

BRITISH EPIGRAPHY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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AUTUMN 2004

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AUTUMN COLLOQUIUM: *Dedications in Inscriptions of the Graeco-Roman World* (including the 8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society)

Saturday, 27th November 2004, Room 1.05, History Department, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

The venue is the same as that used last year. Access is via the rear of the building which may be reached from the main gate on Gower Street. The nearest tube stations are Euston, Euston Square and Warren Street; the nearest railway station is Euston. For location maps see: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/history/department/where.htm>

PROGRAMME

10.00 – 11.15: Reports

1. Dr. P. Haarer: *Epigraphic Sources for Early Greek Writing*
2. Dr. A. Cooley: *Latin Inscriptions in the Ashmolean*
3. Dr. G.J. Oliver: *Epigraphy Summer School, Oxford 2004*

11.15 - 11.45: Coffee

11.45 – 12.15: Report

4. Prof. S. Mitchell & Dr. D. French: *Inscriptions of Ankara*

12.15 - 13.00: Dedications I: Professor J.K. Davies (Liverpool): *The Dedications from the Athenian Akropolis Revisited.*

13.00 - 14.30: Lunch

14.30 – 15.30: AGM, including election of officers

15.30 – 16.00: Tea

16.00 – 16.45: Dedications II: Maria Mili (Oxford): *Thessalian Inscribed Dedications.*

16.45 – 17.30: Dedications III: Miss Charlotte Tupman (Southampton): *Funerary Dedications on the Barrel-shaped Tombstones of Roman Iberia.*

17.30 – 18.30: Reception

Colloquium fees:

Registration / refreshments: £2.00

Sandwich lunch (optional): £3.00 (BES members) or £5.00 (non-members)

Booking

To reserve a place at the colloquium, and especially if you would like to book a lunch, please contact the Secretary, Peter Haarer, by e-mail to "peter.haarer@classics.ox.ac.uk" or by post to Corpus Christi College, Oxford OX1 4JF, by Thursday 25 November and include where relevant details of your dietary requirements. Please pay all fees due on the day by cheque (no coins / notes if possible) to the Treasurer, Nicholas Milner.

Forthcoming Events: Conferences and Seminars

LITERACY AND STATE DEVELOPMENT: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES

Room 612, Institute of Archaeology, University College London, 10th November 2004

Programme

José-R. Pérez-Accino: 'The political concept of Egypt and the invention of writing as reflected in the Shabaka stone'

John Tait: 'The unsteady state in Roman and Byzantine Egypt: who wanted literacy in Coptic?'

Yvette Balbaligo: 'Egyptology beyond philology'

Kathryn Piquette: 'Inscribed objects of the Late Predynastic and 1st Dynasty of Egypt'

Robert Hoyland: 'Writing among the pre-Islamic Arabs'

Bill Sillar: 'The use of kipu as non-written record-keeping in Inca society'

Kathryn Lomas and Ruth Whitehouse: 'Writing and state development in early Italy'

Anyone interested in attending the conference should contact Dr Kathryn Lomas (K.Lomas@ucl.ac.uk). The conference itself is free, but there will be a charge of £5.00 for anyone wishing to attend the conference lunch, which **must be booked by November 8th**.

Accordia Research Seminars, 2005: Language, Literacy and Identity in the Ancient Mediterranean

All seminars are on Tuesdays, at 5.15pm, in Room 331, Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU. Enquiries to K.Lomas@ucl.ac.uk

January 25th. Kathryn Lomas (UCL): Invoking Zeus. State, ritual and society in South-east Italy

February 1st. Graham Oliver (Liverpool): Self-recognition: Greek epigraphy and state identity

February 8th. Corinna Riva (Oxford): Inscriptions on Etruscan bucchero. A form of gender identity?

February 22nd. Edward Herring (Galway): Priestesses in Puglia? An archaeological perspective on the Messapic tabara inscriptions.

March 1st. Zofia Archibald (Liverpool): Language and the written word north and east of Mount Olympos: Macedon and Thrace in the second half of the first millennium BCE

March 22nd. Timo Sironen (Oulu): The Identities and Literacy of the Sabellian Populations of Central and Southern Italy in the 5th-1st centuries B.C.

April 26th. Tim Cornell (SAS): Language, literacy and identity in Cato's Origines

May 10th. Ruth Whitehouse (UCL): Writing and identity in theory and practice: Italy in the 1st millennium BC

THE EPIGRAPHIC HABIT: INSCRIPTIONS IN THE POLIS

6-10 APRIL, 2005

A conference in honour of Professor P.J. Rhodes on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

In the course of a long and illustrious career, Peter J. Rhodes has made an enormous and important contribution to the study of Greek history and epigraphy. In order to celebrate his work on the occasion of his 65th birthday, a conference will be held in his honour on the beautiful Greek island of Rhodes from 6-10 April, 2005.



View of citadel of Lindos, Rhodes

Since a major part of Professor Rhodes' work has focused on the study of inscriptions and the ways in which they help us to understand the political life of the Greek polis, this will also be the theme of the conference.

Speakers will include:

Professor J.K. Davies (Liverpool); Professor R. Osborne (Cambridge); Professor D. Whitehead (Belfast); Professor M. Piérart (Sorbonne); Dr M.H. Hansen (Copenhagen); Dr V. Gouschin (Perm); Professor I. Worthington (Univ. of Missouri, Columbia); Professor S. Hornblower (UCL); Dr B. Dreyer (Göttingen); Dr G. Oliver (Liverpool); Dr A. Makris (Athens); Professor J. Sickinger (American School at Athens/Florida); Professor L.J. Samons (Boston); Dr C. Crowther (Oxford); Dr P. Low (Manchester); Dr R. Brock (Leeds); Dr A. Möller (Freiburg); Mrs Elaine Matthews (Oxford); Dr L. Rubinstein (Royal Holloway); Dr L.G. Mitchell (Exeter)

For all enquiries, contact Lynette Mitchell, Department of Classics & Ancient History, University of Exeter, Exeter, EX4 4QH; email: l.g.mitchell@ex.ac.uk

Further details about the conference, including details of costs and downloadable booking form can be found on the BES website.

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL EPIGRAPHY SUMMER SCHOOL
THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD/BRITISH EPIGRAPHY SOCIETY,
5-15 JULY 2004

The BES sponsored the Second International Epigraphy Summer School that was organised by the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents (CSAD), in partnership with BES. The School ran from 5th July to 15th July and was based at 67 St Giles, the Classics Centre and home of the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents in Oxford. This was the second Summer School, the first having taken place in July 2001. In collaboration with Alan Bowman and Charles Crowther of the CSAD, Dirk Obbink of the CSAD and Christ Church College, the 2004 International Epigraphy Summer School was organised by Profesor John Bodel (Brown University) and Dr Graham Oliver (University of Liverpool).

Summer School Academic Programme:

The Summer School was organised in such a way as to give the students an opportunity to work in pairs on epigraphical material chosen to meet the interests of the students concerned. The students were expected to produce an initial epigraphical 'publication' of their material with description, lemma, transcription, *apparatus criticus*, translation (where relevant) and a brief commentary. At the end of the programme each student pair presented their findings to the Summer School participants in the Headley Lecture theatre in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. The three main forms of delivery were

- instruction in the opening two days on how to write an epigraphical publication with proper transcriptions, lemmata, translation commentary.
- specialist workshops and seminars offered in parallel sessions allowing the participants to learn about other technical aspects of epigraphical material. Where possible, the students were afforded the possibility of handling epigraphical material (e.g. inscriptions on coins using material from the Heberden coin room; writing tablets from Vindolanda etc.).
- more wide-ranging plenary sessions (4 in total) presented by UK-based international figures. The plenary sessions were designed to offer students an understanding of how epigraphy can be used in wider contexts to illuminate ancient culture.
- epigraphical instruction given to the students as they made their transcriptions in the Ashmolean.

Specialist seminars and workshops:

Instrumentum Domesticum (M. Steinby)
Inscriptions and architecture (J. Coulton)
Electronic resources and Greek Personal Names (C. Crowther and E. Matthews)
Writing tablets (A. Bowman)
Archaic Greek epigraphy (P. Haarer)
Bilingual inscriptions from Palmyra (T. Kaizer)
Manuscripts for Epigraphers (W. Stenhouse)
Religious inscriptions (R. Parker)
Inscriptions on Greek/Roman coins (A. Meadows, V. Heuchert and H. Kim)

Plenary Lectures:

Michael Crawford, 'Latin inscriptions and 'funny Latin inscriptions'
John Ma, '101 things to do with a Greek inscription'
Stephen Mitchell, 'Inscriptions on bronze – the medium is the message'
Charlotte Roueché, 'Locating the inscriptions of Aphrodisias'

The participants

There was a good international response to advertisements for the Epigraphy Summer School although fewer enquiries and a much reduced number of applications when compared to 2001. From 40 enquiries, there were 33 applications; 30 students were accepted and offered places; 28 finally registered and completed the programme. The majority of the applications were from outside the UK, with a significant number from the USA. All students were invited to specialise in either Greek or Latin epigraphy: the division was 16 Greek and 12 Latin.

There was a wide range of abilities from those without epigraphical experience to some with extensive knowledge of epigraphy. There were two MA level students; a majority of PhD students (19) and a significant number (7) who had already obtained PhDs and were in post or at post-doctoral level (some of whom with several publications to their name!). The majority of all these students was attracted in particular by the desire to do hands-on epigraphy and work with the stones.

Support and thanks

The programme made extensive use of the Epigraphical collection of the Ashmolean Museum and students, working in pairs were assigned epigraphical material for study purposes either in the basement store (the majority) or from the gallery of the Museum. Charles Crowther provided each student with high quality digital photographs of their material and the staff of the Ashmolean Museum, and in particular Michael Vickers and Mark Norman, the new Director of the Greco-Roman collection, and the reception staff made possible such extensive access to the collection.

Financial support for the Summer School was considerable, particularly from the two main institutions at Oxford, The Classics Faculty and the CSAD in The University of Oxford. In addition, generous grants for student bursaries were awarded by both the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic (SPHS) Studies, and the British Epigraphy Society (BES). The SPHS grant took the form of a full bursary for the student from Slovenia and the BES grant was used to fund bursaries for an outstanding USA student from outside of the Ivy League universities and two UK students.

The CSAD staff including the Director, Professor Alan Bowman, the Assistant Director, Charles Crowther, and Administrator, Maggie Sasanow, made the Summer School possible. The preparatory work undertaken by Charles Crowther in organising and photographing the Museum collection and the administrative and financial administration undertaken by Maggie Sasanow were particularly important.

Some conclusions

The International Epigraphy Summer School continues to meet a demand for epigraphical instruction. Publicity needs to go out some time in advance of the event, probably at least 18-24 months before the Summer School.

The ideal host will be able to supply stone or bronze epigraphy for study and access to strong libraries and an infrastructure to provide the teaching space and resources required for such a programme of study.

The 2001 and 2004 Summer Schools were very reasonably priced largely thanks to the generosity and support of The Faculty of Classics and the Dirk Obbink and the Conference office and staff at Christ Church College, Oxford. It is unlikely that such low residential prices can be offered outside of such structures unless major funding is secured.

The BES may wish to address the take up the relatively low numbers of UK students taking up places on the Summer School.

*Dr G. J. Oliver and Professor John Bodel
October 2004*

XII RENCONTRE SUR L'ÉPIGRAPHIE, ROME, SEPTEMBER 2004

September's epigraphic happenings at the British School at Rome incorporated two events: a Workshop on Digital Epigraphy, followed by the XII Rencontre sur l'épigraphie. The workshop brought together American, English, French, German and Italian scholars whose projects aim to harness the potential of the latest technology to enhance the way in which we can study inscriptions. It provided an opportunity for the more technologically-minded epigraphers to discuss different approaches to the publication of inscriptions on the internet, to introduce new ideas and to present progress reports on current digital projects. It also raised the important issue of ensuring that the various digital epigraphic *corpora*, often created using different computer systems and databases, are compatible with one another, thus allowing a more straightforward and less time-consuming exchange of information. The question of the amount of time it takes to create a digital database was raised during the discussions, but there was a clear consensus amongst attendees that the long-term benefits of making inscriptions more accessible and more easily searchable certainly outweighed the initial investment of time and money necessary for this type of project. This was amply demonstrated by the achievements to date of the international projects that were presented to us during the workshop.

For those of us whose understanding of computer technology is not quite up to the standard of people like Tom Elliott and Gabriel Bodard, the workshop also provided much-needed explanations of some of the more mysterious acronyms used by digital epigraphers: having got to grips with XML (eXtensible Mark-up Language), we were treated to in-depth definitions of TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) and XSLT (Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformations), amongst other things... I for one was extremely grateful for the patience shown by the speakers in giving members of their audience all the clarification that they

required! However, something that all epigraphers should find encouraging is that the software used for digital epigraphy is developing in a way which will allow the less technological amongst us not only to use but also to create digital resources: digital epigraphy need not be limited to those with specialist computer knowledge; it can be open to all. The bringing together of those with the 'know-how' and those who are interested in learning about how digital epigraphy can benefit our study of inscriptions is a vital step, and workshops like this achieve that aim admirably.

The XII Rencontre sur l'épigraphie pursued a slightly more traditional theme, that of epigraphy and public space from the Severans to the Theodosian era, but was no less exciting in its presentation of new epigraphic research. Papers were presented in English, French and Italian, and the sessions were, as far as possible, organised in such a way as to ensure that the different languages were well-distributed across the programme. Having been rather disconcerted by the mechanical 'moving floor' of the Sainsbury lecture theatre (during the digital workshop the floor was entirely flat; but by the afternoon of the 16th, when the XII Rencontre began, steps and new levels had appeared in the floor as if by magic, causing at least one or two of us who had attended the workshop to stumble when our feet assumed, quite reasonably, that the floor was still flat), it was something of a relief to sit down on a (stationary) chair and enjoy the papers.

There was an impressive array of presentations on new discoveries as well as new interpretations, many of which concentrated on Italian material, while others focused on Gaul, Asia Minor, and North Africa. The 'public spaces' which were analysed ranged from individual *atria* to entire cities, permitting a extensive exploration over the course of the conference of how different types of inscribed monuments functioned in different urban areas, and who stood to

gain by the display. Changes over the third and fourth centuries and beyond in the spaces used for the setting up of inscriptions were examined, as well as shifts in the types of documents being set up, particularly as new priorities appeared with the spread of Christianity across the empire. Some lively discussions at the end of the sessions were continued during the reception on the Thursday and dinner on the Friday, and the last day of the conference concluded with a trip into the centre of Rome for the 'Notte Bianca', an annual event in the city for which many of the monuments, art galleries and other places of interest stay open all night. Where else could you visit a well-

preserved Roman house and find it still full of visitors at two o'clock in the morning?

The location of the conference at the British School at Rome also gave attendees the opportunity to make use of the excellent library facilities there. I found both the digital workshop and the main conference very valuable for my research, and I would like to thank the British Epigraphy Society for its generosity in providing the bursaries which allow students like myself to attend epigraphic conferences abroad.

Charlotte Tupman

(Postscript: the thematic papers of the Rencontre will be published as a Supplement of the Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies; the varia will appear in the Mélanges de l'École française de Rome - Antiquité.)

**ALPHABETIC RESPONSES TO WESTERN SEMITIC WRITING
ST. HILDA'S COLLEGE, OXFORD, 1ST TO 3RD JULY 2004**

In July, a major international conference took place at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, on the emergence of alphabetic Greek writing. The principle aim of this conference was to explore how the introduction of alphabetic Greek fitted in with developments in other writing systems across the Mediterranean in the Early Iron Age, from the "consonantal" alphabetic systems in the Near East to the Paleo-Hispanic writings to the West (see BES Newsletter Issue 11: 2).

The wider academic context of the conference was the project entitled *Epigraphic Sources for Early Greek Writing*, a research programme funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and based at the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents, Oxford. The remit for this project has been to use the archive of papers and photographs bequeathed by the late Anne Jeffery to create a high-quality internet-based resource for the study of the development of early Greek alphabetic writing, and it was appropriate therefore that the conference opened with a presentation on this work and a demonstration of the

proto-type web-site. This site, known as *Poinikastas*, uses the archive to illustrate and expand on many of the texts discussed in Anne Jeffery's seminal work, *The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece*. In addition *Poinikastas* provides facilities for viewing inscriptions by a number of analytical categories (local script, date, object type, document type, writing-medium, letter-form and bibliographic reference), and a gallery of maps showing the distribution of local scripts. The site will become fully accessible early in 2005.

The first of two full days of research papers began with a key-note address by **Professor Barry Powell (Wisconsin-Madison)** on "History and Principles in the Study of Writing: Questions, Problems and Agendas". This informative and provocative presentation served to set the ensuing studies of individual scripts and regional groupings of scripts in context by looking in particular at what exactly alphabetic writing is and how it relates to the history and nature of other writing systems.

Powell was followed by **Professor Jo Ann Hackett (Harvard)**, who gave an exposition of consonantal alphabetic Western Semitic scripts. Hackett led us skilfully from the earliest texts in Old Canaanite to those of its later derivatives in Phoenician and Hebrew, taking account of much new material, and focussing on chronological developments in writing–directions and letter–forms.

Professor Alan Millard (Liverpool) spoke next with an equally comprehensive survey of Aramaic which, though stressing the limited nature of the extant evidence, brought out the wide range of purposes for which this script was employed and its dissemination beyond a scribal class. To provide a contrast to these alphabetic scripts, **Professor David Hawkins (SOAS)** completed the morning session with a paper on Hieroglyphic Luwian. This traced the rise of this mixed syllabic / logographic script from purely monumental use in the Late Bronze Age to use for non–monumental purposes in the Neo–Hittite states of the Early Iron Age.

After lunch **Professor Bonny Bazemore (South Carolina)** gave a stimulating survey of Cypro–Syllabic scripts incorporating much new material examined by her at first-hand from the Rantidi area. Bazemore’s main foci were firstly, the link between the Cypro–Minoan script used for writing a non-Greek language and the syllabic scripts used for writing Greek, and secondly, the coexistence followed by the eventual disappearance of the latter subsequent to the arrival of the alphabet. Bazemore’s study emphasised in particular the patchy nature of the evidence, and the problem of gaps across which continuity of development seems assured but is archaeologically invisible. These gaps argue, perhaps, that the choice of writing medium is conscious and culturally determined, and that this choice is reflected subsequently in what does and does not survive. **Yves Duhoux (Université Catholique de Louvain)** followed with a presentation on Eteocretan. After introducing us to the corpus of texts he concentrated on the problem that the alphabetic script used for writing this undeciphered non-Greek language employs signs not required for writing Greek in the Cretan dialect. Duhoux argued that

Eteocretan was probably adapted from a Euboian (or other archetypal) version of the alphabet independently of Cretan, demonstrating the role of writing in the forging of the identities of individual communities.

Professor John Bennet (Sheffield) spoke on Linear B, its emergence, restricted usage and demise, and in doing so emphasised not only the clear break in continuity between this script and alphabetic Greek, but also the crucial role of cultural context in the birth, life and death of writing systems.

Dr. Alan Johnston (UCL) closed the first day with a paper surveying the current state of research on the origins and development of the Greek alphabet. Johnston provided a reassuring list of some important certainties, but the list of uncertainties, and areas where the subject is in a state of flux, reminded us of the considerable problems and ambiguities remaining with much of the evidence, and the open structure of its interpretation. Moreover new finds, especially from Euboea, seem likely to continue to change our understanding significantly.

The second day was opened by **Dr. Nino Luraghi (Toronto)** who, in a highly stimulating and cogently argued paper proposed that the local scripts, so characteristic of early Greek writing, far from being the product of accidental change during transmission represent conscious attempts at differentiation. After coffee **Dr. Ignacio-J. Adiego (Barcelona)** spoke on the non-Greek alphabetic scripts of Asia Minor (Phrygian, Lydian, Lycian, Carian, Sidetic), having kindly agreed at short notice to do so. The focus of his paper was the origin for these scripts, and he argued in detail and persuasively for a Greek origin for each. Adiego was followed by **Dr. Kathryn Lomas (UCL)**, who examined the adaptations of the Greek alphabet for writing non-Greek languages in south-eastern Italy (Sikel, Messapic, S. Oscan), and in particular the contrast between the initial use of writing in this area in the fifth century and its markedly different and distinctive usage in the third century. Lomas proposed that a surge and greatly increased visibility in the latter period was catalysed by the expansion of Rome and the adoption of writing as a

symbol of identity in the face of confrontation.

Dr. Alessandro Naso (Univerita del Molise) and Dr. Enrico Benelli (ISCIMA) gave a joint presentation in the afternoon on the development of Etruscan. Alessandro Naso outlined the cultural context from an archaeological perspective, stressing in particular the background of interaction between Etruria and Greece as reflected in exchanges of objects. Enrico Benelli added the philological perspective, and argued that the origins of Etruscan writing were embedded in aristocratic gift-exchange and ritualised friendship. **Professor Javier De Hoz (Madrid)** provided the final paper in the proceedings and gave a thorough survey of the Palaeo-Hispanic scripts taking account of recent finds. He argued in particular that early Hispanic writing had its origins in southern Iberia no later than the mid-seventh century, that it was created by a single inventor, and that Tartessian script was perhaps the first early Hispanic script. Overall, the conference offered much of interest simply by bringing together scholars with similar interests who are usually separated by inter-disciplinary and / or geographical boundaries, and offering them and the participants a forum in which a wealth of information, including much new material, was exchanged. Furthermore, the range of approaches represented was in itself perhaps equal in interest to the rich diversity of different possibilities surveyed from around the Mediterranean for writing down various languages. One of the conference themes was the degree to which the originality of the Greek alphabet has been overstated. An element of this was reflected in some minor localised (but entirely good-natured) exchanges over the proper use of the term "alphabet" with relation in particular to Phoenician, Aramaic and Greek. More significant were observations on the fluidity of writing directions (especially boustrophedon) in scripts to the east of Greece, and Alan Millard's statement that Aramaic was written down by more than just a scribal class, implying that Greek was not, therefore, the first script to pass into common use. However, while the western Semitic scripts show considerable uniformity in terms of

letter-forms across their geographical distribution, or at most only subtle and minor changes, early alphabetic Greek carries the phenomenon of local scripts which vary markedly in this respect over short distances. It is interesting to note, moreover, as mentioned by Bennet, that local scripts are not a feature of Linear B.

Amongst common themes to emerge, foremost, perhaps, was the significance of the cultural context in which writing systems are embedded, illustrated most eloquently by the failure of Linear B to survive the collapse of the Mycenaean civilisations. Closely allied with cultural context is the role identified in several of the papers of writing systems as a means of cultural identification and differentiation. This in turn raises questions of agency, and the process by which a script is "invented". The conference speakers each reminded us, however, of the difficulties of addressing this and many other questions due to the incomplete and potentially unrepresentative nature of the evidence, though this may be viewed more optimistically as an affirmation that the scope for future research remains pleasingly healthy.

The conference organiser would like to acknowledge the generous support of the British Academy, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Craven Committee, the Meyerstein Fund, the Pusey and Ellerton Fund, and the Classics Faculty and School of Archaeology at Oxford. In addition, the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies provided funds for bursaries which enabled many students to attend. We are also grateful to St. Hilda's College, Oxford, for accommodating us.

Further information, including abstracts, may be viewed at:

<http://www.csad.ox.ac.uk/LSAG/Conference2004>

A volume based on the proceedings will be submitted to Oxford University Press for publication in 2006/7 in the series *Oxford Studies in Ancient Documents*.

Peter Haarer
Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents,
Oxford.

BES Spring Meeting: Manchester, 8th May 2004

A small but select group of epigraphers assembled on an uncharacteristically damp Mancunian May morning for the Spring Meeting of the British Epigraphy Society. The theme of the meeting was 'Language, power and politics'. Speakers addressed that theme with reference to a wide range of material (from classical Athens to late antique Rome, and from literary texts to document reliefs), and with an equally broad set of methodological approaches.

The morning's papers concentrated on the Roman world. In a paper with important implications for our understanding of the late-Roman 'epigraphical habit', Simon Corcoran (UCL) discussed the epigraphic jigsaw puzzle that is the Caesarian dossier, suggesting that the fragments of the dossier should be seen as part of a single, but multiply published, text, and that this method of publication is a much more restricted phenomenon than is often thought. The second paper moved from 'public' to 'private' writing: Lucy Grig (Reading) explored the use of inscribed writing by the élite families of late-antique Rome, and showed how these families used inscribed monuments (and some poetically-questionable imitations of Virgil) to enhance their power and status.

In the afternoon, the focus of attention switched to the Greek world. Claire Taylor (Cambridge) demonstrated the value of a very different approach to inscribed texts, using the data preserved in the documents of the Athenian democracy as the basis for a

statistical analysis of the (geographical and social) origins of those who participated in Athenian political life. This analysis produced many interesting results, of which perhaps the most striking was demonstration of a clear gulf between the origins of those holding elected office and those holding offices appointed by lot. Peter Liddel (TCD) offered a valuable new perspective on the venerable problem of the Athenian epigraphic habit by exploring the uses to which inscriptions are put by the Attic Orators. It emerged that, for the orators at least, inscriptions represented much more than a symbol of democratic accountability, or a repository of useful information: inscriptions are used to incite civic obligation or patriotic emotion, to demonstrate the status, prestige, or knowledge of an individual, and even, on one memorable occasion, to symbolise the importance of restricting access to privileged information.

The day was brought to a stimulating conclusion by Alastair Blanshard (Reading), who discussed the sculptural relief panels that adorned a number of fourth-century Athenian inscriptions. After outlining workshop arrangements (especially the relationship between sculptor and epigraphic mason), he explained the way in which such images functioned as ethnic and political markers, in Athens and elsewhere in the Greek world.

SMALL ADS/STOP PRESS

COMING SOON: 'EPIGRAPHY NORTH'. A new joint venture of the Universities of Liverpool and Manchester, which aims to provide a focus and a stimulus for epigraphical education and research for scholars and postgraduate students in the North of England. Further details will be announced by Graham Oliver at the Autumn Colloquium, and will be reported in forthcoming issues of this newsletter.

BRITISH EPIGRAPHY SOCIETY; STEERING COMMITTEE: There is a vacancy for an ordinary member on the Steering Committee. Please send nominations to the Secretary (Dr Peter Haarer: peter.haarer@classics.ox.ac.uk). Nominations will also be accepted at the Annual General Meeting on November 27th.

THE BRITISH EPIGRAPHY SOCIETY

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the declaration only if you do not intend to claim tax relief on your subscription or donation as an expense relating to your employment. 2. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax (including tax you may pay on your savings) at least equal to the tax that the Society reclaims on your payments in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 that you give). 3. If in future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax at the level defined in note 2, you should cancel your declaration by notice to the Society. 4. If you pay higher rate tax, you may claim further tax relief on your Tax Return. 5. Please notify the Society if you change your name or address. 6. You should keep a record of this declaration and the payments under it, and report them on your Tax Return. 	<p><i>Postcode</i>.....</p> <p><i>I want the British Epigraphy Society (registered charity no. 1090249) to treat all subscriptions and donations made by me since 10th. November 2001, and all subsequent such payments I make from the date of this declaration until I notify it otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.</i></p> <p>Signed..... <i>Dated</i>.....</p> <p><i>To the Treasurer, British Epigraphy Society, c/o 44 Rectory Green, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4HX.</i></p>