Sowing the Seeds
A Workshop for Early Career Medieval Economic Historians

The Medieval Peasantry

Downing College, Cambridge
31st March 2009

Workshop supported by: The Economic History Society, CRASSH & the Centre for History and Economics

Image © British Library Board. All Rights Reserved.
British Library, Additional MS 42130, fol. 170v (Luttrell Psalter)
Conveners

Dr James Davis
Lecturer in Medieval History
School of History and Anthropology
15 University Square
Queen’s University Belfast
Belfast
BT7 1PA
email: james.davis@qub.ac.uk

Dr Chris Briggs
Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure
Sir William Hardy Building
Department of Geography
University of Cambridge
Downing Place
Cambridge
CB2 3EN
email: chris.briggs@geog.cam.ac.uk

Funding & Support

The Economic History Society
(Initiatives and Conference Fund)

CENTRE FOR HISTORY AND ECONOMICS
King’s College, University of Cambridge
Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

CRASSH
Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (University of Cambridge)
This workshop is intended to bring together early career medieval economic historians in order to explore our subject and its future. By ‘early career scholars’ we mean those who are less than ten years into a permanent academic post, those with PhDs undertaking postdoctoral studies or still active in research, and those nearing the end of a PhD. There has been discussion recently about an apparent shortage of early career scholars in UK universities in the field of medieval social and (especially) economic history. This workshop is intended to provide a forum for such scholars to meet and discuss varied aspects of their field, as well as to encourage collaboration on research projects. During the workshop sessions, participants will discuss the current state of their discipline and try to identify key questions for the future, as well as the best sources and methods for tackling them.

No formal papers will be given (apart from an introductory keynote lecture), but sessions will be chaired and focused around particular themes. As a basis for discussion, workshop materials (articles and topics for consideration) will be pre-circulated to all participants. The general theme chosen for this first workshop is ‘The Medieval Peasantry’, but this is intended merely as a starting point for the discussion of a broader range of topics. The aim of the venture is to co-ordinate the activities of researchers in an effort to maximize collective achievements in the field of medieval economic history.

It is also intended that this workshop will lead to the establishment of an ongoing network for all medieval economic scholars in collaboration with the existing triennial Anglo-American Conference on the Medieval Economy and Society (the next meeting of which is in Durham in 2010). A steering committee (of four) will be established to organise the next workshop and maintain the network for the following year. This network will enable those in the field to debate important issues in medieval economic and social history, as well as the future of the discipline itself and how to increase the chances of keeping good, young scholars in the field. It is hoped that both the workshop and network will aid in continuing to strengthen the community of medieval economic historians.
**Workshop Programme**

Music Room, Downing College, Cambridge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.15-10.45</td>
<td>Registration and Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45-11.00</td>
<td>Introduction to Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00-11.45</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Professor Bas van Bavel (University of Utrecht)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45-12.45</td>
<td>The Medieval Peasantry 1 – ‘Peasants and the Land’ Chair: Dr Ben Dodds (University of Durham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45-14.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00-15.00</td>
<td>The Medieval Peasantry 3 – ‘Peasants and the Market’ Chair: Dr Chris Briggs (University of Cambridge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.15-16.00</td>
<td>The Future of Medieval Economic History in UK Universities Chair: Dr James Davis (Queen’s University Belfast)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.00-16.30</td>
<td>Setting up a Network for Medieval Economic Historians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30-17.00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.00-18.00</td>
<td>The Medieval Peasantry 2 – ‘Peasants and Lordship’ Chair: Dr Miriam Müller (University of Birmingham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.00-18.30</td>
<td>Summing Up – The Future of Medieval Peasant Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

I would like to attend the ‘Sowing the Seeds’ workshop on 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2009

Name: 

Institution: 

Address: 

e-mail: 

Any special dietary requirements:

Please detach this form and return to: Dr James Davis, School of History and Anthropology, 15 University Square, Queen’s University Belfast, Belfast, BT7 1PA. Or email: james.davis@qub.ac.uk Closing date: 1\textsuperscript{st} March 2009