

**Ancient Commentators on Aristotle
Email Newsletter
Summer 2016**

Four volumes now published in 2016

In addition to Michael Griffin's translation of [*Olympiodorus: On Plato First Alcibiades 10–28*](#) published earlier this year we are pleased to announce the publication of three new volumes in August.

1. The second edition of Richard Sorabji's [*Aristotle Transformed: The Ancient Commentators and Their Influence*](#).

First published in 1990, the collection is now brought up to date with a new introduction by Richard Sorabji. New generations of scholars will benefit from this reissuing of classic essays, including seminal works by major scholars, and the volume gives a comprehensive background to the work of the project on the Ancient Commentators on Aristotle.

2. A new companion volume [*Aristotle Re-Interpreted: New Findings on Seven Hundred Years of the Ancient Commentators*](#).

This volume presents collected essays – some brand new, some republished, and others newly translated – on the ancient commentators on Aristotle and showcases the leading research of the last three decades. Follow the link above to see the full table of contents.

3. A translation of [*Priscian's Answers to King Khosroes of Persia*](#).

Priscian was one of the Athenian philosophers who took refuge in 531 AD with King Khosroes I of Persia, after the Christian Emperor Justinian stopped the teaching of the pagan Neoplatonist school in Athens. Tantalisingly, Priscian fully recorded in Greek the answers provided by the Athenian philosophers to the king's questions on philosophy and science. But these answers survive only in a later Latin translation which understood both the Greek and the subject matter very poorly. Our translators have often had to reconstruct from the Latin what the Greek would have been, in order to recover the original sense. The answers start with subjects close to the Athenians' hearts: the human soul, on which Priscian was an expert, and sleep and visions. But their interest may have diminished when the king sought their expertise on matters of physical science: the seasons, celestial zones, medical effects of heat and cold, the tides, displacement of the four elements, the effect of regions on living things, why only reptiles are poisonous, and winds. At any rate, in 532 AD, they moved on from the palace, but still under Khosroes' protection. This is the first translation of the record they left into English or any modern language.

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