

Canadio-Byzantina

A Newsletter published by the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists

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Introductory remarks

Welcome to the third bulletin that I have put together; with it we mark the 25th anniversary of its establishment by Anthony Littlewood, although the first newsletter was in January 1992. As in the past, it comprises three elements:

- (1) Reports on our members' activities in the form of publications, lectures, curatorships and so forth. We are of course reliant on you to send in your news and thank all of those who contributed to this issue;
- (2) Reports on excavations (e.g. at Baturyn) or on conferences (e.g. on the BSC); of course, shorter reports on conferences and the like also sometimes appear in the first section.
- (3) Announcements concerning Byzantine matters, e.g. the next International Congress in Belgrade, but also about publications and so forth.

Here there is space to highlight a few of the most recent developments in Byzantine studies. First, our member Glenn Peers has been elected the new president of BSANA, on which we warmly congratulate him. Given that the next BSC will take place in central Vancouver, organised by another of our members, Dimitris Krallis, and others, it would seem that Canadian Byzantinists are enjoying remarkable prominence in North America at the moment. The BSC will take place 6-9 November 2014; details will be found in the bulletin.

Our website has moved, as I had hoped it would. Thanks to Patrick Roussel, who is completing his doctorate at the Université de Montréal on barbarisation in the later Roman empire, we have

a rather more impressive set of pages under the aegis of the section canadienne of the Association pour l'Antiquité Tardive (SCAPAT). Our pages can now be found at:

<http://www.scapat.ca/canbyz/>

We circulated an electronic bulletin in July, which I hope was of use. The BSANA list serves the same function, of course, and there is another useful one sent out each week in term by the Byzantine students at Oxford, details of which may be found at:

<http://oxfordbyzantinesociety.wordpress.com/>

In Athens, colleagues mentioned that the Italian committee's Newsletter (sic) is also very valuable; details are to be found here:

http://www.studibizantini.it/aisb_newsletter.htm

Members will doubtless be aware of the threatened reconversion of Hagia Sophia into a mosque; other churches have already suffered the same fate. Both the AIEB and BSANA have been active in raising the alarm about this and in trying to collaborate with other organisations to ensure that Hagia Sophia remains a museum. I have been in contact with Glenn Peers about the issue and have been in contact with the Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies to enlist their support. If members have ideas about other organisations that might be able to join us, then they should contact me.

Geoffrey Greatrex