Preface

The germ of this volume was a day conference celebrating the work of Chris Stray and his 75th birthday, held at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in October 2018. We are most grateful to Corpus and its Centre for the Study of Greek and Roman Antiquity (especially its Director, Constanze Güthenke) for hosting and sponsoring the event, to Mary Beard, who was a key part of the occasion but was sadly unable to contribute to the volume, and to those who attended for their lively comments and discussion.

We are most grateful to the contributors to this volume for their agreement to participate and for their patience and practical assistance with the editorial and publication process, and especially to De Gruyter for taking on this volume in their new strand ‘Scholarship in the Making’ in the series Trends in Classics; we thank Franco Montanari and Antonios Rengakos as editors of Trends in Classics for their kind acceptance, and Marco Acquafredda at De Gruyter for his efficient management of the publication.

Our fuller tribute to Chris Stray appears in the introduction below, but we would like to thank him for his full support of this project: it is unusual indeed for the recipient of a Festschrift not only to read and comment on most of the volume’s papers before publication but also to write a paper in it, but we think the book is much the better for both these elements.

SJH & CBRP

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