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NEWSPAPER OF THE 25TH LATIN SUMMER SCHOOL: DIES LUNAE, JANUARIUS
XIV

POTIO ET CIBUS

There are many places on campus where food and drink are available, and we are so centrally placed that most of them can be accessed very easily. Morning tea is provided each day at the LSS. This will be near the indoor fountain in the New Law Building. The prepared food is from the Swiss Bakerz, Oxford Street. Fruit and drinks will also be available. Please bring your own mug/cup if possible. The LSS ends with a free BBQ, to which all are invited, on Friday January 18, at 12.30, on Botany Lawn, followed by the closing meeting.

NAME TAGS

Please remember to wear your name tag whenever you are on University grounds. This is part of security requirements and helps your tutor and fellow students get to know you.

LSS COMPETITION

Entries for the LSS writing competition must be sent or handed to Robert Forgács (robert@forgacs.id.au) by morning tea on Thursday at the latest. As usual, there are several book vouchers donated by Abbey's Bookshop in York Street, with separate prizes for school students and adults. The prizes will be awarded at the Closing Ceremony on Friday afternoon, when the winning entries will be read aloud by the successful entrants.

The task is to write a 400-word piece of prose, fiction or non-fiction, which includes the six following Latin quotations in a meaningful way (they are based on quotations in the 'Memoirs' of the great 19th century French composer, Hector Berlioz):

1. Iam nox stellata
2. Leo quaerens quem devoret
3. Nolebant consolari
4. O Rus! Quando te aspiciam!
5. Non nobis amicus verus haec otia fecit
6. Patientibus carus sed clarus inter doctos

THE KEYNOTE LECTURE today will be given in the Eastern Avenue Auditorium by Professor Jeff Tatum (Victoria University Wellington) and is entitled "I am Antony yet! Constancy and Character in Mark Antony's Letters"

SPECIAL AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

On Tuesday and Wednesday (and possibly Thursday if required) at 12.40 pm there will be guided tours of the Nicholson Museum in the Quadrangle. These tours will last 40 minutes and are restricted to a maximum of 20 students. Lists for these tours will be on the notice-board. If the Tuesday and Wednesday tours fill quickly, a list for a Thursday tour will be added.

At 1.30 pm: on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday there will a variety of lectures from which to choose. In addition, there will be scansion classes for beginners on Tuesday and Thursday, and for advanced students on Wednesday at this time. Special Activities for school students are also offered as an alternative.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

For level 4 students from 2.50 pm to 4.00 pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday only

Kathleen Riley: A Son's Quest: Modern Odysseys with Telemachus and Aeneas

This Special Interest series will begin by exploring the idea of *nostos* (homecoming) and the Homeric origins of nostalgia. It will briefly consider the nostalgic perspectives of the returned soldier; the literary exile; the adult returning to the country that is childhood; and the displaced soul who experiences, as Somerset Maugham wrote, 'a nostalgia for a home they know not'. But its main focus will be the son's nostalgic and epic quest for his absent father, in the tradition of both Homer's Telemachus and Virgil's Aeneas. Over three afternoons we will look at four fascinating modern odysseys: a memoir by a celebrated classicist; a television documentary by a former politician; the lyric poetry of a Nobel laureate; and a stage play, devised entirely through improvisation, about a performance of *King Lear* that never took place.



Anne-Louis Girodet de Roucy-Trioson, 'The Meeting of Aeneas with Anchises in the Elysian Fields', 1820

FROM THE EDITOR

Reflections on the 25th anniversary of the Latin Summer School at the University of Sydney

This year, as we celebrate the founding of the Latin Summer School by the late Professor Kevin Lee and Dr Trevor Evans in 1994 - an initiative of the Department of Latin at the University of Sydney - it is appropriate to reflect on the past, the present, and the possible future of the School. One of the most significant changes over the years has been the increase in enrolments, from about 80 to 100 students in the first few years, to over 220, which is now normal. During my ten-year co-directorship, the enrolment and payment procedures, as well as the administration of the School and the provision of course materials, have been progressively computerised, with a consequent increase in efficiency and professionalism. Advertising is now done almost entirely online. With regard to general comfort during the School, our move to New Law and the Eastern Avenue Building from last year, with their air-conditioned rooms for all classes, has been a great boon, and has made the learning process much more enjoyable. Other small changes have been the lowering of the age for school students to 13, with the admission of students even younger in special circumstances, such as when accompanied by a parent. Several school students have also been allowed to do some of the Level 4 classes, when they have given proof of truly outstanding ability and commitment to Latin. Slowly increasing has been an interest in spoken Latin, and at the next Latin Summer School we hope to have our first course taught entirely in Latin. This is a very healthy development, and those students who have some

experiencing in speaking Latin will definitely agree that conversing in Latin, however haltingly at first, inevitably leads to much greater facility in using the language. A further benefit of speaking Latin means that students learn to pronounce the language correctly, and this certainly helps with vocabulary recall and with the scansion of metre. One thing that has not changed since the earliest years of the School, though, is the enthusiasm of the students and the tutors, and I hope and trust that such enthusiasm will continue well into the future. The directors of the School are keen to encourage the wider study and use of Latin, and during the course of each year LSS funds are used to assist Classics events. As you would know, the School supports the biennial Todd Lecture held at the University of Sydney, and we have also supported several Classics conferences, the Latin Reading Competition, as well as the recently founded Rusticatio Australiana. In turn, we are grateful for the continuing support of the University of Sydney in making their facilities available to use, and to the Classical Association for their assistance in several ways, not least with regard to the management of our bank account and funds. We are also grateful to Abbey's Bookshop in Sydney for their annual bookstall held at the School, which adds an extra element of interest to our activities, and for their generous donation of book vouchers for prize winners. The competitions have also changed over the years, from simple cumulative ones, to a Neo-Latin poetry translation, and this year to a writing competition in English, but with the incorporation of various Latin phrases, a change which should throw the competition open to a larger number of entrants. There is now also the Diurna contribution prize. The Nicholson Museum tours too are an annual event, and are very much appreciated. The Morning Teas, catered by Swiss Bakerz, are very upmarket, and are another aspect of the School that has developed and improved. Discarded and not missed have been the afternoon teas, which occurred too early in the day to be welcome, and the handing out of attendance certificates to school students. Although they were printed on antique-style paper they could not have arrived home in an admirable state. Similarly, we have abandoned the repetitive evaluation forms, as their filling-out wasted valuable class time on the final day. Perhaps the future of the School may even reveal a few surprises. Positive change is always to be welcomed, and it is the aim of the directors to make such annual improvements wherever possible. *Vivat ludus latinus aestivus Sydniensis in aeternum!*

Robert Forgács