FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Members and Friends of the Institute; Dear Colleagues,

I am writing this letter in a guarded optimistic mood about the study of Classics in Australia. The past two years have seen a reduction in the numbers of University staff members that teach the subject, the amalgamation of Classics with other departments, and, in the case of Monash University, the closing down of the relevant department and the abolition of the subject. My impression, however, is that once the dust settles and we become adjusted to the new conditions, we shall be able to continue to work with enthusiasm and vigour.

There have also been encouraging developments in some quarters. One cannot help admiring, in La Trobe University, the establishment of the National Centre of Hellenic Studies and Research and the Department of Hellenic Studies in which the teaching of Ancient Greek has just been introduced in addition to Mediaeval and Modern Greek. With these two new bodies, with the A.D. Trendall Centre for Ancient Mediterranean Studies and the collaboration of a very lively Department of Archaeology, as well as the teaching of Ancient Greek and Roman Art in the Art History Department, La Trobe is rapidly becoming an important centre for the study of our discipline and related subjects.

Melbourne should also be congratulated for its new Museum of Ancient Hellenic Art which was recently inaugurated with the launching of the exhibition of the “Aidonia Treasure”.

The AAIA has also good reason to be optimistic about its future since in 1998 its institutional membership was increased by the inclusion of two of the best schools in the country, Melbourne Grammar School and Newington College in Sydney.

I would like to close this letter with my heartfelt congratulations to Dr Elizabeth Minchin of the Australian National University. She is a dedicated teacher of Classics and has been a staunch supporter of our Institute which owes a lot to her. She received in 1998 the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. The citation which accompanied the award mentions her enthusiasm and sympathy, her commitment to the improvement of teaching and, most importantly, her commitment to the teaching of ancient languages at ANU.

With all good wishes,

[Signature]

AAIA NEWSLETTER

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ACTIVITIES IN GREECE
The Exhibitions of 1998

There was no lack of archaeological and other exhibitions in Greece during 1998; 1997, the year in which Thessalonike was the Cultural Capital of Europe, saw an exceptional number of such events (see the 1997 Newsletter), but the past twelve-month period still offered a lot to the museum-attending public. Unavoidably the exhibitions that I mention here reflect, to a great degree, my own archaeological interests; I do not refer to the great number of shows that fall more properly into the strictly "art show" category.

Two exhibitions must remain in the memories of most as the most important in 1998. The first was a major undertaking jointly organised by Greek and Spanish authorities, and held at the National Archaeological Museum here in Athens. The exhibition was entitled "The Greeks in Spain: in the footsteps of Herakles", and aimed to explore the history of ancient Greek settlement and involvement in areas now within the borders of Spain. The colony of Emporion (Empúries/Ampurias), which was established in the sixth century B.C. by Phokaians from the mainland coast opposite Chios, was the principal focus of the show. However, its wider interests included the interaction between the Greeks and the native populations, and between those two groups and the other major players in the Mediterranean in that period, the Phoenicians. Material remains (ranging from pottery and bronzes through to monumental Iberian sculpture) testifying to the interaction of cultures were exhibited. The exhibition, however, also aimed to reconstruct something of the psychological experience of those Greeks who helped establish the sea lanes to the Far West, and examined the role that Herakles served as their mythological predecessor whose "civilising" footsteps they could legitimately (in their minds) follow. This aspect definitely gave the exhibition an added edge. All who visited "The Greeks in Spain", I am sure, were very impressed with the scale of the exhibition and the work involved in staging it, and grateful that so much material from Spain, previously unseen in Greece, was on view.

The second "flagship" exhibition, "The Eastern Mediterranean. Cyprus-The Dodecanese-Crete. 16th. Century-6th. Century B.C." was held at the newly refurbished Archaeological Museum of Herakleion, Crete. The theme of this exhibition too was inextricably connected with the sea and the role it played in the lives of the ancient inhabitants of the Aegean and eastern Mediterranean. The links between the two great islands of Crete and Cyprus, and the cluster of the Dodecanese (Rhodes, Kos, etc.), were explored from the Bronze Age, through the Early Iron Age until the very dawn of the Classical period. The role of each of these regions as a bridge between other Greek lands and the Near East and Egypt was eloquently underlined by the display and the accompanying catalogue with its extensive and in depth text. The exhibition delivered well the message of the importance of the movement of peoples, ideas and objects throughout the eastern Mediterranean basin, and the interaction of various cultural spheres.

To return to Athens: the Iberian flavour of the "Greeks in Spain" was also present in the exhibition calendar of the Museum of Cycladic and Ancient Greek Art, which, in addition to its permanent collection, holds a number of temporary exhibitions every year. Specifically, a selection of "Iberian Antiquities from the Leon Levy and Shelby White Collection, New York" was displayed. This exhibition too exposed its visitors to an aspect of the ancient world which is not widely known in Greece. The same museum, in association with the Swedish Institute at Athens, held an exhibition entitled "Visitors from the North. Early Swedish Travelers to Greece", which consisted of drawings, sketches and paintings which revealed a Greece now practically lost. The material on display...
NEWS IN BRIEF

The Hostel and the Library

Guests have stayed in the hostel in 1998 from all over Australia and with rising costs of hotel accommodation in Athens our flat in Promachou Street is an increasingly attractive choice. In addition to Professor and Mrs. Ken Eltis mentioned in the Deputy Director's Report we welcomed in the course of the year many student members and more particularly persons that had received AAIA Scholarships like Mr. David Pritchard of Macquarie University, Mr. Gary Hockings of the University of Queensland, and Ms. Tara McElnohan of the University of New England.

The Library is slowly expanding and with a great deal of effort and time, the Deputy Director and the 1997-1998 fellow, Mr. Craig Barker, have made considerable progress in the cataloguing of the books.

In the wider Athens area one of the most important developments was the opening of newly arranged halls of the Archaeological Museum of the Peiraius. No longer is this far too often overlooked museum worth a visit for its magnificent bronze statues and the finds from the temple of Cybele alone, but one of the most impressive funerary monuments of classical Athens, that of Nikostratos, is now also accessible to the public in this museum.

For those with a special interest in the history and archaeology of Late Antiquity and the Byzantine period it is very pleasing to note that a major new section of the Museum of Byzantine Culture in Thessalonike was opened in July. The display, entitled “The Palaeochristian City and the Palaeochristian House”, like the other displays of this museum, succeeds in presenting vividly aspects of the life and times of Thessalonike and its people.

In the paragraphs above I have only touched upon some of the many exhibitions which were part of the 1998 museum calendar in Greece. As is clear, there is always a great deal to occupy the time of those who are interested in matters archaeological, historical, and art-historical, not only within the main population centres, but also throughout the country.
Deputy Director's Report
by Stavros Paspalas

This past year has been as busy as ever at the Athens office, with a steady stream of students and university lecturers coming through and keeping Australia’s profile as a country where Greek studies are eagerly and seriously pursued firmly entrenched.

As always, the office was able to assist visiting Australians with their research projects. It is pleasing to be in a position to report that the Institute’s reputation is such that our requests for permission to study material on behalf of Australian scholars are always taken seriously. The help and co-operation that we receive from the various departments of the Greek Ministry of Culture and the other foreign institutes always holds our Australian visitors in good stead.

I should like to start this brief report by highlighting one particular project this year which captured my imagination. The Pan-Arcadian Association of New South Wales offered a scholarship which enabled an Australian student to come to Greece with the express purpose of participating in an archaeological project undertaken in Arcadia. Applications were received from students of several universities, and the successful candidate was Ms. Tara McClernahan from the University of New England, Armidale. After negotiations by the office a position was secured for Tara on an archaeological survey of Arcadia organised under the auspices of the Norwegian Institute at Athens; we are very grateful to Professor Erik Østby, Director of the Norwegian Institute, and to Dr. Knut Odegard, Director of the Norwegian Arcadia Survey Project for their ready acceptance of an Australian student. The make-up of the team was international, and we believe that Tara benefited by her involvement in the survey. Mr. Kourtis, President of the Pan-Arcadian Association, and Mr. Paul Paraskevopoulos, secretary, must be congratulated for the support their association has extended to Greek archaeological studies. Their scholarship is a very important initiative.

The Institute was also in the happy position of being able to offer a fellowship for the European academic year of 1997-1998. The successful applicant was Mr. Craig Barker who is enrolled in a Ph.D. course at the University of Sydney. It was a pleasure to have Craig’s company in Athens for an extended period, and given the amount of time he spent in the formidably well-stocked archaeological libraries here, it is certain that he made most of the Fellowship.

The Institute participates fully in the academic programme, which is such an important factor in the Athenian archaeological and historical scene. In so doing it holds its position along with most of the other foreign institutes and locally-based organisations such as the Goulandris Museum of Cycladic and Ancient Greek Art, the Friends of the National Archaeological Museum and the Friends of the Numismatic Museum, just to name a few. Our seminars and lectures are always well attended, and through them the Institute provides an ideal forum where Australian researchers, and others, can report on their work. In 1998 seminars delivered under the auspices of the Institute included those by Dr. Dimitris Plantzos (then Curator of the Ilias Lalaounis Jewelry Museum, now Curator of the Cycladic Art Museum) on “Ptolemaic Seal-impressions; the Edfu Archive” and Professor Greg Stanton (University of New England, Armidale) on “The Informality of Athenian Democracy: Evidence on and Under the Ground”. This year also saw the first collaborative project between our Institute and the Swiss Archaeological Institute at Athens. In February Dr. Jacques Chamay, Director of the Archaeology Department of the Museum of Art and History at Geneva, delivered a lecture in our Institute’s library.

News in Brief

The Foundation for Classical Archaeology Promotions Committee
by Alexandra Macaulay (President)

Having recently been appointed as the President of the Promotion Committee for the Foundation for Classical Archaeology, I would like to thank Mrs Gail Comino, the outgoing President for her efforts and never-failing dedication to the Committee. Her leadership has set a fine example of successful fund-raising events over the years and the entire Committee is indebted to her.

The year ahead will be an exciting one with the highlight being the Nicholson Museum Concert, Friday, 29 September, 1999. We are expecting a large crowd to the Skampa Quartet from Czechoslovakia. Apart from the Nicholson Museum Concert the Committee will be holding a number of fund-raising events during the course of the year, including lunches with guest speakers and a dinner function.

The year ahead will prove to be a challenging one for me as the President, however, I am sure with the support of the Committee it will prove to be hugely successful. Thank you to all those who support the Foundation and the work of the Promotions Committee and may I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
NEWS IN BRIEF

Professor Michael Osborne: Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University. Corresponding Member of the Academy of Athens.

One of the greatest honours that can be bestowed on a scholar in Greece is to be made a Member of the Academy of Athens. Our Director, Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, is a Member. Those who are not Greek nationals cannot be Members, but can be made Corresponding Members. To be made a Corresponding Member is, therefore, a very special distinction. In February 1999 Professor Michael Osborne, Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University will fly to Athens to become a Corresponding Member. He will deliver a paper at the Academy on the topic of the "Voyaging Through Strange Seas of Thought: The Study of Athenian Inscriptions". We offer him our warmest congratulations.

Professor Osborne has had a distinguished career. After graduating from Oxford University with first class honours in Greats, he took a position as lecturer in Classics at the University of Bristol, UK. From there he moved to the University of Lancaster, UK, as lecturer, then senior lecturer, in Classics and Archaeology. During this period he completed his doctorate on the topic of Athenian Citizenship at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. In 1983 he came to Australia as Professor and Head of Classical Studies at the University of Melbourne. In addition in 1988/1989 he was Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President of the Academic Board of that University. In 1990 he took up his current position as Vice-Chancellor and President of La Trobe University. He is a Laureate of the Belgian Royal Academy of Sciences, Letters and Fine Arts, a Member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities and a member of its Council, and a Japan Foundation Fellow. In 1998 he was given the Aristotle Award for services to Hellenic Studies (an award of the Government of Greece). He has held or holds a number of important positions both within Australia and overseas.

He has been appointed as one of the six international representatives to work with entitled “Le Musée d’Art et d’Histoire de Genève, Departement d’archéologie: histoire et actualité”.

Many supporters and friends of the Institute passed through Athens; here I only have space to mention two such visits. Early in the year Professor Ken Eltis, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney and Mrs. Eltis spent some time in town and were able to meet at an informal reception the Australian students who were undertaking work here. Towards the end of the year we were happy to welcome two of our greatest — and hardworking— supporters, Mary and Milton Lalas. It was very rewarding to see them so pleased with the results of their efforts.

My report would not be complete without a brief mention of the Athens Friends. This year saw a change of guard at the helm, and while there was sorrow in saying "au revoir" (not goodbye) to the outgoing president, Bridget Coscoros, this was matched by our welcome to the new president, Maria Barbouttis and her new Council. The change-over period was smooth and the Friends continued their very good work. Since we are "on the spot" we can but take advantage of all that Athens and the surrounding regions have to offer, and with the active support and participation of the Friends we organised many excursions to sites of archaeological and historical interest. What better way is there to have an enjoyable day out in the Greek countryside?

The indebtedness of the Institute to the Athens’ Friends has been repeatedly expressed in previous Newsletters. This year they donated a photocopier to the Athens’ office. We are especially grateful for this support. Everybody who has worked in an office will certainly be aware of the importance of this new acquisition. We thank the Athens’ Friends for all their good efforts.

This past year also saw the arrival of a new Australian ambassador, Mr. Ross Burns. The enthusiasm shown by his predecessor Dr. Robert Merrillies for the activities of the Institute is evidently also shared by Mr. Burns. Not only did the Ambassador agree to be Patron of the Athens Friends, but he also regularly attends seminars and lectures held under the auspices of the Institute. The Institute is truly grateful both for the interest shown by Mr. Burns, and the support the Australian Embassy gives us in so many other ways.

The year has definitely been a busy one, but one in which the Institute through its varied activities made an imprint in Athens. We are here to help Australian researchers —academics and students— in all fields of Greek and Roman studies. In addition to the help that we can offer to those that make the journey over, we also are continually answering requests sent from home for help and information. The acquisition of e-mail has made this service all the more efficient.

The Institute belongs to an ever-growing group of foreign research "schools" established in Athens, and we interact with our fellow institutes on a daily basis. There is a developed network which Australians can now easily tap into. It is no small matter to report that an official delegation from Spain saw fit to include our Institute in its list of foundations to visit with the aim of planning the establishment of a Spanish Institute in Athens.
A Report from the 1997-8 AAIA Research Fellow by Craig Barker.

My tenure as the Research Fellow of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens began in October 1997. I lived in Athens, taking full advantage of the Institute’s Hostel and other facilities, until September 1998. The Fellowship offers a wonderful chance for a young Australian studying ancient Hellenic culture to participate fully in an exciting work environment, and to be stimulated by close contact with others working in the same or related fields.

I am currently working towards the completion of my PhD dissertation at the University of Sydney. My research involves the recording and publication of the Hellenic transport amphorae excavated at the site known as the ‘Tombs of the Kings’ at Paphos in Cyprus, with particular emphasis on the stamped handles of the amphorae made on the island of Rhodes. These stamps can be used to date the graves in which the pots were placed as well as to give indications of the volume and direction of wine trade in the Hellenic eastern Mediterranean. I spent 7 weeks in Paphos in early 1998 accessing the material stored in the Paphos Museum and participating in the University of Sydney’s Paphos Theatre Excavations directed by Professor J.R. Green.

Much of my research in Athens was based around the amphora stamp card-file catalogue collated by the late Virginia Grace and held in the Amphora Room of the American excavations at the Athenian Agora. Here I was able to compare my Cypriot material with that from numerous other sites around the Mediterranean and Black Seas. I was able to demonstrate that the Paphos material contained some stamps not previously known in other collections. I benefited greatly from discussions with numerous experts in the field of amphora studies and was informed of recent developments in the field.

I was able to participate in the academic and cultural activities offered by the various foreign schools and institutes in Athens, including lectures, seminars and field trips. The field trips organised by the Athens Friends of the AAIA were always a good day away from the books. I was able to make full use of the library facilities available at the various schools and was able to access many works relevant to my studies which are unavailable in Australia.

I delivered a paper as part of the Institute’s 1998 seminar series, in which I received invaluable feedback from the audience and was further able to develop some ideas pertaining to my research. During the period of my Fellowship I also took time to travel extensively in Greece, to visit sites and museums in order to gain a greater understanding of the topography of the country. A trip to Rhodes was particularly valuable for my studies. I also enrolled in a language course in Athens in order to improve my knowledge of modern Greek.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have held the Institute’s Fellowship and feel that my time in Athens has greatly benefited my research. I was able to intensify my pace of work and hope to submit my thesis in the not too distant future. It was a wonderful opportunity to have access to books, archaeological material and experts in various fields of classical studies. This is just not possible to do in Australia. I fully encourage other junior archaeologists to apply in the future, when the Institute’s Fellowship is next offered.

Professor Michael Osborne

Greek scholars on a new project to publish all the inscriptions of Athens, including some 5000 hitherto unpublished ones. Work has begun on this task, which is likely to take about 20 years. It will, among everything else, do much to provide a new history of the Hellenistic period in Athens, especially the Third Century BC. This is a period which has been largely ignored in favour of the better known earlier ones. It is the period in which Athens became a university town with schools of philosophy established after Aristotle, and a multicultural centre. Athens was wealthier then than in the Fifth Century BC. This is a period of special interest to Professor Osborne whose publications have all been concerned with Ancient Greek History, Epigraphy and Archaeology. His books have been: *Naturalisation in Athens* (4 volumes; Belgian Royal Academy - Brussels 1981-1983), *Lexicon of Greek Personal Names Volume II, Attica* (OUP 1994), *The Foreign Residents of Athens*, *Studia Hellenistica*, Volume 33 (Leuven 1995). Forthcoming is *The Inscriptions of Athens in the Hellenistic Period*. He has written chapters in many books and has published numerous articles, mostly on citizenship and epigraphy, on which he is a world authority. His election as a Corresponding Member of the Athens Academy no doubt recognises his very significant contribution to this area and to the establishment of the National Centre for Hellenic Studies and Research in Melbourne.
ACTIVITIES IN AUSTRALIA
The 1998 Visiting Professors

August and early September is the customary time for a visiting expert from the Northern Hemisphere to visit our shores as the guest of the AAIA. This year's visit was different, as it was made by a couple, Professor Sarah Morris and her husband, Dr. John Papadopoulos. It was also different, because we were welcoming home John, a graduate of Sydney University. This was the first time that a Visiting Professor was Australian born and bred. John is Associate Curator at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Sarah is no stranger to our shores, as she was married in Sydney. Sarah holds a Chair in the Department of Classics at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Other commitments forced them to compress their visit into four weeks. Apart from a brief respite at Uluru, their schedule was hectic. They visited and lectured in Sydney and Macquarie Universities, Brisbane, Newcastle, Armidale, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide, Perth and Melbourne.

In their five days in Melbourne they gave nine lectures or seminars. They visited Melbourne Grammar School, the University of Melbourne, Monash University, La Trobe University and the National Gallery of Victoria.

Dr. Papadopoulos gave lectures or seminars on the following topics:
- Arthur Evans, the Palace of Minos at Knossos and the Dawn of European Civilisation.
- Shameless Potters and Ravagers of Kilns: Athenian Pots and Topography.
- Virtual Reality and Classical Archaeology: The Forum of Trajan in Rome Revisited.

Professor Morris gave lectures or seminars on the following topics:
- From Ephesos to Athens: Cult Images of Artemis and Athena.
- Greek Towers and Their Functions: Ancient Rural Landscapes.

The lectures were well attended. The topics presented covered a wide range of interests and provided up-to-date views. John Papadopoulos' video presentation of the Forum of Trajan was at the cutting edge of technology.

Mr Sidney Londish and the AAIA Visiting Professorship

The Institute is deeply grateful to Mr. Sidney Londish who has sponsored the Visiting Professorship since 1987.

(Right:) Mr Sidney Londish
The Institutional and Corporate Members of the AAIA

Institutional Members

The University of Queensland
(The Department of Classics and Ancient History)

The University of Newcastle
(Department of Classics)

The University of New England, Armidale
(School of Classics and History)

The University of Sydney

Macquarie University, Sydney
(School of History Philosophy and Politics)

The Powerhouse Museum, Sydney

Sydney Grammar School

Newington College, Sydney

The Australian National University, Canberra
(Department of Classics),

Monash University, Melbourne
(Department of Classics and Archaeology)

La Trobe University, Melbourne
(The Department of Archaeology, The National Centre for Hellenic Studies and Research)

Melbourne Grammar School

The Hellenic Antiquities Museum, Melbourne

The Classical Association of Victoria, Melbourne

The University of Tasmania
(Department of Classics)

The University of Adelaide
(The Department of Classics)

The University of Western Australia
(Department of Classics and Ancient History)

Corporate Members

The Australian-Hellenic Educational Progressive Association of NSW (AHEPA)

The Glendi Greek Festival, Adelaide

The Greek-Australian Professional Association, Sydney

The Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia Incorporated, Adelaide

The Pan-Arcadian Association of New South Wales, Sydney

The University of Sydney Greek Society

Significant Financial Contributions

Significant donations to the AAIA were received from Mr Sidney Londish, the Sydney Friends of the AAIA and the Thyne-Reid Trust. Various major financial contributions were also made anonymously.

Newington College, Sydney

Founded in 1863, Newington College is one of Sydney’s leading boys’ schools, with a long tradition of interest in the Classics and Ancient History and is pleased to support the work of the AAIA.

The school has 1650 students on three campuses, two of them (“Wyvern House”, a Preparatory School, and the “Main School”) on neighbouring sites in Sydney’s inner-west, in Stanmore, and a smaller “Prep School” on the North Shore at Lindfield. Stanmore is only 3km from the University of Sydney and 6km from the CBD of Sydney. Its gracious sandstone Founders Wing (by Thomas Rowe) and the spacious grounds have long been attractive landmarks in this very busy part of the City.

Latin is taught to the Higher School Certificate students and Ancient History in Years 11 and 12. While the formal study of Greek ceased in the 1970s, small groups of students learning Greek meet off-timetable to continue this tradition. The Headmaster, Mr Michael Smee, is an Honours graduate of the University of Sydney in Greek with a M.A. degree in the same subject from the University of Adelaide. In 1965 he studied at the British School at Athens and is a keen supporter of the planned Classics Tour by the School in 2000.

Newington is a school of the Uniting Church and enjoys a high reputation in the academic, community and sporting areas.
The Excavations at Paphos in Cyprus
by Professor J.R. Green.

A team from the University of Sydney has now enjoyed four seasons of excavation at the site of the ancient theatre in Paphos, on the western coast of Cyprus. The city was an important one in Antiquity. Although it is said to have been founded in a formal sense by the last great king of the island, Nikokles, in the later years of the fourth century BC, there is good evidence of earlier activity over much of the area of the town, not least in the form of the imported Athenian pottery of the fifth and early fourth centuries BC. Soon after its "foundation", the city was taken over by the Ptolemies of Alexandria and made the capital of the island; it remained as such until well into the Roman period. Paphos had a good harbour and seems to have served as a major staging point for traffic heading from Rhodes and the rest of Greece towards the Levant and Egypt, as well as for the return of exotic materials back towards the old country. It was also supported by a fertile plain, which was to grow sugar in the Middle Ages and which, more recently has produced citrus fruit and bananas.

The excavation has become a major training ground for students. Many undergraduates are suspending their studies for a semester in order to join the project, and there are now three postgraduate students doing research on material from the excavations, and more will be involved soon. We are also joined each year by 'contributing volunteers', members of the public who contribute to the costs of the expedition and come to join the team for limited periods. They have been a great success.

At the same time we have been asked by the Director of Antiquities of Cyprus to publish the finds from the so-called "Tombs of the Kings", the major Hellenistic and Early Roman cemetery on the coast, just to the north of the city. It seems to have been the burial ground for people of standing in the community and particularly for officials representing the authority of the Ptolemies (even a pair of sculptures of the Ptolemaic eagle was found in one tomb.) "The Tombs of the Kings" are large rock-cut tombs, often with courtyards, of a style that copies the houses of the living, and contain multiple burials in the ground or in loculi round the sides. The material found in them is important both of itself and because the burials, in a habit typical of Paphos, regularly contained a pair of Rhodian amphorae. These are datable through the stamps giving the names of manufacturers and of the ruling magistrates, and as a result, it should be possible to supply a much-needed chronology for pottery and other materials of this period in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Mr. Craig Barker, who is making a special study of these amphorae, was the 1997/1998 Fellow of the Institute in Athens. His report appears elsewhere in this issue.

A good part of our efforts so far has been devoted to establishing the size and...
orientation of the theatre. We have done this by placing a series of trenches in strategic positions as well as a long deep one (it reached a depth of some 5m) running down the full stretch of the seating to the orchestra (Figure 1). The work is difficult: we have not been able to employ workmen, and there are often heavy stones to move as well as a vast quantity of earth.

It is now evident that the theatre faced SSW, across the ancient city in the direction of the harbour, a view often favoured in the ancient world: compare the theatre at Ephesos or, for that matter, the Theatre of Dionysos at Athens, which looks down towards Phaleron. Although we have not yet been able to define the exact limits of the seating (both the relevant corners lie under modern roads), the theatre was a fairly large one, holding something of the order of 7,500 to 8,000 people. This could imply that the population of Paphos at this period was of the order of 80,000 - 100,000.

The shape of the cavea or seating area of the theatre proved to be a surprise. It is semicircular rather than of the normal horseshoe shape familiar from Greece proper. The semicircular style of the cavea is better known from Roman theatres and their immediate antecedents in Italy, and this new evidence raises some important questions about the accepted history of ancient theatre architecture. In view of the history and political links of Paphos, the obvious place to look for an answer is Alexandria, a city which, significantly enough, came to have a huge influence on Rome. The theatre of Alexandria is not preserved, but it seems that our theatre may provide some important clues about what it may have looked like. Given the nature of the terrain in the Nile delta, it is more than likely that that theatre was built up artificially rather than built into a hill, as was the normal Greek fashion. The same is true of much of the Paphos theatre where only the central part of the seating is cut into the hill: the other two thirds were built up by an earthen embankment. The architectural details of the stage building, as so far discovered, also have a distinctly Alexandrian style. There seems to be every chance that our excavations are providing a vital link in the evolution of theatre architecture.

There seem to have been at least two major phases of reconstruction. One followed the collapse of part of the earthen embankment for the seating on the western side, perhaps following an earthquake (see the additional [left] wall in Figure 2). It may have taken place under Augustus. Another involved the cementing of the floor of the orchestra and the insertion of a retaining wall to hold water for the kind of water spectacles that were so popular in theatres under the Empire. The floor of the orchestra was paved with tiles of imported coloured marble. This may or may not have coincided with a major refurbishment in marble which probably took place under Hadrian and which left traces of fine architectural details.

There is still a great deal of work to be done, both by way of general clearance and on the stage building. This last has only been cleared down to the Late Roman level. It will be the focus of our efforts in 1999.

Figure 2.

NEWS IN BRIEF
Lady George, A.M.

It is with great pleasure that we report on the award of Membership of the Order of Australia (AM) to Lady George in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Lady George has been a member of the Promotion Committee of the Association for Classical Archaeology (now the Foundation for Classical Archaeology) and of the Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens since their inception.

Jointly with her husband, Sir Arthur George, she endowed the Chair of Classical Archaeology in the University of Sydney. The Arthur and Renee George Foundation within the University has assisted students by providing interest-free loans to them.

The award also recognises her considerable contribution to the Red Cross since the early 1940s. For the past 10 years Lady George has been President of the Red Cross Red Ribbon Committee, one of the largest fundraising committees for the Red Cross in Australia.
The Work of the Australian Team at Jebel Khalid in Syria.
by Professor Graeme Clarke

For over a decade an Australian team has been working in North Syria on the West bank of the Euphrates, about 60km south of the Turkish border. Jebel Khalid is a remarkable site - a large outcrop of limestone on the river bank extending for about one and a half kilometres and covering overall an area of about fifty hectares. Here a Greek settlement was laid out on an Hippodamian grid (it was a virgin site) in the immediate post- Alexander period (the earliest coins are of the first Seleucid king and posthumous issues of Alexander). It was occupied for the whole period of the Seleucid dynasty and was then systematically abandoned about the middle of the first century BC (with some subsequent secondary occupation). Its apparent function was to guard the river-crossing point, control river traffic and provide a stopping and trading point (there are river quays and a river gate) for the great highway of the Euphrates down to and out into the Persian Gulf. In other words it is a clone, in its Greek phase, of the more celebrated Dura-Europos further downstream.

In 1986 and 1987 work was concentrated on a survey of the site and a series of sondages to determine the nature and period of occupation. The survey revealed that

Excavation of the Acropolis building at Jebel Khalid

The Main door of House A in the housing insula

The Stoa of Attalos

there were nearly four kilometres of city-walling with thirty defence towers and bastions: one massive horse-shoe shaped tower (17m x 15m) was excavated as a sample. The construction date pointed to early third century BC. The sondages revealed Hellenistic period occupation, with no earlier occupation levels.

Since 1988 excavation has concentrated on four areas:

(1) Over 1988-1991 the Main Gates were uncovered, consisting of two monumental forward-projecting towers, each c. 17m square, and a double-entry gateway (one for wheeled vehicles, one for foot and donkey traffic) with the original paved roadway still in situ. The exterior of the gateway and the towers was revetted with fine limestone

(2) Over 1989-1991 the housing insula was excavated, consisting of nearly four hectares of domestic architecture. There were nearly 120 houses, mostly restored. Many were decorated in Attic red-figure, and the other was decorated in Attic black-figure, with workshops nearby.

(3) Over 1989-1991 the Stoa of Attalos on the north side of the Acropolis was excavated. This was one of the best preserved of the city's public buildings, with fine stoa and temple at the north end and fine mosaic pavement in situ.

(4) Over 1990-1991 the Acropolis building was excavated. This was one of the best preserved of the city's temples, with a fine colonnaded cella and fine mosaic pavement in situ.
(2) The domestic quarter. Here a short stoa has been excavated, a series of work-rooms/shops with a colonnade, and, as a sample of the housing, an attempt has been made to excavate all the houses within an *insula*, a block surrounded by four streets. This has produced a wealth of material providing an insight into the living conditions, diet, domestic arrangements, economic contacts etc. of the inhabitants. It is in this area that the secondary occupation is most evident - but in material culture it is still to be classified as late Hellenistic.

(3) There is a separate walled acropolis and there excavation (1988-1996) has seen completed the uncovering of a major Hellenistic building, in all likelihood the governor’s administrative headquarters, consisting of a central Doric-order courtyard (decastyle - 36 columns in total) with four wings and some twenty rooms in total, the major ones being originally decorated in elaborate *trompe l’oeil* marbled panels of plaster. These rooms had kitchens and store-rooms adjoining - where, in Macedonian fashion, the *strategos* could entertain his troops. A bathroom (with lime-mortar flooring still intact) and an adjoining toilet (flushed out by water flowing from the bathroom) were among its amenities, as well as a walled courtyard with a drum-altar, still on its plinth *in situ*, for religious rites.

(4) Excavation of the Cemetery. In order to gain an idea of the size and nature of the population, its health and mortuary practices, a sample of some fifty graves from one of the burial areas associated with the site has been examined along with their grave goods. A temporary halt has been called to this excavation programme whilst the results of this work are written up for publication, but it is hoped in 2000 to recommence digging concentrating on the public building area (as yet untouched), the elite graves (along the river frontage) and the completion of the *insula* of domestic houses. We should then be in the position to form a picture of what life might have been like for a Greek settler coming in the wake of the conquest of Alexander the Great and creating a new life in a distant land on the banks of the Euphrates. It is a rare opportunity.

**Context Pottery**

to travel to Athens in order to study the unpublished context pottery and records of the American Agora Excavations, which is the organisation that brought to light a number of classical houses. The Athens based deputy director of the AAIA, Dr. Stavros Paspalas, played a vital role in negotiating my access to this material, and conveniently for me the Institute’s Hostel is only a short stroll to the Stoa of Attalos where this unpublished pottery is stored.

I decided to spend most of my limited time in the American workrooms poring over the dig notebooks and context pottery of the so called “House of Mikion and Menon”, which was constructed in the second quarter of the fifth century and destroyed by fire in the closing years of the next century. The reason for this was that while Professor Leslie Shear’s published report in *Hesperia* 1969 did not comment on the ceramic material, it went a long way to establishing the functions of this building and the status of its fourth century residents. Small finds showed that it housed a family in the fourth century, and the detritus of marble working above every one of its floors suggested that its inhabitants were connected with the trades and consequently in no way members of the city’s leisured upper class.

My analysis of the context pottery from the fifth century floor levels of this building happened to yield up important results. The presence of small finds of a domestic character, like loom weights, indicated that this structure had indeed functioned as a house right from the moment of its construction in the early fifth century. More significantly still, the context pottery of this early period contained eight red figure sherds and another eight of black figure pottery. These numerous unpublished pieces, in combination with the few finely painted examples published by Shear, formed a critical body of evidence for pottery use in classical
news from the friends

the athens friends
(letter from the president, ms maria barboutitis)

we as friends of the aaia are very fortunate to be based in the centre of the archaeological world, as it gives us the opportunity to visit and explore many known and lesser known sites. in 1998 the deputy director of the institute, dr stavros paspalas, has guided us on the following successful day trips:

- the sanctuary of artemis at brauron;
- the bronze age settlement site and hellenistic-period fortress at asine;
- the antiquities of voula, vouliagmeni and glyphada.

we are also very grateful to dr. ann louise schallin, deputy director of the swedish institute at athens, who kindly guided a group of friends over the mycenaean citadel of midea.

mrs. alice paterakis, the director of conservation of the athenian agora excavations (american school of classical studies at athens), delivered a lecture, under the auspices of the friends, on the conservation of buildings and small objects at the ancient civic centre of athens.

in june we held a twofold reception:

- to welcome the new australian ambassador, his excellency mr. ross burns as our patron (who is also an archaeology buff) and
- to farewell our outgoing president mrs. bridget coscoros, whom we warmly thank for her wonderful work during her time on the committee as well as her continued support.

our main event of the year was, as has become traditional, the reception which followed the annual report on the institute activities delivered by professor alexander cambitoglou. i am also happy to be able to report that through our fund raising efforts we were able to donate a photocopier to the athens office, an item of equipment which, i am told, was sorely needed for a long time.

our christmas dinner was held on december 9 at "seventeen", a well known restaurant in the centre of athens.

let us hope that our future functions will be as successful, informative and pleasing as those held in the past. we await an even more successful new year.

the sydney friends.
(letter from the president, mr angelo hatsatoris)

we started the year with a book launch in february of volume 2 of australians and greeks - the middle years by mr hugh gilchrist. the book was launched by the honourable philip ruddock, minister for immigration and multicultural affairs, at the university of sydney. we have available both volumes 1 & 2 for purchase.

on july 15th at the australian museum, in conjunction with the newly formed society of the friends of the nicholson museum, we hosted a cocktail party and private viewing of the "life and death under the pharaohs" exhibition. whilst this function only returned a modest profit, it was a valuable public relations exercise for all concerned.

a sum of $30,000 was contributed towards the transfer costs to the institute of a property in greece.

other functions included a taverna night at the castellorizian club, sydney, at which professor geoffrey sherrington, professor of education at the university of sydney, spoke about the greek influence within that university.

we continue to make every effort to widen our membership base and support, particularly among the younger members of the community.

news in brief

australians and greeks: volume ii: the middle years.
by hugh gilchrist.
published by halstead press @ $53.95.

the second volume of hugh gilchrist's award-winning work was launched this year. the book covers the tumultuous years from 1914, the outbreak of world war i, to 1939, the outbreak of world war ii. it observes two closely linked peoples during that period. the inside of the dust-cover summarises the volume as follows:-

"parents and grandparents of many of today's greek australians settled in their new country in this period and many greeks went to war in australian uniform. it was a time when some australians vented their hostility in anti-greek riots, while others devoted their lives to helping and understanding greece and its people."

"australians at war in macedonia and the aegean contributed bravely to the allied cause in little-known campaigns which..."
The South Australian Friends
(Letter from Mr Nicholas Galatis)

We welcome the formation of the South Australian Friends' Society. The initial interest in forming a group of "Friends" came from Mr Nicholas Galatis, the Convener of the Cultural Committee of the Glendi Greek Festival of South Australia. He had learnt of the AAIA through reading a newsletter in the Classics Department at the University of Adelaide. He enlisted the help of Ms Anastasia Potiris and Mr Spiros Sarris and they arranged a public lecture by the 1997 Visiting Professor, Professor Hermann Kienast, in September 1997. There was a good, enthusiastic audience for his lecture on 'The Neo-classical Architecture of Athens and its Prototypes'. Professor Cambitoglou attended the lecture and spoke himself on the AAIA and its aims.

From those who attended the lecture a provisional committee was formed. The members of the committee are: John and Patricia LeComu, Margaret Platten, Dr Paul Tuffin (University of Adelaide), Danny Warren, Anastasia Potiris, Spiros Sarris and Nicholas Galatis. A mailout in May 1998 invited interested persons to subscribe as members of the society. There was a successful response. In August the 1998 Visiting Professors of the AAIA attended a meeting and Dr John Papadopoulos gave a public lecture on 'Arthur Evans and the Palace of Minos at Knossos'.

In September the inaugural Members Dinner was held. Dr Margaret O'Hea attended as a representative of the University of Adelaide and Professor Cambitoglou delivered an after-dinner speech on the history and aims of the AAIA.

A constitution has been drawn up. Once it is adopted, office bearers will be elected to replace the provisional committee.
(Letter from the Secretary, Mr Saul Bastomsky)

It is with a heavy heart that the Monash Friends announce their dissolution in the eleventh year of what was a successful existence. The Monash Friends can no longer carry on with the closing of Classics at Monash and the Vice-Chancellor's unwillingness to contribute the University's institutional membership of the AAIA. There is the possibility that an arrangement can be made ensuring that those who have been members of the Monash Friends will continue to enjoy an association with the AAIA through Melbourne University.

The last year was an active one with two lectures for students and four public lectures. The year began with a lecture on 'The Greek Temples in Sicily' by Peter Mountford. The lecture was illustrated with slides taken during his recent visits to Sicily. On May 21st Saul Bastomsky spoke to an enthusiastic audience on 'Masada: Truth or Myth?' This too was illustrated with slides of the site. Mr Bastomsky's lecture was followed by the launch on July 15th of Hugh Gilchrist's book, *Australians and Greeks Volume II - the Middle Years*. The book was launched by the Hon. Phil Honeywood MLA, Minister for Tertiary Education and Training and Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs. While the attendance at the launch was disappointing, a fair number of volumes were sold and the President of the Monash Friends, Mr Demosthenes Konidaris, is attempting to sell more through the Greek Parishes. The Monash Friends receive a proportion of the revenue generated by this.

On July 30th Dr Jenny Webb of La Trobe University addressed the Friends on 'Power and Propaganda in Ancient Cyprus: the Imagery of Cylinder Seals'.

On September 1st Professor Sarah Morris spoke to the Friends on 'Isaac and Iphigenia: Human Sacrifice in the Near East and Greece'. Professor Morris' energy and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated by the audience. Equally inspiring was Dr John Papadopoulos the next day when he spoke to students at Monash on 'Shameless Potters and Ravagers of Kilns' in the morning and to another group on 'Virtual Reality and Classical Archaeology' in the afternoon. I have rarely seen classes so spellbound!

The recipient of the Monash Friends' scholarship, Ms Lucy Lancellotti, continues her studies abroad in Crete - tangible proof of the benefit to students of the Friends' existence.

That the Monash Friends managed to endure in what can only be described as a hostile environment is in no small measure due to the magnificent efforts of its founder, Alan Henry, and its most stalwart supporters, Peter Mountford and Demos Konidaris, the President of the Association.

The ANU (Canberra) Friends
(A letter from the Secretary, Dr Elizabeth Minchin)

In the past twelve months the ANU Canberra Friends have hosted a lecture by Mr Andrew Viduka, who had won the Friends' 1997 scholarship for travel to Athens. Mr Viduka, who completed his degree last year in Materials Conservation at the University of Canberra, worked at the conservation laboratories associated with the Agora in Athens and spent some time on Cyprus as conservator with an excavation team headed by Dr Sturt Manning, an ANU Classics graduate. Mr Viduka gave a splendid lecture on "Conservation and the Conservator's Role in Archaeology" to a large audience. The committee was delighted with the response to the lecture.

In May, Professor Elizabeth Wayland Barber, Professor of Linguistics and Archaeology at Occidental College, Los Angeles, gave a public lecture with the title "The World’s Oldest Textiles: Women, Cloth and Society in Early Times". This lecture attracted a very large audience of members and of interested members of the public.
July, the annual Dinner was held at the Aegean Kafe-Taverna in Braddon, with over 40 members and guests.

The all too brief visit of Professor Sarah Morris and Dr. John Papadopoulos in August was very successful. Professor Morris' seminar, “Greek Towers and their Functions: Ancient Rural Landscapes”, was very well received and stimulated much discussion, as did her public lecture, “Isaac and Iphigenia: Human Sacrifice in the Near East and Greece”.

The committee of the Canberra Friends has advertised its biennial scholarship to Greece for 1999. Applications closed on 30 September 1998. A winner is due to be announced.

Finally, the committee thanks the Ambassador of Greece for a donation of $400 to the funds of the Canberra Friends.

Western Australian Friends
(Letter from Associate Professor John Melville-Jones)

In February the WA Friends arranged the launching of the second volume of the book Australians and Greeks by Hugh Gilchrist. The guest speaker was a former Lord Mayor of Perth, Mr. Mick Michael.

On Greek Independence Day the Consul General of Greece in Western Australia, Mr. Theodore Tsakiris, invited members of the Friends to attend a reception and barbecue held in the main courtyard of The University of Notre Dame Australia. The setting of this new university in a refurbished city block of old Fremantle made an excellent venue. On this occasion the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Peter Tannock, announced the establishment of a new course in Hellenic Studies at the university.

In July Dr. Norman Ashton gave a public lecture on ancient Greek wine-making which was attended by a very large audience. The lecture included a tasting of several contemporary Greek wines.

In August the 1998 Visiting Professors of the AAIA, Professor Sarah Morris and Dr. John Papadopoulos, visited Perth, and gave lectures on the sacrifice of Iphigeneia and the excavations of Sir Arthur Evans at Knossos.

In September the Annual General Meeting was held, following a dinner at “The Greek Taverna” in Northbridge, Perth.

In October Professor Stan Kailis gave a public lecture on the topic of the olive in the ancient world and today, which was followed by a tasting of olives and oil, accompanied by cheese and wine.

In November Professor J.R. Green of Sydney University lectured on the topic “The Greek Body Beautiful - Phalloi, Fatness and Fun”.

The Queensland Friends
(Letter from Professor R. D. Milns)

This has been another successful year for the Queensland Friends, with membership staying around the 200 mark and some well attended and profitable - and, of course, enjoyable - fund-raising functions. The Annual General Meeting was our first function of the year, held on the auspicious Friday, 13th March. We were all delighted that our President, Dr. Nick Girdis, was once again re-elected unopposed and equally delighted that there was the same outcome for our Vice-President, Ms. Pat McNamara; Secretary, Ms Mila Zincone and Treasurer, Ms June Phillips. The A.G.M. was followed by a pleasant dinner and showing by the President of slides of his recent sailing holiday in the Aegean. On Sunday, April 26th, our function consisted of a screening of the video on Greek Philosophy and Greek Thought presented by Professor Eugene Weber of U.C.L.A. The video was followed by readings from the Greek philosophers presented by Mrs. Jacqueline Noyes and Professor Robert Milns.
NEWS IN BRIEF
Pan-Arcadian Scholarship Report
by Tara McClennah

As the recipient of the inaugural Pan-Arcadian Association of NSW Scholarship in 1998, I was fortunate enough to participate in the Archaeological Survey Project at Tegea for two weeks in July of this year. I am particularly grateful both to the Pan-Arcadian Association for providing the scholarship, and to the Norwegian Institute for finding room for one more on their team.

As the project was somewhat preliminary this year, methodology was discussed and equipment tested. It was great to be part of such a cohesive, friendly and open-minded team by which a considerable amount was achieved in such a short time. The interdisciplinary nature of the team made for interesting discussions, involving different perspectives from archaeological, historical and botanical points of view. It is hoped that the project will run for approximately three full seasons starting in 1999.

The project was essentially made up of two teams, a survey team and a botanical team, both of which would be in the field by 7am each morning. As part of the survey team, we had a cleverly constructed laptop and GPS in the field with us, to record our finds as we walked each field. Both teams would work through until 1pm, with a brief break for morning tea around 10am. The lunch break would involve some discussions as well as a meal, and would be followed by another two hours of free time—most often used for sleeping!—before we would reconvene in the afternoon to sort and clean the day’s finds and discuss the progress of the survey. The botanists would have taken core samples during the morning and would sort and bag their material in the afternoon.

The weekend in the middle of the project was put to good use, as we travelled about the region inspecting the city walls at Mantinea and the theatre at Megalopolis. Time was also taken during the two weeks to have a look at the temple of Athena Alea at Tegea and some of the finds from the excavations there.

I thoroughly enjoyed the two weeks I spent as part of the Tegean survey team for 1998 and would very much like to thank the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens for facilitating such a great opportunity.

In August we all enjoyed the very successful visit of the 1998 A.A.I.A. Visiting Professors, Sarah Morris and John Papadopoulos. For several of us, who have known Sarah and John for many years, it was also a most pleasant reunion.

Friday, September 18th, saw us engaging in what looks like becoming a regular biennial event, the “Mainly Classical Trivia and Quiz Night”. This clash of intellectual Titans, formed into teams of six, whose wits were sharpened by a steady supply of food and good Greek wine, was an evening of good fun and friendly competition. Scott McPherson, a former member of the Torone team and one of the quiz-masters, sent down some particularly curly questions, while Pat McNamara hosted and umpired the contest with unflagging good humour and impartiality.

On Sunday, November 8th, there took place the fifth of what has now become an annual event known popularly as “The Jacquie and Bob Show”, but more formally as “A Dramatic Presentation by Mrs. Jacqueline Noyes and Professor Bob Milns”. This year the intrepid Thespians had chosen as their theme “Seduction, Abduction and Marriage in the Ancient World” and for about an hour and a half entertained a packed lecture theatre with a mixture of readings, slides and music. The drama was followed by the usual delicious lunch prepared and provided by the members of the Committee.

Our final function of the year was our Christmas Party, held on Friday, 11th December, at Emmanuel College.

The Friends exist to support the A.A.I.A., but they have also supported the Department of Classics and Ancient History in several ways. In particular, for the last three years they have offered a Bursary of $1,000 to a student of the Department. This year the Bursary was awarded to an Honours student, Rob Wood, and an M.A. student, Gary Hockings, to help them buy some of the very expensive books needed for their work.

The Queensland Friends of the A.A.I.A. publish on average three times a year a very entertaining and informative Newsletter, ably compiled and edited by our Secretary, Mila Zincone. A copy of the most recent Newsletter can be obtained by writing to Ms. Zincone, c/- The Department of Classics and Ancient History, The University of Queensland.

The Tasmanian Friends
(Letter from the President, Mr Peter Kreet)

1998 saw the Tasmanian Friends once again involved with the Estia Festival which is held annually in Hobart during the month of March. In conjunction with the Greek Community, the Friends co-hosted Mr Con Allimos from La Trobe University, who presented a public lecture entitled “The Greek War of Independence and its Outcomes” which was very well received. The Acting Curator, Dr Paul Gallivan, arranged to have the John Elliott Classics Museum opened to the public on the Sunday.

The Friends also manned our Information Booth which featured colourful posters of the main sites in Greece, photographs and maps of the Dig at Torone, a slide show, pamphlets and Newsletters about the Institute, as well as answering many questions put to us by the public.

We were very sorry to lose our Vice-President, Dr Ian Worthington, at the end of June. Dr Worthington left Australia to take up a position at the University of Missouri, Columbia, USA. He was an enthusiastic member of our Committee and will be much missed.

Our Guest Speakers for this year were Professor Sarah Morris and Dr John Papadopoulos and we were delighted to see them back in Hobart. Unfortunately they were here for only one day. In the afternoon Dr Papadopoulos conducted a Seminar entitled “Virtual Reality and Classical Archaeology: The Forum of Trajan Revisited” using computer graphics, which everyone found fascinating, and in the evening Professor Morris delivered a most interesting public lecture entitled “Isaac and Iphigenia: Human
Sacrifice in the Near East and Greece”. After the lecture the Friends took John and Sarah to a late supper at a Hobart hotel.

Our Scholarship winner for 1998, Mr Anthony Miller, has recently returned from his trip to Greece and Southern Italy, where he has been researching for his Postgraduate degree. Mr Miller gave a talk on his work to members and fellow students entitled “Beyond the Gates of Scylla and Charybdis: The Euboean Greeks in Southern Italy”.

On 16 October the second volume of Hugh Gilchrist’s book Australians and Greeks was launched at the Greek Club in Hobart. This function had been organized by the Friends together with the Greek Community and was very successful. The honours were carried out by the Greek Consul in Hobart, Dr Alexis Pittas.

Further activities included a visit to Hobart by our Director, Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, who on 21 September gave a lecture on mythological subjects illustrated on Greek South Italian vases.

The Classical Association of Victoria.

The Classical Association of Victoria became a member of the AAIA this year. The Association was founded in the early years of the Classical Association. It and the other three lectures were well attended and enthusiastically received. At a time when the Classics are under such threat, it is very gratifying to see attendance improving.

The Association’s journal Iris, which had fallen behind following the tragic death of its editor, Peter Connor, will have caught up by the end of this year. The 1997 volume, which is a commemorative number in honour of Peter Connor, appeared in July. It is expected that the 1998 volume will appear in December this year. For this we are much indebted to the editor, John Penwill.

Note from Mr Milton Lalas

The Pan-Arcadian Association is funding a scholarship for Australian students to participate in archaeological research carried out in Arcadia.

Mr Paul Paraskievopoulos, who is the honorary Secretary of the Association is one of the major donors of the scholarship and has secured many other donations. He is supported by Mr Peter Souleles, the Association’s past President and Mr Con Vassiniotis, the past Secretary.

The New Patron of the Athens Friends of the Institute

Following Dr Merrilies’ departure, the new Australian Ambassador in Athens, Mr Ross Burns (photograph on p.6) has accepted to be patron of the Athens Friends.

Mr Burns, who has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Sydney, has studied Archaeology and History and is already an active supporter of the AAIA’s work in Greece. Mr Burns is a very distinguished diplomat as well as an historian.

His diplomatic career started in 1966 when he joined what was then called the “Department of External Affairs”. Since then he has held positions in various capitals including Lagos, Cairo, London and Bangkok. From 1984 to 1987 he was Ambassador to Syria and Lebanon and from 1988 to 1991 he served in Canberra as Assistant Secretary of the South Asian, African and Middle East Branch. More recently Mr Burns served as Australian Ambassador to South Africa, as Assistant Secretary of the Parliamentary and Media Branch as well as Assistant Secretary of the European Union and European Institution Branch of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Mr Burns is well known for his book, Monuments of Syria, which surveys the history of Syria including 130 historical and archaeological sites. He is trying to finalise changes for a second paperback edition of the work which has also just been translated and released in French. He is currently working on a history of Damascus, a goal that his other duties currently makes rather elusive.
One of the most significant events to take place in Melbourne in 1998 was the opening of the new Immigration Museum, and the Museum of Hellenic Antiquities. This is one of the many initiatives of Victoria's Premier, The Hon. Jeff Kennett. The Museum of Hellenic Antiquities was opened on Monday 9th November and the Immigration Museum on Thursday 12th November.

The new museums are housed in the elegant Old Customs House on the corner of Flinders St and William St in the central area of Melbourne. The building is one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture in Melbourne. On the other side of Flinders St lies the Yarra River, which explains the position of the Customs House and reminds us of the importance of the river in the early settlement of the city. The building has been wonderfully restored so that it is not only a perfect space for two separate museums, but also a visible reminder of the city's past. Renovation of the building has led to some pleasant surprises. The ground floor has been taken back to its original vaults. Much of this space will be used by the Cafe/Restaurant. This leads to a beautiful outdoor courtyard with the capacity to seat 250 people, which will make it an ideal concert or function venue. On the floor of the ground floor a line of lights traces the foundations of the original 1841 building.

One modern addition is the secure entrance bay for transport which delivers exhibitions. Alongside this are unpacking areas with easy access to the exhibition areas.

The grand staircase leads to the first floor which has been restored to its original grandeur. It includes the famous Long Room. This space is on two levels and includes 16 beautiful Ionic columns. It is here that one of the most satisfying surprises of the restoration is to be found. While workmen were preparing for the laying of a new slab, they discovered tiles from the original floor. Minton and Co in Staffordshire, England were able to find the original order. They have made replicas of the tiles. These look superb in situ and complete an authentic restoration. In the centre a boat has been constructed to illustrate the early migrant experience.

Of the second floor very little is left of the original building except the generous corridors with their vistas through the building to the city beyond. It is mainly modern and, therefore, very suitable for exhibitions. The East Wing Gallery will be available for a range of events and activities while not being

Victoria's Immigration Museum and Museum of Hellenic Antiquities
by Peter Mountford
used for exhibition space.

Apart from the courtyard, the building has a small theatre with a seating capacity of 120, which is suitable for a wide range of functions. There is also a smaller Education Centre, which is suitable for groups of up to 40 students.

The Director of the new museum is Ms Anna Malgorzewicz. Responsibility for “The Aidonia Treasure” exhibition lies with Ms Judith Penrose.

The Immigration Museum (to quote the museum’s information sheet) ‘will explore every dimension of leaving one place to settle in another. Visitors will be taken on a journey, where they will discover stories about the dreams, aspirations, achievements and disappointments of the people who have settled in Victoria since the early 1800s. It will provide insights into the impact of immigration on the Aboriginal communities living in the area. As there is an immigration experience in the life or family history of all non-indigenous Australians, it will, through themes of leavings, journeys, arrivals, settings, impacts and reunions, engage visitors in an emotional, intellectual and physical journey, providing opportunities for discovery and research.’

The second floor houses the Hellenic Antiquities Museum which will be bringing the treasures of Greece to Victoria. For this unique agreement between the Government of Greece and the Victorian Government tribute should be paid to the Premier, Mr Kennett. The agreement is a result of hard work and vision, especially during visits to Greece. It means that each year the Government of Greece will send a different exhibition to Victoria. The first exhibition, “The Aidonia Treasure”, reflects the high regard in which the Government of Greece holds the Premier and the people of Victoria. The Aidonia Treasure is made up of exquisite artefacts from the Mycenaean Period. Most of the items were plundered from Mycenaean chamber tombs at Aidonia near Nemea in the Peloponnese in the 1970s. These eventually were catalogued for sale in the United States. The Government of Greece was able to prove the provenance of the items with the result that they were repatriated to Greece. They first went on display in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens in May 1996. “I was lucky enough to be in Athens at the time and to see the exhibition,” said Mr Kennett. The Director of the new Museum also saw the exhibition in Greece. She said that she would love to see it in Melbourne. Greek authorities said that there was no chance that this would happen. You can imagine the Director’s astonishment and delight, when Greek officials on a visit to Melbourne announced that they would be sending the Aidonia Treasure as the first exhibition. It will be on display from 10th November to 28th February 1999. This will be a wonderful opportunity for Victorians to see the exquisite craftsmanship of the Mycenaean people who flourished in Greece some 3000 years ago. It is hoped that the exhibition will attract a large number of visitors from interstate.

The Museum will be open from 10am to 5pm each day of the week (Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday). There will be programmes to attract families over the holidays. There will be special viewing evenings with extended opening hours.

The first exhibition, “The Aidonia Treasure”, reflects the high regard in which the Government of Greece holds the Premier and the people of Victoria. The Aidonia Treasure is made up of exquisite artefacts from the Mycenaean Period. Most of the items were plundered from Mycenaean chamber tombs at Aidonia near Nemea in the Peloponnese in the 1970s. These eventually were catalogued for sale in the United States. The Government of Greece was able to prove the provenance of the items with the result that they were repatriated to Greece. They first went on display in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens in May 1996. “I was lucky enough to be in Athens at the time and to see the exhibition,” said Mr Kennett. The Director of the new Museum also saw the exhibition in Greece. She said that she would love to see it in Melbourne. Greek authorities said that there was no chance that this would happen. You can imagine the Director’s astonishment and delight, when Greek officials on a visit to Melbourne announced that they would be sending the Aidonia Treasure as the first exhibition. It will be on display from 10th November to 28th February 1999. This will be a wonderful opportunity for Victorians to see the exquisite craftsmanship of the Mycenaean people who flourished in Greece some 3000 years ago. It is hoped that the exhibition will attract a large number of visitors from interstate.

The Museum will be open from 10am to 5pm each day of the week (Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday). There will be programmes to attract families over the holidays. There will be special viewing evenings with extended opening hours.

As a gesture of goodwill he presented Professor Venizelos with two kylikes and two lekythoi, which had clearly originated in Greece, had been brought to Australia illegally and had been seized by the Victorian police, to take back to Greece.

Professor Evangelos Venizelos gladly accepted the vases on behalf of the Greek Government. He too expressed a sincere hope that the British Government would bow to pressure and return the Elgin Marbles, especially since a new Acropolis Museum is being built, which could house them. He too spoke warmly of the links between the two governments and the importance of Melbourne, the city with the third largest population of Greeks. He thought that it was very appropriate that the new museum should be opened with this exhibition, as it showed the very special place Melbourne has in the hearts of the Greek people. He too looked forward to strengthening bonds between the Government and people of Victoria and the Government and people of Greece.

The audience was then invited to a preview of the Aidonia Treasure. The 200 objects on display provide a wonderful insight into the Mycenaean Age. A small number of pots includes an exquisite stirrup-jar. Small figurines include one of a mother cradling a child. However, the jewellery and seals form the bulk of the exhibition. There are necklaces of glass beads and precious stones, a wide range of gold objects, especially signet rings with their clearly recognisable motifs, and an excellent selection of seals and their impressions. One is amazed at the miniature detail of these objects. Their craftsmen were clearly masters of their craft.

Anna Malgorzewicz (right) with Judith Penrose

The Hon. Jeff Kennett (right) with Professor Evangelos Venizelos
NEWS IN BRIEF

Scholarships

The following Fellowship and Scholarships grants were made in 1998 by the AAIA and the Friends Societies.

Craig Barker
The 1997-1998 AAIA Fellowship
Amount: $12000
Purpose: The recording and publication of the Hellenic transport amphorae excavated at Paphos in Cyprus (see report p. 7).

Colleen Chaston
Scholarship: The ANU (Canberra) Friends of the AAIA
Purpose: The purchase of a return airfare to Greece. Mrs Chaston will research the evidence of performance on vases, visit ancient theatres and attend performances of ancient drama.

Gary Hockings
Scholarship: The Greek Community of Brisbane Archaeological Scholarship
Amount: $2000
Purpose: Mr Hockings is studying the function and use of towers in ancient Greece and used his funds to travel widely visiting the sites of various towers.

Gary Hockings and Rob Wood
Bursary: The Queensland Friends of the AAIA
Amount: $500 each
Purpose: The purchase of books.

Tara McClanahan
Scholarship: The Pan-Arcadian Association of NSW
Amount: $3000
Purpose: To participate in the Archaeological Survey Project at Tegea (see report p.18).
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Anthony Miller
Scholarship: The Tasmanian Friends of the AAIA
Amount: $3250
Purpose: To purchase an airfare to Europe and provide a small stipend. Mr Miller is researching Greek settlement in Southern Italy and undertook work in Athens, in the Naples region and Sicily.

Yvonne Paulusz
Scholarship: The Monash Friends of the AAIA
Amount: $1660
Purpose: The purchase of an airfare to Greece. Ms Paulusz will examine various Greek archaeological sites and research the teaching of ancient languages in Europe.

David Pritchard
Scholarship: Macquarie University
Amount: $1000
Purpose: The purchase of an airfare to Greece and accommodation in Athens in order to study unpublished context pottery at the Agora (see report p.12).

CREDITS

FRONT COVER
Fragment of a terracotta altar model (Inv. 1036)
Uncertain Hellenistic or early Roman
Height: 8.7cm
From: Paphos (Paphos Theatre Excavation, Cyprus)

BACK COVER
Melbourne Grammar School

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