

you are invited to the
MEMO Project
**May Micro Festival
Portland 2008**

stonecarving
bell founding
theatre & talks



all
events
are
free!



The project to commemorate
the world's extinct species

May Micro Festival

The Micro Festival brings together the most eminent of scientists with some of the finest stonecarvers in the land, and the story of Portland stone with 'London's Leonardo', the forgotten genius Robert Hooke. At the heart of the festival will be the casting of a bell to be tolled for extinct species on *International Day of Biodiversity* on Thursday 22 May.

Three extraordinary artworks will be created at the *Micro Festival*:

- A 'Stone Circle' bearing the images of extinct and nearly extinct creatures to be carved by sculptors Glynn Williams, Harry Brockway, Tim Lees, John Sellman, Gillian Forbes and Gareth Newman
- To be carved by the public, *Unique Tessellations* by Peter Randall-Page, creator of the extraordinary *Seed* sculpture at the Eden Project. VERY MANY PARTICIPANTS OF ABSOLUTELY NO CARVING EXPERIENCE ARE REQUIRED. ALLCOMERS ARE WELCOME. Supervision led by Roy Pepperell, Joanna Szuwalska, Sebastian Brooke, Anthony Denman and Paul Lister.
- The 'forerunner' MEMO bell to be tolled for extinct species, sculpted by Marcus Vergette, creator of the *Time and Tide Bell* and cast at the festival by Andy Griffiths of the West Wales School of Art.

Paul Hyland will be the Micro festival writer-in-residence.



MEMO Project May Micro Festival Portland 2008

www.memoproject.org

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Mass Extinction Memorial Observatory

daytime events

All the daytime events will take place under the tent on the clifftop at the end of Bumper's Lane, Portland. Disabled Parking only. Please use the Free Park and Ride from New Ground or alternatively find us from the Coast Path. Refreshments available.

activities

Saturday 17 May 9am - 5pm

Sculptors carving the Stone Circle

ALL WELCOME to help carve Peter Randall-Page's *Unique Tessellations*. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY



Saturday 17 May 5pm

Pouring the bell



Sunday 18 May 9am - 5pm

Sculptors carving the Stone Circle

ALL WELCOME to help carve Peter Randall-Page's *Unique Tessellations*. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Sunday 18 May 5pm

Extracting the bell from the mould



Thursday 22 May 8am

International Day of Biodiversity

Tolling the bell for extinct species

M E M O

“The MEMO project should never have been necessary. But necessary it is, and I am glad to see human imagination involved in the task of commemorating the diversity of life rather than diminishing it.” Philip Pullman *MEMO Patron*

Cover: Dodo, died out sometime between 1662 - 1693; below, the Northern White Rhino has a lineage stretching back 60 million years. It is not yet extinct. Between 5 and 10 individuals survive in the Garamba National Park World Heritage site in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

evening events

All the evening events take place at Royal Manor Arts College, Portland. There will be refreshments after all the evening events and the opportunity for questions and discussion about the MEMO Project. Charity collections after the performances of *Hanging Hooke* will be in aid of local and international conservation.

talks

Tuesday 13 May 7pm

The accelerating extinction of biodiversity

Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance, former director of Kew Gardens and director of science at the Eden Project

The MEMO Project

Sebastian Brooke *project director*

Friday 16 May 7pm

The history of quarrying on Portland

Stuart Morris, Portland's historian

The MEMO Project

Sebastian Brooke *project director*

Sponsored by the Jurassic Coast Trust

Saturday 17 May 7pm

The extinction of the Yangtze Dolphin

Dr. Sam Turvey of the Zoological Society, recently returned from field research in China



Sunday 18 May 7pm

Was Dorset the birthplace of environmental geology?

Hugh Torrens, Emeritus Professor of History of Science & Technology, University of Keele and native of Dorset

theatre

Monday 19 & Tuesday 20 May 7pm

Hanging Hooke

Take the Space Theatre Co. presents *Chris Barnes* in a new play by Siobhan Nicholas.

Christopher Wren loved him. Isaac Newton loathed him. The forgotten genius of the 17th century provoked intense loyalty, jealousy and hatred. In 2006 his folio was discovered in a Hampshire farm house, this year a memorial to him will be unveiled in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Robert Hooke... your time has come.

Sponsored by the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Team



all events are free!

M E M O

MEMO is an educational charity dedicated to the building of an on-going memorial to extinct species

The MEMO will be a circular stone enclosure open to the sky whose inside wall will be carved with the images of all the species of plants and animals known to have gone extinct in modern times.

It will be both a scientific record of extinct species and a celebration in stone of the unique liveliness of each of them. At the moment no such record exists in any medium, anywhere.



The outside of the monument will be decorated with patterned friezes based on the forms of microorganisms, to be carved by secondary school children and other members of the public. It is proposed to produce the necessary carvings at a series of annual festivals 2009 - 2012, alongside the year-round work of apprentices.

The MEMO will incorporate a bell to be tolled each year for extinct species on International Day of Biodiversity in May and at the Micro Festival a 'forerunner' of the MEMO bell will be cast sponsored by the Dean and Chapter of St.Paul's Cathedral. In future years, others, including St.Paul's, which houses the biggest bell in Britain, may also toll for extinct species.



It is very much hoped that it will be possible to site the MEMO on Portland. The island would be a uniquely meaningful place to build it. It was the giant ammonites found in Portland stone that led Robert Hooke in the late seventeenth century to the idea that

species *could* go extinct. His discovery, in the aftermath of the Great Fire of London, was made just as the last of the Dodos were dying out on Maritius. Like his friend and architectural collaborator Christopher Wren, Robert Hooke was both scientist and artist. Following their example the MEMO Project seeks to bring together the sciences and the arts in the sober but magnificent purpose of commemorating those species lost in modern times.

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with wholehearted thanks to



LOMOND HOMES



and the MEMO Portland Supporters Group

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