



Canberra Archaeological Society Inc
Monthly Newsletter

Old News

July 2011

Canberra Archaeological Society/Centre for Archaeological Research
Public Lecture
Manning Clark Theatre 6

Following are the dates for CAS/CAR public lectures for 2011

Wednesdays at 7.30pm: August 17; September 21; October 19
November 16 AGM (One week later than usual)

Please note these dates in your diary

If there is a change in these dates for any reason they will be highlighted on our website

www.cas.asn.au

We will not be having a Public Lecture this month
because of the Symposium on the 23rd of July

but hope you will join our guest speakers

Peter Dowling and Sally Brockwell

Wednesday August 17, 7.30pm
Manning Clark Theatre 6, ANU

The Archaeology of the Australian Capital Territory:
A Strategic Region for Understanding Cultural and Natural Landscapes in South
Eastern Australia over the Last 20,000 Years



ACT Symposium 2011

Heritage and Planning: Partners in Development

What works well, what hasn't been a success and what has fallen through the cracks.

Saturday 23 July 2011, 9am - 4.30pm
Sir Roland Wilson Building Theatrette,
McCoy Circuit, Acton

COST : \$50 per person - Students \$25 .

Ticket price includes: Morning & afternoon tea, lunch and after sessions, drinks & nibbles.

Event sponsored by:

Canberra Archaeological Society Inc;
Centre for Archaeological Research (CAR);
Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists;
National Trust of Australia (ACT);
Institute of Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts,
ANU; Donald Horne Institute for Cultural Heritage UC;
Canberra and District Historical Society;
Biosis Research;
Godden Mackay Logan,
Navin Officer Heritage Consultants;
ICOMOS,
Significance International.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM - NEXT PAGE

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Sir Roland Wilson Building Theatrette, McCoy Circuit, Acton TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
0830	<i>Registration and mingling with coffee</i>	
0850	Introduction of the sponsors and the proceedings	Eric Martin
Session 1: Heritage planning Chair: Eric Martin AM, President NT (ACT)		
0900 - 0930	Heritage and Planning - Equal Partners in Development?	David Logan
0930 - 1000	The identification of heritage in planning new suburbs	Meredith Walker
1000 - 1030	Incorporating heritage into infrastructure design	Suzanne Moulis
1030 - 1045	<i>Morning tea</i>	
Session 2: Heritage techniques and planning experiences Chair: Rachel Jackson, GML		
1045 - 1105	Mechanical excavation in archaeological methodology - a defence	Kelvin Officer
1105 - 1125	The Kowen Plateau: Protection and Conservation in the Glenburn/Burbong Historic Precinct. Some Recent Successes and the Dreams of the Friends of Glenburn.	Colin McAlister and the Friends of Glenburn
1125 - 1145	Ongoing Erosion of heritage values in a registered Heritage Precinct	Anne Forrest
1145 - 1205	Heritage at Sea: Maritime archaeology and the development process	Sarah Ward

1205 - 1225	Brooks Terrace, Kanahooka (Dapto), NSW – Residential Development within the Ruins of the Former Dapto Smelter	Anita Yousif
1225 - 1310	<i>Lunch</i>	
Session 3: Deep and meaningful planning and heritage Chair: Lyn O'Brien, Biosis Research		
1310 - 1330	What is the social purpose of heritage listing?	Paul Rappoport
1330 - 1350	Tall tales and true: findings of the ACT Heritage Act Review	Duncan Marshall
1350 - 1410	The roles of the heritage adviser in NSW local Government	Pip Giovanelli
1410 - 1430	Heritage planning, to be or not to be?	Ken Taylor
1430 - 1450	Twelve questions to add value to the heritage process	Viv Straw
1450 - 1515	<i>Afternoon pit stop</i>	
1515 - 1535	Further Theoretical Approaches to Assessing (and thus managing) Aboriginal Heritage	Tim Owen
1535 - 1555	Despoiling the Vision: the proposed lakeside memorials and heritage failures	Juliet Ramsay
1600 - 1630	Workshop discussion: Heritage and Planning: the way forward as partners in development	All
1630 - 1700	<i>Drinks, nibbles and confirming the next steps</i>	All participants

Further Information: www.cas.asn.au, contact@cas.asn.au or phone 0408 443 243.



ANU Public Lecture Series

Tuesday 26 July 2011

6 – 7pm

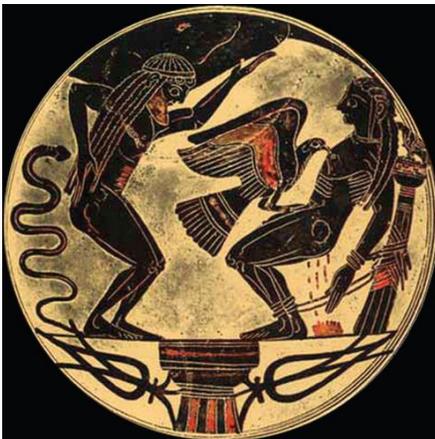
Finkel Lecture Theatre

The John Curtin School of Medical Research,

Garran Road, ANU

Homo Prometheus: from the discovery of fire by prehistoric humans to climate change

Dr Andrew Glikson ANU



Homo is the only genus to have mastered fire—becoming its blueprint in terms of its effect on nature, physical, mental and imaginative powers, myths and legends, cultural evolution, agriculture and the rise of civilization. Burning and cultivation since about 6000 years ago are marked by a rise in CO₂ and methane, culminating with the burning of fossil biospheres hundreds of millions of years old, with critical effects on the composition of the atmosphere-ocean-cryosphere system. The significance of this unique development in the history of nature is explored, among others in terms of little understood biological principles and of entropy

Andrew Glikson graduated at the University of Western Australia, was a Principal Research Scientist at the Australian Geological Survey and researched early crustal evolution and the effects of asteroid impacts at ANU. His current studies focus on paleoclimate and the two-ways relationship between climate and human evolution.

Presented by School of Archaeology & Anthropology

ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences

Registration required

Telephone 02 6125 4144

anu.edu.au/publiclectures

This lecture is free and open to the public

Friends of the ANU Classics Museum - Happy Hour in the Museum

Friday 22 July 2011 - 6 pm - 7.30 pm

The Friends of the ANU Classics Museum are reverting to a mid-winter version of this popular event, and extend a warm welcome to all Friends and their guests to experience conviviality and enlightenment at the annual Happy Hour in the Museum, AD Hope Building ANU.

Drinks and finger food will be provided by the Committee, and newly purchased stools will be available for your comfort.

This year the focus will be on one of their exceptional pieces of Roman portrait sculpture with an entertaining talk by **Dr Gitte Lonstrup Dal Santo**.

Gitte has a BA and MA in Art and architectural History from the University of Aarhus, Denmark. She studied Early Christian Archaeology at the Università degli Studi Roma Tre. In 2010 she completed her PhD on Rome and Constantinople in late antiquity from the perspective of cultural memory. She has recently begun a new research project, Theodosian Architecture and the making of a Christian Empire, which she is working on during her Visiting Fellowship at Classics, ANU. From September she will be Assistant Director at the Danish Academy in Rome.

Gitte will speak to us about the Roman Emperor Valerius Licinius Licinianus, (AD 250 - AD 324) whose image is shown here.

Licinius was brother-in-law and co-emperor with Constantine the Great until defeated by him at the battle of Chrysopolis in 324. He is therefore at the conjunction of the old western and new eastern Roman empires and should make a fascinating subject for a Museum talk.



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We would like to extend our congratulations to Emeritus Prof Richard Wright of Sydney University who was recognised for his work in the Queens Birthday Honours List, being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia.

This honour is extremely well deserved, and Richard joins an illustrious list of other archaeologists who have been similarly recognised in previous years.

I'm sure all archaeologists applaud this award. However, I think they will be appalled that the ABC have referred to him as a "bone collector". <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/06/13/3242391.htm>



Journal of the Anthropological Society of SA

You may recall an article in a previous Old News on the Anthropological Society of South Australia (Inc.) which was founded in 1926, the first society of its type to be established in Australia.

Early members of the Society such as Norman Tindale, Charles Mountford, Frederic Wood Jones, Thomas Campbell and Robert Pulleine were amongst the pioneers in the study of anthropology and archaeology in this country.

The Society's new website is worth a visit: <http://www.anthropologysocietysa.com>.

Volume 33 of the ASSA Journal, dated June 2011, has just been released. It is a special edition on 'Issues in South Australian Aboriginal Archaeology' with some excellent papers which are relevant to Indigenous archaeology and cultural heritage management all over Australia. Keryn Walshe includes knowledge of the South Australian Museum's collections and policies in summarising Aboriginal Archaeology in SA since 1880. Philip Hughes *et al* summarise the development of the sampling and predictive strategy in Archaeological Investigations at Olympic Dam. Amy Roberts uses her knowledge of Native Title and cultural heritage management to discuss broader issues facing archaeologists in contemporary practice. Natalie Franklin presents an analysis of some rock art traditions in SA and a short note from Donald Pate *et al* covers stable isotopic analysis of remains from SA.

Enquiries about the journal can be directed to the Secretary, Amy Roberts: amy.roberts@flinders.edu.au.



Old Tuggeranong Schoolhouse

Volunteers are needed to be Friends of the Old Tuggeranong Schoolhouse at 34 Enid Lorimer Crescent, Chisholm. CAS member Elizabeth Burness is the tenant and curator of a small collection of items from the school and a large collection of her own on display in the rooms of the attached residence. The Schoolhouse will be open on the second Sunday of every month from 2pm to 4pm (the Tuggeranong Homestead Markets are held on the same day) and also some weekdays for school visits. Elizabeth is a story teller and has ample material to entrance visitors. She would like volunteers who remember the 1950s to help on the open days, explaining past ways of life and the old utensils to visitors and keeping an eye on the treasures in one of the five rooms open to the public. Please call Elizabeth on 6161 6383 or 0400 391 440 to discuss your involvement. She promises a cuppa and access to her collection and her extensive library of social history and fashion.

And if you can't be a Friend you can visit the Schoolhouse on open days and you can look forward to some future archaeological explorations on the site if CAS is successful in getting an ACT Heritage Grant.

Tutankhamun – was rushed into the Underworld



A painting on the wall of Tutankhamun's tomb shows Hathor, goddess of the West (right), welcoming the young pharaoh (centre) to the underworld accompanied by the protector Anubis (left). The depiction is covered with dark spots (image courtesy of the J Paul Getty Trust).

Most of us have read about Tutankhamun and the 'wonderful things' found in his tomb by Howard Carter in 1922. Popular texts have repeatedly speculated on how he died – a head injury caused by a fall from a chariot, infection from a broken leg, malaria, sickle-cell anaemia (a hereditary blood disorder). Or was he deliberately poisoned or murdered by the ubiquitous blunt instrument? The fact is that despite more serious research his cause of death is still unconfirmed. But what is known from his remains is that he was in his teens when he died – a young king cut down in the early years of his life. It's all a wonderful story that has endured young and old readers for nearly one hundred years (and I have not mentioned the stories around the so called 'curse of Tutankhamun', nor will I)

So now here is a new facet to the story. Recent research has suggested that the young king was laid to rest and sealed in his tomb in somewhat of a hurry, even before the paint had dried on the walls. Ever since Carter opened up the tomb and examinations began researchers have been puzzled by the small dark stains or blotches over the art work on the walls. It turns out that the staining was caused by ancient microbes

But why were these brown blotches so prolific? They are everywhere – on paint, on plaster, on the many artefacts interred with the king. Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities could not identify the cause. It has been postulated that the moist breath and sweaty bodies of the many tourists who visit the tomb may have contributed by raising the tomb's humidity and promoting microbial growth. But Carter had noted the blotches back in 1922 and had photographed them. Recent photography has shown that the blotches have not changed.

A team from the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences think they may have the answer. As far as can be discerned the microbes are ancient and no longer active and it's here the plot thickens (as Amelia Peabody would say). Even after DNA sequence analysis the microbial species remain unidentified and the researches cannot say what they were, other than that they may have been some sort of fungi. And why was Tutankhamun's tomb—just this one among the many from ancient Egypt that are less well preserved—so blighted with microbial blotches?

The researches have postulated (science speak for a well educated guess) is that the king died suddenly, and was quickly entombed, before the plaster on the walls had a chance to dry. The workers finishing the tomb would have exhaled, lost flecks of dry skin, sweated like modern day tourists and provided enough organic matter and with a moist substrate the microbes flourished. After the humidity dropped and the organic matter was consumed, the microbes ceased to be active – but not before they had left their tell-tale blotches all over the wet plaster walls. It would seem that the young Tutankhamun was hurriedly rushed into the underworld before the paint on his tomb had dried.

Why was that? Well that's another story.



DON'T FORGET

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