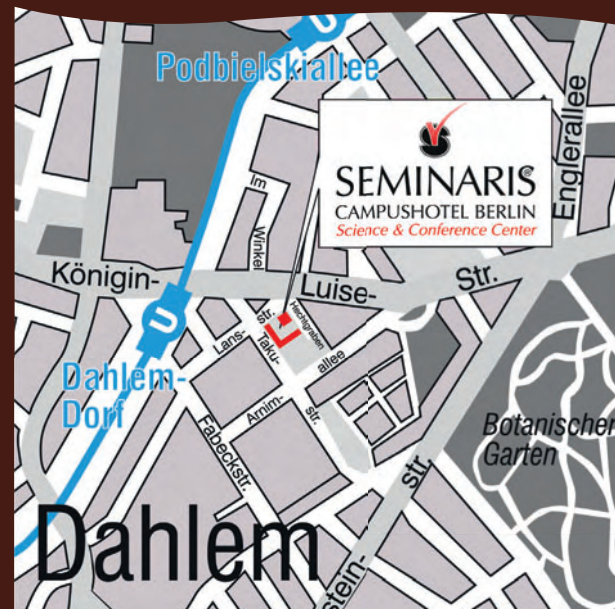
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**In the past decade, the field of landscape archaeology has increasingly attracted researchers from the geo sciences, archaeology and the historical disciplines.**

**The scope of the conference will cover the following session topics:**

### **Ancient megastructures and their environment**

A megastructure is an assemblage of constructions that is distinguished by its monumentality, its planned structure, and the great amount of labour required for its erection, often over a longer period of time. The main interest of this session is the embedment of such megastructures in space, taking special note of the relationship between megastructure and hinterland. In this context, the term megastructure does not pertain to settlements alone, but includes sanctuaries, grave monuments, etc. ...

The themes to be dealt with include reciprocal effects between the centre and the environs, the effects on available resources through the continual use of megastructures, and the possible reaction to the shortage of resources. A further point of interest is the expansion of modern agglomerations onto previous megastructures and the socio-political and landscape archaeological handling of this situation.

### **Landscape resilience to human impact**

It is assumed that during early settlement history, settlement characteristics corresponded to local strategies of adaptation to the natural environment. While these impacts were small or negligible during the earliest settlement phases, ongoing cultural development led to increasingly substantial impact on natural landscape and decreasing levels of dependency on local environmental conditions. Meanwhile, each kind of human impact affected the landscape's dynamic equilibrium, causing changes in material fluxes. Depending on its sensitivity, each landscape reacted differently to disturbances.

The session deals with the evaluation of the interrelations between landscape systems and human landuse strategies and with the analysis of landscape sensitivity and landscape resilience to human impact.

### **Human adaptation to landscape changes**

There is a strong interaction between people and their physical environment. Landscape in archaeology today is understood as the topography of the social and the cultural as much as the physical contours (David, Thomas 2008). This implies that humans react to landscape changes in respect of all these aspects. A large combination of natural science methods, such as geo- and bioarchaeology, allows the detection of the human-environment relationships, which never represent purely adaptive processes but consist of conceptions of the landscape.

We would like to bring together various approaches with the goal of exchanging views on methodological procedures, results, critical factors, and other research perspectives without any temporal or spatial limits. So we will gain a wide-ranging comparison of different ways of human adaptation to landscape changes.

### **Spatial information systems in landscape archaeology**

Work with spatially distributed digital data is groundwork for modern landscape archaeological projects and is increasingly becoming a basic requirement. Depending on the subject under investigation, spatial information systems provide help in organizing, analysing and presenting spatial data on different scales.

Results of archaeological field surveys, spatially distributed palaeo-ecological samplings, remote sensing data at various scales, geomorphological and archaeological mapping, spatially referenced literature analysis, predictive modelling, pattern detection, 3D GIS, and spatial statistics are only some aspects of the wide field of innovation to be presented in this session.

### **Theoretical concepts in landscape archaeology**

Today a variety of different theoretical concepts determine the joint research of archaeologists and geoscientists, all of which can be summarised under the terms landscape or geoarchaeology. One example of a geographical concept being applied within the framework of archaeology is the theory of central places by W. Christaller. Such concepts and theories were normally developed using measuring data in contrast to the proxy data normally available within landscape archaeological projects. So, how successful is such an adoption? Where are the limitations and how can we deal with problems that may occur?

This session provides a platform for the presentation, evaluation and discussion of theoretical concepts in the wide field of landscape archaeology and addresses the question of what the future will bring for the discipline of landscape archaeology.