Dear Member

Welcome to the 2013-2014 session of the Classical Association of Scotland Glasgow and West Centre. Last year we celebrated 40 years since the re-foundation of the Glasgow and West Centre by Professor Douglas MacDowell in 1972. The last year also witnessed the reconstitution of the Chair of Greek, which Professor MacDowell held, and for whose restoration he was ultimately responsible. Therefore we are particularly pleased that this year’s session kicks off with a talk from the person who now holds the MacDowell Chair in Greek at Glasgow, Professor Jan Stenger.

EARLIEST CHILDHOOD IN THE ROMAN WORLD

This paper presents new research on infancy and earliest childhood in the Roman world. A vast array of material evidence enables us to move beyond elite-centred sources to understand the complexities of adult/infant relationships and to assess attitudes to the first phase of human life in the Roman period.

Monday 3 March
(Professor Douglas MacDowell Memorial Lecture)

Professor Stephen Todd (University of Manchester)

THE GORTYN CODE AND THE HISTORY OF GREEK LAW

The so-called Gortyn Law Code is a large single inscription from the Cretan city of Gortyn, and was discovered in 1884. The study of this text has traditionally focused on the legal problems of the code itself, and on its implications for the functioning of law within this and other Cretan cities. By contrast, this lecture will seek to explore its impact on nineteenth-century scholarship on ancient Greek legal history, and particularly the debate over the unity of Greek law.

Wednesday 23 April
7.00 p.m.
Annual General Meeting, followed at 7.30 by

Peter Black (Hunterian Art Gallery)

VIRGIL IN RENAISSANCE ART

In Renaissance Italy, the myth of Rome’s foundation by Aeneas features prominently in art of various kinds, from the collections of ancient art in which ancient sculptures such as the Laocoön were displayed, to the painted marriage chests that formed part of the dowries of wealthy young women, and even cycles of frescoes in palaces. In the period 1515-1530 Raphael played an important role in the promotion of knowledge of Virgil’s Aeneid. Of particular importance were the engravings that he published, which can be shown to be directly linked to publication of the first pocket editions of the text.
the secretary (email below). The minimum rate is £10; donations above this level are as always most welcome.

Members are encouraged to show this newsletter to any friends who are interested in the classical world, and to bring friends to meetings. Extra copies of this newsletter are available from me on request, in printed or PDF format; details can also be found at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/cas. As usual, all students are welcome to attend any of our meetings free of charge.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Dr David McOmish
History, School of Humanities, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ
email: David.McOmish@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 David.McOmish@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 2013–2014.

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

**2013**

**Tuesday 15 October**

7.00 p.m. (drinks and mezedhes); 7.30 p.m. (lecture)
(Joint Meeting with the Scottish Hellenic Society)
Assembly Hall of St Luke’s Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Dundonald Road, G12 9LL

**Professor Jan Stenger** (University of Glasgow)

**ON THE USE AND ABUSE OF PHILOSOPHY FOR LIFE:**
**JOHN CHRYSOSTOM’S PARADOXICAL VIEW OF KNOWLEDGE**

Christian authors in late antiquity discussed intensely whether it was possible to combine faith with Hellenic culture. This issue had to be addressed carefully because pagan intellectuals claimed the superiority of Greek wisdom over Christian irrationality. The preacher John Chrysostom (c. 349-407) berated Greek philosophers for teaching a philosophy that he deemed completely useless for the life in the world here and for the hereafter. Instead, he put forward a concept of a genuine Christian philosophy that was based solely on faith and a blameless conduct.

**Monday 11 November**

**Dr David McOmish** (University of Glasgow)

**DIGITISING HUMANITY: LATIN LITERATURE AND THE CLASSICAL WORLD IN THE DELITIAE POETARUM S C T O R U M**

Post-reformation Scotland is often viewed a narrow, ascetic, and doctrinaire cultural landscape. However, it is clear from evidence found in the Delitiae Poetarum Scotorum (an anthology of Latin verse from the Jacobean period (1567-1625)) that Classical literature had a profound impact upon all levels of Scottish society. This talk presents an overview of the seminal role Classical literature played in a culturally rich and deeply allusive literary landscape in this decisive period of Scottish history. This talk will showcase how the University of Glasgow is digitising the research on the DPS and will present some of the innovative ways in which classical literary intertextuality can be presented in digital formats.

**Wednesday 4 December**

(Joint Meeting with the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies)

**Dr Susanna Phillippo** (Newcastle University)

**CREATIVE LIBERTIES, OR HOLLYWOOD EAT YOUR HEART OUT: EARLY MODERN REINVENTIONS OF CLASSICAL PLOTS IN THEATRE AND OPERA**

While modern films on classical themes are sometimes criticised for taking too many liberties, their inventions can look thoroughly tame beside some of the more exuberant recreations in 17th- and 18th-century Europe. This talk explores some of the more spectacular reworkings of classical material by English, French and Italian playwrights and librettists, the sometimes surprising ways in which these can relate to ‘genuine’ classical elements, and considers what are the criteria for judging ‘successful’ liberties taken when recreating an original source.