

CAS News September 2015

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

Wednesday 16th of September 2015

6.30pm for refreshments, 7.00pm the lecture.

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

Tim Denham and Mark Butz

Archaeological and Historical Investigations of a World War I Trenching and Bombing School, Jerrabomberra Wetlands, Australian Capital Territory

Multidisciplinary investigations of a World War I Trenching and Bombing School at Jerrabomberra Wetlands in the ACT are presented. Multi-media historical investigations have documented the existence, operation and location of the School, which opened in 1916 to train officers for the Western Front. The Trenching School comprised extensive trench systems and of particular note is the island traverse innovation. Subsequent to the archival investigations, a multi-phased archaeological project was undertaken to determine the precise location and state of preservation of the former trenches. The initial phase included geophysical prospection, with a subsequent phase of test excavations.

Biographies

Tim Denham

Tim is the convenor of the Graduate Certificate and Masters of Archaeological Science programs at the Australia National University (from July 2013). Tim started out as a geographer, completing his BA (Hons) at Cambridge University (England) and MS at Penn State (USA). He spent six years working as a consultant archaeologist, primarily in Hawai'i and England. In 1997, he came to the Australian National University to begin a PhD working with Professor Jack Golson on the emergence of agriculture at Kuk Swamp in the highlands of New Guinea. After (and partly before) being awarded my PhD in 2004, he lectured in soil science at Bournemouth University (UK), in archaeology at Flinders University (Adelaide),

environmental change at Monash University (Melbourne), and archaeology at La Trobe University (Melbourne).

Mark Butz

Mark Butz is a writer/researcher with a background in earth sciences and ecology, and a lifelong interest in palaeontology, history, and archaeology. He worked with government agencies for more than two decades before starting his own business in 2012, as a facilitator, consultant, trainer and coach, mixed with voluntary roles in not-for-profit organisations. He has lived in Canberra since 1980 and before that in the Snowy Mountains and Sydney, while cultivating an increasingly close connection with the Eurobodalla coast. He is currently engaged in writing a comprehensive history of the Jerrabomberra Wetlands and environs, and a history of nature conservation in the ACT.

CAS Field Excursion Recording Grinding Grooves

Saturday 17th 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. 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.

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/>

AAA Conference Fremantle, Western Australia 2015

The AAA2015 Conference will be hosted by the University of Western Australia from the 2-4 December, 2015. The conference theme is 'On the Edge: The Archaeology of Adaptation and Transition'.

Australia is the most arid continent to have been occupied by modern humans with 70% of its landmass comprised of Drylands. These vast areas share boundaries with two of the World's great oceans as well as numerous adjoining bioregions on land. The conference theme aims to investigate how people have responded to a range of influences generated by living 'on the edge'. Such factors include environmental and social forces and we are interested in all time periods from first human arrival to European invasion and into the world today. Locating our enquiries at the intersection between Australia's deserts and surrounding landscapes/ seascapes will help us reflect on how people adapt and change in transitional zones.