

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

ABA Magna Carta Memorial now Grade II Listed



The American Bar Association's Magna Carta Memorial (pictured above, on Magna Carta Day) has been awarded Grade II protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The monument was constructed by Edward Maufe, commissioned by the American Bar Association.

List entry No. 1430723, the Memorial overlooks Runnymede, where Magna Carta was sealed in 1215 by King John. 800 years later, it was the site of an enormous celebration, which featured international delegates. William Hubbard, President of the American Bar Association, Loretta Lynch, US Attorney General, HRH The Princess Royal, and the Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, UK Foreign Secretary, all spoke at the Memorial on Magna Carta Day.

Historic England notes:

'The Magna Carta monument of 1957, by Edward Maufe [...] is the only specifically designed structure to commemorate the sealing of Magna Carta, which represents a seminal moment in the history of democracy for English, and later American, citizens.'

[Click here for more information.](#)

Magna Carta Trust to attend Patron's Lunch; public ballot now open

The Magna Carta Trust is a partner of the Patron's Lunch, and will be present on the Mall on the 12th June.



The Lunch commemorates the 63 – year reign of HM The Queen and her enduring patronage of over 600 charities. Over 10,000 guests are expected to attend the event on the Mall, London, with street parties expected across the nation.

HM The Queen is Patron of the Magna Carta Trust, and attended the international event at Runnymede on Magna Carta Day (15th June, 2015).

Tickets are available to the public through a ballot, which is now live. [Click here for more information and to enter.](#)

The public ballot closes on the 31st March, and winners will be contacted in April.



@MagnaCarta800th



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magnacarta/



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

Magna Carta Events: 2016

The Magna Carta Trust continues to offer support to our partners who are hosting Magna Carta – themed events. 2016 marks the anniversary of King John's death, as well as the 800th anniversary of the 1216 Charters.

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

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

8th – 9th April: King John: Worcester Cathedral Conference.

9th April, 'The Rule of Law in the Digital Age: Magna Carta & Protecting Freedoms in a Connected World', Dr Emm Johnstone, Speaker. Hosted by Magna Charta Dames and Barons, University Club, Washington DC.

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

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

25th April: 'The Relevance of Magna Carta in the 21st Century.' Co – 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 Beane Museum, Canterbury.

May / June (date TBC): Distribution of Magna Carta Barons Association book.

June (date TBC): Royal Holloway, University of London's Great Charter Festival.

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

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

15th June: Magna Carta Day commemorations.

17th June: Magna Carta Constitutional Convention, Royal Holloway, University of London. Opening addresses made by Baroness Prashar, and Professor Justin Champion.

July (date TBC): Living History event at Odiham Castle, Hampshire.

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. Further information Dr Hamid Ghany.

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

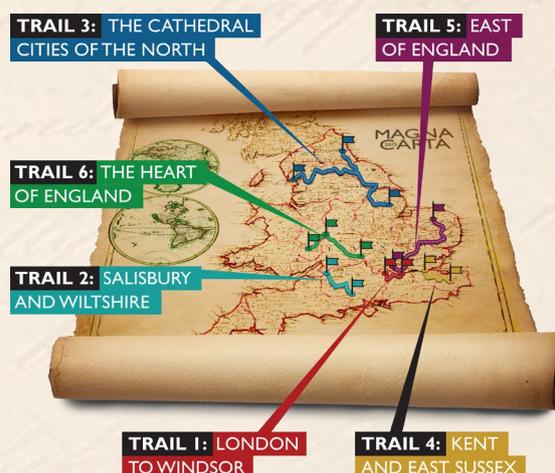
Please contact Sir Robert or Mark Gill if you have an event you would like to discuss.

sirrobertworchester@magnacarta800th.com

markgill@magnacarta800th.com

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.



Magna Carta in the News

Magna Carta continues to make headlines. Here is a selection of some of the best appearances of the Great Charter in recent news:

'My Magna Carta' winner Mfundo Radebe, awarded Harvard Scholarship



Mfundo Radebe, winner of the international 'My Magna Carta' essay competition funded by the 800th Anniversary Committee, has accepted a Scholarship from Harvard University.

Pictured here with the other finalists, Radebe (centre, back) will study Government and African Studies.

Sir Robert Worcester (centre, left) helped judge the event at the English – Speaking Union. [Click here for more information.](#)

Idris Elba calls for a broadcasting 'Magna Carta'

On the 18th January, actor Idris Elba delivered a speech to Parliament asking for more diversity and opportunity in British broadcasting. Citing the Great Charter, Elba said:

'A long time after I left school, someone explained [to me] what Magna Carta was. For people in your industry, Magna Carta is the basis of modern democracy [...] Magna Carta was a peace treaty between the King and Barons, [and] the idea was that the King couldn't just take things away from people on a whim. It was about things becoming fairer.'

[Click here for the full transcript.](#)

UK National Archives resources critically acclaimed:

Resources developed by UK Parliament and the National Archives have won a BETT (British Educational Training & Technology) award. The resources won the 'Free Digital Content / Open Educational Resources – single issue resource' category.

On the National Archives website, users can read a selection of digitised documents (including issues of the Great Charter), and enjoy accompanying learning materials.

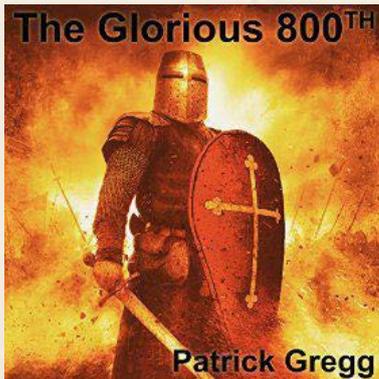
Andrew Payne, Head of Education and Outreach at the National Archives, received the award. **To use the resources, [click here.](#)**

The video '*Magna Carta and the Emergence of Parliament*,' is also a finalist for a MEDEA award – [click here to vote.](#)

Permanent 'Superman Crystal' etched with Magna Carta, Holy Bible

Researchers at Southampton University have developed a '5 – dimensional crystal', which can store information and survive for billions of years. In early tests, researchers encoded Magna Carta, the Universal of Declaration of Human Rights, and the King James Bible onto this medium.

Patrick Gregg's *Glorious 800th* added to iTunes, Amazon



The Glorious 800th, a pop – rock anthem played to crowds at Runnymede on Magna Carta Day, is now available on Amazon and iTunes.

Patrick Gregg wrote the anthem to commemorate

the sealing of Magna Carta in 1215 and its enduring relevance. It has since been added to the Royal Marines Band's repertoire, and was later rearranged by the critically acclaimed Barclay Ensemble. The Ensemble performed Patrick's piece at the Mock Trial of the Magna Carta Barons at Westminster Hall on the 31st July, 2015.

Patrick has written a second track, *When I am King*, which accompanies the *Glorious 800th*.

[Click here to visit the bespoke Glorious 800th website.](#)

About Patrick Gregg:

Originally from Dublin, and now living in London, Patrick has participated with the following musicians in events: Bryan Adams, Adrian Lee (Mike & The Mechanics), Celine Dione, Derrick Holt of the Climax Blues Band, Gary Moberly, Trevor Horn, Julian Donkley (Cutting Crew).

Patrick is now working with Martin Smith, an ex – member of Electric Light Orchestra. Martin produced the *Glorious 800th* and *When I am King*, and has just mastered and produced Patrick's latest track, *All This Time*.

Patrick was signed to EMI SBK (USA) in the 1990's.

If you would like to contact Patrick, please email him at patrickgregg@hotmail.co.uk

Mind the Gap commemorate International Women's Day with Magna Carta film

On Tuesday the 8th March, Mind the Gap Theatre commemorated the Great Charter and International Women's Day with the launch of their film, 'The Magna Carta – in Ten Minutes' at Bradford City Hall.



The footage is a collaboration between students at Carlton Bolling College and Grange Technology

College. Mind the Gap is an award – winning theatre company, who specialises in the creation of touring theatre with learning disabled and non – disabled artists.

Follow the Magna Carta Trust social media accounts to watch Mind the Gap's film once it is uploaded. You can follow Mind the Gap Studios on Twitter, @MtGstudios.

Magna Carta 800th sculpture unveiled at Bury St Edmunds

A significant and lasting memorial to Bury St Edmunds' link to the Magna Carta was unveiled in the Abbey Gardens on the 6th February, 2016. The feature, entitled 'Our Liberty' and designed by a Suffolk artist, uses original Abbey stone, bronze and steel; the sculpture was funded by the 800th Committee.

Recent research by Professor David Carpenter proved that Bury St Edmunds played a more crucial role in the build-up to the sealing of the Magna Carta than previously thought. Carpenter's new study, 'Magna Carta' (Penguin Classic, 2015) featured evidence of a meeting of rebellious barons at the town's Abbey in 1214. Professor Carpenter (pictured, with Margaret Charlesworth, Chair of the Bury Magna Carta Committee) was the guest of honour at the Abbey Gardens event and unveiled the new feature. He also presented some of his groundbreaking research at a talk later in the day at Moyses's Hall.

Local artists were invited to submit proposals for a memorial, with the winning design submitted by Nigel Kaines of 'Designs on Metal', Stowlangtoft. The feature shows spears and banners of the Barons who met in Bury St Edmunds in 1214, with bronze scrollwork displaying shields carrying the important commemorative events. The whole design is supported on original stone from the Abbey – stones which might have been witness to the arrival of the Barons in 1214.

Margaret Charlesworth of the Magna Carta Sculpture Committee said:

'We are very grateful to Brian Ansell, a local sculptor who came up with the original idea of creating a permanent memorial in stone. Runnymede commissioned a statue of the Queen and we in Bury have this sculpture which relates wholly to key events in our chapter of the Magna Carta story. The new research and this memorial confirms the status of Bury St Edmunds as a Magna Carta town and will, I am sure, give people an extra sense of our place in history as they walk in our renowned and beautiful Abbey Gardens.'



St Edmundsbury Borough Council's Cabinet member for Leisure and Culture, Cllr Joanne Rayner, said:

'The recent confirmation that our town played such a key role in the Magna Carta story, making it literally the birthplace of democracy, is hugely significant and I am delighted that we will have a new feature in the Abbey Gardens as a further testament to the town's fascinating history.'

Worcester Cathedral to host Major King John conference

King John died in 1216, and was buried at Worcester Cathedral. One of many events Worcester Cathedral is hosting to commemorate this occasion will be a conference running between the 8th and the 9th April. Please find full details (including contact) below. [Click here for more information about Magna Carta and Worcester.](#)



King John

The Worcester Connection Conference



Friday 8th and Saturday 9th April 2016

A Conference on the subject of King John, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of his death and his burial in Worcester Cathedral.

Tickets £122.00 each

Includes:

- Nine lectures during the conference
- Buffet lunch, morning & afternoon tea/coffee on Friday and Saturday
- Conference drinks & canapé reception on Friday evening
- An optional tour of the Cathedral
- An opportunity to see King John's will and artefacts, exhibition and of course visit his tomb!
- Conference pack, including a programme and guide book

There are a limited number of spaces for full time students. Contact the Cathedral office for ticket price. The Conference Dinner on Saturday evening is an optional extra - £35 per person to include a three course meal with coffee. Space is limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets available from the Cathedral office, telephone 01905 732900
or email: visits@worcestercathedral.org.uk

Magna Carta benches presented to St Albans



Cllr Annie Brewster has presented St Albans with handmade wooden benches, to commemorate the City's association with the Great Charter. St Albans was the site of a meeting of the Magna Carta Barons on the 4th August, 1213.

The curved, solid oak benches were commissioned by Cllr Brewster who served as the Mayor of St Albans City and District in 2013/14. The benches were made by Karl Barowsky of Solid Oak Hardwood Furniture, Hartlepool, which supplies benches to many Royal Parks.

Among those who attended the presentation were James Blake, St Albans City and District Council Chief Executive, The Very Reverend Dr Jeffery John, Dean of St Albans, Howard Guard, Deputy Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Cllr Brewster, Jonathan Trower, High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, Judge Andrew Bright QC, Mr Barowsky and Lord McNally of the Magna Carta Trust (pictured, far right).

Cllr Brewster said: *'the historic meeting in St Albans Abbey led the way to the 1215 sealing of Magna Carta two years later in Runnymede. Similarly, in my 2013 Mayoral year, St Albans again led the way holding the inaugural events at the start of two years of national and international celebrations to commemorate the 800th anniversary of this world changing document.'*

The benches have six distinctive cut-outs of the St Albans saltire shield and were unveiled on Friday 26th February.

Papers from University of Amiens conference now available:

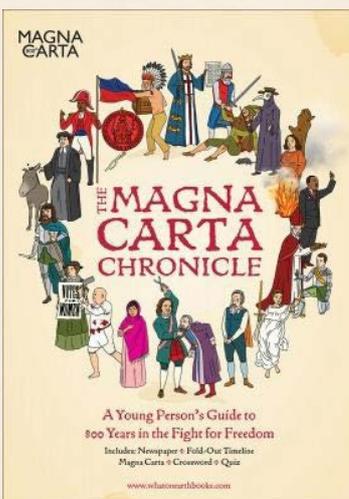


Papers delivered at a three – day international conference at Amiens University are now available to download from the Magna Carta Trust's website. Dr Sophie Loussouarn organised the conference , which ran between the 7th and the 9th December. It was chaired by Sir Robert Worcester, and opened by former Attorney General of Great Britain the Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP. The conference was hosted at the Logis Du Roy (pictured, left).

The full texts of the speeches and papers can be read [here](#). Speakers highlighted the significance of the Great Charter around the world.

Dr Hamid Ghany, who steered the University of the West Indies' Magna Carta Project, spoke about the legacy the Great Charter has left on Caribbean constitutions.

Magna Carta apps available for download:



Through Round 6 project funding, What on Earth? Books have developed a *Magna Carta Chronicle* app available on both iOS and Android devices.

The app offers an interactive experience of the history of human rights and includes more than 40 newspaper articles detailing key events that have helped secure the hard won freedoms we enjoy today.

A copy of the *Magna Carta Chronicle* was sent to every state primary and secondary school in England, and an insert was produced for the Sunday Times on the 14th June 2015.

The app is ideal for use in classrooms, on electronic whiteboards, and was written by Christopher Lloyd, illustrated by Andy Forshaw, and programmed by Stephen Howell.



The American Bar Association, Thomson Reuters, the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society, and the Learning Law and Democracy Foundation have developed a Magna Carta Quiz app. **This can be downloaded [here](#).**

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**



Polo Top
~~£25.00~~ **£15.00**



Laptop Bag
~~£20.00~~ **£12.00**



USB Drive
~~£8.00~~ **£4.80**



Gold Metal
Lapel Pin
~~£3.00~~ **£1.80**



Script White
Mug
~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



Script Black
Mug
~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



King John Black
Mug
~~£6.00~~ **£3.60**



EDWARDIAN, LONDON

Check our Exclusive Magna Carta deal at:
www.radissonblu-edwardian.com/magnacarta

Magna Carta in Schools: Resources Round - Up.



The 800th Anniversary Commemoration Committee funded a host of materials and resources to bring the Great Charter to life in the classroom. Professor Nigel Saul, (pictured, left), chaired the Academic Sub – Committee. Connecting medieval history with modern issues, these materials below are available to download and use – all from the Trust’s website.

Biographies:

Our biographies section features concise and accessible articles covering the lives of the Magna Carta Barons, Women, and Bishops. Written by experts in their fields, these make perfect background reading for any study. Professor Saul’s biographies of the Magna Carta Barons are one of the most popular sections of our website, and will be the basis for a book soon to be released by the Magna Carta Barons’ Association. **Click here to read the biographies.**

The Battlefields Trust’s Magna Carta Armoury

The 13th Century was a time of conflict and war. The Battlefields Trust has produced a toolkit that brings the sieges and battlefield sites to life. **Click here for more information.**

British Library Resources

In 2015, the British Library hosted the largest ever Magna Carta – themed exhibition. An enormous amount of companion resources were produced – **click here to view these.**

Nigel Saul’s Magna Carta FAQ

Professor Saul answers the 15 most commonly asked questions about the Charter and the Medieval World. **Click here to read his answers.**

Oxford Brookes’ Magna Carta Resource Pack

This bundle includes sections and tasks on the following areas: Slavery and Trafficking; Poverty; Children and Violence; Beliefs; Health and Wellbeing; Education; A Modern Magna Carta? **Click here.**

UK National Archives Resource Pack

These online resources feature digitised manuscripts, as well as short clips of actors performing the roles of well – known medieval characters. Users can create accounts and collect their own online badges to mark their journey through the story of the Great Charter. **Click here for information.**

Magna Carta Videos

On our website we have a list of some of the most informative and useful Magna Carta Videos uploaded in 2015. **Click here to watch these.**

American Bar Association: Icon of Liberty Under Law

With funding from the 800th Committee, the ABA produced an excellent online resource featuring detailed multimedia content. This is perfect for use in classrooms. **Click here.**

For a full list of our educational resources, click here.

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.

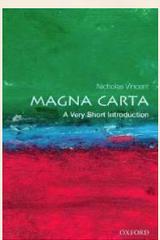


Magna Carta

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, a 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.



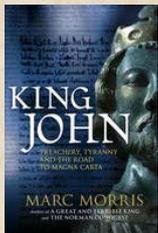
Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy

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).



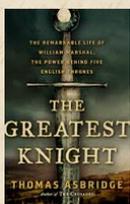
King John: England, Magna Carta, and the Making of a Tyrant

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

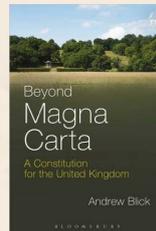


The Greatest Knight: The Remarkable Life of William Marshal, the Power Behind Five English Thrones

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

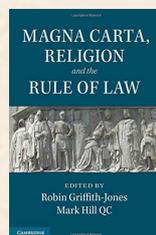
by Andrew Blick

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).

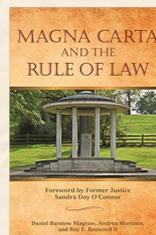
Cambridge University Press (2015)

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.