November Newsletter 2011

Dear PMRG Members,

Firstly, thank you to those of you who came along to the annual PMRG quiz night on the 29 August at the Guild Tavern. The event was another resounding success in terms of fundraising, and we hope that an entertaining evening was had by all. Congratulations to everyone who managed to snap up some of the exciting prizes, a highlight of which were delicious looking cakes, cupcakes and cake pops made by our talented PMRG committee members. The cake pops didn’t even make it out of the building!

Figure 1: Lesley’s much-loved cupcakes

Our next major social event for the year is of course the upcoming PMRG Christmas Party. Andrew Lynch has again kindly offered to host the event, and after an enjoyable party last year we have graciously accepted. This has also allowed us to keep the ticket prices down to $10. With the end of the exam period fast approaching (and with it hopefully the start of some exciting holiday plans), we’ve decided to move the Christmas Party forward by a week this year to 27 November 2011. So, with apologies for the short notice, I hope many of you will be able to join us for some medieval style festivity and socialising next weekend. We have also received promises of a musical performance from Sneak’s Noise and perhaps even some Chaucerian drama to entice you further. The full details of the Christmas party are as follows:

- **Date:** Sunday 27th November, from 6.30 p.m.
- **Venue:** 47 First Avenue, Claremont.
- **Price:** $10 (payable at the party) & a plate of food to share.

In the spirit of the festive season we again invite guests, if they can manage, to bring a plate of their favourite seasonal food to share. Last year this idea resulted in a banquet of medieval...
proportions (although thankfully not substance), and hopefully we will again have a range of options on offer. Drinks will be provided by PMRG. Claremont is well serviced by public transport and for those of you who may wish to travel by train, the closest station is Loch Street on the Fremantle Line. A map is enclosed with this newsletter. If you would like to RSVP, please contact Debbie Chapman by email at deborah.chapman@uwa.edu.au, or phone on 6488 2187.

We also have one more public lecture scheduled for the year. On Friday, 2 December 2011, Professor Nickolas Haydock will deliver a lunchtime lecture on the topic of “The Cinematic Beowulf”. This lecture will take place at 1pm in the Webb Lecture Theatre, which is on the ground floor of the Geography Building at UWA (G.21). Nickolas Haydock is a Professor of English at The University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez. He holds a PhD from the University of Iowa, and his publications include Situational Poetics in Robert Henryson's 'Testament of Cresseid,' Movie Medievalism: The Imaginary Middle Ages and a co-edited volume of essays with E. L. Risden entitled Hollywood in the Holy Land. He is also the series editor for the new Cambria Press book series, COM: Studies in Classicism, Orientalism, and Medievalism. Professor Haydock will be visiting the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies at UWA in December and has provided the following explanation of his paper:

By this title I intend to suggest both the visual strategies of the original poem, as well as the poem's adaptation in recent films.

This is a public lecture to which all are welcome. Please do note though that it is a lunchtime seminar scheduled for 1pm, and not an evening lecture.

In other news, I hope you will join me in congratulating PMRG member Dr Brett Hirsch on his recent funding success. Brett was awarded research funding in the recent ARC Discovery Project round for a three year project titled: 'Patterns in Early Modern English Drama Texts: A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Dramatic Genre, Repertory and Style, 1576-1642'.

The committee joins me in wishing you all the best for the remainder of 2011. We hope to see some of you at the Christmas party next week, and to catch up with you again when our 2012 programme kicks off next year.

Best wishes
Joanne McEwan (Secretary)
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