

## All roads lead to (and come from) Rome



**Where did the 'Green Man' come from?** In our EVEHD project our volunteers have discovered that to some extent 'all roads lead to ROME' - at least when it comes to 'European' heritage questions - our Greek friends and supporters will not agree - of course!! Those crafty Romans took much from them .... but they fine-tuned imagery to such a degree that it (usually) became their own.... This collage is made up of

pictures gathered by volunteers. It is made up of Roman Green men from Cyprus, France, Croatia, south Germany, Turkey, UK - the middle one is on the Mildenhall Great Silver Dish from the United

Kingdom; all of them are ROMAN and we have not found any older ones.



### Another European textile mystery solved?

What!?! The MARGUERITE eight-pointed star pattern as well? Those jumper knitting Icelanders, Turkish carpet makers, floor tiling Cypriots, Scandinavian tattooists, Moms Apple Pie quilters & Estonian textile researchers will

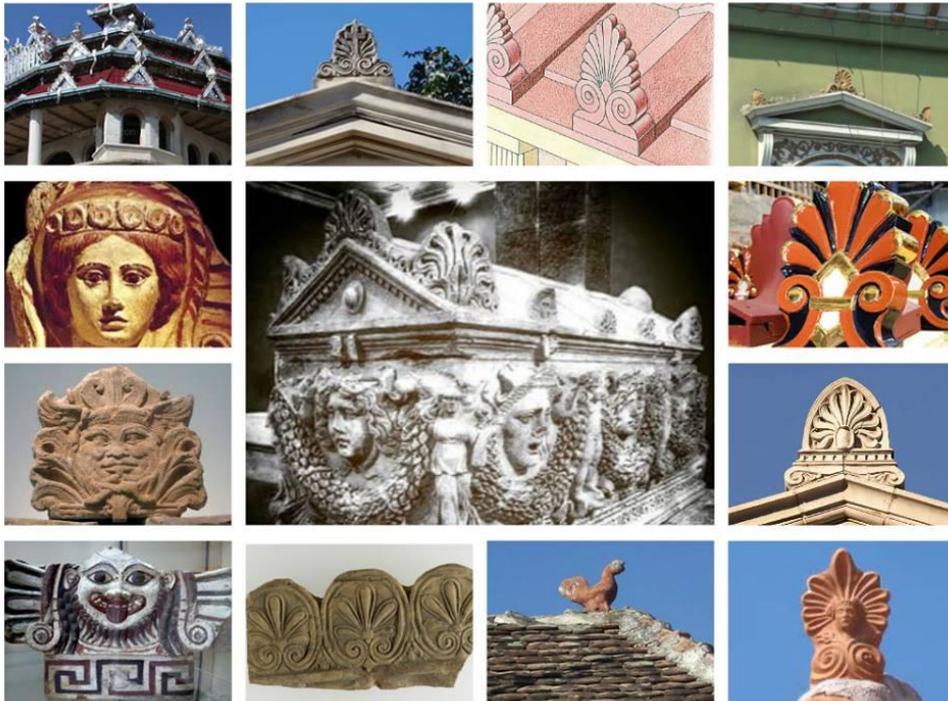
never believe it – but.... It seems to be true, the earliest MARGUERITES are ROMAN. Centre picture 2nd century Roman mosaic from Paphos in Cyprus (we visited during our EVEHD dissemination event).



**The Roman Catholic church** also spread the Marguerite design around; a group of British volunteers, Andie Harris, Yvonne Conchie, Judith Hardy and Elaine Edgar discovered this magnificent marble floor in the basilica at Esztergom in Hungary, on the Danube Bend, close to EVEHD's Slovakian partner

Now please.... are you trying to tell me that '**Antefix's came from the Romans...** it's just too much..... I need to lie down.... Okay the Greeks & Etruscans have a few claims ..... but the Romans took them into space! Centre

picture Roman sarcophagus.



There are many other everyday things that we see as we walk around European streets that certainly came to us via the Romans. When we consider the foundations of Europe, it all really started with the Romans; even those countries never in the

empire had links – marching camps, trading posts, trade roads – even Scandinavian Vikings formed the Eastern Roman Emperors 'Varangian Guard'.

**Importance for EVEHD**

Many hours of discovery and discussion finally narrowed down the Green Man, the Marguerite textile pattern and the Antefix to Rome. More than anything else we discovered in EVEHD, the Romans bound us together. Even in Iceland there are Roman links – they called the remote island 'Thule' – long before anybody else lived there. Volunteers like to feel a part of something bigger. By developing the Romans as a discovery theme, we found that bigger thing. A special thanks goes to the Roman Empire History Group on facebook; thy helped us a lot – also many of our volunteers ended up joining their group.

A special thanks to our Turkish volunteers Hurşit Cem Salar, Zora Kızılyurek and Gülhan Küçük for their help in discovering Turkish examples of Green Men, Antefixes and Marguerites.