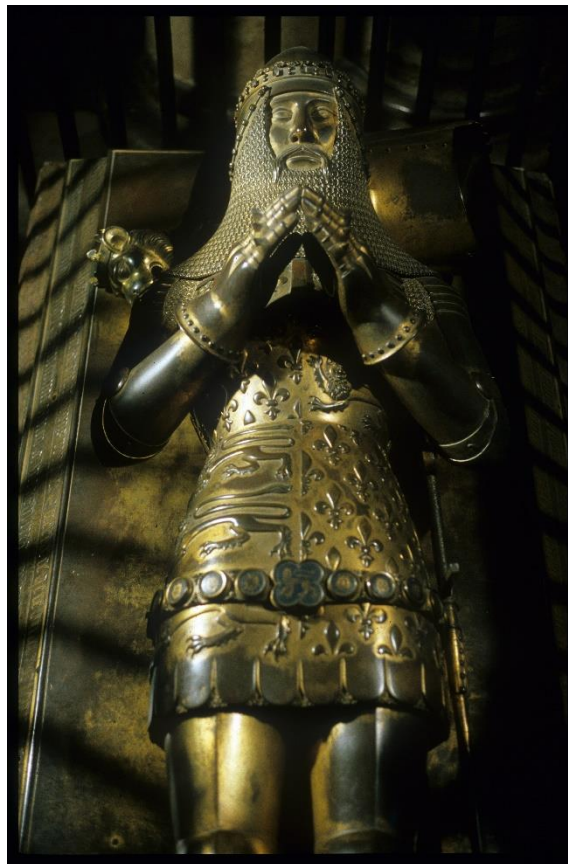


Medieval *Canterbury* Weekend

26 April – 28 April 2024

Souvenir Brochure



In aid of the Ian Coulson Memorial Postgraduate Fund

Programme Themes and Schedule

There are four broad themes from which to pick those events you would like to attend.

Social History The ordinary people who survived and even thrived in extraordinary times, haunted by famine, plague, war, death – and taxes.

War and Politics These were exciting times, a revolution in military tactics and technology and yet an emphasis on chivalric values, summed up by the Black Prince, Crécy, and the Order of the Garter.

Royalty and Nobility Royalty meant power and government but weak kings gave opportunities to the aristocracy. And how did queens as royal mothers, wives, and daughters shape authority?

Art, Literature and Religion High culture of the medieval period required being able to write and speak Latin. Yet medieval British books and documents often also contain Anglo-Norman French, Old and Middle English. Many were beautifully illuminated, making them star objects of the Middle Ages.

Venue/ Time	Augustine House AHg.27	Augustine House AH3.31	Tour	Tour	Visit
Key	War & Politics	Royalty & Nobility	Social History	Art, Literature & Religion	
Friday 26 April 2024					
19.00-20.30	Louise Wilkinson				
Saturday 27 April					
10.00-11.00	Dean Irwin	Alison Norton	Paul Bennett	Sheila Sweetinburgh	Cressida Williams Cathedral
11.30-12.30	Mike Bintley	Imogen Corrigan	Paul Bennett	Sheila Sweetinburgh	Cressida Williams Cathedral
Lunch	Augustine House AHg.27			Augustine House AH3.31	
13.30-14.30	Marc Morris			Anthony Gross	
15.00-16.00	Chris Briggs			Justin Colson	
16.30-17.30	Janina Ramirez			Chris King	
18.00-19.00	Mark Bailey			Susan Edgington	
Sunday 28 April					
10.30-11.30	Chris Woolgar			Alexandra Lee	
12.00-13.00	David Rundle			Claire Martin	
Lunch					
14.00-15.00	Caroline Barron			Alfred Hawkins	

Medieval *Canterbury* Weekend

Welcome

Dear Attendees,

On behalf of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Educational Studies at Canterbury Christ Church University, we would like to welcome you most warmly to the Medieval Canterbury Weekend. Medieval Canterbury was internationally important as the site of St Thomas's shrine and as it was on the main highway between London and mainland Europe, a route traversed by kings and knights, merchants and pilgrims. The city is an ideal setting for a weekend programme of lectures and guided visits that showcase recent research on the Middle Ages, which will be readily accessible to everyone and we hope enjoyed by all. Historians from across the country are coming to our beautiful medieval city to share with you their passion and enthusiasm for the Middle Ages. We are delighted to welcome to Canterbury our new speakers as well as several scholars who have been involved in our previous medieval weekends.

We should like to thank Cressida Williams at the Cathedral Archives and Paul Bennett for guiding tours. Our thanks also to Ben Cornwell for his web design, Kelly, our Box Office manager, Craig Dadds and his CCCU Bookshop team, and all our terrific front of house volunteers, hospitality teams and CCCU staff for helping this event to run smoothly. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has agreed to take part. The profits from the sale of this souvenir brochure will be put towards the Ian Coulson Memorial Postgraduate Award fund for Kent History at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Thank you so much for your support and for being part of this exciting weekend of events. We hope the young and not quite so young have a great time at our latest History Weekend.



Sheila Sweetinburgh, Organiser;
Diane Heath, Co-organiser
Medieval Canterbury Weekend
Centre for Kent History & Heritage
Canterbury Christ Church University

MOVE OVER MAID MARIAN! WOMEN IN THE MEDIEVAL ENGLISH FOREST



When we think of women in the medieval English forest, the figure most likely to spring to mind is Maid Marian, the love interest of Robin Hood. Disappointingly for medievalists, Marian was an early modern addition to the ballads of this legendary outlaw. Yet, the royal forest in thirteenth-century England was, in fact, home to a great many women from all social backgrounds, at least some of whom experienced just as eventful lives as the later literary heroine. Aristocratic, peasant and religious women all helped in their different ways to administer, manage and shape the landscape of the royal forest. Women frequently figure in forest records as vigorous participants in forest life. Some acted as forest officials, while others fell foul of forest law committing offences, such as poaching venison and hunting without royal permission. In this talk, Louise Wilkinson will explore the roles open to women in the medieval English forest.

Biographical Note

Louise Wilkinson is Professor of Medieval Studies at the University of Lincoln. Before moving to Lincoln, she was Professor of Medieval History at Canterbury Christ Church University. Louise is the author of various books and articles about women, children and families in thirteenth-century England, including *The Household Roll of Eleanor de Montfort, Countess of Leicester and Pembroke, 1265*, *The Pipe Roll Society* (Woodbridge, 2020) and *Eleanor de Montfort: The Rebel Countess* (London, 2012). She has appeared on three episodes of BBC Radio 4's *In Our Time* and featured in Melvyn Bragg's 2015 radio series on Magna Carta. She chairs the council of the Pipe Roll Society, a scholarly record society dedicated to the publication of medieval records, and co-edits Routledge's *Lives of Royal Women* book series.



Session 1: Friday 26 April: 19.00-20.30

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2Y

(EVERYBODY NEEDS GOOD) NEIGHBOURS: JEWS AND CHRISTIANS LIVING TOGETHER IN MEDIEVAL KENT



There was a Jewish presence in medieval Kent from at least the 1170s until the general expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290. For much of that period, Jews and Christians seem to have had positive relations in the local context (even if matters were more complex at other levels). This paper will explore how Jews and Christians lived, and worked, together in medieval Canterbury, and Kent, in order to facilitate urban communal life.

Biographical Note

Dean Irwin completed his PhD at Canterbury Christ Church University, where he worked on the records generated by Jewish moneylending activities between 1194 and 1276. He now researches medieval Anglo-Jewish history (broadly defined) as an Independent Scholar. He is a member of the advisory board of the Jewish Historical Society of England and a board member of the *MedievalJewishStudiesNow!* blog.



Session 2: Saturday 27 April: 10.00-11.00
Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

WHY HERE?: UNDERSTANDING HOW LANDSCAPES INFLUENCED CASTLE-SITING DECISIONS



Traditionally, when analysing rural castle siting patterns in Norman England, scholars understand location within the landscape as a secondary factor in the overall decision-making process, often applying generalisations to the castle's siting narrative. For example, castles sited within hills and moorland often equate with the narrative of castle builders seeking natural defensive elements or prioritising visibility over the surrounding landscape. This approach results in the misidentification of a castle's function within its surrounding community. In addition, it diminishes and ignores the uniqueness of local landscapes, the needs of individual castle builders and communities, and the impact rural settlements and communities had on castle-siting decisions. This paper will explore how local and regional landscapes, as well as the communities within these environments, provide unique and critical information regarding how people engaged with and understood their environment.



Biographical Note

Alison Norton is a PhD candidate in medieval history and archaeology at Canterbury Christ Church University. Her research focuses on rural Norman castles in the English South-West, where she applies historical, archaeological, and digital methods to answer questions regarding how local landscapes influenced castle-siting patterns.

Session 2: Saturday 27 April: 10.00-11.00

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

HOW TO READ A MEDIEVAL CHURCH



The **guided tour** will explore St Mildred's Church in Canterbury which is located by the city wall and next to Canterbury Castle. This gem of a medieval parish church has its roots in the eleventh century, and it may have housed some of the relics of St Mildred at the time of King Canute, after the monks at St Augustine's Abbey brought her relics from Minster in Thanet to their abbey church in Canterbury. In addition to fabric from this Anglo-Saxon period, the building contains materials and features from throughout the Middle Ages, including a newly-exposed crown post nave roof. Professor Paul Bennett will guide visitors around the outside and inside of the church to demonstrate what to look for and how to reconstruct the development of medieval church building.

Biographical Note

As the recently retired Director of Canterbury Archaeological Trust, **Professor Paul Bennett** MBE, Paul has overseen numerous archaeological excavations both in this country and abroad. In addition to his main interest in the archaeology of Kent, he is an expert in classical Libyan civilisation, having worked in the country over several decades. More recently, he has expanded his overseas interests to northern Iraq, investigating the region's prehistory. He has an encyclopaedic knowledge of Canterbury's archaeology and history, and his passion for the subject has inspired professionals and amateurs alike, which was recognised in 2017 when he was awarded an MBE.



Session 2: Saturday 27 April: 10.00-11.00 and

Session 3: Saturday 27 April: 11.30-12.30

St Mildred's Church: CT1 2PP

EXPLORING AN ANCIENT HOSPITAL



Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh's **guided tour** will take visitors back in time to explore St John's Hospital which was founded c.1080 by Archbishop Lanfranc. Some of the buildings date from this initial construction, including the toilet block that only went out of use in the 1940s. As well as this original stone building, visitors will be shown the chapel and Tudor refectory in which are housed artefacts and features from the hospital's medieval past. This magnificent institution is rarely open to the public and this guided tour offers a great opportunity to investigate one of Canterbury's hidden medieval gems.

Biographical Note

Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh's book on English medieval hospitals looks especially at the hospitals of Sandwich, Dover, and Canterbury. She has also written numerous articles on a wide variety of medieval and early modern social history topics that use case studies from Kent, ranging from late medieval piety to Canterbury's fifteenth-century business-women. She is particularly interested in medieval towns and their townspeople, and she uses such studies in her postgraduate teaching at Canterbury Christ Church University and at the University of Kent.



Session 2: Saturday 27 April: 10.00-11.00 and

Session 3: Saturday 27 April: 11.30-12.30

St John's Hospital: CT1 1BG

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL ARCHIVE TREASURES



This **guided visit** to the Cathedral Archives and Library will focus on the medieval records and manuscripts in the collections. On display will be examples from the medieval archive of the cathedral, which dates from the ninth century onwards and which is included on the UNESCO UK Memory of the World Register. There will also be documents from the archive of the City of Canterbury, including charters and financial records.

Biographical Note

Cressida Williams leads the staff team of the Cathedral Archives and Library, which cares for the manuscript and book collection of the Cathedral and other local organisations. Having qualified as an archivist in 1997, she is particularly interested in medieval charters and seals, as well as architectural records.



Session 2: Saturday 27 April: 10.00-11.00 and

Session 3: Saturday 27 April: 11.30-12.30

Cathedral Archives Reading Room: CT1 2HG

THE FLOODS OVERFLOW ME: CURRENTS OF TIME AND WATER IN EARLY MEDIEVAL ENGLAND



How did people living in the early Middle Ages think and feel about the waters that flowed through, across, and around the landscapes they inhabited? What efforts can we make to reconstruct their sensory and intellectual engagements through evidence of medieval experience from textual and material sources? Drawing on documentary evidence from literature, historical sources, and the material environment, this talk will outline a creative-critical approach to recreating an embodied experience of the seas, rivers, and other forms of water that shaped the thought-worlds of early medieval England. We will cross tempestuous oceans, plumb bottomless depths, and paddle between waterlocked landmasses, all to the tune of Old English poetry's lithe and living waters.

Biographical Note

Dr Mike Bintley is an Associate Professor in Medieval English Literature at the University of Southampton. He is the author of *Trees in the Religions of Early Medieval England* (2015) and *Settlements and Strongholds in Early Medieval England: Texts, Landscapes, and Material Culture* (2020), and co-author of *Landscapes and Environments of the Middle Ages* (2023).



Session 3: Saturday 27 April: 11.30-12.30

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

THE GREEN MAN IN ENGLISH CHURCHES



More correctly called 'foliate heads', there was a proliferation of Green Man images around the year 1400. The lecture discusses how the image may have evolved from pagan and Classical times and what its purpose may have been. Although they may originally have been connected to ancient fertility rites, the majority show either distorted or very mature faces which seems to contradict the notion that they were associated with May Day frolickings. It may be that we can learn more about its meaning if we take into account the historical events of the time and their effect on the nation's imagination.

Biographical Note

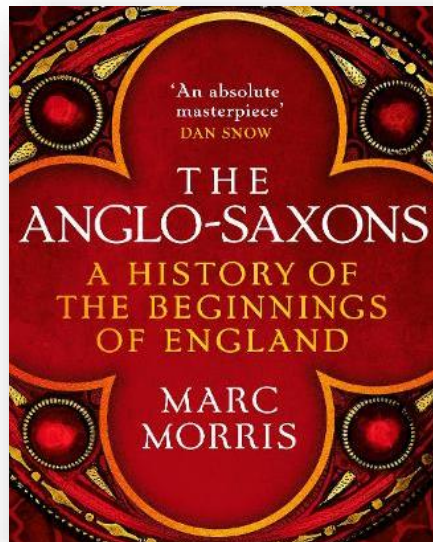
Imogen Corrigan lectures for *Martin Randall Travel*, ACE Cultural Tours and other specialist travel companies leading tours in Britain, Europe and the Far East. She is a NADFAS lecturer as well as a highly regarded speaker for the U3A, Kent Federation of History, and East Kent National Trust amongst other organisations. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a member of the British Commission for Military History and has been admitted as a Freeman of the London Company of Communicators. Her first book, *Stone on Stone: the Men who built the Cathedrals* was published in 2019.



Session 3: Saturday 27 April: 11.30-12.30

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

THE ANGLO-SAXONS: MYTH AND REALITY



Ever since the Norman Conquest, the English have looked back to the Anglo-Saxon era with nostalgia. As a result, the period between 450 and 1066, when England first came into being, has always tended to be regarded as a golden age. Its kings were elected and its Church was more pristine. Women had better rights than they did later, and people in general enjoyed greater freedom. But how much of this is true, and how much of it is the product of wishful thinking? In this talk, historian Marc Morris examines the history behind these and other claims, sifts the contemporary evidence, and asks whether the reality bears any resemblance to the legend.

Biographical Note

Dr Marc Morris is an historian and broadcaster, specialising in the Middle Ages. He is the author of *The Anglo-Saxons: A History of the Beginning of England* (Hutchinson, 2021), *King John: Treachery, Tyranny and the Road to Magna Carta* (Hutchinson 2015), *The Norman Conquest* (Windmill, 2013) and *A Great and Terrible King* (Windmill, 2009). In 2003 Marc presented the highly acclaimed TV series *Castle* for Channel 4 and wrote its accompanying book (now published in paperback by Hutchinson). He has also contributed to other history programmes on radio and television. An expert on medieval monarchy and aristocracy, and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, Marc has written numerous articles for *History Today*, *BBC History Magazine* and *Heritage Today* (now published together as an e-book, *Kings and Castles*).



Session 4: Saturday 27 April: 13.30-14.30

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

POLITICS AND CRAFTSMANSHIP IN EARLY RENAISSANCE FRANCE: PAINTED ENAMELS AT LIMOGES 1480–1510



At the close of the 15th century a luxury industry emerged at Limoges in south-western France, specializing in the production of devotional miniatures painted in glass on a copper base. From the mid-16th century onwards the enamelling workshops of Limoges are quite well recorded. But we have very little information about the earliest masters. Even their names are usually unknown. My paper will delve into this obscurity. It will focus on two artists in particular, the Master known as 'Monvaerni' and the Master of the Louis XII Triptych. During this period the Bishops of Limoges also acted as Archbishops of Barletta and enjoyed close relations with political actors high in the favour of Louis XI and Louis XII. Through these connections it is possible to trace a shadowy connection between court politics and the promotion of these two enamelling workshops.



Biographical Note

Dr Anthony Gross is the author of *The Dissolution of the Lancastrian Kingship* a study of political culture during the Wars of the Roses. He is presently working on a book about the relationship between central government and local society during the reigns of Edward II and Edward III. Dr Gross is an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Historical Research in the University of London.

Session 4: Saturday 27 April: 13.30-14.30

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

THE MATERIAL CULTURE OF SOME KENT REBELS, 1450-51



This talk will consider the evidence for the material possessions of some Kentish men who were hanged as traitors following their participation in the uprisings of 1450-51 (Cade's rebellion). We have records of the rebels' goods and chattels because they were forfeited to the crown following their executions. The rebels' lists of possession represent just a small sample from a larger database of such lists collected as part of a project that sought to investigate the material world and living standards of England's lower orders during the later Middle Ages. The paper discusses the forfeiture process and the ways in which it shaped the surviving evidence and asks whether there was anything distinctive or unusual about the material culture of these rebels.

Biographical Note

Dr Chris Briggs is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of History, University of Cambridge, and a Fellow of Selwyn College. He is interested in all aspects of the economy and society of later medieval England, and has published on rural credit and debt, peasants and the law, and material culture. Between 2016 and 2020 he was co-investigator on the project 'Living standards and material culture in English rural households 1300-1600' funded by the Leverhulme Trust. An online, open-access book entitled *The material culture of English households c. 1250-1600*, co-authored by members of the project team, has just been published by Cardiff University Press.



Session 5: Saturday 27 April: 15.00-16.00

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

WHEN MEDIEVAL MERCHANTS FAILED: RICHARD ARNOLD, HIS NEIGHBOURS AND THE SOCIAL NETWORKS OF TRADE IN LATE FIFTEENTH-CENTURY LONDON



We are used to hearing about the medieval cloth industry and English cloth exports through the illustrious stories of successful men and families: the Mayors and Aldermen of the City of London; the Paycockes of Coggeshall; and the Springs of Lavenham. But these were just the most prominent players amongst a much broader field, and for every success story, there were inevitably many failures. An unusual early printed book gives a unique insight into the life and career of one late medieval merchant, Richard Arnold of London Bridge, who faced misfortune, and frequently disaster, in every aspect of his work. From pirates seizing his ship, to uncooperative landlords, pub brawls in Antwerp, and corrupt Archdeacons, his writings reveal that everything seemed to go wrong for him. As is often the way in history, it is precisely these failures which give us a much deeper insight into his life, and especially into the ways in which trade actually worked in the medieval world.

Biographical Note

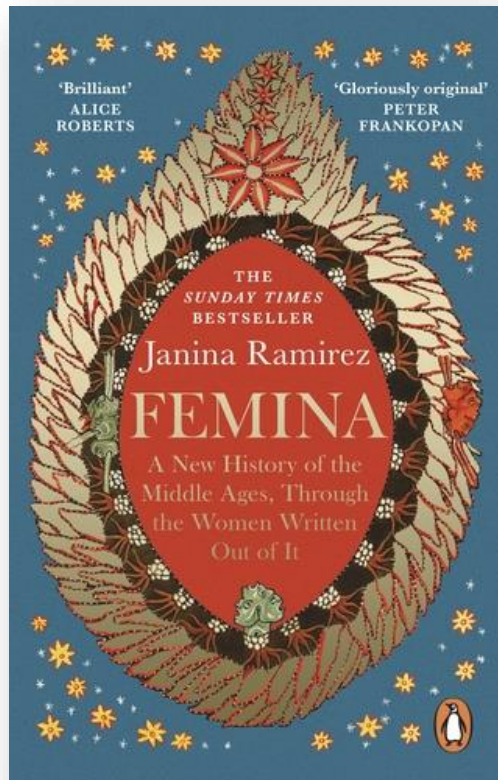
Dr Justin Colson is senior lecturer in Urban and Digital History at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London. He works on many aspects of medieval and early modern social and economic history with a focus on everyday life in cities, especially London. He also specialises in historical mapping and spatial analysis, and currently manages the *Layers of London* project.



Session 5: Saturday 27 April: 15.00-16.00

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

FEMINA: A NEW HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE AGES, THROUGH THE WOMEN WRITTEN OUT OF IT



The Middle Ages are often perceived as being a bloodthirsty time of Warriors, Saints and Kings: a patriarchal society that oppressed and excluded women. By digging beneath the surface and delving into the truth of our past, Dr Ramirez reveals that the 'dark' ages were actually anything but. In her lecture she re-examines some extraordinary women like Hildegard of Bingen, casts a new light on over-written females like Aethelflaed and King Jadwiga, and uses recent discoveries to find lost individuals like the Loftus Princess and the Birka Warrior Woman, as she uncovers the incredible impacts these women had on society.

Bibliographical Note

Dr Janina Ramirez is an Oxford lecturer, BBC broadcaster, researcher and author. She has presented and written over 30 hours of BBC history documentaries and series on TV and radio and written five books for children and adults.



Session 6: Saturday 27 April: 16.30-17.30

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

SENSORY EXPERIENCES IN THE MEDIEVAL URBAN HOUSEHOLD



The medieval urban household was a complex web of social and material connections, in which identities and relationships were forged through lived bodily experience. By bringing together the evidence of architecture, material culture and documentary sources we can explore the sensory qualities of medieval homes. Urban dwellings created networks of spaces, objects and socially embedded practices and performances, and in turn these encoded a range of ideas about status, and gender, work and leisure, privacy and comfort, health, and religious meaning for medieval townspeople, which we can explore through an archaeology of lived experience.

Biographical Note

Dr Chris King is Assistant Professor in Archaeology at the University of Nottingham, and a Council Member of the Society for Medieval Archaeology. He is an expert in medieval towns and particularly the study of standing buildings and the use and meaning of space in urban houses. He has worked extensively on buildings and archaeology in the city of Norwich, one of England's most important medieval trading centres, and has recently published *Houses and Society in Norwich 1350-1660: Urban Buildings in the Age of Transition* (Boydell 2020).



Session 6: Saturday 27 April: 16.30-17.30

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

WOMEN AND WORK IN ENGLAND IN THE AGE OF THE BLACK DEATH



The chronic shortage of workers and tenants after the devastation of Black Death in 1348-9 presented unparalleled opportunities for women to enter the labour and land markets, which some historians have heralded as a golden age for women. Others have argued that the golden age was restricted to women in the North Sea region of Europe, creating the nuclear 'western' family and driving the march to modernity. Here we review the evidence and the arguments for one of the liveliest current debates in social history.

Biographical Note

Mark Bailey is Professor of Late Medieval History at the University of East Anglia, and in 2019 was the James Ford Lecturer in British History at the University of Oxford and a Visiting Fellow of All Souls College. The Ford Lectures have been published as *After the Black Death* by OUP.



Session 7: Saturday 27 April: 18.00-19.00

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

THE THREE WIVES OF BALDWIN I



Baldwin of Boulogne was successively a First Crusader, the first Latin Count of Edessa, and king of Jerusalem (1100–1118). He married three times: as crusader, as count, and then as king. His wives were given very little attention in contemporary chronicles and so this is an attempt to restore to them their own biographies.

Biographical Note

Dr Susan Edgington is an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at Queen Mary University of London. She has published a number of editions and translations relating to the First Crusade and the early years of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, and a biography of Baldwin I (Routledge, 2019).



Session 7: Saturday 27 April: 18.00-19.00

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

ENGLISH PEOPLE AND THEIR GOODS IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES



There was a social revolution in England and elsewhere in Europe between 1200 and 1500 CE. In 1200, individuals had few goods and objects; by 1500, goods were everywhere. The study of this world of things is being reshaped by new approaches to the historical record, which contribute to our understanding of the objects themselves and their connections to medieval people. It offers us fresh perspectives on mentalities and daily lives amidst this growing material world, from textiles, clothing and furnishings, to cherished drinking vessels.

Biographical Note

Chris Woolgar is Emeritus Professor of History and Archival Studies at the University of Southampton. He has a long-standing interest in the history of the everyday.

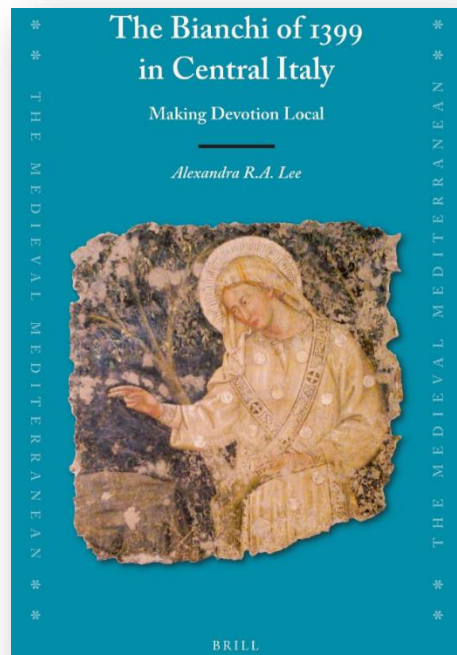
His books include works on the medieval great household, sensory perception and the culture of food, as well as editions of household account from later medieval England and testamentary records. He was editor of the *Journal of Medieval History* from 2009 to 2023.



Session 8: Sunday 28 April: 10.00-11.00

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

PLAGUE AND RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS IN MEDIEVAL ITALY



In the summer and autumn of 1399, a plague swept through the northern and central Italian peninsula. The populace at large was persuaded to don white clothing and participate in religious processions to help ward off the disease. Those who took part were called the “Bianchi”. This talk will consider why a religious response to disease made sense in medieval Italy, and address some of the actions that people took, including singing devotional hymns and self-flagellation. The topic of miracles will also be addressed, examining the role of these divine interventions during a time of plague.

Biographical Note

Dr Alexandra Lee is a Lecturer in History at Goldsmiths, University of London and Lecturer in Liberal Studies at New York University London. She works on the intersection between popular religion and epidemic disease in late medieval Europe. Her book *The Bianchi of 1399 in Central Italy: Making Devotion Local* was published with Brill in 2021. She has also published articles on miracles, confraternities and teaching with Twitter. Alex is also a disability activist and recently submitted an edited volume *Towards an Accessible Academy: Perspectives from Disabled Medievalists* which combines lived experience of disability with the contributors’ medieval specialisms.



Session 8: Sunday 28 April: 10.00-11.00

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

WHAT THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE OWED TO ENGLAND



Europe in the fifteenth century is often depicted as the best of times and the worst of times: in Italy, it was the springtime of the Renaissance; in England, it was the dreary autumn of the Middle Ages. It is a contrast that creates a centre of cultural vitality — Italy — and conjures an impression of England being both distant and inferior. What is less often commented is that this perception was constructed by Italian Renaissance scholars themselves, who made the British synonymous with the barbarous. This lecture will consider how and why this construction was forged and then go on to suggest why it is time to step out of its shadow and recognize fifteenth-century England's complicity in the success of the Renaissance.

Biographical Note

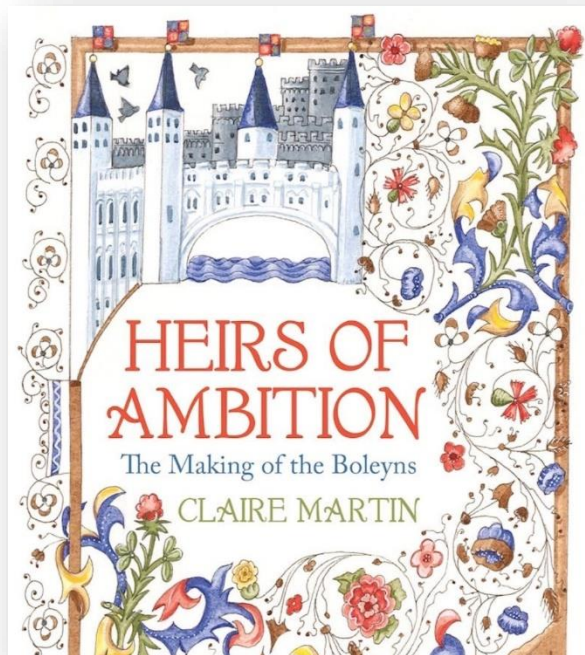
Dr David Rundle joined the University of Kent in 2018 as Lecturer in Latin and Manuscript Studies in the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies. He is a Renaissance historian and a palaeographer. He is currently working on a catalogue of the manuscripts of Magdalen College, Oxford with Ralph Hanna. His monograph, *The Renaissance Reform of the Book and Britain*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2019, as part of their Studies in Palaeography series.



Session 9: Sunday 28 April: 11.30-12.30

Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

HEIRS OF AMBITION: THE MAKING OF THE BOLEYNs



From the fields of Norfolk to the royal court, via city commerce, local government, liberal education and numerous wedding bells, the Boleyns emerge as just one of the many newly prosperous and ambitious families seeking to make the best of the changing world. As they struggle upwards, England is visited by famine, plague, revolt and civil war – but also opportunity. While the Bolyn's new-found wealth delivered power and status. They still lived in a violent world and life could be precarious, even for a queen. Thus from steady climb to bone-breaking fall, the Bolyn's story is medieval life at its messy, prejudiced and unstable best.

Biographical Note

Dr Claire Martin has been a historian and writer for ten years. She studied first at St Peter's College, Oxford and later at Royal Holloway, University of London. She began working for the research agency behind the television series *Who Do You Think You Are*, while still studying full time and subsequently worked as a part-time teaching fellow at Royal Holloway University and Queen Mary's University. She has carried out research for a number of London Livery Companies and others, including for fellow academics. Her new book on the Boleyn family was published in 2023.



Session 9: Sunday 28 April: 11.30-12.30

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA

THE LONDON ALDERMEN IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY



In 1446 the Clarencieux Herald was commissioned to provide images of the mayor, John Olney and each of the other twenty-four aldermen, together with the then Recorder of London, John Danvers. These remarkable images have been very little studied: why were they commissioned at that time? What can they tell us about the aldermen and what can we find out about these men? Half of them were MPs, and many of them were notable in the city and in the wider realm, but some were comparatively obscure. The remarkable survival of this collection of images provokes further questions: where did these men come from? How did they make (or lose) money? What can we find out about their family life or their children? This talk will be the beginning of an exploration, not the end.

Biographical Note

Caroline Barron is Emeritus Professor of the History of London in the University of London. She taught at Bedford College and then at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College. Her interests have always centred on the medieval city of London but this has led her to investigate the lives of medieval women, religious beliefs and practices, and the power struggles between London and the Crown (particularly in the reign of Richard II). She has published extensively, including her acclaimed *London in the Later Middle Ages: Government and People 1200-1500* (Oxford University Press, 2004).



Session 10: Sunday 28 April: 13.00-14.00
Augustine House: AHg.27: CT1 2YA

THE TOWER OF LONDON AS A ROYAL PALACE



The Tower of London is one of the most important, sensitive and multifaceted sites in the world. Now a Scheduled Monument, UNESCO World Heritage Site and tourist attraction, the fortress is predominantly known as a place of imprisonment, persecution and torture - and the home of many of England's most enduring myths. While this perception hardly paints an image of luxury, one of the Tower's most important roles was its use as a royal palace. Though little now remains of these once sprawling royal buildings, the development of the Tower as a royal palace within what was often a hostile city had a profound impact on the evolution, status and use of the fortress throughout the medieval period. This talk will explore the development and use of these buildings alongside their wider impact upon the fortress as a whole from the construction of the White Tower between 1078-1100 through to the final flourish of royal occupation in the 1530s.

Biographical Note

Alfred Hawkins is a historian, buildings archaeologist, curator and broadcaster. He has worked in commercial archaeology and the heritage sector as an Archaeological Researcher, Archaeologist and, subsequently, a Historic Building Specialist. Since 2018, Alfred has been Assistant Curator of Historic Buildings for HM Tower of London and the Banqueting House, Whitehall for Historic Royal Palaces, and since 2023 he has been Cathedral Archaeologist for Portsmouth Cathedral. In these roles he has acted as the principal curatorial and historic advisor on several large-scale projects. Alongside this, Alfred regularly makes on screen appearances on documentaries including BBC2's *Digging for Britain*, Channel 5's *Inside the Tower of London* and Discovery Channel's *Unearthed*.



Session 10: Sunday 28 April: 13.00-14.00

Augustine House: AH3.31: CT1 2YA



IAN COULSON MEMORIAL POSTGRADUATE AWARD FUND

This fund was set up following the success of the Medieval Canterbury Weekend in 2016 to aid postgraduates at Canterbury Christ Church University who are studying Kent history and/or archaeology. These postgraduates are an important and expanding group within the Centre for Kent History and Heritage and this Award is a continuing legacy of the History Weekends and other events organised by the Centre as our way of paying tribute to Ian. For his untimely death in December 2015 robbed Kent of a colossus in education. It is difficult to sum up Ian's approach but his enthusiastic engagement and his desire to teach well-researched history by explaining the complex simply without losing either the audience or the subtlety of the topic were his hallmarks.

To date almost twenty postgraduates have benefited from the Award, comprising both Masters by Research and PhD students. At a time when it is increasingly difficult to gain funding, such awards are often a lifeline for those wanting to complete higher degrees by research. We are very grateful for your continued support of this fund.

Among the research students who have benefitted from this funding are Dr Dean Irwin and Dr Lily Hawker-Yates for their doctoral projects involving research respectively on medieval Jews in Kent and England more broadly, and barrows in the cultural imagination of later medieval society.

MA students who have similarly successfully completed research projects include Joe O'Riordan, Peter Joyce and Kieron Hoyle on such diverse topics as the impact of the Reformation on Canterbury, the role of the Rev. Caleb Parfect in Medway through his work and writings, and the establishment of the Crypt School in Tudor Gloucester.

The current doctoral students include those nearing submission through to those who are in the first year of their studies. Their projects highlight the wealth of the archival and other sources available to study Kent history and archaeology. Among these topics Tracey Dessoy is investigating the role of noblewomen in Canterbury and its environs in the High Middle Ages; Jane Richardson is examining the history of three religious houses in west Kent; Jason Mazzocchi is exploring the lived experience and societal relations in 17th century Faversham, and Michael Byrne is studying Laurence Wade's 'Life of Becket' in its late medieval context.



ANNUAL BECKET LECTURE 2024

Empress Matilda and Archbishops in Twelfth- Century Germany, France and England

by

Professor Elisabeth van Houts

Tuesday 14 May at 6 pm

(wine reception from 5.30 pm)

**Michael Berry Lecture Theatre,
Old Sessions House CT1 1PW**

Free lecture, all welcome



Professor Elisabeth van Houts will explore archiepiscopal behaviour during the career of Matilda from child bride and widow in Germany and uncrowned queen regnant England to her second widowhood and retirement in Normandy when she championed Thomas Becket.

Elisabeth van Houts is Honorary Professor of European Medieval History at the University of Cambridge and Fellow at Emmanuel College. She is interested in medieval history and Latin, and has published and lectured extensively on Anglo-Norman history, medieval literature, historiography, and the history of gender in the Middle Ages.



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