

Society for Neo-Latin Studies

2015 Annual General Meeting Day: Full Programme

1.00 – 2.30 pm London Neo-Latin Reading Group special session

This will be a special session of the London Neo-Latin Reading Group, run by Victoria Moul (KCL), which will enable members not based in London to participate. The group is reading Erasmus' *Ciceronianus* this term, but a relevant self-contained short text or extract will be selected for this particular session, so that those who do not usually attend will be at no disadvantage. Photocopies of the text will be circulated in advance to those who sign up.

Tea and coffee will be provided (sponsored by SNLS); attendees are welcome to bring their lunch. This session will take place at King's College London (room K-1.99, that is: King's Building, first basement, room 99; graduate students will be around to direct you to the venue).

Please **email Victoria Moul (at victoria.moul@kcl.ac.uk)** by 10 November 2015 if you are planning to attend or would like further information.

The rest of the afternoon will take place at the Inns of Court, Middle Temple, Sherrard Room (for a map and directions see: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/ren/snls/news/agm/>). Please **register via the website** by 21 November 2015.

The Inns of Court would like a donation of £5 per person towards their rare books fund. Salaried members are kindly asked to make a contribution by paying the Treasurer in cash on the day; he will write a cheque for the entire sum on behalf of SNLS. SNLS will make the donation for student members.

3.00 – 4.00 pm AGM

4.00–4.10 pm Award of SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2015

4.10–4.30 pm Tea (sponsored by SNLS)

4.30–6.30 pm Annual Lecture and Book Display
Dr Hugh Adlington (Birmingham):
John Donne's Latin Books: 'Per Rachel ho seruito & non per Lea'

This lecture explores the kinds of Latin books owned by poet and preacher John Donne (1572–1631) and the uses he made of them in his writing. The Italian motto that Donne inscribed in his books – from Petrarch, derived from Genesis 29:25 – is thought to refer to the medieval symbolism whereby Rachel represented the contemplative life and Leah the active. But how tenable is this distinction when considering Donne's diverse use of his Latin books across the full range of his activities, as satirist, love poet, lawyer, polemicist, diplomat, churchman and judge at law? And what can the surviving physical, literary and biographical evidence tell us about the influence of Donne's study of Latin books on his thought and writing?

To accompany the lecture, the Middle Temple Library has kindly agreed to display a selection of Latin books from Donne's collection. Members will have the opportunity to look at these books after the lecture.

7.00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant (on a self-paying basis)