

Association for Environmental Archaeology

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AEA Newsletter 166

February 2025

Dear AEA members,

Welcome to the first AEA newsletter of 2025. Thank you to everyone who has joined or renewed their AEA membership this year. We've had a bumper crop of sign-ups already, and I look forward to working with and supporting you all in the coming year.

I am delighted to report that all our new committee members have settled in well. The abundance of enthusiasm around the AGM in December means we've filled all officer roles for the first time in many years. This will ensure the AEA management committee runs even more efficiently and effectively.

In my last Chair's Piece I mentioned that at the AGM, members voted to support a motion to begin spending the AEA's surplus funds. I thought I'd take this opportunity to explain how this surplus arose. The AEA has always operated with a relatively small surplus, primarily as a buffer against unexpected costs. However, a larger surplus accumulated during the COVID period. Despite membership numbers falling, expenditure on events and sponsorship also plummeted. Additionally, a new arrangement secured by then-Chair, Gill Campbell, meant journal expenses didn't increase as membership decreased. We exploring ways to spend this surplus gradually (these funds can only be spent once!) over the next five years or so. As well as bolstering existing spending – including the research grants scheme and the Lisa Lodwick conference bursary scheme – we're exploring new ways to support our members. Ideas currently being discussed include a dedicated scientific analysis scheme or a fieldwork fund. I'd be very keen to hear any other suggestions from members.

Another area where you'll soon see improvements is our web and social media presence. Kay Hamilton has transitioned from Student Representative to Ordinary Member,

and has now taken over management of our website. We've also co-opted Chris Atkinson, who will now lead our social media efforts. The first major change is the AEA's decision to cease posting on X (formerly Twitter). We're also setting up a Bluesky account and actively reviewing which social media platforms we should continue to use or add to our outlets. As always, please share your views on this by emailing envarch@envarch.net.

Reviews and decisions for the Don Brothwell prize for articles published in our journal, and the John Evans prize for student dissertations, are also ongoing. We hope to announce both at the upcoming spring conference in Sofia.

The Sofia conference is now only a few weeks away. Hopefully, you still have time to register before the 1st March deadline. If you're attending, please remember that we may be able to support you through the Lisa Lodwick conference bursary scheme. For some inspiration to attend AEA conferences, please read the Oxford review in this newsletter. We'll also be announcing the next AEA autumn conference very soon, which has now been confirmed.

Michael Wallace, Chair of the AEA



ISSN 1363-6553

In Memoriam

A Memorial Meeting for John Eustace Whittaker (25.09.1945 – 29.07.2023)

Dear friends,

We propose to organise a one-day memorial meeting in honour of our good friend and scientific collaborator John Whittaker who passed away 18 months ago. The meeting will be held at the Natural History Museum, London, where John served his entire career as a micropalaeontologist. A renowned authority on the systematics and ecology of living and fossil ostracods and foraminifera, he latterly became an innovative and valued contributor to the palaeoenvironmental analysis of Quaternary archaeological sites, particularly those with evidence of early human occupation such as Boxgrove in West Sussex and Happisburgh in Norfolk.

The proposed meeting is open to all and we would like it to feature oral presentations on relevant topics mixed with reminiscences of working with John, with the archaeological as well as the micropalaeontological communities well represented.

It will be held in the **Neil Chalmers Lecture Theatre at The Natural History Museum on Wednesday 23rd April 2025**, with the option of continuation into the evening with food and drink at a suitable local venue.

If you would like to attend the meeting, with or without a presentation, or have any questions, please contact Dave Horne by email (d.j.horne@qmul.ac.uk).

Best wishes from,
Dave Horne, John Athersuch, David Siveter, Alan Lord and Giles Miller



John Eustace Whittaker
25.09.1945—29.07.2023

Conference Review AEA Oxford 2024

Reflections on the 44th Association for Environmental Archaeology Conference

Oscar Balla – Australian National University

From December 12–14th 2024 I had the pleasure of attending the 44th Association for Environmental Archaeology (AEA) Conference at Oxford University. The theme, "Past Environments for Emerging Worlds," set the stage for an inspirational exploration of how environmental archaeology can address contemporary global challenges.

The keynote speakers, Chris Baines and Meriel McClatchie, posed thought-provoking questions: "What does the world want from environmental archaeology?" and "What does environmental archaeology want from the world?" Their insights on the long-term perspectives in understanding ecological crises and innovative approaches for incorporating environmental archaeology into wider industry practices were both inspiring and sobering. They gave us hope that our community has a significant role to play in addressing global challenges.

Each session of speakers in the conference delved into diverse and intriguing studies within the following main topics: data, soil, sustainability and biodiversity, wildlife, farming, landscapes, and perspectives beyond archaeology. All sessions opened my eyes to innovative approaches and to the extent of the role that environmental archaeology is already playing in these contemporary fields. For example, in the "soil" session I was particularly excited by how modern soil health can be explained due to different types of long-term human behaviour. Additionally, in the "wildlife" session, I was reminded of the long-term cultural importance of wild animal populations, and I was energised by case studies of how archaeological evidence of human-animal relationships can help conserve threatened species.

In addition to the talks, we had an amazing assemblage of posters across a wide range of topics, including aDNA, isotopes, palaeoenvironmental reconstructions, biodiversity, and more! I presented a poster titled "Extracting high-resolution climate information from herbivore enamel: a case study". This was my first time presenting in a poster format at a conference (and my first archaeology conference too), and my poster formed part of a series of three posters which were all aimed at targeting high-resolution isotopic analyses using dental growth patterns. With our posters complementing each other, we had some fascinating discussions with other AEA members. Many people were surprised to learn that dental enamel have daily growth markers and that these can be used to create a weekly-resolution isotopic sequence.

I had a fantastic experience meeting all the fascinating people in our welcoming community, and everyone's sheer passion and ambition was reflected in inspiring conversations, posters, and talks. The community introduced me to many new ideas and concepts which I hope to apply in my career so I can improve as an environmental archaeologist. But most importantly, this conference proved that our global community is ready to take our seat at the table, and I can't wait to see how our industry leaders and members continue to secure their spot.

I would like to thank the Association for Environmental Archaeology for supporting my attendance through the Lisa Lodwick Conference Bursary.

Conference Review 'A Place for the Heathlands?'

'A Place for the Heathlands?'

Aarhus, Denmark, 5– 7th February 2025

The conference was organised by, and as part of, the **ANTHEA** (Anthropogenic Heathlands) project which looks at European heathland landscapes and how they developed through contributions from ecology, history, archaeology, art and many other disciplines.

It was held at the Moesgaard Museum in Aarhus Denmark and on the first day of the conference the project launched their digital book website with the project's first output supported by the Jutland Archaeological Trust (**A Place for the Heathlands**).

Alongside this launch was an exhibition of art associated with the heathlands in the Jutland area of Denmark and a musical performance of a Danish folk ballad. The oral and poster presentations over the next two days encapsulated heathland research from across many European countries and disciplines including contributions from archaeology, cultural history, heathland ecology, botany and entomology. In accordance with the variety of subject areas the conference was attended by delegates including the shepherding profession, artists, botanists, ecologists, historians, archaeologists and others.

For myself, and my PhD research into lowland heathland bordering a coastal area in the South of England, it was inspiring to see how the ANTHEA project integrated such a wide variety of interests and research areas, and how discussing heathlands with delegates from different backgrounds challenged and stimulated my own research, the best way to communicate my findings, and my project planning for the future. Equally, with the venue being situated inside the Moesgaard Museum, being given the opportunity to explore the permanent archaeological and historic galleries and immersing myself within the two special exhibitions ('Mother Earth' and 'Warriors') was an additional highlight.

Thank you to the ANTHEA team for such an interesting and inspiring conference.

Siggy Osborne

Bournemouth University funded PhD student working on:
Past, present, and future impacts of climate change on historic coastal landscapes: human response and adaptation in Poole Harbour and Purbeck, Dorset

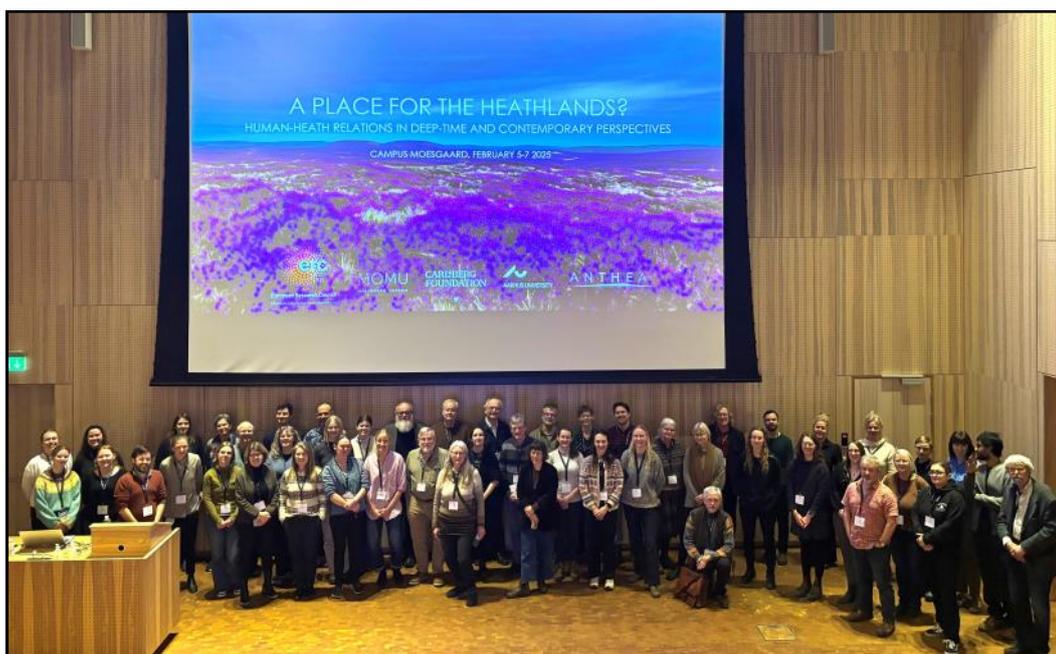


Photo posted with kind permission from Mette Løvschal

AEA Spring Conference, Sofia, Bulgaria 12th—13th April 2025



April,
12th-13th
2025

OF MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS: PERSPECTIVES IN ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY

SPRING CONFERENCE OF
THE ASSOCIATION FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY

- ✓ Conference themes could be found on envarch.net
- ✓ An in-person only conference
- ✓ Abstract submission by QR code
- ✓ Queries: aea2025sofia@gmail.com

ABSTRACTS BY
DECEMBER, 30th 2024



Conference topics

We welcome abstracts developed around major environmental factors, such as mountains and rivers within the main conference topics, but not limited to:

- Archaeobotany
- Zooarchaeology
- Physical anthropology
- Landscape archaeology
- Multi-proxy approaches in environmental archaeology
- Digital approaches in environmental archaeology
- Other

Host institutions: Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) and Department of Archaeology (Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”)

Location: University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria

Abstract submission is now closed.

Registration deadline: 1st March 2025 at midnight.

Click [here](#) to register!

Registration fee: 40 EUR (Regular, non-member)

30 EUR (Regular AEA member)

20 EUR (Student member/non-member)

General queries can be sent to the organisers [here](#) or at aea2025sofia@gmail.com

EAI Conference 10th May 2025, Dublin



ROOTS OF RESILIENCE

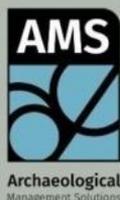
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON SUSTAINABILITY

Living in a constantly changing environment, with global warming events impacting ecosystems on a rapid scale, environmental archaeology is more important than ever. Environmental proxies offer valuable insights into past living conditions, including land management practices, human-animal relationships, agricultural practices, the emergence and spread of ecological invasions and more. These insights give us the opportunity to learn and understand environmental changes and guide us towards sustainable practices. Evidence from plant remains, pollen, wood and charcoal, insect populations, dental calculus and paleopathology are all proxies for understanding the intricacy of these disturbances but also the complex relationships between humans and their surroundings.

We are calling for papers and lightning talks with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches, addressing themes of sustainability, resilience, biodiversity, and climate change, discussing them with regard to past strategies or within current practice in environmental archaeology in Ireland. This conference aims to inform, target, and inspire new strategies in an era facing dramatic ecological challenges. It is a collaborative effort between new scholars and seasoned professionals to connect and build on ideas and experiences in the field of environmental archaeology.

Sponsored by:

IAC Archaeology



Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland,
Merrion Square
10th of May 2025

DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION
3rd of March

Please visit: <https://rb.gy/lp3j5s>

 eaireland.net
 eaiconference2025@gmail.com

NPP Workshop, Göttingen 2nd—6th June 2025

We are pleased to invite you to the 10th Non-Pollen Palynomorph Workshop in Göttingen, Germany from 2nd—6th June 2025.

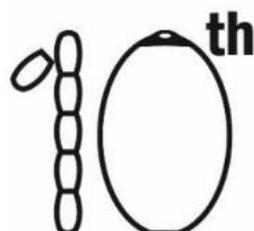
Our regular NPP Workshop with its classical structure including oral and poster presentations, and possibly excursions, will be combined with the COST-Action “PaleoOpen” for which we will have an open discussion on nomenclature of the NPP taxa and start NPP taxa harmonisation in Neotoma.

Preliminary Schedule:

2nd June: Arrival and Ice Breaker
3rd June: Presentations and Posters
4th June: Presentations, Posters and Microscopy Sessions
5th June: Discussion on NPP nomenclature, Neotoma Workshop
6th June: Excursion

Deadlines:

31st March: Abstract Submission and Payment



NPP Workshop
Göttingen • 2-6.06.2025

International Phytolith Society 14th Meeting

The 14th IMPR will be held July 14th–19th 2025 in Barcelona, Spain

The 14th International Meeting on Phytolith Research will take place in Barcelona (Spain), at the Institució Milà i Fontanals de Recerca en Humanitats, Spanish National Research Council (IMF-CSIC), from the 14th 19th of July 2025.

Contributions are welcome on any aspect of archaeology, agronomy, geoarchaeology, paleoanthropology, paleobiogeography, paleoclimatology, paleoecology, pedology, plant physiology, systematics and evolution, and taphonomy, insofar as they involve research on phytoliths.

We strive for the 14th IMPR to become a meeting point for early career phytolith researchers. For that reason, in addition to regular oral and poster sessions the meeting will include a 'storytelling' session for students and several hands-on workshops

Registration opens 1st February 2025 and will close on the 30th June 2025.

Early bird registration (until 31st May 2025)
Regular fee € 250 / Student fee € 200

Late registration (from 1st June 2025)
Regular fee € 300 / Student fee € 250

Preliminary programme

Monday 14th July 2025: Practical sessions/ workshops (in collaboration with IPS Standing Committees):
Open phytolith science (ICOPS)
Phytolith morphometrics (ICPM)
Phytolith taxonomy (ICPT)
High-resolution micro-contextual approaches (phytolith fluorescence)

Tuesday 15th – Friday 18th July 2025: Regular sessions, poster sessions and 'storytelling' session (6' presentations, for students only)

Saturday 19th July 2025: Field trip

Please visit the [website](#) for more information or contact the organising committee at 14impr@imf.csic.es

International Workgroup for Palaeoethnobotany 21st–25th July 2025

The IWGP returns to Groningen

After a successful meeting of the International Work Group for Palaeoethnobotany in České Budějovice, the organization for the 20th IWGP conference in Groningen in 2025 is in full swing.

The organisation is a collaboration between the Groningen Institute of Archaeology, the Centre for Landscape Studies (University of Groningen) and the Cultural Heritage Agency (Ministry of Education, Culture and Science).

The IWGP was established in 1968 by, amongst others, Willem van Zeist and is one of the most important meetings for researchers specialised in paleoethnobotany in Europe and parts of Asia. The meeting has taken place triennially since its establishment, and the last Groningen IWGP was organised in 1983 by Willem van Zeist, Sytze Bottema and Wil Casparie. We are thus proud to once more represent the strong archaeobotanical tradition of Groningen, including an emphasis on studies of landscape history and cultural heritage of the Netherlands!

The conference will be held from 21st–25th July 2025, the post-conference excursion will take place on the 26th July 2025.

The conference will be held at the city of Groningen, the Netherlands. Further information about the venue and practicalities will follow soon.

Early bird scholar: € 250
Early bird (PhD) student: € 150
Late bird scholar: € 325
Late bird (PhD) student: € 195
(Early bird fees are applicable until the 28th of February 2025)

Dinner and party (24th July): € 50
Excursion (26th July): € 50

You can register [here](#).
Information on stipends to attend the conference can be found [here](#).



IWGP 2025

Full session information can be found [here](#).

Session 1: Wild plant use in past societies

Session 2: Method development within archaeobotany

Session 3: Archaeobotanical 'storytelling': developing science-based narratives and dissemination activities for different audiences

Session 4: Exploring the archaeobotany of food

Session 5: Data sharing and FAIR principles in archaeobotany

Session 6: Plant management, plant cultivation & resilience

Session 7: Archaeobotany beyond binary oppositions:

Traditional Ecological Knowledge & fresh ways of understanding past plant-people interaction

Session 8: Global plant domestication

Session 9: The archaeobotany of settlements and urban landscapes

Session 10: Innovations and legacies in medieval agriculture

Session 11: The movement of plants

Session 12: General session

For queries please contact iwgp2025@rug.nl

**20TH MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
WORK GROUP FOR PALAEOETHNOBOTANY**

IWGP 2025 Groningen, the Netherlands
21-25 July 2025

archaeobotany.org/iwgp2025

Logos at the bottom include: university of groningen (Faculty of arts, Groningen Institute of Archaeology), Gemeente Groningen, Rijksoverheid voor het Cultureel Erfgoed (Nationaal Instituut voor de Monumenten en Sites), KNBv, wadden academy, HUGODEVRIESFONDS ONDERSTEUNING VAN DE BOTANIE, and university of groningen (Faculty of arts, Center for Landscape Studies).

Special issue of Environmental Archaeology Invitation

Special Issue title:

“Baskets and Their Belongings: Archaeobotany and Conservation of Vegetal Basketry Objects and Their Vegetal Content”¹

Summary of the Special Issue:

The ancient basketry craft transitioned through the entire human history – from the early prehistoric human groups to the contemporary market of the 21st century. Basket-making is a trans-geographical and pervasive activity, resulting in products of diverse shapes, sizes, raw materials and functions as they service a wide utilisation spectrum by humans. Basketry is also strongly related to the vegetal raw material, including woody and non-woody plants, allowing for the creation of objects not only of different dimensions but also with specific properties such as durability, heavy load-resistivity, excellent ventilation or even waterproofness.

On the other hand, basketry products are often chosen for the storage, transportation and processing of raw materials or products of plant origin (consumables and non-consumables). Sometimes, a single plant may offer its different plant parts for both – a basket and its content. Examples of that could be some cereal species with stems and leaves appropriate for weaving, but also with a good grain yield which could be subsequently stored in a basket; or some tree species that provide outstanding properties for basket-making, but once shaped into a basket could also contain woody materials. The crucial role of conservation science is to uncover, document and preserve these objects, ensuring archaeobotanical analysis of both the baskets and their contents. This particular link between the vegetal basketry object, its vegetal content (alimentary and non-alimentary) and their conservation is what we aim to explore in the current special issue.

How to participate:

-> Submit your abstract to the three guest editors of this Special Issue by April, 30th 2025.

-> If your abstract is accepted, then submit your paper directly to Environmental Archaeology, indicating that your submission is for the Special Issue, entitled “Baskets and Their Belongings: Archaeobotany and Conservation of Vegetal Basketry Objects and Their Vegetal Content” by August, 31st 2025.

Please note that each paper is subject to a separate production process and will be made available online as soon as it is accepted, even if this is before the completion of all submissions for the volume.

Guest Editors of the Special Issue:

Dr Mila Andonova-Katsarski
Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
E-mail: m.andonovae@gmail.com

Dr Ingrid Stelzner
Leibniz Centre for Archaeology, Mainz, Germany
E-mail: ingrid.stelzner@leiza.de

Dr Maria Herero-Otal
Autonomous University of Barcelona, Barcelona,
Spain
E-mail: maria.herrero@uab.cat

¹ This special issue of Environmental Archaeology stems from session #975 entitled “Baskets and their belongings: Archaeobotany and conservation of vegetal basketry objects and their vegetal contents” which took part in the 30th Annual Meeting of the Association of European Archaeologists in La Sapienza University, Rome (28th–31st August 2024).

Call for Papers Weather Matters

Unruly Ecologies: Reconfiguring Climate Knowledge through Refusal, Resistance, and (Dis)Rupture

Weather Matters is an independently-edited publication fostering conversation on the human dimensions of climate change across anthropology, geography, the environmental humanities and other social sciences. We are currently welcoming contributions for our Spring/Summer 2025 Series 'Unruly Ecologies: Reconfiguring Climate Knowledge through Refusal, Resistance, and (Dis)Rupture.' Perspectives should be a maximum of 1,500 words (or less) and must be submitted by Monday 17th March 2025. For the full call for papers, and more information please visit the [website](#).

Abbreviated information:

This issue of Weather Matters orients towards moments and movements that resist hegemonic discourses of the environment and climate. We invite works that explore moments of unruliness, rupture, and resistance as they relate to climate and human-environment relations. Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:

- How do “extreme” climate events (e.g. heat, tropical storms, wildfires, droughts) challenge, disrupt, or reshape dominant social, political, and economic paradigms?
- How do landscapes/ecologies/non-human actors resist and/or frustrate projects of environmental governance (e.g. enclosures, canals/dams), extraction (e.g. mining, large-scale agriculture), and knowledge production (e.g. map-making and surveillance)?
- What challenges and possibilities arise in writing from and within climate pluralities, e.g. coexistent climate worlds, relationalities, and imaginaries?
- How do histories and ethnographies of collective movements of refusal/resistance render alternative stakes and narratives of climate change?
- What tools/devices help mediate and produce knowledge about human-environment relations? What do their malfunctions – failures of mediation and failures of knowing – reveal about norms of expectation, prediction, and safety?

Please share submissions with the editorial team at: contact.weathermatters@gmail.com, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

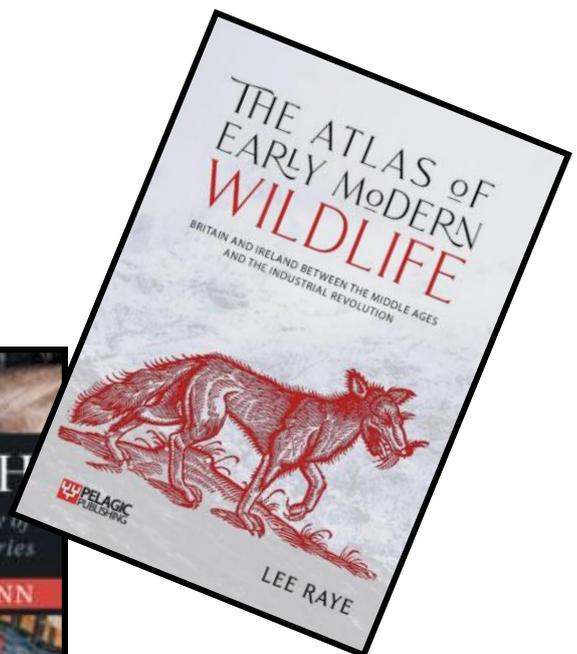
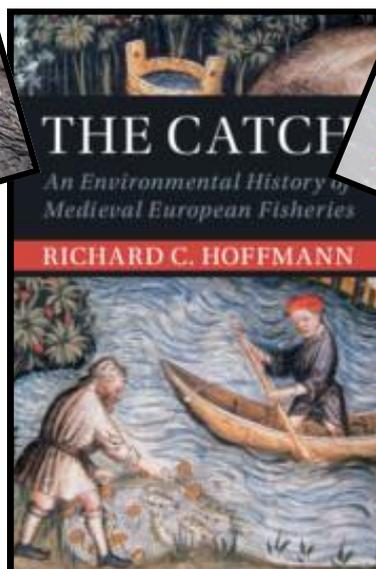
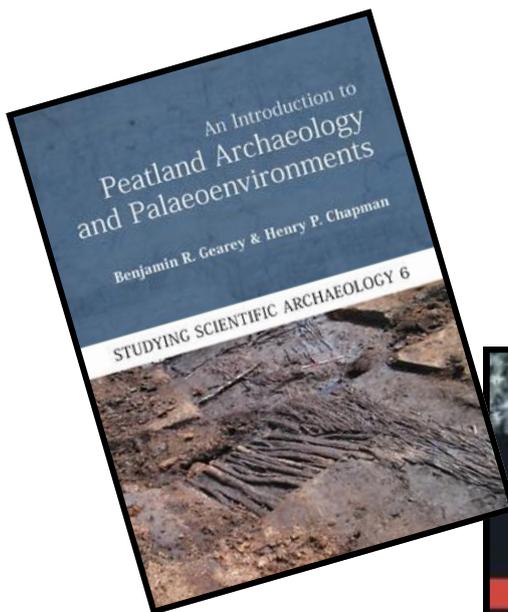
Thank you,

Weather Matters editorial team

Book Reviews

The AEA has a long history of reviewing the latest book releases and the AEA newsletter is now home to these book reviews.

As a perk of AEA membership, you can request to review a book. Please email the [AEA secretary](#) if interested in reviewing or if you are promoting a new book release and require a reviewer.



Current titles available for review to AEA members :

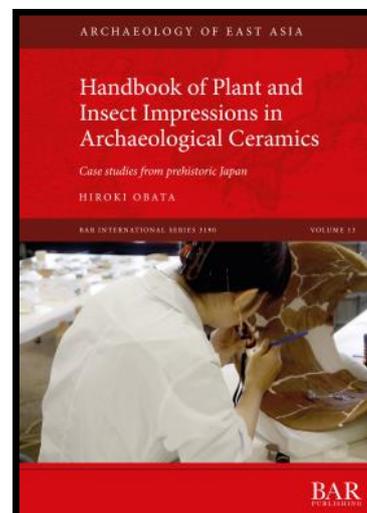
Please get in touch if you would like to review any of the following titles

Handbook of Plant and Insect Impressions in Archaeological Ceramics

Case studies from prehistoric Japan

Hiroki Obata

Focussing on examples from prehistoric Japan, this book provides a case study of the use of impressions analysis techniques. New insights include evidence of soybean cultivation, pest infestations in chestnut storage, and the cohabitation of cockroaches alongside humans. This handbook introduces these new methodologies to an international audience, opening up opportunities for pottery impressions analysis worldwide.



La fauna del villaggio dell'età del Ferro di Bressanone-Stufles (Alto Adige, Italia)

Indagini archeozoologiche e paleoecologiche nel quadro della protostoria padano-alpina Claudia Brosseder

Silvia Eccher *In Italian with English and German forewards*

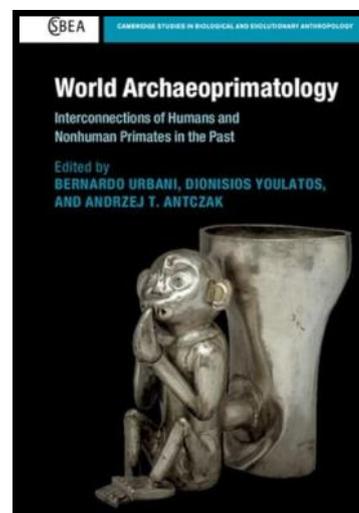
The large animal bone assemblage analysed in this study, which includes published data from previous publication as well as unpublished materials, made it possible to formulate hypotheses on the palaeo-economy adopted by the human group inhabiting this village and to establish a socio-economic model for the Rhaetian area.



World Archaeoprimatology

Bernardo Urbani

Archaeoprimatology intertwines archaeology and primatology to understand the ancient liminal relationships between humans and nonhuman primates. During the last decade, novel studies have boosted this discipline. This edited volume is the first compendium of archaeoprimatological studies ever produced. Written by a culturally diverse group of scholars, with multiple theoretical views and methodological perspectives, it includes new zooarchaeological examinations and material culture evaluations, as well as innovative uses of oral and written sources.

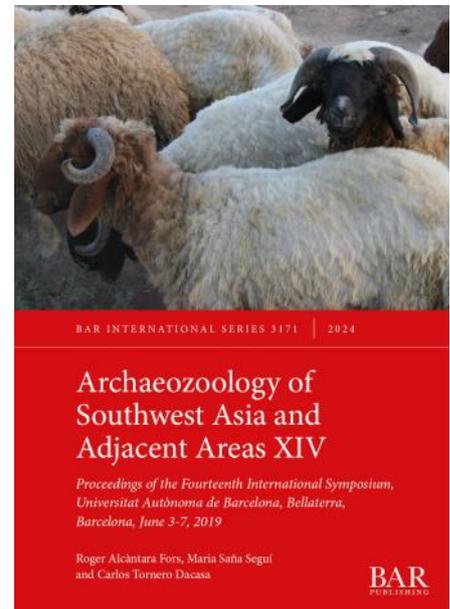


Archaeozoology of Southwest Asia and Adjacent Areas XIV

Roger Alcàntara Fors, Maria Saña Seguí and Carlos Tornero Dacasa

This volume represents a collection of papers resulting from the Archaeozoology of Southwest Asia Working group meeting held in Barcelona in 2019, when early-career and well-established researchers debated on nearly 10,000 years of adaptation and change in human-animal interactions. The 14 chapters in this volume range from the Neolithic to the Byzantine period, travelling through the regions of modern Turkey, Syria, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Egypt, among others.

Intertwining new archaeological and archaeozoological data, this volume reviews the development of complementary food acquisition strategies. These approaches to understanding fishing, hunting and husbandry practices discuss adaptation and perseverance against constant social, cultural, economic and political change. They reveal changes through time in food preferences, preparation and storage, the social value of animals, as well as their incredibly adaptive nature.

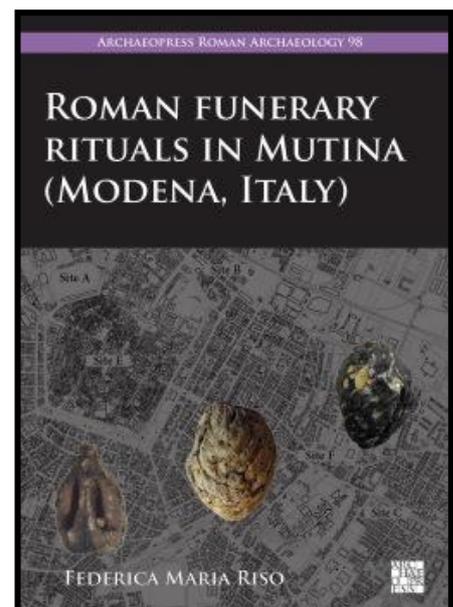


Roman Funerary Rituals in Mutina (Modena, Italy)

Federica Maria Riso

This book presents the results of a research project undertaken in collaboration with the University of Huddersfield. The project sought to identify and reconstruct the funerary space and rituals of the necropolis in Mutina (now Modena) in the period between the first century BC and second century AD.

The research is a key example of integrated analyses, linking the different results in the same interpretative system and supporting traditional strategies (archaeology and archaeobotany) with advanced technology (SAXS, CT-scan). The archaeobotanical remains (seeds and fruit) and the objects involved in the ceremonies constitute an important investigatory lens to reconstruct the mortuary rituals and attendance at the funerary space.

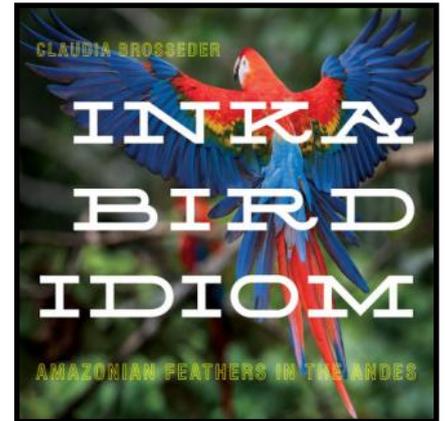


Inka Bird Idiom. Amazonian Feathers in the Andes

Claudia Brosseder

How Indigenous People Used Feathers as a Significant Way of Symbolic Communication in the Andes

From majestic Amazonian macaws and highland Andean hawks to tiny colorful tanagers and tall flamingos, birds and their feathers played an important role in the Inka empire. Claudia Brosseder uncovers the many meanings that Inkas attached to the diverse fowl of the Amazon, the eastern Andean foothills, and the highlands. She shows how birds and feathers shaped Inka politics, launched wars, and initiated peace. Feathers provided protection against unpredictable enemies, made possible communication with deities, and brought an imagined Inka past into a political present.

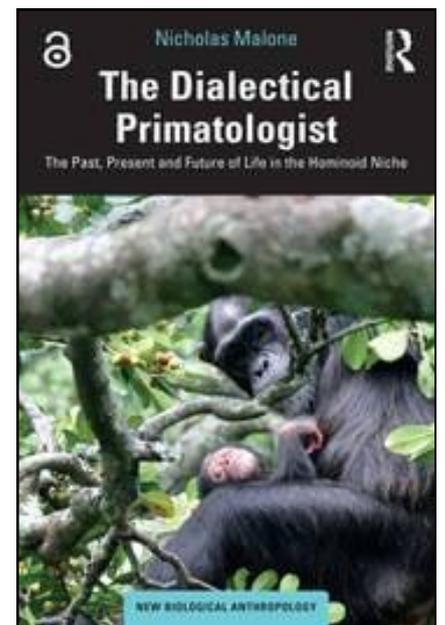


The Dialectical Primatologist

Nicholas Malone

The Dialectical Primatologist identifies the essential parameters vital for the continued coexistence of hominoids (apes and humans), synthesising primate research and conservation in order to develop culturally compelling conservation strategies required for the facilitation of hominoid coexistence.

This book will be of keen interest to academics in biological anthropology, primatology, environmental anthropology, conservation and human-animal studies.



New Committee Members

The AEA committee has recently welcomed new members and we would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce them, in addition to an upcoming social media campaign about committee members and their roles within the AEA.

Tom Hill

I am a micropalaeontologist by trade, specialising in the application of pollen and diatoms to Quaternary sedimentary archives. I am the Director of PERCS Ltd, which provides bespoke micropalaeontological services to academia and industry, with an emphasis on the provision of geoarchaeological expertise within the commercial archaeology sector. Prior to the creation of PERCS, I was employed within the Department of Earth Sciences at The Natural History Museum, London, as the Head of Division of Economic and Environmental Earth Sciences (EEES), as well as being the Micropalaeontology Sector Leader. I remain a Scientific Associate at the NHM. Before this, I was a Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography at Bath Spa University (2008-2011) and I established my expertise in the application of microfossils to archaeological contexts whilst a Research Fellow at Birmingham Archaeology, University of Birmingham (2005-2008).



Paul Flintoft

I am the Regional Manager for York Archaeology (formerly known as the York Archaeological Trust) at our head office. In addition to managing my team, I am passionate about exploring new techniques for conserving palaeoenvironmental remains and conducting wood and charcoal analysis. I also have a strong interest in archiving and have recently completed collaborative doctoral research titled "Archaeological Palaeoenvironmental Archiving: Challenges and Opportunities."

As the newly appointed Events Officer for the AEA, I am excited to connect with members and engage in the responsibilities of this role. If you would like to reach out, please feel free to email me or come say hello at a conference or event.

pflintoft@yorkat.co.uk



Trending in Environmental Archaeology



Welcome to our Social Media roundup of all things environmental archaeology! Here you will find snapshots from social media selected to provide a flavour of what has been happening online in the world of environmental archaeology during the last quarter. If you have a particular social media campaign that you would like featured on this page, please email the newsletter editor newsletter@envarch.net

 Cambridge Archaeological Unit
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Another feature of the Roman barn from the Cemex West Deeping Quarry is the presence of a granary in its northern part. Made from three parallel beam slots, the structure had clearly burnt down preserving distinct layers of grain, chaff and charcoal.



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🎉 We're delighted that our first major #BoxOfficeBears paper is published Open Access today in @antiquityj.bsky.social

What do we know about the 🐻 and 🐾 that lived on Bankside? How big were they? What did they eat? How long did they live? 📖 of key findings below!

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 **Michael O'Connell** @moconnell007.bsky.social · 16d
For a new #vegetation #history of #Germany see link.springer.com/book/10.1007... Details for 39 distinct landscapes are given by 65 authors. Overviews of particular topics facilitate engagement by the general reader & specialist alike. A worthy successor to the classic Firbas volumes now 70+ y old





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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 Spring Conference Registration Deadline

1st March 2025

AEA Spring Conference

12th—13th April 2025

EAI Conference

10th May 2025

NPP Workshop

2nd—6th June 2025

14th IMPR

14th—19th July 2025

IWGP

21st—25th July 2025

We are always keen to receive newsletter content, especially from our non-UK members. We accept short research pieces, thesis abstracts, conference announcements and calls for papers, and are always open to other suggestions.

To submit please email word documents and images to:

newsletter@envarch.net

Next deadline for content is 20th April for inclusion in the May newsletter

Daisy Spencer & Evi Margaritis