



This year has been a busy one for the world of archaeological textiles, with many big international conferences and smaller workshops, testifying to the increasing importance of and interest in textile studies around the world. Museums and Universities are becoming more and more aware of the potential of textile research, as exemplified by large interdisciplinary projects that started in the past few years, such as the study of the textiles from Hallstatt, DressID project, Mons Claudianus project, the research project on textiles by the Landesamt für Denkmalpflege in Baden-Württemberg (reported in this issue) and many more projects reported at the Purpureae Vestes III conference (see review in this issue). Many of these result in important publications and exhibitions. Furthermore, numerous important publications on textile topics appeared in 2008 and we have tried to provide their reviews or summaries for the ATN readers.

ATN, now based in Copenhagen, has found a new format and we hope the readers appreciate the new design. This year more than 55 people have renewed or started their subscription on the internet via our secure web-shop. It seems that easy access has given more readers the opportunity to subscribe and we hope the future will bring many more subscribers.

It has been decided to keep the subscription rate in 2009 at the same rate as in 2008. The most current information about the society, the subscription fees and submissions can be found on [www.atnfriends.com](http://www.atnfriends.com).

Back issues for 2008 will soon be available on the website to buy at a rate of €10 each. For issue 45 and earlier newsletters, please contact the former editor Dr. John Peter Wild in Manchester.

The society will hold the next annual meeting in May 2009 in Copenhagen. The date will be announced on the society homepage [www.atnfriends.com](http://www.atnfriends.com) and we will also send out a call via e-mail. Suggestions for the agenda should be sent to one of the editors no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2009.

We still encourage the readers to send articles, notices about new books or forthcoming conferences, as well as reviews of events and sources – the continuation of ATN can only be ensured if it is ‘for the readers and by the readers’. We would also like to emphasise that the ATN website can be used as a venue for further communication, particularly for announcements of events, short queries etc.

We look forward to your comments, suggestions and input following the release of No. 47, which covers information on new Viking Age textiles in Ukraine and Russia, C14 dating of nine so-called Coptic textiles from Musée du Louvre in France, two interesting loom weights from Hungary, spindle whorls from Finland and ongoing textile research in Germany. The articles truly represent all aspects of textile research, presented in all three ATN languages; English, French and German.