

Simons, F. (2013) 'Editorial'

Rosetta 13: i-ii.

 $\underline{http://www.rosetta.bham.ac.uk/issue_13/editorial.pdf}$

Welcome to issue 13 of *Rosetta*. This issue is the second produced by the current committee, and the third to consist of papers presented at the Annual Meeting of Postgraduates in Ancient Literature. With ten full articles, two shorter pieces and four book reviews, this is the largest ever issue of *Rosetta*, and it reflects extremely well on the dedication of the editorial committee, the specialist editors and the authors that such an issue could be produced so efficiently. I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to them all.

This issue, as always, demonstrates the multi-disciplinary approach of the IAA in the range of topics and times covered. The articles cover a great breadth of themes within the field of classical literature, from Homer to St. Augustine and from Plato to Galen, while our book reviews cover an even more diverse range – Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Aegean and the Anglo-Saxon world are all included. In addition, our notes and shorter pieces section features two reviews; one of a fascinating sounding exhibition at the British Museum, and another of an intriguing new play, the first sequel to which, I am assured, will be appearing soon!

Our next full issue will be published in October 2013 and will include at least two further papers from the AMPAL conference; Patrick Marko and Sebastian Seebauer's study on ancient trance, and Shaun Mudd's examination of the medicinal uses of wine in the Roman Empire. In addition, we will be publishing our usual wide range of papers, notes and reviews, as well as a new section in which we hope to include replies to articles we have published previously. Before this, in August, we intend to publish a supplementary issue containing extended abstracts from this year's IAA colloquium.

A number of developments have taken place at *Rosetta* in the months leading up to this issue. This year, for the first time, we have circulated a call for specialist editors among universities across the country, and received a number of enthusiastic responses. This has provided us with a very wide range of expertise during the editing process for this issue, and will hopefully continue to do so. In her second editorial (Issue 2, Spring 2007), our founding editor, Helen Goodchild, expressed her hope that the opportunities *Rosetta* offers to students at the University of Birmingham would eventually be extended beyond the boundaries of our own institution. This hope has been fulfilled in various ways through the years, and this is another step in that direction.

In her final editorial (Issue 12, Summer 2012), Emma Southon, my predecessor as general editor, mentioned the recent review of the Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity. It has taken slightly longer than she predicted, but the outcomes of this review are due to come into effect on the 1st of August 2013, after which the IAA as such will no longer exist.

The most immediate effect this will have on the journal is a change of name. *Rosetta* will no longer be published as 'Papers of the Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity.' Instead, in line with the changes to the department, we will become '*Rosetta* – Papers of the Department of Classics, Ancient

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History and Archaeology' - or CAHA for short. As such, this is the final issue of Rosetta - Papers of

the IAA.

More fundamentally, however, the changes to the department have meant that it has been possible to

expand the Rosetta 'family.' I am delighted to be able to reveal that from the start of the next

academic year, the IAA Forum will become the Rosetta Forum. Since it was founded in 2006, the

Forum has provided a weekly platform for postgraduate students of the IAA to present academic

papers to their peers in the department and to receive feedback on their ideas. While it will remain an

independent organisation, with its own committee and its own objectives, the union of our two

projects will enable us to work much more closely which can only be a positive development.

In celebration of our merger with the IAA Forum, and thanks to money kindly provided by the

University of Birmingham's PGR Development Fund, we will shortly be launching a new and

improved website. This will be a joint site for the Rosetta Journal and the Rosetta Forum, and the

early designs look great, so watch this space.

All that remains is to thank, once again, the editorial committee and the specialist editors for all their

hard work in producing this issue. I hope you enjoy the fruits of their labours.

Frank Simons.

General Editor.

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