

CAS Meetings and News May 2015

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

Wednesday 20th of May 2015

6.30pm for refreshments, 7.00pm the lecture.

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

**Dr Patricia Bourke &
Billy Ó Foghlú
The “Goyder Mounds” at Virginia NT**



In 1869 South Australia's Surveyor-General George Woodroffe Goyder drew in two shell mounds on his sketch map as he surveyed land seeking new townsites near the newly colonised Port of Darwin. Over 140 years later, archaeological surveys revealed that Goyder's mounds are two of a cluster of over thirty Aboriginal middens, composed mainly of the mangrove tree oyster *Isognomon ephippium*. Archaeological

investigations continue into these middens, which are an interesting exception to hundreds of *Anadara*-dominated Aboriginal mounds in the region.

Biography:

Patricia is an ANU visiting Fellow whose research interests include coastal archaeology and midden analysis, which reveal past dynamics of long-term human/environmental interactions. Patricia has over twenty years' experience in the field in the Northern Territory and published both on Aboriginal pre-colonial and contact archaeology. Currently she is working with Dr Sally Brockwell on a RSAP project exploring the value of archaeological sites as indicators of sea level changes on the north Australian coast.

ACT and Region Annual Heritage Partnership Symposium 2015

Saturday 18 July 2015

Sir Roland Wilson Building Theatre, Building 120, Australian National University, Acton

SHARING HERITAGE: CREATE, CHANGE, CHERISH

We all live in the Canberra region. We share its positive and negative attributes. We contribute to its vibrancy and growth and create its character. We all - communities, heritage professionals and decision makers - care about its future. In a time of continuous change for the city, its surrounds and the region, how do we measure successful development and use; what does it look and feel like? In a city that is home to the nation's collective memory and cultural heritage organisations, what are the ways we create access and participation in local and national heritage, cherishing and celebrating collective and individual stories? And if Canberra is the centre of the nation's decision making, what international trends are we connected to? When change is the only constant, what role does heritage play in civic responsibility, ethical practices and authentic experiences?

Add your voice to the conversation. Abstracts of 200 words due by 18 May 2015. Please send your presentation abstracts to Eric Martin & Associates (emaa@emaa.com.au) by 18 May 2015 and send this message on to all you networks, colleagues, friends and acquaintances. Cost: \$70 full, \$50 members of the host organisations, \$30 concessions, full-time students and speakers. Registration details will be available early May 2015.

Hosted by: Canberra Archaeological Society, National Trust of Australia (ACT), Canberra and District Historical Society, and Australia ICOMOS

Springbank Report & Thankyou

CAS would like to thank everyone who was involved in the Springbank Archaeology Project. Excavations finished on the 18th of April with a large open day (105 people including students/ volunteers) attending and there has already been plenty of positive feedback about open day and field-school.

Special thanks to everyone who assisted with all aspects of the project. Thanks to all archaeology supervisors (Duncan, Iain, Alister, Mike, Phil, Marjorie, Sally, Dougald). Dave also assisted with this as well as acting as the liaison between the Canberra Indigenous communities. All four of the decedent families of Springbank came out to the island and really enjoyed it. We also learned (and will learn) a lot more about the island's history as a result of everyone's involvement. Thanks again to everyone.

ACT National Trust Speaker's Night

Wednesday 20th of May 2015

5.30pm – 7.00pm National Archives of Australia on Queen Victoria Terrace

Mark Butz

The intriguing history of Jerrabomberra Wetlands

Mark is an environmental scientist by training, with a lifelong interest in history, from the prehistoric to the recent. His research into the history of the Jerrabomberra Wetlands area has unearthed many stories beyond those to do with wetlands and waterbirds. These include the early days of Duntroon, siting and design of the Federal Capital, pioneer Australian movie-making, trench warfare training, soldier settlement, record floods, a doomed railway, model dairies, a lost lake, some odd urban schemes, and many slender chances that led to the wetlands of today.

Cost: \$10.00 NT members; \$15.00 non-members. Drinks & nibbles included. Please RSVP by 18 May: NT ACT office 02 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au

Upcoming Conferences

The Archaeology of Portable Art: South East Asian, Pacific, and Australian Perspectives

23-24th of May 2015 at the Australian National University

Plenary Speaker: Prof. Francesco d'Errico, Université Bordeaux 1, UMR, CNRS, PACEA

This symposium aims to reignite the dialogue about portable art across Island South East Asia, the Pacific and Australia and by doing so review future directions for research. Specific themes are: object histories; use of ethnography/museum collections for informing archaeological research; use of 'intangible technologies' and organic artefacts for expressing community affiliation/identity; cognitive development, the role of portable art in Pleistocene and Holocene expansions; and experimental studies.

<http://archanth.anu.edu.au/portable-art>

(in)significance: a discussion about values and valuing in heritage

One-day symposium, Friday 15 May 2015, 9am-5pm Ann Harding Conference Centre, University of Canberra

Conveners: Tracy Ireland and Steve Brown

The notion of 'significance' is a central concept for heritage conservation in many parts of the world—it describes what the institutions of heritage choose to remember and what they choose to forget. Used in American historic preservation legislation from the late 19th century, and in the 1964 Venice Charter, in Australia the Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 1979) introduced the phrase 'places of cultural significance', a concept that emphasised meanings over monuments. Determining significance is a process of ascribing values—culturally constructed meanings or qualities attributed by individuals and groups to a heritage object, place or landscape. Valuing heritage has led to practices that typically list, rank and then privilege particular values—at world, national and local levels. At the symposium we hope to explore the history, theory and practical application of the concept of significance and broach the idea of insignificance.

Steve Brown, Kristal Buckley, Veronica Bullock, Denis Byrne, Adam Dickerson, Ursula Frederick, Bronwyn Hanna, Jane Harrington, Geo! Hinchclife, Tracy Ireland, Angelina Russo, Tim Sherratt, Robyn Slogett, Laurajane Smith, Sharon Sullivan, Alison Wain, Tim Winter, Linda Young.

More information and registration:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/research/faculty-research-centres/cccr/events/insignificance>

