Happy 2012 from the AAIA

I hope that all of the Institute's members and supporters had a wonderful holiday season. 2012 is already shaping up to be a busy year!

Bulletin

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The Institute’s Bulletin Vol. 8 is on track for completion in February after lots of hard work by our project officer, Camilla Norman. The feature articles in this volume include a piece by Tom Hillard from Macquarie University about “Romans in Greek Thrall” and another by Jenny Webb from La Trobe University about recent Australian fieldwork on Cyprus on the Early and Middle Bronze Age.

Members can expect the Bulletin and the second edition of our Newsletter to be mailed by the end of the month.

**Professor Hermann Kienast arrives on 2 February**

The Institute's second John Atherton Young and Alexander Cambitoglou Professorial Research Fellow, Professor Hermann Kienast, will arrive in Australia next month. Professor Kienast will spend the majority of his time in Sydney undertaking research, but will also give lectures in Sydney, Hobart, Canberra and Melbourne. A full program of his public events will be published in the Institute's first Newsletter of the year.
The Athens Friends are hosting a guided tour of the Benaki Islamic Museum in Athens, led by AAIA staff member Anthoulla Vassilades.

The Benaki Museum of Islamic Art is one of Athens’ hidden gems. Formed around a collection originally started by Antonios Benaki, the museum explores the arts of Islamic cultures stretching from North Africa through to Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent. The exhibits start from the earliest phases of Islamic history among the peoples of the Arabian peninsula and continues through to the nineteenth century.

Why not join the Friends for an introduction to the beautiful world of Islamic ceramics, painting, glassware, architecture and much more?

The Tour will start at the entrance of the Benaki Museum of Islamic Art at 12:00pm on the 29th of January.

After the tour there will be a New Year’s lunch (with a Vassilopitta, of course) at the taverna “Oineas” (Aisopou 9, Psyrri), where the retro decor invokes memories of times gone by, and which features in the successful television comedy serial “50-50.”

Click Here for more information.

Click here for the Benaki Museum’s webpage
Scholarships

Dr Amelia Brown is at present hosting an "Ancient World Study Tour" for students enrolled in the University of Queensland's "ANCH2050" course, which is run over the summer semester.

The AAIA supported two scholarships which have partially subsidized awardees' expenses relating to the tour. Ms Annabel Florence, one of the scholarship award holders, commented:

"The opportunity this tour presents for my future in Ancient History is immeasurable. The scholarship from the AAIA will allow me to complete funding of the trip, providing me with the freedom to concentrate on learning and research and to enjoy and explore Ancient Greece...my sincerest thanks to the AAIA for this generous support"

Photo of Dr Brown by John Fardoulis
The work of the Zagora Project will be highlighted at a number of conferences in 2012.

Team members, Dr Stavros Paspalas, Ms Beatrice McLoughlin, Dr Matt McCallum, Professor Margaret C. Miller and Dr Lesley Beaumont will, of course, be presenting at our own "Zagora in Context" conference in Athens in May.

Zagora's use of "Heurist" (a flexible and innovative database system) will also be highlighted in Southampton by Dr Ian Johnson at the Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology Conference and then at the ANU at the Australasian Association for Digital Humanities Conference by Dr McCallum and Steven Hayes (pictured). Dr Johnson is Director and Mr Steven Hayes the Business Development and Project Manager for Arts e-Research. This Unit developed the software, is a partner in the Zagora Project and an AAIA corporate member.