

## The year 2007-8 at Cambridge

### *Students*

Cecily Arthur graduated with a First in Part II of the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos. During her year abroad, which she spent in Kalamata at the University of the Peloponnese, she undertook a translation project on Maniot folk poetry, and in her final year she took translation and essay papers in Modern Greek, and a paper on “The history and structure of Modern Greek”.

Richard Thompson was awarded a First in the Part IB examinations. Madelaine Edwards spent her year abroad at the University of Crete in Rethymno. She is to be congratulated on being awarded joint first prize in the London Hellenic Society undergraduate essay competition for 2007.

Vicki Hart passed the examinations for the Certificate in Modern Greek, with a mark of Credit. Alexander Holyoake was awarded a pass with Credit in the Diploma in Modern Greek.

Thekla Papantoniou was the first student to take the new module “Myth and history in Modern Greek literature”, as part of the MPhil in European Literature and Culture.

### *Teaching staff*

As Ms Eleftheria Lasthiotaki was on maternity leave, the greater part of the language teaching was undertaken by Dr Regina Karousou-Fokas, who also made a major contribution to the teaching of “The history and structure of Modern Greek”. Dr Notis Toufexis also contributed to this course, as well as teaching advanced translation into Greek and giving two lectures for the course on “Greek literature, history and thought since 1880”. Mr Kostas Skordyles taught a course on topics in modern Greek history. Professor David Holton taught various courses on Greek literature, the history of Modern Greek, and translation from Greek.

*Visiting speakers*

Nine speakers gave invited lectures during the 2007-8 academic year. The programme was as follows:

- 25 October. Professor Peter Mackridge (St Cross College, Oxford): *A language in the image of the nation: language and national identity in Greece since the eighteenth century*
- 8 November. Professor Roderick Beaton (King's College London): *Kazantzakis the Cretan: versions of the Minoan past from the author of Zorba the Greek*
- 22 November. Professor Robert Holland (Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London): *Britain and the ambiguity of Greek sovereignty since 1832*
- 31 January. Dr Athina Vogiatzoglou (University of Ioannina): *Militant intellectuals against the literary establishment: Giorgos Kotzioulas and Giannis Skarimbos (1935-1952)*
- 14 February. Professor Peter Trudgill (University of East Anglia): *Why Greek vowels aren't boring*
- 28 February. Dr Natalia Deliyannaki: *Erotokritos into music*
- 6 March. Professor Paschalis Kitromilides (University of Athens): *Adamantios Korais and the dilemmas of liberal nationalism*
- 1 May. Dr Philothei Kolitsi (University of Thessaloniki): *The portrait of the female artist in modern Greek prose fiction*
- 8 May. Dr Dimitra Kolliakou (Newcastle University): *Answers without questions: the emergence of fragments in child English and Greek*

*Graduate Seminar*

The Graduate Seminar enjoyed a full and varied programme, which this year was organised by two PhD students, Foteini Lika and Stratos Myrogiannis. Papers were given by the following invited speakers: Nikos Falagkas, Korina Giaxoglou, Irene Theodoropoulou (all from King's College London), Dr Sarah Ekdawi (Oxford University), Ioanna Langa (Queen's University, Belfast), and Marios Mouratis (University of Thessaloniki). The other papers were given by Cambridge-based graduate students and research staff: Eleni Kapogianni, Dimitris Michelioudakis, Thekla Papantoniou, and Dr Notis Toufexis.

*Activities of members of the Modern Greek Section*

Professor David Holton found himself called on (again) to chair the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, to fill an unexpected vacancy from January to September 2008. He also served as Acting Vice-Master of Selwyn College in the Lent and Easter Terms 2008. He gave lectures at King's College London and the University of Stockholm, and chaired a panel at a conference billed as the "First Worldwide Conference of Modern Greek Studies", held in Athens in July 2008. Later that month he gave a lecture at a summer school at Delphi, under the auspices of the University of Athens, and he was honoured there, at a special ceremony, with a "Wisdom Award", in recognition of his contributions to the study of Greek language and culture of the post-Byzantine period. He has published:

"Foreword", in: David Wills, *The Mirror of Antiquity 20th century British travellers in Greece* (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing 2007), pp. x-xii

"Σκέψεις για την υποδομή της διδασκαλίας της νέας ελληνικής στο εξωτερικό: βοηθήματα και μορφές υποστήριξης", *Πρακτικά Διεθνούς Συνεδρίου: Η Ελληνική Γλώσσα ως δευτερη/ξένη – Έρευνα, Διδασκαλία, Εκμάθηση*. Επιμέλεια έκδοσης: Κωνσταντίνος Ντίνας – Άννα Χατζηπαναγιωτίδη (Thessaloniki: University Studio Press), pp. 34-41

"Οι Νεοελληνικές Σπουδές στο Πανεπιστήμιο του Cambridge", *Ινστιτούτο Νεοελληνικών Ερευνών Εθνικού Ιδρύματος Ερευνών, Ενημερωτικό Δελτίο 32* (December 2007) 96-9

"Το φαινόμενο της Κρητικής Αναγέννησης", *Παλιμνηστον 20/21* (2006-7) 31-50

Dr Notis Toufexis gave a paper at the First Worldwide Conference of Modern Greek Studies, held in Athens from 3 to 5 July 2008. In May 2008 he gave two papers (one together with Tina Lendari) at a Conference on "Philology and computing" held at the University of Athens, and a talk on the "Grammar of Medieval Greek project" at the Centre for Byzantine Studies, University of Thessaloniki. He also gave a talk at the Late Antique and Byzantine Seminar, University of Oxford in January 2008 and

participated with a presentation at a workshop on “Epistemic Networks and GRID + Web 2.0 for Arts and Humanities” held at the Internet Centre, Imperial College London, also in January 2008. He has published: “Diglossia and register variation in Medieval Greek”, *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 32 (2008) 203-17.