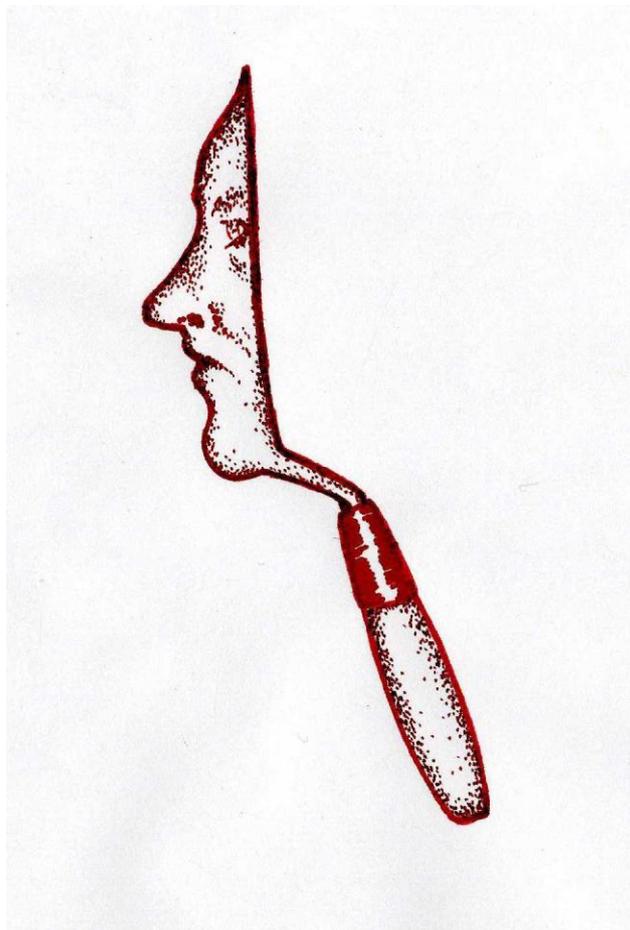


The Seventh Postgraduate
Archaeology Symposium
29-30 May 2008



Lecture Theatre B

Organised by
Vasko Démou, Babis Garefalakis, Leif Isaksen, Paty Murrieta,
Karen Ruebens and Dave Underhill

Thursday 29.05.08

9:45-11:00	<i>Session 1: Bodies & Identities</i>
	<p><i>Introduction to PGRAS7</i> Dr Jon Adams <i>Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue: A Reassessment of the Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries of the Isle of Wight.</i> Christian Lewis <i>The Body as Material Culture in Correlation with the Social Brain Hypothesis</i> James Cole <i>The Human-Dog Relationship in Early Medieval England</i> Amanda Grieve</p>
11:00-11:30	COFFEE BREAK (Coffee and tea provided)
11:30-12:45	<i>Session 2: Representing Archaeology</i>
	<p><i>The Archaeological Eye: Visualisation and the Epistemological Foundations of Archaeology</i> Sara Perry <i>Archaeology and Community Museology: Ancient Egyptian 'Daily Life' Scenes in Museums</i> Gemma Tully <i>Hindsight: a View of Nineteenth century Visualisations of Prehistory, Now.</i> Garry Gibbons</p>
12:45-14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00-15:15	<i>Session 3: Modelling Archaeology</i>
	<p><i>Of Webs and Networks: Combining Data Resources to Pick Apart the Past</i> Leif Isaksen <i>Mobility Patterns and Ancient Roads Delineation in Southwest Spain. Experiments in GIS Spatial Analysis and Agent Based Modelling in Late Prehistory.</i> Paty Murrieta <i>10,000 BC; Environmental Change in the Southern North Sea</i> Betsy Dewing</p>
15:15-16:00	BREAK (posters)
16:00-17:00	<i>Session 4: Palaeolithic Occupation</i>
	<p><i>Narratives of Change: an early Late Pleistocene Population History of North Africa</i> Eleanor Scerri <i>Size matters: Lithics, Landscape and Raw Material in the Middle Pleistocene</i> Hannah Fluck</p>

Followed by meet up in Crown

Friday 30.05.08

9:45-11:00

Session 5: Practicing Archaeology

*The Political Economy of a Developer-Funded Archaeology
in Quebec and England*

Nicolas Zorzin

The Social Shaping of Steamboats

Jim Dolwick

*Beyond the City Walls: Settlement, Interaction and Environmental Change in
the Region of the Tiber Delta*

Kristian Strutt

11:00-11:30

COFFEE BREAK (Coffee and tea provided)

11:30-12:45

Session 6: Ceramic Networks

*The Origin and Use of Ceramics on the Mis and Umm Muri Islands,
in the Late Meroitic to Christian Periods*

Ross Thomas

Portus in its Mediterranean Context: the Pottery Evidence

Pina Franco

The Marketing and Distribution of Romano-British Pottery

Jonathan Dicks

12:45-14:00

LUNCH BREAK

14:00-15:15

Session 7: Palaeolithic Variability

*The concept of Palaeolithic cultures: interpretative problems related to the
study of Middle Palaeolithic stone tool industries.*

Karen Ruebens

Terminological abuse in Stone Age South Africa:

The Fauresmith

David Underhill

*Neanderthal Climatic Adaptations and the Occupation of North-Western
Europe, during the Last Glaciation*

Babis Garefalakis

15:15-16:00

BREAK (posters)

16:00-17:00

Session 4: Maritime Technologies

*The Boats of Munrothuruthu: Identity, Landscape and Producing
the Social World*

Jesse Ransley

The Development of the Lateen Sail

Julian Whitewright

Final Comments

Professor Matthew Johnson

Followed by wine reception

First Day
Thursday 29th May

**Something Old, Something New,
Something Borrowed, Something
Blue: A Reassessment of the
Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries of the
Isle of Wight.**

It is often argued that most archaeological research has a finite lifespan. Through a combination of new discoveries, exciting technologies and fresh ideas, our interpretations change and knowledge evolves. Drawing upon recent trends in early medieval research to widen the range of tools used within investigations of this proto-historic period, this paper aims to present an overview of my research into the wider social impact of burial practice employed during the Anglo-Saxon occupation of the Isle of Wight. The cemeteries under review were mostly excavated during the nineteenth century and first reviewed thirty years ago by Christopher Arnold. However, in the decades that have passed, archaeological scholarship has changed. Resources such as the Portable Antiquities Scheme and commercial archaeological activity (post PPG16) has expanded the empirical dataset available of the island and within the wider discipline, many new ideas have been developed that both complement and challenge existing knowledge. Theories developed by prehistoric research are not exclusive and offer an opportunity to produce exciting new perspectives to early medieval study. In light of these statements, it is argued that the island cemeteries are in need of reassessment and that through the adoption of several 'borrowed' ideas (and technologies) something 'old' will become, once more, something 'new'.

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Professor David Hinton

**The Body as Material Culture
in Correlation with the Social
Brain Hypothesis**

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Dr John McNabb

The aim of this PhD is to relate the biological cognitive measurements of the Social Brain Hypothesis and the Theory of Mind levels of intentionality to the archaeological record of the Palaeolithic in relation to the treatment of the dead and material culture. However within in this project must be represented the fundamental shift of thinking about human archaeological remains as separate entities to the material culture to human remains as *part* of material culture. In order to do this a database of Mid – Upper Palaeolithic skeletal remains and the associated material culture shall be constructed in order to ascertain whether evidence of abstract thought within anthropogenic manipulations and material culture production are visible within the archaeological context. Abstract thought is only found within the higher orders of intentionality and it has been hypothesised on biological grounds that only anatomically modern humans have this capability. The database once constructed shall be able to enlighten and inform this point of view and allow a direct correlation of biological theories to the archaeological record itself.

**The human-dog relationship in
Early Medieval England
(c. AD 400-1250)**

In 1974 Ralph Harcourt published a seminal paper reviewing the metrical data for archaeological dog remains excavated from British antiquity. Harcourt's results from the Anglo-Saxon period illustrate that the degree of skeletal variability had reduced after the end of the Roman occupation, with an increase in the average size. More than thirty years later, many more dog bones have been excavated and reported on. This paper will present the initial findings of a research project exploring the human-dog relationship in early medieval England (c AD 400-1250).

The key areas being considered include dog functionality, their morphology, and treatment. As well as examining the influences that may have led to changes in people's perception of dogs during this time period, eg the introduction of Christianity to England. The research project combines archaeological, historical and anthrozoological information in an attempt to forward our understanding of the human-dog relationship in early medieval England.

Amanda Grieve
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Professor David Hinton

**The Archaeological Eye:
Visualisation and the
Epistemological Foundations of
Archaeology**

Sara Perry
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Full time, Year I

Professor Stephanie Moser

The epistemological significance of imagery in the development of professional archaeology has barely attracted enquiry. Decades of research both within and beyond the discipline have testified to the complexity of visual representations as, variously, tools, subjects and conduits of interpretation; yet histories of archaeology hardly (if ever) call attention to the genealogy of archaeologists' picturing practices or the relationship of these practices to the making of disciplinary expertise. My research thus centres on an exploration of how visual discourses (alone and in tandem with the written word) have come to create archaeology; how they have shaped—and even constituted and driven—archaeological theory and practice, especially during the formative period of the discipline between the late 19th and mid 20th centuries. With particular focus on image production, circulation and consumption in the education and training of the earliest professional archaeologists in Britain and North America, I argue that visual culture has partly made possible the *science* (i.e., the sites, experts, procedures, audiences, networks and knowledge bases) of archaeology. By probing the manufacture and trafficking of a 'professional vision' for the discipline, this project offers a critical history of, and analytical toolkit for assessing, visual traditions in the field.

**Archaeology and Community
Museology: Ancient Egyptian 'Daily
Life' Scenes in Museums**

It is becoming increasingly apparent that collaborative, community based strategies are necessary if the western museum institution is to have a meaningful future. Engaging with current debates and providing new narratives, my research focuses on the incorporation of modern Egyptian communities within western Egyptology display. Specifically addressing the theme of ancient Egyptian 'daily life,' I am working with various groups within Egypt and carrying out visitor survey at the British Museum, with the aim of better understanding current perceptions of the ancient culture in Egypt and the West. This focus on 'daily life' and the collaborative approach is necessary to enable ancient Egyptian 'everyday' narratives to begin to compete with representations of death and the elite in the museum and to help undo current misconceptions about Egypt and her people both ancient and modern.

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Professor Stephanie Moser

**Hindsight: A View of Nineteenth
Century Visualisations of Prehistory,
Now.**

Garry Gibbons
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Part Time, Year II

Professor Stephanie
Moser

The development, nature and impact of visualising practices have attracted increased attention in respect of their problematic relationship to knowledge creation. An acknowledgement that the process and act of visual representation is central to making-things-present here contributes towards a framework for examining the development of a discipline's visual language -- namely, prehistoric archaeology. This presentation will focus on preliminary research undertaken on a county archaeological journal – the Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine – from its establishment in the mid-nineteenth century through its first fifty years of publication. Images selected for this research are taken from papers whose subject matter was attributed to the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age of Wiltshire. This presentation will start to consider an author's position from both a theoretical and professional standpoint. It will investigate how images were deployed in a county-specific context and, particularly, how those images participated in wider spatial and temporal webs of reference. Finally, a concise case study will be outlined relating a published image, set against other visualisations directly connected with it from a variety of contemporary and historic sources. Overall, this research will trace the regional development of the discipline's visual language at a time when its theoretical foundations were being established.

**Of Webs and Networks:
Combining Data Resources to
Pick Apart the Past**

An ever-increasing volume of excavation data is being produced from harbour sites around the Mediterranean. Cross-comparison of this information may afford profound insights into the nature of maritime trade networks in antiquity but is hindered by the 'siloing' of such data in localised databases. As part of the British School at Rome's flagship project on Roman Ports¹, a new initiative will combine information from a range of institutional repositories in order that new avenues of analysis can be opened up.

The PhD work here presented will provide an overview of some of the technical aspects of the project. It will introduce the concept of the Semantic Web, a recent development in the internet which permits information from heterogeneous sources to be merged together for querying and evaluation. The potential value of such techniques goes far beyond the project in question, and it is hoped that the topic may provide an interesting stimulus to other archaeological work that seeks to draw together evidence from disparate contexts.

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Full time, Year I

Professor Simon Keay

¹ http://www.bsr.ac.uk/bsr/sub_arch/BSR_Arch_05Roman.htm

Mobility Patterns and Ancient Roads Delineation in Southwest Spain. Experiments in GIS Spatial Analysis and Agent Based Modelling on Late Prehistory

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Full time, Year I

Dr David Wheatley

The general aim of this PhD research is to generate a wider understanding of the factors that affected and influenced mobility in the prehistoric societies of southern Spain from the Chalcolithic Period (3000-2100 cal. B.C) to the early Bronze Age (2100-1300 cal. B.C.). Through the use of GIS and ABM I intend to create models in order to evaluate the parameters that influenced movement of prehistoric people in their surrounding landscape. This approach aims to investigate and test diverse theories concerning prehistoric movement and the ways in which several variables such as environmental, economical, ideological and religious factors could have influenced path delineation and mobility in general. The main questions delineated in this research were addressed from the results of earlier experiments carried out regarding a case study in Almaden de la Plata in Seville, where field observations suggested that there was a coincidence between the registered transhumance routes and the Megalithic monuments which could be acting as markers in the landscape. Furthermore, diverse authors have suggested that the transhumance routes were traced taking into account several natural variables, searching for an optimal use of the landscape in terms of time of travelling, effort made, energy consumed, availability of resources such as water and other social factors. By means of different analyses and making use of a GIS and statistical methods, the degree of correlation between these archaeological elements was tested. In addition, two experiments concerning mobility in the area were performed using least cost path analysis, comparing their coincidence with the registered transhumance routes.

10,000BC; environmental change in the Southern North Sea

This paper delineates the first four months of my PhD research studying human perception of environmental change from 10,000 to 5,000BP in the Southern North Sea. An understanding of Mesolithic communities comes from the use of multiple different data sources. There is a broad body of literature highlighting, within these data, the importance of Mesolithic interaction with environmental change. In order to address this topic, a series of complex, nested issues must be addressed individually before a more complete understanding can be constructed. Within the constraints of this presentation, I will address and solicit advice on one such component; the use of GIS to examine pollen and stratigraphic data, as proxy sources for environmental change, both spatially and chronologically. This paper will use GIS as a tool to integrate these data to look at environmental variations geographically, through the Southern North Sea, as well as through time, from the early to the late Mesolithic. This understanding of the changing environment will provide the necessary descriptive background for further interpretative work on perception of the environment in the Mesolithic.

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Part Time, Year I

Dr Fraser Sturt
Dr Justin Dix

Narratives of Change: An early Late Pleistocene Population History of North Africa

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Dr John McNabb

Current interpretations of North Africa during the Pleistocene depict a bewildering array of distinct cultural entities (Caton-Thompson 1946, Débenath 1996, Marks 1987) largely due to different research traditions. This problem has done much to hamper one of the most important research themes of Palaeolithic archaeology: the origin and dispersal of modern humans out of Africa and the emergence of behavioural modernity.

Preliminary research (Van Peer and Scerri *in press*) has challenged this fragmented view, and identified commonalities in lithic technological practices throughout North Africa. This has emphasised the need for the first comprehensive study of the region's lithic industries in order to assess its population dynamics in terms of the emergence of the Upper Palaeolithic. Using a set of primary data for selected samples of North African assemblages, testable predictions of the impact of cultural diffusion on the different stages of lithic manufacturing sequences are being used to assess population dynamics. This research is particularly significant because it is altering current understanding of the origins and spread of behavioural modernity, complementing mtDNA haplogroup studies which suggest that Pleistocene demography was a key driver for social change.

Size matters: Lithics, Landscape and Raw Material in the Middle Pleistocene

The Middle Pleistocene site of Vérteszőlős, in northern Hungary, is characterised by an assemblage comprised of lithic artefacts of an extremely small size. This assemblage has been ascribed to the 'Buda' industrial complex, and more recently referred to as the Lower Palaeolithic Microlithic Tradition; a typological phenomenon which has been interpreted as peculiar to Middle Pleistocene Central Europe. This phenomenon has been presented as a 'cultural complex', with the implication that the size of the tools is the result of the cultural choice of the hominins making and using them. However, it has also been suggested that the size and nature of the lithics at this site may be limited by the raw material that is available to the hominins. Recent studies of the material from Vérteszőlős, as part of broader research into the variability in lithic assemblages in Middle Pleistocene Europe, has raised some possible alternative explanations. This paper will explore these and consider the implication of these new insights on our understanding of Middle Pleistocene Hominin behaviour.

Hannah Fluck

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Dr John McNabb

Second Day
Friday 30th May

The Political Economy of a Developer-Funded Archaeology in Quebec and England

Nicolas Zorzin
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Full time, Year II

Dr Yannis Hamilakis

In UK, USA and Canada, most present archaeological activity takes place in the developer-funded sector. This corporate archaeology now faces persistent problems characterized by lack of post-excavation analysis, absence of academic involvement, and widespread dissatisfaction within the archaeological community. In parallel, a recurring question remains unanswered: is the application of a neo-liberal political economy compatible with a viable, scientific, ethical and meaningful archaeological activity? Regrettably, archaeologists often lack the tools to understand the socio-economic and political mechanisms in which they are embedded. Thus, the archaeological discipline is subject to unregulated economy and free-market forces that cause poorly understood and unchallenged problems.

My research seeks to address these problems through the development of a dual approach, based on a microeconomic analysis of private contract-archaeology companies as well as others entities, combined with a comparative ethnography of commercial and rescue archaeology activities essentially based in Quebec. The ethnography I completed in this Canadian province last winter explored everyday experiences of work by a wide range of social actors, from archaeological company directors to excavators and civil servants to promoters.

What I intend to present you today is:

- 1/ an overview of my research problem
- 2/ the methodology and the theoretical framework used during the research
- 3/ partial results and plans for the completion of the thesis.

The *Social* Shaping of Steamboats

This paper examines the concept of the 'social,' particularly from an archaeological perspective, and explores how it relates to the ways in which we seek to understand the processes of technological innovation and change. It is demonstrated that this concept is far from well defined and that enquiry is bedevilled by artificial polarization between subject-centred approaches and object-centred particularism. Through the medium of early United States steamboat technology a different approach is forged through the melding of people and things with the idea of viewing artefacts as *active* social actors along with people. Ultimately, it is argued that maritime archaeologists should be more bullish in their approaches to material things—instead of adopting social theories 'wholesale,' we should insist that they include the *things* we study: boats, material objects, people, artefacts, landscapes and animals.

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Professor Jon Adams

**Beyond the City Walls:
Settlement, Interaction and
Environmental Change in the
Region of the Tiber Delta**

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Part Time, Year II

Professor Simon Keay

How has the pattern of settlement and interaction with the landscape developed for the Tiber Delta? The established theory concerning this zone is weighted by the historical and classical approaches to the area. These have focused on important urban sites and monuments, or high status rural settlements, excluding the development of the landscape and a broader understanding of the context of the pattern of settlement within the surrounding environment. It is apparent that this emphasis in past research has led to a lacuna in our knowledge of the way in which the Tiber delta and its environs has been exploited, and how the formation processes in the region have affected the pattern and nature of human activity.

In order to understand the changing dynamics of settlement in this area it is necessary to understand the relationship between the archaeological record and the environmental evidence. In the context of research into the landscape and settlement in the lower Tiber valley, this paper looks at the methodologies that have been used to focus on the geomorphology and archaeology of the Tiber delta and surrounding areas. It seeks to highlight the limitations of existing evidence, and proposes an integrated methodology for the study of the pattern of settlement in the area that addresses the visibility and balance of archaeological evidence, relating to the analysis of the changing environment of the delta floodplain and the surrounding valleys. This approach will apply methods of remote sensing and analysis of satellite imagery and aerial photography with an appraisal of the environmental evidence for the study area in the form of records from archaeological excavation and geomorphological research.

**The Origins and Use of
Ceramics on the Mis and Umm
Muri Islands, in the Late
Meroitic to Christian Periods**

This paper discusses recent research into the origin and use of ceramics from the SARS AKSC concession at the 4th cataract in Sudan. A team of ceramicists, co-ordinated by the author, have undertaken thin section analysis of ceramics from sites in Mis and Umm Muri Islands and the wider 4th cataract region (Sidebotham, et al. In press). This project intends to identify the origin of both wheel and handmade ceramics to test theories about the assumed nature of local hand-made and exported wheel-made productions. This is part of a wider project to assess the influence consumption practices had on the introduction and changing use of ceramic forms over time in this region.

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Dr Lucy Blue

Portus and its Mediterranean Context: the Pottery Evidence

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Professor Simon Key

This research aims to analyze an aspect of the pottery from Portus, the port of Rome, and on the basis of the study, to contribute towards a better understanding of the reality of the port set in its Mediterranean context. This study is being carried out based on the underlining framework that pots are tools which inform us about the life of people who produced and used them, and that the analysis of pottery trade and of distribution systems can give rise to important questions about socio-economic interactions between social groups. In this respect the primary goal of this research is to understand the changing role of communities of the Roman provinces of Africa Proconsularis and Tripolitania in supplying Portus along the chronological axis from the Imperial to late antique period. This study will establish how far different African communities are represented in the pottery assemblage at Portus and how far we can talk of socio-economic integration between those communities and Portus.

The Marketing and Distribution of Romano-British Pottery

My research into the Romano-British grey ware pottery in Sussex and Hampshire has concentrated this year on the fabrics. This has necessitated obtaining samples of clay from the major kiln sites of Alice Holt, Rowland's Castle, and Overwey. A source of clay at Rowland's Castle has been identified less than 300 metres from the known kiln sites. Samples of the clay have been dug from all three sites and a programme of turning this material into pottery for petrological is well underway. The clay samples have been fired in both modern electrically heated kilns and reconstructed Romano-British wood fired kiln. The results will then be compared with the original Romano-British pottery from these sites.

A programme of EDXRF will then be undertaken to evaluate if it is possible to establish the chemical composition of the fabrics from the different kiln sites. A comparison of textural differences in the pottery sherds will then be used to provide evidence of the different inclusions used by the potters at the different kiln sites.

This ability to identify textural differences may enable pottery that was previously not closely dateable to be classified.

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Dr David Williams

The concept of Palaeolithic cultures: interpretative problems related to the study of Middle Palaeolithic stone tool industries.

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Dr John McNabb

The aim of my PhD is to shed new light on the relationship between the western European macro-regional Middle Palaeolithic entities, the Mousterian and Micoquian. This will be achieved by studying so-called 'mixed' assemblages in Belgium, the Netherlands, Northern and Western France, which contain elements that are characteristic for both of these technocomplexes, leaving a typological dilemma how to interpret them. Furthermore this PhD will allow to assess the reality of the current pattern of Middle Palaeolithic macro-regional entities.

This presentation will focus on the concept of Palaeolithic entities/cultures and the interpretative problems related to the study of these Middle Palaeolithic industries. In the past, stone tool assemblages have been divided into different groups (also named cultures or industries) based on the differences in tool proportions and the absence/presence of specific tool types. To what extent do these entities, which have been extracted from the large variability present in the Middle Palaeolithic represent and reflect purposeful behaviour of anthropological significance? How can we turn our empirical observations into meaningful behavioural interpretations?

**Terminological abuse in Stone
Age South Africa:
The Fauresmith**

In 1894 Max Levisur discovered artifacts at Fauresmith, Orange Free State, South Africa, but it wasn't until 1923 that Goodwin and Brown recognised a new cultural element represented by the artifacts. At the same time van Riet Lowe discovered materials which he could not fit comfortably into the extant scheme. This material became designated as Fauresmith, and although its description has changed over the years it is here presently considered as very fine, small and generally neat almond shaped handaxes, made on flakes and once thought reminiscent of the European Micoquian; associated are hooked scrapers, discs, transverse concavo-convex scrapers, levallois style flake points, and blades. It was believed to represent a transition from the Earlier to Middle Stone Age in both technology and typology. Unfortunately, seriously flawed research led to the official abandonment of the term in 1965, since when the industry has been both accepted and denied in equal measure, indeed it is yet again being used as a chrono-temporal marker, yet no-one has established its reality or otherwise. Clearly this is essential to understand the nature of the transition from the Earlier to Middle Stone Ages, a period which also witnessed the evolution of Homo sapiens.

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Dr John McNabb

**Neanderthal Climatic Adaptations
and the Occupation of North-
Western Europe, During the Last
Glaciation**

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Dr John McNabb

Were Neanderthals really a cold adapted species, and to which extent? Why does North-Western Europe seem so sparsely populated, during the Last Glaciation? Could a model of ebb and flow of population be the explanation, or one involving local extinctions and re-colonisation? These questions are addressed in this paper in a framework, which attempts to combine archaeological, climatic and environmental data from Britain, Belgium and France. The data are examined in the light of the known ecological adaptations of Neanderthals. Possible explanations are discussed and a synthesis is attempted.

The Boats of Munrothuruthu: Identity, Landscape and Producing the Social World.

This paper will draw on an ethnoarchaeological study of the boats of Munrothuruthu, a boat-building village in the backwaters of the Ashtamudi Estuary, Kerala (south-western India). At heart, ethnoarchaeology explores the relationship between material culture and social action and meanings – and this study addresses boats as a lens through which their social context, the web of social meanings, interactions and negotiated relationships that enmesh them, can be illuminated.

By focusing on specific, fine-grained research questions, the social narratives of the boats are revealed and their cultural biographies constructed. It is therefore possible to move from questions concerning:

- the construction methods, social relationships and processes involved in building boats in Munrothuruthu,
- the physical 'life-cycles' of the boats,
- the daily physical and social journeys of the boats, and
- the interactions between the boats, the water, and various individuals within the immediate social group;

to more conceptual ideas, such as:

- the creation/negotiation of landscape,
- the production and maintenance of social identities,
- perceptions of environment and locality, and
- the permeability of the categories of land and water in daily life.

Brief examples will be presented to illustrate how close study of specific boats, and crucially, of the people immediately connected to those boats, can be used to examine the role the boats play in producing the social world, but equally, to explore the entangled relations between people and their watery world.

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Dr Lucy Blue

The Development of the Lateen Sail

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Part time, Year VI

Dr Lucy Blue

The earliest evidence for sailing in the Mediterranean date to c. 3100 BC and indicates that vessels were rigged with a square-sail. From this point until the late antique period the square-sail remained the principal sailing rig of the Mediterranean. During the late antique period a new form of sailing rig, the lateen, began to be utilised amongst Mediterranean mariners. The new form of sailing rig proved so popular that the square-sail had been totally abandoned in the Mediterranean by the 10th century AD.

This rapid period of technological change, after a long period of relative stability has traditionally been explained via a logical progression of technology. This has imposed a 'need' to improve the windward performance of ancient sailing vessels upon their users. Such a progression has also been seen as providing the mechanism, viewed through changes to geometric sail shape, for the unilinear evolution of the modern, western sailing rig.

This explanation of maritime technological change is now outdated and unsustainable, both in terms of modern theories of technological change and the available evidence on the specific subject of the lateen sail. Despite this, it is still widely accepted within maritime studies of the ancient world. By investigating the fine detail of all of the constituent parts of a sailing rig, rather than simply the sail shape, it is possible to view sailing rigs as a series of related, component parts. Acknowledgement of the importance of the technical practice used to operate a sailing rig underlines the importance of the ancient mariner in determining the nature of maritime technology. By relating a detailed understanding of maritime technology to the broader context of the ancient world, this study sets out to challenge, dismantle and replace outdated theories regarding the introduction of the Lateen Sail.

Poster Presentations
Corridor Outside LTB

The origin, distribution and practice of milling in Britain from the Iron Age to the Medieval period

Querns and millstones are an important class of archaeological artefact. By converting corn into usable food they perform an essential function in human subsistence - yet they are poorly understood. Saddle querns, rotary querns and/or larger millstones are found on a wide range of sites dating from prehistoric to medieval. They relate to food preparation which in turn is linked to eating habits and ultimately identity.

Using illustrated text, the poster will explain the transition from milling and baking as combined household activities to separate trades and commercial production, and discuss the manner in which this helps us to understand the development of social organisation and changes in subsistence strategies over time. The process of evaluating artefact biographies from quarry to deposition will also be addressed as this provides insight into the origin and distribution of querns and millstones and the extensive trade and exchange networks within Britain and with north-west Europe.

Lyn Cutler
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Dr David Williams

Ps of Pop: Introducing Pop Arch

Vasko Démou
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Full time, Year I

Dr Yannis Hamilakis

Taking as its starting point the idea of the archaeologist as cultural producer with ethical responsibilities to people past and present and the acceptance that the past is more than just the sum of contemporary projections of present agendas on people(s) long dead and gone, my research aspires to explore the dynamics underlying the existing dialectic between material traces of the past and contemporary (Greek) society and contribute to the expansion of this dialectic by means of original art.

More specifically, I shall be exploring diversity and otherness in both past and contemporary societies in the sites of the Athenian Acropolis and the Kalaureian Sanctuary of Poseidon and their incorporation into more socially sensitive and inclusive (non-verbal) archaeological narratives.

Young and Old in Roman Britain: A Life Course Approach

Age, along with gender, is one of the primary principles around which human societies are organised, and as such, is often visible within the burial record. A life course approach, which examines how age was socially constructed by comparing and contrasting changes in grave good provision, spatial contexts and mortuary treatment between age cohorts, provides a method of examining the role of age organisation in a past society. Utilising burial data from a variety of urban and rural contexts, my research aims to explore the role and expression of age in Roman Britain and focuses in particular on two important aspects of the human life course, childhood and old age. How these two social groups were represented in the burial record can inform on how being young and old was experienced on a regional and provincial level at the periphery of Empire in comparison their counterparts in the Roman Mediterranean, and can be used to examine the impact of Roman social organisation on Britain.

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Dr Louise Revell

A Social and Cultural Reading of Roman City Walls

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Professor Simon Keay

Much research has been undertaken in recent years on the social and cultural significance of urban monumental furniture in the Roman period. City walls, however, remain the last bastion of a materialistic and functionalist approach. My research seeks to place city walls within their urban and landscape context and to explore how they embodied social and cultural messages which changed and developed over time.

The visual and physical prominence of an urban enceinte makes an intentional statement in the city's immediate surroundings and the wider landscape. The precise location of the wall, its layout and design, and the materials with which it was built reflect specific decisions and choices on the part of the community – some rational, some irrational and some unconscious – and present a deliberate balance between symbolism and functionality.

My research aims to go beyond an explanation of walls as a defensive asset and to explore how a community might use city walls to express their sense of identity and status. To complement an overview of the meaning of city walls in the Roman period, I am examining the city walls of a number of specific urban communities in central south Italy. I aim to show how walls can offer insights into issues of Roman urbanism and cultural identity.

Archaeological Evidence for Fixed-Net Fishing in Northern Morocco

Certain aspects of tunny fish behaviour were understood in antiquity, particularly the oceanodromous species' annual migrations, when large schools pass close to shore. Ancient writers, such as Oppian (*Haleutica* 3.620) and Athenaeus (7.315), document that tunny began this journey in the Atlantic, passing through the Straits of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean in early summer and returning in the late summer.

One of the methods used to capture tunny during their migration is the fixed or pound net. At present, the only evidence for use of this technique in antiquity is from descriptions or allusions made in the texts of Oppian (*Haleutica* 3.637-642) and Manilius (*Astr.* 5.659-666), and possibly from iconography (a 3rd-century AD mosaic from Sousse). Comparative evidence has been sought through historical records and ethnography, as European and North African fishermen capture tunny with fixed nets called *al-madraba*, *madrague*, *tonnara* or *armação*.

Recent underwater surveys conducted in northern Morocco have now identified archaeological evidence of fixed-net fishing during the Punico-Mauretanian and Roman periods. This poster will present the survey methodology, the survey area and the archaeological finds. The argument for the identification of this fishing method will be contextualised by geographical, ecological and hydrological factors, as well as associated archaeological and textual evidence.

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Dr Lucy Blue

**Beyond the Looking Glass:
Evaluating the Benefits of
Hands-on Learning in Museums**

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Professor Stephanie Moser

Since 2002, funding through the Central Government has enabled museums across the country to raise their standards and support of education, learning, community development and economic regeneration through the MLA's groundbreaking programme "Renaissance in the Regions".

Whilst most of this work has centred on improving museums as a valuable resource for learning, little has been done to analyse the benefits of a hands-on approach to education within these institutions. This PhD focuses on the role that touch has to play in our lives not only in education of children within a formal teaching environment, but for the population as a whole.

Touch reveals much more than any of the other senses. It is through hands-on experience that we understand the world around us. So why should touch in the museum be reserved for an elite group of individuals simply because they are considered professionals? Or is knowledge and understanding of the past reserved for those individuals with the privilege of touch?

Through my research, I intend to break down the barriers between the museum object and the public, and prove that through the power of touch we can reach a deeper understanding about our past and ourselves.

Not Presenting

An Ethnography on 'Looting': A Case Study in Kozani, Greece

Current attempts to understand the phenomenon of "looting" encourage archaeologists to engage in ethnographic and anthropological research of "looting" activities. The inclusion of such interdisciplinary approaches causes the shift of inquiry from "looted" objects and illicit holes, to the people that are affected, and to the socio-political circumstances that promote and sustain such activities. Ethnographically informed studies of "looting" challenge the dichotomy between the "good" archaeologists against the "evil" looters. Moreover, they reveal the complexity of the phenomenon and promote the need to approach it contextually; they uncover the ways in which official archaeology is accountable for the political and social implications of its practices in relation to these so-called unethical activities.

This paper belongs to this line of analytical inquiry. A number of ethnographic case studies are presented from the locale of Kozani in Greece. This research was instigated by the urge to uncover and understand the ways in which archaeology is evoked by individuals through their unofficial interaction with the material past and their confrontation of "official" instructions that often restrain peoples' sense of archaeology to a distant gaze of window-sealed objects. It underlines what is unique in an 'ethnographic' archaeology – the possibility to see the diversity in which archaeology affects everyday life.

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Dr Yannis Hamilakis

**Sailing Rock Art Boats: A
Reassessment of Seafaring Abilities
in Bronze Age Scandinavia**

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Professor Timothy
Champion

My research relates to the importance of waterbound transportation in Scandinavia during the Bronze Age. Increasing evidence suggests the occurrence of direct long distance voyaging across open waters. Were these boats propelled by paddles alone or could the sail have been introduced and developed here much earlier than is hitherto accepted? Departing from the rich imagery of boats in the Scandinavian rock art, located close to the paleogeographic coast line, and from experimental sail trials in a round bottomed canadian canoe, I have been conducting experimental sail trials in a full scale copy of the only Bronze Age type boat yet found in Scandinavia, the Hjortspring boat from southern Denmark. This boat is dated to c. 350 BC but is so strikingly similar to many of the rock art boats that it is generally believed to belong to a Bronze Age boatbuilding tradition. The sail trials suggest that round bottomed, keel less boats, that to our eyes appear unstable and unsailworthy, can be sailed quite safely, and that the sail could have been used for long distance transportation as a complement to paddling already in the Bronze Age.

Assessment of upper limb bilateral asymmetry and implications for the evolution of handedness

With population-level handedness considered to be one of the defining features of *Homo sapiens* and the proposed links between manual dexterity and language capabilities, investigation of how hand preference is expressed, and subsequently measured, on the skeleton is of importance to understanding the development of the human genus.

Studies of upper limb bilateral asymmetry generally focus on either metric analysis of robusticity or assessment of musculoskeletal stress marker (MSM) development to ascertain patterns of hand preference. The bones of the hand are often conspicuous by their absence from this arena. Little research has addressed the role of the bones of the hand in the expression of handedness or compared the methods by which it can be assessed.

Analysis of MSM development and metric data from the humeri and hand bones of 96 modern humans from Écija, Spain and Greenwich Naval Hospital, London, plus 40 non-human primates (20 *Pan troglodytes* and 20 *Gorilla gorilla*) suggest that there are important differences in the ways in which asymmetry is expressed in the hand compared to the humerus. A clear distinction has also been found between the two methodologies, with MSM analysis likely to underestimate the degree of asymmetry in a sample.

Taken together, these results suggest an important role for the bones of the hand in the assessment of upper limb bilateral asymmetry and handedness. Additionally care must be taken when selecting the method by which asymmetry is to be assessed.

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Dr Sonia Zakrzewski

Hunting as social practice in Late Bronze Age Crete

The practice of hunting in agricultural societies is much more than just a meat procurement exercise. As today, the role of hunting in the past is often linked to ideological motivations. Expressions of power and authority, social inclusion or exclusion, gender, status, and identity have been demonstrated in recent research as, just some elements of past society manipulated through the sphere of hunting.

These aspects of hunting will be discussed in relation to Late Bronze Age society in Crete and based on analysis undertaken on large faunal assemblages from Chania. Initial findings indicate that the percentage of deer remains within the assemblage is high, the main meat bearing skeletal elements are present, and butchery evidence indicates their consumption. Whilst assemblages with a high frequency of deer come from a few other sites of the same date in the area, this pattern is not yet indicated at other sites across Crete, from any period. As a deliberately imported species, its unsuitability for domestication and the presence of already domesticated meat providing animals such as cattle, sheep, goats and pigs, the role of deer needs to be considered in light of the above.

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Dr Yannis Hamilakis

**Changing faith, changing identities:
The role of religion in identity
construction in Iberia AD 750- 1250.**

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Dr Joanna Sofaer
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Religion today is highly crucial in shaping everyday lives with 80% of the world living with religion as an overarching framework. However, archaeological study of religion mainly explores monastic occupations, religious identity and places of worship, separating it from all other spheres of existence. This is despite the fact that anthropology has demonstrated that even the most mundane of activities can have religious or symbolic meaning.

A multidisciplinary method will provide an exciting new approach to the archaeological study of religion and identity. A case study of the conversion period in Islamic Spain (AD 710 – 1250) will demonstrate how religion can influence all aspects of identity. Analysis of patterns of activity-related skeletal modifications over the conversion period, will examine changes in variation in gender roles and prayer ritual. This evidence will be combined with published data on diet, ceramics, architecture and historical sources to produce a wider picture of Islamic Iberian identity. Through this I aim to show the importance of structuring material culture through a religious framework to fully explore the diversity of identities and societies.

Pottery, Materiality, Identity

This paper seeks to explore the possibility of utilising a more theoretical framework based around the concept of materiality, how the human mind interacts with the material world (DeMarrais et al 2004), to interpret an assemblage of Late Saxon pottery. My MA research was based around the pottery assemblage, from Chichester, West Sussex . Analysis of the material shows a variety of technological choices were made at different stages of manufacture at different times and in different areas of the settlement. These conclusions regarding pottery manufacture can be used as a for a discussion of the ways in which people and pottery interacted. Three models of materiality are explored; objectification (the material manifestation of human action (see Miller 2005), phenomenology (the human experience) and an object centred approach which sees objects as an active agent in influencing human action (Gosden 2005).

My current research extends my use of these theoretical models to interpret pottery consumption, albeit in a different setting (Saxon and Medieval Southampton). Following my presentation of the findings of my previous work I will outline the methodology I shall be using to understand the place of pottery in the social existence of Medieval people.

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Dr Andrew Jones

**Lateglacial Northern Europe:
social identities and
distributed selves.**

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Professor Clive Gamble

The present work is exploring aspects of identity and personhood creation in Lateglacial hunter-gatherer communities. Material culture in general and stone artefacts in particular have been considered as archaeological taxonomic units for too long. In an attempt to shift the focus from the “group” scale onto the “individual”, I concentrate on the complicated concept of personhood, as developed in various ethnographic works, and the construction of the self through hybrid social engagements.

The Final Upper Palaeolithic lithic assemblages from the interstadial complex (the traditional Bolling and Allerod, 13,000-11,000 uncal BP) are interpreted as a dynamic element of personhood creation in a relational landscape. The case studies from Hengistbury Head (Britain) and Rekem (Belgium) are brought forward so as to examine the negotiation of identities through social actions and practices. In doing so, issues pertaining to the all important notions of agency and “style” are raised and discussed.

**The Potters Legacy: The Role of
Ceramics in Understanding
Settlement and Burial Sites from
Middle Bronze Age to Early Iron
Age Kent**

Introduction

The purpose of this study is to provide a comprehensive study of prehistoric pottery throughout the region of Kent. Pottery is an important key to understanding the chronology and interpretation of settlement and burial sites, and this study will offer a new perspective on the changing nature of social practices in Kent during the middle Bronze Age through to the early Iron Age. Ceramics from forty-eight sites across the region of Kent have been examined.

Objectives

The following key areas will be examined

- Social Function: changes in ceramic fashion are evident throughout prehistoric Kent. Analysis of the pottery will provide the foundation for a ceramic typological and chronological framework, which does not currently exist in Kent. This will form an invaluable body of data, which can be used by ceramic analysts in the future, and will also offer an insight into the societies who made and used the pottery.
- Production and Distribution: some pottery types show similarities with other regions, including Northern France. A comparison of this data, and petrological study of the pottery fabrics, will establish patterns of trade, distribution and social contact.
- Settlement Evolution: distributions of dated pottery will provide a picture of regional evolution of settlement within Kent. Many sites in Kent appear to have been abandoned at the end of the late Bronze Age, and 'unusual' pit and ditch deposits often occur on these sites. This research will seek to discuss the complex issues concerning site abandonment and ceramic deposition.

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Professor Timothy Champion

Investigating intra-site movement and visibility at the human scale: The visual consumption of Thera Murals from the public spaces of Late Bronze Age Akrotiri

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Dr David Wheatley

This research aims to investigate the visual experience and social meaning of Thera mural paintings (Late Bronze Age Akrotiri, ca.1640B.C.) by integrating 3D modelling and spatial analysis methodologies. An issue that is indissolubly related to the social meaning of Thera murals is the visual access to the wall paintings from the public spaces of Akrotiri. It has recently been observed that in the past a pedestrian walking outside a private building should have been able to see the mural decoration of its interior spaces through the open windows. However, in most cases it is hard to define the degree to which a painted theme would have been exposed to a viewer located in the public spaces of the settlement. The likelihood of a pedestrian encountering the paintings would have been greatly determined by the location, distance and angle of view from which the paintings would have been seen, as well as patterns of pedestrian movement within the settlement. This presentation discusses movement and visibility in Akrotiri at the human scale, and explores the potential of formal methods, such as visibility analysis in three-dimensional urban environments and micro-simulations of pedestrian movement, to enrich, conceptually and methodologically, archaeological investigations into the experience of past built space.

San Vitale and a Single Voice: Opening the Ears of Archaeology

I am investigating whether sixth century social and cultural dynamics can be archaeologically identified by including the study of acoustics in the context of extant Late Antique Christian architecture. I aim to focus on the issue of sound in Late Antiquity as a new and timely addition to the methods of Archaeological investigation. 'Looking' at sound helps to refigure how we visualise architecture and, by extension, helps also to refigure the social aspects of the historic past.

The research I am endeavouring therefore brings together the disciplines of Archaeology and Acoustic Studies in order to test whether we can specifically improve our understanding of how and why the development of the centrally planned domed church reached such heights of popularity and characterizes the 'Byzantine' East while the Roman basilica remained favoured in the West. Did expressions of new and 'other' architectural forms fuel Constantinople's ascendant identity over old Rome, Milan and Ravenna, or were there more reflexive two-way exchanges between West and East not generally acknowledged? I will be challenging what we mean by 'Byzantine' while dealing specifically with the cultural exchanges between different Christianities, communities and cities in the development of ecclesiastical acoustic architecture in the sixth century.

This research makes an important contribution to our understanding of Late Antique society by asking whether structured movements of people through the resonant space of a centrally planned church was a social way of communicating symbolic and cultural meaning to unified, divided and rival communities.

The interdisciplinary combination of Archaeological visibility studies and acoustic analysis adds to the growing academic interest in a methodology that brings immaterial sound and the aural experience together into the praxis of Archaeology and balances its material and visual biases.

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