

NEWSLETTER

Nick Lack first learned to love the study of the Middle Ages from children's writers such as Rosemary Sutcliffe and Henry Treece. After studying history at Oxford, Nick joined The British Council, and he spent his working career mainly in South Asia, the Middle East and Africa. But on a rare European posting to Portugal, he and his family fell in love with the country and they bought a villa near Moncarapacho. Now that he has retired, Nick has returned to history and is currently enjoying research into the immigrant communities of the East End of London from the Middle Ages onwards. He and his family also intend to spend much more time in the Algarve.

The Princes in the Tower.

The fate of the nephews of Richard III, the Princes in the Tower, is one of the great mysteries of English history. It has fascinated, divided and infuriated historians for over 500 years. Is Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard as a murderous and villainous uncle a fair one, or are there other suspects and possibilities to be considered?

Using contemporary records and annals, this talk will examine the suspects, their character, motivation and opportunity, and try to make sense of this medieval puzzle. There is also a Portuguese connection to be explored.

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 15 at 6 pm, Tavira

Algarve's Night Sky

by Clive Jackson

Tuesday 22 at 6.30 pm Lagoa

Friday 25 at 11 am, Tavira

The Restoration of 1640

by Peter Kingdon Booker

ARRAIOLOS CARPETS

RACHEL BARNARD

TAVIRA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

MONDAY 24 AT 6 PM

THE PRINCES IN THE TOWER

NICK LACK

LAGOA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

TUESDAY 25 AT 6.30 PM

TAVIRA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

FRIDAY 28 AT 11 AM

Arraiolos Carpets

After a career in the performing arts, Rachel graduated in Social Sciences and followed with an M.A. in Latin American Politics. Rachel undertook the management of the part-time Social Sciences degree course, before becoming lecturer in Politics at the University of Westminster, and later Head of the Department of Politics. She introduced, managed and lectured on the M.A. course on Globalisation which attracted students from many parts of the world. Her interest in (and purchase of) Arraiolos Carpets began over 20 years ago on a strictly aesthetic basis when she herself acquired an Arraiolos carpet. Rachel has employed her academic research skills to prepare this talk, and admits that her expertise in carpets is still growing. The weaving of Arraiolos Carpets represents a unique example of Portuguese creativity in the area of handicrafts. The origin and history of this technique reveal a fascinating perspective on Portuguese life and national history. Rachel Barnard will cover these themes in her talk as well as the recent threats to the conservation and preservation of this uniquely Portuguese textile manufacture.

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