

## AIMA Newsletter N°7 – June 2016



National Museum of Agriculture and Food Industry, Szreniawa, Poland, Pentecostal Festival 2016, K-L Burchill

## AIMA Newsletter N°7 – June 2016

- ❖ Be sure to visit the **AIMA website** at <http://agriculturalmuseums.org/> for more information and frequent updates on subjects concerning museums of agriculture, as well as a calendar of events.
- ❖ ... and send this **Newsletter** on to your friends to encourage them to join us in the AIMA, in its networks of practice, for advice, and at the **CIMA 18 Congress in Estonia in 2017!**

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### Highlights

**President's Message**  
**Vice-President's Message**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**

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**History of AIMA** enriched by news from Ted Collins and Wolfgang Jacobeit

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**News from AIMA Members** is chock full, from wickerwork to bursaries, heavy horses to *azulejos*, and much more

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**Networking with Friends** highlights news from ICOM, the

Compa in Chartres, long-time friends ALHFAM, EXARC, SFLS, GLASS, CAM with new news on digital technologies and flax/linen

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**Networks of Practice (working groups)** with news of Bread and Animals in Museums with ancient history reconstructed, the latest on the value of heritage animals in \$ and € + specific resources

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And finally, the **Resources** section gives you a chance to take inspiration from some classics

**Join AIMA or renew your membership**

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News from ICOM

EXARC

SFLS Society for Folk Life Studies

ALHFAM

CAM The Commonwealth Association of Museums

ENCATC European Network on Cultural Management and Policy

## **Networks of Practice (formerly "Working Groups")**

Fiber Plants

BREAD

Animals in Museums

- Photo-essay Howell Farm

- "Teaser" from Newsletter N°5

- How Much is a Banker Horse Worth?

- The *vallus* Gallo-Roman harvester

## **Resources**

Modern horse-drawn equipment

*Horse-Powered Farming for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

## **Books / Classic**

Märkisches Museum Berlin booklets

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**CIMA Proceedings available**

**AIMA Membership Form**

**Coming Soon**

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**Many thanks to all the AIMA members and friends who have contributed to the Newsletter!**

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**President Merli Sild's Message is simple! Mark this date.**



**COME TO ESTONIA (Ülenurme, near Tartu)  
for CIMA 18 / 10-15 May 2017  
Estonian National Agricultural Museum  
"Traditions and Change – Sustainable Futures"**



**Come and meet our traditions, for our today and tomorrow  
You can even go for a "swing"**



<https://agriculturalmuseums.org/triennial-congress-cima/estonia-agricultural-museum-to-host-cima-18-2017/>

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## Vice-President Deb Reid's Message: Help serve AIMA



The next AIMA Congress (CIMA 18) will be in Tartu, Estonia, at the Estonian National Agricultural Museum, May 9-13, 2017, hosted by our President, Merli Sild, and I have just returned from the annual AIMA Executive Committee meeting in Szreniawa Poland. It preceded another conference, hosted by the National Agricultural Museum in Szreniawa, about animals, crops and museum pedagogy. This idea of an **Executive Committee meeting in conjunction with a professional conference** has gotten some traction, and **it furthers the AIMA goal of supporting the expansion of agricultural museum networks of practice at the national and international levels.** Being on the Executive Committee is demanding and we look for AIMA members who would have the time, support, and inclination to serve. This is a **significant commitment** to travel to annual Executive Committee meetings (locations for meetings over the next five years follow), and to **participate** in conferences that might occur in conjunction with these meetings (the triennial AIMA Congresses – CIMA 19 in 2020, as well as conferences organized by hosts, as occurred in Poland last week, and as we hope will occur in India in 2018 and Slovenia in 2019).

The Executive Committee members attend the meetings, work to **promote** networks

of practice (one of which includes living animals in museums, but others address restoration/conservation in agricultural museums; sustainability research, bread/food; and fiber plants), **share their expertise** in short info-pieces posted via AIMA's website and social media/digital communication outlets. Technically, being elected starts a 9-year term (attendance at three to four CIMA meetings; and ideally nine annual Executive Committee meetings, but members have the freedom to resign at any time if required). Costs: transportation to the site, lodging, and registration for formal conferences is the responsibility of the Executive Committee member. Host sites often (but not always) provide food and transportation at the meeting site). The costs vary widely, depending on the venue.

A typical Executive Committee meeting consists of a very full agenda, including reports from the Secretary General, treasurer, webmaster, from the future congress host, from the groups working on administration (especially the statutes), on the strategic plan and the social media/digital communication/other publications.

The **AIMA has a long history of very broad representation**, with Executive Committee members, principally from Europe, but also from Japan and North America, and we are proud to now have an active member from India, with hopes to expand to other countries and regions for which engagement in the future of agricultural museums is often a newly discovered cultural priority. For more information about the AIMA, please see the website:

[www.agriculturalmuseums.org](http://www.agriculturalmuseums.org)

Debra Reid, Eastern Illinois University

[dareid@eiu.edu](mailto:dareid@eiu.edu)

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**11-12 May 2016 Executive Committee meeting at the  
National Agricultural and Food Industry Museum  
in Szreniawa, Poland**

See the Report in the next issue of the Newsletter

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## **News about Agriculture and Food**

### **International Year of Pulses**

**What food is high in protein, low in fat, packed with vitamins and minerals and above all else, tasty?**

*AIMA member Canada Agriculture and Food Museum is spreading the word. 2016 is the international year of pulses.*



*Image courtesy of Pulse Canada*

2016 is the International Year of Pulses and a great opportunity to learn that pulses — dried peas, beans, lentils, and chickpeas, which are all edible seeds of plants in the legume family — are a healthy and sustainable food. Even though Canada is one of the world's largest pulse producers and exporters, most Canadians know very little about this family of nutritious foods. To highlight the International Year of Pulses, the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, in partnership with Pulse Canada, has

developed a first-of-its-kind travelling exhibition to raise awareness about pulses.

The specific objectives of the International Year of Pulses 2016 are to:

- Raise awareness about the important role of pulses in sustainable food production and healthy diets and their contribution to food security and nutrition;
- Promote the value and utilization of pulses throughout the food system, their benefits for soil fertility and climate change and for combating malnutrition;
- Encourage connections throughout the food chain to further global production of pulses, foster enhanced research, better utilize crop rotations and address the challenges in the trade of pulses.
- <http://cafmuseum.techno-science.ca/en/index.php>

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## Public Enemy N° 1 - Superbugs

Fighting the battle against the growing resistance of “superbugs” to antibiotics that threaten health care systems and food industries.



A major threat to both the health care system and food production, “superbugs” are the object of a UK government report. It estimates that antimicrobial resistance will kill more people than cancer by 2050 and cost more than the value of today’s world economy, *before* consideration of any catastrophes in food production. Antibiotics enable animals to be kept in close quarters and promote growth, as well as rendering whole production industries more vulnerable to sudden collapse, so that Timothy Leighton (Professor of Ultrasonics and underwater acoustics, University of Southampton, UK) calls for an entirely new approach. His research and

development network brings together health scientists, clinicians, geographers, engineers, mathematicians, economists and business leaders. One surprisingly simple way to improve household hygiene is to treat running water with ultrasound, to make hand-washing with cold water as effective as with hot, soapy water, a totally non-chemical solution. Half of the milk cows in British herds suffer from lameness every year. To prevent infections spreading deep into the foot, farmers can use a clog with drainage channels under the abscess instead of moving straight for the antibiotics and 3D printing may one day facilitate such procedures. These are but two examples from the present work done by the NAMRIP (Network for Anti-Microbial Resistance and Infection Prevention\*\*). By Timothy Leighton in *New Scientist*, Vol. 229 N°3066, 26 March 2016, 32-33.

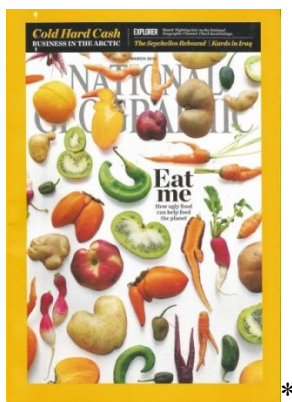
\*Low-temperature electron micrograph of a cluster of E. coli bacteria, magnified 10,000 times. March, 2005. The Agricultural Research Service, the research agency of the USDA ID K11077-1.

\*\*<http://www.southampton.ac.uk/namrip/index.page>

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## Combatting Food Waste

**“If food waste were a country, it would be the third largest producer of greenhouse gases in the world, after China and the U.S.”**



National Geographic magazine has devoted major articles every year to food issues, running from less polluting in fish farming, to promotion of insect-eating, on to the next green revolution. This article highlights the upside as well as the downside: growing numbers of groups that convert recovered food into healthy meals, specialists in promoting – and getting the public to pay a fair price for – malformed but nutritious vegetables and fruit. As usual, the graphics are highly

communicative and enable comparisons of countries' performance. Worldwide, 20% of food is lost during picking and sorting, 3% during storage and shipping, 2% during juice production, canning or baking, 9% is discarded at wholesalers and supermarkets and 19% is uneaten and discarded in homes, making totals of 47% consumed and 53% lost or wasted (FAO). Due to the variety of reasons for wastage, the geographic areas most seriously affected are often those where hunger is most severe, as in Latin America or Southeast Asia. If developed countries' consumers are responsible for most of the uneaten food in supermarkets, restaurants and the

home fridge, they can also adopt effective strategies for reducing the damage, from buying "odd" fruit and vegetables, to changing their shopping schedules, sharing dishes in a meal out, using the latest apps to remind of expiration dates or encouraging institutions and businesses to join official efforts, such as the USDA (Department of Agriculture) Food Waste Challenge, or consumers can themselves flag up excess supplies to online networks for effective recovery.

\*Elizabeth Royte, photographs Brian Finke. "Waste Not, Want Not" in *National Geographic*, March 2016, Vol. 229, No. 31-55.

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## AIMA History and Future Perspectives

### Wolfgang Jacobeit's 95th birthday celebrated

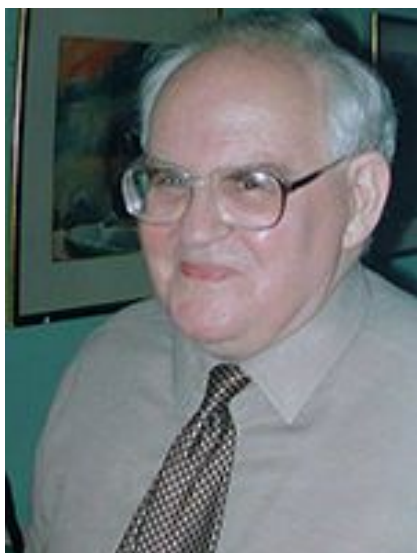


On May 31, 2016, the Institute for European Ethnology of the Humboldt University in Berlin brought together experts to celebrate the research of Dr. Jacobeit, a long-time member of AIMA, as readers can see (or discover!) from his numerous contributions over the years to the *AMA (Acta Museorum Agriculturae\*)*. Even belatedly, we wish Dr. Jacobeit a very happy 95th birthday and hope to have further news from him to share with AIMA Newsletter readers.

\*See the Index to the AMA created by Debra Reid at <https://agriculturalmuseums.org/publications/>

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## The history of AIMA: a personal perspective by Ted Collins



Anyone who knows Ted Collins will be familiar with his scholarly contributions – the **British Agricultural History Society dedicated its 2013 Winter Conference to him**, under the heading of “**Augmented Agriculture: Tools, fuel and traction in farming**”. Needless to say, he was and is very active in the AIMA and has given us the privilege of including a **complete article on the history of AIMA** as he saw it, full of his usual wit and insight, on the website. He was enrolled in the AIMA by a terrifying giant, swept up as delegate from the MERL (Museum of English Rural Life), then went on to many duties, as the monoglot among many colleagues who began counting the languages they spoke at three minimum. Ted fell into this world of **bridging the East and West, North and South of Europe** and watched its membership expand to North America,

Japan, India and Mexico, meeting along the way many of the major figures in agricultural museum management and collections, as well as in research extending to ecology, historical geography, ethnology and folklife.

He describes rubber-stampish plenaries and the friendliness of congress shoulder-rubbing, the impact of which often outweighed the contents of programmes, especially emphasizing the **courage of the Czech and Hungarian agricultural museums** in the pre-WWII period, who persisted to found the AIMA in the face of an often quite Cold War, and the challenges of the diversity of agricultural museums. They succeeded in creating an international platform that brought museums and scholars together for discussion, striving to insure a future for agricultural museums. Ted attributes this latter concern in great part to **Ed Hawes** and notes that the **AIMA served as precursor to the hopes of European reunification**, hardly an easy business and fraught with perils we now see as obvious. There are challenges, of course, and these were foreseen long ago. Among the hurdles to be overcome – museums at times being “marooned in the countryside” – Ted sees many a sign of hope. Please join him for the full report at <https://agriculturalmuseumsdotorg.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/ted-collinsaima-final2.pdf>.

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## AIMA Member Events, News, Announcements

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### “Livestock Husbandry and Traditional Farm Plants Cultivation in Museum Education” in Szreniawa, Poland/May 13-15, 2016

With approximately **50 participants and international representation from 10 countries**, the conference was an intense three days of sharing best practice and new visions for incorporating both animal husbandry and active crop cultivation to the educational programs and visitor experience in museums and ethnographic centres. Presentation **topics** ranged from engagement strategies to ethical debates on how to represent the human-flora-fauna relationships. A **common thread** throughout the conference was the acknowledgement that the use of living plants, animals and ecosystems was an effective method of engaging audiences that have become alienated from the sources of their food and many of the quality of life materials so many take for granted. Also acknowledged were the blurred lines which exist between environmental stress, animal well-being and the desire to educate and engage visitors in the historical and contemporary practices of animal husbandry, cultural and religious traditions and plant cultivation.



A **study trip** was planned for the afternoon and evening of the second day of the conference. The first stop was to Museum of Origins of Polish State (Gniezno) to learn about Poland’s 1,050 anniversary of Christianity. The second stop on the study trip was the Royal Cathedral in Gniezno for a fascinating tour of its history and archaeological foundation. Before touring First Piasts Museum in Lednica, the tour participants were treated to coffee, ice cream and raspberries in a newly refurbished restaurant. With energy lifted from the refreshments, the group embarked on a short ferry ride to the island of the First Piasts where we toured the ancient ruins. A short bus ride later the group explored the Muzeum Pierwszych Piastów na Lednicy where the group learned more about the history of the site and the “everyday” life of the Piasts that lived on the island in 10th and 11th centuries. The **highlight** for the author was seeing **the stauroteka artifact** that had been uncovered at the site. The next stop on the study tour was the Great Poland Ethnographic Park in Dziekanowice – a living history village where the group was given a tour of many of the historic structures on the site. The final stop on the study tour was the Museum of Natural Environment and Hunting, a museum dedicated to the story of hunting and nature in Uzarzwo. A delicious meal of assorted wild meats and local vegetables was the perfect ending to a day filled with discovery and camaraderie.

The conference ended on Sunday, May 15 with tours and demonstrations during the National Museum of Agriculture and Agricultural-Food Industry’s **Pentecost Festival**. Local

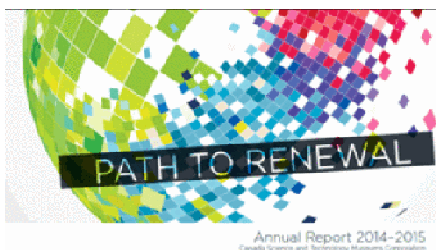
dignitaries, families and seniors were obviously pleased with the variety of activities, music, dancers, local vendors and the animal parade over the noon hour. With sheep shearing, blacksmithing, potato seeding and many other highlights, it was a perfect culmination of many of the topics that had been covered during the conference. This author was very impressed with the **hands-on workshops** that encouraged visitors and guests to try their hands at floral wreath making, basket weaving, calligraphy and embroidery. It was truly a pleasure to watch both young and older visitors explore the Museum and the cultural processes and treasures from their communities. On behalf of all of the participants, I congratulate and thank Dr Jan Maćkowiak and the entire Museum team for a wonderful conference and for their gracious hospitality.

Kerry-Leigh Burchill, Director General of the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum and Vice-President, International Association of Agriculture Museums [kburchill@techno-science.ca](mailto:kburchill@techno-science.ca)

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### Broadcasting an Annual Museums Meeting Live in Canada

AIMA institutional member **Canada Agriculture and Food Museum** belongs to the **Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation**. The STMC broadcasted live on March 23, 2016, its Annual Public Meeting to present the 2014-2015 report “**Path to Renewal**”, either in bilingual or in English. It was possible to join the meeting live online and at #SciTechLive.



The Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation is responsible for three national museums in Ottawa: the

Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, the Canada Aviation and Space Museum, and the Canada Science and Technology Museum. Through their stewardship of the national collection of artifacts and archives, the Museums are the keepers of Canada’s scientific and technological heritage. **Innovation, past and present, is a keyword** and the Corporation’s museums currently have many **outreach initiatives** in progress, the most important being the **Innovation Canada 150 digital storybook** which captures the people, places, and innovations that have contributed to our country’s success, helped shape our past, and inspired the next generation. For more information, contact Kerry-Leigh Burchill [kburchill@techno-science.ca](mailto:kburchill@techno-science.ca)

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### MERL (Museum of English Rural Life) Bursaries for Internships in Agricultural Museums



In July 2015 the International Association of Agricultural Museums and the Museum of English Rural Life at the University of Reading received a grant entitled “**Museums of Agriculture: Global Opportunities and International Networks**” from the Internationalisation Fund of the University of Reading to offer two bursaries during the academic year 2015-2016 to students keen to gain experience through an internship at an agricultural museum.

One **bursary is reserved for a student from the University of Reading** to undertake an internship at an overseas museum affiliated with a higher education institution. The second **bursary is reserved for a student from overseas** wishing to undertake an internship at the University of Reading, as hosted by the Museum of English Rural Life. Each proposed placement will: 1) Provide up to £1,000 to each student to meet costs incurred in the course of their bursary; 2) Run in the academic year 2015-2016, most likely during Summer 2016; 3) Enable each recipient to work closely with museum professionals, attend meetings, and participate in/contribute towards activities taking place during the internship; 4) Be a minimum of 2 weeks in length

**Provisional Partners:** Estonian Agricultural Museum (Estonia) in collaboration with the University of Tartu; Agrarmuseum Wandlitz (Germany) in collaboration with the Regional Institute for Folklore Studies of Berlin-Brandenburg, Humboldt University of Berlin; Others to be announced.

The **International Association of Agricultural Museums** gathers professionals from agricultural museums all over the world. It promotes scientific research and stimulates collaboration. Every three years it organises an international congress during which specific themes are presented and discussed. In the future it will focus its attention on developing countries. Agricultural museums must encourage development while at the same time remain critical of the deviations of intensive agriculture which destroy the environment and, above all, harm poorer populations. <http://agriculturalmuseums.org/>

**The Museum of English Rural Life** houses the most comprehensive national collection of objects, books and archives relating to the history of food, farming and the countryside. The collections have Designated Status ensuring their importance is recognised nationally and internationally. As a University Museum and as the founder member of the Rural Museums Network, it has built up a reputation as the leading authority in its field and as a centre of excellence in teaching and learning. <http://www.reading.ac.uk/merl/>

**Eligibility:** Bursary A is available to any student currently enrolled on a first degree course (BA, BSc or equivalent) through an established overseas University. This should be taken to include any qualifying University located outside the United Kingdom. They must have written confirmation from their Director of Studies or equivalent that they are free to participate in this programme. Preferential treatment may be given to students who can demonstrate written and spoken English skills and a commitment to Bursary B is available to any student currently enrolled on a first degree course (BA, BSc or equivalent) at the University of Reading. They must have written confirmation from their Director of Studies or equivalent that they are free to participate in this programme. Assistance will be provided for the successful candidate to identify and secure an appropriate placement with one of the provisional partners in this programme.

To apply one of the placement bursaries please contact Dr. Ollie Douglas, Assistant Curator at the Museum of English Rural Life [o.a.douglas@reading.ac.uk](mailto:o.a.douglas@reading.ac.uk)

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**Heavy Horse Show**  
**National Museum of Rural Life, Kitchside, Scotland**  
**Sunday 17 July, 2016, 10:00-17:00**



Join us for one of Scotland's biggest heavy horse shows. Over 100 horses will be on show, ranging from majestic Clydesdales and hardy Highland ponies to tiny Shetlands.

The Clydesdale is an iconic symbol of Lanarkshire, in south-central Scotland, and was originally bred for agriculture and coal haulage. The Heavy Horse Show at the Museum will see some of the finest examples of the breed compete for top honours in a number of classes including Turnout and the Clydesdale Ridden class.

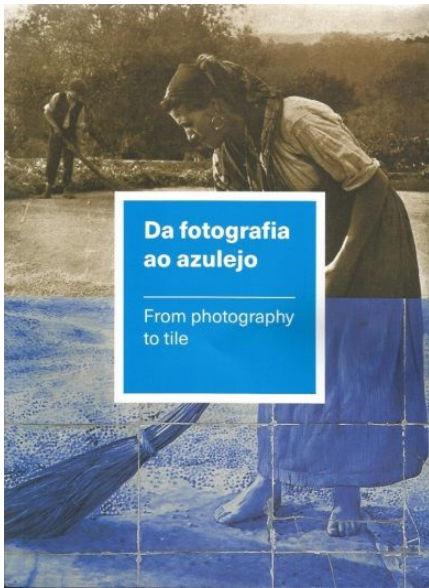
The family-friendly event will allow visitors to ride one of four beautiful Clydesdale horses from Blackstone Farm in Ayrshire, in the southwest. There will be mini-rosette-making\* craft sessions, quiz sheets and treasure trails for the children, and the chance to see the National Museum of Rural Life's own Clydesdale horses Mairi and Anna. Contact: Shirley Maciver [S.Maciver@nms.ac.uk](mailto:S.Maciver@nms.ac.uk)

\*rosette: the decorative ribbon usually worn on a horse's bridle

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**From Photography to Tile (*azulejo*)**  
**People, monuments and landscape of Portugal**  
**in the first half of the 20th century**





AIMA member Jose Luis Mingote Calderon has curated the exhibit and authored the **catalogue in Portuguese\*** with ample **summaries of the chapters in English at the end**. The iconography itself is a delight and will appeal to all interested in the transfer from one medium to another, as in the issues of historical accuracy and image-building implied. This is all the more so, as **azulejos are a very**

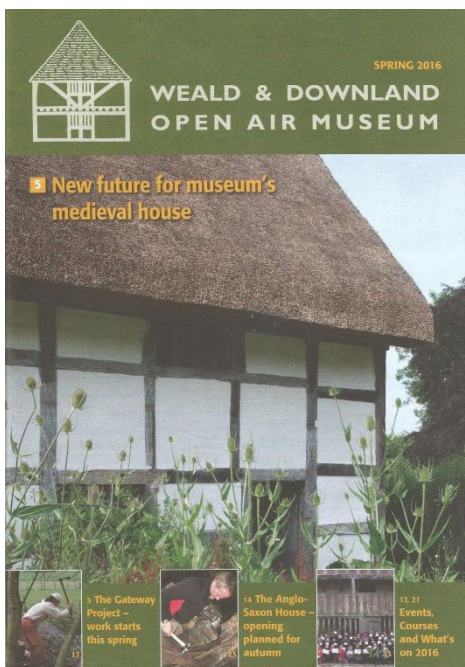
**public art**, meeting the eye in façades of buildings, from houses to railway stations, squares, municipal buildings, even slaughterhouses. *Azulejos* represent a very particular chapter in ceramic art. The catalogue discusses the whole range of debate from “popular” through ideological, to mythical representation of motionless time, on to the confrontation of patent and latent meanings and much more, shedding new light on what at first might appear as a straight-forward phenomenon of continuity.

\*now available as *Da fotografia ao azulejo*, ISBN 978-972-27-2423-4.

*The cover image has also brought AIMA Newsletter readers an intriguing opportunity to bring together these photos and tiles with reflections from an expert on human posture – tune in to this **debate in an upcoming Newsletter**. So, there is much “continuity” in all the variety of subjects that azulejos have already brought up.*

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## Weald & Downland Open Air Museum Education at the Forefront of a Museum’s Mission



AIMA member The Weald & Downland Open Air Museum is a pioneer in **public**

**education**, both certified by university-level degrees and for a life-long learning programme, which we will hear more about in a future Newsletter issue. Examples abound in the Spring 2016 W&D magazine. Organised as part of the Gateway Project Activity Plan, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the museum held a “**Careers Forum**” in October 2015 that responded to the public’s interest in historic buildings, traditional rural trades and crafts,\* countryside skills and the heritage sector more generally. Over 45 representatives of networks and learning providers, along with sixteen craftspeople, participated and the 130 free places offered were snapped up overnight. W&D staff members focused on their own fields’ input on career development, from working with volunteers to museum

research, curating and museum directing (page 16).

The museum is renowned for its skills base and educational programmes in timber-framed buildings and carpentry, involving both traditional skills and modern efficiency, embodied by **museum carpenter Joe Thompson, who attended a timber-framing workshop in Guiyang, Southwest China**. The event was sponsored by “**Carpenters without borders**”, emphasizing the relationships between tool design, tool sharpening, timber properties and joint design. Joe found himself quite “out of [his] comfort zone” because his tools and wood

experience did not correspond to the East Asian buildings in the programme. This is inter-cultural encounter at its richest and may interest many an AIMA member – or friends in the museum world – as an example of hands-on expertise applied to vernacular buildings and carpentry skills. Contact: Diana Rowsell, Head of Learning [DRowsell@wealddown.co.uk](mailto:DRowsell@wealddown.co.uk)

\*of the now classic *Crafts in the English Countryside: Towards a Future*, edited by Ted (E.J.T.) Collins for The Countryside Agency, 2004, ISBN 0-86170-689-7, and Diana Zeuner (ed.) *Building History: Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, 1970-2010 – the first forty years*, ISBN 978-0-90525-930-7

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## Networking with AIMA’s friends: a world of diversity and common interests

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### The Compa in Chartres, France, re-opens with flair 10,000 years of agriculture, 150 years of mechanisation

Host to the AIMA’s official address, the Compa is a stone’s throw from the UNESCO world heritage site of Chartres cathedral in a handsome town centre.



“Farmer’s boot” in entrance hall



Good and bad farmer

The weekend of 21-22 May, 2016, was a big one for the Compa, which several **AIMA members remember well for the crucial emergency meeting held there in 2011** during the AIMA relaunch. It reopened to a throng of happy visitors who discovered the place has been given a new lease on life: true to its long-standing mission of providing information on agriculture, of linking the *longue durée* with today, even with today’s “hard history”, as recommended by the ICOM, the Compa has found a **balance between highlighting its rich collections and reaching out to a public of all ages effectively**. There was far too much to tell about, walking around inside on a rainy Sunday afternoon, but the main exhibit hall was enlivened by overhead screens, by a gigantic Atlas of Agriculture that pulled no punches about the rapidity of change and the heat of present-day debates, from GMOs to subsidized

agriculture. At the back of the hall, there was an eagerly awaited surprise, funded in part by enthusiastic public donations –**TractoBrick**, the Compa’s new mascot, a 5-ton, 800,000-piece Lego replica of a Claas Arion 460 tractor.



The Compa entrance path



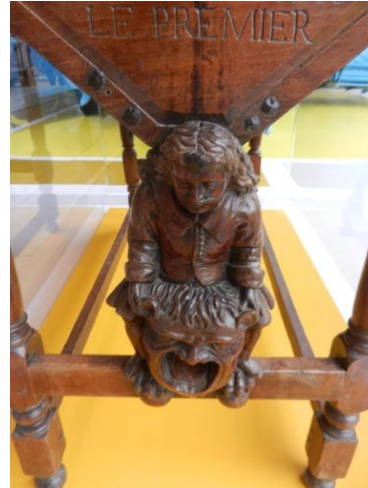
Renovated exhibit hall

The main exhibit hall had a glimpse of the historical tractor and steam engine collections, but also a view of elder agricultures, from the threshing sledge and ard to winnowing fans and grain sorters. There are cozy corners for visitors, be it the temporary exhibit of “My house and me” with children’s models of rural homes that was in every way at the right “height” to speak to them and their parents. In “The Album” cinema projection, the round of seasons and of farmers’ concerns today is presented in an accessible way for even the youngest visitors, paralleled by interviews on digital panels with farmers and other actors in the “thinking history” side of the hall. Here, there are attractions of all sizes and for every age: a hint at the Compa’s **superb collection of posters for agriculture** from the educational to war propaganda, the delight in small everyday things, such as a bridal chest, on to broader social phenomena such as the former role of markets and fairs in country life and then to the farmers’ protests and movements that have marked French history in recent centuries. Happy occasions are highlighted as well as milk dumped in front of ministries with a large section devoted to making-merry, as well as celebrating the arrival of potable water or electrification, and other transformations in the standard of living that accompanied the rural demographic hemorrhage of the twentieth century. This is often carried off with a humorous turn, as in the **Atlas of Agriculture** section recalling “the leaving fields” where the last farmer throws his pitchfork over his shoulder (right in front of today’s office desk with full computer accoutrements). Casual exchanges with other visitors indicated that they felt as moved by nostalgia as by current debate, and expect the Compa to help them understand the stakes involved in all the complexity of today’s agricultural production. We can congratulate the Compa on inaugurating a new phase in its life as collections-holder, resource centre and public educator. Cozette Griffin-Kremer, article and photographs, [griffin.kremer@wanadoo.fr](mailto:griffin.kremer@wanadoo.fr)





The Lego TractoBrick in front of the Atlas of Agriculture



Decoration on a grain sorter

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## GLASS Annual Newsletter with note on AIMA Seeking partners for projects

*GLASS Secretary Teresa Medici is among AIMA's most faithful networking partners and some AIMA community members might well have extensive glass collections in their museums. Do you see any possibilities for contacts or joint projects with GLASS? If so, please contact Teresa directly.*



Narrow-mouth bottles with flat cap, early 20th century and flytrap, late nineteenth century, both Società Artistico-Vetraria, Altare (SV)

Dear ICOM GLASS Friends, I am pleased to announce that our **GLASS Annual Newsletter 2015** is now available on our website at:

[http://network.icom.museum/fileadmin/user\\_upload/minisites/glass/Annual\\_NEWS\\_LETTER\\_2015\\_1.pdf](http://network.icom.museum/fileadmin/user_upload/minisites/glass/Annual_NEWS_LETTER_2015_1.pdf). It includes the reports on the ICOM GLASS Annual Meeting 2015 in

Switzerland, the minutes of the ICOM GLASS General Assembly 2015, the name of the winners of the ICOM GLASS Scholarships 2016, and an **introduction to AIMA – International Association of Agricultural Museums**. Please note that during 2015 we have started a special activity concerning the **archiving and digitalization of GLASS documents**, with the first aim to make these materials available on the web. I would like to remind you that the call for the **ICOM Glass Annual Meeting 2016**, held in the framework of the 24th ICOM General Meeting in Milan, Italy, 3-9 July 2016, **is still open!** See

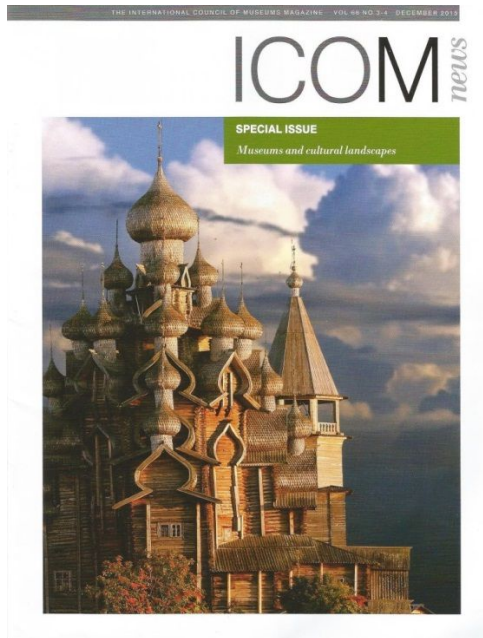
<http://network.icom.museum/glass/annual-meetings/coming-conference/> for the preliminary



schedule. The updated program will follow soon. Please send your application to: Teresa Medici [teresa.medici@gmail.com](mailto:teresa.medici@gmail.com). I am looking forward to seeing you in Milan!

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## News from ICOM Museums and Cultural Landscapes Defending *azulejos* in Portugal



The 2015 Special Issue has a report on pages 14-15 speaking of – what else? – Portuguese *azulejos*, the evident **artistic and historical value of which has placed them in peril** of unscrupulous trafficking and even frequent theft. The tiles are such a part of everyday life that many Portuguese had not yet realised they merit

attention and protection, which gave rise to **SOS Azulejo**, created in 2007 by the Judiciary Police, tasked with both protecting these heritage artefacts through crime prevention and educating the public about their value. It depends on the activism of diverse partners to help in both these missions. Good-faith buyers now have complete and reliable online information to vet any purchases, and easy access to information channels to flag up suspicious sales. Willing and now aware partners are pushing for higher levels of recognition and restoration, the beneficial effects of which any visitor can see in cities such as Lisbon. On the side of positive encouragement, SOS Azulejo offers rewards for good practices, academic studies, community action and educational efforts. This broad-scope strategy has worked, as **SOS Azulejo won the 2013 Europa Nostra Grand Prix for Cultural Heritage**.

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## The EXARC Journal Digest 2016-1 coming soon

*Roeland Paardekooper, Director of EXARC, has been among the most reactive and helpful of AIMA's networking friends, contributing considerably to the information about practical administration and intellectual projects. EXARC brings out a "best of" series of articles in its online journal and their concerns often mirror those of AIMA museum and research members. Some AIMA members studied or collaborated with the late **Peter Reynolds at Butser Farm**, mentioned below, and may recall he was a friend of **François Sigaut**.*



After the last Digest, which was dedicated to the **European OpenArch Project**, we are returning to our usual format and bringing you a choice of articles from EXARC Journal issues 2015/3 to 2016/1. These issues discuss a number of topics concerning **archeological open-air museums**, including the important questions of **accessibility** of open-air museums to the wide public and **working with children and young people**.

Accessibility is represented by Maureen Page's article, 'Making Butser Ancient Farm More Accessible', and work with children and young people by Luke Winter from the Ancient Technology Centre (ATC) and Lasse van den Dikkenberg from the Dutch Youth Association for History. We would especially like to point out Luke Winters' article, "Playing with the Past? Or Saving Our Future?" Recently

there was much discussion in press and social media on children growing up in an artificial world and the importance of reconnecting them with nature. So what about fundamental learning in the heritage industry? In Luke Winter's words: *I see the role of non-statutory educational establishments such as the ATC as holding crucial positions in the vanguard of a small movement to correct this lack of fundamental learning. By considering such questions as "where do 'things' come from", "what does it take to produce a wholesome meal from scratch", our aim is to **connect a disconnected generation with those processes** that are intentionally or otherwise hidden from them, to engage them in the production of simple things using simple and traditional methods that are grounded in the local landscape and the seasonal materials it produces.*

Contact: Roeland Paardekooper  
[r.p.paardekooper@exarc.net](mailto:r.p.paardekooper@exarc.net)

\*Visit EXARC <http://exarc.net/>, Butser Ancient Farm <http://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/>, the Ancient Technology Centre <http://www.ancienttechnologycentre.co.uk/> and the European OpenArch Programme (2011-2015).

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## Society for Folk Life Studies Newsletter announces AIMA and members' events



The SFLS has played an important role in the AIMA relaunch meetings, having hosted us in May, 2012, at the National Museum of Rural Life in Wester Kitchside, Scotland. The Society brings out a yearly newsletter updating members on the contents of the annual meeting the year before and all official business such as the AGM held at the same time. They also make announcements for partners and networking friends, so that there was a full notice on the **Conference on Animal**

**Keeping and Traditional Plant Cultivation in Museum Education**, held at the National Museum of Agriculture and Food Industries in Szreniawa, Poland, 13-15 May 2016, and we are invited to inform the Society as soon as publication of the **proceedings** is imminent. The Newsletter announces the annual meeting of the **Rural Museums Network** 25-26 May and Executive Committee member Ollie Douglas is attending, so will give us an update from the RMN, on which there have been two articles in past AIMA Newsletter issues. Last, but not least, there is an introduction for SFLS members to AIMA, its history and present objectives with the weblink and contact information.

The **SFLS annual conference** is to be held **8-11 September 2016 in Dublin, Ireland**, with the major theme for the year in the Republic – the Easter Uprising, its repercussions and present-day perceptions, as well as the highly important Battle of the Somme in 1916, which had a deep impact on Irish attitudes and memories. For more information, please contact conference secretary Steph Mastoris [Steph.Mastoris@museumwales.ac.uk](mailto:Steph.Mastoris@museumwales.ac.uk).

You can also contact our AIMA member Elaine Edwards [e.edwards@nms.ac.uk](mailto:e.edwards@nms.ac.uk) for further information on the SFLS.

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## **ALHFAM Annual Conference**

**Louisiana State University Rural Life Museum, Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**June 12 through 16, 2016**

Commemoration, Preservation, and Education: “The Things That We Do”

<http://www.alhfam.org/2016-Annual-Conference>

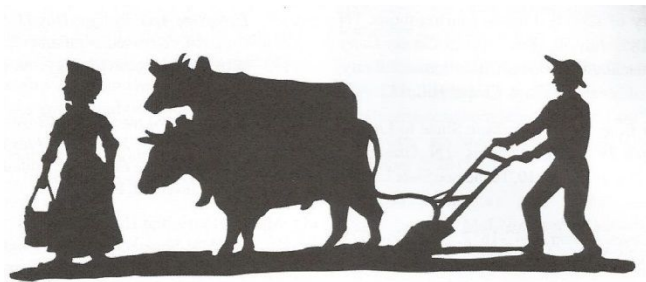
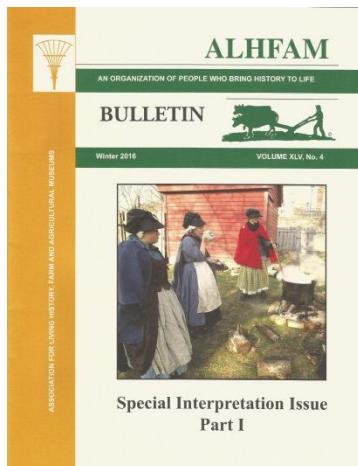
Since the beginning **Louisiana** has been different from the rest of the United States and to this day Louisianans perceive themselves as unique. And why not? We are the only state whose law is based upon the Napoleonic Code, which has parishes instead of counties, police juries, levee boards, and where the French language is freely spoken. We were first settled by the French and Spanish, then came the Germans, Acadians, English, Scots and the Islesos. Later the Americans, Hungarians, Irish, and Italians came to settle here. Thousands of African slaves were brought into Louisiana as early as 1710. All of these cultures melted together to create a unique people. Louisiana is truly a place of cultural diversity. On behalf of Louisiana State University and its Rural Life Museum, we are delighted to invite you to Baton Rouge for the 2016 Association of Living History, Farms, and Agricultural Museum’s Annual Conference. **“Commemoration, Preservation, Education”** is a catch-phrase that captures the essence of the mission of ALHFAM as well our individual museums. These are the things we do as museum professionals every day. This Conference will bring together directors, curators, interpreters, researchers and educators from around the world. For more information: [dfloyd@lsu.edu](mailto:dfloyd@lsu.edu).





## ALHFAM Bulletin / Winter 2016 (Vol. XLV, N°4)

### Special issue on Interpretation Part 1



**Several members of the AIMA are long-time ALHFAM members** as well and we have received much encouragement and advice from the association, which is structured quite differently from the AIMA and concentrates its membership in North America. ALHFAM has kindly invited both AIMA President Merli Sild and Secretary General Cozette Griffin-Kremer to attend annual conferences. Both presented topics in their specialities. Merli animated a session on rye bread-making and Cozette on using working animals in museums.

The first **special issue on interpretation** includes articles dealing with the strategy of disrupting visitors' expectations, for example, giving a large role to the often invisible members of a historical household – domestics, trades folk or slaves. Emphasis is placed also on literally accustoming interpreters to wear "clothing" – as they do every day – and not "costumes", although budgetary limitations at times make considerable compromise the order of the day and, needless to say, portrayal of pre-European clothes culture is definitely too risqué for modern-day attitudes. Even evident inaccuracies, when handled conscientiously and with humor, can be a stimulus to fruitful interaction: many products considered perfectly acceptable in even the early twentieth century are today quite off limits, such as toxic substances or those sourced from protected animals like sperm whales.

And! ALHFAM members approved a new twist on the traditional plowman **logo** – the addition of a lady sower, based on ALHFAM member and silhouette specialist Lauren Muney's idea.



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## CAM – The Commonwealth Association of Museums



Since President Merli Sild and Secretary Cozette Griffin-Kremer attended the ICOM Annual Meeting in Paris in 2015, **Catherine Cole** of the CAM has been among our most attentive networking partners and included an **introduction to AIMA in a CAM Bulletin**. The current March/April 2016 bulletin has news on a South Asian **Workshop in Jaipur, India**, with emphasis on historic properties and collections, accessibility issues, a CAM professionals' internship programme, an important distance learning facility, finding virtual audiences throughout the worldwide CAM network and news from ICOM. The Jaipur event is supported by ICOM Canada, among others, and includes announcement of 2016-2017 Canadian Museums Association **internships** in association with CAM that also foresee helping candidates to write up **stronger and more effective applications**. For more information, please contact: Catherine Cole [CatherineC.Cole@telus.net](mailto:CatherineC.Cole@telus.net) and check the CAM website <http://thecommonwealth.org/organisation/commonwealth-association-museums>

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## ENCATC

### European Network on Cultural Management and Policy



Dear colleagues,

ENCATC has three publications we're excited to share with you! We have been working hard this year to produce a new **Book Series on Cultural Management and Cultural Policy Education**, the latest issue of the **ENCATC Journal on Cultural Management and Policy**, and the **results** of our **Survey on Digital Tools and Know-How** to which many of you participated!

We believe the cutting-edge research presented in these publications and covering many areas of cultural policy and management in Europe and beyond will inspire your work and benefit the arts and cultural sector!

Finally, ENCATC would like to thank its members and those who contributed their expertise and knowledge to these publications, as well as the European Commission and its support through the Creative Europe programme. Gianna Lia Cogliandro Beyens, ENCATC Secretary General, [g.cogliandro@encatc.org](mailto:g.cogliandro@encatc.org)

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## Networks of Practice (formerly "Working Groups")

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## Fiber Plants – prospective network of practice

### Linen Festival in France



The Alliance et Culture Association organises the “Festival du Lin et de l'Aiguille” (Linen and Needle Festival) every year for three days over the first weekend in July to share a passion for flax and linen internationally. The festival is a multi-site event in ten towns in a traditional flax-producing area near the Normandy coast in France and takes place this year 1-3 July, 2016. See the website for plenty of pictures!

<http://www.festivaldulin.org/> and check out the programme:

[http://www.festivaldulin.org/fichiers/programme\\_du\\_festival\\_201\\_7.pdf](http://www.festivaldulin.org/fichiers/programme_du_festival_201_7.pdf), also full of illustrations.

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## BREAD



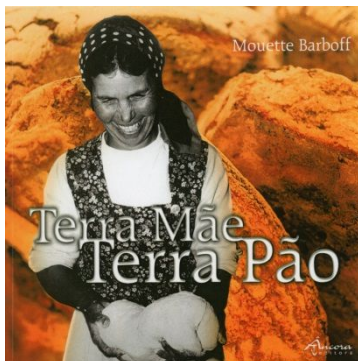
Photo Mouette Barbof

Since 2015, the **Civilisations of Bread website** has been enhanced and enriched, at <http://civipain.hypotheses.org/>. In Paris in February, the EUROPAIN event and then, in March, the “Taste of France” Gastronomy event enabled us to make further contacts. This prestigious event is led by French embassies throughout the world. In Lisbon, we gave a lecture on classics of French pastry and an exhibit of photographs at the Museu de Farinha from 30 April to 22 May.

The website has added new museums to its list, including the Serbian Museum of bread in Jeremija, La Maison du blé et du pain in Echallens (Switzerland), the Stadtmuseum Wels – Österreichisches Gebäckmuseum in Wels, the Alte Backstube in Vienna, and the Gradwohl Brot Museum in Bad-Tatzmannsdorf (Austria), as well as the Museu da farinha in S.Domingos (Portugal). We had an exhibit on bread at the Museum of Ethnography in Brasov (Romania), and the

catalogue of the Brotkultur Museum also appeared.

Under the Iconography heading there are sub-headings on **Reportages** (Reporting) with two pieces by Jean-Marc Thiou and the sub-heading **Expositions** (Exhibits) has been set up. In the **Videos** section, there is a whole series, including Domestic and Ritual Breads in Tyrol (Pain domestiques et rituel au Tyrol); The bread cycle in the Alentejo (Le cycle du pain en Alentejo, Portugal); Favaios Wheat Bread (Le pain de blé de Favaios, Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro, Portugal); Dinan “couques” (Les couques de Dinan, Belgium); Ritual breads of Bulgaria (Les pains rituels de Bulgarie); Ritual breads of Lithuania (Les pains rituels de Lituanie); Traditional Algerian bread in the Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions in Medea (Les pains traditionnels algériens au Musée des Arts et Traditions populaires de Médea, Algeria).



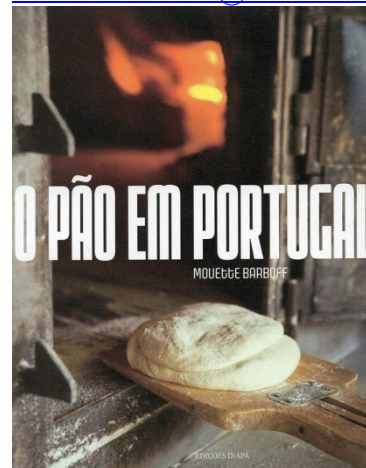
Under **Articles**, you will find four on Pompei-pistrina; Egypt's culinary Gems; Food products, cereals and legumes in North Yemen (Les produits alimentaires du Nord- Yémen, céréales et légumineuses); French bread from the 8th to the 15th centuries (Les pains: France du VIII-XVe siècles); Sorghum and millet in Yemen; The breads of Mani (Greece); Notes of different types of breads in Northern

Scotland; Bread in some regions of the Mediterranean area; Sacred cakes in the Gubbio Tables (La gourmandise des dieux : gâteaux sacrés des Tables de Gubbio, III-IIe siècles av. JC); The Holy Spirit Festival (Sacres et couronnes à l'occasion des fêtes du Saint Esprit, Portugal); Millet in Portugal (Le millet au Portugal) ; The maize revolution (La révolution du maïs : un nouveau paysage agricole et social, Portugal); Couscous and semoule (Couscous de blé et semoule de maïs au Portugal); Cornbreads (Le pain de maïs dans le Béarn et dans le Minho: des analogies surprenantes); Lodève bread (Le pain de Lodève: du blé au saint, du saint au pain, France); Morlaix bread (Le pain de Morlaix, France); Cord bread (Le pain cordon : c'est le cordon qui fend le pain, France).

In the new sub-heading **Dossier** be sure to see Peasant Bakers (Les paysans boulangers). Under the heading **Bibliographie**, you will find a sub-heading **Revue** (for journals), and in **Références littéraires**, there are quotes of passages from literature dealing with bread.

Mouette Barboff

[mouette.barboff@wanadoo.fr](mailto:mouette.barboff@wanadoo.fr)



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## Animals in Museums

**Contacts:**



Survey “Animals in Museums” write to Pierre Del Porto at [pierre.delporto@gmail.com](mailto:pierre.delporto@gmail.com)  
Colloquium “Animal Keeping and Traditional Plant Cultivation in Museum Education”,  
write to Marianna Czerwinska (for Jan Maćkowiak) at [litoral.marianna@gmail.com](mailto:litoral.marianna@gmail.com)  
Other questions, write to Cozette Griffin-Kremer at [griffin.kremer@wanadoo.fr](mailto:griffin.kremer@wanadoo.fr)

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## Photo-essay

### A Note of fun from Pete Watson at Howell Living History Farm



Before Howell Living History Farm (Hopewell Township, New Jersey, USA) built a parking lot in 2006, visitors to the 130-acre historic site parked in a sheep pasture where, during winter and spring months, teamster Kevin Watson often required the services of 1950 lb. (885 kg) work horse Buster, to pull out stuck cars. Often, the hardest part of the job was crawling under the mired vehicle to hook the chain to the frame. Pete Watson [pwatson@howellfarm.org](mailto:pwatson@howellfarm.org)

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### “Teaser” from Newsletter N°5: Any idea where this might be?



**Answer: Rohan Morris at Gleneden Farm in New South Wales, Australia, will soon tell us more about it all.**

### How Much is a Banker Horse Worth? by Jeannette Beranger



Freeze-branded Banker horse on Shackleford Banks (Flickr)

**Jeannette Beranger**, Research & Technical Programs Manager at The Livestock Conservancy, points out that a sad incident led to precise evaluation of the “value” of the Banker horses that attract millions of visitors a year to the islands off the eastern coast of the United States.

**American Livestock Breeds Conservancy** staffers Alison Martin, Steve Moize, and Jeannette Beranger headed to the **North Carolina coast** to bleed and evaluate Javas (ponies) as part of the breed recovery project. While in the area we took the opportunity to meet up with Carolyn Mason of the Society for the Shackleford horse to film Shackleford Banks horses for the Colonial Spanish gaited horse study we are working on with Mississippi State University. We had a great chance to film horses and visit with Carolyn to learn the latest with this population of horses. She spoke to us about an interesting bit of research that she did on the population, which is currently **listed as Critical** on the ALBC Conservation Priority List. The study came from an inquiry that Carolyn received from the local prosecutor who was trying to estimate the value of a Banker pony. The question arose through a case involving an individual who shot a wild horse further north. With the help of the **statistics obtained** from Carteret County Tourism Authority, Carolyn came up with some *very* interesting findings on how much a Banker horse is worth to the community:

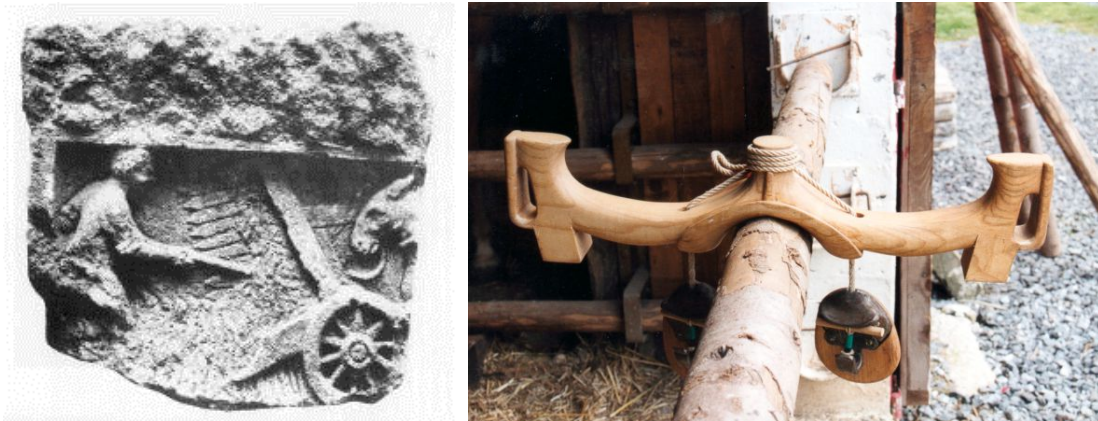
- **Visitors** to the area annually: **2,500,000**
- **Horses are *always* within the top 3 reasons the visitors come** to the county, so an average of 833,333 visitors come to see the horses
- The average visitor spends \$50 for day trippers; \$200 a day for overnighters: making the average \$125/day/person
- \$125/day times 833,333 visitors = \$104,166,625 per year
- \$104,166,625 divided by an average of 120 wild horses on the island = \$868,055 per horse
- The answer to the question “***What is a banker horse in the wild worth?***” – It’s **\$868,055 (798,910 Euros) annually.**

Take that number times the average life expectancy of around 18-20 years and that brings the sum to **\$15,624,990 – \$17,361,100 (13-15 million Euros) per horse in their lifetime.** We all hope that with those findings, the man who shot the horse might be in for quite a shock!

Jeannette Beranger [jberanger@albc-usa.org](mailto:jberanger@albc-usa.org)

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## The *vallus*, a 2000-year-old Gallo-Roman harvesting machine by Françoise Fontaine



Left: Bas-relief of the *vallus* from Buzenol-Montauban, now in the Musée Gaumais in Virton, Belgium  
Right: Reconstruction of single yoke used at Malagne

Malagne, the Archeoparc of Rochefort, in Belgium (between Brussels and Luxemburg city), is an **interpretation centre for rural Gallo-Roman civilization** especially designed to highlight an important villa active in the early centuries of the Christian era in Northern Gaul. Malagne's special mission is heritage protection, scientific research and mediation of this listed site and archaeological experimentation plays a central role in our activities. Hence, the years-long intensive work on reconstituting and effectively using the *vallus*, the Gallo-Roman harvester, *in situ* was carried out in partnership with Prof. **Georges Rapsaet\*** of the Free University of Brussels (Université Libre de Bruxelles).

Study of written and iconographic sources was the first step in our inquiries. **Pliny** the Elder in his *Natural History* wrote pithily in the first century BCE that “in the great land-holdings of Gaul, large *valli* mounted on two wheels with an edge equipped with teeth are pushed across the fields, harnessed to a draft animal in such a way that the ears fall into the *vallus*.” In the fourth century, the agronomist **Palladius** provided a more detailed description in his *Treatise on Agriculture (Opus agriculturae)*.

Sculpted funerary **bas-reliefs** from Buzenol-Montauban, Arlon, Trier, Koblenz and the agricultural calendar on the *Porte de Mars* in Reims all represent fragmentary images of the harvester, thus completing written documents and provide us with a general idea of what the *vallus* must have looked like. The harvester is made up of a body with a comb in front in which cereal grain stems are caught and the ears broken off to fall into the box-like gathering case of the implement, which is wheeled and pushed by an animal harnessed to the shafts – just as we would push a wheelbarrow. It took two people to work the implement, a driver called the *bubulcus* working from behind to steer the harvester and a *compulsor* in front to push the ears of grain – which might build up and choke the teeth – into the collecting box.

As early as 1960, several **archaeological experiments** had already been carried out in attempts to understand how this 2000-year-old machine worked. Each trial concentrated on one or another of the problems involved – for the sort of cereal grain crop, for the choice of draft animal, the proportions of the harvester or the (misguided) use of a horse collar that only appeared in the medieval period. After all this trial and error, many lessons were learned, and the more holistic issue of draft and especially the problem of understanding the harnessing system were taken into consideration. This was the main thrust of the research carried out in Malagne by Prof. Raepsaet, and the team was assisted by the **discovery of a second-century single yoke** in a well in Pforzheim in Germany that was used as an experimental model. It is made of a wooden transversal piece in the middle of an arched device that fits to the shape of



the animal's withers, plus two independent discs sitting before the shoulder blades. Several cinches held the single yoke and discs in place. This device was attached with ropes to the double shafts and the harvester.



Left: Malagne summer 2015, first trial run harnessing Capucine to the *vallus*

Right: Malagne, Autumn Festival, 27 September 2015: Capucine's first public demonstration with the *vallus*

We decided to choose a **European donkey** as draft animal, and our **Marius** played his role with flair in pushing the harvester. He was led into the shafts, head towards the box, the yoke on his neck and then attached to the shafts with ropes. Our hands-on research went on for over two years in order to work out the best results. The role of the *bubulcus* or oxdriver guiding the animal and of the *compulsor*, became clearer. The *vallus* produces the best yields when applied to easy-breaking ears such as spelt, emmer or einkorn wheat.



Malagne, summer 2015, our first experiments with Capucine harvesting spelt

These long years of experimentation have been a success and shown that in a few hours the harvester could reap a crop that would have required a full day with sickles. Please note that the implement presented here is nonetheless but one of the solutions possible. Our young lady donkey, **Capucine**, has taken over from Marius now and is learning her job, so our research is ongoing.... Of course, Malagne provides the public with opportunities to **see Capucine and the *vallus* at work**, so please visit us at <http://www.malagne.be/en/>

Françoise Fontaine, Director, Malagne, Archeoparc de Rochefort, Belgium

[f.fontaine@malagne.be](mailto:f.fontaine@malagne.be) For further information, please see the following references\*:

RAEPSAET Georges. *Attelages et techniques de transport dans le monde romain*, Bruxelles, Timperman, 2002, 312 p. (New edition forthcoming)

NYS R., BONATO S., LIMBREE C. *Le vallus : moissonneuse gallo-romaine*, Malagne la Gallo-Romaine, Rochefort, 2010, 34p. (Vi@Malagne, 1).

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## Resources

Modern horse-drawn equipment highlighted in *Heavy Horse World* and *Sabots* magazines

Stephen Leslie's *Horse-Powered Farming for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

As many readers of the "Animals in Museums" section will know, the British magazine *Heavy Horse World* concentrates on a broad range of issues concerning horses, and over the years has contributed more and more to the debates and information provided about working horses. The French *Sabots* magazine cuts across species to deal with much practical information about keeping, handling and working, including cattle, horses, mules and donkeys. Recent issues of both magazines have converged on the topic of **modern horse-drawn farming equipment**, with HHW offering information in two parts: **HHW Winter 2015** has 5 articles over 13 pages on the challenges of developing and using horse-drawn equipment, an appraisal of hitch carts, a review of Pioneer Equipment innovations, a special article devoted to implements for single horses and small equines, a summary of equipment demonstrated at the **2015 Pferdestark** meeting (the largest meeting of draft animal users in Europe, held in Germany) and a final article on making working horses relevant for urban communities today. For further information, contact Diana Zeuner at [editor@heavyhorseworld.co.uk](mailto:editor@heavyhorseworld.co.uk) / and visit the website at <http://www.heavyhorseworld.co.uk/>



In the second part of the series, **HHW Spring 2016** devotes 9 pages to the equipment for horse loggers, another review of North American implements used on a farm in Devon, machinery developed in Switzerland and France for the jobs that remain at times peripheral, such as market gardening, and a case study of hitch carts and implements used with them. Thanks to the French photo-journalist, **Jean-Léo Dugast**, specialist in Percheron horses and Amish communities' use of working animals, horses and mules, **Sabots N°71** has an extensive contribution on North American practices in spring tillage, draft horse fairs and equipment production, as well as a separate article on the Vermont **market gardening** expert **Stephen Leslie** and his most recent book – in English – *Horse-Powered Farming for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. As often happens in this convergence of interests, *Heavy Horse World* also announced this volume. It follows upon Leslie's first, 2013 *The New Horse-Powered Farm*. The 350-page *Farming for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* is complementary to the first, which provided a detailed description of working methods and tools for a market gardening farm, while the second explores both more broadly and in greater depth the options of animal draft – **NB both horses and cattle** – for diversified small farming, calling upon case studies and appraisals from more than sixty North American and European animal-power users. (Extract from summary by Jean-Léo Dugast, *Sabots* N°71, p. 29, with kind permission).

*Sabots* always has outstanding photographs and, even for those who do not read French, the same issue N°71 gives the opportunity to make acquaintance with **Lionel Rouanet**, disciple

of **yoke-maker René Alibert**, and their work making the classic head yokes still utilized in many regions of France.

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## Classic Books, Large and Small

### Märkisches Museum, Berlin, booklets



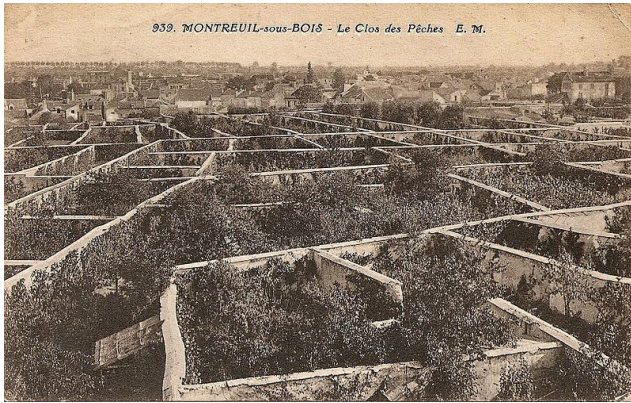
Most certainly, the Märkisches Museum in Berlin has more to do with urban life and the city site itself – from prehistory to now, older crafts and trades to steel-making, photographic archives to perspectives on nineteenth and twentieth-century events – than with questions related to agriculture. However, it is a **happy museum, full of intriguing ideas** and one of them is its series of **booklets**, nearly pocket-size at 14x12.5cm (5.5x4.7 inches), 60 to 100 pages, at times enclosing a music CD, as for the booklet on the museum’s collection of mechanical music instruments from hurdy-gurdy to harmonium. Most of the subjects dealt with are quite citified, from the perfumery trade to up-market barber care of upturned moustaches. However, the format itself is charming, the texts invariably as outstanding as they are pertinent and **always about the museum’s collections**. One stands out especially as an example of how to highlight a collection and provide a wealth of projects to promote it in **educational programmes** for young and old: the *ABC book of Berlin Everyday Things*, many of which are totally **unidentifiable**, both by name and by picture. And yet, they were part of everyday life as recently as the 1950s, in some cases.

How many people now remember seeing their grandfather sharpen his straight-edge razor on a strap and would recognize the latter, if they found it hanging in the bathroom? A bed-warmer, yes, because they are frequent and familiar antiques, perhaps even the old-fashioned home entertainments such as puzzles, but young people today in Germany have little idea that shoes were made of the synthetic thermoplastic igelite in the East right into the 1950s, let alone that rigorous German administration rules calling for exact and inalterable copies of documents even in the 1800s had a whole panoply of copying utensils. The texts unfailingly **bring out the questions that arise from this** – what did we use before photocopy machines and computer scans? How did tradesfolk do fine detail work in the dark before electric lighting? Where did the shape of today’s steam irons come from? (if anyone still irons....). **What was before** the iPhone, before the Walkman, before the transistor radio, before the radio, before the phonograph? The Märkisches Museum has found a delightful way to marry information booklets at popular prices and educational projects to involve the public in the museum’s collections.

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## An old horticultural system on the doorstep of Paris: the “peach walls” of Montreuil

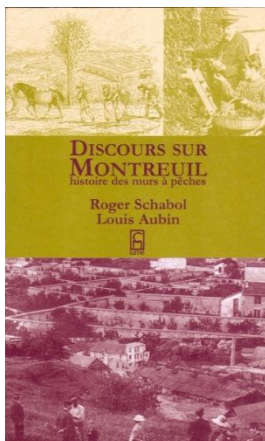


Left: Wikipedia, Old postcard edited by EM, N° 939, early 20th century, personal collection Claude Villetaneuse, public domain

Right: Wikipedia, P. Charpiat, 2006, published under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic

The village and then the town of **Montreuil** (today in the Seine-Saint-Denis *département*) played an important role in the **history of fruit and vegetable gardens** in the Île-de-France. In 2014, the Montreuil Regional Society for Horticulture published two studies dating back to the mid-18th century and to the 1930s that deal with agricultural techniques as well as social organization and the growers’ commercial strategies. The Society for Horticulture, founded in 1878, moved in 1921 to the new Montreuil Garden School, where the first museum was set up and became the Horticulture Museum in 1992.

The crops described here had their heyday around 1900: in 1907, the **peach walls** occupied nearly 300 hectares out of the 700-hectare agricultural area in a town covering 900 ha. This activity continued, if in decline, right into the 1950s and some gardens still existed, covering some 40 ha, into the 1970s. Following upon **widespread mobilization to safeguard these sites and the skills involved**, the Ministry of Environment listed 8.5 ha of the peach walls in 2003 (out of the 30 ha that remained, much of it dilapidated). Restoration is under way and several associations are dedicated to promoting this heritage.



Both Société Régionale Horticole de Montreuil (SRHM), with kind permission 1-06-2016

**Abbé Schabol (ca. 1690-1768)**, impassioned by gardening, discovered the Montreuil growers’ activities in 1718 and described them in detail, with admiration, in a text that first appeared in 1755 in a previous version. These walls, built “in every direction”, were plastered and formed a **striking landscape of enclosures** that warmed and protected the peach trees, trained in *palissage* with cloth ties and attentively pruned. Other espaliered fruit trees, early vegetables, red fruit and grapes were grown in these enclosures and harvested over a large

part of the year. These high-quality products were sent off to “our [Parisian] markets”, where gardener ladies came to sell them [note that there was a well-to-do clientele locally as well]. These gardener families saw how to take advantage of their good exposure and the quality of their land, as well as of the gypsum quarries in Montreuil and the surrounding area, and most especially, of being near Paris. Hence, this represented a whole “system” created around the peach walls, according to Abbé Schabol’s words. This foundation text bears witness to **peasant know-how that stood in contrast to aristocratic horticultural treatises** such as that of La Quintinie (1690), who created the King’s Garden (Potager du Roi) in Versailles. Nonetheless, Abbé Schabol’s testimony needs some nuancing, as historians have shown that this intensive polyculture activity only went back to the mid-17th century and that some of the practices involved were known elsewhere in the Île-de-France.

**Louis Aubin (1878-1967)**, son of gardeners and himself a gardener, perfected a new process for marking fruit in 1898 and was President of the Montreuil Society for Horticulture from 1930 to 1966. In his 1933 *Monographie*, he analysed the technical and other aspects of development of these gardens. The peach walls multiplied after the French Revolution, due to the sale of noble and religious properties. This horticultural activity also went on developing during the 19th century by adapting to economic changes. For example, when peaches from the South of France started arriving in the Parisian markets by rail, the Montreuil gardeners turned towards growing late varieties. Louis Aubin also informs us about the **social organisation** of this milieu: the necessity of cooperating between gardeners and masons; the role of women who sold the fruit, vegetables and flowers in Paris in addition to their work in the gardens. (In some cases, production was passed on to middlemen, who worked in the capital, or to large Parisian merchants.) Some of the garden labourers, who for many years came from Burgundy, settled in and at times even took over from their bosses. What stands out in this report is the ever-present concern of these gardeners to find innovative practices and to promote their production through professional groups, competitions and exhibits, in France and abroad.

#### References

Roger Schabol, Louis Aubin, 2014, *Discours sur Montreuil. Histoire des murs à pêches*, Société régionale d’horticulture de Montreuil-sous-Bois, 122 pages, Illustrations, 8 €.

Préface de Philippe Schuller

Roger Schabol, *Discours sur le village de Montreuil* (texte original 1771) [1<sup>ère</sup> version 1755]

Louis Aubin, *Monographie agricole de Montreuil* (texte inédit 1933)

Biographie de l’abbé Schabol, par Philippe Schuller

Souvenir de Louis Aubin, entretien avec Maurice Chapal [son petit-fils], par Philippe Schuller

**To find this book, see the Montreuil Society for Horticulture website: [www.srhm.fr](http://www.srhm.fr)** and you can find information on the history of the peach walls at the Garden School and Horticulture Museum, as well as activities proposed by the SRHM.

#### Suggestions for further reading

- Auduc Arlette, 2003, « La géographie et l’évolution du ‘système’ des murs à pêches de Montreuil du XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle à nos jours », in Trochet Jean-René, Péru Jean-Jacques et Roy Jean-Michel (sous la direction de), *Jardinages en région parisienne (XVII<sup>e</sup> – XX<sup>e</sup> siècle)*, Paris, Editions Créaphis, pages 39-47.

- Bennezon Hervé, 2009, *Montreuil sous le règne de Louis XIV. Un village à l’ombre de Paris*, Préface de Robert Muchembled, Paris, Les Indes savantes.

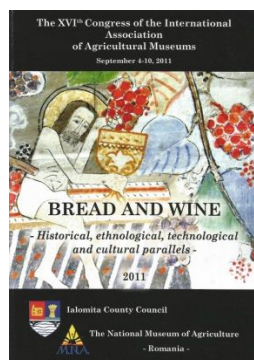
- Quellier Florent, 2003, *Des fruits et des hommes. L’Arboriculture fruitière en Ile-de-France (vers 1600 – vers 1800)*, Rennes, Presses universitaires de Rennes.

**Also see Montreuil town website** for its horticultural history, what has become of the peach walls and the associations involved (especially the “Murs à pêches” Association, set up in 1994:

<http://www.montreuil.fr/environnement/les-murs-a-peches/>

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## **Proceedings of CIMA 17, 5-7 November 2014 Agriculture Collections – a New Dynamic and François Sigaut Day at the MuCEM, Marseille, France**

The Marseille proceedings cover a broad range of subjects from experience of museums in conserving and highlighting their collections and sites while making them understandable to visitors, analysing the skills that today go with utilising implements, machines and working animals or exploring foodways hands-on, as well as making collections available to the public through digital technology.

**For complete table of contents, see Newsletter N° 6 (pp.41-42):**

<https://agriculturalmuseumsdotorg.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/aima-newsletter-n6-january-2016.pdf> 242 pages, €19 + postage and handling (€24 France) / Contact:

AFMA, 15 rue Convention 75015 Paris, France / [contact@afma.asso.fr](mailto:contact@afma.asso.fr)

## **Proceedings of CIMA XVI, BREAD AND WINE Historical, ethnological, technological and cultural parallels National Museum of Agriculture, Slobozia, Romania 2011**

This handsomely illustrated volume will recall the wealth of popular tradition, museum practice and colours of the 2011 Congress in the National Museum of Agriculture in Slobozia, Romania, with a wide range of subjects covered: inventorying collections to understanding the meanings of diversity, the imprint of viticultures on the anthropogenic landscape, bread and wines as major players in tourism, connecting museum activities and history with people's lives today, and much more... 192 pages, full colour illustrations and photographs. To order, please contact Angelica Buzoianu [mna\\_slobozia@yahoo.com](mailto:mna_slobozia@yahoo.com)

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# Coming soon



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Celtic Village, Museum of of Welsh Life, 2007,  
Wikipedia, Immanuel Giel

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Lucie Markey



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