Greek History 650-479 BC: Documents: Weeks I to IV, Fridays at 09.00, Schools.

These four lectures will be of benefit to those studying Greek history ca. 650 to 479 BC whether for the Greats paper *The Early Greek World and Herodotus' Histories: 650 BC to 479 BC*, or the Ancient & Modern Prelims paper *Greek History 650 to 479 BC*, or the CAAH Prelims paper *Aristocracy & Democracy 550 to 450 BC* ('Greek Core'). The lectures, illustrated with copious slides in colour, explore the contribution made to archaic Greek history by inscriptions through a series of case studies taken from the Epigraphic Dossier that accompanies the Greats paper (available from Weblearn: "Resources for FHS Papers - Ancient History/ Greek History 1: The Early Greek World and Herodotus' Histories: 650 to 479 BC/ Greek History 1: Epigraphic Dossier."). Knowledge of Greek will be useful but is not indispensible. Provisional schedule:

**Lecture 1:** Introduction: general characteristics of the Dossier; making sense of archaic Greek inscriptions (scripts, dialects, writing directions); the background (the emergence of the Greek alphabet and local scripts; explaining local scripts); Greek inscriptions in their Mediterranean context; material additional to the Dossier.

**Lecture 2:** The epigraphy of Greeks overseas: soldiers of fortune in Egypt (ML 7 + SEG 37.994); sailors of fortune in the Aegean (ML 16); looking for fortune in new homes / 'colonisation' in Kyrene (ML 5) and Thasos (ML 3); the importance of the object inscribed (ML 4, ML 27).

**Lecture 3:** Inscriptions at the frontiers of the Greek world: the tangled web of inter-community relations in southern Italy (Sybaris & ML 10); an Aiginetan in Etruria and his connections (the anchor of Sostratos); shared responses to the Mediterranean (The Pyrgi Tablets); life on the edge in the Black Sea (doc. relating to the sale of Phaylles; the lead letter of Achillodoros); a view in Greek from the front-line in Cyprus (the Bronze Tablet of Idalion).

**Lecture 4:** setting words in stone (and bronze): laws, regulations, and agreements: regulating Dreros (ML 2 and the other seven documents from the same context); the problem of legibility (the Eteocretan inscription from Dreros); rewards for writing and remembering in a community in Crete (the Decree relating to Spensithios); a Lokrian community defines new territory (ML 13, including a key discussion of the ordering of the text); defining friendship - an agreement between the Eleians and Erwaoi (ML 17).