

International Medieval Congress

Summer 2011
Newsletter



IMC 2011

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

From 11-14 July the eighteenth annual International Medieval Congress took place at the University of Leeds in the UK. 1615 medievalists attended, from no fewer than 50 different countries, making this the most International Congress to date.

The Congress drew in a broad crowd with more than half of participants coming from outside of the UK, 20% coming from outside Europe. This year attracted delegates from as far a field as Argentina, South Africa, and Russia. Some 400 sessions and roundtable discussions explored all aspects of the European Middle Ages, with papers on subjects as diverse as 'La Povertà

dei Santi Carmelitani', 'Dressed to Process: Ritual Costume, Display, and Reception of Il Volto Santo', 'Les élections épiscopales en France sous Charles VIII', 'Das Geschwisterpaar Benedikt von Nursia und Scholastika: Anzeichen zu soziokulturellen Aspekten des Heiligenkultes in Sankt Galler Messproprien', and 'Power and Luxury in Late Medieval Castilian Palaces: Between the Andalusí Tradition and European Influences.'

The Congress welcomed a diverse group of delegates, from early career scholars to seasoned professors and those in between. Not only was new ground trodden, but there was also discussion on how to bring new perspectives to familiar territory.

As always, we received plenty of feedback and are already looking at ways to improve the Congress for future years. Amongst many positive comments about the Congress, participants said that IMC 2011 was 'a unique and enriching experience for the participants' and that 'The IMC is the most diverse and international of the medieval congresses I know.' This year's special thematic strand, Poor...Rich, generated both interest and enthusiasm, with more than 175 sessions presented under the auspices of the strand, including keynote addresses by Robin Fleming (Department of History, Boston College, Massachusetts), Samuel K. Cohn Jr. (School of Humanities / Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, University of Glasgow), Margot Fassler (Department of Music / Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame), and Christopher Dyer (Centre for English Local History, University of Leicester). The Poor...Rich strand was co-ordinated by Sharon Farmer and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the hard work and input over the past year.





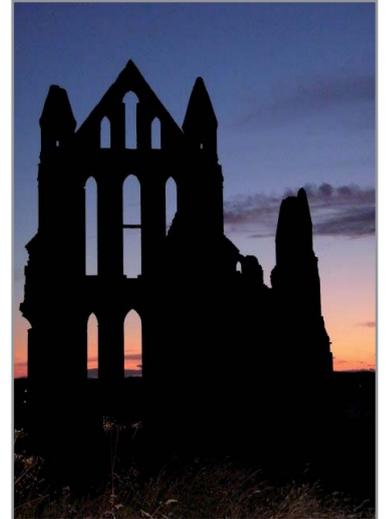
EVENTS & EXCURSIONS

As in previous years, IMC 2011 offered a varied programme of events and excursions, as well as practical workshops as an accompaniment to the academic programme.

Sunday, 10 July, opened with an excursion to the atmospheric Whitby Abbey and Lastingham Church, as well as a trip to Fountains Abbey, one of the best preserved Cistercian monasteries in Europe. Sunday events included the opening of our annual two-day Antiquarian and Second-Hand Book Fair, and a delve into how medieval music informed the works and poetry of

Tolkien in 'The Music of Middle Earth as well as an impromptu Traditional Music session giving delegates the chance to play, sing, or just listen in an informal atmosphere.

Other event highlights included workshops looking at medieval painting techniques, a chance to take to the dance floor and learn dances with the Arbeau Dancers, and a food tasting covering the lowest to the highest of tables, as well as a concert of Music from the Eton Choirbook by Leeds University Liturgical Choir, and a performance of music from Carmina Burana by Eberhard Kummer. All concerts took place within the beautiful Norman Church of St John the Baptist in Adel. Returning for the fourth time this year were the Craft Fair and Historical and Archaeological Societies Fair, both of which continue to showcase the diversity of creative and historical activities associated with the Middle Ages.



Other excursions included trips to the historic city of York, Kirkstall Abbey, The Queen's Cousin's Estate of Harewood House, Parish churches in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, Lincoln Cathedral and Bishop's Palace, as well as a look at Sandal Castle, the site of the Battle of Wakefield and the Chantry Chapel of St Mary the Virgin, sited on Wakefield bridge, one of only four surviving examples of a medieval bridge chapel.

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CONGRESS MOVE 2013

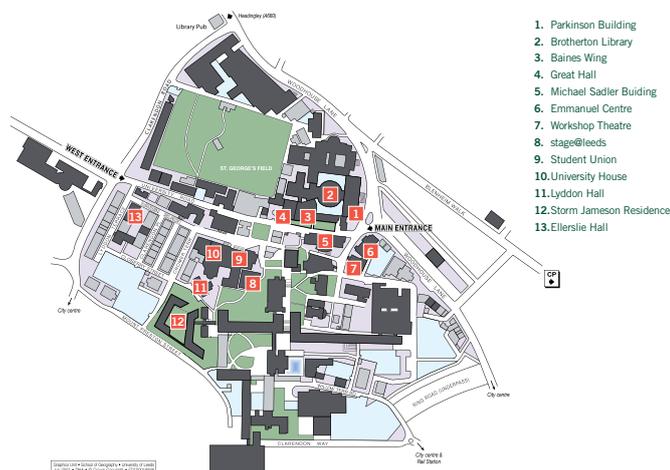
We are delighted to announce that from July 2013, the International Medieval Congress will be centred on the main campus of the University of Leeds, close to the city centre. This location offers purpose-built, well-equipped and more accessible lecture theatres, a larger variety of accommodation, and award-winning catering together with the ambience of a major world-class University.

To facilitate the move the Congress will from now on take place in the first week of July. For 2013, the new dates are 1-4 July.

The Congress in 2012 will remain as advertised (8-11 July) but after the Congress Bodington Hall will be closing permanently and we hope that you will all join us to give Bodington a good send off in 2012!

For more details please visit our website which will be updated regularly:

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2013_move.html>



CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: imc@leeds.ac.uk;

<<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc>>

We prefer proposals to be completed online - a quick, easy, and secure method. To submit a proposal, go to <<http://imc.leeds.ac.uk/imcapp/>>

Session and round table proposals must be submitted by 30 September 2011. Although the paper proposal deadline has passed, late submission may still be considered if we receive them as soon as possible.

IMC 2012: 09-12 JULY 2012

Plans for next year's Congress are well underway. As in previous years, papers and sessions on all aspects of the study of the European Middle Ages are most welcome, in any major European language.

One of the focuses for 2012 will be the special thematic strand on 'Rules to Follow (or Not)'. All societies operate according to rules, both written and often unwritten. Medieval societies were no exception. Rules affected kingship and lordship; urban and rural communities; secular church and regular monastic life, as well as social groupings, aspects of economic, religious, legal and intellectual life, and even literature and the other arts. People made rules, lived by the rules, and broke rules.



In view of the fundamental importance of this topic, the IMC has chosen as its special thematic focus in 2012:

Rules to Follow (or Not)

The full call for papers is available on our website at: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2012_call.html

The IMC Core Strands are:

- Anglo-Saxon Studies
- Archaeology
- Art and Architecture
- Byzantine Studies
- Celtic Studies
- Central and Eastern European Studies
- Church History and Canon Law
- Crusades and Latin East
- Culture and Society
- Daily Life
- Drama
- Gender Studies/Women's Studies
- Geography and Settlement Studies
- Government and Institutions
- Hagiography and Religious Writing
- Historiography (Medieval and Modern)
- Jewish Studies
- Language and Literature - Comparative
- Language and Literature - Germanic
- Language and Literature - Middle English
- Language and Literature - Romance Vernacular
- Late Antique and Early Medieval Studies
- Latin Writing
- Literacy and Communication
- Material Culture
- Medievalism and Reception of the Middle Ages
- Mediterranean and Islamic Studies
- Monasticism and Religious Life
- Music and Liturgy
- Philosophy and Political Thought
- Scandinavian Studies
- Science, Technology and Military History
- Social and Economic History
- Sources and Resources
- Theology and Bible Studies



Remember to order your equipment for 2012 on your proposal form! Check our webpage for more details:

<<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/equipment.html>>

FUTURE IMC DATES

- IMC 2012 Paper Proposals Deadline: 31 August 2011
- IMC 2012 Session Proposals Deadline: 30 September 2011
- IMC 2012: Special Thematic Strand: 'Rules to Follow (or Not)', 12-15 July 2011
 - IMC 2013: NOTE CHANGE OF DATE 01-04 July 2013
 - IMC 2014: NOTE CHANGE OF DATE 07-10 July 2014
 - IMC 2015: NOTE CHANGE OF DATE 06-09 July 2015

About the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of Leeds

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Formed in 1967, the IMS continues to go from strength to strength. IMS research spans all across Europe, from Late Antiquity to the end of the Middle Ages, from Iceland to Africa and the Middle East. Areas of specialisation include liturgy and music; the Mediterranean (Islam, the Crusades); cultural history of the post-Roman period; mission, monasticism, ecclesiastical history, and archaeology; historical topography; art history, and critical theory. Leeds is noted for medieval languages and their associated literatures: in addition to Latin and Old English, Leeds caters for Old Norse, Arabic, Hebrew, Old High German, Italian, French, and Spanish <<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/study/index.html>>. The Institute's links with the Royal Armouries provide a rich environment for teaching and research on chivalry, arms, armour, tournaments, medieval warfare, and the archaeology of battle.



The Institute's community includes some forty scholars from constituent Schools and partner institutions, together with a nucleus of medievalists within the Institute who work alongside the interdisciplinary teams that produce the Bibliography and organise the Congress. The Bibliography and Congress attract international visitors and lecturers, who contribute to the Institute's lively programme of seminars, lectures, and a year long programme of excursions and events <<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/about/events.html>>. The co-location of postgraduate teaching and research

with the International Medieval Bibliography and Congress provides a milieu wherein students have the opportunity to gain practical as well as academic experience. Links with heritage bodies and museums enable internships.



Leeds University's Brotherton Library is one of the UK's leading resources for medievalists, including a substantial holding of medieval manuscripts <<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/about/library.html>>. On the campus edge is the archive of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, which contains a rich collection of regional medieval material. For students of architecture and landscape, the great Cistercian abbey of Kirkstall is nearby, whilst the castles, abbeys, landscapes, and settlements of Yorkshire itself are on the city's doorstep.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL BIBLIOGRAPHY: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The International Medieval Bibliography (IMB), based at Leeds since 1967, is a multi-disciplinary database of Medieval Studies which helps underpin the work of the IMC. Now, after the implementation of the IMBOnline, the bibliography is working to greatly expand its coverage of publications. To this end, the editorial team is looking for individuals or organisations to become contributors to join its existing range of partners throughout the world. Contributors take responsibility for identifying and cataloguing publications relating to specific subject or geographical areas, and are rewarded with free subscriptions to IMB (online or print), other free publications and other benefits. Contributors are sought who are based in the USA, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Russia, Portugal, Israel, Lithuania, Greece, Cyprus, Latvia, Romania, and the Arab world, particularly with interests in archaeology, art, regional and local history, and vernacular languages. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, contact the editor, Dr Alan V. Murray, at A.V.Murray@leeds.ac.uk.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE INSTITUTE

Membership of the IMS offers medievalists priority access to IMC information and bookings and discounts on IMC registration and titles produced by Brepols academic publishers. Members also receive one free book per year from the Brepols back catalogue. There are two levels of membership: Affiliate and Associate. Associate members will gain access to the IMB Online. For full details and how to join, visit

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/about/join.html>

IMS LECTURE SERIES

The IMS Lecture Series for 2011/12 is taking shape. All lectures are free of charge and open to all. Lectures will take place on selected evenings throughout the academic year at the University of Leeds. For more details visit our website.

Current confirmed speakers include: Michael Borgolte (Berlin), Patrick Geary (UCLA), Bastian Schlüter (Berlin) and Jonathan Shepard (Oxford).