

Issue 49 includes articles about new radiocarbon dates and dye tests of old Migration Period finds from Norway, Roman textiles from the Varus battle in Germany, interesting new experiments in sprang technique and finally the latest news on the textiles from Qasr Ibrim in Egypt. We hope the readers will find the selection of articles interesting.

By now the ATN has found its present form and format in Copenhagen. We thank everyone for the support, comments, and the interesting contributions to the newsletter over the past two years. However, we would also like to strongly encourage researchers and readers to contribute with articles, reviews and news to the collection and creation of new and exciting information for the newsletter. Please also inform us about conferences, articles, books, websites and other relevant news.

As we frequently get requests from researchers about access to the articles published in the earlier ATN issues which are difficult to obtain in most public libraries, we have decided to create a new digital collection of prints of these issues: ATN 1-24 and ATN 25-49. These will be available from our website towards the end of 2010. We are glad to see the continuous interest in the newsletter thanks to the high standard of the contributions submitted over the course of its existence.

This year the CTR team went on a textile study tour to China. The purpose was to experience the Chinese textile culture, to learn more about silk production and meet new colleagues. The trip was successful in every way and has given us new perspectives on our own research and on other research traditions. We have also noticed that several travel agencies have understood the importance of arranging specialised textile tours that can be searched and found on the internet. We therefore encourage those of you who have already experienced exciting textile tours to share this with our readers, either through links to useful websites or short reviews.

After reporting the sad news about the closure of the Textile Conservation Centre in Southampton in the last newsletter, we are happy to announce that this summer The Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research received funding for another five years research period. The CTR will thus continue to work at the University of Copenhagen in close collaboration with the National Museum of Denmark until July 2015. We also have good and exciting news from Textile Research Centre, Leiden (TRC), whose director Dr. Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood reports the following:

"Over the last few years, the Textile Research Centre, Leiden (TRC) has been growing rapidly. As a result it was decided that we needed to move to larger premises. After an intensive search in the Leiden area, the TRC Board concluded that the ground floor premises of Hogewoerd 164 provided the necessary potential for growth. It is c. 300 sq m in size and has space for a gallery and shop, a lecture room, library and research area, offices, a depot and a large workroom. All of this means that the TRC can continue to develop in these difficult times. The TRC moved in August and will soon be opening its doors again. It will continue to offer a wide range of lectures, workshops, courses, as well as exhibitions, on various themes relating to textiles and dress."

The official opening will take place in March 2010 during the one-week International Textile Festival to be held in Leiden. We congratulate Gillian and look forward to hearing more from TRC and Leiden in future editions of ATN. In the meantime, the most current information can be found on the TRC website: <http://www.trc-leiden.nl/>

The society Friends of ATN will hold the next annual meeting in May 2010 in Copenhagen. The date will be announced in the society homepage 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 1st of April 2010.

The subscription rate for 2010 will remain unchanged.

The editors