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VII. Announcements

Pamela Jane Smith advises that the next Personal-Histories retrospective discussion for 2008 is now scheduled for Monday afternoon, 3 November 2008 in Cambridge; this event will be fully advertised closer to that time but, as a brief preview, the speakers are Leslie Aiello, Rob Foley or Marta Mirazón Lahr, Meave Leakey, David Pilbream, Chris Stringer with Adam Kuper as Chair; the narrators will recall memories and recount experiences of their study of human evolution during the last 40 years.

VIII. Conference reports

Report on Childe Conference Held in Durham

Report by **Rana Daroogheh**, AREA/PhD Student, Department of Archaeology, Durham University

More than fifty guests from local and foreign archaeological organizations visited Durham University on December 1 2007, to pay tribute to the late Professor Gordon Childe on the 50th anniversary of his death. The conference was funded by the Prehistoric Society, the Department of Archaeology at Durham University and the AREA Project, with the aim of celebrating Childe's vast contributions to the field of archaeology with a series of lectures reflecting his many archaeological interests, such as: the origins of civilizations, economic pre-history, settlement typologies and Marxist ideas in theory of archaeology.

Lectures were divided accordingly into two parts: the first – 'Childe in History' and the second – 'Childe and Knowledge'. The first speaker was Professor Jacek Lech (Polish Academy of Science, Warsaw) who appropriately started the conference with an overall evaluation of Childe's achievements throughout his life. He was followed by Professor Timothy Champion (University of Southampton) who analysed Childe's reasons for choosing Oxford to broaden his education after leaving Australia. Professor Ian Ralston (University of Edinburgh) continued to trace Childe's career in Britain by assessing his achievements at the University of Edinburgh as teacher and researcher. Professor David Harris (University College of London) moved on by examining Childe's experience as the director of the London Institute of Archaeology and his influence on the formation of archaeology as a global discipline. The first part of the conference was brought to an end with a lecture by Dr. Margarita Díaz-Andreu (Durham University) who focused her discussion on the influence and reception of Childe's ideas in an international context, before and after his death.

The second part of the conference began with a lecture from Dr. John Chapman (Durham University)