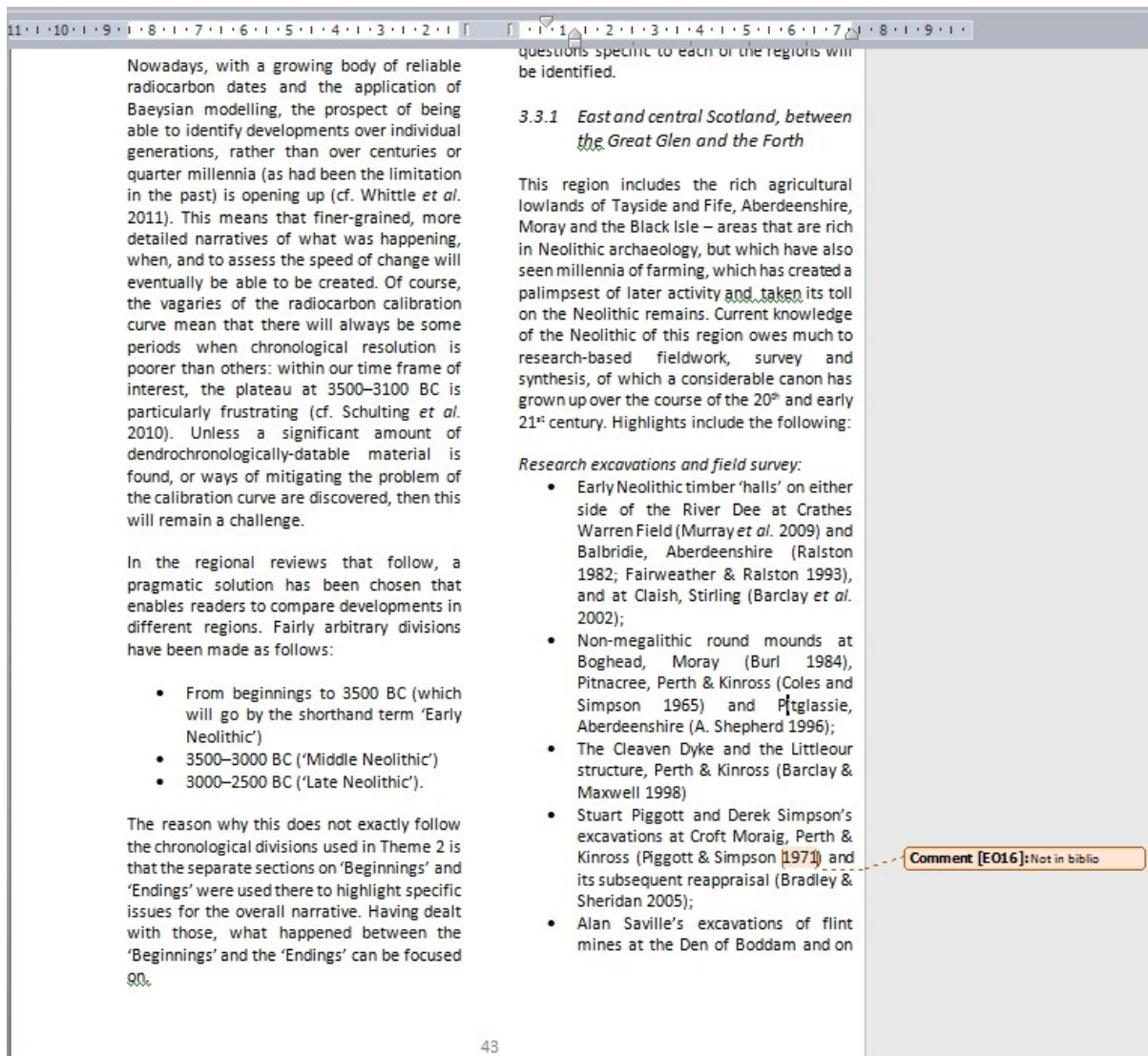


FRIDAY FUN IN THE SCARF OFFICE – PART 2: ONE FOR THE GEEKS!

June 29, 2012 emmajaneoriordan Archaeological Media, Day of Archaeology, Day of Archaeology 2012, Digital Archaeology, Historical Archaeology, Iron Age, Maritime Archaeology, Medieval, Prehistory, Publishing, Roman, Science, Viking communication, Computing, Edinburgh, geek, HTML, Publication, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Technical communication, Wiki, World Wide Web

The afternoon starts with some copyediting – not exactly glamorous but something which forms the backbone of publication. Although all of the nine panels reports for ScARF are now finished and [available for download](#) there is still some work to be done on text that has come in **since** the deadline for publication.

This text is ultimately destined for the next version of the pdfs, but this will not happen straight away. Instead, the updated text will go straight onto the wiki so it can be seen as quickly as possible. Copyediting means looking over the text to check for things like spelling, grammar, punctuation and terminology. In the case of ScARF it also means doing the formatting. The really short piece I'm updating this afternoon won't take long, unlike the **800,000 words** that make up ScARF in total!



The text in Microsoft Word

The next stage after that, and one unique to the wiki version of the text, is the HTML mark up. One of the many fantastic things about the ScARF wiki is that bibliographic links, [links to CANMORE records](#) and links to other projects are all made from within the text.

You can see in the screenshot here that hovering over a bibliographic entry brings it right up so you do not have to interrupt your reading – pretty cool!

- ▷ 2. The Scottish Neolithic: The Overall Picture
- ▽ 3. The Detailed Picture: Issues of Regional and Chronological Resolution
 - 3.1 Introduction
 - 3.2 Levels of resolution and narrative
 - ▽ 3.3 Regional summaries
 - 3.3.1 East and central Scotland,

research-based fieldwork, survey and synthesis, of which a considerable canon has grown up over the course of the 20th and early 21st century. Highlights include the following:

Research excavations and field survey:

1. Early Neolithic timber 'halls' on either side of the River Dee at [Crathes Warren Field](#) (Murray *et al.* 2009) and [Balbridie](#), Aberdeenshire (Ralston 1982; Fairweather & Ralston 1993), and at [Claish](#), Stirling (Barday *et al.* 2002);
2. Non-megalithic round mounds at [Boghead](#), Moray (Burl 1984), [Pitnacree](#), Perth & Kinross (Coles and Simpson 1965) and [Pitglassie](#), Aberdeenshire (A. Shepherd 1996);
3. The Cleaven Dyke and the Littleour structure, [Shepherd, A N 1996 'A Neolithic ring-mound at Midtown of Pitglassie, Auchterless, Aberdeenshire', Proc Soc Antiq Scot 126, 17-51](#)
4. Stuart Piggott and Derek Simpson's excavations at [Cric Moray](#), Perth & Kinross (Piggott & Simpson 1971) and its subsequent reappraisal (Bradley & Sheridan 2005);
5. Alan Saville's excavations of flint mines at the Den of Boddam and on Skelmuir Hill, near Peterhead, Aberdeenshire (Saville 2008; 2011);
6. The SERF (Strathearn Environs & Royal Forteviot Project) excavations of the Middle Neolithic cemetery, Late Neolithic timber enclosure, timber circle and subsequent activity at Forteviot, Stirling (Noble & Brophy 2011a; 2011b); and
7. Aerial reconnaissance by RCAHMS and Aberdeenshire Archaeology (e.g. Shepherd & Greig 1996).

The same text in the wiki

This takes some HTML wizardry though, which one of my colleagues likened to looking into the matrix...

This region includes the rich agricultural lowlands of Tayside and Fife, Aberdeenshire, Moray and the Black Isle - areas that are rich in Neolithic archaeology, but which have also seen millennia of farming, which has created a palimpsest of later activity and taken its toll on the Neolithic remains. Current knowledge of the Neolithic of this region owes much to research-based fieldwork, survey and synthesis, of which a considerable canon has grown up over the course of the 20th and early 21st century. Highlights include the following:

Research excavations and field survey:

- Early Neolithic timber 'halls' on either side of the River Dee at [Crathes](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/36638/details/ "Link to CANMORE record") [Warren Field](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/36670/details/ "Link to CANMORE record") (Murray *et al.* [2009](/content/neolithic-bibliography#murrayetal2009 "2009")) and [Balbridie](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/36669/details/ "Link to CANMORE record") (Ralston [1982](/content/neolithic-bibliography#ralston1982 "Ralston, I B M 1982 'A timber hall at Balbridie Farm'. Aberdeen University Review 168, 238-49"); Fairweather *&* Ralston [1993](/content/neolithic-bibliography#fairweatherandralston1993 "Fairweather, A D and Ralston, I B M 1993 'The Neolithic timber hall at Balbridie, Grampian Region, Scotland: the building, the date, the plant macrofossils', Antiquity 67, 313-323")), and at [Claish](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/70272/details/ "Link to CANMORE record"), Stirling (Barclay *et al.* [2002](/content/neolithic-bibliography#barclayetal2002 "Barclay, G J., Brophy, K and MacGregor, G 2002 'Claish, Stirling: an early Neolithic structure in its context', Proc Soc Antiq Scot 132, 65-137"));
- Non-megalithic round mounds at [Boghead](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/16878/details/ "Link to CANMORE record"), Moray (Burl [1984](/content/neolithic-bibliography#burl1984 "Burl, A 1984 'Report on the excavation of a Neolithic mound at Boghead, Speymouth Forest, Fochabers, Moray, 1972 and 1974', Proc Soc Antiq Scot 114, 35-73")), [Pitnacree](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/26384/details/ "Link to CANMORE record"), Perth *&* Kinross (Coles and Simpson [1965](/content/neolithic-bibliography#colesandsimpson1965 "Coles, J M and Simpson, D D A 1965 The excavation of a Neolithic round barrow at Pitnacree, Perthshire, Scotland. Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 21, 34-57")) and Pitglassie, Aberdeenshire (A. Shepherd [1996](/content/neolithic-bibliography#shepherd1996 "Shepherd, A N 1996 'A Neolithic ring-mound at Midtown of Pitglassie, Auchterless, Aberdeenshire', Proc Soc Antiq Scot 126, 17-51"));
- The Cleaven Dyke and the Littleour structure, Perth *&* Kinross (Barclay *&* Maxwell [1998](/content/neolithic-bibliography#barclayandmaxwell1998 "1998"));
- Stuart Piggott and Derek Simpson's excavations at Croft Moraig, Perth *&* Kinross (Piggott *&* Simpson [1971](/content/neolithic-bibliography#piggottandsimpson1971 "1971")) and its subsequent reappraisal (Bradley *&* Sheridan [2005](/content/neolithic-bibliography#bradleyandsheridan2005 "Bradley, R and Sheridan, J A 2005 'Croft Moraig and the chronology of stone circles' Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 71, 269-81"));
- Alan Saville's excavations of flint mines at the Den of Boddam and on Skelmuir Hill, near Peterhead, Aberdeenshire (Saville [2008](/content/neolithic-bibliography#saville2008 "Saville, A 2008 'Flint extraction and processing from secondary flint deposits in the north east of Scotland in the Neolithic period', in Allard, P., Bostyn, F., Giligny, F and Lech, J (eds) Flint Mining in Prehistoric Europe: Interpreting the Archaeological Record, British Archaeological Reports (International Series 1891): Oxford, 1-10"); 2011);
- The SERF (Strathearn Environs *&* Royal Forteviot Project) excavations of the Middle Neolithic cemetery, Late Neolithic timber enclosure, timber circle and

The HTML mark up for the same text!

..but you'd never know that reading it! This sort of 'hidden' work might be unique to archaeological reports that are going online, but I think it is just as worthy as excavation – after all, if things don't get written about, the wider world would never know about them!