



### *AEMA newsletter: October 2016 Edition*

Spring is in the air again - as well as the magpies! - and I hope this latest edition of the newsletter finds all our members in fine spirits and busy with their current research. Having just attended the Australian Celtic Conference, I know I'm positively bursting with new ideas following a week of excellent papers!

As ever, please don't hesitate to contact me with anything you would like to share with your fellow AEMA members! And don't forget to follow our [facebook](#) discussion group and our [academia](#) page for all the latest news and updates.

Erica Steiner  
Newsletter Editor  
[info@aema.net.au](mailto:info@aema.net.au)



### *Committee Report: July/August 2016*

Dear AEMA members,

Another Australian and New Zealand winter has come to an end and we hope you have all survived the colder months. AEMA Committee members have been busy over winter, with

overseas in the near future: **Samantha Leggett** starts her PhD in Archaeology at the **University of Cambridge** on a **Cambridge Scholarship** in October, and **Nicole Moffatt** will be studying at the **British School at Rome** from early 2017 on a **Macquarie Gale British School at Rome Scholarship**. Congratulations to both Samantha and Nicole. We will miss their attendance at Committee meetings, but we know they will both have an exciting and productive time in the UK and Italy respectively.

This is the second edition of our new look newsletter with **Erica Steiner** at its helm. Erica has done a wonderful job of updating the newsletter and sourcing information for it and we hope you're enjoying the new format. Please don't hesitate to send Erica any news or information that you think would be of interest to AEMA members so that it can be included in the newsletter (Erica can be contacted [here](#)).

In other exciting news, the Committee is now in a position to announce details of the next AEMA Conference. The conference will be in **Canberra in April 2017** and we're really looking forward to it, especially since we haven't had an AEMA conference in Canberra for quite a few years. The Committee would like to extend a big thank you to **Chris Bishop** for getting involved in the organisation of the conference. You'll find more information about the conference in this newsletter, so check out the Call for Papers and save the dates (and start writing your abstract)! Further details on the conference in general and the Annual General Meeting will follow in the next few months.

It's getting close to the end of the year which means that Volume 12 of **JAEMA** is currently being finalised. Make sure you get those outstanding book reviews or articles in ASAP! If you have any questions or queries about the journal or the submission process, please contact **Geoff Dunn**, our journal editor [here](#).

It is also pleasing to note that membership numbers for AEMA have been steady for the last few years, and we have had quite a few new members join the association in 2016. We hope we can welcome even more new members before the Canberra conference next year.

As always, the Committee would like to thank you for your continued support of AEMA and we are looking forward to seeing many of your faces in Canberra in April.

Until next time,  
Janet Wade  
AEMA Secretary  
[secretary@aema.net.au](mailto:secretary@aema.net.au)

### *AEMA 2017 Conference Announcement and Call For Papers*

In 1979 Hans-Robert Jauss published “The Alterity and Modernity of Medieval Literature”, an essay which defined Reception Theory and invited us to rediscover in the “alterity of the Middle Ages an aspect of its modernity”. For students of the Early Middle Ages, a field defined from its naissance by an emphasis on inter-disciplinary research, Reception theory can offer a surprisingly rich return.

The 12<sup>th</sup> conference of the **Australian Early Medieval Association** takes *Reception* as its theme, and will be held at the **Australian National University, Canberra**. We will be investigating the ways in which the literature, history, language and culture of the ancient world were received into post-Classical Europe; the ways in which the literature, history, language and culture of the Middle Ages have been received into the modern world; and the ways in which the Medieval world acted as conduit for the transmission of the Classical. This allows a very wide scope for papers of course, but, as always, we will still be welcoming any papers related to the studies of the Early Middle Ages even if they do not strictly adhere to the theme.

Save the following date in your diaries now!  
**Friday 21 and Saturday 22 April, 2017.**

**Robert DiNapoli.**

Please send your 250 word abstract to the [AEMA conference committee](#), or to our conference co-ordinator, [Dr Chris Bishop](#) by January 2017.

*More information to come soon.*



### *AEMA Member News and Announcements*

**Nicole Moffatt**, one of the organisers of our 2014 conference at Macquarie University will

**Macquarie University** due to the generosity of Mrs Janet Gale and the late Dr Bill Gale. Whilst in Rome she will be staying at the **British School at Rome** and progressing her research into connectivity and ancient communication networks.

Arrivederci Nicole !



For more information about the **British School at Rome**, click [here](#), and for more information about this and other scholarships available from **Macquarie University**, click [here](#).

*Conference Report:  
'Æthelred II and Cnut the Great', UCL, July 6 – 9 2016.*

Marking the millennium of Cnut the Great's siege of London and the advent of Danish rule over England, **University College London** and the **University of Winchester** hosted the **Æthelred II and Cnut the Great Conference** from **6 – 9 July 2016**. The conference brought together some of the greatest names in Anglo-Scandinavian scholarship, and the event was highlighted by keynote presentations by Simon Keynes, Barbara Yorke, Elaine Treharne, Roberta Frank and Andy Orchard.

Simon Keynes opened day one, noting that he had also been at the first Æthelred conference in 1978. A lifetime's work on the reign of the unpopular king was evident as Keynes guided us through a carefully constructed history of Æthelred's reign using charters, writs and laws to fill in the narrative of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*.



*Simon Keynes opens the conference with the first plenary. Credit, twitter @scandstudies*

Day one continued with a strong Anglo-Saxon focus with papers ranging from examinations of law and the *Chronicle* narrative, to the archaeological evidence of the siege of London.

Day two turned to Cnut with papers on the numismatic and archaeological evidence of his reign, and a particularly lively keynote by Andy Orchard, putting forward a strong philological argument for *Beowulf* as a living text in Cnut's English court. Appropriately, the day ended with a reception at the British Library with a politically perspicacious speech by the Danish ambassador, Claus Gruber who, with Britain in the throes of Brexit, offered to reinstate Danish rule.





*Danish ambassador Clause Grube speaks at the conference reception. Credit, twitter @RTGoodman*

Day three was perhaps most notable for Rory McTurk's paper on the historicity of the saga topos of the 'Blood-Eagle.' Gently taking Roberta Frank to task on her conclusions within her seminal article of 1984, it was rather enjoyable to be in the room as the two sparred (respectfully) in question time, though whether the Blood-Eagle is allegory, reality or something in-between remains open for debate. Frank herself ended the day. Declaring that reading translated skaldic verse is like 'drinking sparkling wine for its calcium content,' she proceeded with a detailed Old Norse reading of *Liðsmannaflokkr*, explaining its rich imagery and historicity.

On the final day the conference moved to the ancient Wessex capital and resting place of Cnut, Winchester. Barbara Yorke opened the day with an examination of the likely role of Winchester within Cnut's wider Anglo-Scandinavian hegemony. An heroic effort given the paucity of documentary evidence, however Yorke was able to plausibly put forward a case for Winchester's continuing importance as an administrative centre. Elaine Treharne closed out what had been a stimulating (and a little overwhelming) four days. An

further our understanding of an under-represented period of Anglo-Scandinavian history.

**Matthew Firth**, Master of History Candidate  
University of New England



For the conference twitter feed, search [#SiegeOfLondon](#).

**Matthew's** recently published article on Cnut's post-conquest policies toward the city of London can be found in the current issue of [Eras](#).

### *AEMA Member Publications*

An article by **Dr Shane McLeod** is featured on the current cover of the popular bi-monthly magazine *History Scotland*. Shane's article 'Scandinavian Migration Routes and Identity in Viking Age Scotland' comments upon the published results of isotope analysis (not done by Shane) on Viking Age skeletons at two cemeteries in Scotland. The results suggest that some of those buried in c. 850-950 CE in 'Viking' style, eg. with grave-goods and under mounds or in boat-shaped graves, had spent their childhoods elsewhere in Britain or Ireland rather than Scandinavia, so we cannot assume that all 'Viking' burials are actually of immigrants from Scandinavia.

This 'pop' article is one part of a larger study, 'Gender and Mobility in Viking Age Scotland' which also includes discussions on the gender and age of osteologically sexed culturally Scandinavian burials that will appear in the edited volume *Gender and Mobility*

Unfortunately, *History Scotland* is not generally found in Australian newsagents, but it is available online and the current issue can be found [here](#).



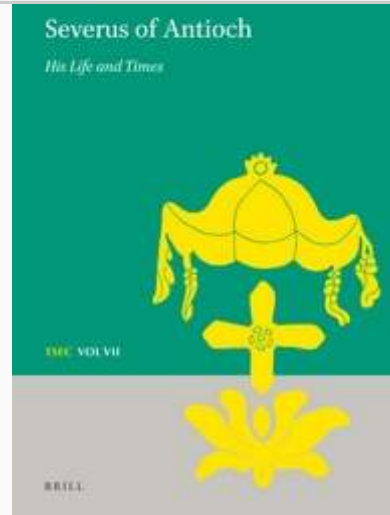
**John D'Alton**, who is completing his PhD at Monash University on *The Jihad of Jesus: The concept of struggle in pre-Islamic Syrian Christian and early Sufi Muslim writings*, is the lead editor, along with Youhanna Youssef, of *Severus of Antioch: His Life and Times*, a new collection of essays on the life, theology, reception history, exegetical approach, and asceticism of Severus, a key figure in the Oriental Orthodox Church. John

step in - so I did! I thought this would be a great learning opportunity and would look good on my CV. It was, as expected, a lot of hard work, but also quite satisfying. One unexpected benefit was that after editing this amount, doing the same on my almost-complete PhD seems much easier to tackle!"

Other articles in the volume include ones by the well-known international authors Pauline Allen, Sebastian Brock, Rifaat Ebied and Ken Parry. The topics covered have immense theological and historical significance for the churches of the Middle East and the history of Late Antiquity, and explore new understandings of Severus' exegetical context, the theological and political impact of his sermons, and his relation to the many ideological currents of his time.

More information and copies of the book may be ordered [here](#) from Brill.





### Upcoming Conferences

The **11th Biennial ANZAMEMS Conference** will be held at the **Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, 7-10 February 2017**. The conference theme is “**Mobility and Exchange**”. The conference will be followed by a PATS Seminar on the topic of ‘Markings and Marginalia’, which will be held at the National Library of New Zealand. More information may be found on the [conference website](#).

**The Society for Late Antiquity** is holding their **12th Biennial Conference** on the theme of **Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity - The Fifth Century: Age of Transformation** at **Yale University, 23-26 March 2017**, co-sponsored by the **University of Groningen**. The deadline for abstracts is **15 October 2016**, and more details may be found [here](#).

**Voices in Late Latin Poetry** will be held at **Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, 23-24**

information may be found [here](#).

**The Migration of Faith: Clerical Exile in Late Antiquity** project is sponsoring the **Forced Movement in Late Antiquity, c. 300-700** conference being held at the **German Historical Institute, London, 6-8 April 2017**. For more information, visit the call for papers website [here](#).

The 12th **Australian Early Medieval Association Conference** will be held at the **Australian National University, Canberra, 21-22 April 2017**, and the theme of the conference will be **Receptions**. Please submit your abstracts by **January 2017**, and see above for details.

**Networks of Knowledge (NoK)** and **Networks and Neighbours**, two projects dedicated to interrogating social and intellectual connectivity, competition and communication between people, places and things in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, are together presenting a conference on the theme of **Social Networking in the early Middle Ages**, being held at **Radboud University, Nijmegen, 31 August-2 September 2017**. More details may be found [here](#).

### *Current and Upcoming Events & Exhibitions*

**Carolyne Larrington**, Professor of Medieval European Literature at the **University of Oxford**, will be presenting three free public lectures entitled '**Game of Thrones! History, Medievalism and How It Might End**' in association with the **Centre for the History of Emotions**. She will explain some of the medieval history and literature from which George R. R. Martin chiselled the building blocks for the construction of his imaginary world, as well as suggesting some reasons for its enormous international success as the medieval fantasy epic for the twenty-first century. Finally, she will also undertake a little speculation as to how the show might end.

**The University of Western Australia, 17 October 2016, 6-7pm.**

**The University of Sydney, 26 October 2016, 5:30–6:30pm.**

**The University of Melbourne, 7 November 2016, 12:30-1:30pm.**

Bookings are required for all of these lectures.



**Old Norse and Emotions Study Day** will explore how we can use sources from Medieval Scandinavia for the history of emotions. The workshop will explore questions such as:

How can we uncover the emotional lives of medieval Scandinavians?

What are the interpretative difficulties with the sources?

How do the conventions of the saga narrative filter depictions of emotional life?

How do we map the linguistic terrain of saga emotions?

Can archaeology shed light on medieval emotions?

How can we use runic inscriptions to inform our understanding of emotions?

*Emotions in Old Norse Literature* (**Professor Carlyne Larrington**, distinguished visiting fellow), *Emotions in Old Norse Historical Sources* (**Dr Kimberley-Joy Knight**, postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Sydney CHE), and *Emotions in Scandinavian Material Culture* (**Dr Shane McLeod**, CHE Associate Investigator and Honorary Staff Member at the University of Tasmania, and Dr Kimberley-Joy Knight, postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Sydney CHE)

This study day will be held at the **University of Sydney, 27 October 2016**, and further details, including registration are available on the [website](#).



**Magna Carta: An Australian Story** looks at the significance of the Magna Carta from an Australian perspective, in this the 800th anniversary year of its signing. Developed in conjunction with the British Library, this is currently on display at the **Museum of Australian Democracy, Old Parliament House, Canberra**. Admission is at the





### *Other Items of Interest*

During October, **Cambridge Scholars Publishing** is commemorating the 950<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Hastings by offering a **50% discount** on selected titles in medieval history, as well as other selected best-sellers and new releases. For more information, [click here](#).

### *Membership Renewals*

Renewals for 2016 to our small but perfectly formed organisation continue unhindered by time and space. All individual members receive a copy of the *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association (JAEMA)*, a member newsletter, and reduced AEMA conference registration fees. Postgraduates and Early Career Researchers may also be eligible for a number of bursaries offered at the time of the AEMA conference. Further details on how to renew may be found [here](#), or alternatively, you may contact our Vice-President, [Steve Joyce](#).

### *Journals of Interest*

The ***Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association (JAEMA)*** is an annual refereed, peer-reviewed journal devoted to the early medieval period. Submissions are invited now on any topic of early medieval studies (from late antiquity and the end of

**JAEMA** seeks engaging, original work that contributes to a collective understanding of the early medieval period. The journal welcomes papers on any theme, such as history, art history, archaeology, literature, linguistics, music and theology, and from any interpretive angle—memory, gender, historiography, medievalism, consilience and beyond.

We would especially invite contributions from members and others who have attended and presented at the recent **11th Australian Early Medieval Association Conference: Space and Time in the Early Medieval World**.

Contributions to **JAEMA** should be submitted [here](#). Articles must be written in English and between 6,000–12,000 words long, including footnotes and bibliography, and should follow the Chicago Manual of Style (16th edition). All submissions will be subject to double blind review.

For any queries about submissions or the journal more generally, please contact our editor, [Geoff Dunn](#).



***Ceræ: An Australasian Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*** is currently accepting articles for publication.

***Ceræ*** is a peer-reviewed Australasian journal of medieval and early modern studies. Administered from the University of Western Australia with the generous support of faculty and staff, the journal is directed by a committee of Australian and international graduate students and early career researchers united in our commitment to open-access

discipline related to medieval and early modern studies, including submissions with accompanying audio-visual material.

Articles should be approximately 5000-7000 words. They should be formatted according to the [Ceræ Style Sheet](#). Submissions should be made [online](#). For further information, please contact the [editor](#), or follow our [blog](#) for news, updates and articles of general interest.



*The Heroic Age* welcomes and encourages papers on topics unrelated to themed issues at any time. The journal publishes the following types of materials: feature article, editions and translations and book/media reviews. The Call for Papers is now open for **Issue 17: Carolingian Border-Lands** and **Issue 18: Occitan Poetry**. Articles should be 7000 words including bibliography and endnotes, and conform to *The Heroic Age's* in-house style. Instructions may be found under [Submission Instructions](#). All submissions will be reviewed by two readers according to a double-blind policy. All submissions should be sent to [Larry Swain](#). Further information may be found on the [journal website](#).



*Parergon* publishes articles on all aspects of medieval and early modern studies. We are especially interested in material that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries and takes

Articles should be submitted to the Editor, [Anne Scott](#). Reviewers must be members of ANZAMEMS, and if you are interested in submitting a review, please contact the Reviews Editor, [Toby Burrows](#).

The deadline for submissions for any year is **30 January**.



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