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Copy dates for Items for the Newsletter may be submitted by e-mail or on disk. Newsletter: 20th of the following months - January / April / July / October. Short typed manuscripts can be sent to Wendy Carruthers.

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**EDITORIAL**

Happy New Year!

This issue of the Newsletter contains information about the Spring Conference in Birmingham and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Autumn Conference in York. Please note that overnight accommodation in Birmingham needs to be booked by **20<sup>th</sup> February**. We would be grateful for a volunteer to report on this meeting for the May Newsletter.

Membership subscriptions were due in January, so please check that you have paid the correct amount (see News from the Committee below).

**NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE RETIREMENT AND NEW APPOINTMENTS**

The Chair of the AEA, Dr Nicki Whitehouse, stepped down in December 2008, after completing more than one year of her term of office. Nicki previously served as Ordinary Member (2002-2006) and Membership Secretary (2006-2007) on the AEA Committee. The AEA Committee would like to thank Nicki for her very hard work as a Committee member over the years. Nicki has made a long-standing and valued contribution to ensure the continued success and growth of the AEA, and we wish her well.

Dr Andy Howard (University of Birmingham, England) has been co-opted to the position of Chair until elections can take place at the 2009 AGM later this year. Dr Rebecca Nicholson (Oxford Archaeology, England) has been co-opted to the position of Ordinary Member to fill Andy Howard's vacant position, again until elections can take place at the 2009 AGM later this year.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not yet paid your AEA membership subscription for 2009, your payment is now overdue (payment was due on 1<sup>st</sup> January). A renewal form is printed at the back of this Newsletter. You do not need to complete this form if you have already arranged to pay your membership fee by standing order.

There is 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.

**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, many 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 complete the form at the back of the Newsletter.

**Non-UK members – Visa:** 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:

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## THE JOURNAL: CALL FOR PAPERS

The Journal's editor, Ingrid Mainland, would like to encourage AEA members to submit research papers, review articles or short contributions on any aspect of environmental archaeology. Full details regarding submission to the Journal can be found at the following website: <http://www.maney.co.uk/journals/env>, or contact Ingrid Mainland for further information.

### Journal Editor:

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## RECEIVING THE JOURNAL

If you have paid your 2008 subscription but have not yet received your copy of 13.2, please contact the Membership Secretary ([membership@envarch.net](mailto:membership@envarch.net)) to check your current membership status.

**Eurozone members** using the **IBAN** system to pay membership fees are reminded that they **must include their name on the payment**. We have received a small number of payments where the name has not been recorded, and we **cannot ascertain who has made the payment**, which means that the Journal cannot be sent out to these people. If you have paid your 2008 membership fee by IBAN and **have not yet received the Journal**, please contact the Membership Secretary (contact details above).

## ONLINE ACCESS FOR ALL MEMBERS TO THE JOURNAL

Online access to *Environmental Archaeology* (Volume 11 onwards) is now available to **all** members. If you would like to **register** for access the Journal online, please email Rob Craigie, the AEA Webmaster ([r.craigie@shef.ac.uk](mailto:r.craigie@shef.ac.uk)) with your chosen **username** and a **password**. When your registration has been

accepted, access to the Journal will be available through a link on the AEA website ([www.envarch.net](http://www.envarch.net)). Please note that access will only be made available to fully paid-up members.

**Institutional subscription** to *Environmental Archaeology* is **only £116** (\$228 in North America) and **includes online access to the full text**. If your institution is not currently subscribing to the Journal, please encourage them to do so. Information on institutional subscriptions to the Journal is available at: <http://www.maney.co.uk/journals/env>

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## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

### AEA ONE-DAY SPRING MEETING

*Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009*

**Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham**

The Association for Environmental Archaeology (AEA), The Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, The University of Birmingham and The School of Science and the Environment, Bath Spa University are pleased to announce an AEA one-day Spring Meeting on **Saturday, 28th March 2009**.

Traditionally, the spring meeting normally consists of a number of 15-20 minute papers on a range of subjects and is a venue for the presentation of 'work in progress' and first papers by research students on a variety of subjects. Papers from research students or more established colleagues presenting preliminary results are most welcome.

Spring conferences often have a themed mini-section reflecting the research interests of the hosts. This year we would like to explore the theme of 'modern analogue studies'. These studies underlie much of our interpretations about the past, especially in environmental/ geoarchaeological disciplines, and have gained increasing importance in the last few years. In addition to their role in terms of elucidating taphonomic effects they have been increasingly used as a way of defining possible 'fingerprints' (indicator packages) for past materials/ activities or as an 'actualistic' test of past behaviour/activity to refine our current interpretations of the past. Papers which address this theme will be very welcome.

#### Location

The conference will be hosted by the Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity at the University of Birmingham. It will take place in Lecture Room 3 the Arts Faculty Building (building R16 on the campus map) on the University Main Campus at Edgbaston. Directions to the Arts Building and the University can be found at <http://www.bham.ac.uk/about/maps/>.

#### Conference fee

The conference fee will be £27.50 and this includes coffee / tea at arrival, mid-morning and afternoon. A two course 'finger buffet' lunch is also included in the price. The Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity is also offering to cover the conference fee for the first 10 students to book a place.

#### Student poster prize

The AEA is delighted to announce that a £50 book token will be awarded to the best student poster displayed at the meeting.

#### Accommodation

The University of Birmingham can offer a limited amount of overnight accommodation in the Conference Park. This is charged at the rate of £75.00 for a single room and £95.00 for a double.

#### Booking

An on-line registration form for this conference is available at <http://www.iaa.bham.ac.uk/aea2009/>.

This should be returned by email to [d.n.smith@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.n.smith@bham.ac.uk) by Wednesday, **11<sup>th</sup> March 2009**. Overnight accommodation will need to be booked no later than **20th February 2009**.

#### Provisional list of papers for AEA one-day spring meeting, Birmingham

1) **Tim Mighall, Ian Foster, Nigel Pitman** (Aberdeen / Westminster / Coventry)

*'Vegetation change and human impact during the Late Holocene in the English Midlands: Pollen and non-pollen palynomorph data from Aqualate Mere, Staffordshire'*

2) **Steve Davis** (School of Archaeology, University College Dublin)

*'Analogue insect assemblages from settlement reconstructions at the Irish National Heritage Park, Ferrycarrig'*

**3) Dragana Filipovic**, (School of Archaeology, Oxford)

*'Traditional' agricultural practices in the Kastamonu region, Turkey'*

**4) Micheal Wallace**, (Archaeology, Sheffield).

*'Identifying irrigation through stable carbon isotopes: is it possible?'*

**5) Paul Davis** (Bath Spa)

*"Mind the Gap" – modern analogue studies and the environmental interpretation of land snail assemblage'*

**6) David Smith, Nicki Whitehouse, Jane Bunting and Henry Chapman** (Institute for Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham / Archaeology, Queen's University, Belfast/ Archaeology Hull)

*'Composition, Openness and the European 'Wildwood': Modern Studies of Insect Assemblages and their Implications for Palaeoentomology'*

**7) Pam Grinter** (Institute for Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham)

*"Hay today Gone Tomorrow" (tales of Tractors, a stocking and woods)'*

**8) Harry Kenward** (Archaeology, York University)

*'Why do delicate organic remains survive in floors and middens? Experiments in early stage taphonomy of plant and insect macrofossils in aerated organic accumulations'*

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### **AEA 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEETING** **York, 3-5 September 2009**

As previously announced, the annual residential meeting of the AEA - our 30th Anniversary symposium - will be held at the University of York, York, UK, 3rd-5th September 2009.

We are planning two full days of papers aligned to the following loose themes:

Thread 1: *Environmental Archaeology, climatic change and sustainability: past and present*

Thread 2: *Environmental Archaeology and developer-funded research: constraints and opportunities*

Thread 3: *General session: research and advances in Environmental Archaeology*

We welcome offers of papers (15-20 mins duration) and posters: please use the booking form on the conference [web site](#) to offer a paper or poster and to make a booking for accommodation. The link from the registration page to 'Abstracts' will give guidance as to what we information we need.

We do not propose to produce a conference volume as such, but papers (subject to the usual refereeing processes) are always welcomed by the Editors of the AEA's journal *Environmental Archaeology* and we would urge contributors of papers to consider this route.

A Conference Dinner will be held on the evening of Friday 4th September and the Association's Annual General Meeting will also be held during the conference. Combined costs for full board – accommodation and meals (including Conference Dinner) – and registration fee for the whole meeting (Thursday afternoon to Saturday afternoon) will probably be no more than £216 for AEA members, with a reduction for student, unwaged and retired members and a slightly higher charge for non-members.

In view of the anniversary nature of the meeting, we would also like to gather images from previous meetings. If you have any images – preferably electronic – relevant to past meetings of the AEA (but none which might result in litigation!) send them, with a caption if appropriate, to the organisers for inclusion in a poster to be mounted during the meeting.

There are currently no firm plans for a field excursion on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. – there is plenty to do and see as an 'archaeo-tourist' in York, in any case! – although it may be possible that a visit will be arranged to the well-known Mesolithic site at Star Carr in NE Yorkshire if fieldwork coincides with the conference. Another possibility is a visit to the major 5-year excavation at Hungate in the city, or to see ongoing work at Heslington East (a few minutes on foot from the present campus), where the University is building a new campus.

#### **AEA Conference Fund**

The AEA has £750 to disburse (in five £150 allocations) to members of the Association who need assistance in attending the meeting. Priority will be given to those with limited alternative sources of funding (particularly postgraduate students and those in the commercial field). Links from the conference web page provide more information and an application form.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in York this September!

[Allan Hall](#), [Andy Hammon](#) and [Harry Kenward](#)

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**FOOD AND DRINK IN ARCHAEOLOGY 2009**  
**17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> April**  
**University of Nottingham**

The AEA is sponsoring a session at the Food and Drink in Archaeology 2009 conference which will take place at the University of Nottingham on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April. Archaeology has a long tradition of food and drink studies. Originally concerned with nutrition and later with economics, archaeologists now recognise that research into the production, distribution and consumption of foodstuffs has the potential to reveal much about the ideology and structure of past societies. Food and drink are relevant to all areas of archaeology, regardless of geography, temporality or sub-discipline. This conference series seeks, therefore, to unite researchers from different fields through a common interest in foodways.

The AEA is also sponsoring a prize of free AEA membership (one year) for the best student poster in the AEA-sponsored session at this conference. Further information on the conference is available at: [http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/archaeology/research/conf\\_fooddrink.php](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/archaeology/research/conf_fooddrink.php).

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