



# BLACADER SYMPOSIUM

1:30pm, Monday 29th September 2025  
Blacader Aisle, Glasgow Cathedral



To mark and celebrate the return of Archbishop Blacader's Prayerbook viewing to Glasgow Cathedral, which is viewable free of charge (11:30am-4:30pm), the Medieval Glasgow Trust is hosting an afternoon symposium which will consider the medieval Cathedral and focus on Archbishop Blacader himself.

**FREE - LIMITED PLACES! BOOK NOW!**





# PROGRAMME

13:30 Rev Ian Black - *Welcome*

Mary McHugh (Chair) - *Introduction*

Irene O'Brien - *The Importance of the Written Archive  
Towards Understanding Glasgow's Mediaeval Origins*

Dominic D'Angelo - *Rome's 'Special Daughter'*

Mary W Craig - *Glasgow's Virgin Martyrs*

Questions

15:00 Break

Neil Baxter - *Three Bishops*

Chris Cassells - *The Blacader Psalter*

Gordon Wyllie - *Blacader's Will*

Questions

Summing Up and Thanks

16:45 Last Viewing of the Psalter





# SPEAKERS

## Neil Baxter

Prolific author and editor, Neil Baxter has written or co-authored fourteen volumes and edited many more books and journals. He has also written for The Times, The Telegraph, The Herald and The Scotsman among other papers and journals. 'Greyfriars, Blackfriars and Deep-fat Fryers!' is the third book Berlin and Glasgow based Baxter/Jardine Ltd has published this year.

In addition to his writing Neil was formerly CEO of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland and prior to that ran his own consultancy, was Development Director of Glasgow Building Preservation Trust and taught at both Glasgow School of Art and Glasgow University.

## Chris Cassells

Chris Cassells is the Head of Archives and Manuscript Collections at the National Library of Scotland where he is responsible for a team of manuscript curators along with the development and promotion of the Library's extensive archival collections. He qualified as an archivist in 2011 and subsequently completed a PhD in Information Studies at the University of Glasgow in 2020. He is a trustee of the Scottish Council on Archives, Reviews Editor for Scottish Archives and sits on the executive committee of the Business Archives Council of Scotland.

## Mary W Craig

Mary Craig is a writer and historian living in Scotland. She is a former Carnegie scholar and a graduate of the University of Glasgow. She writes about ordinary people and how they live their lives buffeted by the politics and economics of the elite. Mary also gives talks and lectures on various aspects of Scottish and European history to community groups across the country.

## Dominic d'Angelo

Dominic is a former British diplomat who operated in a number of key Arab states. He is Chair of the Alexander Thomson Society. In that role he has programmed a year-long series of lectures for Glasgow 850.

## Dr Mary McHugh

Dr McHugh is the Archivist to the Archdiocese of Glasgow. She is a distinguished author and historian and has contributed to numerous journals and publications. Mary contributed the article on the crucial role of the Church in Glasgow's evolution in the publication, Tale of Two Towns and has written the Preface for the new historical account of 850 years of Glasgow's High Street which will be published in October.





# SPEAKERS

## Dr Irene O'Brien

Dr O'Brien is Glasgow's City Archivist. In addition to her crucial role in preserving and promoting the City's archive Dr O'Brien has expanded the collection with the acquisition of notable media and photographic collections. Irene has contributed to numerous books and journals and vigorously promotes Glasgow's historic photographic collection online.

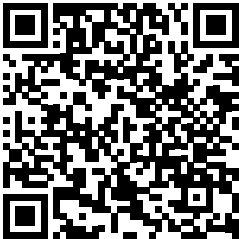
## Dr Gordon Wyllie

As a senior charity and trust lawyer and a former partner at Biggart Baillie and Bird Semple, Dr Wyllie served as a member of the European Commission's Group of Experts in International Succession Law and chaired the Law Society of Scotland's Trust and Succession Committee until 2021.

Gordon's many voluntary positions have included serving as Deacon Convener of the Trades of Edinburgh, a Trustee of Mediaeval Glasgow Trust and a member of the Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Group on End of Life Choices. Currently in Edinburgh he chairs the West End Community Council.



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