



PMRG
Perth Medieval and Renaissance Group

School of Humanities (M208)
University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway, Crawley
WA 6009
<http://www.pmr.org.arts.uwa.edu.au>

2 July 2008

Dear Members of PMRG,

The second semester's events look as though they will be as stimulating as those of the first. The programme shows an average of two lectures each month, with visits of distinguished international speakers augmenting the programme of lectures given by our own local researchers. We believe that we have found a solution to the rather nomadic life of PMRG over the past couple of years. We find that we are able to use the Library Meeting Room, Ground floor, Reid Library. So unless otherwise notified, that is where our meetings will take place.

Wed 30 July, 7.30 pm: Dr Smadar Gabrieli, Archaeology, UWA: "I have a cousin in Famagusta", the hidden economy of Lusignan Cyprus.

'The last Crusader stronghold in the Levant and Europe's gateway to the East - despite its small size Cyprus played important role in the Economy of Medieval Europe and has therefore been the subject of intensive study by historians of the period. Archaeological research, dormant until recently, concentrates on the related issue of extensive Mediterranean trade systems. Little if any attention has been given to the local economy and to regional trade systems, which form the basis for the life of the majority of the local population. In this talk we shall look at local production and distribution of ceramics in Cyprus, and the unrecorded trade with the Levantine coast in the 13th century, with a view to a better understanding of life in Lusignan Cyprus.'

Monday 11th August 4.30 pm, Geography Lecture Room 2: Dr Anne Scott, English and Cultural Studies, UWA: "The enigma of 'Lady Poverty': beautiful ideal or loathsome hag?"

Chaucer's *Wife of Bath's Tale*, Dante's *Paradiso* Canto XI, the anonymous Franciscan text of the *Sacrum Commercium*, and Lydgate's *Fall of Princes* Book III, represent Poverty as a loathly lady, shunned by those who want a life of material success, but embraced by those for whom spiritual values take priority. In this lecture we look at the way different medieval writers confront the issues of poverty, and explore the intellectual conflicts raised for the reader who seeks to interpret the allegory in the light of 'reality'.

Monday 25 August Quiz Night: Eight quiz rounds fizzing with challenge and suspense! Plus: Art quiz, True and False, Raffle and other delights! Prizes of wine, restaurant vouchers, books, and many others. BYO finger food is allowed, but drinks must be bought from the tavern. Doors open 7:00 PM for a 7:30 PM prompt start. For bookings and enquiries, email Anne Scott, amscott@cyllene.uwa.edu.au. NB This is our only fund-raising event, and helps us to put on the unique annual conference. Please support generously.

Please turn over

Monday 1st September, 7.30 pm: Professor Albrecht Classen, Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Arizona: 'Gender identity and community in later medieval literature'.

Originating from Germany, Albrecht Classen is a medievalist in the Department of German Studies at the University of Arizona, Tucson. He has published more than 40 scholarly monographs, editions, anthology, translations, and textbooks, and close to 400 scholarly articles. He is the editor of *Tristania* and co-editor of *Mediaevistik*. Currently Classen is preparing a new volume on *Words of Love and Love of Words in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance*, and he is editing a three-volume *Handbook of Medieval Studies* for de Gruyter. In 2004 he received the rank of University Distinguished Professor, and was also awarded the *Bundesverdienstkreuz am Band* (Order of Merit), the highest award given to a civilian by the government of the Federal Republic of Germany, in recognition of his contributions to the teaching and support of German culture, language, and literature.

Mid-September: John Kerrigan: still to be arranged. NB This visit is to take place in 2009

St John's College Cambridge, Professor of English. During the 1980s Kerrigan established himself as one of a group of scholars who revolutionised the editing of Shakespeare by discrediting the practice of 'conflating' variant editions of such plays as *Hamlet* and *King Lear*. His own editions include *Love's Labour's Lost* (1982) and Shakespeare's *Sonnets and a Lover's Complaint* (1986). He did further work on *A Lover's Complaint* recovering its sources and analogues in *Motives of Woe* (1991). Over the last decade he has published extensively on contemporary poetry while exploring seventeenth-century anglophone literature in the context of British-Irish state formation. His *Archipelagic English: Literature, History, and Politics 1603-1707* (2008) seeks to correct the traditional Anglocentric account of seventeenth-century English Literature by showing how much remarkable writing was produced in Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, and how preoccupied such English authors as Shakespeare, Milton, and Marvell were with the often fraught interactions between ethnic, religious, and national groups around Britain and Ireland.

Tuesday 7th October, 7.30 pm, Dr Kate Bartel, Harvard and UWA: "Music and the Unlanguageable: Chiara Margarita Cozzolani's Divine Love".

Tuesday 28 October 4.30 pm, Shane McLeod, UWA, on 'Viking Settlement Zones in ninth-century England: Chance or design?' Venue: Arts 2.43.

Friday 28th November 5 pm, Christmas party on the foreshore, precise venue to be announced nearer the date.

Knowing that we have a great programme, we look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Best wishes from the PMRG committee.

Anne Scott (Secretary) amscott@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

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Quiz Night: 25 August 2008, Guild Tavern.

Email your booking to Anne Scott amscott@cyllene.uwa.edu.au
or print and return this slip to Anne Scott, School of Humanities M208

Please reserve a table for

Name.....Number.....

Address.....

Email.....

Payment on arrival, \$10 per person, \$50 per table of six, \$10 for an extra person.