

Archaeology International

Issue No.11

This issue of *Archaeology International*, like its predecessors, combines news about Institute activities and events in 2007/2008 with reports on research carried out by members of staff, including both new and on-going projects.

Sadly, the year saw the death of Nicolas Coldstream, who held the Yates Chair of Classical Archaeology at UCL from 1983 to 1992 and who continued to be actively involved in research and in the life of the Institute until the last. His final public appearance at the Institute was as the speaker at the opening of the new Leventis Gallery of Cypriot and Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology in November 2007. An obituary by Alan Johnston appears on page 13 of this issue of *AI*.

The research section of this issue begins with an account by Thilo Rehren of the four-year Marie Curie programme 2004–2008. He describes the training opportunities the Institute was able to offer to young scientists from both EU member states and non-European countries and the successes that many of these scholars have achieved at the beginning of their careers. Dominic Perring introduces the new Centre for Applied Archaeology, established to develop the research side of the Institute's field archaeology unit, Archaeology South-East. Louise Martin and Shahina Farid provide an outline of the major contributions of Institute staff members to the Çatalhöyük Project, which now has its UK base in the Institute.

Excavations at the internationally renowned Middle Pleistocene site of Boxgrove have been described in earlier issues of *Archaeology International* (1997/98 and 2003/04). In this issue Mark Roberts discusses the restoration and management of the site and the possibilities it offers for future archaeological and ecological research. Excavations at another important Pleistocene site, Beedings, are described by Matthew Pope, who explains how the site's archaeology spans the Middle and early Upper Palaeolithic and has the potential to cast light on the crucial transition between these cultural phases and the human groups associated with them (late Neanderthals and modern humans respectively). Anna Clement and her colleagues describe their new Leverhulme-funded project on tooth wear in dental casts of Australian Aborigines, which can cast light on diet and the use of teeth as tools among these groups and perhaps among hunter-gatherers more generally.

The next two articles provide updates on established Institute field projects. David Jeffreys discusses recent developments in the survey of the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis (previously reported in *Archaeology International* 1999/2000), while Kris Lockyear and his colleagues provide a summary of the excavations and survey at the Roman and Byzantine frontier site of Noviodunum in Romania (first described in *Archaeology International* 2002/2003).

Kathryn Grant and Chris Russel of Archaeology South-East describe an Anglo-Georgian collaborative project at the site of Nokalakevi in Georgia, which was occupied from the 8th century BC to recent times. As well as exploring the archaeology of the site through excavation and survey, it offers training to Georgian archaeologists and international students and outreach work to the local community. Finally Bill Sillar, Ulrike Sommer and Rob Davies follow up last year's general account of the West Dean Archaeological Project, with a detailed account of the Bronze Age lynchets on Little Combes Hill.

I am grateful to all my colleagues who have contributed to this issue of *Archaeology International*.

Ruth Whitehouse

Mission statement

The Institute of Archaeology is a research-led institution recognized also for the excellence of its teaching.

Its mission is:

to be internationally pre-eminent in the study, and comparative analysis, of world archaeology.

to enhance its national and international reputation for the quality and breadth of its multidisciplinary and thematic approach to the study of the human past.

to promote best practice in the management of cultural heritage and in the study, care and preservation of archaeological artefacts.

to promote awareness of the problems caused by illicit trade in antiquities and the destruction of archaeological heritage that it entails.

to ensure that the social, political and economic contexts of the practice of archaeology are taught and appreciated.

to be at the forefront of international research in archaeological sciences.

to play a major role in furthering the understanding of London's archaeological and historical past.

to provide archaeological opportunities of the highest quality to all, regardless of background.