



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
MINISTRY FOR SPORTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE & YOUTH
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PRESS RELEASE

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University summer courses seek Gibraltar connection

Making the most of a few days of interval between the excavations at Vanguard and Gorham's Cave, Professor Clive Finlayson is lecturing about the work being carried out in Gibraltar at university summer courses in Spain. On Tuesday, Professor Finlayson gave the opening lecture at a summer course entitled "La Cultura en el Entorno de Gibraltar" organised by the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED) in Algeciras. Professor Finlayson spoke for an hour on the subject of "Los Neandertales en el Contexto del Estrecho" and gave a first-hand account of the research at Gorham's and Vanguard Caves from its very origins 22 years ago. He then situated this work in a broader regional context of the Strait of Gibraltar. A session of questions and answers followed in what was a well-attended lecture which generated a great deal of interest.

On Friday, Professor Finlayson will give a two-hour lecture at a summer course organised by the University of Málaga. This will be the closing lecture of the series, in a course which is focused closely on human evolution with the title "De bestias horribles a entrañables primos hermanos: neandertales y sapiens. Estado actual del paradigma". Professor Finlayson's lecture is entitled "El suroeste de la península ibérica. El gran refugio de los neandertales" and Gibraltar will once again feature prominently.

The huge importance of the Rock's sites and the work being carried out here is becoming increasingly recognised at all levels. Gorham's and Vanguard Caves have become household names in this field of study and up-to-date information on the work being carried out is in increasing demand. Significantly, this work is not seen just in a local context. Professor Finlayson's lectures cover the entire geographical area occupied by the Neanderthals, from Gibraltar to Siberia, and establish theoretical frameworks that are allowing us to understand these enigmatic peoples and why they found paradise by our shores.