



*** For Immediate Release ***

Rotherhithe Announces Speaker Lineup for Mayflower 400 London Lectures

[London, 28-Nov-19] The Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society, which organises monthly illustrated talks in London's most historic borough, has announced the full lineup of speakers and subjects for next year's Mayflower 400 London Lectures.

Society President Michael Daniels also revealed that the events will take place at Canada Water Theatre which is conveniently located in the heart of the Rotherhithe peninsula, the home port and final resting place of The Mayflower and her master. The monthly evenings, which are open to all, will run from April-November 2020 and the ambitious lineup features some of the most prominent historians in the Mayflower world. Booking for next April's free introductory talk opens today.

2020 Calendar

- Introduction -

The Mayflower Compacted

Wed 29th April 7:30pm-8:30pm, a free event

Rita Cruise O'Brien, author of *The Mayflower: Myths, Truths and Legacies*, introduces the Mayflower story and the importance of Rotherhithe in its early days.

- The People -

The Long Search for Freedom

Wed 27th May 7:30pm-9pm

Adrian Gray, author of *From Here We Changed the World*, discusses the origins of the people who became known as The Pilgrim Fathers.

- The Money -

Seafarers, Puritans and Beaver Hats

Wed 24th June 7:30pm-9pm

Nick Bunker, author of *Making Haste from Babylon*, investigates the role of money and The City behind the Mayflower's voyage.

- A Local Walk in Rotherhithe -

History, Art & The Mayflower by Blue Badge Guides

Wed 29th July 7:00pm and 7:30pm departures, a free event.

- The Faith -

“One of my horses could preach as well as the curate!”

Wed 2nd September 7:30pm-9pm

James Evans, author of *Emigrants: Why the English Sailed to the New World*, considers the state of the clergy in England at the time and the establishment of new faith communities.

- *The Voyage* -

'One Small Candle'

Wed 30th September 7:30pm-9pm

Rebecca Fraser, author of *The Mayflower Generation: The Winslow Family and the Fights for the New World*, identifies the people who made the voyage and their fate in America.

- *The Legacy* -

The Making of the Mayflower Myth

Wed 25th November 7:30pm-9pm

Rita Cruise O'Brien, author of *The Mayflower: Myths, Truths and Legacies*, considers the myths and legacies of the Mayflower story.

Details

- Booking essential at: www.rbhistory.org.uk or 020 8692 4446.
- Only £3 (members free) including a glass of wine at the interval, unless indicated as free.
- All lectures at Canada Water Theatre, 21 Surrey Quays Rd, Rotherhithe, London SE16 7AR.
- Canada Water tube (Jubilee, London Overground) is next door.
- Buses 1, 47, 188, 199, 225, 381, C10, P12 stop outside.

Quotes

Michael Daniels, President, Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society, said:

- *"Our lineup features some of the leading experts in The Mayflower world but the talks will still be very accessible, with the first evening bringing us all up-to-speed and introducing the key themes to be investigated further in the lectures which follow. Join us on a journey of exploration as we discover the remarkable story of The Mayflower, from its early beginnings to its legacy and beyond."*

Charles Hackett, Chief Executive for Mayflower 400, said:

- *"These talks are part of a national and international series of Mayflower 400 events across multiple locations in Britain, the US and the Netherlands, commemorating the 400th anniversary of this world-shaping voyage and its legacy. Rotherhithe is part of that international partnership and these lectures in Rotherhithe are a great way to explore our shared history"*

Cllr Rebecca Lury, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Equalities and Communities, Southwark Council, said:

- *"The list of speakers and their local Mayflower themed talks promise to help shine a light on Southwark's role in the story of the historic voyage. The Rotherhithe and Bermondsey Local History Society has done a great job organising these London Lectures and I'm happy that the council has been able to support them with this. I will certainly be stopping by and would encourage others to snap up tickets as well."*

Notes for Editors: About the Mayflower 400 London Lectures

- The Mayflower 400 London Lectures offer an unmissable opportunity to discover the secrets of the ship, her background, voyage and legacy, and to compare the themes and issues of 400 years ago with those of the world today.
- Commemorating the sailing of the ship in 1620, the lectures bring together a group of well-known and highly-regarded authors who have written about The Mayflower, the Leiden Congregation and the settlement of the people who became known as "The Pilgrims" in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

- Each of the six illustrated Wednesday evening talks is designed to be enjoyed either individually or as part of the series and takes place at Canada Water Theatre in Rotherhithe, the home port and final resting place of The Mayflower and her master.
- Organised by the Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society but open to everyone at only £3 each, including a glass of wine at the interval. Booking essential at www.rbhistory.org.uk or 020 8692 4446.
- Funded by London Borough of Southwark, United St. Saviours and British Land.

Notes for Editors: About the Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society

- Encourages an interest in the history of Rotherhithe, Bermondsey, the surrounding area, Docklands and the River Thames by organising monthly talks and events on subjects of local historical interest.
- Began mid-1990's as the local history group of Time & Talents Association, a charity operating in Rotherhithe and Bermondsey, and became the Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society in 2011.
- Holder of a Southwark Civic Trust Award, 'in recognition of exceptional dedication and commitment to keeping local history alive' and The Society is extremely grateful to Tommy Steele OBE for being its Patron.
- Visit www.rbhistory.org.uk

Image

- A high resolution image to accompany this release is available for download at <https://we.tl/t-NWjmvh8EFr>
- This link expires at noon on Tue-21-Jan, please contact below thereafter.

Further Information

Michael Daniels president@rbhistory.org.uk 07963 333432

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