

The St Andrews Historian

A magazine for History graduates of the University of St Andrews

Issue 12 – 2025



University of
St Andrews

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Message from the Head of School, Bridget Heal

Welcome to the latest edition of the St Andrews Historian.

This year we said farewell to our office co-ordinator Lorna Harris, who retired after 35 years of service to the University and School. Welcome to her successor in that role, Dorothy Christie, who we know will do an excellent job of keeping us all in order!

Congratulations to Frances Andrews who was awarded an MBE for her services to higher education in the King's Birthday Honours List, and to Caroline Humfress and Richard Whatmore who have been elected as Fellows of the British Academy.

Highlights of the year included Alison Beach's exhibition at the Wardlaw Museum, 'History in Our Bones', which showcased work from her collaborative project on the history and archaeology of medieval religious women, and James Palmer giving medieval health and beauty tips derived from his collaborative project

on Early Medieval Latin Medicine to The Times. As I step down after four years as Head of School I'm delighted to say that we now, finally, have a staff common room and a proper coffee machine in St Katharine's Lodge. Definitely a highlight.

A final thank you to our fantastic communications team, Barnaby Cullen, Jacob Baxter and Jane Mackay, who put together this publication and ensure we are kept up to date throughout the year via newsletters and social media. We hope that you enjoy reading about our activities and remembering your time here.



From the Editor, **Dr Barnaby Cullen**

Welcome to the 2025 edition of *The St Andrews Historian*, the School of History's annual alumni magazine.

This has been the first year for the School of History's new Communications team, made up of Dr Jacob Baxter, Jane McKay, and myself. Jacob and Jane have risen to the challenge, shouldering most of the day-to-day tasks of keeping our historical community updated with all the School's latest news, events and triumphs on social media and through our biweekly newsletter respectively.

This year's issue of *The St Andrews Historian* has been a real pleasure to put together, and features many wonderful contributions from our staff on their various academic pursuits, including St Andrews' relationship with empire, the inaugural Furgol Lecture, and a historical map of St Andrews. This issue is also commemorative one, as both staff and former students remember former School members Peter King, Dave Corner, and David Chambers. Our alumni, meanwhile, continue to thrive across the world.

We hope you enjoy.

If you wish to stay up to date with the latest goings-on of the School of History and its alumni, please do follow our Facebook, Instagram, X and Bluesky pages. We would love to hear from you.



Facebook	@St Andrew's School of History
Instagram	@standrewhistory
X	@StAndrewsHist
BlueSky	@standrewhist.bsky.social

St Andrews and the Legacies of Empire

by Professor Aileen Fyfe

In 1798, George Hill – principal of St Mary's College in the University of St Andrews and one of the ministers of Holy Trinity church – welcomed the fifteen-year-old Simon R.B. Taylor into his household.

Taylor stayed with the Hill family during the two years he spent studying at the University at the behest of his uncle Simon Taylor, whose heir he was. Taylor senior was of Scots descent and had become one of the richest plantation owners in Jamaica, and a powerful force in the London West India lobby opposing the efforts to abolish the slave trade.

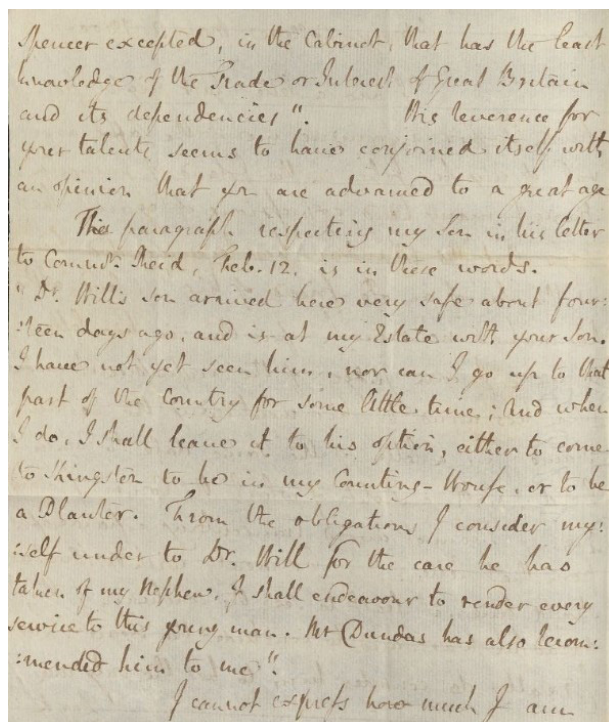
George Hill took advantage of the need to correspond with Taylor senior about his nephew's education, in order to investigate opportunities for his own son in Jamaica. His eldest son John was the same age as young Simon, but had already completed four years of University studies. Taylor suggested John might 'either to come to Kingston to be in my Counting-House, or to be a Planter'. John Hill arrived in Jamaica in 1800, where he spent time at Taylor's Holland Estate. Unfortunately, he died just a few months later.

This was not, however, the end of George Hill's colonial ambitions. As principal of St Mary's, he had a good working relationship with Henry Dundas, chancellor of the University of St Andrews and also the most powerful politician in Scotland. One of the many sinecure positions held by Dundas was that of president of the board of control of the East India Company.

At Christmas 1804, Hill was delighted to learn that Dundas had managed to arrange a position his third son, David, in the East India Company. David Hill was eighteen, had completed an M.A. at St Andrews earlier that year, and was now studying Persian. His colonial career fared better than his elder brother's: he spent almost twenty-five years in India, latterly as Chief Secretary to the East India Company in Madras.

The story of principal George Hill and his colonial ambitions – both west and east – is one of many that have been uncovered as part of a project commissioned by principal Sally Mapstone in autumn 2021, to investigate the ways in which the University has benefitted from, participated in, or supported, British colonialism and imperialism, from around 1700 to around 1900. The report was published in March 2025.

A major part of the project was the investigation of those who gave money to the University. This includes some whose wealth was at least in part derived from enslavement or from business



Never excepted, in the Cabinet, that has the least knowledge of the Trade or Subject of Great Britain and its dependencies". This reverence for your talents seems to have conjoined itself with an opinion that you are advanced to a great age. This paragraph, respecting my son in his letter to Commr. Reed, Feb. 12, is in these words. "Dr. Hill's son arrived here very safe about four or five days ago, and is at my estate with your son. I have not yet seen him, nor can I go up to that part of the country for some little time; and when I do, I shall leave it to his option, either to come to Kingston to be in my Counting-House, or to be a Planter. From the obligations I consider myself under to Dr. Hill for the care he has taken of my nephew, I shall endeavour to render every service to this young man. Mr Dundas has also been much obliged to me." I cannot express how much I am

Simon Taylor outlined the opportunities available to George Hill's eldest son John, after his arrival in Jamaica in 1800.

activities supported by the use of unfree labour.

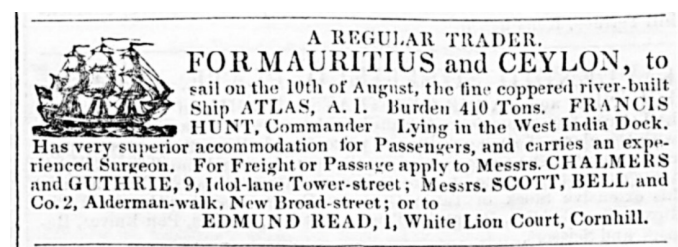
The earliest was James Brydges, 1st Duke of Chandos, whose gift established the Chandos Chair of Medicine in 1722. He was an investor in at least two slave-trading companies – the South Sea Company and the Royal African Company – and was active as a director of the Royal African Company from 1720 to 1725, during which period nearly 12,000 enslaved Africans involuntarily crossed the Atlantic on company ships.

A later example concerns the creation of the Guthrie Scholarship in 1865, thanks to a gift from the sons of David Charles Guthrie. Guthrie senior had studied at St Andrews in the early 1800s, before going into a London mercantile concern that

had interests in sugar plantations in the Caribbean that relied upon the labour of enslaved people. In the 1830s both the firm and Guthrie personally received 'compensation' for the abolition of slavery. The Guthrie brothers inherited their father's wealth on his death in 1859.

Other donors derived their wealth at least partly from other colonial or imperial activities, ranging from service in the East India Company to sheep farming in Australia. In numerical terms, the greatest number of donors were associated with British India; but the greatest wealth came from Australia, largely, but not only, due to a massive 1889 bequest from David Berry of New South Wales.

The University also received income from the fees paid by students' parents; and some of that income came from the colonies. The vast majority of students at St Andrews were Scots-



A REGULAR TRADER.
FOR MAURITIUS and CEYLON, to sail on the 10th of August, the fine coppered river-built Ship **ATLAS**, A. 1. Burden 410 Tons. **FRANCIS HUNT**, Commander. Lying in the West India Dock. Has very superior accommodation for Passengers, and carries an experienced Surgeon. For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. **CHALMERS and GUTHRIE**, 9, Idol-lane Tower-street; Messrs. **SCOTT, BELL and Co.** 2, Alderman-walk, New Broad-street; or to **EDMUND READ**, 1, White Lion Court, Cornhill.

A newspaper advertisement for one of the ships managed by David Guthrie's agency Chalmers & Guthrie – with clear connections to Mauritius and Ceylon (from *The General Advertiser*, 29 July 1835)

born, but about 2% had been born in the colonies (and others may, of course, have had fathers working abroad). Simon R.B. Taylor was one of about half a dozen sons or heirs of Caribbean planters who studied at St Andrews in the late eighteenth century. And from the early nineteenth century on, there was a steady stream of students born in British India, starting with brothers Bazett and John Russell Colvin, who matriculated in 1818. They had been born in Calcutta, where their Scottish father was a partner in Colvin, Bazett & Co, which provided capital and financial services for indigo, cotton and opium production in Bengal.

We also tried to get a sense of the intellectual and moral culture of the University in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. We wondered what the professors – or the students – knew of, or thought about, enslavement, colonialism and the relations between different peoples and cultures. Vanishingly few of the professors themselves had ever travelled beyond western Europe, but in the nineteenth century, many of them, like George Hill, had sons (and sometimes daughters) in the colonies, most often in British India. Those familial links, combined with the presence of the handful of colonial-born students, suggests some of the possible channels through which information about the peoples, plants or animals of the colonies might filter back to St Andrews.

As former students, John and David Hill also represent the ways in which the education and social capital provided by the University of St Andrews helped to support the imposition of British commercial and colonial power on distant parts of the world. Our quantitative analysis of the digitised student records suggests that about 16% of alumni spent part of their later lives in the colonies. In the late eighteenth century, they usually went to British North America, the Caribbean colonies or into East India Company service; after 1800, Australia became as popular as North America, but was still far outstripped by British India.

It has been fascinating to uncover so many personal connections – of professors, students and donors – between St Andrews

and British colonial activity. The links to British India particularly stood out, and the School was delighted to receive funding (through the St Leonards College World-Leading Scholarship scheme) for a PhD student to work specifically on the links between St Andrews and British India. Sudarshana Banerjee travelled from Kolkata to St Andrews in September 2024 to begin this work.

Professor Aileen Fyfe was the academic lead on the 'Legacies of Empire' project 2021-2024. The full Report on 'St Andrews and the Legacies of Empire, 1700-1900' can be read online at <https://legacies-of-empire.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/>. The University is currently holding a community consultation on its next steps

Sudarshana Banerjee is a 2nd year PhD student investigating the activities of St Andrews alumni in India in the nineteenth century (ranging from the introduction of golf, to the translation of texts on indigenous medicine!). She also examines how imperial knowledge might have shaped the intellectual and social fabric of the town and the University. She is from Kolkata, India and her PhD is funded by the St Leonard's World-Leading Doctoral Scholarship scheme.

The 'Legacies of Empire' project involved lots of members of the School of History, from undergraduates to professors. Aileen Fyfe was the academic lead. The steering group included current staff Andrew Edwards, Richard Whatmore and Akhila Yechury, as well as former colleague Emma Hart. Isabel Robinson, Sarah Leith and Matthew Ylitalo were postdoctoral research fellows at various times, while Tomas Vancisin was a postgraduate research assistant. Undergraduates Clara Tipper and Emma Hilary Gould investigated the biographies of the professors. And PhD student Conall Treen and Director of University Museums Katie Eagleton provided invaluable advice on collections.



Places of birth of St Andrews students in the nineteenth century (visualisation created by Tomas Vancisin for the Legacies of Empire project)

The New Furgol Lecture Series: An Interview with the Founder

by Dr Ana del Campo

On 24 April 2025 we hosted the Inaugural Furgol Lecture, delivered by Professor Julia Barrow (Leeds), who discussed the *Training of Young Clerics: School Experiences in North-Western Europe, c. 1050 – c. 1150*.

This marked the beginning of an exciting new lecture series made possible by a generous donation from Dr Edward Furgol. Inspired by fond memories of his undergraduate year at St Andrews, Dr Furgol has supported the School of History in launching a series of research seminars focused on medieval history, with a particular emphasis on Scotland.

We reached out to Dr Furgol to celebrate the occasion and learn more about him and his connection to the University.

Q. Please, tell us something about you and your life, something that allows us to know you a bit better.

A: Although I was born in the middle of New York state, I spent most of my life until I was eighteen just outside of Boston. I received my bachelor's degree in history from the College of Wooster in Ohio in 1977. In 1975-76 I did my junior year abroad at the University of St. Andrews. I began my doctoral studies in modern history at the University of Oxford in 1977, receiving my degree in 1983.

In 1980 I met my wife Mary on an Edinburgh to Glasgow train as we travelled to a post-graduate conference in Scottish history. We married the following year. Our three children were born in Scotland.

Completing a D.Phil. in seventeenth-century Scottish history at Oxford University in the early 1980s was scarcely a secure route to a career. Fortunately, the Manpower Services Commission funded training opportunities for people in my situation and in 1982 I became the historian at the Pendle Heritage Centre, mainly dealing with the Tudor and Stuart period. In 1984 I left to work for Historic Environment Scotland researching manuscripts containing information on Duff House, creating a still-used resource on the house and a catalogue for the Montcoffer Papers, which, due to my analysis, are now in Aberdeen University Library. Then I produced exhibits on Holyrood Park and Mary Queen of Scots. In 1987 I returned to the USA as the curator of the National Museum of the United States Navy, where I retired as managing director in 2017. During that period, I wrote articles, New Dictionary of National Biography entries, and reviews covering 17th Scottish military history. Since retiring, I have revised my *A Regimental History of the Covenanting Armies, 1639-1651*, and written chapters for 'His Majesty's Loyal Subjects': *The Scottish Royalist Armies of the British Civil Wars, 1639-1655*, which I am co-authoring with Dr. Andrew Lind.



Prof Barrow and Dr Furgol at the reception after the lecture

Q: You studied here at St Andrews. What are your best memories from that time?

A: I spent 1975-76 at St Andrews, where I made many friends – some of whom I remain in touch with. I found the Medieval History II and Scottish History courses intellectually stimulating. In addition to being treasurer of the Wargaming Society, I was a founding member of the Basking Shark Society. I spent many an afternoon running on the West Sands, which being adjacent to the links was highly appropriate since my father and his two brothers were professional golfers.

Q: What made you consider creating the Furgol Lectures? What inspired you?

A: Following the retirement of Professor Donald Bullough the university asked alumni to consider donations in his honour. I had thoroughly enjoyed my Medieval History II course, especially Dr. Barbara Crawford's tutorials. (I also had Professor Geoffrey Barrow as a tutor in Scottish medieval history.) While I never formally met Professor Bullough, I accidentally overheard him tell several medieval history lecturers that my undergraduate college (The College of Wooster in Ohio, USA) had a sound academic reputation. I must add that my parents loved St. Andrews, intending to annually spend part of each year of my father's retirement there but his sudden death prevented that. We had previously supported a part of the university's medieval material culture by paying for the restoration of St. Salvator's Chapel Katherine and Elizabeth bells (which share our daughter's names) and so it seemed a logical next step to support the university through the creation of lectures in our family name.

Q: Your PhD was on early modern British history... Why did you decide to fund a lecture series on medieval history with a focus on Scotland?

A: While I have spent little time working on medieval history (some exhibits for Historic Environment Scotland and a few book reviews) since leaving St Andrews, I have retained fond memories of my study of medieval history while attending St. Andrews and this series evokes that.

Q: What do you hope the audience, particularly students, will gain from the Furgol Lectures?

A: I hope they will find new insights on subjects that they may or may not have encountered and it will be a part of their

experience outside the classroom engaging with professional historians.

Q: Given your lengthy experience as a museum curator and director, have you contemplated the possibility of curating an exhibition here, at the University's Wardlaw Museum?

A: No, which is peculiar since for years I created exhibits in my dreams. An obvious topic exists – given my 17th century expertise – which would be one on the marquises of Argyll and Montrose. I would dearly like to curate such an exhibit at the Wardlaw Museum.

Q: Oftentimes the word 'retirement' does not mean much to an academic. Hence, are you working on any article, book, or research project nowadays?

A: Due to the absence of a digital copy, I began my retirement by retyping *A Regimental History of the Covenanting Armies, 1639-*

1651. That was the first step to the creation of the second edition of that book, which several publishers are considering. With Dr. Jack Abernethy, a recent St. Andrews post-graduate, I authored an article about the Wizard Earl of Bothwell's forfeiture and how Charles I's efforts on behalf of his heir gained adherents from the Scott family for the Covenanters. In 2021, at the suggestion of former St. Andrews Professor Steve Murdoch I began collaboration with Dr. Andrew Lind (University of the Highlands and Islands) on 'His Majesty's Loyal Subjects': The Scottish Royalist Armies of the British Civil Wars, 1639-1655, which we hope that Brill will publish. With the support of Montgomery College (Maryland, USA), where I teach military history as an adjunct lecturer, I have spoken at Helion's Century of the Soldier Conferences, and the University of Oxford's Early Modern Europe War and Society Conference, which led to publications. I also presented a lecture on Montrose's 1645 battles at the National Civil War Centre's annual conference. I have continued to review books for academic publications, but oddly fewer than when I had less time for that.

Historic St Andrews: The Map!

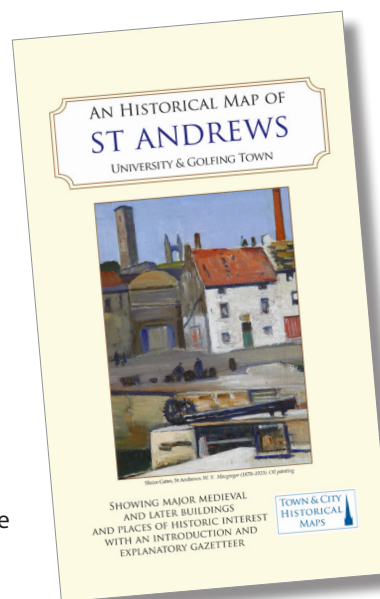
by Professor Margaret Connolly, Professor Michael Brown, Dr Christine McGladdery, Dr Bess Rhodes and Mrs Rachel Hart

A small team of St Andrews' historians, Professor Michael Brown, Professor Margaret Connolly, Dr Christine McGladdery, Dr Bess Rhodes, and Mrs Rachel Hart, are working with the Historic Towns Trust to create an historical map of St Andrews.

The project aims to showcase the rich diversity of St Andrews as an ancient site, a medieval ecclesiastical capital, a place of religious revolution, and an early centre of leisure-based tourism. This layered history is threaded throughout the town's streets, built environment, gardens, and public spaces. This heritage will be shown via a fold-out colour paper map, similar to an Ordnance Survey map, but rather than privileging a single period, the map will present individual sites through time, with medieval, early modern, and modern historical developments made simultaneously visible through its colour-coded format. This will reveal aspects which have changed or even disappeared, showing, for example, that the car parks west of the town centre overlay the site of the Victorian railway station. An illustrated gazetteer on the reverse of the map will offer a thematic narrative that describes the major points of interest, and the inside cover will present a short history of St Andrews.

Readers of *The Historian* will already know that St Andrews was a place of enormous significance in the medieval and early modern periods. However, most modern-day visitors know St Andrews primarily as the home of golf, as the location of Scotland's first university, or simply as an attractive coastal destination for shopping and dining. Our aim is to extend these fragmentary perceptions and to enrich the knowledge of those drawn to the town for a single purpose such as a round of golf or a university open day. The map draws on academic research to provide a tangible point of contact

with the visible and invisible past of St Andrews and aims to bring to light the architectural, topographical and documentary legacies of the town in ways that will spark the imaginations of both visitors and residents alike.



Our project partner is the charity [Historic Towns Trust](#) (HTT) who recently produced a similar map for [Perth](#) (the only Scottish location covered to date). The Trust's mission is to promote greater understanding of urban heritage; it works with communities to deepen an appreciation of their local environment, empowering them to protect it. Any profits from HTT publications are directed into activities to achieve their charitable purpose. It's nice to report another connection here: the chair of the trust is Professor Vanessa Harding (Birkbeck) who is an alumna of the Department of Medieval History.

We are currently in the fundraising and development stage, but we can already offer a preview of the map's cover.

Provided we can attract enough sponsorship the map will be published during 2026, and certainly in good time for the Open 2027 - a superb opportunity to deepen historical knowledge of 'the home of golf' amongst a worldwide audience. It is possible to make donations via [HTT's 'Support Us' page](#).



A Tribute to Dr Peter King

by **Katharine Eustace FSA (MA (Hons), 1974)**

Dr Peter King, who died on 17 August 2024, was one of the early lecturers in the Department of Medieval History. He became the oldest graduate in the University's 600-year history when in 2018, at the age of 89, he received his doctorate.

During his tenure Peter King will have taught twenty generations of young medievalists, many of whom went on to fill distinguished posts in academe and related fields across the United Kingdom and the USA. His was a patient, thoughtful, measured, document-led approach. In my first term studying with him, I read aloud in tutorial, a juvenile essay in which my subject persisted as 'Arthur'. On my conclusion, Dr King, smiling gently, said 'The title for this essay was "Did Alfred Exist?", Kate'.

With the ignorance of youth, students can be notoriously self-absorbed and myopic, and it never occurred to us that Dr King was not yet 'Dr' King, nor that his name had not always been King. He was born Heinz-Peter Königsberger in Berlin during the Weimar Republic on 4 November 1929, a week after the Wall Street Crash. He was the only child of Ludwig (always known as Lutz) Gunther Theodor Königsberger a solicitor with his own law firm and two partners. Peter's mother, Alice, was the daughter of an ophthalmologist, Sem Licht and his wife Clara (née Fuchs), whose son, Alice's brother Ernst, was also a successful solicitor. The Königsbergers and Lichts were cultured and prosperous members of the professional middle classes, and Peter's early life in Augsburger Strasse, in the Wilmersdorf district of Berlin, was well-to-do and comfortable.

However, one of the first acts of the Third Reich under Hitler was the so-called "Kerri-Erlass" of 1 April 1933. This put draconian restrictions on Jews, who had to re-apply for their posts in the Law, Medicine and Academe: only those with distinguished frontline service in the 1914-18 war were reaccepted. Thus began the diaspora which would so enrich Britain and the USA. Another example, besides Peter, was Nikolaus Pevsner, the architectural historian and editor of *Buildings of England* whose contract at Freiburg University was ended at that moment.

Many years later, Peter told me how, at the office later that year, his father had stepped outside for a cigarette when he observed people in what was probably an early manifestation of the Schutz Abteilung, entering the building. He put out his cigarette, went straight home where suitcases were already packed, told Alice to take Peter, and set off for the station, without time to tell Alice's parents. This was Peter's memory, reinforced by family mythology. Bridget King, Peter's daughter, has instead painstakingly researched what actually happened, where it is clear that Lutz Königsberg, working with a British company, made a planned move to London, obtained visas, and had the family's chattels packed and moved professionally. None of this would have been observed by or explained to a child under the age of four, so there is a dilemma here between memory and documentation, raising important questions of validity so beloved of historians.

Peter's Licht grandparents would arrive six years later, at Harwich on the *Bremen* in May 1939, while his cousin Klaus Licht (later Ken Light), had arrived in London as an unaccompanied child

on the Kindertransport on 27 December 1938. Klaus's father, Ernst Licht had, as a war veteran, found employment until January 1939. The Gestapo had given Ernst until 16 September to leave, but with visas slow to obtain, he and his wife Ilse paid traffickers. They were stopped at Gelsenkirchen-Buer near the Dutch border. For six months they were held in the municipal jail with other refugees, until, in June 1940, the women were sent to Ravensbrück and the men to Sachsenhausen. Ernst committed suicide nine weeks later; a Red Cross telegram in November 1941 informed Clara Licht of her son's death. Ilse would die in the gas chamber in the Landesklinik at Bernburg-Saalkreis in March 1942. Peter, with pride in Bridget's efforts, returned to Berlin for the acknowledgement ceremony in 2019 whereby Stolpersteine (of the *Stolpersteine* project initiated by Gunter Demnig in 1992) were installed in the pavement outside the building whence his uncle and aunt had fled in 1939

The Königsberger family had arrived in London the day before Peter's fourth birthday, and in due course he was sent to a convent school to learn English. His cousins, the Moser banking family living in Putney, would later pay for Peter's education at Highgate School. It was there that he learned to love history, and as he would tell his son, Stephen, would sit in an armchair in a teacher's study and read while other boys were up to mischief, stealing food and so on.

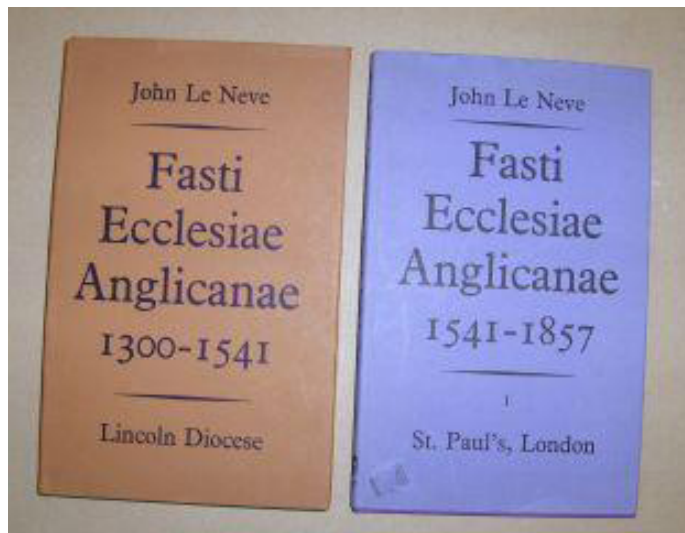
I later learnt from Peter that in the summer of 1940, as he recalled it, he (aged 10), his father and other male members of the family were held initially on the racecourse, he thought, on Epsom Down. Bridget has since ascertained that only his father Lutz was held at Prees Heath in Shropshire, before being drafted into the Pioneer Corps. The family had lived in rented accommodation on Shirehall Lane in Hendon, north-west London, until the house was rendered uninhabitable by bombing later that year. Peter remembered hiding with Klaus under a table which saved their lives. With both parents engaged in war work – Alice was working shifts in a munitions factory – Peter was evacuated with Highgate School to Westward Ho! in Devon. Homeless, but to be nearby, his grandparents Sem and Clara lodged in Bideford in exchange for domestic help, while his severely traumatised cousin, the 14-year-old Klaus, lived in lodgings close by. Peter later declared this 'a miserable time'.

The school returned to London in 1943, and at the end of the war the family was reunited in a one-bedroom rented flat in Kilburn. Seeking naturalisation in 1946, they changed their name to King. By 1954, reparation payments from the German



Peter King on gaining his PhD, St Andrews University, 2018.

government brought them financial stability and a house in Gladstone Park Gardens, Dollis Hill, north London. Lutz died in 1976, but Alice remained in the house until in old age she moved to be with her son and daughter-in-law in St Andrews, where she died in 2000 aged 96.



John Le Neve, *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1300-1541*:
Vol. 1 *Lincoln Diocese*.
(H.P.F. King (ed.), London, Athlone Press, 1962).

At Highgate, Peter excelled in history, and after being exempted from national service because of flat feet, went on to study Medieval History under Daniel Waley at the London School of Economics, where his cousin, the economist and statistician Claus (later Lord Moser of Regent's Park), also taught from 1946 to 1961. Peter's University of London MA thesis on Robert de Chesney, bishop of Lincoln (1148-1166), under the supervision of R.R. Darlington, was completed in 1954. It was examined on a November night by Sir Frank Stenton, one of the most famous medievalists of the twentieth century, while his wife chafed outside, more concerned about the weather and driving Sir Frank back to Reading than Peter's achievement.

Peter's first appointment was at the Institute of Historical Research, working on the Victoria County History under Professor Hugh Hale Bellot, with Hugh Trevor-Roper as a fellow researcher. Another was Roy Strong, who, Peter later told me, amazed everyone with his fancy dress, but would go on to make the National Portrait Gallery such a resounding success. While at the Institute Peter met Christine Key, who was working in the library. They were married in June 1960. Two years later, Peter completed the standard authority edition of John Le Neve's *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae 1300-1541*: Vol. 1 *Lincoln Diocese* (H.P.F. King (ed.), London, Athlone Press, 1962).

In 1963, with the promise of a forthcoming post in St Andrews, Peter and Christine went to Dublin, he as College Lecturer in History at University College, teaching medieval economic history, and she to work in the library at Trinity. In 1966 they moved to St Andrews, Peter to take up the promised post in the Department of Mediaeval History under Professor Lionel Butler. There they started a family: Bridget was born in 1966 and Stephen in 1970. Three years later, at the end of my third year at the close of the summer vacation in 1973, Peter and Christine asked me to join them in looking after the children while Peter was in Scandinavia researching his beloved St Birgitta of Sweden (on whom he taught a special subject in the early 1970s and contributed to a co-taught special subject 'Saints and Sainthood' in the early 1980s). Paid more than I had ever had been, I blew it all on a state-of-the-art music system at Curry's in Edinburgh. Both children attended Madras College, St Andrews, before going to university.

In the two decades that followed, Peter produced *The Tax Book of the Cistercian Order* with Arne Odd Johnsen (Oslo, Universitetsforlaget 1979) and his major monograph, *The Finances of the Cistercian Order in the Fourteenth Century* (Kalamazoo, Mi., Cistercian Publications 1985). After his retirement in 1986, Peter published *Western Monasticism – A History of the Monastic Movement in the Latin Church* (Kalamazoo, 1999). In 2012, he contributed 'The Cistercian Order, 1200-1600' to Mette B. Bruun (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Cistercian Order*. He continued to work voluntarily for the University, including as the cataloguer of the papers of the antiquarian, publisher, and Episcopalian

rector at Burntisland, George Hay Forbes (1821-1875). He had been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1978, and was a member of the Public Schools Club when it merged with the East India in St James's Square, London in 1972. There I and other former women students had to enter by the basement in Duke Street, when invited to lunch with him.

As a student Peter had converted to Catholicism and even considered the monastic life. In St Andrews he was a regular attendee at the Catholic church of St James on The Scores, and wrote a history of the church for the then parish priest Canon Brian Halloran. Like others in the early 1970s, he gravitated to the University's Catholic Chaplaincy at Canmore, opposite St James's, where, under the charismatic chaplain Fr Jock Dalrymple, visiting lecturers such as the Jesuit poet Peter Levi were invited to speak. Committed to ecumenicism, Peter regularly

contributed to the fostering of connections between faith groups in St Andrews: during Lent, he referred to this as his Penance. Later he worshipped with the Orthodox community in St Andrews, serving as cantor, but would remain a Catholic.

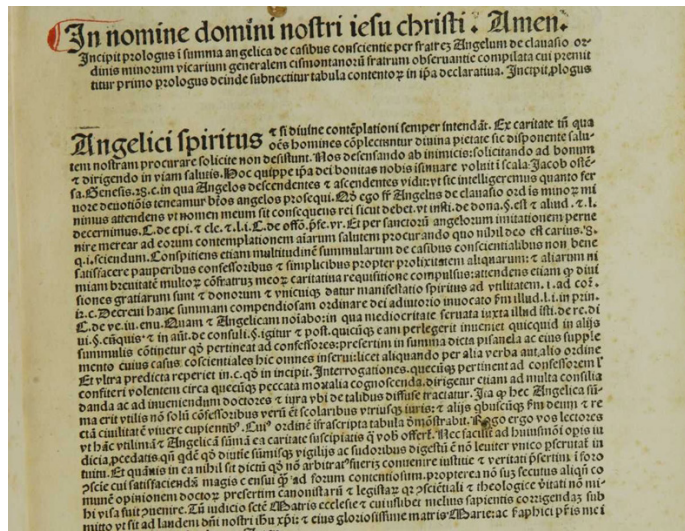


Christine, Alice, Stephen, Bridget and Peter King,
15 Hepburn Gardens, c.1986.
(courtesy Bridget and Stephen King).

Christine had meanwhile become the long-standing Librarian in the Department of Mediaeval History, a well-known figure in the university. She was to die in 2013. Thereafter, Peter and Stephen continued to live in Hepburn Gardens, and in 2014 Peter started a PhD on a book he had discovered while cataloguing in the University Library. This was the *Summa Angelica de Casibus Conscientie* by Angelus de Clavasio (Antonio Carletti di Chivasso, 1411-1495), the Franciscan moral theologian who was beatified in 1753. First published in 1486 at Chivasso in Piedmont, it had gone into twenty-two editions across Europe by 1500, and was one of the volumes Luther chose to burn in 1520, one of the reasons for Peter's curiosity about the text. His thesis, supervised by Professor Frances Andrews, was completed in 2018, and the

viva examiners were John Arnold and John Hudson Professors of Medieval History at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews, respectively. Needless to say, he passed without corrections!

Peter was a generous scholar: when I was working on the Post-Reformation monuments for the official history of Canterbury Cathedral (Collinson, Ramsay & Sparks (eds), OUP 1995), he sent me out of the blue, a copy of Dart's *History and Antiquities ...* (London 1726). I owe him and the Department of Medieval History so much.



Angelus de Clavasio, *Summa Angelica de Casibus Conscientie*

Ref. note: This article is greatly indebted to Peter King's children, Bridget and Stephen. Bridget's research in Germany has been essential in providing the documented facts. Further sources, notably Clara's wartime diary and Lutz's correspondence are to be found in the archive of the Jewish Museum, Berlin and the Berlin State Archive (LABO); Special Collections, University of St Andrews (msdep19); Dr Julie Brooks, Assistant Professor, Archives & Records, School of History, University College Dublin, UCD Archives: Papers of Professor F.X. Martin P189/59 March 1963–February 1977 (p0189-martin-fx-descriptive-catalogue.pdf); 'Heinz-Peter King', Bridget King obituary *Shorter Lives*, *Guardian*, Wed 16 Oct 2024; www.st-andrews.ac.uk/assets/university/schools/school-of-history/documents/st-andrews-historian-19.pdf; www.stolpersteine-berlin.de/de/martin-luther-str/37/ernst-licht and www.stolpersteine-berlin.de/de/martin-luther-str/37/ilse-licht. I am grateful to Professor Frances Andrews for reading it in draft.

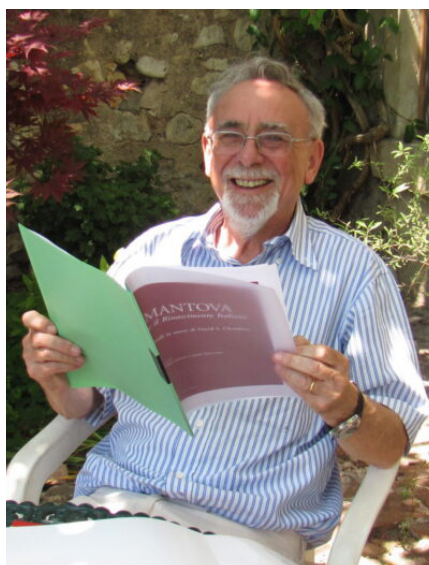
David Sanderson Chambers, 1934-2025

by John Easton Law (MA (Hons), 1967)

David Chambers was a loyal member of the Society for Renaissance Studies, contributed to its journal and served as its chairman.

He matriculated at Wadham College Oxford in 1953 and achieved his doctorate in 1961. Encouraged by study and travel grants, he developed an interest in Italian Renaissance history and a knowledge of Italian sources. These contributed to doctoral research under the supervision of J.R.Hale; his thesis title was *English Representation at the Court of Rome in the early Tudor Period*; this led to his first major publication, *Cardinal Bainbridge at the Court of Rome 1509-1514* (Oxford, 1965).

After graduation, David Chambers received a Junior Research Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh working with Denys Hay (1962-3). He then received a lectureship in what was then the Department of Mediaeval and Modern History at St Andrews where he worked closely with Professor Lionel Butler and



a team of closely knit colleagues to create a Department of Mediaeval History with its own single honours degree.

Again in close collaboration with Lionel Butler he introduced Honours courses on the Mediterranean in the later medieval period and on the Italian Renaissance. Related to the first, David Chambers developed an interest in the history of Venice which led to the publication of a carefully illustrated and influential study, *The Imperial Age of Venice*. Coming out of the Italian Renaissance course came a collection of documents in translation, some of which had been identified by his pupils, *Artists and Patrons in the Italian Renaissance*. Both were published in 1970 and remain seminal studies in their fields.

In 1969, David Chambers moved to the Warburg Institute where he immediately felt at home and where he was active in teaching and research, continuing interests developed at St Andrews on the history of Venice and its mainland territories, the Renaissance papacy and on artistic patronage. The last two coalesced into studies on the Gonzaga court and the Mantuan archives. An extended Mantuan research period led to a collaboration with Jane Martineau to organise a magnificent exhibition at the V&A in 1981, *Splendours of the Gonzaga*. His subsequent publications included *Clean Hands and Rough Justice* with Trevor Dean (1997), *A Renaissance Cardinal and his Worldly Goods* (1992) and *Popes, Cardinals at War* (2006).

As a colleague, writer and editor, David Chambers was a good collaborator. This can be seen in his long involvement with *The Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes*, in his contribution to essay collections for two former 'mentors' – with John E. Law, 'A Tribute to Denys Hay' *Renaissance Studies*, 2/ii (1988), and with Cecil H. Clough and Michael E. Mallett, *War, Culture and Society in Renaissance Venice, essays in Honour*

of J.R. Hale (1993). He also collaborated with Brian Pullan to produce *Venice a Documentary History* (2001), which led to the establishment of the Venetian seminar in the U.K. and the newsletter, *News on the Rialto* now in the U.S.A. David Chambers served on the Faculty of Archaeology, History and Letters, and then on the Publications Advisory Board of the British School at Rome in the 1970s and early 1980s. His close friendship with Nicolai Rubinstein led to his 'inheritance' of the Italian Renaissance seminar at the I.H.R., despite its hitherto Florentine bias.

But if David Chambers was extremely liked, respected and effective as a teacher and colleague, when it came to research his motivation was more personal, hence Rome, Venice and Mantua – relatively unstudied in the anglophone world at the time – rather than Florence. This can be seen in the collection in his honour by Philippa Jackson and Guido Rebecchini *Mantova e il Rinascimento italiano* (2011), and in the collection of his own essays, *Individuals and Institutions in Renaissance Italy* (1988).

A Tribute to Dave Corner

by **Professor Chris Given-Wilson**

Dave was a very good friend of mine for a very long time. We met in October 1975, when I was a postgraduate student and he began life as a lecturer at St Andrews. The last time I saw him was in December last year, when he and Tom came for lunch with us. So, 49 years!

Dave and I played a lot of golf together and a lot of bridge together, and of course we talked a lot of history together. The bridge was sort of passable, the golf was, frankly, pretty awful, but the conversation was great. He was full of insights, and I learned a lot from him.

By the time he left Oxford, Dave had already finished his doctoral thesis and left it on his supervisor's desk. His supervisor was the great Sir Richard Southern, one of the best-known medievalists of the twentieth century. After a few months, Southern wrote to Dave to tell him his thesis was too long and he would have to cut at least 25,000 words from it. Dave just couldn't bring himself to do that. He said it would be like cutting off a finger. So he never did get his doctorate – or at least, not until St Andrews gave him an honorary doctorate of Laws when he retired in 2006.

Dave had quite an impact on the Medieval History department. For a start, he was a brilliant lecturer. Chatty, fluent, amusing. He was a natural communicator, and the students loved him.



He was also a great believer in team teaching, which was rather against the grain of departmental custom. Before about 1980, almost all our honours courses were individually-taught. Dave's view was that it was good for students to see their lecturers disagreeing with each other. Plus, of course, he loved a good argument. One Special Subject on Sainthood which he ran for several years involved no less than five members of staff, all of whom were expected to attend every class. And again, the students loved it.

Dave was also determined to bring the departmental syllabus as a whole up to date. He particularly wanted to get rid of the compulsory fourth-year course on English Constitutional Documents, which he regarded – and a lot of people agreed with him – as old-fashioned straitjacket history, way out of touch with the more socially-framed, more imaginative history being written in the 1970s and 1980s. It was quite a battle, because there were strong views on both sides – but one or two retirements helped, and by the early 1980s Constitutional Documents was dead.

Alumni News

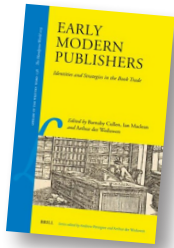
Benjamin Kupka (MA (Hons), 2020)

Since leaving St Andrews, Ben completed his MPhil in Modern European History at the University of Cambridge and returned to New York in search of gainful employment. Finding it, he settled in Astoria, Queens, for several years while dividing his time between work and passion projects. This summer he's decided to pack up his voluminous collection of books and board games in a cross-country move to Columbus, Ohio.

Natalie Smith (PhD, 2025)

Since finishing her PhD on the early-modern Swedish Empire, Natalie Smith has moved to Stockholm, where she is working as an associate lecturer in military history at the Swedish Defence University. In addition to this, she has been awarded a Rettig Fellowship (funded by the Swedish National Heritage Board and the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities) for a project on landscape descriptions in domestic Swedish travel accounts.

Recently Published Books in the School of History



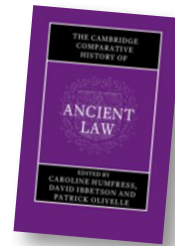
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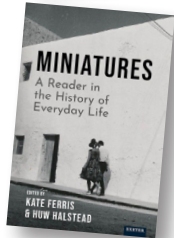
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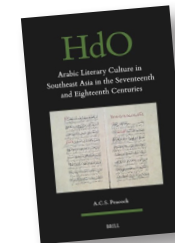
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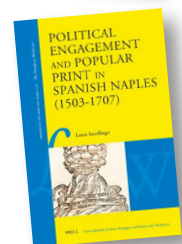
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