Welcome

Welcome to the Summer 2019 issue of Epistula. This is my first issue as Editor, as Matthew has passed on the reigns now that he is chairing the Archaeology Committee. I don’t have quite the publishing experience of Matthew but hopefully I’ll be able to keep up the high standard he set.

In this issue, I conducted my first interview for Epistula, meeting Lindsay Allason-Jones to find out about an exhibition on comics around Hadrian’s Wall at Segedunum Fort, see page 5. There were certainly lots of laughs at the launch and I can definitely recommend a visit.

Despite us having a fairly dry winter, it seems most of you were inside as we don’t have any News from the Field this issue. However, what you were all doing, apparently, was writing books, as we have a bumper selection of new books by members to test your purse strings (from page 12).

With summer here there are an exciting range of conferences and exhibitions coming up, including a range of different activities at Cirencester and the chance to win 4 tickets to Last Supper in Pompeii at the Ashmolean Museum Oxford which runs to January next year (see pages 9 and 10) for more details.

I hope you enjoy this issue, keep on sending in your news about events, publications and research.

Frances McIntosh
Editor

Events roundup

In March, the Society hosted with the Hellenic Society an evening of three lectures on the theme of Memorialisation. Jon Hesk spoke about the Athenian funeral speeches: commemoration, exhortation, justification and glorification. Dr Tiziana D’Angelo followed with a talk entitled: Colours of memory in South Italian funerary painting and Dr Valerie Hope ended with a moving and, at times, personal talk: Mini memorials: the possessions of the Roman dead as objects of memory. All three lectures are available to watch online: www.youtube.com/c/RomanSociety

The Society held its AGM on the hottest day of the year (so far!) Saturday 1 June. The AGM was followed by a colloquium on ‘Roman Dictators and Dictatorship’. The President, Tim Cornell spoke on Roman dictators and modern politics, followed by Catherine Steel on Sulla’s dictatorship: revival or recreation?, Federico Santangelo: From Paris to Turi:

Professor Tim Cornell, President of The Roman Society

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constructions of Caesarisms, and Maria Wyke on Roman Dictatorship in Britain: Shaw’s Caesar and Cleopatra on stage and screen. All four lectures are also available to watch online: www.youtube.com/c/RomanSociety

A few days later, the Roman Society hosted an event with the British School at Rome, generously sponsored by a member of the BSR and Roman Society. Professor Ian Haynes and Dr Thea Ravasi spoke on Enriching the soldiers, scorning the rest? New evidence for the impact of Septimius Severus’ restoration of Rome.

Dates for Diary
On Wednesday 3 July, the Hellenic and Roman Societies will host a one-day conference on Saving Ancient Treasures for the World at Senate House.

Programme:
10.30 Doors to Beveridge Hall open
11.00 Welcome – Professor Tim Cornell (President, Roman Society)
Chair and respondent: Dr Jonathan Tubb
11.10 Issam Al Hajjar (Syrian Heritage Archive Project, Berlin): A digital archive supporting the Syrian heritage
12.00 Professor Eleanor Robson (UCL): The human dimension: supporting the intellectual and social infrastructure of heritage in conflict and beyond
1.00 lunch
Chair and respondent: Dr Jen Baird
2.00 Dr John Curtis (CEO Iran Heritage Foundation): The destruction, preservation and restoration of cultural heritage in Iraq
3.00 Colonel Matthew Bogdanos (Chief, Antiquities Trafficking Unit, NY District Attorney’s Office): ISIS & Al-Qaeda: Their Destruction of Cultural Heritage
3.45 tea
Chair and respondent: Dr Andrew Burnett
4.15 Professor Roger Bland (formerly Keeper of Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory, British Museum): A licence to loot or archaeological rescue? The Portable Antiquities Scheme in England and Wales
5.00 Panel Discussion – Chair: Dr Philip Kay
6.00 Closing words - Professor Judith Mossman (President, Hellenic Society)

Admission is free, and includes lunch, and tea in the afternoon.

Tickets for attendance must be obtained in advance by online registration:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/saving-ancient-treasures-for-the-world-tickets-61642711008

The Societies thank the Institute of Classical Studies for its assistance in staging this conference, and Mr Christian Levett, owner of Minerva magazine, for his generous support.

FIEC Congress /Classical Association Conference 2019
On 4-8 July, the Roman Society, along with the Hellenic Society, Classical Association, the ICS and London Colleges will host the FIEC Congress & Classical Association Conference.

All information and registration may be found on the dedicated website: www.fiec2019.org

Two events may be booked separately without registering for the congress.

There is a public (free) event at 6.30pm Thursday 4 July, Classics in the 21st Century, with Rosa Andújar, Johanna Hanink, Angie Hobbs, Elena Isayev, Mai Musié, Jo Quinn.


A film screening Entering the Classical World through Silent Cinema will take place at the Bloomsbury Theatre on Saturday 6 July, 7.30pm.

A live screening of four rarely seen by remarkable films about ancient Greece and Rome. They will be introduced briefly by Maria Wyke (UCL) and Pantelis Michelakis (University of Bristol). The professional pianist (Stephen Horne, http://www.stephenhorne.co.uk/) will improvise
A number of Society events are taking place in the autumn.

On Saturday 12 October, the Society will hold a conference at Senate House to mark the anniversary of the death of Germanicus in AD19.

Programme:

2.00 Introduction
2.10 Dr Siobhan Chomse (Royal Holloway): Irony and the sublime: On Tour with Germanicus in Tacitus Annals 2
2.50 Professor Richard Alston (Royal Holloway): Germanicus: Sovereignty and Imperium
3.30 Tea
4.00 Professor Roland Mayer (King’s College London): Death and Transfiguration: Poussin and Germanicus
4.40 Professor Beth Severy-Hoven (Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota): The Politics of Mourning
5.30 Closing remarks & Reception

On Tuesday 12 November, the Society will host a book launch for Peter Wiseman’s The House of Augustus, with Peter Wiseman, Henry Hurst and Mary Beard. A wine reception will follow and copies of the books will be available to buy. The event is generously sponsored by Princeton University Press.

On Saturday 17 November, the Society will hold its annual joint conference with the Association for Roman Archaeology at the British Museum. This year, the theme is Roman Temples in Britain and Gaul: recent discoveries and interpretations.

Programme:

1.30 Introduction
1.45 Professor Ralph Haeussler (University of Lampeter) Searching for patterns in temple architecture in Gallia Narbonensis
14.30 Dr Andrew Birley (Vindolanda Trust) - Thunder, blood and iron, a god for those far from home and at home. The worship of Jupiter Dolichenus in Roman Britain
3.15 Tea
3.45 Professor Michael Fulford (University of Reading) - The Discovery of a New Temple in Silchester Insula
4.30 Professor Tony King (University of Winchester and ARA) - Hayling Island and Meonstoke. Two rural Roman temples in Hampshire: new discoveries and interpretations
5.15 Closing words

On Friday 30 November – Sunday 1 December, the Society is collaborating with the Royal Institute of Archaeology to hold a conference on the theme: Romans in North-East England: Recent research.

Programme

Friday, 29 November: 18.00 - 20.00
18.00-18.30 Registration
Introduction: The Romans in North-East England
Discussion

Saturday, 30 November: 9.30 - 18.00
9.30-10.00 Late registration/coffee
Aldborough (Martin Millett and Rose Ferraby)
Corbridge (Ian Haynes and colleagues)
Scotch Corner (Dave Fell)
Indigenous Settlement in the Tees Valley (Jenny Proctor and Nansi Rosenberg)
Dere Street: York to Corbridge – A numismatic perspective (Richard Brickstock)
Panel Discussion followed by a Wine Reception
Society news/Interview

Sunday, 1 December: 9.30 - 13.30
Piercebridge (Hella Eckardt and Philippa Walton)
Catterick (Speaker TBC)
Winchester (Speaker TBC)
Brough (Peter Halkon)
Norton (John Buglass)
Closing Discussion

No booking is required for the 12 November event. Booking forms for the three conferences are available: www.romansociety.org/events

Roman Archaeology Conference, Croatia, April 2020

The next Roman Archaeology Conference is being held in Split, Croatia, from Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 April. Excursions will be scheduled for Wednesday 15 and Sunday 19. The call for sessions has now closed and sessions’ proposals are now being considered by the RAC Executive Committee.

A Call for Papers will follow in June/July 2019.

This is a participative conference where more than half the delegates are speaking, so all delegates are expected to pay the conference fee. This helps keep the fees as low as possible and also maximises participation and engagement.

The total registration fee for all three days of the Conference is as follows:

- Early bird (until 31.1.20)/Standard
  - Full price: £110 / £130
  - Member: £90 / £110
  - Student: £70 / £90

A registration fee for delegates who will attend the Conference only for one day is also available. The daily conference fee is £50. The dedicated RAC website is here: www.romansocietyrac.ac.uk

Hellenic and Roman Library Fundraising

Since the last issue of Epistula, we have continued to receive donations from generous individuals and trusts. We are especially delighted to announce a grant of almost £60,000 from the A.G. Leventis Foundation to create a two-year post for a Scanner Operator who will work on digitising items from the Library’s collection.

How to donate

If you would like to make a donation to support the Library, please do so online: https://www.hellenicandromanlibrary.org/Support-Us/Donate or contact Dr Fiona Haarer (office@romansociety.org) for a brochure. We are grateful for all contributions, however small.

Forthcoming library events

Wednesday 16 October, 6-8pm, Macmillan Hall, Senate House:

Homer Today

A panel chaired by Martha Kearney will discuss all the latest developments in research and interpretation of the Iliad and Odyssey. Panelists include Professor Edith Hall (King’s College London) and Professor Nicoletta Momigliano (University of Bristol).

The event will be held in the Macmillan Hall, Senate House, and be followed by a reception in the Library. More details about how to book will be available later in the year.

Interview

Lindsay Allason-Jones met Frances McIntosh at the opening of Borderline Funny a temporary exhibition at Segedunum Roman Fort running from 24th May to 22nd September.

https://segedunumromanfort.org.uk/whats-on/borderline-funny

F: So how did this exhibition come about?
L: The Friends of Segedunum wanted to do something, hopefully an exhibition, to commemorate the work of Roger Oram (http://archaeosoup.com/mta-roger-oram/). Roger was an extremely talented artist who produced the Arbeia Society magazine for years. When he died in 2016 he left his archive to Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums (TWAM) who run both Arbeia and Segedunum Forts.

F: And how did you get involved?
L: The Friends spoke to the staff at TWAM about the...
possibility of doing some form of exhibition, to coincide with the Pilgrimage, and whilst there was willing, there was unfortunately no funding. Bill Griffiths and I suggested to the Friends that they apply for money from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (HLF as was then) to put on this exhibition, which would be led by the Friends, with input from curatorial staff and myself.

Entrance to the Borderline Funny exhibition

It would be both a learning experience for the Friends and a chance to put on an exhibition about cartoons based on Hadrian’s Wall for the first time.

F: So how did it all work? Was it as the Friends imagined creating an exhibition would be?!

L: Ken Hutchinson, the chair of the Friends will tell you that the hardest part of it all was filling in the funding form (after reading the very long guidance documents)! The Friends really were involved in every aspect, from searching newspaper archives, contacting Private Eye for use of images, painting walls, writing text and making refreshments for the launch. They were an extremely dedicated bunch and I found it a pleasure to work with them.

F: How is the exhibition structured?

L: The hardest part about planning this exhibition was deciding on a structure (well after choosing from the vast number of cartoons we had). Some of the cartoons are just plain funny, whilst others need some context in order to understand them.

The first section includes an introduction to the topic along with two Roman stones from the Clayton Collection with graffiti on. We wanted to both bring some 3D items into the display, and demonstrate that the Romans had a sense of humour too!

The second section covers Roger Oram, who dedicated his career to the Wall in Tyneside. We could have filled the entire space with his work alone, but had to make some tough decisions.

The third section covers all the general cartoons split into different topics; political, environmental, educational and ‘plain funny’. The educational section includes cartoons by Helen Forte, the artist behind Minimus, the children’s Latin books.

Last, but definitely not least, we ran sessions with local schoolchildren. These were led by Beano comic artist Nigel Auchterlounie (or Mr Octaloony) and over 100 cartoons inspired by Hadrian’s Wall are now part of the exhibition.
Interview

F: Tell us about Viz....
L: Well, it turns out that there were a lot of illustrations in Viz relating to Hadrian’s Wall, perhaps not surprising when you consider it is a North East based magazine. Unfortunately, despite the great support of Chris Donald, the founder, who offered the use of all images we wanted, there was only one which passed our family friendly criteria! The Friends did suggest having a side room (similar to the Gabinetto Segreto at Naples Museum). We were extremely lucky that Private Eye and Doug Lawrence from Current Archaeology also allowed us to use their images. In fact Doug Lawrence got so keen on the project he drew new illustrations specifically for the exhibition, such as the one showing Trump planning to build a wall and stating he will make the Picts and Caledonians pay for it!!

F: What is the oldest comic?
L: We were surprised to find that the earliest cartoon we could find dated to 1872. Hadrian’s Wall has been studied for centuries and so we just assumed that we would be able to find earlier cartoons. However we came to the conclusion that cartoons were for a popular audience, not simply the antiquarian/academic audience. It took until the late 19th century for Hadrian’s Wall to become well known enough for cartoonists to see it as a suitable subject.

Our oldest comic features John Collingwood Bruce, so extremely fitting for a Pilgrimage year as he was the founding father of the Hadrian’s Wall Pilgrimage. It is entitled ‘Canny Newcassel Diary and Rememberancer’ and was all about the Newcastle School Board Elections, John Collingwood Bruce stood and wasn’t elected. He is shown naked, outside of the circle, sat on Hadrian’s Wall. He is not named, so the fact he is sat on Hadrian’s Wall is seen as being enough to identify him. It shows just how well known Bruce was, and his link to the Wall.

F: Any last words/thoughts?
L: Come along and contribute your own comic, and have a laugh at the same time!
Please note that this grant is not for people to attend courses organised by someone else.

Awards are typically £250 or less, but there is the potential for larger awards should a compelling case be made.

We would be grateful if you would email Public Engagement applications to the Society’s Outreach Officer Rebecca Gowland (rebecca.gowland@durham.ac.uk) and Development applications to the Development Officer Ursula Rothe (ursula.rothe@open.ac.uk).

Deadline for applications is 1 October 2019.

Where an attendance fee is payable, it is expected that events receiving awards would offer a special rate to Roman Society members. When timings permit it is also requested that a short piece of text (less than 300 words) is supplied to promote the event in Epistula, the Society’s digital newsletter.

Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society’s Research Fund

Until recently the fund gave grants of between £500 and £1,000, but additional resources mean that considerably larger sums are now possible.

Grants are available to anyone wishing to research the history or archaeology of Leicestershire or Rutland (see www.lahs.org.uk for guidelines and criteria).

As a region with a formerly strong Roman presence, there is a broad scope of potential research which could be funded.

Conferences, Meetings & Exhibitions

Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP) Annual Conference

This year’s SGRP conference will take place at Red Lion Hotel, Atherstone, Warwickshire, CV9 1BB, on the weekend of 5–7 July, starting on Friday afternoon and finishing at lunchtime on Sunday.

Atherstone is situated on Watling Street, near to the Mancetter and Hartshill production centre, so this will form the main focus of the weekend, but other papers will look at the wider regional context and pottery production elsewhere.

Speakers will include Dr Roger White on the Roman West Midlands, Kay Hartley (doyenne of mortaria studies) on the
Conferences, Meetings & Exhibitions

Mancetter-Hartshill potters, Dr Mike Hodder on the excavations at Wall, Fiona Seeley (MOLA) on the Moorgate potters, Geoff Dannell on samian studies and Jane Evans (Worcester) on the Mancetter-Hartshill archive project.

The full conference package (£80 for SGRP members, £70 for students and £88 for non-members) includes dinner on Friday night, visits to Mancetter and Wall on Saturday afternoon by coach, plus the conference dinner on Saturday night. Accommodation should be booked separately.

Please contact the Hon. Treasurer (Dr Diana Briscoe) at archive@aasps.org.uk for a booking form if you would like to attend. The deadline for booking is Monday 1 July 2019.

The Association for Latin Teaching
Summer School for Teachers of Classics
Monday 29th July – Friday 2nd August College, Gloucestershire, GL53 7LD.
http://www.arlt.co.uk/2019.html

Option groups:
• GCSE, AS and A2 set texts, Latin & Greek
• Classical Civilisation topics
• Latin/Greek language
• KS3 Latin, Common Entrance, CLC
• New Testament Greek/Medieval Latin
• Hands on Roman life workshops
• Starting out in Classics teaching
• Using technology in Classics teaching/Classics
• Classical book group

Corinium Museum Events

Roman Bones
Festival of Archaeology
Afternoon Talk with James Harris
Thurs 25 July, 2-4pm
An afternoon talk offering a Special opportunity to examine up close a selection of human remains from the Roman and Saxon periods. Learn about the techniques used to identify gender, age and health. No archaeological experience necessary. Cost: £7.25 per adult, £6.25 members Not suitable for children. Booking recommended.

Town Walk with Amanda Hart
Tues 30 July, 10.30-11.30am
A walk discovering Cirencester’s Roman heritage beneath your feet. Join Amanda for a tour of the town exploring archaeological discoveries and hearing about the development of Corinium. 1 hour. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring a rain coat! Meet at the museum. Cost: £7.25 per adult, £6.25 members. Booking recommended. Limited to 10 people.

Colour in the Roman World
Afternoon Talk with Dr Valija Evalds
Thurs 08 August, 2-3pm
In the ancient world, pigments used in dyes and paints varied tremendously in cost. The colour of people’s walls and clothing could show a great deal about their status, and how they rated particular events or guests. Join us and Dr Valija Evalds to explore the sources and meanings of colour in the Roman world. Cost: £7.25 per adult, £6.25 members. Booking recommended.
Conferences, Meetings & Exhibitions

Miranda Aldhouse-Green is Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at Cardiff University. Her main research interests are in the religious beliefs and practices of Iron Age and Roman Britain and Europe, and she has published widely in this area. Her latest book, Sacred Britannia has been shortlisted for the Current Archaeology Book of the Year Award, and is currently being considered for the Wolfson History Prize.

Cost: £7.25 per adult, £6.25 members. Booking recommended.

To book call 01285 655611 or book online at www.coriniummuseum.org

Last Supper in Pompeii
25 July 2019 – 12 January 2020
The John Sainsbury Exhibition Galleries, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
£12.25/£11.25 concessions;
Purchase at the museum or book online

When the ash from Mount Vesuvius began raining down on Pompeii in AD 79, people in and around the town were engaged in typical Italian activities – eating, drinking and producing food. Located in the sunny paradise of southern Italy, Pompeii was sandwiched between lush vineyards and fertile orchards to one side and the bountiful waters of the Bay of Naples on the other. The town produced more wine, olive oil and fish-sauce than it could consume, and exported its gourmet products across Italy.

Everything from the exquisite mosaics from the villas of the wealthy to the remains found in kitchen drains reveal what the people of Pompeii ate and drank. Last Supper In Pompeii I explores this ancient Roman love affair with food (and wine), showing where the Romans got their culinary inspiration and how they exported sophisticated ingredients and recipes across the empire, as far afield as Britain.

Many of the 300 objects, on loan from Pompeii and Naples, have never before left Italy. They range from the spectacular furnishings of the Roman dining room to actual food which was carbonized as the volcano erupted.

Epistula XVII, 9
The Ashmolean have kindly offered four complimentary tickets for the exhibition. They will be awarded to the first four readers to email the Secretary (Fiona Haarer: office@romansociety.org) with the answer to the question:

What are the imperial titles on the latest coin of Titus from the excavations at Pompeii?

The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated publication; £25, available at the Ashmolean or online. https://www.ashmolean.org/article/last-supper-in-pompeii

Hoard: A Hidden History of Ancient Britain
29th June – 28 September
Brading Roman Villa

Discover buried treasure in an exhibition that focuses on hoarding in ancient Britain. Find out why people hid precious objects in the ground and never retrieved them. The exhibition brings together spectacular finds from the British Museum and Salisbury Museum. Also a display of coins found locally in Island hoards.

www.bradingromanvilla.org.uk

Brading Roman Villa is open daily from 10am - 5pm (last entry 4pm). Adults £9.50, children (5-16) £4.75, senior citizens £8.75, family ticket (up to 2 adults + 3 children) £25.

The Westerham Hoard. A hoard of gold Iron Age coins found inside a hollow flint in 1927. © The Trustees of the British Museum

Digital Resources

Britannia and Journal of Roman Studies Monographs now online

The Roman Society has published two monograph series, each corresponding to the areas of interest of its two journals. The first Britannia Monograph was published in 1981 (D.S. Neal, Roman Mosaics in Britain), and in the following year the JRS series was launched (J. Reynolds, Aphrodisias and Rome). The twelfth and final monograph in the latter series (P. Thonemann et al., Monumenta Asiae Minoris Antiqua Vol XI. Monuments from Phrygia and Lykaonia) was published in 2013. The Britannia series is continuing, and the most recent volume was published in 2018 (No. 32, M. Fulford et al., Late Iron Age Calleva. The Pre-Conquest Occupation at Silchester Insula IX).

The scope of both series is very wide, and their 44 volumes collectively represent a vital contribution to the documentation and understanding of the Roman world. The back-list up until 2015 has now been placed online with the Archaeology Data Service (https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/library), including the content on microfiche. Future volumes in the Britannia series will continue to appear in print, and there will be a delay of three years after the date of publication before they are made available online.

Paul Bidwell
Editor, Britannia Monographs

Re-introducing OASIS

OASIS (https://oasis.ac.uk/) is a data capture form through which archaeological and heritage practitioners can provide information about their investigations to local Historic Environment Records (HERs) and respective National Heritage Bodies. As well as being an information-gathering medium, the OASIS records also allow the
practitioner/contractor to upload reports for the HERs to access, and for release in the Library of the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

The current form dates back to 2004, initially for use in in England and latterly for Scotland and the maritime zone of Wales. OASIS has recorded over 30,000 records, with nearly 50,000 reports transferred into the ADS Library. Although a major success, the time is now right for the system to be rebuilt to accommodate a wider range of workflows, facilitate efficient public access to reports, and link digital and physical resources together. The redevelopment of the form is a key part of Historic England's Heritage Information Access Strategy (HIAS), with additional funding from Historic Environment Scotland to support reporting to Archaeology Scotland's annual summary of fieldwork: Discovery and excavation in Scotland. The new OASIS system will allow Welsh HERs to copy their records and reports into the Library, and it is hoped that the form will also be used for projects within Northern Ireland.

The redevelopment is now actively underway, and the new form is due for public rollout after March 2020. The form is open to all types of project, including research projects undertaken by Higher Education bodies or local research societies. To encourage a high uptake by the archaeological community, the new form aims to:

- Create a modern interface that reduces the amount of time to record a project
- Uses modern technology to increase accuracy
- Reduce duplication of effort
- Expedite transfer of unpublished reports in the ADS Library for public access.

Specifically, the new version will allow the user to:

- Use current standards for the recording of events, objects and monuments, allowing records to be cross-searched consistently and accurately.
- Record projects using accurate spatial metadata
- Record the location of physical and digital archives, with links to museum holdings
- Incorporate and link to the new generation of Research Frameworks in England and Scotland
- Record published resources in their record
- Efficiently transfer reports into the ADS Library, and provide accurate citation for via use of Digital Object Identifiers.

**Impact for study of the Roman period**

At the time of writing, 4886 reports relating to the Roman period in the UK have been transferred from OASIS into the ADS Library. These represent a wide geographic spread, from the Isles of Scilly to north of the Antonine wall.

These reports (freely available under the ADS terms and conditions of use) represent a broad range of projects, from large scale excavations to smaller evaluative works and surveys, and cover the gamut of site types and finds: from urban and rural settlement [https://doi.org/10.5284/1045994](https://doi.org/10.5284/1045994) to religious sites and funerary remains [https://doi.org/10.5284/1001160](https://doi.org/10.5284/1001160).

Providing online public access to such a wealth of information has facilitated a range of research, the most high profile of which was the Roman Rural Settlement of Roman Britain project [https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449](https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449), which drew heavily on OASIS reports for a reinterpretation of the rural landscape.

It is the hoped that with the successful redevelopment that OASIS will facilitate information exchange between the various research, commercial and curatorial sectors, allow for increased access to records and reports by the wider community and thus encourage a new wave of innovative research and understanding of the Roman period.

More information on the redevelopment can be found on the OASIS website [https://oasis.ac.uk/](https://oasis.ac.uk/) which features a blog [https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/blog/oasis/](https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/blog/oasis/)
which is regularly updated with news and information on the project. Alternatively, if you wish to find out more about OASIS including how to register as a test user, please contact Tim Evans at herald@ads.ac.uk.

**Books**

**Paul Bidwell 2018**  
*Hadrian’s Wall at Wallsend*  
The Arbeia Society and Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums  
262pp and CD  
156 illustrations. £35  
ISBN 9781527229969  
This wide-ranging report describes not only the building of Hadrian’s Wall at Wallsend and its rebuildings but also the distribution system of the fort aqueduct, the defences of the military *vicus* and ritual deposits of weaponry in the later 3rd century. Other chapters look at the evidence on which the full-size reconstruction of the Wall was based, for temples east of the fort and for occupation, including buildings, immediately beyond the Wall.


**David J. Breeze 2019**  
*Hadrian’s Wall. A Study in Archaeological Exploration and Interpretation*  
Archaeopress  
195 pp, 125 colour and b&w illustrations. £20  
The lectures on which this publication was based were delivered as the Rhind Lectures to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in May 2019. Two chapters focus on the history of research on Hadrian’s Wall over the last 200 years while two explore the changing function and operation of the frontier over its 300-year life. The impact of Rome on life on and around the frontier is the subject of the fifth chapter. The final chapter considers how we study Hadrian’s Wall and looks forward to future research.

**Duncan B Campbell 2018**  
*The Fate of the Ninth: The Curious Disappearance of One of Rome’s Legions*  
Boca della Verità/Amazon Direct Publishing, £11.99  
ISBN 9781791768331  
The disappearance of the Ninth Legion is a mystery that has piqued the interest of historians and archaeologists since the eighteenth century. They knew that it had formed part of the Roman garrison of Britain from the time of the emperor Claudius, but there was no record of its involvement in the great frontier works of the second century. It seemed simply to have disappeared. What had happened to it?

In this book, archaeologist Duncan B. Campbell, a leading expert on the Roman army, traverses the Roman Empire, from Lincoln, York and Carlisle, via Petra in Jordan, Lambaesis in Algeria, and Rome itself, to Nijmegen, Aachen, and the Bay of Naples, following the trail of research down through the decades. Along the way, we meet a fascinating cast of characters, as each (often unwittingly) contributes some new insight or item of evidence critical to cracking the age-old mystery.

**Lawrence Keppie and Susan Bryson**  
*Pontius Pilate. The Scottish Connection*  
Glasgow Archaeological Society, £3 + pp  
Every Scotsman knows that Pontius Pilate, the prefect of Judaea at the time of the Crucifixion, came from Perthshire. This 16-page colourful booklet tells how, according to local tradition, he...
was born in the village of Fortingall, beneath an ancient yew tree, and charts the growth of the legend, whose origins can be traced to the mid 19th century.

From a much earlier date, The Royal Scots, the oldest regiment of the line in the British army, was priding itself on having been Pontius Pilate’s bodyguard, as illustrated by this cartoon of 1931 by the artist E. V. Howell; the soldiers are clad in an amusing combination of Roman and Scottish uniforms. Copies of the booklet can be obtained, price £3 plus postage, from the Publications Officer of the Glasgow Archaeological Society (elaineshearer@btinternet.com).

The photograph is reproduced by kind permission of The Royal Scots Heritage Committee.
people and objects fostered pan-regional culture(s) and transformed societies. Using a rich database of cemeteries and settlements spanning a swathe of northwest Europe, including southern Britannia, Gallia Belgica, and Germania Inferior, the study extensively applies multivariate statistics (such as Correspondence Analysis) to examine the roles of objects in an ever-changing and richly complex cultural milieu.

Bernhard Woytek (ed.) 2018
Infrastructure and Distribution in Ancient Economies. Proceedings of a conference held at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, 28–31 October 2014
Austrian Academy of Sciences Press
JSTOR
www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvddzgz9

This volume presents the proceedings of the international interdisciplinary founding conference of the division “Documenta Antiqua” at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Culture of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Vienna), held in 2014. The research focus of the new division are the source disciplines of ancient history: mainly epigraphy, numismatics and papyrology.

The book contains an introductory essay as well as 17 contributions on various aspects of ancient infrastructure and on the flow of money, goods and services in ancient economies: in the classical and Hellenistic Greek world, the Roman Empire and in ancient Iran, from Neo-Assyrian times to the Parthian and Sasanian periods. In a general perspective, there is a special emphasis on numismatic contributions.

So far, numismatics hardly played a part in modern research on the ancient infrastructure, although money and financial services are universally acknowledged to be indispensable elements of the infrastructure of modern societies. Hence, in this volume numismatics is fully integrated into research on the circulation of goods and the infrastructure of the ancient world for the very first time.

Among the topics covered in these innovative contributions the following may be singled out: the economic implications of the extensive countermarking of Hellenistic silver coinages in Asia Minor; the importation and monetary use of blocks of foreign and obsolete bronze coins; patterns of coin production and coin distribution in the Roman Empire in the principate; structures of minting in ancient Iran in the Arsacid and Sasanian periods.

Concrete is not always a word associated with architectural magnificence, but it is certainly the key to the Pantheon’s glory. This structure in Rome is one of the most powerful and famous buildings to survive from classical antiquity. While a detailed knowledge of Roman building styles and a lively imagination – or a handy reconstruction drawing – are often needed to appreciate the original splendour of ancient masterpieces, the Pantheon still packs a punch. The sense of space and light as you pass from the shadowy porch into the rotunda is breathtaking. Light floods in through the oculus at the pinnacle of the dome, which was made of concrete and may have been lined with bronze. Alas, the original marble decoration at the base of the dome was removed in the 18th century, to make way for the ‘improved’ version visible today.

The current Pantheon is believed to be the third one to occupy the plot, after earlier ventures by Agrippa and Domitian were ravaged by fire. It seems that building work started under Trajan, with Hadrian bringing the scheme to fruition sometime around AD 125. In a gesture of deference to the original dedicant, it is Agrippa’s name that appears above the porch.
Despite the stunning internal space created within, it remains unclear what this was used for. The name Pantheon has been taken to suggest a temple of ‘all the gods’, but it is also possible that the rotunda created an arena where a living emperor could appear alongside statues of his divine predecessors. If so, the architecture creates a fitting bridge between the mortal and divine realms.

### Artefact of the Issue

**Iron ring AD 140–160, displayed at the Museum of London Docklands in the current exhibition “Roman Dead”**.

During the Archaeological excavations at Crossrail Broadgate/Liverpool Street Station, two burials from the AD 2nd century were found. One of a young adult male and the other of an adult of undetermined sex; in both instances the head and the neck have been truncated making it difficult to establish if they were also decapitation burials.

On the body of the decapitated adult male dated AD 140–60, aged 26 to 35, a complete open ring was found fitted around the right wrist. The left arm was removed by 19th century disturbances and the left hand was found close by similarly aligned to the right raising the possibility that a similar ring would have been placed on the left wrist.

The ring is unwieldy, even without osteological evidence, the ring could have been forged onto the arm causing extreme pain. This ring is large, heavy, almost 0.5 kg and welded shut, with an internal diameter of 58mm, a typical range of sizes for anular bracelets. Iron jewellery from Roman times is generally less robust and less thick than the present sample. Iron shackles have never been found in Roman London and there are only few examples found in Roman Britain, one was found at Driffield Terrace, York - consequently the significance of this item is open to various interpretations.

As this object was found on the wrist of a man rather than a woman, this item might have been a symbolic tool. It might have been thought to assist the deceased in their journey into afterlife or to impede the deceased from walking back into the living. It could be to ensure that the deceased’s living status, for example, that of a slave or criminal or deviant, would be retained in the afterlife. Unusual strategies for the restraint of the deceased, also found in Northern Italy, raise the issue of practices reacting to a specific social situation. This artefact could be evidence of the representation of burial material strategies in the Roman world aimed at a lower social class in Roman society, perhaps even representing aspects of Roman magic in Roman Britain.

Bibliography: Ranieri S., Telfer A. 2017 *Outside Roman London: Roadside Burials by the Walbrook Stream* MOLA

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