

St Crispin's School

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AGR/sh

30th October, 2018

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am writing to inform you about an opportunity for your son/daughter to attend Reading University's landmark public lecture, the **Stenton Lecture**, held on **Thursday 22nd November**. This year's lecture will be focused on the letters of the Kings and Queens of England 1154-1215.

I provide below a short synopsis of the lecture:

"In this lecture Professor Nicholas Vincent, University of East Anglia will discuss the largest corpus of charter materials (essentially the letters and title deeds) preserved for any twelfth-century king about to be published by the Oxford University Press. The 4600 such instruments issued in the name of King Henry II not only outnumber those preserved for the kings of France and Germany combined but demonstrate the extent to which Henry II of England towered over his contemporaries and rivals. Ruler of the largest collection of lands assembled in the west since the fall of the empire of Charlemagne, Henry II was also a patron of literature and intellectuals. At the same time, he was notorious both as an unfaithful husband to his queen, Eleanor of Aquitaine, and as the reputed author of the murder of Thomas Becket, his archbishop of Canterbury".

The lecture will be held at the **University's Whiteknights Campus**, starting at **6.30pm** (with arrivals from 6.00pm) at the **Henley Business School**, Building G11. A member of the History department will also be attending the lecture and will be there to greet you.

Students will need to **make their own way to the university** and be collected from the event. Parking will be signposted on the evening and is free for arrivals after 5pm. Public transport is also readily available to and from the campus.

The Stenton Lecture is a great opportunity for sixth form students to get a flavour of History at a higher educational setting and may help in the framing of independent investigations in Year 13.

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The lecture is **FREE** but in order to reserve a place we are asked to request tickets in advance, so if you are interested, please complete the form by clicking on the link below by Friday 2nd November.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=vZ1d0Ek7uUebLtY-odObbmK5_082HfFHu3JDN05LcaFUQIExRjZPM0FFU0REMINBTEpCQVhSMkEzWi4u

Please do get in contact with me if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A Greig
Head of History