



What caves tell us about fire and climate

CENTRE FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE (CAS)
SEMINAR SERIES

DATE: FRIDAY 4TH MAY
TIME: 3:30-4:30PM
VENUE: 41.G03A, UOW
PRESENTER: ANDY BAKER



Andy Baker is a Professor in the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences at UNSW Sydney, and is an Associate Investigator in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (CABAH). He has worked in the field of cave science since his PhD, struggling to obtain long, high-resolution, precisely-dated paleoclimate records from stalagmites.

SEMINAR OVERVIEW:

Caves contain valuable archives of earth and human history. One archive, calcium carbonate deposits such as stalagmites, can contain geochemical records of past environments. Unlocking these records is not simple, as stalagmite geochemistry can be determined by surface and cave environments as well as the complexity of karst hydrology. This presentation will provide a general overview of the uses of cave speleothems in paleoenvironmental work, followed by a specific focus on recent results which have investigated the potential for cave records of fire, climate and groundwater recharge.



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