

2012

**Monday 6 February**

(Joint Meeting with the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies)  
**Dr Fiona Hobden** (University of Liverpool)

**BANE OR BOON? THE PLEASURES AND PERILS OF THE SYMPOSION**

The symposium is famous for its measured flow of wine, music, conversation, and love. But the ancient Greeks were well aware that wine could be a bane as much as a boon. This talk exposes the darker side of the symposium, introducing the perils of the drinking party (drunkenness, deceit, death!) alongside its more obvious pleasures.

**Monday 5 March**

(Joint Meeting with the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies)  
**Professor William Fitzgerald** (King's College London)

**VARIETAS: SCENES FROM THE HISTORY OF A WORD**

*Varietas* is an important concept, but attracts little attention from scholars. What are its implications and how has the concept of variety been received and elaborated in the post-classical world?

**Thursday 19 April**

**7.00 p.m.**

**Annual General Meeting**, followed at 7.30 by  
**Dr Lisa Hau** (University of Glasgow)

**FRAGMENTS OF HISTORY**

Historiography was one of the most popular literary genres of the Hellenistic period. Looking back to the famous originators of the genre, Herodotus and Thucydides, hundreds of authors composed histories of various length and geographical scope. Today none of their works survive intact, and the great majority are known only from references in later authors. Piecing together these 'fragments' to get a picture of what we have lost is fun, but fraught with peril.

**Except where indicated, meetings will begin at 7.30 p.m. and will take place in the Classics building, 65 Oakfield Avenue, University of Glasgow.**

**CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND**

**GLASGOW & WEST CENTRE**

**NEWSLETTER 2011-12**

Dear Member

Welcome to the new session of the Classical Association of Scotland Glasgow and West Centre. In spite of financial pressures, the committee is delighted to present a full and varied programme of events for the coming year. We hope that you will find plenty here to keep you interested and entertained.

Once again, for the opening meeting of the session the Scottish Hellenic Society have very kindly invited us to join them for drinks and *mezedhes* in the Assembly Hall of St Luke's Greek Orthodox Cathedral before the lecture by Dr Kirsten Bedigan (please see [www.greekschoolglasgow.org.uk](http://www.greekschoolglasgow.org.uk) and click on the locate/contact us link for the location). If you are travelling by car please allow time to find a parking space, since parking is often difficult in the West End, particularly in the evenings.

We shall also be meeting in a new venue for the second event in this year's programme, a recital of vocal music inspired by the ancient world featuring soprano Katrina Nimmo, a former student of Classics at the University of Glasgow, who will be accompanied on the piano by Seho Lee. The recital will take place at the Unitarian Church Centre on Berkeley Street (located near the Mitchell Library). All our other meetings will be held in the usual venue at 65 Oakfield Avenue. As in previous years, we are very grateful to the Societies for the Promotion of Hellenic and Roman Studies for their generous support of local meetings.

This year also sees the second annual Professor Douglas MacDowell Memorial Lecture; we are very honoured that this lecture will be delivered by Professor Douglas Cairns of the University of Edinburgh, Chair of the Council of the Classical Association of Scotland and a former pupil of Professor MacDowell. Another native Glaswegian, Dr Fiona Hobden of Liverpool University, will be joining us for the Hellenic Society lecture in which she will reveal some of the pleasures and perils of the Greek symposium – we hope it will turn out to be a convivial evening!

For our final regular meeting of the year we are happy to welcome Professor William Fitzgerald from King's College London, who will guide us through the chequered history of the Roman concept of *varietas* (variety). Professor Fitzgerald has written books on Catullus, Roman slavery and most recently Martial. Our lecture following the AGM in April will be given by the University of Glasgow's Dr Lisa Hau, who will offer an introduction to some of the fragmentary Greek historians whose work provides tantalising glimpses of a mass of material that has now been lost.

Members may be interested to hear that the CAS Glasgow & West Centre now has its own page on Facebook. Details of our meetings will appear on the site, and we are always grateful for suggestions of other material members would like to see on this page, or of topics for future meetings.

We have aimed to offer a programme that will be attractive to all who have an interest in the classical world, whether they are professional classicists or not. We hope that you will renew your subscription, and ask that you do so promptly (to save extra reminders, which involve postage costs) and send your cheque as soon as possible to our Treasurer at the address on the tear-off slip below. The minimum rate is £10; donations above this level are most welcome and will help the committee in its aim of producing a varied programme with speakers from institutions across the country.

We are conscious of the need to keep our membership at a viable level. Please show this newsletter to any friends who are interested in the classical world, and encourage them to join. Extra copies of the newsletter are available from me on request, in printed or PDF format; details can also be found at [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/cas](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/cas). As usual, all students are welcome to attend any of our meetings free of charge.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Dr Marie Martin  
Classics, School of Humanities, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ  
email: [Marie.Martin@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Marie.Martin@glasgow.ac.uk)

**Many members have opted to receive notice of the AGM by email instead of by post. To receive the AGM notice by this method, please email [Marie.Martin@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Marie.Martin@glasgow.ac.uk) (if you have not already done so).**

---

To: Mrs Margaret Paxton, 87 Barrington Drive, Glasgow G4 9ES

I enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £10 per person) made out to 'Classical Association of Scotland, Glasgow & West Centre' being my/our subscription for session 2011-2012.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Professor [delete as appropriate]

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Please note: New members are welcome to come along and join at a meeting. If you are already a member, please use this form.

**2011**

**Wednesday 26 October**

**7.30 p.m.** (drinks and *mezedhes*); **8 p.m.** (lecture)

(Joint Meeting with the Scottish Hellenic Society)

Assembly Hall of St Luke's Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Dundonald Road, G12 9LL

**Dr Kirsten Bedigan** (University of Glasgow)

**RELIGION AND MEDICINE IN THE FIFTH AND FOURTH CENTURIES BC**

During the fifth century there was a significant rise in the cult of the healing god Asclepius and that of his family, with the development of sanctuaries dedicated to the deities at Epidaurus, Athens and elsewhere in the Greek world. The Hippocratic text *The Sacred Disease* could be said, at first glance, to condemn the practice of spiritual healing as a poor alternative to trained physicians. Yet while the evidence from Epidaurus is limited, the picture appears to be rather different with close relationships between the gods and the physician present at many sites. However, this balance shifts during the fourth century, marking a clear change in attitudes.

**Monday 7 November**

Unitarian Church Centre, 72 Berkeley Street, G3 7DS

**Katrina Nimmo** (soprano) and **Seho Lee** (piano)

**A RECITAL OF VOCAL MUSIC INSPIRED BY THE ANCIENT WORLD - INCLUDING WORKS BY HANDEL, DEBUSSY AND GURNEY**

**Monday 28 November**

(Professor Douglas MacDowell Memorial Lecture)

**Professor Douglas Cairns** (University of Edinburgh)

**REVENGE AND PUNISHMENT IN ATHENIAN HOMICIDE LAW**

The talk takes its inspiration from Douglas MacDowell's classic 1963 monograph on *Athenian Homicide Law* and discusses what contribution, if any, the study of homicide procedures in particular can make to the debate over levels of violence and vengefulness in Athenian society.