

THE
FOSSIL
WEEK

ABSTRACT BOOK

5TH INTERNATIONAL
PALAEOONTOLOGICAL
CONGRESS

From July 9th to 13th, 2018
France



Suidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from Bolt's Farm Palaeokarst System (Plio-Pleistocene) South Africa

Martin Pickford *†¹, Dominique Gommery ¹

¹CR2P (MNHN-SU-CNRS), Paris - France

Recent excavations at Aves Cave I (AC), Brad Pit A (BPA), Milo A (MA), Bridge Cave (BC) and Alcelaphine Cave (AL), in the Cradle of Humankind, Gauteng, South Africa, have yielded fossil suid remains which provide biostratigraphic information about the periods of deposition in the Bolt's Farm Palaeokarst System. At Aves Cave I there are Late Pliocene deposits (ca 3-2.7 Ma) which have yielded the extinct suid *Potamochoeroides hypsodon*, including skeletal elements that were poorly represented in previous collections from Bolt's Farm as well as rare remains of *Notochoerus capensis*. At Brad Pit A, Milo A and other deposits, remains of the giant suid *Metridiochoerus andrewsi* have been found which indicate a later phase of endokarst sedimentation (Early Pleistocene, ca 1.8 Ma). The augmented samples from Bolt's Farm invite detailed comparisons with the Suidae from Makapansgat and other African Pliocene localities (Malawi, Namibia) and they permit a review of the taxonomy of *Notochoerus* and *Potamochoeroides*. It is shown that both genera are Suinae, and could be synonyms.

* Speaker

† Corresponding author: martin.pickford@mnhn.fr