



Q&A

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What area of research do you focus on and why?

I specialise in the history of Britain between 1066 and 1550, with a particular focus on medieval religion, urban centres, local history, trade and guilds. I like to focus on the history of ordinary people and how they lived because I find it fascinating to discover how people in the Middle Ages experienced the world around them. Because religion was such a central part of everyday life, it's really important we understand people's beliefs and how this affected their behaviours.

What book in your field should everyone read?

'The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England 1400-1580' by Eamon Duffy.

Which book inspired you to study History?

'Making a Living in the Middle Ages: The People of Britain 850-1520' by Chris Dyer.

What book are you currently reading?

It's not a history book! 'Killing Commendatore' by Haruki Murakami

Which historian has had the greatest influence on you?

It's really difficult for me to pick just one! Can I give you a top five?

Professor Nigel Saul – expert in the 14th century

Professor Gervase Rosser – a historian of medieval guilds

Dr Emma Wells – medieval historian who focuses on architecture and medieval religion

Dr Paul Dryburgh – expert in medieval Lincolnshire who works at The National Archives.

Dr Jessica Lutkin – medieval historian, outreach specialist and impact facilitator.

What is the best museum you have ever been to?

Again, I can't narrow it down to one so here are my top two, both in Berlin and neither of them connected to my area of research in any way!

The DDR Museum – a really interactive museum about life in the Deutsche Demokratische Republik which has lots of artefacts and a to-scale East German apartment so you can see what life was like for those living in the DDR.

Berliner Unterwelten – this is an underground museum which takes you into Berlin's subterranean world with a particular focus on World war two bunkers.

We look forward to hosting more of your engaging workshops soon!