Front Cover Illustration

Safavid blue-and-white bowl, 17th–18th century, painted ceramic with colourless glaze, 6.2 cm tall.
NM64.139, Nicholson Museum, The University of Sydney.
Information for Contributors

Parergon is the journal of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (Inc.)—known as ANZAMEMS.

Parergon is an international, double-blind peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles and book reviews on all aspects of medieval and early modern literature, history, and culture. We are especially interested in material that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries and takes new approaches.

Essays should be submitted via the online submission system on the Parergon website: http://www.parergon.org

Essays should be typically around 8000 words in length, double-spaced, with footnotes kept to a reasonable proportion, and accompanied by a 100-word abstract. Authors should observe the conventions of the Modern Humanities Research Association, as outlined in the MHRA Style Guide (3rd edn, 2013).

Essays should be substantially original, advance research in the field, and have the potential to make a significant contribution to the critical debate. Parergon does not accept submissions that have already been published elsewhere.

Book Reviews

Parergon publishes reviews of recent publications in medieval and early modern studies. Publishers are welcome to send relevant titles to Parergon, c/o Hélène Sirantoine, Parergon Reviews Editor, SOPHI, Quadrangle A14, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia.

Reviewers must be members of ANZAMEMS, and unsolicited reviews are not normally accepted. If you are interested in reviewing, please contact the Reviews Editor, Dr Hélène Sirantoine at reviews@parergon.org.

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Parergon is available in electronic form as part of Project MUSE (from Volume 1, 1983); Australian Public Affairs – Full Text (from Volume 12, 1994); Wilson’s Humanities Full Text (from Volume 25, 2008); and Gale Academic One File (from Volume 25, 2008).

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Parergon is the journal of ANZAMEMS (Inc.)

ANZAMEMS exists to promote medieval and early modern studies in Australia and New Zealand. To this end the Association provides a forum for the communication and promotion of research, the dissemination of news and the exchange of ideas. It does so by holding a Biennial Conference, publishing a scholarly journal, supporting a research network, and promoting such activities as Summer Schools, Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminars, Workshops, and Symposia.

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Membership is open to all interested researchers in the fields of medieval and early modern studies and is not restricted to Australian or New Zealand residents. As a member of ANZAMEMS you will receive the following exclusive benefits:

- Subscription to Parergon – the latest research in medieval and early modern studies and reviews of recent books, published twice yearly.
- Inclusion on the ANZAMEMS maillist – receive notifications of upcoming events and opportunities.
- Regular newsletter outlining the Association’s activities.
- Access to a dynamic and supportive international research network.
- Opportunity to review the latest academic titles for Parergon.

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Email enquiries to info@anzamems.org
Diversity and Equity Statement

It is ANZAMEMS’s goal to be a community in which all researchers feel comfortable and able to participate equally. The association understands that scholarship is practised by individuals working in many different conditions and with varying degrees of support for their work, and that individuals working in medieval and early modern studies in the South Pacific region, especially, may face particular challenges. One of the association’s primary purposes is to foster contact and collegiality of a mutually beneficial nature among researchers in these fields throughout our region. We value the involvement of researchers at all career stages, and across the full range of difference within the academy, and we especially welcome newcomers from all parts of the world to our community.

The association aims to provide those interested in the study of the medieval and early modern eras and their reception with a supportive and safe professional environment in which to work. It supports all individuals—especially those from communities traditionally marginalized by the academy, including but not limited to people of colour, women, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and members of all faiths—to share their research and develop professional networks within an environment that prizes inclusivity, generosity, courtesy and respect.

ANZAMEMS refuses to accept bullying and harassment of any kind, whether intellectual, institutional, or personal. Because of the range of disciplines and historical periods of interest to our members, and their various individual circumstances and geographical environments, ANZAMEMS appreciates that people will approach their work from a variety of critical, ideological, and methodological angles. We may not always agree, but we aim to foster an environment of respectful, engaged debate in which prejudice and intolerance have no place.

Our association is committed to developing safe mechanisms through which members are encouraged to voice concerns and seek support. This commitment includes the virtual communities fostered by ANZAMEMS and ANZAMEMS-sponsored events and publications.

The first steps in realizing this commitment includes the establishment of a subcommittee on Equity and Diversity, as voted by members in the 2017 AGM, and the appointment of ANZAMEMS Diversity Officers. The subcommittee is conducting a thorough examination of existing processes and policies in relation to equity and diversity in ANZAMEMS-sponsored activities and events, which it will continue to review and update on a regular basis. A set of guidelines for ANZAMEMS conference and event organizers is also currently in preparation. The subcommittee and Officers will report to the Committee on their activities, and will provide a written report to members at each AGM.

ANZAMEMS endorses the MLA’s Statement of Professional Ethics, which may be read at: http://www.mla.org/repview_profethics.
Prize Winners

Philippa Maddern ECR Publication Prize
The Philippa Maddern ECR Publication Prize is awarded to an Early Career Researcher (ECR) for the best article-length scholarly work in any discipline/topic falling within the scope of medieval and early modern studies, published within the previous two years.


Patricia Crawford Postgraduate Publication Prize
The Patricia Crawford Postgraduate Publication Prize is awarded to a postgraduate student for the best article-length scholarly work in any discipline or topic falling within the scope of medieval and early modern studies, published within the previous two years.


George Yule Prize
The George Yule Prize is awarded to the best essay written by a postgraduate. It is awarded biennially, at each ANZAMEMS conference.


ANZAMEMS Life Member Award
The ANZAMEMS Life Member Award will recognize scholars who have made a lasting contribution to the field of medieval and early modern studies, by exhibiting leadership and/or providing inspiration to others in the field, throughout their research and teaching careers, and/or through their active service to ANZAMEMS or Parergon.

In 2017 life membership of ANZAMEMS was awarded to:
  • Professor Constant Mews, for outstanding and sustained contributions to leadership, scholarship, teaching, and mentorship in the field of medieval and early modern studies;
and Honorary Membership of ANZAMEMS was awarded to:
  • Dr Anne M. Scott, for outstanding service to ANZAMEMS and Parergon.

For further information about prizes and bursaries offered by ANZAMEMS, please visit our website: https://anzamems.org