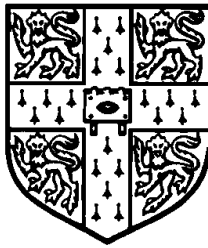

CAMQUA



The newsletter of the GODWIN INSTITUTE FOR QUATERNARY RESEARCH

ISSUE SEVENTEEN

MICHAELMASTERM 2000

Welcome to...

Sa'ad Al-Omari, who you may have seen since he graduated from the MPhil in 1999, is officially back with us from this October. He will be based in the Zoology Museum and working with Richard Preece on a PhD project looking at palaeoclimatic reconstructions from speleothems in the Persian Gulf.

Phil Hughes, who has just finished this year's MPhil. He started work as technician in the Geography Department at the start of last month. However, he will not be in this role for long, as he has been awarded a Domestic Research Studentship to work with Phil Gibbard on glaciation in the Mediterranean region.

Luke Skinner is also staying with us after the MPhil, and will be working in the Godwin Lab with Nick Shackleton on a PhD researching millennial-scale oscillations in the ocean record.

Mike Rampey, who in good GIQR style will be based in both Geography and Earth Sciences, studying Quaternary silicic volcanism in Afar, Ethiopia/Eritrea, and working with Clive Oppenheimer for a PhD.

This year's new intake of Quaternary MPhil students - George Speller (Downing) and Jenny Baker (Clare Hall).

James Zachos from Santa Cruz University is working in the Godwin Laboratory this term. We welcome him.

and good bye to...

Mick Frogley, Camqua and QDG stalwart, who leaves us after seven years for a lectureship at the University of Sussex in Brighton, which started on the 2nd of October. He is apparently particularly looking forward to the kiss-me-quick hats! Mick has contributed a lot to the GIQR while he's been here, and will be sorely missed.

Alex Chepstow-Lusty, who left us in the summer for sunny Montpellier, when his wife's job took the family there. He has, however, been sighted in Cambridge since, so watch this space for his return!

STAGE 3 PROJECT HAS WEB SITE

With a Workshop attended by Project members involved in reconstructing the climates and landscapes of Europe during Oxygen Isotope Stage 3 (c. 60,000 - 25,000 yrs BP), the Project entered its 5th and final Phase dedicated to interpretation and publication of its findings.

For this occasion, the Project acquired a page in the web site of the Department of Earth Sciences. At present, the site holds a history and description of the Stage 3 Project, a list of members and copies of the most recent newsletters, STAGE 3 NEWS 8 and STAGE 3 NEWS 9 which are rich in content. Other items of interest will appear from time to time.

We express our thanks to William Davies who, with essential aid from Andy Buckley and Pete Wilkinson and a few others, constructed the site. William remains in charge of its upkeep for the foreseeable future.

The address of the Stage 3 site is:

<http://esc.cam.ac.uk/oisstage3/Details/>

Homepage.html

Pollen in carpets and rugs

Wall-to-wall carpets and rugs act as effective pollen traps, in addition to gathering dust. In some homes where the inhabitants are allergic to pollen the carpets have therefore had to be removed. As an example of the pollen content in a carpet and rug a sample of dust less than 0.5 cubic cm was taken from a vacuum cleaner in November 1999, from a studio flat in the 5th floor of Mayflower House, Manhattan Drive, Cambridge. The sample was treated with KOH before being mounted for counting. Even if the total number of counted pollen was only 59 the list shows that the amount of pollen of grasses was comparatively high and that the variety of tree pollen was great. The pollen content was the following:

Trees: Alnus 3, Betula 7, Carpinus 2, Corylus 2,
Fraxinus 4, Pinus 8, Quercus 3, Tsuga 1

Shrubs: Salix 8

Herbs: Chenopodiaceae 1, Plantago lanceolata 1,
Poaceae 13, Rosaceae 2, unidentified 4

J. Donner

Diary

Quaternary Discussion Group

Michaelmas Term

Friday 3rd November Prof. Nick Shackleton,
GIQR, Cambridge
*Towards an understanding of the 100,000 year glacial
cycle*

Friday 27th November Dr. Godfrey Hewitt,
Biological Sciences, UEA
The Genetic Legacy of the Quaternary Ice Ages

Meetings are held at 8.30pm at West Court, 11 Herschel
Road, Cambridge, and further information may be
obtained from Dr John Stewart (jrs49@cus.cam.ac.uk),
McDonald Institute (x39353)

Wednesday 11th October
Introduction to and launch of Earth Link Seminar Series
(see <http://www.esc.cam.ac.uk/~jd10006/SedLunch/>)
4 pm, Harker Room, Earth Sciences

Wednesday 11th October Prof Rhys Jones
Australian Nat'l University
Dating the first Australians
4pm, Seminar Room, Dept of Biological Anthropology

Thursday 12th October Prof Aaron Yair
Cambridge
The ambiguous impact of climate change at the desert fringe
4.15p.m., Seminar Room, Department of Geography

Thursday 12th October Prof Gordon Hillman
Inst. Arch., UCL
*Terminal Pleistocene environmental events and the
beginning of agriculture in South-West Asia*
5.00p.m., G22, Pearson Building, UCL+

Wednesday 18th October Nick Mc Cave, Brian Dade,
Alan Smith
Deep Sea Fans - various aspects
1.10p.m., Harker Room, Earth Sciences

Thursday 19th October Prof Peter Crane
Kew Gardens
The history of flowering plant diversity
4pm, Large Lecture Theatre, Plant Sciences

Wednesday 8th November Sarah Poynter, Clare Davies,
Nick McCave
Delta deposition - various aspects
1.10p.m., Harker Room, Earth Sciences

Wednesday 15th November Ben Clarke, Peter Friend,
Keith Richards

Cenozoic sediment fluxes
1.10p.m. Harker Room, Earth Sciences

Thursday 16th November D. Smith
*Sea surface rise during the early and middle Holocene in NW
Europe*
7.30p.m., Coventry *

Thursday 23rd November Prof Clive Gamble
Southampton
*The long and the short of it, or how abrupt is abrupt?
Generational-scale events in the Palaeolithic.*
5.00p.m., G22, Pearson Building, UCL+

+Ask Dr Andrew Garrard (a.garrard@ucl.ac.uk).

*Ask Dr Mike Field (Tel: 024 76888428, e-mail:
apx126@cov.ac.uk).

Want to be famous?

Ruth Banger in Earth Sciences library wants your thesis! The
eventual aim is to have all relevant PhD theses on open loan
in the library. To this end, people who've completed their
PhD in the last 4-5 years, and everyone who will subsequently
finish are asked to talk to Ruth (x33429). She is willing either
to pay for production of a new copy, or to take the second
BOGS copy.

Websites

Not only does the QPG site at: <http://www-qpg.geog.cam.ac.uk> tell you all about the research that's
happening over in Geography, but it also provides useful
links to all sorts of related sites. Check it out..

Want to send your friends geological e-cards? Go to [http://
sts.gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/tsdweb/landf_new.asp](http://sts.gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/tsdweb/landf_new.asp) for pictures and
explanations of the landscape features

Deadlines

Copy for the next issue of *Camqua* should be submitted
by **Friday 12th January, 2000** to the editor at the
Geography Department. If you want a bigger issue than
this one, then give me something to put in it!

Credits

Editor: Becky Briant (rms1005@hermes)

Camqua would like to thank the Department of Geogra-
phy for supporting the production of this issue.
