**Viking Society
for Northern Research**

**News-Sheet 2010**

**Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Viking Society was held on Saturday 22 May 2009 in Oxford.

The President, Heather O’Donoghue, was in the Chair. The minutes of the last AGM were read and accepted.

Election of officers of the Society was announced as follows:

Elected as President: Judith Jesch (Nottingham)

Re-elected as Vice-Presidents in Council: Michael Barnes, Anthony Faulkes, Rory McTurk, Raymond Page, Richard Perkins, John Townsend, Kirsten Williams

Elected as Councillors: Joe Allard (Essex), David Clark (Leicester), Jennifer Hunt (London), Diana Whaley (Newcastle)

Re-elected as Councillors: Lesley Abrams (Oxford), Martin Arnold (Hull), Chris Callow (Birmingham), Victoria Cribb (Cambridge), Haki Antonsson (London), Alaric Hall (Leeds), Richard North (London), Tarrin Wills (Aberdeen)

**Meetings 2008-09**

Autumn: Friday 27 November 2009, at University College, London. Speaker: John Tucker (University of Victoria), ‘Reflections on Teaching the Sagas’

Spring: Friday 5 March 2010, at University College, London. Speaker: Christopher Abram (University College, London), ‘The Pleasures and Perils of Fake Philology: L.A. Waddell’s *British Edda* (1930)’

Summer: Saturday 22 May 2010, at the University of Oxford. Speaker: Heather O’Donoghue (University of Oxford), ‘Old Norse Myth and English Poetry: A Case Study’

Student Conference: *Skaldic Poetry*, Saturday 13 February 2010, at University College, London, organized by Alison Finlay. Speakers were as follows:

Richard North (University College, London): ‘Skaldic verses. How to read them; how not to fear them’

Debbie Potts (University of Cambridge): ‘Myth and metaphor in the self-referential language of early skaldic verse’

Erin Goeres (University of Oxford): ‘My hope of wealth died”: Personal gain and personal grief in the commemorative verses of Glúmr Geirason and Eyvindr skáldaspillir’

Alaric Hall (University of Leeds): ‘Kennings, personal names, and understanding supernatural beings’

Heather O´Donoghue (University of Oxford): ‘Skaldic verse in saga prose’

David Ashurst (University of Durham): ‘Verse as sex act: chiefly in *Kormaks saga*’

**Forthcoming Meetings**

The next meeting, and annual dinner, will be held on Friday 5 November 2010 at University College, London. The speaker will be Marianne Kalinke (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign).

The next Student Conference will be held on Saturday 12 February 2011 at the University of Cambridge, on the theme of *The Material Past: Understanding the Old Norse World*.

**Publications**

The following work has recently been published by the Society:

Magnús Ólafsson, *Specimen Lexici Runici*, ed. Anthony Faulkes

Most of the Society’s publications are freely available at the following website:

http://vsnrweb-publications.org.uk/

**Prizes**

The following student prizes were awarded for the academic year 2008-09:

The Townsend Viking Society Prize: Lenka Hewardova (University College, London)

The Turville-Petre Prize: Michael Hart (University of Oxford)

The Margaret Orme Prize: not awarded

**Research Support Fund**

The following awards were made in the year 2009-10:

Thomas Birkett (University of Oxford), to examine runes at Bryggen and attend an Old Norse and Viking Studies Field School at Selje

Richard Cole (University College, London), to attend the Seventh International Summer School in Manuscript Studies, Copenhagen

Annette Jones (University of Nottingham), to attend the Seventh International Symposium on Runes and Runic Inscriptions, Oslo

Richard Jones (University of Glasgow), for research into steatite artefacts from Orkney and Shetland

Marjolein Stern (University of Nottingham), to attend the Seventh International Symposium on Runes and Runic Inscriptions, Oslo

Teva Vidal (University of Nottingham), to attend an Old Norse and Viking Studies Field School at Selje