



7th-22nd September 2024



gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk



welcome

Welcome to the 2024 Gloucester History Festival

After our sell-out Spring Weekend, this autumn's Festival promises to be our most special yet. Awe-inspiring venues, spectacular speakers and a chance to join us here at Blackfriars or in the comfort of your own home as we livestream events for the first time.

Routes and Rebels is our theme and the festival explores history both close to home and global in reach as we travel across continents and back in time to question, celebrate and share the past. I can't wait to see you there!

Prof Janina Ramirez
President of the Gloucester History Festival

I hope you'll be as excited about our 2024 Festival programme as we are - reflecting and questioning different aspects of the past in one of Britain's most historic cities.

Gloucester Day on 7th September marks the city's finest hour, and the Heritage Open Days weekend opens for free magnificent buildings normally closed to the public. Well-known speakers will lead our Blackfriars Talks on subjects both familiar and less so - try Agent Zo, Sex and Christianity, the River Severn and the Father of British Magic - now live-streamed for the first time. So do book now at gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk - and join us in Gloucester this September!

Richard Graham CMG
Chair of the Gloucester History Trust



Saturday 7th - Sunday 22nd September

William Dalrymple, Ranulph Fiennes, Tom Kerridge, Mark Gatiss, Max Hastings, Stewart Lee, Susie Dent, Ben Macintyre, Greg Jenner, Dan Jones, Kate Williams and David Olusoga are just some of Britain's top historians, broadcasters and authors at this year's festival.

Join us for a feast of compelling events in the magical setting of Blackfriars Priory, Britain's oldest history festival venue. Celebrate the unique tradition of Gloucester Day on 7th September and Heritage Open Days from 13th to 15th September throws Gloucester's magnificent historical buildings open to all.

See pages 7-26 for the full Blackfriars Talks programme, and how to buy a Festival Pass.



New this year both livestream and in-person tickets are available for the Blackfriars Talks. See page 6 for details.

Gloucester Day

Saturday 7th September

Join us for a day of celebrations!

Gloucester Day commemorates the lifting of the Siege of Gloucester in 1643 with a day full of frivolity, parades, music, street stalls, entertainment and a Mock Mayor making ceremony with Town Crier Alan Myatt. Celebrating the rich heritage of our historic city, it's a day completely unique to Gloucester. Expect colourful regalia, decorations, national costumes, banners and flags to feature at the Gloucester Day Parade.

New this year is the premiere of a comic drama about the Siege of Gloucester featuring real characters associated with the Folk of Gloucester.



Events at Gloucester Day are free and no booking is needed.

Mock Mayor of Barton's Parade

11.00am

Starting along Constitution Walk. This intentionally comic parade is filled with larger than life Gloucester characters, traditional entertainers, music and fun.

Thanksgiving Service

12.00 noon - 12.30pm

St Mary de Crypt

Everyone is invited to attend this free service.

Siege of Gloucester Show

1pm The Cross,
Gloucester City Centre

Enjoy the new comic drama featuring real characters associated with the Folk of Gloucester.

Gloucester Day Parade

2.00pm

Starting along Constitution Walk

The second parade of the day is a more formal affair – involving hundreds of participants led by the Right Worshipful Mayor of Gloucester. Hundreds of people, young and old, march to show their pride for their city.

Siege of Gloucester Show

4pm The Folk, 99-103
Westgate St

Second chance to see the comic drama. Enjoy the rustic garden with bar and cafe selling home-made cakes and lunches.

Friday 13th - Sunday 15th September **Heritage Open Days**



For the 29th year, Gloucester is opening its doors on Heritage Open Days from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th September with over 100 events!



Organised by the Civic Trust, come and celebrate Gloucester's history, architecture and culture by joining in the wide and varied range of events taking place over the weekend. Every event is free to participate in.

Make exciting new discoveries by visiting historic buildings which are usually closed to the public or charge admission, such as one of the finest examples of a Tudor Merchant's house in the country or by stepping aboard an unusual B & B housed in a lightship.

Join themed guided walks around the city and find out about the people such as a Roman Emperor or a miserly banker who have played their part in making Gloucester what it is today. Immerse yourself in free talks, musical and cultural events all linked to the local area.

Full details: gloucestercivictrust.org

The Blackfriars Talks Livestream Programme



Enjoy the Festival worldwide!

Enjoy the Blackfriars Talks from the comfort of home as Britain's top historians and broadcasters are live-streamed from the Priory between 14th and 22nd September.

Both livestream and in person tickets are booked on the same event page of the website and viewing links are sent out two days before each event. In person prices are marked by each event followed by the livestream price.

Single Livestream event tickets cost £6 each

The Digital Festival Pass costs £60 allowing access to over 40 events

Find out more details about our digital programme at gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk/digital



Visiting the Blackfriars Talks

William Dalrymple, Ranulph Fiennes, Tom Kerridge, Mark Gatiss, Max Hastings, Stewart Lee, Susie Dent, Ben Macintyre, Greg Jenner, Dan Jones, Kate Williams and David Olusoga are just some of Britain's top historians, broadcasters and authors speaking in the magical setting of Blackfriars Priory.

How to Book

Book tickets: gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk

Book by phone: 07834 406228

Tickets available in person at: Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road, Gloucester Tuesday - Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-3pm (closed Mondays)

There is a Box Office onsite but we recommend booking ahead to avoid disappointment.

Livestream tickets: all livestream tickets are £6 and appear next to the in-person price.

Reservable seating: you can now choose and book specific seats when you book online, via phone or in person.

Book signings: are organised by Waterstones and take place after each event.

Book a Festival Pass

Quench your curiosity and enjoy one of our great value Festival Passes. Limited numbers are available and often sell out quickly.

Day Pass: £50 available Monday to Thursday offers entry to all events that day saving 10%.

Festival Pass: £400 offers in person entry to all 50 Blackfriars events, Festival lanyard and the same reserved seat throughout saving 20%.

Digital Festival Pass £60 offers livestream access to the digital Blackfriars Talks programme between 14 and 22 September.



Blackfriars Talks Saturday 14th September

Joan of Arc & The Hundred Years War

Janina Ramirez 10.30-11.30am £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Joan of Arc is an almost mythic medieval figure, her image still instantly recognisable after half a millennium. Her tale is both familiar yet endlessly startling. The peasant girl sent by God to save France, dressed in armour as though she were a man, the maid who rescued Orléans and led her king to be crowned at Reims, the martyr who became a legend – and later a saint – when she was burned at the stake by the English enemy in 1431. In a compelling new illustrated talk bestselling Femina author **Janina Ramirez** untangles fact from fiction to bring Joan of Arc and medieval France vividly to life.

Lady in Waiting

Anne Glenconner 12.15-1.15pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



A Maid of Honour at Elizabeth II's Coronation in 1953 and former Lady in Waiting to Princess Margaret, **Anne Glenconner** has spent her entire life as a friend of the royal family. In her bestselling memoirs she looks back on an extraordinary life full of glamour, drama and tragedy. And in a rare appearance, she lifts the lid on life at court, offering a ringside seat on major events in 20th century history and offers a frank, fearless and enormously entertaining portrait of the realities of life in the shadow of the Crown.

Tom Kerridge Cooks Britain

Tom Kerridge 2-3pm £15 / £6 Livestreamed



Gloucester-born **Tom Kerridge** is one of Britain's best-loved and most inspiring chefs, the owner of The Hand & Flowers in Marlow, the only pub in Britain to hold two Michelin stars. He joins us to tell the tale of his recent culinary road trip through the best of British food and its rich heritage, now a major BBC TV series, as well as sharing his own story and the Gloucester inspiration behind his famous Matson sauce.

'Tom Kerridge is a national treasure and this is his gift to the nation.' Jay Rayner

Charles III: New King, New Court

Robert Hardman 4-5pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Acclaimed royal biographer **Robert Hardman**, author of the chart-topping book and BBC1 documentary *Coronation*, offers a fascinating account of the tumultuous period of royal history since Charles III became King. How would - or could - he fill the shoes of the record-breaking Elizabeth II? His talk, full of intriguing insider details, explores the transition between Elizabeth and Charles, the political upheavals of his first years as monarch and reflects on the current state of the House of Windsor and what the future may bring.

The Siege: The Remarkable Story of the Greatest SAS Hostage Drama

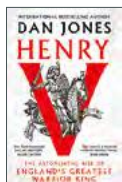
Ben Macintyre 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



The Times' columnist and bestselling espionage writer **Ben Macintyre** is the author of the book and film *Operation Mincemeat*, *Agent Zigzag* and *The Spy and The Traitor*. In his major new book *The Siege* he shares the definitive inside story of the greatest SAS hostage drama: the infamous 1980 siege on the Iranian Embassy in London, drawing on unpublished source material, exclusive new interviews with the SAS, and testimony from witnesses including hostages, negotiators and intelligence officers.

Henry V

Dan Jones 8-9pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



Henry V, victor at the Battle of Agincourt, is one of the most intriguing characters in history. A sometimes brutal warrior, he was a leader who made many mistakes, yet always seemed to triumph when it mattered. He saved a shattered country from economic ruin, put down rebellions and secured England's borders. In diplomacy, he made England a serious player once more. Yet his conquests in France led to the calamity of the Wars of the Roses. Britain's bestselling medieval historian and TV broadcaster **Dan Jones** paints a thrilling and unmissable portrait of one of England's greatest kings in this fascinating new talk.

'A tour de force' Peter Frankopan

Blackfriars Talks Sunday 15th September

Great Gloucester Buildings

Janina Ramirez, Andrew Armstrong & Phil Moss 10.30 – 11.30am £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Gloucester's iconic Cathedral and legendary Docks take centre stage when we think of Gloucester's greatest buildings. But what about the glorious gems tucked away in hidden corners or nestling under our streets? Join us for the world premiere of Janina Ramirez's short film for Historic England celebrating



the buildings of Gloucester. Then watch as City Archaeologist **Andrew Armstrong**, much-loved local historian **Phil Moss** and Femina author **Janina Ramirez** lock horns to present their favourite unsung buildings in the city and argue about which is Gloucester's best.

David Olusoga

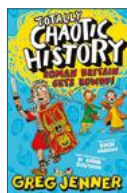
History and the History Wars 12.15-1.15pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



History is now front-page news, contested as never before. Statues have fallen, our beloved heritage organisations are under assault while the reputations of great men have been called into question. In this talk, leading historian, filmmaker and author of the acclaimed *Black and British*, Professor **David Olusoga** examines the causes of the 'history wars' and asks where they might lead us. Introduced by **Janina Ramirez**.

Roman Britain Gets Rowdy!

Greg Jenner 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Join Horrible Histories guru **Greg Jenner**, host of the chart-topping BBC podcast *You're Dead to Me*, for a riotously fun journey through Roman Britain, from its brilliant beginnings to its epic ending. From legionaries to baths and gladiators to hypocausts, this whirlwind tour will cover everything you need to know about Roman Britain and show you what it would really have been like to live through hundreds of years of Roman history. And where better to join Greg Jenner than in the heart of Roman Glevum! For adults and youngsters: suitable for all history-lovers from 9 years up.

Constable's The Hay Wain

Waldemar Januszczak, Janina Ramirez & Corinne Fowler

4-5pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



This year is the National Gallery's 200th anniversary and as part of the celebrations Constable's *The Hay Wain* has visited Bristol Museum & Art Gallery as the centrepiece of its recent *Truth to Nature* exhibition. Sunday Times Art Critic and broadcaster **Waldemar Januszczak**, art historian and Femina



author **Janina Ramirez** and Professor of Colonialism & Heritage **Corinne Fowler** join Jo Durrant to explore the history of this icon of English landscape art and the myriad ways in which it has been copied, satirised and politicised since it was first painted in a Suffolk lane in 1821.



In association with Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

Mannerism: Art's Wildest Movement

Waldemar Januszczak 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Join Sunday Times Art Critic and acclaimed film-maker **Waldemar Januszczak** to discover the dark, weird, wild and sexy period of art between 1520 and 1590, squeezed tightly between the Renaissance and the Baroque. Described as 'the Renaissance going off the rails', the crazy creativity of Guiseppe Arcimboldo, making faces out of fruit and seafood in Prague,

Rosso Fiorentino at Fontainebleau and the unleashing of women artists onto the public stage reveals the extraordinary rebellion of the period against European norms. Prepare for an exhilarating journey into the chaos and creativity of mannerism with Waldemar Januszczak as your guide.

Stewart Lee in Conversation

Stewart Lee & Janina Ramirez 7.30-8.45pm £16



Comedians have always been a thorn in the side of the powerful, poking fun at the absurdities of their time. Director of the legendary Olivier-winning Jerry Springer The Opera, stand-up comedian, writer, director and film-maker, **Stewart Lee** is one of the most groundbreaking figures in British comedy, with legions of devoted fans of his deadpan, surreal and hilarious musings. He joins Janina Ramirez for a wide-ranging conversation as they take a sideways swipe at history, politics and the state of the nation.

Blackfriars Talks Monday 16th September

A Time Traveller's Guide to the River Severn

Simon Draper 12-1pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



This year archaeologists found 7,000 year-old fish traps in the Severn estuary and to mark this discovery top Cambridge landscape archaeologist **Simon Draper** joins us to discuss the intriguing history of the River and the people who've lived and worked on it over the centuries. What part did fishing and waterborne trades play in medieval and Elizabethan life? How did the estuary dwellers ingeniously deal with floods? And how exactly did Severn elvers and lamprey feature in the courts of medieval Kings?

The Treasures of the Ermin Way

Alex Thomson 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Roman temples, ancient burial grounds, hidden gold? Rumours abound about what's been discovered under the Cotswold escarpment between Cirencester and Gloucester as Oxford Cotswold Archaeology delve beneath the route of the new A417 'missing link' road between Birdlip and Brimpsfield. The dig, carried out on behalf of National Highways and Kier Group, covers over 350,000 square metres and features have been identified from over 12,000 years of human occupation. Now the excavations are complete, **Alex Thomson**, leading archaeologist and dig Project Manager, shares the exciting discoveries for the first time, exploring how our ancestors have used this part of the Cotswolds since the Stone Age.

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

The Knights Templar: From Gloucestershire to Jerusalem

Steve Tibble 4-5pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



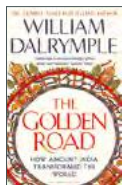
From Temple Guiting to Down Ampney, the Templars played a powerful yet mysterious role in Gloucestershire's history. Established in the 12th century under Henry I to protect pilgrims and famous for their Crusader battles, the Order is remembered today for its heresy, fanaticism and violence both at home and abroad. Leading

medieval historian **Steve Tibble** offers a fascinating insight into the extraordinary story of the Knights Templar both here in England and on their Crusades through the Middle East.

William Dalrymple

The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World

6-7pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



India is the forgotten heart of the ancient world. For a millennium and a half, India was a confident exporter of its diverse civilisation creating a vast empire of Indian art, religion, astronomy, technology, music and mythology. It blazed a trail across the world from the Red Sea to the Pacific, from Angkor Wat to the Roman Empire. Join

William Dalrymple, the award-winning historian and co-host of the chart-topping podcast *Empire*, to hear a revolutionary and dazzling new history of India.

'A master storyteller.' *The Sunday Times*

Margaret Tudor: The Thistle and the Rose

Linda Porter 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Leading Tudor historian **Linda Porter** tells the remarkable and often overlooked story of the forgotten Tudor Queen. Henry VIII's older sister Margaret Tudor married King James IV aged 13 and became Queen Regent of Scotland after his death at the disastrous Battle of Flodden in 1513. Leading a life of drama and intrigue she did more than

anyone to manage the fractious relationship between England and Scotland. Join us to hear her compelling story.

Blackfriars Talks Tuesday 17th September

The Real Peaky Blinders

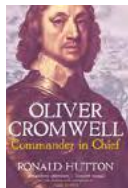
Carl Chinn 12-1pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Who were the real Peaky Blinders and what part did they play in the Black Country after the First World War? How much does the Peaky Blinders TV series, now being filmed for the big screen, reflect the facts or make them up? Bestselling social historian **Carl Chinn's** own great-grandfather was a Peaky Blinder. He shares rarely seen images and reveals the true history of the notorious 1920s gangsters, including his ancestor, who ruled the underworld of Birmingham.

Oliver Cromwell: Commander in Chief

Ronald Hutton 2-3pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



In 1647, the Parliamentarians were divided. After winning the First Civil War, Oliver Cromwell was again at the centre of events. Britain's leading expert on the 17th century, **Ronald Hutton** offers a compelling portrait of Oliver Cromwell's life from 1647. He explores Charles I's capture and execution in 1648, the establishment of the Commonwealth of England, Cromwell's notorious campaigns in Ireland and Scotland and his ultimate rise to the pinnacle of power. In a fascinating new exploration of Cromwell's unstoppable ascent, he reveals the man as we've never seen him before.

'A magnificent achievement' The Sunday Times

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

The Blazing World

Jonathan Healey 4-5pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



Bestselling Oxford historian **Jonathan Healey's** *The Blazing World* is widely acclaimed as an exhilarating, enthralling and ground-breaking history of England's turbulent 17th century. From the Civil War and the Glorious Revolution to the new ideas fizzing from the ale houses and coffee shops of plague-ridden London, he traces how the 1600s changed a nation forever. Join him in this talk for 'a sparkling account of a period that's crucial for any understanding of the history of England, Europe and the world beyond.' Peter Frankopan

A Potted History of Britain: A 6000 Year Journey

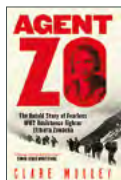
Julian Richards 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Ceramics are part of all our lives, from the plates that we eat off and the mugs that we drink from, to the toilets we sit on. One of Britain's leading archaeologists and broadcasters, presenter of BBC2's *Meet the Ancestors*, and self-confessed 'potaholic' **Julian Richards** explores the sometimes surprising 6000 year history of ceramics in Britain. From the earlier pots of the Neolithic Era to some surprising contemporary uses, from fine Wedgwood porcelain to the bricks that built our cities, Julian will explore the changes in technology, taste and society which have occurred over this time span in a unique and hugely entertaining new talk.

Clare Mulley

Agent Zo: World War Two Resistance Fighter 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed

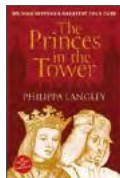


Join leading historian **Clare Mulley** to hear the incredible story of the Second World War female Polish Resistance fighter known as Agent Zo told for the very first time. The only woman to join the Polish elite Special Forces known as the 'Silent Unseen', she was trained by the SOE in the British countryside and parachuted back into Nazi-occupied Poland. There, whilst being hunted by the Gestapo who arrested her entire family, she played a leading role in the Warsaw Uprising and the liberation of Poland. Clare Mulley brings this forgotten heroine vividly back to life.

Blackfriars Talks Wednesday 18th September

Richard III & Cecily Neville

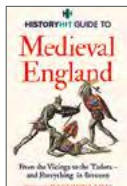
Philippa Langley & Annie Garthwaite 12-1pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Cecily Neville, wife of Richard of York, mother of both Edward IV and Richard III, had a pivotal role in the Wars of the Roses in the years before Richard III gained power. **Philippa Langley**, who discovered Richard III under a Leicester car park and last year published the bestselling *The Princes in the Tower*, and **Annie Garthwaite**, author of *The King's Mother*, explore the life and influence of the ruthless and determined Cecily Neville, one of the most important women at the heart of the Wars of the Roses. In a gripping discussion they restore her to her place at the centre of this turbulent period of English history.

The Peasants' Revolt

Matthew Lewis 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed

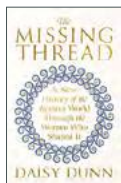


The Peasants' Revolt of 1381, led by Wat Tyler, saw London burn as people desperately sought a better life. The events that followed represent a pivotal moment in England's history, characterised by murder and mayhem, beheadings and betrayal, a boy-king and his absent uncle and a riot of destruction and death. Who were the rebels and how close did they really come to ending the status quo? New research is shedding light on those involved both as perpetrators and as victims. Through their stories, bestselling medieval historian and chart-topping podcaster **Matthew Lewis** asks how close England came to seismic change and what resonance the Uprising has today.

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

The Missing Thread: The Women of the Ancient World

Daisy Dunn 4-5pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



For centuries, men have been writing histories of antiquity filled with warlords, emperors and kings. Now, spanning 3000 years from the birth of Minoan Crete to the Roman Empire, bestselling historian **Daisy Dunn** presents her compelling new history of the ancient world told for the very first time through women. Featuring figures like the poet Sappho, Cleopatra and Boudica, the first female victor at the Olympic Games and the sole female commander in the Persian Wars, she reveals the ancient world through fresh eyes, and introduces us to an incredible cast of ancient women, weavers of an entire world.

'A gem of a book. In this elegant and lively retelling of history, the women of the ancient world are restored to the centre of the story of classical antiquity.' Peter Frankopan

Max Hastings

Operation Biting 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Britain's foremost military historian **Max Hastings** shares the story of the most thrilling British Commando raid of the Second World War and perhaps the most successful: the 1942 parachute assault behind enemy lines to capture Hitler's radar secrets. In a compelling illustrated talk he tells an epic tale of courage and daring that changed the course of the War.

SAS Great Escapes

Damien Lewis 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Bestselling historian **Damien Lewis** tells the gripping true stories of how Paddy Mayne and the men of the SAS crossed blazing deserts, evaded enemy hunter forces and escaped through hostile lands against seemingly insurmountable odds in a triumph of the human spirit in WW2. In his latest volume he has worked closely with WW2 veterans and their families, and today he shares these extraordinary new SAS escape stories including an incredible secret that has lain hidden behind the heroics of Normandy's D Day landings.

Blackfriars Talks Thursday 19th September

The Building Detective: Medieval Myth-Busting

James Wright 12-1pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



Secret passages, hidden staircases, roofs built from famous ships' timbers, the oldest pub in the land? From Gloucester's own New Inn to the Tower of London, so many myths are bound up with medieval buildings. **James Wright**, Britain's best-loved buildings archaeologist, gives a compelling talk debunking myths, revealing truths and investigating why these tales and legends endure to this day.

'Will bust many of the historical myths that you readily believed.'

Richard Herring

Mary I: Queen of Sorrows

Alison Weir 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed

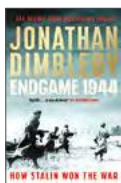
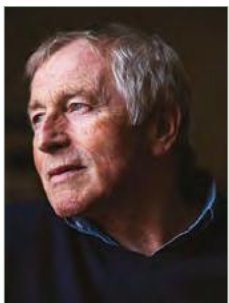


The Sunday Times bestselling historian **Alison Weir** explores the life and reign of Mary I, adored only child of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon. With England as well as her parents' marriage in crisis, Mary's perfect world falls apart. Exiled from court and her beloved mother, she seeks solace in her faith. A tale of drama and tragedy, of how a princess with such promise, loved by all, became the infamous Bloody Mary.

'Thrilling, captivating and unforgettable' Kate Williams

Jonathan Dimbleby

Endgame 1944: How Stalin Won the War 4-5pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



June 1944: two million Red Army troops faced their German counterparts to avenge the defeat of Operation Barbarossa in 1941 whilst in the same month the Allies triumphed on the beaches of Normandy. Bestselling historian and leading BBC broadcaster **Jonathan Dimbleby** brings this momentous year that sealed the fate of the Nazis vividly to life exploring the military, diplomatic and political story. Chaired by historian **Iain MacGregor**.

The Royal Palaces: Secrets & Scandals

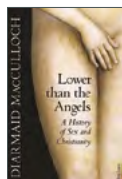
Kate Williams 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Join bestselling royal historian and TV broadcaster **Kate Williams** as she reveals royal residences from the medieval era to the present giving unique new insights into historic royal secrets kept in the shadows. Explore St James's Palace, and the disastrous wedding ceremony of Caroline of Brunswick to the debauched George IV, and Greenwich Palace where Elizabeth I survived an assassination attempt when poison was placed in her saddle. Discover Whitehall Palace, home to Charles II's secret laboratory where he tried to create an elixir of youth using human skulls, and go behind the scenes at Windsor Castle where Princess Elizabeth arrived during WW2 with the Crown Jewels in a biscuit tin.

Lower than the Angels: A History of Sex and Christianity

Diarmaid MacCulloch 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



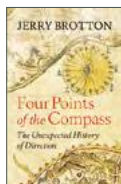
Few things provoke more public interest and anxiety than sex and religion. In the first event exploring his eagerly-awaited new book, Oxford Professor and prize-winning BBC2 broadcaster **Diarmaid MacCulloch** explores one of the most controversial topics in history. He tells a 3,000-year-old tale looking at how Christianity has shaped Western attitudes to sex, gender and sexuality. He traces the 11th century introduction of marriage into the Christian church, the seismic events of the Reformation and how in the last century, in just a single life-time, there have followed revolutions in the place of women in society and same-sex love. Join him for a compelling exploration of a subject that has challenged the church for three millennia - and continues to do so today.

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

Blackfriars Talks Friday 20th September

A History of the World in Four Compass Points

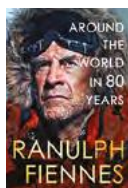
Jerry Brotton 12-1pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



Why did Renaissance Europeans draw north at the top of their maps? Why did the Aztecs use five compass directions? And why have no societies ever orientated themselves westwards? North, south, east and west have been foundations of our navigation and exploration and central to virtually every culture's imaginative and political geography. Yet they are far more subjective and contradictory than we might realise. Award-winning historian **Jerry Brotton**, author of the international bestseller *A History of the World in Twelve Maps*, takes us on a thrilling illustrated journey of directional discovery as he explores the Four Points of The Compass.

Ranulph Fiennes

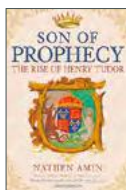
Around the World in 80 Years 2-3pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



Ranulph Fiennes, the world's greatest living explorer, has thrilled countless readers with his gripping accounts of dazzling exploits in some of the world's most inhospitable regions from polar ice caps to Mount Everest. To mark publication of his frank and fearless memoir *Around the World in 80 Years*, he delves into the history of polar exploration, discusses his remarkable life and reflects on our enduring fascination with the extremes of human endurance.

The Rise of Henry Tudor

Nathen Amin 4-5pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



As England's most celebrated Royal dynasty, it's often overlooked that the Tudors have their origins in rural Wales, far from the urban centres of English power. When Henry Tudor won the English crown defeating Richard III in 1485 he was a stranger to the people he now ruled. Leading Tudor historian **Nathen Amin** tells the story of Henry Tudor's rise to power: a tale of treachery, cunning, love and heartbreak stretching from an Anglesey hilltop to Bosworth Field.

'Tudor history right out of the top drawer' Dan Jones

Mark Gatiss in Conversation

Mark Gatiss & Janina Ramirez 6-7pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



From The League Of Gentlemen to Doctor Who and Sherlock, writer, actor, director and novelist **Mark Gatiss** has been the creative genius behind some of the most iconic television and film productions of our

time. He is currently working on, and starring in, a new detective series set in the fascinating period between 1945 and 1950 when Britain was still recovering from the war. He joins **Janina Ramirez** to discuss his acting, his writing and the fascinating relationship between television drama and its historical settings.

Glorious Gloucestershire

Mark Cummings & Sybil Ruscoe 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



'When you're tired of Gloucestershire, you're tired of life' so Samuel Johnson surely said when he visited the rolling Cotswold hills, lush Forest of Dean and magnificent River Severn. Legendary former Radio Gloucestershire presenter **Mark Cummings** and BBC broadcaster and The Archers' farming

and countryside advisor **Sybil Ruscoe** join us to share Gloucestershire characters, myths and legends from the worlds of history, sport, architecture, food and more. Join them for an eye-opening and hugely entertaining journey through the county's chequered past. Enjoy cider and free Morris Dancing in the Blackfriars Courtyard from 7.30pm.

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

Blackfriars Talks Saturday 21st September

Blood on the Snow: The Russian Revolution

Robert Service 10.30-11.30am £10 / £6 Livestreamed



Robert Service, Britain's greatest historian of 20th century Russia, discusses his enthralling new history of the Russian Revolution, from the outbreak of World War I in 1914 to Lenin's death in 1924. He explores how the key seeds of the Revolution were sown by the Tsar's decision to join the war against Germany in 1914, reveals with brutal clarity how these events played out and reflects on their impact on Putin's Russia and events in Ukraine today.

Country Walks Through Colonial Britain

Corinne Fowler 12.15-1.15pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



How did an Indian palace come to be built amongst Gloucestershire's rolling hills? From Sezincote to Shimla, Empire transformed rural lives: connecting the Cotswolds to Calcutta, Dolgellau to Virginia, and Grasmere to Canton. Leading historian **Corinne Fowler** wrote the National Trust's 2020 report on the historical links between its Country Houses and the British Empire and now has written the critically acclaimed *Our Island Stories*. Today she entwines local and global stories in two fascinating illustrated journeys, through the Cotswolds and Cornwall, showing how Empire profoundly shaped the British countryside.

Hidden From History

Shalina Patel, Janina Ramirez & Priya Atwal 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Join **Janina Ramirez**, author of *Femina*, **Shalina Patel**, Radio 2 broadcaster, teacher, creator of The History Lessons and Instagram sensation The History Corridor and Oxford historian **Priya Atwal** author of *Royals and Rebels*, as they tell the stories of fascinating figures hidden from history.

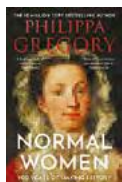
Indian Suffragette Princess Sophia Duleep Singh, British WW2 spy and resistance fighter Noor Inayat Khan and the Viking Birka Warrior Women are just some of the hidden lives they discuss with History Extra's Content Director **David Musgrove**.

In association with History Extra

gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk

Normal Women: 900 Years of Making History

Philippa Gregory 4-5pm £15 / £6 Livestreamed



Join international bestselling author **Philippa Gregory** as she maps an alternative account of Britain's past. Through the true stories of female soldiers, guild widows, highwaywomen, pirates, miners, shipowners, theatre runners and 'female husbands' she redefines 'normal' female behaviour to include heroism, rebellion, crime, treason, jousting and sainthood. In a compelling illustrated talk she reveals a hidden history of ordinary woman who had no legal presence, no voice in government and no right to own property, but still ruled, governed and made fortunes over the last nine centuries.

Susie Dent

Guilty by Definition 6-7pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



Join **Susie Dent**, lexicographer extraordinaire, Queen of Countdown's Dictionary Corner, star of 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown and former compiler of the Oxford English Dictionary as she lifts the lid on the life of the dictionary-maker. She talks about some of her favourite words and where they come from and explores how she's used her lexicographical skills to produce a compelling new novel, Guilty by Definition, a tantalising mystery for word sleuths and crime fans alike.

Natalie Haynes

Divine Might: Goddesses in Greek Myth 8-9pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed

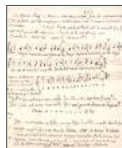


From Hera and Demeter to The Furies, **Natalie Haynes'** new book Divine Might overturns everything you thought you knew about the Greek goddesses to reveal them as complex, fearsome, powerful and beloved as their male counterparts. The rockstar mythologist, star of Radio 4's Natalie Haynes Stands Up For The Classics and bestselling author brings the divine women of Olympia kicking and screaming into the modern age, full of fire, fury and devotion. Join her for a electrifying one-woman show.

Blackfriars Talks Sunday 22nd September

Beating Back the Past

Vanley Burke & Rider Shafique 10.30-11.30am £10 / £6 Livestreamed



The world's oldest surviving manuscript of an 18th century slave song from Barbados is held in the Gloucestershire Archives. It's the earliest known slave song on record and part of the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. See part of the manuscript and hear the song as 'the godfather

of Black British photography' **Vanley Burke** and leading artist **Rider Shafique** share its story, discuss their recent journey to Barbados and their installation at Gloucester Cathedral in response exploring the ongoing impact of the enslavement of African people.



Visit the Voices Gloucester exhibition *Beating Back the Past* at Gloucester Cathedral open until the end of September.

The Wolfson History Prize Event: Hakim Adi

A History of African & Caribbean People in Britain

12.15-1.15pm £10 / £6 Livestreamed



Libyan legionaries patrolled Hadrian's Wall, Rome's first 'African Emperor' died in York, in Elizabethan England 'Black Tudors' served in the land's most eminent households whilst intrepid African explorers helped Sir Francis Drake to circumnavigate the globe. Shortlisted for the 2023 Wolfson History Prize, leading historian and campaigner Professor **Hakim Adi** shares his sweeping, panoramic history that transforms our understanding of Britain's past.

In association with The Wolfson History Prize

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

The Eagle & the Hart: The Tragedy of Richard II & Henry IV

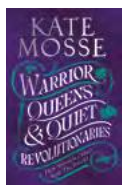
Helen Castor 2-3pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Bestselling Cambridge historian **Helen Castor**, whose book *She-Wolves* became a major BBC2 series, explores her acclaimed new dual biography of Richard II and Henry IV. The story of two cousins whose rivalry brought their nation to the brink of disintegration and back again, two men whose lives played out in extraordinary parallel, until Henry deposed the tyrant Richard and declared himself King of England in 1399.

Women Who Resisted: Heroines of World War II

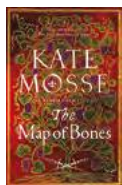
Kate Mosse 4-5pm £14 / £6 Livestreamed



Acclaimed author of *Warrior Queens & Quiet Revolutionaries*, **Kate Mosse** returns with her new one woman show, *Women Who Resisted*, celebrating the women of all nations who stood firm against the Nazis and the Axis forces during World War II. With images and music, her inspiring and uplifting performance spotlights incredible stories from Poland, Lithuania, Japan, Ireland, Britain, Ethiopia, India, Romania, Belarus, Germany and Canada. Women who worked as spies, wireless operators, resistance fighters, couriers and diplomats, women of courage and conviction who risked everything to save the lives of their families, neighbours and friends.

The Map of Bones

Kate Mosse & Janina Ramirez 6-7pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



Bestselling historian and novelist **Kate Mosse** explores Huguenot France in the 16th and 17th century through the story of the Joubert family who suffer religious persecution from events like the bloody St Bartholomew's Day massacre of 1572 which led to the deaths of 3,000 French Protestants in Paris and tens of thousands of Huguenots across France. She joins **Janina Ramirez** to discuss *The Map of Bones*, the last in the continent and century-spanning Joubert Family Chronicles, set in 17th and 19th century South Africa, and shares her fascination with the history of both France and South Africa.

Victorian Magic Night!

Janina Ramirez, Andi Gladwin, Sue Rowbotham & Kitty Ribbons

8-10pm £12 / £6 Livestreamed



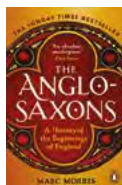
A night of magic, mystery and cabaret!
Did you know that the most famous
magician of the Victorian Age and the
'Father of British Magic' John Nevil
Maskelyne came from Gloucestershire?
One of the country's top magicians



Andi Gladwin and history of magic expert **Sue Rowbotham** join
Janina Ramirez to explore Maskelyne's extraordinary life and
perform some magic tricks live on stage. Followed by a mesmerising
Victorian cabaret and burlesque from **Kitty Ribbons** and the Cherries
on A Cloud cabaret night.

The Winstone Talk: The Anglo-Saxons & The Beginnings of England

Marc Morris Sat 2nd November 6.30-7.30pm Cirencester Parish Church £12



Ever since the Norman Conquest, the English have
looked back to the Anglo-Saxon era with nostalgia.
The period between 450 and 1066, when England
first came into being, has always been regarded
as a golden age. It's Kings were elected and its
church more pristine, women had better rights and
people enjoyed greater freedom. But how much
of this is true and how much wishful thinking? Leading historian
Marc Morris is the presenter of Channel 4's Castles and his book
The Anglo-Saxons is described by Dan Snow as 'an absolute
masterpiece'. He joins us to tell the real story of the beginnings
of England.

Events today are Livestreamed. All Livestream tickets £6

Gloucester Civic Trust 19th Century Gloucester From Ruins to Riches

Tony Conder

Wednesday 11th September
Gala Club 7.30-8.30pm
Entrance Free

Around 1800, visitors to Gloucester commented on how it had fallen from its former glories. Nearby Cheltenham was developing quickly into a modern resort and Gloucester's own major investment, the new port and canal lay dormant. This is the story of how a new industrial Gloucester grew up next to the historic city and came to play a significant role in the inventions and development of the Victorian age. Hugely popular local historian **Tony Conder** gives a fascinating free talk.

Visit gloucestercivictrust.org
to view all Civic Trust events



Free tickets for Young People

#GlosHistFest24
www.gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk/education
Gloucester History Festival
Hidden Histories Revealed
History Afternoon
for Schools
Friday 20th September
Shalina Patel
Janina Ramirez

Gloucester History Festival Schools Afternoon

This event is suitable for GCSE and A level history and humanities students. **Tickets are free but must be booked in advance at: gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk/education**

School and University Free Ticket Scheme

Thanks to the support of our festival-goers, this year we are expanding our free access ticket scheme for school and university students and their teachers.

To book free access tickets please visit:
gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk/education



VOICES

GLOUCESTER

Our Living History, Told By You

CREATING A COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Voices Gloucester works with individuals and organisations in our city to create an exciting and engaging community programme - offering funding and mentoring to those who want to tell their stories about our diverse and fascinating history.

We aim to challenge how history is understood and who gets to document it - we do this in a supportive environment, respecting new voices, to offer unexpected and fresh perspectives on events. We offer a programme that sparks lively conversations and inspires more people to connect with Gloucester's heritage.

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMME

Do you have an idea for an event or project that would celebrate Gloucester's heritage and communities? Our programme of events is created by people from all walks of life, making everything from historical talks, to works of art, theatre and exhibitions, poetry and podcasts.

Details about grants can be found on our website www.voicesgloucester.org.uk or contact us via email info@voicesgloucester.org.uk.

VISIT WWW.VOICESGLOUCESTER.ORG.UK
TO SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Voices Gloucester is supported by:



Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**



Historic England



**Gloucester
City Council**

COMING SOON

MADE IN GLOUCESTER

5-7pm Thursday 19 Sept
Warehouse 4

Launch of this beautiful new book taking us behind the scenes of the city's manufacturing community, Book signing with Carmel King.



UNBOXED

10am-5pm Tuesday 10 Sept
Gloucester Guildhall

Exploring inclusive practice in arts and heritage - from insight to action. Showcasing work made by neurodiverse and disabled creatives, with workshops and discussions.

HIDDEN VOICES

Thursday 26 Sept
Online symposium

Reflections on three years of community heritage projects that amplify diverse voices across Gloucester, listening and supporting communities and sharing their distinct history.

THREADS 2024

BELONGING & UNBELONGING

Threads is a collaboration between Voices, the Cathedral and the city's stitching community, celebrating Gloucester's diverse people, eclectic history and fascinating stories.

This September (6th-30th) Gloucester Cathedral will host a landmark exhibition by local creatives, community quilt makers and internationally renowned artists, sharing their connected experiences of 'Belonging and Unbelonging'.

There will also be a series of talks, 21-22 September, by leading textile experts, including Deb McGuire, Ferren Gibson, Rose Sinclair, Angela Burney, Catherine Reinhart and Lizzie Johanssen-Hartley.

BEATING BACK THE PAST

An 18th century UNESCO world heritage document, held in Gloucestershire Archives will be central to Threads 2024 textile project. It is the inspiration for Beating Back the Past, with artist Rider Shafique and the 'Godfather of British Black photography' Vanley Burke, collaborating on a creative response to this important heritage document.

There will be a film screening and talks at Oxtalls Campus, UoG on Saturday 14 Sept with presentations from Vanley Burke, Rider Shafique and a collection of keynote speakers from the UK and the Caribbean.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



An African Song or Chant, - taken down in Notes from the information of D. W. Dickson, who lived several years in the West Indies, & was Secretary to a Governor of Barbadoes. A Single Negro, while at Work with the rest of the Gang, leads the Song, and the others join in Chorus at the end of every verse. (Generally in a minor key - suppose E. with minor 3^d.)

by G.I.

Mafso buy me he won't killa me Oh - Mafso buy me he won't killa me Oh.

buy me he won't killa me Oh For he kill me he ship me regulaw

Chorus of Labouring Negroes as they proceed in their work

Oh a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

Oh a a a a a a a a a a a a a a



Please see www.voicesgloucester.org.uk for details.

Donations welcome. Voices Gloucester Charity Registration Number: 1207923



Gloucester History Festival

Join the Festival Family

Become a Member

Join our fast-growing Festival family to enjoy a special early booking period, advance information about the programme, occasional special offers and the chance to join President Janina Ramirez at the new Members Breakfast on Friday 20th September 11am – 12noon.

Donation: £30

Become a Patron

Join the new Festival Patron's Scheme to enjoy an exclusive early booking telephone hotline, our new Patron's gathering, VIP access to the Festival Writers' Room, a Festival Christmas book curated by Janina Ramirez and a whole host of benefits when you join the Festival Family. **Donation: £500**

Become a Sponsor

Be part of the Festival's future and support our mission by joining our growing number of Festival sponsors, large and small, who enjoy a range of bespoke benefits tailored to their requirements.

“ I’m so proud to be part of the Gloucester History Festival. We have big ambitions and our Members, Patrons and Sponsors are at the heart of making change happen. Join us on our journey! ”

Professor Janina Ramirez,
Festival President



More details: www.gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk/support-us/

Looking Ahead to 2025

Spring Weekend 25th – 27th April 2025

Our sell-out Spring Festival is back with a mouthwatering programme of 20 compelling events.

Autumn Gloucester History Festival 6th – 21st September 2025

The Autumn Festival returns with over 200 events featuring magnificent venues large and small and 100 of the history world's leading speakers.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this year's Gloucester History Festival a success.

And particular thanks to Andrew Pitt whose especially generous financial and strategic support has again been integral to our success.



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SMALL SHIPS - BIG EXPERIENCES

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Thank you to all of our individual Festival Patrons for their kind support. We acknowledge all of our Patrons ahead of each Blackfriars Talk and also on our website.



Gloucester
History Festival



Cirencester
History Festival

This autumn sees the launch of the **CIRENCESTER HISTORY FESTIVAL** – a new partner to Gloucester.

26 OCTOBER – 3 NOVEMBER 2024

Running for 9 days with over 30 events in venues all over the glorious Roman town of Cirencester, it promises a mouth-watering programme for history-lovers of all ages. Enjoy talks from Britain's top historians including Natalie Haynes, Ronald Hutton, Marc Morris and Janina Ramirez plus historical walks, tours, cookery, storytelling and Halloween dressing up. Join us to celebrate in Cirencester!



Cirencester
History Festival

Information and tickets: cirencesterhistoryfestival.org



The Winstone Talk: The Anglo-Saxons & The Beginnings of England

Marc Morris

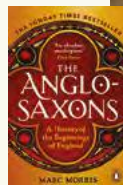
Saturday 2nd November 6.30-7.30pm

Cirencester Parish Church, Cirencester

Ever since the Norman Conquest, the English have looked back to the Anglo-Saxon era with nostalgia.

The period between 450 and 1066, when England

first came into being, has always been regarded as a golden age. Bestselling historian and broadcaster Marc Morris joins us to tell the compelling story of the beginnings of England.



Book Marc Morris tickets: gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk