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Reference for Annie Evans, Dig Cook

During 2009, Annie Evans became the much-esteemed 'Dig Cook' for an expedition of archaeologists staying at Leaghur Shearer's Quarters in Mungo National Park. There, with basic kitchen facilities and an erratic water supply, she looked after a large and diverse field crew with a range of special dietary requirements. To keep such a field crew well fed and contented through a month of arduous fieldwork is testament not only to her cooking abilities but also her equanimity and adaptability.

Annie is the consummate professional: she runs a well-organized and efficient kitchen, meals and shopping lists are carefully planned and tailored to budget and circumstance. She works closely with the field director to establish the requirements of each field crew and each project. Despite working to budget, Annie succeeds in delighting the field crew with varied and tasty meals and a supply of treats that lift spirits at morning and afternoon teatime when inclement weather hits. Annie works extremely hard, some days spending more time on her feet than the field crew walking across the dunes!

For the director of any field project Annie's services offer release from the relentless grind of working out meals, cooking rosters, shopping lists and food budgets. She works within budget and makes the most effective and efficient use of supplies and resources. In an era of electronic data recording, when nights as well as days involve long hours of work for project directors, the 'Dig Cook's contribution to the field work is indispensable. And she's great company.



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