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**Neandertals in the forests : a palaeomagnetic study of the Eemian interglacial stage deposits from north-western and central Europe**  
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*NEANDERTALS IN THE FOREST*

VAN

MARK J. SIER

1. PALAEOMAGNETIC EXCURSIONS HAVE DURATIONS OF 1000 TO MAXIMALLY 2000 YEARS (E.G. CHANNELL ET AL., 2012). HOWEVER, THE DURATION OF THE BLAKE EVENT AS PRESENTED IN THIS STUDY IS (MINIMALLY) 7000 YEARS.
2. "NEANDERTALS ON THE BEACH" COULD HAVE ALSO BEEN A GOOD TITLE FOR THIS THESIS: MOST IF NOT ALL LAST INTERGLACIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ARE SITUATED ON RIVER OR LAKE EDGES (E.G. CAOURS, NEUMARK NORD 2 IN THIS THESIS).
3. ONE CAN SAY THAT THE ENGLISH CHANNEL DID NOT REPRESENT A FRONTIER FOR NEANDERTALS DURING THE LAST INTERGLACIAL, AS OTHER EARLY HOMININS ARE INFERRED TO HAVE CROSSED LARGER WATERBODIES TOO (E.G. *HOMO FLORESIENSIS*). HOWEVER, IN MY OPINION THIS IS JUST SPECULATION.
4. GREIGITE PREVENTS TERRESTRIAL SEDIMENTS FROM GIVING RELIABLE MAGNETOSTRATIGRAPHIC RESULTS (E.G. SNOWBALL, 1997). WITH THIS IN MIND THE RESULTS PRESENTED IN THIS THESIS SHOULD BE REGARDED WITH SOME SCEPTICISM.
5. OBTAINING FINE-GRAINED DATA WITH A CHRONOLOGICAL RESOLUTION OF 100 TO 1000 YEARS CALLS FOR COMBINING NEW AND HIGH TECH METHODS WITH THE SO-CALLED SLOW SCIENCES, INCLUDING PALYNOLOGY AND MICROMORPHOLOGY (E.G. THIS THESIS).
6. SCIENTISTS SHOULD REFRAIN FROM MIXING TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE TERMINOLOGY IN STUDIES THAT ARE EITHER MARINE OR TERRESTRIAL.
7. YOU ONLY SEE WHEN YOU ARE READY TO SEE OR WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU SEE. FOR EXAMPLE OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES OUR VIEWS OF THE EARLIEST OCCUPATION OF EUROPE HAVE CHANGED DRAMATICALLY. ONCE THE SHORT CHRONOLOGY (ROEBROEKS AND KOLFSCHOTEN, 1994) WAS PROPERLY REFUTED WITH INCONTESTABLE HUMAN EVIDENCE FROM THE EARLY PLEISTOCENE (PARÉS AND PÉREZ-GONZÁLEZ, 1995), MORE AND MORE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WERE DISCOVERED FOR THIS PERIOD, ALSO AT LOCALITIES PREVIOUSLY INVESTIGATED (E.G. THE CROMER FOREST BED EXPOSURES (PARFITT ET AL., 2005)).
8. IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE CRITICAL ABOUT DATA, BOTH ABOUT ONE'S OWN, THAT FIRST AND FOREMOST, BUT ALSO ABOUT THOSE FROM CLASSICAL "UNTOUCHABLE" PAPERS (E.G. MÜLLER, 1974).
9. THE LACK OF NEANDERTAL PRESENCE DURING THE EEMIAN IN GREAT BRITAIN IS A SIGN OF THE HIGH INTELLIGENCE OF THIS SPECIES.
10. PERSONAL EXPERIENCES IN THE FIELD AND SOME OF THE RECENT SCIENTIFIC SCANDALS LEAD ME TO CONCLUDE THAT VEGETARIANS ARE ANTISOCIAL.

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