

# Association for Environmental Archaeology Newsletter 73 (August 2001)

ISSN 1363-6553

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Edited by Wendy Carruthers and Vanessa Straker

Copy dates for Newsletter: 20th of the following months - January / April / July / October.

Items for the Newsletter may be submitted by e-mail or on disk (3.5" floppy disks in IBM-PC format as WordPerfect, Word or ASCII files). Short typed manuscripts can be sent to:

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**EDITORIAL**

This edition of the Newsletter provides information about the one day meeting in Birmingham in honour of Professor Susan Limbrey (September 18th). Please help the organisers by returning the booking form at the back of this Newsletter as soon as possible. We are also grateful to Mark Nesbitt for his report on the very successful IWGP meeting that took place in Sheffield in June.

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mark Nesbitt & Delwen Samuel are moving house from Cambridge. Their new address will be in London but is currently uncertain. In the meantime, please use their work addresses for communication, which are:

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## NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Moved recently? Got a new e-mail address? You can now register all changes of address electronically via an on-line form at the AEA website: <http://www.envarch.net/aeaform.html> or click on the "[Modify your AEA details](#)" option on the main menu. There is also a section on the form where you can provide an update on your current research interests. All completed entries are automatically e-mailed to the AEA Membership Secretary (Ruth Pelling, email: [ruth.pelling@oum.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.pelling@oum.ox.ac.uk)).

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## ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY: THE JOURNAL OF HUMAN PALAEOECOLOGY

This is to remind all members of the AEA that they can submit manuscripts for consideration in EA. As you know, EA provides a forum for the full range of sub-disciplines in environmental archaeology and seeks to publish a wide range of contributions in all fields of environmental archaeology from all regions of the world. Topics can range from methodology to synthesis to theory. Papers on new techniques, philosophical discussions, current controversies and suggestions on areas for new research, as well as conventional research papers are acceptable. We particularly want to encourage contributions from AEA members so get your thinking caps on, pick up your pens, and send us your words of wisdom!

Glynis Jones, Co-ordinating Editor of 'Environmental Archaeology', Dept. of Archaeology &

Prehistory, University of Sheffield, Northgate House, West Street, Sheffield S1 4ET UK (Tel: 0114 22 22904, Fax: 0114 272 2563, Email: [g.jones@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:g.jones@sheffield.ac.uk))

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## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

### AEA ONE DAY MEETING, 18th September 2001

In Honour of  
Professor Susan Limbrey

The University of Birmingham

#### Nature of the meeting

This one day meeting is the annual one day AEA meeting with an added twist. In addition Prof. Susan Limbrey is retiring in September 2001 it seem the ideal opportunity to present a day conference in her honour.

The day meeting will take place in the Arts Building at Birmingham University. There will be a booking fee of £ 5.00 which can be paid in advance. To download a booking form click on one of the following options - [rich text format \(\\*.rtf\)](#) or [Microsoft Word97 format \(\\*.doc\)](#)

#### Provisional timetable

9.45 Welcome.

John Hunter, The University of Birmingham.

9.50 Introduction.

Alan Hall, EAU, University of York.

9.55 The Severn-Wye Revisited: Floodplain Palaeoenvironments in the Wye Basin.

Tony Brown, University of Exeter.

10.20 Holocene Environmental Change of the Severn Estuary: Regional & National Perspectives.

Denise Druce, Lampeter University.

10.45 Coffee

11.15 The History of Woodland Management During the 19th and 20th Centuries in the Pindos Mountains NW Greece.

Caroline Hall.

11.40 Landscape Evolution and Land-Use in the Lesser Antilles.

Jen Heathcote, English Heritage.

12.05 Microstratigraphy and Micromorphology: Contributions to Interpretation of the Neolithic Settlement and Landscape at Catalhoyuk, Turkey.

Wendy Mathers, Reading University.

12.30 Lunch

2.0 Wondering about Worms: Stones Soil and Stratigraphy.

Mat Canti, English Heritage.

2.25 Environment and Health in Romano-British Urban Communities: Reflections from the Cemeteries.

Rebecca Redfern, University of Durham.

2.50 The long term Development of Anthropogenic Soils in the Northern Isles.  
Erika Guttman, University of Sterling.

3.15 Coffee

3.45 Regional Review: Geoarchaeological Studies in Northern England.  
Ramimonda Usai, EAU, University of York.

4.10 Circular Field Systems in Herefordshire.  
Rebecca Rosseff.

4.35 Not Seeing the Trees for the Wood: Reflections on the Nature and Diversity of early and Middle Holocene Insect Faunas in the UK and Ireland.  
Nicki Whitehouse & David Smith.

5.0 Finish

#### Catering

Tea and coffee will be provided on the day. Lunch will not be formally organized but there is a wide range of food outlets on the campus.

#### Accommodation

Suggestions of where to stay the nights of the 17th and the 18th of September can be obtained from the organizers.

#### Dinner in honour of Susan Limbrey

The dinner will be held at Horton Grange and costs £ 29.00 per person. The price includes a five-course dinner and half a bottle of wine. All friends of Susan, conference attendees and speakers are welcome. Unfortunately, no bookings for the dinner can be accepted without a cheque / money order for the full amount in sterling. Please indicated at the time of booking if you are a vegan / vegetarian or have any special dietary requirements. Please make your cheque payable to the University of Birmingham.

#### How to get to Birmingham University

A number of maps and guides of how to get to the University of Birmingham by car, train or foot are available at the following web address <http://www.location.bham.ac.uk/>. Alternatively, university maps are available from the organizers on request.

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## QRA FIELD MEETING

Thanks to Nicki Whitehouse for this information. Nicki writes:

“people wanting further details can get them from either myself ([n.whitehouse@gub.ac.uk](mailto:n.whitehouse@gub.ac.uk)) or Mark Bateman ([M.D.Bateman@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:M.D.Bateman@sheffield.ac.uk)). The field trip is likely to be of interest to Quaternary scientists and palaeoecologists as well as more widely to environmental archaeologists who have an interest in this area of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire”

### **Quaternary Research Association Short Field Meeting: North Lincolnshire and Eastern Yorkshire 13th -16th September 2001**

Organisers: Mark D. Bateman (Sheffield), Paul Buckland (Sheffield), Mark Dinnin (Exeter), Nicki Whitehouse (Queen's, Belfast)

This short field meeting will run from Thursday 13th to Sunday 16th 2001. This region was

ice marginal during the Dimlington Stadial and subsequently has undergone significant changes. Highlights include deposits of proglacial Lake Humber, periglacial covers and deposition and extensive peat development in the Humberhead levels.

Arrangements: The meeting will start with evening registration and introductory talk on Thursday 13th September at Tupton Hall, University of Sheffield where accommodation can be booked for those who require it. Sheffield is convenient for the M1, has direct rail connections to London and you can now fly directly to Sheffield using Sheffield City Airport. Transport will be restricted to 2 minibuses, which limits participation to around 25 people. (This can be reconsidered if there is sufficient demand).

Themes:

1. The Dimlington Stadial ice limits
2. The Lateglacial periglacial and aeolian record in Northern Lincolnshire
3. Holocene palaeoenvironmental peat records

To download a booking form click on one of the following options - [rich text format \(\\*.rtf\)](#) or [Microsoft Word97 format \(\\*.doc\)](#)

Provisional programme

Evening of Arrival (13th September)

Introductory talk

Day 1: East Yorkshire Coast

Dimlington Type site of Dimlington Stadial, Basement, Skipsea and Withernsea tills. Skipsea and/or Gransmoor Kettlehole sites with detailed palaeoenvironmental reconstructions associated with them.

Flamborough/Sewerby Ipswichian raised beach, Skipsea and basement tills,

Day 2: Ice Marginal North Lincolnshire

South Ferriby Cliff exposures of till and head deposits in the Humber gap.

Winterringham Moraine ridge and fluvioglacial sands and gravels.

Yarborough Cold climate aeolian sands (coversands), periglacial thermal contraction cracks/sand wedges.

Twigmoor Woods Inland dune system relating to Loch Lomond Stadial/Holocene

Black Walk Nook Periglacial coversand sheet with exposures in old quarry.

Day 3: Ice Marginal North Lincolnshire and the Holocene Record

Gringley-on Hill Large mound (long barrow?) and view across the Humberhead Levels

Cove Farm/Haxey Sand and gravel fluvial sequence, with Lateglacial organics, overlain by blown sands.

Thorne /Bradholme Devensian ice limits and Late Holocene diversion of the River Don.

Lindholme/ Hatfield Moor Moraine ridge, extensive Holocene palaeoenvironmental record

Evening Return to Sheffield for departures

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**THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ANCIENT DNA AND ASSOCIATED BIO-MOLECULES**

Jerusalem, Israel

July 21-25, 2002

The next international meeting on ancient DNA (aDNA) will take place in Jerusalem, July 21st to 25th, 2002. As well as papers on ancient DNA there will be a session on associated ancient biomolecules, as well as a full session on forensics (the practical aspect of aDNA).

Jerusalem and Israel stand at the heart of some of the most exciting archaeological finds relating to the rise of civilization. The Dead Sea Scrolls and Qumran, Massada, and the Carmel Caves will be central features of the visit. The conference will consist of keynote lectures, presented papers, posters, round-tables, and hands-on workshops. Major concerns will be plant and animal domestication, ancient pathogens -especially tuberculosis and influenza, forensic sciences, ancient bio-molecules other than DNA, and cutting-edge technologies.

Jerusalem will be the central focus, but field trips will be planned to important archaeological excavations and museums.

At the moment we are preparing a mailing of posters and pre-registration forms and would welcome expressions of interest etc. All announcements after the first mailing will be made by e.mail, including. pre-registration, and abstract submission. Any suggestions for organization and topics will be appreciated.

Mark Spigelman

DNA 6

email: [dna6@md.huji.ac.il](mailto:dna6@md.huji.ac.il)

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An International Conference on:

**'HOLOCENE ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHES AND RECOVERY'**

2-7 Sept. 2002 at Brunel Univesity, west London.

Co-sponsored by Brunel University, INQUA and PAGES.

The four main themes are:

- 1 - Geological catastrophes and their impact on society e.g. megalandslides, earthquakes, tsunami, fires, volcanic eruptions
- 2 - Environmental causes of civilisation collapse
- 3 - Biological impacts on societies: extinctions, epidemics, plague, haemorrhagic fever
- 4 - Climatological impacts on society, e.g. historical droughts.

An informal pre-conference fieldtrip is planned that will examine evidence for past environmental catastrophes in the Scottish Highlands (post-glacial large-magnitude earthquakes; glacial megafloods; Storegga-Slides tsunami event; human impacts of Icelandic volcanic catastrophes; environmental disturbances in Loch Ness).

Preliminary dates for the fieldtrip are 26 to 31 August 2002. More details to follow.

see for more information:

<http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geo/Catastrophes/>

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## **BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

### Programme of Meetings 2001-2002

Meetings are held at 5.00pm in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Picadilly, London W1V 0HS. Non-members are welcome to attend occasional lectures but are asked to make themselves known to the Hon. Director on arrival & sign the visitors book.

3 Oct. 2001

'Cistercian Austerity & Cathedral Splendour: the 13th century eastern arm of Fountains Abbey Church reconstructed' by Stuart Harrison (preceded by the AGM).

7 Nov. 2001

'Patronage, Promotion & Commemoration in the 15th century chantry chapel of North Leigh, Oxfordshire' by Kate Heard

5 Dec. 2001

'Nonsuch Palace Revisited' by Prof Martin Biddle

2 Jan. 2002

'St George for Merrie England: the meanings & metaphors of a patron saint' by Dr Samantha Riches (followed by Twelfth-Night Party).

6 Feb. 2002

'English Castles as Pleasure Palaces in the 13th & 14th centuries' by Jeremy Ashbee.

6 March 2002

'Anglo-Scottish Border Churches 1290-1690: fortification, security & defence' by Dr Christopher Brooke

3 April 2002

'The groundplan of the English Romanesque Church' by Dr Richard Plant

1 May 2002

Millennium Review Lecture Series –8 'Monumental Brasses from the 13th to the 20th century: new directions since Kent & Emmerson' by Sally Badham (followed by President's Reception).

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## **CONFERENCE REPORTS**

### **12TH SYMPOSIUM OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORK GROUP FOR PALAEOETHNOBOTANY**

Sheffield, 17-23 June 2001

#### **Conference report by Mark Nesbitt**

The IWGP is a relatively informal gathering of (mainly) European archaeobotanists that meets every three years. The 1992 meeting in Kiel was perhaps the last at which the informal structure could cope with the ever-increasing numbers of participants. At Innsbruck (1995) and Toulouse (1998) there were far too many talks – 85 in Toulouse – often badly presented

and running over time. Precious time for microscope sessions looking at colleagues' material – the original *raison d'être* of the IWGP – was squeezed into the evenings.

Given the formidable reputation for efficiency of the Sheffield organisers, Glynis Jones and Mike Charles, there was every reason to hope for something different this year. A total of just 50 talks were accepted (through the application of a strict deadline for responses to circulars), and a good proportion of posters (20). Two full afternoons were given for lab sessions, and two for posters. The schedule allowed 25 minutes for presentations and questions, and this worked well – almost everyone kept within time. Overall the standard of talks was excellent, with slow, clear diction. Only the overheads continue to tantalise, with long lists of plant names in unreadable 12 point type.

One problem with the last IWGP venue was the nearby historic city centre. Combined with excellent weather, these led many to desert the lecture halls of Toulouse for easier distractions. Neither Sheffield's weather (uniformly grey except for sunny evenings) nor its city centre offered such distractions, and attendance was good throughout the meeting.

Speakers had been asked to choose a thematic aspect of their work, from Analytical Archaeobotany, Historical Archaeology, Consumption, or Collecting and Cultivation. Refreshingly, this prompted most to address issues of interpretation of wider interest, rather than the grimly descriptive accounts sometimes characteristic of earlier IWGPs. I can only mention a few talks that particularly struck me, starting with Analytical Archaeobotany.

### **The talks – Analytical Archaeobotany**

The role (if any) of shifting cultivation in the Central European Neolithic continues to be much debated. Amy Bogaard (Sheffield) presented an elegant ecological analysis of the weed flora from recent experimental plots in Germany, showing both that the weed flora did not resemble that known from the Neolithic, and in particular that the experimental flora was dominated by perennial rather than annual weeds. Manfred Rosch (Hemmenhofen) showed preliminary results from a much more long-term and large-scale experiment in shifting cultivation that will clearly generate a lot of new data on this topic. Continuing the theme of ecological interpretation of weeds, Sue Colledge (London) investigated correlations between cereals cultivated and their weed flora at Tell Brak in Syria. A shift to barley is accompanied by weeds suggestive either of environmental degradation or an expansion of cultivation onto steppe. Alison Hynd (Sheffield) addressed the vexed question of how detailed our weed seed identifications need to be, by looking at variability in ecologically significant physical characteristics at species, genus and family level. This could help us to decide which plant groups most merit investment in identification.

The routes by which plant remains enter the archaeological record (food? weeds? construction materials?) were investigated in some posters. Wendy Carruthers (Wales) and Kath Hunter (Gloucester) used spatial plotting to show that the very abundant remains of *Carex* nutlets at a Saxon site derive from burning of peat for fuel, or the use of turf in walls, rather than as weeds of cultivation on wet soils.

Walton "Tinker" Green (Yale) argued the importance of using simple graphics to display quantitative data. While I think it's true that in the late 1980s archaeobotanists became carried away by data analysis that sometimes obscured more than it revealed, that's not true now. Plenty of simple graphics were on display through the meeting, while more complex techniques, such as Correspondence Analysis, are now used to produce clear and easily understood graphics.

### **Historical Archaeology**

This session combined some dull descriptive accounts of routine data, with some truly extraordinary finds. These latter included Caroline Vermeeren's (Amsterdam) work on spices



used to embalm members of the Dutch royal family, and Mark Robinson's (Oxford) burnt offerings of stone pine, dates and figs from the gardens of Pompeian villas (with similar material from a Roman temple in Mainz, reported by Barbara Zach(Köln)). In the poster session Jan Bastiaens and Heidi Tency (Belgium) presented intriguing burnt stores of grain from inside a 12th century church; the use of churches as a safe storeroom for grain seems to have been common at this time. These, and Angela Kreuz's (Wiesbaden) exploration of Roman agriculture in Germany, all made good use of historical sources, but this was a disappointingly thin session, given the potential for comparison of textual and archaeological materials in these later periods.

### **Consumption – food, fodder and cuisine**

I thought this too a thin section, reflecting the fact that consumption, though an interesting (and fashionable) topic, is not easily studied using most archaeobotanical material. Dorian Fuller (London) showed convincing differences between the Near Eastern crop complex of Neolithic western India, compared to the indigenous domesticates of southern India. However, it was not clear to me that the changes in pottery style that accompany the arrival of Near Eastern crops in southern India were necessarily linked to a parallel change in cuisine. It's plausible, but a more worked-out argument is needed to show that the changes in pottery shape are not simply changes in fashion. Tania Valamoti's (Thessaloniki) talk was a thorough analysis of some intriguing samples of fragmented grains from Bronze Age Greece. Careful experimental charring of cracked grains suggests the archaeological material does represent true food remains of cracked wheat (bulgur).

### **Collecting and Cultivation**

Interest in early agriculture continues to be strong. George Willcox (CNRS) presented a remarkably well-preserved Neolithic "kitchen" at Jerf el Ahmar, Syria. It was well furnished with grinding stones, one of which had two oilseed cakes sitting on top. Andy Fairbairn (Canberra) presented the rich plant materials recovered by extensive sampling at Çatalhöyük, central Turkey. Although a wide range of wild food plants was used, the abundance of cereals and pulses strongly suggests this was an agricultural settlement, contrary to results from physical anthropology. The significance of Anaya Sarpaki's (Crete) important new Neolithic material from Knossos in Crete is lessened by the tiny sample sizes: just 40 seeds from the earliest, prepottery level.

### **Open sessions**

These included some highly reliable regular speakers. Ann Butler (London) showed that, as often, if pod characters of multiple populations of legumes were studied, few truly diagnostic characters could be found. Rediscovery of Fahn and Zohary's (1955) paper suggests that the conventional anatomical explanation for loss of dehiscence in domesticated legumes (reduction in the layers of endocarp fibres) is incorrect. Alan Hall's (York) search for reliable evidence for tanning, in the form of oak bark identified by its sclerids, will be sending many to re-examine waterlogged lumps in their medieval and later pits. Mordechai Kislev's (Bar Ilan) excellent SEMs once again demonstrated how many insects can survive charring in crop stores. Rainer Pasternak (Kiel) presented results from an estimated 36 tonnes of charred grain at Hittite Bo?azköy. Some germinated barley grains found in Hittite amphora at Ku?akli suggest malting may have been in progress.

One group of two speakers offered a mini-symposium on wheat evolution, generating much discussion on this perennially fascinating (at least to me) topic. Continuing poor results in extracting ancient DNA from charred plant remains (desiccated material is much better) have prompted a shift to looking at DNA relationships in current day-wheats. Andrew Isaac (UMIST) compared microsatellites in Italian emmer wheats. Modelling of the genetic bottlenecks introduced during the spread of emmer into Italy suggests a point of origin in northern Puglia, a result that correlates well with archaeological evidence. Angela

Schlumbaum (Basel) presented continuing work on the enigmatic evolution of spelt. DNA evidence continues to fail to discriminate between a European origin (from an *aestivum* x *dicoccum* cross) and an Asian origin (MacKey 1954, Schiemann 1932). On the subject of wheat, my talk explored the rich vein of folklore surrounding mummy wheat and miracle wheat. A show of hands established that these tales – of germination of seeds from ancient tombs – are very widespread.

### **Demonstrations and other activities**

As ever, plant remains on show were either beautiful, rich samples, or horrible, unidentifiable weirdos. The prize winner for beauty was a superbly preserved mix of charred *Avena sativa* and *A. strigosa* florets from a stable. Much time was spent comparing notes on the robust form of emmer, recently published by Glynis Jones et al. (2000), with a tentative attribution to *Triticum timopheevi*. An opportunity to view material convinces me that it is a separate form, but attribution to a particular species depends on a broader survey of modern reference material.

A reception was held in the University's Glass Museum. This was a welcome opportunity to catch up with a broad range of attendees – sometimes difficult because of cramped conditions in the conference venue, and the separate housing of students (in a wonderful, converted church). The main conference accommodation was in the 1960s Tipton hall of residence, which benefited from proximity to the small but charming University Botanic Garden. A tour of its ecological experiments (the garden is home to the well-known Unit of Comparative Plant Ecology) was very popular.

### **Conclusions**

First-rate organisation and careful consideration to the balance of activities made this a highly successful and enjoyable meeting. There's no doubt in my mind that archaeobotany is less exciting now than in the 1980s (or is it just that I'm getting older?), perhaps reflecting a greater maturity in the discipline. However, one seemingly intractable problem that has foxed archaeobotanists for 100 years – the ecological interpretation of weed seeds – does seem to be making real progress, thanks to the impact of functional ecology and multivariate statistics (techniques pioneered at Sheffield). Wheat evolution continues to be exciting, too. But nothing beats the IWGP for exposure to results from around Europe, or as a forum for viewing material and catching up with colleagues. As is now usual practice, some conference papers will be published in the journal *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*.

This IWGP attracted a lower attendance (of about 120) than usual, perhaps reflecting current exchange rates that make travel to the UK difficult for European colleagues. However the lower attendance made this a pleasingly intimate gathering, with plenty of time for talking. 33 of those present were former or current Sheffield University students, testimonial to its pre-eminent role in teaching archaeobotany in Europe.

The next IWGP will be held in Girona, Spain in 2004, hosted by Ramon Buxo i Capdevila of Barcelona. Girona has beautiful architecture, cheap accommodation and good food, so it will certainly be a well attended meeting. However, if IWGP is to continue to survive as a worthwhile meeting, the challenge for the Spanish team will be to maintain and further develop the organisational changes introduced so successfully by the Sheffield team. In particular, I would like to see the thematic sessions strengthened, perhaps through "subcontracting" their organisation to session chairs, along similar lines to many of the big American meetings.

### **References:**

Fahn, A & M. Zohary. 1955. On the pericarpial structure of the legumen, its evolution and relation to dehiscence. *Phytomorphology* 5: 99-111.

Jones, G., S. Valamoti, and M. Charles. 2000. Early crop diversity: a "new" glume wheat from northern Greece. *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany* 9:133-146.

Mac Key, J. 1954. Neutron and X-ray experiments in wheats and a revision of the speltoid problem. *Hereditas* 40:65-180.

Schiemann, E. 1932. Pfahlbauweizen - historisches und Phylogenetisches. *Zeitschrift für Pflanzenzüchtung* 17:36-54.

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## **JOB ADVERTISEMENT**

Applicants are invited to work on a Leverhulme Trust funded project 'The potential of chironomids for characterising urban and rural human activities'.

The post will be for one year, commencing on 1st October 2001. The successful candidate will join the Late Quaternary Research Group of the School of Geography and Archaeology at the University of Exeter. Candidates must have completed a PhD in a relevant field and be experienced in entomology or palaeoecological analyses.

Further information may be obtained from Dr Pete Langdon (email: [P.G.Langdon@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:P.G.Langdon@exeter.ac.uk)) or Professor Tony Brown (email: [A.G.Brown@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:A.G.Brown@exeter.ac.uk)). This Postdoctoral Research Assistant post will be formally advertised on jobs.ac.uk in the near future.

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## **PHD ABSTRACT**

Sarah H. Morriss, Department of Geography, University of Southampton, has kindly supplied an abstract of her recently completed PhD.

Recent human impact and land use change in Britain and Ireland: a pollen analytical and geochemical study

With the exception of a few researchers, the study of the historic period to the present day has largely been neglected by palaeoecologists and existing studies often lack multiple methods of reconstruction, sufficient chronologies or detailed correlation with the documentary record. Consequently, this research seeks to investigate what effect human activity has had on the environment over the recent past by using a multi-proxy approach, trying to establish more rigorous chronological control over profiles and comparing sequences with local historical evidence.

A number of analytical techniques have been applied to four peat profiles from three

ombrotrophic mires: Abbeyknockmoy (Co. Galway, Ireland), Shaw Moss (southwest Cumbria) and Tregaron (Southeast and West Bogs, Ceredigion, Wales); and three profiles from two lake deposits: Lake Gormire (Yorkshire) and Talkin Tarn (north Cumbria). Pollen analysis is used as the principal method of vegetation reconstruction at all sites, while Silicon and Titanium analyses were also undertaken at Abbeyknockmoy, Shaw Moss and Tregaron Southeast Bog. These geochemical profiles provide additional proxy records for the intensity and timing of anthropogenic activity. The chronology of each site is based on Pinus pollen data and AMS radiocarbon dates, with the exception of Lake Gormire where  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  dating is used. The presence of an historic tephra isochrone at Abbeyknockmoy allows direct comparison with the documentary record and can be used to constrain the radiocarbon chronology of this profile.

The original aim of the project was to reconstruct the land use history around each of the study sites for the last 1,000 years, with special reference to monastic influences. The results indicate, however, that some profiles date from either the prehistoric or Roman periods. While this was originally beyond the scope of this research, such profiles offer insights into the debates concerning the extent of Iron Age activity prior to the Roman invasion and the fate of agricultural activity after Roman withdrawal in c. 400 AD.

The results indicate varying degrees of Iron Age farming activity at Tregaron Southeast Bog, Shaw Moss and Talkin Tarn. Agriculture increased around the Southeast Bog during the period of Roman occupation, although the centuries immediately following Roman withdrawal are characterised by a phase of woodland regeneration and declining activity at the Southeast and West Bogs. Evidence from Talkin Tarn, however, suggests the continuation of farming after the end of Roman rule. The records from Abbeyknockmoy and the Southeast and West Bogs indicate that the establishment of local Cistercian monasteries in the 12th century AD had a significant impact on the landscape, while evidence from Abbeyknockmoy and Lake Gormire suggest that the Dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century AD did not result in widespread land abandonment and woodland regeneration. The geochemical profiles correlate well with the pollen record for human impact and both proxies demonstrate a close relationship with the documentary evidence.

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## PUBLICATIONS

We are very grateful to Norbert Benecke and Wietske Prummel for the following information:

Publications of the Association for Archaeozoology and Prehistoric Anthropology  
(Information contributed by Norbert Benecke<sup>1</sup>)

During the 7th ICAZ conference held in Konstanz (Germany) in September 1994, the Gesellschaft für Archäozoologie und Prähistorische Anthropologie e.V. (GAPA, i.e. Association for Archaeozoology and Prehistoric Anthropology) was founded. The aims of the association are the promotion of research in archaeozoology, prehistoric anthropology and related fields as well as the distribution of new results of research. Presently, membership stands at 85 with members mainly coming from Germany and neighbouring countries.

GAPA is holding scientific conferences every two years. The first three conferences were held in Bad Homburg (1996), Braunschweig (1998) and Halle/Saale (2000). The next meeting will be in Potsdam in October 2002. The proceedings of the single conferences are published within the monograph series of our association "Beiträge zur Archäozoologie und Prähistorischen Anthropologie". Volume I (published in 1997) contains 26 papers given at the conference in Bad Homburg (main topic "Man and Animal in Roman Times") and Volume II (published in 1999) comprises 32 papers presented at the conference in Braunschweig (main topic "Common Problems in Archaeozoology and Prehistoric Anthropology"). Volume III including ca. 30 papers of the conference in Halle/S. (main topic "Biodiversity") will be out in

autumn this year.

Individual volumes may be purchased directly from our association. The current prices are: Volume I for DM 65, (plus postage) and Volume II for DM 120, (plus postage). There is a special offer for both Volume I and II for a price of DM 150, (plus postage).

For ordering books and further information, please contact Joachim Wahl in Konstanz.

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Eurasien-Abteilung, Postfach 330014, D-14191 Berlin, e-mail: [nb@eurasien.dainst.de](mailto:nb@eurasien.dainst.de)

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### **PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE:**

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Proceedings of the fourth international symposium on the archaeozoology of southwestern Asia and adjacent areas.

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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We are very grateful to James Greig for providing us with the following bibliography, despite having just got back from holiday. James writes;

“Many thanks to Richard Carter, Lanfredo Casteletti, John Giorgi, Maria Hopf, Andy Howard, Stefanie Jacomet and W. van Zeist for references. Some further references have had to be held over for lack of time. Please send new references to [greigjra@bham.ac.uk](mailto:greigjra@bham.ac.uk)”

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