



ISSN 1363-6553

Edited by Wendy Carruthers and Vanessa Straker

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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AEA website <http://www.envarch.net/>

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EDITORIAL

As this is the first Newsletter of 2008, please note the item on subscriptions below. This issue also contains information about the two AEA conferences being held this year in Wales and Denmark. Please note that the Cardiff registration deadline is very close - **14th February**. In addition to registration forms, posters for the two conferences have been provided at the end of the Newsletter so that members can help to publicise these events.

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not yet paid your AEA membership subscription for 2008, your payment is now overdue (payment was due on 1st January). A renewal form is printed at the back of this Newsletter. You do not need to complete this form if you have arranged to pay your membership fee by standing order.

There has been 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.

Please note the **system for members that do not pay by 1st March**. The publisher of *Environmental Archaeology* requires a list of members' addresses by 1st March each year in order to send out the first issue of the journal. The journal is only sent out to fully paid-up members.

If you pay your membership subscription after this date, your membership will be registered and you will receive Newsletters, JISCmail etc. **You will not, however, receive issue 1 of the journal until issue 2 is published**

(around October), when both issues will be sent together. It is therefore in your own interest to **pay your membership subscription on time**.

Standing Order: The date for setting up a **standing order** has now passed (standing orders were due to be set up by 1st January 2008). Members can, however, pay by cheque for 2008 and set up a standing order at the end of the year for 2009 and beyond. Information on setting up a standing order for 2009 will be provided in the November Newsletter later this year.

Members who have **already set up standing orders** are asked to ensure that they are paying at the **correct rate** (£38 for waged and £28 for students/unwaged). Members who continue to underpay their membership subscription **will not receive the Journal**.

Eurozone 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 €0.50 – check your local bank for their rates).

AEA membership fees for IBAN transfers are: **€58 waged** and **€42 student/unwaged**

If you would like to use this method of payment, please contact the AEA Secretary, Meriel McClatchie (meriel.mcclatchie@gmail.com), for further information.

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.

Members are asked **not to send their Visa details by email** (including attachments) for security reasons. The AEA will not accept responsibility for the security of Visa details sent by email. Visa details should instead be sent by regular mail to the Membership Secretary at the address below.

Membership Secretary:

Dr Ralph Fyfe
Room 211
8 Kirkby Place
Drake Circus
Plymouth
Devon PL4 8AA
United Kingdom
Email: membership@envarch.net

THE JOURNAL

If you have paid your 2007 subscription but have not yet received your copy of 12.2, please contact the Membership Secretary (membership@envarch.net) to check your current membership status.

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/search?fwaction=show&fwid=671>, or contact Ingrid Mainland for further information.

Journal Editor:

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Online access for all subscribers

Online access to *Environmental Archaeology* (Volume 11 onwards) is now available to **all** AEA members. If you would like to **register** for access the Journal online, please email Rob Craigie, the AEA Webmaster (r.craigie@shf.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). Please note that access will only be made available to fully paid-up members.

Also note that **Institutional subscription** to *Environmental Archaeology* is **only £98** (\$186 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/search?fwaction=subscriptions&fwid=671>

AEA WEBSITE

The revised AEA website has recently been launched – members are encouraged to visit www.envarch.net and view the new website. The Committee would like to thank the AEA webmaster, Rob Craigie, who was responsible for updating the website. We are also grateful to the AEA Publicity Officer, Dr Richard Thomas, for his helpful advice.

AEA DISCUSSION LIST

The AEA Discussion List has recently been launched by Dr Paul Davies and is available to AEA members already on the JISCMail (email) system. It is hoped that the new Discussion List will encourage members from a variety of backgrounds to pose questions and discuss their work in a wider forum.

Members are reminded that images and other large attachments should not be circulated on the AEA Discussion List, as these soon clog up in-boxes or cause slow downloads, particularly when subscribers do not have broadband connections. If List members wish to seek opinions on images, it is preferable to host these images elsewhere (e.g. on a personal website or publicly available image library website) and provide a link in the e-mail sent to the List. Other members can then access these should they be willing to help.

Members have the option of being removed from the Discussion List at any time (follow instructions provided at the end of each Discussion List email). This will not delete you from the main AEA Information-only List (e.g. Newsletter).

CREATING A STUDENT POST ON THE AEA COMMITTEE – SEEKING MEMBERS' OPINIONS

Following discussions at the 2007 AGM, it was suggested that the AEA should consider the appointment of a student representative to the Committee. The AEA Committee has further discussed this suggestion and agrees that a new student post on the Committee should be created. This post would be filled following the election of a candidate at the AGM.

The term of office for a student representative would be two years. The student would be 'mentored' by an existing Committee member during their first year of office, with the student taking a more active role in the Committee during their second year of office. It is then proposed that one new student would be elected to the Committee each year. During their first year of office, the newly elected student representative would 'shadow' the student completing their second year of office. During their second year of office, the student representative would take a more active role in the Committee, as well as guiding the newly elected student representative.

The creation of this new position on the AEA Committee would require a change to the AEA Constitution, which could be considered at the AGM later this year. The AEA Committee would welcome any feedback on this proposal from the membership – please email your comments to the AEA Secretary, Meriel McClatchie (meriel.mcclatchie@gmail.com), **by Friday 4th April 2008**. Postal comments are also welcomed before this date (see McClatchie's address on AEA website, www.envarch.net).

AEA SEMINARS

The AEA Seminar Series continues during 2008:

Date	Speaker	Title	Location	Time
6 February 08	Dr Ben Geary and Dr Emma Tetlow (University of Birmingham)	All the rivers run: archaeology and palaeo-environmental reconstruction in floodplain environments	Department of Archaeology & Anthropology, University of Lampeter	4pm
27 February 08	Dr Dorian Fuller (University College, London)	The domestication of rice	School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester	4pm

28 March 08	Dr Althea Davies (University of Stirling)	TBA	School of Archaeology, University College Dublin	4pm
22 April 08	Dr Jane Bunting (University of Hull)	Between stamp-collecting and physics: developing methods for translating pollen diagrams into maps of past vegetation and landscape	School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queens University Belfast	1pm

The Seminar Series is organised by the AEA Publicity Officer, Dr Richard Thomas. All seminars are free to members of the AEA. For further information regarding specific events, please contact the AEA Publicity Officer (rmt12@le.ac.uk).

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

CALL FOR ONE-DAY ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY MEETINGS

It was suggested at the 2007 AGM that the AEA should consider facilitating further one-day meetings in environmental archaeology at venues outside of the UK. These would be 'local' AEA meetings, held in addition to the main AEA spring one-day meeting and autumn conference each year. We welcome proposals from non-UK AEA colleagues who would like to run one-day meetings to facilitate research in their geographical region. Such meetings would be advertised along with all other AEA activities.

If you are interested in proposing such a meeting, please contact the AEA Conference Officer, Dr Gianna Ayala (g.ayala@sheffield.ac.uk), for further information.

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

AEA Meeting
Saturday 1st March 2008
Cardiff University

Unconsidered Trifles? Environmental Archaeology at a Small Scale

Association for Environmental Archaeology
Spring 2008 One-Day Meeting

Website: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/hisar/newsandevents/archaeology/aea-meeting-2008-unconsidered-trifles.html>

The 2008 Association for Environmental Archaeology One-Day meeting is to be held on Saturday 1st March (*St. David's Day*) at Cardiff University. The theme for the conference is the *little things in life* that fill the majority of peoples' lives and how these intersect with larger events. The meeting will take place at 9.00am in the Wallace Lecture Theatre in the main building of the University. The **deadline for registration** is **14th February**.

Archaeology has many grand narratives covering huge sweeps of time, mass accumulations of individuals and materials. Whilst an increasing interest in identifying smaller acts of 'ritual' significance has resulted in a greater understanding of more distinctive patterns in archaeological accumulations, the smaller scale practices of daily life remain largely unconsidered. As a science-based discipline, the need for valid sample sizes coupled with the cost of fine-grained analyses often result in an agglomeration of data that produces unrealistic archaeological results (e.g. considering hundreds or thousands of years as one cultural event). By examining what can be achieved through a detailed consideration of small-scale acts, different tales can be told about the human experience in the past. This conference will include papers that explore the minor and intimate stories in environmental archaeology: the domestic and the mundane experiences that are played out on a daily, monthly, yearly or lifetime cycle and the effects that individual events have on people and places in the past.

The website has been updated to include a provisional list of papers - we await full details of a few more. We would **welcome more poster submissions** on **any branch of environmental archaeology** – please encourage any colleagues or students to come along and present.

A **registration** form can be found at the **end of this Newsletter**. Further **registration information** can be found on the meeting website. A small fee of **£14** for members (£20 for non-members) will be necessary to cover costs. This will include a buffet lunch, tea, coffee and abstracts. We will arrange evening entertainment for those staying on Friday or Saturday night (Skittles anyone?). Please send any questions or queries to aea2008@cardiff.ac.uk.

For further, **up-to-date information on registration, accommodation, amenities and travel**, please consult the **meeting website**.

For further enquiries please contact the meeting organisers, Jacqui Mulville or Richard Madgwick:
aea2008@cardiff.ac.uk.

Accommodation

Participants are invited to make their own arrangements.

Cardiff has a number of high quality hotels in the city centre, most of which are within walking distance these include the Holiday Inn (from £65), and The Big Sleep (from £55). Good value, city centre, budget accommodation is available in Cathedral Road, a short and pleasant stroll across Bute Park to the conference and has been a popular hotel location for previous conference participants: please see the following web site for details <http://www.a1tourism.com/uk/cardiff.html> or alternatively call Cardiff Visitor Centre on Tel: 0870 909 2008 (UK only) +44 (0) 29 2022 7281 (from abroad) and they will book your accommodation.

We also have a brand new Etrap hotel in the city centre – and they have rooms available for the 29th February and 1st March for £35 per room, sleeping up to three people in a room.

http://www.etaphotel.com/etaphotel/fichehotel/gb/etp/6175/fiche_hotel.shtml

Hotel contact details:

- Angel Hotel, Castle Street, Cardiff CF10 1SZ (029) 2064 9200
 - Cardiff Hilton, Kingsway, Cardiff CF10 3HH (029) 2064 6300
 - Cardiff Marriott, Mill Lane, Cardiff CF10 1EZ (029) 2039 9944
 - Cardiff Thistle Hotel, Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3UD (029) 2078 5595
 - Holiday Inn, Castle Street, Cardiff CF10 1XD 0870 4008140
 - Holland House Hotel, Newport Road, Cardiff CF24 2DD 0870 1220020
 - Jury's Cardiff, Mary Ann Street, Cardiff CF10 3HH (029) 2034 1441
 - St David's Hotel & Spa, Havannah Street, Cardiff CF10 5SD (029) 2045 4045
 - Park Plaza - Cardiff, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AL (029) 2011 1111
- Limited parking is available at all these hotels.

Outside the City there are three hotels just off the A48, a distance of approximately three miles from the centre of Cardiff. They all have good parking facilities.

- Holiday Inn, Pentwyn Road, Cardiff CF2 7XA 0870 4008142
- Cardiff East Travelodge, Circle Way East, Cardiff CF23 9TD (029) 2054 9564
- Cardiff Moat House, Circle Way East, Cardiff CF23 9XF (029) 2058 9988

Other useful websites <http://www.ukhotelnet.com/cardiff/hotels.htm>

There is also a youth hostel only a short distance from the University:

--Roath Park Youth Hostel tel: (029) 20462303

And a backpackers hostel and budget hotel NosDa right opposite the Millennium Stadium:

<http://www.nosda.co.uk/backpacker.php>

AEA Meeting
Saturday 12th-14th September 2008
Århus, Denmark
The Consequences of Fire
Association for Environmental Archaeology
2008 Annual Conference

The AEA invites participation in the Association's Annual Conference, to be held on 12th-14th September 2008, in Århus, Denmark with the theme "The Consequences of Fire".

The 2008 AEA Annual Conference will be organised and hosted by the Department of Environmental Archaeology and Conservation at Moesgård Museum, Århus. (www.moesmus.dk)

The conference venue will be: Handelsfagskolen, Skaade Skovvej 2, 8270 Højbjerg – 15 minutes walk from Moesgård Museum and about 15 minutes by bus from Århus city centre. The official conference language is English.

The conference will focus on the role and consequences of **FIRE** in the preservation and interpretation of the environmental archaeological record. Fire is usually connected with some kind of human activity, and charred

organic material, bone, weed seeds, grain, wood, pollen or whatever, is usually among the most abundant find groups recovered in archaeology.

Provisional session titles:

- Intentional use of Fire;
- Accidental Fires;
- Transformation Processes.

Offers of oral presentations (20-25 minutes) and posters are invited and should be accompanied by an abstract. Abstracts should be 1-3 pages in length, including figures and bibliography if appropriate. The abstracts will be included in a conference book. Please send them to the contact address below.

Deadline for Abstracts (Papers and Posters): 31st July 2008

Contact address:

Att: AEA Conference
Peter Hambro Mikkelsen
Moesgaard Museum
8270 Højbjerg
Denmark
E-mail: AEA@hum.au.dk

A registration form and further information will be included in the next AEA Newsletter (May) and will also be available to download from the AEA website (www.envarch.net).

**Quaternary Research Association/Irish Quaternary Association
Fieldtrip, Northern Ireland
10th-13th April 2008**

<http://www.qra.org.uk/meet.html#nireland>

The next QRA fieldtrip and AGM, scheduled for the 10th-13th April to Northern Ireland, is being organised by Nicki Whitehouse, Helen Roe, Steve McCarron and Jasper Knight. This will be a joint meeting with IQUA.

The field meeting will focus on the following themes:

- De-glacial processes and landscape formation;
- Prehistoric marine cultural and landscape archaeology in the north-east of Ireland;
- Late glacial and Holocene palaeoecology and climate change;
- Coastal evolution and sea level change

The itinerary for the meeting is broken down into three main field days, with an optional fourth day.

The full programme is provided below. We will informally convene for a lecture (6:00 pm) and wine reception the evening before the start of the field trip, followed by a meal.

Please note that Day 4 is an "optional" day and that the schedule may be subject to some minor alterations as we establish final tidal information.

Programme:

Day 1. The Mourne Plain and Killard Point

Theme: Glacial and de-glacial history of Ireland

Sites: Co. Down coast (Mourne Plain); Kilkeel; Bloody Bridge/Annalong; Benderg Bay; Killard Point.

Co-ordinator: Steve McCarron

Day 2. The Lower Bann Valley and the Glens of Antrim

Themes: Holocene palaeoecology and sea level history; glacial and de-glacial history of the Glens of Antrim.

Sites: Lough Neagh and Newferry; Dead Island Bog; Glenariff; Cushendun; Dun Valley; Garron point/Minnis North

Co-ordinator: Helen Roe

Day 3. Strangford Lough and the Ards Peninsula

Theme: Inter-tidal archaeology and palaeoecology of Strangford Lough and Ards Peninsula; ritual monuments of the Lagan Valley;

Sites: Roddans Port inter-tidal late glacial and Holocene deposits; Grey Abbey Bay, Strangford Lough; Giants Ring and Ballynahatty landscape palaeoecology.

Co-ordinator: Nicki Whitehouse

Day 4. The Causeway Coast

Theme: Geology of the north-east of Ireland and heritage conservation issues; coastal history and sea level change

Sites: White Park Bay; Giants Causeway; Portballintrae; Bushmills.

Co-ordinator: Jasper Knight

The **final deadline for registration** is **15th February**. Please note if you require **conference accommodation**, you need to register by **1st February**, as we cannot guarantee the booking after this date. There is plenty of other accommodation available near the University.

The **registration form** and further particulars are available through the QRA web site or can be obtained by contacting Nicki Whitehouse (n.whitehouse@gub.ac.uk, 028 90973978), Helen Roe (h.roe@gub.ac.uk), Steve McCarron (Stephen.mccarron@nuim.ie) or Jasper Knight (j.knight@exeter.ac.uk).

World Archaeological Congress (WAC)

University College Dublin

29th June-4th July 2008

Website: <http://www.ucd.ie/wac-6/>

The 6th World Archaeological Congress will take place in the Republic of Ireland this summer. The main venue for the academic programme is the campus of University College Dublin, and the social events and tours will take in some of Ireland's fantastic historic venues and outstanding archaeological monuments and landscapes. There is a wide-ranging programme of cutting-edge themes and sessions to which participants can contribute, and whose organisers alone represent over 50 different nations around the world. **Registration** is now open (register before **26th March** to take advantage of an 'early' fee).

Many of the confirmed sessions will incorporate aspects of environmental archaeology. AEA members subscribing to the AEA Discussion List will already have received emails from various theme and session organisers encouraging the proposal of papers (also see AEA website, www.envarch.net).

Members interested in presenting a paper/poster or attending the conference are encouraged to visit the conference website for a list of confirmed themes and sessions and further information.

Please note that the **closing date for the proposal of papers and posters** is **22nd February 2008**.

Archaeobotany Workshop meeting

As decided at the Archaeobotany Workshop meeting in London in November, myself and Alan Clapham will host the next meeting at Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service in Worcester on Saturday 10th May.

A programme for the day will follow in due course. The meeting will follow the normal format of discussion and presentation of work in the morning and microscope session in the afternoon. Could you let me know if there are any topics or results that you would like to discuss?

As before, could we all bring food to share at lunchtime. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. Please let us know if you would like to attend, and we look forward to seeing you in May.

Best wishes,
Liz Pearson

Please respond to either Liz or Alan (see contacts below):

Worcestershire Historic Environment and
Archaeology Service
Woodbury Hall
University of Worcester
Henwick Grove
Worcester WR2 6AJ

Tel 01905 855495

lpearson@worcestershire.gov.uk
aclapham@worcestershire.gov.uk

AEA BIBLIOGRAPHY

We are very grateful to James Greig for sending us the following information. James sends thanks to Monika Hellmund, Marianne Kohler-Schneider and Marie-Pierre Ruas for references. Please send information to jimi.gee@virgin.net

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AEA Membership Form

Name: (First Name/ Surname) _____

Title: (Prof/ Dr/ Mr/ Mrs/ Miss/ Ms) _____

Address: _____

Postcode/Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Although no qualifications are required for this membership, we ask that you inform us of your particular research interests below.

Subscription rate (please circle the relevant box). I am paying for (year) _____

		IBAN
Student / unwaged members	£28	€42
Waged members	£38	€58

With certain exceptions (see below), all payments must be made in pounds sterling, by cash, cheque or standing order (from a British bank account) or for overseas members by Visa/Mastercard. A standing order form is available for those wishing to use this method of payment. Cheques should be made payable to **Association for Environmental Archaeology**.

IBAN (Eurozone members)

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. Using this system, an AEA member can go to their local bank and transfer money to an AEA account for a small fee.

AEA membership fees for IBAN transfers: €58 waged, €42 student/unwaged

Before completing this form, please contact Meriel McClatchie (address below) for further information on how to pay using an IBAN bank transfer.

Email: meriel.mcclatchie@gmail.com

Postal address: 40 Tournore Court, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, Republic of Ireland

Credit card (Overseas members only)

Overseas members may pay their membership fee by credit card. Please complete the details below:

Visa/Access

Please charge my Visa/Access card no..... expiry.....

Date..... Signature.....

Please send this form to:

Dr Ralph Fyfe, Room 211, 8 Kirkby Place, Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 8AA, United Kingdom

E-Mail: membership@envarch.net

Occasionally the Association publishes a membership listing in its quarterly newsletter giving the names, addresses and research interests of its members. If you do **NOT** wish your name to appear in such a listing then please tick the box below:

Association for Environmental Archaeology
Spring 2008 One-Day Meeting

Registration Form

Unconsidered Trifles: Environmental Archaeology at a small scale

9.00 am, Saturday 1st March 2008
Wallace Lecture Theatre
Main Building
Cardiff University

Registration deadline: 14th February 2008

The cost of attendance (with buffet lunch, tea, coffee and abstracts provided) is as follows:

STERLING **£14 (AEA-members/unwaged)** / **£20** (non AEA-members).

Payment can be made at the meeting or can be sent in advance.

Payment in advance can be made by cheque. Please make cheques payable to 'Association of Environmental Archaeology'.

Name:

Contact address:

Email address:

Please send registration form and payment directly to:

AEA 2008
c/o Jacqui Mulville
School of History and Archaeology
University of Cardiff
Wales
CF11
Telephone +44 29 20874247
Email: aea2008@cardiff.ac.uk

Registration for QRA/IQUA Annual Field Meeting and AGM, North of Ireland

10th-13th April 2008

Organisers: Nicki Whitehouse (QUB), Helen Roe (QUB), Steve McCarron (National University Ireland, Maynooth) and Jasper Knight (University of Exeter).

Maximum Numbers: 100

Registration: (Deadline - 15th February 2008, non-refundable after this date)

(includes travel and field guide, but no food or accommodation). Non-resident participation is welcome.

Please fill in amounts in the appropriate spaces:

I wish to register for the main field meeting (10th-12th)

Standard	£40
Students/Unwaged	£25
Per Day	£15

I wish to register for the optional excursion day (Causeway Coast 13th)

£10

I would like packed lunches for three days (10th-12th) Allergy-free NOT guaranteed

£15

Total Registration £

Accommodation: (Deadline - 1st February 2008, *non-refundable and not guaranteed after this date*).

I wish to be a resident at the Holiday Inn Express (includes bed, breakfast) for the following nights:

(Prices are per twin or double room, those who wish/willing to share a room please indicate below and enter the name of both occupants below, if known. Early booking is *strongly* advised.)

9th April 2008 (£75).....	Sharing.....	£.....
10th April 2008 (£75).....	Sharing.....	£.....
11th April 2008 (£65).....	Sharing.....	£.....
12th April 2008 (£65).....	Sharing.....	£.....
13th April 2008 (£75).....	Sharing.....	£.....
	Total	£.....

Names of persons sharing

Special dietary requirements: Vegetarian Vegan Other

A range of other accommodation options are listed on Travel.pdf via the QRA website, these cover a range of prices (including local B&B's, Youth Hostel and other Hotels) but must be booked privately. Travel details (flights, ferries) to Belfast are also outlined in this document.

Personal Details:

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Telephone:Fax:

E-mail:.....

I enclose a cheque payable to **Queen's University Belfast** of £.....

Signature:.....

Please return this form and payment (**To arrive no later than 15th February 2008**) to:

Dr Nicki Whitehouse, School of Geography, Archaeology & Palaeoecology, Palaeoecology Centre, 42 Fitzwilliam St, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, BT9 6AX.

Tel: +44 (0)28 90973978; **Fax:** +44 (0)28 90973897; **E-mail:** n.whitehouse@qub.ac.uk

On the 12th and 13th, return to Belfast will be by 17:00. Please allow at least 1 hour for airport/ferry links.

(In the event of cancellation the QRA will refund booking monies less any irrecoverable costs already incurred within the time-frames stated above.)

Saturday March 1st 2008

Cardiff University

Unconsidered Trifles? Environmental Archaeology at a Small Scale

Archaeology has many grand narratives covering huge sweeps of time, mass accumulations of individuals and materials. As a science-based discipline the need for valid sample sizes coupled to the cost of fine-grained analyses often result in an agglomeration of data that produces unrealistic archaeological results (e.g. considering many years as one cultural event). Through a detailed consideration of smaller scale acts different tales can be told about the human experience in the past. This conference presents papers that explore the minor and intimate stories in environmental archaeology: the domestic and the mundane experiences that are played out on a daily, monthly, yearly or lifetime cycle and the effects that individual events have on people and places in the past.

Papers include:

- Ancient DNA in the 21st century: Issues of kinship analysis – Abigail Bouwman (Manchester)
- Medicines, drugs and poisons: identification of marginal behaviour- Brendan Derham (Glasgow)
- Life down the dunny: insects and cess pit – David Smith (Birmingham)
- Discrete hunting acts at Jardinga, a narrow part in the valley of the river Boven-Tjonger (Friesland, Netherlands) – Wietske Prummel (Groningen)
- Long pigs feet in Medieval Ireland – Fiona Belgane (Ireland)
- Medieval iron working in Snowdonia, Wales – Tim Mighall & Peter Crew (Aberdeen & Blaneau Ffestiniog)
- Cooking and consumption - Cynthia Poole (Oxford)
- Mashed potatoes – a radical constructivist perspective - Dominic Fuchs (Amsterdam)

Further papers await confirmation and individual poster proposals are still very much welcomed.

Registration information: £14 members: £20 non-members including a buffet lunch, tea, coffee and abstracts. Please confirm attendance before 22nd Feb to ensure lunch is booked. We will arrange an evening event for those staying on Friday or Saturday night. Send any questions or queries to aea2008@cardiff.ac.uk or see the web pages at the Cardiff University Archaeology and Conservation Website under Events.

The Association for Environmental Archaeology (AEA)
invites participation in the Association's Annual Conference, to be held on **12th – 14th September 2008, in Århus, Denmark** with the theme:

“The Consequences of Fire”

The 2008 AEA Annual Conference will be organised and hosted by the Department of Environmental Archaeology and Conservation at Moesgård Museum, Århus.
(www.moesmus.dk)

The conference venue will be: Handelsfagskolen. Skaade Skovvej 2, 8270 Højbjerg – 15 minutes walk from Moesgaard Museum and about 15 minutes by bus from Århus city centre.

The official conference language is English.

The conference will focus on the role and consequences of FIRE in the preservation and interpretation of the environmental archaeological record. Fire is usually connected with some kind of human activity, and charred organic material, bone, weed seeds, grain, wood, pollen or whatever, is usually among the most abundant find groups recovered in archaeology.

Provisional session titles: Intentional use of Fire, Accidental Fires, Transformation Processes.

Offers of oral presentations (20-25 minutes) and posters are invited and should be accompanied by an abstract. Abstracts should be 1-3 pages in length, including figures and bibliography if appropriate. The abstracts will be included in a conference book. Please send them to the contact address below:

Deadline for Abstracts (Papers and Posters): 31 July 2008

Contact address:

Att: AEA Conference

Peter Hambro Mikkelsen

Moesgaard Museum

8270 Højbjerg

Denmark

E-mail: AEA@hum.au.dk

A registration form will be included in the next AEA Newsletter and will also be available to download from the AEA website www.envarch.net