Family and Power in the Middle Ages

Canterbury Christ Church University

7–8 April 2017

Provisional Conference Programme

Keynote Speakers:
Lindy Grant and Jennifer Ward
This conference was made possible by the generous support of:

The Royal Historical Society

The Historical Association – Canterbury Branch

Canterbury Christ Church University

The Centre for Kent History and Heritage

Dr Keith McLay – Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Friday 7 April

10.30 – 11.15  Registration

11.15 – 11.30  Opening remarks and welcome

11.30 – 1.00  Keynote: Lindy Grant, ‘Blanche of Castile and the Power of Family’

1.00 – 2.00  Lunch

2.00 – 3.30  Parallel Session:

Panel 1: Henry III’s Family

Jessica Nelson (The National Archives), “…And God knows we did this rather for your benefit than for our own”: The marriages of Isabella of Angouleme and Joan of England, mother and sister of Henry III

Lucy Hennings (Exeter College, University of Oxford), The Imperial Marriage and Diplomatic Language in the Reign of Henry III

Abby Armstrong (Canterbury Christ Church University), The Marriage of Beatrice of England and John of Brittany: What’s love got to do with it?

OR

Panel 2: Families in Literature

Ryan T. Goodman (University of Manchester), Raising Sons, Raising Princes: Fatherhood, Kingship, and Instruction in Later Anglo-Saxon England

Kirsty Bolton (University of Southampton), Enacting Motherhood in the Roman de Melusine and the Lancelot-Grail cycle

Grace Timperley (University of Manchester), Re-thinking the Middle English ‘Family Romance’: Disinheritance, Unknownness and Il/legitimacy

3.30 – 4.00  Tea and Coffee Break
4.00 – 5.30 Parallel Session:

Panel 3: Sister Act

Charlotte Crouch (University of Reading), Sisters are doin’ it for themselves: The Nevers-Auxerre-Tonnerre Inheritance Dispute of 1273

Harriet Kersey (Canterbury Christ Church University), I got all my sisters with me: sisters and litigation in thirteenth-century England

Anais Waag (King’s College London), Cum Fracterna Delictione: female accounts of the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa in comparative perspective

OR

Panel 4: What’s in a name?

Rachel Tod (University of Oxford), Names as an expression of familial power: personal names in aristocratic English families from the twelfth to the fourteenth centuries

Anthony Mansfield (Independent Scholar), What should we call them? Aristocratic naming customs in the North-Sea world between the tenth and eleventh centuries

Hanna Kilpi (University of Glasgow), Exploring Non-Comital Women’s Families and Networks Through Their Charters and Names in Twelfth-Century England

David E. Thornton (Bilkent University, Ankara), Personal Names, Kinship and Dynastic Power in Early Medieval Ireland and Wales

5.30 – 6.30 Wine reception

7.00 Conference Dinner
Saturday 8 April

9.30 – 11.00 Parallel Session:

Panel 5: Law and Family

Charlotte Pickard (Cardiff University), The Childless Woman in Twelfth and Thirteenth Century France

Gwen Seabourne (University of Bristol Law School), The live issue of widowers and tenancy by the curtesy in medieval England

Chanelle Delameillieure (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven), Female consent, abduction and elopement in late medieval Brabant

OR

Panel 6: Queens and the Family

Barbora Davidkova (University of Oslo), Mother’s sons? Evil Queen-Mothers and Bad Kings in the Separate Saga of Saint Olaf

Ellie Woodacre (University of Winchester), A key political pawn or an ever more distant relation? Evaluating Joan of Navarre’s long-term relationship with her natal family

Manuela Santos Silva (Universidade de Lisboa), The Coutinho’s family in the royal court and the household of Philippa of Lancaster, queen of Portugal (1387–1415)

11.00 – 11.30 Tea and Coffee Break

11.30 – 1.00 Keynote: Jennifer Ward, 'The role of the grandmother in the late medieval English noble family'

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch
2.00 – 3.30  Parallel Session:

Panel 7: Family Dynasties

André Buck (Queen Mary University of London), Forging a Dynasty in the Latin East: the Case of the Sourdevals

Alexandra Vukovich (Newnham College, University of Cambridge), Recognising Princely Hierarchies in Early Rus’: Oath-taking and subordination

Maria Barreto Davila (Universidade de Lisboa), Female strategies in the construction of dynastic identity in fifteenth century Portugal: the Avis-Beja affair

Fraser McNair (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Ex Genere? Kingship and Family at the end of the Carolingian Empire, c. 870–920

OR

Panel 8: Episcopal Networking

Chris Dennis (Cardiff Metropolitan University), The tie that binds: exploring the role of kinship alliances and kin-groups in the elevation of Geoffrey de Montbray to the bishopric of Coutances in 1048

SamHowden (University of Lincoln), The Episcopal Household of Richard Gravesend, bishop of Lincoln 1258–79

Abigail Dorr (University of Lincoln), The Power of Giving: Lincoln Cathedral and fourteenth-century gift-giving practices

3.30 – 4.00  Tea and Coffee Break
4.00 – 5.30  Parallel Session:
Panel 9: The Rollercoaster of Power

**Paul Dryburgh (The National Archives),** The (fairy)tale of the Garter and the Grandmother: the Fall and Rise of the Mortimer Earls of March, 1330–1360

**Sarah Stockdale (University of Winchester),** Kings and Cousins: Family and Treason in Early Fifteenth Century England

**Sean Cunningham (The National Archives),** Cohesion, Control and Kingmaking: the rise of the Stanley family in the fifteenth century

OR

Panel 10: Family and Administration

**Adrian Jobson (Canterbury Christ Church University),** ‘My Honour and My Profit Preserved’: Richard of Cornwall, Seignorial Administration and the Assertion of Family Power

**Dean Irwin (Independent Scholar),** Keeping it in the Family: The Business Activities of a Thirteenth Century Anglo-Jewish Family

**Ricardo Seabra (Universidade do Porto),** When Power runs in the Family: the notaries public of Porto in the Middle Ages