

Ancient Knowledge Systems in Archaeology

by

Dr Lynne Kelly

La Trobe University

The Subject: Before the development of writing, knowledge in ancient societies had to be remembered and passed on verbally to those people considered appropriate. Some features of the archaeological record previously considered to be art and/or religious have been interpreted by Dr Kelly as mnemonic devices and aids to memory. Specific examples of this include Chaco Canyon, Poverty Point and Stonehenge.

The Speaker: Lynne completed a doctoral thesis at La Trobe University focusing on the application of primary orality to archaeology. It was published as an academic monograph entitled *Knowledge and Power in Prehistoric Societies* (CUP 2015) and was rewritten for a mainstream audience as *The Memory Code* (Allen & Unwin 2016). Her first degree was in Engineering, but she has spent much of her life in secondary education, in which she has a master's degree. She is the author of ten educational books, five on popular science and one novel. Lynne won the 2017 Australian Senior Memory Championship.



5.15 pm Thursday 27 September, 2018

**Venue: Australian Institute of Archaeology,
Terrace Way, Macleod**

**(La Trobe University, Building TER 11, Melways 873-4
University parking restrictions do not apply after 5pm)**

Contact: Christopher Davey 0421 595966