

# August 2008

### BU Marine Archaeology experts uncover wreck Poole harbour reveals an ancient relic

Marine Archaeology experts from BU have uncovered a rare wooden carving from a 17th century shipwreck off the Dorset coast. The carving of a 'merman' is a major discovery retrieved by students and staff from the Swash Channel near the entrance to Poole Harbour. But the presence of a warm water ship worm in both the carving and in timbers of the wreck that remain underwater could prove to be an even more important find. Paola Palma (photographed below) and Dave Parham from Conservation Sciences believe that the highly destructive species of ship worm they have detected - Lyrodus pedicellatus – poses a major threat to the wreckage and to other timber structures along Britain's coast.

Over the last two years, Paola's expertise has proved invaluable to English Heritage which commissioned her to perform an environmental scoping study for the stabilisation of the Swash Channel shipwreck. She has monitored the degradation of the wreck and is currently experimenting with a number of techniques to ensure its preservation. Just this week Paola presented a paper on the project at the World Archaeological Conference in Dublin.



School Of Conservation Sciences

+44 (0) 1202 965178



## Student wins accolade Top of the tree for CS

Victoria Schorn, who graduated from BSc Archaeology in 2007, has just been awarded the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology Student Dissertation Prize. The competition was open to both undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations from all UK universities. Victoria's dissertation was entitled '4-5 St Michael's Street (SOU 1346) and York Buildings (SOU 175): An analysis and interpretation of the faunal remains'. Victoria has been awarded a cash prize, annual membership of the Society and an invitation to attend the next SPMA conference. This success highlights the excellent quality of research being undertaken by our archaeology students, particularly in the field of zooarchaeology at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

consci@bournemouth.ac.uk



#### BU Professor Making History at Stonehenge The media heads for ancient stones en masse

**Professor** Tim Darvill, Director of BU's Centre for Archaeology, Anthropology & Heritage, is leading scientists and students in excavating a site among the stones at Stonehenge. The twoweek excavation funded by the BBC, filmed the project for broadcast as part of the popular 'Timewatch' television series. This is the first excavation permitted within Stonehenge in over 40 years. Professor Darvill, who is joined at the ancient monument by Professor Geoff Wainwright, President of the Society Antiquaries, said: "It is an incredibly exciting moment and a great privilege to be able to excavate inside Stonehenge."





School staff have been out in the field at Lyme Regis to offer up their specialist advice. Over 400 metres of the Jurassic Coastline collapsed onto the beach to the east of Lyme Regis in May. The remains of a landfill tip, dating back to the Victorians, also slid down onto the beach.



#### **Pilton Man lives**

Dr Miles Russell, from the School of Conservation Sciences, has just published much of his work on Piltdown Man via the School of Conservation Sciences website. This section features a wealth of information relating to the fascinating story and also contains many rarely seen photographs. You can explore his work, view the intriguing archive images and learn more about Piltdown Man by visiting the pages at the Centre for Archaeology, Anthropology & Heritage. www.bournemouth.ac.uk/ caah/



**School Of Conservation Sciences** 

+44 (0) 1202 965178 consci@b

consci@bournemouth.ac.uk

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## Making national news CS in the Media

**Conservation Sciences staff** are much in demand by the media when it comes to all things forensic. The University was featured in a Sky News report in relation to the unfortunate recent events that have occurred in Jersev. Sky News filmed numerous members of the ConSci forensic and archaeological staff demonstrating their state-of-the-art equipment which is used to locate skeletal remains.Conservation Sciences was also featured on local channel Meridian News in a report which gave a fascinating insight into the world or forensics, mass graves and also the excellent range of courses being pioneered by Ian Hanson and his team here at the School.

#### In pictures: Summer Short Courses 2008 season proves as popular as ever



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#### BU staff and students lend a helping hand

#### New exhibition opens to the public

A new mini-exhibition School Life Before St. Barbe Museum, was launched at St. Barbe Museum, Lymington on Friday 25th April. The exhibition was opened by the Mayor of Lymington & Pennington, Cllr Pauline Elsworth who commented "People are interested in the history of their old school and this new

display brings the building's past to life". The new miniexhibition has been produced by students of Bournemouth University's MA Museum Studies course. It charts the story of the school that occupied the museum building from 1836 until 1991. It known as the National School before changing to Lymington C of E in 1909.



## **Blood is thicker than water**



BU academic Amanda H. Korstjens describes the importance of kinship in monkey society in her chapter in a new book on Early Human Kinship (Blackwell Publishing) sponsored by the Royal Anthropological Institute, in conjunction with the British Academy. The book brings together studies from leading figures in the biological sciences, social anthropology, archaeology and linguistics to investigate the role of kinship in human evolution and the nature of society.

#### **CS Recent Events**

Short Courses and Field Schools

- Forensic Photography 2-5 June 2008
  A serious crime has been discovered. Cordons have been set up, and CSI's must carefully examine the scene to identify and record evidence using a range of photographic skills. Will there be enough time to record everything and charge the suspect before they have to be released?
- Mass Graves 6-12 July 2008
- Peacekeepers find disturbed ground in the forest; an international team are called in to investigate a scene that is thought to be a killing field and mass grave. How many sites are there? Are the perpetrators still at large? How many people are missing?
- Forensic Photography for Human Rights Investigations 7-10 July 2008

• Mass graves and killing fields have been discovered in the forest. All search, location and recovery processes and evidence need to be photographed. Can the scenes be photographed before evidence is lost? How can the complexity of the scenes be accurately recorded?

Temporary Mortuary 15-18 July 2008
Mass graves containing the missing have been excavated in the forest. An international team has been brought in to set up a temporary mortuary and identify the dead brought from the grave. How many people have been found? Do they match the missing person's lists? Can the team cope with additional fatalities from an air crash?

• Forensic Photography for Major Incidents 21-24 July 2008

• At a regional airport, a passenger jet veers off the runway at take off after reporting an explosion on board, and hits another aircraft. A specialist team is sent to examine and recover evidence and fatalities from the crash scene. Can the scenes be photographed before evidence is lost? How can the complexity of the scenes be accurately recorded?

Air Crash Investigation 22-25 July 2008
At a regional airport, a passenger jet veers off the runway at take off after reporting an explosion on board, and hits another aircraft. A specialist team is sent to examine and recover evidence and fatalities from the crash scene. Was it a bomb? Will the evidence be found?

2008 Knowlton Field School

2008 Wiggold Field School

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