



ATN has reached an important landmark – the current is the 50th issue of the newsletter, marking a quarter of century of publication that started out being made “on a kitchen table” by and for archaeological textiles enthusiasts, and is now being sent to every continent save Antarctica. We hope the readers will find the selection of articles and news in this issue interesting, stimulating and reflecting of the wide interests of the field. Issue 50 includes articles about new and old finds from Egypt, Israel, England and Denmark, as well as information about a new research project about cloth cultures in prehistoric Europe. There are also many new publications and announcements of forthcoming conferences.

The new digital format of the newsletter and the establishing of the homepage for circulation of information and online subscription service have been a tremendous help for the current editors of the newsletter and secure that the publishing of ATN is still possible. Many new subscribers have found their way to the homepage and we have today subscribers from all around the world including Japan, New Zealand and Australia, all over Europe and the United States. Unfortunately, at the same time, some old members have not renewed their subscription. Year 2010 is to be a turning point for ATN, and regardless of the world financial crisis, the future survival of ATN depends on an increased number of subscribers. We therefore encourage all members to spread the word, and make sure that libraries keep subscribing to the newsletter.

In ATN 49 the closing of the Textile Conservation Centre in Southampton was announced. In this issue we are happy to report that the Textile Conservation Centre will reopen in a new format and in a new location at the University of Glasgow, with the first student intake planned for September 2010. We congratulate the Textile Conservation Centre Foundation (TCCF) and the University of Glasgow on making the decision to support the important work of TCC. Likewise, we are happy to announce the continuation of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research (CTR) for another five year period (2010-2015).

The editors have decided that a new folder on the ATN homepage will be dedicated to publication lists of textile researchers. The first list by Orit Shamir, Israel will be made available on the homepage in July. We encourage researchers to send in bibliographies. For administrative reasons the homepage will be updated twice yearly (end June and December). We hope that this service will increase the usefulness of and visits to the ATN homepage and above all make textile research more visible and easily accessible.

In October 2009, Margarita Gleba moved to London, where she is carrying on her work at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London as a Marie Curie Intra-European Research Fellow. She remains the corresponding editor of ATN.

The Annual General Meeting for 2010 was announced to take place the 22 April at 16:30 at the Centre for Textile Research, University of Copenhagen in conjunction with the 13th International Aegean Conference. Unfortunately, due to the Icelandic volcanic ash affecting air traffic, the meeting was postponed and instead it took place in Bolton, UK on the 29 May in conjunction with the 5th General Meeting of the DressID project.

Present:

Margarita Gleba, Eva Andersson Strand, Ulla Mannering, Marie-Louise Nosch and several of the DressID participants.

As no additional proposals were sent in by the members, the agenda was as following:

1. Election of a chairperson, if somebody so wishes: Ulla Mannering elected as chairperson of the board.
2. The report of the board for the period since the previous annual general meeting: Two issues for 2009 have been published. We are currently examining the costs of making reprints of ATN issues 1-45. We hope to have them for sale on the webpage by the end of the year.
3. Presentation and approval of the revised account of 31st of December 2009.
4. Decisions concerning individual and institutional subscription fee for 2010: the board will apply for funding at NOS-H to cover the costs of production. If funding is granted by NOS-H the subscription rate will remain unchanged for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Otherwise the yearly membership fee for individual and institutional will be raised with 5-9 €. This decision will be announced in the next ATN issue and on the homepage.
5. Election of 3 members of the board and 1 deputy member for the current financial year: Eva Andersson Strand, Margarita Gleba, Ulla Mannering remain as board members, Carol Christiansen remains as deputy. Karina Grömer is ad hoc scientific board member.
6. Election of an auditor and 1 deputy auditor member for the current financial year: Marie-Louise Nosch and Lauritz H. Gregersen stay as auditor and deputy.

The editors