



The Early Book Society Newsletter *Spring 2009, volume 14, number 1*

Kalamazoo 2008

EBS is pleased to present five special sessions at the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies to be held at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, from May 7 to 10, 2009. This year EBS sessions are scheduled from Friday through Sunday morning. Sessions will take place in different rooms in Fetzer, Sangren, and Schneider, so please mark your conference programs and plan to wear your walking shoes (or leave enough time for the campus bus). Please also plan to attend the annual EBS business

meeting on Friday evening at 8:30 (Fetzer 1030, on the same floor as the screening of *Beowulf* and better value is promised), when we will ask for session themes or topics for Kalamazoo 2010. We will also discuss plans for our conference “‘*Accipere et Devora*’: *Packaging, Presentation and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books, 1350-1550*,” to be held at the University of Exeter from July 9 to July 12, 2009. Current information about the Exeter conference is available on the university website: <http://www.sall.ex.ac.uk/content/view/1977/184>

I. Session 251: Friday, 10:00 a.m., Sangren 2303,

Medieval Romances and their Readers

Presider: Mary Morse, Rider University

"Picturing Benoit's *Roman de Troie*"

Tamara O'Callaghan, Northern Kentucky University

"Reading 'K yng Alisaunder'"

Nicole Clifton, Northern Illinois University

"Fictions of Patronage: Medieval Romances and the Female Reader"

Amy N. Vines, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

"War by Other Means: The English Appropriation of French Literature in the Fifteenth Century"

Andrew Taylor, University of Ottawa

**II. Session 419: Saturday, 10:00 a.m., Schneider 1330,
Iconography and Liturgy**

“French ordinals”

Jean-Baptiste Lebigue, Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des
Textes (CNRS)

“The Carmelites, Painting, and Illumination in Fifteenth-century France”

Claudia Rabel, Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes (CNRS)

“The Saint Louis Psalter”

Patricia Stirnemann, Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes (CNRS)

**III. Session 453: Saturday, 1:30 p.m., Fetzer 1055,
Making Books in Westminster and/or London I:
Scribes, Printers, Artisans**

Presider: Derek Pearsall

“Metropolitan Ley Lines in London Books”

John Thompson, Queen’s University of Belfast

“Beholding Hoccleve’s Book and Body in MS Selden Supra 53”

David Watt, University of Manitoba

“London Drapers and London Books in the Late Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth
Centuries”

Julia Boffey, Queen Mary, University of London

**IV. Session 524: Saturday, 3:30 p.m., Schneider 1220,
Making Books in Westminster and/or London II:
Scribes, Printers, Artisans**

Presider: Janetta Rebold Benton, Pace University / Metropolitan Museum of Art

“Matthew Paris: From Manuscript to Print”

Kristen Geaman, University of Southern California

“Exemplar Superfluity? The Professional and Metropolitan Production Contexts of
Nicholas Love’s Mirror of the Blessed Life of Jesus Christ”

Ryan Perry, Queen’s University of Belfast

“Scriptor-Scriba, Clericus, Litterratus, Patronus: John Carpenter in Early 15c
London Documentary and Literary Culture”

Bryan P. Davis, Georgia Southwestern State University

**V. Session 596: Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Fetzer 1060,
Urban Authors and Their Readers**

Presider: John J. Thompson

“Looking Beyond the Nuremberg Chronicle”

Jeanne Krochalis, Pennsylvania State University, New Kensington Campus

“Lydgate’s Mummings, Shirley’s Manuscript, and the Mercantile Matrix”

Kathryn Veeman, University of Notre Dame

“London without an A-Z, or How Well Did London Authors Expect Readers to Know the Streets of the City?”

Derek A. Pearsall, Harvard University

EBS Newsletter

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The Early Book Society grew out of sessions planned for the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo) by Sarah Horrall and Martha Driver. Founded as an independent entity in 1987, the Society’s goal is to bring together all those who are interested in any aspect of the study of manuscripts and early printed books.

Newsletter Editor: Samantha Mullaney, Dept. of English, National University of Ireland: Cork, Cork City, Ireland (Samantha.mullaney@gmail.com). Newsletter items should be sent to the editor, including short reviews, reports on works in progress. Announcements and conference listings are also welcome.

EBS Officers:

- Martha Driver, Department of English, Pace University, 41 Park Row, NY, NY 10038 <MDriver@pace.edu>
- Sue Powell, Dept of English, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT UK <S.Powell@salford.ac.uk>.
- Linne R Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, King's Manor, University of York, York YO1 7EP UK Email: <LRM3@york.ac.uk>

JEBS: The Society’s other publication, *Journal of the Early Book Society*, can be ordered using the form that may be downloaded from the EBS website <http://www.pace.edu/press>. Details of how to contribute to *JEBS* can be found under a separate heading in the *Newsletter*.



EBS Conference 2009

Registration is now open for the eleventh biennial EBS conference, titled “*Accipe et Devora’: Packaging, Presentation and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books, 1350-1550,*” to be held at the University of Exeter from July 9 to July 12, 2009. All are welcome. In addition to the conference itself, optional trips are planned to Tintagel or Glastonbury on Monday, July 13. Registration information is available on the Exeter website: www.sall.ex.ac.uk/content/view/1977/577/. The nominal deadline for registration for the conference has been set for April 30, but there is some flexibility, so sign up soon, if you wish to come, or not later than the week after the Kalamazoo conference. Payment may be made online or by mail.

The conference begins on the main Streatham Campus on Thursday (July 9) at Reed Hall (<http://www.exeter.ac.uk/reedhall/location.php>) with registration opening at lunchtime. The Streatham Campus is a ten-minute walk from the centre of Exeter, and close to the main train station (Exeter St. David's). Housing is in Holland Hall next door to Reed Hall. Accommodation on campus is available throughout the conference and for addi-

tional nights before and afterwards for those wishing to stay on. All rooms have double beds and en-suite facilities (<http://www.exeter.ac.uk/accomodation/guide/holland.shtml>). There will be parallel sessions on Thursday afternoon with a wine reception and finger buffet dinner that evening in Reed Hall followed by a plenary.

Friday will open with a plenary and continue with parallel sessions in the morning. On Friday afternoon, there is a visit to the Cathedral Library with a marvelous exhibition of manuscripts and early printed books kindly organized especially for EBS by Cathedral Librarian Peter Thomas of Exeter Cathedral Library, with the help of Canon Ann Barwood. The exhibition will take place in Exeter Cathedral itself (<http://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/visiting/library-and-archive/cathedrallibrary.ashx>). Conferencees may also view the Exeter Book and the Exon Domesday in the Cathedral Library on the Friday afternoon. Anyone wishing to have access to the Cathedral Library to look at other books and materials in the Library's collection may visit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays by prior arrangement with Peter Thomas: [<library@exeter-cathedral.org.uk>](mailto:library@exeter-cathedral.org.uk)

On the Saturday morning, a visit to the University's Old Library and Special Collections including materials from the Syon Abbey collections has been organized by University of Exeter's Head of Special Collections Jessica Gardner and Curator of Archives Christine Fauch

(small groups will take turns, so there will be some free time that morning). Those wishing additional study of Special Collections material at Exeter at other times should contact Christine Fauch <c.j.fauch@exeter.ac.uk>. For further details please see: <http://library.exeter.ac.uk/special/> and also http://library.exeter.ac.uk/special/guides/archives/261-270/262_01.html and <http://library.exeter.ac.uk/special/guides/books/syon.html> That afternoon a ple-

building and great setting).

Sunday is a full day of sessions, punctuated by more eating and drinking, and a spot of croquet, and finished off with our delicious Gala Dinner which is extra on the booking form but will be well worth the price. On Monday morning there will be a short business meeting at Holland Hall, followed by the optional trips out. Emma Cayley will post further details about the trips on the EBS website (<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>).



*Exeter Cathedral
West Front*

nary and sessions will take place in the Queen's Building on the Streatham Campus (close to the accommodation). Dinner that evening is planned in town: you may choose to go your own way, or join more of us at a prebooked restaurant, perhaps ASK restaurant, serving delicious Italian food, in Cathedral Close (a lovely old

Getting There

By Plane: many direct flights are available from the UK and Europe to Exeter's International Airport (for flights to Exeter airport: <http://www.flybe.com/>), which is a twenty-minute taxi ride or bus journey to the University campus. Flights may also be taken into London's

Heathrow or Gatwick airports.

By Car: the M4/M5 links Exeter directly to London, the Midlands, South Wales and the North including Scotland. The average journey time from either London or the Midlands is 3 hours. The A30/A303 and M3 offer scenic routes to Exeter.

By Coach: National Express buses arrive at Exeter Coach Station. The local D bus

connects the coach station to the Streatham Campus.

By Train: Exeter has two train stations: Exeter Central in the middle of town on Queen Street and Exeter St David's closer (by just a bit) to the university – either station is fine (in London take the train from Paddington). There are more taxis readily available at Exeter St David's station, however. There is a little green bus (D service) that runs regularly through campus into town on the half hour, though town is walkable from campus (about 15-20 minutes from the library to the High Street). The average journey time from London Paddington is 2 hours 30 minutes.

Hotels and B&Bs

(for those wishing to stay off campus)

Park View Hotel, 8 Howell Rd 01392/271772, (www.parkviewhotelfreeserve.co.uk) closest to campus in a Grade II listed Georgian building overlooking Bury Meadow Park. Five minutes to city center, university. Inexpensive.

Queens Court Hotel, 6-8 Bystock Terrace 01392/272709 (www.queenscourt-hotel.co.uk/welcome.html) Sue Powell and Martha Driver stayed here this July; the hotel was quiet and comfortable (beds a bit dicey) with excellent breakfast and within walking distance of the university. The restaur-

ant is altogether outstanding and fresh cookies/biscuits are left for guests in rooms daily. Reasonably priced.

Royal Clarence Hotel, Cathedral Yard, 01392/319955 (<http://www.abodehotels.co.uk/exeter/>) dating from 1769, faces the Cathedral and is a 20-30 minute walk to the university, though there is a regular bus service (D)



The Well House Tavern

from which Roman coins and pottery have been recovered. Pricy and luxurious, Exeter's best hotel also features an outstanding restaurant.

The White Hart Hotel, 65 South St 01392/279897 (<http://www.roomattheinn.info/detail.php?index=5>) is a fifteenth-century coaching inn very close to Cathedral Yard. Moderately priced, about a 20-30 minute walk to campus.

Emma Cayley has added links with some suggested alternative accommodation on

that loops onto campus and runs into town. A well has been found in The Well House just beside it (now part of the hotel)

the EBS website, as well as further details of the optional trips on Monday 13th July to either Glastonbury or Tintagel (these two alternative trips will both run. Plan to register for either trip in the day of registration and factor in approx £40-£50 for the day).

For general questions about the conference or the Early Book Society, contact Martha Driver <mdriver@pace.edu> EBS, English Department, 41 Park Row, Rm 1525, New York, New York 10038-1598. For specific questions about conference housing, meals, libraries or other details, contact Emma Cayley <e.j.cayley@ex.ac.uk> Dept of French, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Exeter, The Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QH UK.

JEBS 12 in Progress

The current issue of *JEBS* is with Pace University Press and includes an outstanding roster of contributors including Mary-Jo Arn, Elizabeth J. Bryan, David Davis, Joel Fredell, Andrew Higl, Simon Horobin, Agnes Juhasz-Ormsby, Simone Celine Marshall, Linne R. Mooney, Daniel W. Mosser and Lawrence Warner, along with 30-some book reviews collected by the indefatigable Sue Powell. The contributors represent a range of scholars from graduate students to full professors and librarians who are making their mark in the valuable field of MS and early print studies (no puns intended). *JEBS 12* will be sent in summer 2009 to

members whose accounts are current. Please submit longer papers (35 - 40 pp), with endnotes and a full Works Cited list, for consideration for publication in *JEBS 13* (2010) in summer and early fall. These are substantial essays on any aspect of the history of manuscripts and/or printed books, with emphasis on the period between 1350 and 1550. Essays should be sent for consideration in duplicate with an abstract to Martha Driver. A limited number of illustrations may be included with complete captions and permissions citations; Xeroxes of these should initially be sent with papers for consideration to the editor. Notes on recent discoveries (4 -10 pp), highlighting little-known or recently uncovered texts or images, may be sent to Linne Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York YO1 7EP UK. These shorter essays include only endnotes (not a Works Cited list). Inquiries are welcome <LRM3@York.ac.uk>. Please send brief descriptions (200-650 words) of little- or lesser-known collections and libraries of interest to the Society to Martha Driver, Early Book Society, Department of English, Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York, NY 10038. Members of the Early Book Society who are recent authors may send review books for consideration to Susan Powell, Reviews Editor, Department of English, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT UK. Sue may be contacted at <S.Powell@salford.ac.uk>. For general information, contact <M.Driver@pace.edu>.

Subscription Information

JEBS 12, the issue forthcoming this summer, is part of timely membership renewal; further copies must be ordered separately. If you are ordering extra copies, you can pay with VISA (in U.S. dollars) using the order form that can be downloaded from the Pace UP site at (<http://www.pace.edu/press>). Libraries may purchase copies directly from Ingram Library Services (1-800-937-5300). A membership renewal form for 2008-2009, which includes the cost of *JEBS 12*, may be found on the last page of this bulletin. Members are asked, however, to pay their dues promptly. All members are encouraged to join (for the academic year) not later than the annual business meeting at Western Michigan (Friday, May 8, 2009), so the proper number of orders can be given the Press on return. UK and Continental payments are made to Linne Mooney, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York YO1 7EP UK. E-mail: <LRM3@York.ac.uk>, but well before the May deadline, please, if you wish to include the Journal with your subscription for this year.

EBS Website and 2009 Membership List

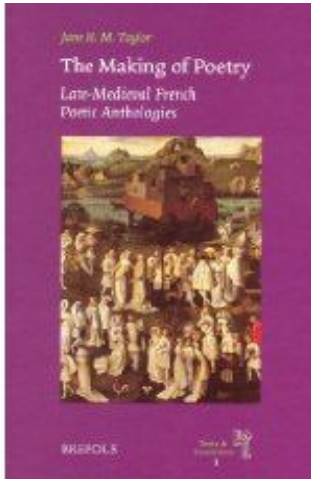
Martha Rust at New York University is the webmaster for the EBS site housed at NYU (<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>). The site includes an electronic version of the Newsletter, announcements of interest

to the EBS membership, the current membership list for 2008-9, and the Honor Roll, a list of those who have paid their EBS dues already for 2008-9. Suggestions for other items members would like to see included on this site (announcements of forthcoming books, of conferences or talks and exhibitions) may be sent to: <martha.rust@nyu.edu> or to <mdriver@pace.edu>. Because the costs of producing and mailing the EBS membership booklets have risen annually and because the EBS membership list is posted online already, the membership booklet will be sent only to members who have paid their dues by the deadlines outlined above. However, a version of the current address booklet for 2009 will be provided in PDF format on the EBS website for members to download should they so choose.

EBS Book Series

EBS proudly announces the publication of *The Poet's Notebook: The Personal Manuscript of Charles d'Orléans (Paris, BNF MS fr.25458)* by Mary-Jo Arn, the third volume in the Texts and Transitions series with Brepols sponsored by the Society. A fourth series volume titled *Anne Bulkeley and Her Book: Fashioning Female Piety in Early Tudor England. A Study of London, British Library MS Harley 494* by Alexandra Barratt is currently in press, and several other book projects are forthcoming. The first volume in the EBS series, *The Making of Po-*

etry: *Late-Medieval French Poetic Anthologies* by Jane H. M. Taylor, published



in August of 2007, has received several excellent reviews (most recently in *Speculum*), and the second, *Reformations: Three Medieval Authors in Manuscript and Movable Type* by Rebecca Schoff, published in January 2008, is both cited and reviewed in the forthcoming issue of *JEBS*.

The series draws on the ideals and aims of the Early Book Society. Through Brepols, EBS publishes monographs dealing with late medieval manuscripts and early printed books to about 1550, particularly those that explore the transition from manuscript to print and questions to do with readers and literacy, owners and patronage, the dissemination of texts, and the reception of medieval texts. A 'text' may be either a word or an image, where a picture serves also as a text that can be read and interpreted. The focus is mainly on manuscripts and books produced in

England or for the English market, and closely related French and Continental works. The series includes monographs of about 250 - 300 pages, collections of previously published essays by one author (updated and revised), or in some cases essay collections with a clearly unified theme or one main subject. Authors are encouraged to include illustrations. Pictures are reproduced in black and white, though color illustrations may be included in special cases. Authors are responsible for purchasing photographs and securing the permissions to reproduce them.

The immediate organizers and general editors of the series are Martha Driver (Pace University, NY) and Derek Pearsall (Harvard University, emeritus). The advisory board comprises scholars expert in the various fields of late medieval and early modern literature and culture and in the history of manuscripts and books. The members of the board are: Julia Boffey (Queen Mary, University of London), Jennifer Britnell (University of Durham), Ardis Butterfield (University College, London), Philippa Hardman (University of Reading), Dieter Mehl (University of Bonn), Alastair Minnis (Ohio State University), Oliver Pickering (Brotherton Library, Leeds), John Scattergood (Trinity College, Dublin), and John Thompson (Queen's University, Belfast). Those interested in inquiring about submissions should contact Simon Forde at Brepols <simon.forde@brepols.net>, Derek Pearsall <Derek@apearsall.fsnet.co.uk> or Martha Driver <mdriver@pace.edu>.

The Vellum Project

As reported in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 9, 2009), vellum is being subjected to a DNA study in order to date and localize it. Timothy L. Stinson, an assistant professor of English at North Carolina State University, with his brother, C. Michael Stinson, a biologist, is working to develop a method of using DNA to determine “when and where medieval manuscripts were written,” according to the *Chronicle*, which further commented that this “approach will significantly improve the accuracy of the standard identification process, which typically relies on analysis of the author’s handwriting and dialect – approaches that are ‘notoriously unreliable,’ Mr. Stinson says.” The Stinson brothers so far have been able to demonstrate that some MS leaves originate from the same animals. The researchers have acquired their samples for the DNA tests by cutting a “tiny sample with a scalpel” from each manuscript page. While learning more about the origin of vellum (or its sheep, goat or cow) might be potentially helpful to the process of MS description, the jury is still out on whether the Stinson study will be useful to studies of dating, localization, production or trade as claimed. Damaging MSS for any reason seems out of keeping with current scholarly practice.

Announcements

Journal of the Northern Renaissance Seeks Submissions

For an issue focusing on memory and the Northern Renaissance, the editors seek submissions on any of the following themes: Acts and Monuments, age, amnesia, anecdote, antiquarianism, archives, autobiography, beginnings, childhood, chronicle, classics, collective memory, cultural memory, commemoration, death, decay, depository, discovery, dreams, editing, education, epitaphs, etymology, evidence, example, forgetfulness, forgiveness, foundations, generations, ghosts, glossary, historiography, imagination, inscription, labor, lament, law, learning,

Lethe, library, loss, madness, manuscript, martyrdom, melancholy, memoir, monuments, myth, nostalgia, oblivion, obscurity, origins, pardons, past performance, popular memory, posterity, precedent, preservation, publication, rebellion, record, recollection, recovery, reformation, rehearsal, relics, remembrance, repetition, repository, roots, salvation, scripture, speeches, storehouse, texts, time, traces, translation, travel, vision and youth. Journal submissions should be sent by September 1, 2009. Guidelines and further information is available at <http://www.northernrenaissance.org/submissions/>.

Editing Medieval Texts from Britain in the Twenty-First Century

This conference organized by The Early English Text Society will be held in Oxford from May 20 to 22, 2010. Panels will address such themes as electronic editions, paleography, dialectology and the editorial process, *Brut* chronicles, critical editing, editing British texts in Latin, Anglo-Norman, Celtic and Scots, and future *desiderata*. Abstracts of 300 words should be sent to Vincent Gillespie by May 31, 2009

<Vincent.gillespie@ell.ox.ac.uk>. Plenary speakers include H. Leith Spencer, Katherine O'Brien O'Keefe, and Thorlac Turville-Petre. More information may be found at www.eets.org.uk.

Programs at Folger Institute,

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.

Among the programs on offer at the Folger in 2009 and 2010 are Researching the Archives, led by Steven Zwicker and Derek Hirst, a year-long dissertation seminar meeting monthly on Fridays; Teaching Paleography, a December workshop led by Heather Wolfe, and Textual Debates and Editorial Practice, a spring semester seminar taught by Margaret Jane Kidnie. The deadline for application is June 5. Visit www.folger.edu/institute for full descriptions and an application.

Newberry Library

The Newberry in Chicago offers a fellow-

ship that provides a monthly stipend and free tuition for American or Canadian graduate students to study at the Ecole Nationale des Chartres in Paris for three months. The Ecole is the oldest institution in Europe specializing in archival sciences, including paleography, bibliography, textual editing, and the history of the book. Preference is given students attending institutions that are members of the Center for Renaissance Studies Consortium. For application and further information, contact the Newberry through the website (www.newberry.org/renaissance)

Mellon Summer Institutes in Vernacular Paleography, 2009 – 2012

Supported by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, these summer institutes provide intensive practical training in reading late medieval and Renaissance MSS in European vernacular hands. The institutes in French paleography (2010, 2012), Spanish paleography (2011), and English paleography (2012) are hosted by the Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies, the Getty Research Institute, the Huntington Library, and the Harry Ransom Center at The University of Texas at Austin. First consideration is given advanced graduate students and junior faculty at US colleges and universities but applications are also accepted from advanced graduate students and junior faculty at Canadian institutions, from professional staff of US and Canadian libraries and museums, and from independent scholars. Those admit-

ted receive a stipend to help defray the cost of attending the institute. For general information about the program, contact Carla Zecher, Director of the Center for Renaissance Studies (312-255-3514) or <renaissance@newberry.org>.

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Wilton Diptych: outer panels
National Gallery

Free Digital Images for Scholars

The National Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, along with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, have made digital images of works from their collections available for free for all scholarly publications. The National Gallery waives reproduction charges for digital images used in academic books and journals that meet specific criteria (nonprofit, short-run publications) and where orders are processed and delivered via its Picture Library website (www.nationalgalleryimages.co.uk). Dis-

AMARC

The Association for Manuscripts and Archives in Research Collections (AMARC) promotes the accessibility, preservation, and study of medieval and later manuscripts and archives in libraries and other research collections in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Membership is open to all and includes reduced-rate attendance at meetings, held usually three times per year (which often involve privileged access to manuscript collections), and the twice-yearly Newsletter. The AMARC Newsletter contains listings of worldwide exhibitions and conferences, and UK lectures and seminars; it also includes a substantial bibliography of recent publications, recent acquisitions by libraries and

museums, information about recent and forthcoming auction and dealer catalogs, and a list of useful websites. For further details, visit www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc.

British Census of Western Medieval Bindings to 1500

Of 1,439 bindings so far surveyed, 719 are on manuscripts and 720 on printed books. These findings are available on CD-ROM. The CD includes the text and drawings of the booklet associated with the project, *A Guide to the Census of Western Medieval Bookbinding Structures to 1500 in British Libraries*. For more information, contact Jenny Sheppard, Flax Mill Cottage, Clements Lane, Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6DF, United Kingdom; email <jsheppard@britishlibrary.net>.

***Scripta* Seeks Submissions**

Scripta, an international journal of palaeography and codicology, invites studies of Greek, Latin or vernacular texts, especially those related to the history of European or Mediterranean manuscript culture of any period. The journal covers all aspects of writing, including libraries, schools, the care and restoration of books, as well as intellectual history. See www.libraweb.net

FONS LUMINIS

Fons Luminis: an Interdisciplinary Jour-

nal of Medieval Studies, a peer-reviewed journal, seeks submissions of articles from all areas, especially those with an interdisciplinary emphasis; articles should be about 8,000 words and follow the *Speculum* style sheet. Junior faculty and graduate students are particularly encouraged to submit. Deadlines are Jan 1 for the spring issue and June 1 for the autumn issue. Inquiries and submissions should be directed to Victoria Goddard and Andrew Reeves, Editors in Chief, at <edsfl@chass.utoronto.ca>, or Fons Luminis, Centre for Medieval Studies, 39 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, ON M5S 2C3.

Conferences, Colloquia, Talks, Exhibitions of Interest to EBS Members

June 2-Aug 23 Pen and Parchment: Drawing in the Middle Ages, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY, with 50 examples ranging from drawings made in 9c scriptoria to the 14c French court, including maps, artists' sketchbooks, and MSS.

June 12 "Manuscript Geographies: Mapping and Cataloguing Middle English Manuscripts," a one-day interdisciplinary conference at the University of Nottingham highlighting issues about electronic resources for MS analysis and the importance of place and geography to manuscript production and textual transmission in the late medieval period. Speakers include EBS members Michael

Foster, Wendy Scase, and Estelle Stubbs. Free for those registered in an MPhil, DPhil, or PhD programme in the UK or abroad. All others pay the £12 conference fee. E-mail Michael Foster <aeexmf2@nottingham.ac.uk>.

June 19-Sept 13 "Pages of Gold: Medieval Illuminations" from the Morgan Library and Museum, NYC, featuring 50 single leaves dating from the 12th to 16th centuries, including a page from the Winchester Bible, with a dozen leaves on exhibition for the first time.

June 19 "Folia Fugitiva: The Pursuit of the Illuminated MS Leaf," an illustrated lecture by the incomparable Roger S. Wieck, Curator, Dept of Medieval and Renaissance MSS, at the Morgan Library and Museum, at 7 p.m. Free.

June 23 Georgian Manuscript Symposium, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Centre of Manuscripts, Georgia, with sections on codicology/textual studies, art of the book, restoration and conservation, digitization, cultural studies, drawing on the MSS, documents, archival materials, printed books housed in the National Centre of Manuscripts. For more information see (www.manuscript.ge) E-mail: <symposium@manuscript.ge>

June 29-30 'Divers MSS both Antient & Curious': Illuminated Treasures from the Harley Collection, conference at the British Library. Contact Catherine

Yvard <Catherine.Yvard@bl.uk>).

July 23-26 The 25th Annual Book Fair, Newberry Library, Chicago, with more than 100,000 donated books for sale to the public.

Aug 24-26 "Medieval Manuscript Miscellanies: Composition, Authorship, Use," a workshop at the Department of Greek and Latin Studies, Philosophical Faculty of the Charles University, Prague. Workshop languages are English, French, and German. There is no conference fee. Contact Lucie Dolezalová <dolezalova@cts.cuni.cz>.

Aug 28-30 "The Language and Style of Chaucer and Chaucerians, in Relation to the History of English," Hiroshima University. For information, see (<http://home.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/shell/>).

Oct 16-17 Thirty-Sixth Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies, Vatican Film Library at Saint Louis University, on book production, with plenary speaker Patricia Stirnemann (IRHT). For more information, call 314-977-3090 or e-mail <vfl@slu.edu>; (<http://www.slu.edu/libraries/vfl/conference.index.html>)

Oct 23-24 "Authors, Authority, and Authorship," Texas Medieval Association (TEMA), University of Texas, Austin. Contact Cristian Bratu <Cristian_Bratu@baylor.edu>. Inquiries welcome.

Constabulary Notes from All Over

Collapse of Cologne Archives

On March 5, 2009, The *London Times* reported the collapse of the Cologne book depository. The building that was “supposed to be a model for similar archives around the world” collapsed in six minutes for reasons yet to be determined. Information about subsequent events and offers of help from around the world, along with a letter detailing the help that is still needed, may be found at <http://www.historischesarchivkoeln.de/index.php?lang=en> More information about this story may be found on the website of the International Center of Medieval Art, <http://www.medievalart.org/>.

More on the Stolen Durham University First Folio

Before proceeding to the courtroom for his hearing on February 10, 2009, in the case of the theft of Durham University’s First Folio, British book dealer Raymond Scott read aloud from Shakespeare’s *Richard III*, according to Associated Press reports. The 1623 Shakespeare Folio was among seven books stolen from Durham University Library in 1998 and was worth an estimated three to four million pounds. Scott brought the copy to the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., for authentication in 2008 and was subsequently arrested. Scott, who lives with his mother in Washington, Tyne and Wear, just outside Durham, has a reputation for eccentric behavior. For his second hearing, held on April 14, 2009, in the UK, Scott turned up in court costumed as Che Guevara, along with three women and a bodyguard also dressed as revolutionaries.

Quedlinburg Treasures Case Dismissed

A criminal indictment alleging that Jack Meador, his sister Jane Meador Cook and their lawyer John S. Torigian had conspired to transport and sell the two Quedlinburg MSS after learning they had been stolen from Quelinburg church was dismissed by a federal judge in Texas. The US Department of Justice is deciding whether to pursue an appeal of the dismissal. The International Revenue Service is also after the Meadors for non-payment of inheritance taxes. More about the case may be read at: http://spoils.libfl.ru/spoils/eng/spoil3_7.html

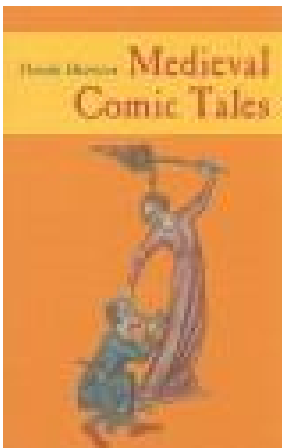
(thanks to Sylvie Merian for forwarding some of these news items)

Remembering Derek Brewer

by Derek Pearsall

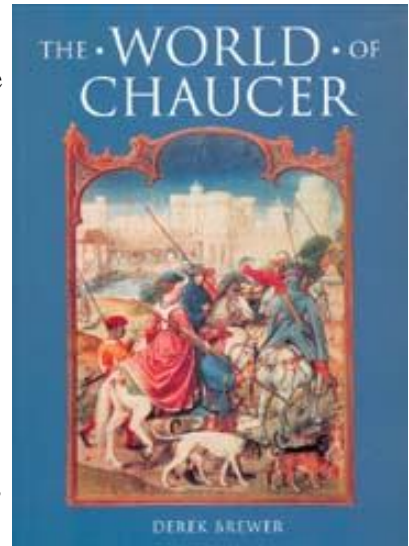
Derek Brewer, who died on October 23, 2008, after eighteen months of incapacitating illness, was the outstanding Chaucer scholar of his generation, who combined a long and distinguished academic career with thirteen years as the Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and seventeen years as the director of a major publishing house. He was a student at Magdalen College, Oxford, where J.A.W. Bennett and C.S. Lewis were among his tutors, but his studies were interrupted by military service as an infantry officer during the Italian campaign of 1944 to 1945. He returned to Oxford after the war and then, in 1949, took up a lectureship at the University of Birmingham. He spent many happy and productive years there, with Chaucer, always, even in those earliest days, the principal focus of his interest. His ambition was to share with students his love and understanding of Chaucer, not as a historical relic or a store of linguistic data, but as a full member of the European community of poets and of the English literary tradition. It was a revelation to those of us who were privileged to be his students at that time to hear Chaucer talked about as if he were important to us, now, and important in the same way as Shakespeare or Milton or T.S. Eliot. His first book on Chaucer came out in 1953, and if Chaucer and other medieval writers are established now as an integral part of the student's experience of English literature, it is due in no small part to the writing of that book at that time. It was he, it might be said, who brought the New Criticism to the study of Chaucer.

He became a prolific writer on Chaucerian and other medieval topics, and through his career brought out or edited fifteen or more books, many still in print, and over 170 articles and essays, including some that broke new ground for their time. He brought life to the idea of the historically and socially "contextualized" *Chaucer in his Time* (1963), with a range of carefully chosen illustrations, a new feature in such a book at such an early date. Like his 1953 Chaucer, this was a book that he kept in print through recurrent rewriting and updating, a useful practice and a sensible economy. All this ran side by side with a full load of teaching and administration, all the business



of helping his wife Elisabeth to bring up a large family, and two important years at Keio University in Japan (1956 to 1958), where he helped lay the foundation of the thriving modern Japanese study of Middle English literature.

He moved from Birmingham in 1964 to a Fellowship at Emmanuel College, where, despite his many new college and faculty responsibilities, the flow of books and articles continued unabated. His love of innovation and his energetic pioneering spirit were accompanied by a shrewd and far-sighted recognition of the needs of his subject, and he put himself or got himself put at the head of a number of collaborative enterprises – editions, series, collections, surveys (*Chaucer and Chaucerians*, 1966; *Chaucer: Writers and their Background*, 1974; *Chaucer: The Critical Heritage*, 1978) – which formed part of the foundation of modern medieval studies as we now know them. It was partly as a product of this same view of the good of the subject that he took the extraordinarily adventurous step of founding his own publishing company in 1972. It achieved a quite remarkable success, perhaps partly due to careful economies with overheads and print-runs and even more to his own network of academic contacts and his generally astute judgment of what would sell. He knew what books to publish and how many to print. As he said to an old friend David Benson, “The world needs your book, David, but it does not need many copies.” Looking back over scholarly publishing in the subject over the past thirty-odd years, one would find it hard to know how the subject would have managed without the existence of D.S. Brewer and, later, Boydell and Brewer, of which he was a director from 1979 to 1996.



Derek Brewer became Master of Emmanuel in 1977, a position that he held until 1990, and no one could be imagined who would be better at such a job, with all its many needful occasions for negotiation among potentially fractious members. Those who saw him in his chairmanly capacity on non-college occasions will recognize the same qualities. With his imperturbable good nature and geniality, he seemed to be agreeing with everyone who spoke, but at the end of the meeting one would find that the committee had come to all the right and sensible decisions while at the same time all the members, however irrelevant and contentious their contributions, somehow felt pleased that their point of view had been so fully represented in the final decision.

His views on medieval literature – he wrote on Malory and the romances as well as Chaucer – remained generally as he had outlined them in 1949, so that what

Membership Form

The Early Book Society grew out of sessions planned for the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo) by Sarah Horrall and Martha Driver. Founded as an independent entity in 1987, the Society was formed to bring together all those who are interested in any aspect of the study of manuscripts and early printed books. EBS now has 475 members in the US, Canada, Japan, Ireland, Great Britain, and on the Continent. Membership brings announcements of EBS activities, including the biennial conference, as well as the membership list and the Journal of the Early Book Society, both published annually, along with pre-publication discounts on books of interest to members and access to the EBS chatline.

Dues are \$40 or £24 for 2008-2009. All members are asked to pay by mail not later than May 1, 2009, or in person at the annual EBS business meeting at Western Michigan (May 8) so copies of JEBS may be ordered in a timely fashion. JEBS may also be ordered separately from Pace UP (see www.pace.edu/press for details). Those who have paid dues are indicated on the EBS website: (www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS). Please share a copy of this announcement with an interested friend.

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Visit our Website at (<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS>). Send newsletter items of interest to the editor Samantha Mullaney <Samantha.Mullaney@gmail.com>.