

Geography Department News

Monthly Newsletter
Royal Holloway, University of London

October/November 2009
Number 187

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Congratulations to **John Lowe** who was conferred the title of Gordon Manley Chair of Geography. John becomes the second holder of this named chair, one of the very few in British Geography. This designation reflects John's career achievements and international standing in Quaternary Science.

David Simon has been elected to the Academy of Social Sciences.

David Simon acted as external examiner for the PhD thesis of Laurence Nathan, University of Cape Town, entitled 'The failure of the SADC Organ: regional security arrangements in southern Africa, 1992-2003'.

David Simon participated in a panel discussion on The Agenda, PressTV's flagship current affairs programme, on 6 November. The subject was 'Water: will it be the cause of future conflicts?' It is podcast at <http://presstv.ir/programs/detail.aspx?sectionid=3510509&id=110667#110667>

David Simon attended the lecture by Sybil Seitzinger, executive director of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) on 'Preparing for Copenhagen and AR5: the role of the global research programmes' at the Royal Society on 24th November.

David Simon was one of two Heads of Geography departments invited to assist the RGS/IBG consultation on how the Society advances geographical knowledge through research and scientific expeditions, on 27th November.

Duncan McGregor acted (30 October 2009, Department of

Geography, University of Reading) as External Examiner of **Gemma Carr's** PhD thesis on 'Water reuse for irrigation in Jordan: Sustainability, perceptions and management'. The viva resulted in a recommendation of PhD with minor amendments. Gemma is a former CEDAR Masters student in the Department.

Congratulations to **Rajinder Sidhu** who had her final amendments confirmed, and the thesis is submitted, and she is now fully 'Dr Sidhu'. The thesis title was: 'Citizen-Consumers, Challenging Encounters and Emotional Labour: The Work of Receptionists in the Accident and Emergency Department of Three London Hospitals.'

Congratulations to **Wen-I-Lin**, a Taiwanese student who joined us approximately 6 years ago, who has just passed his thesis with no revisions required. **David Gilbert** was joint supervisor before Wen moved with **Rob Imrie** to Kings College.

Welcome to **Liz Dodsworth** who will be working fulltime as our photographic/AV technician from 20th October until the 18th of December.

John Lowe, Adrian Palmer and **Chao-yuan Chen** visited schools on the 18th September 2009 in the Lochaber area of Scotland to explain the formation of landforms and sediments in the Glen Roy area. An evening public lecture was given to introduce the new evidence and interpretation of the Glen Roy

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NOTICES



Staff Christmas Lunch - 11th December, 12:30pm at Loch Fyne.

Last day of Term - 11th December.

Start of Term - 11th January 2010

☛ Departmental Seminar - Dr. Andrew Wyatt (Dept. of Politics, Bristol Univ.) and Dr. M. Vijayabaskar (MIDS) - 'Using Finance to Drive Change: World Bank support for Urban Reform in South India' - 21st January at 1pm. Venue TBC.

🌏 - CQR Lecture - Prof. Takeshi Nakagawa, Univ. of Newcastle - 'Lake Suigetsu, Japan, a 70,000 year varved sediment record: a history and a New Project - 10.3.09 at 5.30pm - Room 136.

🏛️ PERG Seminar - Federico Caprotti, UCL - 'Between discourse & materiality: The discursive logic of sectoral emergence in the cleantech sector 2003-2010' - 8th February at 1pm - Room 136.

area, which was organised by the Lochaber Geopark and attended by 35 people. A field excursion was also organised on the 19th September in order to visit key sites in the Glen Roy valley.

Jenny Lunn is one of the postgraduate News Editors of the newly-launched Geography Directions website, which links Geography journal articles (from the Wiley-Blackwell titles) to current affairs.

Varyl Thorndycraft presented on 28th October a departmental seminar at the School of Geography, University of Southampton. The talk was entitled "Floods and global change over recent millennia".

Katie Willis was the external PhD examiner for Moises Machicado Balderrama (University of Reading). The thesis was entitled 'Livestock-based livelihoods and the law: The interaction between formal and customary law in the allocation of assets among poor livestock keepers in Bolivia'. The internal examiner was Dr Charlotte Smith (Department of Law, Reading).

On October 30th, **Mary Dengler** was an invitee to "London: driving a competitive and sustainable city" with Jeffrey Immelt, Chairman and CEO, GE.

Philip Hatfield has been appointed as Curator of Canadian and Caribbean Collections at the British Library, after applying for the post in October. He starts on the 4th of January 2010.

Varyl Thorndycraft gave a talk at the Surrey Geographical Association on 12th November entitled 'Riverine landscapes and floods'.

Welcome to **Prof Jinming Sha**, who will be in the Dept for the next six months on study leave from Fujian Normal University in China, where he is Director of the China-Europe Environment and landscape management initiative. He is also Vice-chair of the National Association of Teaching & Research of Remote Sensing for

universities. He obtained his PhD from Zhejiang University.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

David Simon chaired the session on 'Old Challenges, New Opportunities', in the Chatham House conference, Angola as a Global Player to mark the 10th anniversary of its Angola Forum, of which David has been a member since its inception, at Chatham House on 24th July. The event was opened by Lord Malloch Brown, Minister of State for Africa, Asia and the UN, as his final public engagement before leaving politics.

David Simon presented a keynote lecture entitled 'Debating urban growth, sustainable development and climate change to Copenhagen and beyond' at the Green Economics Institute conference, Greening the Economy, at the Oxford University Club on 28th November.

David Simon is a member of the review panel for the current round of the ESRC-DFID research grant programme.

Clive Gamble participated in a seminar at the School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, September 26th - October 2nd on 'Toward a global human history: agency and the explanation of long-term change'.

Clive Gamble attended panel SH6 of the European Research Council for the award of Advanced Researchers Grants 21-24th September in Brussels.

Clive Gamble presented a paper "The day the time barrier for human antiquity was broken April 27th 1859" at the British Festival of Science, Surrey University on September 10th.

Clive Gamble began his English Heritage appointment as Academic Editor for the Lynford Quarry report on "Mammoths and Neanderthals: a study in interaction" on September 1st.

Clive Gamble attended a meeting of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House October 15th.

Clive Gamble led a Critical Friends exercise for the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Bristol University on October 16th.

Clive Gamble's presentations on aspects of the archaeology of the Social Brain:-

November 6th, Seminar to the Department of Anthropology, Oxford University.

November 13th, Key note lecture at the Manchester Museum in their Darwin and Archaeology conference.

November 20th, Seminar to the School of Biological Sciences, Warwick University.

Thomas Stevens was a guest of the Institute of Geology and Mines/Spanish Geological Survey in Madrid on the 22nd of Oct 2009 to promote the International Association of Sedimentologists within the Spanish Geosciences community.

Thomas Stevens attended the International Association of Sedimentologists Bureau meeting in Zaragoza, Spain, between the 23rd to 25th of Oct 2009.

Tim Cresswell gave an invited address to the "Technological Nomadisms" meeting in Buenos Aires on October 19th. The meeting was largely concerned with new media and conceptual art. His talk was entitled "The Politics of Turbulence".

Tim Cresswell gave a keynote address to the Routes, Roads and Landscapes conference at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design on September 25th. His talk was entitled, "Constellations of Mobility".

Felix Driver convened an AHRC-funded Workshop on Geographical Collections at the RGS-IBG on 18 November, attended by 35

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researchers and museums staff from the UK, USA, France and Australia.

Felix Driver presented a seminar on 'Hidden histories of exploration? Exhibiting geographical collections', Institute of Social & Cultural Anthropology, Oxford University, 30 October.

Felix Driver presented a public talk on 'Images of travel and exploration' in the Be Inspired season at the RGS-IBG, 26 October 2009.

Felix Driver and **Lowri Jones** presented four 'showcases' on the Hidden Histories of Exploration Exhibition at the RGS-IBG in November. They also hosted visits to the exhibition by students and staff from Royal Holloway; Queen Mary; Universities of Paris and Lille.

Anyaa Anim-Addo and **Felix Driver** presented workshops in the Black History event at Royal Holloway attended by 16-18 year olds from local schools and colleges, 11 November.

Felix Driver attended the annual meeting of HWJ trustees, 10 October 2009.

Felix Driver attended the annual meeting of trustees for the J. B. Harley Fellowships in the History of Cartography, British Academy, 3 November.

Vandana Desai was elected to the Advisory Council of the Development Education Association (DEA) for the second consecutive year.

Dr Apurba Kundu, Dr Ann Light and Dr Dorothea Kleine from the EPSRC Fair Tracing project met with designer Nicolas Myers from the Royal College of Art to help him conceptualise an exhibit inspired by the work of Fair Tracing for an upcoming EPSRC "IMPACT!" exhibition. Designers were able to choose among hundreds of EPSRC funded projects and Nicolas chose Fair Tracing for its potential to change the way consumers approach

their shopping decisions. London, Oct 16.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the Chairs of the Intergovernmental/International Science Programmes of the UK National Commission for UNESCO in Whitehall, London on 16 November.

Ed Derbyshire attended meetings of the Elections sub-committee and the Council of the Geological Society at Burlington House, London on 25 November.

Tim Unwin has been invited to join the editorial board of the journal *International Iranian Current Sociology*.

Varyl Thorndycraft gave an invited Seminar entitled 'Subtleties of river power: geomorphic records of Holocene flooding at the Department of Climate Dynamics and Landscape Evolution, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Nov 10th 2009.

Katie Willis gave a lecture entitled 'Gender and wellbeing: the role of migration and transnational spaces' in the 'Spaces, Markets and Development' series at the Goethe University, Frankfurt.

Katie Willis gave a lecture entitled 'Gender and migration research: Current themes and future challenges' as part of a one-day workshop on 'Geographical approaches to migration' at the Institute for Migration and Intercultural Studies at the University of Osnabrück.

PUBLICATIONS

David Simon (2009) From the Holocaust to Development: reflections of surviving development pioneers, *Third World Quarterly* 30(5): 849-884 (special issue: Remapping Development Studies: contemporary critical perspectives).

David Simon and Frans Schuurman (2009) Introduction:

Remapping development studies, *Third World Quarterly* 30(5): 829-830 (special issue: Remapping Development Studies: contemporary critical perspectives)

David Simon (2009) Debt. In Kitchin R & Thrift N (eds) *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography, Volume 1*, pp. 16-22. Oxford: Elsevier.

Richards, K., Batty, M., Edwards, K., Findlay, A., Foody, G., Frostick, L., Jones, K., Lee, R., Livingstone, D., Marsden, T., Petts, J., Philo, C., **Simon, D.**, Smith, S. and Thomas, D. (2009) The nature of publishing and assessment in Geography and Environmental Studies: evidence from the Research Assessment Exercise 2008, *Area* 41(3), pp. 231-243.

David Mandiyanike (PhD 2007) 'Devolution a necessary evil', NEW ZIMBABWEAN.Com NEWS, 6 July 2009.

Martin, Craig (2009). 'The Methodology of Mailmen: On the Delivery of Theory', In Tormey, J. & Whiteley, G. (Eds.). *Telling Stories: Countering Narrative in Art, Theory and Film*. (Cambridge Scholar's Publishing).

Clive Gamble and Robert Foley 2009 The ecology of social transitions in human evolution *Phil.Trans.Royal Society B* 364: 3267-3279.

Clive Gamble 2009. Human display and dispersal: a case study from biotidal Britain in the Middle and Upper Pleistocene. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 18:144-156.

Tim Cresswell, 2009, "Place", "Discourse" and "Yi-Fu Tuan" in the *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (Eds R Kitchin et al) Elsevier.

Vandana Desai (2009) 'Aid' in Kitchin R, Thrift N (eds.) *International Encyclopaedia of Human Geography, Volume 1*, pp. 84-90. Oxford: Elsevier.

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F. Driver & L. Jones, Hidden Histories of Exploration: Researching the RGS-IBG Collections (RHUL/RGS-IBG, 2009), 64pp.

Caplan, J & Driver, F (eds) *History Workshop Journal* 68 (2010), 325pp.

Dr Mary Dengler and alumni Jonathan Abu-Nackly are quoted in:

"A clearer future: why sustainability graduates are in hot demand" in *The Independent*; [Independent.co.uk Feature on the College's MSc in Sustainability and Management: http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/further/a-clearer-future-why-sustainability-graduates-are-in-hot-demand-1810879.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/further/a-clearer-future-why-sustainability-graduates-are-in-hot-demand-1810879.html).

Sin, H. L. (2009). Volunteer tourism - "Involve me and I will learn"? *Annals of Tourism Research* 36(3): 480-501.

Blockley, S.P.E., Housley, R.A., 2009, Calibration commentary, *Radiocarbon* 51 (1), 287-290.

Housley, R.A., Blockley, S.P.E., Matthews, I.P., MacLeod, A., Lowe, J.J., Ramsay, S., Miller, J.J., Campbell, E.N., 2009, Late Holocene vegetation and palaeoenvironmental history of the Dunadd area, Argyll, Scotland: chronology of events, *Journal of Archaeological Science* doi:10.1016/j.jas.2009.10.023.

Housley, R.A., 2009, Transitions in the Later Palaeolithic, in: Camps, M. and Chauhan, P., (eds.) *Sourcebook of Palaeolithic Transitions*, DOI 10.1007/978-0-387-76487-0_36, Springer-Verlag Press.

Scourse, J.D., Coope, G.R., Allen, J.R.M., Lister, A.M., Housley, R.A., Hedges, R.E.M., Jones, A.S.G., and Watkins, R.M., 2009, Late-glacial remains of woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) from Shropshire, UK: stratigraphy, sedimentology and geochronology of the Condover site. *Geological Journal* 44, 392-413.

Derbyshire, E. (ed.) *Planet Earth: present for the future*. Bombazine, Lisbon, 92pp.

Cresswell, T. (2009) Seis temas na producao das mobilidades. In R do Carmo and J Simoes (eds) *A Producao das Mobilidades*. ICS, Lisbon. Pp25-40 (in Portuguese).

Cresswell, T. (2009) The Prosthetic Citizen: New Geographies of Citizenship. *Political Power and Social Theory*. 20: 259-273.

F.Coward and C.Gamble 2009 Metaphor and materiality in earliest prehistory. In *The cognitive life of things* ed. C.Gosden, C.Renfrew and L.Malafouris pp 47-58. Cambridge: McDonald Institute.

Reviews

F. Driver, review of A. Lambert, *Franklin: Tragic Hero of Polar Navigation*, in *BBC History Magazine*, 1 July 2009, p. 65

F. Driver, review of R. Dennis, *Cities in Modernity: Representations and Productions of Metropolitan Space, 1840-1930*, in *American Historical Review*, June 2009, 725-6.

Scott Elias reviewed 'Point Hope Alaska: Life on Frozen Water,' for the *journal, Polar Research* (vol. 28, 468-469).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Dr David Lambert has been awarded one of this year's prestigious and highly competitive Philip Leverhulme Prizes by the Leverhulme Trust. Worth £70k altogether, this will provide David with a 2-year period of relief from most normal duties to pursue his research, and gives the Department replacement teaching cover. In the words on the letter of notification, this is "compelling recognition of David's research achievements".

VISITORS-MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

CEDAR Group held a roundtable discussion to celebrate World Habitat Day On Monday, 5h October.

Mansoor Ali, Practical Action presented the CEDAR Workshop on 21st October entitled 'The Philosophy and Practice of Practical Action'.

Caroline Juby, RHUL presented the QUISS Seminar on 20th October. The title of her presentation was 'London Before London: Reconstructing a Palaeolithic Landscape'.

Alina Congreve, University of Reading presented the PERG Seminar on 19th October. The title of her presentation was 'Sustainability and New Housing Development'.

Phil Shane, University of Auckland, New Zealand, School of Environment presented the CQR Lecture on 23rd October. The title was 'Determining past eruption frequencies and future volcanic hazards from tephra layers'. The lecture was hosted in Association with RHOXTOR.

Julia Lajus, Centre for Environmental and Technological History European University at St. Petersburg presented the PERG Seminar entitled 'Perceptions of Arctic warming in the 1930s in the context of Soviet polar exploration and resource use' on the 23rd November.

Professor Jane Wills (QMUL) was the guest speaker at the Gordon Manley Lecture for 2009/10 on the 30th of November. The title of the lecture was 'The Living Wage'.

Dorothea Kleine, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, presented the joint CEDAR and Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 2nd November. The title of the presentation was 'The Economists have only Measured the World... Thinking Development as Process'.

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Nigel Jefferies, Head of Academic Relationships, Vodafone; Chair of the World Wireless Research Forum presented the joint CEDAR and Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 7th December. The title of his presentation was 'HCI and Sustainability - a new relationship'.

Emma Mawdsley, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge presented the CEDAR Seminar on 30th November. The title of her presentation was 'Conflict, Competition, Cooperation or Cooptation? Foreign Aid and the Challenge of the Non-DAC Donors'

Prof. Dra. Brasilina Passarelli, Coordenadora Científica, Escola do Futuro, Sao Paulo, Brazil, <http://futuro.usp.br> presented the Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 4th November entitled 'Networking actors: School of the Future Research Lab Digital Inclusion Projects and Experience'.

Katherine Brickell, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway presented the CEDAR Seminar on 9th November entitled 'Gendered Discourses on Ideals and Practices of Women in Contemporary Cambodia'.

Rupert Housley organised a half day IT course for RESET personnel from RHUL and other Consortium partner institutions to train staff in the use of the RESET/RHOXTOR tephra database. The session took place on 23 October and approximately 15 people attended the course.

The London Quaternary Lectures were held on the 25th of November and the speakers were Professor Maria-Fernanda Sanchez-Goñi, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes 'Pollen from the sea: improved understanding of the climate system through marine-continental correlations' (LQL No. 84) and Professor Francesco d'Errico, Université Bordeaux 1 & Institute for Human Evolution, Witwatersrand, South Africa 'The possible role of climate change in cultural innovations' (LQL No. 85).

Dr Avril Maddrell, School of the Built & Natural Environment, University of West of England presented the Departmental Seminar on 19th November. Her presentation was entitled "Where Have all the Women Gone? A New Look at the Historiography of Geography".

Varyl Thorndycraft presented the Royal Holloway Lectures in Geography on 16th November entitled Floods and climate change.

Virginia Ruiz Villanueva (Instituto Geológica y Minero de España, Madrid) visited the Department and attended a Fieldwork in North Northumberland as part of the Dendro-Flood Project funded by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science (23-27th November, 2009).

FIELDWORK- CONFERENCES- OVERSEAS

John Lowe organised this year's Stevenson Science Lecture, the Faculty's annual lecture, on 6th October. The speaker was Professor William Ruddiman, University of Virginia, USA and was entitled 'Did early farming prevent a new Ice Age? Answer: Yes!'

Tim Unwin gave the Keynote on 'ICTs, citizens and the state: moral philosophy and development practices in an African context' at the EuroAfrica-ICT 7th concertation meeting organised by the EC DG INFSO with the support of the EuroAfrica-ICT FP& project, held in Brussels, 1st October 2009.

Tim Unwin served as moderator for the e-Health conference convened by the German development agency GTZ in Berlin between 28th and 30th October in Berlin

Felix Driver attended the 14th International Conference of Historical Geographers in Kyoto, Japan. He spoke at the opening session, chaired a session on theory and technique, and presented a paper with Lowri

Jones on 'Hidden Histories? Local Knowledge & Indigenous Agency in the History of Geographical Exploration'. The 15th ICHG will be held in Prague in 2012. Interest was expressed in the UK hosting the conference in 2015.

David Simon attended the RGS-IBG conference and made one of the introductory presentations in the discussion session on Personal Development Paradigms organised by Dorothea Kleine on 26th August.

David Simon was in southern Africa from 10-16th November to visit PhD students in the field (Andy Brooks, Maputo, 10-12 November; Hayley Leck, Durban, 12-14th) and to attend the inaugural meeting of the international advisory board of Stellenbosch University's new multimillion pound Food Security Initiative on 16th. The project manager of the FSI is Julia Harper (née Symons), a RHUL alumna (BSc 2000). While in Maputo, David presented a public seminar for the Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos, where Andy is based, on 'The challenge of global environmental change in Africa's urban areas', which generated considerable media interest, including by Radio Mozambique. In Cape Town, he met with Maano Ramutsindela (PhD 1999), now Associate Professor in Geography at the University of Cape Town.

Adrian Palmer was co-leader with Martin Rudwick of Cambridge University for the History of Geology Group (Geological Society) Field Excursion to Glen Roy from the 26th to 28th June 2009. The trip, which was attended by 24 people, was organised as part of the celebrations linked to the birth of Charles Darwin and the publication of the Origin of Species.

Jenny Lunn attended the Development Studies Association annual conference from 2 to 4

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September held at the University of Ulster, Colrairie; the theme was "Current Crises and New Opportunities".

Varyl Thorndycraft attended the PaleoMex International Workshop on the 11-14th October in Fréjus (France), presenting a keynote talk on Monday 12th entitled "Extreme flood events during the Late Holocene reconstructed from slackwater fluvial deposits". PaleoMex is a French funded research programme focused on understanding Holocene climate change and human impacts in the Mediterranean.

Thomas Stevens attended the International Association of Sedimentologists annual conference in Alghero, Sardinia on the 20th to 23rd of September 2009. As well as convening a session, TS also presented one talk and one poster on dating submarine canyon sediments of the coast of California and sourcing Chinese loess using single zircon grains.

Rupert Housley presented a paper entitled 'The Potential of Volcanic Tephra in the European Late Palaeolithic' at the UISPP Sub-Commission XXXII workshop on the European Late Glacial held in Denmark at the University of Copenhagen, from the 12th until the 16th of October.

Claudio Minca organized a seminar in Tokyo on 'Strange days. Tourism with no tourist', the concluding session in the "Retracing modern tourism..." Seminar Series (sponsored by the Rikkyo Amusement Research Centre (RARC), Rikkyo University, Tokyo). Harg Luh Sin presented a poster at the seminar on 'Ethical Tours: Corporate Social Responsibility in Tourism'.

Andrew Brooks gave a seminar to researchers at IESE, Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos (The Institute of Social and Economic Studies) in Maputo, Mozambique entitled: 'Chinese Investment in Zambia: Labour Disputes at Zambia-China Mulungushi Textiles' on 06.10.2009.

Charles Howie was invited to attend the 2009 annual Darwin Lecture, hosted by the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). This year's lecture was a particularly memorable occasion as it took place in the main hall of the Natural History Museum in the 200th year after the birth of Charles Darwin, with guests seated facing his statue! The Secretary of State, Hilary Benn, gave an impassioned but reasoned lecture on the vital importance of the world's biodiversity, calling for a high level international body, similar to the IPCC, to draw attention to the critical importance of biodiversity in providing the world with ecosystem services.

Alex Loftus presented a paper on Antonio Gramsci to the Political Geography research group at the University of Zurich on November 2.

Scott Elias gave a talk entitled 'Fossil Insect Evidence Of Early Thule Environments

At Uivvaq, An Arctic Coastal Midden In North-Western Alaska' at the 17th Arctic Conference in Boulder, Colorado, USA on 14 November.

Ed Derbyshire attended the European closing event of the International Year of Planet Earth triennium 2007-2009 in Lisbon, Portugal, 19 - 21 November.

Tim Unwin moderated the panel session on technology and e-learning at the World Innovation Summit for Education in Doha on 16th November

Xingmin Meng, together with Prof. Z. Chen (Vice President of ISSMGE - International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering), Dr. B Malamud (President, Natural Hazards Division of the European Geosciences Union) and others (from China, UK, Canada and Italy), jointly organised the "Workshop on Environmental Recovery Strategies and Techniques for the 'May 12th 2008' China Earthquake Disaster Areas of Gansu Province between 22 and 28 November 2009".

Around 30 experts from several countries participated in the field excursion (travelling over 2000km) from 22nd to 26th, and more than 200 people attended the symposium on 27th. Xingmin co-led the field excursion and also chaired Scientific Session I on 27th, as well as the final discussion meeting on 28th on "Future Hazards Prevention and Sustainable Development of Longnan - the poorest region in China due to coupled environmental restrictions and cultural disadvantages".

Craig Martin presented at the RGS/IBG the following papers:

'Aerial Reach, Distributive Force' (co-authored with Pete Adey) as part of the 'Vertical Spatialities' session

'The Uninvited Guest: Stowaways, Standardization, Infiltration' as part of 'Geographies of the Passenger' session.

ANY OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to **Peter French** and Helen on the birth of their baby boy Matthew, a brother to Clare who was born on Sunday, 6th December.



Felix Driver was interviewed about the 'Hidden Histories of Exploration' exhibition in the Guardian ('Unsung explorers', 8 December), The Times ('The hidden role of the "noble savage"', 7 December), in the Times Higher ('From the margins to the main page', 5 Nov 2009),

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Sunday Times ('Unearthed: pictures of Mallory's first bid to conquer Everest', 20 Sept 2009), BBC History ('Forgotten explorers are recognised at last', Oct 2009) and in a podcast for AHRC (www.ahrc.ac.uk/news/podcasts) . The exhibition was formally launched at the RGS-IBG on 22 October, with further coverage appearing in the Geographical (December 2009, 50-55), Telegraph and Podium.

Elsevier has announced that it plans to proceed with the development of the second edition of the Encyclopedia of Quaternary Science. **Scott Elias** will be editor-in-chief of this publication, and **Clive Gamble** and **Danielle Schreve** will serve as section editors for Archaeology and Vertebrate Fossil Records, respectively.

Clive Gamble has been nominated for the Current Archaeology Archaeologist of the Year award for his role in recognising the anniversary of Evans' Prehistory lecture and the recovery of the Amiens axe. The awards ceremony is in February 2010.

The Geography Society organised a series of events for October, as follows:

Thursday 8th Oct: What Not to Wear - Cotton and Child Slavery

The first of the GeogSoc lecture series: a FREE Amnesty International panel discussion on the cotton trade in Uzbekistan. This \$1bn industry sees state sponsored forced labour of children and the closing of

schools (affecting around 200,000 children a year). Highly relevant to all BA/BSc first years, PIR students and anyone doing human geography at higher levels.

Wednesday 14th Oct: Importing Goods, Exporting Drought

Our second lecture looks at the thirsty lifestyles of developed countries and how we are increasingly reliant on the water resources of developing countries. There is a hidden cost of what we eat, drink and consume, from coffee to t-shirts, food to computers. We use far more water to support our lifestyles than most of us imagine. Especially relevant to development geographers but should offer something to everyone!