

EDITORIAL

Spring is here (at least it is in Spain) and so it is time to start work on the summer edition of the newsletter. As always, I hope to have included a wide range of articles and news to interest everybody – an excellent description with photographs of the Shroud copy kept at Campillo, in Spain. The information comes from Daniel Duque, a member of the Spanish Centre for Sindonology whose speciality is precisely Shroud copies.

Spain will be very much in the news for Shroud studies – in May there is a Convention in Valencia, where the Centre is based; and even though it will have already been held by the time the newsletter is distributed, I think it is well worth mentioning. The idea is not to present new investigation or research (which is quite difficult in itself until further hands-on studies are allowed), but rather to recap on everything that has been done up to now. Guest speakers are Bruno Barberis from the Centro Internazionale di Sindonologia in Turin, and Dr. John Jackson from the USA. Still in Spain, the Second International Conference on the Sudarium of Oviedo has been brought forward from 2008 to April 2007. Details are included within.

The second article included in this number is by BSTS member Lennox Manton. I recently published Lennox's detailed study of the Sakli Mandyliion in Cappadocia – this time he takes a more general look at the frescoes from Cappadocia and their possible relationship to the Shroud of Turin.

Who in the Shroud world has not heard the name Rex Morgan? Present at just about every Shroud related event in the world, Rex is an institution and I am honoured to include an interview with him in this issue of the newsletter.

Finally, some book reviews, news from Italy and a sincere wish that you enjoy reading the newsletter. I am just about finishing writing a book in Spanish about the Stone of Destiny. Some people are of the opinion that the Stone that was returned to Scotland in 1996 is not the original stone, but rather a forgery that was fobbed off on Edward I in 1296. However, the main argument against this, used in various books, is that quite simply the Stone of Destiny contains too much information to be a forgery, information that no forger in the thirteenth century would have been able to include, and if he had, it would have been useless as nobody would have realised until the twentieth century. Sounds familiar, doesn't it? Except for the fact that in the case of the Stone of Destiny everybody accepts this logic.

Have a wonderful summer and we'll be back with the Christmas edition.