



There and Back Again: A Palaeodemographic Tale of Biased Skeletal Samples

**Bonnie Taylor, PhD Candidate,
Australian National University**

**Friday 30 May, 1 - 2pm AEST
Sir Roland Wilson bldg, Room 3.02
and Online via Zoom**

*Part of the 2025 Biological Anthropology
Research (BAR) Seminar series*

Palaeodemography aims to investigate past human population trends using archaeological evidence including skeletal samples and their respective age-at-death distributions. It is commonly accepted that bioarchaeological samples have a degree of under-representation of individuals aged 0-14 years (pre-adults), however, methods for estimating fertility rely on these individuals. This presentation will synthesise the factors which may influence pre-adult representation in a skeletal sample, then introduce a new palaeodemographic model to aid estimating fertility when underenumeration is likely. This presentation will also demonstrate the use of these new tools on early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries, further highlighting the complexity of pre-adult representation and fertility estimates in archaeological skeletal samples.

Bonnie Taylor is a PhD Candidate at the School of Archaeology and Anthropology. Her thesis re-examines empirical palaeodemographic techniques for under-representative archaeological skeletal populations.

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Zoom registration:
<https://anu.zoom.us/join/zoom-join-link/register/al2in7XrRzahnXtEPpZJTA>
or scan QR code below



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