

**In Memoriam
Andrew Sherratt**

1946 - 2006

We deeply regret to announce the sudden death of Professor Andrew Sherratt, one of the Archaeology Editors of the *Journal of Indo-European Studies*, who died unexpectedly on 24 February after a heart attack. He is survived by his wife Susan and his three children.

Andrew was born in 1946, obtained his BA in Archaeology and Anthropology from Cambridge in 1968 and then his PhD in 1976 on «The Beginning of the Bronze Age in south-east Europe». For most of his academic life Andrew worked as a Keeper of Antiquities in the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford moving to the University of Sheffield only last year to take up the Professorship in Old World Prehistory.

Academically, Andrew's interests were marvellously wide, embracing both Asian and European archaeology and their relationships with one another. Reminiscent in many ways of the great V. Gordon Childe, Andrew tried to understand prehistoric Europe at its widest scope and dealt with its most fundamental issues. The problems that concerned him, e.g., origins of metallurgy, contacts between the Near East and Europe, advances in technology during the Copper and Bronze ages, were precisely the type of problems that exercised Childe (Andrew also wrote an excellent assessment of Childe's work in 1995). Andrew could perform along the cutting edge of archaeological theory on the one hand but also enjoyed laboring in the field of more traditional archaeology. I can still recall him proudly unveiling to me a detailed chronological scale depicting the various regions across prehistoric Europe (very much improved on what Childe himself sought to produce) as we clattered our way by train from the Caucasus to St Petersburg. Probably his most widely known contribution is his 'Secondary Products Revolution' which complemented Childe's own formulation of the 'Neolithic Revolution'. Andrew's works also included

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stimulating articles on megalithic society and, of course, Indo-European origins, a subject to which he returned on a number of occasions. Many of these 'classics' have been gathered together (along with an extensive bibliography) in his *Economy and Society in Prehistoric Europe* (Edinburgh University Press, 1997). The breadth of his interests can be also seen in his most recent—now unfortunately posthumous—work, «The Trans-Eurasian exchange: The prehistory of Chinese relations with the West», in Victor Mair (editor) *Contact and Exchange in the Ancient World* (University of Hawaii, 2006).

JPM