

BRITISH EPIGRAPHY SOCIETY

NEWS DIGEST

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The British Epigraphy Society exists to promote the study of inscriptions, texts and historical documents in Greek, Latin and other languages, and was established at a meeting in London on 16 November 1996 as an independent 'chapter' of the Association Internationale d'Epigraphie Grecque et Latine (**A.I.E.G.L.**). It is a registered charity (no. 1090249).

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UP-COMING EPIGRAPHIC MEETINGS:

The **BES Autumn Colloquium 2013** will take place on 16 November in London.

CALL for POSTERS & SHORT REPORTS:

BES members are invited to present short reports and posters at the Autumn Colloquium.
PLEASE contact the Secretary by 31 August 2013 or as soon as possible thereafter if you wish to present a poster and/or a short report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

At the AGM on Saturday, 17 November 2012, the Society announced that Dr Nicholas Milner, a founding member of the Society and its Treasurer since 1996, was to be honoured with **Honorary Membership**.

Nick's epigraphic work has been on the epigraphy of Asia Minor, in particular on the Lycian site of Oinoanda where he has been engaged in field work for many years.

REPORTS and SUMMARIES

'Postgraduate Course in Greek Epigraphy' The British School at Athens, 24th March - 7th April 2013

Bursary reports

Liam Gale, MPhil Classics, Trinity College Dublin.

I would like to express my gratitude to the British Epigraphy Society for offering me the financial support to attend the 'Postgraduate Course in Greek Epigraphy' held at the British School at Athens, 24th March - 7th April 2013.

Nine students from universities in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the USA attended this two-week course, which revolved around a series of talks, site visits and first-hand experience with inscriptions. Mr. Robert K. Pitt and Dr. Graham Oliver delivered a number of excellent talks on topics such as the background and history of epigraphy, reading and recording techniques, creating an edition, epigraphy in Fifth-century Athens, epigraphy in Fourth-century Hellenistic Athens and epigraphy in late Hellenistic and Roman Athens. These talks highlighted many of the salient issues associated with epigraphical research and provided a solid basis for activities over the two weeks. We also had the opportunity to attend a public lecture, delivered by Dr. Oliver, at the Epigraphical Museum of Athens. Further talks by guest lecturers were an important part of this course. Prof. David Braund delivered a talk on the epigraphy of the Northeast Black Sea region and Prof. Leslie Threatte, a talk on Archaic Greece and Epichoric scripts.

We also visited a number of museums and archaeological sites: the Athenian Acropolis, the Acropolis Museum, the Kerameikos, the Athenian Agora (and its epigraphic storeroom), the Archaeological Museum at Marathon, Oropos, Rhamnous and Delphi. Mr. Pitt and Dr. Oliver provided excellent guidance at these sites, with a particular focus on

epigraphic features. This was the first time several of the students had visited these sites, and for those who had been before, the epigraphical focus provided a fresh perspective.

The emphasis of the second week shifted from trips and talks to working with stones at the Epigraphical Museum of Athens. We were assigned (or chose) a stone from the collection, with the aim of producing an edition by the end of the course. I was delighted to be able to work with an inscription directly related to my own research- IG II²677 (Heracleitos dedicates for Gonatas on the Acropolis. Post 277 BC). We had the time and freedom to produce the edition using the excellent BSA library facilities and Mr. Pitt and Dr. Oliver answered all questions and addressed any issues that arose. The course culminated with a presentation of our completed editions.

I am delighted to have had the opportunity to take part in this course. Not only did I acquire a great deal of epigraphical experience, but I also had the chance to meet other scholars working on a variety of projects, as well as my peers from overseas universities. The course was one of the most interesting and rewarding experiences of my academic career and provided me with many of the skills necessary for my own research.

Miriam Hay, MA Student, University of Warwick.

The 2013 Postgraduate Epigraphy Course at the British School at Athens, from 24th March to 7th April, offered a theoretical and practical grounding in epigraphy to attendees. It brought together students from universities up and down Britain and beyond, with a wide variety of interests and specialisms, all looking for an introduction to what the study of inscriptions could bring to their own research.

We began the fortnight with sessions in the School's own museum, which outlined the history and classification of inscribed objects, and gave us the opportunity to handle some artefacts ourselves, including examples of pottery, weights and sling bullets. We were also given an overview of

different methods of recording the text from a stone, from tracing onto acetate to squeezes, and the ethics, limitations and appropriate uses of these methods. To conclude we made our first tentative attempts at producing our own squeezes from some of the School's collection of stones.

The second stage of the course, alternating with further illuminating lectures from Prof. Leslie Threatte on dialects and Prof. David Braund on the inscriptions of the Black Sea region, were the trips to see epigraphy 'in the wild'. We started with the main sites in Athens – the Acropolis, Agora and Kerameikos cemetery – and then later the Amphiareion at Oropus. The town of Rhamnous with its unfinished temple of Nemesis was a particular highlight: we had a stunning view of the sun-bathed town against the sea and Euboea in the background, before walking through its streets to see the inscriptions outside the walls, including a bench transformed by incisions into a gaming table. The final trip was to Delphi; it is only by walking through the site along the processional route that the impact of the unique inscriptional space can be fully grasped.

During the final week we each investigated one or two inscriptions, studying the stones at the Epigraphical Museum and following up with research in the School's library. This gave us the chance to apply the knowledge and skills we had acquired to produce our own editions, and to put together a presentation on our findings for the group at the end of the fortnight. One of the benefits of the course was the flexibility to accommodate everyone's areas of interest; thus in light of my interest in Christian epigraphy, I was assigned two Late Antique stones to examine, one of which I was particularly lucky to see, as it was usually kept locked away in the rarely accessed room of late material. Learning how to produce my own edition turned out to be the best way to gain confidence in using the real publications, and we all came away having found out something new about our stones. I had also intended to conduct research while in Athens for my own project on the display of inscriptions in museums (to be published online this summer), and not only were the trips to museums as part of the course very useful

for this, the course leaders themselves were very helpful and supportive of the project.

I am very grateful to the British Epigraphy Society for their generous support in funding my trip, and can only encourage other postgraduates to consider applying to the British School at Athens Epigraphy Course themselves.

BES SPRING MEETING, VIENNA **2013**

Aitor Blanco Pérez, PhD student, Oxford.

On the 4th of May, the University of Vienna and its department of Ancient History hosted the Spring Meeting of the British Epigraphy Society. This was the first time that such a meeting was celebrated abroad and I can only praise the organisers of this pioneering experience. Thanks to Prof. T. Corsten, his team and the members of the BES committee, this event was a true success which I am glad to have experienced.

After the early call of papers, my abstract proposal was accepted in early February. The topic of this meeting was Epigraphy and Religion and I decided to prepare a presentation entitled "Epigraphy and Chronology in the Native Cults of Pisidian Antioch". Personally, I think that this kind of thematic approach to the meeting was very fruitful. By giving a general topic, the papers and discussions were connected and lively. Then, the coherent chronological disposition of the different sessions created a nice evolution since Etruscan times up to the Late Antique. The papers were on average 20 minutes long and were followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Between the different panels, coffee and lunch breaks were provided which made the intense day of conferences less exhausting. Within that theme exploring the relation between religion and epigraphic evidence, the approach and content of the papers was very diverse. Some of the speakers focused on the revision of texts where new readings could be provided. Other papers dealt more with the interpretation of that evidence. The majority of the inscriptions were written in Greek, but there was also room for

interesting Latin material even from Bath. My panel was chaired by Prof. E. Weber and it was composed of three presentations including mine. Preceding my paper, Dr. E. Rathmayr talked about household cults in Ephesos, Delos and Pergamon. She was especially interested in the statues found in urban dwellings where priests or gods were recorded. Closing the panel, Prof. K. Strobel reviewed the history of the cults of Galatia. Interestingly, he agreed with one of the main points of my paper concerning the concentration of cultic evidence in Asia Minor at the end of the high Roman Empire. In the break following, I had the chance to exchange my views on this process both with him and some of the other attendants of the conference such as Dr. N. Milner.

After the closing lecture by Dr. K. Harter-Uibopuu we went to a typical restaurant called 'Heuriger' where we spent a memorable evening. Everyone could enjoy the culinary specialities of Vienna and the costs of the dinner were generously covered by the organisation.

In addition to the attendance to the conference and the delivery of my paper, I also used this opportunity to visit the collection of squeezes stored at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. For this reason, I flew to Austria on Wednesday and stayed there until Sunday. This research visit has proven considerably helpful for my current doctoral thesis.

To sum up, the *BES* Spring Meeting in Vienna was both a great and fruitful experience that I could enjoy thanks to the financial help provided. I am sure that this innovation has good chances to become less exceptional. In this sense, I would like to draw some attention to a particular point. German was used both in the questions and discussions following some papers. Even if the comprehension of this language is almost compulsory at a postgraduate level, I am slightly afraid that this would discourage some undergrads from wanting to join the society in the future.

CIEGL BERLIN 2012

Bursary reports

Aitor Blanco Pérez, D.Phil. Student, Oxford

From the 27th until the 30th of August, the XIV edition of the International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy (*CIEGL*) has taken place in Berlin. Hosted by the Humboldt Universität with the collaboration of other important institutions such as the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, this event has united both academics and students in a forum of discussion, networking and celebration. The proposed theme of the event aimed to explore the relationship between inscriptions, audience and places of erection under the title *PUBLICUM-MONUMENTUM-TEXTUS*. Before starting my succinct summary, I would like to deeply thank the British Epigraphy Society for their economic support and thus for having granted me the opportunity of attending and enjoying such an important event. After the registration on Monday, participants were welcomed by the organising team led by W. Eck, M. Dohnicht and the president of *AIEGL*, S. Mitchell. Those greetings were followed by short presentations in which the importance and centrality of Berlin for the birth of the study of inscriptions in modern times were emphasised, especially by projects such *CIL* and *IG*. At the end of the day, drinks and snacks were served thanks to the sponsorship of De Gruyter. For the next days, plenary sessions were held in the morning while smaller thematic sections took place in the afternoon and evening. The range of these smaller sections was very broad including topics such as graffiti, military epigraphy and religious sanctuaries. Unfortunately, it was slightly difficult to change from section to section because of the location of the different rooms, but it was a great experience to hear the diverse approaches and periods covered and the new inscriptions presented (*titulinovi*). This also applies to the lengthier plenary sessions, which were followed by questions and comments in which it became obvious the different and innovative angles from

which epigraphy can still be studied. A very good illustration of this remark was presented by C. Roueché who launched a proposal to create a common typology of patterns inscribed on the floors of ancient spaces. Likewise, it was good to see the sessions on Wednesday devoted to other less well-known epigraphic cultures such as the Persian, Egyptian and Jewish. Parallel to these presentations by famous scholars, PhD students and young researchers had the chance to present their proposals or results in a very extensive exhibition of posters which again reflected the diversity of the discipline. From the United States to the Czech Republic and Bulgaria, different languages were used and exchanged in one of the few areas in which English has not become the new Latin yet. Together with the most-academic orientated activities, the organisers also provided chances to meet new people and introduce ourselves to the scholars whose works we have so often read and still admire. In this sense, the night reception held in the Pergamon Museum in which we could intimately explore the secrets of the new collection was truly special. Finally, the visit to Potsdam and its classically inspired monuments was again remarkable. Hopefully, the next congress in Vienna will be equally successful.

C. Roueché: *Using civic spaces: identifying the evidence*

Prof. C. Roueché provided a review of some of the most important monuments of Ephesus in the Late Antiquity. In addition to her leading project at Aphrodisias, she has also participated in the epigraphic research of the excavation conducted by the Austrian archaeological team for more than ten years. Thanks to Feissel's studies (1999), the history of the city and its street plan in this period is considerably well known. However, there are some aspects still open to question. As very well remarked by the speaker, inscriptions are not only records, but also involve a response. This aspect should be very relevant to cases of erasures in private inscriptions where such a *damnatio memoriae* seems to be mainly connected to a change of religious attitudes and the rise of Christianity. Prof. C. Roueché also presented very interesting cases in which different honorific statues were erected for the same individuals, for example the emperors Diocletian, Constans

or Julian. Some of these inscriptions were prepared in Latin and others in Greek, but it is difficult to establish a pattern to explain these differing occurrences. Other inscriptions in which audience was fundamental were acclamations found in the stadium. Finally, the speaker proposed the creation of a common typology of inscriptions carved on the floors of ancient buildings.

G. Labarre: *Les inscriptions rupestres de langue grecque en Pisidie*

The French scholar G. Labarre discussed one inscription recording an alphabetic oracle in the region of Pisidia. As a common feature of the congress, the speaker emphasised the importance of the location of the inscription. In this case, the oracle was carved directly on the rock. After a small introduction of this type of inscriptions ("Losorakel") recently collected and studied by J. Nollé (2007), he commented on the content of the oracle in which Apollo is mentioned and provided a prosopographic study by which he identified an individual called Antiochos Bianoras a prominent citizen of Adada. According to this identification, he explored the site where the inscription was found as there are remains of the existence of a fortress. The existence of such fortresses or *peripolia* around the territories of Pisidian cities to control the security of the area was common. This oracle needs therefore to be included in this context and, perhaps, connected with policing activities. Finally, Prof. G. Labarre talked about the importance of this kind of inscriptions as evidence of the presence of Anatolian gods and cults in Pisidia and the contacts of this millenary culture with the Greek traditions and organisation of the *poleis* in the region.





Philip Davies, PhD Student, Nottingham

The 2012 Epigraphic Congress in Berlin provided a linguistic workout for those interested in the field of epigraphy, with an array of stimulating papers in five languages, and an even greater range of accents and dialects.

For the opening address, Stefan Rebenich presented an engaging foray into the history of classical scholarship. His paper, 'Berlin und die antike Epigraphik', explored international collaboration in the field of epigraphy over the course of two centuries of social and political turbulence, and the intimate involvement in this process of various renowned German scholars.

The second day began with a panel on 'Stadtbild im Wandel'. Particularly notable among the papers was John Camp's discussion of the display of inscriptions in the Athenian agora. This addressed such interesting questions as the relationship between the direction of approach of the viewer and the direction of epigraphic text. The afternoon panels provided the opportunity to hear presentations on several recently-discovered Greek inscriptions, including a paper by Andronike Makres and Adele Scafuro, on which see below for a more detailed report.

The third day began with an informative panel on 'Begegnung epigraphischer Kulturen', which explored the translation of epigraphic habit across ancient cultures. This included papers by Philip Huysse on multilingual inscriptions from the Iranian world, Jonathan Price on Hebrew and Aramaic inscriptions in Judaea/Palaestina, Stephan Seidlmayer on the varied inscriptions found in the area of the First Cataract of the Nile (Aswan), and Ignacio Adiego on multilingual inscriptions from Asia Minor. On the second of these, see below for a more detailed report.

The last full day of the congress commenced with a panel on 'Epigraphik ländlicher Räume'. Particularly enlightening was Ralph Häussler's detailed analysis of the variability of epigraphic habit between different areas of the province of Gallia Narbonensis. This examined elements including the styles, locations and functions of inscriptions, as well as the religious affiliations and social background of the individuals behind them. In the afternoon, the panel 'Raum, Bild und Inschrift' featured several interesting papers. Of notable interest was E. Martin Gonzales' presentation, which provided a sound restatement of the significance of public inscriptions in the archaic period as literary texts, as opposed to visual spectacles.

The closing address of the congress was provided by Jürgen Hammerstaedt, who presented a comprehensive analysis of the epicurean inscription of Diogenes of Oinoanda. Beyond discussing the form and content of the material, Hammerstaedt gave an account of the progress which has been made in relation to this inscription in recent years. This impressive presentation of the different strategies and technologies available in investigating epigraphy in the 21st century provided the perfect finale to this quinquennial gathering of epigraphists. Following closing comments and expressions of thanks from the organisers, the delegates were left to find out whether their flights had been affected by the Lufthansa strike, and look forward to Vienna 2017. The congress was a resounding success, and I thank the British Epigraphy Society for enabling me to attend.

A. K. Makresand A. Scafuro: *New Inscriptions from Thalamai (ancient Lakonia)*

The subject of the paper was a red-marble stone, discovered in 1995 in a chapel in the Messenian Mani, north of modern Thalamae. The stone is now held in the Archaeological Museum of Messinia in Kalamata.

The stone bears five proxeny decrees. The first, and most substantial of these is a granting of proxeny to three judges from Thalamae by the people of Gerenia. Conversely, the second decree records a granting of proxeny by the people of Thalamae to judges from Oetylum. The remaining three decrees are damaged and/or abbreviated. However, the third refers to a petition for honours made to the people of Thalamae by two Lacedaemonian brothers, while the fourth preserves the name of its Spartan honorand.

The speakers discussed various points of interest arising from these decrees. However, perhaps most significant is the evidence which these provide for the relationships between Laconian communities. The decrees indicate friendly relations between former perioecic communities and individual Spartans. Furthermore, the speakers dated the decrees to the 2nd or 1st centuries B.C., the period of the League of the Lacedaemonians, of which Thalamae, Gerenia and Oetylum were members. It was noted in questions that we would not normally expect proxenic relationships to be established between cities already within a federal structure. If the speakers' dating is correct, the establishment of such proxenies has potentially significant implications for our understanding of the nature of the league.

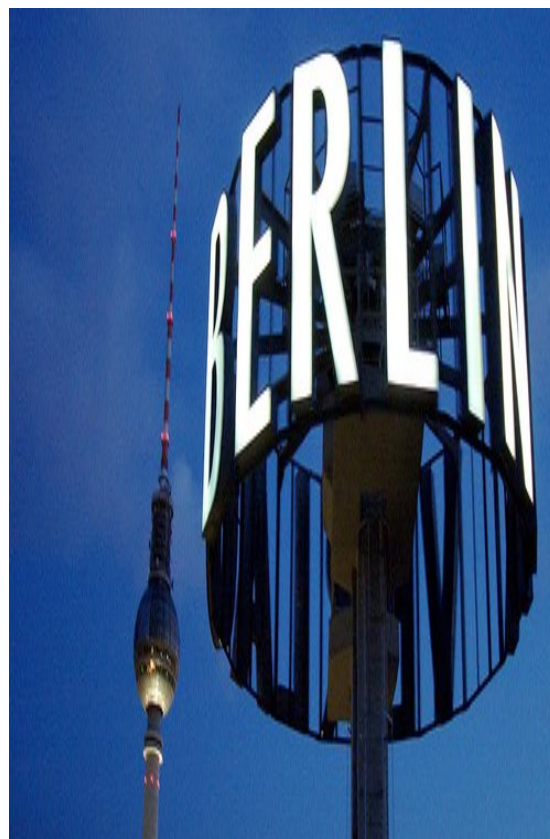
J. Price: *The Media and Audiences of Aramaic and Hebrew Inscriptions in Iudaea/Palaestina and Syria*

Local languages, including Hebrew and Aramaic, remained in use in the Middle East throughout its periods of Greek and Roman domination. Based upon his experiences, including service as an editor of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Iudaeae/Palaestinae*, Price argued that the bodies of epigraphy written in these languages were local in their stylistic

influences, and do not conform to a 'type' based upon language or ethnicity. Specifically, he argued that no discrete Jewish epigraphic style is apparent in our evidence.

In support of his argument, Price cited parallels between Jewish and non-Jewish inscriptions from the same localities. To give a brief example, some Jewish funerary inscriptions give the name of the deceased, their parentage, and the date of their death according to measures such as Jewish calendar month, sabbatical cycle, and years since the destruction of the Jewish temple. These then customarily end with a wish that 'Peace be upon Israel'. This content is indisputably Jewish. Stylistically, however, the same pattern of name, age/date of death and religious statement is apparent in Greek funerary inscriptions. The content differs, since in the latter instance the names, calendars and religious statements are naturally Greek. Nonetheless, these inscriptions follow the same stylistic template.

Overall, Price put forward a very persuasive argument that 'Jewish epigraphy' owed more to local styles and trends than to discrete ethnic or linguistic groupings.



British Epigraphy Society Spring Meeting 2012

*Inventive Inscriptions:
The Organisation of Epigraphic Knowledge in the
Nineteenth Century*

**29th/30th May 2012, University of
Warwick**

***Summary of experiences by the
awardees of student travel bursaries***

Balbo, Mattia (PhD student, Università di Firenze)

I'm grateful to the British Epigraphy Society for having supported my participation at the BES Spring Meeting 2012, which took place at the University of Warwick on May, 29-30th.

The colloquium was devoted to investigate the organisation of epigraphical knowledge in the 19th century, and focused lives and works of European scholars who elaborated the first epigraphical *corpora* in a scientific perspective (as, for example, Mommsen's *CIL* or Boeckh's *CIG*). Since I'm cooperating with a research group, at the University of Turin, dealing with the cultural heritage of antiquity from Piedmont to Europe between 1850 and 1961, attending the Meeting was a very helpful opportunity. In fact, our research aims to investigate cultural relationships between 19th century European scholars that lay beyond the genesis of *CIL V*.

In particular, I appreciated Ginette Vagenheim's intervention about "Mommsen and Ligorio", because she focused Mommsen's method facing the antiquarian tradition and which *criteria* he adopted to treat inscriptions suspected to be false. Ligorio's inscriptions often recur in Mommsen research on Piedmont epigraphy, such as the problem to detect which one were false. G. Vagenheim illustrated Mommsen's preparatory work and the influence of some Italian scholars (like Bartolomeo Borghesi) on his opinion about Ligorio's texts. Since Mommsen was in correspondence with a scholar of Turin, Carlo Promis, and they discussed on the same subject, now I dispose of a valid

instrument for a better understanding of many questions connected with the documents I'm studying.

Ferraro, Antonella (PhD student, Università di Padova)

My participation in the BES Spring Colloquium in Warwick was one the most profitable and interesting experience in the academic field.

First of all I had the opportunity to know scholars from United Kingdom and from other countries, who are working on a particular aspect of Epigraphy, the organisation of Epigraphic Knowledge.

I was particularly interested in Professor Beard and Bodel's keynote lectures, because they have highlighted some key aspects of the proposed theme.

Mary Beard showed us the tests for graduate students of Archeology in the late nineteenth century and they show the kind of the knowledge of classical antiquity during that period. John Bodel spoke on the archaeological discoveries made in Rome by American scholars in the same period and the relationship with the art market.

One of the papers which I found most interesting was Ginette Vagenheim's, because she spoke on the importance of the "judgment/prejudice" of Mommsen on a scholar, as Pirro Ligorio, in identifying an inscription as a fake. In fact For my PhD-project I'm studying the phenomenon of epigraphical forgery, its motivations and changes over time, particularly the forged Inscriptions of regio X (Venetia et Histria), and for these documents I'm trying to check whether they are forgeries or they have been classified as fakes by Mommsen, because of his prejudice.

The colloquium was a very rewarding experience. One of the most stimulating aspects of this Colloquium was the active participation of all the scholars. Each of them made an interesting contribution to the debate of each paper.

Furthermore I got to know some PhD candidates, with whom I definitely will keep in touch. I would like to thank the British Epigraphic Society for the generous bursary with which I was provided.

Masci, Giulia (PhD student, Università degli Studi di Torino)

I would like to express my gratitude to BES members for offering me the financial support and the opportunity to attend the BES Spring Meeting “*Inventive inscriptions: the organisation of Epigraphic Knowledge in the 19th Century*”, held at the University of Warwick on 29-30 May, 2012.

Engaging in a theme of research that is recently finding favour with classics scholars, that is history of historiography, the conference pointed out the importance of 19th century for the systematization of classics knowledge in general and of the epigraphic knowledge in particular, but also for the definition of the epigraphy as an academic subject and a topic of study aimed at shaping its formal features and its methods.

The 19th century was in strict sense the century of the birth of *corpora* and of epigraphic collections. Stemming from the failed attempts of previous centuries, these are the foundations of modern epigraphic works, even if what above all emerges from the papers presented during this conference (Vagenheim, Liddel, Davies, Freeman, Roueche) is the role these *corpora* held as collectors of intellectuals, ideas and ambitions and as occasions of cooperation, as if they actually created what we could call a “European community” of scholars.

As pointed out by J. Bodet and M. Beard, it is essential to conduct the study of the construction of the epigraphic discipline and of its contents in parallel with the examination of the contemporary European and American political situation. The period of various strand of European nationalisms and, in some cases, of the rise of national states, such as Italy, had deep consequences on the creation of a theoretic system of reference for the epigraphy and for its presentation to the public: in the 19th century all the remarks on the best way of exposing findings elaborated in previous centuries reached a greater importance, providing the debate of a series of different positions, e.g. about the exhibition of findings in museums or *in situ*, the use of casts instead of originals, etc. (Keppie, Cooler, Oppen, Marchand). Papers by Marchand and Bodet, in particular, offer the

possibility to make a comparison with the present and oblige one to rethink these original themes in order to evaluate their topicality and the present attitude towards them.

The meeting has highlighted many dualisms that are important to detect and to take into account when studying the past of the epigraphic discipline, when professionals and amateurs worked together and there was a continuous tension between the individual initiative and the political will of governments that inevitably involved matters of imperialism, provinciality and marginalization.

The Chair of Roman History and Latin Epigraphy of the University of Turin is currently involved in a project dedicated to the “Cultural heritage of antiquity and its influence from Piedmont of Risorgimento to Europe, from the middle of Nineteenth Century to 1961”. This will be devoted to the study of the relationships among classics scholars of Piedmont and Theodor Mommsen. From this, one can see, therefore, the importance that attending this conference had on my professional development.

Finally, what has been particularly useful, is the problematic approach adopted by most of participants, well reasserted in the final discussion by J. Davies. First of all, the will to submit to revision all the categories and the tools used until today to study the epigraphy (G. Davies, Vagenheim, Freeman), and then the invitation to reflect on what were the desired results of the meeting, in order to give an organic and complete shape to the volume of acts.

5th Practical Epigraphy Workshop Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

19-21 2012

Report by Peter Haarer

The Fifth Practical Epigraphy Workshop took place in the Education Centre of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford from 19-21 June 2012. Eighteen students completed the course, six of whom were nationals from overseas. The event was a great success, assisted by the continued association with the British Epigraphy Society and thanks to a very generous grant

from *AIEGL* and support from the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents, Oxford.

Oxford proved an excellent venue due to the combination of the rich collection of stones in the Ashmolean the facilities in the museum's Education Centre, and the very generous assistance provided to us in particular by Susan Walker and Anja Ulbrich. In addition, the city was easy to reach for those coming from outside Oxford, and the costs for travel and accommodation for those running the workshop were minimal.

Our intention had been to have sixteen participants as in most previous years, but this was increased by two to allow two last-minute applicants to take part. The larger group size put a slight strain on some parts of the programme (especially the squeeze-making session). Most participants were enrolled in a graduate programme of study, though we agreed to take one student who had just finished his undergraduate degree, and another who was about to start the final year of her undergraduate course. In both cases (and especially the latter) the students were able to cope adequately with the demands of the course and to demonstrate that it would be useful to their studies.

Costs were significantly lower than expected. This was because most of those involved in the running of the workshop were local and because Richard Grasby and Graham Oliver, who had been expected to travel some distance and to need accommodation, did not in the event take part.

We are extremely grateful for the major grant of € 1000 from *AIEGL* which covered the costs of running workshop. Combined with a grant of £70 from the *CSAD* we had a slight operating surplus which was distributed as bursaries to participants coming from outside Oxford.

Personnel

Director: Peter Haarer (Oxford)

Instructors: Charles Crowther (Oxford), Roger Tomlin (Oxford), Robert Parker

(Oxford), Alison Cooley (Warwick), Thomas Corsten (Vienna)

Photography Instructor: Nick Pollard (Ashmolean Mus., ret'd)

Administrative Support: Maggy Sasanow (CSAD, Oxford)

Puzzle ID: 01-12/2012 'From vintage to *mise en amphore*?'

The problem:

A letter from Felice Maria Mastrilli, of Nola, to Anton Francesco Gori, of Florence, of 27 December 1745, includes the following information:

'Dalle parti di Taranto ho avuto un pataccio [a lump] di coperchio d'anfora per vino, con l'impronta de' nomi di Lucio Gellio e Lucio Sempronio ...' (S. Napolitano, *L'antiquaria settecentesca tra Napoli e Firenze* (Florence 2005), p. 77, n. 55)

Further information:

Amphorae dated by names of the two consuls of the year are of course common, and they are occasionally to be found dated by a single consul (see provisionally M. H. Crawford, *CAH X* (1996), p. 979). But there appears to be no year in which a Lucius Gellius and a Lucius Sempronius held the consulship together. On the other hand, a Lucius Gellius held the consulship in 36 BC, a Lucius Sempronius in 34 BC, a year from which at least two amphorae are known, *CIL VIII*, 22640.2, from Carthage, and *CIL XV*, 4606, a Dressel 1 amphora from Castro Pretorio.

Question:

Is it possible that with Mastrilli's amphora we have a vintage of 36 BC, 'bottled' in 34 BC? Or are there other ways of explaining the stamp?

Comment:

If you think you can answer this question, or have a useful suggestion, please comment via our **Puzzle-Blog**:

<http://www.britishepigraphysociety.org/puzzles.html>