

The Society for the Study of Medieval Languages and Literature is looking ahead to its centenary and the next stage in the life of its prestigious journal, *Medium Ævum*. Since its first appearance in 1932, the journal has been self-published. Each year, it produces two issues (of c. 250 pages each). Each issue includes eight to ten articles, notes and editions, followed by review articles, exhibition reviews and book reviews. *Medium Ævum* has four editors: Prof. Sylvia Huot (Cambridge), Prof. Corinne Saunders (Durham), Prof. Stephen Mossman (Manchester) and Dr David Rundle (Kent), who serves as Managing Editor. The Society also publishes, independently of the journal, its own monograph series, at an average of two items a year; the lead editors are Dr Anthony Lappin (Stockholm) and Prof. John Hines (Cardiff).

Submissions to the journal are healthy, and turn-around from acceptance to publication is usually a year. The rejection rate of submitted articles stands at c. 75%. The journal prides itself on celebrating the diversity of scholarship on the Middle Ages, and each issue of *Medium Ævum* aims to range both chronologically and geographically, and so across languages and cultures.

We are investigating the possibility of partnering with a press in order to increase the profile and reach of the journal and thus the surplus it provides to the Society which will assist in continuing and developing the Society's charitable activities.

We encourage interested publishers to propose a five-year strategy for their role in increasing the journal's profile and with it subscriptions and online reading. A crucial part of that will be a well-used and easy-to-use online platform for the journal, encouraging an increasing level of traffic.

Similarly essential are:

- Typesetting capacity which can with ease provide elegant polyglot pages with a good number of images (grayscale essential, full colour desirable). The ability also to provide high-quality copy-editing across the range of major medieval languages would be welcome
- An ability to distribute efficiently to members and commercial subscribers the two issues per year of the journal in hard copy and digital format
- Management of the commercial subscriber list (it is anticipated that the Society will continue to run its membership list, providing up-to-date mailing lists to the publisher)
- Liaison with the existing online platforms (EBSCO, Proquest, JSTOR) to ensure both prompt availability of the latest issue, and swift and full payment of royalties
- Provision of DOIs for all items published in the journal
- Ensuring the journal is eligible for APCs as a possible extra revenue stream

In addition, it will be desirable:

- To provide a user-friendly electronic submission management system
- To demonstrate what further support can be provided to the editors
- To propose synergies with other publications in your stable

The Society is particularly interested in proposals from publishers who would like to partner with the Society in the production of its full publication range, not just the journal but also *Medium Ævum Monographs*.

Journal: key facts

Print circulation

Commercial subscriptions: 200+ with 2026 headline rate £85

Individual members: 300+ who receive the journal free for their £30 membership fee

Geographical breakdown

Area	Commercial	Members
UK	27	205
Rest of Europe	66	51
North America	86	59
Rest of World	22	8

Financial. The figures for 2024 are:

Income £19,426

Costs £16,394

Further detail can be provided on request.

Monographs: overview

Medium Aevum Monographs have been publishing research on a wide range of topics relating to the literatures and languages of the Middle Ages since 1936. The series accommodates monographs by single or several authors, essay-collections, and editions of texts both large and small. Its objective is to encourage the scholarly interests and skills necessary for study of the production, transmission and cultural reception of texts in their several medieval languages, to ensure they are placed clearly in the historical and linguistic contexts that gave them meaning. A special feature is the nurturing of young talent: in-depth guidance is given to early-career researchers at all steps of the publication process. The length of a monograph has ranged from around 100 published pages to over 250, depending on the needs of the topic. The languages covered thus far comprise Latin and the various medieval forms of English (both Old and Middle), French (including the French of England), German, Gothic, Icelandic, Portuguese, Spanish, and Welsh. We are also able to publish materials written in Arabic, Greek and Hebrew.

Each individual member of SSMLL receives a digital copy of every monograph, and may buy hard copies at a discounted rate (50%). Commercial rates for the monographs vary in respect of the size of the publication, but the latest issue (NS48) costs £50.00 for the hardback and £30.00 for the paperback. There is a small but steady stream of sales of the back-catalogue each year.

Timetable for process

Proposals should be sent to the Executive Officers at ssmll@history.ox.ac.uk. Ahead of the deadline, queries should be directed to the journal's Managing Editor, Dr David Rundle, at editor@mediumaevum.org.uk.

Deadline for proposals from interested presses: 21st November 2025.

We hope to conduct interviews in the week beginning 8th December 2025.

The intention is that any new publishing arrangements will begin with the 2027 volume of the journal.