



TOEBI Newsletter

Teachers of Old English in Britain and Ireland

<http://info.ox.ac.uk/oucs/humanities/toebi/>



Issue 6, September 1997

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TOEBI A.G.M.

This year's TOEBI AGM will take place on Saturday, 22 November 1997 in the Queen's Building, Emmanuel College, Cambridge. The morning session will be entitled 'Is there life after an Anglo-Saxon PhD?', with talks from Richard Dance (new JRF at St Catharine's), Christine Rauer (part-time research assistant, Fontes Project), and Jennifer Neville (Royal Holloway and Bedford New College). Afternoon sessions to be announced. For more details please contact: Dr Andrew Orchard, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, CB2 3AP; e-mail: apmo1@hermes.cam.ac.uk. Elections will take place at the

AGM for officers and committee members. The Secretary, Ann Squires, has completed three years. She is willing to stand for re-election if there is no other candidate but the committee would be happy to receive other nominations. Professor Jane Roberts and Dr Hugh Magennis are the retiring committee members and the committee would like to propose Dr Mary Swan (Leeds) and Dr Peter Lucas (Dublin). Again the secretary would be happy to receive seconded nominations from members. Any other matters for the Agenda of the AGM should be sent to the Secretary as soon as possible.

Trip to Bede's World

I apologise to those members who were interested for not taking this suggestion any further. Unfortunately, I had expressions of interest from only half a dozen members and, even with those few, it seemed difficult to find a date which suited everyone.

Ann Squires
University of Durham

Beowulf: Basic Readings ed. Peter S. Baker, *Basic Readings in Anglo-Saxon England 1* (Garland, New York, 1995)

Alongside the well-thumbed Nicholson collection of 'standard' *Beowulf* criticism that students have long drawn on for their essays, they may now find helpful this set of more up-to-date signposts across the shifting sands of *Beowulf* scholarship. Although there are some older pieces here

(Eric Stanley's piece from *Continuations and Beginnings*, Benson essay on paganism and, less obviously perhaps, Eric John's controversial firebrand 'Beowulf and the margins of literacy'), there are a number of items from the seventies and eighties. Fred Robinson has updated his Pope Festschrift piece, and there are newly commissioned essays from Mary Blockley and Tom Cable on Kuhn's *Laws* and Roy Liuzza on dating (the latter alongside Roberta Frank's essay from the Chase volume). The principal drawback with the collection is that it errs too much on American criticism, but perhaps that is a comment on the lack of activity outside America in the recent past.

The book is available in North America in paperback at a price to suit the student pocket. Unfortunately, Garland publications are not easy for bookshops to obtain in Britain, and it might be worth while for teachers wishing to prescribe it to act as their own wholesalers.

Don Scragg
University of Manchester

A/V News

Chaucer Studios

Paul Thomas's Chaucer Studio Recordings has recently released a third title in Old English to complement the existing *Old English Elegies and Riddles* and *Selected Readings in Old English*. This new cassette is entitled *Favourite Passages from Beowulf*

and is read by E. B. Irving. The tape consists of twelve selections as follows: The Opening lines (1–52); The Sea Voyage to Denmark (205–228); Beowulf's Speech to Hrothgar (405–455); Grendel Comes to the Hall (710–745a); The Fight with Grendel's Mother (1537–1569); The Ingeld Episode (2032–2066); The Last Survivor (2236b–2270a); The Old Father's Lament (2425–2471); The End of the Dragon Fight (2694–2723); Wiglaf's Second Speech (2860–2891); End of the Messenger's Speech (3007b–3027); The Closing Lines (3156–3182). The price (of each cassette) is £3.25. Contact Paul R. Thomas, Dept. of English, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84602-6218, USA (paul.thomas@byu.edu; <http://english.byu.edu/factftt-z/thomasp/chaucer/index.htm>).

IT News

ANSAX Archives

Users of e-mail are probably very familiar with the electronic mailing list ANSAX-L, a forum for discussion on all things Anglo-Saxon. However, TOEBI members may not be aware that previous postings to the list are now available via a searchable archive. All postings since April 1993 can be retrieved from a gopher archive at Memorial University (give the command "gopher cwis.mun.ca" and that will put you in the right spot). All

postings since April 1990 can be retrieved from our library server, via Netscape or other browser. The URL is: <http://www.mun.ca/Ansaxdat>

[To join ANSAX-L send an email message to listserv@wvnm.wvnet.edu. The message you send should contain just the line "subscribe ansax-l YOUR NAME" (making the appropriate substitution).]

Exemplaria Articles

Exemplaria is pleased to announce the electronic preprints of three essays scheduled to appear in volume 10, number 1 (March 1998). A cluster in Anglo-Saxon studies, they are

1. 'Beowulf's Tears of Fatherhood', by Mary Dockray-Miller (Boston College)

2. 'The Parturition of Poetry and the Birthing of Culture: The *Ides Aglaecwif* and *Beowulf*', by James Hala (Drew University)

3. 'Cultural Syncretism and the Construction of Gender in *Cynewulf's Elene*', by Joyce Tally Lionarons (Ursinus College)

They are available at: <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/english/exemplaria/> under the link *Preprints*.

Each article is presented in frames containing the text in the upper

frame and the notes in the lower, so that the notes can be consulted during an uninterrupted scroll through the article (when you click on a note number in the upper frame, that note opens in the lower frame). Visitors to the site who are not using frames-capable browsers may open the separate links below the frames links to access the texts of the articles; the note links within each article will open a separate window for the notes as you activate them.

The articles will remain on-line through the Winter 1997. Each article contains a mailto link for those who wish to communicate directly with its author; the page itself contains a mailto link to the Editors and Staff of *Exemplaria* (and we would appreciate having errors and/or problems called to our attention).

R. Allen Shoaf
University of Florida

Newsletter

Please note that this is the last edition of the TOEBI newsletter to be edited by Stuart Lee. Elaine Treharne has now taken over this role so please forward all future submissions to her c/o: Dept. of English, University of Leicester; e-mail: emt1@leicester.ac.uk.