

SEE GHOST OF KING HAROLD FOR USA POETRY MONTH

Thursday 17 April, 2014

New Novel In Verse About England's 1066 Norman Curse

THE RHYME OF KING HAROLD (Volume I) is a first novel by English journalist Ian Macgill, who reveals that:

'England's Anglo-Saxon times
were The Great Age of Rhymes,
when every conversation
was a work of poetic translation.'

That's right!

'What nobody nowadays knows
is that during King Harold's day the
English never, ever, spoke in prose.'

The novel's narrator is a reporter with the fictitious York Evening Lantern (motto: 'For God and The Lantern - Aye! Aye! Aye!'), - which was founded in the 14th Century, during The Black Death.

'That fact many find surprising,
as during a plague there isn't much advertising,
but the Lantern's launch party went ahead,
despite everyone bringing out their dead.'

The Lantern is a newspaper situated in the ancient northern English city of York, close to where two of the most fateful battles in history took place during the autumn of 1066: Fulford Gate, and Stamford Bridge, which preceded by only a few weeks The Battle of Hastings, when Normandy's Duke William effectively conquered England, and King Harold died with an arrow in his eye.

Historians have long disputed how His Majesty was killed, but in the novel Harold ends all doubt, because he appears wearing a patch over his right eye. His ghost materialises in a York graveyard, and tells the Lantern reporter what really happened during 1066, explaining (entirely in rhyme) that though Harold fought heroically - he was to blame for England being conquered, because he usurped the throne, denying it to the rightful heir, the teenager Prince Edgar. King Harold admits he committed treason - though for a very good reason.

AUTHOR Ian Macgill has completed six volumes of The Rhyme of King Harold. Volume II will be published in late summer of 2014, in advance of the October 14th anniversary of The Battle of Hastings.

Ian Macgill is 59, and lives in Sheffield, England, where for many years he has owned and edited the city's Grapevine Magazine.

SEE THE GHOST OF HIS MAJESTY

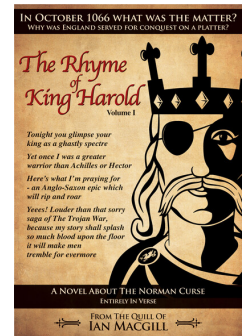
reading excerpts from THE RHYME OF KING HAROLD: <http://www.rhymesofhistory.com>

BUY THE NOVEL. ebook via Kindle and iTunes. Hardback (162 pages) available on Amazon

'Excuse these crimson tears I sometimes cry,
for there is still pain from the arrow that entered my right eye.
Some chroniclers doubt that reports of this injury are true,
but the shaft went right through
- here, and here - coming out just below the left ear,
pinning my head to the ground.
Which explains who on this side I cannot hear a sound.'

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