



# The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

## Newsletter no. 46, July 2020

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## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### President's Report

It seems that the whole world is adjusting to the changed reality brought on by Covid-19. ASCS has been no different in recent months. Our newsletter appears here later than would normally be the case but this is because we didn't want to bother campus reps and others who were undoubtedly battling to keep up with increased demands and other disruptions. I'm very grateful to Kit Morrell for taking on the responsibility of the newsletter. It's a sizeable commitment for anyone. Perhaps more so for a young scholar about to start a career at a new university.

The Executive has kept up a steady stream of meetings and consultations via Zoom. It's great to report that Dan Osland and Tristan Taylor are settling in brilliantly as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Phoebe Garrett (Membership Secretary) and Kit Morrell (Publications Manager) are equally competent and committed. We've decided to meet once a month as the inner Executive and at least once a semester as the wider Executive, including campus reps. I want to thank all those who have participated in our meetings so far and given their opinions so openly and helpfully.

The new Covid world has inevitably affected our conference plans. It is heartening, however, to report that both AMPHORAE 14 and ASCS 42 will take place in virtual versions. We all owe a debt of thanks to the postgrads for AMPHORAE 14 and to Kathryn Welch, Jonathan Wallis, Elizabeth Minchin, Bob Cowan, Sarah Lawrence, David Rafferty and a number of others (forgive me for forgetting) for the plans recently unveiled for ASCS 42. It's been a pleasure to watch the arrangements unfold in consequence of admirable collegiality and teamwork.

Other developments have tended to be more challenging. In New Zealand, the profile of Classical Studies and Latin in the high school curriculum has suffered from recent reform proposals. Our colleagues at the University of Auckland have entered an uncertain period as the result of changed priorities in the Arts Faculty and a recent run of retirements. In Australia, the Federal Government has seen fit to double the fees for humanities (and related) courses at tertiary level. The entire tertiary sector is bracing for cuts. It is slightly early to say much about the impact of these developments on enrolments in our courses but of course the attitude behind them is worrying.

We have tried to meet some of these challenges by writing submissions and letters. Recipients include the NZ Department of Education (for Latin and Classical Studies), North Sydney Boys High School, Auckland University, and the Australian Education Minister, Hon. Dan Tehan.

It is good to report that CHASS (the Council for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) in Australia is experiencing a new, more dynamic phase of leadership. As a result, we renewed our links with them and supported their campaign to lobby Minister Tehan over the reforms to course costs at tertiary level recently announced. I'm grateful to Lea Beness for attending a couple of virtual meetings on our behalf, as well as that of AWAWS. Challenges arise constantly, it seems. I wonder sometimes whether we could do more and what that might look like. Please don't hesitate to offer suggestions.

It has been a particularly sad time for the loss of old members and friends, among whom I think of Alexander Cambitoglou, Bob Milns, Iain Spence, Noel Weeks, and John Whitehorne. There will be space elsewhere to remember them more formally and properly but I don't think I've encountered a 4-5 month period in which so many eminent people have been lost.

Stay safe, Everyone, and all best wishes for the various duties which undoubtedly occupy you so completely,

Tom

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### **Honorary Secretary's Report**

Tēnā koutou, greetings to you all from Dunedin, NZ. This is my first secretary's report, and it will be brief. Since taking over from the fantastic Gina Salapata earlier this year, I have only just begun to learn what the honorary secretary's job entails. During the first half of 2020, the rest of the ASCS executive and I have become reasonably adept at all forms of online communication, in a process no doubt familiar to all members of ASCS by now. On the plus side, video recordings of all our online meetings have made writing up the minutes a relative breeze. I am certain that the rest of this year will make us all experts at this sort of thing, and that our online conference for ASCS 42 will provide a fantastic show of just how far we have all come across a very difficult year.

As the lead planner for ASCS 41 in Dunedin, I learned just how much of what ASCS does requires a team effort, and I am struck by how strong a team we have in the Executive right now. But we continue to rely heavily on the voluntary assistance of the rest of our membership, and I have been very impressed in particular with how well the AMPHORAE committee have managed to pivot from an in-person conference to an online version only a few months later. We have also had quite a few people step up to help out with the organization of the now-online ASCS 42 conference; even though I'm pretty well convinced by now that Kathryn Welch can do anything (except Twitter, I'm told), I am proud of how many members of our community have stepped up to work with her in converting our conference to an online format. I am sure it will be a smashing success.

That's it from me, I hope to be a bit more thorough next time I put together a report,

Ngā mihi,

Daniel Osland

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## OBITUARIES

### Alexander Cambitoglou (1922–2019)

Professor Alexander Cambitoglou AO, the founder, former director, and principal donor of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens and Foundation Member of the (then) Australian Society for Classical Studies, died in Sydney on 29 November 2019, aged 97.

Alexander was born in Thessaloniki. He attended the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, completing a BA there. He continued his studies in the UK: an MA from Manchester, a PhD from University of London, and a DPhil from Oxford, where he had studied with John Beazley. There followed teaching positions in the US: first at the University of Mississippi from 1954 to 1956; and, second, at Bryn Mawr from 1956 to 1961.

Then Alexander came to Australia. In 1961 he joined the University of Sydney; in 1963 he was appointed Professor of Classical Archaeology—the first person of Greek birth to become a professor in Australia; in 1978 this became a named chair: the Arthur and Renee George Professor of Classical Archaeology. Alexander also held the position of Curator of Sydney University's Nicholson Museum.

Alexander retired from the chair in 1989; he continued as Curator of the Nicholson until 2000.

Through all these years Alexander worked tirelessly to promote Australian research in Greece: in 1967 he undertook the excavation at the important Geometric settlement of Zagora on Andros, a collaboration between the Athens Archaeological Society and the University of Sydney. From the mid-70s he led an Australian expedition to Torone in Chalkidiki, where he and his teams, which have included many Australians, worked for many years.

In 1980 Alexander was able to give some form to a great dream: this was the founding of an Australian archaeological institute in Athens, the purpose of which was, as it still is, to foster and support both archaeological fieldwork and other research undertaken by Australian students, scholars, and independent researchers whose work (whether ancient or modern, archaeological, historical, or cultural) requires that they spend time in Greece.

So the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens joined, as a latecomer, a long list of distinguished foreign schools based in Athens, all of which receive some support from their respective governments. When the Australian government declined to support the Australian institute Alexander did not give up. Demonstrating a commendable streak of creative obstinacy he, as Director, set about building a network of support across Australia: this network uniquely brings together the major universities and a number of Friends groups, made up of Australians and Greek-Australians, who work together to secure the future of this important institution. And, as many of you are aware, Alexander himself over the years contributed more than generously from his own resources in order to maintain the institute as a viable enterprise.

Alexander's important research publications include excavation reports on Zagora and Torone, a number of volumes, co-written with A.D. Trendall, on the red-figure vases of Apulia, and publications on individual vase painters. These contributions alone would be a significant contribution to scholarship, as his election as a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities attests. But Alexander's contributions do not end there. Through his establishment of the AAIA, from which he stepped down as Director in 2016, Alexander has left us such a legacy, such a great gift for scholars of the future, that we should remember him with affection, respect, and great gratitude.

Elizabeth Minchin

### John Martyn (1934–2019)

John Martyn (1934–2019), a foundation member of ASCS in 1966, died on 12 April at the age of 84. After being educated at Marlborough College, of which he was head boy, followed by British national service and Classics at Emmanuel College Cambridge, John was appointed as a lecturer in Classics at the University of Melbourne in late 1958 at the age of 24 (making him apparently the youngest lecturer on campus), senior lecturer in 1964 and Reader in 1988 (entitling him to the status of Associate Professor) before taking early retirement in 1995 and resigning from ASCS in 1997. At ASCS first General Meeting in 1967, John was elected to be Melbourne University's representative on the executive and he remained so until 1973 and again from 1985 to 1991. In February 1985 John was convener of ASCS XIII conference (the Classics section of AULLA XXIII) held at the University of Melbourne.

John's interests in Classics were wide. As a teacher he was noted for his enthusiasm for Latin prose composition and more remarkably for Latin verse composition which thus remained as a compulsory and then voluntary part of the syllabus for longer than it might otherwise have done, and also for Latin palaeography. His first book was as editor of a Festschrift for Professor Harold Hunt (ASCS second president) on Cicero and Virgil (1972). His own early research was largely on Roman satire, with an edition of Juvenal published by Hakkert in 1987 and also numerous articles, some of which Hakkert published as a collection in 1997. He then moved to Neo-Latin with an edition of the epigrams of John Owen (1560?-1622) in 1978 which in turn led to a particular fascination for Neo-Latin from Portugal with monographs on André de Resende (1990), Antonio Ferreira (1990), Pedro Nunes (1996) and an account of the 1562 siege of Mazagão in Morocco (1994), subtitled as "a perilous moment in the defence of Christendom against Islam" for which he was also preparing a film. [(WD) I am indebted to Professor Ridley for advice that John also became proficient in the Portuguese language]. He also made a special contribution to the university by his chairing of a committee that raised funds and successfully campaigned for a lectureship in Modern Greek.

Shortly before retirement John moved from inner-suburban Melbourne (Carlton of whose AFL team he remained an avid supporter) to Balnarring Beach on Western Port Bay but this in no way slowed down his publications which became even more prolific. Some were still on Portuguese Neo-Latin topics (editions and translations of Resende's biographies of Prince Edward and Friar Pedro [1997] and his Latin poems, [1998]) but more on Late Antiquity, notably a book on the culture of Visigothic Spain (2008) and one of translations of Latin chronicles dealing with the Vandals and with the Arian controversy of the fourth to sixth centuries (also 2008). But his especial interest became pope Gregory the Great on whom he published some eight volumes between 2004 and 2013. These included a three-volume translation of Gregory's letters, supported by an ARC grant (published by the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto 2004), and a further five volumes on other aspects of Gregory. He was particularly proud of his final book, published in 2013, a study of a tenth-century manuscript of some forty letters of Pope Gregory. John had secured funding for the university to purchase several leaves of various manuscripts for his palaeography course, some of which turned out (as John established) to be part of this previously unrecognised but significant tenth-century manuscript of Gregory's letters. He also published two novels, one with a late mediaeval Portuguese setting and the other a romance linked to a Classics lecturer's study-leave, seemingly an autobiographical fantasy. Overall John claimed to be the author of over 33 volumes and 100 articles. Some of the volumes were certainly course manuals of some kind, but nonetheless his output was quite remarkable.

Roger Scott, helped considerably by William Dolley

## Bob Milns (1938–2020)

Emeritus Professor Robert David Milns AM spent his life deepening our understanding of the ancient world. After his passing on 20 February 2020 he leaves a legacy that will stand the test of time.



Known as “Bob” to all who knew him, Emeritus Professor Milns joined the university as its third Professor of Classics in 1970. At the time of his retirement in 2003 he had not only served the University for 33 years, but also rejuvenated the study of Classics and Ancient history at UQ and in the broader community.

Following his retirement, Emeritus Professor Milns continued to be actively involved in engaging the community with the classical past, up until his death.

This represents combined service to teaching the classics in Queensland of 50 years.

Emeritus Professor Milns was a graduate of both Leeds and Cambridge universities and was a world renowned expert on Alexander the Great and his father Philip II of Macedon. However, he maintained a wide-ranging interest in all parts of the classical world and could comment with authority on diverse topics from the Minoan civilisation to the fall of Rome. As a lecturer, supervisor and mentor, Emeritus Professor Milns influenced and enriched the lives and careers of generations of Classics students at The University of Queensland. He is remembered for his infectious laugh, winding anecdotes and tangents that were as informative as the topic he was supposed to be addressing.

In 2007, The University of Queensland’s Antiquities Museum was named in his honour. Under his leadership as Professor of Classics, the Museum that bears his name was transformed from a small collection of less than 200 pieces to a collection of over 6000 artefacts. The Museum is also a centre of public outreach into the community.

Emeritus Professor Milns was a founding member of the Friends of Antiquity in 1988, a special interest group of the Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland. The Friends conduct a range of public outreach activities and provide critical support to the discipline of Classics and Ancient History at the University.

He served as both president and patron of the Friends and was an active and dedicated member. The annual RD Milns Lecture brings an eminent overseas classicist to the University to spend time as a visitor to the discipline, and provide a keynote public lecture.

Emeritus Professor Milns was a UQ Senator and long-term member of the University’s Academic Board. He was made a member of the Order of Australia in 1997, and received a Centenary Medal in 2003. Both awards recognised his service to education, particularly in the area of Classics and Ancient History at UQ and in the community.

An active and beloved member of the Greek Community in Brisbane, in 1996 Emeritus Professor Milns was made an Honorary Member of the Greek Orthodox Community of St George, Brisbane.

In 2004 he received the Australian Hellenic Council’s Nike Award for distinguished service. Through his vision and commitment, Emeritus Professor Milns brought the classical world to life. His warmth and enthusiasm live on through the countless students, scholars and community members who were fortunate enough to know him, and through the RD Milns



Antiquities Museum. He strengthened our ties to the past, and in doing so left a legacy that will last long into the future.

James Donaldson and others

### Matthew Trundle (1965–2019)

Matthew Trundle (12 October 1965 – 12 July 2019) will be remembered as a larger than life figure who worked ceaselessly to popularize Classics in the United Kingdom and Ireland, in North America, and in Australasia. In particular, he made major contributions to the study of warfare in the Greek and Roman worlds and, in association with the payment of mercenaries, the role of money in ancient societies.



Matthew was born in London and graduated with a BA from the University of Nottingham in 1987 with Joint Honours in Ancient History and History. He then moved to McMaster University in Canada, first gaining a MA and in 1996 completing a PhD thesis, “The Classical Greek Mercenary and His Relation to the Polis”, under the supervision of Daniel Geagan. In 1999 he was appointed lecturer in Classics at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and rapidly rose to Associate Professor in Classics and Associate Dean (Humanities and Social Sciences), before being appointed Professor of Classics at the University of Auckland in 2012.

Xenophon’s story of the adventures of the Greek mercenaries fighting their way back from Persia in *Anabasis* was often mentioned by Matthew as the inspiration for his interest in Classics. Hence, his first major publication was *Greek mercenaries: from the late archaic to Alexander* (Routledge 2004) and, in association with his fellow McMaster graduate, Garrett Fagan, he organized a joint APA/AIA panel that formed the basis for *New perspectives on ancient warfare* (Brill, 2010). At the time of his death he was working on a monograph on the interconnection of coinage and warfare in the Greek and Hellenistic worlds as well as completing the report on inscriptions at the excavations at Corinth that had been entrusted to him by Daniel Geagan.

Most of all, Matthew will be remembered among his colleagues for his gregarious participation in the meetings of the major classical associations, including the Classical Association, the American Philological Association, the Classical Association of South Africa, and the Australasian Society for Classical Studies. He also presented papers at numerous universities, including ones in China, South Korea, and Japan. An outstanding teacher, he was an untiring promoter of Classics wherever he went, not only encouraging undergraduates, secondary school teachers, and colleagues in the tertiary system, but equally generous of his time with the wider community. Among his successful pupils, for instance, he numbered Victor Vito, All Black and Wellington Hurricanes rugby team captain.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine Trundle, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology at Victoria University of Wellington, and his young son, Christian.

The University of Auckland has established an endowment to fund a biennial lecture in Classics at Auckland and Wellington in his honour. Donations can be made through this link: <https://inmemoryauckland.everydayhero.com/nz/in-memory-of-matthew-trundle>.

Arthur J. Pomeroy

## Noel Weeks (1943–2020)

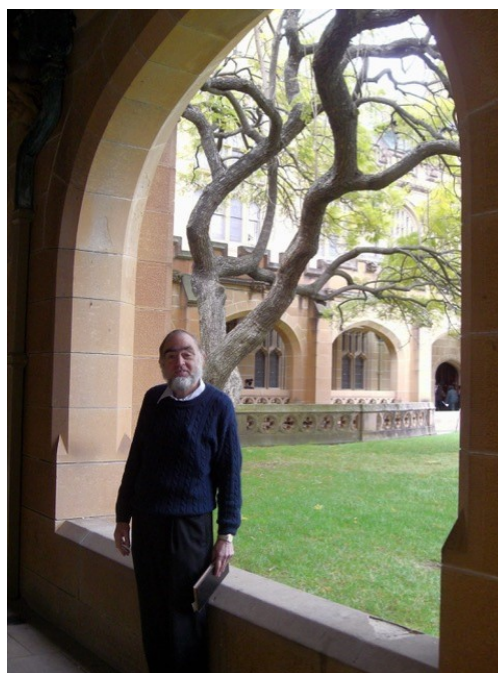
Noel Kenneth Weeks (7 June 1943 – 8 March 2020) was a Senior Lecturer in the Ancient History department at the University of Sydney from 1971 until his retirement in 2012, and an Honorary Associate at both the University of Sydney and Macquarie University thereafter. He taught Ancient Near Eastern History and Akkadian language, and will be remembered for the keenness of his intellect, as well as his generosity and patience.

Noel came to Assyriology and the study of the Ancient Near East in a round about fashion. A lifelong passion for nature and the outdoors began in his childhood in the Clarence River Valley, and led him to a B. Sc. (Honours) in Zoology from the University of New England. He became a Christian during his time in Armidale, and subsequently travelled to Philadelphia to study theology at Westminster Theological Seminary, earning a B.D.

and Th. M. in his time there. His theological studies created an interest in the near eastern background to the Old Testament, leading Noel to Brandeis University where he achieved a Ph. D. in Mediterranean Studies with a thesis on “The real estate interests of a Nuzi family” (1972). He took up his position at the University of Sydney on his return to Australia.

Noel’s approach to the study of the Ancient Near East was influenced by his unique path to the field. This led to a critical methodology which emphasised a careful and honest appraisal of the relevant evidence, combined with a critical analysis of the presuppositions of contemporary scholarship. Noel was not one to chase the latest trends in scholarship and ensure he was using contemporary theory and methodology in an avant garde fashion. While this may have unfortunately limited the exposure of his work, it also may be part of the reason for its high quality and independence of thought. It is also not to say that he didn’t keep abreast of the state of the field of Ancient Near Eastern History, linguistics and historiography. Noel was suspicious of neat theories given he thought the evidence showed that humanity and history were “often more complex”. He passed onto his students this focus on primary sources, warning them not to feel the need to force them to say more than they actually did. Accident of discovery, the fragmentary and biased nature of evidence, and the frailty of the human mind led Noel to always state his conclusions with some tentativeness.

Noel’s publications combined this critique of the assumptions of current scholarship with a careful reading of evidence. His work took to task anachronistic applications of modern ideas to the study of the Ancient Near East, whether regarding nomadism (1985), the relationship of church and state (1983), the systematisation of religion (2019b), myth and ritual (2015), or diffusionism (2020). He also challenged the idea of a common Near Eastern cultural background (2004), let alone the notion that this was shared unthinkingly by the authors of the Hebrew Bible (2010, 2011, 2019a). Noel published a number of articles arguing for a more careful use of near eastern background in order to understand the Hebrew Bible (2006, 2016). He had a keen interest in historiography in both the modern and ancient world, regularly teaching both a contemporary historiography course and a unit on Ancient Near Eastern historiography. He published several articles on Assyrian royal historiography in particular,



which set a new direction for the field (1983b & 2007). As well as its representation, Noel was also interested in the mechanics of power in the Near East, teaching a course entitled 'Despots, priests and people', as well as writing on this subject (1972, 1983a, 2011).

Noel will be remembered as a teacher and colleague who was very generous with his time. He was not an academic for whom teaching and students were a distraction from the pursuit of publications, kudos, research grants and fame. Instead, these were Noel's focus. He was always willing to give up his time to discuss feedback on an essay, wrestle through a thorny issue, offer advice, prompt critical thinking through a pointed question, or make his students a cup of tea while they wrestled through an Akkadian course which ended up having a Hittite language component in the examination. Sam still remembers Noel's challenge to him as a nervous undergraduate when required to present his honour's thesis to the faculty: "Don't you think you have something important to say?" Sam hasn't feared public speaking since thanks to Noel's encouragement to focus on the benefits scholarship can bring to others rather than being concerned about how one might be perceived. Not only was Noel kind and considerate to the students actually enrolled in his courses, he willingly taught many who wanted to sit in, as well as running unofficial (and unpaid) courses in Amarna-Canaanite, Hittite, Sumerian, Hurrian, Egyptian and Ugaritic. Noel always took up opportunities to bring the Near East to the public more broadly also, whether via Macquarie's ancient languages schools, publications for high-school teachers (1974, 1976, 1977a & b, 1991), or public lectures. Noel also ran a cross-curricular unit linked to his Science background called: 'Race, evolution and society'. He really was a polymath. Working with Bob Dreher from the History Department, this course demonstrated how the same philosophies that influenced Near Eastern scholarship also had (and continue to have) real world consequences (a broader theme of this teaching cf. 2017). The Ancient History Department, such as Peter Brennan, saw having Noel as a colleague as an absolute joy. He contributed enormously "as a teacher, scholar and person through the wise counsel, unflappable equanimity and open-heartedness that helped us to get through some very difficult times." Noel collaborated well with his colleagues over the years (Bob Sinclair, Richard Bauman, Léonie Hayne, Peter Brennan, Martin Stone, James O'Neill and Kathryn Welch), whether in shared courses, funding applications, or in carrying out the necessary administration for the faculty.

His students, such as Luis, remember him "as a parent-like figure who offered them opportunities to grow intellectually and find professional success." Noel always allowed his students freedom of thought, nurturing their critical thinking without imposing his views. However, he was a master at pushing his students further with a gentle question. Tracy remembers occasions when she thought she had a problem figured out, only for Noel to respond, "But have you thought of this . . . .?", sending her back to the evidence to start again. Noel stretched his students without discouraging them. Selim remembers Noel's patience in his first Akkadian classes, with his gentle teaching methods inspiring him but also encouraging him to mature in his own critical analysis of primary sources. In our age of optics, fashion, and living on our feelings, Noel knew how to analyse, evaluate, and think. Todd reflected that "If there was anyone who could unhesitatingly give you the 'background' to any past or current cultural and societal issue of the day, Noel was your person. . . these were not just legacies he passed on to us, these were gifts." A number of former students have gone on to work and/or publish in the field of Near Eastern history or Hebrew Bible, and all are grateful for Noel's example and encouragement; his ability to ask a new question, bring material together in a unique way, point out where scholarship had gone beyond its brief, critique an unfounded



argument, and be honest and tentative in his conclusions, all with a measure of grace for his intellectual opponents.

It would not be appropriate to conclude a tribute to Noel Weeks without recognition of what it was that drove him to be the man and the scholar that he was. It was his Christian faith that spurred him on to explore the evidence regarding the background to the Hebrew Bible, and to be critical of some of modern scholarship. It was also this faith that kept him humble in the face of his own intellectual virtuosity so that he could say: “It’s very easy in a university context to take pride in learning and knowledge, but what matters most is the knowledge of God.”

Noel is survived by his wife Jan, his father Ken, his children, Eunice, Colin, Keith, Sharyn, Lisa, Adam and Nathan, and many appreciative students and colleagues. He will be sorely missed.

Samuel Jackson, Luis Siddall, and Louise Pryke  
(with reflections from Peter Brennan, Todd Stanton,  
Selim Adali and Tracy Davenport)

### John Whitehorne (1944–2020)

Associate Professor John Whitehorne FAHA passed away on 5 March 2020. John was an internationally respected papyrologist, who wrote widely on the history and society of Graeco-Roman Egypt and was deeply learned in Greek and Latin literature, especially drama. He taught many Classics and Ancient History courses over the years at the University of Queensland, after periods lecturing at the Universities of Auckland and British Columbia.

ASCS will remember John at the next AGM; in the meantime we link to an obituary published by the Australian Academy of the Humanities, to which he was elected in 2003:

<https://www.humanities.org.au/civicrm?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm%2Fmailing%2Fview&id=615>

## UNIVERSITY REPORTS

### Australian Catholic University

Associate Professor Matthew Crawford from the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry has recently been invited to collaborate with researchers at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice on his ARC-funded DECRA project ‘The Bishop versus the Emperor: Social Imagination and Intellectual Formation in Late Antique Alexandria’. This partnership has arisen thanks to an initiative at the ARC to foster collaboration between current DECRA projects and researchers in the European Research Council’s (ERC) Horizon 2020 program. The Ca’ Foscari University collaborator is Emiliano Fiori, Associate Professor of Early Christian Literature and principal investigator on the ERC-funded project ‘FLOS: Florilegia Syriaca: The Intercultural Dissemination of Greek Christian Thought in Syriac and Arabic in the First Millennium CE’ (<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/758732>).

Mr Jonatan Simons, a PhD candidate at the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry (IRCI) was awarded the Graduate Student Paper Prize by the North American Patristics Society for his paper “Irenaeus and Divine Grammar in *haer.* 2.13.” Working within the Modes of Knowing research project at the Melbourne Campus, Mr Simons is writing a dissertation titled, “Divine Simplicity in the Theology of Irenaeus” under the supervision of Prof. Lewis Ayres, Dr. Michael Champion, and Dr. Matthew Crawford.

The Biblical and Early Christian Studies (BECS) Seminar is in its fifth year at ACU's IRCI in Melbourne. With traditional meetings not currently possible the organisers (Kylie Crabbe and Jonathan Zecher) have leveraged the strengths of online platforms to pivot the Seminar to a fully online form. For this online series, we have enlisted top-flight scholars from the US and UK for a series of thirteen seminars, running fortnightly from 30 April to 17 September. In this format, the BECS Seminar continues to unite IRCI researchers with other Australian scholars. We have held five sessions since 19 April, featuring world-class scholars in multiple fields: Prof. Francis Watson (Durham University), Prof. David Brakke (The Ohio State University), Prof. Teresa Morgan (University of Oxford), Prof. Robin Darling Young (Catholic University of America), and Dr Gareth Wearne (Australian Catholic University). Attendees join the secure Zoom meeting from as many as twenty-three countries, across every continent but Antarctica. To be included in the mailing list please contact one of the organisers, [kylie.crabbe@acu.edu.au](mailto:kylie.crabbe@acu.edu.au) or [jonathan.zecher@acu.edu.au](mailto:jonathan.zecher@acu.edu.au).

Michael Hanaghan

## Australian National University

### *Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements, obituaries*

The position left vacant by the retirement of Peter Londey in 2019 has been filled by Dr Ryan Strickler. Ryan holds degrees from Spring Arbor University, Western Michigan University and the University of Kentucky, and a PhD (on seventh-century AD apocalypticism) from Macquarie.

Currently three of the four teaching members of the Centre for Classical Studies are on short fixed-term appointments (Paul Burton is the one ongoing member of the teaching staff). Following a recent review, there is an intention to advertise longer-term positions, hopefully within the next year.

### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

In June 2020 Joan Stivala gave a paper (via Zoom), entitled "The talk is short, the therapy long: the oldest therapeutic method", to the 1st International Congress of Ancient Medicine Online, *In the Shadow of Hippocrates: health, medicine in the ancient world and its survival in the West*, hosted by the University of Grenada.

### *New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

On arrival, Ryan Strickler was thrown into teaching a course revived from several years ago, "Myth of Greece and Rome: Mortals, Immortals, and Monsters". In Semester 2 he is teaching a new Honours seminar, "Pandemics and Pandemonium: Crisis Management in the Ancient World (750 BC to 650 AD)".

### *Visitors (recent, current, and prospective)*

The usual vibrant flow of visitors to ANU has been temporarily stopped.

### *Museum news*

The Classics Museum is currently closed to the public, but work has been proceeding behind the scenes on a new online catalogue. See next newsletter for a progress update.

*Other items of interest to ASCS members*

Sonia Pertsinidis received an ANU Supervisor of the Month Award in April 2020 for her outstanding work as a PhD Supervisor.

*Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

Classics' move out of the AD Hope Building into a new Humanities building, which had been projected to happen in a couple of years, is now likely to be delayed for some time as ANU battles the financial effects of the current crisis.

As elsewhere, ANU teaching in Semester 1 went entirely online part way through the semester, and staff and postgraduate research travel has had to be cancelled. A projected overseas course in Greece in summer 2020/21 has also been cancelled.

In addition, the Classics seminar series and public lectures for the Friends of the Classics Museum and the Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens have been put on hold. All is silence.

Peter Londey

**Campion College**

Campion College stopped face-to-face teaching on Monday 23rd March. We re-opened with online only classes on Monday 6th April. Like everyone else we had methods adopted on the unquestioned assumption that we would be in the same room as our students. These methods had to be adapted for presentation online. Fortunately we recently hired Samuel Wessels, a graduate student at Macquarie whose input on the technical side was invaluable, not to mention his rapport with our students. These reacted admirably to the situation accepting viva voce examination and the rest of it with exemplary patience. By the time you read this we will have reopened with face-to-face teaching for second semester.

Thomas Flynn

**Macquarie University***Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements, obituaries*

## New Appointments:

Dr Camilla di Biase-Dyson has been appointed Lecturer in Egyptology.

Dr Sophia Aharonovich has been appointed Research Fellow in the Archaeology of Ancient Israel (a position funded by the Ancient Israel Program).

Dr Yasmina Wicks has been appointed Macquarie University Research Fellow.

Associate Professor Ronika Power has taken up the Directorship of the Centre for Ancient Cultural Heritage and Environment (CACHE). Dr Emilie Ens (Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences) and Dr Karin Sowada (Department of Ancient History) will join her as Deputy Directors.

The former and founding Director Professor Bronwen Neil has been seconded from Macquarie University to the ARC as Executive Director of Humanities and Creative Arts. We congratulate

Bronwen on this esteemed appointment and thank her and the former Deputy Director Professor Malcolm Choat for their efforts in guiding CACHE through its inaugural year.

#### Promotions:

Malcolm Choat and Javier Alvarez-Mon were promoted to the rank of Professor.

Lea Beness and Ian Plant were promoted to Associate Professor.

Kyle Keimer and Danijel Dzino were promoted to Senior Lecturer.

#### Retirements:

After teaching at Macquarie for over thirty years Dr Chris Forbes retired as Senior Lecturer at the end of 2019. Chris, whose research interests focus especially on early Christianity, was a renowned lecturer and his famous Open Day presentations attracted many people to the study of Ancient History over the years.

#### Other:

Former Associate-Professor Bruce Harris (now aged 99) was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the June Queen's birthday honours list, for services to teaching and the community. Bruce was after Edwin Judge the first appointee to teach Ancient history at Macquarie, at the same time as Alanna Nobbs. He taught widely in Classical Languages, Ancient History, and Philosophy at Macquarie and was twice elected head of school of History, Philosophy and Politics. For several years he chaired the Ancient History Syllabus and Exam Committees for the HSC. He was prominent in defending the role of the Humanities in a Modern University.

#### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Gil Davis presented a paper in the Classical Archaeology seminar series at the University of Oxford on 24 February, on 'Silver ore sources, coinage and state in Late Archaic Athens'.

Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides presented two invited papers in Israel in December 2019, at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and at the Ben-Gurion University, the latter in a workshop on Philosophy and Cognition.

#### *New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

Macquarie University introduced a new curriculum in 2020 and this involved many significant changes to the suite of courses offered by the Department of Ancient History.

#### *Visitors (recent, current, and prospective)*

15 March, 2020 – Emeritus Professor Haskel Greenfield, University of Manitoba, Canada, delivered the Sir Asher Joel Oration on the topic of 'Finding Goliath: Evidence from the dig at ancient Gath'. This was an activity of the Ancient Israel Program.

CACHE will be funding visiting fellowships for four postdoctoral researchers to carry out research collaborations with Centre members: Dr Emlyn Dodd (Macquarie University), Dr Antonio Lopez Garcia (University of Helsinki), Dr Thea Sommerschild (University of Oxford), and Dr Jess Thompson (University of Cambridge). We look forward to welcoming them once it is safe to travel.



*Museum news*

The newly opened, purpose-built Macquarie University History Museum is home to various collections, including Ancient History, Australian History and Cultural Heritage. The range of displays is unique in Australia and will make a welcome addition to the cultural life of Sydney and beyond. Apart from its ancient glass collection, the biggest in the southern hemisphere, highlights from the papyrus collection will be on show in addition to dedicated papyrus study room which invites scholars and postgraduate students upon appointment.

The Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies (ACANS) has also moved home. It can now be found on the first floor of Macquarie University's newly completed Arts Precinct. The new Centre comes with expanded facilities, including six designated work stations for post-graduate students. ACANS has also contributed numismatic exhibitions on the Greek cities of Southern Italy and the coinage of Hadrian to the university's new History Museum.

*Major research grant successes and/or completions*

## ARC DP:

Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides and Bronwen Neil, 'Crises of Leadership in the Eastern Roman Empire, 250–1000 CE' (DP200100334)

Ian Worthington with David Pritchard through the University of Queensland, "'From Where the Fine Warships Come": Democratic Athens at War' (DP200101253)

## ARC Linkage:

Susan Lupack, with Associate Professors Tanya Evans and Shawn Ross from the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations, 'History, heritage and environmental change in a deindustrialised landscape'

## Diaspora Fellowship:

Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides was awarded a Greek Diaspora Fellowship, funded by the Institute of International Education ([iie.org](http://iie.org)), supported by Stavros Niarchos Foundation and the Fullbright Foundation in May 2020

## EU Project:

Dr Danijel Džino is partner investigator on the newly funded project 'Global humanisms: A History of the Middle Ages (300–1600)' (GLOHUM). This project is led by the University of Zagreb and financed until 2023 by the 'Research Cooperability' Program of the Croatian Science Foundation. It is funded by the European Union from the European Social Fund under the Operational Program 'Efficient Human Resources 2014–2020'.

*Postgraduate completions*

## Doctor of Philosophy:

John Burn, 'The A.R.I.D. Hypothesis: A River in Drought: Environment and Cultural Ramifications of Old Kingdom Climate Change' (Principal Supervisor: Naguib Kanawati)

Samuel Cook, 'Linguistic and Legal Continuity in 6th to 8th Century Coptic Documents: A Comparative Study of Greek and Coptic Legal Formulae in Byzantine and Early Islamic Egypt' (Principal Supervisor: Malcolm Choat)

Deborah Hope, 'Lustre: The Pearl Trade in Antiquity' (Principal Supervisor: Peter Edwell)

James Gersbach, 'The War Cry in the Ancient Mediterranean' (Principal Supervisor: Peter Keegan)

Mark Kulikovsky, 'A Broader Friendship: The Johannine Transformation of Philia' (Principal Supervisor: Paul McKechnie)

Olivier Rochecouste, 'Who are the Early Dynastic Elites? Evaluating Elite Cemeteries from the 1st to the 3rd Dynasties' (Principal Supervisor: Yann Tristant)

Antonia St Demiana, 'Sahidic Coptic Leviticus: its Manuscript Witnesses and its Text' (Principal Supervisor: Malcolm Choat)

Elizabeth Smith, 'Capite Coperto/Aperto in Context: Selected Depictions of Female Head Covering on Statuary and in Relief Sculptures in the Large and Small Herculaneum Woman Types from the Roman World between the 1st Century B.C.E. and 4th Century C.E.' (Principal Supervisor: Lea Beness)

Kathryn White, 'Gender and Death: Women on Greek Funerary Monuments During the Peloponnesian War' (Principal Supervisor: Ian Plant)

Nicolle Leary, 'If the Grid Fits: Animal Figures and Proportional Guides in Old and Middle Kingdom Elite Tomb Imagery' (Principal Supervisor: Alex Woods)

Giles Rowling, 'Law in Roman Arabia 106–132 CE' (Principal Supervisor: Paul McKechnie)

Master of Research:

Elizabeth Brice, 'One, Many or Any? An Investigation of Bovid Figurines and Associated Practice in Early Egyptian Settlements and Cemeteries' (Principal Supervisor: Yann Tristant)

Ilana Chaffey, 'Come as you are, as you were, as I want you to be: A Study of Foreign Musicians in the Mari Archives' (Principal Supervisor: Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides)

Patricia Dean, 'Exposing David's Ziklag: A Case for Khirbet al-Ra'i' (Principal Supervisor: Kyle Keimer)

Emily Graham, 'The Nile's Children: How Human-Animal Relationships with Fish in Old Kingdom Egypt Contributed to Cult Development' (Principal Supervisor: Linda Evans)

Gemma Green, 'Going Through Changes: the Elite Perception of the King in Sixth Dynasty Egypt' (Principal Supervisor: Naguib Kanawati)

Genevieve Holt, 'Buildings in Context: A Study of Middle Kingdom Granaries and their Representation in the Archaeological, Textual and Visual Record' (Principal Supervisor: Yann Tristant)

Michael Ibrahim, 'The Reframing of Memory after Chalcedon: Retrieving Theopaschite Theology as a Marker of Christological Convergence' (Principal Supervisor: Bronwen Neil)

Emma Kaula, 'Elamite Community and Representation at Kurangun' (Principal Supervisor: Javier Álvarez-Mon)

Shyam Lee-Joe, 'A Study of the Memphite Vizierate of Old Kingdom Egypt: The Beginnings, The Age of Ma'at, The Age of Magic' (Principal Supervisor: Naguib Kanawati)

Joshua McDermott, "'The Limit of Our Inhabited World"? Identifying Subversive Elements in Eratosthenes' Geographical Treatises' (Principal Supervisor: Paul McKechnie)

Samantha Mills, 'From *wanax* to βασιλεύς: A Consideration of the Development of the Wielding of Greek Power and Authority from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age, 140–800 BC' (Principal Supervisor: Susan Lupack)

Natasha Parnian, 'Can Cyrus Speak? Cyrus the Great and his Reception from Antiquity to the Modern Iranian Nation-State' (Principal Supervisor: Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides)

Catherine Rosbrook, “‘Nor are you touched by the emotion that overcame Eve’: Sexual Desire and Sexual Renunciation in the Works of Bishop Avitus of Vienne’ (Principal Supervisor: Bronwen Neil)

Katherine Shead, ‘Evaluating Regional Mortuary Culture during the Southern Mesopotamian Early Dynastic III Period’ (Principal Supervisor: Ronika Power)

Judy Simpson, ‘Plagues, Famines, and Other Disasters: Interpreting the Signs from the Gods’ (Principal Supervisor: Ray Laurence)

Samuel Wessels, ‘A Lexicosyntactic Study of the Septuagint (Old Greek) Versions of the Books of Kingdoms’ (Principal Supervisor: Trevor Evans)

Kerrie Worboys, ‘Emperor Decius’ 249 CE Edict Commanding Sacrifice to the Gods’ (Principal Supervisor: Paul McKechnie)

#### *Conferences (recent and forthcoming)*

‘The Historical Aspects of Defining Byzantine Philosophy’, March 6 2020, a one-day workshop at Macquarie convened by Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides and Ken Parry. Speakers included Prof George Steiris (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens), Prof David Runia, Michael Champion, and Matthew Crawford (ACU), and Dr Vassilis Adrahtas (UNSW).

#### *New books*

Corinne Pache, Casey Due, Susan Lupack, and Bob Lamberton (eds.), *Cambridge Guide to Homer* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020).

#### *Other items of interest to ASCS members*

The Department has moved into new premises within the Arts Precinct at Macquarie University. The Arts Precinct incorporated the 1960s frame of Buildings W6A and W6B into the fabric of a new steel and glass structure designed by BNMIH Architects, that will create a new working environment for staff, postgrads and undergrads. The Arts Precinct will be fully activated over the course of 2020 and 2021.

The Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies has launched NUMISMA, a Zoom discussion group for ‘numismatists and the numismatically inclined’. NUMISMA is a fortnightly forum for students to discuss research, develop their knowledge of ancient numismatics and connect to the international numismatic community. Each meeting features lectures, masterclasses, exhibition tours and work-in-progress sessions led by professional numismatists and is attended by students and scholars throughout Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Europe and Canada. We meet monthly from 5–6pm Sydney time. Our next meeting takes place on Monday 13 July. To receive the link to our first meeting or to find out more, please contact Charlotte Mann at [charlotte.mann@students.mq.edu.au](mailto:charlotte.mann@students.mq.edu.au).

The archaeological site at Khirbet el-Rai, Israel, which we co-direct with Hebrew University and the Israel Antiquities Authority, was identified as the lost biblical city of Ziklag in a flurry of international publicity. The annual excavations are funded through the Ancient Israel Program and the leaders of the Macquarie team are Gil Davis and Kyle Keimer.

The Perachora Peninsula Archaeological Project held its first season of intensive surface survey from 12 January to 2 February 2020, focusing on the region surrounding the 8th–2nd century BC Sanctuary of Hera at Perachora. The project is co-directed by Susan Lupack of Macquarie University and Panagiota Kasimi, the Director of the Ephoreia of Antiquities of the Corinthia, under the aegis of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens. Shawn Ross, also of Macquarie University, is the project's Deputy Director, while Adela Sobotkova of Aarhus University took on the role of Survey Director, with Petra Heřmánková, also of Aarhus, as her deputy. Fifteen eager Macquarie students worked tirelessly with the senior staff to fulfil the research aims of the project: to verify and document the legacy data in the region, and to complement that data with the information gathered through the surface survey, all with the overall goal of illuminating the nature of the settlement that supported the sanctuary. You can read more about the project here:

<https://aaia.sydney.edu.au/perachora-peninsula-archaeological-project/>

### *Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

The Department has taught most of its units to external students online for some years, as well as within the OUA framework, hence the shift to fully online teaching in S1 was relatively painless following a two-week pause in teaching.

Lea Beness and Gil Davis had to cancel the major Ancient History Teachers Conference scheduled for 20 March at The Art Gallery of NSW.

The MALS Winter Week, scheduled for 13–17 July, also had to be cancelled.

Dr Danijel Džino presented an online paper entitled 'Cacophony in an empty house: Yugoslav archaeologies of post-Roman and early medieval period until 1991' as a part of the 1st online conference 'Archaeological dialogues without isolation' (ARDIZO 2020) organised through project HERISTEM by universities of Ljubljana, Zagreb and Belgrade.

Two CACHE events scheduled to run in 2020 have been postponed due to the impact of COVID-19. The symposium *Humans in Deserts – Stories of Exploitation and Survival*, convened by Dr Fred Hardtke, was originally planned for May 16–17, 2020, with both local and international participants discussing the experiences of ancient people in arid environments. We hope to run this event in the second half of the year in either a partial or fully digital format. The conference *Living Digital Heritage*, also convened by Dr Fred Hardtke, was originally planned for October 10–12, 2020 as an Associated Event of the ICOMOS General Assembly that was to be held in Sydney. The conference, which will explore the application of data collection and visualisation technologies to ancient material, will be rescheduled for 2021 to accommodate international participants and an accompanying exhibition. Updated information for both events will be available soon.

The 'Septuagint within the History of Greek' session, scheduled for the Adelaide ISBL in early July and which featured a strong Macquarie University presence, also had to be cancelled. Trevor Evans is planning a replacement seminar series in digital format with Cambridge-based collaborators James Aitken and Marieke Dhont, to run in the second half of the year.

Trevor Evans



## Monash University

As is no doubt the case at all universities, the focus in the Centre for Ancient Cultures this semester was on staying safe and providing our usual range of units in an online setting. Nevertheless, there is some news to report.

Congratulations to Jessie Birkett-Rees, who was promoted to Senior Lecturer in the current round.

### *New or revised units*

A new unit was introduced at the second-year level, “The Roman Empire in the Age of Augustus,” taught by Andrew Connor.

### *Visitors*

While the current pandemic has meant that we haven’t had the normal amount of visitors to the Menzies Building, the Director of the Archaeology and Heritage Services Branch, New Brunswick (Canada) visited Monash in March to continue fostering key collaborations between the Centre for Ancient Cultures, the Monash Indigenous Centre, and First Nations partners in research.

### *Museum news*

In collaboration with students in his Roman Empire in the Age of Augustus unit, Andrew Connor is organizing a special exhibit in the Ancient Cultures Museum, on the theme of “Daily Life in the Roman Empire.” The official opening has been postponed for the time being, given the COVID situation. In any case, the Museum is looking fresh and new after a project headed by Hilary Gopnik to clean and re-photograph our entire collection.

### *Grant successes*

In grants, Jessie Birkett-Rees had a banner time, with success in the ARC as part of a team studying “Environmental and cultural change along the Central Murry River.” The start of this project has been delayed by COVID restrictions, but hopefully will start at the end of 2020. In addition, Jessie began work on a collaborative project with the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Victoria to develop cultural mapping of the Gippsland Lakes region, Victoria. With Prof Lynette Russell and Prof Bruno David from the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre, Jessie and colleagues will develop archaeological predictive modelling of the region. This will be integrated with community consultation, anthropological and historical analyses to identify sites most at risk from climate change and human use in the Gippsland Lakes.

### *Post-graduate completions*

Melanie Hechenberger completed an MA. Her work explored ‘First Intermediate Period (Auto-) Biographies on Stelae from the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Upper Egyptian Nomes.’

### *New book*

The final months of 2019 saw the publication of *Oasis Papers 9: A Tribute to Anthony J. Mills after Forty Years in Dakhleh Oasis*. This volume brings together work on the Dakhleh Oasis

from the prehistoric to Islamic periods, and features a number of Monash staff and students, past and present. *Oasis Papers 9* was edited by Gillian E. Bowen and Colin A. Hope.

### *COVID-19 impact*

The Egyptology Society of Victoria was forced to postpone its Semester 1 lecture series due to COVID-19. We hope to offer some activities in Semester 2, pending restrictions or university directives.

Andrew Connor

## **University of Adelaide**

### *Staffing*

The University of Adelaide has had no staff changes or appointments, because like many universities we have a hiring freeze at present.

### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Prof. Han Baltussen will be on study leave in semester 2 this year (July-December). He will be working on his new Greek text and translation of Eunapius' *Lives of Philosophers and Sophists* (under contract with Loeb for Harvard Press). Prof. Baltussen was awarded two fellowships, a visiting fellowship at the Humanities Research Centre at ANU (July-August) and the Dorothy Tarrant Fellowship at the Institute of Classical Studies in London, but both have been postponed due to covid-19 travel restrictions. He will now take up the ICS fellowship in April-June 2021 (pending travel permissions). The HRC fellowship is still to be rescheduled for 2021. Prof. Baltussen has also been invited to an international conference in Nice (France) on the pseudo-Aristotelian work *De mirabilibus* (*On miraculous things heard*) in April 2022. The conference is part of a long-running series on the successors of Aristotle (formerly the 'Project Theophrastus', 1985-present).

Dr Margaret O'Hea has been preparing a publication (a chapter on the important assemblage of early mediaeval glass from American excavations at the port of Aila 1994-2003, to appear soon in *The Roman Aqaba Project: Final Report. Volume 2*, ed. S. Thomas Parker. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research) as part of a project funded by the US National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Geographic Society and American Archaeological Institute, among others.

### *Course work*

Dr O'Hea's new summer school on Late Antique Italy (*Rome's Twilight 2/3*) ran successfully last November-December – visiting Milan, Ravenna, Venice, Aquileia, Rome, Ostia and Naples – but has been temporarily put on hold until 2021 due to Covid-19 concerns. Instead, she will now run a fully online *Greek Archaeology* semester course in first semester 2021.

### *Conferences*

The postgraduate conference AMPHORAE XIV, planned for June 2020 in Adelaide, was initially postponed and is now going to take place *online* on September 23–25, 2020 (via Zoom). See conference webpage <https://amphoraexiv.weebly.com/>

### *New books*

Associate Professor Peter J. Davis (Visiting Research Fellow) published his commentary on Valerius Flaccus' *Argonautica* 7 (in the series 'Commentaries on Flavian Literature', with the Oxford University Press, 2020). See <https://tinyurl.com/ybcyxv8y>

### *Other items of interest to ASCS members*

In February the Department had a visit from Liam Jensen, the founder of Lego Classicists, to celebrate the 2020 International Lego Classicism Day and introduce to the world the new Lego figure of Prof. Baltussen. Both were given a warm welcome by staff and postgraduates at an afternoon tea. This May, *National Archaeology Week* was celebrated by Liam through the creation of another Lego figure for Dr Margaret O'Hea.

### *Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

- The postgraduate conference in Adelaide for June 2020 was postponed (see above).
- The third conference of the Pacific Partnership for Late Antiquity planned for June 2020 (convenors Prof. Han Baltussen, Prof. Wendy Meyer) in Adelaide has been postponed until 2021.
- Our Epic Poetry Reading Group which is hosted by Associate Professor Peter Davis (Friday mornings, fortnightly) has moved online to a Zoom session. This has had the advantage of enabling colleagues from the University of Newcastle to join us and contribute their views to the lively discussion.
- As elsewhere, the 2020 visiting AAIA Fellow's lecture will be delayed until the first half of 2021. No public lectures are scheduled for the Museum's outreach until next year.

Han Baltussen

## **University of Auckland**

### *Staff changes*

Professor Anthony Spalinger completed his retirement at the start of 2020, moving to Emeritus status. Elke Nash has been reappointed in her role supporting undergraduate Greek teaching within the department for another year.

### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Lisa Bailey's article "Handmaids of God: Images of Service in the Lives of Merovingian Female Saints" was awarded the annual Mansfield Prize for the best article in the *Journal of Religious History*. (<https://therha.com.au/mansfield-prize-2019/>).

Paul Johnston, recent MA graduate of the department and current Harvard PhD candidate, has been named as the recipient of the 2020 Liz Stringer Curatorial Internship at the New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata. Paul is one of several recent graduates, currently pursuing PhDs elsewhere, who have returned to NZ due to the pandemic.

### *New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

The department entered the final stage of combining its two, previously separate, undergraduate majors of *Classical Studies* and *Ancient History* into the single major *Classical*

*Studies and Ancient History.* The discrete undergraduate majors in *Greek* and *Latin* remain unchanged.

#### *Museum news*

Work has begun on digitizing the small teaching collection of antiquities housed within the W.K. Lacey Classics Library. The initial models are up on the University of Auckland, Faculty of Arts' Sketchfab page (<https://sketchfab.com/ArtsAucklandUni>). Work has also begun on properly cataloguing and digitizing the small, associated coin collection, with initial results to be presented at the annual RNSNZ conference in October 2020.

#### *Postgraduate completions*

MA Completions:

- Stephen Duggan 'The Evolution and Transition of the Roman Empire: The Laws of Roman and Post-Roman Gaul and Spain' (Supervised by Lisa Bailey)
- Gala Morris 'The Pork in the Road: An investigation into Pig Husbandry in Archaic Central Italy, 700 BCE to 250 BCE' (Supervised by Jeremy Armstrong)
- Lucy Smith 'A Commentary on Ovid's *Fasti* Book 3, Lines 459-808' (Supervised by Marcus Wilson)

#### *Conferences*

From January 22nd to 24th, Maxine Lewis and Amy Russell co-hosted a conference at the University of Auckland as part of their wider project, *The Spatial Turn in Roman Studies*. The workshop had thirty-five attendees and featured a mix of workshops, lectures, and conference papers. Many of the talks were recorded and an online record of the conference was made available to virtual attendees; anyone who would like to have access to the talks can contact Maxine at [maxine.lewis@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:maxine.lewis@auckland.ac.nz). The planned 'part 2' conference at Durham, originally scheduled for June 2020 has been postponed due to travel restrictions.

From February 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, Jeremy Armstrong, Sheira Cohen, and Aaron Rhodes-Schroder co-hosted a conference at the University of Auckland entitled 'Exchanging Ideas: Trade, Technology, and Connectivity in pre-Roman Italy'. The conference featured 32 papers, by a range of local and international scholars, and two keynote addresses, by Prof. Christopher Smith (St Andrews) and Prof. Nicola Terrenato (Michigan).

#### *New books*

Armstrong, Jeremy and Michael Fronda (eds.) (2020) *Romans at War: Citizens, Soldiers, and Society in Republican Rome*. Routledge.

Armstrong, Jeremy and Matthew Trundle (eds.) (2019) *Brill's Companion to Sieges in the Ancient Mediterranean*. Brill.

Pigott, Justin (2020) *New Rome Wasn't Built in a Day: Rethinking Councils and Controversy at Early Constantinople 381-451*. Brepols.

#### *Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

The pandemic resulted in the cancellation of our weekly research seminar series in the autumn semester as well as the planned visits of several international visitors (incl. Prof. Greg Woolf and Assoc. Prof. Jessica Clark). The department is looking forward to the recommencement of



the seminar series with the return to on-campus teaching in late July. The visits have also been tentatively rescheduled for some time in 2021. The pandemic also prompted the postponement of the conference ‘The Use and Abuse of War’, scheduled for July 2020 and part of the incoming Hood Fellowship of Prof. Hans van Wees, until sometime in 2021.

Jeremy Armstrong

## University of Canterbury

Without doubt this has been a busy and unusual period. In latter part of 2019 the Classics Department and Teece Museum were busy with increasing visitor numbers and a range of interesting events, which included: Terri Elder, the Teece Museum Curator, presenting a public talk to the Friends of the Christchurch Art Gallery. Assoc Prof. Patrick O’Sullivan presenting a Public Lecture ‘Sappho, Satyrs, Socrates and Seduction: Aspects of the Greek Symposium’, Arts Centre, Christchurch, NZ, September 13, 2019. While Dr. Gary Morrison joined two senior students — Natalie Looyer and Emily Rosevear — to give a series of talks as a part of the Christchurch BECA Heritage Festival, on past UC Classics staff members.

The second Graham Zanker Lecture was also held in late 2019, and we were fortunate that Graham was able to attend. The Public Lecture, presented by Assoc Prof. Simon Perris (Victoria University Wellington), was titled ‘Tangata Whenua, Tangata Kariki: ancient Greece (and Rome) in Maori literature’, and was very well received with some interesting discussion.

Assoc Prof. Patrick O’Sullivan also travelled to Sicily where he presented a paper: ‘Ambivalence and Power: Music in Pindar’s *Pythian I*’, *Pindar in Sicily Conference*, Exedra Mediterranean Center, Syracuse, Sicily, October 13-16, 2019.

Classics students were active arranging a fun Classics Quiz night: “Who’s Smarticus”. The Friends of the James Logie Memorial Collection combined with the UC Foundation to finish the year by thanking some supporters of the Teece Museum with an entertaining function.

As we entered 2020, we were very fortunate to have Prof. Stephen Harrison visiting from Oxford. Stephen contributed to several of our courses and helped several senior students with readings of Latin literature. He gave a very interesting paper “Catullus in NZ: a Latin poet’s influence on James K Baxter and CK Stead”, that attracted widespread interest.

In early January Enrica Sciarrino presented at the SCS conference in Washington DC with a paper on Thomas Habinek’s work (title “Thomas Habinek and Cynthia’s Bones”). The start of 2020 also saw Patrick O’Sullivan on sabbatical (from January-June 2020) during which he held a 3-month Visiting fellowship at University College, Oxford and a Canterbury Visiting Fellowship. While at Oxford Patrick presented a seminar by invitation ‘War Music: Rhetoric, Poetics and Pindar’s *Pythian 1*’ University College Research Seminar, Oxford University, 27 February. Gary Morrison will be on Sabbatical in Semester 2 (July-January), although the Covid 19 virus has meant travel plans to Europe have had to be cancelled.

Meantime Alison Griffith, Enrica Sciarrino, Gary Morrison accompanied by postgraduate students Natalie Looyer, Roswyn Wiltshire and Amanda Macauley all attended the ASCS Conference in Otago. We were particularly pleased that both Roswyn and Amanda were joint winners of the OPTIMA prize for best Postgraduate papers.

The first half of 2020 saw Amanda Macauley submit and successfully defend her PhD thesis: “‘A kingdom of iron and rust:’ identity, legitimacy, and the performance of contentious politics in Rome (180-238CE)”. Her supervisor was Gary Morrison, with Enrica Sciarrino her associate

supervisor. Roswyn Wiltshire also successfully completed her MA thesis titled “Ancient Glass in the Canterbury Museum: The Damon Collection and other Acquisitions”. Her supervisor was Alison Griffith, with Gary Morrison her associate supervisor.

The Department also began teaching the first of two new 100 Level Courses at the start of 2020. The Semester 1 course is titled “People, Places and Histories of the Greco-Roman World”. Despite the disruption caused by Covid 19 and the Lockdown, the course was a success attracting a good number of students. We look forward to Semester 2 when we will be running our second new course “Myth, Power and Identity in the Graeco-Roman World”.

The Covid-19 virus caused the country to be put into lockdown, and the University moved quickly to adjust teaching and assessment dates. Courses were required to be taught online, and lockdown proved to be a busy time for academic staff as courses were altered, lectures recorded, and zoom meetings arranged.

With the Teece Museum closed, Terri Elder, worked with the Gallery Hosts to develop online/digital resources. Specifically, the Museum was able to launch an online blog, which we’ve called Potted Histories (<http://teecemuseum.nz/blog/>). The blog is being used to share slightly more detailed stories and showcase student research for a general audience. Our audio descriptions project has moved along at pace. Led by Amy Boswell-Hore and Natalie Looyer, this project is part of a move to try to increase accessibility to the Teece. You can listen to the first three descriptions online at the Museum’s” Youtube” channel, or via our webpages (<http://teecemuseum.nz/collection/audio-descriptions/>). These were produced with the assistance of CCC Libraries Tūranga AV staff, and is voiced by Naomi van den Broek.

Material for children has also been a focus for the Teece Museum. An intern student, Nicole Pepperell, developed a resource, called ‘A Day in the Life of Scipio and Archie’. This work was then added to by Natalie Looyer. You can watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLMF1H1BE68>. Alternatively, you can find this and other activities via the Museum website, <http://teecemuseum.nz/learn/childrens-university/>.

Gary Morrison

## University of Melbourne

### *Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements, obituaries*

We all at the University of Melbourne are much looking forward to the arrival (hopefully on 1 July 2020) of our new academic colleague, Dr Lieve Donnellan, who has been appointed to a permanent new lectureship in classical Greek Archaeology. Lieve studied and graduated in Greek archaeology at Ghent University, with a specialisation in the Greek colonisation of the Black Sea region and Italy. After her PhD degree, she conducted research at the Universities of Chicago, Göttingen and Amsterdam, researching and teaching on urbanisation (Greek, Etruscan, and indigenous). Earlier in 2020 she has been conducting fieldwork in Greece, with the Boeotia Cities Project, where she studies the urban architecture of Haliartos (with Emiri Farinetti and Anthony Snodgrass) and does drone photography, in the Valley of the Muses. She has also started a field survey project in Calabria, where she will study the settlement dynamics, territories and connectivity around the Greek colonies of Medma and Metauros, from a broad chronological and landscape perspective.

Dr Kit Morrell (ARC DECRA fellow) left Melbourne at the end of June 2020 to take up a continuing position as Susan Blake Lecturer in Classics and Ancient History at the University of Queensland.

Our former colleague John Martyn died in 2019. An obituary for him, written by Roger Scott, was read out at the ASCS conference in Dunedin in January 2020 (included above). Another obituary written by a former student of John, Dr Grantley McDonald (University of Vienna), now follows:

“I play tennis every day now that I’m retired. You know, I’m still the same weight as when I was twenty,” John told me once over lunch at his home at Bittern.

“Yes, John, but it’s not all in the same places,” shot back his wife Leckie as she cleared the dishes.

This brief exchange sums up John R. C. Martyn. Even in retirement he was still a twenty-year old who defied the toll of the years on his physical body. But now that physical body has let him down, and all we have left is our memories of the puckish, singular man who led us through the seamier sides of Latin literature, with his intense gaze and generous heart.

True, many people found John eccentric. I have heard stories that he would assign lurid passages for translation to innocents in his class. In the days of #MeToo, such behaviour is rightly condemned. But if he pushed his students’ sensibilities, it was not through prurience or cruelty; he was simply expressing the values of a generation born during the Depression and raised during the war. I do not wish to condone offence if offence was taken, but I have no doubt that John, the perpetual twenty-year old, just found the experience of having a nun translating Juvenal in his classroom a bit of a lark, and certainly meant no harm by it.

I can’t think of a year during my undergraduate studies in Latin when I didn’t have a class with John. Later, as a graduate student, I worked as his assistant on two book projects: a translation of the Latin poems of Andres de Resende, which appeared in 1998, and on the three-volume translation of the letters of Pope Gregory the Great, published by the Pontifical Institute of Toronto in 2004 in three volumes; for this latter project I was part of a team of helpers, along with Jonathan Wallis (now of the University of Tasmania) and Tor Hansen. John had found another Carolingian manuscript of Gregory’s letters in Russia, and amongst our tasks was the collation of variants to build on the apparatus in the edition by Dag Norberg in the *Corpus Christianorum*. This was my first active exposure to the worlds of palaeography and textual criticism, training I still fall back on constantly. For this early introduction to the world of manuscripts I have John to thank. We assistants also had to check John’s translations and notes. Like the man, these were sometimes wild and cranky. Yet it was typical of John that he did not object to the criticisms of us upstart graduate students, but took them on if he thought they were justified, and tactfully remained silent when we were wrong. John’s annotations to the translations reflected his individual views about many matters and did not shy away from commentary on the modern world. But, once again, this was John: the perpetually young man with electricity running through his bones.

Retiring to Bittern, John contributed richly to the cultural life of the Peninsula. In 2007 he set up a gig for my musical ensemble at Mornington, which played to a packed house, largely due to John’s talent for publicity. In the care with which he curated this event, I saw sides of John I had only guessed at before, facets of this complex personality unseen by those put off by his eccentricities. This outlandish, kind man will be dearly missed.

Two other recent deaths should also be recorded:

Francis Ian Anderson (28 July 1925 – 13 May 2020), former Honorary Fellow in Classics and Archaeology and *Ancient Near Eastern Studies* (ANES) Editorial Advisory Board member. For many years he was a regular contributor and great supporter of our journal. The 2015 volume was in part dedicated to his work in a series of review articles. Often described as a polymath, Francis, or Frank to many, was a remarkable scholar with wide-ranging interests that included biblical studies and Hebrew. An obituary will appear in the 2021 issue of ANES.

Clifford Leslie Ogleby: Cliff, more commonly referred to as ‘Og’ or ‘Oggie’ by his friends, died in the third week of May 2020 in his 65<sup>th</sup> year. Cliff completed the surveying degree at the University of Melbourne in 1976 and, after a short period working as a field surveyor, returned to the university in the Department of Surveying as a sessional teacher in 1981. Cliff was a passionate and charismatic presenter and, as an educator, held in the highest regard by his students and those with whom he worked. As well as accolades for learning and teaching, he was also a very active applied researcher. In his early career he became involved in the recording of indigenous rock art and other artefacts. A passion for heritage documentation never left him and was extended to archaeological sites throughout Australia, Papua New Guinea, Syria, Turkey and Georgia. Long before the days of drone surveys, Cliff developed innovative platforms for low-altitude mapping based on kites, bipods and balloons, and he was an early adopter of 3D recording devices such as image correlators and laser scanners.

#### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Several of our postgraduate students have recently won awards and scholarships:

Emily Simons and Madaline Harris-Schober have been awarded Jessie Webb 2020 Scholarships for study in Greece. Madaline Harris-Schober has also been awarded the Alma Hansen scholarship for 2020. Paula Phillips has been awarded the Antonio Sagona Scholarship (named in honour of the late Professor Tony Sagona, this scholarship supports a postgraduate student focusing on Near Eastern archaeology). Ashley Finn has been awarded the Thérèse and Ronald Ridley 2020 Scholarship to travel to the British School at Rome to conduct research that will assist PhD completion. It is also worth adding that Dan Rankin, a 4<sup>th</sup>- year Honours student in Classics who completed in November 2019, has won the University of Melbourne’s D.H. Rankin Essay Prize for the best Honours thesis in Classics. We think this is the only time the award has been won by someone with the same name as the Prize!

Staff and postgraduate students have delivered papers at various conferences, including a strong showing at the ASCS conference at Dunedin in January 2020. Other conference contributions abroad include Louise Hitchcock, “Imagining Islands, Meditating on Mainlands: Intercultural Perspectives,” Archaeological Institute Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., 2-5 January 2020; Emily Hulme Kozey, “An Unexpected Meaning of *Epistasthai* in Plato?”, at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies in Washington, D.C. in January 2020; Kit Morrell on ‘Governors as reformers in the late Roman republic’ at ‘The Worlds of the Roman Governor’ workshop, UCL, May 2020 (via Zoom); Gijs Tol delivered the paper ‘The Archaic countryside revisited: a ceramic approach to the study of Archaic rural infill in southern Lazio’) at the international conference ‘Exchanging Ideas. Trade, Technology, and Connectivity in pre-Roman Italy’, held at the University of Auckland, February 2020; and Madaline Harris-Schober has had a paper on Philistine Cult accepted at the 2020 American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in Boston.

Andrew Jamieson and Gijs Tol have been on study leave in semester one 2020. Unfortunately, of course, travel plans (including for archaeological digs) have been stymied by the coronavirus outbreak, but both have made the most of the time, nonetheless. Andrew, for example, has completed two monographs: *Tell Ahmar IV: Neo-Assyrian Pottery and Small from Area D* (Ancient Near Eastern Studies Supplement Series), Leuven: Peeters Press; and *Heritage in Conflict*. Proceedings of two meetings: 'Heritage in Conflict: A Review of the Situation in Syria and Iraq' Workshop held at the 63rd Rencontres Assyriologiques Internationales, Marburg, Germany, 24–25 July 2017, and 'Syria: Ancient History – Modern Conflict' Symposium held at the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne, Australia, 11–13 August 2017 (Ancient Near Eastern Studies supplement series), Leuven: Peeters Press. Gijs, along with Jeremy Armstrong (University of Auckland), has started a new Routledge book series (entitled 'Global Perspectives on Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology') that aims to publish both monographs and edited collections on the archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean world; the editorial board is made up of Australasian-based scholars.

#### *New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

Tim Parkin started a new 3<sup>rd</sup>-year undergraduate course on Roman Law in the first semester of 2020. In 2021 Gijs Tol will introduce a new summer intensive, Interpreting Material Culture, at 2<sup>nd</sup>-year level.

#### *Visitors*

One international visitor in March 2020 was Dr Haskel Greenfield of the University of Manitoba's Anthropology department. Haskel is co-director of the excavations of the Early Bronze Age city at Tell es-Safi, Israel; he delivered an Ancient World Seminar and spoke to 3<sup>rd</sup>-year students in the Capstone. Other visitors have been virtual!

#### *Museum news*

The Classics and Archaeology Gallery at the Ian Potter Museum of Art is currently closed. The closure is due to a major redevelopment, including renovation and expansion, taking place at the museum.

#### *Major research grant successes*

The GAIA (Georgian-Australian Investigations in Archaeology) directed by Andrew Jamieson is a named research collaborator on the following grant: SHOTA RUSTAVELI NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (SRNSF) GRANT (№ FR 17-415) 'Changes and Continuity from the Early Bronze Age to the Antique period: Multidisciplinary Investigations in the Upper Kura basin, Rabati Settlement'.

Louise Hitchcock was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for four months research at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, for her project: "Entangled Identities: Philistines, Mediterranean Pirates, and the Beginnings of Globalization"

#### *Postgraduate completions*

Belinda Shapardon PhD: *The Sioni Cultural Complex: Cultural Complexity and Interaction During the Transcaucasian Chalcolithic* (Claudia Sagona and Louise Hitchcock)



Spiridoula Demetriou PhD: *The Creation of Modern Greece: Art and Philhellenism* (Louise Hitchcock and Alison Inglis)

Sarah Schmidt PhD: *Boundaries Between Individual and Communal Authorship of Aboriginal Art in Context of Clifford Possum's Tjapaltjarri's Art and the Case of R v O'Loughlin* (2001) (Louise Hitchcock)

### Conferences

As part of National Archaeology Week 2020 there was a special seminar on Monday 18 May which featured reports on recent fieldwork. Speakers included: Prof Louise Hitchcock – “Naue II Swords, Germs, and Iron: What Covid 19 Can Tell Us About the Bronze Age Collapse”; Dr Jarrad Paul – “Worked Animal Bone of the Neolithic North Aegean”; Jacob Heywood – “The Sissi Archaeological Project: 2019 Field Season”; Dr Brent Davis – “Area B at Tell es-Safi/Gath”; Assoc Prof Andrew Jamieson – “Archaeology at the Frontiers: the 2019 Season at Rabati, Southern Caucasus”; Dr Gijs Tol – “A crafting community in inland Tuscany: excavations at Podere Marzuolo”; and Maddi Harris-Schober – “Legio: Excavations at the Camp of the Roman Sixth Ferrata Legion in Israel 2019”.

A workshop on ‘Reform in Rome’, organised by Kit Morrell and due to be held at the University of Melbourne in June, had to be cancelled due to covid-19. However, Nathan Rosenstein (Professor Emeritus, Ohio State University), who was to have been one of the guest speakers, kindly agreed to contribute a podcast on ‘Disaster and change in the Roman republic’ to the SHAPS ‘Disaster and Change’ podcast series:

<https://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/shaps-research/2020/06/15/disaster-change-4/>

### New books

Davis, B., and Laffineur, R. (eds.), *NEΩTEΠΟΣ: Studies in Bronze Age Aegean Art and Archaeology in Honor of Professor John G. Younger on the Occasion of his Retirement* (Peeters 2020)

Mountford, P., *Maecenas* (Routledge 2019)

Ridley, R., *Magick City: Travellers to Rome from the Middle Ages to 1900* (3 vols., Pallas Athene 2017-19)

### Other items of interest to ASCS members (including re: Covid-19)

ASCS members will be delighted to know that K.O. Chong-Gossard is credited in the Australian film *Miss Fisher and the Crypt of Tears*, which was released on 27 February 2020. The film is part of the *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* TV series, based on the novels by Kerry Greenwood. K.O. is listed in the credits for “Translation Services”, for composing an ancient Greek inscription (in Doric dialect no less!) for use on a prop in the film. K.O. also gave instructions on how to pronounce the Greek for “Crypt of Tears” (*tumbos dakruōn*), which is used in the movie.

Because of the coronavirus outbreak, we at Melbourne have not been able to engage with the community nearly as much as we normally would. School events, for example, are being done on-line, but some other activities have also taken place. Among talks in the city we should mention: Ron Ridley at the Melbourne Club (as part of our Classics in the City series) in March 2020, with a talk entitled ‘The best journal of a traveller to Rome during the Grand Tour: Goethe's Italian Journey’; Roslyne Bell spoke at the Alexandra Club in June 2020 on ‘Myths,

Monsters and Masterpieces: A Potted History of Greek Vase Painting', and at the Lyceum Club's Classics Circle Symposium on 'Homer's Odysseus: Warrior, Trickster, King' in March 2020; Tim Parkin at the Greek Community Centre in March 2020 on the Colossus of Rhodes, to launch their tenth annual programme, and Louise Hitchcock in June 2020, a virtual seminar on "What the Covid-19 Pandemic Can Tell Us About the Bronze Age Collapse in Greece". Note also Louise's following contributions available online:

"Black Athena and the Incredible Whiteness of Being" in *Neos Kosmos* February 2020: <https://neoskopos.com/en/159033/black-athena-and-the-incredible-whiteness-of-being/>

and again on the Bronze Age Collapse: <https://youtu.be/G-oyTpoWcU>

Tim Parkin was also interviewed by the ABC at the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak when certain basic provisions were in short supply, regarding the use (or not) of toilet paper in antiquity.

Various travel plans, workshops, and other activities have been curtailed, or, as with our teaching, have had to go on-line; some of these details are noted above. It is difficult to find positives in these circumstances, but we mention one item: our monthly University House quiz team, known as Homer's Heroes, captained by Tim Parkin and made up of academic and professional staff, honorary fellows, and postgraduate students, usually managed to come second-to-last when the quiz was held on site. But on the two occasions thus far in 2020 that it has moved on-line, we have renamed ourselves Working from Homer – and we have come first both times!

Tim Parkin

## University of New England

### *Staff changes and appointments*

Dr Megan Daniels has left UNE to take up a position at UBC in her home country of Canada. We wish her all the very best with this appointment.

In April 2020 UNE implemented a new University Collections Policy, restructuring the management of all UNE Collections. Dr Hopwood has been appointed Acting Collections Manager of the UNE Museum of Antiquities for 2020.

### *Museum news*

The Museum of Antiquities at UNE was the recipient of several significant gifts and acquisitions in 2019-2020 including:

- The Deismann Codex: Australia's oldest papyrus codex fragment showing Exodus 4.3-6 and 4.14-17, formerly in the collection of the classical philologist Gustav Adolf Deismann
- The Bergmann Collection: a collection of c.100 New Guinea artefacts from Finschhafen and the Sepik River
- The Learg Collection: several Chinese and Japanese ceramics from the 15th-20th Centuries AD.
- Significant donations supporting the Annual Maurice Kelly Museum of Antiquities Lecture
- The UNEMA 3D digitisation platform is Pedestal3D. You can explore the digitisation of UNEMA's collections here: <https://antiquities.une.pedestal3d.com/>

*Major research grant successes*

Dr Hopwood was awarded a 2019-2020 CapEx Grant of c.\$37,000 for her *UNEMA Digitisation Project*. The project will digitise the collections of the UNE Museum of Antiquities and establish a Digital Humanities Lab within the museum.

*Covid-19 impact and initiatives not specified elsewhere*

- Staff instituted and ran fully online intensive schools for Latin and Greek to provide an intensive school experience during Covid19
- Dr Sarah Lawrence ran a professional development session for CLTA NSW on teaching Latin online
- Classics staff at UNE consulted with a number of colleagues in Australia and abroad to provide assistance with teaching Latin online

Sarah Lawrence

**University of Otago***ASCS 2020*

The 41st Meeting and Conference of ASCS took place 28-31 January 2020 in Dunedin, at the University of Otago. Over 190 delegates from around the world registered to participate in the conference, whose final program comprised nearly 150 papers spread across three days and split over as many as six parallel streams. The conference opened with the 22nd A.D. Trendall Lecture, “Straying from Myth,” delivered by New Zealand artist Marian Maguire in the Otago Museum. Associate Professor Cam Grey of the University of Pennsylvania gave the conference Keynote Lecture, “‘An Earthquake that Shook the World.’ Seismicity and Society in the Late Fourth Century CE.” Both lectures were attended by enthusiastic audiences of more than 200 conference delegates and members of the public. More than 130 guests attended the conference dinner, held at Etrusco at the Savoy, and this dinner was followed by a celebration of the life of Professor Matthew Trundle, a truly wonderful colleague and friend. The final day of the conference kicked off with Associate Professor Simon Perris’ Plenary Lecture on “‘Te Iriata’ and the Iliad: On Translating Homer in Māori.” The Otago Classics Programme is very proud to have been able to host such a large contingent of the ASCS community, and we thank you all for helping make this conference such a success. He konā mai!

*Visitors*

All scheduled visits of overseas scholars had to be cancelled for this year (see COVID-19 info below).

*Postgraduate completions*

Kara Braithwaite-Westoby (PhD) ‘Epameinondas the Great’ (Pat Wheatley, Primary Supervisor).

*New books*

Arlene Allan, Eve Anagnostou-Laoutides and Emma Stafford (eds) 2020. *Herakles Inside and Outside the Church: From the First Apologists to the End of the Quattrocento*. Leiden: Brill.

Pat Wheatley and Charlotte Dunn 2020. *Demetrius, The Besieger*. Oxford: OUP.

*Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

All scheduled meeting the Classical Association of Otago had to be cancelled for first semester, which meant the cancellation of the talks from three overseas visitors: Prof. Gregg Woolf (Institute of Classical Studies, London), Prof Hans Van Wees (University College, London) and Dr. Shaohui Wang (IHAC, Northeast Normal University China). Also due to the ongoing COVID situation in the rest of the world, the William Evans Visiting Scholar lecture series by Dr Celia Schultz, which was scheduled for late July-August and included a separate talk for the Association, had to be cancelled.

Arlene Allan

**University of Queensland***Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements, obituaries*

Professor Alastair Blanshard is currently on secondment as Director of the Bachelor of Advanced Humanities Program in the HASS faculty, and is also setting up the new Western Civilization Major in this program. We welcome in his absence on 5 year appointments Dr Estelle Strazdins as Lecturer in Greek History, and Dr Jody Cundy as Associate Lecturer in Classical Languages. Unfortunately, Jody's start date has now been postponed until January 2010 due to COVID 19 restrictions on issuing visas. Estelle joins us with extensive teaching experience at Oxford, the British School at Athens, LaTrobe University, and the University of Melbourne. Jodie will be taking up a position as Associate Lecturer in Classical Languages. She joins us from the University of Toronto.

We also welcome Dr Kit Morrell to the new Susan Blake Lectureship in Classics. This is a position that arises from the very generous bequest of Susan Blake, administered through the RD Milns Perpetual Endowment Fund. Kit joins us with a DECRA in Roman History from the University of Melbourne.

It is with great sadness that we also note the passing of our two highly esteemed colleagues, [Emeritus Professor Robert David Milns AM](#) and [Associate Professor John Whitehorne](#). Both will be greatly missed by the Classics and Ancient History community at UQ.

*Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Amelia R. Brown gave a paper on Thetis and the Nereids as the subjects of cult worship at the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in Washington, DC in January 2020. She will be on Long Service Leave from August to October 2020, working from home in Brisbane on her book on ancient Greek sailors' cults.

Duncan Keenan-Jones held a fellowship at UQ's Centre for Policy Futures in Semester 1 2020. His work centred around using past floodplain management and climate adaptation practices (including those from the ancient Mediterranean) to inform current and future management. This has led to new collaborations exploring Indigenous floodplain management in central Australia, flood risk perception in South-East Queensland (including the effect of stories of past flooding and adaptation on preparedness and engagement) and the lessons of ancient Angkorean water management for modern-day Cambodia.

David Pritchard returns in July from his research fellowship at the L'institut d'études avancées de l'université de Lyon.

On June 10th, HPI luminaries Alastair Blanshard, Amelia Brown, Beth Spacey, and Karin Sellberg joined together for a webinar 'After the Plague: Insights from Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern History' on Wednesday 10 June. It was well-attended, with over 200 virtual attendees.

### *PhD Completions*

Susan Edmondson, 'Beyond the Pillars of Hercules: Identity and Self-Representation on the Atlantic Façade of Hispania in the Early Roman Empire'

Annabel Florence 'In the Shadow of Defeat: Aristophanes and Postwar Athens'

### *Visitors (recent, current, and prospective)*

In 2021, the Discipline hopes to welcome two AAIA Visiting Professors, Prof. Jenifer Neils in semester 1 and Prof. R.R.R. Smith in semester 2.

### *Museum news*

Amelia R. Brown was the Director of the RD Milns Antiquities Museum during semester 1 while Dr McWilliam was on leave. The Museum continued to support classes at UQ through the able work of Manager/Curator James Donaldson and Brianna Sands, but had to close to the school groups and the general public for most of the semester. With assistance from Ancient History Honours alumna Emily Sievers and Faculty Advancement Director Weston Bruner, we filmed 10 'Exhibits in Minutes' video clips for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Amelia R. Brown highlighted the gravestone of Theophile from Classical Piraeus; a Nereid on Hippocamp terracotta plaque from Classical Taras; a Roman head of Aphrodite/Venus de Medici, and a small Attic Red Figure Hydria, along with the ANCH2050 Greece Study Tour. James Donaldson described artefacts including a Phoenician lamp, a South Italian Red Figure *Loutrophoros*, Roman gold earrings, an Egyptian bone doll and a Phoenician glass bottle. The planned 'Olympics: The Greatest Games' exhibit will open later this year, with less gallery space and more extensive online presence, but the Museum is in the process of reopening as we prepare for semester 2.

### *Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

Amelia R. Brown has postponed her co-organized conference 'Sailing with the Gods: Religion and Maritime Mobility in the Ancient World' on Malta to June 16-21, 2021. For more information on the conference see: <http://classics.emory.edu/home/news-events/samr.html>

Janette McWilliam

## **University of Sydney**

### *Staffing*

We welcome Dr. James Collins as Senior Lecturer in Ancient Greek (.5FTE). James has been teaching into the CAH program for the past few years, as well as fulfilling his duties as Interdisciplinary Lecturer at USyd, and as a research fellow in Greek literature and philosophy at the Centre for Hellenic Studies at Harvard university.

As reported in the previous newsletter, Dr. Jelle Stoop left us in 2019 to return to Belgium. We hope to resume the interrupted process of appointing a replacement for Jelle in the near future.



Professor Peter Wilson is on long service leave, particularly deserved after his stint as Head of School from July 2019 to March 2020.

### *Vale*

We are saddened to report Noel Weeks passed away on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March following a recurrence of metastatic melanoma. Our obituary for Noel is included above.

### *Teaching*

Roman Drama ran for the first time with a close reading of Seneca's *Troades* and a survey of all Roman theatrical genres from *praetextae* to pantomime.

Later Roman Literature will run for the first in time in Semester 1, 2021. This unit offers a selection of authors working in Latin from late antiquity into the early modern period, to investigate the enduring vibrancy and relevance of Classical literary themes and forms.

Ancient Sparta and Modern Ideology will run for the first time in Semester 2, 2021. This unit examines Ancient Sparta from multiple perspectives, from its early history and social structures in antiquity to the idealised state of the Western philosophical and political tradition.

Summer Intensives in Ancient Greek and Latin will be offered for the first time in January 2021. These are designed for anyone with one semester (or equivalent) in either of these languages to progress rapidly to advanced study. They are open to internal and external enrolments

### *Distinctions & Accolades*

Ms. Alyce Cannon was awarded the Nicholas Anthony Aroney research scholarship.

Dr. Eleanor Cowan receiving a Teaching Award.

Professor Julia Kindt has been appointed to the ARC College of Experts in 2021.

### *Research Degree Completions*

Tristan Burt, PhD, 'Towards the formal restoration of Plato's *Republic*: the text, the dialectic and Platonic education', supervisor by Prof. Rick Benitez.

Ivana Vetta, PhD, "Slags and Ores: Metalworking in the Greek Early Iron Age Settlement at Zagora, Andros", supervised by Ass. Prof. Lesley Beaumont and Prof. Margaret Miller.

Alexandra Pinkham, MPhil, '*Scire nefas homini*: Vatic Voices and the Perils of Prophecy in Lucan, Valerius Flaccus, and Statius,' supervised by Paul Roche and Robert Cowan.

### *Research*

Iain Gardner published *The Founder of Manichaeism: Rethinking the Life of Mani* (Cambridge UP).

Julia Kindt has a new book *Animals in Ancient Greek Religion* (Routledge).

Peter Wilson published *Theatre Beyond Athens: A Social and Economic History of the Theatre to 300 BC. Vol. 2*, with E. Csapo (Cambridge UP).

Richard Green has been updating and expanding *Monuments Illustrating New Comedy* (1995) with a view to making it available online. In this way it will be more readily usable through search facilities with many illustrations of individual items, which currently number around 5,000. There will be the possibility of searching by museum/collection, inventory number

regardless of collection, by publication reference, by findspot, by generic character, and even by mask-type.

Dexter Hoyos published *Rome Victorious: The Irresistible Rise of the Roman Empire* (Bloomsbury) and *Carthage's Other Wars. Carthaginian Warfare outside the 'Punic Wars' against Rome* (Pen & Sword Military). Dexter was also busy co-writing the introduction to the new Loeb edition of Livy's *History of Rome Books 21-22* (Harvard UP 2019).

Lindsay Watson has a new a book, *Magic in Ancient Greece and Rome* (Bloomsbury Academic), to which Pat Watson also contributed a chapter.

#### *International Research Presentations by Staff & Students*

Peter Wilson has been invited to give the following conference papers/keynotes: 'Departing the Polis: Travel, Travellers and Panhellenism in the extant plays and fragments of Greek drama,' University of Nottingham (deferred from July 2020 to 2021); '*La tirannide è madre dell'ingiustizia*. Dionisio I tra letteratura, politica e teatro', Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften, Universität Freiburg, Università di Torino (deferred from November 2020 to 2021); 'Page and Stage: Texts and Performances in Ancient Greek Drama', Bari (deferred from May 2020 to 2021).

Our students were getting out and about prior to the pandemic, as well as – now – taking advantage of online opportunities to present their research.

Marguerite Heery presented a paper entitled "Fundamental Principles of Hippocratic Medical Practice" on 10th June at the *International Congress for Ancient Medicine - In the Shadow of Hippocrates, a Multidisciplinary online*. This was convened by the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters at the University of Granada.

Marija Rodriguez gave a paper at the 2019 *Fonte Aretusa Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Heritage of Western Greece* in Siracusa, Italy. The paper was entitled: "An Ear of Wheat in Silence Reaped: Grains and the Ethno/Economic ἀγών for Sicily."

Tonya Rushmer was in Rome at the BSR as part of the Coleman-Hilton scholarship for about two months (February and March) of the planned six before a minorly dramatic evacuation from locked-down Italy once the school announced it would close.

#### *International Visitor Seminar Presentations*

Professor Bonnie Honig (Brown University) on "The Body Politics of Refusal: the *Bacchae* and the *Antigone*, with Caverero."

Assoc. Prof. Jack Mitchell (Dalhousie University) gave a talk, via Zoom, on "Epic performance and declamatory practice in ancient Greece" to a group of very enthusiastic advanced Greek students.

Due to Covid19, we have had to cancel this year's Ritchie Lecture with Glenn Most (University of Chicago).

#### *Seminars, Symposia & Workshops*

Ben Brown together with Tristan Burt convened the inaugural lecture of the *Critical Antiquities Network* on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at which Bonnie Honig (Brown University) gave a paper entitled, "The Body Politics of Refusal: the *Bacchae* and the *Antigone*, with Caverero."

<https://fasscomms.sydney.edu.au/pub/pubType/EO/pubID/zzzz5e3a3495eab4b586/interface.html>

James Collins is convening the *Performing Wisdom* program 'at' the CHS, in partnership with an international and interdisciplinary team of students and educators.

<https://chs.harvard.edu/CHS/article/display/7011>

Julia Kindt is co-organising an interdisciplinary conference with Thom van Dooren (GCS) and the Sydney Environment Institute on 'Animal Stories: The Stakes of Narrating Entangled Lives' in 2021. This conference will also include an exhibit in the new Chau Chak Wing Museum.

James Tan organised a workshop on "The Origins of Roman Public Space" on Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 2020. Guests were Christopher Smith from St Andrews, Nicola Terrenato from Michigan, John Hopkins from NYU and the Institute of Fine Arts, and Amy Russell from Durham and Brown.

Tamara Neal is convening the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Teaching Classical Languages Symposium* on August 14<sup>th</sup> 2020. <https://sophi-events.sydney.edu.au/calendar/tcls-2020/>. The original F2F event has been reframed as an online seminar with presenters representing secondary and tertiary institutions from Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, and Queensland.

### *Engagement*

The Classics & Ancient History seminar series has made a very successful transition to an online format enjoying record attendances in its new iteration. We look forward to continuing these in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

Lindsay Watson will be addressing the Royal Society of NSW on the subject of ancient magic at the State Library on Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. It will traverse a little of the same ground as his article on the violence of Greek and Roman magic in the Jan. 2020 edition of *Classics for All*.

### *Museum news*

The Chau Chak Wing museum is scheduled to open next year. We are very excited to see the new spaces and exhibitions!

Tamara Neal

## **University of Western Australia**

### *Staff changes*

Dr Heiko Westphal, our former ASCS postgraduate representative, has been appointed to a research project on Valerius Maximus at the University of Freiburg:

<https://www3.unifr.ch/lettres/de/news/news/22890/im-spiegel-der-republik-valerius-maximus-facta-et-dicta-memorabilia?>

Dr Kirk Essary was promoted to Senior Lecturer.

### *Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

Dr Hugh Thomas presented a public lecture on the archaeological work of UWA in AlUla, Saudi Arabia (February 2020).

Prof. Yasmin Haskell has been awarded a senior visiting fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Jesuit Studies, Boston College, for first semester 2021.

*New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

We have undertaken significant changes to our Classics and Ancient History major: three new undergraduate units to be rolled out over the course of 2020/21: CLAN3010: Greece Without Borders: The Hellenistic World (Dr Lara O'Sullivan); CLAN3011: Sex, Gender, and the Body in the Greco-Roman World (Dr Christopher Mallan); and CLAN3012: After Antiquity: The Reception of Classical Culture from Augustine to Atwood (Prof. Yasmin Haskell and Dr Kirk Essary).

*Visitors*

Prof. Stephen Harrison (CCC Oxford) delivered a public lecture on Virgil and Seamus Heaney and a research seminar to our department; Dr James Corke-Webster (King's College London) delivered a public lecture as well as a 'Master Class' session for the historiography honours class. Corke-Webster's lecture, 'Interrogating an Ancient War on Terror: the persecution of the Christians reconsidered' was recorded and may be accessed here:

<http://www.ias.uwa.edu.au/lectures/corke-webster>

*Postgraduate completions*

Dr Don Boyer (December 2019). Supervisors: Prof. David Kennedy/Dr Lara O'Sullivan.

*New books*

C.T. Mallan, *Cassius Dio. Roman History, Books 57 and 58 (The Reign of Tiberius)*. Oxford University Press 2020.

*Other items of interest to ASCS members*

New PhD enrolments: Mr Glen McKnight (Classics/English); Ms Jane McMahon (Archaeology/Classics).

Prof. Yasmin Haskell is collaborating in an AHRC-funded network on 'Baroque Latinity', based at University College, London: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/classics/research/research-projects/baroque-latinity>.

*Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

We had to postpone a June conference at our UWA Institute for Advanced Studies, 'The Chorus of Orpheus: Animal Poets and Teachers from Aboriginal Australia to Classical Antiquity', including Classicists from the Freie Universitaet Berlin, Harvard and Sydney.

2020 Aerial Archaeology in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia projects were interrupted by Covid-19.

Yasmin Haskell

**Victoria University of Wellington***Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff*

James Kierstead, 'Symbola and Political Equality,' at the *Tokens: The Athenian Legacy to the Modern World* conference, British School of Athens, December 2019.

James Kierstead, 'Did Athens Spread Democracy?' slated for the UK Classical Association conference in Swansea (which was cancelled due to Covid-19), but now available here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xp\\_lgqX8iZQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xp_lgqX8iZQ)

Jeff Tatum: 'Cherchez la femme? Plutarch, Antony, and Fadia', at the conference, *Plutarch's Unexpected Silences*, International Plutarch Society, Utah State University, May 2019.

Jeff Tatum: 'Antony and Athens', at the conference, *El Período Triunviral y la Disolución de la República Romana (43-31 a.C.): Cambios Institucionales, Sociales y Económicos*, Zaragoza, September 2019.

Jeff Tatum: 'I am Antony Yet: Reading Mark Antony's Mail', University of New Mexico, October 2019.

Hamish Cameron, 'Resynchronizing Atlantis: Herodotos & Conspiratorial Euhemerism in *Assassin's Creed: Odyssey*', at *Film and History* Conference, Madison, WI, November 2019.

Diana Burton: "A goddess we honour and respect": Thetis and other gods in art', in the panel on *The Staying Power of Thetis* in the Celtic Classics Conference, Coimbra, Portugal, 26-29 June 2019.

Diana Burton: 'Herakles vs Pokemon: integrating 3D printing with Greek vase-painting', 3D & Classics panel, Classical Association/Fédération internationale des associations d'études classiques, London, 5-8 July 2019.

Mark Masterson: "Nikephoros Ouranos' letters: epistolarity, same-sex desire, and Byzantine reception," 15th Congress of the *Fédération internationale des associations d'études classiques* and *The Classical Association* annual conference, London, July 2019.

Mark Masterson: "Normal for Byzantium is Queer for Us," *Society for Classical Studies* Annual Meeting, San Diego, January 2019.

Babette Puetz and James Kierstead were on research and study leave.

#### *New courses or major modifications to existing courses*

CLAS 212: Alexander to Augustus

New 300-level Course: Zenobia: Warrior Queen (Hamish Cameron)

New Honours Course: Go Your Own Way: Borders and Movement in the Roman World (Hamish Cameron)

New Honours Course: Greek Tragedy and the Polis (Simon Perris)

New Honours Course: Troy (all staff)

#### *Museum news*

Victoria University of Wellington Classics Museum curator Diana Burton and her intern Rachael Mildenhall have reviewed and updated the catalogue, photographs, files, and labelling for the Classics Museum. They have also devised, with the generous assistance of VUW Image Services, a new online public database, which they hope to make available shortly. Please contact Diana ([diana.burton@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:diana.burton@vuw.ac.nz)) for further information.

#### *Postgraduate completions*

Under the supervision of Jeff Tatum, Campbell Orchard and Steven Thomas completed their MAs with distinction. Campbell's title was: *A Woman to Rule the World: Rome Personified in the Roman Republic*. Steven's thesis was entitled *We Can Be Heroes: A Study of Mythistoric*



*Genealogies in the Roman Republic.* Vinko Kerr-Harris completed his MA entitled *Aegean diffusions - Diffusions of power: Cultural connections between Minoan Crete and Pharaonic Egypt* with Merit. Rose Laštovička completed an MDI (Masters of Design Innovation) on *The Digital Athena: Contemporary commentaries and Greek mythology explored through 3d printing*, co-supervised by Diana Burton and by Dr. Bernard Guy from the VUW School of Design. Under the supervision of James Kierstead, Ziming Liu and Charlie Hann completed their MAs (Liu's thesis, *Thanks for the Memories: The Athenian Agora as a Lieu de Mémoire* gained a distinction, and Hann's *The Evolution of Tyrant Tropes in Greek Tragedy* a merit).

#### *Covid-19 impact and initiatives*

Mark Masterson, Conference Postponed until 2021: "Writing Ancient and Medieval Same-Sex Desire: Goals, Methods, Challenges", Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, June 30-July 2, 2020.

James Kierstead



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