

JULY/AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

Magna Carta turns 801



The American Bar Association (ABA) Magna Carta Memorial; Runnymede.

The 15th June 2016 marked the 801st anniversary of Magna Carta. Sealed at Runnymede by Bad King John (“Lackland”), the Charter of the Barons is the foundation of many of the liberties enjoyed by nearly two billion people in more than 100 countries in the 21st Century. Principally, it established that no man is above the Rule of Law.

There were many events in the anniversary week which commemorated the Charter’s legacy, a year later following the issue of the Charter of the Forest described as the “Great Charter”, Magna Carta. Lectures, books released, open days at universities and museums, and many posts on social media – some featured on page 3.

Prior to the 801st, both the Magna Carta Trust and the American Bar Association shared a video of William Hubbard speaking on BBC News on 15th June 2015 about the significance of the Great Charter. Mr Hubbard, President of the ABA in 2015, and spoke on the day alongside The Princess Royal, US Attorney General Loretta Lynch, and UK Foreign



Secretary Philip Hammond. Click on the image (above), to watch this video.

The Magna Carta Trust continues to promote and publicise **events** and **projects** ongoing in 2016. More information on these can be found on the events page of our newsletter and on our site. Please get in touch if you would like to discuss an event you are planning.

Ongoing developments at Runnymede will ensure it will continue to be visited as a site of international importance. The erection of a commemorative statue of HM Queen Elizabeth II, alongside a garden which commemorates the history of hard-won human rights, are near the site of the ABA Memorial.



@MagnaCarta800th



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800th Anniversary



www.vimeo.com/
magnacarta/



www.flickr.com/
photos/magna-carta/



Patron's Lunch, Sunday 12th June 2016, The Mall



It wasn't a very pleasant day for the Queen's 90th birthday picnic on the Mall. It began at around 11 and rained for several hours. But it was a happy one. The day itself worked like clockwork.

The **6pm 12th June BBC special** began with a rapid timing video of the night before. It was astonishing how many vehicles and people were on the Mall throughout the night turning the avenue of the parade into a picnic in the park. Streets and park were clean, stewards and security in their places. Rain poured down on us in our plastic ponchos (see photo).

Those representing the Magna Carta Trust included the President of the Royal Commonwealth Society Lord Howell and Lady Howell; Former Minister of Justice Lord and Lady McNally; Chairman of the Pilgrims Society Mr Ron Freeman; representing the Chairman of Magna Carta Trust Lord (John) Dyson was Mr Peter Farr; Mr Tony Halmos, City of London Corporation; Chancellor Lewis Neilson (National Society Magna Charta Dames and Barons), our publishing stars, Christopher Lloyd (The Magna Carta Chronicle) and Kourtney Harper (History Rocks, Magna Carta) and Lady Worcester and myself.

The Royals worked the crowd in the way only the Royals can do. With military precision, each took their place with a 1,000 or so people to glad-hand. The Princess Royal worked the crowd opposite to us on the Mall, moving along speaking to people perhaps every 20 yards until she and her husband, Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence, crossed to our side, perhaps 200 yards away. The Queen and Prince Philip were due to leave the Palace at 3pm. At c. 2.55pm the Princess Royal was 20 yards away from where we were standing. She turned and looked over and headed our way. Her welcome to us, representing Magna Carta Trust, made our day.

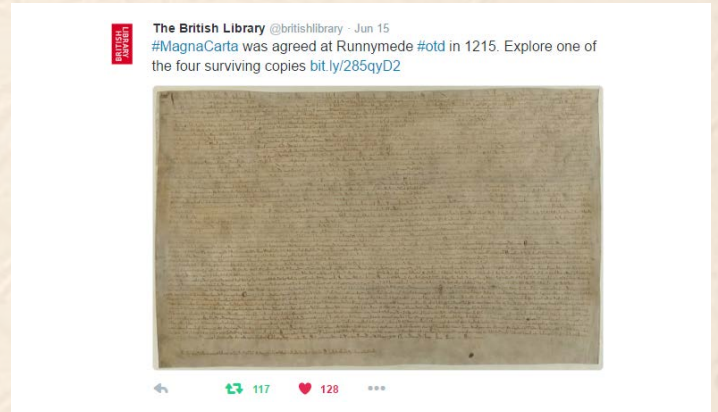
*Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL
Deputy Chairman, Magna Carta Trust*



Crowd gathers to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday
Photo: Peter Farr

In Pictures – Magna Carta honoured on Social Media:

On 15th June 2015, Magna Carta homage poured in from all parts of the world. The most hits on our website were for the Red Arrows flypast. A year later, the 801st anniversary wasn't forgotten by users of Twitter and Facebook. Some of the best tributes featured here. You can follow the Magna Carta Trust on social media: **Twitter**, **@MagnaCarta800th**, and **Facebook** – **click here**. Shortly after the 801st anniversary, our Twitter account passed more than 5,000 followers – a major milestone for any social account!



Magna Carta Events: 2016

The Magna Carta Trust and its partners continue to promote events and projects throughout 2016. See below our list of events that have taken place in the first half and are planned for the second half of 2016:

8th March: Mind the Gap Theatre launch Magna Carta DVD for International Women's Day

8th – 9th March: King John: Worcester Cathedral Conference

3rd & 10th April: Magna Carta Walking Tours at Canberra Place, Australia. Hosted by the Magna Carta Committee of Australia.

14th April: Baronial Order of Magna Charta Symposium and Scholarship Award, Washington DC.

19th April: 'The Legacy of Magna Carta' Andrew Blick, Speaker. Dulwich Picture Gallery.

25th April: 'The Relevance of Magna Carta in the 21st Century.' Speakers: Lord (Igor) Judge and Sir Robert Worcester, Warwick University.

31st April: New display of a statue of Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester. The Beaney Museum, Canterbury.

1st June: Magna Carta Lecture. HE Alexander Downer, Speaker, Lincoln Cathedral.

12th June: The Patron's Lunch, the Mall, London. See p. 2

13th June: First Fairhaven Lecture. 'Terrorism and Tolerance', David Anderson QC, Speaker. Royal Holloway, University of London.

15th June: Magna Carta Day commemorations.

15th June: Distribution of Magna Carta Barons' Association Book. See p.7

17th June: Magna Carta Constitutional Convention, Royal Holloway, University of London.

3rd – 16th September: Henry de Bohun Heritage Festival, Trowbridge.

19th October: King John's death (800th anniversary).

19th October: *Henry III and Magna Carta* play, opens at Gloucester Cathedral. Production by Gloucester Theatre Association Ltd.

November (date TBC): Symposium to mark anniversary of the first re – issue of Magna Carta, University of the West Indies.

12th November: 800th anniversary of 1216 Magna Carta (issued in Bristol)

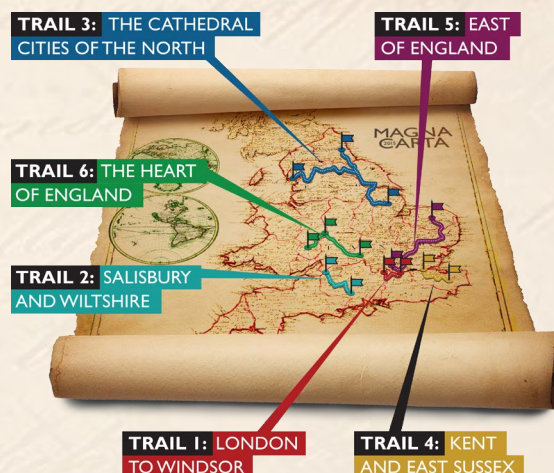
Please contact Sir Robert or Mark Gill if you have an event you would like to discuss or be added to our site.

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Magna Carta Trails

Commemorate Magna Carta's 800th Anniversary with a trip through the historical sites which played major roles in the birth of the Great Charter.



First Fairhaven Lecture at Royal Holloway, University of London:

Royal Holloway, University of London, hosted the first lecture in the Fairhaven Lecture Series on Monday 13th June. Funded by the Magna Carta Trust, the lecture series uses the anniversary week of the Great Charter to highlight contemporary issues facing our modern rights around the globe related to the role of Magna Carta in the 21st Century. Nine more lectures will be delivered across the next nine years.

Mr David Anderson QC is the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation and delivered a lecture entitled '*Terrorism and Tolerance*' at RHUL's Windsor Auditorium. He discussed the extent to which international law can help to reconcile free society with the prevention of extremism, and the part tolerance has to play in the process. **The full text of this lecture can be read online here.**

In 2011, David Anderson was appointed by the Home Secretary to be the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation; in 2015 he was chosen as 'Legal Personality of the Year' by a panel of judges.

This was the first of ten annual Fairhaven Lectures secured by project funding from the Magna Carta Trust. **Click here for more information.**

Magna Carta Lecture at Lincoln Cathedral available online:

On Wednesday 1st June, HE Alexander Downer, Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, delivered a lecture at Lincoln Cathedral on the relationship between the Great Charter and Australia. **This can be read online here.** Lincoln Cathedral hosts a Magna Carta Lecture each year. A 1215 copy of the Great Charter is housed in a bespoke award - winning vault in Lincoln Castle.

Magna Carta Barons' Association plants ancient oaks:



One of the seedlings.

To celebrate the only living connection with Magna Carta and 800 years since 1215, seedlings from the ancient 'Parliament Oak' have been grown by experts at the Woodland Trust for planting at some of the Magna Carta Barons villages and towns.

Attempts were made to grow seedlings from another 'King John Oak' in a private deer park in Devon last year, but the tree is in such poor health they all failed.

The namesake of the 'Parliament Oak' originates from Clipstone Park in Nottinghamshire, near King John's Palace. It is believed that John and seven other kings held 'parleys' under it, hence its name and how we get the term 'Parliament'.

Each village and town will be ceremoniously planting its oak seedling in the autumn and will be taking responsibility for its care during its early years. One seedling will be planted in Lanvallay, Brittany, the ancestral home of the Magna Carta Baron, William de Lanvalei, and now Walkern's twin town.

These oak trees will provide a unique and living connection with one of the most significant events of our democratic past.

Magna Carta Trust funding restores Beaney Baron:

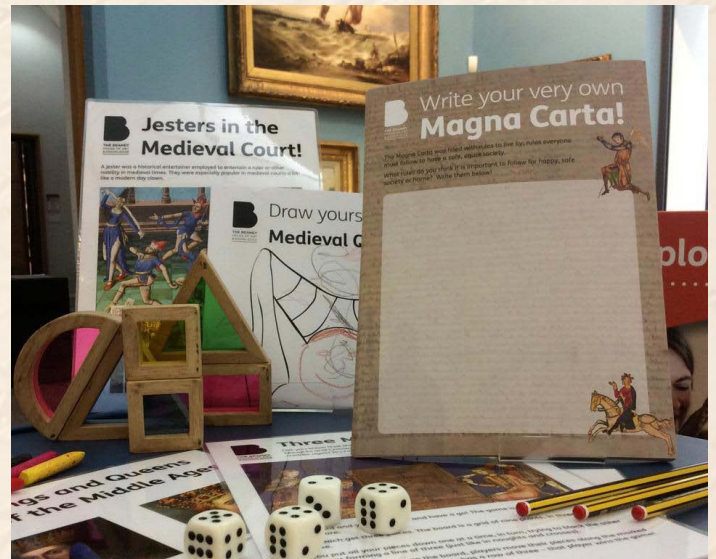


The Beaney Museum, Canterbury, has restored a Magna Carta Baron statue, which depicts Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester. This project has been financially supported by the Magna Carta Trust's 800th Anniversary Commemoration Committee.

De Quincey was one of the twenty-five Barons appointed to enforce the Charter's terms upon King John. The Canterbury Museums and Galleries collection includes a set of 15 statues depicting the Magna Carta Barons.

The project achieved the following objectives:

- The conservation of the Earl of Winchester statue.
- A new permanent display of recently conserved Robert de Fitzwalter, Stephen Langton and Earl of Winchester statues in the *People and Places Gallery* – one of The Beaney's permanent galleries. (Pictured above)
- Engaging and accessible learning activities located within the gallery to accompany the new display.



The Beaney's *People and Places Gallery* displays and interprets the stories of the people and places of East Kent. Also situated in the gallery is one of the Explorer Points (pictured above) which provide an opportunity for younger children and families to further explore the collections on display through informal learning, and now includes new activities that relate to the statues and Magna Carta.

These include a Children's Magna Carta, fun Medieval Games, such as Hazard and Five Men's Morris, Medieval characters to colour in, and an activity to design a Heraldic crest.

The new displays are already proving very popular with the public, and provide a legacy in Canterbury for generations to come. **Click here to visit the Beaney Museum's website.**

Magna Carta Barons publish new book



*The Magna Carta
Barons*- ed.
by Peter Sinclair

This is the first book to tell the story of the 25 Magna Carta Barons: who they were; what they did; and what happened to them after Magna Carta was sealed 800 years ago.

The book is an A4 sewn paperback, of 68 pages.

Chosen by the rebel army at Runnymede in June 1215 to guarantee King John's compliance with the terms of the Charter, these were men whose family ties and sense of entitlement made them a powerful opposition to the King. Most held extensive lands in the North and East of England and many were descendants of the Normans who had accompanied William the Conqueror in 1066 generations before.

It was their fight for the fundamental principle that everyone is subject to the Rule of Law that laid the basis for democracies we enjoy today across the world — while the struggle against tyranny and arbitrary rule continues in many less fortunate nations.

The biographies of the Barons were written by **Professor Nigel Saul of Royal Holloway, University of London**, and the photographs were chosen by the villages and towns where the Barons had their chief manors in 1215 as part of the celebrations to mark the 800th anniversary in 2015. The book also includes sketches and architectural drawings of what key locations would have looked like in the 13th Century (such as Pleshey, below).

Published by Frontline States on behalf of the Magna Carta Barons Association, with the financial support of the Magna Carta Trust's 800th Anniversary Commemoration Committee

ISBN 978-1-873639-07-8

£10

To order a copy, please visit
www.magnacartabarons.info



Artist's representation: Pleshey, in the 13th Century.

Books

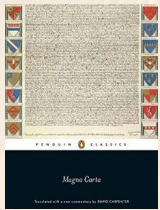


Magna Carta: The Foundation of Freedom 1215-2015

Nicholas Vincent, Editor and Contributor,
Third Millennium Publishing, (2015)
£29.50 hb, £24.50 pb.

With Nicholas Vincent leading off with the law before Magna Carta, Plantagenet tyranny, King John, etc., joined with other leading Magna Carta scholars including David Carpenter, Anthony Musson, Justin Champion, Joyce Lee Malcolm (on America's entrenchment) and others, plus outstanding illustrations, this book is the gold standard of the breadth and depth of both a fabulous 'coffee table' book and serious scholarship.

Outstandingly written and illustrated. Makes a splendid gift.

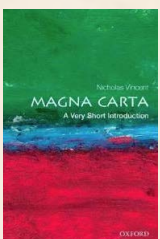


Magna Carta

David Carpenter, Penguin Classics (2015)
£7.69 pb

Professor Carpenter's peers describe him as 'the real deal', who together with Vincent are the top rank of today's Magna Carta scholars. This 2nd edition of this Penguin Classic breaks new ground.

A definitive work, comprehensive, and is brilliantly structured.

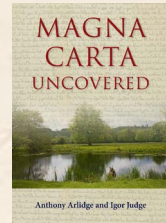


Magna Carta: A Very Short Introduction

Nicholas Vincent, Oxford University Press
(2012) £5.99

Packed with facts, understanding and intricacies of the XIII Century, plus before and after, focussing on Magna Carta, this 110 page paperback fits neatly into pocket and purse, and is ideal for an overall sweep of what was going on, where, by who, and when of the start of what we now know as Magna Carta's victories on the battlefields of the barons' wars, the negotiations with Bad King John, its failure as a peace treaty and eventual success as 'the greatest constitutional document of all time'.

Best read for a broad look at the Great Charter.

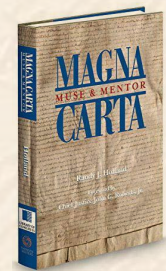


Magna Carta Uncovered

Anthony Arlidge and Igor Judge, Hart
Publishing (2014) £22.50 hb

From the pens of two senior QCs who have for many years had a serious interest in Magna Carta. Nicely structured with a most useful timeline, laying out compact descriptions of the principal players, King John, William Marshal, Stephen Langton, and the Rebel Barons, an excellent chapter on London, and succeeding chapters following The Great Charter's passage through the centuries.

Excellent, forensic, and entertaining.

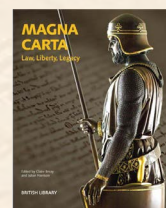


Magna Carta: Muse & Mentor

Randy Holland, Ed., Library of Congress
(2014) £50/\$55.20 hb

Excellent contributions including Igor Judge on William Marshal, one of the most important forgotten men of history. On his death in 1219 in his funeral oration the Archbishop of Canterbury described Marshal as "the greatest knight that ever lived". Others included Dick Howard's Magna Carta American Journey, Lady Justice Arden's Magna Carta and the Judges, Caroline Harris' King John and Magna Carta in Popular Culture.

American perspective, foreword by Chief Justice Roberts.



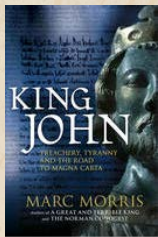
Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy

Claire Brey and Julian Harrison
The British Library Publishing Divisions, 2nd
Edition (2011) £19.99 pb

Contributions from Nicholas Vincent, David Carpenter, Justin Champion, Alexander Lock and many others. Summing up: concludes that what we commemorate in 2015 "remains, indeed, not just a 'great' Charter but the greatest Charter of them all". Brey and Harrison are the curators of the British Library's wonderful exhibition.

Authentically written and comprehensively illustrated.

King John



King John: Treachery, Tyranny and the Road to Magna Carta

Mark Morris, Hutchinson (March, 2015)
£13.99 hb

As written as sympathetic a book about King John as one could muster. King John was successful at fundraising,

but failed as a father, brother, son, in battle, in justice, in management above all. He alienated his family, his followers, the common people and all the media that existed at that time. Well documented.

"Did he deserve to be called 'Bad King John'? No, he was much worse than that".

(Nicolas Vincent's last word on King John).



King John: England, Magna Carta, and the Making of a Tyrant

Stephen Church, Macmillan (2015)

'King John he was a bad man...' pretty well from start to finish. It's hard to find a good thing to say for him, but Stephen tries.

Called 'Lackland' and 'Softsword', he was his father's favourite, and he let him down at every turn. Failing to win back Normandy at the battle of Bouvines in 1214 was the last straw for the Barons and led to Runnymede. His death in 1216 led to his successor's reissue of Magna Carta.

There wouldn't have been a Magna Carta without King John

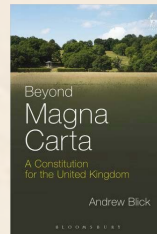


The Greatest Knight: The Remarkable Life of William Marshal, the Power Behind Five English Thrones

Thomas Ashbridge, Simon and Schuster UK (2015) hb

William Marshal was one of the two defining characters in the middle of the action over many years, King John's loyal retainer near his end, but originally was a trusted member of John's mother, Eleanor, who'd saved his life early on. Late in life when John died, William became guardian to his nine year old son and overcoming the boy's opposition, reissued the Charter, after its being declared null by Pope Innocent III.

Deserves the title: The Greatest Knight who ever lived.



Beyond Magna Carta

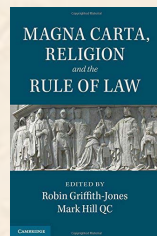
by Andrew Blick

Hart Publishing Limited (2015) £25.00 hb

An ambitious book which not only looks 'beyond' Magna Carta to a written constitution, but most excellently 'precedes' it, taking us back to the *Textus Roffensis* and the laws of

King Aethelberht of Kent, c. 601-604, written in (Old) English, for the English.

Not just another Magna Carta book, but added value.



Magna Carta: 1215 – 2015. Magna Carta, Religion, and the Rule of Law

Rev Robin Griffith-Jones, Mark Hill (Eds).

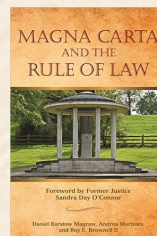
Cambridge University Press (2015)

www.templemusic.org (£20.00)

Robin Griffith-Jones, the Reverend and Valiant Master of the Temple Church, has been an

outstandingly enthusiastic supporter of the Magna Carta 800th anniversary commemorations.

Well written overview, excellently illustrated.



Magna Carta and the Rule of Law

by Daniel Magraw, Andrea Martinez and Roy E Brownell (2014) £15.68 pb

A stirring introduction from the retiring American Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, puts forward Articles 39 and 40, quoting Winston Churchill "Government must henceforth mean something more than the arbitrary role of any man and custom and the law must stand even above the King".

Serious and comprehensive contribution



Starta Magna Carta Thearta

by Graham Clarke

Ebenezer Press

www.grahamclarke.co.uk £10.00

'Starta Magna Carta Thearta' is a play written in verse, and has toured sites in England thanks to project funding from the 800th

Committee. Filled with lively characters, Graham Clarke has written a script that celebrates the sealing of the Great Charter 800 years ago.

The text includes performance notes and advice, along with the poem 'The Runnymede Eel Appeal'.

For more information, please visit Graham Clarke's site here: <https://www.grahamclarke.co.uk/>

Great fun for all ages.

800th Commemorative Merchandise

SALE

We have a wide range of Magna Carta 800th commemorative products available for sale at our exclusive online shop:

www.magnacarta800th.com/shop

You are able to purchase single items or large quantities and our production partners are happy to discuss trade supplies and co-branding opportunities. A proportion of the sale from every purchase goes to the Magna Carta Trust to support the 800th commemoration activities.



Natural Cotton Bag

~~£4.00~~ **£2.40**



Magna Carta Facsimile

£1500



Black Parker
Pen

~~£30.00~~ **£18.00**



Black
Umbrella

~~£20.00~~ **£12.00**



Natural Cotton Bag
& Golden Metal
Lapel Pin Bundle

~~£7.00~~ **£3.00**



Script White
Mug

~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



Script Black
Mug

~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



King John Black
Mug

~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



Polo Top

~~£25.00~~ **£15.00**



Laptop Bag

~~£20.00~~ **£12.00**



Gold Metal
Lapel Pin

~~£3.00~~ **£1.80**

USB Drive

~~£8.00~~ **£4.80**



EDWARDIAN, LONDON

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