FIRST CIRCULAR

The third Radiocarbon and Diet conference will take place at Oxford University on September 14-16 September 2020. The meeting will be held at St Anne's College.

As in previous meetings the major focus of this workshop will be on aspects of past dietary adaptations of prehistoric human groups and the application of radiocarbon, coupled with stable isotopes that gives insight into past diet. There is growing awareness of the link between radiocarbon variation and dietary choice and the influence on the construction of reliable chronologies. We welcome presentations which apply diet-related stable isotopes to the archaeological past, including carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, hydrogen and sulphur, and link this with radiocarbon dating to understand more fully the chronology of sites and regions. We are planning an interesting and diverse meeting, with a range of sessions planned, covering marine, terrestrial and aquatic lifeways from different geographical locations and periods. We also invite comment and suggestions on these preliminary session titles (see below).

Our social programme will include an icebreaker drinks reception, a College conference dinner and an aquatic/freshwater themed walk and pub outing.

Professor Richard Evershed (Bristol) will present the conference keynote address.

We look forward to seeing you in Oxford!

Preliminary session suggestions:

- Human dietary adaptations in high latitudes (this will include a special session on the Baikal project)
- New tissues, materials and questions in palaeodietary research. This session will
 include specific focus on new compound specific approaches to radiocarbon dating
 and dietary adaptation and what this might tell us.
- Human and animal diet reconstruction using numerical methods.
- Amorphous food remains radiocarbon dating and paleodiet reconstruction. This
 session will explore the problems surrounding dating the remains of foods found on
 archaeological vessels, such as black carbon crusts, and challenges therein.
- Palaeodiet reconstructions and chronologies.
- The marine reservoir effect: complex issues and current challenges.
- High resolution approaches in radiocarbon chronologies and human life histories.
- Diet in the tropics and approaches to circumventing problems of organic preservation.
- Baseline data: radiocarbon dating and stable isotope studies of potential food resources.