

Meet the Melbourne Archaeologists: Profiles of Speakers

Dr Angelo Andrea Di Castro

Dr Angelo Andrea Di Castro has a degree on Indian and Central Asian art history from the University of Rome "La Sapienza", where he studied with Prof. Mario Bussagli, a world authority on the arts of Central Asia and Gandhara. In 1998 he gained his PhD in "Archaeology, Relations between Eastern and Western Cultures" at the Istituto Universitario Orientale of Naples studying the archaeological material excavated by the joint Nepalese-Italian team at the site of Gotihawa, in the Nepalese Tarai. Dr Di Castro has participated in many archaeological projects in Italy, Nepal and Australia. He worked for several years at the Institute of the Italian Encyclopaedia and his publications include articles for academic journals and encyclopaedias dealing with classical, south and central Asian archaeology. Since 2003 he has taught Archaeology of the Indian Subcontinent at the University of Melbourne and at Monash University. He is associated to Monash Asia Institute where he conducts his research on trans-Himalayan relations in ancient and medieval periods, religious phenomena and archaeology and recently on the archaeology of Kashgar (Xinjiang, Western China).

Dr. Colin Hope

Colin Hope is the foundation director of the Centre for archaeology & ancient history in the School of Historical Studies at Monash University, where he has lectured since 1990. He is an academic associate of Museum Victoria and advisor on Egyptian art to the National gallery of Victoria, and a regular consultant to Art Exhibitions Australia. Prior to Monash he lectured at University of Melbourne and held post-doctoral fellowships at Macquarie University and University of Melbourne, and he was G. A. Wainwright Research Fellow for 5 years at the University of Oxford. He graduated from Liverpool University in Egyptology with Coptic and his PhD is from the University of London. Colin has excavated in UK, Jordan, Syria, Sinai and in Egypt since 1970; he specializes in the archaeology of Egypt and the eastern Sahara in the historic periods to Late Roman. Since 1979 he has worked annually in Egypt's western desert in Dakhleh Oasis and now directs the excavations at the Late Ptolemaic Period to Late Roman Period village of Ismant el-Kharab, and one of Dakhleh's ancient capitals at Mut el-Kharab, which was occupied from around 2700BCE until the medieval period.

Dr Gillian Bowen

Gillian Bowen is currently a Lecturer in the Centre for Archaeology & Ancient History, Monash University. Her PhD topic focused upon the Spread of Christianity into Egypt in Light of Recent Discoveries from Ancient Kellis, Dakhleh Oasis, Egypt. Gillian has been a member of the Dakhleh Oasis Project, Egypt, for 17 years. She is the senior researcher for the study of the archaeology of early Christianity for the Project. She has excavated three fourth-century churches at Ismant el-Kharab and is responsible for the publication of the Christian cemeteries at the site. Gillian is also the numismatics for the Project. Her other research areas include the textiles, basketry and leatherwork from the Dakhleh Oasis. Her current research project is the publication of a monograph entitled *The Christian Monuments from Kellis*.

Assoc. Prof. James A Peterson

Dr James Peterson, Founding Director for the School of Geography and Environmental Science Centre for Geographical Information Systems (1990-2005), is a Managing Co- editor of the e-journal APPLIED GIS. His publication record refers to over 80 peer-reviewed papers, and his post-graduate alma mater list includes over 40 thesis supervisions.

Dr Peterson has a BA (Hons) Tas, MSc (McGill) PhD (Monash) is not an archaeologist, but is always happy to join archaeological expeditions calling for collaboration from a terrain analyst capable of bringing his science to landscape reconstruction.

The experience behind what can be offered during such collaboration refers to terrain analysis in a range of environments, including the Sub-Arctic, the Arctic, New Guinea, the Sub-Antarctic and Antarctica, the Mediterranean (Crete and Sardinia) as well as various Australian environments.

In landscape reconstruction in the service of archaeologists Jim Peterson usually works with Lynette Peterson and Lucia Lancellotti-Kirk. Recently, he joined Dr Angelo Andrea Di Castro in planning the next phase of his field work on the edge of the Talakmakan Desert, Xinjian China.

Ms Lucia Lancellotti-Kirk

Lucia Lancellotti has a BA (Hons) in what was formerly the Dept. of Classics and Archaeology (Monash University) and a MA Degree in the School of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University. She is working towards the publication of sections of her MA thesis "Early Neopalatial Palaikastro: Interpretation of Minoan Remains and landscape" as part of the British School of Archaeology at Athens Volume on Palaikastro. During 1997-2001, Lucia has conducted offshore survey work, excavations and geophysical prospection as part of her archaeological research in Crete.

She is currently undertaking her PhD in the School of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University and her thesis topic "Archaeological landscapes in a changing environment; west central Sardinia from the Late Bronze Age to the Roman period", deals with the reconstruction of the ancient landscape of the area in question. Lucia has also worked on the material culture from the *SS City of Launceston* shipwreck in Port Phillip Bay while being employed at Heritage Victoria.

Lucia and Jim will be speaking on the challenge of interpreting the nature and distribution of archaeological surface finds in cities amid and including terrains that have been grossly modified since abandonment. The case study gives most attention to the Punic-Roman archaeological site of Neapolis in the Sardinian Campidano.

Dr Ian J. McNiven

Dr Ian McNiven is Senior Lecturer and co-director of the Programme for Australian Indigenous Archaeology in the School of Geography & Environmental Science at Monash University. His main research interests are the archaeology of Indigenous coastal peoples of Australia and the colonial history of archaeology. At present, his major research focus is the archaeology of maritime island societies of Torres Strait in NE Australia where he is investigating maritime rituals, seascapes and spiritscapes. His books include "Appropriated Pasts: Indigenous Peoples and the Colonial Culture of Archaeology (2005), Torres Strait Archaeology and Material Culture (2004), Australian Coastal Archaeology (1999), and Constructions of Colonialism: Perspectives on Eliza Fraser's Shipwreck (1998).

Dr Tim Denham

Tim Denham is a Research Fellow in the School of Geography and Environmental Science. He specializes in geoarchaeology, or the study of archaeological remains within their environmental contexts, and his research focuses on the development of early agriculture in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. He has been appointed to the School, and his 6-year

project will focus on the survey and excavation of rock-shelters and cave-sites along a Highlands to lowland transect in a remote area of Papua New Guinea.

Before studying the long-term history of New Guinea, Tim worked as an archaeological consultant based in Hawai'i for 3 years and in England for 2 years. He has undertaken and been involved in archaeological projects across the Pacific - including the Hawaiian islands, Palau, American Samoa, Marshall Islands, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands - as well as in England and the UAE.

Mr Jeremy Smith and Ms Cassandra Philippou

"Surf & Turf: Recent archaeological projects in Victoria", will focus on a new program designed to identify and manage Victoria's maritime infrastructure. Historic features such as piers and jetties, which fall between the divide of land and maritime archaeology, have not always received the attention and protection that they deserve. The talk will also discuss some of the findings, and the development of an interpretation scheme, from the Casselden Place excavation in Melbourne's historic "Little Lon" district.

Heritage Victoria is the central government agency responsible for the State's non-indigenous cultural heritage. Cassandra Philippou is a maritime archaeologist who researches, surveys and manages Victoria's shipwrecks and their relics. Jeremy Smith is Heritage Victoria's Senior Archaeologist, and specializes in land-based archaeological sites.

Mr Adam Ford

Adam Ford is a professional archaeologist with over 16 years experience in prehistoric, historic and industrial archaeology. While Adam is currently based in Victoria he has worked on excavations all over the world including research projects in the Caribbean, United Kingdom, Jordan, Syria and the United Arab Emirates. Graduating from the Institute of Archaeology in London, Adam has been the archaeological advisor to the British Ministry of Defence, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority and was the City Archaeologist for the City of Sydney. Adam's interests lie in new approaches to excavation and public archaeology.

Mr Uri Gilad

Uri Gilad is a PhD candidate in the School of Geography and Environmental Science and Monash Asia Institute at Monash University. His thesis focuses on modelling archaeological sites in the Kashgar region, China, by means of GIS and Remote Sensing.

His research interests include GIS modelling and mapping and digital image processing. His undergraduate and graduate degrees are in geography, GIS and Remote Sensing. Currently, he is also working as a GIS specialist in the 'Kuk' archaeological project in Papua New Guinea.