

Lecture series to start Sandwich 1457 celebrations

A series of lectures on medieval topics will open the forthcoming 1457 celebrations in Sandwich, Kent this summer.

The free talks, delivered by experts on medieval life and culture, are part of a major project organised by community group Bringing Alive Sandwich Heritage, and funded by The Heritage Lottery Fund.

The series of talks will be held on Wednesday evenings in the run-up to the August Bank Holiday weekend, when the cinque port will come alive with a host of medieval activities.

Wednesday 25th July The Scrivener and his Wyfe

Medievalists Alex and Pam Summers introduce us to the world of a medieval clerk.

Wednesday 1st August Popular Art in the Middle Ages

Artist and lecturer James Frost explores the array of visual imagery available to people in the middle ages.

Wednesday 8th August Music of our Medieval Ancestors

Carl Willetts, Musical Director of *The Canterbury Waits*, demonstrates and discusses early instruments.

Wednesday 15th August Medieval Table Manners and Etiquette

Historian Imogen Corrigan considers the reality of dining in medieval times.

Wednesday 22nd August Arms and Armour

Ralph Moffat from the Leeds Royal Armouries discusses 15th century military equipment and tactics.

Lectures will be held at 7.30pm in the Jury Room of the Sandwich Guildhall. No booking is necessary. The lecture series is also supported by The Sandwich Library Guild.

BASH's secretary Sonia Frost said: 'This lecture series will provide a wonderful introduction to the 1457 celebrations. Our expert speakers will cover a range of topics that will enrich understanding of fifteenth century life, and fill in the background to the events talking place over the August Bank Holiday.'

Further information

The Sandwich 1457 celebrations include workshops, a commemorative exhibition, an opening pageant and procession, an early music concert, a rarely performed mystery play and a three day medieval fair.

For more details of the project or to contact the group, visit www.B-A-S-H.org.uk or call Sonia Frost on 01304 617335.

BASH would also like to acknowledge the support of Pfizer Ltd with this project.

Note to Editors

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) enables communities to celebrate, look after and learn more about our diverse heritage. From our great and historic buildings to local parks and beauty spots or recording and celebrating traditions, customs and history, HLF grants open up our nation's heritage for everyone to enjoy. They have supported more than 18,600 projects, allocating £3.6 billion across the UK. Website: www.hlf.org.uk