

Association for Environmental Archaeology

Newsletter 78 November 2002

ISSN 1363-6553

Edited by Wendy Carruthers and Vanessa Straker

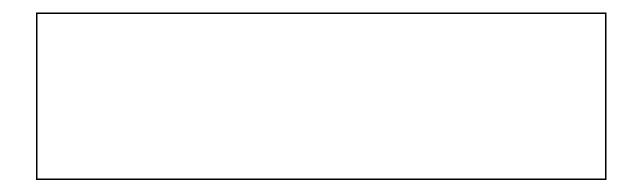
Copy dates for Newsletter: 20th of the following months - January / April / July / October.

Sho	Contents		;.
Edit	orial	1	
Cha	nge of Address	1	
New	s from the Committee	2	
The	Holocene	5	
Con	ferences & Meetings	6	
Pala	eopathology Course	7	
Adv	ertisement	8	
The	Murphy Collection	8	
Pub	lications	9	
——— Form	ns	15&16	

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AEA website http://www.envarch.net/



EDITORIAL

This issue of the Newsletter includes a report on matters discussed during the AGM at Bournemouth University in October. We would like to remind anyone planning to attend the Annual Conference in Belfast next April that they need to register no later than $\mathbf{20}^{th}$ February $\mathbf{2003}$ if they require accommodation and wish to attend the conference dinner. Information about the conference and a booking form are provided in this Newsletter.

We are grateful to Peter Murphy for his article on archived environmental remains from the East of England, and would be happy to receive more information about accessible archive collections for future issues of the Newsletter.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Peter Murphy has moved to:

English Heritage, East of England, Brooklands, 24 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2BU.

Direct dial: 01223 582759 Fax: 01223 582701

E-mail: peter.murphy@english-heritage.org.uk

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 19 OCTOBER 2002

At the AEA AGM in Bournemouth, a review of the committee's activities was presented along with elections for new committee members and a vote to amend the constitution. A summary of the main items, announcements and reminders is presented below:

CONFERENCES UPDATE

Publications

Publications stemming from the 1999/2000 Guildford conference, the joint AEA/NABO Glasgow conference (2001) and the one-day meeting in Birmingham (2001) are progressing well. The Guildford volume should be out later this year, or early 2003 at the latest, and the Glasgow volume should be published in 2003. For a full list of papers in the volumes, please see the website: http://www.envarch.net/aeaconferences.html.

Forthcoming conferences/meetings

The spring 2003 conference is in Belfast, organised by Nicki Whitehouse, Eileen Murphy, Finbar McCormick, and Gill Plunkett. The conference theme is *Worlds Apart? Human settlements and biota of islands*. More details about the conference are given below.

2004 is the 25th Anniversary of the AEA and, as announced at the last AGM, the conference is due to be held in Bad Buchau (hosted by Ralf Baumeister [Director of the Federseemuseum] and Helmut Schlichtherle [Director of the Landesdenkmalamt]). This conference will take place in early September and more details should be available in the not too distant future.

An offer has been received from King Alfred's College, Winchester, to hold the 2005 spring conference there.

Meetings in 2002

Two very successful one-day meetings were organised this year. Eileen Reilly arranged an Irish AEA meeting in Dublin in March and Helen Smith, Mark Maltby, Ellen Hambleton, and Sheila Boardman hosted the autumn one-day meeting in Bournemouth in October. Thanks are extended to the organisers of both these meetings.

Thanks are also extended to David Smith for his efforts towards organising an AEA fieldtrip. Unfortunately, due to low take-up, the fieldtrip did not take place.

JOURNAL UPDATE

Volume 7 of Environmental Archaeology will be distributed in November/December as usual.

As announced in the May 2002 Newsletter, Volume 8 (2003) will have two issues. Members are encouraged to keep on submitting articles to the Co-ordinating Editor of the journal (see http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/A-C/ap/envarch/index.html).

WEBSITE UPDATE (http://www.envarch.net)

The AEA has a new webmaster: Rob Craigie (<u>r.craigie@sheffield.ac.uk</u>) based at the University of Sheffield. Please send in items and ideas for the website to him. Feedback is also welcome, which can either be sent to Rob or the committee (via <u>cp24@le.ac.uk</u>)

Many thanks are extended to Mark Beech, the webmaster until October, who redesigned and ran the website since May 2000, with good wishes for his new position in Abu Dhabi.

Volumes 1-4 of *Circaea* (the former journal of the association) are now available on-line at: http://www.envarch.net/circaea.html. Gradually, all volumes will be made available as funds allow. There is also a plan to make James Greig's bibliography (as published in past AEA Newsletters) available on the website.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

The Newsletter is now largely circulated by e-mail, which has considerably reduced costs (see 'Treasurer's Report' below). The Newsletter Editors received a good response from their recent call for members who currently receive the paper copies of the Newsletter to transfer to e-mail. Any other members who have e-mail addresses, but have not informed the Newsletter Editors, are asked to get in touch. This can also be done on-line under 'change my AEA membership details' on the website (http://www.envarch.net/aeaform.html).

Members are reminded that it is possible to attach digital images to Newsletter items. These images will be put in the gallery on the website (http://www.envarch.net/gallery.html) and 'hyper-linked' to the Newsletter. Digital images to illustrate Newsletter items (jif or jpeg files please) should be sent to the Newsletter Editors.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The Membership Secretary, Ruth Pelling (membership@envarch.net), changed address this year. If you need to contact her, please use the address given at the top of the Newsletter.

Members paying by standing order who are not paying the correct amount (e.g. if you were a student member and are now a full member or have not updated your standing order to cover the last subscription rise) are kindly asked to contact the Membership Secretary (also see: http://www.envarch.net/memship.html). Only people who have paid their 2002 subscription in full will receive a copy of *EA*7.

CHARITABLE STATUS

There was an announcement in the August Newsletter that the AEA managing committee is currently considering applying for charitable status in the UK. If a successful application should be made, the main

advantage is that charitable status would allow the AEA to claim back tax for UK tax paying members. This would require those members affected to fill in a 'Gift Aid Declaration' form.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The accounts for 2001 were published in Newsletter 77 (August 2002). The accounts are more complex than in previous years because the Glasgow conference was administered through the account, but the main income is from subscriptions and the main expenditure on the journal.

Decreased costs associated with dissemination of the Newsletter by e-mail are being spent on development and maintenance of the website.

PROPOSED SUBSCRIPTION RISE

The second issue of *EA* volume 8 will be paid for from existing funds (a free' issue) but, unfortunately, there will have to be a subscription rise to continue production of two issues from 2004 onwards. There will be a vote on this in autumn 2003. The vote will be to maintain production of two issues of the journal per year, which includes a necessary subscription rise.

VOTE TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

The proposed amendments to make the AEA Treasurer an elected officer of the AEA were passed. The full constitution is available on-line at: http://www.envarch.net/constitution.html. The new sections now read:

- '10. The affairs of the Association shall be handled by a Management Committee which shall include nine ordinary elected members and an elected Chair, Secretary and Treasurer...
- 12. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting from the membership. Candidates for election must be members of the Association, and can be nominated by any member of the Association. Nominations must begiven to a member of the Managing Committee no later than the beginning of the AGM. The Chair and Secretary will normally serve until the third Annual General Meeting after the one at which they were elected. An outgoing ordinary committee member may be elected as Secretary, Treasurer or Chair. [Please note: this wording differs from that published in the August 2002 newsletter in the inclusion of 'Treasurer' in the last sentence.]
- 13. The Managing Committee may co-opt up to six members who may serve as membership secretary, a representative of the journal editorship and a representative of the editorship of the Newsletter until such time as they resign or are replaced by the Managing Committee. The Committee will review co-opted members annually, normally at the AGM or the first.'

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the AGM, Jacqui Huntley was elected Treasurer. Roel Lauwerier, David Robinson and Nicki Whitehouse were elected asnew ordinary members. Personal statements from Jacqui Huntley and Roel Lauwerier are given below (please see the August Newsletter for personal statements from David Robinson and Nicki Whitehouse).

The current committee consists of [elected term in]:

Jan Bastiaens (Gent) [2000-2003]
Allan Hall (York) – Chair [2000-2003]
Andy Howard (Leeds) [2001-2004]
Rupert Housley (Glasgow) [2001-2003]
Jacqui Huntley (Durham) – Treasurer [2002-2005]
Tim Mighall (Coventry) – Publicity Officer [2001-2004]
Carol Palmer (Leicester) – Secretary [2001-2004]
Roel Lauwerier (ROB, Amersfoort) [2002-2005]
Ruth Pelling (Oxford) – Membership Secretary [2001-2004]
David Robinson (CfA, Portsmouth) [2002-2005]
Helen Smith (Bournemouth) – Conference Officer [2000-2003]
Nicki Whitehouse (Belfast) [2002-2005]

Co-opted committee members

Wendy Carruthers (Llantrisant, Wales) – Co-editor of the Newsletter Glynis Jones (Sheffield) – Co-ordinating Editor of the Journal Vanessa Straker (Bristol) – Co-editor of the Newsletter

Full contact details of the committee can be found at: http://www.envarch.net/committee.html

The current committee extend their thanks to the retiring members: Megan Brickley, Otto Brinkkemper and Sabine Karg for all their efforts for the AEA.

BIOGRAPHIES OF NEW AEA COMMITTEE MEMBERS (not previously published in the August Newsletter)

Jacqui Huntley (English Heritage NE Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science, Department of Archaeology, University of Durham)

Jacqui Huntley kindly agreed to stand as Treasurer. She writes: "After being a member of the AEA since its inception and making good use of contacts and information provided by it in my own specialist work I feel that it is appropriate to return the favour. Therefore, I am willing to be nominated for the position of Treasurer to the Association of Environmental Archaeologists.

I have a wide experience of financial matters and am a thoroughly responsible and organised person. For about 10 years I was the Administrator of the Biological Laboratory within the Department of Archaeology at the University of Durham during which I organised and dealt with all contractual and financial matters from payment of the milk bill to keeping the books formajor pieces of post-excavation work. To be fair, the University dealt with formal auditing matters and the actual production of cheques although knowing, on a day-to-day basis, what funds were available in which code was both essential and very much up to me -Corporate finance being what it is. I learnt two different financial systems through this period (and have since learnt a third due to the University yet again changing systems) and became reasonably familiar with financial jargon. I still prefer plain English. I continue to manage my own research and English Heritage finances on that day-to-day basis as well as our family accounts. I manage routine, but sporadic, income/outgoings through continuing sales of the 1995 "Regional Review" and dealt with the finances of the 1993 (was it REALLY that long ago?) AEA Conference at Durham, organised by Sue Stallibrass and myself. I continue to keep accurate and up-to-date records, mostly of sites' data now, and see this as simply a matter of routine - the more immediately they are done the fewer the errors. Such record keeping, plus making sure that a spare set of calculator batteries is always in stock, are key to a good Treasurer - I have both!"

Proposed by: Carol Palmer, Seconded by: Rupert Housley

Roel C.G.M. Lauwerier (National Service for Archaeological Heritage (ROB), Amersfoort, the Netherlands)

"I am a senior researcher in archaeozoology at the Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek (ROB), the National Service for Archaeological Heritage. Weare part of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and are based at Amersfoort, The Netherlands. I studied Biology (Botany, History of Biology, Archaeozoology) at the Universities of Nijmegen and Groningen. In 1988 I completed my PhD on 'Animalsin Roman times in the Dutch eastern river area' (University of Groningen). Since my appointment at the ROB in 1990, I have published on various archaeozoological subjects from the Mesolithic until the 17th century, but with an emphasis on the Roman period. In the last few years, because the remit of my institute changed from 'pure' archaeological research to the development of applied knowledge for heritage management, I am increasingly involved with subjects such as degradation, the availability of information, the evaluation of sites, and gaps in our knowledge. I am a member of the International Committee of ICAZ.

Considering the present composition of the AEA Committee, I hope to give it some more archaeozoological input, and possibly my position as an archaeozoologist at an overseas heritage institute can contribute to the scope of the AEA."

Proposed by: Otto Brinkkemper, Seconded by: Henk van Haaster

AEA POSTERS AND MEMBERSHIP LEAFLETS

If you are attending a meeting/conference and would like to advertise the AEA, copies of the AEA poster (in English, Dutch, French, and German) can now be borrowed from Tim Mighall (gex043@coventry.ac.uk), the Publicity Officer, who can also supply membership leaflets.

DISCOUNTED SUBSCRIPTIONS

Readers are reminded that as AEA members they can obtain discounted subscriptions to the *Journal of Archaeological Science* (see: http://www.envarch.net/jas-discount.html) and *The Holocene* (see below).

ADVANCE NOTICE ON THE TIMING OF THE 2003 AGM

The next AGM will be held at the autumn 2003 one-day meeting rather than at the spring conference in Belfast.

AEA BOOKS

Allan Hall sends the following message:

With considerable uncertainties surrounding my post in the past 18 months I have been less active than I should have liked in promoting sales of books at a discount to AEA members. Sales of books by Albarella (ed), Brothwell and Pollard (eds) and Rixson were very successful, however, largely because I adopted a policy of canvassing members by e-mail, or through the *Newsletter*, and thus ensured a large part of the sales for any title in advance. This approach seems to me to be more effective than sales through a bookstall at meetings (which involves a deal of effort in transporting books to and fro, not to mention wear and tear on the books themselves, and the nuisance of a lot of unsold stock gathering dustin my office – not to mention the tying up of AEA funds!).

So for the future I think I will pursue this policy of establishing a core 'purchasing base' for titles in advance of buying them for the Association, using e-mail and the *Newsletter* as appropriate. But it would help me if members could alert me to newly-published titles they think they and other members would like to buy.

Perhaps I could use this opportunity to canvass members regarding the recently published *Festschrift* for our former Chair, Don Brothwell. The collection of papers, *Bones and the man*, edited by Keith Dobney and Terry O'Connor was recently published by Oxbow at £30.00 (currently listed on their Web site at http://www.oxbowbooks.com/bookinfo.cfm?&ID=52605). I will probably be able to buy it for AEA members with a 20% discount if we can get enough sales to make a bulk order of 15-20 copies. Would any member wishing to take advantage of this please let me know, preferably by e-mail to biol8@york.ac.uk?

Allan Hall, Department of Biology (Area 12), University of York, PO Box 373, York YO10 5YW

REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 'THE HOLOCENE'

A quick reminder of one benefit of membership of AEA – a reduced individual subscription rate to "The Holocene".

The Holocene (impact factor 1.979) is dedicated to fundamental scientific research on environmental change over the last 10,000 years including past, present and future change on local, regional and global scales. The reduced rate for 2003 is £91 (EU) US\$173 (USA/Canada) and £108 (Rest of world) - saving over 10% of the normal price. All subscribers receive free online access to the journal and the digitised back issues.

Visit the website <u>www.holocenejournal.com</u> for further details and to subscribe or request a sample copy. Alternatively contact:

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CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Worlds apart? Human settlement and biota of islands

Association for Environmental Archaeology Annual Symposium, School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Queens University Belfast, Belfast.

24th-26th April 2003

Islands play a central role in the formation of both environmental and social communities. This conference aims to bring together palaeoecologists, environmental archaeologists, archaeologists and social historians to explore these themes.

Ireland has a rich archaeology and natural history associated with islands, ranging from investigations of small islands and crannogs in lakes, islands in sea Loughs and inlets to of islands off the coast. In addition to these more obvious islands, there are areas of dry islands land within substantial areas of bog and floodplain, which have been *foci* for colonisation by fauna, flora and human inhabitants. However, people have also created their own social islands or isolated communities, on grounds of religious or cultural difference. The conference aims to explore how such environmental or social communities survived in such settings and the particular problems they faced.

Whilst one of the central themes will be the island palaeoecology, archaeology and history of Ireland, we are actively seeking contributions on any aspect of island research.

Key issues to be addressed include:

- The environmental archaeology of island communities, including the influence of marginality on them and their associated biota
- Island buffering mechanisms
- The use and perception of islands during particular periods
- The origin of island floras and faunas & the spread of non indigenous taxa
- Island biogeography
- Inter-relationships between dry and wet environments
- Isolation and inter-dependence within islands
- Creation of social islands or isolated communities
- Connections between islands (networks, relationships between islands and mainland/other communities)

Conference organisers: Dr. Nicki Whitehouse (n.whitehouse@qub.ac.uk), Dr Eileen Murphy (Eileen.Murphy@qub.ac.uk), Dr Finbar McCormick (f.mccormick@qub.ac.uk) Dr Gill Plunkett (g.plunkett@qub.ac.uk).

Deadline for submission of paper titles and abstracts (300 words max): 1st December 2002. These should be sent to the conference organisers either by email (aea-islands@qub.ac.uk) or by post to:

AEA Conference School of Archaeology and Palaeoecology Queens University Belfast University Road Belfast BT7 1NN

Conference Programme:

Thurs 24th April

Morning/afternoon: Academic sessions Evening: Wine Reception

Friday 25th April

Morning/Afternoon: Academic Sessions Evening: Conference Dinner

Saturday 26th

Morning/afternoon: Optional field trip to Co. Down (Lecale area)

Registration

This covers all academic sessions, tea and coffees and the wine reception. If you require accommodation and wish to attend the conference dinner, please register no later than the 20th February 2003. After this date, individuals will not be able to register for the dinner and will have to make their own accommodation arrangements.

Accommodation

Bed and Breakfast accommodation for the conference has been arranged at Queens, close to the conference venue. Accommodation comprises single rooms (not en suite), at £21 per person per night, including breakfast. For people wishing to stay over Saturday night, they will need to make their own arrangements.

Please see the booking form at the back of the Newsletter for details of costs.

Details of the field trip, maps, information on accommodation and transport and a full conference schedule and itinerary will be sent following receipt of booking form

If you require any further details, please address enquiries to the organising committee at the above address or email us on: aea-islands@qub.ac.uk

Palaeopathology Short Course

Organised by the Department of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford (U.K.) and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Professor Donald Ortner of the Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution, and Dr. Christopher Knüsel of the Department of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford, announce the 6th European Palaeopathology short course that will take place from Sunday 10th August (arrival and registration) through Friday 22nd August 2003, at the University of Bradford, in its newly refurbished laboratories.

This course will again cover topics in the study of health and demographic characteristics of past human populations, including age estimation and sex determination, estimates of body proportion and stature from human remains, specific and non-specific infectious disease, degenerative joint disease, metabolic disease, congenital abnormality, stress indicators, dental disease, activity-related skeletal change, and the use of histological techniques in the differential diagnosis of ancient disease.

Course lecturers will include, in addition to Professor Ortner, Dr. Megan Brickley (Birmingham), Dr. Alan Cooper (Oxford), Dr. Mary Lewis (Bournemouth), Dr. Simon Mays (English Heritage), Dr. Charlotte Roberts (Durham), and Prof. Michael Schultz (Göttingen), as well as Mrs. Anthea Boylston, and Drs. Knüsel, Alan Ogden, Mike Richards, Holger Schutkowski, and Darlene Weston from Bradford. This course will, again, include a lecture on the use of ancient DNA to complement and extend the macro and microscopic analysis of palaeopathological conditions and, for the first time, it will also cover isotopic analysis of human remains.

For further information and application forms, please contact:

Dr. Christopher Knüsel, Calvin Wells Laboratory, Department of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 1DP, United Kingdom, Tel: +44 (0)1274 233534, Fax: +44 (0)21274 235190, E-Mail: c.knusel@bradford.ac.uk

AMTeC Co-op Ltd Ancient Materials, Technology & Conservation

AMTeC now has an experienced archaeobotanist on the team specialising in post-excavation analysis of plant macro-remains and molluscs.

For further information and the full range of services available please contact

Dana Goodburn-Brown, tel (0)1634 832627/ Danagb@Msn. Com or
Lisa Gray MSc, P.G.C.E.(Archaeobotanist),
tel (0)1795 590603/07812028697/email lgray@tiscali.co.uk

The Foundry, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent, http://csweb.bournemouth.ac.uk/consci/amtec/Amtec.htm

The Murphy Collection of biological remains from archaeological sites in the East of England

From January 1977 to June 2002 Peter Murphy was employed on contracts from English Heritage at the Centre of East Anglian Studies, University of East Anglia, where he worked initially as Environmental Archaeologist, more recently as Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science. Over that period plant and animal macrofossils were retrieved, assessed, analysed and published from numerous sites in the East of England (Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire, but not Bedfordshire). It has been decided that these macrofossils are best kept together as one collection, rather than being archived by

site or county, since this will ensure that material is readily accessible for future bioarchaeological researchers. It is housed at Norwich Castle Museum as the **Murphy Collection.**

The collection consists principally of plant macrofossils (charred, waterlogged, mineral-replaced, latex casts of impressions) and shells of land, freshwater, estuarine and marine molluscs. Flots and residues have generally been discarded due to problems of space, but some partly sorted flots including exceptionally high densities of macrofossils have been retained. Also included aresome remains of mineral-replaced insects, crustaceans, avian eggshell, coprolites, some phytolith preparations and mosses, as well as selected charcoal and wood samples which are interpretable unequivocally as fuel residues from specific processes or as structural components. Other categories of biological material from these sites, including foraminifera, palynomorphs, bones of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and small mammals are currently held by the specialists who worked on them, in most cases. Large mammal and human remains are mostly archived together with artefactual material from individual sites.

The material represents all periods from the Mesolithic to 16th century AD. It includes macrofossils from extensive rural survey/management projects (e.g. Hullbridge Survey (Essex coast), Fenland Management Project) and from many other rural sites. Urban excavations at Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, Thetford and other cities in the region are also represented. A full catalogue of the collection, which includes references to published reports, is available as an e-mail attachment from peter.murphy@english-heritage.org.uk.

Study of this collection by *bona fide* scholars is welcomed: contact <u>alan.west.mus@norfolk.gov.uk</u>. However, prior to any investigations involving destructive techniques of analysis there should be consultation with John Davies, Curator of Archaeology, Castle Museum, Norwich (john.davies.mus@norfolk.gov.uk) and the writer.

Peter Murphy, Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science, English Heritage, East of England, Brooklands, 24 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2BU.

Direct dial: 01223 582759 Fax: 01223 582701

E-mail: peter.murphy@english-heritage.org.uk

PUBLICATIONS

We are very grateful to James Greig for the following information. James writes;.

"Many thanks for publications received from Otto Brinkkemper, Michael O'Connell, Joyce van Dijk, Angela Kreuz and J.T. Zeiler. References gratefully received on jimi.gee@virgin.net (please note new email). This is a shorter list than usual as some sources could not be consulted."

BOOKS

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