

By Weapons Made Worthy Lords Retainers And Their Relationship In Beowulf

Anglo-Saxon Kingship and Political Power - Kathrin McCann 2018-10-15

Works on Anglo-Saxon kingship often take as their starting point the line from Beowulf: 'that was a good king'. This monograph, however, explores what it means to be a king, and how kings defined their own kingship in opposition to other powers. Kings derived their royal power from a divine source, which led to conflicts between the interpreters of the divine will (the episcopate) and the individual wielding power (the king). Demonstrating how Anglo-Saxon kings were able to manipulate political ideologies to increase their own authority, this book explores the unique way in which Anglo-Saxon kings understood the source and nature of their power, and of their own authority.

Apples and Oranges - Bruce Lincoln 2018-08-23

Comparison is an indispensable intellectual operation that plays a crucial role in the formation of knowledge. Yet comparison often leads us to forego attention to nuance, detail, and context, perhaps leaving us bereft of an ethical obligation to take things correspondingly as they are. Examining the practice of comparison across the study of history, language, religion, and culture, distinguished scholar of religion Bruce Lincoln argues in *Apples and Oranges* for a comparatism of a more modest sort. Lincoln presents critiques of recent attempts at grand comparison, and enlists numerous theoretical examples of how a more modest, cautious, and discriminating form of comparison might work and what it can accomplish. He does this through studies of shamans, werewolves, human sacrifices, apocalyptic prophecies, sacred kings, and surveys of materials as diverse and wide-ranging as Beowulf, Herodotus's account of the Scythians, the Native American Ghost Dance, and the Spanish Civil War. Ultimately, Lincoln argues that concentrating one's focus on a relatively small number of items that the researcher can compare closely, offering equal attention to relations of similarity and difference, not only grants dignity to all parties considered, it yields more reliable and more interesting—if less grandiose—results. Giving equal attention to the social, historical, and political contexts and subtexts of religious and literary texts also allows scholars not just to assess their content, but also to understand the forces, problems, and circumstances that motivated and shaped them.

Writing Power in Anglo-Saxon England - Catherine A. M. Clarke 2012

New study of the complexities of how power operates in a number of Anglo-Saxon texts.

Compelling God - Stephanie Clark 2018-01-01

In *Compelling God*, Stephanie Clark examines the relationship between prayer, gift giving, the self, and community in Anglo-Saxon England.

Early Medieval English Life Courses - 2021-11-22

This volume captures the complexity and diversity of ideas surrounding the life course in early medieval English culture, with chapters ranging across the interconnected realms of language, culture, medicine, onomastics, literature and the material world.

Heroic Identity in the World of Beowulf - Scott Gwara 2009-01-31

In exploring the identities of foreign fighters seeking glory abroad, this revisionist book challenges the traditional view of Beowulf as a "hero." Beowulf emphasizes the obligations attending excellence and the temptation of power, both personal and civic.

Anglo-Saxon England: Volume 35 - Malcolm Godden 2008-01-17

Anglo-Saxon England is the only publication which consistently embraces all the main aspects of study of Anglo-Saxon history and culture - linguistic, literary, textual, palaeographic, religious, intellectual, historical, archaeological and artistic - and which promotes the more unusual interests - in music or medicine or education, for example. Articles in volume 35 include: Record of the twelfth conference of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists at Bavarian-American Centre, University of Munich, 1-6 August 2005; Virgil the Grammarian and Bede: a preliminary study; Knowledge of wheel dyes and pigments in

Anglo-Saxon England; The representation of the mind as an enclosure in Old English poetry; The origin of the numbered sections in Beowulf and in other Old English poems; An ethnic dating of Beowulf; Hrothgar's horses: feral or thoroughbred?; 'thelthryth of Ely in a lost calendar from Munich; Alfred's epistemological metaphors: eagan modes and scip modes; Bibliography for 2005.

A Critical Companion to Beowulf - Andy Orchard 2003

This is a complete guide to the text and context of the most famous Old English poem. In this book, the specific roles of selected individual characters, both major and minor, are assessed.

Honour, Exchange and Violence in Beowulf - Peter S. Baker 2013

Argues for a new reading of Beowulf in its contemporary context, where honour and violence are intimately linked.

Wealth and the Material World in the Old English Alfredian Corpus - Amy Faulkner 2023-01-24

A new, materialistic reading of the Alfredian corpus, drawing on diverse approaches from thing theory to Augustinian principles of use and enjoyment to uncover how these works explore the material world. The Old English prose translations traditionally attributed to Alfred the Great (versions of Gregory's *Regula pastoralis*, Boethius' *De consolazione philosophiae*, Augustine's *Soliloquia* and the first fifty Psalms) urge detachment from the material world; but despite this, its flotsam and jetsam, from costly treasures to everyday objects, abound within them. This book reads these original and inventive translations from a materialist perspective, drawing on approaches as diverse as thing theory and Augustine's principles of use and enjoyment. By focussing on the material, it offers a fresh interpretation of this group of translations, bringing out their complex, often contradictory, relationship with the material world. It demonstrates that, as in the poetic tradition, wealth in Alfredian literature is not simply a tool to be used, or something to be enjoyed in excess; rather, in moving away from these two static binaries, it shows that wealth is a current, flowing both horizontally, as an exchange of gifts between humans, and vertically, as a salvific current between earth and heaven. The prose translations are situated in the context of Old English poetry, including Beowulf, *The Wanderer*, *The Seafarer*, the Exeter Book Riddles and *The Dream of the Rood*.

Money and Power in Anglo-Saxon England - Rory Naismith 2011-10-06

This groundbreaking study of coinage in early medieval England is the first to take account of the very significant additions to the corpus of southern English coins discovered in recent years and to situate this evidence within the wider historical context of Anglo-Saxon England and its continental neighbours. Its nine chapters integrate historical and numismatic research to explore who made early medieval coinage, who used it and why. The currency emerges as a significant resource accessible across society and, through analysis of its production, circulation and use, the author shows that control over coinage could be a major asset. This control was guided as much by ideology as by economics and embraced several levels of power, from kings down to individual craftsmen. Thematic in approach, this innovative book offers an engaging, wide-ranging account of Anglo-Saxon coinage as a unique and revealing gauge for the interaction of society, economy and government.

The Waning Sword: Conversion Imagery and Celestial Myth in 'Beowulf' - Edward Pettit 2020-01-14

The image of a giant sword melting stands at the structural and thematic heart of the Old English heroic poem Beowulf. This meticulously researched book investigates the nature and significance of this golden-hilted weapon and its likely relatives within Beowulf and beyond, drawing on the fields of Old English and Old Norse language and literature, liturgy, archaeology, astronomy, folklore and comparative mythology. In Part I, Pettit explores the complex of connotations surrounding this image (from icicles to candles and crosses) by examining a range of medieval sources, and argues that the giant sword may function as a visual motif in which pre-Christian Germanic concepts and prominent Christian symbols coalesce. In Part II, Pettit investigates the broader Germanic background to this image, especially in relation to the god

Ing/Yngvi-Freyr, and explores the capacity of myths to recur and endure across time. Drawing on an eclectic range of narrative and linguistic evidence from Northern European texts, and on archaeological discoveries, Pettit suggests that the image of the giant sword, and the characters and events associated with it, may reflect an elemental struggle between the sun and the moon, articulated through an underlying myth about the theft and repossession of sunlight. *The Waning Sword: Conversion Imagery and Celestial Myth in 'Beowulf'* is a welcome contribution to the overlapping fields of Beowulf-scholarship, Old Norse-Icelandic literature and Germanic philology. Not only does it present a wealth of new readings that shed light on the craft of the Beowulf-poet and inform our understanding of the poem's major episodes and themes; it further highlights the merits of adopting an interdisciplinary approach alongside a comparative vantage point. As such, *The Waning Sword* will be compelling reading for Beowulf-scholars and for a wider audience of medievalists.

Reflections on Medieval and Renaissance Thought - Darci Hill 2017-06-23

The collection of articles gathered in this volume grew naturally and spontaneously out of the Second International Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Thought hosted by Sam Houston State University in April 2016. This anthology reflects the diverse fields of study represented at the conference. The purpose of the conference, and consequently of this book of essays, is partially to establish a place for medieval and renaissance scholarship to thrive in our current intellectual landscape. This volume is not designed solely for scholars, but also for generalists who wish to augment their knowledge and appreciation of an array of disciplines; it is an intellectual smorgasbord of philosophy, poetry, drama, popular culture, linguistics, art, religion, and history.

Old English Philology - Leonard Neidorf 2016

Essays bringing out the crucial importance of philology for understanding Old English texts.

Studying Human Origins - Raymond Corbey 2001

The Old English Epic of Waldere - Jonathan Himes 2009-03-26

The epic fragments of *Waldere* yield some of the earliest lore concerning migration-period heroes such as Attila the Hun, Theodoric the Ostrogoth, Walter son of Ælfhere, and Gunther and Hagen of the Nibelungs, while at the same time expressing political concerns that the Viking-age poet shared with his audience. Imagery and themes such as armaments and the worthiness of warriors to bear them point to the climax of Walter's victory over Guðhere in single combat, a duel presenting an ethical dilemma for Hagen as indicated in both of the extant leaves. This critical edition resolves some long-standing textual cruces while also providing background on Old English heroism, weapons, and versification.

Armed Batavians - Johan Nicolay 2007

Using a life-cycle model for Roman soldiers, Johan Nicolay interprets the large quantity of first-century finds as personal memorabilia brought home by ex-soldiers as a reminder of their twenty-five years of service and a symbol of their newly-acquired veteran status. Underpinning Nicolay's research is an extensive inventory of militaria from urban centers, rural settlements, rivers, and graves—presented in nearly one hundred individual color plates. Introducing a considerable body of unpublished data, as well as offering a perspective on daily life in the northern frontier of the Roman Empire, this volume is a valuable addition to Roman military and material history.

Creating Consilience - Edward Slingerland 2012-01-19

Calls for a "consilient" or "vertically integrated" approach to the study of human mind and culture have, for the most part, been received by scholars in the humanities with either indifference or hostility. One reason

for this is that consilience has often been framed as bringing the study of humanistic issues into line with the study of non-human phenomena, rather than as something to which humanists and scientists contribute equally. The other major reason that consilience has yet to catch on in the humanities is a dearth of compelling examples of the benefits of adopting a consilient approach. *Creating Consilience* is the product of a workshop that brought together internationally-renowned scholars from a variety of fields to address both of these issues. It includes representative pieces from workshop speakers and participants that examine how adopting such a consilient stance -- informed by cognitive science and grounded in evolutionary theory -- would concretely impact specific topics in the humanities, examining each topic in a manner that not only cuts across the humanities-natural science divide, but also across individual humanistic disciplines. By taking seriously the fact that science-humanities integration is a two-way exchange, this volume takes a new approach to bridging the cultures of science and the humanities. The editors and contributors formulate how to develop a new shared framework of consilience beyond mere interdisciplinarity, in a way that both sides can accept.

Anglo-Saxon England: Volume 38 - Malcolm Godden 2010-11-18

Anglo-Saxon England was the first publication to consistently embrace all the main aspects of study of Anglo-Saxon history and culture - linguistic, literary, textual, palaeographic, religious, intellectual, historical, archaeological and artistic - and which promotes the more unusual interests - in music or medicine or education, for example. Articles in volume 38 include: *The Passio Andreae* and *The Dream of the Rood* by Thomas D. Hill, *Beowulf off the Map* by Alfred Hiatt, *Numerical Composition and Beowulf: A Re-consideration* by Yvette Kisor, *'The Landed Endowment of the Anglo-Saxon Minster at Hanbury (Worcs.)* by Steven Bassett, *Scapegoating the Secular Clergy: The Hermeneutic Style as a Form of Monastic Self-Definition* by Rebecca Stephenson, *Understanding Numbers in MS London, British Library Harley* by Daniel Anlezark, *Tudor Antiquaries and the Vita 'dwardi Regis* by Henry Summerso and *Earl Godwine's Ship* by Simon Keynes and Rosalind Love. A comprehensive bibliography concludes the volume, listing publications on Anglo-Saxon England during 2008.

By Weapons Made Worthy - Jos Bazelmans 1999

In this book Jos Bazelmans offers a new perspective on the relationship between lord and retainer in early medieval society. This perspective goes beyond established politico-economic interpretations and aims for an interpretation of this relationship in ritual-cosmological terms. Drawing on recent developments within French structuralist anthropology and the anthropology of gift exchange, Bazelmans develops a new model of early medieval socio-political structure (as represented in Old English *Beowulf*) which explicitly deals with exchange relations between the living and the supernatural, the commensurability of subject and object in gift exchange, and the whole set of interdependent life-cycle rituals of lords and their warrior-followers. The value of gifts is considered to be determined not only by their function within a competitive game about prestige, status and power, but also by its equivalence with a constituent. The value of the gift is fundamental to the noble person and develops through a man's life-time. It is, ultimately, of a supernatural origin. The model enables us to understand certain acts at Beowulf's funeral pyre which at first sight appear to be no more than an ethnographic curiosity (*Beowulf* 3111b-3114a). The warrior's contributions to his pyre form the concluding part of a grand ritual undertaking in which society as a whole is involved and in which the constitution of the noble person, and the disarticulation of that person at his death, is realized. This ritual undertaking goes beyond the politico-economic concerns of the participants which are central to established power-based models of early medieval societal structure. The volume includes an extensive overview of the anthropology of gift exchange.

By Weapons Made Worthy Lords Retainers And Their Relationship In Beowulf:

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