The Culture of Literature and Language in Medieval and Renaissance Scotland

15th International Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Scottish Literature and Language (ICMRSLL), University of Glasgow, Scotland, 25-28 July 2017


Work in the field of medieval and early modern Scottish literature and language presented at this series of triennial conferences and elsewhere has made visible what can now confidently be called an Older Scots literary culture. From the 14th to the 17th century, as part of a wider literary culture in Scotland, a literature in Scots grew as an articulation of identity and nation (the key topics of the last two conferences). Language played a vital role in this, too, through interaction of Scots with other languages (Gaelic, Latin, English, French), translation, and a profound interest in language as a phenomenon in itself. The study of Older Scots literature as a discipline is now at a point where we can make connections between texts and periods that interest both an academic audience as well as the wider public. Within this context, the conference seeks to provide a platform not only for further detailed studies of individual texts and authors but also for discussions on how these details may add up to more than the sum of their parts. Therefore, the 60 papers on offer cover many aspects of the culture of literature and language in medieval and Renaissance Scotland and related interdisciplinary areas. The speakers come from Universities as far afield as Australia, North America, and Continental Europe. Plenary speakers: Professor Alessandra Petrina, University of Padova (Italy): ‘From the Margins’; Prof John McGavin (Southampton): ‘“Things Indifferent”? Performativity and Calderwood’s History of the Kirk’; and Prof Sally Mapstone (Vice-Principal of St Andrews University) and Prof Roger Mason (University of St Andrews) will have a plenary debate on ‘Literary Culture in Medieval and Renaissance Scotland: Perspectives and Patterns’. There are also free musical events spread across the four days thanks to singers and staff of Musica Scotica and the University Chapel respectively. Registration for the conference and these events is through the Glasgow University-hosted website; the registration form can be accessed by following the link at ICMRSLL 2017 - online registration. An on-line programme is being finalised as we speak and will go live on the ICMRSLL website at https://icmrsll.org, but if you wish to have a copy sent to you by email, contact Theo van Heijnsbergen at scotmedren2017@glasgow.ac.uk. There is also a Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ScotMedRen2017/; Twitter hashtag for ScotMedRen is #ICMRSLL.