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## SIGILLVM NEWSLETTER No. 9 - 2017

### English Version

#### SIGILLVM NEWSLETTER No 9 – MARCH 2017

Dear Members,

Welcome to your first Newsletter of 2017, brought to you by SIGILLVM. We hope that this regular bulletin will help you to keep up not only with the advertised activities of our association but also with all other news relevant to the study of seals in the widest sense. Feel free to tell us about anything that might interest our members (publications, conferences, exhibitions, visits, and websites – anything), please use our contact form: <http://www.sigillvm.net/contact-us/>.

The SIGILLVM Newsletter is produced for you – but also thanks to you! Once again, many thanks in advance for your input.

#### MEMBERSHIP

We warmly welcome the following members in 2017: Mark Eston from New Zealand, Marie Gregoire from Canada, and Sandra Sciukiene from Lithuania. Thanks also to all current members who have paid their 2017 subscriptions. We wish everyone a happy Easter. We send our greetings to all our members and ask those who have failed to pay their subscriptions in 2016 to do so in 2017.

#### CONFERENCES AND EXHIBITIONS

##### International Medieval Congress 2017, University of Leeds (UK) 3-6 July 2017

Session 1008: Seals and Social Strata in Northern Europe

Sponsor: SIGILLVM: International Network for the Study of Seals & Sealing Practices

Organiser: Dr Matthew Sillence, Faculty of Arts & Humanities, University of East Anglia

Moderator/Chair: Dr Elizabeth New, Department of History & Welsh History, Aberystwyth University

- English 'Peasant' Seals, c. 1300 (Language: English), Phillipp R. Schofield, Department of History & Welsh History, Aberystwyth University
- Friends and Neighbours: Using DigiSig to Investigate Regional Affinities in the British Isles in the 13th-Century (Language: English), John McEwan, Center for Digital Humanities, Saint Louis University, Missouri

Session Time: Wednesday 05 July - 09.00-10.30

For members and friends attending our session, we will be planning a SIGILLVM meal in the evening of 5 July 2017. If you would to join us, please contact Dr Matthew Sillence at [webmaster\(at\)sigillvm.net](mailto:webmaster(at)sigillvm.net) with your dietary requirements.

##### Call for the International Medieval Congress 2018: 2-5 July 2018

The theme for the conference at Leeds 2018 is Memory, which include the following topics:

- Memory and beauty: aesthetic relevance and impact of memorization and remembering
- Objects of memory
- Lieux de memoire - communities and identity
- Construction and reconstruction of the past
- Memory: order and disorder
- Memory: sense and sensibility
- Commemoration and re-enactment
- Memory and immortality

John Cherry is considering planning a session on 'Seals and Memory'. Anyone who wishes to contribute a talk should contact him at [johncherry555\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:johncherry555(at)gmail.com).

##### Symposium des Mediävistenverbandes: Geheimnis und Verborgenes im Mittelalter, Bonn, Germany, 19-22 March 2017.

This upcoming conference in Bonn, has a session on seals entitled: Siegel und Urkunden als Objekte des Verbergens und verborgene Objekte planned for 20 March 2017.

The session will be led by Prof. Dr. Andrea Stieldorf (Bonn) and will feature the following speakers:

- Dr. Christoph Egger (Wien), Vertraulichkeit und Geheimhaltung in der hochmittelalterlichen päpstlichen Kanzlei
- Prof. Dr. Andrea Stieldorf (Bonn), Verschließen und zugänglich machen als Ausdruck korporativen Selbstverständnisses. Zum Umgang mit Urkunden und Siegeln in den mitteleuropäischen Universitäten des Spätmittelalters
- Dr. Markus Späth (Gießen), Von allen Seiten schön. Zur Frage der Ansichtigkeit hoch- und spätmittelalterlicher Münzsiegel

[Read more](#)

**Colloque international Art du puissant, objet multiple: médailles et jetons en Europe, de la Renaissance à la Première Guerre mondiale, Paris, Institut national d'histoire de l'art (INHA), 30 March-1 April 2017.**

This event on medals and tokens from the Renaissance to the First World War is organised by the Université Paris Ouest-Nanterre-La Défense (École doctorale « Milieux, cultures et sociétés du passé et du présent » - Laboratoire « Histoire des arts et des représentations »), l'École pratique des hautes études, la Monnaie de Paris, the Bibliothèque nationale de France and l'Institut national d'histoire de l'art. For further information please contact : [colloquemedailles2017\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:colloquemedailles2017(at)gmail.com)

**International Medieval Conference, Lleida, Spain, 26-28 June 2017.**

The seventh international medieval conference at Lleida, Spain, will take place this June. Its special strand is Feelings in the Middle Ages. The introductory talk will be given by Professor Simon Doubleday of Hofstra University, New York. He has written a biography of Alfonso el Sabio, ruler of Spain 1252-84 called *The Wise King: Christian Prince, Muslim Spain, and the birth of the Renaissance*.

The Lleida website is [www.internationalmedievalmeetinglleida.udl.cat](http://www.internationalmedievalmeetinglleida.udl.cat) and it is open for enrolment and sessions until 24 March 2017. Enrolment for attendees is until 2 June 2017.

**Le sceau, marque de l'histoire, Archives départementales de la Moselle (1, allée du château – 57070 Saint Julien lès Metz).**

The Archives départementales de la Moselle poseses a collection of over 4600 wax seals, dating mostly from the Middle Ages. Running until 16 September 2017, this exhibition allows visitors to discover the wealth of seals held in the archives and learn more about the techniques of conservation.

[Read more](#)

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Chassel, Jean-Luc. 2016 « La problématique des sceaux de villes dans le Midi de la France médiévale », In : Ézéchiél Jean-Courret, Sandrine Lavaud, Judaël Petrowiste et Johan Picot (éd.), *Le bazar de l'hôtel de ville. Les attributs matériels du gouvernement urbain dans le Midi médiéval* [Actes des journées d'études de l'université Michel-de-Montaigne-Bordeaux III-Institut Ausonius et Denis-Diderot-Paris VIII, 6 mai et 20 novembre 2015]. Bordeaux : Ausonius Éditions, (Scripta Mediævalia, 30), 27-53.
- Delbecq, Éloi. 2016. *Sigillographie cartusienne. Tome 1 : La Grand-Chartreuse - Mont-Sainte-Marie, Gosnay. T. 2 : Naples – San José, Deán Funes, Argentine. T. 3 : Sceaux. La Grande-Chartreuse – Mont-Sainte-Marie, Gosnay. T. 4 : Sceaux. Naples – Notre-Dame de Corée, Salzburg, FB Anglistik und americanistik Universität Salzburg, 2016* (Analecta Cartusiana, James Hoog, Sylvain Escoffon, Alain Girard et Daniel Le Blevec (eds.), 185-5. Monasticon Cartusiense, James Hoog et Gerhard Schlegel (eds.) 5), 4 vol.
- Diederich, Toni. 2016. « Das gro?e Siegel der Stadt Neuss. Ursprüngliche Gestalt und spätere Vervänderungen. In memoriam Max Tauch ». In: *Novaesium 2016. Neusser Jahrbuch für Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte*, 261-278. Laurent, René and Libert, Marc. 2016. *Inventaire de la collection des sceaux détachés [des Archives générales du Royaume de Belgique] (1-1000)*, Bruxelles, (AGR, coll. Inventaires, 609).
- Slowik, Daniel. 2016. *Les plombs de scellé de la douane de Lyon. Version 6*, Raleigh (USA, NC), Lulu Press.
- Slowik, Daniel. 2016. *Les plombs de scellé. L'industrie de la soie de Nîmes. Version 1*, Raleigh (USA, NC), Lulu Press.
- Spinney, Laura. 2016. « Medieval wax seals are giving up fresh historical secrets ». In: *New Scientist*, 14 December 2016: [www.newscientist.com/article/mg23231040-900-medieval-wax-seals-are-giving-up-fresh-historical-secrets/](http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg23231040-900-medieval-wax-seals-are-giving-up-fresh-historical-secrets/)
- Woloszyn, Marcin, Florkiewicz, Iwona, Garbacz-Klempa, Aldona. 2016. « The Sphinx of Slav Sigillography » - Dorogichin Seals in their East European context (a preliminary report). In: *Die frühen Slawen – von der Expansion zu gentes und nations. Beiträge zur Ur- und Frühgeschichte Mitteleuropas 81/2. Teilband 1: Allgemeine Beiträge*. Langenweissbach: Beier & Beran, 257-273.

With thanks to the Société française d'héraldique et de sigillographie and SIGILLVM members for reporting these titles.

**Publication Offer to Members**

The very useful publication *Seals and Sealing Practices* (Archives and the User No. 11), written by Dr Elizabeth A. New, published in 2010 by the British Records Association has a limited offer price of £7.00, including UK postage and packing. If you would like to place an order, please contact Fiona Jones, BRA Administrator on [info\(at\)britishrecordsassociation.org.uk](mailto:info(at)britishrecordsassociation.org.uk) or by telephone +44(0)7946 624713.

**VARIA**

## **Hands Across Time**

On 25 April 2017 a lecture will be given by Elizabeth New and Philippa Hoskin on the project 'Hands across Time: Medieval Fingerprints on Wax Seals' at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House Piccadilly, London.

[Read more](#)

## **Conservation by SIGILLVM Site**

A new seal conservation Facebook page is now live. If you are interested in learning more about conservation techniques and activities, sign up to the Facebook group.

[Read more](#)

## **Islamic-Style Seals**

Our member, Annabel Gallop, has noted a blog entry on Islamic-style seals through the British Library website posted by Ursula Sims-Williams, Lead Curator Persian Collections, British Library.

[Read more](#)

## **Hampshire Cultural Trust**

John Cherry reports on a website where he has discovered three seal matrices, one of which WINCM:AY 119 is that of the 'castellan of Bousencourt.' The castellan was the keeper or governor of a medieval castle, and might be expected to hold the keys. The location of Bousencourt is uncertain. It may be Bouzencourt near to Amiens in the Picardy region of north-east France, with limited evidence for a medieval castle at nearby Le Hamel. Future research might tell us more, and any information should be sent to the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

[Read more](#)

## **Indus Valley Seals**

Recently John Cherry came across "Singletons" in Unpublished Indus Seals : Early Support for "Sproat's Smoking Gun" on the website <http://www.safarmer.com/newseals/newseals.html> which discusses whether symbols on Indus seals are early writing or not.

## **COLLECTING**

### **Jewish Seals**

Our member, Ethan S. Rogers M.D. has a collection of Jewish seal matrices, both medieval and post-medieval, with most originating in Poland, Ukraine, and Belarus. If you have an interest in Jewish seals, and would like to discuss the collection further, please contact SIGILLVM via e-mail at [info@sigillvm.net](mailto:info@sigillvm.net) so that we can put you in touch.

## **FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS**

### **British Museum Conference**

The editing of the conference papers of the conference held at the British Museum in December 2015 on 'Seals and Status', to which many SIGILLVM members contributed, is proceeding and it is hoped that it will be published by the end of the year.

## **MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS**

SIGILLVM encourages members to submit their latest publications to our bibliography section of the website, which can be found by logging into the Membership area: <http://www.sigillvm.net/login/>. A [video guide](#) is available on the website to help you add to our Bibliography.

SIGILLVM Newsletter Editor: Matthew Sillence, Webmaster