

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Welcome **Dr Mike Smith** from Kingston University who is joining us as a Visiting Research Fellow, under a Hefce-funded scheme, from 1 February for 6 months. Mike works on glaciology and GIS, and his project is concerned with the quantitative representation of glacial landforms through terrain model.

Phil Crang has been conferred the title of Professor in recognition of his international standing in the field of Social and Cultural Geography, and his key contributions to research activity within the Department and the College. Phil has been a member of the Department for five years, and during this time he has played a pivotal role in research, teaching and administration in human geography.

Richard Hodgkins was the internal examiner for the Ph.D. viva of Aoibheann Kilfeather at Queen Mary, University of London, 17 January 2005. The external examiner was Prof. Johannes Krüger, University of Copenhagen, and the thesis, which was passed, was entitled, 'Glaciation, deformation and till porosity: County Laois, Ireland'

A series of three 15 minute radio programmes have been broadcast concerning **Toby Butler's** West London 'memoriescape' PhD research (a series of recordings with people who live and work along the river Thames, edited on to a CD to create a sound walk along the river). The programmes were mostly made up of excerpts from the CD. The programme was called Soundpostings, presented by Lewis Gibson on Resonance 104.4FM (the UK's first radio art station - outside London programmes can also be heard on www.resonancefm.com).

Aya Sakai successfully defended her thesis in her viva examination and has been awarded a PhD subject to minor corrections of the typescript. The thesis title of her thesis was 'Open Spaces and the Modern Metropolis: Evolution and Preservation in London and Tokyo (c.1830 - c. 1930)'. The examiners were Dr Paul Waley of the University of Leeds, and Dr Richard Dennis of University College London and they were particularly impressed by work that involved detailed primary archival work in two very different languages and institutional cultures.

Ed Derbyshire has accepted an invitation to serve as a Member of the Natural Sciences Committee of the United Kingdom Commission for UNESCO.

Ed Derbyshire contributed to a radio programme on Mongolian dust and desertification in North China for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's "Earthbeat" Series, broadcast on 15 January, and repeated on 17 January.

BBC Radio 4 broadcasted **Klaus Dodds'** 'Operation Tabarin' on Wednesday, 5th January. The broadcast placed together the story of a secret mission backed by Churchill in the closing years of the Second World War, which seized possession of British Antarctic Territory to prevent Argentina from threatening the Falklands.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Tim Unwin participated in a meeting at the Department for Education and Skills on 27th January to provide advice on the use of ICT in implementing the Department's International Strategy.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the External relations Committee of the geological Society at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on 19 January.

PUBLICATIONS

Lambert, D., 2005, 'Producing/contesting whiteness: Rebellion, anti-slavery and enslavement in Barbados , 1816' *Geoforum* (Themed Issue on Critical Geographies of the Caribbean and Latin America) Vol. 36 No. 1 pp 29-43.

Katie Willis (2005) 'Latin American masculinities: going beyond 'the macho'' in Bettina van Hoven and Kathrin Horschelmann (eds) 'Spaces of Masculinity', London : Routledge, pp. 97-109.

Toby Butler has published a 'cultural geographies in practice' paper relating to his work with the Museum of London on *Linked*, a sound art project in East London . The paper includes an edited interview with the *Linked* artist, Graeme Miller.

Butler , Toby (2005) *Linked: a landmark in sound, a public walk of art*, *Cultural Geographies* 12: 77-88

Biltcliffe, P (2005) 'Walter Crane and the Imperial Federation Map Showing the Extent of the British Empire (1886)', *Imago Mundi*, vol 57, part 1: 55-61.

Unwin, T. (2004) Beyond budgetary support: pro-poor development agendas for Africa , *Third World Quarterly*, 25(8), 1501-1523.

Reviews

David Simon (2004) Review of *Unsustainable South Africa: environment, development and social protest* by Patrick Bond (University of Natal Press, Durban, and Merlin Press, London, 2002), *Journal of Southern African Studies* 30(4): 920-922.

VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Kathryn Monk, Science Manager at the Environment Agency, visited the Department on 20 January, meeting **Felix Driver, Nick Branch, Peter French and Rob Imrie** to discuss the

department's research in environment, sustainability, archaeology and planning, with a view to possible collaborations.

Peter French presented the Royal Holloway Lectures in Geography on Monday 24th January to 80 students from various schools. The title of his lecture was "sustainable coastal management: realistic or not."

Susan E. Clarke from the University of Colorado , Boulder , presented the Departmental Seminar on Thursday, 27th January. Her talk was entitled 'The Politics of Vulnerability: Political and Geographical Perspectives on U.S. Homeland Security Initiatives'.

Terry Allsop from the International Research Foundation for Open Learning presented the CEDAR Seminar on the 24th of January. His talk was entitled 'What do we know about the use of distance learning in addressing development priorities?'

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Don Thompson led the First Year Field Trip to Nerja, southern Spain from 16-23rd January. Once again the trip proved to be very successful and the first year students were a credit to the Department. I would especially like to thank the following staff and postgraduates who were responsible for the success of the week: **Ian Candy, Mary Dengler, Klaus Dodds, Mike Dolton, Fernando Garcia, Jenny Kynaston, Ian Matthews, Adrian Palmer, Alasdair Pinkerton, Danielle Schreve, Elaine Turton, Tim Unwin and Niake Valcarcel** . We also had invaluable help with translations from Kerstin Burkhart and Roger Calavia, both post graduates from the University of Barcelona . Thanks to Tim and Dr Jordi Marti Henneberg for facilitating this help. Thanks also to Mike Dolton for arranging our annual meeting with the Ayuntamiento de Nerja, to Antonio Bruno and his colleagues for facilitating the event and to the local representatives and politicians who provided much useful discussion and information for our students. We received favourable coverage by the local press and websites which will be made available on the Departmental Web Site shortly.

David Simon was in Ghana from 22-28th January on his final visit for DFID Project R8090 Bofo ye Na (Who can help the poor?) in peri-urban Kumasi . As part of this, he attended a project workshop in Techiman (Brong Ahafo Region) where he managed a brief visit to one of the largest agricultural markets in West Africa, and subsequently met with DFID and other colleagues in Accra . He also visited the University of Ghana, Legon, to meet with Paul Yankson (Head of Geography, and a contributor to the peri-urban book David is co-editing with Duncan McGregor and Don Thompson) and Elizabeth Schandorf-Ardayfio.

OTHER NEWS

Matt Gant , a former student on the Historical Geography of Viticulture course in the Department, has recently received the Wine Society of Australia's Young Winemaker of the Year Award for 2004. He is Assistant Winemaker at St. Hallett. This is a great achievement for a geographer from Britain!