

SAIMS NEWSLETTER

SAIMS VOL. 3 JULY 2011

View of the cloister at the ruins of the cathedral of St Andrews, once the episcopal see of Scotland.



Photo © T. N. Currie

St Andrews Institute of Mediaeval Studies University of St Andrews

The Department of Mediaeval History at the University of St Andrews was founded in 1955, and has expanded to be the largest of its kind in the world, continually adding to a long and prestigious history of excellence in the field. The Institute of Mediaeval Studies builds on this tradition, bringing together almost forty full-time members of academic staff of international standing, along with a number of research associates, into an exciting and new inter-disciplinary centre. SAIMS specialises in teaching the subjects of

History, Mediaeval Languages and Literature, Art History and Theology.

The Institute was formally launched in February 2008 by Professor Gerd Althoff of the University of Münster. Since its launch, SAIMS has continued to grow, attracting numerous visiting scholars as well as a large body of research students. St Andrews hosts a large and vibrant wider research community, with over thirty PhD students actively working on theses ranging from Persian trade to late mediaeval English queenship.

SAIMS also has access to the University's archives and muniments, containing an impressive range of manuscript material, vital to both scholarship and teaching.

As a testament to its success, SAIMS is pleased to announce the publication of a new journal, *The Mediaeval Journal*, published by Brepols. The journal captures and promotes the spirit of SAIMS, and represents a proud next step forward for the Institute.

The Mediaeval Journal

A New Journal of Mediaeval Studies

SAIMS is pleased to announce the launch of its own journal, published by Brepols. *The Mediaeval Journal* will be the first European-based cross-disciplinary and multinational journal of Medieval Studies to be published in the lingua franca of English. It will also be the first journal to address the two most exciting and productive trends in current Mediaeval Studies: the turn towards multinational work and towards cross-disciplinarity. In an increasingly multinational academic world of collaboration and intellectual exchange, scholars all over Europe and beyond are ever more frequently realizing that important research is emerging from outside their national academies. *The Mediaeval Journal* recognizes the rich opportunities that this movement represents. Moreover, in fulfilling its cross-disciplinary remit, *The Mediaeval Journal* will publish articles

mixing approaches from traditional subjects with areas and perspectives which are currently under-explored. Aiming to offer wide disciplinary coverage in each issue, it welcomes submissions from specialists in all areas of Mediaeval Studies, whether they come from traditional disciplines like Art History, History, Archaeology, Theology, Languages/Literatures, and English, or from less-exposed fields such as Islamic Studies, Jewish Studies, Manuscript Studies, Mediaevalism, Material Culture, History of Medicine and Science, History of Ideas, Queer Studies, Postcolonial Studies, and Musicology, and others.

As a first port of call for interdisciplinary essays *The Mediaeval Journal* aims to establish itself as a first-rate and high-profile international journal with a unique identity, versatility of appeal and unquestionably excellent and up-to-date quality of academic content. Its editorial team is confident that *The Mediaeval Journal* will quickly become a distinctive force across Mediaeval Studies. Volume 1 of *The Mediaeval Journal* will be published in 2011.

Contact

Any editorial queries should be addressed to the general editors, Dr Margaret Connolly and Dr Ian Johnson at tmj@st-andrews.ac.uk

For information about reviews please contact Dr James Palmer at tmjrev@st-andrews.ac.uk

THE MEDIEVAL JOURNAL



BREPOLS

Volume 1 Articles

Ideal-Types and the Medieval Church
DAVID L. D'AVRAY

The Staffordshire Hoard Inscription and Other Biblical Texts in Anglo-Saxon Inscriptions
ELISABETH OKASHA

An Anglo-Norman Practica Geometriae: Edition and Commentary
TONY HUNT

Dead Still/Still Dead
VINCENT GILLESPIE

News and Events 2010-2011

Visiting Scholars

Bullough Fellowship

The Donald Bullough Fellowship is an award designed to cover living expenses in St Andrews for one academic term, enabling the recipient to focus on the production and completion of a monograph. Recipients who hold the fellowship usually give a seminar at the weekly SAIMS seminar series, as well as hold a workshop exploring a particular aspect of their current project. This year's fellow was Dr Ross Balzaretti (Nottingham), who was working on his book, *Liguria in the Early Middle Ages*. This work, published under a new series edited by Professor Ian Wood, will draw upon archaeological, written, and ecological sources in order to re-evaluate the role of Liguria. Dr Balzaretti organised a workshop for staff and postgraduates while he was at the Institute; he also gave a paper, presenting the material he had been working on during his time at St Andrews.

Next year's fellowship has been awarded to Dr Marlene Hennessy (Hunter College, New York). For further information about the Fellowship please check online via the SAIMS website (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/saims).

Professor William Miller

Professor William Ian Miller from the University of Michigan Law School returned to St Andrews in the autumn of 2010 as part of his annual exchange with Professor John Hudson. Professor Miller is a long-time friend of St Andrews. While here, Professor Miller led a couple of workshops for the postgraduates, taking them through a mid twelfth-century crusading text (the *De expugnatione Lyxbonensis*), along with

sections of *Njal's Saga*. He also gave a paper at the weekly SAIMS seminar series

Workshops and Lectures

Place-Name Workshop

On 23 February, Professor Rosamund Faith (Oxford) gave a workshop entitled 'Place-Names and Place-Name Studies.' The SAIMS community was very fortunate to have Professor Faith's wide-ranging knowledge and expertise and benefitted from a stimulating and wide-ranging workshop.

SAIMS Annual Lecture

Professor Nicholas Vincent (UEA) delivered this year's SAIMS annual lecture. Professor Vincent spoke about, 'William of Newburgh and the New Titus: Richard I and the Jews of York.' Professor Vincent's lecture, the fourth annual lecture in SAIMS history, continued the tradition of excellence this event has achieved.

Dark Ages Studies Workshop

This year, the Dark Ages Studies Workshop coincided with the Anderson Lecture. Professor Guy Halsall (York) gave the lecture, entitled 'Northern Britain and the Fall of the Roman Empire,' and also led a workshop jointly with Dr James Fraser and Mr Brian Smith about 'Violence and Coercion in the Early Middle Ages.'

SAIMS Monday Night Seminars

SAIMS hosts weekly seminars throughout the academic year at which invited speakers, and occasionally internal speakers, speak to the SAIMS community. This year was no exception to past years, seeing a full and

News and Events continued

distinguished roster of speakers. Highlights included Professor Judith Herrin (KCL), Professor Daniel Power (Swansea), Professor William Ian Miller (Michigan), Dr Ross Balzaretto (Nottingham), Dr Julio Escalona (Madrid), Dr Ana Rodriguez (Madrid), Dr Clive Burgess (Royal Holloway), Dr Peter Crooks (TCD), to name a few, along with St Andrews' own Dr Tim Greenwood, Dr Elina Screen, Dr Rhiannon Purdie, Dr Julian Luxford and Dr Allan Westphall.

Conferences

Oriens Meets Occidens

Berenike Walburg, a SAIMS PhD student, organised a two-day conference, funded by SAIMS and the University of St Andrews GRADSkills programme, entitled '*Oriens Meets Occidens*.' The goal of the conference was to explore the links that existed between the East and the West from the Middle Ages right up until the modern day. Professor Hugh Kennedy delivered the keynote lecture, and the conference was launched by the Principal of St Andrews, Professor Louise Richardson. Ms Walburg attracted students from International Relations, History, Art History, Divinity/Theology and Literature Studies for a highly successful inter-disciplinary event.

Law, Violence and Social Bonds, c. 900-c.1250

Over 17 to 19 June, St Andrews hosted the conference 'Law, Violence and Social Bonds, c.900-c.1250,' organised by three SAIMS PhD students - Kate Hammond, Rob Houghton and Matt McHaffie. Professor Dominique Barthélemy (Paris IV) and Professor William Ian Miller (Michigan) each delivered keynote addresses. In addition to the keynotes, five scholars of

international standing, and a further seventeen postgraduate and early career scholars all delivered papers. The conference attracted attendees from Canada and America, Iceland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Switzerland, Iceland, and Britain and Ireland. Professor Stephen White concluded the conference by leading a roundtable discussion. Several funding bodies generously provided financial support to the event, including the Royal Historical Society, the Society for the Study of French History, GRADSkills (University of St Andrews), and SAIMS together with the School of History.

Pagans, Heretics and Outcasts

Tegan Currie, an M.Litt. student of SAIMS, organised a one-day conference with Liz Mincin (Oxford), hosted in Oxford, exploring notions of the 'Other' in the Middle Ages. The conference was designed specifically with students at the master's level in mind, as all speakers - half from St Andrews and half from Oxford - were in the course of their master's degrees. This conference will form the first of an ongoing series of master's level conferences, with the event alternating each year between Oxford and St Andrews.

New Members of SAIMS

SAIMS welcomes two new members of staff to its community next academic year. First is Dr Rory Cox, a specialist on late-mediaeval intellectual history, and Dr Andrew Peacock, a specialist on medieval Islam, with a special focus on Anatolia.

New Perspectives: A Report from Art History

BY KATHRYN RUDY

I am very pleased to be at St Andrews among so many creative and vigorous medievalists. I plan to continue projects I began in London and The Hague, most of which consider how 15th-century book owners handled their manuscripts. In that vein, I recently developed a new method of analysis to gather data about how medieval owners read their manuscript prayer books. Using a densitometer, a machine that measures the optical density (darkness) of a reflecting surface, I measure the intensity of the fingerprints on each folio, then graph these values against the book's contents to quantify which texts have been handled intensively and which have been ignored. My preliminary results, which are published online (*Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art*), reveal that people often favoured texts that promised indulgences, warded off the bubonic plague, or promised aversion of sudden death. My research on this front will

continue, using manuscripts from the National Library of Scotland.

With the help of physicists and biologists at the Universities of Cambridge and Helsinki, I have also been developing a method of applying clustering algorithms (cladistics) to medieval manuscript transmission. The idea is this: when medieval scribes copied a manuscript, they used an exemplar. The errors and specificities in the exemplar are often reflected in the copy. The processes of creating manuscripts therefore resemble genetic copying in biology, which involves replication plus mutation. I am carrying out tests on calendars that preface liturgical and paraliturgical manuscripts, and have transcribe those from over 100 manuscripts from South Holland, assigned values to each saint, then run these values through a cladistics algorithm program developed for evolutionary biology. Doing so has resulted in a stem diagram that reveals how the manuscripts are related ancestrally, which manuscript has been copied from which source text. I plan to refine this

method, and, if it continues to generate useful interpretable results, to extend the project to other geographic regions.

Kate has three books forthcoming: the first, Virtual Pilgrimages in the Convent: Imagining Jerusalem in the Late Middle Ages, will appear from Brepols on 28 August 2011. Among other issues, the book discusses the ways in which nuns who were bound to their convents imagined these spaces as models of Jerusalem so they could re-enact the Passion in their local environments. The second is nearing completion and is entitled, The Postcard, the Pallium, the Amulet, and the Altar: Manifestations of the Autonomous Image on Vellum in the Late Middle Ages. This study explores a category of late medieval painting: the autonomous image made on flexible material, which had a social function outside the manuscript and was only bound as an afterthought, if ever. Her third book, expected towards the end of 2012, is titled The Spiritual Economy of Images: Rubrics, Images, and Indulgences on the Eve of the Reformation. The project analyses instructions for prayer, often written as rubrics, that direct readers to pray while looking at various images, often located outside the codex.



Kathryn Rudy was recently appointed to the School of Art History. She came to St Andrews by way of the Courtauld in London and the Koninklijke Bibliotheek in The Hague, where she was Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts until 2009.





Photo © T. N. Currie

University of St Andrews 600th Anniversary Celebrating 600 years of excellence



The University of St Andrews has begun its fundraising campaign for its 600th anniversary celebrations. SAIMS is delighted that the University has remembered its mediaeval roots, and has ear-marked £1.8 million in support of Mediaeval Studies. Such support in age of increasing economic austerity is greatly appreciated by the Institute, and will enable us to continue to develop and to expand.

The University takes pride in SAIMS, publishing in its fundraising brochure, 'At St Andrews the Institute of Mediaeval Studies

is renowned in the UK for the breadth of subjects covered.' The money generated by the endowment will be used to create three post-doctoral research fellowships, further adding to the strong research credentials of SAIMS. The Development Office at the University recognises this as an important task: 'In doing so, the University will be placing itself in the company of Harvard, Yale, Oxford and Cambridge and entrenching the reputation of St Andrews as a leading centre for the study of the Middle Ages.' These fellowships would be the first of their kind in Scotland.

If you would like more information about the University's 600th Anniversary programme, please refer to the following website:

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/600/>

News and Events continued from p. 4

SAIMS Abroad

SAIMS' own Professor Frances Andrews has spent the past year researching and writing in Italy, beginning the process of pulling together the data from her AHRC funded project *Religion and Public Life in Late Medieval Italy*, which ran from 2007 to 2010. From January to July she was a Visiting Professor at the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, at Villa i Tatti, just outside Florence (www.itatti.it). During the year she also edited the essays of the 2009 Harlaxton Conference *Ritual and Space in the Middle Ages*, published in July by Shaun Tyas publishing, Doncaster (www.harlaxton.org.uk).

In February Dr James Palmer taught at the University of Oslo as part of an ERASMUS teaching exchange. He gave lectures on the cult of saints in medieval Scandinavia, and led an interdisciplinary workshop on the subject involving faculty from History and Art History.

Awards and Honours

Dr Barbara Crawford has recently been awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Dr James Palmer has been awarded an AHRC Early Career Fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year. This fellowship will enable Dr Palmer to work on his second book, *Apocalyptic Traditions: Power and Society, 400-1100*, exploring the relationship between beliefs about the end of time and political and social action, covering the period from the fall of the Roman Empire up to the First Crusade. Dr Palmer's fellowship will also provide an interim lecturer at St Andrews for the duration of the award, allowing SAIMS to welcome another member to its community.

Alessia Meneghin has been awarded a SRS Postdoctoral Fellowship to work on her new project *Shaping Contemporary Affordable Fashion. Florentine Mercers in the Fifteenth Century*, which will expand on current knowledge of an occupational group that determined the access of urban workers to low-cost fashion in late medieval Tuscany.

Stefan Visnjevac has won a SRS PostDoctoral Fellowship, for a project entitled *Speaking in Public in Late Medieval Italy - The Thought and Preaching of Leonardo Mattei da Udine (1399-1469)*. This project is intended to produce a study of Mattei's styles of public address, through an investigation of his preaching and other public speeches in Florence, Udine, and for the pope and ecumenical council of Florence. The aim is to shed light on the methods by which the preacher adapted his subject matter for various contexts and audiences, utilising both his scholastic education, personal experience, and the developments of civic oratory.

Roberta Cimino has been awarded the Barbara Northend Scholarship, granted by the British Federation of Women Graduates. Every year they give 4 or 5 scholarships to female postgraduates in the third year of their doctoral studies. These awards are given on the basis of overall academic excellence. This award will aid Roberta as she continues work on her thesis on ninth- and tenth-century queenship.

Kate Hammond and Matt McHaffie, PhD students, have both been awarded grants from the Society for the Study of French History for archival research. Kate will conduct research in Caen, Rouen and Paris for her thesis on family conflict in Normandy. Matt will be using his grant to visit the archives in Angers and Tours for his thesis on law and lordship in Anjou.