

EAR Group - Final Bulletin

There, that got your attention.

There is a problem with the name, "Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group": Durham University have a prior claim. There are also EARs in several US Universities, and it seems to be a common name for anthropology groups limited to one University (which we are not).

I want to give out some flyers for the group at the forthcoming Evolang conference in Leipzig, and I don't want to keep explaining "no, not that EAR, we're independent". I therefore propose that we change the name. My suggestion is "Evolutionary Anthropology Online Research Community" (EA-ORC). If anyone has other suggestions I will be happy to put them to a vote.

Whatever the new name, business carries on as usual. There will be a new site address, but that's about it.

Martin Edwardes

EAR Group at <http://www.btinternet.com/~martin.edwardes/earg/>

EAR Group or Whatever - Bulletin 34

*** NOTICES: ***

First, the renaming. We have two suggestions:

--- Evolutionary Anthropology Online Research Community

--- Evolutionary Anthropology Diffuse Online Research Community

Votes by next week, please. In the case of a draw, I get the casting vote (a perk of the job).

Next, Lynda McNeil has suggested that we have a webpage for events that may be of interest to the group. I'm happy to add an extra page and keep it up-to-date but, if you don't want it to turn into a paean to linguistics, I will need to be kept informed of any events you think suitable. I already do the conference web page for BAAL (see http://www.baal.org.uk/conf_diary.htm) so our page will initially look something like this. Any other suggestions gratefully received. I won't have time to do it today (I'm up to my ears in job applications) but it will be ready by next Monday.

*** THIS WEEK'S ARTICLES: ***

If you need copies let me know.

--- New Scientist, 24 January 2004 ---

THIS WEEK

... EMILY SINGER - It's the little things that get to you [resentment is weird: affairs get forgiven, leaving the dirty washing up doesn't]

IN BRIEF

... Humans and Neanderthals had separate evolutionary pathways

FEATURES

... RICHARD HOLLINGHAM - In the realm of your senses [we have all wondered whether other people sense the world in the same way we do]

INTERVIEW

... ALEXANDRA AIKHENVALD - For want of a word [the importance of recording dying languages]

--- Nature, 22 January 2004 ---

NEWS FEATURE

... CARINA DENNIS - The most important sexual organ (male and female brains begin to differentiate earlier than we thought]

LETTERS

... YAOWALAK CHAIMANEE et al - A new orang-utan relative from the late Miocene of Thailand

... AMY POREMBA et al - Species-specific calls evoke asymmetric activity in the monkey's temporal poles [left-right brain asymmetry in language could be pre-linguistic]

--- Science, 16 January 2004 ---

REPORTS

... BRENTON COOPER & FRANZ GOLLER - Multimodal signals: enhancement and constraint of song motor patterns by visual display

--- BBC Wildlife, February 2004 ---

... ELEANOR O'HANLON - Polly wants a dictionary [N'kisi the African Grey Parrot doesn't parrot; he talks. What's more, he has a sense of humour]

--- Times Literary Supplement, 30 January 2004 ---

... JOHN MCCRONE - Reasons to forget [reviews of how the mind forgets and remembers - Daniel Schlachter; Memory and Emotion - James McGaugh; Memories are made of this - Rusiko Bourtchouladze]

--- Current Anthropology, Volume 44, December 2003 ---

... CHRISTOPHER HENSHILWOOD & CURTIS MAREAN - the origin of modern human behaviour: critique of the models and their test implications [the cognitive capacity for modern human behaviour was present with Homo sapiens, but it took 100ky to be expressed in behaviour - also a mention of IAN WATTS and Blombos cave]

... TRENTON HOLLIDAY - Species concepts, reticulation and human evolution [can we distinguish speciation from hybridization in the fossil record?]

... JASON KAUFMAN - On the expensive-tissue hypothesis: independent support from highly encephalized fish [the only other species found with a relatively large, high-cost brain also has a small gut]

... THOMAS HOLLAND & MICHAEL O'BRIEN - On morning sickness and the Neolithic revolution [did a change of diet bring on morning sickness?]

... RICHARD SOSIS & BRADLEY RUFFLE - Religious ritual and cooperation: testing for a relationship on Israeli religious and secular kibbutzim

... MARCO JANSSEN et al - Sunk-cost effects and vulnerability to collapse in ancient societies

--- CA Special Issue ---

... ARTHUR WOLF - Maternal sentiments: how strong are they? [not as strong as the propaganda tells us?]

... PER HAGE & JEFF MARCK - Matrilineality and the Melanesian origin of Polynesian Y chromosomes [genetic evidence supports the matrilineal hypothesis]

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Martin Edwardes

EARG Group at <http://www.btinternet.com/~martin.edwardes/earg/>