

**August 2010**

### **Professor Clive Gamble is appointed to the board of the British Museum**

Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries has appointed Professor Clive Gamble to the board of the British Museum. His term of appointment will run for four years from 2 August 2010.

#### **Biographical Notes**

Clive Gamble, born in 1951, is the UK's foremost archaeologist investigating our earliest ancestors. His work is recognised nationally and internationally through prizes awarded for his books and medals from learned societies for his contribution to the study of the earliest human societies.

He is a Fellow of both the Society of Antiquaries and the British Academy and co-directs the Academy's Centenary Project *From Lucy to Language, the archaeology of the social brain* that seeks answers to the question of how and when human minds developed. He has conducted fieldwork in Europe, most recently in Greece where, building on excavations at the Klithi rockshelter in the 1980s, he has led an AHRC funded programme to record and publish on the web all the field-surveys undertaken in this country in the past 50 years. *The Prehistoric Stones of Greece* project provides the first overview of all the stone tools that have been found in the country and is the only comprehensive guide to such an archaeological resource anywhere in Europe.

Clive Gamble was appointed in 1975 to his first post as an Experimental Officer in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Southampton. He was promoted to Professor in 1996. During his time at Southampton he served on departmental, faculty and university committees and held leadership positions at all levels. In 1999 he founded the Centre for the Archaeology of Human Origins at the university.

In 2004 he joined Royal Holloway College in the University of London and moved from a department of archaeology to one of geography. This move allowed him to keep his close links with Quaternary science while broadening his interests in social and cultural issues including development studies and interdisciplinary work on the cultural geography of place.

#### **Background**

1. The British Museum holds in trust for the nation and the world a collection of art and antiquities from ancient and living cultures. Housed in one of Britain's architectural landmarks, the collection is one of the finest in existence, spanning two million years of human history. The Board of Trustees of the British Museum has statutory duties under the British Museum Act 1963 and Museums and Galleries Act 1992 for the general management and control of the Museum and for the appointment of the director.
2. The post is not remunerated. Reasonable expenses can be claimed.

3. The Society of Antiquaries has the right to nominate an appointment to the board of the British Museum. The Society recommend two candidates and the British Museum agreed to appoint Clive Gamble
4. The nomination process was carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Professor Clive Gamble has not undertaken any significant political activity during the last five years.