# Following a guiding STAR? Latest EH work with, and plans for, Semantic Technologies Presented by Keith May

Based on research work of English Heritage staff especially Paul Cripps & Phil Carlisle (NMR DSU) and

Doug Tudhope, Ceri Binding and Thanos Zafiriu at Glamorgan University



#### In the beginning - Revelation?

"Revelation is an English Heritage project to provide a coherent digital information system that will make the capture, analysis and dissemination of our research faster and more effective" Cross et al 2003.

Integrating archaeological data & information







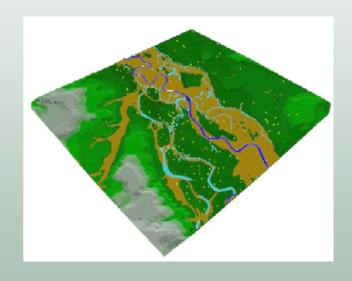
#### The Archaeological Archipelagos





### 4. Modelling versus Mapping

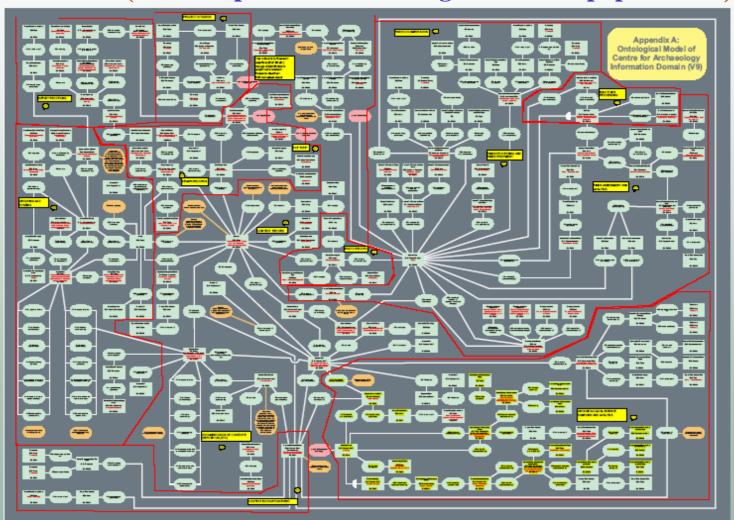
- *Model* new systems requirements
- *Map* to legacy or current data records
- Mapping to 'virtual fields' in Archaeological recording system
- Representing different degrees of Granularity (different levels of detail between conceptual info and actual data fields)





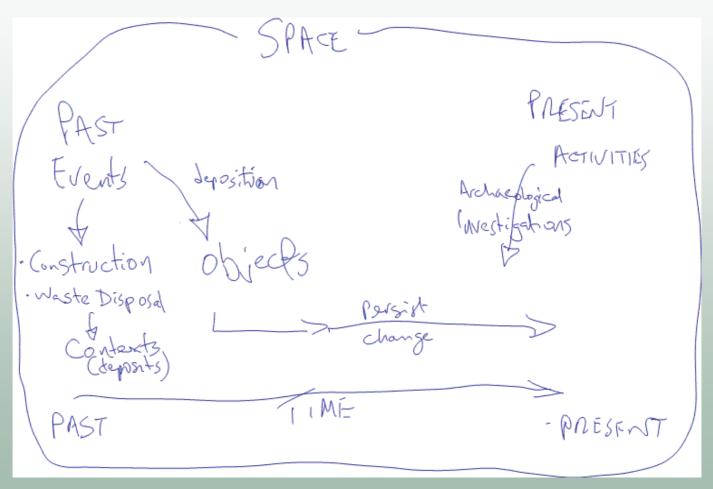
#### **CRM diagram of Archaeological Information**

Domain (ref: http://cidoc.ics.forth.gr/technical\_papers.html)





#### **Archaeological Processes**







#### **Events** in the past

- O Context formation and depositional events (stratigraphy)
- O Geochemical, geological, environmental and biological processes
- Object production, disposal or loss (finds deposition)
- O Construction, deposition, modification and destruction events relating to layers, features, structures, buildings (taphonomy)
- O Events occur at places; spatial operators for reasoning about spatial relationships
- Allen's Temporal Operators for reasoning about the sequence of events and building the site matrix



#### Background to Archaeological model

- Limited degree of detail
- Context record sheet modelled as CRM Information Object (E73)
- Model still complex enough most domain users (archaeologists) find it daunting



Site Name	02. Project Code		Al. Year	01.	Conte	ext		
A2. Context type DEPOSIT CU		name	rear		_	03. SSD		
			1					
04. Co-ordinates	E		N		E			N
06. L m 07. W	′ '	m 08. Dia	m	m	09.	H/d		m
DEPOSIT 12. Compaction			: Munse					
II.Texture			; Munse					
13. Inclusions								
1011110110110								
30. Contamination:	Probable	P	lossible			Unlikely		
CUT A3. Shape in plan				29. Orien	tation			
A4. Profile								
Initial interpretation  This context	STRATIGR	APHIC REL		IPS context	<b>V</b>	Revised I	interpreta	ation
$\neg \neg \neg$	STRATIGR				<b>V</b> :	Revised I	interpreta	ation
This context	STRATIGR	_			<b>V</b>	Revised I	interpreta	ation
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This context  This context  40. Same as		91.	This		<b>V</b>	Revised I	interpreta	ation
This context  40. Same as 34. Filled by 35. Cut by		91.	This		▼ F	Revised I	interpreta	ation
This context  40. Same as  34. Filled by  35. Cut by  42. Fill of		91.	This		▼ F	Revised I	interpreta	ation
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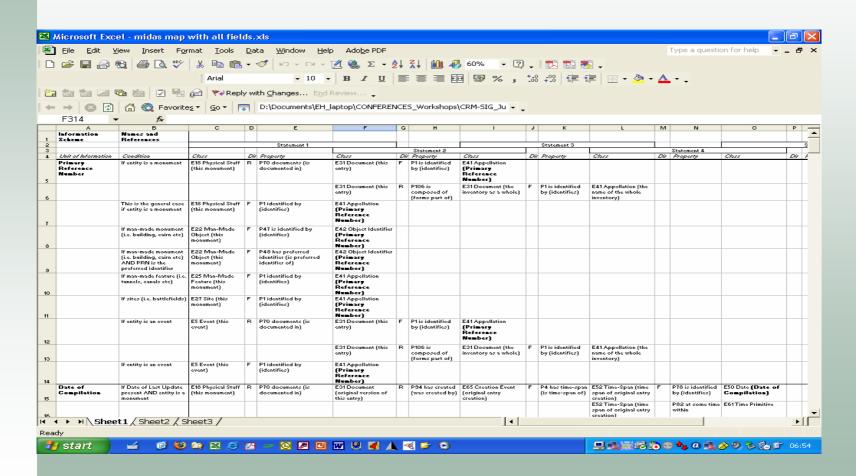


#### **Progress, Tools and Possible futures**



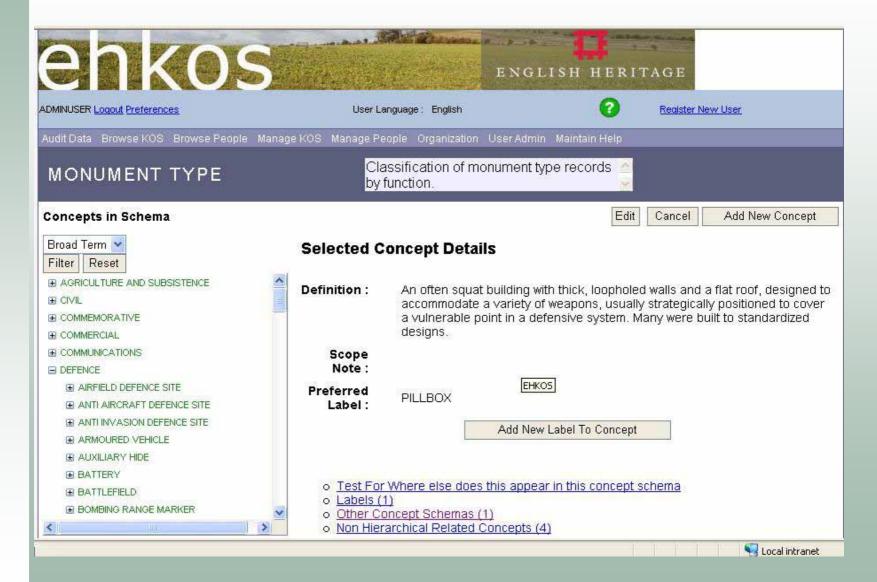


#### MIDAS mapping to CRM





#### **New Corporate Reference Data Module**



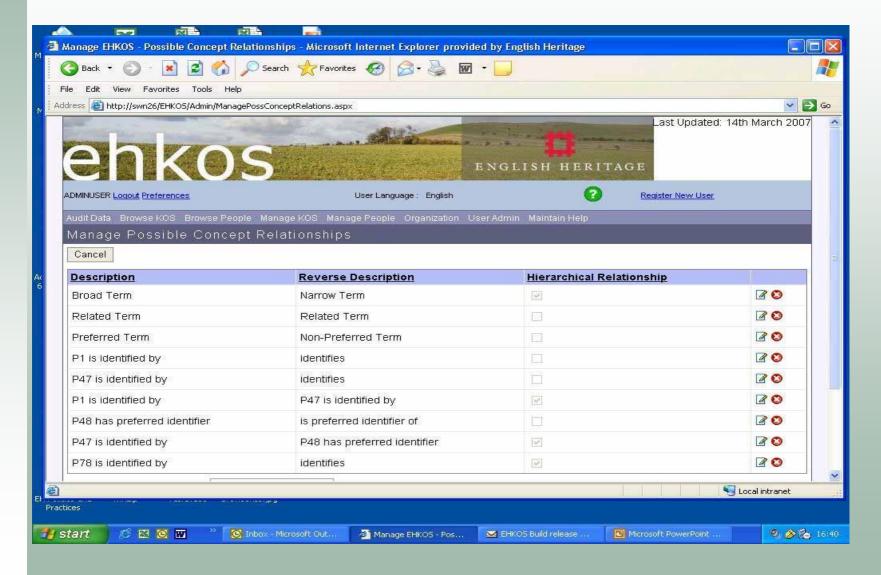


#### **Includes CIDOC-CRM**





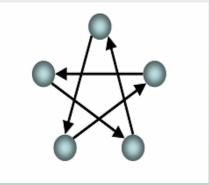
#### **Concept relations – CRM Properties**





## **STAR - Semantic Technologies for Archaeological Resources**

- Building upon EH Ontological Modelling work and...
- FACET a collaborative project investigating the potential of faceted thesauri for retrieval from multimedia collections



- Faceted Access to Cultural hEritage Terminology
- D. Tudhope & Ceri BindingGlamorgan UniversityFaculty of Advanced Technology





#### **Project Outline**

- 3 year AHRC funded project
- Started January 2007, finish December 2010



- Collaborators
  - University of Glamorgan
  - English Heritage
  - RSLIS Denmark
- Aim "To investigate the potential of semantic terminology tools for widening access to digital archaeological resources, including disparate datasets and associated grey literature"





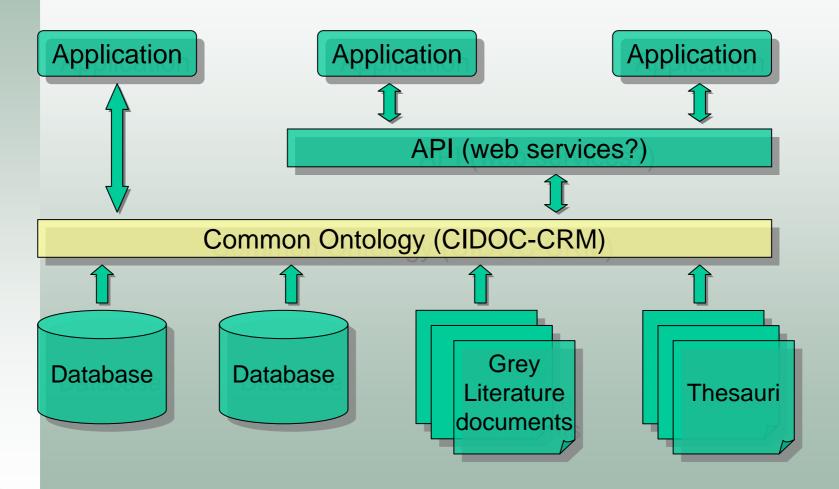


#### Archaeological Resources - to explore

- Raunds Data & Grey Literature reports
- Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological excavationS (OASIS)
  - [http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/]
    - Library of unpublished fieldwork reports
- Keyword Extraction Algorithm (KEA)
   [http://www.nzdl.org/Kea/]

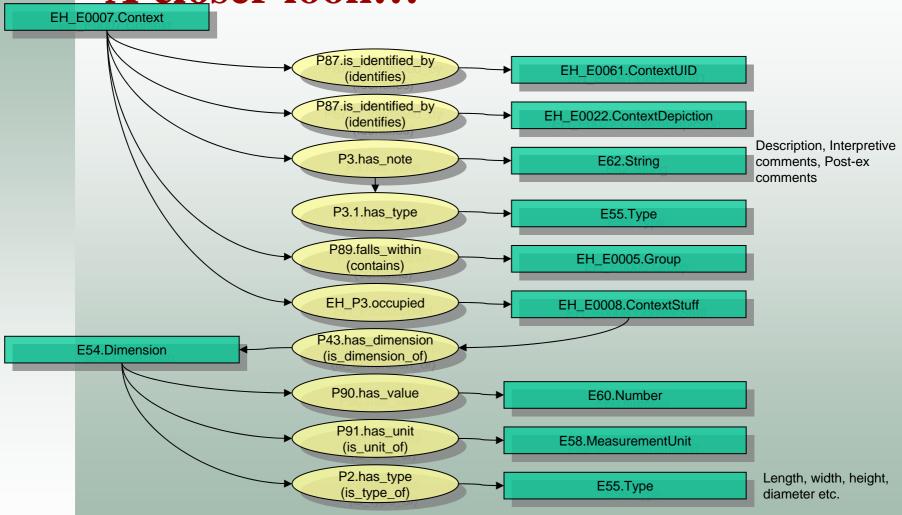


#### General architecture





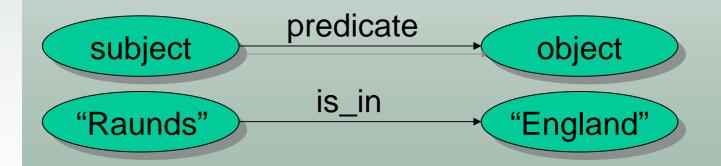
#### A closer look...





### Resource Description Framework (RDF)

- http://www.w3.org/RDF/
- XML / URI based format
- RDF triples:



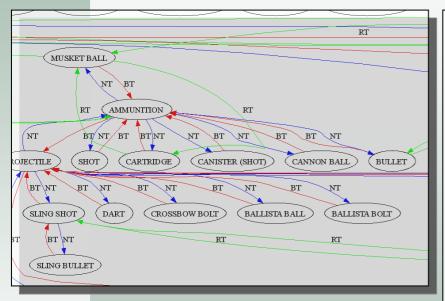


#### Simple Knowledge Organisation Systems (SKOS)

- http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/
- Representation of thesauri, taxonomies, classification schemes etc. in RDF
- Looser semantics than e.g. OWL



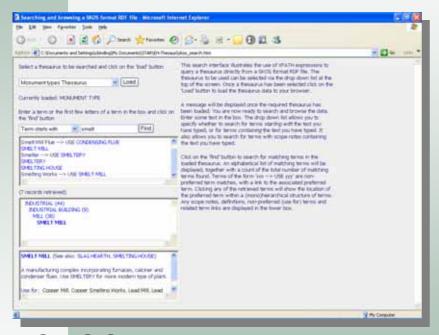
#### **Representing Thesauri in SKOS RDF**



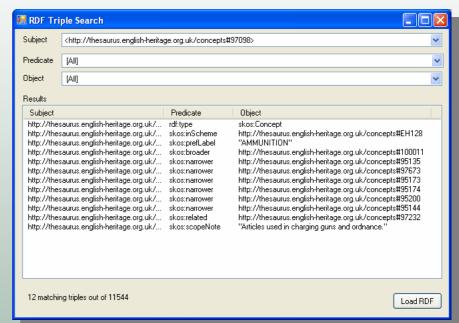
```
<skos:Concept rdf;about="#100062">
    <skos:inScheme rdf:resource="#EH128"/>
   <skos:prefLabel>MISERICORD (DAGGER)</skos:prefLabel>
   <skos:broader rdf:resource="#95138"/>
   <skos:scopeNote>A form of dagger.</skos:scopeNote>
kos:Concept>
<skos:Concept rdf:about="#100063">
   <skos:inScheme rdf:resource="#EH128"/>
   <skos:prefLabel>HANGER</skos:prefLabel>
   <skos:broader rdf:resource="#95221"/>
   <skos:scopeNote>A type of sword often used by infantry,</skos:scopeNote>
</skos:Concept>
<skos:Concept rdf;about="#100064">
   <skostinScheme rdf:resource="#EH128"/>
   <skos:prefLabel>SABRE</skos:prefLabel>
   <skos:broader rdf:resource="#95221"/>
   <skos;scopeNote>A curved sword designed to cut with used by cavalry.</skos;scopeNote>
</skos:Concept>
<skos:Concept rdf;about="#97098">
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   <skos:narrower rdf:resource="#97673"/>
   <skos:narrower rdf:resource="#95173"/>
   <skos:narrower rdf:resource="#95174"/>
   <skos:narrower rdf:resource="#95200"/>
   <skos:narrower rdf:resource="#95144"/>
   <skos:related rdf:resource="#97232"/>
   <skos:scopeNote>Articles used in charging guns and ordnance.</skos:scopeNote>
</skos:Concept>
```



#### **Applications using the RDF data**



SKOS thesaurus browser

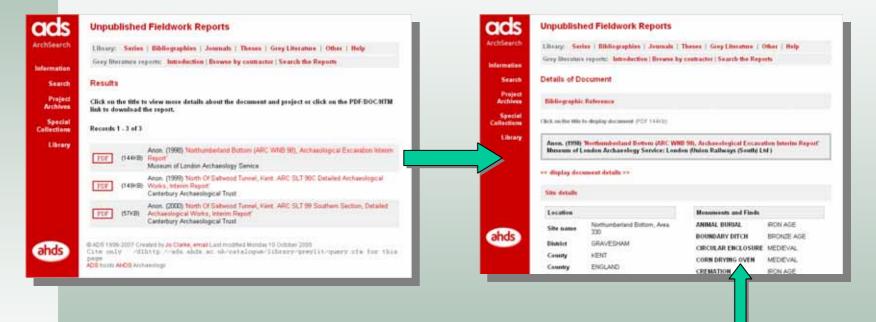


RDF triple search



#### OASIS — Archaeology Data Service

#### **Grey Literature online library**



•http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/

Some controlled vocabulary indexing



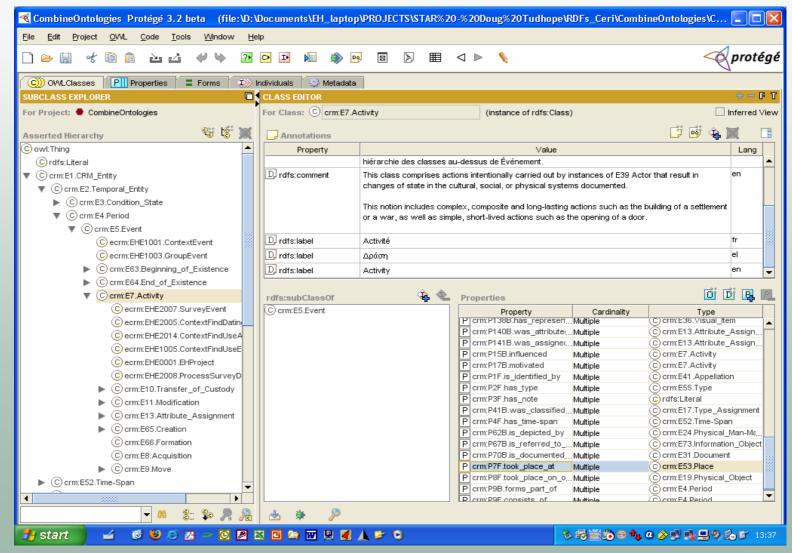


#### CIDOC-CRM as overarching logical structure

- Thesauri
  - English Heritage Thesauri (SKOS)
- Grey Literature
  - Raunds grey literature reports
  - OASIS / ADS ArchSearch
  - Indexing using KEA
- Datasets
  - Raunds RRAD MS-Access database
  - Other EH archaeological projects legacy data
  - Silchester Roman town IADB MySQL database



#### Protégé – Dynamic CRM-EH





#### Protégé modelling – pros and cons

- + Pros: modelling much more updateable dynamic
- + easy to disseminate in RDF formats for developers
- + Protégé is open source
- Cons: Not good dissemination tool for EH domain users
- Not much use to the wider Archaeological or Heritage community for agreeing a standard ontology?
- Protégé graphing tools are unwieldy for complex modelling
- Protégé is open source difficult to maintain as a standard tool for dissemination?
- Protégé networking a whole further project at EH



#### **CRM-EH extensions in RDF**

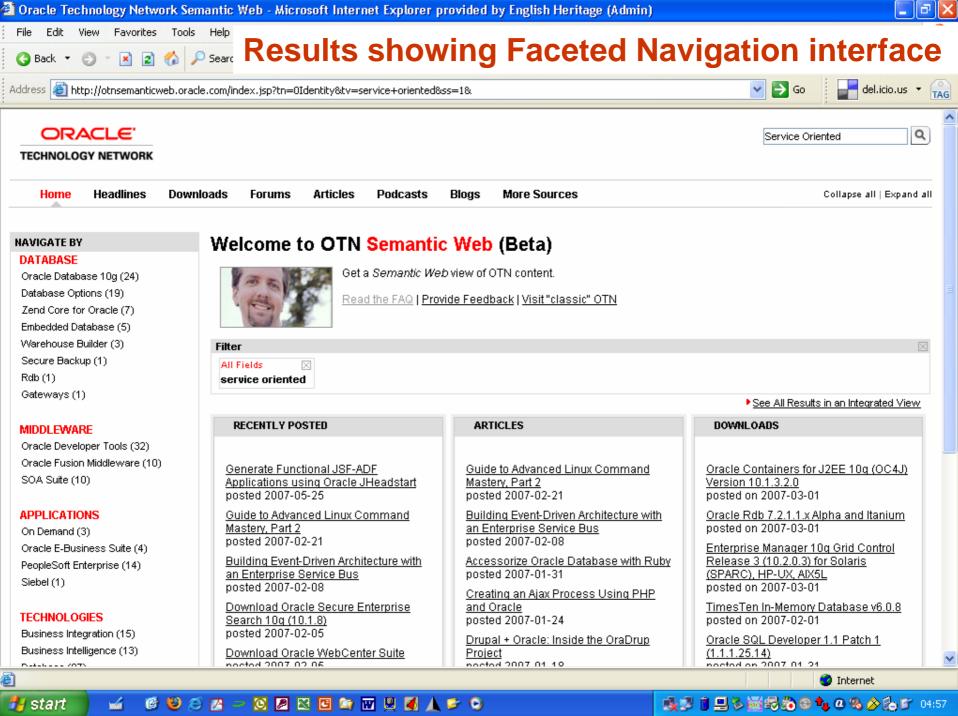
- "CRM-EH" need a 'published' version (Where? EH, CIDOC, currently Glamorgan)
- First need to complete RDF descriptions (90+)
- CRM-EH RDFs online
  - currently on Glamorgan server
  - May need agreed protocols for how these are used?
- Standards evolve What mechanisms for updating & keeping current on different servers?
- E.g. How best to incorporate MIDAS changes?



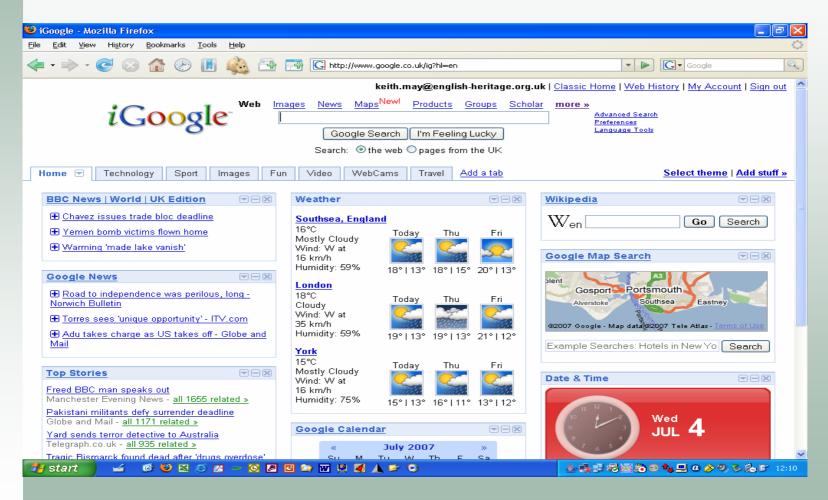
#### Semantic Web - interface examples

- 1. Oracle Technology Network
  - Beta test site
  - http://otnsemanticweb.oracle.com/
- 2. iGoogle
- 3. IkeWiki



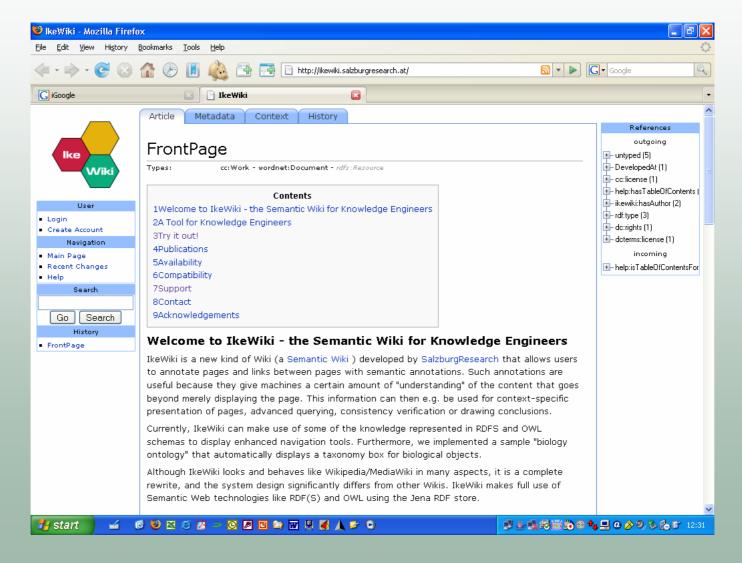


#### iGoogle web service interface?



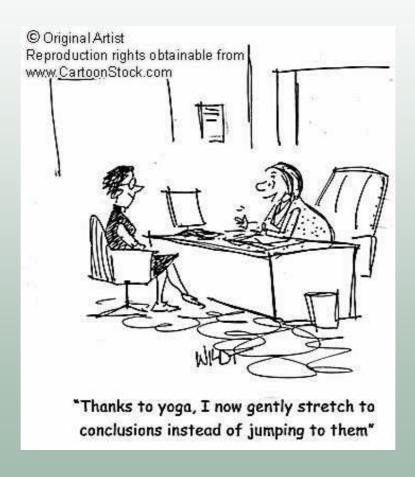


#### IkeWiki – Semantic Wiki





### 6. Conclusions and considerations for further work





### Need to be semantically explicit about the scope of your information domain

- Identifying Boundaries & how best to work with them & between them
- Important to define differences of Scale or Granularity of info.

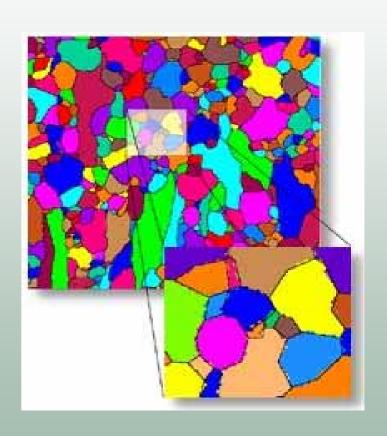
E.g. ? Local

Regional

**National** 

International

 Geo-political Cross-cutting could conflict with some Cultural heritage requirements





#### Granularity issues

- Being explicit about the levels of entities within a model or mapping
- Is there a measure to explicitly express the current granularity of the model
  - How? A Faceted user interface?
- Can/should we define the 'granularity' of the dataset as part of the contextual metadata? CRM-Core?



#### Version control on CRM extensions?

- Can we cope with interoperable systems using slightly different versions of a standard?
- How well will EH extensions still work with CRM "Vanilla"?
- May need explicit 'rules of engagement' for interoperable data sets (web services)



### Dissemination tools to better enable user endorsement of CIDOC-CRM

- Need for wider Heritage engagement with CRM
- EH need other UK archaeologists to adopt
- Need to identify "cost-benefits" for sector
- Dissemination issues with size of model
  - and further mapping is considerably more
- Need better graphical modelling outputs
- Protégé helps but not for archaeologists
  - (Domain end-users still need convincing)



#### **Verification & Dissemination**

- Dissemination Review at end of project
- Verification by CRM-SIG & FISH, etc?
- Publish updated model & RDFs online
  - CRM-SIG and/or EH websites?
- Other publication & dissemination routes?
  - Interpreting Stratigraphy conference May 2008
  - Internet Archaeology?
  - Semantic Wiki
    - on CIDOC-CRM website depending upon existing Wiki tools?http://139.91.183.17:81/tiki/tiki-index.php



#### Bibliography / References

- Revelation assessment report Cross et al, EH 2003.
- Denny, M. 2002. *Ontology Building: A Survey of Editing Tools*. http://www.xml.com/pub/a/2002/11/06/ontologies.html
- CIDOC CRM v3.4.9 http://cidoc.ics.forth.gr/
- CRM-EH Ontological model Cripps, et al 2005 http://cidoc.ics.forth.gr/technical\_papers.html
- STAR http://hypermedia.research.glam.ac.uk/kos/star/
- FACET Project http://www.glam.ac.uk/soc/research/hypermedia/facet\_proj/select\_public.php
- Oracle Semantic network http://otnsemanticweb.oracle.com
- IkeWiki http://ikewiki.salzburgresearch.at/
- Keith.may@english-heritage.org.uk

