FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Members and Friends of the Institute, dear Colleagues,

I am delighted that I can begin this brief note with the good news that following Professor J.R. Green’s retirement at the end of 2003 the Arthur and Renée George Chair in Classical Archaeology of the University of Sydney will be filled. An advertisement has already been published and a copy of it is printed in this Newsletter (see p.14). These days Professors have to be good administrators in addition to being good scholars and I hope that the new incumbent will be interested not only in his own research, but that he will also encourage and support the research of the other academic members of the Department and its post-graduate students.

The Institute was unlucky with its 2002 Visiting Professor who was going to be Professor W-D. Niemeier, who had to cancel his visit at very short notice. Fortunately Professor Graeme Clarke and Associate Professor Barbara Burrell stepped in to fill the gap and the Institute is grateful to both for shouldering the burden.

The Institute is also very grateful to Professor Daniel Potts for giving the annual lecture in Athens last May, as well as a seminar, as part of our Athens academic programme. Both performances were brilliant and deeply appreciated by the international community of Classical scholars in Athens.

Finally I would like to welcome to the Council of the Institute three new governors: Professor David Cook, Associate Professor Arthur Conigrave and Dr Robert Harper. Professor Cook and Professor Conigrave are both distinguished scientists in the University of Sydney. Dr Harper is a distinguished barrister with a deep interest in Ancient Law.

Alexander C. Bitöyis
ACTIVITIES IN GREECE

Exhibitions and Museum Openings in Greece, 2002
by Stavros Paspalas

The re-opening of the Archaeological Museum of Kea must be considered among the most exciting events of the year with regard to museum openings and exhibitions in Greece. Although surprisingly close to Athens, Kea is little-visited because prospective visitors are clearly discouraged from travelling there by the fact that the boat link leaves from the port of Lavreio, which is far more difficult to access than the Peiraieus. Nonetheless, Kea is a beautiful island, rich in history and archaeology. Its best known periods are the Bronze Age and the sixth and fifth centuries B.C.

In the latter of these periods this small island was actually divided between four independent city-states, and they are best represented by the remains of monumental temples and sculpture. The recently refurbished and newly re-opened museum now displays the principal finds from the island, and those that will surely draw the attention of many visitors are the large terracotta statuettes of female figures which date back to the apogee of the Cycladic Bronze Age culture, c.1450 B.C.


If we keep to the islands for a moment longer, we can move to the south-eastern Aegean, to Rhodes, and to a more recent period. The Archaeological Museum, in the mediaeval Hospital of the Knights, housed a temporary exhibition entitled “The Jewish Community of Rhodes”. The setting itself as well as the very theme of the exhibition testify to the different historical and cultural currents which have played upon the islands of the Aegean, and contributed to their cosmopolitan nature, especially that of the major urban centres.

In Athens the National Archaeological Museum inaugurated a

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hostel Report for 2002
by Jan Casson-Medhurst

Between October 2001 and the time of writing this report in November 2002, fifty one guests stayed in the Athens hostel. Of these, forty were Australians and eleven were connected with other Foreign Schools. Of the Australian guests nineteen were students. The majority of bookings were short-term but some residents stayed much longer.

Of the residents who spent a longer period with us I would like to mention Professor Daniel Potts of the University of Sydney who stayed at the Hostel with Mrs Potts and gave the annual lecture of the Institute in May at the Athens Archaeological Society Lecture Theatre. Professor J.-P. Descouedres (University of Geneva), Dr. Jenny Webb (La Trobe University) and Dr. Judith Maitland (University of Western Australia) who gave lectures in its premises, as well as Ms. Elizabeth Bollen and Mr. Craig Barker, both former Institute Fellows, who returned to Athens for further study.

Although the budget for the running of the Athens hostel is tight, it remains in excellent condition with little need for refurbishment. General maintenance is carried out as needed, but a major overhaul of the exterior of the building as a whole is still in the planning stage. The formerly inadequate power supply of the hostel has been updated thanks to the generosity of the Athens Friends Association, making possible the addition of extra heating units, and a future overhaul to the kitchen facilities.

Members are reminded to plan for accommodation in Athens early. The hostel continues to be popular and bookings should be made as soon as travel arrangements are in place. Check the Institute’s website for details or contact the Athens office directly. The office is open between 9am and 1pm and Jan Casson-Medhurst, the Administrative Officer can be reached there by telephone, fax, email, or snail mail. You will find contact details on the back of the Newsletter.
temporary exhibition entitled “Fragile Luxury”. The exhibition presented an impressive selection of the museum’s holdings of glass vessels from the Archaic through to the Late Roman period. Glass objects, often vessels, but not always so, played an important role in the cultures of many periods in antiquity, and the more extravagant pieces of this class could take on the role of prestige objects that highlighted their possessors’ status. The exhibition successfully brings to the attention of the visitor the importance of glass in the lives of the ancients. This was the last major exhibition of the National Archaeological Museum before it closed for a major refurbishment.

The latest objects included in the National Museum’s special glass exhibition were approximately contemporary with the earliest exhibits included in a major exhibition held at the Byzantine Museum. This Museum is making very good use of its recently completed extensions, and for most of 2002 the visitor could see, in addition to the permanent collection housed in the Villa Illisia, the exhibition entitled “From the Christian Collection to the Byzantine Museum, 1884-1930”. The exhibition, in effect, charted the formation of the collection of Late Antique, Mediaeval and Early Modern objects which ultimately formed the core of the Byzantine Museum’s holdings. The fascinating story of the establishment of a society for the preservation of Greece’s Christian-period monuments was told, and set in its wider context of the development of the modern Greek state. It was a story not only confined to Greece proper; it included the wider eastern Mediterranean, the Black Sea coast, Sicily and Southern Italy.

Two temporary exhibitions held at the Museum of Cycladic Art take us even further afield. As in previous years this museum has devoted considerable time and effort in presenting material that is not normally accessible in Athens; so locals and visitors alike have good reason to be grateful to it. The first, “Ancient Bronzes from the Asian Grasslands from the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation”, presented items from the cultures of the nomads of Central Asia. These objects, as yet little understood by scholars, gave a tantalizing glimpse into the lives of the nomads who populated the extensive plains of Central Asia, so different from those of the islands, mountains and coves of Greece. The Cycladic Museum’s second major exhibition of

the year, “Weaving the Greek Myths: The Art of Tapestry”, brought us—at least thematically—closer to Athens, but the flavour was still definitely international. On display was a selection of sumptuous tapestries from the Collections of the Petit Palais and the Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris, which—as noted in the title of the exhibition—carried scenes from ancient Greek myths. The exhibition clearly presented the importance these myths held for the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century commissioners of these tapestries, and how these aristocrats envisaged their classical heroes.

The Benaki Museum presented an exhibition called “Glass of the Sultans”, and as its title indicates, it concentrated on the fine glassware of the Near East from the Mediaeval to the Early Modern period. The Benaki Museum has an extensive collection of Islamic Art, and so this exhibition—which included pieces from holdings throughout the Near East and Western Europe—built upon a field in which the Museum has shown great interest in the past. This, along with the exhibition held at the National Archaeological Museum, allowed the visitor to gain a good impression of the role that glass, particularly as a prestigious item, played in various places and cultures at various times.

The long standing interest of the Benaki Museum in the cultures of Greece’s eastern neighbours was once again emphasised at the end of the year by the exhibition entitled “Treasures of the Cilician Armenians”. Most of the items on display—manuscripts, coins, liturgical vessels, vestments and reliquaries—are holdings of the Armenian Catholicate of Cilicia, which since 1915 has been domiciled in Lebanon. The exhibition presented the visitor with a view of some of the main cultural achievements of the Armenians of Cilicia—a region in southern Turkey—from the twelfth century A.D. when an independent Armenian kingdom was established in the region, until the early twentieth century. Of particular interest
in these objects, which are so like but yet different from their counterparts produced by contemporary Greek communities, is the testament they provide to various cultural streams — such as western and Ottoman — that were current in the wider Mediterranean and how they were assimilated by local traditions.

An exhibition with even broader horizons was held at the University of Athens and organised by that institution in collaboration with the University of Würzburg and the Epigraphical Museum of Athens. As its title, “The History of Writing Throughout the World from 3000 B.C. to the Present” indicates, it provided an overview of various cultures’ methods of leaving a written testament, be it a historical record, a law code, a curse, or bureaucratic and accounting documents. As with a number of other exhibitions mentioned above, here too artefacts were displayed in Athens which are not normally seen in Greece, such as Chinese mantic texts and Early Bronze Age Mesopotamian clay tablets. In this way the not insubstantial history of writing in Greek lands was set in its wider global context.

An exhibition organised by the Municipality of Athens, the Society for the Study of Ancient Technology and the Technical Museum of Thessalonike at the temporary exhibition space of Technopolis in Athens and entitled “Ancient Greek Technology” vividly presented to the visitor the practical “know how” available to the ancients. The exhibition included working models and drawings that allowed all those who visited it a deeper appreciation of the “behind the scenes” knowledge, which permitted the construction of the buildings and the execution of the art-works that we now so admire, as well as the highly-developed musical instruments, which until recently were effectively only known from the ancient written sources and illustrations on vases. Equally importantly the exhibition also dealt with more “pedestrian”, but undoubtedly fundamental, matters such as pottery production, weaving, and — of course — military technology, which, as in other periods, often drove technological advances.

The cultural inheritance of Greece is not restricted to the contents of museums. Complete structures and building complexes are also included in the archaeological wealth of the country, the most-widely known example being, of course, the Athenian Acropolis. The preservation of these monuments is an ongoing task which demands a great deal of time, funds and expertise. A recent example of the successful conservation programme carried out by the Greek Ministry of Culture is that of the thirteenth-century church of Aghios Panteleimon in Thessalonike. This gem of Byzantine architecture was recently restored, and the team responsible was awarded the prestigious Europa Nostra/IBI award. The work carried out on this church may stand as an example of the Ministry of Culture’s commitment to the preservation of Greece’s cultural heritage, which encompasses so many different strands, and from which all interested researchers and visitors to the country benefit.

The Trendall/Grimaldi Scholarship by Ian McPhee

The Trendall/Grimaldi Scholarship has been established by La Trobe University as a result of a munificent donation by Dott. Guido Grimaldi of Naples in memory of the late Professor A.D. Trendall. This allows the Trendall Research Centre for Ancient Mediterranean Studies to offer one scholarship every 12–18 months to bring a young Italian scholar to La Trobe to use the resources of the Trendall Centre (which consist of a photographic archive of some 50,000 photographs and an excellent library) for a short period. The scholarship at present provides an economy return airfare plus accommodation at Graduate House on the Bundoora Campus of La Trobe. The first recipient of the scholarship in 2002 was Miss Elisa Lanza, who is a graduate of the University of Turin. Miss Lanza returned to Italy after spending three and a half weeks at La Trobe University and a week in Sydney. Her research covers two projects: the financial aspects and building practices in 5th century Athens based upon the fragmentary Parthenon accounts and the publication of the Attic and South Italian red-figure, and Gnathian vases in the Moschini Collection of the Archaeological Museum in Turin.
Deputy Director's Report
by Stavros Paspalas

The past year was marked by an Academic Programme organised by the Institute which saw speakers from various parts of Australia deliver papers on their research to an Athenian audience made up of locals and members of the fifteen other foreign schools which operate in Athens. The year started early with a lecture entitled “The Last Days of Byzantine Macedonia” by Professor John Melville-Jones from the University of Western Australia. Given the amount of mediaeval material found during the Institute’s excavations at Torone, this was a most appropriate lecture to be held under its auspices, and Professor Melville-Jones led his audience masterfully through the intricacies—political, military and dynastic—of the Aegean during the fifteenth century.

Andrew Bayliss, from Macquarie University, Sydney, painted an intriguing picture of Athenian military and political affairs at the end of the fourth century in his seminar “‘A Curse on Them!’: Curse-Tablets, Binding Spells, and the Mysterious ‘Peiraikoi Soldiers’ who helped Lachares Seize Power as Tyrant of Athens in 300 B.C.”. The personal and public sides of power are never far apart, and this phenomenon was well illustrated in this paper, which examined, among other things, the reasons that could lead Athenians to call upon the infernal powers to deal with their political opponents.

The focus of attention moved eastwards, and considerably earlier in time, in the lecture delivered by Dr Jenny Webb of La Trobe University. Dr Webb spoke on the excavations at the prehistoric Cypriot site of Marki in a presentation entitled “Australian Excavations at Marki in Cyprus. New Light on the Origin of the Cypriot Early Bronze Age”. This lecture was a very welcome, and detailed, introduction to the archaeological fieldwork that was undertaken throughout the 1990’s by an Australian team at a site which is crucial for the understanding of the transition between the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age periods on Cyprus, and—for our understanding of the wider cultural relationships of this period in the Eastern Mediterranean. The AAIA was very happy that it could offer a forum at which Australian fieldwork could be presented to the wider archaeological community in Athens, and it was clear from the audience’s appreciative response that its members found Dr Webb’s lecture more than interesting.

It was a great pleasure in April to see Professor Jean-Paul Descoeudres once again on Australian territory. Professor Descoeudres was formerly the Associate Professor of Classical Archaeology at the University of Sydney, and is the Founding Editor of the Australian archaeological journal Mediterranean Archaeology; currently he is the Professor of Classical Archaeology at the University of Geneva. The AAIA in collaboration with the Swiss School of Archaeology in Greece invited Professor Descoeudres to deliver a lecture, which took place on the premises of the AAIA. Professor Descoeudres spoke on “The Great Frieze in the Villa of the Mysteries: Private Diary of the Matrona or Social Manifesto of the Patronus?”. The principal murals of this Roman villa are indeed very famous, but their interpretation has proved equally enigmatic. Professor Descoeudres presented a masterful argument that did not only examine the iconography of the murals, but also their role in the spatial mechanics of the villa, and their place in the wider cultural and political context of Roman-held Italy.

Dr Judith Maitland of the University of Western Australia closed the year’s Academic Programme in mid-October with the delivery of her seminar “By ……..! Snobbery and Colonialism in Aristophanes’ Birds.” In her well-received paper Dr Maitland examined aspects of fifth-century Athenian social history as revealed in the comic masterpieces of the Athenian
playwright Aristophanes.

May, of course, is the month in which the AAIA traditionally holds its Director’s Report and Annual Lecture, and 2002 was no different. **Professor Alexander Cambitoglou** informed the archaeological community of Athens of the Institute’s activities during the previous calendar year, and then invited the visiting lecturer for 2002, **Professor Daniel Potts**, Professor of Middle Eastern Archaeology at the University of Sydney to deliver his lecture entitled “The Greek Presence in the Persian Gulf: Alexander and his Seleucid Successors.” In a fascinating presentation Professor Potts examined the impact of elements of Greek and Greek-derived material culture in an area that is rarely considered in mainstream studies of the Near East in the wake of Alexander the Great’s conquests. His lecture was all the more appreciated as the Persian Gulf is a region which is rarely examined in Athens, the heartland of Greek studies. Professor Potts also delivered a seminar as part of the Institute’s Academic Programme; he spoke on “Rome’s Eastern Trade and the Characene Connection: an Alternative to the Red Sea.” Once again, archaeological discoveries, of which only a few individuals in Greece know, were presented to an appreciative audience, the members of which learnt a great deal about the classical world’s interaction with southern Mesopotamia (Iraq) and the Gulf region beyond.

The Annual Report of the Institute also saw a milestone in the Institute’s history, as before Professor Cambitoglou delivered the Report proper, **Dr Basil Petrakos**, Secretary General of the Athens Archaeological Society launched the book **Torone 1**. The research at Torone, which is carried out in collaboration with the Athens Archaeological Society, was the Institute’s first formal archaeological fieldwork in Greece, and the three-part first volume of the excavation’s results covers the work conducted in the years 1975, 1976 and 1978. The publication of this volume was met with enthusiasm, as it is an important contribution to our knowledge of the northern Aegean region in antiquity. In order to mark the forthcoming publication of Torone 1 and to celebrate the decades of work of the Australian team at the site **Professor Cambitoglou** had delivered earlier in the year a lecture entitled “With Thucydides in Our Hands. The Australian Expedition to Torone 1975-2000.” This exceptionally well-attended lecture was given in Greek, and the response clearly shows the great interest that the Institute’s excavations at Torone has generated among the archaeological, and wider, community in Greece.

Professor Cambitoglou’s Torone lecture and the Annual Report were very successful events which projected the activities of the Institute to the wider public. Their success is in no small part attributable to the invaluable support that the Institute receives from the Athens Friends. As in past years the Friends covered the cost of the reception which followed the Annual Report, and very generously did the same for the one which was held after the Torone lecture. The Institute is very grateful for the help offered to it by the Friends, the organisation’s President, **Ms Maria Baroutiti**, and the Committee. Special thanks must also be expressed to the Friends for their willingness to cover the cost of some more-than-necessary electrical work at the Athens Hostel. The Hostel is a very important part of the Institute’s operations as it serves as a base for Australian researchers and students, and as the venue for the seminars held under the Institute’s auspices. As the focal centre of the Institute’s activities in Greece it provides our “public profile,” and for this reason its maintenance is of utmost importance. Equally, the AAIA is indebted to the Australian Ambassador to Greece, H.E. Mr Stuart Hume, for the support given by the Embassy to its activities.

In addition to the seminars and lectures organised by the Athens office and other, administrative, duties, the usual activities of liaising with departments of the Greek Ministry of Culture and other Foreign Schools so as to expedite the research programmes of Australian academics and students, continued apace.

My report cannot be completed without a mention of the Prime Minister’s visit to Greece. In July Mr John Howard and Mrs Howard and their accompanying party paid an official visit to Greece, specifically Athens and Crete. During their stay in Athens I had the privilege of guiding the Prime Minister through the monuments on the Acropolis, and two days later I was a member of the archaeological guiding team at the Minoan palace site of Knossos on Crete.
The Summer of 2002 saw the fourth field season of the Australian Paliochora-Kythera Archaeological Survey project APKAS: (see the reports in the Newsletters of 1999, 2000 and 2001). The aim of this study is to reach a better understanding of the occupational history of the northern part of the island of Kythera, specifically in reference to the wider environs of the mediaeval settlement of Aghios Demetrios, better known by the islanders for a good number of generations now as Paliochora. While the impressive standing mediaeval ruins of Paliochora provide a ready fix point for the project, the survey is diachronic in nature and one of its key aims is to research how the use of the land by the occupants of the region changed through time. Consequently, evidence for all periods of human activity is collected, and in 2002 substantial progress was made with regard to establishing the presence of Minoans, or Minoan artefacts, in this region of northern Kythera.

The team included staff and students of the University of Sydney, the University of Queensland, La Trobe University, the Ohio State University, and a former student of the University of Tasmania currently at the University of Cambridge. The fundamental work for the mapping required in such a survey project was undertaken by Andrew Wilson from the Archaeological Computing Laboratory of the University of Sydney. The team is very grateful to the Nicholas Aroney Trust of Sydney for a substantial grant which covered the costs of the research programme, and to Cosmas Coroneos, Yiannis and Toula Tzortzopoulos, the Committee for the Patrikia Agricultural School and the church of Aghios Charalampos in Karavas who facilitated the project in so many different ways. As in previous years we are very grateful to the Greek Ministry of Culture for granting us permission to undertake field work on Kythera, and particularly to the representatives of the local Archaeological Directorates responsible for the island.

During the 2002 field season considerable time was spent in attempting to trace the Early Modern (and possibly even older) road network within the survey area, which, of course, predates the introduction of motorised vehicles to the island. This aspect of the organisation of the landscape is of importance as its study allows a better understanding of the relationship between individual sites. The old roads have, for the most part, been abandoned for decades, and stretches of some have totally disappeared as land use has changed. Nonetheless, headway was made, and the completion of this study will give an added dimension to the survey project.

As in previous seasons special attention was devoted to a number of the many churches which mark conspicuous locations in the landscape of northern Kythera. These structures, which demanded a considerable amount of effort and time to build, maintain and appropriately outfit, marked notable nodal points (be they ridges or hill tops, caves or coastal points, or road/path intersections) in the spatial organisation of the region. Their subsequent history, whether they were abandoned or maintained, allows insight into the social and economic priorities of subsequent generations of islanders, and how they gauged their relationships with the “sacred”, their past (as they understood it), and the social fabric of the island as it developed through time. The individual surveys around these churches aim at establishing the periods of their use (and if - as is often the case - the sites had been occupied in previous periods), thus establishing a chronological framework for their combined history.

One of the most important of the churches examined was Aghios Georgios Kolokythias, on a hill-top on the northeast of the island immediately to the north of Aghia Pelagia. Preliminary work was carried out at this site during
the 2001 season, which included the standing church, the remains of another, as well as those of a number of secular buildings and a double cistern, all within a fortification circuit. This year the team returned to the site and cleared the fortification wall, so that it could be properly photographed and planned. The pottery collected on the site, as well as the architectural history of the earlier phases of the still standing church, indicate that there is here an outpost that dates back to the “Dark Ages” of Byzantine history, the ninth-eleventh centuries A.D., and that it is one of the few establishments of its kind that has been archaeologically examined. It may have played an important role in the Byzantine attempt to retain control of the passage between Kythera and the Peloponnese during a period when Arab fleets were very active in the region, and indeed when Crete, immediately to the south, was held by Arab forces.

Our work at Aghios Georgios Kolokythias has also revealed a far earlier period of occupation, with a far stronger Cretan dimension. British excavations at Palaiopolis, midway down the eastern coast of Kythera, in the 1960’s had revealed a Middle-Late Bronze Age Minoan settlement, the earliest known Minoan establishment outside Crete. Current work by a British survey team, in an area immediately south of that in which we are working, has greatly contributed to our knowledge of the Minoan presence on the island, and a Greek team led by Professor Ioannis Sakellarakis some years back excavated the first securely identified Minoan peak sanctuary beyond Crete at Aghios Georgios slightly northwest of Palaiopolis. Our research to the north has shown that Aghios Georgios Kolokythias too must be included in the ever-growing list of sites which saw Minoan activity on the island. Any Minoan presence here may well testify to a Cretan interest in the mainland opposite, and the channel which separates Kythera from the Peloponnese.

Equally important evidence for a Minoan impact on Kythera was found at the very south of our survey area, in a region east of the villages of Phrilliganika and Kastrisaniika, known as Ammoutses. Here a substantial quantity of Minoan and Minoan-influenced pottery was collected. It appears that the area was rather intensively used in the Bronze Age, under considerable influence from Crete. The presence of artefacts from earlier periods raises the question of a possible Minoanisation of an already existing population rather than the simple movement of people from Crete. Questions of this nature inevitably arise from our survey work, and the careful examination of our finds may lead to some relevant answers.

The diachronic approach of APKAS is well illustrated by two other research projects undertaken by its team members. The first is the documentation of an Early Modern water mill at Paliochora. Again, as with the determination of the old road system mentioned above, the examination of installations such as water-mills allows a better understanding of how the people of the day organised the basic activities, which enabled them to maintain and develop a viable society. The island’s contacts with the outside world (be it with the wider Byzantine Empire, or with Minoan Crete as illustrated in the two instances referred to above) is always a factor to be considered. In this vein Ms Lita Diacopoulos from La Trobe University undertook an independent study of the tombstones from the nineteenth-century British cemetery at Chora, in the south of the island. Kythera, of course, with the remaining Ionian islands, was a British protectorate for approximately 50 years. This area of modern Greek history is something of a link between colonial Australia and Greece, even more so given the fact that Sir John Young served as Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands and subsequently as Governor of New South Wales, and Sir George Bowen was Chief Secretary of Government of the Islands and thereafter the first Governor of Queensland. Ms Diacopoulos’ study will throw welcome light on a little-known aspect of both Greek and British history.

The 2002 season was one rich in finds, and we were fortunate that we could share some of the importance and excitement of our work with the Australian Ambassador to Greece, H.E. Mr Stuart Hume, and his wife, Ms Danielle Rossignol. Mr Hume and Ms Rossignol visited Kythera approximately half way through the season, and we were very pleased that they could devote some of their time on the island to learning about APKAS.
The Nicholson Museum's Conservation and Storage Areas get a Facelift
By Professor Daniel T. Potts, Curator

Recent visitors to the main campus of the University of Sydney would have noticed a greater than normal degree of construction going on. While some of this work was undertaken in conjunction with the University’s Sesquicentenary celebrations, much of it is part of the ‘Arts/Psychology Accommodation Upgrade’ which began in December 2001. Tucked amongst the refurbishments is an important one which concerns the Nicholson Museum.

The origins of this work go back quite a long time before my tenure as Honorary Curator of the Nicholson Museum. For many years the University had felt the need for facilities servicing the MacLaurin Hall, which is located above the Museum. As this hall is used for many functions throughout the year, the lack of a lift and a kitchen was felt acutely. However, from the Museum’s point of view, the decision to go ahead with the installation of a lift would have spelled the end of two of its important facilities: the Conservation Laboratory and the storage area adjacent to it.

All was not lost, however. Shortly before news of the pending alterations became public, the then Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Research, Prof. David Siddle, had called for submissions from research areas in the University with a view to identifying those that are of ‘institutional research strength’. As a result, Archaeology was awarded this status. Following the review I made a submission to Professor Siddle, arguing that the Nicholson Museum, which was not part of the Department of Archaeology, but was very much linked with it, could itself become a research generator. Thus, when the opportunity came along to apply...
for special research funding I submitted a request, in consultation with our Conservator, Jo Atkinson, for a high-energy x-ray device, which could have both research and conservation applications. This request for $185,000 was successful, but the question of accommodating the device arose immediately - the scheduled loss of the Museum's Conservation Laboratory would have eliminated the area where, under normal circumstances, the x-ray device would have been placed. Therefore the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken Eltis, had to be convinced and finally was convinced of our newly created space needs, with the result that we were penciled in as requiring space, both to restore the storage area and Conservation Laboratory, which would have been lost through the construction of the MacLaurin Hall lift, and to allow the expansion of the Museum’s research activities. The reshuffling of various Arts departments and more particularly of Anthropology, which until now had been occupying an area adjacent to the Museum’s Lower Gallery, allowed the allocation to the Museum of a good deal of additional space.

The result of these alterations will be that an entirely new Conservation Laboratory and storage facility will be created in what is currently the Lower Gallery, and the Museum will acquire badly needed office space nearby. A room will be allocated to the x-ray device, when it is eventually purchased; an office for the Conservator; space for visiting scholars; and the School Education Programme as well as a photographic laboratory and an office for the Assistant Curator, whose current office off the Museum’s foyer will be turned into a Museum Shop.

The extra space which will be allocated to the Nicholson Museum is just one sign of the University’s regard for what is, without question, Australia’s premier collection of Classical, Egyptian and Near Eastern antiquities, a great legacy, the core of which originated with one of the founding fathers of the University of Sydney, Sir Charles Nicholson.
The 2002 Visiting Professor

The 2002 Visiting Professor was going to be the Director of the German Archaeological Institute in Athens Professor Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier who had unfortunately to cancel his visit to Australia at a very short notice because of force majeure. Two distinguished scholars, however, offered to act as replacements and fill the gap. The first was Professor Graeme W. Clarke, the second was Associate Professor Barbara Burrell.

After his retirement from the Humanities Research Centre of the Australian National University in Canberra, Professor Clarke became the Visiting Fellow of the Department of History at the Australian National University and Senior Research Associate of the Ancient History Documentary Research Centre at Macquarie University in Sydney.

Professor Clarke, who is one of the most distinguished living classicists and of international reputation is well-known from his publication in four volumes of St Cyprian’s letters and his many articles and essays on Late Antique topics.

In more recent years he concentrated on archaeological field work and became the Director of the Australian Expedition to Jebel Khalid in Syria on whose work he has published a number of reports. In 2001 Volume One on these excavations appeared under the title Jebel Khalid Professor Graeme Clarke on the Euphrates: Report on Excavations 1986-1996, and he is now working on four other books.

During his lecture tour to the Universities of the capital cities of Australia Professor Clarke gave the following lectures and seminars.

[1] Shash Hamdan Tomb 1
[2] Excavating and interpreting the Governor’s Palace, Jebel Khalid
[5] Inscribed surfaces from Jebel Khalid and its environs

The second Visiting Professor in 2002 was Associate Professor Barbara Burrell who holds MA and PhD degrees from Harvard University and is currently a member of the teaching staff in the University of Cincinnati. She came to Australia as visiting fellow of the Numismatic Centre at Macquarie University and is a versatile scholar with interests ranging from Biblical Archaeology to Classical Philology and Greek and Roman history.

Her field work has taken her to such sites as Sardis in Asia Minor, Caesarea Maritima in Israel and the Palatine in Rome. Professor Burrell who is
a brilliant lecturer presented a lecture, (“The Palaces of Herod the Great”) and a seminar (“Neokoroi: Greek Cities and Roman Emperors”) at the University of Sydney.

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The University of New England, Armidale (School of Classics and History)
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The Powerhouse Museum, Sydney
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The Australian National University, Canberra
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NEWS IN BRIEF
Three New Governors

The Institute is very fortunate to have recruited three new Governors, Professor David Cook, Associate Professor Arthur Conigrave and Dr Robert Harper.

Professor Cook is a member of staff of the Department of Physiology of the University of Sydney and Professor Conigrave is a member of the staff of the School of Molecular and Microbial Sciences of the same University. Although they are both scientists they are vitally interested in the Arts and in the work of the Institute.

Professor Cook’s non-scientific readings are mostly historical and he has always attended the lectures and seminars given by the Institute’s visiting professors. Professor Conigrave’s interest in Archaeology is in part due to “his fascination with Ancient History but especially the decipherment of ancient scripts and ancient languages.”

Dr Harper is a graduate of the University of Sydney and a very distinguished barrister. He read Arts/Law in the University of Sydney. The title of his doctoral thesis was “The Forensic Saviour: Petitions and Power in Greco-Roman Egypt.”
Classical Archaeology and The Department of Archaeology in the University of Sydney: the years 1962 to 1989*
by Alexander Cambitoglou

When I arrived in Australia at the end of 1961 the teaching and study of Archaeology and more particularly Classical Archaeology in the University of Sydney following Professor A.D. Trendall’s departure for Canberra in 1954 was not satisfactory. There was, however, an infrastructure on which I felt one could build a good department and the University possessed a major collection of Classical, Egyptian, Near Eastern and Cypriot antiquities, which consisted mainly of objects bequeathed to it by Sir Charles Nicholson in 1860.

The most important figure in the development of the study and teaching of archaeology as an academic discipline in Australia was A.D. Trendall, who had already published his significant book on “Paestan Pottery” in 1936 and had succeeded Enoch Powell as Professor of Greek in the University in 1939 just before World War II, thus becoming also Curator of the Nicholson Museum. Trendall was the first to introduce a course in Greek and Roman art and in 1948, in addition to occupying the Chair of Greek he became the first Professor of Archaeology and the founder of the Department of Archaeology in the University. Soon after, J.R.B. Stewart was appointed Senior Lecturer in Near Eastern Archaeology (1950-1959) to take care also of the Near Eastern section of the Nicholson Museum, which was then, administratively, part of the Department.

Following the departure of Trendall for Canberra in 1954, Stewart remained as the senior academic member of the Department, assisted by J.B. Hennessy who was recruited as a Lecturer, also in Near Eastern Archaeology, soon after (1955-1961).

Following an endowment by Edwin Cuthbert Hall, of a Professorship “in the subject of archaeology and mythology in the Ancient Middle East, namely Palestine Egypt and Asia Minor” Stewart became the first Professor of Middle Eastern Archaeology in 1960. As a result of Stewart’s initiative, and support received from the administration, three academic appointments were made in 1961: one in Near Eastern Archaeology (Miss Judy Birmingham), a second in European (non-Classical) Archaeology (Mr Vincent Megaw) and myself in Classical Archaeology. Also, a conservator and a photographer were appointed in the Nicholson Museum, in addition to an already existing Museum Assistant.

Stewart was a good scholar, but his health was bad; he lived at a distance from Sydney in an inherited baronial mansion near Bathurst and paid only short visits to the University. In spite of the recent appointment of three academic members Stewart seemed to be interested in pure research rather than developing a full archaeology course at pass and honours levels or in developing a full postgraduate course. These would have been too demanding on his time, which he wanted to devote mainly to his own field-work in Cyprus and to research.

Before the arrival of the junior appointees in 1961, archaeology was taught in a very limited way, and although a first year course was planned for 1962 to be given by the three young academic members, the development of a full departmental course at all levels did not seem to be envisaged by the Professor, whose health was rapidly deteriorating. I was and still am of the opinion that research cannot be carried out successfully by individual scholars in a vacuum without the support of a larger trained group and a wider receptive *This is a slightly more detailed version of an article published in Matters of the Mind: Poems, Essays and Interviews in Honour of Leonie Kramer, edited by L. Jobling and C. Runcie, The University of Sydney, 2001.
The Nieholsan Museum in the 1940s. Image: Courtesy of the Nieholsan Museum.

and knowledgeable public, and that a discipline like archaeology must be taught in a University at pass and honours levels and, provided the library facilities allow it, at post-graduate levels as well.

So, when I became Acting Head of the Department of Archaeology in 1962, my two academic colleagues and I, with the help of an able, hard-working secretary, Betty Cameron, designed a new course, which combined Classical, Near Eastern and European (non-Classical) Archaeology at all undergraduate levels. When an honours course and a postgraduate course were introduced later on, students were allowed to specialise in one of the three offered subjects at an advanced level.

Although the number of the teaching staff members was too small for such a combined course, I had no alternative to its implementation since all three available members of the teaching staff had to be used productively and antagonism within the Department had to be avoided. In 1964, however, Dr J.R. Green was appointed to strengthen the Classical section and when in 1972 Mr Vincent Megaw left the Department to take up an appointment in England, European Archaeology was intentionally dropped from the curriculum. The course from then on was, on the whole, taught fairly smoothly (with various inevitable changes) as a combination of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology until my retirement as Professor in 1989 and the establishment soon after of the “School of Archaeology Classics and Ancient History”, which introduced an entirely new arrangement.

With regard to the Nicholson Museum, the 1960s saw the complete redesigning and refurbishment of its galleries, which in addition to a great number of originals, housed also an important collection of plaster casts. Following a promise from the administration to provide space for a separate casts gallery, the decision was taken to display in the main venue off the Main Quadrangle only originals clearly divided into five separate sections: Near Eastern, Egyptian, Cypriot, Classical and European (non-Classical). Sadly, the promised space was never granted. Therefore the casts, which were stored for about two years in the ambulatory of the Main Quadrangle, were offered in the first instance as a specialisation in one or more periods or sub-fields is expected, the ability to teach broadly across all fields of Classical archaeology, from the Bronze Age to the Roman era, is desirable.

The successful applicant will have a strong commitment to excellence in teaching, a clear and coherent approach to curriculum design and a genuine desire to both teach and supervise students from BA through PhD level. A demonstrated record of PhD completions is important.

The successful applicant will have those administrative and management skills needed to function successfully at a Departmental, School, Faculty, College and University-wide level. It is expected that the new appointee will provide leadership not only in Classical archaeology but more broadly within the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry and Faculty.

The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens is based at the University of Sydney, which has strong ties to the Australian-Greek community. A commitment to the communication of archaeology to the broader Australian community is essential.

The Chair of Classics is currently under appointment and the Edwin Culbert Hall Professor of Middle Eastern Archaeology, Prof. D.T. Potts, in addition to working on Bronze Age problems in Iran and Mesopotamia, has a strong interest in the Seleucid and Parthian periods.

The position is full-time continuing, subject to the completion of a satisfactory probation and/or confirmation period for new appointees. Membership of a University approved superannuation scheme is a condition of employment for new appointees.

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long-term loan to the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. When the offer was turned down, it was decided to divide the collection into groups and lend them to High Schools. Unfortunately the greatest part of the collection did not survive neglect and vandalism in the Schools.

To bring the museum to the attention of the general public, an informal group of “Friends” formed years back by Trendall was re-activated, and the Nicholson Museum Chair in Archaeology” was advertised, for which I applied and to which I was appointed in 1963. In 1973 the Edwin Cuthbert Hall Chair was advertised again and with the appointment to it of J.B. Hennessy, a balance was achieved between the Classical and Near Eastern sections in the Department with myself and Dr Green in the former and Professor Hennessy and Miss Birmingham in the latter. At a later stage, the number of teaching staff was increased to six with the appointment of Dr J.-P. Descoeudres in the Classical Section (1974) and Dr Tony McNicoll and later on Dr Lisa Giddy (respectively in 1976 and 1988) in the Near Eastern section. The department also had two tutors, one for each of its two sections.

With this consistency and a correspondingly balanced curriculum, the Department flourished for many years and produced some excellent students. Indeed it would not be an exaggeration to say that the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sydney became one of the strong Archaeology Departments in the developed World and was recognised as such internationally.

The developments described above took place during a period of relative prosperity for Australian Universities. But already in the early 1970s, these were hit by a general financial crisis in the country and changes of government policy toward institutions of tertiary education. In such a climate I became conscious of the risk of the elimination of the University Chair I occupied in the event of my sudden death (I had suffered a very severe heart attack in 1971) or my retirement and of the necessity to have a Chair in Classical Archaeology endowed to counterbalance, on a permanent basis, the existing endowed Chair in Middle Eastern Archaeology.

This was achieved in 1978, through the generosity of two Australian friends of Greek origin, with the establishment of the Arthur and Renee George Chair in Classical Archaeology, of which I became the first occupant and in which I was succeeded by Associate Professor J.R. Green after my retirement in 1989.

At another level, as a Classical archaeologist, I made an effort in the 1960s to initiate an Australian archaeological expedition in Greece. The archaeological site of Zagora on the island of Andros in the Aegean was chosen for this purpose and in 1967, thanks to the support of Arthur T. George, who became its Chairman, the Association (later Foundation) for Classical Archaeology was established as a University of Sydney Society with the purpose of funding the expedition in Greece, as well as other related activities. The Australian Research Council grants which financed the expedition year after year could not cover the full costs of the undertaking.

The Australian expedition at Zagora covered the period 1967 to 1977 and contributed considerably to the knowledge of the so-called Geometric Period (ca. 900-700BC) in Greece, a period about which our information is still very limited. Professor Nicolas Coldstream who is the great authority.
on Geometric Greece, wrote about Zagora: "...no other place in the Greek world offers a clearer picture of domestic life during this period". With regard to the finds from these excavations, it should be mentioned that they did not have the fate of those from so many other archaeological expeditions, that is to be permanently hidden away in the store-room of the nearest available provincial museum. They were displayed didactically and aesthetically on the island itself in a new museum built for these and other finds from the island by the generous Andriote personal friends and patrons of the Arts, the late Basil and Eliza Goulandris. The display, for which no care or expense was spared, was considered in the 1980s to be a model of its kind.

In 1975 I considered that adequate information had been obtained from the site and I was encouraged by the Greek Ministry of Culture, which was anxious to promote archaeological research in Northern Greece, to move to Torone on the Sithonia arm of the Chalkidike Peninsula. Since that year an Australian team has been conducting research assiduously on the site. A first three-volume book under the title Torone 1 has recently been published and further monographs are being prepared concurrently with the preparation of Zagora 3, which will be the final publication of the research carried out at that site between 1967 and 1977.

The Australian presence in Greece, however, was possible only because of my personal involvement and my dual capacity as Director of the Australian expedition and as a Fellow of the Athens Archaeological Society, which is the most ancient and distinguished learned society in Greece, and which had generously adopted the Australian expedition. Since there was no formal Australian archaeological or indeed cultural representation in Greece, my own possible disappearance from the stage due to resignation, retirement or death would have meant the end of the Australian presence in the country. The only way to secure permanence was to create an Australian Archaeological Institute or School in Athens comparable to the Institutes or Schools of other countries; this became my third administrative target as Arthur and Renée George Professor of Classical Archaeology in the University of Sydney. The effort was painful, at times desperate and a number of years passed before the plan could become a reality.

Finally, following an agreement reached with the Greek Ministry of Culture and following the Greek Government's approval, the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens was established in 1980. The Institute started with no funds whatsoever and with no government support and although it still does not receive any subsidies from the Australian government it is now soundly, if modestly, established with its own assets and the active participation of all the major Australian universities and other educational and cultural institutions. This is due to the assiduous work of a small group of people, the efforts of a number of enlightened supporters of the more general public, but especially the moral and financial support of the Thynre Reid Education Trust and of Professor J.A. Young, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (1989-1997), Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Health Sciences (1994-2003), Governor and Treasurer of the Institute.

In the Near Eastern section of the Department of Archaeology, corresponding developments took place. Under the able directorship of Professor Basil Hennessy the Australian Expedition to Pella in Jordan began in 1979 and the Near Eastern Archaeology Foundation (NEAF) was established in 1986.

Between the year 1962 and the year of my retirement in 1989, and the retirement of Professor Hennessy, which followed in 1990, Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology flourished in the University of Sydney and I believe that this was greatly due not only to the undisputed available talent among teaching staff and students, but also to the sound administrative cooperation of the two Professors within the Department of Archaeology, which in spite of a number of inevitable difficulties, survived for so many years. One such serious difficulty was that following the approval of the Faculty of Arts and the establishment in 1973 of a course in "Historical Archaeology" taught by Miss Birmingham, the Near Eastern section of the Department was de facto deprived of the services of one of its academic members. Following the establishment of the "School of Archaeology, Classics and Ancient History" in 1991 and the splitting of the two sections of the Department that followed, Classical Archaeology went through a period of serious difficulties from which it only slowly recovered.

Early Iron Age Cist Tomb from the Proto-Geometric Cemetery at Torone.
the Hellenistic seaside palace at Caesarea Maritima in Israel, which she is excavating, with other palaces of Herod the Great from Antioch to Alexandria. Professor Graeme Clarke, at home in Canberra, but in his role as the AAIA’s Visiting Professor for 2002, spoke about his current excavations at Jebel Khalid on the Euphrates, where he has revealed a large Doric temple within the Hellenistic fortress.

At the ANU this year Associate Professor Roger Scott of the University of Melbourne lectured to the Friends on the illustrated manuscript in Madrid of the 12th century Byzantine Chronicle of John Skylitzes and Associate Professor John Davidson of the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, gave an illustrated lecture on “Olympia and the Chariot of Pelops” supplementing the literary accounts with the evidence of sculpture and vase-painting.

The annual dinner in November at the Hellenic Club was arranged by Helen Stramarcos and judged better than ever. It was also a financial success. Dr Doug Kelly spoke over coffee about the importance of the Institute at Athens for Australian students. For the last twenty years Dr Kelly has been a learned and devoted teacher of Greek history as well as Greek and Latin at the ANU. Appropriately, as Doug was marking his decision to retire, he recalled his early exploration of Greece as a New Zealand student, learning about it at first hand by travelling on foot and by local bus.

At the dinner Mark Thomson was announced as the recipient of the Canberra scholarship for 2003. Mark has studied Ancient Greek and Latin at the ANU, achieving first-class honours and the medal in Latin in 2001. He also gained the University’s Tillyard Prize awarded to a student for both academic achievements and other roles within the university. In 2002 he completed an Honours degree in English. He has applied now to undertake a PhD in the field of Late Antiquity.

This year Mr Fotios-Jean Xydas, Ambassador of Greece, has kindly agreed to be patron of the AAIA (Canberra) Friends. The Hellenic Club has continued as a sponsor of our lecture series as well as generously agreeing to support the scholarship again for the next two years. The committee has continued in its happy and productive way with Angelos Stramarcos as President, Leon Barbopoulos and Elizabeth Minehin Vice-Presidents, Chris Elliott Treasurer and the rest of the team: Colleen Chaston, John Kalokerinos, Stefanos Nikolalou and Christine O’Hare.

The South Australian Friends
(A letter from the Treasurer, Mr Spiros Sarris)

The SA Friends continued their efforts to raise the profile of the AAIA in South Australia.

Glendi 2002

The SA Friends activities commenced early in the year with a promotional stand within the Cultural Marquee at the annual Glendi Festival (1-2 March). Many people visited the display and we were able to promote the AAIA and its activities.

Classics Museum, University of Adelaide

On 26 April the Director of the Museum of Classical Archaeology, Dr Margaret O’Hea, conducted an organised tour of the Museum of Classical Archaeology
at Adelaide University for the SA Friends. The Museum was recently relocated to the basement of Mitchell Building and some 25 Friends took the opportunity to visit the new premises and inspect the collection. The Hon. Emmanuel Papadogiorgakis, the newly arrived Consul General of Greece in South Australia, was also a guest.

**Pamphylia**

Dr Anne Geddes, Senior Lecturer, Classics Discipline, University of Adelaide, delivered an illustrated presentation featuring Pamphylia, in Asia Minor, to the SA Friends. Some 35 Friends and students attended what was a most interesting talk.

**Visiting Professor 2002**

The AAIA Visiting Professor for 2002 was Professor Graeme Clarke from the Australian National University. Professor Clarke delivered an illustrated public lecture on *Shash Hamdan Tomb 1* on the Euphrates. The lecture was well attended with over 50 people present. In keeping with tradition, at the conclusion of the talk we visited Eros Ouzeri for some mezedes and excellent SA wine!

**Summary**

The excellent attendances at the three meetings during the year were most pleasing. We hope that these efforts will increase the membership base for next year. Our collaboration with the Glendi cultural activities was very successful and we will endeavour to develop this during 2003. In addition there has been increased interest on the part of some members to join the Committee. This will be of immense value as we continue to develop and promote additional events and functions.

**The West Australian Friends**

(A letter from the President, Associate Professor John Melville-Jones)

In January and February the President of the Friends visited Greece as a guest of the Alexander S. Onassis Foundation. He worked in Thessalonike (principally at the Etaireia Makedonikon Spoudon), and also spent three days working in the library of Zagora (Pelion), where the only known copy of a work written by St Symeon of Thessalonike is held.

In May and June Nathan Cassidy, a postgraduate student who is in the final stages of writing a dissertation on the History of George Pachymeres, travelled to Greece with the financial assistance of the Institute and the WA Friends (see p. 22). On his return, he gave a public lecture on aspects of the recovery of Constantinople by Michael Palaiologos in 1261.

In August Professor Kathleen Coleman of Harvard University gave a public lecture on the theme of “Violence in the Ancient Arena”, and a seminar on “Winged Tethys”.

In October Professor Graeme Clarke visited WA. He gave the Institute’s annual lecture on “Excavating and Interpreting the Governor's palace, Jebel Khalid”, and followed this with a seminar on the history of the ancient book.

In November John Melville-Jones visited the Greek Orthodox Parish and Community of Burwood, Sydney, and lectured to them on the history of the Parthenon.
The Athens Friends
(A letter from the President, Ms Maria Barbouttis)

The Association of the Athens Friends had in 2002 a very busy year offering to its members and their guests a variety of activities and outings to interesting archaeological sites and museums mainly in the Attike area.

On March 20 the launching of Torone 1 took place in the lecture theatre of the Athens Archaeological Society and this was followed by a lecture given by Professor Cambitoglou titled “Holding Thucydides in our hands: twenty five years of Archaeological Research at Torone, Chalkidike”. The reception that followed was hosted by the Friends. On May 15 the annual report was presented by the Director of the Institute in the same venue and this was followed by the Annual Lecture given by Professor Daniel Potts of the University of Sydney. The title of his brilliant lecture was “The Greek Presence in the Persian Gulf: Alexander and his Seleucid Successors”. The Athens Friends again hosted the reception which concluded the function.

The following archaeological sites and museums were visited in the course of the year.

(a) February 3: The Hellinikon near Glyphada
   (lecturer: Dr Stavros Paspalas)
(b) February 24: The Athens Epigraphical Museum
   (lecturer: Emeritus Professor Alan Henry)
(c) April 2: Paliokhora on the island of Kythera
   (lecturer: Professor Timothy Gregory)
(d) May 26: Thorikos
   (lecturer: Dr Stavros Paspalas)
(e) June 23: Asini
   (lecturer: Dr Stavros Paspalas)
(f) November 11 Eleusis and Megara
   (lecturers: Dr Andrew Farrington and Ms Sophia Theona)

It should also be mentioned here that the Annual General Meeting of the Association on April 22 at the Hostel of the Institute was preceded by an illustrated lecture given by Dr Stavros Paspalas under the title “Death, Dionysus and the warrior: the wall paintings of Macedonian tombs”.

Dr Basil Petrakos, Secretary General of the Athens Archaeological Society, (left) with Professor Alexander Cambitoglou (right) at the launch of Torone 1.
The Sydney Friends of the AAIA
(A letter from the President, Mr Angelo Hatsatouris)

The highlights of the activities of the Sydney Friends of the Institute in 2002 are the following:

1. A lecture on 24 April by Professor Demetrios Michaelides of the University of Cyprus on “Cypriot Mosaics”.
2. The participation in the reception held in the Nicholson Museum for his Excellency the President of Greece Mr Constantinos Stephanopoulos on 21 June.
3. A lecture on 28 August by Associate Professor Barbara Burrell of the University of Cincinnati titled “The Palaces of Herod the Great” (this event was organised in collaboration with the Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies). The Sydney Friends were also responsible for the reception in the Nicholson Museum which followed Professor Burrell’s lecture.

In 2002 the Sydney Friends made the final payment to the Institute of a total amount of $11000 contributed by them toward the acquisition of property in Greece. They also committed $7000 toward a study grant and the costs of the 2003 Torone study season.

In 2003 the Sydney Friends will be co-hosting with the Pan-Arcadian Association a lecture by Mr Richard Fletcher and a reception at Government House. Mr Fletcher, who was the 2001 scholar of the Pan-Arcadian Association will speak about his experience as a member of a team of archaeologists who work at the Temple of Athena Alea at Tegea.

Plans are also made for a lecture by Ms Lita Diacopoulos who is a member of the Australian team of archaeologists working on the island of Kythera, on the 2002 field season on the island.

Every attempt has been made by the Sydney Friends to involve a wider circle of supporters for their functions.

The Melbourne University Friends
(A letter from Mr Peter Mountford)

In conjunction with the School of Fine Arts, Classics and Archaeology of the University and the Classical Association of Victoria, the Melbourne University Friends hosted a range of visiting and local speakers. Most of these presentations were very well attended.

Although the membership of the society is rather low at present it is hoped that a special effort planned by the governing committee will result in its increase in the course of 2003.

Professor Graeme Clark’s lecture on Jebel Khalid was especially appreciated and it was a pleasure to see him back in Melbourne where he spent so much of his academic life.

Another highlight was the visit of Professor Pierre Leriche. Documentaries on television this year have highlighted his work at Zeugma and have shown the wonderful mosaics rescued from the dam on the Euphrates, especially the one showing Pasiphae. We were privileged to hear of his work first hand.

The year ended with a dinner in a local restaurant.

suitable for a large-scale cavalry battle, and the best guess is that the engagement took place to the North, in the plains south of Bitolia.

I arrived in Thessalonike on May 4, and spent three days there. Thessalonike was the second city of Byzantium, so there was much for me to see, especially the great number of well-preserved churches. I was in town for Orthodox Easter, and attended the Easter mass at the fifth-century basilica of Aghios Demetrios, the biggest church in Greece. Thessalonike also gave me my first taste of Byzantine fortifications, with its strong walls rising up the ridge above the city.

I left Greece on May 7 and went to Istanbul. Much of George Pachymeres’s History concerned events that took place here, so there was a lot for me to see in the city. I was particularly interested in analysing Pachymeres’ account of the failed siege in 1260 and the successful attack of 1261 that liberated the city from the Latin occupant. Actually being able to trace the paths of the attackers and defenders as recorded by Pachymeres enabled me to establish that his account of the siege of 1260 is largely made up, and has but little resemblance to the actual event, but that his account of the recapture of 1261 is mostly trustworthy, though several small points are inaccurate. This research has proven to be particularly valuable to my thesis, and has resulted in many corrections to my earlier work based solely on the reading of books and maps.

Equally important, though, is the understanding I obtained, through visiting the great Aghia Sophia church, the magnificent Theodosian Walls, the remains of the Hippodrome and the palaces of Bukoleon and Blichernae, of the greatness of the Byzantine capital and the pride that it must have engendered in its people. I can readily appreciate now just how bereft the Byzantines felt after the Fourth Crusade, when they lost the city, and why they struggled single-mindedly for nearly sixty years to regain it.

This empathy with the Byzantine people, which enables me to get further into the head of Pachymeres, could not have developed through merely looking at photographs and through reading about the empire. I needed to go and see these things for myself, and I give great thanks to the West Australian Friends of the Archaeological Institute at Athens for providing me with the means of doing so.
Excavation Reports

Field Survey at Alezio (South Italy) 2001
by Ted Robinson (Classical Archaeology, University of Sydney)

Gallipoli is a name well-known to Australians. The peninsula in the Dardanelles is famous for the battles fought there in World War I, but there is another site, in Italy, which derives its name from the same Greek source (kale polis = beautiful city). South Italy was settled, from the 8th century BC, by a number of Greek colonies. The largest and most powerful, certainly in the 5th/4th centuries BC, was Taranto, founded by Spartans around 706 BC, and the site of Gallipoli is often mentioned in ancient literature as a Greek city and a port of Taranto (figure 1). Since the ancient site is heavily built over, it has not been possible to prove its “Greekness” on archaeological grounds. Inland, the countryside remained in the control of the indigenous Messapian tribes, which were heavily influenced by Greek culture.

Just 6 km inland from Gallipoli, a team from the University of Sydney has been investigating the large, walled city of the Messapians, modern Alezio (Messapian Αλεζίον, Roman Aletium). Following on from the geophysical prospections conducted in 1999, a campaign of field survey was undertaken in September, 2001. The hard work was done entirely by postgraduate students from the University of Sydney, with the exception of Bruce Glendinning, an archaeologist from Edinburgh, who will be well-known to some readers of this newsletter. Bruce has worked extensively at Torone, as an excavator and a geophysicist. The basic aim of the 2001 Alezio campaign was to establish our survey-methodology, and to get some idea of the practicalities of field survey in the area, so that a rational estimate of the time and personnel needed for a full-scale survey of the territory of Alezio could be made, while at the same time producing some modest results. We aim to survey the entire area around Alezio, and to ascertain the changing settlement pattern through the millennia. Data on the social, economic and political development of the region will be generated by the survey, and the most promising areas which we identify will be selected for excavation.

Relatively little is known about the town of Alezio in antiquity. It had clearly emerged as an important Messapian centre by the Archaic period, when an area of ca. 64 ha was enclosed by the fortifications. Habitation on the hill goes back at least to the 7th century, and probably back into the Bronze Age. In the Archaic period tombs were scattered around inside the walls, as was usual in a Messapian city; some of them were monumental, and carried onomastic inscriptions. Alezio has been a particularly important source of inscriptions written in the Messapian language using a version of the Greek alphabet borrowed from the Spartan colonists in Taranto.

Figure 2 shows the town of Alezio, together with the area surveyed and the sites discovered. We chose to survey in a band running north-south through the town, reasoning that a good range of the local topography could be sampled; our survey area ran up to the steep limestone ridges in the north, and down across the upper marine terraces in the south. Both areas are intensively farmed. Work was very much facilitated through high-quality aerial photographs, which were scanned and enlarged for use in the

Fig. 1. Map of the Salentine peninsula and adjoining areas.
by the survey. The area around Alezio, after a lull in the Late Hellenistic and early Imperial Roman periods, seems to have bounced back to prosperity in the 3rd, 4th and 5th centuries AD. Large quantities of the characteristic Late Roman glossy red fine pottery from factories in North Africa were recovered on the surface, with ceramics from the Eastern Mediterranean tending to take over in the 5th and 6th centuries AD. The Salentine peninsula had a rather curious status within Italy in the Medieval period – while most of Italy was part of the Western Roman Empire, the Salentine peninsula remained in Byzantine hands, and the imported and locally made ceramics clearly reflect this link.

Perhaps the most exciting site discovered was no. 1, which seems to have had continuous occupation back at least into the Messapian period in the 4th century BC, and through certainly to the 7th century AD, perhaps later. The hope of retrieving a well-stratified rural settlement spanning more than a millennium makes this site a prime candidate for later excavation.

Site no. 4, a Late Roman villa, was very conveniently located in the grounds of our dig-house for the season. We were accommodated in the eponymous Villa Teseo by the Teseo family; this very fine villa was built by their forbears in the 18th century, when Alezio underwent a period of unparalleled prosperity. The importance of olive oil for cooking, lighting and particularly for industrial purposes in the 18th century brought the Salentine peninsula to prominence, and the price for olive oil for the Mediterranean was set annually in the port and market city of Gallipoli.

Two Messapian cemeteries were identified, nos. 2 and 3 on figure 2. The site no. 2 appears particularly important, since geophysical survey (resistivity) showed that the tombs were almost certainly on a major roadway leading south to the site of Uxentum (Ugento). This Messapian road became the Via Sallentina of the Roman period, which made a loop around the Salentine peninsula.

We were rather surprised by the number of large Roman period agricultural villas that were discovered field; individual fields could be marked and numbered on the photographs as they were studied. Over 150 fields were surveyed, an area of more than 2 million square metres, with all finds entered into a database and Geographic Information System mapping software.

Fig. 2. Sites discovered around Alezio.
The University of Sydney Paphos Theatre Excavations, Cyprus: A Report on the 2002 Season
by Craig Barker

Between 6 October and 19 November 2002, a team of professional archaeologists, students and contributing volunteers from the Department of Classical Archaeology at the University of Sydney, led by Professor Richard Green, conducted its seventh season of excavations at the site of the ancient theatre in Nea Paphos, Cyprus.

The site of the theatre is located on the south slope of Fabrika Hill, a small hill overlooking the World Heritage listed settlement of Nea Paphos. Here, a theatre was partially carved out of the bedrock of Fabrika hill, and partially constructed on earthen embankments, shortly after the foundation of the settlement of Nea Paphos late in the fourth century BC. This theatre was to be a focal point for the ancient community of Nea Paphos for over six hundred years, undergoing several phases of modification and rebuilding, particularly during the Roman occupation of the island. Following a series of catastrophic earthquakes and general changes in attitude towards performance in the newly Christianised Roman Empire of the late fourth century AD, the theatre finally fell into disuse. The stone and marble from the theatre and from associated buildings were heavily quarried in the fifth century AD, before the site was completely abandoned. Many centuries later the site was used for domestic, agricultural and small-scale industrial purposes, as attested by at least one significant recovered building of the Medieval and Ottoman periods constructed over the orchestral area.

The 2002 season was very successful, with a large area of the orchestra and stage building excavated in the period of six weeks. Additionally, significant remains of the later occupation on the site were recovered including a number of rooms of the medieval building mentioned above seemingly based around a large courtyard. This structure will receive more detailed study in the near future. Considerable Ottoman period pottery and pipes were also recovered from higher deposits in the area indicating that this structure was rebuilt and reused over a considerable period. Two small ovens were excavated within its walls and it seems that they too date to the late phases of the building.

Elsewhere, extensive excavation of the western parodos (entrance-way) has cleared this section of the ancient theatre. It is now possible to walk on part of its original third century AD surface. A mysterious large cut through the floor of the parodos was filled with Hellenistic period pottery; the purpose of this cut is unknown and will be investigated in detail next season. A considerable number of painted plaster fragments of the mid-second century AD were also recovered from this area; they came from the analemma wall of the parodos. Indeed there are still some painted pieces attached
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to the western *analemma* wall, relatively rare finds from surviving ancient theatres and extremely important archaeological evidence of decoration of public buildings.

For the first time, a relatively long section of the eastern *analemma* wall was also cleared this season. Although not as well preserved as its western counterpart, more clearance of this area in the future should reveal the eastern *parodos* as well. Now that the excavation has established the outline of the *cavea* of the theatre it is possible to establish its seating capacity to about 8000 spectators. This capacity makes it one of the largest theatres in ancient Cyprus.

The Department of Antiquities began work on the removal of the upper levels of soil fill covering the semi-circular area of the *cavea*, the lower part of which will be excavated manually in the next season so that the seating carved into the bedrock is completely revealed. Restoration and recreation of the seating is expected to begin shortly after its excavation is concluded. It is hoped that eventually the restored theatre can be used again for performances.

The 2002 excavations revealed a large range of ceramic, glass and metal finds, particularly of the Late Roman, Medieval and Ottoman periods. Considerable progress was made in many aspects of the research of the site. Three important areas should, however, be highlighted: the contribution of the excavations towards a greater understanding of local production of medieval glazed ceramics from the 12th to the 15th centuries, the function and use of ceramic cooking vessels through time and their evidence for changes in dietary patterns from Hellenistic to Ottoman Cyprus, as well as the study of the range and provenance of marble architectural fragments found on the site. The study of these three areas and other aspects of the research of finds will make a substantial contribution to the understanding of the history and archaeology of Classical and post-Classical Cyprus.

While there were many significant individual finds in 2002, perhaps the most important of the discoveries from the season was a large marble slab bearing part of an inscription. The marble slab had been reused and placed face down as a threshold between the western *parodos* and the *orchestra* during modifications to the theatre in the third century AD. Once the slab was lifted in October, part of an inscription recording the dedication and rebuilding of the theatre by the emperors Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius of the mid-second century AD was revealed. The find matches a marble inscription already held in the Paphos Museum, and together they represent an important epigraphic and chronological indicator of the political and cultural significance of the theatre in ancient Nea Paphos.

The 2002 team was the project's largest ever with over 90 people in total participating in the excavations in some way. A series of instructive public tours of the site and seminars on aspects of the research and work were held, and our annual barbeque was a huge success with over 100 guests participating. The team also attended a range of cultural events in Paphos and assisted local archaeologists with excavations of other nearby sites. As always, the excavations enjoyed a close working relationship with the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus and the Municipal Council of Paphos.

The work on writing-up of the material from the excavations continues in earnest with a number of papers related to various aspects of the team's work to be published in 2003-2004. A number of postgraduate dissertations on the project are nearing completion and significant progress is being made towards the publication of a substantial report.
Some Recent Australian Publications:


NEWS IN BRIEF

Scholarship Report:

The Greek Community of Brisbane Archaeological Scholarship for 2001 by Susan Phillips, University of Queensland

The generous contributions of the AAIA and the Greek Community of Brisbane enabled me to visit Greece in July to undertake a programme combining research and practical archaeology. My programme was geared towards the study of Early Cycladic artefacts, Bronze Age sites and participation in an archaeological survey with APKAS (Australian Palaeo-Chora-Kythera Archaeological Survey) all providing a varied and busy schedule.

The AAIA hostel was my home in Athens and the first week was filled with visits to many of the city's sites and museums. One of the highlights of my stay in the Greek capital was the opportunity to work for a few days in the British School's library though clearly its wealth of resources demands much more time. Both the National Archaeological Museum and the Museum of Cycladic Art offer outstanding displays of Early Cycladic pottery and multiple visits were necessary to appreciate the full extent of the inventory. All credit must go to the directors of the Nicholas P. Goulandris Foundation for the remarkable presentation of the Museum of Cycladic Art's collection. The well-appointed

A 10.5m statue in the ancient Naxian quarry at Apollonia.

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NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

The Queensland Friends
(A letter from the Vice-President, Professor R.D. Milns)

Our year started in February with a joint presentation by Associate Professor Dorothy Watts and Professor Bob Milns on the topic of "The Greeks and the Celts in the Classical World". In March we held our AGM, at which Dr Nick Girdis stepped down from the position of President, after holding the office for 12 years. The contribution of Dr Girdis over this time to the Friends and the Institute are inestimable and as an expression of its appreciation the new Executive Committee resolved to make Dr Girdis a Vice-Patron (His Excellency the Governor of Queensland is the Patron). The new President is the former Vice-President, Mrs Pat McNamara, and the new Vice-President is Professor Bob Milns. The next fund-raising activity of the year took place on May 26th, when two videos on the growth of early Christianity were shown, preceded by brief talks on the subject by Associate Professor Dorothy Watts and Professor Bob Milns. In August we had the annual dramatic performance by Mrs Jacquie Noyes and Professor Bob Milns.

This year the thrilling Thespians took as their theme "Love and Death in the Ancient World", the theme being inspired by the recent exhibition of Victorian art held at the Queensland Art Gallery. August also saw the very successful visit to the Department by Professors Burrell and Parker from Macquarie University, with the Friends contributing to the costs of the visit and Dr and Mrs Girdis generously covering the cost of accommodation. The Antiquities Museum was the focus of the September meeting, with Dr Sonia Puttock presenting a lively talk about funerary objects in the Collection. Our year drew to an almost seasonal and certainly convivial close with the Christmas Party on November 23rd held at the home of President Pat McNamara.

Our financial outlays this year have included a donation of $2000 to the Institute, $1500 to the Department to help it meet its annual subscription to the Institute, since our University is not willing to give its support, and a Bursary of $2000 to be awarded to a student of the Department specialising in Greek studies. The winner was Mr. Peter Osborne, currently completing his Honours course at Queensland in Ancient History. A word of appreciation must be given to all the members of the Executive Committee, who work so hard and with such enthusiasm to promote the Institute and its aims. It is always a moot point whether members and friends come to our functions to listen to the speakers or to enjoy the delicious lunch which the committee always prepares. Finally, a special word of thanks must go to the editor of our Newsletter, Mr Chris Griffiths, for producing such an entertaining and informative publication.

The Executive Committee of the Queensland Friends at the farewell dinner for the retiring President, Dr Nick Girdis.
The Society of Mediterranean Archaeology (SOMA) 
The Sydney University Friends 
(A letter from the President, Mr Craig Barker)

We began the year by running a stall at the annual Brighton-le-Sands Greek Festival in February. Our stall was very well received and we attracted many favourable comments on the day. The event fulfilled part of SOMA’s aim: to promote classical archaeology in general and research at the University of Sydney.

Back on campus, SOMA held another successful “meet and greet” day. These are small wine and cheese functions held under the jacaranda tree in the Main Quadrangle of the University and allow students and members to speak informally with visiting scholars. Professor Demetrios Michailides, from the University of Cyprus, thoroughly enjoyed the day in his honour. In addition a welcome function for the first year students was a huge success in raising the profile of the Society among aspiring archaeologists.

On a more academic level, SOMA this year sponsored a number of public lectures held at the University of Sydney. They included Dr John Papadopoulos’ talk entitled “Sir Arthur Evans, the Palace of Minos at Knossos and the Dawn of European Civilization” on April 10, Professor Demetrios Michailides’ talk on Ancient Medicine in Cyprus on May 8 and a talk on Italian rock art by Professor Emmanuel Anati. SOMA also hosted a supper for the 2003 AAIA Visiting Professor Graeme Clarke.

The annual SOMA Christmas Party held on 28 November in the Main Quadrangle was bigger than ever. Over 60 people attended, and SoMA raised several hundred dollars. The highlight of the evening was the official launch of the Olwen Tudor Jones Scholarship by Olwen’s daughters Helen Jarvis and Tori Segal. A generous donation from Olwen’s family has enabled a capital preserved trust to be established, the income from which will allow SOMA to continue to offer its undergraduate travelling scholarship for archaeological fieldwork in the Mediterranean region. In addition, Dr John Papadopoulos, Assistant Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, has recently made a generous donation to the trust, significantly increasing its capital. The 2003 Olwen Tudor Jones scholarship is now on offer for students of the University. Guidelines for applicants are available on the SOMA website: www aaia chass usyd edu au soma.

The 2002 travelling scholarship was awarded to Keryn Paul, who used the money towards her participation in the University of Geneva’s excavations at Pompeii.

ANU (Canberra) Friends 
(A letter from the Secretary, Dr Ann Moffatt)

At the AGM at the beginning of the year Dr Christine O’Hare reported on her studies in Greece as the holder of the first of the Friends’ scholarships to be substantially enhanced through the support of the Hellenic Club of Canberra. Her lecture on “Sublime Space: Byzantine Mosaics in Greece” was held at the Club and a report of her two months in Greece appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Two other lectures were held at the Club: In her talk Professor Barbara Burrell of the University of Cincinnati (visiting Macquarie University as their Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies) compared


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**The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens**

**FELLOWSHIP FOR RESEARCH IN GREECE**

Applications are invited for the 2003-2004 Institute Fellowship

**TENABLE IN GREECE**

1 October 2003 – 31 September 2004

The object of the Fellowship is to support Australian scholars and university staff members, but especially post-graduate students, whose archaeological and other research requires a prolonged stay in Greece.

The value of the Fellowship is $12,000

For further information please contact:

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Applications should be in the hands of the Director by 1 March 2003

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**Front Cover:**

Greek South Italian pelike (Apulian), Antiquities Museum, University of Queensland, Brisbane. (ca. 330–320BC). The obverse illustrated on the cover represents a bridal scene.

**Back Cover:**

The Museum of Antiquities of the University of New England

The Museum of Antiquities of the University of New England has the unique distinction of being the only ancient world archaeological museum in a non-metropolitan region of Australia. Called the "Classics Department Museum" when it was established in 1959 by Dr Maurice Kelly, its contents grew steadily in diversity and excellence over the remainder of the century and beyond.

The extensive collection comprises Mediterranean antiquities to the extent of two-thirds of its holdings, the remainder being ethnographically from around the world, including Asia, Australia, and the Americas. It features a series of touchscreen programs which provide a context for many of the items in the collection, and these have continued to expand right up to the present day. Another innovation in the past decade is the annual lecture in honour of the founder, Dr Maurice Kelly lecture, presented by a distinguished scholar in a field related to antiquities. In 2002, this was given by Dr James Specht.

Its committee is entirely voluntary and the dedication of its members to the maintenance and expansion of the collection is indicated by the fact that the Museum is organised, run and serviced without paid assistance of any kind. The Museum is a vital centre of research as well as teaching, not only of UNE students but also as a learning centre for High Schools, both local and interstate. As well, it provides a public educative function with individuals and small groups travelling long distances to view the collection. For many it is an important part of organised tours of the university and the region. Its unique collection of items, many of which are unavailable elsewhere in regional Australia, provides a range of experiences for the community and scholars, and it continues to go from strength to strength.
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