



Auckland Classical Association

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Newsletter 2: December 2010

Please accept our apologies for the delay in publication of this newsletter. It was intended to be sent in December, but has been delayed due to a bereavement in the Secretary's family.

1. SUBSCRIPTION

Subscriptions for **2011** are now due. Please forward \$20 subscription or inform the Secretary if you wish mail-outs to continue. Please make cheques in favour of the Auckland Classical Association.

Please remember to notify the Secretary of any change in residential or email address.

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 2010 are attached for review by members.

3. 50th ANNIVERSARY

The Auckland Classical Association commenced in 1961, so 2011 will mark the 50th anniversary. Ideas are sought for suitable means to celebrate this milestone. Please contact the Secretary if you have a suggestion.

4. NEWS FROM THE CLASSICS DEPARTMENT

3.1 Our members may be interested in keeping up to date with recent publications by staff at the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Auckland, which are as follows:

- ❖ Professor Vivienne Gray, "*Xenophon's Mirror of Princes: Reading the Reflections*," Oxford 2011, will appear very early in the new year.

This monograph examines Xenophon's images of leadership, which is the major focus of many of his works, through a literary analysis of his narrative art.

- ❖ Professor Vivienne Gray, "*Xenophon: Oxford Readings in Classical Studies*," Oxford 2010.

Oxford University Press commissioned this selection of most significant work on Xenophon in the last decades. The series Oxford Readings in Classical Studies covers most of the major Greek and Latin authors in this way.

- ❖ Associate Professor Anne Mackay, "*Tradition and Innovation: A Study of Exekias*," Oxford, Archaeopress, 2010.

Exekias inscribes his signature on several of his vases, and so he is one of the relatively few archaic painters whose real name is known to us. He is arguably one of the most accomplished and innovative of all black-figure vase-painters working in Athens in the sixth

century BC, and also one of the most intriguing. Although his corpus of extant works is rather small, his impact on his contemporaries and immediate successors can be judged to have been disproportionately large. His painting style is not idiosyncratic, and so may be described as distinguished rather than distinctive; it is nevertheless readily identifiable as much for its technical quality as for the creative conceptualization of the scenes. His range of subjects, the exquisite precision of his execution, and above all his technical and conceptual innovation are the hallmarks of his personal style, and there is scarcely a book on Greek vase-painting that does not use one of his vases to illustrate the peak of achievement in the black-figure technique, yet there is a dearth of monograph studies of his work. This extensive work pays homage to this great artist, including the construction of a persuasive chronology of Exekias' extant paintings through a comprehensive process of comparative analysis.

- ❖ Dr. Lisa Kaaren Bailey, "Christianity's Quiet Success: The Eusebius Gallicanus Sermon Collection and the Power of the Church in Late Antique Gaul," University of Notre Dame Press, South Bend, IN, 2010.

Lisa Bailey's *Christianity's Quiet Success: The Eusebius Gallicanus Sermon Collection and the Power of the Church in Late Antique Gaul* is the first major study of the Eusebius Gallicanus collection of anonymous, multi-authored sermons from fifth- and sixth-century Gaul. Bailey sheds new light on these sermons, which were strikingly popular and influential from late antiquity to the High Middle Ages, as the large number of surviving manuscripts attests. They were used for centuries by clergy as a preaching guide and by monks and pious lay people as devotional reading.

A list of older publications can be found on the University website, on each staff member's individual page accessible from this link:

<http://artsfaculty.auckland.ac.nz/staff/?dept=classics&research&show=ad>

- 3.2 Our members may be interested to know that the Australasian Society for Classical Studies will have their annual conference in Auckland, in January 2011, details as follows:

The 32nd Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies is being hosted by the Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Auckland, from 23rd to 27th January 2011. For information about the conference, including registration and fees (\$300 Conference Fee, and \$100 for the Conference Dinner), please go to www.ascs32.com. The programme of papers will be posted on that website by 21 December 2010.

This is a major international conference with over 150 delegates from across the world offering papers on a variety of different subjects. Any and all of the Auckland Classical Association members are welcome to attend the panels and sessions taking place Monday through Thursday (the schedule is available at: <http://www.ascs32.com/schedule.asp>, although we would ask that anyone who does wish to attend please register and pay the full conference fee to help cover costs.

However, a special invitation has been extended to the members of the Auckland Classical Association to attend the keynote address, this year given by Prof. Christopher Smith (Director of the British School at Rome) and entitled 'A Century of Roman Studies', for **free**. The keynote address will be on Tuesday evening, from 6pm to 7pm, in lecture theatre B4 in the Owen G Glenn Building. Prof. Smith is quite a distinguished guest and the talk should be very good.

During the conference, the University Book Shop will have some selected books on a stand on Tuesday and Wednesday (sadly not at reduced prices); and Polygraphia and Antiquarius, two companies run by some of our members, will have displays on the Monday. Polygraphia's stand will be mainly school-related items. The conference itself is very academically specialised, with 140 20-minute papers in five concurrent sessions.

7. SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2011

The subscription for 2011 is \$20. This may be paid at a meeting or by mailing a cheque with this form to the Secretary at 52 Kohekohe Street, New Lynn, Waitakere 0600.

Membership is free for students and for graduates of less than one year's standing, however the return of the form would be appreciated in order to maintain the database of members.

Please make cheques payable to 'Auckland Classical Association'.

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