



2005 Public Lecture Series
Manning Clarke Centre T6
7:15pm Wednesday November 16, 2005.

ANZAC COVE

A ROAD, A LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER, AND THE FUTURE OF ITS ARCHAEOLOGY.

Anzac Cove has been in the news lately for both the right and wrong reasons. The right reason was the celebrations in April of the 90th anniversary of the landings by Anzac soldiers. The wrong reason was that just prior to the celebrations a major roadwork programme was underway directly above the landing site which was widely reported in the media and caused a great deal of anxiety among Australians. Professional archaeologists, historians and heritage experts expressed concern over the lack of site identification, management and preservation and the changes to the landscape at Anzac Cove and the adjacent North Beach. The National Trust expressed their deep concern for the future of Anzac Cove and the archaeology of the battle fields and wrote a letter to the Prime Minister. As a consequence of the wide-spread concern the Australian Government conducted an inquiry into the event, the results of which were released in September 2005. This talk by Dr Peter Dowling, who visited the Anzac area before and during the road works, will discuss the meaning of the Anzac area to Australians, what happened during the road works, what sites were lost and might have been lost and what the future may hold for the archaeology of the area following additional planned road works in the Anzac area.

Dr Peter Dowling received his degree in biological anthropology and archaeology at ANU. He is Vice-President of the National Trust of Australia (ACT) and a member of the Australian Council for National Trusts. He visited the Anzac battlefields in January 2003 and again in April 2005.

All welcome, entry is by gold coin donation at the door.
 Please join us afterwards for light supper and a chat – find out how ‘down to earth’ archaeologists really are.

The Board of Aboriginal History Inc warmly invites you to the launch of

Many Exchanges: archaeology, history, community and the work of

Isabel McBryde



This book celebrates the work of Isabel McBryde. Her longterm contributions to the understanding of Indigenous culture and heritage in Australia are explored in this collection of valuable new cross-disciplinary studies by leaders in the fields of archaeology, history, heritage management, linguistics and anthropology.

Contributors include Robyne Bancroft, Phil Boot, Sandra Bowdler, Helen Brayshaw, Denis Byrne, Ann Curthoys, Iain Davidson, Jack Golson, Luise Hercus, Peter Hiscock, Dave Johnston, Rhys Jones, Roy Kennedy, Judith Littleton, Betty Meehan, John Mulvaney, Ken Mulvaney, Winifred Mumford, Mary Pappin, Michael Pearson, Peter Read, Andrée Rosenfeld, Jim Specht, Sharon Sullivan, Barbara Tjikatu, Robin Torrence, Marilyn Truscott, Sean Ulm.

**Thursday November 17, 6.00pm
Old Canberra House, Lennox Crossing
Australian National University**

*Building 73, at the end of Liversidge Street on
the right as you go towards the National Museum*

*The launch has been generously supported by
the Centre for Archaeological Research.*

rsvp

Ingereth Macfarlane
(02) 61250426
Ingereth.Macfarlane@anu.edu.au
or Rob Paton
0419 736 459
robpaton@iimetro.com.au

A second launch of the
book, by Dawn Casey, will
be held at the AAA AIMA
conference in Fremantle
on November 27, 2005

I wish to order ____ copies of Many exchanges: archaeology, history, community and the work of Isabel McBryde
A\$49.95 plus \$10 postage and handling

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Please send this order to:

sales email: aboriginalhistory@bigpond.net.au

phone/fax: +61 2 6230 7054 mobile: 0421 656 674

or mail to Aboriginal History Inc, 15 Ridley St, Turner ACT 2612, AUSTRALIA

or order online at www.aboriginalhistory.org

Intelligent Design - Thank God its not that big an issue here...yet.

The issue of doing something about Intelligent Design (ID) was brought up recently on the Ausarc List by Steve Nichols after Lateline's story "The Great Debate" on the 9th of November.

For those of you who do not know much about ID, their argument runs thus: I don't understand evolution, it must be wrong, therefore we are right. OK, I'm being a bit facetious, but it seems that all of the ID arguments are based on debunking the theory of evolution, not proving ID. Interestingly enough this can also be used to justify the teaching of Flying Spaghetti Monsterism (have a look at <http://www.venganza.org/> to see what I'm talking about).

"All opinions are not equal. Some are a very great deal more robust, sophisticated, and well-supported in logic and argument than others."

Douglas Adams

Douglas Adams once wrote, "There is such a thing as the burden of proof, and in the case of God...this has shifted radically. God used to be the best explanation we'd got, and we've now got vastly better ones. God is no longer an explanation of anything, but has instead become something that would itself need an insurmountable amount of explaining... I don't think the matter calls for even-handedness at all."

Barry Williams in his The Naked Skeptic column in Australasian Science asks, "Were we created by an intelligent designer or by a committee?" Williams points out several design faults - lower back problems that arise from our change to bipedalism, sharing the same channel for air and food that could lead to us choking, badly designed eyes with blind spots and other faults that make us susceptible to illusions, the difference in size between a baby's head the birth canal, etc. This all leads him to the conclusion that if we are created by a designer, then it is not a very intelligent one at all, in fact, it seems more likely to have arisen from a committee.

The idea of an intelligent designer leads to a circular argument: if we were created by an intelligent designer, then who created the designer? or the designers designer? This can go on forever until something good comes on TV so someone simply states that it must be a matter of faith, now lets go watch the Simpsons!

The Australian Academy of Science, in response to creationism, has stated that the theory of evolution is imperfect, and still the subject of study and modification - something that actually makes it a science! Creationism [and ID] are not open to empirical study - it is not science, it is an article of religious faith.

Alex Reisner in Australasian Science warns us that the ID movement is growing in power. Australia's Minister for Education, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson is opposed to ID replacing the theory of evolution, but is fine with the idea of it being taught alongside evolution - that it is about choice, reasonable choice. Proponents of ID are fond of claiming a balanced and reasonable approach. However, I wonder if a proponent of ID, when presented with irrefutable evidence of evolution (when, not if, it comes about), will change their view as any good scientist presented with irrefutable evidence would do? Actually, I wonder if there are any proponents of ID that are not Christians?

Relevant Links:

<http://www.actionbioscience.org/evolution/nhmag.html>
A fantastic series of articles by ID proponents and answers from evolutionists.

<http://skepdic.com/intelligentdesign.html>
An interesting coverage of ID by skeptics

<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/science/sciencespecial2/index.html?excamp=GGGNintelligentdesign>

The New York Times has been covering this issue as well

<http://www.intelligentdesignnetwork.org/>
The enemy!

Archaeological Science Conference

to be held at ANU

Australasian Archaeometry Conference 2005

December 12th -15th 2005

The 2005 Australasian Archaeometry Conference will be held at the ANU, Canberra, hosted by the Department of Archaeology and Natural History, RSPAS, and the Centre for Archaeological Research.

The 2005 conference contains sessions (lectures and workshops) covering all aspects of scientific applications (biological, physical and chemical sciences) in archaeology. We are encouraging theoretical and interpretative sessions as well as those discussing archaeometrical techniques both within and beyond Australasia.

Online registration, including secure online payment, can be found on the registration page. For other conference details, please go to the following web address: http://car.anu.edu.au/Archaeometry/archaeometry_conference.html

The conference offers the following sessions and events:

Sedimentary stratigraphic motifs and taphonomic modes

Plant microfossils and the archaeological record

Geoarchaeology and geochronology and the Australian archaeological record

Improving the marine chronology

Studies in archaeological Science

Plenary lecture, Archaeological Science: Why we are the future. Prof. Julie Stein, University of Washington

Poster session

Constructing fire histories - spoken papers

Innovative approaches to understanding technology

GIS and 'Legacy data' - spoken papers

GIS and 'Legacy data' - workshop

Constructing fire histories - workshop

Archaeology and conservation

Recent advances in artefact characterisation and material analyses

From the Australian Skeptics (thanks to John Edgar for posting this on the Ausarch list)

Someone complained that the year number 6009 in last week's birthday greeting to the universe was incorrect, as this is really only 6008. The Web Wrangler forbore pointing out to the correspondent that anyone who used to be a weather forecaster should be very careful about criticising the accuracy of anyone else. The complaint has been recognised, however, and the following update has been issued:

Take the numerals 6, 0, 0 and 8. Leave out the zeros because they mean nothing. Multiply the remaining two digits and you get 48. Everyone knows that 48 is 16+16+16, which can be said aloud as "One six, one six and one six". That gives three sixes, or 666. Is it any wonder that Satan chose this year to try to get Intelligent Design into Australian schools?

CANBERRA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2005-6 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

The Canberra Archaeological Society was formed in 1963 to cater for the needs of all people interested in archaeology. The Society holds monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month (Feb to Nov). Meetings are held in Lecture Theatre 6 of the Manning Clark Theatres at 7.30pm.

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

Family \$40

Single \$30

Concession \$20

Please return membership form with payment to:

The Treasurer, Canberra Archaeological Society
LPO Box A86
Australian National University
Canberra ACT 2601

Cheques should be made payable to: CANBERRA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

The monthly newsletter, Old News, is sent out by email by default. Please indicate if you would rather have it mailed, or you can access it via our webpage: www.cas.asn.au

Be sure to turn up early to this months talk as there will be a light supper provided..also the AGM.

This is your chance to become a part of the CAS committee and have a direct say in what goes on. All you need is to turn up on the night and put yourself forward for a position and be seconded (traditionally these things don't have huge turn-outs, so if you show up you should get in!). Can't make it on the night? No problem! Just email us at contact@cas.asn.au with your details and have a proxy vote.

2005 Lecture Series

7.30pm in Manning Clark Theatre 6 (unless specified)

Date	Speaker	Title
16 March	Mal Booth	Fire Support Patrol Base Coral: Using Material Culture to Reveal What Happened One Night in May, 1968.
20 April	Mike Austin	Environmental catastrophes: new lessons from history?
18May	Dr Josephine Flood	The Aboriginal Story in the ACT from deep past to moth hunting
15 June	Kim Owens	Farmers, Fishers and Whalers: The settlement landscape of Lord Howe Island
20 July	Peter White	Axes and Are: stone tools of the Duna and their implications
17 August	Richard Hekimian	Edlington's Cottage: The CAS dig at the Duntroon Dairy
21 September	Kath Szabo	The Ebb and flow of tradition in an island world: Shell beads in island Southeast Asia
19 October	Mike Morwood	Little Women: discovery of a new human species in Indonesia and the consequences.
16 November	Peter Dowling	Archaeology and the ANZACs

2005 CAS COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Sylvia Schaffarczyk	sylvia.schaffarczyk@anu.edu.au C/- School of Archaeology and Anthropology, ANU ACT 0200
Treasurer	Peter White	(02) 62589354 pkwhite@netspeed.com.au
Public Relations Officer	Kristie Martin	Ph: 62369343 or 0403632443
Webmaster	Denise Sutherland	
Newsletter Editor	Richard Hekimian	u3172184@anu.edu.au Ph: 0417 417 139
Members	Graham Connah	Bob Legge
CAS E-mail	contact@cas.asn.au	
CAS Web page	www.cas.asn.au	

Committee members 2006

Want to become more active in what goes on in the society?

Got some good ideas about what we should be doing?

Want to get more contacts or work on your networking within the field?

If you are a student, just remember that this is exactly what future employers are looking for...and it only takes one day a month!

The President organises events and speakers as well as overseeing the general running of the society.

Vice-President helps out the president (and occasionally fills in for them).

Treasurer is just what you would imagine it to be: you look after the money.

Newspaper Editor is dead simple - just cut and paste things into the template and send it out, easy!

Publicity Officer organises posters as well as announcements on community notice boards.

Secretary takes minutes at meetings and does other amazing things.

Members hang around and look cool (and other assorted duties as they arise).

Nominations to these positions will take place at the last meeting of the year (16th November). Ask any of the current members if you are interested and we will tell you all you need to know...and some things you may not want to know!

Call for contributions

We've had a few articles written by CAS members for Old News...have you got something archaeologically interesting to say? An anecdote? A joke!?...contact the editor at the details below....seriously, this is your newsletter, and it can only be as interesting as you make it!

Ad Space

Got anything archaeological to advertise? If you know of, or are running fieldwork this year and you need volunteers, or you want to volunteer for work, then drop us a line, and we'll advertise it for you in Old News. Websites and archaeological events are also welcome!