



## *The Australian Society for Classical Studies*

# NEWSLETTER

NUMBER TWELVE

APRIL 2003

---

*Contact addresses:*

**Honorary Secretary**

Dr Bruce Marshall  
Department of Ancient History  
Macquarie University NSW 2109

[bmarshal@mq.edu.au](mailto:bmarshal@mq.edu.au)

**Honorary Treasurer**

Mr William Dolley  
1 Mount Pleasant Road  
Belmont VIC 3216

[wildol@deakin.edu.au](mailto:wildol@deakin.edu.au)

**Newsletter Editor**

Dr Bruce Marshall  
Department of Ancient History  
Macquarie University NSW 2109

[bmarshal@mq.edu.au](mailto:bmarshal@mq.edu.au)

**website** <http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/classics/ASCS>

---

## ASCS GENERAL NEWS

### *ASCS XXIV*

By all reports, the 24th General Meeting and Conference was a success. There were 120 participants (with a small number of additional people attending individual sessions). There were over 70 papers, with a high percentage of those given by postgraduate or recent postgraduate students. The keynote speaker, Professor Greg Woolf, from St Andrews, was well received – a genial and approachable scholar. His public lecture, co-sponsored by the Classical Association of New South Wales and the Macquarie Ancient History Association, was attended by around 250 people. The conference dinner was a rousing occasion. The Society's thanks were expressed to the convenor, Bruce Marshall, and the Macquarie Ancient History staff for the efficient and enjoyable organization of the conference.

### *General Meeting and Executive Committee Meetings*

At the several meetings held during the conference, there were the usual routine matters such as reports on the journal and the essay competition and discussions of the current financial situation (which continues to be healthy) and the proposed budget for 2003.

At the general meeting the following were elected to the various positions:

President:	Professor Greg Horsley		
Vice Presidents:	Miss Frances Muecke, Mr Roger Pitcher		
Secretary:	Dr Bruce Marshall		
Treasurer:	Mr William Dolley		
Business Manager:	Dr Ian Plant		
Editors:	Professor Harold Tarrant, Mr Hugh Lindsay		
Postgrad Rep:	Ms Silke Trczionka		
University Reps:			
ACU	Dr Bronwen Neil	Newcastle	Dr Margueite Johnson
ANU	Dr Elizabeth Minchin	UNE	Dr Charles Tesoriero
ECU	Dr Bill Leadbetter	Queensland	Dr Pat Wheatley
La Trobe	Dr Ian McPhee	Tasmania	A/Prof Peter Davis
La Trobe (Bendigo)	Mr John Penwill	Sydney	Dr Kathryn Welch
Adelaide	Dr Ron Newbold	UWA	Dr Neil O'Sullivan
Melbourne	Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard		

The general meeting agreed to a proposal from the President that for a trial period of five years ASCS conferences would be somewhat shorter and held annually; it is yet to be finally decided whether to meet in regularly February or July. The first of these “new” conferences will be held at the Bendigo campus of La Trobe University in February 2004. The Bendigo conference will have a budget similar to that allocated to ASCS XXIV at Macquarie.

The general meeting also agreed to an increase in the membership subscription for 2003, from \$30 to \$35 for the full rate; the reduced rate for postgraduate students and retirees remains the same, at \$15.

Another item of interest was discussion of a proposal to develop closer ties to our New Zealand classical colleagues, with the possibility of having a representative of each NZ department on the executive committee as for Australian universities. This could have constitutional implications, and these will be fully explored by the executive committee before fuller discussion at the next general meeting.

There are plans for meetings of the Executive Committee later this year. If any members have items that they wish the Executive Committee to discuss, they are invited to convey them to the Secretary or to their University Representative.

---

## AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

---

### *Staff*

Early 2003 has seen the retirements of Doug Kelly from the Classics Program, and Robert Barnes from the History Program. Doug will be replaced by Ms Claire Jamset (who is currently completing her DPhil at Jesus College Oxford and will arrive at the ANU in June 2003), and Robert has been replaced by Dr Ben Kelly, a graduate of Sydney University with a recently completed DPhil from Oxford. Dr Kelly has already taken up his post. Both posts had been advertised as Level A positions.

### *Conference*

Elizabeth Minchin would like to draw colleagues' attention to the second Homer Seminar to be held in December 2003. For enquiries or expressions of interest contact her: [Elizabeth.Minchin@anu.edu.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Minchin@anu.edu.au).

### *Visitors*

Professor Alan Bowman will be speaking on the Vindolanda Tablets to the ANU Friends of the Classics Museum in October 2003.

### *Museum*

The Classics Museum at the ANU celebrated its 40th anniversary in November 2002 with a catered dinner in the Museum itself for over 80 guests. The anniversary was marked by the launch of an illustrated guide to the collection produced by the curator with practical assistance from Ms Nancy Sever of the ANU Drill Hall Gallery and financial assistance from the National Institute of the Humanities at the ANU.

Late in 2002 the Classics Museum received a handsome fragment of an inscription from Ostia, generously donated by Professor Paul Weaver.

### *Research and Publications*

Professor Graeme Clarke has been awarded an ARC Discovery Grant for further excavation seasons (2003-5) at Jebel Khalid in North Syria.

Pim Allison's book on the “Casa della caccia antica” in the *Häuser in Pompeji* series (München, Hirmer, 2001) was launched in August in the ANU Classics Museum.

---

## EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

---

### *Staff*

Bill Leadbetter is currently in Oxford where he is a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Ancient Documents at Oxford. He was one of a contingent of four Australians (three residents and an expat – Cam Grey) at the Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity Conference at Santa Barbara.

### *Visitors*

ECU hosted Greg Woolf, Bob Hohlfelder (Visiting Scholar) and Ian Morris who met with postgraduates from both ECU and UWA as well as giving a public lecture at UWA.

---

## LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

---

### *Lecture*

Dr Ian McPhee delivered the A.D. Trendall Lecture at the Institute of Classical Studies in London on 30 January. The topic was “Figured Pottery of the Classical Period from Ancient Corinth”.

---

## MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

---

### *New Courses*

From 2004, students wishing to study ancient languages without necessarily completing a major will be able to enrol in either of two undergraduate awards: a Diploma in Ancient Languages (which is open to students eligible for admission to a degree program at Macquarie or another approved institution), and a Certificate in Ancient Languages (for which no admission criteria are specified).

### *Conferences*

The annual conference of the Society for the Study of Early Christianity will be held on Saturday 3rd May. The theme of the conference this year is “Archaeology and the Bible”.

The fourth colloquium in the “Language Showcase Series” organised by Dr Trevor Evans will be held on Friday 16th May. It will be a colloquium in memory of G.P. Shipp. The speakers will be John Sheldon, Alan James, Tim Glover, Trevor Evans and John Lee, and the papers will reflect various aspects of Professor Shipp’s wide-ranging contribution to Classics and language studies in Australia.

### *Museum*

The Museum of Ancient Cultures has recently acquired two small papyrus pieces, and a Christian amulet (?) containing extracts from three psalms.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

---

### *Departmental News*

Our new staff member Han Baltussen has already been making a contribution to the research and teaching of the department, including being part of a panel that five people from Adelaide presented on Ion of Chios at the recent ASCS conference.

Enrolments in our subjects this year have been excellent, including 102 for a new course "Afterlife and Underworld in Antiquity", more than double what we expected to get.

Margaret O'Hea is on study leave this semester and planned to spend most of her time on a dig at Pella in Jordan, provided peace was given a chance.

The department is co-operating with ASCS in an effort to find out more about the funding of the Hughes chair of Classics, vacant since 1992.

### *Conference*

Planning for the AABS conference in July, whose theme is "Food and Drink in Byzantium", is proceeding, having overcome the problem of finding a venue when the favoured site suddenly ceased business.

### *Visitor*

Professor Tom Burns from Emory University in Atlanta was the department's distinguished academic visitor last semester and made various contributions to the life of the department. He is sending over an exhibition of Roman coin replicas for display in our library and which could be sent on to anywhere else in Australia. Anyone interested should contact Ron Newbold.

While here Tom worked with Anne Geddes to further plans for a joint summer school in Turkey and Greece, to start in 2005.

### *Postgraduate Success*

Gail Higginbottom completed her PhD thesis on the neolithic and bronze ages monuments of N W Scotland.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

---

### *Departmental News*

For about fourteen months now, our department has been in residence at the Old Quadrangle (the original home of the Classics Department when the university was founded). We are still trying to organise our Classics & Archaeology library, which was physically moved about four months ago from its location across campus. The library is now housed in the former Law Faculty Staff Room, a beautiful and bright Heritage room which is even more bright since the University had the wisdom to knock down the ugly 1960s building next door that used to block out all the light.

The Old Quadrangle is the oldest and most recognisable part of the campus. If you watch *Secret Life of Us*, and ever see a scene that takes place in a sandstone corridor outside the "Department of Psychology," it's actually been filmed outside our departmental office with a fake sign on our door. (Why the writers of *Secret Life of Us* think that psychologists are more sexy than classicists, I don't know. . .)

### *Staff*

Dr Rhiannon Evans has been appointed from the University of Tasmania and will be commencing as a lecturer at the University of Melbourne in July 2003. Evans completed her studies at the University of Newcastle, UK, and the University of Southern California, and has been working at the University of Tasmania for four or five years. Among her teaching duties will be a new 4th year subject, Ethnic Identity in the Greco-Roman World.

The Centre for Classics and Archaeology has been advertising two new lecturer positions, one in Bronze Age or Classical archaeology, the other in Near Eastern archaeology. It is hoped the new lecturers can commence as soon as possible.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Pemberton retired from teaching at the end of 2002 after decades of service. She gave the H. W. Allen Memorial Lecture at Ormond College in October, "The Archaeology of Food: Cooking and Cuisine in Ancient Corinth".

Associate Professor Chris Mackie will be on study leave from July 2003 to June 2004, during which time Professor Frank Sear will act as Head of the Centre for Classics and Archaeology. Associate Professor Tony Sagona will also go on study leave in second semester 2003. Associate Professor Roger Scott plans to retire at the end of the 2003 year.

### *Visitors*

In the spring semester of 2002, we welcomed Professor Anson Rainey (University of Tel Aviv) as our Eminent Visiting Fellow. He spent a couple months with us and lectured extensively on his knowledge of Semitic languages and Near Eastern (especially Biblical) history and archaeology.

In the fall semester of 2003, our Visiting Fellow was Mary Voigt (Chancellor Professor of Anthropology at William and Mary College, Virginia, USA) who delivered lectures on her projects at Gordion (in Anatolia).

Julian Henderson (Nottingham, UK) is a Universitas 21 exchange fellow, working on a research project with Frank Sear for six months. Frank Sear will then go to Nottingham for six weeks. Julian will also deliver a public lecture, "Ancient Industry in Context: the Caliph of Baghdad and the discovery of his industrial complex".

### *Postgraduates*

We currently have 22 Ph.D. and 24 M.A. postgraduates whose theses have a supervisor or co-supervisor in Classics and Archaeology.

Annabel Orchard, a Ph.D. postgraduate in classics, has been hired by Monash University for the year as director of their classics program. Through a co-operative arrangement, two other M.A. postgraduates from University of Melbourne continue to do sessional teaching of both language and non-language subjects for Monash.

### *Undergraduates*

Semester 1, 2003 has seen our highest enrolments for the past five years in all levels of the ancient languages (38 in Beginners Latin, 41 in Intermediate Latin, 14 in Advanced Latin, 26 in Beginning Greek, 17 in Intermediate Greek, and 7 in Advanced Greek): a total of 143 enrolments. To our delight, many of these enrolments reflect students pursuing both languages.

The undergraduate classics club continues to generate interest in the classics, and they are planning film screenings and a dramatic reading night for the near future. The club has managed to do great things: back at the end of October, they stunned us all with their performance of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*.

Also in October, Felicity Albrecht (former classics student at Melbourne) formed her own theatre group and gave three performances of Euripides' Hippolytus on campus, with a little help from our classics department. She plans to direct Sophocles' Oedipus the King in August 2003.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

---

### *Staff*

The winds of change are blowing very strongly in the Classics department at The University of Queensland this year with the imminent retirement of two long-serving staff members, Brian Jones and Bob Milns. Brian retires in July, and his replacement, Tom Stephenson, from Auckland University, will take up duties then and the process of finding a replacement for Bob is now underway. We will miss the more than 70 years of accumulated experience these two staff members represent, not to mention their vast talents and wonderful collegiality.

This will mean that within the period of about two years, including Sonia Puttock and **Error! Bookmark not defined.**, four new staff members will have been put on at UQ, which bodes well for the university's commitment to our discipline in Queensland.

To add to the "new look" staff profile of the department, in late February, we moved to a brand-new refurbished floor in the Michie Building, where we have wonderful new offices at treetop level, centred around our refurbished and enlarged Antiquities Museum, making this inspiring teaching resource more accessible to all.

The new Antiquities Museum has become, in a short time, the centrepiece of the department. Like the old premises, it occupies the central area on the floor with a corridor on either side. But there the similarity ends. The display area is about 3 times the size of the old museum and, although the storeroom has been sacrificed to provide this extra space, there is plenty of storage space in the many cupboards and shelves which occupy the areas beneath the display cases. A computer has also been installed in one of the end cupboards fitted with doors which fold back into the wall instead of impinging into the internal space. The display cases themselves are the major feature of the museum as they double as the long side-walls of the museum. A section of the wall facing the lift foyer is also a showcase and at the moment houses a very large Apulian vase, which immediately draws people towards the museum itself. The use of security glass for the walls/display cases now means that visitors and students can see the objects on display even when the museum is closed. The design of the museum has an impact upon the whole floor, which is now much lighter and seems far more spacious. Even the lift foyer has not been forgotten and has a display cabinet built into the wall opposite the lift doors, which houses objects from the collection of replicas donated to the department by Mr G. Story.

The move from the 7th floor to the 3rd floor was achieved relatively smoothly by a number of extremely dedicated and hard-working volunteers. The arrangement of the artefacts within the cases proved to be the most challenging part of the move, although a couple of very large and heavy objects also caused a moment or two of concern. Remarkably, this was all achieved within two days and when we closed the doors on Friday 21 March, the museum was tidy. Although there is still much to be done, the new Antiquities Museum in the Department of Classics and Ancient History is now a superb showcase for both the artefacts contained within the museum and for the department itself. We are very proud of it.

### *Conference Papers*

Our staff members have been active on the international front in 2002-3. In January **Error! Bookmark not defined.** participated in a panel on ancient courtesans at the International Conference of the Arts and Humanities in Hawaii. John Whitehorne spent most of last semester's study leave at the Istituto Papirologico G. Vitelli in Florence, working jointly with Italian colleagues. He gave a paper on Vergil at the FILLM XXII International Congress at Assumption University, Bangkok, in August 2002, and a paper on Aristophanes, *Acharnians*, at the AULLA Congress at Victoria University, Wellington, in February 2003. In April Dorothy Watts will be attending the Fifth Roman Archaeology Conference at Leicester University, and giving a paper entitled "Women, Christianity and Roman Britain", and will also be carrying out further research in London at the Society of Antiquaries Library, on her book on women in early Britain.

### *Student Matters*

Coupled with these heartening developments in Queensland, we have had extraordinary undergraduate enrolments in the first semester courses, including strong showings for Latin and Greek language classes.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

---

### *Staff*

The appointment has been announced of Dr Peter Wilson as Professor of Classics. Dr Wilson took a B.A. (Hons) from the University of Sydney in 1986 and completed a Ph.D. at Cambridge. He has held positions at Cambridge, the University of Warwick and Oxford. He is currently a Fellow of New College, Oxford, and a University Lecturer in Classical Languages and Literature. His research interests lie in Classical Greek literature, history and society. It is expected that Dr Wilson will take up his appointment to the Chair of Classics at the University of Sydney in October 2003.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

---

### *Staff*

Dr Lara O'Sullivan, from the University of Western Australia, has been given a temporary appointment as a replacement for Dr Paul Gallivan while he is on sick leave.

---

## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

---

### *Staff*

We have a new member of staff, funded by the Cassamarca Foundation, which is based in Treviso. This foundation seeks to promote the study of Latin Humanism among other things, and this year A/Prof Yasmin Haskell was appointed to the position. She is a graduate of Sydney University and her expertise ranges from Classical Latin through Neo-Latin to Renaissance Italian. She is keen to establish neo-latin studies at UWA.

John Melville-Jones spent January and February at the University of Cincinnati as a Margo Tytus Visiting Scholar. The university possesses what is perhaps the best library in Classical Studies in the world (with strong holdings also in Byzantine Studies and Modern Greek), housed in its own building separately from the main library. This is supported by a fund which was set up many years ago. The fund is administered by trustees who have no connection with the administration of the university, and payments to the university, which fund archaeological excavation (for example, at Troy), and the Classics Library, are conditional on the university's maintaining a strong Department of Classics.

John Melville-Jones has been invited to contribute a paper to a forthcoming symposium on relations between the Ottomans and the Byzantines in the fifteenth century. The symposium will take place at the University of Istanbul on May 30-31, to celebrate the 550th anniversary of the founding of that institution.

#### *Visitor*

We have just had a short visit from Professor Ian Morris of Stanford University, who gave a most stimulating lecture on the progress of his current excavation in Sicily.

#### *Other News*

The department's fundraising committee presented a successful dinner with the theme "Cracking the Code: the World of Homer" in February. These annual events have proved a pleasant way to take Classics and Ancient History to the wider community.

**FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES**

**Cicero's Philippics:  
Rhetoric, Performance, History**

**Conference at the University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand**

**Monday 7 July - Wednesday 9 July 2003**

Papers are invited for a Conference based upon Cicero's *Philippics* speeches. We would like to encourage offers from scholars interested in any aspect of the speeches. The subtitle "Rhetoric, Performance, History" is included only because it seems to reflect the interests of those who have offered papers so far. The aim is to publish selected papers in either a regular number of *Prudentia* or in a *Prudentia Supplement*.

Please send offers of papers, abstracts and enquiries to:

Dr. Tom Stevenson,  
Dept. of Classics and Ancient History,  
University of Auckland,  
Private Bag 92019,  
Auckland, New Zealand.

Ph.: 64-9-3737599 extn. 8910

Fax: 64-9-3082301

Email: t.stevenson@auckland.ac.nz

*or* Dr. Marcus Wilson,  
Dept. of Classics and Ancient History,  
University of Auckland,  
Private Bag 92019,  
Auckland, New Zealand

Ph.: 64-9-3737599 extn. 7427

Fax: 64-9-3082301

Email: mj.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

\*\*\*\*\*

**Australian Association for Byzantine Studies conference:  
"An International Conference on Food and Drink in Byzantium"  
11-13 July 2003, University of Adelaide**

Members with an interest in cognate fields may wish to note this forthcoming 13th conference of AABS, to be held in conjunction with University of Adelaide's Research Centre for the History of Food and Drink.

For enquiries, contact: Dr Wendy Mayer, ACU, at: [wendy.mayer@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:wendy.mayer@adelaide.edu.au)

For registration details: [www.mcauley.acu.edu.au/aabs/aabs\\_2003.htm](http://www.mcauley.acu.edu.au/aabs/aabs_2003.htm)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Poetics of Exile  
An International Conference  
Auckland, New Zealand  
17-19 July 2003**

Enquiries to:

Mike Hanne

Coordinator of Comparative Literature  
University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92019  
Auckland, New Zealand

Email: m.hanne@auckland.ac.nz  
Tel: 64-9-373-7599 ext 7106  
Fax: 64-9-373-7483

[www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/SELL/complit](http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/SELL/complit)

\*\*\*\*\*

**International Committee of Historical Sciences Congress  
3-9 July 2005, University of New South Wales**

Since 1926, CISH (International Committee of Historical Sciences/Comité International des Sciences Historiques) has convened an international historical congress every four years. In 2005, for the first time, the congress will be held in the southern hemisphere, at UNSW, hosted by the Australian Historical Association.

CISH aims to draw together historians from different regions (geographical and academic) and time periods, to discuss historical topics of shared interest. The International Executive of CISH includes Professor Pierre Ducrey (Treasurer) of the University of Lausanne, a specialist on ancient Greek warfare, who is keen to integrate ancient historians in the forthcoming congress.

The congress will consist of 3 “Major Theme” sessions, 26 “Specialist Theme” sessions, and 20 “Round Table” sessions. There will also be “poster” presentations, and the AGMs of affiliated international historical associations. Some examples of the almost 50 themes include “Humankind and Nature in History” (as a Major Theme), “Empires in the Near East and the Mediterranean: Steps to Globalisation?” and “The Governance of Cities in History” (as Specialist Themes), and “Historians and Their Audiences” and “Historical Dictionaries and Encyclopedias” (as Round Table discussions). A full list of planned sessions can be seen at: <http://www.cish.org/GB/Themes.htm>.

About September this year, the organisers will call for offers of papers for the various sessions. [We may be able to include this in the next ASCS Newsletter.]