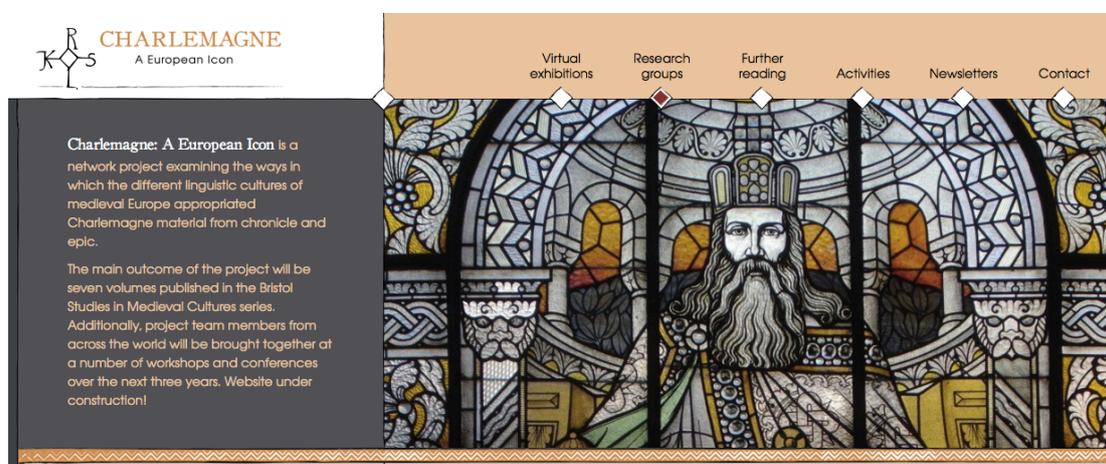


June 2016: The Website Launch Issue!

It is tremendously exciting to announce that we are now in a position to advertise our project website, which you can view at:

www.charlemagne-icon.ac.uk

The website is dynamic and will be updated throughout the course of the project's lifetime – perhaps its strongest feature. There are two virtual exhibition 'rooms' covering medieval and post-medieval depictions and iconography of Charlemagne, accounts of the work of our seven research groups, ongoing updates about our activities (including past editions of our newsletters) and project team contact details.



One of the many exciting features of the website is a Further Reading section, which includes a collection of essays and articles from scholars. Authors are invited to submit short papers of 1000–5000 words (including footnotes and bibliography) on topics related to Charlemagne and his legacy. All papers are peer-reviewed and will be freely available in PDF form on the project website. We are also eager to receive reviews of up to 1000 words on works related to the project theme. While book reviews are most welcome, we are also keen to receive assessments of other forms of historical dissemination, such as museum exhibits and historical documentaries. Additionally, we are in the process of collating abstracts from recent PhD students, outlining their research and findings. All submissions should be sent to charlemagne-icon@bristol.ac.uk.

The Charlemagne: a European Icon website is not, then, simply a tool for promoting our flourishing Leverhulme Network; it is an important resource for academics and students alike, packed with scholarly works and providing expert commentary on manuscripts, several of which have never before been digitised.

Recent Activities

The Heraldry Society. We have had our first public engagement event. On 18 May Marianne Ailes spoke on ‘Politics and Propaganda: Two Medieval Literary Manuscripts’ to The Heraldry Society, a national membership organisation, which meets at the Society of Antiquaries in London. Marianne spoke about two heavily illuminated Anglo-Norman manuscripts that contain the Charlemagne *chansons de geste*, *La Destruction de Rome* and *Fierarbas*. A member of the audience later wrote that Marianne had ‘brought alive what could have been such an abstruse subject’.



During the **51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo (12–16 May 2016)**, the project’s research team working on Charlemagne in Spanish Literature met to deliver a panel. The programme was:



- Matthew Bailey (Washington and Lee University), ‘Charlemagne as a Creative Force in the Spanish Epic’.
- Lucy K. Pick, (University of Chicago), ‘Rebel Nephews and Royal Sisters: The Tale of Bernardo del Carpio’.
- Mercedes Vaquero (Brown University), ‘The Old Counselors in the Roncesvals “Matière” and the Spanish Epic’.
- Ryan D. Giles (Indiana University – Bloomington), ‘Converting the Saracen: The Historia del emperador Carlomagno and the Christianization of Granada’.
- Aníbal Biglieri (University of Kentucky), ‘The Construction of Space and Place in the Narrative: “Cuento del emperador Carlos Maynes de Roma e de la buena emperatrix Seuilla, su mugier”’.

The British Branch of the Société Rencesvals (one of our network partners) held a colloquium in Perth, Scotland, 2–3 April 2016. Over the course of a fascinating two days, we heard from a number of members – both established and new – on a range of topics. For a full schedule, please visit the project website: <http://www.charlemagne-icon.ac.uk/activities/>.



Left: British Branch meeting in Perth

Catherine Leglu (University of Reading) gave a paper based on her ongoing work for the project on 17 February 2016. This was part of a year-long series of talks organised at the Université de Toulouse-Jean Jaurès (département de Lettres modernes, Cinéma et Occitan) with the support of the CELO (Centre d’Étude de la

Littérature Occitane), and the CREO-MP (Centre Régional pour l'Enseignement de l'Occitan en Midi-Pyrénées) as well as the Région Midi-Pyrénées.

Marianne Ailes (University of Bristol) presented a paper at The James Lydon Research Seminar in Medieval History, Trinity College, Dublin, on 10 December 2015. The title of her presentation was 'Reading Charlemagne in Medieval England'.



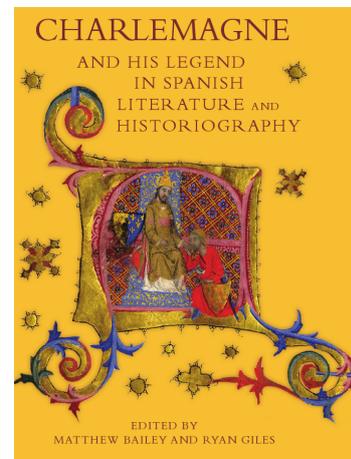
Right: Marianne Ailes speaking in Dublin

Upcoming Events

In October of this year, the project will hold a symposium at the University of Edinburgh. There will be a range of panels, covering topics from our Norse, German, Celtic, French and Spanish teams, as well as a roundtable presentation of the research findings for completed volumes involving William Purkis (Latin), Matthew Bailey (Spain) and Marianne Ailes (England). You can keep track of the latest symposium information on our website.

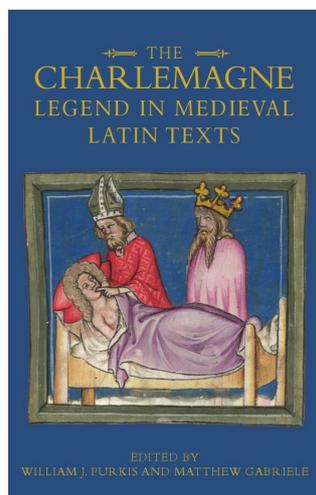
Progress of Volumes

It is with great pleasure that we are able to report on the upcoming publication of two volumes in 2016. *Charlemagne and His Legend in Spanish Literature and Historiography*, edited by Matthew Bailey and Ryan Giles, will be published on 15 September, followed very shortly by *The Charlemagne Legend in Medieval Latin Texts*, edited by William Purkis and Matthew Gabriele on 17 November. Both are now available for pre-order from Boydell and Brewer:



-Charlemagne and His Legend in Spanish Literature and Historiography

-The Charlemagne Legend in Medieval Latin Texts



Excellent progress has also been made on our five volumes still in preparation:

-Charlemagne in England (ed. Marianne Ailes, Phillipa Hardman, due for publication 2017)

-Medieval Francophonia and Occitan (ed. Marianne Ailes, Philip Bennett)

-Italian (ed. Jane Everson, Claudia Boscolo)

-The Celtic and Scandinavian Worlds (ed. Helen Fulton, Sif Rikhardsdottir)

-Medieval and Early Modern German and Dutch (Albrecht Classen, expected for publication 2017)

Social Media Presence

Our Twitter account is now approaching 300 followers, but it always helps to have people using our hashtag (#CharlemagneIcon), or including us in their own tweets (@CharlemagneIcon). As well as promoting the activities of the project, it is also a forum for advertising related activities, so please feel free to send us information about related stories or projects that you believe will be of interest, and, of course, your own work. We also have a Facebook page. As I am sure you will all be aware, Facebook is a powerful tool for disseminating information and garnering support for a project. If you are a Facebook user, please do 'like' our page, and follow us to keep up to date on other Charlemagne Icon news, <https://www.facebook.com/charlemagneicon800/?ref=hl>.

Charlemagne in the News

The city of Aachen this year awarded the Karlspreis to Pope Francis. Details can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/news/2016/05/20160506_en.htm. The city of Aachen has kindly provided us with a photograph of the medal, which will be posted in the post-medieval 'room' of our virtual exhibition. A short commentary in English and German will shortly be added.

An interesting article on the Holy Roman Empire as 'The First European Union' appeared in the April edition of *History Today*.

If you are giving any talks, publishing on related material, or have any other form of output related to Charlemagne, then please do get in touch at Charlemagne-icon@bristol.ac.uk. Awareness of our project within the scholarly community is growing quickly, and we can offer a platform on which to promote your work.



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



The Leverhulme Trust

Société Rencesvals British Branch

