**VIKING SOCIETY FOR NORTHERN RESEARCH**

**News-Sheet 2015**

**Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Viking Society was held on Saturday 6 June 2015 at St Aidan’s College, Durham.

The President, Judy Quinn, was in the Chair. The minutes of the last AGM were read and accepted.

Election of officers of the Society was announced as follows:

Re-elected as President: Judy Quinn (Cambridge)

Re-elected as Vice-Presidents in Council: Michael Barnes, Alison Finlay, Rory McTurk, John McKinnell, Richard Perkins, Andrew Wawn, Diana Whaley, and Kirsten Williams

Elected as Councillors: Paul Gazzoli (Cambridge), John Hines (Cardiff), Carolyne Larrington (Oxford), and Erik Niblaeus (Durham)

Re-elected as Councillors: Eleanor Barraclough (Durham), Michael Bintley (Canterbury), Hannah Burrows (Aberdeen), Clare Downham (Liverpool), Alaric Hall (Leeds), Brittany Schorn (Oxford),

Philip Shaw (Leicester), and David Varley (Durham)

**Meetings 2014-15**

Autumn: Friday 21 November 2014, at University College, London. Speaker: Michael Barnes (University College, London), ‘Field Runologists and What They Do’

Spring: Friday 6 February 2015, at University College, London. Speaker: Andy Orchard (Oxford), ‘Grettir and Hereward: Brothers from Another Mother?’

Summer: Saturday 6 June 2015, at St Aidan’s College, Durham. Speaker: David Varley (Durham), ‘Thor: *dólgr ok bani trollkvinna* “enemy and killer of troll-wives”: A Reconsideration’

Student Conference: *Northern Identities*, Saturday 31 January 2015, at University College, London. Speakers were as follows:

Matthew Townend (York), ‘Identity and Northernness in Viking Age Yorkshire’

Hannah Burrows (Aberdeen), ‘Northern Identifications’

Alaric Hall (Leeds), ‘Medievalism, Terrorism, and the Mosque in Reykjavík’

Pete Sandberg (University College, London), ‘Mourning and Fractured Identity in Eddic and Skaldic Poetry’

Bernadette McCooey (Birmingham), ‘Icelandic Tales from a 1stt-Century Traveller’

Richard North (University College, London), ‘Native and Foreign in the North Atlantic: Tales of the Faroes, Iceland, and Greenland’

**Forthcoming Meetings**

The next meeting, and annual dinner, will be held on Friday 20 November 2015 at University College, London. The speaker will be Vésteinn Ólason (University of Iceland).

**Publications**

For information on how to purchase the Society’s publications, see its website:

http://www.vsnr.org/

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

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

**Prizes**

The following student prizes were awarded for the academic year 2013-14:

The Margaret Orme Prize: Andrew Marriott (University of York) and Katie Olley (Cambridge)

The Townsend Viking Society Prize: Fiona Hicks and Jonathan Wright (University College, London)

The Peter Foote Memorial Bursary for 2015 was awarded jointly to Stefan Drechsler (Aberdeen) and Aya van Renterghem (Nottingham), in both cases for travel to Denmark to undertake manuscript research in Copenhagen.

**Research Support Fund**

The following awards were made in the year 2014-15:

Tim Bourns (Oxford), to attend the Arnamagnæan Summer School in Manuscript Studies in Copenhagen

Kathryn Catlin (Northwestern University), to attend the course ‘Understanding the Human Dimensions of Long-Term Environmental Change’ in Bárðardalur, Iceland

Ruarigh Dale (independent scholar), to attend the 16th International Saga Conference in Zurich

Stefan Drechsler (University of Aberdeen), to attend the International Medieval Congress in Leeds

Lara Hogg (Cardiff University), to attend the European Association of Archaeologists Conference in Glasgow

Hilde Nielsen (University of Aberdeen), to attend the International Medieval Congress in Leeds and the 16th International Saga Conference in Zurich

Marie Novotna (Charles University of Prague), to attend the 16th International Saga Conference in Zurich

Victoria Ralph (University College, London), to attend the 16th International Saga Conference in Zurich

Declan Taggart (University of Aberdeen), to attend the International Medieval Congress in Leeds

Letty ten Harkel (Oxford), to undertake isotope analysis

Yoav Tirosh (University of Iceland), to attend the International Medieval Congress in Leeds

Clive Tolley (independent scholar), to access bibliographical resources

Sofie Vanherpen (Ghent University), to attend the 16th International Saga Conference in Zurich

Sheryl McDonald Werronen (independent scholar), to attend the Arnamagnæan Summer School in Manuscript Studies in Reykjavík