Work Experience at the Institute

A student from Sydney Girls High School, Cleo Elizabeth-Robertson, recently completed a week’s work experience at the AAIA.
“This year I was lucky enough to be able to complete my work experience at the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens. I’ve always wanted to be an archaeologist, and the chance to come to work with the Institute was a dream come true.

I arrived, somewhat nervously, at 9:30 am on a Monday morning, and was soon swept up in a bevy of truly amazing experiences that gave me an insight into the working life of an archaeologist. My first day was spent working in the labs with Dr. Kate da Costa, sorting diagnostic pottery sherds. Handling the ancient sherds was a revelatory experience, and reaffirmed that I had made the right decision at age 4, and this was what I wanted to do with my life. I learned a huge amount about pottery and identifying the original location of each piece in the complete vessel. The next four days in my far too short week were spent working in the main office and library helping to manage the Institute’s collections. I was interested in experiencing the parts of an Archaeologist’s job that have nothing to do with excavations and artefacts, as I have never really taken the time to consider just how much work it is to organise and fund expeditions, and how much data and research must be undertaken before a site can be published.

It has been a great privilege to complete my work experience at the Institute, and I would like to thank everyone who took the time to include me in their work for an insightful, educational and delightful week.”

Zagora "Blog"

As many of you will be aware fieldwork has been underway at the site of Zagora on Andros for the last month. If you want to keep completely up to date with the latest news from the site make sure you read the site blog, written by Irma Havlicek from the Powerhouse Museum.

The blog reveals how complex archaeological field work can be and also shows off the wonderful island of Andros to good effect.

You can read the blog here.

PROMOTION

A range of free and discounted fares were made available to the Zagora team through Virgin Australia.
"Virgin Australia has been designed to put the magic back into flying. Whether you’re flying for business or pleasure, we’re committed to providing a customer experience that is seamless, affordable, and inspiring.

In addition to our domestic product offering, Virgin Australia offers an extensive worldwide network with our alliance partners. Virgin Australia offers up to 13 flights a week from Sydney to Athens with our alliance partners, Etihad Airways and Singapore Airlines."

For more information visit www.virginaustralia.com

Ancient Food and Wine night at the Nicholson Museum; a great success

The Sydney University Greek Society team in the cloister of the Main Quadrangle

The Sydney Friends of the AAIA hosted another of its ancient wine and food nights on October 15, this time with the Friends of the Nicholson Museum as co-hosts.

Chef David Tsirekas from Xanthi Bar and Grill took guests on a culinary tour of the ancient world. For people with more adventurous palates camel pastourma and chocolate coated insects (in this case crickets) proved to be unexpected taste sensations!.

The Sydney University Greek Society (SUGS) deserves special thanks for providing volunteer wait staff for the night.

You can see all of the photographs from the evening on the AAIA Flickr feed.
**Aphrodite's Island: Australian Archaeologists in Cyprus**

The Nicholson Museum and the High Comission of the Republic of Cyprus cordially invite AAIA members to the launch of this exhibition and accompanying catalogue, which celebrate the Cypriot archaeological collections of the Museum and the Australian researchers who have investigated the island's history.

To be officially opened by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Chancellor of the University of Sydney.

Where: Nicholson Museum, University of Sydney
When: Thursday 29 November, 6-8pm
RSVP: 9351 2812
Or email: nicholson.museum@sydney.edu.au

*The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens is a sponsor of the excavations at Nea Paphos in Cyprus.*

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Institute**

The Institute will be shutting down from 5 December 2012, until 2 January 2013. The staff would like to wish all of our donors, members and supporters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Without your support we would not be able to continue our work promoting Hellenic Studies in Greece and in Australia.

You can make a donation to help our work on the University of Sydney site. Just select “Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens” in the pull-down list under “Purpose”. All donations are tax deductible.