



# TOEBI Newsletter

TEACHERS OF OLD ENGLISH IN BRITAIN AND  
IRELAND

ISSUE XVI SPRING 2003 ISSN 1649-2532

## Obituary Notice

We regret to announce the death of Mr Victor Watts on 21 December 2002 and extend deep sympathy to members of his family.

Victor Watts was born on 18 April 1938. He was educated at Bristol Grammar School, Merton College, Oxford, and the University of London, and was appointed Lecturer in English Language at the University of Durham in 1962. In 1989 he became Master of Grey College, Durham, and was Dean of Durham's 15 colleges from 1999-2002.

Victor Watts was one of the leading authorities on English place names. He was honorary director of the English Place-Name Survey from 1993, general editor of its survey volumes (from 1994), and editor of the *Journal of the English Place-Name Society* (from 1996). He was also an accomplished Latinist, perhaps best known for his translation of *The Consolation of Philosophy* by Boethius (Penguin). He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and was also deeply involved in the work of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland.

A full obituary was published in *The Times* on 4 February 2003.

## TOEBI Conference 2003

The annual conference for 2003 will be held on Saturday 1 November at Royal Holloway College London. The theme will be 'Metamorphoses: Teaching Old English in Multicultural Contexts'.

Further details will be posted to members at the end of the summer, but initial offers of papers are welcome now and should be sent to the organiser, Jennifer Neville, e-mail: [j.neville@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:j.neville@rhul.ac.uk)

## ISSN for TOEBI Newsletter

Sharp-eyed members may have spotted a small difference in the *Newsletter* masthead, which is that it now incorporates the newsletter's recently acquired ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) The advantage of having an ISSN is that the serial can be unambiguously identified regardless of language or country of publication. An ISSN provides a useful and economical method of communicating between publishers and suppliers, is very suitable for computer use, and is an essential element in the EAN bar coding of serials.

ISSNs are assigned nationally, so the TOEBI *Newsletter*, which is produced by an organisation which specifically covers two countries, Britain and Ireland, presented somewhat of a challenge to the authorities. I had expected that TOEBI would be judged to be more British than Irish, simply by sheer weight of numbers in its membership, and the fact that its annual meetings and conferences have thus far always been UK-based. On the other hand, it is true that amongst the office-bearers there is currently a preponderance of Irish-based academics. In the end, somewhat to my surprise, the ISSN assignment was handled by the Irish ISSN Centre. Of course the serial number is an *international* one, so the question of who assigns it is not ultimately very important.

One consequence of obtaining an ISSN is that the publication in question is then subject to the requirement of legal deposit. In Ireland, in addition to the National Library, the libraries of the seven universities have rights under the copyright act. The British Library is also entitled to a copy, as are the four other British copyright libraries. This means that from this issue onwards, we are required to send copies of the *Newsletter* to no fewer than thirteen libraries throughout Britain and Ireland. Although this represents a significant expansion in production, and is slightly burdensome from the editor's point of view, it does offer a great opportunity to bring TOEBI and its activities to wider academic notice,

which can only be welcomed. We have also, by request, deposited a full back-run of the *Newsletter* at the National Library of Ireland.

### TOEBI Web Site

<http://www.hcu.ox.ac.uk/toebi/>

Here is a reminder that the TOEBI web site was updated in the autumn. In particular members may be interested to note the new functions under the Gateway to Web Resources. Two links have been inserted which allow immediate searching of the Humanities gateway (HUMBUL) for 'anglo-saxon' and 'old english'. Moreover under the sections 'Manuscript Studies' and 'History and Archaeology' there are now live feeds of the last 15 web sites added to HUMBUL under those topics. If you would like to find out more about how this was done (and maybe use the facility in your own pages) go to <http://www.humbul.ac.uk/>

Dr Stuart D Lee  
Oxford University Computing Services  
✉ e-mail: [Stuart.Lee@oucs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Stuart.Lee@oucs.ox.ac.uk)

### Old English in the News

I asked Katie Lowe to write something for the *Newsletter* based on her recent TV and radio work relating to Old English. Here's her response ...

#### Melvyn, me and Old English: *The Adventure of English*

BBC Radio 4 listeners may remember the *Routes of English* multi-part series covering the history of English which began in 1999. *Routes* attracted considerable attention and it was inevitable that a television version would eventually be mooted. The BBC, however, were not prepared to clear their schedules of home-improvement shows and reruns of *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em* for such flim-flammy. Fortunately, however, LWT were more enthusiastic, and the first four parts of *Adventure* were broadcast in the South Bank Show slot late last year. A further set of programmes are currently being filmed, taking English and the production team (but, sadly, not me) around the globe.

My media involvement started with *Routes*, in a school portakabin in Winchester. I quickly discovered (in common with many undergraduates) how little Old English one can muster under pressure: Lord Bragg's first playful question to me (with a microphone thrust under my nose) was 'Dr Lowe, let me test you on your Old English'. When asked whether many Old English words had survived into modern English, I authoritatively answered in the affirmative, and stared wildly around for potential examples: I saw a table, a chair, a microphone, a window (possible escape route), sky, ceiling, carpet... I was reduced to squeaking 'mouse and house', and it took a taxi ride to a recycling depot and another portakabin before I was able to add to my list. Not so much a case of 'Before they were famous' as 'Why they aren't famous'.

Since then, my on-air Old English has become a bit more fluent, hence (presumably) my participation in *Adventure*. The first series was produced by Bob Bee, himself an English graduate, who listened carefully to my suggestions, and showed a genuine interest in getting things right. Concessions to a more popular format and a wider audience involved the substitution of Alfred for Ælfric, and Winchester cathedral for the portakabin, but the first few programmes followed a very similar course and structure to *Routes*. As a telly novice, I was struck by the inordinate length of time spent setting up and hanging around. Witness Winchester, where the van carrying the auto-reader for Melvyn got shunted and its freight jammed inside, and the portable lighting assembly fused the whole cathedral just as Bob shouted 'Action!'. The good humour of the camera and sound team during all this astonishingly never flagged.

So, has it worked? The gamble has certainly paid off for LWT. An audience in excess of two million watched the first programme on Old English, and the series has been reviewed very well. From our point of view, it's worked too: I've had several letters from viewers wanting to learn more about Old English. It's a point worth making *oft and gelome* that our subject, while increasingly beleaguered within many university departments, has never been more generally popular following Heaney's *Beowulf* and programmes like *Routes* and *Adventure*. *Gecnawe se þe cunne*.

Dr Katie Lowe  
University of Glasgow

## ***Fontes Anglo-Saxonici* Open Meeting**

The eighteenth *Fontes Anglo-Saxonici* Open Meeting was hosted by Clare Lees at King's College London on Tuesday 8 April 2003, and marked both the publication of the database on CD-ROM and the inauguration of the twentieth year of the project - a dual aim which was reflected in the range of papers delivered.

The morning session was devoted to progress and prospects. It was in March 1984 that *Fontes* was born at a one-day conference in Leeds, and for years it survived as a kind of academic cottage industry, dependent on contributions from a small group of supporters, before a series of grants made it possible to increase the database enormously and make it generally available. But as Don Scragg (Manchester) pointed out in his opening address, its influence on the discipline has been pervasive - in encouraging the production of source-studies by younger and more established scholars, stimulating research in particular areas (such as Ælfric's sources), sharpening awareness of different types of transmission, and (perhaps more unexpectedly), providing material for intertextual studies.

Rosalind Love (Cambridge) presented a case-study of the Anglo-Latin material on the database. While conceding the imbalance between Latin and Old English entries (about 7400 and 22100 entries respectively), Rosalind pointed out that the relative shortage of suitably qualified scholars, and the absence of any comprehensive list of available texts, had made it difficult to attain completeness. Nevertheless, the texts included were at least representative (poetry, hagiography, history, biblical commentary, charters), and in one respect Anglo-Latin entries had a double significance that the Old English entries lacked, for a writer like Aldhelm was both engaged in intense dialogue with his sources and was himself a well-mined source for later authors.

Malcolm Godden and Rohini Jayatilaka (Oxford) reminded us that the challenge of making the material available, and of coping with changing technology, had from the outset been as central to the project as the actual sourcing. The entire database had been freely available since 1999 on the internet (<http://fontes.english.ox.ac.uk>) and since 2002 on CD-ROM. As Malcolm and Rohini then demonstrated, on the CD-ROM every text sourced and every source-text can be searched by author and title, and one can also call up a

'reference summary' for each author, showing which of his writings have been sourced and which sources have been identified. Copies of the CD-ROM can be obtained, free of charge, from Rohini via the *Fontes* website or by e-mail ([fontes@english.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fontes@english.ox.ac.uk)). Alternatively, a version of the database can also be downloaded from the internet to CD-ROM. Any texts sourced in the future will initially be available on the website only, but at some point a new edition of the CD-ROM may be issued.

Christine Rauer (St. Andrews) closed the first session by drawing attention to Andy Orchard's projected 'Anglo-Saxon Formulary', which 'seeks to identify and catalogue formulaic diction' in several areas of Old English and Anglo-Latin literature, including Old English verse. Much vernacular poetry has not been particularly amenable to traditional source-study, and Professor Orchard's study will complement *Fontes* by making it possible to analyse the use of diction which is clearly shared but which it is hardly possible to trace to a single 'source'.

In the afternoon, three younger scholars gave papers on their recent work. Gabriella Corona (York) untangled the web of textual dependence that underlines Ælfric's *Hexameron*. Two works by Bede were extremely influential on the Ælfric: the *Libri quatuor in principium Genesis* and *De temporum ratione*, and in both works, Bede explicitly acknowledges his debt to Eustathius' very popular translation of Basil's *Hexameron*. Though he does not acknowledge it, Ælfric also seems to have been familiar with Eustathius, *independently* of Bede or of other hexameral literature (for example, Ambrose).

Augustine Casiday (Cambridge), who is working for *Fontes* as AHRB Research Associate in Anglo-Latin, discussed Aldhelm's use of apocryphal material, showing (by reference to the prose *De virginitate*) that Aldhelm did not disapprove of apocryphal material as such, but only where it contradicted Catholic teaching: thus he quotes from an apocryphal text associated with Thomas, but expresses his strong disapproval of the *Visio Pauli*.

Finally, after a day devoted to the sources of Anglo-Saxon literature, Chris Jones (St. Andrews) discussed one twentieth-century author and his response to Old English: 'Auden and his Anglo-Saxon *fontes*'. Auden's *The Age of Anxiety* (1944-6), for example, follows the metrical rules of Old English poetry and shares verse structure and rhetorical patterning with *Beowulf* and *The Battle of Maldon* - poems which themselves thus

become part of the longer history of war which is central to the poem. In a way, this discussion of Anglo-Saxon literature as source nicely summed up the preoccupations of the day, as the database itself, in its CD-ROM presentation, now in its turn becomes a source of study and research. It should perhaps be stressed, however, that this does not signify the end of the project. *Fontes* itself will continue in existence, and offers of help with sourcing are still welcome: potential contributors should contact either Susan Irvine at UCL (Old English) or Rosalind Love at Robinson College, Cambridge (Latin). Details of how to obtain the CD-ROM are given above.

Peter Jackson  
Oxford

### Changing Faces

Professor Michael Alexander has retired from the Berry Chair of English Literature at the University of St. Andrews. He had taught medieval and modern literature at St. Andrews since 1985, and held previous appointments at the universities of Stirling and East Anglia, and the University of California at Santa Barbara. The best known amongst his many publications are probably *The Earliest English Poems* (Penguin, 1966) and *Beowulf* (Penguin, 1973), which have sold two-thirds of a million copies, and *A History of Old English Literature* (Macmillan, 1983; 3rd edn Broadview, 2001). It is also worth noting that his recent *A History of English Literature* (Palgrave, 2000) gives far more space to Old and Middle English than standard histories of literature have traditionally done.

Michael is currently writing *Medievalism* for Yale University Press. This is a study of the revival of medieval modes between 1760-1914, concentrating on the first hundred years of that period; it avoids the usual focus on architecture and art, considering medievalism in literature and in social, political, and religious thought. Michael is also involved in radio broadcasting and can often be heard on the BBC's *Round Britain Quiz* where he has represented Scotland since 1997.

Please send information about recent appointments or retirements in your department to the Editor. And encourage your new colleagues to become members of TOEBI! Application forms can be downloaded from the TOEBI website.

### Recent Books

#### *Old and Middle English Poetry* edited by Elaine M. Treharne and Duncan Wu

Blackwell August 2002 184 pp.  
paperback 0-631-23074-2 £9.99;  
hardback 0-631-23073-4 £40.00.

This short, pocket-sized collection provides students with a perfect introduction to some of the classic texts of Old and Middle English poetry. The volume is affordably priced and student-friendly, and this new series serves as an excellent platform from which to explore the literature of the period.

The volume contains a selection of the most significant poetry from the period. Traditional classics are placed alongside less well-known titles, reflecting the ways in which the literary canon has changed in recent years. A succinct introduction gives students a sense of how literature developed during the medieval period.

Contents:

1. From the Exeter Book: *Deor; The Wanderer; The Seafarer; The Wife's Lament*
2. From the Vercelli Book: *The Dream of the Rood*
3. *The Battle of Maldon*
4. From the Beowulf-Manuscript: From *Beowulf* (x-xviii); *Judith*
5. From London, British Library, Cotton Caligula A.ix: *The Owl and the Nightingale*
6. From the Auchinleck Manuscript: *Sir Orfeo*
7. From London, British Library, Harley 2253: *Alysoun; Spring; An Old Man's Prayer; I Syke when Y Singe*
8. Richard Rolle (c. 1290-1349) *Song of Love*
9. *Wynnerne and Wastoure*

#### *Nunneries and the Anglo-Saxon Royal Houses*

Barbara Yorke

Continuum August 2002 224pp.  
hardback ISBN 0 8264 6040 2 £60.

This is the first book to examine in detail a distinctive group of female religious communities which were founded by royal families and usually commanded by princesses and queens. The author shows that the fortunes of the nunneries were inextricably linked with those of their patrons and explores how they often had to reconcile potentially conflicting demands from the secular and ecclesiastical worlds. The book also looks at the opportunities the nunneries provided for royal

women to exercise the types of public power and authority that in the early middle ages were often the preserve of men. All too often these women's roles in church and state have been underplayed in conventional ecclesiastical and political histories and this book hopes to restore some of the respect that these powerful women undoubtedly enjoyed in their own lifetimes.

## Book Reviews

Starting with this issue of the *Newsletter* we are reviving the practice of including book reviews. If you have a book at press or which has recently appeared, please ask your publisher to send a review copy to TOEBI. If you would be interested in reviewing for the TOEBI newsletter please let the Editor know.

***The Old English Life of St Mary of Egypt*  
An edition of the Old English text with  
modern English parallel-text translation**  
**Hugh Magennis**

Exeter University Press, 2002 272 pp.  
paperback 0 85989 672 2 £13.99

Hugh Magennis' *Old English Life of St Mary of Egypt* takes the form of a parallel-text edition of both the Old English *Life* in BL Cotton Julius E.vii and of the Latin *Vita* in BL Cotton Nero E.i. In both cases, translations into Modern English are printed on the facing pages and the Old English text gives a full account of the manuscript and scribal alterations to it, followed by a collation of the Julius text with two others, BL Cotton Otho B.x, and Gloucester Cathedral Library MS 35. The Latin text, although not a full critical edition, contains variant readings from two other manuscripts. The Old English *Life* is translated from the Latin version of Paul, a deacon of Naples, and it is most helpful to have both texts printed in the one book.

The Introduction opens with an account of various versions of the legend of St Mary of Egypt and of its transmission in the Christian west. Magennis draws attention to the interesting fact that the Old English translator of the *Life* does not, unlike many other hagiographers, prune the original of material that might have been considered unsuitable for Anglo-Saxon lay ears. Indeed, as he points out, the now-repentant harlot is portrayed as the female, yet spiritually-empowered St Mary, who nevertheless recognises the central place in Christianity of the (male given) eucharist.

For many TOEBI readers, the most interesting parts of the Introduction may well be its last two sections. In the section on the language of the Old English *Life*, Magennis argues that, while the phonological evidence is largely consistent with its being Late West Saxon, the lexical evidence might suggest an Anglian origin. There is a lack of specifically 'Winchester' words, for example the use of *gesamnung* 'congregation' where 'Winchester' writers prefer *gelabung*. In addition, specifically Anglian vocabulary is employed, for example *leoran* 'to depart' and *ofgifan* 'to give over to'.

To the present reviewer, the most interesting section of all is the last, in which Magennis discusses the style of the Old English text with particular reference to the Latin from which it is translated. In some places, for example the opening sentence of the *Life*, the Latin syntactic structure is followed closely. Elsewhere the Latin is less slavishly followed; there are, for example, many cases where one word in the Latin is rendered by an alliterating doublet in the Old English, as in Latin *implere* being translated as *to gefyllenne and to gefremmane*. Magennis argues persuasively that the style used, if sometimes mannered, is a notable attempt to suit the subject-matter of the *Life* and, moreover, that it is a style largely independent of Late West Saxon literary tradition.

Magennis is to be congratulated on producing this edition. It will be most useful to have as a teaching text on account of its meticulous editing and critical scholarship. It is also, however, packed with stimulating ideas about Anglo-Saxon hagiography and the place of women in Anglo-Saxon religious thought and practice.

**Dr Elisabeth Okasha**  
University College Cork

**Michael Swanton, *English Poetry before Chaucer***

Exeter University Press, 2002 (rev. edn), 388 pp.  
paperback 0 85989 633 1 £15.99  
hardback 0 85989 681 1 £47.50

*English Poetry before Chaucer* used to be known as *English Literature before Chaucer* (Longman, 1987); the title and the publisher have changed, but readers will want to know to what extent the text itself has been altered and whether it is worth investing in a new copy.

Structurally the book remains the same, its seven chapters taking us from Anglo-

Saxon heroic poetry to early Middle English lyrics and *The Owl and the Nightingale*, demonstrating Swanton's thesis that pre-Chaucerian English poetry should be thought of as a continuously evolving tradition, rather than two separate periods of literary history divided by the political and linguistic schism of the Norman conquest. However, Swanton has resisted the temptation simply to repackage an already successful monograph for a new publisher and has conscientiously enlarged and improved the text throughout, while retaining the clarity of the original work. Throughout, from time-to-time one finds new paragraphs expanding and developing points in the light of new scholarship and, no doubt, Swanton's own evolving ideas.

Several functional changes are minor, but improve the book's overall ease of use. So chapter endnotes have now become footnotes and running subject-titles appear at the top of each page, making it easier to track down exactly what it was that one remembers the author saying a few pages ago about, for example, Aristotelian philosophy replacing Platonic during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. One can now navigate this wide-ranging work with significantly less page-flicking.

The notes themselves are significantly increased in number (for example the chapter on *Beowulf* and heroic poetry now includes seventy-seven references instead of its previous thirty-eight) and the further reading section has been brought comprehensively up to date, while still being critically selective enough to make it useful to students. Swanton's knowledge of the scholarship in his field is impressive, but it is always put to good explicatory use, never wielded to show off or cow the reader. Likewise, aware of the need to find ways of making the excitement of medieval poetry more immediately apparent to the novice, Swanton has a good line in anecdotes and comparisons that vividly contemporize his subject material. Old English heroic lays are likened to war-songs sung by Palestinian guerrillas and the fictionalization of once historical events in the poetry is likened to Hollywood interpretations of the Second World War in which the actions of British servicemen (such as the recovery of the enigma code machine from a German U-boat) might be culturally assimilated as American heroism (or vice versa). These strategies of pedagogy are as important as the scholarship and Swanton has written that rare hybrid, the textbook that can surprise the teacher, the monograph that the student can read without

constant recourse to a dictionary of literary terms.

Traditionally, it is the reviewer's role to offer some criticisms: there is a typo on page 312 ('alound' for 'aloud'). The 'Appendix on Early English Prosody' has been extended and is certainly more helpful for the student than it was, but in its noble concern not to over-complicate the understanding of the prosody with mathematical complexities, it perhaps simplifies too much and this reader might have preferred a little more detail. And although the parallel chronological tables of works of literature (English and non-English) historical events and art and architecture is an extremely impressive, not to say useful, reference tool, the placing of Old English poems in a roughly-datable sequence of composition gives me some sense of discomfort. True, Swanton's introductory paragraph warns against taking these datings as entirely reliable, but I wouldn't want to encourage my students to think that *Deor* definitely comes before *Genesis A*, comes before the Exeter Book riddles, come before the elegies and so on.

Nevertheless, *English Poetry before Chaucer* is a joy to read, the author's pleasure in thinking and writing about these poems is evident and infectious. It is much more than a reprint of *English Literature* and it is worth re-ordering both for the library and the bookshelf.

**Dr Chris Jones**  
**University of St. Andrews**

*Layamon's Arthur*  
*The Arthurian Section of Layamon's Brut*  
edited and translated by **W.R.J. Barron and S.C. Weinberg**

Exeter University Press, 2001 lxxi + 290 pp.  
paperback 0 85989 685 4 £14.99

This edition with facing-page translations of selections from Layamon's *Brut* was first published in 1989, and is now reissued with some minimal revisions. Barron and Weinberg have rewritten the introduction and updated the bibliography to take account of scholarship in the intervening period, but in other respects their edition remains fundamentally the same.

For the text of the early Middle English the editors rely on the version produced for the Early English Text Society by G.L. Brook and R.F. Leslie (Vol. 1, 1963; Vol 2, 1978) and made available by the Oxford University Computing service through its text archive. The EETS edition closely reproduces its base manuscript, British Library MS Cotton

Caligula A.ix, using brackets and signs to indicate textual imperfections and scribal alterations. Barron and Weinberg remove this apparatus, making the text appear much less cluttered, and further increase its readability by supplying modern punctuation, capitalisation, and paragraphing. Curiously, the calmer appearance of the page also seems somewhat spartan in what is intended as a textbook, for we are now so used to the one-stop-shop format of modern student editions with their comprehensive on-page glossing and annotation. Typographically too the volume has a somewhat mixed appearance: whilst the introduction has a very modern look, the text itself inevitably appears slightly dated.

Barron and Weinberg follow in a long tradition of selecting only the Arthurian bits of Layamon's history. What they offer here amounts to *circa* 5,000 lines of the text, which is just under a third of Layamon's massive work. In their introduction the editors note that studies of the poem's sources have tended to produce distortions due to a habit of concentrating on selected passages. There is a sense in which their own practice of choosing only the Arthurian parts of the text contributes to a general distortion of our knowledge of Layamon's work, but an edition of the whole poem would be neither practical nor necessary for the student market at which they aim. On balance it seems better to have at least some of Layamon's text readily accessible, even at the risk of not being able to see the whole picture clearly, and the amount presented here is easily enough to gain a flavour of the poem's contents, style and language. The introduction briefly discusses such issues, and gives a good survey of the history and culture of the period. The detailed account of Layamon's supposed sources takes up considerable space, but this is a worthwhile investment given that it is likely to be the only acquaintance our students may have with Geoffrey of Monmouth and Wace.

It is good to have this text easily available in paperback once again, especially since the study of this transitional period is often squeezed out by the demands of the syllabus, resulting in an unjustly heightened sense of the discontinuities between Old and Middle English. The editors mention their awareness of the 'classroom needs of students' (p. viii), and it would be interesting to know in just how many classrooms Layamon currently makes an appearance!

**Dr Margaret Connolly**  
University College Cork

## **Forthcoming Conferences 2003/4**

### **'Writing in Anglo-Saxon England'**

**9-11 July 2003**

Interdisciplinary Conference hosted by the Manchester Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies.

Contact:

Alexander Rumble,  
Manchester Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies,  
Oxford Road,  
Manchester M13 9PL.

✉ e-mail: [alex.rumble@man.ac.uk](mailto:alex.rumble@man.ac.uk)

### **'Power and Authority': International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds**

**14-17 July 2003**

With 11 sessions specifically dedicated to Anglo-Saxon Studies.

Contact:

Axel. E. Muller or Josine Opmeer,  
International Medieval Institute,  
Parkinson 1.03,  
University of Leeds,  
Leeds. LS2 9JT.

✉ e-mail: [IMC@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:IMC@leeds.ac.uk)

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/imi/imc/imc2003/>

### **'Conversion and Colonization'**

**International Society of Anglo-Saxonists**

**4-9 August 2003**

Contact:

Arizona Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies,  
Arizona State University,  
PO Box 872301,  
Tempe, AZ 85287-2301

✉ e-mail: [acmrs@asu.edu](mailto:acmrs@asu.edu)

<http://www.asu.edu/clas/acmrs>

### **7th Cardiff Conference on the Theory and Practice of Translation in the Middle Ages**

**22-26 July 2004**

Hosted by the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris.

*Call for Papers:* one-page abstracts due by 1 September 2003.

Contact:

Jacqueline Jenkins  
Department of English  
University of Calgary  
2500 University Dr. NW,  
Calgary, AL  
T2N 1N4. Canada.

✉ e-mail: [jenkins@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jenkins@ucalgary.ca)

## Advertisement

### MA in Medieval Studies Royal Holloway, University of London

This multidisciplinary MA, drawing upon the resources of the History, English, French, and Italian departments at Royal Holloway as well as the Museum of London, has been running successfully for twenty years and has gained a high international reputation. The aim of the Medieval Studies degree is to introduce students to many different aspects of medieval society and culture while allowing them to concentrate on particular areas of interest.

All three programmes (see below) emphasise the skills that research students need, whether their focus is literary or historical, and provide an introduction to wide-ranging source material such as artefacts, archives, manuscripts, or printed sources. Students are encouraged to combine a programme in one discipline, literary or historical, with at least one option or skill in another. Preparatory meetings are available to discuss choices.

Students are thoroughly prepared for the dissertation that completes the course and they can, if they wish, develop their MA work into convincing proposals for further research at doctoral level. They may study either full- or part-time, over one or two years respectively.

The degree includes:

One **Programme Course**: Students select either *Medieval London*, *Medieval Narrative*, or *The Crusades*.

Two **Options**: Students select from a range of options, including *Old English Riddles*, *Arthurian Literature*, *Women in Medieval England*, *The Archaeology of Medieval London*, *Medical Practitioners and Institutions*, *The Visual & The Verbal*, and *Representations of the 12<sup>th</sup> Century Court in Anglo-Norman, French and Occitan Literature*.

One **Skills Course**: Students choose from a range of courses, including *Palaeography & Diplomatic*, *Old English Language*, *Beginner's* or *Further Latin*, *Archaeology Skills*, and *Computing for Medieval Studies*.

The **Research Development Course**: This course provides training in all major aspects of scholarly presentation, written and oral, and introduces students to the multidisciplinary range of fields that constitute medieval studies.

The **Dissertation**: This is a piece of original work of 12,500 words. Students prepare their own topic in consultation with the programme directors and supervisors.

Old English is taught not only in the Old English Skills Course, which introduces students to the language, and the Option on Old English Riddles, but also as part of the Medieval Narrative programme course and other literary options.

### For further information, please contact:

Dr Jennifer Neville  
Department of English  
Royal Holloway, University of London  
Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX

✉ e-mail: [j.neville@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:j.neville@rhul.ac.uk)

☎ 01784 443214

<http://web.rhul.ac.uk/English/studying/Postgraduate-Study/MA%27s/Med-Studies.html>



## TOEBI committee

The dates refer to when members of the committee are due to retire or to stand for re-election.

President: Professor Eric Stanley (2003)

Chair: Professor Peter Lucas (2004)

Secretary: Dr Elisabeth Okasha (2003)

Newsletter Editor: Dr Margaret Connolly (2004)

Committee members:

Dr Richard Dance (2003)

Dr Carole Hough (2003)

Dr Jennifer Neville (2003)

Dr Mary Swan (2004)

Professor Elaine Treharne (2004)

Dr Jayne Carroll (2005)

Dr Gale Owen-Crocker (2005)

## For membership details and general enquiries contact the secretary:

Dr Elisabeth Okasha  
Department of English  
University College  
Cork  
Republic of Ireland

☎ 00 353 21 490 2635

💻 e-mail: [e.okasha@ucc.ie](mailto:e.okasha@ucc.ie)

## Send submissions for the next Newsletter by 30 September 2003 to the editor:

Dr Margaret Connolly  
Department of English  
University College Cork  
Cork  
Republic of Ireland

☎ 00 353 21 4902583

💻 e-mail: [mconnolly@english.ucc.ie](mailto:mconnolly@english.ucc.ie)

## Action points for Members:

- **Send topics or proposals for the November TOEBI meeting** to the Secretary or to Jennifer Neville, Royal Holloway, University of London
- **Contribute to the Newsletter:** responses to this issue; book reviews; short articles on your Old English courses or assessment procedures; material about professional practice; student howlers
- **Please send information about the following items for inclusion in the Newsletter:**
  - Conferences on Anglo-Saxon Studies
  - Special Lectures by Anglo-Saxonists
  - Postgraduate Courses and Opportunities in Old English in your Department
  - News about promotions, or general (non-salacious) news about lecturers in your Department
  - The publication of new books or articles useful for teaching Old English