



# The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens Newsletter

## Return to Zagora!

The third, and final, season of the current Australian Research Council funded excavations at the settlement site of Zagora on Andros is currently taking place with a team of 50 Australian (and European) archaeologists working on site.

Over the past two years, the Australian team has uncovered some remarkable finds, including a massive 200 kilogram storage vessel decorated with unusual and arresting figural decoration, indications of long-distance trade, and evidence of metalworking. During this season the team is hoping to gain further insights into the social structure of Early Iron Age Greece and settlement dynamics, including reasons for Zagora's abandonment, in the Aegean during the 9th and 8th centuries BC. The team will also conduct testing to better determine the diet of Zagora's inhabitants.

Participants of the 2014 season have so far braved not only the arduous walk to and from the site each day, but the strong Zagora wind, driving rain and hot sun to unearth and document new evidence to investigate their theories. To maximise data collection and mindful that this is the last excavation season currently scheduled, the team have so far opened seven trenches. They have been joined by a number of specialists to help record and interpret the finds, including Dr Yannis Bassiakos (geology), Dr Melanie Filios (faunal remains), Dr Tatiana Theodoropoulou (marine remains), Dr Maria Roumpou (residue analysis) and Dr Joanne Cutler (textile production). An important focus of activity is the architectural conservation programme which will secure the preservation of the exposed houses and temple.

Midway through what is shaping up to be a very successful season the first team of '3-weeker' students left with mixed emotions, sad to be leaving new friends, their half-dug trenches and life on Andros, but brimming with new experiences and full of enthusiasm for a career in archaeology.

To keep up to date with the progress of the Zagora excavations visit: [www.powerhousemuseum.com/zagora/category/zagora-dig-blog/](http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/zagora/category/zagora-dig-blog/)



**Introductory tour of the site for new 2014 project participants**



## New *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* launched

On 27 August the Institute's State Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AC CVO, launched the second Australian *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* in the Nicholson Museum.

Established in 1919, the *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* (CVA) series brings together the known holdings of Greek and Italian pottery held in museums and private collections around the world into a standard format. There are now nearly 350 volumes from 26 countries in the series.

The second Australian volume of the CVA publishes 66 whole pots and fragments of the South Italian collection of Lucanian, Campanian, Paestan, Sicilian and Gnathian pottery in the Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney. The volume includes six pots donated by the Museum's founder Sir Charles Nicholson in 1860, purchased in Italy in 1856–57, as well as 33 pots acquired by Dale Trendall, both during his years as curator of the Museum (1939–1954) and following his move to Canberra in 1954.

The volume has been written by Michael Turner, Senior Curator of the Nicholson Museum, and Alexander Cambitoglou, Director of the AAIA.

The book, which is in full colour and has excellent photography of the artefacts by photographer Dr Rowan Conroy, can be purchased online for AU\$199.95 via Sydney University Press: [sydney.edu.au/sup/archaeology](http://sydney.edu.au/sup/archaeology). Images from the launch are available on the AAIA's Flickr site. Follow the QR code or visit: [www.flickr.com/photos/aaiasydney/sets/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/aaiasydney/sets/)



**Clockwise from top left: the Nicholson Museum CVA II; Mr Michael Turner; Prof. Alexander Cambitoglou and Ms Jennifer Bloomfield, former Australian Ambassador to Greece; H.E. Prof. the Hon. Dame Marie Bashir.**

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## Ohio State University becomes first AAIA “International Institutional Member”

The Institute has created a new membership category entitled “International Institutional Member” in order to promote better interaction between itself and those international organisations with which it collaborates. Ohio State University and the University of Sydney have just signed a Memorandum of Agreement that confirms Ohio State University (OSU) as the first member of the Institute in this category. The Institute and OSU already have a strong relationship – through Professor Timothy Gregory and Dr Lita Tzortzopoulou Gregory and their research on Kythera via the Australian Paliochora Kythera Archaeological Survey (APKAS). In addition the Ohio State University’s excavations at Isthmia, near Corinth, have accepted many Australian students as volunteers. The new membership creates an enduring official connection between our two organisations which will open an opportunity for deepening our relationship.



University Hall, Ohio State University



Detail of the monochrome floor mosaic in the Roman bath complex, Isthmia, depicting Tritons with Nereids on their backs, surrounded by various sea creatures

Any international organisations which want more information about “International Institutional Membership” should contact [arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au](mailto:arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au)

## The 2014 Professorial Fellowship: Professor Irene Lemos

The AAIA recently farewelled Professor Irene Lemos of Merton College, Oxford after a stay over two months as 2014 Professorial Fellow. Professor Lemos’s visit was a highly productive one. Based in our Sydney offices, she carried out research on her excavations at Lefkandi–Xeropolis as well as giving a popular public lecture on this most interesting and well-received of topics. Professor Lemos also delivered seminars at Sydney University and Macquarie University, and travelled to Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne to give talks on behalf of the Institute.

While in Sydney Professor Lemos contributed to the academic life of the Institute, taking time to talk with established archaeologists and students alike. She travelled to Australia with her husband, economist Dr James Forder of Balliol College.



## Secondary School Lecture Series with Dr Estelle Lazer

Dr Estelle Lazer of the University of Sydney, who is a world renowned expert on the forensic archaeology of Pompeii, recently gave a series of talks to AAIA member high schools around Sydney: Shore, Sydney Grammar, All Saints, St Spyridon, Trinity, IGS and Newington. She was received enthusiastically, with teachers unanimously expressing what a great opportunity it was for their students (Pompeii being a core subject in the NSW Ancient History Higher School Certificate). Dr Lazer did not disappoint, engaging with students so well that a number of the schools have asked if they can have her back next year!



Estelle Lazer at work in the Sarno Baths bones depository, Pompeii

## Paphos 2014: from the trenches

A team of 20 archaeologists and students recently completed the 16th season at the Sydney University’s AAIA-sponsored excavations at Nea Paphos, the ancient capital of Cyprus. The project, conducted under the auspices of the Dept. of Antiquities of the Republic of Cyprus, centres around the architectural remains of a theatre used as a space for performance and entertainment for over six centuries (c.300 BC to late 4th C AD).

After its destruction by an earthquake

in c. AD 365, the site was quarried and abandoned before considerable agricultural and semi-industrial occupation over the ruins of the theatre during the Crusades and into the post-medieval eras.

In recent seasons focus has shifted to exploring the urban layout the precinct surrounding the theatre, where a Roman nymphaeum and paved road have been discovered. The Director, Dr Craig Barker, reports that two trenches were opened this year: one at the rear of the *cavea* (seating) of the theatre which uncovered the southern-most end of a 20 m long building of the 15th–16th centuries AD (pictured), giving considerable insight into activities in the area during the post-medieval period; the other to the south of the Roman road, providing evidence of rooms along the building facing onto the streetscape that may have been a series of shops.



## Hellenistic Jewellery at the Benaki Museum

*Dr Monica Jackson, Governor of the AAIA*

When I think of the Benaki Museum the word ‘gem’ comes to mind. The building is a rare gem, being one of the few surviving Neo Classical mansions in the heart of Athens, also its collection of ancient jewellery reflects the refined taste of its founder Antonis Benakis. In July I was in Athens for five weeks cataloguing the museum’s collection of Hellenistic jewellery, dating from the time of Alexander the Great. I had the good fortune to work with Mrs Irini Papageorgiou, the Curator of Prehistoric, Ancient Greek and Roman Collections. The Benaki also has a laboratory where we examined a selection of pieces under the microscope. This was the opportunity to observe the unsurpassed technical expertise of the ancient jewellers.

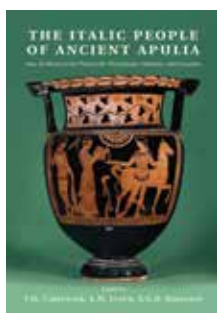
In September 2014 Melbourne’s Hellenic Museum—founded in 2008 by the Stamoulis family—became the first mini-outpost of the Benaki, Greece’s oldest and largest private museum, with the exhibition “Gods, Myths and Mortals”. It is a stunning snapshot of Hellenic civilisation spanning 8000 years of Greek history. Included is a gold myrtle wreath associated with Aphrodite, Persephone and Demeter. The naturalistic leaves and tiny blossoms were cut from thin sheets of gold, exquisitely finished with stamped and incised details, and then wired on to the stems.



*From left: Medallion with Aphrodite and Eros, late 3rd cent. BC; disc and pyramid earrings showing a Muse reclining in foliage, playing the lyre, 4th cent BC; myrtle wreath, late 4th cent BC (on display in the Hellenic Museum, Melbourne)*

## The AAIA Library New Acquisitions

Two new books co-edited by affiliates of the AAIA have recently been donated to our library, both the culmination of successful international conferences: *Greek Theatre in the Fourth Century B.C.*, eds. E. Csapo, Hans Rupprecht Goette, J. Richard Green and Peter Wilson, De Gruyter 2014; and *The Italic People of Ancient Apulia*, eds. T.H. Carpenter, K.M. Lynch and E.G.D. Robinson, Cambridge University Press 2014. These two works assemble leading scholars in their field and offer significant developments in the study of ancient Greece and Italy. They are welcome additions to the AAIA Library.



## Vale Peter Everett

The Institute is sad to note the passing on June 9, 2014 of Mr Peter Everett. The late Mr Everett was a lawyer who, for long years, was a Governor of the Institute. He took much interest in the AAIA’s work, particularly during the years of the excavations at the site of Torone. His support of the Institute and its activities was deeply appreciated.

*Peter Everett, in 1990, when he became a Governor*

## Volunteers

The Institute has inaugurated a new library volunteer programme. Archaeology students Sarah Gyngell, Lara Tooby and Kayla Lochner have been working hard in the library on a current priority, the spine-labeling project. Although the Institute’s library is fully catalogued, cataloguing information up to this point has been only listed inside the front cover of each book. This makes it hard for users to know where to return books when browsing. Our volunteers will ensure that all books in our library will henceforth have a spine sticker to aid with collection management. In only four weeks the trio have labeled two full bays of books comprising the subject areas including “Sites”, “Sculpture” and “Architecture”.

If you are interested in becoming a library or events volunteer your help would be greatly appreciated. You can email [arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au](mailto:arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au) for more information.



## The Athens Hostel Renovations Completed

Regular guests will be pleased to hear that the latest round of renovations at the Institute’s Athens Hostel has been completed.

The apartment has been given a new coat of paint and, in addition, new windows have been installed in the living areas as well as new blinds. The Hostel is now ready for its high season as Australian archaeologists heading to and from the Zagora excavations pass through Athens.

The Athens Hostel is a wonderful apartment with a modern kitchen and large living area in close proximity to the local metro station, the Acropolis Museum and a number of other Foreign Schools in Athens. It is the perfect base for study or a cultural visit to Athens. The Institute welcomes bookings from students, archaeologists, its supporters and members of the general public.



## Scholarships

### *Cultural Residency in Athens: Andrew Hazewinkel*

The Institute has offered an inaugural “Artist in Residence” award to Mr Andrew Hazewinkel, an established artist and doctoral candidate at Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney whose practice is inspired by the Classical World. He has been working closely in recent years with a significant yet little known collection of 19th and early 20th century photographic glass plate negatives that document Greek and Roman sculpture known as the Marshall Collection. John Marshall was the sole European agent to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York from 1906 to 1928; he worked closely with the then curators Edward Robinson and Gisela Richter.

Mr Hazewinkel’s own artistic works engage photographically, materially and spatially with damaged, ancient, figurative sculpture as a means of examining the contemporary cultural legacy of ancient objects, specifically the broken bodies of antiquity.

The award stresses the importance of Athens as a globally important centre for cultural activities beyond research into archaeological past, as well as acknowledging the impact of the Classical past upon the modern world.

It is worth noting that the Institute’s own “Objectives” as outlined in its Constitution are not limited to the Ancient world but include support for both Byzantine and modern Hellenic culture.

Mr Hazewinkel will be in residence at the Athens Hostel in December.



**Warrior A, Warrior B. 2014**  
4 min 44 sec single channel projection.  
Video still.

Originally commissioned by the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art. Access to the Riace Bronzes granted courtesy Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici della Calabria.

**12 Figures [after Niccolo]: Studies in collective anxiety. 2014**  
Installation detail. Plaster, steel.  
Each c. 170 x 30 x 30 cm.

At top: **Spectral Materialism #2 2013**  
Digital Type C print on archival paper.  
57 x 86 cm

**“For me the vitality of classical material resides in its inherent contemporaneity”**

– Andrew Hazewinkel

## Ancient World Study Tour of Greece, UQ

Earlier this year Dr Amelia Brown lead a group of 18 students from the University of Queensland on a 3-week study tour visiting major sites, monuments and museums all around Greece. As student Carlos Robinson rhymed, “At Troy the heroes took 10 years to gain entranceway, but we entered a castle at least once a day.” As part of the course participants gave on-site reports at ancient temples, battlefields, sanctuaries and theatres, and were given the opportunity to read ancient inscriptions *in situ*. They were assisted by numerous specialists along the way, including Dr Stavros Paspalas (AAIA Deputy Director), Professor John Camp (Director of the Athenian Agora Excavations), Murray Kane (Greek language instructor, UQ) and Dr Olga Bakirtzi (archaeologist, Thessaloniki). Financial support was given to 13 students in the form of UQ Advantage Grants and the AAIA was happily able to assist also, offering special rates on accommodation in our Athens hostel and contributing grants to 3 high-achieving students on the tour: Greek language student Carlos Robinson, Ancient History Honours student Rachel Dowe, and Ancient History 2nd-year student Katy Kent.



**‘Amelia’s Argonauts’ on the Pnyx, Athens**

## The Forgotten Flotilla:

***The Craft of Heroes, Greece, Crete and North Africa – 1941***

by Dr Michael Bendon

In his new book, maritime archaeologist Dr Bendon presents two British WWII wrecks located off shore from ancient Phalasarna, Western Crete.

### Book launch

6.30 pm, November 27

AAIA, University of Sydney

RSVP: arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au





## AAIA TOUR TO GREECE 19 September–3 October 2015

This unique 15 day tour showcases the fascinating research and fieldwork undertaken by Australian archaeologists in Greece, with visits to the ancient sites of Torone and Zagora, and explores the rich Hellenic heritage and culture that awaits today's travellers.

The tour begins in Thessaloniki with visits to sites, museums and monuments in the city before travelling to the Chalkidike where Australians have worked at the site of Torone since 1975. We enjoy a visit to a winery and sample the local cuisine, then fly to Santorini to explore the Aegean Bronze Age and the remarkable site of Akrotiri. Athens is our next destination. Here there are visits to foreign archaeological schools as well as archaeological sites and museums, including the Acropolis and Museum of Cycladic Art. From Athens we take a ferry to Andros where the Australian team is working at Zagora. There are plenty of opportunities to meet the Zagora team and gain insights into the important research they are undertaking. From Andros we return to Athens for a farewell dinner.

Led by Australian archaeologists, who will give short talks on the archaeology of Greece en route, this boutique tour has a maximum group size of 18.

**Helen Nicholson** (BA Hons, MPhil) was a Torone team member in 1990–1993 and has been a casual lecturer and tutor at the University since 1995. She is an experienced and well regarded study tour leader and has led several tours to Greece for the University.

**Archondia Thanos** (BA Hons, MPhil, D.Phil Ox.) is an Honorary Researcher at the University of Sydney, specializing in the Greek Bronze Age and the History of Archaeology. She has extensive excavations experience and has conducted numerous tours to Greece for both professionals and the general public.

To register your interest contact [arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au](mailto:arts.aaia@sydney.edu.au)



## TURKEY EAST, SOUTHEAST (10 nights) & a BLUE CRUISE on the LYCIAN COAST (7 nights)

13–30 May 2015

\$6750 pp twin share (excluding intl. flight)

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Turkey's east and southeast—the lands of the Tigris and Euphrates—then fly to the Mediterranean to sail the spectacular Lycian coast on a luxurious gulet, a traditional Turkish timber vessel.

In the east visits include the enchanting towns of Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, Mardin and Van as well as to the evocative sites of Gobekli Tepe, Nemrut Dagi, those of the Urartians, the Ishak Pasha Palace, Zeugma mosaics and Syriac monasteries.\* In Lycia we see countless ruined settlements with their unique Lycian tombs, as well as the pretty villages of Kas and Kalkan, strung along the Lycian Way, a 500km ancient trail that linked these towns. Modern culture will also be explored in colourful food markets, bazaars, restaurants and cafes, most meals being included during the trip.

**Judy Roberts**, an Honours graduate in Classical Archaeology at the University of Sydney, is passionate about all things Turkish. She has lived in many countries and travels extensively, having led many cultural and historical tours to Turkey, Greece and Cyprus.

\* If eastern Turkey is deemed unsuitable for travel in May 2015 an alternate route will be offered. Check [www.judyrobertstravel.com.au](http://www.judyrobertstravel.com.au) for updates.





# The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens

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## Report from the Queensland Friends

### Chris Griffiths, President

Recent years have seen considerable change in the circumstances facing Classics and Ancient History at the University of QLD. Two years ago the position of Professor of Classics and Ancient History was vacant after Professor Milns' retirement and there was talk by some university administrators about the continued worth of ancient Greek in the curriculum. Today the situation is very positive. With the energy of those passionate about Classics and support from the wider community, fundraising went into full swing, and awareness was raised. The University has since renewed its membership of the AAIA, a generous benefactor, Dr Paul Eliadis, has provided for a perpetual chair in Classics and Ancient History, and Professor

Blanshard has been appointed to that position. The Classics at UQ are in good shape.

Events hosted by the QLD Friends in 2013/14 included a very successful lecture by Professor Angelos Chaniotis, last year's AAIA Visiting Professor, on *Graffiti in the city of Aphrodisias*, a talk by Con O'Brien who spoke on *Daedalus, the Man, his Triumphs and Disasters*, the ever-popular "Christmas Allsorts" show, a visit to the RD Milns Antiquity Museum where our guests donned white gloves to handle Greek pottery and coins, and a lecture by Professor Bob Milns on *Greek Doctors* delivered to a large audience which included several doctors.

Many thanks are due to those behind the scenes: Treasurer Con O'Brien, Lesley Burnett, Amelia Brown, and all the committee members, with special mention to 10-year member, secretary and catering co-ordinator, Carmel Trew.