



The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens Newsletter

Australian Research Council Awards Funds to Zagora Project

We are pleased to announce that the Federal Government, through the Australian Research Council (ARC) has awarded a significant grant of \$450,000 over three years for the Zagora Project that involves the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens (AAIA), the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sydney, The Athens Archaeological Society the Powerhouse Museum (Sydney) and the Institute for Mediterranean Research (Crete).

Zagora is considered to be the pivotal site that will help archaeologists understand domestic life in Greece during the so called "Dark Age" (11th – 8th centuries BC). This is the era in which many place Homer, and the period that laid the foundation for the glories of Classical civilisation. The award puts the team in the position to apply to the Greek Government for a permit to conduct archaeological field-work at the settlement. The expertise of the Powerhouse Museum will help the project create a new model for community engagement between archaeologists and the public through digital outreach.



Zagora

From an Australian point of view the Zagora project has great importance. The site was the first in Greece to be excavated by an Australian archaeological team. In addition, the original excavation (between 1968 and 1971) was led by the AAIA's Foundation Director, Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, AO – the first person of Greek origin to be appointed to an Australian Professorship.

As part of the events leading to the initial field season, an international conference titled "Zagora in Context" will be hosted by the Australian Institute in May 2012 in Athens, where top academics will present the latest scholarship relating to Zagora.

Our "new" Newsletter

Most members will have seen the Institute's e-Newsletters which come out almost every month now via email. These, along with the *Bulletin* are a great way for us to stay in touch with our members. The *Bulletin* will continue to be published as a high-quality glossy magazine on an annual basis. We thought, however, that only producing one a year didn't give us enough scope to mention all the wonderful things the Institute achieves! We hope that our revived *Newsletter* will keep us in better contact with our members and Friends.

Congratulations to our colleagues

Of course, Zagora was only one of many projects awarded funds from the ARC. We'd like to congratulate all of our colleagues at the Institute's Institutional Members who were successful in their Discovery Grant applications. Of note is Professor Antonio Sagona's (University of Melbourne) project: "Archaeology in the central Caucasus: investigations at Samatviro and Tchkantiskedi" and Dr Ken Sheedy's project at Macquarie University: "A spring of silver, a treasury in the earth: coinage and wealth in archaic Athens".

Zagora Conference

Between 20-22 May, 2012 the Institute will be hosting a major conference in Athens entitled "Zagora in Context". Twenty-eight international scholars will be sponsored by the AAIA to travel to Greece and present their research. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney has become a major sponsor of this important event.

If you're in Greece in May you'd be very welcome to attend. Proceedings are free, but let us know you'll be there. Staff are more than happy to show members the Institute's facilities and there will also be a tour of Zagora on Andros for conference participants. Spaces for this will be limited, so let us know as soon as you can!

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Scholarships

The Institute's 2012 Fellowship for Research in Greece Awarded



Kristen Mann

The 2012 AAIA Fellowship for Research in Greece has been awarded to Ms Kristen Mann who is a postgraduate student at the University of Sydney. This scholarship, which is valued at over AU\$15,000 will enable Kristen to spend a year in Greece working on her doctoral dissertation, "Social Living: The archaeology of households and settlement organization at Zagora on Andros".

Book Shipment Arrives

The Institute receives many books that are hard to access in Australia via its Athens Office - many of which are published by the other Foreign Schools or Greek institutions. We've just shipped 700kgs of such books from Athens to Sydney! The shipment will be unpacked soon and available at our Australian library, which is held in the Centre for Classical and Near Eastern Studies in the University of Sydney. Scholars from fourth year onwards who need to use our library can contact the Sydney Office for a readers' ticket

The AAIA's Professorial Research Fellow for 2012

Professor Hermann Kienast will be arriving in February 2012 as the AAIA's second Professorial Research Fellow. Professor Kienast has conducted extensive research on the island of Samos and is also an expert on "The Tower of the Winds" in Athens.

Endeavour Research Fellowship

Many of you will be familiar with Dr Bernadette McCall who works in the Institute's Sydney office. Dr McCall has just returned from an extensive research trip funded by an Australian Government Endeavour Research Fellowship.

"The grant allowed me to undertake a period of fulltime research focusing on the archaeology of south-western Iran during the Achaemenid Persian and



Bernadette (right) with Amanda Dusting at Achaemenid Tombs near Persepolis

later periods. I was able to visit Iran, the United Kingdom and France where I gained access to several archaeological collections that will be extremely useful for understanding the archaeology of the region that I work in. [Being able to meet with colleagues face to face and attend workshops on related topics made for a busy and highly productive schedule.]

Many thanks to the AAIA for the continuing support and for understanding the research interests of its staff!"

New Development Officer

The Institute is pleased to have Ms Theodora Gianniotis join the team as its new Development Officer. Although her initial career was in law she has subsequently moved towards working in fundraising and cultural heritage. She has been a member of the Sydney Friends Committee for a number of years and organized with the Friends a number of highly successful events themed around archaeology and food. Ms Gianniotis is currently completing a Masters Degree in Cultural Heritage, with a special interest in cultural heritage interpretation



Theodora Gianniotis

The Athens Friends

The Athens Friends have been on a number of varied and exciting excursions this year. The highlights being a trip to the Epidauros to see a magnificent performance of Shakespeare's Richard III, with Kevin Spacey in the title role and a 3 day trip to the site of Nikopolis and Actium, where Octavian (later Augustus) defeated Antony and Cleopatra. There were also a number of day trips to Marathon, to visit the site and museum; to the First Cemetery in Athens; to the ancient fortress at Eleutherae; to the Byzantine monastery of Hosios Loukas and this month an upcoming trip to Peiraeus to visit the Danish excavations of the Athenian ship sheds at Zea Harbour.

Staff Profile: Dr Matt McCallum



Matt McCallum

I joined the Zagora 3 publication team in 2009. As one of its co-authors I am responsible for the publication of the domestic, religious and military architecture from this vitally important Early Iron Age site. I am also managing the research design and implementation of the GIS and Heurist data systems for this project and the Zagora 3 website, which can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.aaia.chass.usyd.edu.au/Zagora/Zagora/Welcome.html>

None of this could be done without your help! And with the ongoing support of the Institute's members we can continue in our efforts to complete a truly innovative and exciting print and web-based publication: the final chapter in the first Australian excavations in Greece!

My name is Dr Matt McCallum and your donations have helped employ me as part of the Institute's team. This is an exciting time for archaeology as the internet deeply impacts the way archaeologists undertake their research.

The AAIA's Zagora Project represents a cutting edge use of technology to interpret a very important archaeological site to a global public. We're using the latest methods in 3D reconstruction and "Geographic Information Systems" to recreate this settlement – and then we will engage the world in our work through the latest social networking systems including Flickr, Facebook, YouTube and Twitter!

I joined the Zagora 3 publication team

Fieldwork at Amyklai

A team led by Associate Professor Louise Hitchcock (University of Melbourne), Associate Professor A. Chapin (Brevard College) and Dr. E. Banou (University of the Peloponnese) conducted a brief field season in the region of Amyklai (Lakonia), between the known Mycenaean sites of Vapheio and Palaipyrgi this August. The team recorded and documented the cuttings, including a partially formed column base (see image), of a conglomerate quarry believed to date to the Mycenaean period, specifically to Late Helladic III (i.e. the palatial period).

The quarry was cleaned thus allowing the team to make a scale drawing of it, to prepare a full description of the cuttings, and to fully photograph all the revealed features. In the process of cleaning the loose earth a small amount of pottery was found, most of which can be identified as Mycenaean. This project proved to be an important contribution to Aegean Bronze Age studies given that much has been written on Minoan quarries, but far less on their Mycenaean

counterparts despite the fact that the use of conglomerate was a defining feature of monumental Mycenaean architecture.

The fieldwork conducted in 2011, and its full publication, will lead to a far better understanding of the processes involved in the construction of Mycenaean prestige architecture. The team is presenting the results of their research at the Archaeological Institute of America annual meeting in January.



The team on site

The Athens Hostel

The Institute will be offering a **discount of 20% off the total bill for anyone who books into our Athens Hostel for a stay of more than a week in December 2011 or January 2012**. Although it is winter visiting Athens in December and January is a great way to escape to tourist crowds - and our hostel is fully heated!

Quote "Christmas Offer" when you make the booking. You can make bookings by emailing our Athens office.

Online Book Store

The Institute has entered into an agreement with Sydney University Press to sell its monographs and journals in the SUP eStore (<http://sydney.edu.au/sup/>).

The Institute's first publication available for purchase online is Volume 1 of the Nicholson Museum *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum*. Issues of our official journal *Mediterranean Archaeology* including back-issues will also be available for purchase in the near future.

Christmas is coming!

Give the gift of Membership

Why not give the gift of AAIA membership this Christmas? If you contact Bernadette McCall in our Sydney office she can organize a gift membership for anyone you choose. Anyone you sign up will get an attractive welcome pack in a presentation folder. Membership is by donation (\$30 for Students and \$50 for individuals) and will be valid for all of 2012.

A Thankyou to our generous donors in 2011:

Without donations the Institute could not continue its work promoting Hellenic Studies in Australia. The staff, Board and Council of the AAIA would like to thank all of our members. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Donors over \$1000

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The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens Travel

Ancient World Study Tour, 2012

January 15 - 10 February, 2012

Dr Amelia Brown of the University of Queensland organized a highly successful study tour to Greece in early 2011 as part of a UQ Classics and Ancient History summer course. The AAIA provided three scholarships for students to attend which were awarded to Mr Damian Forbes, Ms Michelle Burgess and Mr David Andersen.

"I plan to pursue a career as a high school teacher...The knowledge and experiences I gained on the study tour of Greece, which would not have been possible without your support, will be invaluable to me as a teacher. The experience has enriched all that I have learned about Ancient Greece so far at University."

Damien Forbes

Only open to students enrolled in UQ course ANCH2050, this study tour will be offered again in 2012, with support from the AAIA for two student scholarships.



Cruise: '...the Isles of Greece where Delos rose and Phoebus sprung...'

Departs September 15, 2012

Fully escorted 14 day cruise-tour

Well-regarded cultural tourism operator "Voyages to Antiquity" is offering, via agent "Cruise Traveller", a fourteen day cruise of the Greek Islands on the M.V. Aegean Odyssey with an itinerary that starts in Athens and ends in Istanbul, via Crete, Santorini, Delos and Mykonos.

"Voyages to Antiquity combines the excitement of exploring classical civilisation with the comfort and service of boutique-style cruising. The Aegean Odyssey is a premium class ship that has been refitted to cater for cruising the Mediterranean, carrying 350 guests. The atmosphere on board is relaxed with plenty of passenger space, generous accommodation and a choice of restaurants with open-seating dining. Accompanied by expert guest lecturers, this tour offers outstanding value.

The expert guest speaker program for this cruise will include AAIA Governor, Dr Monica Jackson, and a contribution from every ticket sold will help to fund the Institute's *Zagora* project.

Cost: From \$6195 per person, twin share, includes return airfares, pre-cruise stay in Athens, 9 nights cruising, shore excursion program, meals while on-ship, selected drinks, transfers and 2 nights post-cruise stay in Istanbul, fully escorted.

Contact: Cruise Traveller for more information. Phone: 07 5575 8094,
www.cruisetraveller.com.au





The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens Travel

In 2012/13 AAIA supporters have a fantastic range of quality cultural and archaeological tours to choose from!

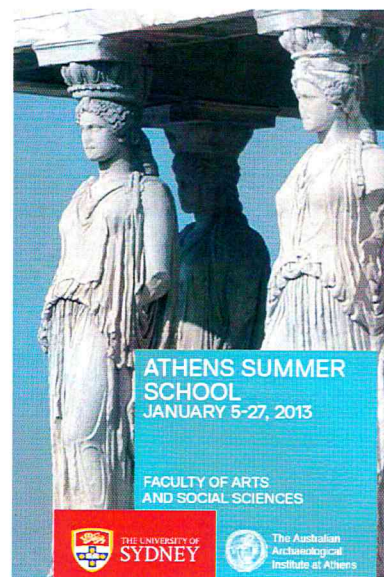
Archaeology Summer School

January 5-27, 2013

The Department of Archaeology at the University of Sydney and the AAIA will be offering its third Classical Archaeology Summer School in 2013. This is a unique opportunity to study the archaeology and history of ancient Athens first hand. With a particular focus on the Archaic and Classical periods (ca. 630-323 BC) participants will enjoy formal lectures integrated with daily visits to archaeological sites and museums in Athens and Attica. You will also travel to the sanctuary of Apollo at Delphi. The course is open to students of Australian Universities and to Australian High School teachers. Members of the general public are also welcome to apply.

Tuition will be given by Dr Lesley Beaumont (Senior Lecturer, University of Sydney) and Dr Stavros Paspalas (AAIA Deputy Director). Please email our Sydney Office at arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au for more information.

Cost: Approximately \$6560 (excluding airfare)
Includes tuition and accommodation



Turkish Delights: Classical & Ottoman Turkey

April 2-22, 2012

This tour begins and ends in Istanbul where travellers will examine the legacy of the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires including visits to Hagia Sophia and Topkapi Palace. The group will fly inland to the capital Ankara before continuing on to Cappadocia and then south across the Taurus Mountains to the Mediterranean coast and Antalya. The group will take a break in Konya, the spiritual home of the Sufi order, before setting out on an eleven day exploration of Turkey's classical past including visits to Perge, Xanthos, Aphrodisias, Ephesus, Troy and the rock-cut tombs of Lycia. Returning to Istanbul, the final call is Gallipoli.

Offered in association with the Society of Mediterranean Archaeology (SoMA), a contribution from every ticket sold will be set aside to help fund the Olwen Tudor Jones Scholarship for Archaeological Fieldwork in the Mediterranean.

Your tour leader will be Helen Nicholson who is well-known to many members of the Institute. Helen was Education Officer at the Nicholson Museum in the mid 1990s and has delivered numerous short courses, study days, lectures and workshops for various institutions and organisations. She has extensive field experience and currently works at the Powerhouse Museum.

Cost: Land Only \$7990 (twin share)

For further information please contact Lissa Sharp, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sydney (02) 9036 4766 or e-mail lissa.sharp@sydney.edu.au



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