

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Congratulations to **Melanie, Jonathan and Lauren** on the arrival of **Charlotte Louise Price**, who was born at 02:23 on the 24th May. Charlotte weighed in at 5lbs 10oz. Both Mel and Charlotte are doing fine.

Pippa Biltcliffe presented a talk entitled: 'Thomas Holloway: an unorthodox Victorian art collector' at Surrey History Centre on Thursday 26th May, as part of their programme of events to mark Museums and Galleries Month.

Congratulation to **Katie Walsh** who successfully passed her PhD viva examination on 17th May. Her examiners were Dr Alison Blunt (QMUL) and Prof. Peter Jackson (Sheffield).

Katie's PhD is entitled 'British expatriate belonging in Dubai : foreignness, domesticity and intimacy', and was based on eighteen months ethnographic research in Dubai. Her examiners particularly praised the rigour and honesty of her ethnographic materials.

Professor Ed Maltby left the Department in January 2005 and is now based at Liverpool University. Conor Linstead transferred to Liverpool from 1st May, along with the staff based in the Devon research station at North Wyke (David Hogan, Victoria Tainton and Martin Blackwell). Fotis Sgouridis will be leaving Royal Holloway at the end of May.

Welcome to **Liz Hamilton** who has been appointed as a part-time replacement for Melanie Price in the Departmental Office while she is on leave. Liz will be working on Mondays and Tuesdays.

David Simon represented the Dept and College at the Subject Area Board in Physical and Mathematical Science at Senate House on 16 May.

Tim Unwin undertook external examining duties for the MSc in Environment and Development at the University of Edinburgh on 20th, 26th and 27th May.

Charles Howie and **Tim Unwin** attended the British Council's reception on 19th May to mark 25 years of the Higher Education Links scheme. Charles has, for the past 3 years, been a joint co-ordinator of a link between An Giang University, Vietnam and the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

Charles Howie on May 4th spoke at a seminar at Stirling University, at a joint meeting of the Institute of Aquaculture and the Tropical Agriculture Association: social issues of building high dykes in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Ed Derbyshire conferred with Professor David Thomas (Oxford) at the Royal Geographical Society on 4 May concerning the 'CHANGES' programme and plans for an IGCP Regional Meeting in the U.K.

Ed Derbyshire attended a 'brainstorming' meeting of selected members of the Management Team of the International Year of Planet Earth at the Geological Society, Piccadilly, all day on 6 May.

Ed Derbyshire attended the President's Day meeting of the Geological Society on 18 May.

Congratulations to **David Simon** and **Clive Gamble** who have been appointed to RAE sub-panels for Geography & Environmental Studies, and Archaeology, respectively.

David Simon completed his assignment for SOAS Interface with a second, follow-up briefing on contemporary Namibia for staff of the Diamond Trading Company on 1 June.

Katie Willis has been appointed Honorary Secretary (Research) of the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers). This is excellent news for both the RGS and the Department.

Clive Gamble presented an invited seminar to the Southampton Oceanography Centre on February 4th "isotopes, genes and Lateglacial settlement: where did the first Europeans come from?"

Clive Gamble presented an invited seminar to the Department of geography, University of Durham on March 10th "isotopes, genes and Lateglacial settlement: where did the first Europeans come from?"

David Gilbert and **Bronwen Edwards** were part of the convening team for the "Fashion's World Cities" conference held at the London College of Fashion at Oxford Circus, and the Museum of London, 29 and 30 April 2005. The conference attracted an international audience of around 170 delegates. David Gilbert gave the opening position paper: "From Paris to Shanghai, the changing geographies of Fashion's World Cities," and Bronwen presented her work on the replanning of London as a fashion centre, "Shaping the Shopping City: West End Master Plans and Pipe Dreams, 1945-79."

David Gilbert gave a paper on 16 April 2005 "Imperial Highway: London, Empire and the Thames" at the Tate Britain Conference "Turner Whistler Monet: Aesthetics, Pollution and the City" which accompanied the major exhibition in the gallery.

Katie Willis participated in a round table discussion as part of the Geographies of Transnational Networks Conference in Liverpool 26-27 May.

PUBLICATIONS

French P.W. (2005) Coastal Zone Management. In Schwartz M.L. (ed) Encyclopedia of Coastal Science. Springer. pp 313 - 319

Gamble, C., and S. Gaudzinski. 2005. "Bones and powerful individuals: faunal case studies from the Arctic and European Middle Palaeolithic," in *The individual hominid in context: archaeological investigations of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic landscapes, locales and artefacts*. Edited by C. Gamble and M. Porr. London : Routledge.

Gamble, C., and M. Porr. 2005a . "From empty spaces to lived lives: exploring the individual in the Palaeolithic," in *The individual hominid in context: archaeological investigations of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic landscapes, locales and artefacts*. Edited by C. Gamble and M. Porr. London : Routledge.

Gamble, C and M.Porr Editors. 2005b. *The individual hominid in context: archaeological investigations of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic landscapes, locales and artefacts*. London : Routledge.

Gamble, C. S. . 2004. "Materiality and symbolic force: a Palaeolithic view of sedentism," in *Rethinking materiality: the engagement of mind with the material world*. Edited by E. DeMarrais , C. Gosden, and C. Renfrew, pp. 85-95. Cambridge : McDonald Institute of Archaeological Research.

Tim Unwin (2005) Towards a framework for the use of ICT in teacher training in Africa , *Open Learning*, 20(2), 113-129

REVIEWS

Review by **David Gilbert** of Deller, Jeremy *The English Civil War Part II: Personal Accounts of the 1984-85 miners' Strike* (London : Artangel, 2002) in *Oral History*, Spring 2005, pp. 104-5.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Toby Butler , who is doing an ESRC-funded PhD on Memory, Landscape and the River Thames in collaboration with the Museum of London , has won a prize in the WestFocus "Bright Ideas" competition designed to encourage entrepreneurship amongst students. This year's competition attracted interest from 600 students across the WestFocus consortium. There were ten prizes, awarded by Heinz Wolf at a reception at the University of Westminster 's Marylebone Campus on 26 May.

Fernando Garcia has been awarded an ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship for his project on 'Cafe culture: creating convivial cities', starting October 2005.

Phil Crang is coordinating a multidisciplinary workshop at Royal Holloway for the AHRC Landscape & Environment programme in June.

Karen Till has been awarded a British Academy research grant to support her project on Memory work in the new South Africa .

Benjamin Coles (University of Kansas) has been awarded an ORSAS Scholarship for his proposed PhD research with **Phil Crang** on 'The moral geographies of sustainable consumption'

Hilary Geoghegan has been awarded seventy pounds towards the cost of attending the annual conference of the RGS/IBG by the Historical Geography Research Group Postgraduate Award Scheme committee.

Colleagues from the Open University and **Jay Mistry** have secured £44,426 from the ESRC E-Social Science Fund for a one year pilot project entitled ECOSENSUS (Electronic, Ecological, Collaborative Sense-making Support System). This project aims to be the first eScience initiative on developing and testing a distributed computational infrastructure for supporting spatial decision making within an international natural resource management context. It links to and builds on the Darwin Initiative Guyana project in which Jay is co-PI.

VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

On 4th May Prof. David Cesarani, History Department (RHUL) presented the Departmental Seminar entitled 'The Place of Memory in the Self-Formation of Jewish Intellectuals in England'.

David Simon , **Tim Unwin** and **Jay Mistry** met with the visiting delegation from Arizona State University (Dan Jacobson, Acting Director of the School of Global Studies and Sharon Wilkinson, Asst Dean for Global Engagement) on 5 May, as part of their institution-to-institution visit to RHUL. We explored mutual interests and potential collaborative areas in relation to student and staff exchanges and research collaboration, within the scope of an envisaged ASU-RHUL institutional link.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Ed Derbyshire travelled to Uppsala on 19 May as a guest of the Swedish National Committee for the IGCP. He attended an all-day meeting in the Swedish Geological Survey headquarters on 20 May, where he made presentations on 'The IGCP, past, present and...future?' and 'The International Year of Planet Earth', and was invited to take part in a working meeting of the IGCP National Committee. He also took the opportunity to confer with Dr. Olov Selinus, one of his co-leaders in IGCP 454 (Medical Geology).

Clive Gamble chaired and organised the second workshop of the NERC directed programme Environmental factors and chronology in human evolution and dispersal (EFCHED) at the assembly Rooms, Newcastle on March 17th.

Clive Gamble presented a paper on 'Kinship and material culture' at a seminar organised by the Royal Anthropological Institute in association with the British Academy Lucy to

Language project. 'Evolutionary approaches to early kinship' was held at the Gregynog centre, University of Wales 20-22nd March.

Tim Unwin and **Michelle Seligner** participated in the "World Conference on Harnessing the Potential of IT for Capacity Building" organised by UNESCO and the Club of Rome in Paris from 11th-13th May 2005. Tim moderated the interactive session with Arab States on 12th May, with participants from Egypt , Jordan and Kuwait joining by video link.