Welcome
A warm welcome to this 7th issue of Epistula, the twice-yearly newsletter from the Roman Society. This issue contains news of the recent Roman Archaeology Conference, and information on recent excavations, research and publications.

This newsletter relies on you for information which you think will interest your fellow Romanists, so please do send in your news on recent research, upcoming talks or new publications for the next edition.

Ben Croxford and Louise Revell
Editors

Society News

Round-Up
Two evening lectures have been held in London. In January, the Society was pleased to host the biennial M.V. Taylor Lecture delivered by one of our recently elected Honorary Members, Dr Michel Amandry, who spoke on Antinous: life and death of a god. In March, the Society’s Treasurer, Dr Philip Kay, gave a lecture to mark the publication of his new book: Rome’s Economic Revolution. Economic Growth in the late Roman Republic, followed by a book launch. The lecture can be followed on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1dlQ6WI2PoWKhsaBEMgBAQQRcr81McQI

Also in March, the Society was pleased to co-host a lecture at the Bath Literature Festival in the Grand Pump Room. Charlotte Higgins gave a lecture: Fantasies, Fakes, Mistakes: Journeys in Roman Britain also based on her recent book, Under Another Sky.

At the end of March, the 11th Roman Archaeology Conference (RAC) and 24th Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC) were held at the University of Reading, where the first RAC was held in 1995. We were joined by the Study Group for Roman Pottery and Roman Finds Group, and in total 365 delegates from 24 countries attended. We are very grateful to Dr John Creighton for masterminding the whole event, to Dr Tom Brindle for taking the lead on TRAC, and to Professor Mike Fulford for his tour of Silchester. At the opening ceremony, the Society’s BA Dissertation Prize was awarded to Duncan Aldis (Royal Holloway) for his thesis on Roman Chariot Racing in Practice.

Presentation of the dissertation prize by the President
On 7 June, the Society held its Annual General Meeting which was followed by a colloquium on the theme of *Tiberius the Successor*. Over eighty members gathered to hear talks by Professor Catharine Edwards (‘The great devotion of our princeps to his mother’: *Tiberius and Livia*), Professor Peter Wiseman (*The man who chewed up the Roman people*), Professor Amanda Claridge (*The Villas of Tiberius*) and Dr Eleanor Cowan (*Writing the Roman Revolution – Velleius Paterculus*). These will be available as vidcasts on YouTube shortly.

**Dates for your Diary**

27 September: Fishbourne Roman Palace and Gardens – Guided Tours of the Site and Store Rooms

2.00 Arrive & short film
2.15 Guided tour of the site
3.15 Tea
3.45 Guided tour of the store rooms

Further information and a booking form are available on the Roman Society website: [http://www.romansociety.org/events/exhibitions-visits.html](http://www.romansociety.org/events/exhibitions-visits.html)

18 October: Romans in Ryedale and Beyond

Joint conference by the Roman Antiquities Section (YAS), Malton Museum, the Friends of Malton Museum and the Roman Society.

Further information and a booking form are available on the Roman Society website: [http://www.romansociety.org/events/conferences.html](http://www.romansociety.org/events/conferences.html)

The Roman Society is pleased to offer complimentary tickets to the first TEN members to book. Members may bring guests but tickets for guests must be paid for.

1 November: Augustus, First Emperor of Rome, British Museum

In collaboration with the Association for Roman Archaeology

1.30 Introduction
1.45 Susan Walker: *The Image of Augustus reviewed*
2.30 Dario Calomino: *Emperor or god? Commemorating Augustus on coins*
3.15 Tea
3.45 Andrew Wallace-Hadrill: *Brick to Marble? How Augustus transformed Rome*
4.30 Penny Goodman: *Half-way to a bimillennium: Augustus in the middle ages*

Further information and a booking form are available on the Roman Society website: [http://www.romansociety.org/events/conferences.html](http://www.romansociety.org/events/conferences.html)

11 November: London Evening Lecture

5.30pm Chancellor’s Hall

William Fitzgerald (title tbc)

25 November: Joan Pye Lecture, Roman Research Trust

5.30pm Chancellor’s Hall

Peter Guest: The Legionary Fortress at Caerleon: recent discoveries and new perspectives

**Grants**

The Roman Society is pleased to be collaborating with the Roman Research Trust to form one grant-giving body for the archaeology and art history of the Roman Empire and Roman Britain, drawing on the *Audrey Barrie Brown Memorial Fund* (RRT) and *Donald Atkinson Fund* (RS). More information and guidelines for applications will be available from the Roman Society Grants & Prizes webpage soon: [http://www.romansociety.org/grants-prizes.html](http://www.romansociety.org/grants-prizes.html) and from the Roman Research Trust: [http://rrt.classics.ox.ac.uk/](http://rrt.classics.ox.ac.uk/)

Fiona Haarer (Secretary)
**Ludaea Recepta – A New Aureus of Vespasian**  
*Israel Numismatic Review 8, 2013, 89-104*

We present here a newly discovered aureus attesting the legend *Ludaea recepta*. This word combination has never been found before on coins, or elsewhere, for that matter, in the official Roman propaganda advertising the conclusion of the first Jewish revolt; nor have the iconographic elements on the reverse been ever found together. Being a unique coin type makes it immediately suspect, but a variety of elements, among them the Greek graffiti on the reverse, makes a strong case for authenticity.

**Description:**

*Obv.* Laureate head of Vespasian r., with drapery on l. shoulder; around inwardly from bottom l.: IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG.

*Rev.* A woman – probably the personification of Judea – with crossed legs, bent arms, head resting on r. hand, beside a palm tree; on l. and r. field inwardly: IVDAEA–RECEPTA; in exer., graffito: ΛΔ or ΔΔ. §, ↓, 7.06 g, 19 mm.

The imperial titulature on the obverse, IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG, suggests an early date, as does the unusual style of Vespasian’s portrait. Assuming that the *ludaea recepta* coin would not have been issued before the fall of Jerusalem (September AD70), the time limit for its emission can be narrowed down to the brief period of the last few months of AD70.

The coin introduces a new and surprising piece of evidence for the Roman perception of the revolt and its aftermath. The idea of *recepta*, conveyed in both legend and iconography, was the re-subjugation of an old province: precisely what one would have expected after the suppression of a revolt. But, as is well known, so far the suppression of the Jewish Revolt was attested almost exclusively by means of the *capta* coinage, representing conquest by force of new territory. Ironically, as it happens, the emergence of a single *ludaea recepta* coin must be accounted for, as well as its immediate eclipse.

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**Far more than just coins...**

In 2007 a hoard of 17,577 Roman coins were excavated in the centre of Bath. It was unusual as it consisted of 8 separate bags of leather (now decayed) and contained coins dating from Mark Antony (32-31BC) to Tetricus II (274AD). We at the Roman Baths Museum, part of Bath & North East Somerset Council, were naturally excited by the discovery and wanted to put it on display. We were overwhelmed by media and public interest and £60,000 was collected from public donations and grants to acquire the hoard.

This March we were awarded £372,500 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to carry out 33 different activities to enable the greatest number of people to see and learn about the hoard. A museum display will let our one million annual visitors see the hoard now on the site of the hoard’s discovery. All our events involve handling the coins, including family activities looking at the features of the coins, and visits by British Museum conservators looking at X rays and metal conservation.

Off-site activities include helping the homeless with personal finance, run with a Bath based charity, the Genesis Trust, a schools maths project, roadshows visiting local villages and history groups, and public lectures near the sites of other hoards. Other audiences include students from Bath Spa University working on a film, online game, and creative writing projects. Members of the University of the Third Age are helping with photographing and recording the coins. The Roman Society is co-funding a conference in April 2015. Popular and academic books on the hoard will be published.
Over the next year, research will continue and, hopefully, answer some of our questions about the hoard, particularly why was it hidden and never retrieved.

For more information see Eleanor Ghey: The Beau Street hoard, Bath. *Current Archaeology* 278, May 2013, 26-32

British Museum blog  
http://blog.britishmuseum.org/category/conservation-2/beau-street-hoard/

Roman Baths website  
http://www.romanbaths.co.uk/whats_on/beau_street_hoard.aspx?link=slider

BeauStHoard  
Twitter: https://twitter.com/BeauStHoard

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BeauStHoard

Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/beausthoard/

Susan Fox, Collections Manager, Roman Baths Museum

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**A new project at the Ashmolean Museum aims to make Latin inscriptions accessible to schools and the public.**

The Ashmolean Latin Inscriptions (AshLI) Project began in October 2013 as a joint initiative between Warwick University, Oxford’s Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents (CSAD), and the Ashmolean Museum. Dr Alison Cooley is overseeing this three-year programme to (i) compile a digital catalogue of the inscriptions, (ii) design new gallery displays, and (iii) provide new Roman teaching resources for the Museum and classroom.

Remarkably, the last catalogue of the Ashmolean’s Latin inscriptions was Richard Chandler’s 1768 *Marmora Oxoniensia*. Since then the Museum has acquired many additions, from a cavalryman’s tombstone from Ephesos, to inscribed panpipes from a local villa. AshLI is using Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI) to enhance the accuracy of new readings and revise old ones.

Visitors should see new displays appearing from late 2014, and a family activity day is planned for 2015. AshLI is also holding a JACT INSET day at the Museum on 22nd November 2014 for secondary teachers who would like to incorporate more archaeological evidence (especially sculpture, coins and inscriptions) into their teaching.

You can read about our progress and the stories behind the inscriptions in our blog *Reading, Writing, Romans* (www.ashmolean.org/ashwpress/latininscriptions), and follow us on Twitter @AshmoleanLatin.

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**Marble tombstone of Pompeius Marcellinus, from Ephesos, second century AD, Ashmolean Museum ANMichaelis.214.** This tribune died at the age of 23, far away from his home city of Rome, perhaps as he was making his way to join his military unit in the eastern Mediterranean. His funerary monument was set up by his mother and sister.

Dr Jane Masséglia (jane.masseglia@classics.ox.ac.uk)  
CSAD and Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
Half of the Sevso treasure acquired by the Hungarian government

Seven pieces of the infamous Sevso treasure, including the central platter with the inscription referring to Sevso himself, have been purchased by the Hungarian government. The Sevso treasure consists of 14 pieces of late Roman silver and a copper-alloy cauldron. It has been in private ownership in the UK since the early 1980s, hidden from public view.

Although essentially unprovenanced, Hungarian archaeologists have always maintained it was found in Pannonia near to Lake Balaton. As well as circumstantial evidence concerning its discovery, probably in 1978, the central platter bears the Latin word ‘PELSO’ next to a depiction of a stretch of water. ‘PELSO’ was the Roman name for Lake Balaton, which provides a convincing connection with the lake. There are also strong stylistic connections between the chased decoration on a number of pieces in the Sevso treasure and a four-footed silver stand found at Polgardi in Hungary in 1878, now in the Hungarian national collections.

Richard Hobbs, British Museum

The unveiling of the Sevso treasure, Budapest, March 2014

Excavations at Bucklersbury House (Bloomberg London), Queen Victoria Street, City of London.

Museum of London Archaeology returned to this iconic site to undertake large-scale excavations prior to redevelopment. We uncovered parts of the Temple of Mithras, preserved in situ since its infamous discovery in the 1950s by Professor Grimes. The temple fabric was salvaged and reconstructed in 1961 on the site, but has now been carefully dismantled by stonemasons and will be brought back to a publically accessible display space near its original location, due to open in 2017.

The course and banks of the Walbrook stream were exposed on the northern part of the site. The earliest evidence on the eastern bank was a series of banks and ditches. Above this, timber buildings were constructed on top of timber ‘crib work’, platforms used to provide level surfaces for subsequent construction. There were many construction phases throughout the later 1st century AD, including a large timber-floored building which may have been a mill, two circular bakery buildings, animal pens and fences constructed of thin oak pales. Timber piles ranged across the Walbrook to the south may be part of a bridge carrying Watling Street across the stream. Two inhumations of possible early Roman date were excavated from the banks.

During the 2nd century, the activity reflects the changing nature of the Roman town, with stone foundations, mosaic floors and areas of external tessellated pavements indicating a more settled economy. Timber-lined wells were also excavated across the site. One dated to the later Roman period and contained a group of pewter tableware, possibly deposited in a ritual act of closure during the 4th century AD.

The waterlogged nature of the ground resulted in remarkable preservation of metalwork, including many objects which can be related to the Roman military, with a significant proportion from the cavalry.

Sadie Watson, (Site Director) MOLA April 2014

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Epistula VII, 5
Wiston Roman Fort, Wiston, Pembrokeshire (SN 0254 1844)

Following aerial photographic and LIDAR data analysis a possible Roman fort was identified on land to the northeast of Wiston in Pembrokeshire by Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT).

In July and August 2013 three trenches were opened up within the fort area by DAT with volunteer support, again grant-aided by Cadw. Trench 1 was located in the southwestern corner of the fort and revealed evidence for ramparts and a structure built on its internal edge. North of this was the intervallum road, founded on layers of local stone. Substantial stone lined post-holes were revealed on the inside of the road. Evidence for air dried clay bricks walls was also recorded.

Trench 2 in the centre of the fort revealed possible evidence for a courtyard surface and ephemeral remains that could be associated with the Principia, and the ditches of the trapezoidal enclosure.

Trench 3A crossed the three defensive ditches on the northwestern side of the fort and Trench 3B was placed through the turf and clay rampart.

Pottery analysis by Peter Webster indicates the Roman fort dates between the later 1st and early 2nd century AD, with predominantly imported continental wares. Pottery from the trapezoidal enclosure area indicates a mid-2nd to mid-3rd century date, comprising British manufactured wares.

The site is the first Roman fort to be identified within Pembrokeshire. Further investigative works are proposed in and around the fort site in 2014.

The excavation and restoration of a Roman nymphaeum at Segni (Lazio), Italy

The Republican nymphaeum at Segni was brought to light in the early 1990s (Cifarelli 1995, 2001; Zevi 1996). Constructed in the 2nd century BC, the nymphaeum is unique in that the mosaic decoration includes a Greek inscription recording the name of its architect, Quintus Mutius.

This inscription points to the Hellenising architecture and influences that are apparent in this area south of Rome. Quintus Mutius was probably born in Greece, and was one of a generation of artists who went to Rome and contributed to a new language of art and architecture in the late Hellenistic period. The
nymphaeum is the only known surviving example of a signed monument which dates to such an important period in Roman architecture, indicating the importance of the monument and the scientific value of the research which is being undertaken.

Laser scan data of the nymphaeum

Following a successful funding application made by the Comune di Segni to the Provincia di Roma in 2013, the monument was brought into the care of the local authority and will now be opened to the public. In late June 2013 the first phase of work took place: a detailed laser scanning of the monument to record its state of preservation and provide a precise plan of the nymphaeum. The work was undertaken by James Miles of the Archaeological Computing Research Group of the University of Southampton using a Faro Focus 3D laser scanner.

In January 2014 a first season of excavation was conducted. Previous illicit work had brought to light the back wall of the fountain, revealing two rows of 3 niches, decorated as wild natural caves by a thick plaster, enriched with pumice stones, sea shells and blue Egyptian glass. The new excavation revealed a single row of 3 niches on each side, with the fountain of the nymphaeum emptying directly into a pool, constructed from a thick red layer of cocciopesto, which completely fills the area within the alcove, retained in front by a low wall. The structure was in use for a considerable period, and was finally in-filled in the late 6th – early 7th century AD. Immediately to the east of the nymphaeum is a large cistern, still fed by a natural spring, which would have supplied the fountain. The surrounding area will be examined by a georadar survey to understand if this was an isolated monument or part of a much larger complex.

The excavation of the nymphaeum

The subsequent phase of work will see the removal of the modern illegal structure currently enclosing the monument, and its protection with a modern light structure. The final phase of the work will be the cleaning and restoration of the monument, which will be completed by the end of 2014. The excavation is jointly conducted by the Archaeological Museum of Segni and the British School at Rome, with the support of the Soprintendenza per I Beni Archeologici del Lazio. Francesco Maria Cifarelli, Federica Colaiacomo (Archaeological Museum of Segni), Stephen Kay (British School at Rome), Letizia Ceccarelli (Cambridge University), Camilla Panzieri and Dimosthenis Kosmopoulos (Independent Archaeologists)

Websites: www.bsr.ac.uk and www.museosegni.it
Twitter: @segniproject

F.M. Cifarelli, “Un ninfeo repubblicano a Segni con la firma di Q. Mutius architetto”, in Tra Lazio e Campania, Quaderni del Dipartimento di Scienze dell’Antichità, Università di Salerno, 16, 1995, pp. 159-188
Terra Sigillata: The Roman Wedgwood

On display in the Netherlands: an exhibition on Terra Sigillata produced in the Western provinces of the Roman Empire. In this exhibition, detailed attention is given to the diverse aspects of this well-known form of decorative pottery, such as production techniques, different typologies, trade routes, decorations (symbols and myths), social and economic uses. In addition, special consideration is given to the research carried out by Dragendorff in the late 19th century, as well as the excavations of the large productions sites in La Graufesenque and Lezoux.

The exhibition focuses on the use of Terra Sigillata by the Roman legions and also by the local Batavians. Some of the objects displayed were excavated by the VU University Amsterdam and originate from a Batavian settlement and funerary site in Tiel (located on the Dutch Limes).

On display are plates, bowls and cups from excavations in Houten (Utrecht area), in particular, from one of the largest Roman fortifications in the Netherlands, castellum Fectio. Also in the exhibition are loans from The Dutch National Museum of Antiquities (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden), The Utrecht Society for Arts and Science (Provinciaal Utrechts Genootschap), and several private collections.

The exhibition has been extended and closes on the 30th September 2014. Opening hours are every Tuesday and Saturday from 11.00h till 15.00h. Appointments for visits other than Tuesday and Saturday can be made by telephone (+0031 (0)30-637 99 09) or e-mail (info@archeologiehouten.nl)

Address:
Museum Het Oude Station (The “Old Trainstation”), Stationserf 99, 3991 KX Houten, (7 minutes by train from Utrecht station), The Netherlands
For additional information see: www.archeologiehouten.nl and https://nl-nl.facebook.com/ArcheologieHouten

Coventina’s Eagle at Chesters Museum; the eagle has landed....

An eagle made from Roman coins melted down by John Clayton and John Collingwood Bruce is on display from April to October (inclusive) at Chesters Museum on Hadrian’s Wall. This beautiful figure helps tell the story of the discovery and analysis of Coventina’s Well.

Also on display are 11 photographs of close-up shots of some of the coins from the well which escaped the clutches of the eagle. These have been taken by Stephen Sack, an internationally renowned photographer who has worked with the British Museum and Le Cabinet des Medailles in Brussels (http://www.stephensack.com/). He specialises in photographing worn or corroded coins, being attracted by the ghost-like nature of many of the figures.

For more information on visiting this temporary display visit English Heritage’s website on the fort and museum at Chesters: http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/chesters-roman-fort-and-museum-hadrians-wall/
Newcastle University in partnership with FutureLearn is pleased to announce the launch of a free online course. *Hadrian's Wall: life on the Roman frontier* runs for six weeks from 22 September 2014. The course is open to anyone with an interest in the topic and could prove particularly useful for A-level and first year undergraduate students. It is led by Prof Ian Haynes and includes contributions from, among others, Lindsay Allason-Jones, Dr Andrew Birley, Prof David Breeze, Dr Rob Collins, Dr Nick Hodgson and Dr Jane Webster. The course will cover the Late Iron Age Background, The Roman Conquest of the North, The Changing Face of the Roman Army, The Building and Garrisoning of the Wall, Frontier Communities of Northern Britain, Gods, rituals and religion on the Roman Wall, Conflict and consolidation in the third and fourth centuries, and The Wall after the Romans.

The course trailer and registration details will be available from the FutureLearn website (www.futurelearn.com) from the 25th June.

It is essential that anyone thinking of digging on an archaeological site is trained in the procedures used in professional archaeology. Dr Paul Wilkinson, author of *Archaeology* and director of the dig, will spend five days explaining to participants the methods used in modern archaeology. A typical training day will be classroom theory in the morning (at the Field School) followed by excavation at Abbey Barns Roman Villa in Faversham under the guidance of trained archaeologists.

Topics are:
- Monday 11th August: Why dig?
- Tuesday 12th August: Excavation Techniques
- Wednesday 13th August: Site Survey
- Thursday 14th August: Archaeological Recording
- Friday 15th August: Pottery identification
- Saturday and Sunday digging with the team

A free PDF copy of "Archaeology" 3rd Edition will be given to participants. Cost for the course is £100 if membership is taken out at the time of booking. Non-members £175. The day starts at 10am and finishes at 4pm. For further information and other courses see www.kafs.co.uk

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**Kent Archaeological Field School**

An opportunity to participate in an important excavation of a Roman waterside building at Abbey Barns in Faversham. Originally built as an aisled building for the adjacent Roman villa it was then rebuilt as a huge bath-house. Our task for this year is to investigate the east end of the building to clarify if all the building was entirely a bath-house or whether it was attached to a domestic building. We will also investigate the waterway with augers to see if there any remains of Roman shipping and also investigate additional Roman buildings in the vicinity of the bath-house. This is an important investigation which will help to clarify the extent and importance of Roman Faversham and its harbour. KAFS member’s special fee £20 per day (over five years member £10), non-members £25 per day.

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Conferences and meetings

The Twenty Fifth Annual Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference
School of Archaeology & Ancient History, University of Leicester

We invite Roman Society members to join us for TRAC’s twenty fifth anniversary conference, which will be held 27th–29th March 2015 at the School of Archaeology & Ancient History at the University of Leicester. The conference will take place in a convenient central location on the University’s main campus. We hope to organise trips to see the Hallaton Hoard at Market Harborough Museum, and to visit the Iron Age hillfort at Burrough Hill, which has been the site of one of the School’s major excavation projects. Delegates will also be able to visit the significant Roman collections at Jewry Wall Museum.

The call for open and closed sessions will run from the 1st August to the 1st September and the call for individual papers will be open from the 15th September to the 31st October. These contributions should have a strong theoretical element to them. Further details will be provided in due course on the TRAC website.

The TRAC25 Organising Committee
trac25@trac.org.uk
http://trac.org.uk/conferences/trac2015

EAGLE 2014
We warmly invite you to the EAGLE 2014 International Conference on Information Technologies for Epigraphy and Digital Cultural Heritage in the Ancient World. It is hosted by EAGLE Europeana network of Ancient Greek and Latin Epigraphy, École Normale Supérieure and Collège de France, Chaire Religion, institutions et société de la Rome antique. The conference will be held September 29–30 and October 1, 2014, in Paris. Keynote lectures will be delivered by Susan Hazan (The Israel Museum), Tom Elliott (New York University) and Thomas Jaeger (European Commission). For more information, visit the conference website at http://tinyurl.com/prklbr9.


Tombstone for Durrius Avitus and his family (Emona territory, late 2nd century AD), according to a sketch preserved in a manuscript from 1808. In 1814, it was reused by the family of the brewer Nicolaus Merck in Ljubljana. (in English translation: Mister Nicolaus Merck, the town brewer, left the earthly life in the 67th year of his tireless life. His crying wife and eleven still living children. On 8 December of the year 1814).

Beyond the walls: The baths, temples, villages and fields outside the forts on Hadrian’s Wall: recent work.
A conference organised by WallQuest Community Archaeology and the Arbeia Society. This will take place on Saturday 15 November 2014 at the Customs House, South Shields.
Berkshire Archaeological Society
Dates for Berkshire Archaeology Society’s Saturday afternoon talks held at 2.00 pm for 2.30 pm at The RISC Centre, London Street. Reading, RG1 4PS. (01189 586692)
20th September 2014. John Smith: *The Roman army and its equipment*
18th October 2014. Stuart Brookes: *Anglo Saxon assembly places in Berkshire*
15 November 2014. Anne Dodd: *Oxford before the University*
13 December 2014. Dominik Fleitmann: *Climate and societal change*
17 January 2015. Alice Rogers: *Early Bronze Age women*
14 February 2015. David Roffe: *Digitizing Domedays*
14 March 2015. David Petts: *Lindisfarne*
18 April 2015. David Lewis: *Old Windsor*
For further information, see: http://www.berksarch.co.uk/

Jackson Knight Memorial Lecture
The thirtieth Jackson Knight Memorial Lecture in the University of Exeter will be held on Friday 3 October 2014 at 6.30 pm in the Alumni Auditorium (tbc): *Divining the Distant Past: W.G. Hoskins and Pre-Roman Exeter* by Emeritus Professor Peter Wiseman FBA
W.G. Hoskins (1908-1992) was the great historian of the English landscape and author of a magnificent history of Devon, published in 1954 (hence this sixtieth-anniversary lecture) and frequently reissued, most recently in 2011. He was born in Exeter, founded the Exeter Civic Society, was President of the Devonshire Association, received an honorary degree from the University (1974), famously quarrelled with the city council about the planning of the city centre, and in general was one of the most prominent citizens Exeter ever had. The subject of the lecture is Hoskins’ surprising change of mind about the origin of his native city. In his 1954 Devon history he accepted the archaeologists’ view that Exeter was created by the Romans, but only a few years later in *Two Thousand Years in Exeter* (published in 1960, updated edition 2004) he was sure it was much older than that – hence the challenging title of the book – and that Geoffrey of Monmouth’s story that the city was besieged during the Roman conquest of AD 43 was actually historical. This lecture will also discuss the general question of how historians try to use myth and legend, as for instance with King Arthur or the Trojan War.

Study Group for Roman Pottery On-Line Bibliography
Since 1986 the Study Group for Roman Pottery has compiled a bibliography of Roman pottery publications. The bibliography has appeared in the Group’s *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* up to Volume 11 (2004), with these and subsequent entries being placed onto its website (www.romanpotterystudy.org). A grant from English Heritage has now allowed this bibliographic information to be turned into an on-line resource, organised and hosted by the Archaeology Data Service. Various on-line bibliography data fields are searchable, but the bibliography is still a work in progress and additions, amendments and improvements will be carried out. It can be accessed at: http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/sgrp_2013/

EAGLE
EAGLE, the European network of Ancient Greek and Latin Epigraphy, is a best-practice network financed by the European Commission, under the ICT policy of its Competitiveness and Innovation Programme. It will provide a single, user-friendly portal to the inscriptions of the Ancient World, a massive resource both for the public at large and for the scholarly community.

The EAGLE is part of Europeana, the European digital library – a multi-lingual online collection of millions of digitised items from European museums, libraries, archives and multi-media collections. EAGLE is gathering, in a single readily-searchable database, more than 1.5 million items, currently scattered across 25 EU countries, as well as the east and south Mediterranean. The project will make available the vast majority of the surviving inscriptions of the Greco-Roman world, complete with the essential information about them and, for all the most important ones, a translation. Members of consortium are 19 partners from universities and institutes from Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Austria, Romania, Croatia, Slovenia, Belgium, France, and Cyprus.

The EAGLE services include a mobile application, enabling tourists to understand the inscriptions they find in situ by taking snapshots with their smartphones, and a storytelling application that will allow teachers and experts to assemble epigraphy-based narratives. A multilingual wiki is also being set up for the enrichment
and enhancement of epigraphic images and texts. This will provide a basis for future translations of inscriptions into other European languages. Thanks to the collaboration with Wikimedia Italia, EAGLE will be strongly integrated with the Wikimedia projects, in particular with Wikimedia Commons and Wikidata. Also, an inscription-themed documentary will be developed, with a related teaser video.

Contacts: Prof. Silvia Orlandi, Project Coordinator, Sapienza, University of Rome
Dr. Claudio Prandoni, Technical Coordinator, Promoter SrL
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www.eagle-network.eu

Roman Roads and Milestones
A series of electronic fascicles of David French’s *Roman Roads and Milestones of Asia Minor* is now available on the BIAA web-site; see
http://biaa.ac.uk/publications/item/name/electronic-monographs

Moses Finley in America: The Making of an Ancient Historian
Published July 2014: American Journal of Philology Special Issue (vol. 135 no. 2) Moses Finley in America: The Making of an Ancient Historian, edited by Fred Naiden and Richard Talbert, contributions by Daniel Tompkins, Scott Perry, Brent Shaw. Also includes a transcript of an hour-long video in which Finley, interviewed in London in 1985 by Keith Hopkins, reflects on his career, influences, ideas, and impact.

M. Carroll and E.-J. Graham (eds.), *Infant Health and Death in Roman Italy and Beyond* (JRA Supplementary Volume 96), Portsmouth, R.I., 2014
The eight papers in this volume stem from a session organised by the editors at the Roman Archaeology Conference in April 2012 in Frankfurt. The study pursues a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the relationship between adults and infants in the Roman world, using archaeological, epigraphic, historical, and skeletal material to examine issues pertaining to the health and death of the youngest members of Roman society from a number of different perspectives.

P. Chrystal *Women in Ancient Rome*, Amberley Publishing 2013 rrp: £20.00
Paul Chrystal examines aspects of the Roman woman’s lifestyle: her evolving role in the family; the assertive, brave, pernicious and outrageous women in the public arena; we learn about women’s education and of artistic, cultured women; we meet women soothsayers, witches and ghosts; we examine the role of women in religion and in the mystery cults; women as health professionals; women’s medicine; women’s sexuality; women as mistress, prostitute and pimp.

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X Gérard Boulvert International Prize in Roman Law

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