The Magna Carta Conference

A landmark conference on Magna Carta and its world showcasing major new discoveries, hosted by the AHRC’s Magna Carta Project, 17-19 June 2015

Wednesday 17 June 2015, Edmund Saffra Lecture Theatre, King’s College London, Strand

09.45-10.15 Registration
10.15-10.30 Welcome address
10.30-11.15 Professor Nicholas Vincent (UEA), ‘What Happened in 1215?’
11.15-11.45 Coffee
11.45-12.45 Professor Dame Jinty Nelson (KCL), ‘Politics with Charters in Early Medieval Europe’
Dr. Levi Roach (University of Exeter), ‘The Privilege of Liberty in Later Anglo-Saxon England’
12.45-13.45 Lunch
13.45-14.45 Professor Björn Weiler (Aberystwyth University), ‘Good Kings and Bad Kings in Medieval Reality’
Professor Martin Aurell (Université de Poitiers), ‘Good Kings and Bad Kings in Medieval Fiction: The Case of Arthur’
14.45-15.15 Tea
15.15-16.15 Professor Janet Burton (University of Wales: Trinity Saint David (Lampeter Campus)), ‘King John and the Cistercians’
Dr Sophie Ambler (UEA), ‘The Church in Politics 1200-1300’
16.15-16.30 Break
16.30-18.00 Debate: Professor Anne Duggan (KCL), Professor John Hudson (University of St Andrews), and Professor George Garnett (Oxford), ‘Magna Carta: Common Law or Ius Commune?’
18.30-20.30 Reception at the Maughan Library, Chancery Lane and presentation, by Melvyn Bragg, of the J.C. Holt Undergraduate Essay Prize

Thursday 18 June 2015, Edmund Saffra Lecture Theatre, King’s College London, Strand

09.00-09.30 Registration
09.30-10.30 Dr Hugh Doherty (UEA), ‘Missives, Pamphlets, and Forgeries in the War for Magna Carta’
Dr Tessa Webber (Cambridge), ‘Scribes at Court and the Writing of Magna Carta’
10.30-11.00 Andrew Payne (TNA), ‘Teaching Magna Carta online’
Geoffrey French (UEA), ‘The Magna Carta Project online’
11.00-11.30 Coffee
11.30-12.30 Professor Stephen Church (UEA), ‘What went Wrong for John?’
Professor Daniel Power (Swansea University), ‘The Magna Carta Crisis (1214-17) and the French’
12.30-13.15 Dr Henry Summerson (Oxford): ‘Fish Traps, Bridges and Carts: Making a Commentary on Magna Carta’s Less Familiar Clauses’
13.15-14.15 Lunch
14.15-15.45 Dr David Crook (TNA), ‘King John and the Forests’
Professor Paul Brand (Oxford), ‘Magna Carta and the Courts, 1215-1307’
Professor Scott Waugh (UCLA), ‘Magna Carta: what changed?’
15.45-16.15 Tea
16.15-17.45 Professor Jean-Philippe Genet (Paris IV), ‘How Exceptional was English Liberty?’
Professor Louise Wilkinson (Canterbury Christ Church University), ‘All Free Men or All Free Persons? What Magna Carta offered Women’
18.15-21.00 Reception and private viewing of the British Library’s Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy exhibition, introduced by Dr Claire Breay (BL)
Friday 19 June 2015, The British Library

09.00-09.30 Registration

09.30-10.30 Dr Marc Morris, ‘The Seizure of Rochester Castle in 1215’
Professor John Gillingham (LSE), ‘How King John Lost all his Wars’

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.30 Professor William Chester Jordan (Princeton University), ‘Magna Carta and the Mise of Amiens’
Dr John Maddicott (Oxford), ‘From Magna Carta to the Parliamentary State’

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.30 Dr Alice Taylor (KCL), ‘Magna Carta and Scotland’
Dr Peter Crooks (TCD), ‘Magna Carta in Ireland’

14.30-15.15 Professor Nigel Saul (RHUL), ‘Magna Carta after King John’

15.15-15.45 Tea

15.45-16.30 Professor David Carpenter (KCL), ‘Magna Carta: is there Anything More to Say?’

18.30-20.00 Statutes, Constitutions and a Golden Bull: Early European Parallels to Magna Carta.

Although Magna Carta is correctly celebrated for granting rights to all free men in perpetuity, there were a range of other charters drawn up around Europe in the same period that also sought either to establish basic principles of justice, curb the powers of rulers and or grant the right to resist. Some of the more intriguing of these, including the Statute of Pamiers (1212), the Golden Bull of Hungary (1222) the Constitutions of Melfi (1231) and the imperial land peace of Mainz (1235) are explored and contrasted by some of our most eminent medieval historians: Graham Loud (University of Leeds), Martyn Rady (UCL), Miri Rubin (QMUL) and Nicholas Vincent (UEA).