



London Bridge arch, June 2009; H Cooke

Canberra Archaeological Society/Centre for Archaeological Research
2009 Public Lecture

Note venue: Haydon Allen Tank, ANU
7:30pm Wednesday 15 July

The 'Backstory' - how war destroys heritage

Marilyn Truscott

An energetic discussion ensued at Lynley Wallis' recent talk outlining the Hague Convention and the disastrous impact of the 2003 Iraq invasion on its archaeological heritage. I will answer some outstanding questions and using Iraq and other international examples, including the former Yugoslavia, to show how local and international interests combine to make protecting heritage at a time of war such a difficult endeavour.

Marilyn Truscott is a heritage practitioner and archaeologist, with training in history and materials conservation. With field experience in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and in Australia on historic and Indigenous archaeological heritage, including world heritage, she has worked for some 30 years as a museum curator, state or Commonwealth heritage officer, or as a consultant.

All welcome. Entry is by gold coin donation at the door.

Please join us afterwards for light supper to meet the speaker and continue the discussion.



Marilyn is a past President of Australia ICOMOS, and currently Vice-President of the new International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH), and a long-standing member of the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management and the Australia ICOMOS working group on cultural landscapes.

Marilyn was actively involved in the input to the Australian government at the time of the Iraq invasion to develop a plan to mitigate the damage that had been done to Iraq's heritage. This was largely based on her past experience administering Australia's *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986*, Australia's statutory response as a state party to the 'Hague Convention', that protects both illegal export and import of heritage items, as well as the repatriation of Indigenous heritage from Australian and international collections. Whilst at the Australian Heritage Commission, Marilyn was active to ensure that 'social value' was fully included in considerations of heritage identification and protection, and has since fostered the recognition by ICOMOS (the International Council on Monuments and Sites) of 'intangible heritage values' as key to community identity and heritage protection.

Marilyn works as a heritage consultant, and is undertaking doctoral research at the University of Canberra, on issues related to archaeology, heritage and community participation.

Forthcoming lectures, all in Manning Clark Theatre 6 unless otherwise advised.

Date	Speaker	Topic
August 19	Peter Dowling	Vikings
September 16	Tegan Kelly	TBA
October 21	Prof Graham Connah	People of the Lake: Reconstructing human history in Africa
November 18	Tony Barham	Tsunamis in WA

CAS 2009 Committee Contact Details
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Helen Cooke - the.cookies@bigpond.com mobile: 0408 443 243
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice Presidents: Katarina Boljkovac boljkatica@hotmail.com and Peter Dowling di.peterdowling@bigpond.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer: Wendy Lees lastlees5@hotmail.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary: Sue Aylen - sueaylen@dodo.com.au
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Secretary: Wendy Lees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members: Laura Breen, Faye Powell, Bob Legge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter Editor: Helen and the crew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Master: Russell Kightley Media

Welcome to our new members:

Barbara Stolemaker De Bruine, Elizabeth Burness.



ACT Historical Archaeology Workshop

The inaugural workshop held during National Archaeology Week was a great success. The presentations were excellent and some good ideas were shared for how this informal forum can help to protect ACT historical places.

CAS thanks the other sponsors for all their support.

A summary report is available on the CAS website, www.cas.asn.au.

The next workshop will be held in October this year at the University of Canberra, so watch this space for details.

Quaternary System Defined

The International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) has voted by 89% majority vote to define the base of the Quaternary System (= base of the Pleistocene Series = top of Neogene System) at ~2.6 Ma, with the boundary defined at the type section of the Gelasian Stage. In doing so, the Gelasian Stage is transferred from the Pliocene Series to the Pleistocene Series.

The ICS decision will now be forwarded to IUGS for formal ratification. Thus, it seems that the long-running battle to define the Quaternary as a formal system of the International Geological Time Scale has been won.

ICS website (<http://www.stratigraphy.org/>).

ScienceDaily (May 19, 2009) — Scientists at The University of Manchester have developed a new way of dating archaeological objects - using fire and water to unlock their 'internal clocks'.

The simple method promises to be as significant a technique for dating ceramic materials as radiocarbon dating has become for organic materials such as bone or wood.

A team from The University of Manchester and The University of Edinburgh has discovered a new technique which they call 'rehydroxylation dating' that can be used on fired clay ceramics like bricks, tile and pottery.

Working with The Museum of London, the team has been able to date brick samples from Roman, medieval and modern periods with remarkable accuracy.

They have established that their technique can be used to determine the age of objects up to 2,000 years old - but believe it has the potential to be used to date objects around 10,000 years old.

Full article: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090519214945.htm>

Sea gives up Neanderthal fossil

By Paul Rincon
Science reporter, BBC News



Part of a Neanderthal man's skull has been dredged up from the North Sea, in the first confirmed find of its kind.

Scientists in Leiden, in the Netherlands, have unveiled the specimen - a fragment from the front of a skull belonging to a young adult male.

Analysis of chemical "isotopes" in the 60,000-year-old fossil suggest a carnivorous diet, matching results from other Neanderthal specimens.

The North Sea is one of the world's richest areas for mammal fossils.

But the remains of ancient humans are scarce; this is the first known specimen to have been recovered from the sea bed anywhere in the world.

For most of the last half million years, sea levels were substantially lower than they are today. Significant areas of the North Sea were, at times, dry land. Criss-crossed by river systems, with wide valleys, lakes and floodplains, these were rich habitats for large herds of ice age mammals such as horse, reindeer, woolly rhino and mammoth.

Their fossilised remains are brought ashore in large numbers each year by fishing trawlers and other dredging operations.

According to Professor Chris Stringer, from London's Natural History Museum, some fishermen now concentrate on collecting fossils rather than their traditional catch.

"There were mammoth fossils collected off the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts 150 years ago, so we've known for some time there was material down there that was of this age, or even older," Professor Stringer, a museum research leader, told BBC News. Indeed, some of the fossil material from the North Sea dates to the Cromerian stage, between 866,000 and 478,000 years ago.

It had been "only a matter of time", he said, before a human fossil came to light.

Professor Stringer added: "The key thing for the future is getting this material in a better context.



"It would be great if we could get the technology one day to go down and search (in the sea floor) where we can obtain the dating, associated materials and other information we would get if we were excavating on land."

Private collection

Neanderthals (*Homo neanderthalensis*) were our close evolutionary cousins; they appear in the fossil record some 400,000 years ago.

These resourceful, physically powerful hunter-gatherers dominated a wide range spanning Britain and Iberia in the west, Israel in the south and Siberia in the east.

Our own species, *Homo sapiens*, evolved in Africa, and replaced the Neanderthals after entering Europe about 40,000 years ago.

The specimen was found among animal remains and stone artefacts dredged up 15km off the coast of the Netherlands in 2001.

The fragment was spotted by Luc Anthonis, a private fossil collector from Belgium, in the sieving debris of a shell-dredging operation.

Study of the specimen has been led by Professor Jean-Jacques Hublin, from the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany.

"Even with this rather limited fragment of skull, it is possible to securely identify this as Neanderthal," Professor Hublin told BBC News.

For instance, the thick bony ridge above the eyes - known as a supraorbital torus - is typical of the species, he said.

The fragment's shape best matches the frontal bones of late Pleistocene examples of this human species, particularly the specimens known as La Chapelle-aux-Saints and La Ferrassie 1.

These examples, which were both unearthed in France, date from between 50,000 and 60,000 years ago.

The North Sea fossil also bears a lesion caused by a benign tumour - an epidermoid cyst - of a type very rare in humans today.

The research links up with the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain 2 (AHOB 2) project, which aims to set Britain's prehistory in a European context. Dutch archaeologist Wil Roebroeks, a collaborator on this study, is also a member of the AHOB 2 research team.

Carnivorous diet

Dr Mike Richards, from the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig, analysed different forms, or isotopes, of the elements nitrogen and carbon in the fossilised bone. This shed light on the types of foods eaten by this young male.



Neanderthals were our close evolutionary cousins.



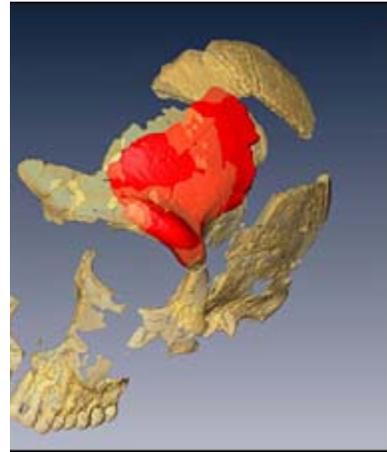
The results show survived on a diet dominated by meat.

"High in the food chain, (Neanderthals) must have been quite rare on the ground compared to other mammals," said Wil Roebroeks from the University of Leiden.

The results of the stable isotope analysis fit with what is known about other examples of this species, though other research suggests that in Gibraltar, on the southern coast of Iberia, some Neanderthals were exploiting marine resources, including dolphins, monk seals and mussels.

Researchers decided against carbon dating the specimen; this requires the preservation of a protein called collagen.

Professor Hublin explained that while there was some collagen left in the bone, scientists would have needed to destroy approximately half of the fossil in order to obtain enough for direct dating.



Scan shows the find super-imposed on a Neanderthal skull

Professor Roebroeks told BBC News: "Dutch scientists - geologists and archaeologists alike - are hoping this find will convince governmental agencies that the Netherlands needs to invest much more in that... archive of Pleistocene sediments off our coast - and off the coast of Britain." He said this submerged repository contained "high resolution information on past climate change and its environmental consequences, points of reference for how rivers 'worked' before any human interference and now, as this find shows, remains of people who once roamed these landscapes."

Extreme ways

Chris Stringer said that studying the landscape beneath the North Sea was crucial for a better understanding of prehistoric movements of humans into the British Isles.

"We have Neanderthals at Lynford (in Norfolk) 60,000 years ago, though we only have stone tools. This specimen might indeed be the kind of Neanderthal that was crossing into Norfolk around that time. It will help us understand our British sequence when we can much more precisely map what's under the North Sea," he said.

Professor Hublin said the individual was living at the extreme edge of the Neanderthals' northern range, where the relatively cold environment would have challenged their capabilities to the limit. Neanderthal remains have been found at only two sites this far north.

"What we have here is a marginal population, probably with low numbers of people," Professor Hublin explained.

"It's quite fascinating to see that these people were able to cope with the environment and be so successful in an ecological niche which was not the initial niche for humans."



While these hunting grounds would at times have provided plentiful sources of meat for a top carnivore, Neanderthals living in these areas would also have been at the mercy of fluctuations in the numbers of big game animals.

Periodic dips in populations of mammals such as reindeer could have caused local extinctions of Neanderthal groups which hunted them, Dr Hublin explained.

Paul.Rincon-INTERNET@bbc.co.uk



The fragment of skull belonged to a young adult male

Conferences and Events

**Yass Books cordially invites you to take
A Winter's Journey into Poetry and Art in Yass
On SUNDAY 5th JULY - 2.30 to 4.00pm
No admission charge. Refreshments will be available**

**The event will be staged at The Sheep's Back Gallery, a lovely heritage building in the main street of Yass
(just beyond the Post Office)**

**The afternoon features three award-winning Australian poets reading from their own work: Geoff Page, a
Canberra favourite, Judith Beveridge and Stephen Edgar, from Sydney.
The Gallery will, *on this day only*, feature an exposition by YassArts, featuring work by some of the many art
practitioners residing within Yass Valley Shire(www.yassarts.org).
Exhibiting artists include Peter Crisp, Richard Larter, Roger Moore and Kim Nelson, among others.**



AIMA NAS Maritime Archaeology Training Course (Part 1)

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th July 2009 at the Heritage Branch, 3 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2154.

This is a two-day course covering topics such as the history and development of maritime archaeology, site survey methods, position fixing, diving standards, safety and logistics, conservation and cultural heritage management.

By the end of the course participants will:

- have been introduced to the basic principles and scope of nautical archaeology;
- be able to apply 2D survey methods to an archaeological site; and
- have an understanding of their rights and responsibilities concerning underwater heritage.

Practical sessions during the course will focus on the use of 2D survey techniques and how these can be used on archaeological sites. Participants will not only get to practice the techniques but will also have the chance to draw up their results, demonstrating the advantages and disadvantages of different survey methods.

This is a general access course designed to appeal to anyone who has an interest in exploring their maritime heritage - divers and non-divers alike. It is also suitable for terrestrial archaeologists (and archaeology students) interested in learning more about maritime methods.

If you would like more information or to book on the course, please contact me on 02 9873 8533 or via email: sarah.ward@planning.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au/default.cfm>



NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL TRUST of AUSTRALIA (AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY)

Sherwood Historic Site (with the Australian Historic Gardens Association)

Saturday 12 September 2009. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited

The Sherwood site is a remnant garden first established by Henry and Eliza Phillips in 1863. Very little surface evidence of the homestead where the Phillips' raised their family remains, other than a number of exotic trees, but in spring the area blossoms with daffodils which may or may not date back to the time of the Phillips occupation. Catching the display at its best is tricky – contingent on drought, frost and rain but join us anyway to see what we can find of the secret garden on the edge of the forest.

We will need to go into the site as a party as access to the site is through the once dense pine forests devastated by the 2003 bushfires. Bring the children, a picnic, something to sit on, and your camera.

We will meet along the left hand side of the Brindabella Road, just past the Uriarra Homestead at 10.30am. From there we will drive, first to the Blue Range camp ground – site of an Italian internment camp during WW2 – and then on to a spot where we can park cars and walk into the Sherwood site.



If you have any doubts about where to meet please contact Judy Pearce.

Total walking will be less than 5 k on easy forest tracks. We plan to be back in civilisation by 3.00pm.

Further information and bookings: Judy Pearce (expertco@ozemail.com.au, Ph 6257 6970).

Tour time: 10.30am – 3pm

Cost \$10 NT members, \$15 non-members.

Mugga-Mugga Bush Poetry

Sunday 12 July, 4.00 - 6.00pm

The Queanbeyan Bush Poets present a variety of traditional and contemporary bush poetry by the pot belly stove in the Mugga-Mugga Education Centre. Relax with a warm cup of Mulled wine and enjoy old favourites and new works of bush poetry after touring Mugga-Mugga Cottage, a site which evokes this great Australian tradition.

Cost: \$10 (ACT M&G \$8), includes refreshments

Bookings and payment: by Wed 8 July* historicplacesbookings@act.gov.au or 6235 5677

2009 ASHA/AIMA Conference call for papers is out...Check it out.

Click on <http://groups.google.com.au/group/ozarch/web/asha-aima-2009-conference-call-for-papers?hl=en>

- or copy & paste it into your browser's address bar if that doesn't work.

The American Council of Learned Societies is pleased to announce a fifth year of the program of grants to individuals in the archaeology and early history of East and Southeast Asia. This program is undertaken in cooperation with the Henry Luce Foundation.

The full description of the program is available at <http://www.acls.org/programs/esaach>



Book worms



Australian Archaeology (ISSN 0312-2417)

Year: 2009 **Month:** June **Number:** 68

Access abstracts and limited content for this volume

(<http://www.australianarchaeologicalassociation.com.au/taxonomy/terms/187>)

Find out more about the Australian Archaeological Association Inc.

(<http://www.australianarchaeologicalassociation.com.au/>)

Join the Australian Archaeological Association Inc.

(<http://www.australianarchaeologicalassociation.com.au/joinaaa>)

From: Brad Pillans brad.pillans@anu.edu.au

Geoarchaeology is an interdisciplinary journal that presents the results of original research at the methodological and theoretical interface between archaeology and the geosciences and includes within its scope: interdisciplinary work focusing on understanding archaeological sites, their environmental context, and particularly site formation processes and how the analysis of sedimentary records can enhance our understanding of human activity in Quaternary environments.

Read the first issue of 2009 of Geoarchaeology for FREE at www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/geoarchaeology

Follow the links on the webpage to submit your article, learn about the editorial process, author guidelines, and sign up for free e-mail alerts. Please feel free to share this offer with your colleagues and library.

Archaeologists, Historians and Heritage Practitioners

The 'Thirsty Work' publication (see original notice below), can now also be viewed at our offices in Sydney and Newcastle. Purchases however must be made through the website

www.thirstywork.com.au.

To arrange please call Martin on 0411 727395

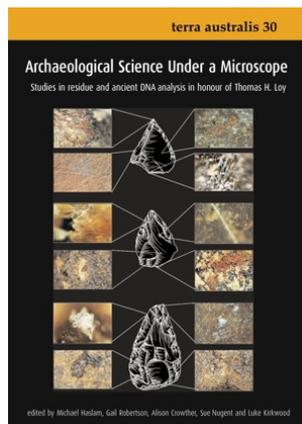
or the offices on – 02 4929 7583 (Newcastle) 02 9568 6093 (Sydney)

Martin Carney

www.archaeological.com.au

Archaeological Science Under a Microscope

:Studies in Residue and ancient DNA Analysis in Honour of Thomas H. Loy



Terra Australis 30

*Edited by Michael Haslam, Gail Robertson,
Alison Crowther, Sue Nugent and Luke
Kirkwood*

ISBN 9781921536847 \$49.50 (GST inclusive)

ISBN 9781921536854 (Online)

Published July 2009

This collection makes a substantial contribution to several highly topical areas of archaeological inquiry. Many of the papers present new and innovative research into the processes of maritime colonisation, processes that affect archaeological contexts from islands to continents. Others shift focus from process to the archaeology of maritime places from the Bering to the Torres Straits, providing highly detailed discussions of how living by and with the sea is woven into all elements of human life from subsistence to trade and to ritual. Of equal importance are more abstract discussions of islands as natural places refashioned by human occupation, either through the introduction of new organisms or new systems of production and consumption. These transformation stories gain further texture (and variety) through close examinations of some of the more significant consequences of colonisation and migration, particularly the creation of new cultural identities. A final set of papers explores the ways in which the techniques of archaeological science have provided insights into the fauna of islands and the human history of such places. *Islands of Inquiry* highlights the importance of an archaeologically informed history of landmasses in the oceans and seas of the world.

The volume is featured on the E Press homepage (<http://epress.anu.edu.au/>) as well as having its own unique URL: http://epress.anu.edu.au/ta30_citation.html

Mountain, Don (2000) "Lone Burial Sites in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding areas." Canberra, self published.

Have you ever been doing some research and suddenly you come upon a little gem, an unpublished work that provides background and insights that no published work ever could. Often these are done by enthusiasts with a passion for the subject or are in a field with a very narrow audience or appeal. Recently I came across just such a publication – "Lone Burial sites in the Australian Capital Territory and nearby areas" edited by Don Mountain.

According to the preface in 1997 Don was walking in the Namadji National Park and was shown a burial site near the Bobeyan Homestead by the former President of the Kosciusko Huts Association, Graham Scully. The fact that the site was unmarked and difficult to find prompted Don to document and photograph as many of the lone burial sites as could be identified so that the "pioneers of the beautiful yet harsh country would not faced into the mists of time without acknowledgement." Don's project received the "blessing" of the Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra and copies are held in their Library as well as the ACT Heritage Library.

The work lists the names of individuals, the location of the grave site, many with Topographic map grid references, and some comments on the cause of death, condition of grave site and some family history. Most of the last resting places have been photographed with close-up and landscape



perspectives so that finding them in the field is made easier. The work is a rich source of information particularly as the photographs all predate the 2003 bushfires. My only comment would be that the work could be enhanced in 2009 by the addition of GPS locations so future generations can visit the sites with some degree of accuracy.

I became aware of the work done by Don quite by chance when I talking about my recent research of the landscape around the Orroral Homestead. I knew from the historical sources that a servant girl was buried somewhere near to the homestead but could find no trace of the grave. The girl, Jane Ann Hall, died on 11 October 1874 as a result of a horse riding accident – “knocked from horse by a low tree branch” according to the death certificate.

The meticulous site recording photographs allowed me to find the grave site with a good deal more confidence than mere guesswork could have provided.

As Don concludes “it is a sad reflection on our modern society” that these graves are mostly unmarked – maybe a future project for heritage, historical or archaeological groups to contemplate.

Faye Powell

Please find the link the site of the journal de la société des océanistes, with the last issue online, a special issue in Honour of José Garanger. Courtesy ~ Emilie Dotte

<http://jso.revues.org/index5723.html>

Handbook of Space Engineering, Archaeology, and Heritage

Edited by Ann Darrin (John Hopkins University) and Beth L. O'Leary (New Mexico State University)
Series: Advances in Engineering; CRC Press (Taylor and Francis Group)

Expanding the discipline of archaeology into the cosmos, this unique volume offers a perspective rarely considered. It discusses the trail of debris that humankind has left behind during space exploration as artifacts worthy of investigation, whereas they provide evidence to our heritage as a planet. Gathering together a number of leading thinkers, it discusses topics that are no longer merely science fiction. They discuss the landscape of space, spacecraft forensics and field techniques, our environmental footprints, and the establishment of an archaeological record in space. Highly authoritative, it goes a long way in separating fact from science fiction.

Table of Contents:

All Sky Survey. Intro the Space Age. Surveying and the Cultural Landscape of Space. Spacecraft Forensics – Mystery Solving. Environmental Effects Archaeological Record in Space. Field Techniques. Space Heritage and Policy. The Future and Space Archeology. Science Fiction and Myth.

http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781420084313;jsessionid=fcvAjjClshVo+yDcRJ5I5A**