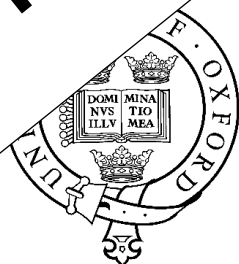


DRAFT



University of Oxford

Conferences, Seminars and Events in Medieval Studies

Information included from:

English Language and Literature, History, Medieval
and Modern Languages, Music, Theology and Religion,
Reading Groups, Societies

Michaelmas Term 2025



Up-to-date calendar of all events on torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies

Follow us on social media <https://beacons.ai/oxfordmedievalstudies>

Please send updates and queries to medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk



Oxford Medieval Studies Programme

Michaelmas Term 2025

<u>Welcomes.....</u>	<u>5</u>
Alice Rio – Chichele Professor of Medieval History, All Souls College	5
Kees Dekker – Visiting Scholar	5
Tom Johnson – Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Medieval History, Oriel College	6
Francisco Bautista – Visiting Scholar	6
Clément Salah – Junior Research Fellow in Manuscript and Text Cultures, The Queen’s College	7
Cat Watts – Kathleen Bourne Junior Research Fellow in French Studies at St Anne’s College	7
Elizabeth Crabtree – Social Media Officer	7
<u>Events.....</u>	<u>8</u>
The Dorothy Whitelock Lecture	8
Reweaving the Poem: Modernism, Monsters, and the Medieval	8
Spooktacular Manuscripts	9
A Tale of Two Parchments	9
Benvenuto da Imola’s <i>Comentum</i> on the Divine Comedy in Bodleian MSS. Canon. Ital. 100 and 103.....	9
Compline in the Crypt	9
Guild of Medievalist Makers	10
Heritage Science and Manuscripts.....	11
Ars Inquirendi.....	12
Memorial Service for Professor Vincent Gillespie	13
<u>Seminars.....</u>	<u>14</u>
Medieval History Seminar	14
Medieval Church and Culture	15
Medieval Visual Culture Seminar.....	16
Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music	17
Carmina Burana	19
Medieval English Research Seminar	20
Medieval French Research Seminar.....	21
Medieval German Graduate Seminar: Constance Chronicle	22
Medieval Archaeology Seminar	23
Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures	23
Medieval Women’s Writing Research Seminar	24
Oxford Centre for Early Medieval Britain and Ireland	25
Rethinking History: Returning to Archives and Documents	27
<u>Reading Groups and Societies.....</u>	<u>28</u>
French Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group	28
Exploring Medieval Oxford through Surviving Archives	29
Latin Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group (advanced beginner, intermediate and advanced levels)	30
Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group.....	30
Old English Graduate Reading Group	30



Introduction to Arabic Palaeography.....	31
Older Scots Reading Group.....	32
Oxford Medieval Manuscript Group.....	33
Middle English Reading Group (MERG)	34
John Lydgate Book Club	35
Environmental History Working Group (EHWG).....	36
 <u>Opportunities.....</u>	 <u>38</u>
 OMS Small Grants Now Open!.....	 38
Publishing with the Journal Manuscript and Text Cultures	38
 <u>Accessibility and Updates</u>	 <u>39</u>



The Norman porch at St Ebbe's Church



Welcome to the Oxford Medieval Studies Programme!



A fanfare for Oxford Medieval Studies moving into the Schwarzman Centre

Greetings from the Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities! Among the many superlatives it boasts in terms of PassivHaus design, the concert hall, the space for graduate students, etc., there can probably be added the claim that this is the largest grouping (a madness?) of medievalists in the world, allowing chance encounters across the Humanities faculties. One of the first themed ‘cultural seasons’ for the building will be the ‘Medieval Afterlives’ season in 2028 which will be bookended by a Medieval Mystery Cycle at the start and a modern answer to this at the end of Trinity Term.

We’ll start this year and term in the traditional way with a social during the first slot of the Medieval Church and Culture seminar in Harris Manchester College on Tuesday of week 1, 13 October, from 5pm – everybody welcome. Come and promote your reading group, seminar, initiatives, etc... And bring a friend who might not yet be a medievalist but could be won over!

Also: Mark the Date for the OMS Lecture and Workshop in Hilary Term

On Thursday 19th February 2026, our former colleague **Ian Forrest** (now of Glasgow) will talk about his project “Telling Tails: Weaponizing Gender in the Late Medieval Church”. This will be linked with a workshop for the graduate students of the MSt. in Medieval Studies: ‘Fragments and photographs: what are we doing when we try to get close to medieval people?’

Watch this virtual space and come to the actual space: everybody welcome to knock on Henrike’s new Schwarzman door (30.522) for a cup of tea in one of the many social spaces in the building!

*Henrike Lähnemann (German) and Lesley Smith (History),
Co-Directors of the Programme for 2025/26*



Welcomes

Alice Rio - Chichele Professor of Medieval History, All Souls College

I am an early medievalist; I have published mainly on legal culture, debt and punishment, and slavery in the centuries following the end of the Roman empire, especially in the Frankish kingdoms but also in more comparative perspective. I'm currently working on my first trade book, a narrative history of the early Middle Ages told through the stories of a handful of women who each moved from one part of Europe to another. I co-edit the journal *Past & Present* with my colleague Matthew Kelly, and before coming to Oxford I was professor of medieval history at King's College London.



Kees Dekker - Visiting Scholar



I am Kees Dekker, Senior Lecturer in Older English Language and Literature at the University of Groningen (The Netherlands). After obtaining my PhD at the University of Leiden (1997) on the study of Old Germanic languages and texts in the seventeenth century, I was a post-doctoral researcher working on Latin loan words in Old Frisian. In 1998 I moved to the University of Groningen. My research has focused on two main projects which have the history of ideas as a common denominator. One aspect of my research is the transmission and dissemination of knowledge and learning during the Anglo-Saxon period, which has resulted in publications on encyclopaedic notes and fragments in English and Continental manuscripts. My other focus, and the reason why I am in Oxford, is the history of Old English and Old Germanic studies in the early modern period, especially the work of the Germanic philologist Franciscus Junius (1591-1677) and his contemporaries.

The project for which I am here concerns the collection of manuscripts and printed books on Old English, Old High German, Old Frisian, Gothic, and other languages which Franciscus Junius donated to the Bodleian Library in Oxford just before he died. The Junius collection includes not only medieval manuscript containing Old English, Early Middle English, Old High German and Old Frisian, but also many transcripts of medieval texts and glossaries. The most recent description of the Junius collection by Noël Denholm-Young (1937) describes the books and manuscripts as they are now, after having been extensively rebound and reorganised after their arrival in the Bodleian Library in 1678. I have been working on a re-analysis of Junius's collection, taking into account the seventeenth-century documentation about his bequest, Junius's surviving correspondence, Juniana in other collections, codicological, textual and bibliographical evidence, and all secondary literature. My forthcoming book will present a reconstruction of the original Junius collection and offer a view of how one of our most important Germanic philologists constructed medieval heritage.



Tom Johnson - Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Medieval History, Oriel College

I am a social historian of fourteenth- and fifteenth-century England. I completed a PhD at Birkbeck, University of London in 2014, and then taught for many years at the University of York, before joining Oxford. My research focuses on everyday interactions between people and institutions, thinking about how they negotiated legal processes, documentary culture, and more recently, economic transactions. Among other subjects, I have written about the laws of shipwreck, what Marx can tell us about medieval ghost stories, and why people went to soothsayers in order to solve crimes.



Francisco Bautista - Visiting Scholar

Francisco Bautista is Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish Literature at the University of Salamanca. Previously, he worked as a lecturer and researcher at the University of Pennsylvania (2003-2004) and as an Affiliated Lecturer at the University of Cambridge (2005-2006). He was a contract researcher within the Juan de la Cierva (2006-2008) and Ramón y Cajal (2008-2013) programs at the University of Salamanca. He completed a five-month research stay at the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon (2012-2013), and has been a visiting professor at the University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès (October-November 2014) and an Overseas Visiting Scholar at the University of Cambridge (2014). He has devoted numerous works to medieval literature, historiography, and the relationship between historical discourse and other literary genres. He has published articles on this topics, edited several collective books and is author of four monographs: on the *Estoria de España* (2006), on Carolingian legends in medieval Spain, on Castilian university culture (2020, with Pedro Martín Baños) and on historiography and manuscript culture (2022, with Laura Fernández Fernández).



The main objective of this project is the edition, study, and contextualization of a moral treatise entitled *Treatise on Moral and Intellectual Virtues*, written in Castilian by a rabbi, probably from Toledo, and addressed to Archbishop Alonso Carrillo, dating back to around 1470. This unpublished and unknown text constitutes an exceptional testimony to the intellectual exchanges between Jews and Christians in late medieval Castile. The treatise constitutes, among other things, an example of the permeability of Jewish traditions with the intellectual movements of Christian Europe, particularly Scholasticism, as well as the use of common cultural references, especially Aristotelianism. It also highlights the reception of cultural currents characteristic of late medieval Castile, which were especially led by intellectuals of converso origin, such as the prominent presence of Seneca or Cicero, mediated by authors such as Alfonso de Cartagena and Pero Díaz de Toledo. The project proposes that these cultural traditions represented a common ground for intellectual dialogue between Jews and Christians, and were exploited to create a sort of *lingua franca* that served as a zone of communication and encounter, beyond the discourses of religious polemics.



Clément Salah - Junior Research Fellow in Manuscript and Text Cultures, The Queen's College

Originally from France, I studied Arabic and History at the Sorbonne before completing a joint PhD between Sorbonne University and the University of Lausanne in 2025. My doctoral research focused on Islamic law in medieval Tunisia, examining how legal thought developed through early manuscript traditions in Kairouan.

More broadly, my work explores the manuscript culture of premodern North Africa, especially the ways in which texts were produced, transmitted and used in scholarly communities. My current project, *The Manuscripts of Kairouan: Material Culture of Early Muslim Scholars*, investigates manuscripts not only as texts but also as historical artefacts, looking at scribal practices, materiality, and intellectual use. Drawing on codicology, palaeography, and comparative manuscript studies, I aim to reassess the book culture of premodern North Africa and its place within broader Mediterranean manuscript traditions.



Cat Watts - Kathleen Bourne Junior Research Fellow in French Studies at St Anne's College

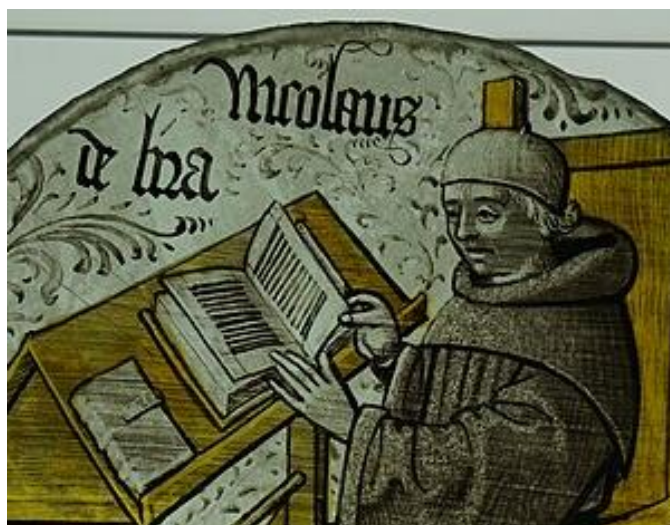
Cat Watts is the Kathleen Bourn Junior Research Fellow in French Studies at St Anne's College, Oxford. She holds a PhD in French from Newnham College, Cambridge and completed her teaching and research training at the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon.

Her work sets the medieval and the modern in dialogue, suggesting formal similarities between medieval vernacular literature and modern pop culture, and bringing out shared experiences of love, devotion and passion. She works with queer studies, post-colonial studies, and theories of time and space to sketch dynamic transtemporal networks of storytelling.

Elizabeth Crabtree - Social Media Officer

We have a new Social Media Officer!

Elizabeth Crabtree is a Junior Research Fellow at Blackfriars. Her research interests lie in the Christian interpretation of the Bible in the Middle Ages, and especially in how recourse to Jewish sources shaped a Christian understanding of the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible. Her doctoral project explores the biblical exegesis of Nicholas of Lyra (d. 1349), interrogating the relationship between the 'senses of scripture' the Franciscan employed as a basis for his two commentaries on the book of Esther, alongside the role of Jewish sources in his interpretation.



Events

The Dorothy Whitelock Lecture

Prof. Jane Roberts

'Guthlac: what the early medieval records tell us'

5.15pm Wednesday December 3rd 2025

Followed by a drinks reception

To secure your (free) ticket, please use the Eventbrite link here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dorothy-whitelock-lecture-tickets-1368622870849?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>



Reweaving the Poem: Modernism, Monsters, and the Medieval

Nov 16 · 3:00 PM

Blackwell's Bookshop

Professor Kate McLoughlin introduces an afternoon of poetry performance and conversation with Susie Campbell and Laura Varnam, to launch Susie Campbell's new collection *Wastelands* (Guillemot Press). Both Susie and Laura's work reimagines and revisits older texts from a contemporary perspective, weaving together feminist or ecological points of view with modernist and language-based poetic experimentation to reframe some of the great literary texts of the past.

Campbell's *Wastelands* traverses a rubble of quest and pilgrim literature from medieval narratives to Lewis Carroll and TS Eliot, and Varnam's 'Grendel's Mother Bites Back' (*Primers Volume Seven*, Nine Arches Press) gives voice to the silenced, marginalised, and troublesome second antagonist from the Old English epic *Beowulf*.

Free to book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/susie-campbell-with-laura-varnam-reweaving-the-poem-tickets-1668864280989>



Spooktacular Manuscripts

15:00-16:00, Thursday 30 October
Visiting Scholars' Centre, Weston Library

To celebrate Halloween, Alison Ray will present a range of spooktacular medieval manuscripts, from magical spell books and alchemical texts to depictions of black cats and a witches' sabbath. Costumes are optional!

NOTE that a University or Bodleian reader card is required for access, which is via the Readers' entrance to the Weston Library

A Tale of Two Parchments

Wednesday 8 October at 12:30

Sir Victor Blank Lecture Theatre at the Weston Library, and Online

Analysis of parchment is an important element of codicological research and, in some cases, can even help to locate a manuscript's place of production. This is especially true of 'Insular' and 'Continental' parchment that was used for book-making in the early Middle Ages, and which are two of the most important types in the history of writing materials prepared from animal skins. This talk by Dr Jiří Vnouček is presented by the ERC-funded project INSULAR: Insular manuscripts in the age of Charlemagne.

[Register to attend](#) in person or online

Benvenuto da Imola's *Comentum* on the Divine Comedy in Bodleian MSS. Canon. Ital. 100 and 103

Wednesday 3 December, 2 pm to 3 pm
Horton Room, Weston Library, Oxford
Leyla Livraghi (Pisa)

Register: <https://forms.office.com/e/TKiZGZvQRM>

NOTE that a University or Bodleian reader card is required for access, which is via the Readers' entrance to the Weston Library.



The crypt underneath St-Peter-in-the-East in the 18th century, Bodleian, MS. Top. Oxon. b91, fol. 168-272

Compline in the Crypt

Every Thursday at 9.30pm during term time, there is the opportunity to experience the Norman Crypt underneath St-Peter-in-the-East, which is now the library of St Edmund Hall, during Compline, the last sung service of the day.

Week 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 sung by the Choir of St Edmund Hall in English. **Week 4 (4 November) and week 6 (20 November) sung by the St Edmund Consort in Latin.**

Complines are open to the public and all are welcome to join. Please be aware though that the access to the crypt is via an uneven staircase and that there is limited seating - early arrival is recommended since there is a cap on visitors.

Please contact Henrike Lähnemann henrike.laehnemann@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk if you are interested in joining the St Edmund Consort for one or two of the dates; there will be a short rehearsal on the Monday preceding Compline at 7pm and on the day at 6pm.



Next attachment

Guild of Medievalist Makers Michaelmas Term Events



October 2025-January 2026

Join **The Guild of Medievalist Makers**, a newly formed organisation for academic & academic-adjacent creatives and makers dedicated to furthering creative-critical practice in the humanities, and making space for creative play!

Our online **Making Space Sessions** offer you the chance to set aside time for your creative-critical project. We are regularly joined by a lively and generous company of zine makers, textile artists, cartoonists, novelists, poets, translators, illustrators, flax spinners, print makers and more! Please note that you must become a member of the Guild to join our Making Space Sessions (this is so we can avoid being overrun by bots).

Read more about us and join today for free at www.guildmedmak.com



Thurs 23rd October
(Week 2)
17:30-19:00 (GMT)

Making Space Session

Optional theme: hauntings

Online



Thurs 27th November
(Week 7)
17:30-19:00 (GMT)

Making Space Session

Optional theme: festivities

Online



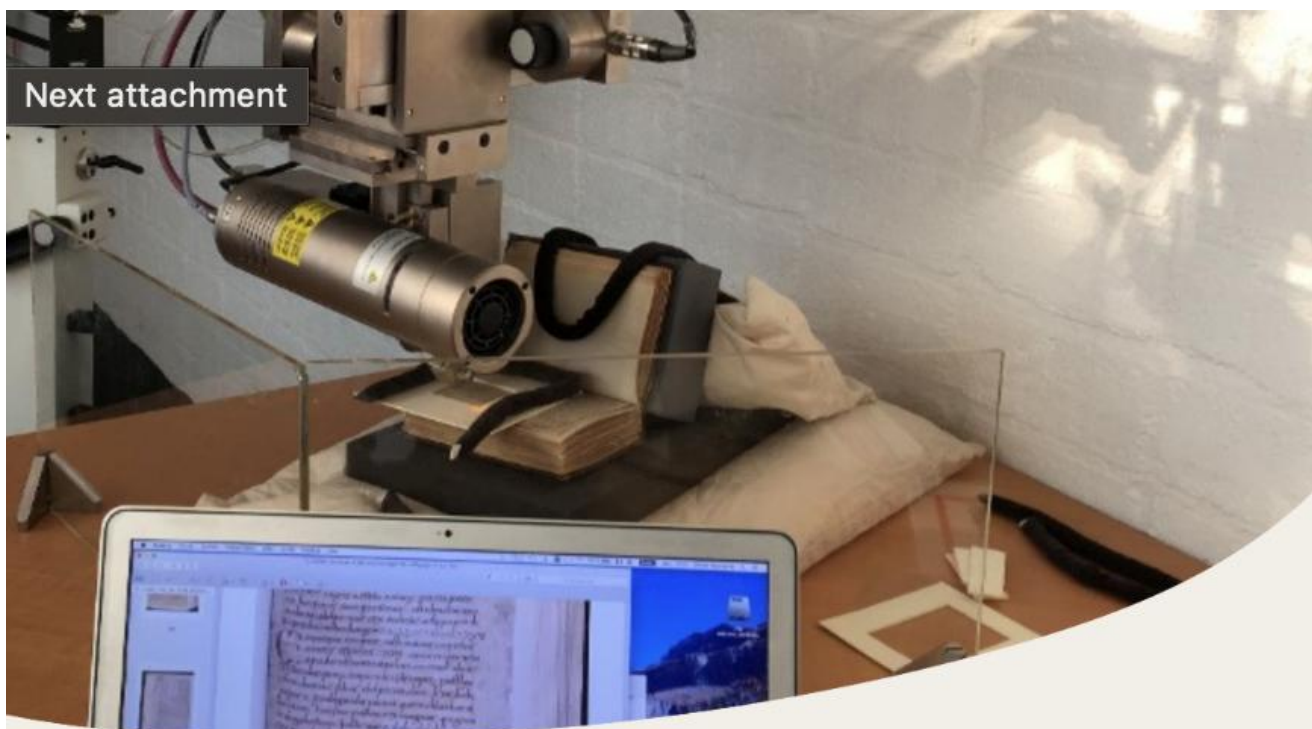
Thurs 8th January
(Week -1)
17:30-19:00 (GMT)

New Year Creative Intentions

Online

Images: top (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Selden Supra 53, f. 188r); middle (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Bodley 264, f.67v); bottom (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Auct. D. 2. 6, f.2v)





HERITAGE SCIENCE AND MANUSCRIPTS FROM ANTIQUITY AND THE MIDDLE AGES

13-14 NOVEMBER 2025

**SHULMAN AUDITORIUM
THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD**

**New directions in the study of written artefacts
from Antiquity to the late Middle Ages.**

Organised by the Crafting Documents project (AHRC-DFG) and
co-sponsored by the *Centre for Manuscripts and Text Cultures*,
University of Oxford.

FREE ENTRY TO ALL PAPERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://craftingdocs.web.ox.ac.uk/>



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and Innovation



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CENTRE FOR
MANUSCRIPT
AND TEXT
CULTURES



DARK 2025
ARCHIVES _



Ars Inquirendi

Querying the Pre-Modern in the Age of Large Multimodal Models

4th-7th December 2025

Main Conference (4-6 Dec) online
Workshops (7 Dec) online & in Oxford

Attendance free to all

Register & all details at tinyurl.com/arsinq



Memorial Service for Professor Vincent Gillespie

Friday 24 October at 2pm in the Keble College Chapel
The service will be followed by a reception in Keble Hall
Please RSVP for catering purposes by 10 October



Seminars

Medieval History Seminar

Mondays at 5pm. Wharton Room, All Souls College and on Teams.

The Teams session can be accessed by logging in to Teams with your .ox.ac.uk account and joining the group “Medieval History Research Seminar” (team code rmppucs). If you have any difficulties please email: medhistsem@history.ox.ac.uk

Week 1, 13th Oct

James Miller (Christ Church, Oxford), “Imagining Monastic Perfection: Benedict, Fleury, and Beyond in the Central Middle Ages”

Week 2, 20th Oct

Peter Jones (King’s College, Cambridge), “Event, story and image in writings of John Arderne (1307-c.1380), English surgeon”

Week 3, 27th October

Lucy Donkin (University of Bristol) “Ex urbe et ab Hierosolomis: The Materiality and Portability of Place in Pre-Reformation Europe”

Week 4, 3rd Nov

Anna Chrysostomides (Queen Mary, University of London) “Non-Binary Gender in Abbasid Baghdad: Reality vs. Fiction”

Week 5, 10th Nov

Tom Johnson (Oriel, Oxford), “The Inscriptive Economy in Fifteenth-Century England”

Week 6, 17th Nov

Angus Russell (King’s College, Cambridge), “Between truth and justice: towards an intellectual history of post-Mongol Rus”

Week 7, 24th Nov

NO SEMINAR

Week 8, 1st Dec

Robert Swanson (University of Birmingham), “Margins, marginality, and marginalisation: drawing lines within and around late medieval Catholicism”



Medieval Church and Culture

Tuesdays, **Wellbeloved Room**, Harris Manchester College
Tea & coffee from 5pm; papers begin at **5.15pm**
Everyone is welcome at this informal and friendly graduate seminar



Week 1, 14 Oct

MCC Social! Everyone welcome to meet old friends and make new ones

Week 2, 21 Oct

John Merrington (All Souls): 'Reading the Five Thousand: gender, the body and the interpretation of John 6 in medieval Europe'

Week 3, 28 Oct

Susanna Heywood (KCL): 'A Practical Guide to Kingship?: the virtue of prudence in Giles of Rome's De Regimine Principum'

Week 4, 4 Nov

Clare Whitton (Blackfriars): 'The Feast of the Garlanded Priests'

Week 5, 11 Nov

Nancy Thebaut (Catz): 'The Eadwine Psalter Plumbing Diagram'

Week 6, 18 Nov

Alice Rio (All Souls): 'Gender and the Carolingian Dreamscape'

Week 7, 25 Nov

Mark Vessey (UBC): 'Some Problems in the Earliest History of the Latin Life of Antony'

Week 8, 2 Dec

Antonia Anstatt (Merton): 'Saints and Emotions'

Convenors: Sumner Braund (History of Science Museum), Elizabeth Crabtree (Blackfriars), Bee Jones (Jesus), Lesley Smith (HMC)



Medieval Visual Culture Seminar

Thursdays @ 5-6:30 pm, St Catherine's College (Mary Sunley Lecture Theatre) unless otherwise noted. All are welcome!

PROGRAM OF TALKS

Week 3: Thursday, Oct. 30 Hannele Hellerstadt (University of Oxford), "Seeing Double: Visualizing La Cité des dames and La Cité de Dieu"

Week 5: Thursday, Nov. 13 Carly Boxer (Bucknell University), "Abstract Figures and Bodily Change: Giving Form to Unseen Things in Late Medieval England" [she will be speaking to us about the image at right, MS Ashmole 5!]. Riverside Lecture Theatre, St Catherine's College

Week 6: Thursday, Nov. 20 Mariam Rosser-Owen (V&A) & Ashley Coutu (Pitt Rivers), "New directions in the study of ivories from the Islamic world: A talk and handling session" Co-sponsored with the Khalili Research Center **please note that this meeting will be exceptionally held at the Khalili Research Center**

Week 8: Thursday, Dec. 4 Kristine Tanton (University of Montreal), "Seeing Anew: Digital Methods and the Return to the Medieval Object"

Questions or in need of special accommodations? Contact Nancy Thebaut nancy.thebaut@history.ox.ac.uk



Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music

We are pleased to announce the seminars for Michaelmas Term 2025. The seminars are all held via Zoom on Thursdays at 5 p.m. (GMT). If you are planning to attend a seminar this term, please register using this form. For each seminar, those who have registered will receive an email with the Zoom invitation and any further materials a couple of days before the seminar. If you have any questions, please send an email to Joe Mason at all.souls.music.seminars@gmail.com.

Margaret Bent (Convener, All Souls College) and Joseph W. Mason (University of Cambridge)

October 30th, 5pm

Presenter: Anne Walters Robertson, The University of Chicago

Title: A cycle of masses for all seasons in the Burgundian court

Discussants: Andrew Kirkman (University of Birmingham) and Sean Gallagher (Boston, New England Conservatory)

The six celebrated masses based on the L'Homme armé melody and preserved in a fifteenth-century manuscript now found in Naples (Bibl. Naz. MS VI.E.40) rest on an immense scaffold of text and melody and, as we will see, on a well-defined liturgical and typological framework. A fresh look at these pieces, drawing on books of liturgy, spirituality, and art made for Dukes Philip the Good and Charles the Bold of Burgundy, provides a deeper understanding of these works. The heretofore unnoticed source for the texts of the Kyrie tropes in Masses I and VI is the famous trope *Cunctipotens genitor*, which enjoyed the highest rank in the Burgundian ritual. The tropes for the remaining Kyries II-V form a didactic, liturgically focused series based on typological treatises found in the ducal library, and they suggest analogous ways of approaching other L'Homme armé masses with added texts, such as those by Regis and Tinctoris. Together, the six Burgundian masses were likely used as needed for Sundays across the year. The musical treatment of snippets of the L'Homme armé melody in each mass tenor is analogous to procedures seen in other sacred treatises produced for the court. Recognizing these features in the masses helps situate them in the Burgundian milieu and offers new insight into the ubiquitous theme of the Armed Man in music.

November 13th, 5pm

Presenters: Elina Hamilton, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, Peter Lefferts, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Elżbieta Witkowska-Zaremba, Warsaw, Polish Academy of Sciences

Title: Theinred of Dover (fl. c. 1300): A new context for him in fourteenth-century music theory



De legitimis ordinibus pentachordorum et tetrachordorum by Theinred of Dover has long been known to scholars but has virtually remained inaccessible until recent years: a transcription of its text, made by John L. Snyder, was mounted onto TML only in 1996, and a critical edition by Snyder published in 2006 detailed an argument that dated the treatise to c.

1150. This seminar brings together three perspectives for repositioning Theinred in the fourteenth century, a date that had been offered in the very earliest accounts of the theorist. Responding to the 12th-century hypothesis, Hamilton will argue for a fourteenth-century date based on a new evaluation of Theinred's sources; Lefferts will present contexts for---and close readings of---Theinred's text that draw him into a tight circle of prominent theorists of the same era, and Witkowska-Zaremba will consider Theinred's theories in the context of Boethius's *De institutione musica*, pointing to the ideas and solutions presented by Boethius in the fourth book of his treatise and their reception in England around 1300.

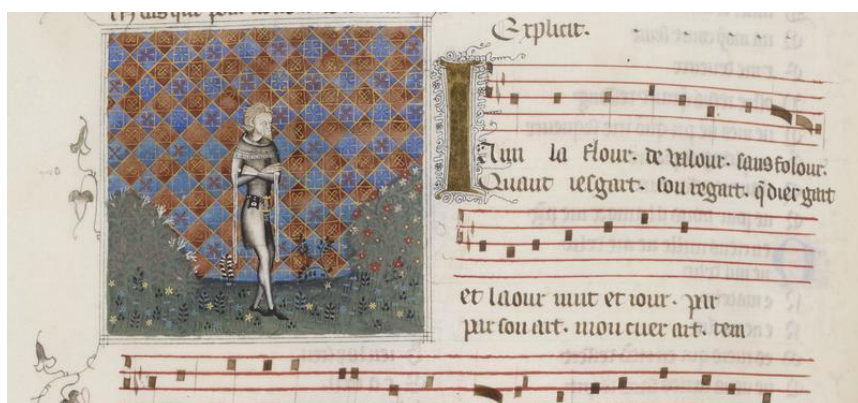
December 4th, 5pm

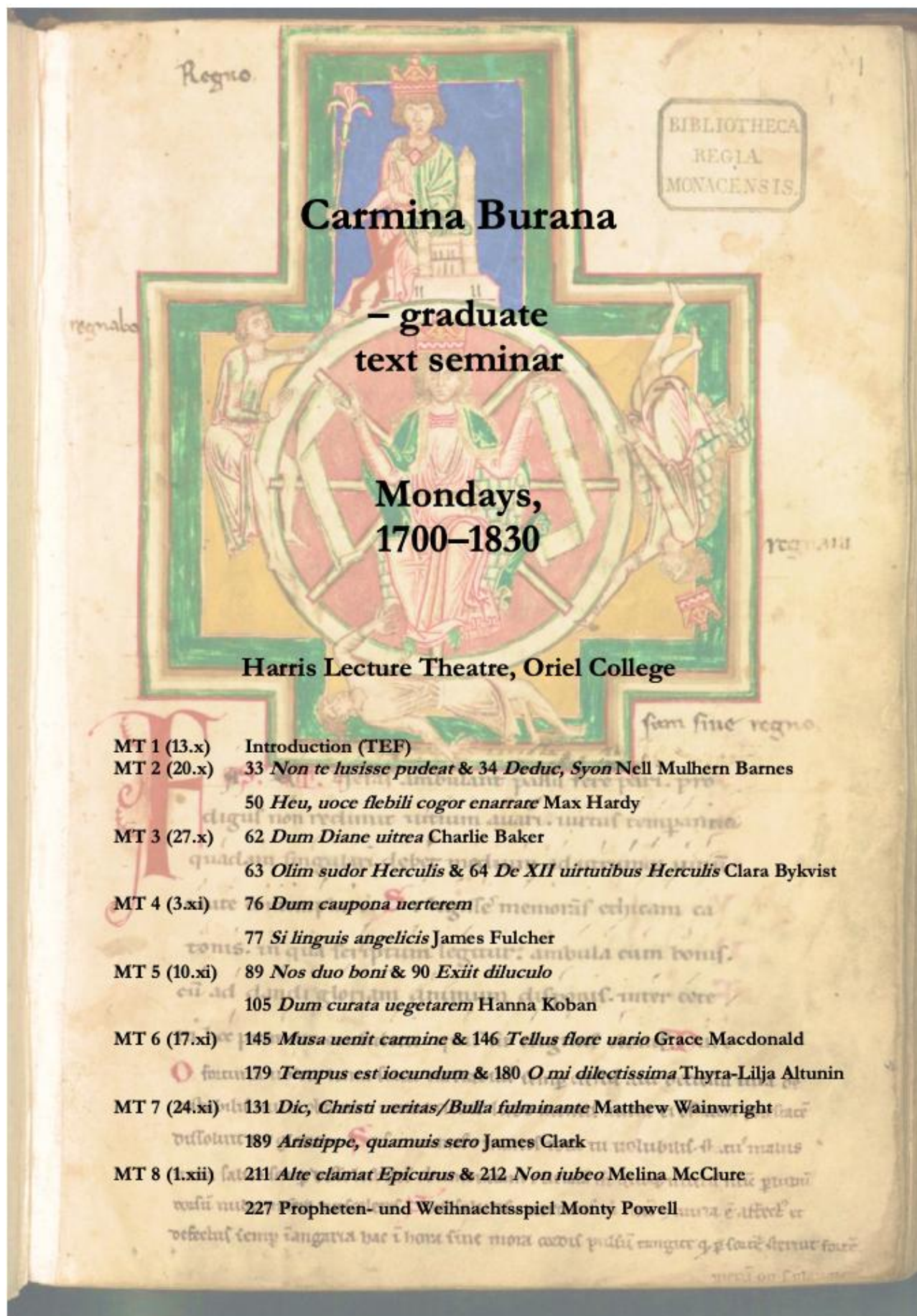
Presenter: Kerry McCarthy, independent scholar

Title Voice-parts and voice-types in Tudor England

Discussants: David Skinner (University of Cambridge), and Andrew Johnstone (Trinity College, Dublin)

'What part syngest thou? Qua voce cantas?' John Stanbridge (1463-1510), master of Magdalen College School in Oxford and author of several innovative pedagogical books, taught his young pupils to ask that question. It is still a relevant question today. Tudor voice-parts and voice-types (both before and during the Reformation) have attracted some controversy in recent generations. This study addresses the issue from a less conventional angle. Rather than starting with questions of sounding pitch, transposition, or vocal production, it draws on a wide range of documents to revisit the five standard English voice-parts (bass, tenor, contratenor, mean/medius, treble/triplex) in what might be called 'anthropological' or 'ethnographic' terms, as specialised functions and roles exercised by participants in a complex musical culture. This approach, I would argue, also equips us to think more freely about practical matters of pitch and transposition as Tudor singers experienced them in their working lives.





Carmina Burana

– graduate
text seminar

**Mondays,
1700–1830**

Harris Lecture Theatre, Oriel College

- MT 1 (13.x) Introduction (TEF)
- MT 2 (20.x) 33 *Non te lusisse pudeat* & 34 *Deduc, Syon* Nell Mulhern Barnes
50 *Heu, uoce flebili cogor enarrare* Max Hardy
- MT 3 (27.x) 62 *Dum Diane uitrea* Charlie Baker
63 *Olim sudor Herculis* & 64 *De XII uirtutibus Herculis* Clara Bykvist
- MT 4 (3.xi) 76 *Dum caupona uerterem*
77 *Si linguis angelicis* James Fulcher
- MT 5 (10.xi) 89 *Nos duo boni* & 90 *Exiit diluculo*
105 *Dum curata uegetarem* Hanna Koban
- MT 6 (17.xi) 145 *Musa uenit carmine* & 146 *Tellus flore uario* Grace Macdonald
179 *Tempus est iocundum* & 180 *O mi dilectissima* Thyra-Lilja Altunin
- MT 7 (24.xi) 131 *Dic, Christi ueritas/Bulla fulminante* Matthew Wainwright
189 *Aristippe, quamuis sero* James Clark
- MT 8 (1.xii) 211 *Alte clamat Epicurus* & 212 *Non iubeo* Melina McClure
227 *Propheten- und Weihnachtsspiel* Monty Powell

Further information from Dr Franklinos (tristan.franklinos@classics.ox.ac.uk).



Medieval English Research Seminar



he Medieval English Research Seminar

Tuesdays, 12.15

The Margaret Thatcher Centre, Somerville College
Seminars will be followed
by a free sandwich lunch

Tuesday 14 October (week 1)
Mirror Man: Orrm and his Words
Richard Dance (U of Cambridge)

Tuesday 21 October (week 2)
Edward, Second Duke of York's *Master of Game*: A New Edition for EETS
David Scott-Macnab (North-West U)

Tuesday 28 October (week 3)
On the Life and Work of Vincent Gillespie
With contributions by Mishtooni Bose (U of Oxford), Denis Renevey (U of Lausanne),
Raphaella Rohrhofer (U of St Andrews), Annie Sutherland (U of Oxford) and Nicholas
Watson (Harvard U)

Tuesday 4 November (week 4)
The Darker Side of the Middle Ages
Kathy Lavezzo (U of Iowa)

Tuesday 11 November (week 5)
Hosted jointly with the Medieval French Seminar
What is an English Book? French Scribes, Scripts and Texts in England
Julia Mattison (U of Georgia)

Tuesday 18 November (week 6)
Vulnerable Bodies: The Old English Verse Charms, Again
Caroline Batten (U of Pennsylvania)

Convenors: Daniel Wakelin and Annie Sutherland



Medieval French Research Seminar

Please note the exceptional addition of a seminar in Week 2 AND the change of time and venue for Week 5

The seminars will take place in person at the Maison française d'Oxford (www.mfo.ac.uk), except on weeks 1 and 5 (see above). At the MFO, drinks will be served from 5pm; the presentations will start at 5:15pm.

For more information and to be added on the seminar's mailing list, contact sophie.marnette@balliol.ox.ac.uk



Roman d'Éneas, BnF ms. 60, fol. 148r

Tuesday Week 1, 14 October 2025

OMS Welcome event (Harris Manchester College, 17:00)

Tuesday Week 2, 21 October 2025

'The Bookishness of French Prose Histories'

Prof. Johannes Junge Ruhland (University of Notre Dame)

Tuesday Week 3, 28 October 2025

'Éclats de la Chronique française de Guillaume Cretin: de l'inachèvement aux explorations esthétiques'

Prof. Ellen Delvallée (Université Grenoble Alpes)

Tuesday Week 5, 11 November 2025 - Joint seminar with the English Faculty (lunch time, 12.15, Somerville College)

'What is an English book? French Scribes, Scripts and Texts in England'

Prof. Julie Mattison (University of Georgia)

Tuesday Week 7, 25 November 2025

'Luttes fratricides dans l'Histoire ancienne jusqu'à César'

Prof. Francis Gingrass (University of Montreal)

Convenors: Prof. Daron Burrows (St Peter's), Prof. Sophie Marnette (Balliol), and Prof. Helen Swift (St Hilda's).



Medieval German Graduate Seminar: Constance Chronicle

The Medieval German Graduate Seminar meets Wednesdays 11.15am-12.45pm in Somerville College. The first week will be a shortish planning meeting in Almut Suerbaum's office. The topic for this term is Ulrich von Richental, *Chronik des Konzils zu Konstanz* (1414-1438).



A meeting of the bishops with the pope in the Münster, from: Ulrich Richental, *Das Konzil zu Konstanz* II: Faksimile, II: Kommentar und Text bearbeitet von Otto Fegerl, Starnberg/Konstanz 1964 (Konstanz, Rosgartenmuseum, Hs. 1)



Medieval Archaeology Seminar

Mondays 3.00, Institute of Archaeology, Lecture Room

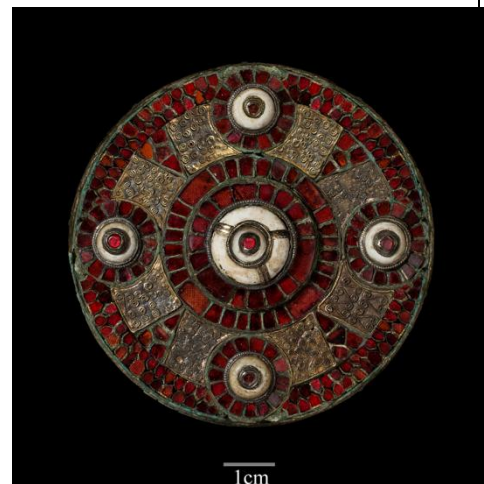
Wk 2 (20 Oct.). Eleanor Standley, 'Re-excavating an 11th-century Yaozhou ware sherd in the Ashmolean Museum: A journey from China to al-Fustat to North Oxfordshire'

Wk 4. (3 Nov). Wyatt Wilcox, 'Isolated Barrows in Early Medieval England: A Spatial Analysis'

Wk 6 (17 Nov). Roberta Gilchrist, Medieval Ritual Landscapes (title tbc)

Wk 8 (1 Dec). Aleks Pluskowski, 'Re-thinking the "Green Revolution" in the Medieval Western Mediterranean (6th-16th centuries)

Convenors: H Hamerow & J. Kershaw



Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures

29 October, 5.15pm Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Daniel Schwemer (Würzburg)

Ancient Kings, a New Language (and sometimes wheelbarrows): a decade of field epigraphy at the Hittite capital Boğazköy-Ḫattuša

For over a hundred years, archaeologists have been exploring Boğazköy-Ḫattuša, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the former capital of the Hittite Empire. The more than 30,000 clay tablets and fragments of cuneiform texts found in Boğazköy-Ḫattuša are among the most important sources for the history of Anatolia and the ancient Near East during this period. The lecture will present these cuneiform finds, and discuss significant discoveries from recent excavations.

13-14 November - Schulman Auditorium, The Queen's College

In partnership with **CMTC**, Prof Julia Smith is convening a two-day colloquium:

Heritage Science and Manuscripts from Antiquity to the Middle Ages: new directions in the study of written artefacts

Free to all; no registration required.

For more information:

<https://craftingdocs.web.ox.ac.uk/news-events>

28 November 5.00pm - Memorial Room, The Queen's College

Prof. **Roberta Mazza** (Bologna)

Beyond Provenance: publishing papyri and other manuscripts from Egypt in 2025 -- critical reflection on the history of papyrology and papyrus collecting, discussing problems and issues in current policies and practices.

Roberta Mazza is a papyrologist based in the Department of Cultural Heritage, Bologna, where she works on the ethics of the illegal trade in papyri and other cultural artefacts. Her book, *Stolen Fragments: Black Markets, Bad Faith, and the Illicit Trade in Ancient Artefacts* (Stanford, 2024), won a silver medal in the 2025 Independent Publisher Book Awards.

More information: Dirk Meyer (Queen's), Matthew Shaw (Queen's), Lesley Smith (HMC)



Medieval Women's Writing Research Seminar

Thursdays, 4-5pm, weeks 2, 4, 6, 8,
Somerville College (meet at lodge).

We are an informal, friendly reading group, meeting to discuss everything to do with women's writing in the Middle Ages. We will meet on Thursdays of weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8 at 4-5pm at Somerville College, meeting at the lodge and walking together to the seminar room.

Please email costas.gavriel@some.ox.ac.uk if you would like to find out more and/or receive reading materials in advance. All are welcome!



Week 2, Thursday 23rd October - Authorising the Text

Including extracts from the prose works of Teresa de Cartagena and Anna Komnene

Week 4, Thursday 6th November - Chronicling the Self

Including extracts from the memoirs of Lady Nijo and Leonor López de Córdoba

Week 6, Thursday 20th November - Letters and Acts

Including extracts from the letters of Hildegard von Bingen, Catherine of Siena, Violant de Bar and María de Castilla

Week 8, Thursday 4th December - Poetic Exchanges

Including poems by Wallada bint al-Mustakfi, Muhja bint al-Tayyani, Tecla de Borja and 'Vayona'

Convenor: Costas Gavriel, costas.gavriel@some.ox.ac.uk





OXFORD CENTRE FOR early medieval
BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Long-distance Travel from Early Medieval Britain

The James Ford Special Lecture

Professor Francesca Tinti

Ikerbasque Research Professor, University of the Basque Country

Tuesday 14 October, 17.15
Shulman Auditorium, Queen's College, Oxford
Funded by the James Ford Bequest.



Early Medieval 'Global Britain': A Workshop

Wednesday 15 October, 09.15-14.00
The Memorial Room, The Queen's College, Oxford

This event will consider the current state of 'globalizing' approaches to early medieval Britain, and raise questions about the future directions of the field.

Panel: Jörg Drauschke (Mainz); Maria Duggan (Newcastle); Helen Gittos (Oxford); Caitlin Green (Cambridge); Jane Kershaw (Oxford); Robert Klapper (Oxford); John Angus MacAulay (Oxford); Francesca Tinti (Basque Country). All attendees will have the chance to contribute to the conversation and there will be an opportunity for informal discussions and networking. Funded by the James Ford Bequest.

A sandwich lunch will be provided, but booking is required. Please email conor.obrien@history.ox.ac.uk (with details of your dietary requirements) to book.





OXFORD CENTRE FOR early medieval BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Week 1 Long-Distance Travel from Early Medieval Britain by Professor Francesca Tinti. James Ford Special Lecture

*Tuesday 14 October, 17.15
Shulman Auditorium, The Queen's College, Oxford*

Early Medieval 'Global Britain': A Workshop

*Wednesday 15 October, 9.15–14.00
The Memorial Room, The Queen's College, Oxford*

Week 4 Connecting Catch-up Lunch

*Wednesday 5 November, 12.30–2.00
Balliol College, Oxford*

A chance to meet new students, catch-up with the interdisciplinary community of early medievalists in Oxford, and outline our current research projects over a free buffet lunch. More information to follow.

Week 7 Skills Sharing: Basic Map-Making

*Wednesday 26 November
Time and place to be confirmed*

An informal workshop led by Wyatt Wilcox for those who would like to learn how to make maps for use in their work, or improve their skills in doing so. Limited places; booking required.

Week 8 Guthlac: What the Early Medieval Records Tell Us by Professor Jane Roberts. Dorothy Whitelock Lecture 2025



*Wednesday 3 December, 17.15
St Peter's College Chapel, New Inn Hall St, Oxford*

Booking required: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dorothy-whitelock-lecture-tickets-1368622870849?aff>

<https://embi.web.ox.ac.uk/>

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Tristan Alphey:
tristan.alphey@gmail.com



Rethinking History: Returning to Archives and Documents

The Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies
University of Oxford
Invisible East Programme, Department for Continuing Education
present a joint monthly virtual seminar series on

Conveners:
Arezou Azad &
Mohamad Tavakoli

RETHINKING HISTORY: RETURNING TO ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Chinese Documents on the Qarakhanids

Dilnoza Duturaeva, University of York

OCTOBER 15, 2025

*Persian Archives for Histories of Colonial
State-Formation in South Asia in the
Eighteenth Century*

Robert Travers, Cornell University

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

*Framing the Past: Exploring the Godard
Photographic Archives of Iran and
Afghanistan*

Martina Massulo, Musée du Louvre

DECEMBER 10, 2025

*SAVAK Calling: Telephonic Directives to
the Editor of Diplomat*

Mohamad Tavakoli, University of Toronto

JANUARY 14, 2026

*Documents from Turbulent Times:
Studying Middle Persian Collections
from the Late Sasanian and Early Islamic
Periods—Opportunities and Challenges*

Nima Asefi, Universität Hamburg

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

*Archaeology as National Archive:
Hertzfeld's History of Iran*

Jennifer Jenkins, University of Toronto

MARCH 11, 2026

*Documenting Space: Waqf-Namehs,
Architecture, and the Social Function of
Qajar Madrasas*

Maryam Heydarkhani, University of Oxford

APRIL 15, 2026

*The Old Uyghur Documents and a Global
Microhistory of the Silk Roads*

Marton Ver, Universität Hamburg

MAY, 13 2026

Title: TBC

Abbas Alizadeh, University of Chicago



REGISTRATION LINK

Wednesday
12:00 P.M. Toronto
5:00 P.M. UK



Reading Groups and Societies

French Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group

Mondays, 10:30 am-12:00 pm - Weston Library (Horton Room)

This group is open to anyone with an interest in Old French, Middle French and Anglo-Norman manuscripts. We study and read manuscripts from the 12th century to the 16th century with a special focus on palaeography. We meet every Monday between 10.30am-12pm in the Weston Library.

If you are interested in joining the group or would like more information, please write to Laure Miolo: laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk

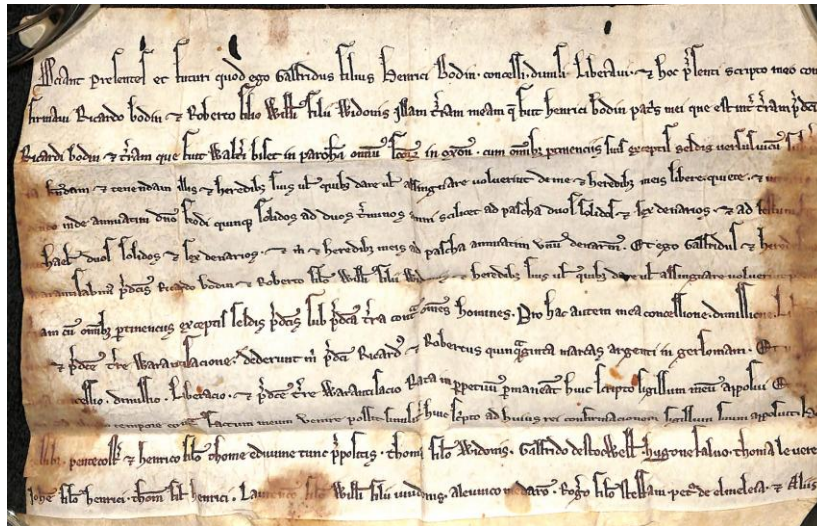
The seminar comprises brief lectures on the morphology and function of scripts, as well as the evolution of script shapes and graphic systems in context, followed by transcription practice using original manuscripts and documents. Sessions are structured around the historical development of scripts, progressing from simpler shapes and strokes with minimal ligatures and abbreviations to more cursive and complex forms. A study of the diverse scripts found between the twelfth and early sixteenth centuries in manuscripts and documents written in Old French, Middle French, and Anglo-Norman – and produced in various geographical areas – will allow participants to gain familiarity with a wide range of scripts and abbreviations. The reading of literary texts in parallel with the analysis of manuscripts and their scripts serves to complement both the lectures and transcription practice.



Oxford, St John's College MS 164,



Exploring Medieval Oxford through Surviving Archives



Lincoln College/EL/OAS/D1

Every Fridays 2-3pm, Seminar Room 1, EPA Centre, Museum Road, OX1 3PX

Fridays 2pm-3pm - Weston Library (Horton Room).

This weekly one-hour seminar offers participants the opportunity to work directly with original documents from various Oxford parishes, held in the Bodleian Libraries. Focusing primarily on thirteenth-century deeds, these documents provide rich insight into everyday life in medieval Oxford. Open to undergraduates, postgraduates, and early career researchers, the seminar welcomes all those interested in working with primary sources and conducting in-depth contextual analysis of historical records.

Working individually or in pairs on a self-selected original document, participants will closely examine its physical and material features (such as writing surface, layout, and signs of use), carry out transcription and translation, and identify the individuals and locations mentioned in order to situate the document within its historical context. Particular emphasis will be placed on the seals attached to the documents.

Alongside collaborative work on these unpublished or little-studied sources, participants will gain experience in the digitisation and cataloguing of archival materials, and will have the opportunity to present their research and original documents to a wider audience during a one-day workshop in Trinity Term.

This seminar is held at the Weston Library (Horton Room) in collaboration with Matthew Holford, Tolkien Curator of Medieval Manuscripts.

Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo via email: laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk



Latin Palaeography Manuscript Reading Group (advanced beginner, intermediate and advanced levels)

Tuesdays 2pm–3.30pm – Weston Library (Horton Room)

For those wishing to develop, deepen or maintain their skills in Latin palaeography, we meet every Tuesday between 2pm and 3.30pm in the Weston Library (Horton Room or Visiting Scholars Centre). We explore a wide variety of medieval manuscripts and documents dating from the 9th to the 15th centuries. Each session combines hands-on analysis of different scripts, abbreviations, and codicological features. Regular practice is key to building palaeographical skills and gaining confidence in reading a range of scripts, from clear book and documentary hands to more cursive and heavily abbreviated ones. This reading group is designed to introduce the essential features of each script and abbreviation, enabling participants to read and interpret manuscripts directly and with confidence.

Those who are interested can contact the convenor, Laure Miolo via email: laure.miolo@history.ox.ac.uk



Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Laud Misc. 562, fol. 1r

Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group

The Medieval Latin Documentary Palaeography Reading Group continues to meet every Wednesday at 4pm for an hour or so on Teams when we read through and translate a variety of documents from the medieval archive at New College, giving an opportunity to engage with documents ranging from papal bulls to manorial and college accounts, from royal letters patent to manorial court rolls, from college statutes to deeds of title, and from letters to receipts. The document(s) to be studied will be circulated the day before. To join and/or to find out more about this and the possibility of some hands-on experience of cataloguing such documents to develop further your research skills, please contact michael.stansfield@new.ox.ac.uk.



Old English Graduate Reading Group

A reading group for grad students by grad students! We will be meeting at 17:15 on Tuesdays of odd weeks (14th, 28th, 11th, 25th) for a friendly read-through. This term's text is *Apollonius of Tyre* [an e-copy is available [here](#)]. All are welcome whatever level of Old English you have. We'll read, translate and talk through the text together in a social and relaxed environment.

Location is *tbc* so please email Hattie (harriet.carter@lmh.ox.ac.uk) or James (james.titterton@stcatz.ox.ac.uk) if you're interested.



Introduction to Arabic Palaeography

Venue: Khalili Research Centre, 3 St John Street

Time: Mondays, 14:00-17:00 (with tea break)

If you are interested in joining one or more sessions or want to know more about the course, please write to Umberto Bongianino: umberto.bongianino@ames.ox.ac.uk



Eight weekly reading and discussion sessions (3 hours each) on Islamic manuscripts, calligraphy, and the scribal traditions of the Arabic-speaking Mediterranean (7th-14th centuries). These sessions are aimed at students and researchers affiliated with the Faculties of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Medieval and Modern Languages, Theology and Religion, Classics, and History. A basic grounding in classical Arabic is required.

Objectives:

- Acquire the ability to read, understand, and contextualise selected excerpts of medieval Arabic manuscripts (Quranic codices, papyri, different types of religious and secular works, chancery documents, etc.);
- Understand Islamic manuscripts in their material aspects (supports, quires, pigments, binding, etc.) as well as the processes and techniques behind their production (parchment- and papermaking, mise-en-page, quire numbering and sowing, illumination, collation, etc.);
- Familiarise oneself with standard Islamic formulae, frequent Quranic quotations, royal titulature, dating systems, book colophons and marginalia, reading notes, transmission certificates, ownership marks, stamps, etc.;
- Learn to describe effectively the main Arabic scripts and calligraphic styles, gain an overall understanding of palaeographic terminology and methodology, explore the principal calligraphic techniques;
- Date and identify a selection of manuscript material based not only on its textual content, but also on its stylistic, palaeographic, and codicological features.

Programme

Week 1: Egypt under the Tulunids and the Ikhshidids

Tulunid coin legends - ṭirāz phraseology - epigraphic styles - Quranic endowment certificates - Christian Arabic manuscripts from Mount Sinai - administrative and literary papyri (9th century)

Week 2: Written culture in early Islamic Ifrīqiya



Aghlabid inscriptions from Sousse and Kairouan - the “New Quranic Style” between Tunisia and Sicily - early Qayrawānī bookhands - Colophons and endowment certificates of the “Nurse’s Qur’ān” - Zirid chancery scripts (9th-11th centuries)

Week 3: The Christians of al-Andalus and ‘Mozarabic’ scripts

Christian Arabic codices from Umayyad Iberia - ‘Mozarabic’ scripts in al-Andalus and Northwest Africa - Arabic and bilingual epitaphs from medieval Toledo - Quadrilingual epitaph of Fernando III - Christian Arabic epigraphy and ‘Mudejar’ inscriptions (10th-13th centuries)

Week 4: The early Fatimid period

Early Fatimid coin legends - ʿīrāz phraseology - epigraphic styles - Christian Arabic manuscripts from Mount Sinai - the introduction of curvilinear proportioned scripts in Quranic calligraphy - petitions and administrative documents (10th-11th centuries)

Week 5: The late Fatimid period

Late Fatimid coin legends - ʿīrāz phraseology - epigraphic styles - Christian Arabic manuscripts from Mount Sinai - manuscripts from the Fatimid palace library - decrees and chancery documents (12th century)

Week 6: Arabic documents from Norman Sicily

Arabic epigraphy from the royal palace of Palermo - notarial scripts in private documents - chancery scripts in official administrative documents - George of Antioch’s bilingual endowment charter for Santa Maria dell’Ammiraglio (12th century)

Week 7: The Ayyubids and the Mamluks

Ayyubid coin legends - the spread of curvilinear proportioned epigraphy under the Ayyubids - Christian Arabic codices from Mount Sinai - a decree of al-ʿAdil to the monks of St. Catherine’s Monastery - Mamluk chancery scripts (13th-14th centuries)

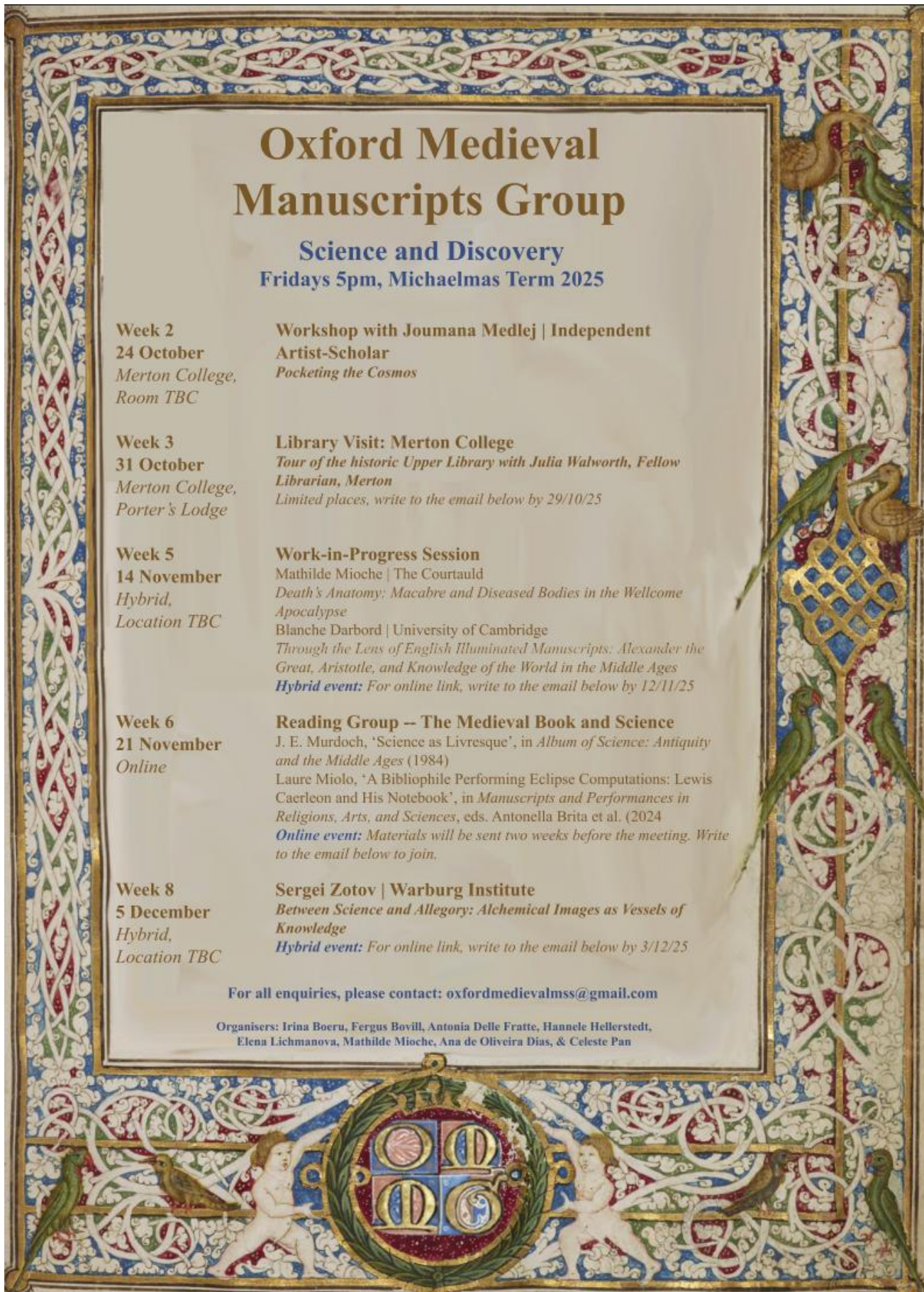
Week 8: The Marinids and their Neighbours

Marinid monumental epigraphy in Morocco - endowment certificates of the sultan Abū ʿInān - Marinid diplomatic letters to the kings of Aragon - chancery scripts and epigraphic styles between Marinid Fes and Nasrid Granada - Maghribi bookhands and calligraphy (14th-15th centuries).

Older Scots Reading Group

Calling all those interested in exploring texts outside of the traditional medieval canon! The Older Scots Reading Group is seeking participants who are interested in reading literature produced in Scotland between 1375-1550. This is an incredibly rich period of Scottish literature, featuring authors inspired by Chaucer and Lydgate, who are experimenting with form and language. The texts themselves are written in Older Scots - a language closely related to Middle English, but with some unique attributes. This reading group will provide a relaxed introduction to this period and guidance will be provided on how to read Older Scots. Both undergraduates and postgraduates are welcome. We will be meeting on Wednesdays during term from 2:30-3:30pm in room 30.401 in the Schwarzman Centre. Please contact megan.bushnell@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk for the list of readings.





Oxford Medieval Manuscripts Group

Science and Discovery

Fridays 5pm, Michaelmas Term 2025

Week 2 24 October <i>Merton College, Room TBC</i>	Workshop with Joumana Medlej Independent Artist-Scholar <i>Pocketing the Cosmos</i>
Week 3 31 October <i>Merton College, Porter's Lodge</i>	Library Visit: Merton College <i>Tour of the historic Upper Library with Julia Walworth, Fellow Librarian, Merton</i> <i>Limited places, write to the email below by 29/10/25</i>
Week 5 14 November <i>Hybrid, Location TBC</i>	Work-in-Progress Session Mathilde Mioche The Courtauld <i>Death's Anatomy: Macabre and Diseased Bodies in the Wellcome Apocalypse</i> Blanche Darbord University of Cambridge <i>Through the Lens of English Illuminated Manuscripts: Alexander the Great, Aristotle, and Knowledge of the World in the Middle Ages</i> Hybrid event: For online link, write to the email below by 12/11/25
Week 6 21 November <i>Online</i>	Reading Group -- The Medieval Book and Science J. E. Murdoch, 'Science as Livresque', in <i>Album of Science: Antiquity and the Middle Ages</i> (1984) Laure Miolo, 'A Bibliophile Performing Eclipse Computations: Lewis Caerleon and His Notebook', in <i>Manuscripts and Performances in Religions, Arts, and Sciences</i> , eds. Antonella Brita et al. (2024) Online event: Materials will be sent two weeks before the meeting. Write to the email below to join.
Week 8 5 December <i>Hybrid, Location TBC</i>	Sergei Zotov Warburg Institute <i>Between Science and Allegory: Alchemical Images as Vessels of Knowledge</i> Hybrid event: For online link, write to the email below by 3/12/25

For all enquiries, please contact: oxfordmedievalmss@gmail.com

Organisers: Irina Boeru, Fergus Bovill, Antonia Delle Fratte, Hannele Hellerstedt, Elena Lichmanova, Mathilde Mioche, Ana de Oliveira Dias, & Celeste Pan



**Oxford's
Middle English Reading Group
(MERG)**

**Michaelmas Term 2025:
*Sir Gawain and the Green
Knight***

**Thursdays, 11:00-12:00, Weeks 1-8
Lincoln College, Beckington Room**

All are welcome to MERG to read *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Bring any edition of the original text! There will be tea and biscuits.

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email
<rebecca.menmuir@lincoln.ox.ac.uk>

Image: British Library, Cotton Nero A.x



John Lydgate Book Club

John Lydgate Book Club

Lincoln College, Smoking Room / Wednesdays of Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 / 11am–12.15pm

Text: Guillaume de Deguileville trans. John Lydgate, *The Pilgrimage of the Life of Man* (1355/1426)



And whanne that I byheelde the guyse / Off all hir queynte marchaundyse... ll. 22,263–64.

The Pilgrim meets Hagiography. BL, Cotton MS Tiberius A VII (s. xv^{2/4}), f. 91^v, detail.

Just in time for its 600th birthday, every two weeks we will read a short circulated excerpt of Lydgate's 25,000-line translation of the allegorical *Pilgrimage* alongside contemporary analogues or modern translations. Over Michaelmas and Hilary we'll discuss the text informally alongside chosen themes. No previous experience required; handouts provided; reading before the meeting preferable but not required! All are welcome from undergraduate upwards – email Shaw or Rebecca with any questions.

PROGRAMME

1st Week (15 Oct.) On Beginnings: reading the *Pilgrimage* with Lydgate. **Set lines: 1–322.**

3rd Week (29 Oct.) On Bread: reasoning out the Eucharist. **Set lines: 5,487–6,161.**

5th Week (12 Nov.) On Guides: Idleness convinces the Pilgrim to go astray. **Set lines: 11,517–954.**

7th Week (26 Nov.) On French: a manuscript session with Prof Laure Miolo in the Weston Library.
Set lines: 13,081–464.

EDITION

The Pilgrimage of the Life of Man, trans. John Lydgate, ed. F. J. Furnivall and Katharine B. Locock, EETS E.S. 77, 83, 92 (London, 1899, 1901, 1904).

Freely digitised here: <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/c/cme/AJT8111.0001.001/1:1>. ('Item view' mode recommended.)

From Prof Daniel Wakelin at the Early English Text Society: If you join EETS [online](#) easily with PayPal, you can 'substitute' this year's publications for anything from the backlist up to double the value of the subscription fee. EETS have the *Pilgrimage* ready in Print-on-Demand to be shipped out.





Oxford Environmental History Working Group (EHWG) Michaelmas Term 2025 Schedule

Stephanie Holt (DPhil History)

"Curious Minds: Gilbert White and Thomas Pennant"

[Week 1] Thursday 16 October, 12:30–2:00pm, Schwarzman Centre History Hub Room 20.421

This talk builds on an exhibition of the same name held earlier this year by the AHRC funded [Curious Travellers Project](#), of which I am a part, and hosted at the Gilbert White Museum in Hampshire. While the project as a whole considers Thomas Pennant's entire body of work, my focus, and that of this talk, centres on the conversations between the two naturalists, Rev. Gilbert White (1720-1793) and Thomas Pennant (FRS 1727-1798), and how that developed their work and legacy.

Madeleine Fyles (PhD Anthropology, UToronto)

"More than Kindling: Algarrobo Posts and Social Memory on the Peruvian North Coast"

[Week 3] Thursday 30 October, 12:30–2:00pm, Schwarzman Centre History Hub Room 20.421

Wooden posts have been a critical element of Andean architecture within the Jequetepeque valley on the North Coast of Peru, particularly in the Moche site of Huaca Colorada (650-850 CE). However, wooden posts have frequently been interpreted in the archaeological canon as architectural features with little connection to ritual procedures except in their inclusion as an inert element of ritual architecture. Utilizing new analyses of wooden posts made from the algarrobo tree (*Neltuma pallida*), this paper identifies trends in the use and recycling of wooden posts at Huaca Colorada during the Middle Horizon, shedding light on the role of the algarrobo tree as more than a simple resource by examining how the algarrobo tree may have participated in the ritual, political, and social structures at Huaca Colorada as revered ancestor within the local ontology. This research explores the use and perception of algarrobo trees within the complex of Huaca Colorada and the role of trees in establishing or promoting culturally specific perceptions of place, ancestry, and memory.

Ryan Mealiffe (DPhil History)

"What are White Storks (*Ciconia ciconia*) Doing in High and Late Medieval Calendars?"

[Week 5] Thursday 13 November, 12:30–2:00pm, Schwarzman Centre History Hub Room 20.421

Each year, White Storks (*Ciconia ciconia*) migrate north to breeding grounds in Europe and back south to their wintering grounds, as far afield as sub-Saharan Africa. These long-distance migrants are large, unmistakable in plumage and behavior, and synanthropic, living near humans and benefitting from anthropogenic environments. How did medieval communities in proximity to stork breeding colonies interpret the comings and goings of these birds? This talk presents



preliminary findings on the development of interspecies, place-based temporalities between people and storks in northern France and the Low Countries. This region was a growing population center for the species and produced some of the liveliest renderings of storks in manuscripts c. 1250 to 1515. Focusing on depictions of storks in calendars and psalters produced around the Upper Rhine and drawing upon both zooarchaeological and written records of White Storks, I examine the possibility that depictions of storks' arrival, departure, breeding, and behavioral choices may have acted as pictorial gauges for a combination of environmental, temporal, and climatic variables, calibrating formulaic occupational and liturgical schedules for seasonal variability by synchronizing them with the rhythm of the avian annual cycle.

Charlie Mc Evoy (MSt History)

"Ecofeminist Thought in the Victorian Anti-Vivisection Movement"

[Week 7] Thursday 27 November, 12:30–2:00pm, ONLINE

Abstract forthcoming.

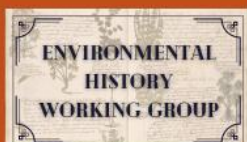


EHWG runs informal meetings for those interested in studying the past in ways that recognize the interactions and interconnectedness of animals, plants, humans, other beings, and the environment. We make space to talk about exciting developments in our fields, new ideas and approaches, and to have interdisciplinary conversations. We try to keep discussions and presentations informal and encourage anyone at all interested in these kinds of approaches to join our meetings, regardless of research specialism or presumed existing knowledge. Our sessions are mainly attended by graduate students and undergraduates who were considering writing a dissertation or embarking on further study in the field, but all are welcome.

For further information or to join the mailing list, please email environmentalhistoryworkinggroup-owner@maillist.ox.ac.uk. Alternatively, you can find our schedule on [OxTalks](#) and the Faculty's Environmental History [website](#).

Header: October astrological calendar, Les Très Riches Heures du duc de Berry, Chantilly 65, f.10v.

Footer: Occupation of the month for March in the Da Costa Hours, Morgan Library M.399, f.4v.



Opportunities

OMS Small Grants Now Open!

The TORCH [Oxford Medieval Studies Programme](#) invites applications for small grants to support conferences, workshops, and other forms of collaborative research activity organised by researchers at postgraduate (whether MSt or DPhil) or early-career level from across the Humanities Division at the University of Oxford.

The scheme has a rolling deadline. **Closing date for applications: Friday of Week 4 each term** for activities taking place during that or the following term. An additional deadline for summer activities and Michaelmas Term is **last Friday of July**.

Grants are *normally* in the region of £100-250 and can either be for expenses or for administrative and organisational support such as publicity, filming or zoom hosting. They can also be used to support staging a play for the [Medieval Mystery Cycle](#), e.g. for buying props or material for costumes. Recipients will be required to supply a report after the event for the [Oxford Medieval Studies blog](#) and will be invited to present on their award at an OMS event.

Applicants will be responsible for all administrative aspects of the activity, including formulating the theme and intellectual rationale, devising the format, and, depending on the type of event, inviting speakers and/or issuing a Call for Papers, organising the schedule, and managing the budget, promotion and advertising.

Applications should be submitted to Prof. [Lesley Smith](#) using either the [word grant application form](#) or fill out the [online form](#). Informal enquiries may also be directed to Lesley. The Oxford Medieval Studies Programme money is administered by [The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities \(TORCH\)](#) and the money will be paid out via their expenses system.

Publishing with the Journal Manuscript and Text Cultures

Are you interested in submitting to the journal [Manuscript and Text Cultures](#)? Please review the [About the Journal](#) page for the journal's section policies, as well as the [Author Guidelines](#). Authors need to [register](#) with the journal prior to submitting or, if already registered, can simply [log in](#) and begin the five-step process.



Accessibility and Updates

Inside is the full programme of medieval events taking place in Oxford in Hilary Term 2025. The booklet does not claim to be comprehensive. It only includes such entries as were submitted. If you wish to have further information for the seminars listed in this booklet, please consult the name of the convener of the seminar (where given) or the appropriate Faculty.

Please send any entries for next term's booklet to Tristan Alphey at medieval@torch.ox.ac.uk. Any further suggestions: get in contact with [Henrike Lähnemann](#), [Lesley Smith](#), or [Tristan Alphey](#), either via email or teams. Contact [Miles Pattenden](#) with ideas for blogposts, and [Elizabeth Crabtree](#) with suggestions for Social Media contents.

What is happening:

- A shared calendar on the website on <https://medieval.ox.ac.uk/> and torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies
- Regular email updates via the mailing list medieval-news@maillist.ox.ac.uk; if you are not on the list, you can also **sign up on the website** torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies. Should you know of any medievalist new to Oxford - whether student, staff, or academic visitor - please also alert them to the list.
- Podcasts and videos about medievalists and medieval projects on the podcast and itunes server of the University podcasts.ox.ac.uk
- And finally: weekly coffee mornings in the Visiting Scholars Centre of the Weston Library! If you have an exciting Special Collections related theme you would like to talk about, get in contact with Dr Chris Fletcher, Keeper of Special Collections.



OxMedievalStudies
@OxMedStud Folge die

OxMS is the interdisciplinary platform for medieval studies across Oxford supported by @TORCHOxford Follow us for events & knowledge exchange across disciplines.

📍 Oxford, England
🌐 torch.ox.ac.uk/medievalstudies

**Medievalists
Coffee Morning!
Friday 10:30-11:30**

**Visiting
Scholars Centre
in the Weston Library.**

**Access via the Readers Entrance on Museum Road
All medievalists working in Oxford welcome!**

