

March 2008



# old news

The Canberra Archaeological Society  
Newsletter

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**2008 Public Lecture Series**  
**Manning Clark Centre Theatre 6**  
**7:30pm Wednesday 19 March**

## **Regolith, Stratigraphy and Geoarchaeology Issues**

**Mr Tony Barham**

School of Archaeology and Anthropology  
Australian National University

Tony will look comparatively across work he has been involved in on sites in Sydney (with Jo McDonald) and down the coast with Julie Dibden and others, as well as looking more specifically at the Quaternary deposits of the ACT

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

*Please join us afterwards for light supper and a chat – find out how “down to earth” archaeologists really are.*

### **Biographical Note**

Tony Barham is a geoarchaeologist with the School of Archaeology and Anthropology at The Australian National University. His research spans Regolith and Soil Science, Quaternary Science and Archaeology, with a long-standing interest in the Holocene geomorphological development and human occupation record of Australian tropical coastlines. He has been involved in numerous international consulting projects, including Natural and Cultural Heritage Management projects in Europe (the Channel Tunnel Rail Link), on the Silk Roads with UNESCO in Turkmenistan and



mining projects in New South Wales and WA, including the Pilbara region. His current research includes evaluating impacts of past tsunami events (and cyclone storm surges) in WA using archaeological data sets and he is also the co-ordinator for the ANUs new Master of Archaeological Science (M. Arch. Science) program.

## 2008 Activities List

| Date                      | Venue                       | Speaker  | Topic  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Wednesday<br>March 19     | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Tony Barham  | Regolith, Stratigraphy and geoarchaeology issues                     |
| Wednesday<br>April 16     | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Jean Kennedy                                       | Prehistoric Bananas  |
| Friday 16 May             | Coombs tea room             | CAS and CAR  | National Archaeology Week - Trivia Night                             |
| Wednesday<br>May 21       | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Peter Hiscock                                      | National Archaeology Week - Hollywood and archaeology                |
| Friday 23 May             | Coombs Theatre              | Films with CAR and ANUFG                           | TBA  |
| Weekend 13-15 June        | Kioloa and the coast        | Peter White  | Stay at Kioloa and visit various sites of heritage interest          |
| Wednesday<br>June 18      | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Ian Gilligan                                       | Clothing in Aboriginal Australia                                     |
| Wednesday<br>July 16      | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Eric Martin, Chair of National Trust (ACT) Council | TBA  |
| Wednesday<br>August 20    | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Jess Weir  | Murray River Country: an ecological dialogue with traditional owners |
| Wednesday<br>September 17 | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Colin Groves                                       | The Flores Hobbit  |
| Wednesday<br>October 15   | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | TBA  |  |
| Wednesday<br>November 19  | Manning Clarke<br>Theatre 6 | Tony Barham  | Tsunami impacts on WA coastal archaeology                            |

| CAS 2008 Committee Contact Details  |
|---|
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|  |
|--|
| • <b>Committee Members:</b> Tegan Kelly & Kyle Turner  |
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| • <b>Web Master:</b> Russell Kightley Media  |

## In the (Old) News...

### Burk and Wills Artefact to be Sold

 **A dispute over the ownership of a historic artefact linked to the explorers Burke and Wills has been resolved.** It is believed the breastplate was one of three presented to Aborigines who fed and sheltered the explorers during their ill-fated journey. Brothers Eric and Klaus Ganzert had wanted to sell the artefact after finding it while bushwalking in South Australia's far north-east, but the State Government stopped them.



Auctioneer James Bruce says strict conditions have now been agreed to between the traditional Aboriginal owners and the Ganzerts that will allow the breastplate to be auctioned in May "Effectively it allows the breastplate to be placed on the open market and sold," he said. "Importantly the object is to remain in Australia and be made available one year in four for public display."

The proceeds of the sale will be divided between the breastplate's traditional Aboriginal owners and the Ganzert brothers.

### An interview with Lord Colin Renfrew





An interview with this internationally renowned veteran of Archaeological Science was aired on ABC's *Counterpoint* recently and may be of interest to some.

"Homo sapiens emerged in Africa more than 100,000 years ago and started to disperse to other continents in a big way 60,000 years ago. But why did it then take another 50,000 years before we developed villages and agriculture. Why the big wait? "

You can find links to download, read, listen etc. here:

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/counterpoint/stories/2008/2159454.htm>

### CAS Weekend at the coast - Friday 13 to Sunday 15 June 2008

*Advance notice of a weekend visit to the coast, led by our keen member Peter White.*

*Accommodation will be at the ANU Kialoa Coastal Campus. More details will be provided at meetings and through Old News.*

*Travel will be self provided, but those without transport can contact Helen to arrange a lift.*

*Possible attractions to be visited: Murramarang site, an axe grinding grooves site on Burrill Lake, the Burrill lake rock shelter, a midden (remnant) on Dolphin Point at Lake Burrill entrance (which has some interesting European history), a World War 1 "site" also near Lake Burrill, an industrial archaeology site, railway, quarry etc at Bannister Point; possibly recent archaeological work "refuting" tsunami examples is in this area; a rock art site; the Lake Tabourie museum; the scarred tree at Mogo, the archaeology of the timber industry around Kialoa brief handouts on the sites.*

## CLIVAR Summer School: Hawaii 2008

The CLIVAR Pacific panel is organizing a summer school on "ENSO: dynamics and predictability" on the Big Island of Hawaii in June 2008.

Topics include:

**ENSO theory**  
**Paleo-ENSO**  
**ENSO phenomenology: from observations to predictions**  
**Predictability theory**  
**Operational ENSO forecasting**  
**Decadal climate variability, global warming and ENSO**

For more information, visit:

<http://iprc.soest.hawaii.edu/~axel/summerschool.pdf>,

or the official summerschool webpage: <http://www.clivar.org/organization/pacific/meetings/>



*Please mark this weekend in your calendar!*

## **Ancient Egyptian City Discovered Buried Under African Sands**

**A team of US archaeologists has discovered the ruins of a city dating back to the period of the first farmers 7,000 years ago in Egypt's Fayyum oasis.** "An electromagnetic survey revealed the existence in the Karanis region of a network of walls and roads similar to those constructed during the Greco-Roman period," the council's chief Zahi Hawwas said. The remnants of the city are "still buried beneath the sand and the details of this discovery will be revealed in due course," Mr Hawwas said. "The artefacts consist of the remains of walls and houses in terracotta or dressed limestone as well as a large quantity of pottery and the foundations of ovens and grain stores," he added.

The local director of antiquities, Ahmed Abdel Alim, said the site was just seven kilometres from Fayyum lake and would probably have lain at the water's edge at the time it was inhabited. The remains date back to the Neolithic period between 5,200 and 4,500 BC.

### **4<sup>th</sup> AINSE Quaternary Dating Workshop**

26-27 March 2008, AINSE Theatre, Lucas Heights, Sydney.

The Program is now available in the AINSE website:

<http://www.ainse.edu.au/ainse/events/conferences.html>



## Ad Space

Do you have anything archaeological to advertise? If you know of, or are running field-work this year and you need volunteers, or you want to volunteer yourself, then contact us at [contact@cas.asn.au](mailto:contact@cas.asn.au) and we can advertise it for you in Old News or on the mailing list. Websites and archaeology-related events are also welcome!



## PhD Studentship Opportunities!

The Centre for Archaeology, Anthropology & Heritage CAAH, Bournemouth University is pleased to offer 3 PhD studentships. These are three-year, fully funded (£12,900 per year plus fees covered) full time appointments in 2008. Please note within the School of Conservation Sciences that only one of these studentships will be offered to an overseas fee-based candidate and the remainder to Home/EU fee-based candidates.

Candidates must demonstrate outstanding qualities and be motivated to complete a PhD in 3 years, as well as satisfy the School's minimum doctoral entry criteria for studentships of: an honours degree at Upper Second Class (2.1) and/or an appropriate Masters degree. An IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 minimum is essential for candidates for whom English is not their first language. In addition to satisfying basic entry criteria, the Research Centre will look closely at the qualities, skills and background of each candidate and what they can bring to their chosen research project.

Please go to our Centre web page

[http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/caah/phd\\_studentships.html](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/caah/phd_studentships.html) and click on the project names listed below to go direct to details of individual projects.

- \* **Carcass processing methods in Roman Britain**
- \* **New approaches to the interpretation of late Medieval and early-post Medieval glass production in Britain**
- \* **Technical development of LiDAR for identifying archaeological features within prehistoric landscapes**

If you would like to contact a member of staff to find out more information then please email the project supervisor identified with a particular area of study.

The School's (Faculty) web page may be found at: <http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/conservation/>

The Centre for Archaeology, Anthropology, and Heritage (CAAH) web page can be found at: <http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/caah/>

Staff from the CAAH will be attending the SAA conference in Vancouver and we will have a stall in the exhibition hall open from March 27 to March 29th. Please feel free to drop in and discuss informally these posts, our Master's programmes, and the work of the Centre.

Alternatively, you can also arrange to view the School and its facilities by emailing the

## Save the Murray River – Sign the petition



**"We're really concerned with what's happening to this beautiful waterway and lack of future water security issues, take serious action NOW because it's a national shame and tragedy".**

100,000 - 1,000,000 people are needed to sign the online petition ([http://rivermurray.com/html/petition/online\\_petition.html](http://rivermurray.com/html/petition/online_petition.html)) to make the government take notice. It only takes a moment. If you can get some of your friends to do this - that will also help. So far only a few thousand people have done so.

After you've signed the petition we're asking that you encourage people you know to do the same. They can be family, friends, work mates, school mates...anyone. The government won't take this seriously unless we the people collectively let them know that all the money that's being collected through GST and alike is also allocated to one of Australia's most precious and important Australian resources.

I know that sometimes it's difficult to ask people to sign petitions but in this case it's for the good of us all and our future. As you know it only takes a couple of minutes so please email all the people you know and let's change the course of the country's future through unified voices rather than face the dire consequences."

## AMQUA Biennial Meeting 2008

The 2008 AMQUA Biennial Meeting will be held at Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, June 5-7, 2008 with field trips June 4 and June 8-9, and a teaching workshop on Climate Change: Ice Core Research will be June 2-3. The meeting theme is "Quaternary Ice Sheet-Ocean Interactions and Landscape Responses."

Click here: [http://www.amqua.org/news/news/XX\\_AMQUA\\_BiennialMeeting.pdf](http://www.amqua.org/news/news/XX_AMQUA_BiennialMeeting.pdf) to see the very exciting scientific program.

The Meeting website can be found at: <http://www.outreach.psu.edu/programs/quaternary/> and contains all the registration and lodging information.

The deadline for abstract submission and early registration will be April 30.

AMQUA stands for American Quaternary Association. You don't have to be a member to attend the meeting. Cost is always minimal, accommodation the cheapest they can



## Brothers and Sisters around the country,

My name is Bob Noble and I am a Wongan man on my mother's side. I work for the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) in Canberra as an Indigenous Veterans Policy Officer, providing support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander veterans and their families.

I am seeking your support for a project the Department of Veterans' Affairs is undertaking. Veterans' Affairs is compiling a list to identify the service and sacrifice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, both living and deceased, who served their country in the following conflicts.

Boer War (1899 -1902), WW1 (1914-1918), WW2 (1935-1945), Malayan Emergency (1948-1960), Korean War (1950-1953), Malaysia/Borneo confrontation (1963-1966), Vietnam (1962-1972), Gulf War (1991), East Timor (1999-2002), current Gulf War and Peace Keeping (1973 onward )

When Indigenous men and women joined the Defence Forces in the past there was no requirement to identify their cultural background. The lack of this information has made it impossible to identify the service records of these men and women and Veterans' Affairs is seeking your assistance with their identification.

If you are a veteran or a relative of a veteran who fought in any of the above conflicts, I would be very grateful for information about your service or your relative's service.

If you are happy to provide this information, please complete the attached form and either email, fax or mail the form to me at:

email - robert.noble @dva.gov.au.

fax - (02) 6289 4854

Postal address - Bob Noble

Income Support & Aged Care Policy

PO Box 21

WODEN ACT 2606

If you would like to have a yarn about the list or what DVA is doing to help Indigenous veterans and their families, please give me a call on (02) 6289 6205.

**Dig in! Delicious food in the field**



**The world's first website to promote the services of a cook who specialises in producing delicious meals for archaeological fieldworkers has just been launched.** It's the work of Annie Evans, who has cooked for digs and surveys in the UK and the Mediterranean since 1998. Her background before then includes cooking for cafes, restaurants and in catering.

According to Annie Evans, cooking for field work means improvising, working with equipment that's far from ideal, keeping calm in a crisis, scouting out fresh local produce and always turning out nourishing, nutritious and delicious food. The website contains menus for a typical day's meals which include dishes from many parts of the world.

These include Thai or Indian curries, chili con carne, pork spare ribs with rice and salad, beef lasagna, tandoori chicken, Thai fish cakes, pork afelia, vegetable and chickpea tagine, moussaka, spanakopita and a large range of vegetarian dishes. Rounding off a typical meal may be fresh fruit, desserts such as sticky date pudding, citrus syrup cake or peach, apricot or apple cleftoutis – depending on seasonal and local availability. "Archaeologists often have to put up with fairly rudimentary accommodation during the course of a dig or survey," said Ms. Evans, "but that doesn't mean they can't have first-rate food'. Further details are available on the website at [www.digcook.com](http://www.digcook.com).

## **The International Day for Monuments and Sites 2008** *Religious heritage and sacred places*

A reminder of the **call for celebration of the INTERNATIONAL DAY ON MONUMENTS AND SITES 2008** which has already been published as a pre-announcement on the ICOMOS international website and whose theme was already announced to all members in the ICOMOS News 2/2006.

A special detailed section of the ICOMOS international website dedicated to the activities on 18 April 2008 will soon go online at <http://www.international.icomos.org/18thapril/2008>. It will include, among other sections, detailed documentation about the theme, ideas for celebration, and information about the history of the International Day for Monuments and Sites, which I hope will help you in organizing activities to mark this occasion. A Pre-announcement, including an introduction to this year's theme is available at: <http://www.international.icomos.org/18thapril/2008/18042008-e.pdf>

Please be sure to **inform the International Secretariat of the events that you are planning**, so that we can disseminate information on the initiatives your committee will be taking. Comments or feedback concerning the web pages and their content are very welcome.



## The Anthropocene: time for a human induced epoch?

**A heated scientific row is brewing as British geoscientists lead a push to establish a new chapter in the history of Earth - one based on human activity.** A group of scientists, led by geologist Jan Zalasiewicz, of the University of Leicester, suggest that human induced changes wrought since the Industrial Revolution 200 years ago are so profound, they are now visible in the physical and living fabric of the planet. As a result, they have called for the creation of a new Epoch in the official geological time scale, one they have named the Anthropocene. Not everyone agrees however and the debate is likely to be a major issue at the 33rd International Geological Congress meeting in Oslo, Norway this August.

You can find the full story, here:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0.25197.23124483-12332.00.html>

### Did You Know?

**According to the Daily Mail, sitting at a desk all day is 'as bad for health as smoking'!**

**“Sitting down for extended periods poses a health risk as “insidious” as smoking or over-exposure to the sun, a scientist claims”. Follow the link below for the full article.**

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in\\_article\\_id=492543&in\\_page\\_id=1770](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=492543&in_page_id=1770)

### Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University

The 2007 Flinders University Maritime Archaeology Newsletter is available through the Department of Archaeology website:

[http://ehlt.flinders.edu.au/archaeology/department/publications/FUMAN/FUMAN\\_2007.pdf](http://ehlt.flinders.edu.au/archaeology/department/publications/FUMAN/FUMAN_2007.pdf)

It was a great year for the Department of Archaeology and this newsletter showcases some of the projects in which students and staff were involved.



## **Anthropology Workshop: TRADITION, ADAPTATION, THE 'TIDE OF HISTORY': issues for anthropology in research for native title claims & their implementation.**

Call for expressions of interest

Anthropology, University of Queensland, St Lucia campus [to be held over 2 days between 16 June & 4 July, exact dates to be announced]

Convenors: Professor David Trigger & Ms Wendy Asche

**NB: Please note this is a separate event from the recently advertised workshop to improve research capacity (to be held in late March)**

While legal decisions, negotiated outcomes and related commentary have indicated that establishing native title rights does not require an unchanging body of traditional law and custom, in practice this remains a difficult and contested area of anthropological research. Further challenges are encountered in the implications of changing law and custom for managing and implementing acknowledged rights arising from claims.

We invite paper presentations on this broad subject, with the intention of subsequently developing a publication.

While seeking an appropriate publication outcome, we will make final versions of papers available on a web site.

This is intended as a relatively small workshop with a maximum of 12 presentations and considerable discussion. We have some funding to cover part of the travel costs & two nights accommodation in Brisbane for invited presenters who travel from elsewhere in Australia. We cannot make payments of fees. It may be possible for other interested persons to attend as a small audience for a modest registration fee.

If you are interested in attending and preparing a paper for this event, please send within two weeks **by 25<sup>th</sup> February**) an expression of interest including a title and abstract to: