Irish Sea in the Middle Ages Research Network

Events and activities, 2014/15 - 2017/18

2014-15

**Seminar:** Rosemary Power, ‘A Norse View of Brian Boru: context and transmission for Icelandic sources on an Irish event’, Liverpool Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Liverpool, Monday 13 October 2014

**Seminar:** Charles Insley, ‘Mercians and the March, 900-950’, Liverpool Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Liverpool, Monday 11 May 2015

**Conference sessions:** Leeds IMC 2015, ‘The Anglo-Welsh frontier in the Middle Ages’, 8-9 July 2015

Session 1:-
Tudur Davies (Sheffield), ‘Pollen, Penllyn and the early medieval environment of north Wales’
Nancy Edwards (Bangor), ‘Archaeological Approaches to the Early Medieval Welsh Borderlands’
Andrew Sargent (Keele), ‘Mearcstapa: the Limits of Belonging in Mercia and the March’

Session 2:-
Euryn Rhys Roberts (Bangor), ‘Orbits of Power and mental geographies: North-East Wales and the Anglo-Welsh frontier in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries’
Andrew Grierson (Sheffield), ‘The genetic legacy of medieval kinship and inheritance laws: The case of the Welsh borderlands’

Session 3:-
Lindy Brady (Mississippi), ‘The Culture of the Anglo-Welsh Frontier in Bede’s Historia Ecclesiastica’
Fiona Edmonds (Cambridge/Lancaster), ‘Saints’ cults and Irish influence in north-east Wales’
Charles Insley (Manchester), ‘The Mercians, the North-West and the Anglo-Welsh Frontier, 900-950’
Conference: ‘Interaction and Identity in the Irish Sea region, c.400-1100’, Friday 8th July – Saturday 9th July 2016, University of Liverpool

Howard Clarke (Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland): ‘The rocky road to Dublin and the formation of the Irish Sea region in the early Middle Ages’

Nancy Edwards (Bangor University): ‘Irish identities and the archaeology of early medieval Wales: problems and perspectives’

Elva Johnston (University College Dublin): ‘Religion on the frontiers: reassessing conversion in fifth-century Ireland’

Lindy Brady (University of Mississippi, USA): ‘Origin Legends in the Early Irish Sea Region’

Fiona Edmonds (University of Cambridge): ‘Gaelic Influence in the Northumbrian Kingdom: the Golden Age and the Viking Age’

David Thornton (Bilkent University): ‘Why would seventh-century Irish parents name their son Devotee of Dung? Medieval Celtic Naming and Identity in Comparative Perspective’

Rachel Swallow (University of Chester): ‘Square Pegs and Round Holes: ‘Misfit’ Castle Forms of the Irish Sea Cultural Zone’

Andrew Grierson (University of Sheffield): ‘Genetic and historical analysis of medieval Anglesey’

Marios Costambeys (University of Liverpool): ‘The transmission of ideas between Ireland and Carolingian Europe: Alcuin, Augustine and Pseudo-Cyprian’

Clare Downham (University of Liverpool): ‘What did the vikings ever do for us?’

David Griffiths (University of Oxford): ‘The geography and symbolism of Viking settlement around the Irish Sea’

Griffin Murray (University College Cork): ‘Art and Identity in Viking-Age Ireland’

Howard Williams (University of Chester): ‘Clumsy and illogical? Reconsidering the West Kirby “Hogback”’

Charles Insley (University of Manchester): ‘The Mercians, the Merfynion and the Irish Sea World, 880-920’

Ben Guy (University of Cambridge): ‘Dynastic interaction between Man and Gwynedd in the ninth century: some further considerations’

Rebecca Thomas (University of Cambridge): ‘A chymot Kymry a gwyr Dulyn: the peoples of Armes Prydein Vawr’s coalition’
**2016-17**

**Colloquium:** ‘Kings and Vikings: North-West England and the Irish Sea Region in the Early Middle Ages’, Saturday 29 April 2017, Regional Heritage Centre, Lancaster University:
- Fiona Edmonds (Lancaster), ‘The Northumbrian Kingdom and the Irish Sea Region’
- David Griffiths, (Oxford), ‘Wirral and Chester: the Mercian Salient on the Irish Sea’
- Charles Insley (Manchester), ‘Between the Ribble and the Mersey: West Lancashire and the Irish Sea Zone 850-950’
- Marios Costambeys (Liverpool), ‘Heirs of Rome? Europe and the Irish Sea Region in the Early Middle Ages’

**Colloquium:** ‘Irish Sea Origin Legends’, Wednesday 24th May 2017, University of Liverpool:
- Elva Johnston (University College Dublin), ‘From the Scotti to the Goidel: Changing Irish Origin Legends’
- Lindy Brady (University of Mississippi), ‘Origin legends in the Irish Sea region’
- Bernhard Maier (Universität Tübingen), ‘Early modern interpretations of ancient and medieval origin legends’

**Conference sessions:** Leeds IMC, 6 July 2017, ‘Interaction, identity and Space in the Irish Sea, 700-1100’
  - Session 1:-
    - Tracey-Anne Cooper (St John’s University, NY), ‘Images of Sigurd on crosses and carvings’
    - Caitlin Ellis (Cambridge), ‘Eleventh-Century Dublin in the Irish Sea and beyond’
    - Andrew Sargent (Keele), ‘A Viking thalassocracy: raid, trade and lodship’
  - Session 2:-
    - Charles Insley (Manchester), ‘Between the Ribble and the Mersey: an Irish Sea frontier space, c.890-950’
    - Rachel Swallow, ‘“Misfit” castle forms of the Irish Sea: the Welsh perspective’
    - David Griffiths (Oxford), ‘Mapping maritime cultures: the early medieval Irish Sea region’

**Conference:** ‘The Irish Sea in the Viking Age’, 12-13 July 2017, iMuseum, Manx National Heritage, Douglas, Isle of Man (in conjunction with the Scottish Society for Northern Studies)
Seminar: ‘M6’ Medieval seminar, Thursday 7 June, 2018, University of Liverpool
Lindy Brady (Mississippi), ‘Law and Regional Identity in Late Anglo-Saxon England’
Stuart Pracy (Manchester), ‘Social Mobility, Closure and Status in Anglo-Saxon and Early Anglo-Norman Manumissions’

Conference sessions: Leeds IMC, Monday 2 July 2018, ‘Remembering the Viking Age around the Irish Sea’

Session 1: ‘International Identities’
Patrick Wadden (Belmont Abbey College): ‘A Hiberno-Scandinavian Origin Legend: Community and Identity in 11th and 12th Century Dublin and the Isles’
Caitlin Ellis (Cambridge): ‘Impressions of a 12th-Century Maritime Ruler: Somerled - Viking Warrior, Clan Chieftain, or Traitor to the Scottish King?’
Lindy Brady (Mississippi): ‘Viking Age Heroic Biography around the Irish Sea’

Session 2: ‘Ecclesiastical Encounters’
Victoria Whitworth (Newcastle): ‘Remembering the Viking Age while It's Still Going On: The Gosforth Cross as an 11th-Century Antiquarian Exercise’
Danica Ramsey-Brimberg (Liverpool): ‘From the Land of Ice and Snow: Case Studies of Viking Settlement and Religious Interaction in the Irish Sea Area’