The St Anne's College Classics Society

The St Anne's College Classics Society exists to promote interaction between students and tutors across all years in the College.

Brasenose-St Anne's Classical Symposium

The Classics schools at Brasenose and St Anne's enjoy very close relations. We share the services of Dr Ed Bispham as Tutor and Lecturer in Ancient History and teach the Mods Texts and Contexts option as a joint seminar. The colleges also meet once a term for a symposium in which one speaker from each college speaks briefly on an aspect of his or her research. In Michaelmas Term 2017 Prof. Matthew Leigh spoke about his researches into the masons and the mysteries in 18th century drama while Dr Sophie Bocksberger discussed ancient dance. In Hilary Term 2018 Dr Aneurin Ellis-Evans lectured on Hellenistic Culture and Fabiana Lopes da Silveira introduced us to ancient alchemy.

Speaker Meetings

The Classics Society's termly meetings have played host to a number of distinguished speakers from across the globe. Recent highlights include Dr Emily Selove (Exeter University) on the art of party-crashing in medieval Arabic and classical satire; Prof Richard Thomas (Harvard University) on Horace; and a public session on Syria in Antiquity to raise funds for the Oxfam Syria Crisis Appeal. In the academic year 2017-18 we have heard papers from Prof. Anthony Corbeill of the University of Virginia on grammatical gender in Latin; from Prof. Elizabeth Vandiver of Whitman College on the imagists' theories about Greek metre; and from Prof. David Lupher of the University of Puget Sound on how the early settlers of Virginia likened themselves to Romans and the native American tribes to ancient Britons.

Reading Party

The Classics Society is very lucky to have access to Lamledra House, a beautiful Edwardian family house on the coast of Cornwall. Here we are able to spend a week at the end of the summer term looking beyond the syllabus and reading great authors for their own sake.

Texts tackled include Dante's Inferno; Tasso’s Jerusalem Liberated; the Lusiads by Camões; the Orlando Furioso of Ariosto; and the Finnish epic, the Kalevala. In June 2012 we spent a week reading Beowulf while in June 2014 we read the Chanson de Roland. Our most recent visit in June 2018 saw us study the Gargantua and Pantagruel of Rabelais. As ever, there was plenty of time to walk, swim, cook, and take the sun. We hope to return to Lamledra in June 2020.

Corresponding Members

The Classics Society is proud to have a number of Corresponding Members from around the world. These include: Prof. Alessandra Coppola (Padova); Prof. Eric Csapo (Sydney); Dr Trevor Evans (MacQuarrie); Prof. Marco Fernandelli (Trieste); Prof. Laurel Fulkerson (Florida State); Prof. Marsh McCall (Stanford); Prof. Marco Marinic (Llubljana); Prof. John Marincola (Florida State); Dr Rosie Wyles (Kent); Prof. Angelos Chaniotis (Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton); Prof. Richard Thomas (Harvard University); Prof. Frederick Ahl (Cornell University); Dott. Valentina Garulli, Università di Bologna; Prof. Joshua Katz (Princeton); Prof. David Lupher (Puget Sound); Prof. Elizabeth Vandiver (Whitman), Prof. Roberta Stewart (Dartmouth College); Prof. Deborah Beck (University of Texas at Austin); Prof. Celia Campbell (University of Virginia); Dr Andrew Sillett (St Hilda's College, Oxford); Dr David Lee (St Hilda's College, Oxford).