

## **CAS News August 2015**

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## **Canberra Archaeological Society/Centre for Archaeological Research - Public Lecture Series**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2015**

**6.30pm for refreshments, 7.00pm the lecture.**

Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU

**Nick McClean**

### **Conservation across the cultural divide: Where are we up to?**

The widespread rise of a modern conservation ethic has seen national parks, archaeological parks, nature reserves and a host of other forms of protected area (PA) spread to almost every corner of the globe. As a body of thought and practice that was developed initially in western industrialised societies, the spread of modern, state initiated conservation has been a spectacular success as far as increasing the total area of protected land and waters is concerned, but it has not always been a straightforward process as far as the on ground work of managing landscapes for conservation is concerned. In particular, the ideal of state run PAs preserving pristine natural areas has proven difficult to reconcile with on the ground realities in developing countries and on Indigenous lands, where sometimes tens of thousands of people will live in and depend on protected landscapes for economic and cultural reasons.

30 years after participatory planning methods and co-management emerged, where are we up to with cross-cultural collaborations in conservation? An initial point to be made is that interactions between western oriented conservationists and local, culturally distinct communities have been sustained to the extent that at times PAs are not only the subject of intercultural dialogue, but have become the products of intercultural engagement. PAs in some cases have moved beyond a standoff between western and non-western views of nature, culture and conservation, and are now in some important ways bi-cultural entities.

What are the implications of this process for on-ground conservation work? Presenting case material from Australia and Timor-Leste, I'll focus on how the growth of the conservation estate in Australia has been fuelled in part by the growth in Indigenous owned land, and secondly on how traditional institutions in Timor-Leste have played a key role in facilitating social and political change in the past. Both these cases support the argument that developing 'bi-cultural' PAs can broker alliances in support of conservation among local communities.

### **Nick McClean Biography:**

Nick McClean is a researcher and freelance radio producer who completed his PhD at the School of Culture, History and Language at The Australian National University, Canberra. As part of his doctoral thesis he undertook oral history and cultural heritage research in a number of communities in Australia, India, Indonesia and East Timor. His key areas of interest are cross-cultural and comparative analyses of conservation, community conservation initiatives, and the co-management of protected areas with indigenous communities. He has also produced feature length radio documentaries for the Australian Broadcasting Commission in collaboration with Indigenous groups in Australia and East Timor.

## **CAS Field Excursion Recording Grinding Grooves**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2015, 1:00 – 3:30pm**

Meet at Schow Place (off Temperley Street) Nicholls, ACT

### **Have a Fun 3 Hours and Be Trained in Locating and Recording Aboriginal Grinding Grooves**

A large grinding groove site and a medium to dense level stone artefact scatter occurring within the Gungahlin Pond Park. These intriguing archaeological sites include several grinding grooves, a range of stone artefact types and materials and many other treasures still to be revealed by the diligent site recorder. Participants will join a field excursion to an archaeological grinding groove site and obtain an excellent level of training in many archaeological procedures, including the practical components associated with locating grinding groove sites, grinding groove identification, site investigation, archaeological mapping, site and artefact recording and photography.

This event is free and all participants will receive a Canberra Archaeological Society Certificate stating that they have participated in a site recording event and received archaeological training in these areas. Meet at Schow Place (off Temperley Street) Nicholls, ACT. Please be aware that the fieldwork will involve a casual 2km walk.

To ensure a place in the session, interested people should contact Alister Bowen on 0418 210 755 or email [alister@bowenheritage.com.au](mailto:alister@bowenheritage.com.au). CAS members can offer lifts to those without their own transport. Please contact Alister before the day to seek a lift or offer one. According to the weather – a sun hat and stout footwear essential. If its raining on the day the event will be postponed. Also bring an A4 clip board, HB pencil, sharpener, eraser, ruler, a few sheets of plain A4 paper, compass (if you have one), camera (if you have one), plenty of water, your lunch and any other items you may require.

## Science in ACTION – Community Day

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2015, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Former Transport Depot (Old Bus Depot) 21 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston

Come and explore Science in ACTION at the Former Transport Depot (Old Bus Depot) in Kingston. Fun for the whole family as science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) come alive! There is something for everyone in this free day of fun.

The Former Transport Depot in Kingston will come alive with interactive displays and activities from premier STEM organisations in the ACT and surrounds. Meet researchers who are at the cutting edge. Find out about potential careers. See how STEM can be used by different organisations and its application to everyday life. You might be surprised...

CAS has a table set up at the event so you could pop in and say hi

## AIMA/ASHA Conference Geelong, Victoria 2015

The 2015 joint conference of the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology and the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology will be held over three days from Thursday 24 September to Saturday 26 September at the National Wool Museum in Geelong, Victoria. <http://www.aima-underwater.org.au/registration-fees/>