



HISTORISCH-KULTURWISSENSCHAFTLICHE FAKULTÄT
INSTITUT FÜR ALTE GESCHICHTE UND ALTERTUMSKUNDE,
PAPYROLOGIE UND EPIGRAPHIK

Die genannten Institutionen erlauben sich, zu folgendem Vortrag einzuladen, den

Dr. Roger Tomlin

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am Donnerstag, dem **13. Dezember 2012**, um **17 Uhr c. t.**,
im **Hörsaal 21** des Hauptgebäudes der Universität Wien,
1010 Wien, Universitätsring 1,
halten wird:

Fifty Years of Roman Inscriptions of Britain

A short introduction (with illustrations) to some of the most interesting epigraphic discoveries of the last fifty years. The Roman invasion of 43 is reflected in the tombstones of two legionaries in the invading army, and a gold signet-ring given to a British collaborator. The conquest of the north is reflected in the most graphic tombstone ever found in Britain, which shows a headless barbarian being trampled by the cavalryman who swings his severed head by its hair - but also in the tombstone of a Roman centurion 'killed in the war' of 117/8. The new frontier of Hadrian's Wall is marked by the first-ever dedication to the 'Discipline of the Emperor Hadrian', and by the first-ever document actually to call the wall 'Hadrian's Wall'. The second Roman advance into Scotland, as far as the Antonine Wall, is marked by the most northern inscription ever found in the Empire, but also by the Twentieth Legion's stone relief of Britannia crowning its eagle, and by an officer's altars richly carved with heads of the Sun and of the Four Seasons. Other officers and men can be traced from southern Gaul, north Africa, and the lower Danube. But why were a father and son 'killed in the fort' of Ambleside in the Lake District? Civilian attachments can also be seen in the altar dedicated by a village (*vicus*) outside a fort on the Antonine Wall, in the manuscript of a veteran's will (*testamentum*) from north Wales, in the statue dedicated at Vindolanda by Gauls and Britons acting 'in harmony'. There are glimpses of provincial society, its economy and beliefs, in a charm for successful pregnancy written on gold, in a waxed tablet which records the purchase of 'the girl in question' (a Gallic slave-girl bought by an imperial slave), in a barrel which contained the equivalent of 100 cases of Gevrey-Chambertin; also in dedications by merchants trading between Britain and the Continent, by a soothsayer (*haruspex*) practising at Bath, by altars from the temples of Dolichenus at Vindolanda and of Isis at London. A unique manuscript from Bath even refers to 'pagans and Christians'.

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen!

Im Anschluss an den Vortrag bittet der Eranos Vindobonensis in die Räumlichkeiten des Instituts für Alte Geschichte und Altertumskunde, Papyrologie und Epigraphik zu einem Gläschen Wein.

Univ.-Doz. Dr. Thomas Kruse

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Thomas Corsten
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Danuta Shanzer

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Claudia Theune-Vogt
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Fritz Mitthof