

# London Anthropology Day

## *Programme*

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011

<b>9:30 - 10:30</b>	<b>Registration and Refreshments</b> Upon registering, participants will have the opportunity to look at photo and career exhibitions produced by the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) as well as visit university stalls.
<b>10:30 - 10:50</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Curator Lissant Bolton will welcome participants to the event and inform them of anthropology at the British Museum. Following her introduction, Dr. Paul Basu (UCL) will share some of his insight into what anthropology entails, and why it is such an intriguing and essential discipline for the 21 <sup>st</sup> century. RAI's Education Officer & LAD Manager Nafisa Fera, will explain the day's schedule, while highlighting essential details of the event.
<b>11:00 - 11:45</b>	<b>First parallel workshops</b>
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Second parallel workshops</b>
<b>13:15 -13:55</b>	<b>Lunch</b> Participants will bring their own packed lunches, while drinks and snacks will be provided. Students will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from universities at the event, and gain further information from the numerous information boards on display.
<b>14:00 - 14:50</b>	<b>Third parallel workshops</b>
<b>15:00 -15:45</b>	<b>University Admissions &amp; Careers in Anthropology</b> Dr. Tamsin Bradley (London Met) offers information and advice about applying to study anthropology at university and career possibilities with an anthropology degree.
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Refreshments, information stalls and a chance to talk to students and lecturers.</b>

## LONDON ANTHROPOLOGY DAY 2011 WORKSHOPS

### **WORKSHOP SESSION 1 11:00-11:45**

#### **Body Art & Symbolism: Contemporary Tattoos**

What does a tattoo mean for the person wearing it, the person creating it and those who see it? What happens between tattooist and client during a tattooing session? In this workshop, participants will look at a number of contemporary tattoos and designs. They will explore some of the social relations and networks involved in present-day tattooing; and will learn how an anthropological perspective can help us understand the full range of meanings expressed in tattooing and tattoos.

*Room: Stevenson*  
Goldsmiths University: Cyril Siorat

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#### **'Coming of Age' on Screen - Filmmaking as a Research Technique in Anthropology**

In this workshop, students will look at the way in which anthropology and film combine to give a particular insight into different people's worlds. We will watch *TIEMPO DE VALS*, a documentary film about how the 'Quinceañera', a 15<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration which is shared by the whole community of Tetlanohcan, a rapidly urbanizing agricultural town in Tlaxcala, Central Mexico. Following the film, we will have a Q&A session with the filmmaker Barbara Knorpp who will share her fieldwork experiences.

*Room: BP*  
Royal Anthropological Institute: Barbara Knorpp

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#### **Feeding Fasting, Feasting: Anthropology of Food NOW FULLY BOOKED**

In this workshop we will draw on insights from the human sciences, archaeology and anthropology to explore how, what people eat and how they prepare and eat it, can tell us something about society and culture. We will also look at evidence from archaeology and evolutionary anthropology to consider changes in the human diet and the use of artefacts in the preparation of food.

*Room: Moser*  
Oxford University: Elizabeth Ewart

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#### **Culture, Biology and the Revolution in Human Evolution** **NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Culture has played a critical role in the evolutionary success of our species, enabling us to colonise almost every corner of the planet. Our capacity to modify our environments (for example, through agriculture and the construction of cities) has changed the course of natural selection both for ourselves and many other species. This workshop will consider the relationship between cultural and biological evolution. When and how is culture

adaptive? Can culture give rise to ideas and behaviours that conflict with the genetic imperatives to survive and reproduce? What are the similarities and differences in the ways that cultural traits and genes evolve?

*Room: Studio*

Durham University: Jamie Tehrani

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### **Anthropology of Fairytales NOW FULLY BOOKED**

This workshop explores some familiar European fairytales, showing how they open a window into pre-Christian conceptions of death and resurrection. Across much of Aboriginal Australia, Africa and Native America, initiation rituals were traditionally conceptualised in terms of temporary death followed by a return to new life. Stories such as the Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood and Jack-and-the-Beanstalk emanate from now almost-forgotten European traditions in which girls and boys were initiated into the secrets and mysteries of adult sexual life. Drawing on techniques first developed by the French anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss, Dr. Power will demonstrate an intriguingly close kinship between European tales of enchantment and myths collected by anthropologists from distant parts of the globe.

*Room: Sackler 1*

University of East London: Camilla Power

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### **Human Evolution - 7 million years in the making! NOW FULLY BOOKED**

The breath-taking story of human evolution in just 45 minutes. Answering such questions as; Where did we come from? Why do we walk on two legs? Why are we so clever? And of course; If we evolved from monkeys, why are there still monkeys?

*Room: Sackler 2*

Oxford Brookes University: Simon Underdown

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### **About the house: exploring the nomadic tent**

What can houses teach us about what we value, what a family is, and how social hierarchies are structured? We often take the houses we live and grew up in for granted. And yet their very 'ordinariness' can teach us lots about how we organize social life, how we draw boundaries between what is 'clean' and 'unclean', and what (or who) should be properly included inside or outside the home. In this workshop we'll explore one particular kind of dwelling – the nomadic tent used by pastoralists in large parts of Inner Asia – as a way of exploring how social space is organized in different societies according to gender, age and social status. We'll then think back to dwellings in the UK to ask how an anthropological perspective might enable us to think about houses, kinship and class closer to home.

*Room: IT*

Manchester University: Madeleine Reeves

**WORKSHOP SESSION 2      12:00-13:00**

**The Engaged Anthropologist: Activism, Human Rights and Community Development**

This workshop will explore the world of applied anthropology looking specifically at how the subject is used in the professional context of community development both in the UK and the developing world. This workshop will examine the relationship between anthropology and forms of activism and the controversial area of human rights. We will reflect on questions such as; can anthropologists straddle the dual roles of research and activism? How can anthropology help promote a fairer world? How can ethnography be used to help alleviate poverty?

*Room: Stevenson*  
London Metropolitan University: Tamsin Bradley

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**The Anthropology of Toilets\***

This film workshop will consist of a short talk followed by the screening of a film about toilets in Indian cities entitled "Q2P" by Paromita Vohra. The film is something of a response to the characterisations of urban Indian space as one of public defecation and the omnipresence of excrement. It asks provocative questions such as who the toilets are for, why there aren't more toilets and how the provision of toilets allows us anthropological insights into the contours of urban Indian class, caste and gender hierarchies. The film allows us to explore a "fecal politics" that is predicated upon the anthropologist Appadurai's notion that the distance one is able to create between oneself and one's own excrement is a virtual indicator of an Indian's class.

*\* For ages 16 and over. This workshop will be primarily film-based\**

*Room: BP*  
University of Cambridge: Perveez Mody

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**A Journey through Human Evolution **NOW FULLY BOOKED****

In this workshop we will start by looking at a short video giving you an overview of human evolution. This is then followed by some hands-on experiments. The first one will look at the evolution of the human skeleton. The second looks at the evolution of the brain. In the third one you will learn how to tell a primate's diet from looking at their teeth.

*Room: Moser*  
University College London: Anna Barros

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## **The human animal why we cant escape our biology\* NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Whether we perceive ourselves as cognizant animals or artificial apes, we cannot disguise the fact that despite much cultural sophistication our existence is still deeply rooted in biology we sit somewhere between biology and culture. Human skeletal biology provides vital clues for the reconstruction of our evolutionary and cultural history. Bones tell us about the dispersal of humans and how this is interlinked with patterns of disease and the distribution of pathogens. Major transitions in human history are associated with dramatic effects on health and mortality. How can we detect the effects of such events and developments? The workshop will provide opportunities for interactive exploration of skeletal variation and change in modern humans and hominid species, allowing an appreciation of bones as a major archive of biocultural evolution. Practical applications of skeletal variation include forensic identification and osteobiographical reconstruction of historic individuals.

*Room: Studio*

Bournemouth University: Holger Schutkowski

\* This workshop has replaced the **Tracking the Beast of the Bont** workshop

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## **Picturing Other People's Lives- getting to grips with culture in Papua New Guinea NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Anthropology is the study of other people. As anthropologists, we are interested in making sense of the ways in which other people live. This involves both questioning the apparently familiar, and interpreting the seemingly bizarre.

This workshop will give you the opportunity for some hands on experience of the work of anthropology. You will be invited to investigate the social lives of people from Panapompom Island in south east Papua New Guinea. Through examining photographs and other sources, you will piece together an interpretation of common and unusual aspects of life on the island. Come prepared with an open mind, attention to detail and plenty of imagination.

*Room: Sackler 1*

Brunel University: Peggy Froerer and William Rollason

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## **What is a Drug? Anthropological Perspectives on Consciousness NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Anthropological research has shown that people all over the world use 'drugs' but there is no universal definition of what a drug actually is. Why do people use drugs? What is the difference between a 'drug' and a 'medicine?' Why are some drugs prohibited, while others are socially acceptable? Through a combination of lecture, discussion and hands-on activity, this workshop will address these questions and consider the place of drugs in various societies, throughout time and space. Specific case studies of drug use will include the spiritual use of cannabis among the Rastafari, the use of various psychedelic drugs for healing and the use of alcohol as a social lubricant.

*Room: Sackler 2*

University of Kent: Anna Waldstein and Cameron Adams

### **Teaching Biological Anthropology at A-level \*\*\***

This session will explore what biological anthropology is! It will focus on the contents of the subject and its context within the A-level syllabus. The session will be structured around a short introductory briefing and an open-floor discussion of topic areas, resources and subject development.

*\*\*\* This workshop is exclusive to teachers and non-student participants\*\*\**

*Room: IT*

RAI's Education Committee Members: Laura Bishop and Simon Underdown

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### ***Exploring Anthropology through the British Museum: Gallery Tours with BM staff***

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## **WORKSHOP SESSION 3 14:00- 15:00**

### **Honour, Conflict and Coercion: The Anthropology of Violence**

### **NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Whether experienced as rivalry between individuals, ethnic conflict or criminal coercion, violence is a central feature of many societies. In this session we will use excerpts from two anthropological and documentary films to discuss the ways in which violent acts may have many different motivations for the people that commit them. Participants will be asked to consider the ways in which the Anthropologist might understand conflicts within small communities, acts such as genocide and rioting, and the violence of organised crime.

*Room: Stevenson*

London School of Economics: Andrew Sanchez

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### **Bodies and Performances**

In the West, a beautiful body is often defined as a thin body. It may be surprising to learn, then, that in other cultures entirely different ideals of beauty exist. Among Fijians, for example, a full, rounded body is desirable, and is proof that a person is well cared for by their family and community. Bodies and bodily performances are important across all cultures and have been throughout history. Quite often, however, the very same bodies or practices carry different meanings depending on the respective cultures. In this workshop we will explore some anthropological approaches to the body, considering practices such as tattooing, piercing, scarring, masking, and wearing clothes, and find out how they express differences in individual, ethnic, religious, or gendered identities. Students will be venturing into the space of the British Museum to gather examples from past and contemporary peoples, which we will discuss together.

*Room: BP*

University of Sussex: Anne-Meike Fechter

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### **Forensic Anthropology NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Beauty may be only skin deep, but identity goes down to the bone. This workshop will look at how forensic anthropologists identify the sex and age of individuals from their skeletons. We will focus on the two areas of the human skeleton which are most useful for determining its sex, the skull and the bony pelvis. We will also look at the various ways of telling how old an individual was at death - teeth and the growth and deterioration of the skeleton. This workshop will help you understand how anthropologists go about the first stages of identifying individuals from their bones.

*Room: Moser*

Liverpool John Moores University: Steph Davy-Jow

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### **Photographs and Anthropology NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Today more people take photographs and own a camera than ever before. We are constantly taking photos of important and mundane events throughout our lives. Photography has become an intrinsic part of our culture. But what do photographs do, how do they mediate and express social relationships? How can photographs be used in social research and what has anthropology to say about the world of photography? In this workshop we will explore these questions by looking at the act and interpretation of photography in anthropology. We will also look at a recent project I carried out with a group of young photographers from Rio de Janeiro where we investigated different events and spaces in the city related to public action and activism. In this workshop we will also be trying out some techniques for using photography in a research situation so bring along a photograph that is important to you.

*Room: Studio*

Bristol University: Udi Butler

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### **New Media, Technology and Society NOW FULLY BOOKED**

New media inevitably evoke questions of the relationship between technology and society or social practices. How often have you heard people say that the Internet or mobile phones, for instance, have changed the way we work, think or interact. However, do technologies shape human interaction or vice versa? Focusing on new media examples in particular, this workshop will offer an initial consideration of how we should understand the relationships between technologies and society, put new media into historical perspective and ask just what it may be that is 'new' about new media.

*Room: Sackler 1*

The School of Oriental and African Studies: Kevin Latham

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## **Intelligent Objects – a hands-on workshop examining ‘thinking’ beer cans and other objects**

What do objects do and what do they demand from us? Why do they provoke such powerful responses and how do they influence us? This hands-on workshop aims to explore these questions and the emerging realisation that objects are not just lifeless things that convey meaning, but act as animated beings with desires, needs, appetites, demands and drives of their own. We will begin with a demonstration of ‘thinking’ beer cans before an interactive session with students handling a range of ethnographic objects.

*Room: Sackler 2*

UCL-Anthropology Department: Dr Laurence Douny and Prof Mike Rowlands

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## **Monkey Business in Morocco NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Biological anthropologist Stuart Semple and social anthropologist Garry Marvin, offer a workshop on their research into human-monkey (Barbary macaque) interactions in and around Azrou in Morocco. They will introduce the relationships between wild monkeys, farmers, townspeople, tourists, research workers, forestry and wildlife officials. At a more general level they will consider what biological anthropologists and social anthropologists, working together, can contribute to understanding, and possibly offering advice on, human-wildlife interactions; interactions that are often situations of conflict.

*Room: IT*

University of Roehampton: Garry Marvin and Stuart Semple

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## ***Exploring Anthropology through the British Museum: Gallery Tours with BM staff***

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## WORKSHOP TIMETABLE LAD 2011

	Stevenson	BP	Moser	Studio	Sackler 1	Sackler 2	IT room	Galleries
11.00 to 11.45	<b>Body Art &amp; Symbolism</b>  Cyril Siorat Goldsmiths University	<b>Coming of Age on Screen</b>  Barbara Knorpp RAI	<b>Feeding, Fasting, Feasting</b>  Elizabeth Ewart Oxford University  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Culture, Biology and the revolution in human evolution</b>  Jamie Tehrani Durham  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Anthro of Fairytales</b>  Camilla Power UEL  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Human Evolution- 7 million years</b>  Simon Underdown Oxford Brookes  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>About the house: exploring the nomadic tent</b>  Madeleine Reeves Manchester University  <b>NEWLY AVAILABLE</b>	<b>Museum Tour</b>  Living and Dying Exhibition  BM Staff
12.00 to 13.00	<b>The Engaged Anthropologist</b>  Tamsin Bradley London Met University	<b>The Anthropology of Toilets</b>  Perveez Mody University of Cambridge	<b>A Journey through Human Evolution</b>  Anna Barros UCL  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>The human animal why we cant escape our biology</b>  Holger Schutkowski	<b>Picturing Other People's Lives</b>  Peggy Froerer and William Rollason Brunel  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>What is a Drug?</b> Anna Waldstein and Cameron Adams Kent  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Teaching Biological Anthropology at A-level</b>  Laura Bishop Simon Underdown	<b>Museum Tour</b>  Living and Dying Exhibition  BM Staff
13.00	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>
14.00 to 15.00	<b>Honour, Conflict and Coercion</b>  Andrew Sanchez LSE  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Bodies and Performance</b>  Anne-Meike Fechter Sussex	<b>Forensic Anthropology</b>  Steph Davy Jow Liverpool John Moores  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Photographs and anthropology</b>  Udi Butler Bristol  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>New Media, Technology and Society</b>  Kevin Latham SOAS  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Intelligent Objects</b>  Dr Laurence Douny and Prof Mike Rowlands	<b>Monkey Business in Morocco</b>  Garry Marvin and Stuart Semple Roehampton  <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Museum Tour</b>  Living and Dying Exhibition  BM Staff