INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

DISEASE AND THE ANCIENT WORLD

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2017

GREEN TEMPLETON COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

PROGRAMME

ORGANIZING AND ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Professor Robert Arnott (Green Templeton College and Division of Medical Sciences, University of Oxford)
Mag. Dr. Rupert Breitwieser (Alturtumswissenschaften, Universität Salzburg)
Dr. Moudhy Al-Rashid (Wolfson College and the Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

LOCATION

E P Abrahams Lecture Theatre
Green Templeton College / University of Oxford
43 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HG
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST 2017

14:00 OPENING
Welcome to Green Templeton College by the Principal Professor Denise Lievesley CBE
Introduction by Professor Robert Arnott and Dr Rupert Breitwieser

14:15 KEYNOTE LECTURE
Professor Charlotte Roberts FBA (University of Durham)
The Archaeology of Disease: how studying human remains informs us about health and wellbeing

15:15 SESSION ONE: GREECE AND ROME I
Tomáš Alušík (Charles University of Prague)
Before Hippocrates: disease and medicine in Greece from prehistory to 500 BC

Lutz Alexander Graumann (University Hospital, Marburg)
The Athenian Plague: an historical hoax?

Colin Elliott (Indiana University)
Plague and price controls in the late second century Roman Empire

16:45 Break (Stables Bar)

17:15 Marek Vlach (Institute of Archaeology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Brno)
Digital Modeling and Estimating Impact of the Antonine plague

Spyridon Loumakis (Concordia University, Montreal)
Pure in body and mind before healing

Catherine Darbo-Peschanski (CNRS/LAB, Paris)
The normal and the pathologic in ancient Greek and Roman medicine: the case of fever

19:30 Informal Evening in „The Royal Oak“ Public House and Restaurant,
located opposite Green Templeton College and a section has been especially reserved for conference participants
09:00 **Session Two: Occupational Disease and Injury**

*Ralph M Rowlett (University of Missouri-Columbia)*
Poison gas and “blood poisoning” in the production of shell tempered pottery

*Robert Arnott (University of Oxford)*
Craft, industry and occupational disease in the Mature Harappan Phase of the Indus Civilisation

10:00 **Break (Stables Bar)**

**Poster Session**

*Philip Straub (Albert Ludwigs University, Freiburg)*
Contemporary explanatory models for causes of diseases in ancient Greece and Rome

10:30 **Session Three: Greece and Rome I**

*Jared J. Eddy (Boston Medical Center/University of Cambridge)*
Tuberculosis in the Early Roman Empire

*Jean MacIntosh Turfa (University of Pennsylvania Museum)*
Adrian Harrison (University of Copenhagen)
“Plague, but not exceptionally life-threatening.” Diseases in the Etruscan Brontoscopic Calendar and their social implications

*Hilary Becker (Binghamton University)*
Caveat emptor: the perils of treating disease in the ancient market place

*Elisa Groff (University of Exeter)*
“For women not in love don't conceive very often”. Causes and treatments of sterility in both men and women according to Aetius of Amida

*Elizabeth Craik (University of St Andrews)*
Understanding Malarial Disease

13:00 **Lunch (Stables Bar)**
Parallel Sessions

Session Four: Paleopathology, Science and Archaeology
Session 4 will be held in the Barclay Room within Green Templeton College and the Workshop on the Lousy Disease will be held at the College's building in nearby 13 Norham Gardens. The way will be clearly signposted and student escorts provided.

Maria A. Spyrou, Aida Andrades Valtueña, Marcel Keller, Michal Feldman, Alexander Herbig, Kirsten Bos and Johannes Krause (Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena)
Identifying plague in the ancient world: a molecular approach

Michael E. Habicht (University of Zurich and Flinders University), Francesco M. Galassi, Sidney Senti, Frank J. Rühli (University of Zurich)
Egyptian Canopic Jars as a resource for paleopathology: a hundred year-long quest

Roberta Ballestriero (Gordon Museum of Pathology, London)
Ex-votos between spirituality and superstition: depiction of diseases in ancient times

Francesca Bertoldi and Daniella Cottica with V. Giacometti, D. Penzo, C. Bassani (Università Ca' Foscari, Venice)
Palaeobiology and palaeopathology of a Late Antique human sample from Verona, Italy

Vivien Shaw (Bangor University)
Body organisation and acupuncture in Han Dynasty China

Workshop on the Lousy Disease: an Interdisciplinary Reassessment
Convenor and Chair: Alexandra Eckert (University of Oldenburg)

Alexandra Eckert (University of Oldenburg)
Sulla the Fortunate and the Lousy Disease

Arthur Keaveney (University of Kent)
Phthiriasis and its victims

Roland Steinacher (University of Tübingen)
Punished by Worms and Lice: the death of tyrants and persecutors in ancient sources

Friedrich Bahmer (University of Bremen)
The Lousy Disease from a dermatological point of view

18:00 Keynote Lecture

Dr Irving Finkel (The British Museum)
Disease in the Cuneiform Tablets

19:30 Reception

20:00 Conference Dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory
Guest of honour: The Principal of Green Templeton College, Professor Denise Lievesley CBE.
09:30 **Session Five: Ancient Egypt and the Near East**

*Paula Veiga (University of Munich)*
Establishing a connection between some plants as ingredients for treatments in Ancient Egypt (c. 3000-700 BC) and their 'divine' origin

*Michael E. Habicht (University of Zurich and Flinders University), Francesco M. Galassi, Frank J. Rühli (University of Zurich)*
The mummy of Alexander the Great - a speculative reconstruction

*Andrew Chugg (Independent Scholar)*
Disease and the death of Alexander the Great

11:00 **Break (Stables Bar)**

11:30 **Session Six: Disease and History I**

*Pawel Madejski (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin)*
When history meets medicine: collective madness and Roman history

*Katherine D. van Schaik (Harvard University and University of Zurich)*
Towards a new(-ish) taxonomy of disease: disease classification and the interpretation of ancient textual sources

*Rupert Breitwieser (University of Salzburg)*
Plague and Province

*Stefan E. A. Wagner (University of Erlangen), Antonio Vinci (University of Milan)*
The invisible enemy: diseases as a decisive factor in the wars of antiquity

13:30 **Lunch (Stables Bar)**

14:30 **Session Seven: Disease and History II**

*Papers by University of Oxford Medical Students*

*Rosemary Roberts*
Smallpox and the desolation of Mesoamerica

*Ralitsa Slivkova*
Of rats and men: the Plague of Justinian – a clinical view
15:30 **SESSION EIGHT: DISEASE AND CLASSICAL LITERATURE**

*Enrica Zamperini* (University of Padua)
The Prometheus’ disease

*Michael E. Habicht (University of Zurich and Flinders University), Francesco M. Galassi, Frank J. Rühli (University of Zurich)*
Open historical questions and unresolved philological aporias in the pathobiographical scholarship on Alexander of Macedon (356-323 BC)

*Gabriel Lombardi, Cecilia J. Perczyk (University of Buenos Aires)*
The hallucination in Euripides’ Orestes

*Rebecca Fallas (Open University)*
Infertility and health in the Hippocratic Corpus

17:30 **CLOSING SESSION**

*Robert Arnott, Rupert Breitwieser*
Announcement of Next Conference Venue and Subject