

Association for Environmental Archaeology

AEA Newsletter 129

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Chair's piece

Richard Thomas, AEA Chair

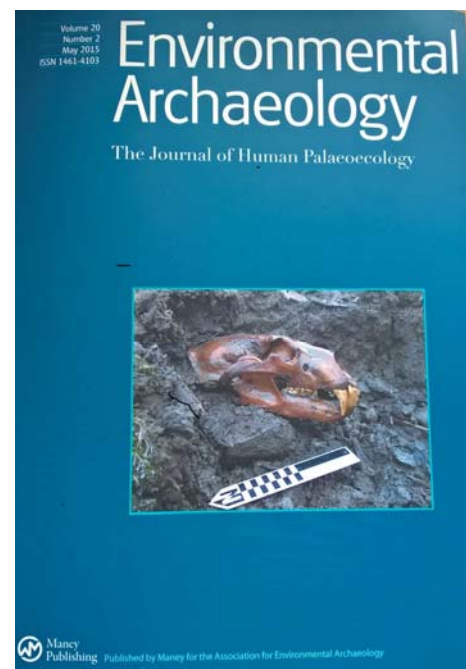
A very warm welcome to our August newsletter. Regular readers of my Chair's piece will recognise that a common theme has been to highlight new developments in our journal *Environmental Archaeology*, and this contribution is no exception. On the 19th June Maney Publishing (the publishers of our journal) was sold to Taylor & Francis (<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/explore/Maney-Publishing-Announcement.pdf>). The production team behind the journal will remain the same enabling us to maintain our high standard of publication. However, we will now be joining a larger group, who have the resources to adopt new technologies to enhance the experience for authors and readers. We are confident that *Environmental Archaeology* will benefit from this new arrangement and allow us to develop our Taylor & Francis' strengths as an international publisher.

In other news, we are busy gearing up for our Autumn conference, which will take place in York (6th-8th November) in honour of Professor Terry O'Connor entitled "From Anthroposphere to Lithosphere (and back again): A Celebration of the Career and Research of Terry O'Connor". (see page 7). We are very pleased to be able to invite applications to the AEA Conference Fund to members of the AEA (of at least six months standing) to assist attendance at the conference. Priority will be given to those with limited alternative sources of funding (particularly postgraduate students and those in the private sector) and those presenting papers or posters. A Conference Fund application form is provided at the end of this newsletter. For more infor-

mation please visit our website (<http://envarch.net/2015-aea-conference-fund>). We will host an AGM at the conference to which all AEA members are welcome. As well as providing an update on our activities during the year, we will be electing new members to the committee. Details of the posts available are provided below, but please do think about joining us (or nominating colleagues), to help us promote environmental archaeology around the world.

Finally, I just want to alert you to our spring conference in 2016, which will take place at the very beginning of April in Kirkwall, Orkney, and will be conveniently followed by meetings of the Professional Zooarchaeology Group and the Archaeomalacology Working Group (<http://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/archaeology-institute/events/association-for-environmental-archaeology-conference-2016>). The call for papers is now open (details below).

I hope to be able to catch up with some of you at York.



THE PALLASBOY PROJECT

Ben Gearey, Cathy Moore, Mark Griffiths, Brian McDomhnaill

Department of Archaeology, University College Cork, Connolly Building, Dyke Parade, Cork, Ireland, B.Gearey@UCC.ie

The Pallasboy project is an investigation into the skills of prehistoric woodworkers in Ireland, via the recreation of a remarkable Iron Age wooden vessel discovered in an Irish peatland. It brings together experts in archaeological wood analyses and peatland archaeology from Ireland (Cathy Moore, Ben Gearey) with a master craftsman from the United Kingdom (Mark Griffiths), with experience in reconstructing historical wooden artefacts. Professional artist and photographer (Brian McDomhnaill) has documented the project from start to finish, employing both photographic and video recording.

Due to their waterlogged, anoxic environments, peatlands are one of the few environments the world over where organic archaeological remains survive (e.g. Coles and Coles 1986). Such discoveries are made in Ireland on a regular basis (see Gearey *et al.* 2013 for a review), and include all manner of wooden artefacts ranging from small everyday utensils and vessels, to large wooden structures such as the famous prehistoric trackways of Corlea, Co. Longford (Raftery, 1996). These artefacts provide a wealth of information concerning the ancient woodland environment and the different ways in which it was managed, utilised and perceived by past cultures. Wooden artefacts in particular often retain evidence of the tools used in their manufacture and indicate the level of skill possessed by past woodworkers.

This record is therefore critical in our understanding of how past cultures used and worked wood, but to date very little work has attempted to study these skills in a practical sense. Previous investigations have focussed on techniques such as those required to fell trees using stone and metal tools (Coles, 1973), and technical aspects of archaeological tool marks (Sands, 1997), but few attempts have been made to investigate what we might describe in a contemporary context, as woodworking requiring high levels of skill and practical knowledge. Whilst we must of course acknowledge the interpretative gap between the past and the present, such experimental archaeological approaches have elsewhere yielded important insights into past cultures (e.g. Outram, 2008 and papers therein).

The project has set out to investigate woodworking and craft via an experimental approach and focussing on the Pallasboy vessel as a case study. The Pallasboy vessel (Figure 1) was discovered in Toar Bog, County Westmeath in 2000

and excavated by the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit (Murray, 2001). Due to its near perfect state of preservation, the vessel provides a unique record of the materials and techniques that were used in its construction: it is 1.29 m high, 0.57m wide and 0.49m deep and was carved out of a single piece of alder wood which was cut from a tree over 56 years old. Submerged in a shallow pool in the peatland probably around 200 cal. BC and cal. AD 30 (2072±50, UCD-00119), there has been some discussion concerning its use and function: it might have been used to store food, or water for ritual use before it was 'pinned down' in a bog pool using hazel stakes. It may have been deposited as a votive 'offering' and in this sense has certain parallels with that of later prehistoric 'bog bodies' (Van de Noort and O'Sullivan, 2006).



Figure 1 *The Pallasboy vessel*

The toolmarks on the vessel show that at least five different tools were used in its manufacture (axes, a chisel and a gouge), and also that the vessel cracked during crafting, but was repaired using tiny wooden wedges. Although the woodworker(s) who created this artefact and other such wooden items are generally regarded as having been highly skilled (Moore *et al.* 2003; McDermott *et al.* 2009), we have little idea of precisely what this equates to in terms of modern woodworking skills and competencies. The project has been exploring this using the practical skills of a contemporary master woodworker (Mark Griffiths) to craft a precise

replica of the Pallasboy vessel using timber and tools as close to the originals as possible (Figure 2). Replica Iron Age tools have been specially forged for the work. All elements of the process have been explored, raising some unexpected issues; sourcing a relatively old piece of alder timber was difficult as there is little commercial demand for this wood and most alder trees of this age tend to be deliberately felled before they die and collapse. Ingelise Stuijt's dendrological analysis of the original vessel indicates that the alder tree used grew in relatively open conditions and was perhaps even specially grown and/or selected (Murray 2001). This was ultimately the same process we had to follow, finally tracking down a suitable specimen in County Wicklow, which also had to be 'specially' felled and delivered to UCC. This also gives cause for reflection in terms of our interpretation of certain palaeoenvironmental data; trees and woodland might have been conserved and managed in prehistory for purposes other than the immediately functional and practical.

We have considered a number of questions during crafting: for example, how were different tools used and in what sequence? The shaping of the handles of the vessel suggested the use of a hand pushed chisel, and this has been tested via direct experiment. Were the gouges struck with a wooden mallet, or if forced by hand, for more controlled detailed work, was some form of handle or padding required? Could the more mundane elements of the work have been delegated to a less skilled apprentice, leaving the master wood-

worker to finish and embellish, as is the tradition in craft workshops? The answer to this last question at least would appear to be 'yes', all of the 'unskilled' members of the team were keen to have a go at the (as it transpired...) physically demanding job of hollowing out the log (Figure 3). While we had a good idea of the sort of tools used, the possible time scale required to carve and re-sharpen these items and related issues concerning tool use, have also been investigated.

Although the project has focussed on a single artefact, the results will shed much needed light on the process of woodworking in prehistory more broadly, and indirectly may permit insight into little explored archaeological questions and theories concerning crafting and culture in the past (e.g. Lee, 2014). The project will have both academic and public outputs, including dissemination via social media (see <https://www.facebook.com/Pallasboy2015?ref=ts>). A short film of the crafting will also be produced and made available via YouTube. The replica vessel itself and the associated documentation of the process, represents a tangible legacy and will be displayed at the Glucksman Gallery (Cork), along with Brian McDomhnaill's documentation of the process: an intersection of past creativity with modern artistic sensibilities. The National Museum of Ireland (Dublin) has also expressed interest in the replica and once the original vessel is conserved, it is possible that all or part of the output will have a continuing 'life' as part of future display of the 'Pallasboy Vessel'.





Figures 2 & 3 Making a replica of the Pallasboy vessel

Acknowledgement

The project has been funded by the International Wood Culture Society via the World Wood Day Fund; whose support is gratefully acknowledged.

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POST DOCTORAL AND PHD POSITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KIEL

Kiel University has announced a new round of Post-Doc positions (4) and PhD scholarships (4) at the Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes" and the Johanna-Mestorf-Academy.

A. Post-Doc Positions

1) *Development of Archaeobotanical Proxies (Micro- or Macrobotanical Proxies)*

The contract runs until **October 31, 2017, starting on November 1, 2015** if possible. The salary will be at the TV-L 13 (100%) level. The position is affiliated to Cluster 2 "Social Space and Landscape" of the GSHDL. Requirements include an excellent Archaeobotany Ph.D. in Biology/ Geosciences or a field connected to Archaeology/ Antiquity Studies. Application deadline is September 1, 2015.

2) *Ancient DNA analysis*

The contract runs for two years or until October 31, 2017 (whatever occurs first), and starts as soon as possible. The salary will be at the TV-L 13 (100%) level. The position is assigned to the Medical Faculty. Prerequisite is a Ph.D. in a discipline relevant for the project. Application deadline is September 1, 2015.

3) *Climate change and social inequality in Prehistoric and Archaic Societies*

The contract runs for three years, starting on January 1, 2016. The salary will be at the TV-L 13 (100%) level. Applicants must have a recent PhD in a relevant field, and ideally they will have a background in both, paleoclimatology and archaeology. Application deadline is October 1, 2015.

4) *Transformation and Crisis in Prehistoric and archaic Societies*

The contract runs for three years, starting on January 1, 2016. The salary will be at the TV-L 13 (100%) level. Requirements include an excellent Ph.D. in a field relevant to the multidisciplinary theme of 'Human Development in Landscapes'. Application deadline is October 1, 2015.

B. PhD scholarships announcement by the GS HDL / Johanna Mestorf Academy

The four PhD scholarships are for two years with the potential to be extended to a third year. The scholarships are 1450€ per month. All scholarship holders can apply for research funds from the Graduate School. Eligible candidates must hold an outstanding university degree (MA, MSc or equivalent) in a field relevant to the multidisciplinary theme of 'Human Development in Landscapes'. Application deadline is October 1, 2015.

To request additional information about both the Post-Doc and PhD topics and application requirements, please contact the scientific coordinator of the GS HDL PD Dr. Mara Weinelt: office@gshdl.uni-kiel.de

For questions related to the archaeobotany position please contact Wiebke Kirleis: wiebke.kirleis@ufg.uni-kiel.de

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www.ufg.uni-kiel.de/

RESEARCH POST IN PLANT FIBRE ANALYSIS

Research Associate: Scientific Research
 Centre for Textile Conservation
 University of Glasgow
 Research and Teaching Grade 7: £33,242- £37,394
 REF: 011025
 Fixed Term

We are looking for a researcher to join an interdisciplinary team to take part in a ground-breaking investigation of a key aspect of Pacific culture.

The three-year research project, *Situating Pacific Barkcloth Production in Time and Place*, is being funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, and is a collaboration between the University of Glasgow, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and

the National Museum of Natural History, The Smithsonian Institution.

Barkcloth is made from the inner bark of the paper mulberry tree and other plants. By studying the material closely, it is hoped that we will gain new insight into the lost skills, culture and knowledge associated with this ancient craft.

This innovative project will integrate the methodologies of museum anthropology, history, scientific analysis, botany and conservation.

We are looking for staff who bring technical skills to the project and who also enjoy working in a multi-disciplinary environment.

The post-holder will undertake a pioneering exploration into novel analytical methods of identifying the plant fibres used to make Pacific barkcloth. The job requires expert knowledge of analytical methods of materials' identification relevant to the study of barkcloth. It is not expected that the researcher will have specialist knowledge of all the analytical techniques to be applied but s(he) should be able to demonstrate expertise in one or more relevant areas and the ability to work with a wide range of researchers to develop research questions and synthesise results.

The successful candidate will be expected to help manage and direct this complex and challenging project, as well as contribute to the dissemination of project outcomes through research publications, conferences and the project website.

The post is for 30 months, full-time, from 1 January 2016. Apply online at www.glasgow.ac.uk/jobs

Closing date: 20 September 2015

AEA BOOKLIST 2015

The AEA has a number of new titles for our booklist which we hope will be of interest to members. The discounts have been provided by the publishers Oxbow, Four Courts Press and Archetype. The range covers some useful handbooks (bird bone identification and vegetable fibre identification), two interesting studies on the cultural importance of deer, the cultural importance of trees, as well as studies on the early Stone Ages of Ireland and Wales.

If members wish to order any titles please email me (Don O'Meara) (donomeara@gmail.com). I will accept orders until early September. Postage costs have unfortunately had to increase due to changes made by Royal Mail. Typically it will now cost £4 per book for UK based orders and £6 per book for those in the EU. The last book list encountered some problems posting items outside the EU and therefore these orders will need to be considered on a case by case basis. In any event I will confirm the postage and packaging costs before the order has been set. Some members have also asked about invoices for orders so for future orders I will provide a PDF invoice of the book order and the postage costs. Please let me know in advance if you need any additional information included.

'Anglo-Norman parks in medieval Ireland' by Fiona Beglane. Four Courts Press. 256pp. Colour ill. Hardback.

<http://www.fourcourtspress.ie/books/2015/anglo-norman-parks-in-medieval-ireland/>

£50.00 – AEA Members Price £25

This publication brings together data from archaeological fieldwork, historical research and place-name evidence to provide a synthesis of a hereto neglected aspect of the Irish medieval landscape. This study provides an interesting case study compared to the phenomena of the deer park in other Norman realms, and in medieval Europe more broadly.

'Deer and people' by Karis Baker, Ruth Carden and Richard Madgwick (Editors)

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/deer-and-people.html>

£27 – AEA Members Price £13.50

A collection of papers which excellently detail both the range of cultural interactions between deer and people, and the

wide range of approaches which can be taken in modern zoo-archaeological research.

The Woods of Ireland: a history, 700–1800 by Nigel Everett *New Paperback edition. 352pp; colour illustrations:*

<http://www.fourcourtspress.ie/books/2014/the-woods-of-ireland/>

£24.95 – AEA Members Price £13

This paperback edition of Everett's study challenges much of the received wisdom on the history of Irish woodlands, questioning the traditional historiography which relies more on oral and nationalist tradition than on detailed landscape study.

'Trees in Towns' by Mark Johnson

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/trees-in-towns-and-cities.html>

£32 – AEA Members Price £16

The wooded environment is often examined on the basis of rural landscapes but this work by Mark Johnson shows the importance of trees in the created urban environment from the Roman period onwards.

Agriculture and settlement in Ireland by Margaret Murphy & Matthew Stout (Editors). Four Courts Press. 256pp. Ills. Hardback.

<http://www.fourcourtspress.ie/books/2015/agriculture-and-settlement-in-ireland/>

£45.00 – AEA Members Price £23

A series of papers edited by Murphy and Stout which examine various aspects of Ireland's agricultural settlement from the Neolithic to the present day.

Manual for identification of Bird Bones from Archaeological Sites by Alan Cohen and Dale Serjeantson.

<http://www.archetype.co.uk/publication-details.php?id=225>

£29.50 – AEA Members Price £15

A reprint of the well know identification manual.

Identification of Vegetable Fibres by Dorothy Catling and John Grayson

<http://www.archetype.co.uk/publication-details.php?id=221>

£35 – AEA Members Price £17.50

A reprint of the useful handbook detailing the techniques of fibre identification for the more common plant fibres.

Living with the flood - Henry P. Chapman, Kevin Colls and Samantha Paul (Authors)

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/living-with-the-flood.html>

£19.95 - £10 for AEA Members

A study of floodplain archaeology on the River Cam in Cambridgeshire, England. The excavation reports contain studies of zooarchaeological, archaeobotanical and artefactual material from multi-period settlement sites.

Ireland's first settlers – Professor Peter Woodman

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/searching-for-ireland-s-first-settlers.html>

£50 – AEA Members Price £25

An extensive study of Ireland's earliest settlement by the foremost expert on the subject (me being in no way biased as one of his former students of course!)

Hunters fishers and farmers – Malcolm Lillie

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/hunter-fishers-and-foragers-in-wales.html>

£40 – AEA Members Price £20

An examination of early prehistoric human settlement and activity in Wales.

Don O'Meara

PROFESSIONAL ZOOARCHAEOLOGY GROUP (PZG) 10TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

On the 8th-9th August, the [PZG](#) held their 10th Anniversary meeting at Historic England, Portsmouth, UK. The PZG held its first meeting at the zooarchaeology laboratory at HE (then English Heritage) in July 2005, with at the time c 18 specialists attending to set up the group. Since then, the PZG has held 20 meetings and has grown to over 90 members! The continuing aim of the group is to bring together professional animal bone specialists working in commercial, public and academic organisations to exchange information and provide peer support and training. The group holds twice yearly meetings with themed presentations and workshops. The topic of the July meeting was Roman Zooarchaeology, which was combined with a workshop on dogs. A total of 29 professionals attended. The meeting was followed by a celebration dinner Saturday evening and tours to archaeological sites on Sunday.

Mark Maltby started the morning session reviewing the study of Roman urban assemblages since publication of sites such as Exeter in 1979. It was clear that with well-preserved and tightly dated assemblages much can be done. Mark concluded by urging zooarchaeologists to do more to integrate and synthesize our data into the themes and narratives used by the archaeologists and other specialists.

James Morris focused on Animal Burials in the Roman period, or associated bone groups (ABGs), covering changes and continuity from the late Iron Age into the Roman period, as well as zooarchaeological interpretive fashion. Jim reminded us that it is quite likely that the act of killing the animal had far greater significance than its subsequent disposal, using an interesting ethnographic example from voodoo practise to reinforce this point.

Martyn Allen presented zooarchaeological aspects of the [Roman Rural Settlement Project](#), a huge project the results

of which are now being disseminated. The aim of the project is to fill the gaps in our understanding of rural settlement in Roman Britain. Martyn discussed site classifications, regional distributions, geological influences and trends through time. The outputs from the project can be searched via ADS and the specialist data will go online next year.

Angela Trentacoste introduced us to another large-scale data project, the [Oxford Roman Economy Project](#) which is building a searchable online database of documentary and archaeological material. This is a potentially very useful tool for zooarchaeologists, as it will include zooarchaeological information, references and web links to related resources. Angela is also the Newsletter editor for ICAZ so we also got a quick reminder about the new ICAZ Roman Working Group [Zooarchaeology of the Roman Period Working Group](#).

In preparation for the afternoons dog workshop, Greger Larson gave a presentation entitled '@Palaeo-population genomics as a means to understand the history of dog domestication', also introducing Palaeo-Barn

(<http://www.palaeobarn.com/>). He discussed recent research and differing results with zooarchaeology and within the field of genetics, vividly describing the 'blender tendency', which obscures the domestication process due to the mixing of populations. So far 4000 samples of ancient DNA have been collected. The next stage is to test some of the earlier claims for dog domestication of 30,000 or even 50,000 BP.

A delicious lunch was supplied by Historic England and enjoyed in the sunshine, and later during the break Eva Fairnell gave a tour of the skeleton preparation laboratory.

The afternoon session began with a series of short case studies. This aspect of PZG always provides a good exchange of information and strengthens contacts across organisations.

The first case study was a description of the Historic England database for the [Roman regional review of zooarchaeology in Southern England](#) (Martyn Allen, Polydora Baker, Fay Worley), which includes a total of 293 sites yielding 458 site-phase assemblages. The database will be updated in the autumn prior to going on-line. Polydora Baker asked members to send in references and/or PDFs for their recent publications (2013-2015).

A fascinating example of butchery was presented by Lena Strid on the animal bones from Kings Hill South Roman Villa in Cirencester. A deposit of very densely butchered horse and cattle bones appears to be a stash stockpiled for use in pin production.

Julia Best presented work on Roman chickens, part of the Chicken Coop project (<http://chickenco-op.net/home>). She described iconographic associations and zoo archaeological evidence, medullary bone and the identification of egg-laying hens, and the emergence of traits which later appear in distinct breeds, for example five-toed and dwarf chickens. Assemblages of egg shell are also being studied, including identification to species and distinction of hatched and un-hatched shell.

Next, Gemma Ayton discussed her study of a number of disarticulated dog skeletons from a Roman well at Rothwell Hague. Gemma attempted to use metric data to determine size groups, identifying two main clusters as well as a few larger and smaller animals, including one possible dwarf type with a short but very robust tibia. A larger assemblage is required to test the validity of methods used.

Fay Worley presented a case study based on work with Vicky Crosby and Polydora Baker, entitled 'Is this the smallest dog from Roman Britain?' The specimen was found in a stone cist of late Roman date (awaiting confirmation via ^{14}C). The specimen is under 20 cm at the shoulder and in morphological and size terms it has some similarities to a toy poodle in the HE

reference collection. Interestingly, some of the features of the vertebrae have been linked to breeds with curly corkscrew tails. Unfortunately the skull is too fragmented to provide a cephalic index, but a method that Fay has developed for recording shape in fragmented skulls may prove useful.

Hannah O'Regan followed with two case studies, the first on Doghole Cave, Haverbrack, a limestone cave which yielded many different species, and burnt and unburnt remains. The complex taphonomy, resulting from movement and redeposition, makes interpretation of the site challenging. Hannah's second case study focused on her research project on Brown Bears in Britain. The project will explore the date of extinction of the native bear and imports for sport etc. Currently, the data set includes 84 sites in Britain yielding bear remains; specimens will undergo full zooarchaeological analysis as well as radiocarbon dating and sampling for ancient DNA.

Jackaline Robertson presented the final case study on 'Advocates Close Edinburgh. A brief history of a medieval midden', in which she described how the animal bone assemblage can closely track the economic rise and fall of the area through to the late 19th century slum clearance, as indicated in historical documents.

The last section of the day was the Dog workshop using the Historic England Zooarchaeology reference collection at Fort Cumberland. Dog, wolf, fox specimens, and other canid skeletons generously supplied by members, were displayed. The practical exercises included collating inter-observer data on sexing dogs, including the humerus table test (Ruscillo 2006) and basi-occipital surface morphology (The and Trouth 1976). For fans of dental studies there was dental ageing through observation of wear (Horard-Herbin 2000) and participants could also practise measuring skulls and calculating cranial indices. Previous meetings have shown that the opportunity to test such methods when 20+ zooarchaeologists are all in one room is not to be missed.



Figure 1 The dog workshop; dental ageing and cranial measurement tasks



Figure 2 Introduction to Fishbourne Roman Palace from Robert Symmons

Additional specimens were provided by Mark Maltby, Julia Best, Sheila Hamilton-Dyer, Dale Serjeantson, Hayley Forsyth and Carol White.

A refreshing cake and wine break was then kindly provided by the AEA before a tour of Fort Cumberland by Greg Campbell.

Most of those attending were also able to meet for a meal in the evening to celebrate 10 years of the PZG. Many thanks to the Department of Archaeology, University of Nottingham for their contribution.

The meeting continued on Sunday with visits to Porchester Castle and then Fishbourne Roman Palace. The latter was hosted by Robert Symmons and included a tour of the stores and conservation facilities.

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Sylvia Warman

NEWS FROM THE AEA AUTUMN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

From Anthrosphere to Lithosphere (and back again): A Celebration of the Career and Research of Terry O'Connor, University of York, 6th-8th November 2015

We have no way of knowing for certain but we believe the number of papers submitted to this year's AEA conference is a record. For that reason, and after some internal discussion, we have decided to adopt the IGNITE session format, that proved so popular at this year's spring conference, for some papers and so give more opportunities for people to present their research to their peers.

Most presenters have now confirmed their attendance and we are currently drafting the conference programme. In the meantime, a full list of those confirmed so far can be found below.

Registration for the conference is through an online system that can be found on the conference website

(<http://www.york.ac.uk/archaeology/news-and-events/events/conferences/aea/>). Fees are as follows:

AEA Student members: **£50**

AEA members: **£100**

Students (non-AEA members): **£75**

Others: **£135**

After a few requests we will shortly be introducing a day-rate for those not wishing (or unable) to attend both days of the conference – this is anticipated to be **£85**.

The official conference dinner will be a very traditional Yorkshire affair – pies and peas, hosted in a brewery! We're happy to announce that this will cost the bargain price of £10, and delegates can book it at the same time as the conference. Please be warned though that, unlike the conference itself, there will be a strict cap on numbers for the dinner and places will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be a vegetarian option (apart from the peas) but we cannot yet confirm what this is.

Finally, please note that there will be a late registration fee of £20 for students and £30 for others (including members) for anyone registering after 25th September and an absolute registration deadline of 23rd October. For the latest information on the conference you can follow us on Twitter @AEA_2015.

We look forward to welcoming you all to York on **Friday 6th November** to help us celebrate Terry's career.

Keynote Presentation

Don Brothwell, Mark Maltby & Naomi Sykes

IGNITE papers

<i>Andy Needham</i>	Exploring Human/Object/Animal Relationships in Magdalenian Mobiliary Art of Montastruc, SW France
<i>Eileen Reilly, Pam Crabtree, Tim Bellens</i>	Environmental archaeology at Pre-Urban (9th-10th centuries CE) Antwerp: the faunal and archaeological evidence
<i>Marta Fiacconi, Chris Hunt</i>	The Shanidar Cave Project: an initial evaluation on the taphonomy of cave pollen assemblages
<i>Edouard Masson-MacLean</i>	Testing the potential of geometric morphometrics to identify Pacific salmon and trout (<i>Oncorhynchus</i> spp.) vertebrae to species
<i>Polydora Baker, Fay Worley, Peter Popkin, Andy Hammon, Sebastian Payne</i>	The Sheep Project: Comparison of epiphyseal fusion and tooth eruption and wear in sheep of known age, sex, breed and husbandry
<i>Hayley McParland, Sarah Walshaw</i>	Plant-Based Activity Areas at Songo Mnara, Tanzania: a case study at macro and micro scales

Oral Presentations

Tyr Fothergill	Urban Animals: People and Poultry in later Post-Medieval Belfast
Suzi Richer, James Andrews, Edward Blinkhorn	There's more than one way to skin a cat: equifinality and developer-funded archaeology
Kris Poole	Super furry animals: locating foxes and badgers in Anglo-Saxon life
James Morris	Zooarchaeology of Emotion and Grief
Don O'Meara	Digestive Taphonomy in Archaeobotany: A Gnawing Problem
Kingsley Chinedu Daraojimba	Four decades of environmental archaeology pedagogy in Nigeria. And so what?
Victoria Mullin	Blood from a stone: petrosals and ancient DNA
James Nottingham, James Morris, Duncan Sayer	A Feast of Ducks? The taphonomic history of faunal remains from Oakington Anglo-Saxon cemetery
Lisa Lodwick	The debateable territory where geology and archaeology meet: reassessing the early archaeobotanical work of Clement Reid and Arthur Lyell in Silchester
Julia Best	Nest Egg: The role of eggs in reconstructing past avian-human relationships
Lee G. Broderick	The Blood of the Beasts: The Social Taphonomy of Cattle Bones in a Medieval City
Hannah O'Regan, Ian Smith, Kirsty McLeod, Dave Wilkinson	Reading the bones: multiple interpretations of human activity in Dog-hole Cave, Cumbria
Barbora Wouters, Yannick Devos, Karen Milek, Luc Vrydaghs	Medieval towns under the microscope: integrating micromorphology, microXRF and phytoliths
Ruth Carden	Reassessing the Irish Cave Fauna
Eline van Asperen	Reconstructing past herbivore abundance using dung fungal spores: a taphonomic approach
Camilla Speller, Meriam Guellil, Anne Charpentier, Ana Rodrigues, Armelle Gardeisen, Klass Post, Matthias Meyer, Matthew Collins, Michael Hofreiter	Using biomolecules to identify ancient remains of the Atlantic gray whale (<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>)
Tom Gardner	Site Ecology and Environment at the Bradford Kaims; Phytoliths and Thin-Sections as Indicators of Burnt Mount Depositional Sequences
Clare Rainsford, David Roberts	Diverse Ritual Practices in two Late Roman landscapes, or Where's My Cow?
Emily Johnson, Pip Parmenter, Alan Outram	Profiling taphonomic history through bone fracture analysis
Rob Jarman, Frank M. Chambers, Julia Webb, Karen Russell	Sweet chestnut (<i>Castanea sativa</i>) in Britain - using new techniques and information to test its status as an "archaeophyte" of Roman origin
Richard Madgwick, Tom Booth	Human-animal relations in Iron Age Wessex: A histological study of pit deposits from the Danebury environs, Hampshire, UK
Julie Hamilton, Julia Lee-Thorp, Gary Lock, Robert E.M. Hedges	Isotopic Landscapes: faunal d13C and d15N values from the Thames valley
Jane Bunting	From coring point to landscape: using pollen dispersal modelling to explore hypotheses of archaeological landscape organisation and change
Nicki Whitehouse G. Milne, A. Cameron	Exploring extinction and community biodiversity using niche models
Elizabeth Kerr, Anne Tresset, Anthony Herrel, Raphaël Cornette	Variations of <i>Apodemus</i> mandibular morphology during the Holocene: functional implications
Erin Keenan, Terry O'Connor	Faunal Contextualisation of Mixed Human and Animal Assemblages from the Yorkshire Dales
Charlotte Rowley, Aimée Little, Shannon Croft, Emma Tong, Chales A.I. French, Chantal Conneller, Barry Taylor, Nicky Milner	Developing understanding of ephemeral Mesolithic sites through geoarchaeological techniques
Andrew K.G. Jones	The archaeology of excrement: the passed and present

Posters

Rebecca Reynolds	The nature of Anglo-Saxon fishing and fish consumption: A multi-disciplinary approach to the study of fish remains
Silvia Valenzuela	Animal husbandry and territory: an overview of herding practices in the Western Mediterranean in the first millennium BC through relative frequencies, biometry and strontium isotopes from cattle teeth
Anna Spyrou	Thinking about meat and nutrient storage in prehistoric contexts: The case of Epipalaeolithic Kharaneh IV
Richard Chuang	Where is the donkey? Rethinking the Presence of Non-caballine domestic equids in Roman Britain.
Becky Knight	(no title)
Matilda Holmes	Known unknowns: Insights into zooarchaeological bias in the differential supply of rural and urban elite residences
Emmy Nijssen	Three excavations, two decades and a lot of Roman animal bone: Zooarchaeological results of the last phase of archaeological research at the Vermeulenstraat in Tongeren (Belgium)
Danielle de Carle, William Linder, Jean-Luc Houle, Lee G. Broderick	Burn baby burn; sh*t fuel inferno: ethnographic fuel use in the West Mongolian Altai
Emmy Nijssen	Lo-Reningen, the faunal analysis of a (early) medieval coastal site. An attempt to integrate "classic" zooarchaeology with reality of field archaeology in commercial Flemish archaeology
Louisa Gidney	A reconsideration of calf mortality in medieval Emden, Germany
Oula Seitsonen, Sanna Seitsonen, Lee G. Broderick	Of seals and men: liminal prey-hunter relationships in the Eastern Baltic Sea region in prehistory and history



AEA SPRING CONFERENCE 2nd April, 2016

Islands: Isolation and connectivity

The conference will take place on the 2nd 2016 April in Kirkwall, Orkney. It will be followed by meetings of the Professional Zooarchaeology Group and the Archaeomalacology Working Group. Please consult the website for further information about all the events including a call for papers for the AEA conference (deadline 31st October 2015):

<http://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/archaeology-institute/events/association-for-environmental-archaeology-conference-2016>

Conference Abstract

The notion of the island as a laboratory, as a world in microcosm with well-defined boundaries, is an appealing and long established cliché. For almost two centuries, we have explored the distinctive biological and historical trajectories of different islands, and have identified a variety of 'island effects'; on plants and animals and on human communities. Such work demonstrates that many islands offered distinctive potentials (and barriers) for social and ecological development. That said, research has often struggled to deal with a number of crucial problems; issues of scale and influence, of biogeography, connectivity and sustainability, that we are often ill-equipped to explore. This meeting provides a context in which to take a critical look at some of the premises upon which island-based work has often been undertaken, and asks some fairly fundamental questions. Is it helpful to think of islands as isolated or remote? Was the sea a barrier or a medium of movement and communication? How should we understand the place that island communities occupied in broader worlds? How did the nature of that wider articulation change over time and how was it manifest differently for individual communities/species? Most important of all, how should we reconcile the local details of colonisation, adaptation and (even) abandonment within broader processes of environmental and social change? Structured around the theme of *isolation and connectivity*, this meeting will give us a chance to look at some of these crucial concerns, with contributions from archaeobotany to zooarchaeology, from biomolecular analyses to climatology, and from landscape to seascape. Although this meeting will take place in the Northern Isles, there is no geographic restriction on submissions: by presenting papers set in various diverse 'conceptual islands' and island groups we hope to draw together and share methodologies and discussions.

CALL FOR PAPERS for

“Humming with cross fire and short on cover...”* ***Revisiting and reflecting on Environmental Archaeology: Meaning and Purpose***

at Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) 2015 Bradford 14th–16th December 2015

The session aims to revisit some of the debates and questions that were raised by the publication of *Environmental Archaeology: Meaning and Purpose* (edited Albarella 2001). We are keen to garner perspectives from a variety of environmental archaeologists, including those who may not attend go to TAG. For anyone who's not been before, it's definitely worth going for the legendary party alone!

Themes we will be addressing include:

What is the current relationship between ‘cultural’ and ‘environmental’ archaeologies? Has the ‘gap’ identified in 2001 been closed? If so, in what ways? If not, why not and does it actually matter?

Environmental archaeology: rich on data, still short on theory and epistemology?

Is it past time to abandon the term ‘environmental archaeology’ other than as short-hand for a collection of techniques? Does this expression hinder rather than help?

Environmental archaeology in the post-PPG16 world. Has integration spread throughout the industry? Are certain specialisms ‘privileged’ over others? Are we sampling for the sake of it?

New areas of debate that were not considered in the original publication, but certainly merit reflection today are also encouraged and might include:

Environmental archaeology and public archaeology — never the twain shall meet?

The ‘scientific turn’ in archaeology — biomolecules, isotopes and DNA — a brave new world or recipe for further disciplinary fragmentation?

Environmental archaeology in the context of new theoretical developments/thought, from ‘resilience’ to ‘Ingoldian’ perspectives — lighting the way or casting more shadows?

As well as 15 minute papers, we are inviting 5-minute papers for an ‘ignite’ mini-session. We hope that all papers will be thought-provoking and challenging!

References

Albarella, U. 2001 (ed) *Environmental Archaeology: Meaning and Purpose*. Kluwer, London.

O’Connor, T. 2001 Whose dichotomy is it anyway? In Albarella (2001), 39–41.

*This is a quote from O’Connor (2001:40): “If there is a persistent dichotomy in archaeology, it is not the old nature/culture debate. Rather it is the ongoing feud between those of us for whom ‘science’ is not a term of abuse and those to whom the merest hint of ‘sociobiology’ is anathema. The middle ground is humming with cross-fire and short on cover, but none the less that is where archaeology needs to be...”

Deadline: 2nd November 2015

Abstracts should be sent to envirotag2015@gmail.com indicating if they are 15 or 5 minute papers.

21st Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists

University of Glasgow,

2-5 September 2015

<http://eaaglasgow2015.com/>

Sessions include:

- ◆ Climate change and heritage management: measuring and monitoring the impacts of future climate and environmental change on the historic environment and cultural resources
Conveners: Andy Howard, David Knight, Thomas Raab, Sjoerd Kluiving, Ben Gearey
- ◆ AR1: The filthy reality of everyday life? Reflections on dirt from prehistory to the present
Conveners: Eileen Reilly, Gary King, Roos van Oosten
- ◆ Exploring new trends and lost (?) tracks in landscape archaeology
Conveners: Thomas Meier, Jan Kolen, Sjoerd Kluiving
- ◆ Scientific techniques to examine human interaction with woodlands
Conveners: Lorna O'Donnell, Scott Timpany
- ◆ SA24: What have isotopes done for archaeology lately?
Conveners: Ricardo Fernandes, Klervia Jaouen
- ◆ Consumption preferences and agricultural choices: an economic approach to identity in archaeobotany
Conveners: J.Wiethold, T.Kerig, Jutta Lechterbeck
- ◆ SA12: Integrated approaches to spatial analysis in domestic and inhabited contexts
Conveners: Hayley McParland, Carla Lancelotti, Robyn Inglis, Francesco Carrer
- ◆ Interpreting the archaeological record
Conveners: Tanja Romankiewicz, Daniela Hofemann, Roz Gillis
- ◆ SA5: Climate and society in the ancient Near East
Conveners: Pascal Flohr, Bulent Arikan, Dominik Fleitmann
- ◆ Don't put your eggs in one basket: multi-disciplinary approaches to the study of poultry exploitation in Europe
Convener: Julia Best

**Greek diet, health, and medicine in the Roman world:
Integration and analysis of the archaeological and literary material**

**September 9-11, 2015
University of Exeter, Devon, UK**

An international conference organised and funded through the Leventis Initiative on the Impact of Greek Culture.

Paper abstracts due: March 27, 2015

Please email abstract submissions to the conveners:

Erica Rowan (e.rowan@exeter.ac.uk) and Daniel King (D.King@exeter.ac.uk).

**Food and Drink session at the
LIMES (Roman frontiers) congress
Ingoldstadt, Germany 14th-20th Sept 2015**

<http://www.limes2015.org/congress/>

organising committee info@limes2015.org

The **Food & Drink** session organisers are Dr Sue Stallibrass Sue.Stallibrass@english-heritage.org.uk and Prof. Tom Parker parker@ncsu.edu

2016 SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM : CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACIES OF COLONIALISM IN THE CIRCUM-CARIBBEAN

The arrival and settlement of Europeans in the Caribbean and adjacent coastlines led to unprecedented demographic and environmental transformation. The voluntary and forced migration of peoples from Europe, Africa and Asia, and the simultaneous introduction of new forms of production, along with exotic biota and diseases, contributed to the emergence of novel social, economic and ecological systems. Through analysis of soils, plants, animals, and other proxies archaeologists are uniquely situated to investigate the localized manifestations of these processes. Yet, while environmental research on prehistoric sites in the Caribbean has burgeoned in recent years, the direct archaeological examination of the ecological effects of European colonial expansion is still a developing field. This session responds by considering environmental archaeological research on the period after Europeans began to settle the circum-Caribbean, with an emphasis on understanding how this historical process has differently structured current socio-ecological landscapes. We also seek to identify the implications of these changes for contemporary communities, especially as plantation agriculture has largely given way to new forms of colonialism, including mass tourism.

Deadline for abstract submission is September 10, 2015

Diane Wallman and Christian Wells ecwells@usf.edu

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE, AUGUST 2015

2015 AEA MANAGING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Following the call for nominations in the last newsletter, we can now provide the first four candidate statements: Dr Ben Gearey and Dr Jo McKenzie standing for Ordinary member and Leslie Bode and Rhiannon Philp standing for Student Representative. Further statements received will be circulated prior to the election and at the AGM.

We are seeking nominations for five positions:

- **1 x Treasurer (four-year term)**
- **3 x Ordinary Member (four-year term)**
- **1 x student representative (two-year term)**

Members may be nominated any time before the start of the AGM (to be held in at the York conference, 6th-8th November). For further details of committee roles and how to nominate and vote in the elections are given below.

Candidates for Ordinary Member (four-year term)

Dr Ben Gearey

Nominated by A Howard, seconded by S Richer

I am currently Lecturer in Environmental Archaeology in the Department of Archaeology at University College Cork; a position I've arrived at via a fairly lengthy tour of duty through commercial and academic archaeology. I studied for my first degree (B. A. in History with a special paper in archaeology) at the University of Leeds, after which I moved onto the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sheffield for an M. Sc. in Environmental Archaeology and Palaeoeconomy (1991-1992). Not content with moving across the disciplines sufficiently, I then studied for my Ph. D in the Department of Geographical Sciences at the University of Plymouth (1992-1996).

Following that, I was fortunate to work in another geography department, in the University of Exeter, on a post-doctoral position on the Lisheen Mine Archaeology Project (1996-1998). After that, I travelled back up north to the University of Hull and a job as palaeoenvironmentalist with the Humber Wetlands Project based in the Centre for Wetland Archaeology. The CWA subsequently morphed into the Wetland Archaeology and Environments Research Centre, where I continued to work on a wide range of commercial and research projects. I then headed down to the Midlands and the University of Birmingham where I took up a post as a Project Manager and Research Fellow with Birmingham Archaeology, based in the Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity (IAA). This resulted in the establishment of Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental, a research and consultancy sub-unit specialising in environmental archaeology. I was appointed Lecturer

in the IAA in 2011 and then in 2012 I moved to my current post as Lecturer in Environmental Archaeology at UCC.

I have a broad range of research and teaching interests in the areas of environmental archaeology, wetland (especially peatland) archaeology and alluvial geoarchaeology. The AEA is an important organization that brings together a diverse range of specialisms and interests and provides a forum for the exchange of ideas in what I have always felt is a highly supportive and inclusive environment. I am keen to help support the AEA as an organization that best represents and promotes the 'broad church' of interests of its members and to assist in identifying future directions for the Association.

Dr. Jo McKenzie

Nominated by J Cussans, seconded by F Worley

I gained a BA Joint Honours in Archaeology and Classics at the University of Nottingham (1994), after which I spent several years as a field archaeologist, mainly based in London. My interest in environmental archaeology was stimulated through my Archaeological Sciences MA at the University of Bradford (2000), after which I travelled north to the Department of Environmental Science at the University of Stirling and a PhD in geoarchaeology, focusing on physical, chemical and micromorphological assessment of cultural soils. After this, I worked from the University as a geoarchaeological specialist for both the commercial (chiefly GUARD) and research archaeological sectors, with involvement in a diverse range of projects, such as the *Papar Project* (Scotland), *The Viking Unst Project* (Shetland), the *Landscapes Circum Landnam Project* (Faeroe Islands), *The Anuradhapura Hinterland Project* (Sri Lanka) and the investigations at the First World War site of Fromelles (France).

In 2008, I made a return to cultural archaeology, and spent four years as Project Manager and postdoctoral researcher for the Broxmouth Project, a Historic Scotland-funded project based at the University of Bradford. The project undertook post-excavation reassessment and reinterpretation of the 1977-78 excavations at the Iron Age hillfort of Broxmouth, East Lothian. Broxmouth, and our associated research into the Scottish Iron Age, was published as a Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Monograph (Armit, I and McKenzie, J. (2013) *An Inherited Place: Broxmouth Hillfort and the South-East Scottish Iron Age*).

An exciting part of managing and researching on the Broxmouth Project was co-ordination of the wide-ranging team of external specialists, including environmental archaeologists, who contributed to the project. As an environmental specialist contributor to numerous projects, seeing the process from the 'other side' of Project Manager inspired an interest in the post-excavation process, and the ways in which project archaeologists can get the best – or not! –

from the skillset of their specialist team. In April 2014 I organised and co-presented a workshop at the IfA conference on this topic ('*A sample of what's on offer – getting the most out of archaeological science*') which focused on environmental techniques. I would be particularly interested in contributing to outreach of this kind from within AEA, and promoting increased understanding of the huge potential of environmental archaeology to contribute to both the excavation and post-excavation process – much of which I believe can often remain untapped.

Since 2013 I have worked as an independent geoarchaeological specialist, retaining an Honorary Research Fellowship at the University of Bradford, although I'm now based in Swansea, South Wales. This has allowed a timely return to several geoarchaeological and environmental projects, most particularly the High Pasture Cave Project (Isle of Skye), the post-excavation and co-authoring of which is my current core project. I'm also working on micromorphological and geoarchaeological analysis at the Sculptor's Cave (Moray), Fiskavaig Rockshelter (Isle of Skye) and Mine Howe (Orkney), as well as a range of smaller projects, and have spent the last three summers as a visiting geoarchaeological specialist at the Ness of Brodgar excavations (Orkney), undertaking micromorphological sampling of hearths and occupation surfaces within the complex of Neolithic structures which make up this incredible site.

I am a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIFA), a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot) and a member of the Prehistoric Society and the Council for British Archaeology. I have been a member of AEA since 2005, and would be very pleased to have the chance to make a personal contribution to the society which most closely represents my interests and experience as an archaeologist.

Candidates for Student Representative (two-year term)

Leslie Bode (University of Nottingham)

Nominated by A Livarda, Seconded by N Sykes

I am at the end of the second year of my PhD at University of Nottingham, funded by the Vice Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence and supervised by Dr Alexandra Livarda (Department of Archaeology) and Dr Matthew Jones (School of Geography). My research uses archaeobotanical data and stable carbon isotopes to investigate human-plant interactions and palaeoenvironment, specifically water stress, at the Epipalaeolithic, hunter-gatherer site of Kharaneh IV in the Azraq Basin, Jordan. My interest in environmental archaeology began in 2010 while excavating with the University of Hawaii at Tell Timai, a Pharonic through Hellenistic town that was abandoned when the nearby branch of the Nile shifted away from the settlement, making it no longer suitable for trade along the river. Since then I have had the opportunity to complete my MSc in 2012 at the University of Nottingham,

and my dissertation focused on archaeobotanical findings from two middens at Çatalhöyük, Turkey. I subsequently spent 2012-2013 working as an archaeobotanist for James Rackham's Archaeology Consultancy, which gave me the opportunity to work on material from various sites and time periods from across the UK and experience the commercial side of environmental archaeology. Additionally, since 2012, I have been the director of environmental archaeology for a Greek excavation, Gaidourofás, in southeastern Crete, under the direction of Y. Papadatos and K. Chalikiás. Each summer at Gaidourofás, I have been training students in archaeobotanical sample retrieval, processing/flotation, along with delivering many educational and public outreach talks and demonstrations for the dig participants, inhabitants of the local village, and the wider community.

As student representative for the AEA, my objective would be to work with the existing student representative, to continue encouraging environmental archaeology students to join the AEA, attend and participate in upcoming conferences and events and increase awareness of the range of benefits AEA membership brings for students. I would aim to encourage, and increase, the dissemination of student-specific opportunities for work experience, conferences, funding, funded PhD's and post-docs, and related opportunities on the AEA website and social media. I would also like to explore the possibility of organising an annual, one-day, 'idea and opportunity-sharing' meeting for students.

Rhiannon Philp (University of Cardiff)

Nominated by S Richer, Seconded by R Fosberry

I am about to start the second year of my PhD at Cardiff University investigating the archaeological context of prehistoric sea level change in South Wales, supervised by Dr Jacqui Mulville and Dr Steve Mills. In particular I have been developing skills in palynology under the mentorship of Dr Suzi Richer. The main aim is to reconstruct prehistoric environmental change at a number of intertidal sites along the southern Welsh coastline in order to build up in-depth environmental sequences in relation to known coastal or intertidal prehistoric archaeology.

My interest in environmental archaeology stems from residue sorting during work experience at the age of 15 – I found it fascinating that so much extra information could be gained from what was essentially a pile of gravel. I went on to complete my BSc (2006-2009) and MA (2009-2010), both at Cardiff University, where I developed an interest in prehistoric sea level change. Both dissertations focussed on investigating possible reactions to prehistoric sea level change through the archaeological record, first within the Isles of Scilly and Orkney Islands and later in the Channel Islands and Outer Hebrides. During this time I was also a member of the Lyonesse Project team in the Isles of Scilly and assisted in the field to collect data in order to readdress the Holocene sea level curve for the islands.

After finishing my MA I worked for four years in the commercial sector, over three of which were spent with one of the larger companies. Here I was a member of the field team, but spent the majority of my time as assistant to the Environmental Archaeologist. My roles included sample management, processing, sorting and basic analysis. During this time I learnt how important the role of environmental archaeology could be in understanding archaeology and how it could change interpretations. I also learnt how it is often misunderstood or only included as an afterthought, sometimes leading to work being done on a shoe string. This misunderstanding is something I have also witnessed within the academic field and is a major reason for my desire to stand for student representative.

As student representative for the AEA I would continue the work already undertaken by previous representatives promoting environmental archaeology to fellow students, in particular those that are about to embark into the world of commercial archaeology themselves. If the new generation of archaeologists are well informed about the importance of environmental archaeology, it may act as a stepping stone to greater appreciation in the long run. Better understanding also leads to better practice in the field, which could lead to more accurate or useful results.

Something that has struck me during my involvement in the environmental field is the unusually positive relationship between commercial and academic sectors. The AEA is testament to this, highlighting the work of both sides equally and encouraging dialogue. I would relish the opportunity to become more involved in an association promoting integration of this kind.

Details of available roles

The role of Treasurer (one position available, four-year term)

The AEA Treasurer's regular duties involve keeping detailed records of all payments received (membership subscriptions, book sales, etc) and of all transactions going out (journal and Newsletter costs, prizes and grants etc). Subscriptions are increasingly received through WorldPay online payment, reducing the Treasurer's workload. The Treasurer is responsible for making payments and checking statements, and importantly, for preparing the annual accounts and reporting the financial position to the AGM.

The post involves close liaison with other committee members, in particular the Membership Secretary and Website Officer. Contact the current Treasurer (jacqui.huntley@HistoricEngland.org.uk) for further information about the role.

The role of Ordinary Member (three positions available, four-year term)

The committee includes 12 elected Ordinary Members,

whose role is to contribute to committee activities and the management of the Association, through active participation in committee meetings and additional tasks as required. Additional specific responsibilities may be allocated to Ordinary committee members during their term of office. Additional responsibilities becoming vacant at the AGM comprise Membership Secretary, Conference Officer, and Web Officer. Where these roles cannot be filled from within the Ordinary Members, they are co-opted.

The role of Student Representative (one position available, two year term)

The committee includes two Student Representatives, with one new Student Representative elected each year, and their term of office lasting two years. The post is open to both undergraduates and postgraduate students.

During their first year of office, the newly elected Student Representative will 'shadow' the student completing their second year of office. During their second year of office, the student representative will take a more active role in the Committee, as well as guiding the newly elected student representative. The Student Representative will be expected to promote the AEA within the undergraduate and postgraduate communities, and also encourage the establishment of student-led meetings/seminars.

General Committee information

Serving on the Committee allows AEA members to help determine the future direction and priorities of the Association, and promote environmental archaeology within and beyond archaeology. The main items of business at meetings include the organisation of conferences and events, *Environmental Archaeology* journal matters, responses to new policy documents and frameworks that impact upon environmental archaeology and its practitioners, as well as issues relating to the News-letter, website, social media, membership, finances and new initiatives.

The Committee usually meet four times a year. **We welcome nominees from all countries**, but please note that meetings are conducted in English. There is funding available to assist with travel to meetings and we use video- and tele-conferencing to allow members to participate where travel is prohibitively expensive or not possible.

Submitting a nomination

All nominees must be AEA members in good standing. Any AEA member can make a nomination, but this must be seconded by another AEA member. Nominations should be accompanied by a brief personal statement from the nominee (that implicitly indicates their willingness to stand), which will be published in the Newsletter and/or circulated at the AGM.

Nominations and personal statements can be e-mailed or posted to the AEA Secretary, Fay Worley, who should also be contacted with any queries.

E-mail: Fay.Worley@HistoricEngland.org.uk

Postal address: Fay Worley, AEA Secretary, Historic England, Fort Cumberland, Eastney, Portsmouth, PO4 9LD, UK



2015 CONFERENCE FUND

We are delighted to announce the availability of the AEA Conference Fund to members of the AEA (of at least six months standing) to assist attendance at the York conference (6-8 November 2015). Priority will be given to those with limited alternative sources of funding (particularly postgraduate students and those in the private sector) and those presenting papers or posters. Applications from students must be accompanied by a letter of support from their supervisor. An application form is provided at the end of this Newsletter.

Successful applicants will be required to provide a statement of expenditure and activities undertaken within 3 months after the event has taken place in order to receive reimbursement. Moreover, successful applicants will be requested to provide a report on the conference for the AEA Newsletter or website.

The deadline for applications is 30 September 2015. Any queries should be directed to the AEA Conference Officer: Robin Bendrey (r.bendrey@reading.ac.uk)



Association for
Environmental
Archaeology

Conference Fund Application Form

Autumn Conference 2015

Deadline: 30 September 2015

Name:	Occupation:
Address:	E-mail:
Date you joined the AEA:	
I am presenting a Paper/ Poster (please delete as appropriate) entitled:	

Registration:	Cost:
Mode of transport (rail/air etc):	Cost:
Type of accommodation:	Cost:
Meals included:	Cost:
Other (Please specify):	Cost:
Total	Cost:

Have you attempted to obtain funding from other sources?	Yes / No
If not, why not?	
If yes, how much have you requested?	
How much have you obtained?	
If other applications are still pending, when do you expect to hear the outcome?	
How much do you request from the AEA:	
I certify that the information I have given is true.	
Signature:	

Postgraduate applicants should include a letter of support from their supervisor.

Please return completed forms via email or post to: Dr Robin Bendrey, AEA Conference Officer, Department of Archaeology, University of Reading, Whiteknights Box 226, Reading, RG6 6AB, UK. r.bendrey@reading.ac.uk.



[http://
www.envarch.net](http://www.envarch.net)

The AEA

The AEA promotes the advancement of the study of human interaction with the environment in the past through archaeology and related disciplines.

We hold annual conferences and other meetings, produce a quarterly newsletter for members, and publish our conference monographs, as well as our journal 'Environmental Archaeology: The journal of human palaeoecology'.

Key Dates

AEA Annual Conference 2015

6th– 8th November, University of York

'From Anthrosphere to Lithosphere (and back again): A Celebration of the Career and Research of Terry O'Connor

[late registration fee due after 25th September, registration deadline 23rd October]

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AEA Spring Conference 2016

2nd April, Kirkwall, Orkney

Followed by meetings of the Professional Zooarchaeology Working Group and the Archaeomalacology Working Group

<http://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/archaeology-institute/events/association-for-environmental-archaeology-conference-2016>

Notes from the Newsletter Editors

Please note that thesis submission forms can be found on the website which gives AEA members an opportunity to publish abstracts of their postgraduate thesis.

We are always keen to receive newsletter content, especially from our non UK members. To submit an article, please email word documents and images to:

newsletter@envarch.net

Wendy Carruthers, Vanessa Straker & Daniella Vos