Welcome

A warm welcome to this 8th issue of Epistula, the twice-yearly newsletter from the Roman Society. An important feature of this issue is the report about events part-sponsored by the Roman Society through the Archaeology Committee, fostering links with local societies to bring Roman Studies to an even wider audience. Keep your eye on the Roman Society website for more events, and do come along to any near you.

We are also pleased to expand the newsletter beyond Archaeology, with the help of Emma Buckley and Neville Morley. This has led to the inclusion of notes on recent research in literature and history.

This newsletter relies on you for information which you think will interest your fellow Romanists, whether archaeology, art, ancient history, literature or any other aspect of the Roman world, 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

Events round-up
Members have already enjoyed a number of events this autumn. The season started with a visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace and Gardens where members were given a guided tour of the site, followed by a special visit to the storerooms led by the curator, Dr Rob Symmons.

Three conferences have taken place. The first was held in Malton on The Romans in Ryedale and Beyond, and you can read a write-up by the organiser, Dr Pete Wilson on page 10.

The second was our annual joint conference in collaboration with the Association for Roman Archaeology, this year on the topic, Augustus: First Emperor of Rome, to mark the bimillennium of his death. Over 220 filled the BP Lecture at the British Museum to hear lectures by Susan Walker (The Image of Augustus Reviewed), Dario Calomino (Emperor or God? Commemorating Augustus on Coins), Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (Brick to Marble? How Augustus transformed Rome) and Penny Goodman (Half-way to a Bimillennium: Augustus in the Middle Ages).

The third was another collaboration, this time with WallQuest and the Arbeia Society in South Shields, a conference on the results of community archaeology on Hadrian’s Wall entitled Beyond the Walls:
Society news

William Fitzgerald delivered the London Evening Lecture on 11th November, on the subject *Three Latin Poets in a Word*: you can listen to William’s lecture on YouTube here: https://dub110.mail.live.com/?tid=cm06kQpjKK5BGWxtidZ19F1A2&fid=flinbox

Finally, on 25th November, the Roman Society collaborated with the Roman Research Trust to host the Joan Pye Lecture in the Chancellor’s Hall at Senate House. Dr Peter Guest delivered a lecture entitled: *The Legionary Fortress at Caerleon: Recent discoveries and new perspectives*. The lecture was followed by a reception and a book launch for the Society’s new publication: *AD 410: The History and Archaeology of Late and Post-Roman Britain* [See the Society’s publications section].

The baths, temples, villages and fields outside the forts on Hadrian’s Wall: Recent discoveries. The event was fully booked and a large audience gathered to enjoy papers by Nick Hodgson, Sue Stallibrass, Andrew Birley, Paul Bidwell, David Mason, David Breeze and Lindsay Allison-Jones.

The second in the series of the Roman Society sponsored lectures in association with the British Museum’s Touring Exhibition *Roman Empire: Power and People* was delivered by Dr Adrian Chadwick at the Leeds City Museum. His lecture was entitled: *Fields and farms, lucre and lightning seeds – People, coins and the rural landscape in Roman Yorkshire.*

The Roman Society and the Vindolanda Trust (www.vindolanda.com)

Following a successful site visit to Vindolanda last year, the Roman Society has been very pleased to continue its collaboration with the Vindolanda Trust in two key ways.

**Draw for free places**

The Society was delighted that the Vindolanda Trust offered ten free places to members on its 2015 excavation season. Ten lucky winners were drawn from a hat by the Archaeology Committee: Sofia Bianchi Mancini, Nikola Cesari, Mike Clegg, Alessandra Esposito, Roderick Geerts, Paul Kelly, Tanuj Kumar, Derek Patience, Paola Tomasi, and Lisa Venables.
Archaeology fieldwork bursaries
A block grant of funds from the Roman Research Trust and Roman Society to support archaeology fieldwork bursaries for 16-18 year olds has been offered to the Vindolanda Trust for the 2015 season.

Each successful applicant will be offered a two-week placement on the Vindolanda excavations, and the bursary will cover the cost of participation on the excavation including full-board accommodation in the Vindolanda Trust’s on-site Study centre (http://www.vindolanda.com/excavate/hedley-centre) but excludes travel to and from Vindolanda.

Applicants are required to complete an application form and return it to Vindolanda no later than the deadline of the 30th January 2015. Successful applicants will be notified by the 6th February 2015 with their joining information.

More information is available from the Roman Society: http://www.romansociety.org/schools-resources/fieldwork-bursaries.html and from Vindolanda where students will find the online application form: http://www.vindolanda.com/blog/excavation

London Evening Event: Greek and Roman Curses
In association with the Hellenic Society
Tuesday 17th March, 2015, 5.30pm
Chancellor’s Hall, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU

Esther Eidinow: Greek inscribed curses and the social historian

Stephen Clews: Messages to the Goddess revealed… private thoughts of ordinary people… hear all about it

Margaret Mountford: “A plague on all their horses”: Spells and curses at the races

Beau Street Hoard Symposium
Wednesday 22nd-Friday 24th April, 2015
The Assembly Rooms and The Roman Baths, Bath

The Beau Street Hoard, 17,577 silver Roman coins, was found on the Gainsborough Hotel site in Bath in 2007. The coins range from 32BC-27AD and are unusual as they were buried in eight separate leather bags. Identified and conserved at the British Museum, it is now at the Roman Baths where it will go on show.
There will be a lecture on Wednesday 22nd April in the Pump Room by Richard Abdy, Curator of Coins and Medals at the British Museum, who has led on the research and conservation of the hoard. The Symposium will take place on 23rd and 24th April.

Full details and tickets will be available at: www.romanbaths.co.uk

**Saturday 6 June, 2015: Roman Society AGM**
Woburn Suite, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU

2.00  *Romanisation? Provincial Cultures in the Principate*

2.30  Dominic Rathbone: *Gods, Soldiers, Mummies:* *Making Egypt Roman*

3.00  Andrew Gardner: *Post-Romanisation Perspectives on the Provincial West*

3.45  Tea

4.15  Tony Spawforth: *Romanization? Modern Problems and Ancient Greeks*

4.45  Tessa Rajak: *Changing Faces, Changing Places, in Roman Judaea*

5.30  Reception

**March 2016: Roman Archaeology Conference, Rome**

We are pleased to announce the Call for Sessions

- A session should consist of 4 to 6 presentations (double-sessions and half-sessions will be considered)
- Presentations should last no longer than 30 minutes with sufficient time at the end of papers for audience questions
- The official conference languages are English, French, German, Spanish and Italian

Proposals to organise conference sessions should include the following information:

- Title of the session
- Name, affiliation, postal address and email of the proposer(s)
- A short description of the theme or subject area of the session (not more than 300 words)
- A list of up to 6 proposed speakers and titles/themes of their presentations, indicating in each case if the speakers have confirmed their participation in the session.

The deadline for submission of session proposals in Friday 15 May 2015.

Further information and registration for the conference will be available from www.romansocietyrac.ac.uk

**Publications**

**Journals**

The 2014 journals (Journal of Roman Studies 104 and Britannia 45) have now been published and despatched to members. Please contact the Society (office@romansociety.org) if you have not yet received your copy.

**Monographs**

The Society has recently published two new volumes:

**AD 410: The History and Archaeology of Late and Post-Roman Britain**
Edited by F.K. Haarer, with Rob Collins, Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews, Sam Moorhead, David Petts and Philippa Walton.

As part of its centenary celebrations in 2010, the Roman Society organised a number of conferences across the UK exploring the theme of AD410 and the "End of Roman Britain". This volume contains a selection of 16 papers delivered at these conferences tackling the debate from different angles (historical, archaeological, literary) and setting out the current state of research.

2014, 240pp; 54 figures (some colour). ISBN 978 0 907764403
Oxbow price: £36.00. Introductory offer: £30.
The Roman Hannibal: Remembering the enemy in Silius Italicus’ Punica

When I ask people what they think of ‘Hannibal of Carthage’, most imagine a man crossing the Alps on an elephant or a warrior who fought – but ultimately lost – a lengthy war with Rome (the Second Punic war, end of the 3rd century BC). Few pause to think how we have come by this image and even fewer, if they do, realise that the Hannibal we know is almost exclusively the product of Rome’s literature. For when Hannibal lost to Rome, he didn’t just lose a war, he lost the right to his own remembrance. Many books have been written from a historical perspective on Hannibal the Carthaginian, but none – until now – have been written about Hannibal the Roman, i.e. the Hannibal that Rome’s authors created.

Hannibal was something of an obsession for Rome. His exploits were documented in texts from all genres, including historiography (e.g. Livy), biography (Cornelius Nepos) and satire (e.g. Juvenal). He was remembered as the man who struck Rome at its heart, Hannibal ad portas (‘Hannibal at the gates’, e.g. Cicero, de Finibus 4.22), and he became a larger-than-life figure, the dirus Hannibal (‘dread Hannibal’, e.g. Horace Carm.2.12.2) – a bogeyman used to frighten little children (Juvenal Sat.7.161).

This process of remembrance says less about the ‘real’ Hannibal, than it does about how ancient Rome remembered its past; and through the texts that survive we can draw a picture of how authors used figures like Hannibal as a means of showing Rome’s strengths and weaknesses. Be that a desire by those writing under the emperors to show that Rome needed an enemy like Hannibal to maintain its moral and martial prowess (e.g. Livy 30.44.8), or by republican writers such as Cicero (e.g. Verr.5.31), who liked to compare the corrupt public figures of his own day to the supposedly cruel and greedy Carthaginian.

For Rome’s authors, therefore, Hannibal was a cultural icon. But despite his fame both then and now, there is one ‘Hannibal-text’ that has remained relatively unknown: Silius Italicus’ Punica. Written in the age of the emperor Domitian (81-96 AD), this text is Rome’s longest surviving epic in Latin, but it has received somewhat of a bad-press over the years, mostly from scholars who see Silius’ epic as a mere imitation of Virgil’s Aeneid. What these scholars ignore, however, is the invaluable contribution that the Punica makes to our understanding of how Rome remembered its Carthaginian foe. For in 17 books, Silius’ epic offers the most comprehensive overview that we have for what ‘Hannibal’ meant to Rome. Never before or since has Rome’s ultimate enemy been lavished with so much attention. With the freedom of the epic genre at his disposal, Silius was able to present an account of the second Punic war that focused almost exclusively on...
Hannibal. As a result he included all of those episodes that had come to define the ‘legendary’ Carthaginian: the childhood oath with which he swore to wage eternal war with Rome (Book 1), the battle of Cannae where he annihilated Rome’s army (Books 9-10), his attack on Rome (Hannibal ad portas, Book 12), and his defeat at the battle of Zama in 202BC, where he swears that Rome will never forget him (Book 17). Rome viewed Hannibal as its ultimate enemy, because it saw him as the man who had come closest to destroying it. From the moment victory was won, therefore, the process of remembrance began, together with the quest to understand how one man almost overcame an empire. Silius’ Punica, better than any other surviving text from the ancient world, encapsulates this process of remembrance. Hannibal emerges from this epic as a flawed super-hero; a man who could have taken Rome, had it not been for its men and its gods. Whilst Silius’ text does not bring us any closer to understanding the ‘real’ Hannibal, it is a real reflection of how Rome chose to engage with its past. In this respect it plays an invaluable role in our understanding of how Romans thought about the world, in addition to how they acted within it.

Claire Stocks (c.stocks@let.ru.nl)

Match-fixing scandal: Antinoopolis AD 267

Nicantinous woke up happy on 24th February 267. He was going to win the final of the wrestling competition for ephebes (pre-adult men) in his home town of Antinoopolis in Egypt. Thanks to his dad Aquila, who had done a deal with his opponent, Demetrios. Almost 1,750 years later, the sordid tale has emerged from a scrap of papyrus excavated at nearby Oxyrhynchus by the Oxford dons Grenfell and Hunt in winter 1903/4. The text has recently been published in volume 79 of the Oxyrhynchus Papyri (no. 5209), which contains papyri, selected to mark the 2012 London Olympics, to do with competitions and shows.

The text takes the form of a contract of sale in advance of delivery. Useless in court because the deal was illegal, it was to reinforce a private, indeed secret, agreement. Aquila pays 3,800 drachmas to Demetrios’ trainers for Demetrios to fall three times and cede the crown. If Demetrios does not follow the script, his side are liable to a penalty of 18,000 drachmas. The penalty, often twice the price agreed, implies that Aquila had actually paid 9,000 drachmas, of which the trainers had pocketed 5,200 drachmas. There is a nice get-out clause: if the judges suspect a fix – ‘may it not happen,’ hopes the contract – and do not award the crown, Demetrios’ side is not liable to the penalty.

Then as today wrestling was a sport notoriously open to fixing, but this is the first known documentary evidence. Following recent revelations about match-fixing, we might suspect a connection with gambling. The simpler answer, however, is the financial rewards of victory. Originally the winner just got a wreath and the fame, but now that was only true of the four oldest games – the Isthmian, Nemean, Olympic and Pythian. By AD 267 there was a mania for competitions in athletics and music, and cities offered cash prizes to attract star competitors.

Antinoopolis had been founded in AD 130 by the emperor Hadrian where his toy-boy Antinous had drowned in the Nile in mysterious circumstances (the crocs aren’t telling). So its annual games were in the ‘sacred’ class, second only to the big four, and victors, in addition their prize, could claim a monthly cash pension.

Comparative evidence suggests Nicantinous stood to get 60 drachmas a month, say roughly £600. Aquila’s bribe, if it was 9,000 drachmas, was some £90,000. After 12.5 years Nicantinous would be turning a profit, apart from the prize money and fame. Why did Demetrios take 3,800 drachmas to lose? I blame his trainers. Athletics was big money. My guess is that Demetrios was not himself wealthy; he had been talent-spotted by his trainers, who had paid his costs and now wanted a guaranteed return on their investment. Tough on Demetrios, if he thought he could win, but he’d get other chances.

Dominic Rathbone, King’s College London (domininc.rathbone@kcl.ac.uk)

The adventure of the Windsor sarcophagus

You just can’t bury him. Be it Benedict Cumberbatch, Anthony Horowitz’s Moriarty, or the Museum of London’s exhibition Sherlock Holmes: the man who never lived and will never die – Conan Doyle’s creation is all around us. But if he encourages us to deploy our detective skills in sorting out some mysteries in museum stores, perhaps that’s no bad thing.

Take a marble sarcophagus in the vaults of the Museum of London. It is of the type with vertical stopped fluting, central medallion with portrait bust (blocked out but unfinished) and ends featuring a fearsome lion crouching over its prey. The style is common enough and the
Canterbury Museums and Galleries, has recently acquired a rare soldier’s helmet from the time of Julius Caesar. The helmet, together with a brooch, small spike and some cremated remains, was found by a metal detectorist at Bridge near Canterbury in September 2012 and excavated by Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Dover Archaeological Group. It dates to the mid-1st century BC and is probably from Gaul (modern day France). It may have been made and used during Caesar’s Gallic Wars and its owner was probably from Kent. Only four other Iron Age helmets have been found in the UK and the British Museum declared the helmet as one of the key finds of 2012 in recognition of its significance and rarity.

Recent detective work, however, part of preparing the long-awaited tenth fascicule in the British Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani series, has unravelled the true story. One of the key witnesses is the architectural draughtsman, James Hakewill, who described Windsor and its environs in 1813. Bishopsgate House, he wrote, ‘formerly belonged to George Cumberland, Esq., author of the “Maid of Snowdon”, and other works of taste and elegance’. Now Cumberland was a champion of neo-Classicism, an art-critic who numbered the sculptor Thomas Banks among his friends, and who had spent five years in Italy before settling in Englefield Green in 1793. So to deduce the truth is elementary. That Cumberland once owned the sarcophagus is well-nigh certain; that he was responsible for bringing it to Windsor is more than likely.


Francis Grew (fgrew@museumoflondon.org.uk)
The helmet is now being shared with a wide audience through a new display at Canterbury Roman Museum. To bring this new acquisition to life there are learning activities and an animated presentation. A fruitful partnership with the University of Kent’s Roman History and Archaeology department has enabled us to use new technology to widen public access to the helmet without causing any damage so that it can be preserved for future generations. The University laser scanned the artefact and created a 3D computer model which was used to create a resin copy which now forms part of the handling collection at the museum.

Canterbury Roman Museum is managed by Canterbury City Council, and an important part of our vision is to be East Kent’s gateway to art, culture and heritage. The acquisition of the helmet for the museum’s collection is a perfect way to realise this vision.

We would like to thank the following funders who have generously supported the purchase of the helmet: the ACE V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the Headley Trust, the Friends of Canterbury Museums and CCC. Thanks also to the University of Kent, in particular Professor Ray Laurence.

Further information can be found at Canterbury Roman Museum website: http://www.canterbury.co.uk/museums/roman-museum/Iron-Age-Helmet.aspx

Jo Jones
Director of Museums and Galleries, Canterbury City Council (Joanna.Jones@canterbury.gov.uk)

An article about the 1880 re-excavation of the ‘Great Pavement’ at Woodchester

Robert Van Arsdell has just published an article about the 1880 re-excavation of the ‘Great Pavement’ at Woodchester - http://www.vanarsdellcelticcoinageofbritain.com/archaeological_resources/archaeological_articles/annie_playne_scrapbook/annie_playne_scrapbook1.html. The article illustrates all of the original drawings from the scrapbook which he believes was the original site record. Annie Playne (almost certainly the daughter of Charles Playne) collected the artists’ drawing after the excavation and assembled them in a scrapbook. Seven of the original drawings were published in Charles Playne’s article in Transactions of Bristol & Gloucester shire Archaeological Society (volume for 1880-1881). Thirteen additional drawings are published for the first time.

Roman roadworks on the Vindolanda stretch of Stanegate

The Stanegate here has the distinction of two milestones (about) one Roman mile apart: the eastern one, 110 metres from the fort, complete, but uninscribed; the western one cut down and split for gateposts ca. 1815 – only the base survives, with no lettering visible on the pieces. Horsley, in Britannia Romana xiv-xv, deciphered DRI in ‘faint letters’, taking this as part of the name of Hadrian, followed by BON[O] | REI| PVBLIC[AE] | NATO. William Stukeley, who toured the Wall in 1725 with Roger Gale, wrote in his Iter Boreale (published posthumously, in his Iter Curiosum, 2nd ed., 1776, II), p. 60: “Before we come to Little Chester [one of several names for Vindolanda] is a most noble column, or milestone, set upon the road: it is of a large bulk and height, with an inscription, but only not quite defaced. Mr. Gale thought he could read TVNG. upon it: it is the finest stone of this sort I have seen, and would have informed us who made the road.” In RIB 2308 Horsley’s DRI is taken as primary, the rest as secondary. A note adds: "Presumably for l. 3: TVNG Gale; quoted by Stuk." Stukeley’s inference is not registered. It has just dawned on me that TVNG indeed "informs us who made the road" – the cohors i Tungrorum, now known from writing-tablets as well as stone and other inscriptions to have been based at Vindolanda; see recently ZPE 186 [2013] 287-300. Intriguingly, a period 3 writing-tablet (Tab. Vindol. II 316), when coh. VIIIi Batavorum was here, discusses wagon-loads of stone, surely for road-building. Probably the Tungrians resurfaced the Stanegate before Hadrian’s visit; for other Hadrianic milestones cf. RIB 2244, 2265, 2272. Auxiliaries seldom feature on milestones, but an Antonine one from Ingliston (RIB 2313+add.) shows coh. I Cugernorum roadbuilding.

Anthony Birley, Vindolanda (arbirley@aol.com)
The Fenwick Treasure from Colchester

A collection of gold and silver jewellery was discovered during an archaeological excavation in Colchester which finished in mid-2014. Much analysis of the finds and results remains to be done, so what follows is a provisional interpretation.

The jewellery had been buried for safekeeping in a small pit dug in the floor of a house during the early stages of the Boudiccan Revolt. The house was subsequently burnt to the ground along with the rest of the town and the jewellery was never recovered, until now. Imported dates and figs and other burnt foodstuffs lay scattered on the floor. Burnt human bone fragments lay nearby in the debris of destroyed buildings. Two of the bones (a mandible and a tibia) appear to show serious injuries compatible with sword or similar wounds, as if fighting had taken place in the vicinity. A third burnt bone (a femur) had been shattered apparently when the bone was still fresh.

The find is a particularly poignant one because of its historical context. It seems likely that the owner or perhaps one of the household buried the jewellery inside the house for safe-keeping during the early stages of Boudiccan revolt, when prospects in Colchester looked bleak. At least one person fought and died in the building (or the general area) during the revolt.

The hoard was lifted from the ground with part of the surrounding floor as an unexcavated soil block so that it could be excavated and carefully recorded under controlled conditions off-site. The objects making it are chiefly of continental (Italian) manufacture, and many are unlikely to predate the year of burial by more than a generation. They consist of two gold 'rope' bracelets, another gold bracelet, a pair of silver bracelets with linear mouldings, a large silver bracelet with a large silver medallion attached by hinges, a silver loop-in-loop chain; a copper-alloy pendant, about 13 silver and three or four copper-alloy coins in a decayed organic bag/purse, eight silver coins which had fallen out of the bag/purse as it decayed, and a small wooden box covered with thin silver sheet and fitted with silver fittings and ivory feet. The following objects lay inside the box: a pair of gold earrings each with two pearls suspended on twisted gold wire, a pair of gold earrings each with a pendant hollow ball, a set of five gold finger-rings, (three each with a green stone, another the same but the stone lost in antiquity, and the fifth one with an incised dolphin), a glass intaglio of a pantheress, and another silver coin.

The hoard was found during an archaeological excavation by the Colchester Archaeological Trust on the site of the Williams & Griffin department store (a Fenwicks store) in Colchester High Street. For further information see: http://www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk/?p=13560

Philip Crummy, Colchester Archaeological Trust (pc@catuk.org)

Chedworth: a mosaic surprise

Two weeks in August saw 2014’s contribution to the five year excavation programme agreed with English Heritage in order to inform long term conservation plans. Excavation concentrated on investigating what underlay the confusing pattern of concrete path-like strips laid down by Ian Richmond following his excavations in the 1960s, but never published due to his early death in 1965. It also explored a large open space between the North Baths and the rooms further east that form the north side of the Lower Courtyard. This space had been assumed either to be open or perhaps a veranda, but there was very little information available from the Victorian excavations. Recently it has been suggested that this might have been a reception hall, inserted as part of the fourth century upgrading of the villa.

Excavation was directed by Dr Martin Papworth, National Trust South-West regional archaeologist, advised by Simon Esmonde Cleary and Peter Salway. Richmond’s concrete strips were confirmed to represent early walls,
part surviving, part robber trenches. The real surprise was the discovery of a mosaic immediately under the turf. Despite extensive damage, it is now certain that this was one room, covered with a single 18m x 6.6m mosaic. Taken together with two small areas already known from test pits at the far end of the room — which bore exactly the same border — approximately one half of the mosaic has now been uncovered. Painted plaster was also recovered, and a single fragment of (Italian?) marble. There is little doubt that the room was a grand reception hall, probably the chief point of entry for suitably respectable visitors in the Late Roman period. The mosaic is broadly contemporary with the well-known West Range mosaics, if not of the same quality as that in the triclinium. It is stylistically comparable with many other Cotswold pavements and with work by the same group of craftsmen at Trier. Stephen Cosh is confident of now being able to reconstruct the design of the whole mosaic.

The small square room in front of the hall proved to be deep and very well built. It is earlier than the hall, and may have started life as a plunge bath associated with the North Baths before they were reduced in size in the fourth century. It is not clear whether the square structure was retained when the hall was built. If so, it was probably adapted as a decorative ‘water-feature’, suggesting continuously-running water as an element in the scheme. Behind the hall are two quite large apsidal rooms with deliberately restricted access from it, tentatively interpreted as high-status private rooms, one perhaps being for individual audience with the dominus.

Peter Salway (salwaypg@btinternet.com)

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Excavation of the mosaic at Chedworth

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Conferences and meetings

Silvano Luppino Day: ‘an epistula for Epistula’

I’ve just been in Rome for a day (29th October 2014) conference in memory of Silvana Luppino, a brilliant and dedicated servant of the archaeological Soprintendenza in Calabria and the creator of the wonderful Museo di Sibari. What is likely to interest readers of this letter from the papers given, most of which were on Sybaris and the pre-Greek population, will perhaps be:

(1) a sanctuary site at Rose, just north of Cosenza, to add to those Brettian sites that came to a sticky end in the course of the Hannibalic War (some Brettian centres, such as Castiglione di Paludi, made their accommodation with Rome);

(2) not only was Thurii much smaller than Sybaris, occupying only the southern half of the archaic city, but the 194 BC Roman colony of Copia was even a bit smaller than Thurii, at least when it acquired its walls under Augustus, walls that were so thin that a child could probably have pushed them over.

Michael Crawford (imagines.italicae@sas.ac.uk)

Romans in Ryedale and beyond

The Roman Antiquities Section of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society and Friends of Malton Museum, with sponsorship from the Roman Society, welcomed 120 delegates to a day conference held at the Milton Rooms in Malton. The conference was intended to raise the profile of the Roman period in the area and also to promote the ongoing campaign for a new Malton Museum to replace that closed in 2012. The Milton Rooms was a particularly fitting location for the conference as when in opened in the 1930s Malton Museum was housed in an annexe that is now the Milton Rooms bar!

Although the focus of the day was the Roman-period archaeology of Ryedale the papers ranged widely with Patrick Ottaway starting the day with a discussion of what really matters in the Roman period in Yorkshire. Roger Ling put the wall-paintings from the Malton ‘Town House’ in their wider context and Peter Halkon examined the Iron Age and Roman Landscapes of the western Yorkshire Wolds. The writer finished the morning by reviewing Roman Malton and Norton. The contribution of recent developer-funded archaeology was covered by Paula Ware, while Steve Roskams explored the Roman-period landscape of Wharram Percy. Rachel Wood presented
ongoing research on the Crambeck Pottery Industry and Rob Collins considered finds recorded by the PAS and what they can contribute in terms of increased understanding. The final paper of the day was given by Peter Addyman, Chair of the Malton Museum Foundation on a vision for a new permanent Roman Malton Museum, which he combined with a plea for support. The day finished with a wine reception, sponsored by the Friends of Malton Museum, held amongst the displays in the Museum’s temporary home in the Subscriptions Rooms which form part of the Milton Rooms.

Pete Wilson (Pete.Wilson@english-heritage.org.uk)

The First Nottinghamshire Local History and Archaeology Day

On the 21st June 2014 the University of Nottingham Museum held the First Nottinghamshire Local History and Archaeology Day. All local Societies in the county were invited to hold a stall exhibiting their work and research with the aim of enabling networking between the different groups as well as providing a public platform for the incredible work being undertaken by these organisations throughout the county.

Twenty-seven Societies participated along with a number of other related organisations including archaeological units and museums bringing the total number of exhibition stalls to 34. Two further large galleries contained regional collections for drop-in handling sessions of Samian, Saxon and Medieval pottery; Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic stone tools; coins from the Museum collections along with coins and medals from the Nottinghamshire Numismatic Society; and bio archaeological material from Trent and Peak Archaeology. These handling stalls were overseen by regional material specialists and supported by Museum volunteers. The Portable Antiquities Scheme database and Nottinghamshire Historic Environmental Record were available thanks to the regional Finds Liaison Officer and County Archaeologists.

There was a book signing of Roman Nottinghamshire by Mark Patterson and the day began with five short talks by Societies including an overview of archaeology in the county by David Knight of Trent and Peak Archaeology. It was an incredibly enjoyable and productive day with a friendly and positive atmosphere. In total about 400 people attended. A questionnaire of participants confirmed that all aims were fulfilled and there was a call for the event to be held every year.

The Second Nottinghamshire Local History and Archaeology Societies Day will take place in June 2015. The event was supported by the Roman Society.

Clare Pickersgill, Keeper, University of Nottingham Museum (Clare.Pickersgill@nottingham.ac.uk)

Pain and Pleasure in Classical Antiquity

The Center for the Ancient Mediterranean at Columbia University will host a conference under this title on 17th, 18th and 19th April 2015. The concepts of pleasure and pain – broadly defined – have been mainstays of classical scholarship, though traditionally conceived within the compartments of separate disciplines – literature, philosophy, history, art history. The goal of this conference is to create a forum for productive dialogue on this subject and to encourage collaboration across
The Rural Settlement of Roman England: From regional perspectives to national synthesis

One Day Conference to be held at the University of Reading, 14th April 2015

The Roman Rural Settlement Project is a major new study that aims to reconsider the Romano-British countryside using the mass of new data from over two decades of commercial excavation. The project is funded by the Leverhulme Trust and English Heritage and is being conducted by a team at the University of Reading under the direction of Professor Mike Fulford, in partnership with Neil Holbrook, Cotswold Archaeology and Professor Julian Richards, Archaeology Data Service (ADS), University of York. Starting in 2012, the project team has spent much time and effort gathering huge quantities of data and undertaking preliminary analysis on a regional basis, which has been presented at a series of seven seminars across England. These seminars have generated much interest and discussion, with the valued input of local and regional specialists helping to shape the future direction of the project.

Now coming towards the end of the first stage of the project, the final step is to draw together all of the regional analyses to create a new geography of Romano-British rural settlement across England. To this end, the one day conference, scheduled for Tuesday 14th April 2015 at the University of Reading, is an opportunity both to present our findings and to launch stage one of the project website. This website, developed and hosted by the Archaeology Data Service, will make publicly available much (and eventually all) of the project data via a comprehensive database and Geographic Information System (GIS), and will hopefully be of great value to researchers of Roman Britain.

The programme for the day will be available from January.

Attendance at the conference is free of charge, though numbers will be limited and pre-booking is essential. Booking: http://www.store.reading.ac.uk/browse/product.asp?compid=2&modid=2&catid=11

Recording of a rural settlement site

Archaeology in Berkshire Day School
Saturday 7th March 2015

The Cornerstone, Norrey’s Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UE, 10.00 am to 4.00pm. Entrance: £10, payable at the door, no advance booking required.

Parking for the disabled is adjacent and there is space in Norreys Avenue, RG40 1UE. Bring a packed lunch or eat out in one of the many nearby pubs or restaurants.

10.00-10.05 Welcome
10.05-10.30 Recent Discoveries in West Berkshire
Alex Godden, West Berkshire
10.30-11.00 Coffee
11.00-11.30 Historic Landscape Characterisation and 10 years of archaeology in Berkshire
Fiona MacDonald, Adam Lodoen, Berkshire Archaeology
11.30-12.00 Research on Roman rural settlements in southern Britain
Dr. Alex Smith, University of Reading
12.00-12.30 Silchester 2014: From Insula IX to Insula III
Prof. Michael Fulford, University of Reading
12.30-2.00 Lunch

disciplinary boundaries. We hope that this synergistic approach will bring fresh ideas into focus and suggest paths for future research.

Speakers will include: Shadi Bartsch-Zimmer, Kathleen Coleman, W.V. Harris, Matt Evans, Wolfgang Mann, Wei Cheng, Katja Vogt, Elizabeth Asmis, Marcus Folch, Paul Zanker, Ioannis Mylonopoulos, Maria Luisa Catoni, Glenn Most, Anastasia-Erasmia Peponi and Gareth Williams.

All welcome. For further information go to: www.centerfortheancientmediterranean.org, or write to Evan Jewell at mailto:elj2121@columbia.edu.
Learning

The Roman Inscriptions of Britain

Volume one of R. G. Collingwood and R. P. Wright’s Roman Inscriptions of Britain is now available online. The web site contains all addenda and corrigenda from the 1995 revised edition (by R. S. O. Tomlin) as well as those published in Britannia since. The corpus is also fully searchable. The site can be accessed at: [http://romaninscriptionsofbritain.org/](http://romaninscriptionsofbritain.org/)

Scott Vanderbilt (scott@datagenic.com)

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New poet-in-residence at Canterbury Roman Museum

Poet Dan Simpson recently walked from London to Canterbury along Watling Street, which roughly corresponds with the site of the Roman road between Londinium and Cantiacorum. Simpson, currently in-residence at Canterbury Roman Museum, was inspired along the way to create new writing based on artefacts he saw and laser scanned at museums. He was also joined on his walk by PhD students and archaeologists, turning their expertise into poems.

The project was set up by the University of Kent’s Ray Laurence, Professor of Roman History and Archaeology at the School of European Culture and Languages, and sponsored by the Public Engagement with Research department.

Find out about the project and read more poems here: [www.canterburyromanresident.wordpress.com](http://www.canterburyromanresident.wordpress.com)

Dan Simpson (dan@dansimpsonpoet.co.uk)

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Dice

*Inspired by dice artefacts seen at Maison Dieu.*

Oh Fortuna! Be good to me tonight make my dice land the right way up and the wrong way for my enemies show me your beautiful many-sided face so I can honour each in turn.

We’re only here through luck so you might as well continue to play the odds chance has brought you this far my friends tonight I throw bones because someday that’s all we’ll be so make use of the body whilst we have it drink, eat, gamble - all three ideally.

Live! play that game we’re all playing. But listen: you can’t rely on the gods especially one as fickle as Fortuna so I’ll take precautions for myself these dice, my friends are not ordinary dice no cheap bone for me solid, beautiful ivory who wouldn’t want to play with them? Let me tell you a secret: you wouldn’t want to play against them I mean, sure, they look legitimate but they’ll throw high every time now they’re odds I like.

Let’s play.

Dan Simpson
Alan Sorrell (1904 - 1974): The man who created Roman Britain

The 2015 Works on Paper Fair will feature a focused Loan Exhibition (from 5th-8th February) of works by Alan Sorrell, entitled ‘Alan Sorrell (1904 - 1974) – The Man who Created Roman Britain’. The exhibition is jointly curated by Alan Sorrell’s daughter, Julia Sorrell, and Philip Athill, of art dealers Abbott and Holder.

Alan Sorrell RWS (1904 - 1974) is widely remembered as the artist who visualised our archaeological heritage. His superbly atmospheric drawings were used extensively by the Ministry of Works, the Illustrated London News and many museums. He moved to Southend, in Essex, at a young age, and spent his childhood accompanying his father on trips to draw the local landscapes. After training at the Southend Municipal School of Art, Alan went on to study at both the Royal College of Art and The British School in Rome. His fascination with archaeological drawings, however, came after a chance encounter in 1936, when he was asked to provide illustrations for a dig on a Roman site in Leicester.

The artist’s family has kindly agreed to lend a selection of around 30 illustrations from his books such as Roman Britain (1961), and Imperial Rome (1970), some of which have never previously been shown in public. Julia Sorrell will be giving a talk at 3pm on Thursday 5th February 2015, within the Works on Paper Fair. She will bring the 2015 Loan Exhibition to life through a detailed discussion of her father’s life and work, with specific reference to the images selected and shown.

Works on Paper Fair, Level 1, Science Museum, South Kensington, SW7 2DD. Thursday 5th-Sunday 8th February 2015.

For further information, see: http://www.worksonpaperfair.com/

Alan Sorrell RWS (1904-1974)

Alan Sorrell (c.1971) with one of his images of Roman Britain
Learning/Books

Epistula VIII, 15

Globalisation and the Roman World. World History, Connectivity and Material Culture
Edited by M. Pitts and M. J. Versluys; Cambridge University Press, 2015

This book represents the culmination of a series of symposia that aimed to explore the value of the idea of globalisation for Roman studies. For the archaeologists and historians involved, one impetus was to examine a new concept based on notions of connectivity, now that older ideas of Romanisation and imperialism are increasingly felt to be inadequate. From the perspective of those participants in the workshops from outside the discipline, this exploration was felt to be overdue since ideas of Rome and its empire have long been (mis)appropriated in modern writings on globalisation.

In essence, globalisation refers to the increased movement of people, objects and ideas between different places, connecting local cultures over long distances, and transforming societies in various ways. The book considers the implications for life in a truly interconnected Roman world – even though Rome was never global in a

Classics for all

We are now open for grant applications, with a closing date of Friday 16 January 2015; grant decisions will be made in mid-February 2015. Total funding amount will be at least £200,000 – please help us spread the word to schools!

See here for details of grants awarded previously, which will give you an idea of what we fund. We are looking for schemes that are sustainable and will bring Classics to a substantial group of state school pupils.

Our Teacher Leaflet explains more about our grant programme – feel free to distribute this widely. If you have any questions about our grants or grant giving process please e-mail us at grants@classicsforall.org.uk

Philip Leverhulme Prizes

The Leverhulme Trust

The Philip Leverhulme Prizes are designed to recognise and facilitate the work of outstanding research scholars of proven achievement, who have made and are continuing to make original and significant contributions with an international impact to knowledge in Classics, amongst other subjects. Up to thirty Prizes will be awarded to individuals in 2015 and each Prize has a value of £100,000. The Prize can be used for any purpose related to the advancement of the research of the prize-holder, provided that the items of expenditure fall within the categories classically eligible for the support of the Trust.

Nominees must hold either a permanent research post or a long-term Fellowship in a UK institution of higher education or research that would extend beyond the duration of the Prize. Nominees should normally have been awarded their doctoral degree not more than 10 years prior to the closing date of 14 May 2015, although exceptions for those who have had a distinct career break are considered. An individual may only be nominated for one of the 18 subject areas in which the Trust is offering Prizes between 2014 and 2016.

Nominations are to be made by the nominee’s head of department (or equivalent) and there is no restriction on the number of nominations an institution can make. The closing date for receipt of nominations is 4pm on Thursday 14 May 2015 and decisions will be made by the Trust Board by the end of November 2015. Nominations can only be made on the Leverhulme Grant Application System via the Trust’s website: www.leverhulme.ac.uk

For further information please call 020 7042 9862 or email bkerr@leverhulme.ac.uk

Books

Globalisation and the Roman World. World History, Connectivity and Material Culture
Edited by M. Pitts and M. J. Versluys; Cambridge University Press, 2015

This book represents the culmination of a series of symposia that aimed to explore the value of the idea of globalisation for Roman studies. For the archaeologists and historians involved, one impetus was to examine a new concept based on notions of connectivity, now that older ideas of Romanisation and imperialism are increasingly felt to be inadequate. From the perspective of those participants in the workshops from outside the discipline, this exploration was felt to be overdue since ideas of Rome and its empire have long been (mis)appropriated in modern writings on globalisation.
literal sense. The contributors address a broad range of subjects, including, migration, economics, consumption, urbanism, visual culture, heritage and the symbolic use of Rome in the modern world, with each essay commenting on the benefits and risks of applying globalisation ideas.

In the words of one contributor, global sociologist Professor Jan Nederveen Pieterse: “For scholars of globalisation, the Roman world breaks with stereotypical representations of the past as immobile, fragmented, segmented, sheltered, and closed off. The Romans globalised their peripheries by bringing elements of other peripheries as well as their own influence. The globalisation take on the Roman world situates Rome in the stream of history, it decentres Rome.” One key theme of the book is to emphasise new possibilities for the interpretation of the multitude of styles and objects that circulated in the Roman world. A de-centred view of Rome helps historians and archaeologists to better account for the complexity of cultural influences, as well as differing degrees of shared culture, within the Roman world.

Martin Pitts, University of Exeter
(m.e.j.pitts@exeter.ac.uk)

Richard Stein: The Roman Water Pump - Unique evidence for Roman mastery of mechanical engineering.
Editions Monique Mergoil - Collection "Monographies Instrumentum" number 48.
378 pages text; plus 163 figures. 74 Euros + 7 Euros p&p. contact@editions-monique-mergoil.com

Roman water pumps were used to raise water from wells and, very importantly, as portable pumps to fight fires. Earlier examples are of bronze, but the Greek design was cleverly re-engineered to make pumps easier and cheaper to make and maintain by cutting apertures in a wooden block and plugging their extremities to make internal spaces pressure-proof.

Eighteen wooden pumps are known, dating to the 2nd-4th c. A.D. Remains of thirteen survive. This work is based on examination of the remains, the records of all eighteen, and ancient texts. It describes their finding, location, use, dating, construction, dimensions, operation, and performance. It explains their generic design, the features of each part, the driving mechanism, and the operating cycle. The water pump is the only Roman machine of which we have such substantial remains, and provides unique evidence for Roman mastery of mechanical engineering.

Richard Stein (mail@stein57.plus.com)
the role of Hadrian in building the Wall, the way in which
the relationships between the various elements of the
frontier were elucidated, the importance of understanding
the sequence of building the Wall and recording all its
component parts, the date of the rebuilding of the Turf
Wall, how the Wall was manned, the function of the Wall
and the moving end date for the frontier.

David Breeze served as President of the Cumberland &
Westmoreland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society from
2011 to 2014, having been President of the Society of
Antiquaries of Newcastle. His first paper, on the building
of Hadrian’s Wall, was published in 1968 and, since then,
he has written several books on the Wall, as well as many
papers on this and other frontiers. He is Chairman of the
International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies.

Orders to: Ian Caruana, 10 Peter Street, Carlisle CA3 8QP.
Telephone: 01228 544120.

If you have any queries please email:
elizabethallnut@btinternet.com

David Breeze (davidbreeze@hotmail.co.uk)

Paul Chrystal. Women in Ancient Rome
Amberley Publishing 2014, PB, 224 pp, 50 colour/bw
illustrations. Includes index, bibliography and notes.
The history of women in ancient Rome is fascinating and
exhilarating. It gives a unique insight into one of the
world’s most successful superpower civilisations and, at
the same time, illuminates a considerable number of
admirable, exciting and dangerous women fighting to be
heard against insurmountable odds in a world run by men.
For more information visit: http://is.gd/iyuxP

G. W. Houston. Inside Roman Libraries: Book collections
and their management in antiquity
University of North California Press
Even in antiquity, the library at Alexandria was nearly
legendary. Until now there has been relatively little
research to discover what was inside these libraries, how
the collections came into being and evolved, and who
selected and maintained the holdings. In this engaging

Dominic Ingemark: Glass, Alcohol and Power in Roman
Iron Age Scotland
This book offers a new view of the impact of Roman glass
beyond Hadrian’s Wall. The tiny surviving sherds have
been overlooked in studies of the impact of the Roman
world on its neighbours. However, analysis indicates they
came from impressive vessels, primarily drinking vessels,
and often of unusual types. It indicates a clear preference
for the spectacular and the impressive among indigenous
societies, and discusses the use of this material in Iron
Age society, and the question of what was drunk from
them.

The book is published by National Museums Scotland,
and usually costs £35. Members of the Roman Society
can buy “Glass, Alcohol and Power” at the special price
of £25.00 plus £5.00 p/p – when ordered by phoning the
publisher 0131 247 4026 with credit card details or
emailing m.wilson@nms.ac.uk

The offer is not available online or in the National
Museum of Scotland shop. Quote the code GAAP2014
when ordering to receive the discount.

If you are local/visiting and can pick the book up from
the publisher (in Chambers Street, Edinburgh) you will
pay just £25.00. Please contact us in advance
if you’d like to do this. Offer ends 31st March 2015.
and meticulously researched study, George Houston examines a dozen specific book collections of Roman date in the first comprehensive attempt to answer these questions.

George W. Houston (gwhouston@live.unc.edu)

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