in notes) shows that the verb is alternatively written ‘chaoit’ and so more probably means ‘fall’. There is no explanatory or textual note to this passage.

The Complete Harley 2253 Manuscript is an essential source-book, recommended for libraries, reading-lists, and a place on our shelves beside the other classics of medieval literature.[Jane Bliss]

Adam de la Halle and Nevelot Amion, Les ‘Vers d’amours’ d’Arras, ed. Federico Saviotti, Classiques Français du Moyen Âge 181 (Paris: Champion, 2018). 279 pp. ISBN 978-2-7453-4562-2. €36.00. Federico Saviotti provides a critical edition of two short poems representing generic experimentation that would eventually contribute to the rise of the very popular late medieval dit amoureux. The first, evidently an innovation on the part of the famous poet-composer Adam de la Halle, is a 192-line stanzaic poem that treats the theme of the suffering meted out by Love, and forms a kind of bridge between the lyric chanson and the didactic dit. Adam’s contemporary, of uncertain identity beyond his name, produced a 264-line imitation of Adam’s composition. While Adam may be the more skilful and original poet, as Saviotti points out, Nevelot’s own work is nonetheless worthy of attention in its own right, and makes interesting use of numerous motifs from bestiary tradition in its characterization of the lover’s travails. Saviotti’s edition, with a 119-page introduction, a thirty-two-page bibliography, and a total of sixty-eight pages of critical notes, is a very welcome contribution to the study not only of the authors in question, but also of late thirteenth-century Arras and its important literary culture, and late medieval French love poetry in general. While acknowledging that the Vers d’amours must be considered among the minor works of the great trouvère, Saviotti argues convincingly for a significant impact on Adam’s contemporaries. Not only were these verses imitated by Nevelot Amion and later by Guillaume d’Amiens, but they also left their traces in numerous other poems that cite phrases borrowed from Adam’s work, or re-use his imagery.

The Abingdon Apocalypse, ed. Daron Burrows, ANTS 74 (Oxford: Anglo-Norman Text Society, 2017). xvi + 168 pp.; 1 colour facsimile. ISBN 0-905474-63-5. £25 for members; £37.50 for non-members. A celebrated scholar of Anglo-Norman wrote recently, ‘After the first pages of a critical edition, you know if the editor is a good guy’. This new publication is a seasoned editor’s thoughtful, thorough critical edition of the Abingdon Apocalypse (British Library, Add. 42555), including Anglo-Norman and Latin texts. The identities of the text’s author and the manuscript’s patron are unknown, but Professor Burrows concurs that the manuscript dates from c.1270–5 at the earliest and that it was most likely produced in London, Salisbury, or Winchester (3). The Benedictine Abbey of Abingdon owned the manuscript in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The manuscript features a dominant, full-width picture on each page, with Vulgate Apocalypse passages on the verso and the corresponding Anglo-Norman commentary on the facing recto (pp. 4f.). The commentary is based on Berengaudus and, to a lesser extent, on Haimo of Auxerre (pp. 11f.).

For this ANTS publication, appropriately, the editor focuses on texts, not pictures. Burrows provides a forty-page introduction with fluent, incisive remarks on language and palaeography; also, seven pages of works consulted, reliable notes, and a comprehensive glossary and index of proper names. Throughout, he closely compares the Abingdon’s texts to those of manuscripts in the Metz-Lambeth group,
especially the Gulbenkian Apocalypse, closest kin to the Abingdon (p. 14). A digital reproduction of the Abingdon lives at www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/record.asp?MSID=8752&CollID=27&NStart=42555. This means that the Abingdon’s 156 illustrations may be viewed and every jot and tittle of the edition double-checked. I have sampled the critical edition’s lines 382–415 and can therefore attest to its soundness. The manuscript shelfmark shown on the ANTS edition’s title page is a misprint; the correct MS reference – British Library, Add. 42555 – is shown on p. 2. [Brent A. Pitts] An Anglo-Norman Pharmacopoeia (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Bodley 761), ed. Tony Hunt, Anglo-Norman Text Society Plain Texts Series 19 (Oxford: Anglo-Norman Text Society, 2017). 41 pp. Available to members only. Tony Hunt has published a series of landmark works on Anglo-Norman medicine, editing texts and providing surveys of the field. Of late he has paid particular attention to herbals and to antidotaries, works that provide lists of simples with medicinal powers and explain how to prepare these simples to make medicines for particular complaints. The work reviewed deals with an abbreviated version of the Circa instans (or De simplicibus medicinis), a text originally compiled 1150–70, which lists plants and other materials in rough alphabetical order, and describes their medicinal properties and uses, appending to each entry a series of recipes. The text is found in MS Bodley 761, written in England in the third quarter of the fourteenth century. Hunt provides a description of the medical contents of this manuscript, of which the Circa instans translation forms part, and mentions other kinds of text also found in MS Bodley 761. An appendix to the edition provides comparable material found in MS Princeton University Library, Garrett 131, a text which Hunt previously edited as An Old French Herbal (Turnhout, 2008). The Anglo-Norman version of Circa instans in MS Bodley 761 is clearly distinct as a translation from two Old French versions of the text, dated to the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries (p. 2). The Anglo-Norman text is divided into two books, the first of which a rubric informs us deals with herbs, the second with gums and spices, though in fact the first book includes gums (e.g. verniz) and earths (e.g. boul), and the second herbs (e.g. genciene). Hunt provides a complete transcription of both books, with obvious scribal errors noted, and line numbers assigned for ease of reference. This is a worthy successor to Hunt’s previous publications on Anglo-Norman medicine. [Peter Murray Jones] Deux contes à rire médiévaux: ‘Le Boucher d’Abbeville’ suivi de ‘Trubert’, ed. Jean Rychner and Guy Raynaud de Lage, presented and translated by Alain Corbellari (Geneva: Droz, 2018). xl + 251 pp. ISBN 978-2-600-05833-9. €15.90. Alain Corbellari presents two Old French fabliaux, reprinting the editions prepared by an earlier generation of scholars and adding his own modern French translation and critical Introduction. For Le Boucher d’Abbeville, he has taken the critical edition assembled by Jean Rychner in 1975. That was a synoptic edition drawing on all five manuscripts, from which Rychner then created a composite reconstruction of the presumed original. As Corbellari explains, he did not attempt to reprint the many variant readings and notes indicated by Rychner’s modifications, as these would have been too numerous – and in most cases, very minor in their alteration of the text – for his current publication. The text he offers will be fully suitable for teaching purposes or for anyone wanting to explore the themes and structure of the story, while philologists wishing to delve more deeply into the manuscript tradition can continue to consult Rychner’s publication. Trubert,