



### Newsletter – April 2020

#### Committee News

Welcome to the opening issue of the Newsletter for the Athens Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens! The suggestion for a Newsletter came to the Committee from our long-standing member of Friends, Jeannette Arduino, who has offered to take on its lay-out and presentation, for which we are truly appreciative. Thank you, Jeannette!

For the time being, the Newsletter is envisioned to come out twice a year, once after the Annual Pitta-cutting, and again before the Summer break. Present contents include this report from the Committee, a tribute to Alexander Cambitoglou from Stavros Paspalas, an over-view of Friends and Institute events since Summer by Lita Tzortzopoulou-Gregory, an excursion report from Elizabeth Gandley, a recipe for happiness from Andreas Lazarou, followed by guidelines for your own future contributions. Thank you, contributors!

Athens Friends will assist in any Autumn event honouring the life and achievements of Professor Cambitoglou.

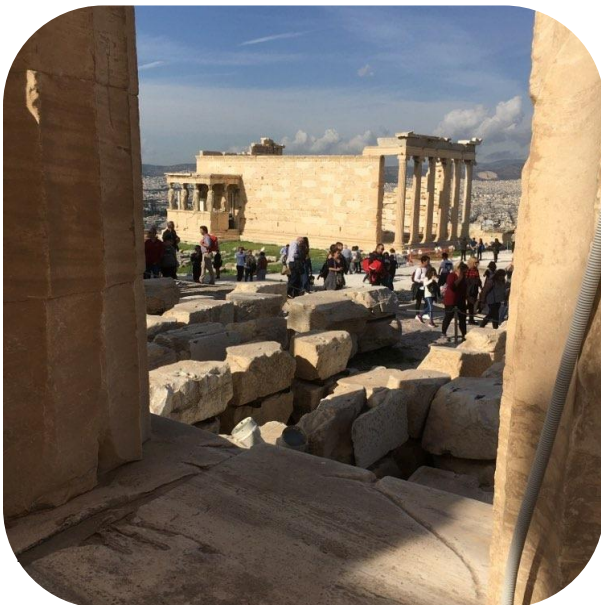
Our two away trips had to be cancelled and deposits returned, but, because of their popularity, may well be offered next year.

There are no events scheduled for the 'foreseeable' future. Friends is in the process of bringing its documentation in-line with the most recent legislation. Eventually, should ratification be needed, it would involve a General Meeting.

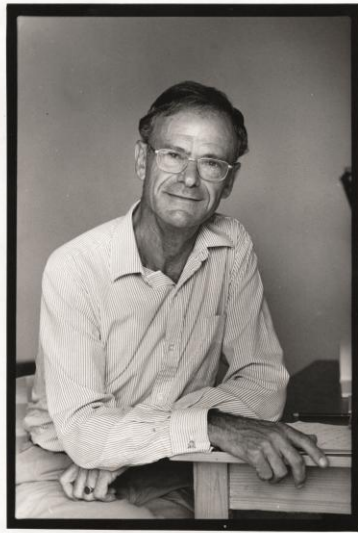
Apart from offering assistance to the Institute, the Athens Friends are groups of friends coming together enjoying the larger company, while being treated to special perspectives on the history and archaeology of beautiful Greece.

So, until these vapours lift, stay safe and consider your piece for the next Athens Friends Newsletter!

**Brian Cleary**



## Obituary *Vale Alexander Cambitoglou, AAIA Founding Director*



It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of Alexander Cambitoglou. Alexander's life was full of challenges, commitment and creativity. All three were intricately entwined and the many successes which Alexander achieved are a testament to the mastery with which he managed them as well as to his determination, foresight and self-discipline.

Alexander was exposed to broad horizons during his early years in his native Thessalonike, a cosmopolitan city in which his family, with its strong educational interests, belonged to the mercantile establishment. It was deemed important that Alexander learn a good number of modern languages, which he did alongside ancient Greek and Latin. Literary studies held his eager attention for a good while before they were overtaken by history and, especially, archaeology. And it is in archaeology that Alexander's great contribution lies, but as many of us know he never lost his love for literature or for art more generally.

Alexander lived through the Second World War, and while he did not dwell on it, all his references to it indicated the hardships which he and his family had to endure, including the loss of a brother. The end of the war, though, brought new opportunities. He studied at the University of Thessalonike and owing to his academic performance he was awarded a scholarship to further his studies in the United Kingdom. And there he stayed for a good number of years, honing his academic skills with giants the like of T.B.L. Webster, Martin Robertson and Sir John Beazley. His first academic appointment was to the University of Mississippi in 1954 and thereafter to Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania.

In 1961 he was appointed, as it would prove to Australia's great benefit, lecturer at the University of Sydney, in 1963 Professor of Archaeology, and in 1978 to the position of the Arthur and Renee George Professor of Classical Archaeology. It was here, in Sydney, that Alexander gave his all, as a teacher (and generations of students can vouch for this) and a researcher (his collaboration with A.D. Trendall is the stuff of legend), as well as the Curator of the Nicholson Museum from 1963 through to 2000.







It was also at the University of Sydney that Alexander established the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens, what many believe was his greatest achievement: an educational and research vehicle which has enabled many Australian students and academics to pursue their interests in Greek and wider studies, not only archaeological. The nationwide impact the Institute has had, and continues to have, cannot be over emphasized. Its establishment was Alexander's way of ensuring that the links between his two beloved countries will continue to grow.

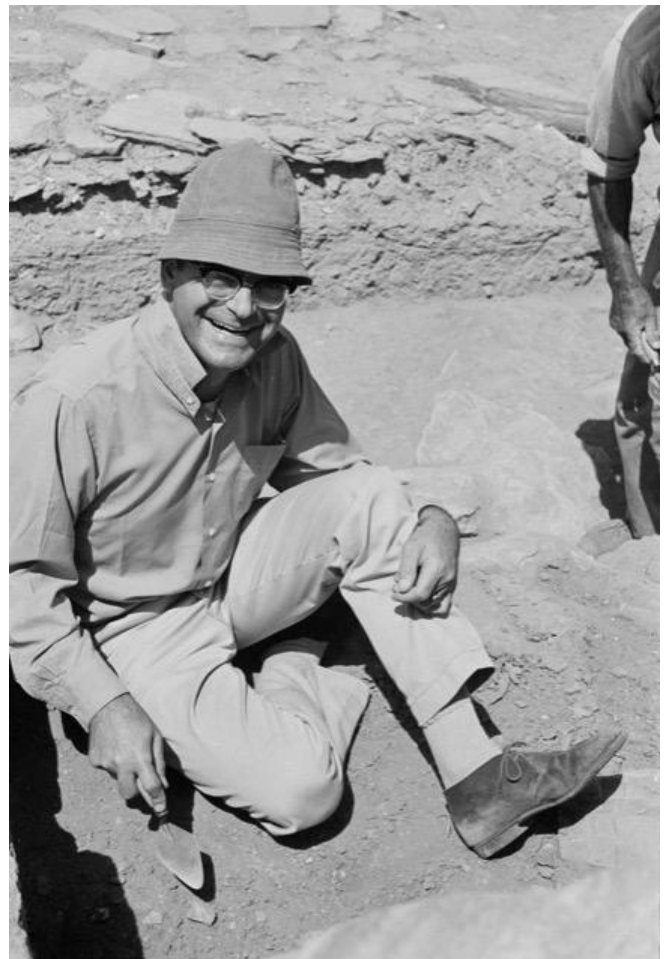
All the while Alexander directed two major fieldwork projects, at Zagora on the island of Andros and at Torone

in the Chalkidike, managed a university department, and engaged the wider public in the fascinating world of the Greek, and more broadly, Mediterranean past. His skills as an academic and an administrator were formidable. Though, he would be the first to tell you that he could not have achieved any of this without the help of supporters and friends, foremost amongst them Professor John Young but also Sir Arthur and Lady George, Zoe Kominatos and Mary and Milton Lalas. There were, indeed are, many others. The truth, though, is that it was Alexander's vision and determination that set both the path and the pace.

Of course, all of Alexander Cambitoglou's students shall forever be in his debt. Alexander's legacy, though, is far wider. It encompasses the international community archaeologists (his many international and Australian honours attest to this), the academic community of Australia but also the interested general public.

Alexander's legacy is multifaceted, extensive and deep. Only a very few aspects of it have been touched on here. There can be no better words to describe his legacy other than those penned by Thucydides two and a half millennia ago: Alexander has left us a κτῆμα ἐς αἰεὶ -a possession for all time.

***Stavros A. Paspalas***



## Museum Visit



On Sunday, 8 December, the Friends thoroughly enjoyed a visit to the Kotsanas Museum of Ancient Greek Technology on Pindarou Street, Kolonaki (see <http://kotsanas.com/>)

We visited two of the permanent exhibitions at the museum:

*Ancient Greece – The beginnings of Technology and Ancient Greek Musical Instruments and Games*

The highly trained (and seemingly incredibly young!) guides of the Museum brought all the exhibits of Greek technology and ancient Greek musical instruments alive, in impeccable English.

The technology exhibition includes approximately 300 working models of ancient Greek inventions, including the robot/servant of Philon to the automatic clock of Ktesibios and the analog computer of Antikythera, plus the world's first alarm clock and door alarm operated by air and water

pressure, covering the period from 2000 BC until the end of the ancient Greek world.

All the exhibits have been constructed by Kostas Kotsanas, the creator of the museum, credibly based on the thorough study of the ancient Greek, Latin and Arabic literature, vase and wall painting information plus some archaeological finds.

The museum is easily accessible in the city centre and well worth a visit, even more than once as it's impossible to see everything on one visit, and to fully absorb all the information available.

**Elizabeth Gandley**





## Past Activities *Athens Friends Activities 2019-2020*

Over the last year, The Athens Friends participated in an array of different types of activities, including excursions and workshops, lectures, and presentations organised by the AAIA.

The year kicked off with a tour of the temporary exhibition “From the Forbidden City: The Imperial Apartments of Qianlong” at the Acropolis Museum, followed by our New Year Lunch and Vasilopita cutting at the “Cave of the Acropolis” restaurant.

Our monthly excursions and day-trips included visits to museum exhibitions, such as the “Crete. Emerging Cities: Aptera, Eleutherna, Knossos” temporary exhibition at the Cycladic Museum, and to The Kotsonas Museum of Ancient Greek Technology.



A visit to Queen Amalia's tower (Pyrgos Vasilissis) in March was a pleasant outing followed by wine tasting where we sampled organic varieties of wines produced from the tower's vineyards, which date from the time of King Otto's reign.

In April we visited Isthmia, site of a Panhellenic sanctuary dedicated to Poseidon with an impressive Roman period bath complex, and its museum, and handled artefacts at the storerooms of the Ohio State University Excavations at Isthmia. Following Isthmia we visited the site of the ancient harbour of Kenchreai where the impressive glass panels in the Isthmia Museum come from.





Our annual 4-day trip in May-June was in Thessalonike, where we explored the city's rich ancient, Byzantine, Ottoman, and Jewish heritage.



Other excursions included an insider's tour to Ancient Corinth and the store rooms of Corinth Excavations, where we handled a variety of different types of artefacts (September) *left* and a visit to ancient Sikyon (October) *below*.



A special highlight was a visit to the Athenian Acropolis, where special permission was granted to the Friends to enter the Parthenon and explore the history and architecture of this important monument. (See photo on page 1.)



Other highlights include special events held at the AAIA Hostel, two of which were co-organised with the Athens-based organisers of custom-catered ancient Greek events Archaeopolis, including the lecture/workshop "Experiencing the Music of Ancient Greece" in February,



and the reception of ancient Greek food which followed a lecture given by Sotirios Dimitriadis on the transition from Ottoman to Greek rule in Thessalonike. On each occasion the audience was pleasantly surprised to participate in a hands-on experience involving ancient music, food, and wine.

Also worthy of mention were the screening of the documentary film “Inhabiting Summers of History” and presentations made by the film maker, George Didimiotis, and Dr Kyriaki Psaraki (Curator of the Archaeological Museum of Kythera) in October, and the poetry reading event “‘An Azure Memory of Seas’: Glimpses of Greece” by renowned Australian author and poet, Jena Woodhouse.

***Dr. Lita Tzortzopoulou-Gregory***



## **Recipe** *Salmon Mousse*

### ***Ingredients***

- 500 – 600 grams of frozen salmon (fillets without skin and bones) let it thaw in the fridge, poach for 3-4 minutes
- 200 grams smoked salmon
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar
- 4 eggs, separated
- about 180 grams butter, melted
- 200 ml thickened cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- gelatine, about 4-5 teaspoons if in powder form or 7-8 sheets
- dill to taste
- capers about 70-80 grams



### ***Method***

- ✨ Blend or process lemon juice, vinegar and egg yolks, gradually add hot bubbling butter, then add salmon, both smoked and poached, cream, mayonnaise, capers, finely chopped dill.
- ✨ Dilute gelatine according to instructions. Stir a little of the salmon mixture into the gelatine mixture, then add and stir gelatine mixture into salmon mixture.
- ✨ Beat egg whites in small bowl until soft peaks form, fold gently into salmon mixture.
- ✨ Pour into lightly oiled savarin mould, refrigerate several hours (I prepare it the previous day).
- ✨ I use a plastic tupperware bowl which has both a lid at the bottom and at the top.

*Καλή όρεξη !*

Kind regards to all,  
***Andreas Lazarou***



## Last Laugh

My career is in ruins!  
(I'm an archaeologist.)



“Thank goodness we have a very accurate copy of this  
in the museum gift shop.”

## Your Contributions

As you can see, this is an E-edition. Print at will. So there's no real need to limit the length of your contribution, however, a guideline of 50-350 words might be useful. We are communicating amongst ourselves on matters of potential mutual interest. For more academic concerns, the Institute provides that venue.

Sofia Salapatias is considering a regular paragraph or two on grammatical and etymological points of interest. You may like to comment on, or report on a recent event, as has Elizabeth. If you don't have accompanying photos, they can probably be found. Recipes seem like a popular topic. Interesting stories or facts from the past would be fun. Finding friends (who has an email for Vickie Megas?!) Your ideas for future events are always welcome. Letters to the Editor could give you an opportunity to heap praise on the activities of Athens Friends, for instance.

All contributions will be subject to editing (*moi*), and undergo proof-reading by Marilyn O'Brien, so if there's a mistake, it's ours. The way matters are, contributions will be sorely needed so get those digits tapping and send your piece to:

[aaia@otenet.gr](mailto:aaia@otenet.gr) Subject: NEWSLETTER.

**Brian Cleary**



**The Athens Friends of the AAIA was founded in 1992 and exists to support the work of the Australian Archaeological Institute in Athens, which is one of the 17 Foreign Schools based in Athens. It organises a number of lectures, tours and excursions every year open to all members, non-members and guests. The Athens Friends also fundraises and donates items for the maintenance of the Athens Hostel.**

### **Γενικός Κανονισμός για την Προστασία των Δεδομένων**

Στις 25 Μαΐου 2018 ξεκίνησε η εφαρμογή του νέου Ευρωπαϊκού κανονισμού για την προστασία των δεδομένων, ευρέως γνωστού και ως General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Κατόπιν τούτου, θα θέλαμε να σας ενημερώσουμε πως τα στοιχεία επικοινωνίας σας διατηρούνται ασφαλή, δεν κοινοποιούνται σε τρίτους και χρησιμοποιούνται με μόνο σκοπό την ενημέρωσή σας σχετικά με τις δραστηριότητες των Φίλων του Αυστραλιανού Αρχαιολογικού Ινστιτούτου Αθηνών. Μπορείτε ανά πάσα στιγμή να ζητήσετε την διακοπή των τακτικών ενημερωτικών επικοινωνιών μας και την διαγραφή των στοιχείων επικοινωνίας σας. Επιπλέον, φωτογραφίες που λαμβάνονται κατά τις εκδρομές και τις εκδηλώσεις μας δημοσιεύονται μέσω των μέσων κοινωνικής δικτύωσης/ και του ηλεκτρονικού μας ενημερωτικού δελτίου με μοναδικό σκοπό την ενημέρωση των μελών του συλλόγου των Φίλων και συνήθως πρόκειται για ομαδικές φωτογραφίες και όχι συγκεκριμένων ατόμων. Παρακαλούμε, εάν έχετε οποιοδήποτε ανησυχίες σχετικά με τη χρήση των φωτογραφιών και το απόρρητό σας να επικοινωνήσετε μαζί μας. Σε περίπτωση που επιθυμούμε να δημοσιοποιήσουμε οποιοδήποτε φωτογραφικό υλικό που περιλαμβάνει το άτομό σας θα ζητήσουμε τη συγκατάθεσή σας και μπορείτε ανά πάσα στιγμή να την αποσύρετε με γραπτό μήνυμα στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση [athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com](mailto:athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com). Σημείωση: αυτό δεν ισχύει για ήδη δημοσιευμένο έντυπο ή ηλεκτρονικό υλικό, καθώς δεν θα είναι δυνατή η ανάκληση ή η αναδημοσίευση αυτού.

### **General Regulation on the Protection of Data**

As of 25 May 2018 the European Union's new regulation on the protection of data, widely known as General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), came into effect. As regards this regulation we would like to inform you that your contact details are securely stored by the Athens Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens, they are not disseminated to third parties, and they are only used by the Athens Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens in order to inform you of its activities. You may, at any moment, request that the Australian Archaeological Institute stop sending you its communications and that it delete your contact details from its files. In addition, photographs taken during our excursions and events are posted through social media and our e-Newsletter for the sole purpose of informing our Friends group, and are usually in the form of group photos and not of specific individuals. Please, contact us if you have any concerns regarding the use of photographs and your privacy. We will endeavour to seek your consent in the event we wish to publicise any photographic material that includes your person, and you can withdraw consent for this at any time by emailing [athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com](mailto:athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com). Note: this will not apply to printed or electronic materials already published, as it will not be possible to recall or republish printed materials.

Athens Friends of the AAIA  
Zacharitsa 17, Koukaki 117 41, Greece  
[athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com](mailto:athensfriends.aaia@gmail.com)  
Tel: 210 924 3256 Fax: 210 924 1659