

TIME TRAVEL

Australia

WINTER 2003

Summer and autumn passed without a newsletter – again. Sorry about the delay however I am sure you all receive enough junk mail.

We have just returned from a tour of Spain . It was a fantastic trip and we all had a great time, although there were a few grumbles about the hot weather toward the end. Summer had arrived a month early and we experienced a little more heat than expected, with many days in the mid 30's. A couple of days rest on the Mediterranean coast was certainly appreciated toward the end of the tour.

For the first time we included an art history component in the tour. Oscar Del Pozo accompanied me for the first half of the tour. From 12 th Century *retablos* to Picasso, with his knowledge of art and art history Oscar led us through the history of Spanish art and enabled a much better understanding of the works on display. Oscar made a valuable contribution to the tour overall and will, hopefully, become a permanent fixture on this tour – as long as he doesn't get lost!

A couple of points worth relating – driving across the plains of La Mancha we were approaching a small village when we saw a shepherd with a small flock of sheep. The shepherd was standing on the edge of the road with a scruffy dog trying to keep the sheep away from the traffic. He was an older gentleman and was leaning on his crook, as we approached he grabbed for his pocket to answer a mobile phone – there is no escape!

The second relates to menus that have been helpfully translated into English for us poor folk who cannot understand the local language. We all have a few favourites but we came across a gem in El Burgo de Osma. I embarrassed myself by laughing so much, however the waitress herself giggled when the error was explained to her. The menu contained a few fine examples including 'chicken of cooked farmyard' (*pollo de corral guisado*), muttonchops whisker (*chuletillas de dordero*) and 'beans of Burgo with ears and snouts' (*alubias de Burgo con oreja y morrera* – not really an incorrect translation but worth a mention). *Postres caseros y helados* came out as 'Prostrate Landlords and Ice Creams'.

The field work in Chile is continuing with a season planned for March 2004. Professor Calogero Santoro visited Canberra in January 2003. The fires were a bit of a shock to him and he wondered if such devastation was a regular occurrence! Despite the dramas, we were able to discuss the continuation of the project. He has selected a pre-ceramic site in the Lluta Valley for excavation. The site was first examined in 1999 and a

carbon date of 3,900 years BP obtained. It was found to be a camp site with artefacts, burnt bird bones, feathers and shells. Similar sites to the north have been dated to over 10,000 years old and it is hoped that this site will provide a similar basal date.

The site is only 10km from the coast and we will be able to utilise a camping ground with cabins near the beach for accommodation. We can travel back and forth by bus (hopefully driven by Luis) each day. The plan is to work over a 14 day period but we will take a couple of breaks to visit to several other sites in the area.

I will organise a short tour (7-10 days) after the excavation if any participants wish to visit Lake Titicaca, Cuzco and Machu Picchu .

The field workshop at Kioloa continues unabated. We completed a fourth weekend of digging in March and the enthusiasm only increases. We conducted an advanced workshop last time to allow previous diggers to participate again while learning a few new skills. I thought it was a good idea at the time but now have to come up with an advanced advanced course for those who want to come back for a third time! It must be the cooking.

On a more serious note, we originally thought that the excavation would reveal the rubbish of the logging camp at Kioloa. Things are never quite as they seem and after four sessions of excavation we are beginning to put together a better view of the site. We have reached the basal layer and the age of artefacts appear to cluster tightly around the 1940s, not old enough for the logging camp.

Students have been taking home-work away with them and conducting research into various items they had dug up. One enthusiastic couple chose to investigate some barbed wire – they must lead exciting lives! Their results suggested that the wire was the type used by the military. First clue (actually the second, I won't reveal the first but those who were there may recall what I am referring to). The large number of dry cell batteries also suggested that the site may not have been associated with logging. These were expensive items and could have been used for radio transmitters. The more we excavated and collected, the less the assemblage resembled that of a rubbish tip – few food scraps, not a lot of burning, lots of dry cell batteries. Another clue came to light when a certificate of appreciation was noticed hanging on the wall of the dining room. The RAAF had thanked Mrs London (the former owner of Kioloa) for her assistance during World War II.

We now believe that a WWII coast watch station was located on the Kioloa property and we have been excavating what was left behind when the station was abandoned. Documentary research is continuing. As luck would have it, a local identity now living in Canberra had some correspondence that once belonged to the officer who was in charge of WWII coast watch stations along the South Coast . Luck comes in two forms, both good and bad. The January bushfires in Canberra destroyed the entire collection! Research continues and I will keep you appraised as we try to establish what really did go on at Kioloa.

Our next workshop is planned for November 2003. Details are included later in the newsletter.

AN INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

KIOLOA, MARCH 2003

SUBMITTED BY LOUISE LATHOUWERS

Those who knew me were surprised that I chose to do an Introduction to Archaeology weekend. Those who knew me *well* however, were not. I love learning something new – especially involving acquiring skills and information a little removed from the routine of ordinary life. Throw in the chance to do so on the beautiful NSW south coast with likeminded souls and maybe a glass or two of wine in the evenings and of course I'll be there.

Chris Carter and Michael Tracey were generous and gracious hosts who facilitated a wonderful weekend. And they knew stuff about archaeology as well! The course was a well balanced mix of informative lectures, slide shows, field trips into the local area, practical experience in basic archaeological skills and the aforementioned glass or two of wine amongst good company in the evenings.

The ANU Coastal Campus was the perfect setting for such an introduction. The accommodation was as advertised; basic but very clean and perfectly comfortable for our stay. Our voracious appetites (must be the sea air) were well catered for by Michael's excellent daughter, Elizabeth.

After lunch and registration on Friday we enjoyed slides and Chris' wisdom, both collected from his extensive archaeological world travels. Late afternoon we set out to inspect two local Aboriginal sites (handy hint #1 insect repellent). Nibbles and a few drinks in the early evening had everyone waxing lyrical on many archaeological topics. Those who had a willingness to learn asked questions which both Chris and Michael, as well as the advanced students were happy to answer. The storm and temporary blackout broke no-one's enthusiasm – candles came out, tables were pulled under cover and the discussions continued. Once power resumed Michael gave a slide show that had everyone remembering and revising their high school science.

Saturday saw the lion's share of the activity – digging in our precisely measured holes (sides kept straight to impress the archaeologist), cleaning artefacts, recording and cataloguing. (handy hints #2 bring a nailbrush; #3 sunscreen on the small of your back.) In the afternoon we were led on a walk to view an Aboriginal axe grinding site and explore the local bush tucker on the way. Sat eve – more good food, more wine, even more animated conversation – after all, by this stage we were old friends! Chris provided post dinner entertainment with more slides and fabulous stories of his archaeological adventures. May I recommend that after spending a day with your head pointed toward the centre of the earth,

you flex those neck muscles and look to the heavens for a magnificent astral display.

Sunday was spent finishing off Saturday's incomplete tasks and comparing treasures with the other small working groups. After lunch we were a group very reluctant to leave, but leave we must. As a testament to how enjoyable the weekend was no less than 3 groups of new friends reformed in Berry to break the homeward journey and meet up for one last cuppa!

Thanks to all who were involved in making our introduction to archaeology so enjoyable and memorable.

See you at the next dig!

COURSES – 2003

RITUAL VIOLENCE & DEATH IN MESOAMERICA AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SYDNEY

~ 1.00PM, SAT. 11 OCT. 2003

Cultural violence in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica has been an area of interest to scholars since the time of the Conquest. Violence was manifest in many forms ranging from simple self-inflicted blood letting, through a number of human sacrificial rituals (including men, women and children) to the extreme – widespread cannibalism.

This seminar will discuss the archaeological evidence and how it compares to the historic record.

Contact TAMS Sydney on 93206381 for details.

ARCHAEOLOGY – AN INTRODUCTION

~ OVER 7 WEEKS FROM 21 OCTOBER, 2003.

A visual presentation of the development of archaeology; from the Antiquarian period through to modern theoretical approaches. Examples from Egypt, Mesopotamia and Europe will be used to demonstrate the discipline along with case-studies from the Americas, Australia and Oceania.

Contact ANU CCE on 02 61253891 for details.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND DEATH

~ OVER 4 WEEKS FROM 23 OCTOBER, 2003.

By examining skeletal remains, mortuary practices, burials, tombs and cemeteries, this course will discuss how archaeologists use such evidence to interpret how people once lived and how they responded to death.

Contact ANU CCE on 02 61253891 for details.

FROM NEANDERTHALS TO COLUMBUS – THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SPAIN (SYDNEY UNI)

~ 9.00AM TO 4.30PM, SATURDAY, 1 NOV. 2003.

This short course will examine the archaeology of Spain from the arrival of the first hominids nearly 1,000,000 years ago to the expansion of the Spanish Empire in the 15 th and 16 th Centuries.

Contact CCE at the University of Sydney on 02 93513281 for details.

ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD WORKSHOP

ADVANCED FIELD WORKSHOP

~ FRI/SAT/SUN 21-23 NOVEMBER, 2003

This hands-on workshop includes classroom lectures, site visits and practical workshops to learn the basic techniques of excavation and surveying as well as instruction in the field. We are excavating a rubbish tip dating from the beginning of the 20th Century and it has thus far proved to be a source of some very interesting material.

The advanced course will include continued excavation of the site as well as sessions recording a local prehistoric site.

The course will be conducted at the ANU Coastal Campus, Kioloa, south-coast NSW. Own transport to Kioloa required. Accommodation and all meals included.

Contact University of Sydney CCE on 02 61253891 for details.

SCHEDULED TOURS – 2004

CHILE: A LAND OF EXTREMES

~24 DAYS, FEBRUARY 2004

Led by Chris Carter

Travelling between 54 to 18 degrees south, this tour will take in the extremes of Chile : from the glaciers of the south to the absolute desert of the Atacama. We will explore the geography, geology and archaeology of the country and examine how the environment played an important part in cultural development of the region. We may also be lucky enough to see some rare wildlife including Darwin 's rhea, vicuña, condor, Humboldt's penguin and sea-otters.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK

~ ARICA , CHILE , MARCH 2003.

Fourteen days of field work are planned and will involve the excavation of an Archaic site (approx. 4,000 years old) in the Lluta Valley near Arica , Northern Chile . This work continues the project commenced in 2000. Apart from excavation and the sorting and cataloguing of artefacts we will also visit other sites in the area.

The project will be directed by Professor Calogero Santoro PhD of the Universidad de Tarapaca, Arica .

Full details will be available late in Nov. 2003.

FROM MOTHER GODDESS TO GALLIPOLI: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ODYSSEY IN TURKEY

~ 23 DAYS, MAY 2004

Led by Andrew Fairbairn & Chris Carter

Turkey sits astride Europe and Asia and has for millennia been a meeting place at which cultures from north, south, east and west have passed through, blended and come into conflict. Beginning at the Museum of Anatolian Civilisations in Ankara , we will travel through the Turkish heartland of the Anatolian Plateau, home of the mother goddess at Ç atalhöyük and the great Hittite empire, via the majestic Taurus Mountains to the Aegean Sea and some of the wonders of Classical civilization.

From the Mausoleum of Halicarnasus to legendary Troy , we will traverse the cities of the Aegean, visit the battlefields of Gallipoli and conclude with several days exploring the great city of Istanbul .

THE ART & ARCHAEOLOGY OF SPAIN

~23 DAYS, MAY 2004

Led by Oscar & Liliana Del Pozo

The itinerary has been structured to take in a diverse range of Spanish environments: from the Mediterranean coast, across the Meseta, through the mountain ranges and into the Basque country.

The archaeological sites, cities and towns selected for this tour provide a glimpse of the past through sites including Neolithic dolmens, Celt-Iberian villages, Phoenician ports, Roman cities, Visigothic towns, Muslim medinas and mosques, the castles of the Reconquista, Mudejar architecture and the Gothic and Baroque churches of the later periods. From the Prado to the Guggenheim, we will also discuss the art history of Spain, with a chance to view works by famous artists such as Goya, Velasquez and El Greco as well as those of more modern artists such as Picasso and Dali.

JAPAN – VIA HAIKU

~14 DAYS, MAY, 2004

Led by Jean Shannon

This tour will follow the writings of the 15 th Century Haiku poet, Basho, who travelled the islands of Japan visiting ancient sites, battlefields and temples seeking poetic inspiration.

This tour will provide a unique cultural experience travelling from the modern cities to the traditional villages of this beautiful country.

BUS, BARGE & BLISTERS – HISTORIC IRELAND

~16 DAYS, JULY/AUGUST 2004

Led by Geoff Burton & Jean Shannon

Travelling by private bus, canal barge and along walking trails, this tour will circuit the Republic of Ireland visiting historic and archaeological sites en route. We intend to use a canal barge as a base for 4 days, while using the bus to visit sites to the north and south of the canal each day. Apart from the barge, accommodation will be in B&Bs and guesthouses, all with private facilities. Weather permitting we will walk a part of the Burren Way and around Omey Island in Connemara. Sites on the itinerary include Newgrange, the ring forts and megalithic tombs of the west, the Aran Islands, castles, church ruins and graveyards, the Rock of Cashel, Jerpoint Abbey and the monastic centres of Glendalough and Clonmacnoise.

IN SEARCH OF THE VIKINGS

~24 DAYS, AUGUST 2004

Led by Michael Tracey & Chris Carter

Traders or raiders? The reputation that the Vikings were all for loot and plunder is now widely debated. Make up your own mind after visiting Viking sites in Scandinavia and as we cross the North Sea to Britain and Ireland . We will visit the museums and landscapes that gave rise to this group of people and trace their voyages westward.

There will be an option to travel on to Iceland and Newfoundland to experience the extreme range of their Colonies.

Visits will not be restricted to those of the Vikings as we pass by some spectacular sites from other periods.

AN ANDEAN ADVENTURE

~24 DAYS, SEPTEMBER 2004

Led by Chris Carter

Travelling through Chile , Bolivia and Peru this tour will provide a basic understanding of the cultures of the Central Andean Region of South America. While it would not be possible to follow a distinct chronological route, the theme of the tour will basically follow the Inka Empire from its southern periphery in the Atacama Desert to its inner sanctum in Cuzco . *En route* we will also visit a range of sites that present evidence of many of the cultures that either pre-date or were contemporaneous with the Inka. The tour takes in Easter Island *en route* .

An option is available to walk the Inka Trail (add four days).

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“Our Business is in Ruins...”