

October 2007

CS staff member made Freeperson of Korean province Reward goes to to ConSci programme leader

Chris Wood from Conservation Sciences was recently rewarded by the Republic of Korea for his work in helping to secure that nation's first ever natural site inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Specialising in geo-conservation and protected areas management, Chris advised Korean scientists and heritage managers on the building of their nomination, which focused on the 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the landforms of the large shield volcano, Mount Halla. The volcano forms the whole of the island of Jeju, an autonomous province lying off the south coast of the Korean peninsula. In recognition of his work Chris was awarded the freedom of the province.

Meeting in New Zealand in July, UNESCO's World Heritage Committee agreed inscription of Jeju Island principally in recognition of its internationally important lava tube caves. Inscription of the Korean nomination was unanimously supported by the members of the World Heritage Committee. In fact, Chris has cause to doubly celebrate, because another site he advised on - the great volcanic edifice and caldera of the Las Cañadas volcano (partly protected by the Mt Teide National Park), Tenerife, Spain - was also inscibed in July. Full story...



Photo courtesy of Cave Research Institute of Korea



Minister digs for facts VIP visit for School project

Margaret Hodge, Minister of State for Culture, Media and Sport, met staff and students from the School of Conservation Sciences as part of a private fact-finding tour of Stonehenge. Dr Kate Welham, Senior Lecturer in Archaeological Science, and her team were undertaking excavations at Stonehenge as part of the Riverside Project, being carried out by the Universities of Sheffield, Bristol, Manchester and Bournemouth as well as University College London and Wessex Archaeology. The teams were digging around Woodhenge, Durrington Walls and the Stonehenge Cursus to find out more about these sites and their link to Stonehenge. Ms Hodge was invited by English Heritage and was accompanied by Cllr Paul Sample, Leader of Salisbury District Council. Full story...

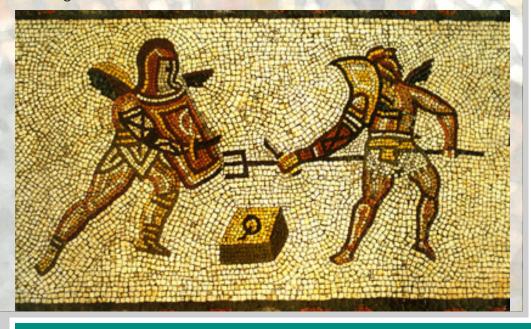


What did the Romans ever do for us? Find out at BU New Roman Archaeology programme is launched

A new BA programme in Roman Archaeology is due to start at Bournemouth University. The course, with its strong emphasis on practical field skills combined with the distinctive Roman period specialism, is the first of its kind in the UK.

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"The study of Roman archaeology is a long and well established discipline" said programme leader Dr Miles Russell "but this new, innovative programme is a very exciting development, bringing core archaeological survey and excavation skills and applying them directly to the Roman and classical past". With components encompassing aspects of material and artefact analysis, religion, military studies, urban development, trade and exchange, industrial processes, faunal remains, population data and the examination of early written texts, the three-year degree programme builds on the key strength of Archaeology, Anthropology and Heritage at Bournemouth University, namely its strong emphasis at all levels on applied practical and professional skills. The new programme takes its place, in the School of Conservation Sciences, alongside the highly popular existing courses in Archaeology, Field Archaeology, Prehistoric Archaeology, Forensic Archaeology, Marine Archaeology and Heritage Conservation.





Stonehenge survey

A group of second year students from the Archaeology and Historic Environment Group have been out surveying the landscape around Stonehenge this summer. The students have been working to complete a geophysical survey near the monument, and their results form an essential part of the Stonehenge Riverside Project. This large scale collaborative project that is jointly directed by Bournemouth, Bristol. Manchester and Sheffield Universities, and University College London and is represented at Bournemouth by Dr Kate Welham and Mark Dover. Dr Welham said that "This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop their professional skills and to be involved in a high profile project. National Geographic also filmed a documentary on the project this summer." Full story...

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Recent fieldwork...

Kenya and Mexico visits Professor Matthew Bennett

recently returned from fieldwork in both Kenya and Mexico continuing his research in to Quaternary palaeoenvironments. Working in Kenya Matthew has been laser scanning early hominid footprints at a site near Koobi Fora on the shores of Lake Turkana with a team from Rutgers University in the USA. In Mexico Matthew continued his work on the NERC funded project into the early colonization of the Americas, as well as working on the sedimentary products associated with several volcanic flank collapses. The photograph shows the volcano Popoccatepetl across the Valsequillo Reservoir close to the site where early human footprints were found in 2003 by Professor Bennett.



Pioneering geotourism venture in Africa Opportunities for Maasai volcano area, Kenya

Having just completed a project that examined the geotourism potential of Kenya's Rift Valley volcano, Mt Suswa, Chris Wood from CS has now been asked to examine the feasibility of Suswa becoming Africa's first National Geopark. The request has come from the Mount Suswa Conservation Trust, a body created by the local Maasai community, supported by the Tourist Trust Fund of Kenya and the African Conservation Centre. The trust has recognised the special geological qualities of the volcano and the opportunities to enhance the income and living standards of the local people - a community of subsistence pastoralists - through the development of geotourism.

The first visit to Mt Suswa was to map and provide plans for the tourist development of the caves. Already a new access track is being created, which will bring tourists not only to the caves, but across the floor of the larger caldera and to spectacular viewpoints. The next stage will be to review the geotourism resources of the volcano and engage with Kenyan geologists in the formulation of a Geopark proposal to UNESCO. Full story...





7th Conference on Archaeological Prospection

Annual event convenes in Slovakia

Paul Cheetham, Kayt Armstrong and Bronwen Russell recently attended the 7th International Conference on Archaeological Prospection held at the Archaeological Institute of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Nitra, Slovakia. The conference is the principal forum for the archaeological geophysics community,

and in particular the members of the International Society of Archaeological Prospection (of which the three are members). Conducted over three days and comprising over 45 oral presentations and 32 poster presentations, the 2007 event was a well organised, friendly conference.

Full story...



2007 Local Studies Research Prize



The Jack Parsons Prize for Local Studies Research was set up in 2002 in order to recognise the best undergraduate project in some aspect of local studies. You can find out more from the Prizes for Students area of the ConSci website (www.bournemouth.ac.uk/ conservation/abouttheschool/ prizes_for_students.html) This year it's been presented to Helen Parvin for her work: Protection strategies for historic plasterwork at Corfe Castle, Dorset.

Read the abstract here...

CS Seminar Programme

Autumn Term All Students & Staff welcome

- Tuesday 9th October CS Seminar
- Dr Amanda Korstjens (Bournemouth University)
- The ecology of primate grouping patterns
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 16th October CS Seminar
- Sarah-Jane Hathaway (Bournemouth University)
- Iron Age Salt Production
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 23rd October CS Seminar
- Peter Oakley (Bournemouth University)
- The Politics of Paradise: managing cultural heritage at the Polynesian Cultural Center, Hawaii
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 30th October CS Seminar
- Dr Ross Hill (Bournemouth University)
- What has remote sensing ever done for conservation sciences? My 15 year contribution
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 6th November CS Seminar
- Dr Tim Phillips (Reading University)
- Inclusive, accessible, archaeology
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 13th November CS Seminar
- Dr Piotr Bienkowski (Manchester University)
- Authority and decision-making over British human remains: issues and challenges
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 20th November CS Seminar
- Brendan McNamara (Leabrook Computing, Bournemouth)
- Engineering Britain's Nuclear Future
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 27th November CS Seminar
- Jeremy Harte
- Three Coins in a Fountain: A Critical History of Holy Wells
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 4th December CS Seminar
- Dr Wei-Jun Liang (Bournemouth University)
- Inspecting the Vehicle for Vitamin C Transport
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm
- Tuesday 11th December CS Seminar
- Christmas Lecture
- Venue: CG23, 4.00pm