

# Dr Thomas W. Smith FRHistS FRAS

Keeper of the Scholars and Head of Oxbridge, Rugby School  
Honorary Research Associate, Royal Holloway, University of London  
Honorary Researcher, University of Kent  
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## Positions Held

2021–	Keeper of the Scholars and Head of Oxbridge, Rugby School.
2021–	Honorary Researcher, School of History, University of Kent.
2021	Elected Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society.
2020–	Honorary Research Associate, Royal Holloway, University of London.
2020–4	Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University.
2019–20	Visiting Research Fellow, University of Leeds.
2019–	Teacher of History, Rugby School.
2017–19	Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, University of Leeds.
2017	Elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.
2015–17	Lecturer in Medieval History, Trinity College, Dublin (+ Director of MPhil Medieval History, 2016–17).
2013–15	Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellow, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich.
2012–13	Scouloudi Junior Research Fellow, Institute of Historical Research, London.

## Education

### Academic Qualifications

PhD in History, Royal Holloway, University of London (2009–13): Pass, no corrections (awarded 1 Oct 2013). Thesis title: ‘Pope Honorius III and the Holy Land Crusades 1216-1227: A Study in Responsive Papal Government’. Supervisor: Prof. Jonathan Phillips. Examiners: Prof. Andrew Jotischky (Lancaster); Dr Brenda Bolton (London).

MA Medieval and Early Modern Studies, University of Kent (2008–9): Distinction (graduated top of class).

BA (Hons) History, University of Kent (2005–8): First Class (graduated top of class; winner of Faculty Rotary Prize and School of History Prize).

A Level English Literature, History, and Politics (AAB), AS Level General Studies (A), Heathfield Community College, East Sussex (1998–2005).

### Teaching Qualifications

PGCE Secondary History with QTS, University of Buckingham (2020–1): Merit.

inSTIL Higher Education Teaching Course (half a PGCHE), Royal Holloway, accredited by Higher Education Academy (2011–13): Pass with Commendation.

## Publications

### Books

#### Monographs and Critical Textual Editions

5. *The Egyptian Crusade: Holy War on the Nile* (world English rights sold to Yale University Press, under contract for delivery by 31 December 2025; first draft complete: 84,669 words).

4. *News in the Middle Ages* (co-authored with Helen Birkett, Igor Fillipov, Adam Franklin-Lyons, Chris Given-Wilson, Wendy Scase, D. G. Shaw and Valentina Sidorova) (typescript complete, 68,324 words; proposal and sample chapters under consideration by Palgrave Macmillan).
3. *Gesta Francorum Ierusalem expugnantium: The Deeds of the Franks who Conquered Jerusalem, 1095–1106* (ed. and trans. with Susan B. Edgington), Oxford Medieval Texts (in press, Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2026/7).
2. *Rewriting the First Crusade: Epistolary Culture in the Middle Ages* (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2024), xii + 231 pp.

**Ranked no. 1 among the Best Medieval Books of 2024 by Medievalists.net**

Reviews: ‘an excellent testament to the indispensable role of the auxiliary historical sciences, especially palaeography and diplomatics, in the study of history’ [Francia recensio](#) (2024); peer reviewer 1: ‘A book of major importance that promises to advance the subject in exciting new ways. It will be a contribution of great significance, and essential reading for all scholars and students’; peer reviewer 2: ‘This is an extremely rich and thought-provoking study of the epistolary culture of the early crusading movement. It represents a major contribution to the historiography of what we call the First Crusade, in that it both proposes a revisionist interpretation of an important but neglected corpus of medieval sources and also greatly extends our understanding of the crusade’s reception in the Latin West. In short, this is a significant scholarly achievement that is sure to become required reading for anyone interested in the early crusading movement.’

1. *Curia and Crusade: Pope Honorius III and the Recovery of the Holy Land, 1216–1227* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2017), xii + 393 pp.

**Highly Commended in the British Records Association Janette Harley Prize 2018**

Reviews: ‘insightful, highly detailed and much needed ... [a] splendid work’ [Reviews in History](#); ‘a valuable addition to the literature’ [Church History](#) 90 (2021), 181–2; ‘Die Studie verbindet die Analyse teils unedierter Quellen mit einer profunden Diskussion internationaler – auch deutscher – Forschung, was deutlich über das hinausgeht, was Dissertationen aus dem englischen Sprachraum sonst bieten.’ [Deutsches Archiv](#) 76 (2020); ‘brille par son originalité’, ‘grande finesse d’analyse’, ‘grande méticulosité’ *Le Moyen Age* 127 (2019), 664–5; ‘energetically opens new avenues for research’ [Al-Masāq](#) 31 (2019); [QFIAB](#) 99 (2019), 621–3; *MIÖG* 127 (2019), 258–61; *Crusades* 18 (2019), 240–1; [Sehepunkte](#) 18 (2018); *Archivum Franciscanum historicum* 111 (2018), 561–3; [Francia recensio](#) (2017).

Edited Collections of Essays

7. *Communicating Papal Authority in the Middle Ages* (ed. with Minoru Ozawa and Georg Strack) (London: Routledge, 2023) xiv + 208pp., + ‘Introduction’.
6. *Chronicle, Crusade, and the Latin East: Essays in Honour of Susan B. Edgington* (ed. with Andrew D. Buck) (Turnhout: Brepols, 2022), 354pp., + ‘Introduction’.
5. *Authority and Power in the Medieval Church, c.1000–c.1500* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2020), 409 pp., + ‘Introduction’.
4. *Remembering the Crusades in Medieval Texts and Songs* (ed. with Andrew D. Buck) (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2019), xii + 119pp.
3. *Petitions and Strategies of Persuasion in the Middle Ages: The English Crown and the Church, c.1200–c.1550* (ed. with Helen Killick) (York: York Medieval Press, 2018), xiv + 220 pp., + ‘Introduction’.
2. *The Fifth Crusade in Context: The Crusading Movement in the Early Thirteenth Century* (ed. with E. J. Mylod, Guy Perry and Jan Vandeburie) (London: Routledge, 2017), xxiv + 240 pp., + ‘Introduction’.
1. *George Whitefield Tercentenary Essays* (ed. with William Gibson) (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2015), x + 124 pp.

**Articles and Chapters**

Journal Articles

45. ‘Crusaders, Manuscripts and Memory in the Midlands: Ranulf of Chester and the Cultural Legacy of the Fifth Crusade’, *Midland History* (special issue article, invited by editors, submission due June 2026) (c. 8,000 words).

44. 'Crusading in the Parchment Mirror: Manuscript Studies and the History of the Crusades', *Crusades*, 24 (2025).
43. 'Not Sharing the Holy Land: Attitudes towards Sacred Space in Papal Crusade Calls, 1095–1234', *Al-Masāq: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean*, 34 (2022), 140–61.
42. 'A Late Medieval Bible in Rugby School Archives', *Manuscripta*, 64.1 (2020), 117–26.
41. 'First Crusade Letters and Medieval Monastic Scribal Cultures', *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, 71 (2020), 484–501.
40. 'Audita tremendi and the Call for the Third Crusade Reconsidered, 1187–1188', *Viator*, 49.3 (2020 for 2018), 63–101.
39. 'Framing the Narrative of the First Crusade: The Letter given at Laodicea in September 1099', *Journal of Religious History, Literature and Culture*, 5 (2019), 17–33.
38. 'How to Craft a Crusade Call: Pope Innocent III and *Quia maior* (1213)', *Historical Research*, 92 (2019), 2–23.
37. 'The Dynamism of a Crusade Encyclical: Pope Honorius III and *Iustus Dominus* (1223)', *Deutsches Archiv für Erforschung des Mittelalters*, 74 (2018), 111–42.
36. 'Scribal Crusading: Three New Manuscript Witnesses to the Regional Reception and Transmission of First Crusade Letters', *Traditio*, 72 (2017), 133–69.
35. 'Oliver of Cologne's *Historia Damiatina*: A New Manuscript Witness in Dublin, Trinity College Library MS 496', *Hermathena*, 194 (2017 for 2013), 37–68.
34. 'The First Crusade Letter Written at Laodicea in 1099: Two Previously Unpublished Versions from Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Clm 23390 and 28195', *Crusades*, 15 (2016), 1–25.
33. 'Papal Executors and the Veracity of Petitions from Thirteenth-Century England', *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique*, 110 (2015), 662–83.
32. 'The Authorship of the Register of Bassus *notarius*', *Manuscripta*, 59 (2015), 243–63.
31. 'The Development of Papal Provisions in Medieval Europe', *History Compass*, 13 (2015), 110–21.
30. 'Between Two Kings: Pope Honorius III and the Seizure of the Kingdom of Jerusalem by Frederick II in 1225', *Journal of Medieval History*, 41 (2015), 41–59.
29. 'Authority and Liberty: John Wesley's View of Medieval England', *Wesley and Methodist Studies*, 7 (2015), 1–26.
28. 'The College of Cardinals under Honorius III: A Nepotistic Household?', *Studies in Church History*, 50 (2014), 74–85.
27. 'English Episcopal *Acta* and Thirteenth-Century Petitions to the Pope', *Archives*, 40 (2014), 16–22.
26. 'Honorius III and the Crusade: Responsive Papal Government versus the Memory of his Predecessors', *Studies in Church History*, 49 (2013), 99–109.

#### Book Chapters

25. 'Rethinking the Manuscripts of First Crusade Letters as Devotional Artefacts', in *Exegesis, Sermons, Liturgy: New Pathways in Crusade Studies*, ed. Alexander Marx, Wolf Zöllner, and Simon John (Turnhout: Brepols, in press, forthcoming 2025) (5,911 words).
24. 'Manuscript Culture, History-Writing, and Crusading Crises', in *Crusades in Crisis: Crises, Transitions and Turning Points in the Crusade Movement, 1095–1600*, ed. Alan V. Murray, Stefan Tebruck, and Martin Wihoda (Turnhout: Brepols, forthcoming) (c. 6,000 words).
23. 'The Manuscript Traditions of Oliver of Cologne's *Historia Damiatina* in Thirteenth-Century England', in *Thirteenth Century England XX*, ed. Jörg Peltzer and Nicholas Vincent (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, submitted, forthcoming 2025) (8,532 words).
22. 'Letters and the Communication of Crusade Ideas in Manuscript', in *The Routledge Handbook of Crusade Texts, Images and Artefacts*, ed. Simon Thomas Parsons and Linda Paterson (London: Routledge, submitted, forthcoming 2025) (9,735 words).
21. 'The Imprint of the Third Crusade in the Manuscript Traditions of Western Europe' (co-authored with Stephen J. Spencer), in *The Third Crusade (1189–1192): New Interpretations*, ed. Stephen Bennett and John D. Hosler (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, forthcoming 2025) (9,996 words).

20. 'Documentary Sources for the Crusades: Western Europe and the Latin East' (co-authored with Jan Vandeburie), in *The Cambridge History of the Crusades*, gen. ed. Jonathan Phillips (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, in press, forthcoming 2025) (15,432 words).
19. 'The Papacy and the Crusading Movement in Later Medieval Britain', in *The New Cambridge History of Britain, Vol. II: 1100–1500*, ed. Peter Crooks (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, submitted, forthcoming 2025) (9,082 words).
18. 'The Letters of Pope Paschal II regarding the First Crusade: The Liberation of the Eastern Church versus Christocentric Devotion', in *Medieval Ecclesiastical History and Culture in Central Europe: Texts and Contexts*, ed. T. J. H. McCarthy, Christine Meek, and Patrick Healy (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, submitted, forthcoming 2025) (9,996 words).
17. 'The Diplomatic of *Laudabiliter* Reconsidered', in *Invasion 1169: The Anglo-Norman Invasion of Ireland*, ed. Peter Crooks and Seán Duffy (Dublin: Four Courts Press, submitted, forthcoming 2025) (6,783 words).
16. 'History-Writing and Remembrance in Crusade Letters', in *Crusade, Settlement and Historical Writing in the Latin East and Latin West, c. 1100–c. 1300*, ed. Andrew D. Buck, James H. Kane and Stephen J. Spencer (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2024), pp. 34–47.
15. 'The Registers of Pope Honorius III: A Quantitative Approach', in *Innocenz., Honorius III. und ihre Briefe: Die Edition der päpstlichen Kanzleiregister im Kontext der Geschichtsforschung*, ed. Andrea Sommerlechner and Herwig Weigl (Vienna: Böhlau, 2023), pp. 211–23.
14. 'Papal Communication and the Fifth Crusade, 1217–1221', in *Communicating Papal Authority in the Middle Ages*, ed. Minoru Ozawa, Thomas W. Smith and Georg Strack (London: Routledge, 2023), pp. 100–15.
13. 'New Manuscript Witnesses to the *Gesta Francorum et aliorum Hierosolimitanorum*, the *Historia Ierosolimitana* of Albert of Aachen, and the *Historia Hierosolymitana* of Fulcher of Chartres: Preliminary Observations', in *Chronicle, Crusade, and the Latin East: Essays in Honour of Susan B. Edgington*, ed. Andrew D. Buck and Thomas W. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2022), pp. 35–50.
12. 'The Charters of the Fifth Crusade Revisited', in *Settlement and Crusade in the Thirteenth Century: Multidisciplinary Studies of the Latin East*, ed. Judith Bronstein, Gil Fishhof and Vardit Shotten-Hallel (London: Routledge, 2021), pp. 197–208.
11. 'The Italian Connection Reconsidered: Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England', in *Thirteenth Century England XVII*, ed. Andrew Spencer and Carl Watkins (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2021), pp. 147–62.
10. 'Why were there so few Papal Provisions in Thirteenth-Century Dublin?', in *Medieval Dublin XVIII*, ed. Seán Duffy (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2020), pp. 169–82.
9. 'The Interface between Papal Authority and Heresy: The Legates of Honorius III in Languedoc, 1216–1227', in *Authority and Power in the Medieval Church, c.1000–c.1500*, ed. Thomas W. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2020), pp. 135–44.
8. 'English Episcopal Documents and Supplicatory Strategies at the Roman Curia in the Thirteenth Century', in *Stilus – usus – modus: Spielregeln der Konflikt- und Verhandlungsführung am Papstthof des Mittelalters – Rules of Negotiation and Conflict Resolution at the Papal Court in the Middle Ages*, ed. Georg Strack and Jessika Nowak (Turnhout: Brepols, 2019), pp. 159–74.
7. 'The Papacy, Petitioners and Benefices in Thirteenth-Century England', in *Petitions and Strategies of Persuasion in the Middle Ages: The English Crown and the Church, c.1200–c.1550*, ed. Thomas W. Smith and Helen Killick (York: York Medieval Press, 2018), pp. 164–84.
6. 'Conciliar Influence on *Ad liberandam*', in *The Fourth Lateran Council and the Crusade Movement: The Impact of the Council of 1215 on Latin Christendom and the East*, ed. Jessalynn L. Bird and Damian J. Smith (Turnhout: Brepols, 2018), pp. 219–39.
5. 'Preambles to Crusading: The *Arengae* of Crusade Letters issued by Innocent III and Honorius III', in *Papacy, Crusade and Christian-Muslim Relations*, ed. Jessalynn L. Bird (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2018), pp. 63–78.
4. 'An Unknown Fragment of Peter von Dusburg's *Chronicon terrae Prussiae* in Dublin, Trinity College Library MS 516', in *W służbie zabytków* ['In the Service of Monuments'], ed. Janusz Hochleitner and Karol Polejowski (Marlboro: Muzeum Zamkowe w Malborku, 2017), pp. 151–4.
3. 'The Use of the Bible in the *Arengae* of Pope Gregory IX's Crusade Calls', in *The Uses of the Bible in Crusader Sources*, ed. Elisabeth Lapina and Nicholas Morton (Leiden: Brill, 2017), pp. 206–35.

2. 'The Role of Pope Honorius III in the Fifth Crusade', in *The Fifth Crusade in Context: The Crusading Movement in the Early Thirteenth Century*, ed. E. J. Mylod, Guy Perry, Thomas W. Smith and Jan Vandeburie (London: Routledge, 2017), pp. 15–26.

1. 'Pope Honorius III, the Military Orders and the Financing of the Fifth Crusade: A Culture of Papal Preference?', in *The Military Orders: Volume 6.1*, ed. Jochen Schenk and Mike Carr (London: Routledge, 2017), pp. 54–61.

## Encyclopedia Entries

1. 'The Crusades', in *The Routledge Medieval Encyclopedia Online*, ed. Handle Klemettilä, Samu Niskanen and James Willoughby (Routledge, 2024) [<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780415791182-RMEO355-1>].

## Grant Capture: £290,962.16

### Major Grants (£10,000+)

Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship, University of Leeds (May 2017–Apr 2020): **£162,131.16**. Project title: 'The Rise of Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England'.

Münchener Universitäts-gesellschaft Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for Advanced Studies, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Oct 2015–Sep 2016): **€31,700** (declined in favour of Lectureship at Trinity College, Dublin). Project title: 'The Rise of Papal Provision in Thirteenth-Century England'.

Leverhulme Trust Study Abroad Studentship (Postdoctoral), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Oct 2013–Sep 2015): **£36,000** plus research expenses. Project title: 'Reconstructing Lost Papal Supplications from England, c.1198–c.1304'.

Scouloudi Junior Research Fellowship, Institute of Historical Research (Oct 2012–Sep 2013): **£10,000**.

Reid Research Scholarship (AHRC equivalent), Royal Holloway College, University of London (Oct 2009–Sep 2012): **£50,352**.

### Smaller Research Grants, Fellowships and Prizes

Early Career Researcher competitive research grants, School of History, University of Leeds, 2017–19 (**£850**).

Grace Lawless Lee Fund grant to support publication of images in monograph, 2016 (**€418**).

Royal Historical Society/Past & Present Society funding for individual conference, 2015 (**£436**).

Leverhulme Trust grant for publication of images, 2015 (**£506**).

Leverhulme Trust grant for two-week research trip to the Vatican Archives, Rome, 2014 (**£840**).

Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, 2013–14 (**£1,092**).

Ecclesiastical History Society: 2x full conference bursaries, 2011–12.

Church, Law and Society in the Middle Ages (AHRC research network): 3x full bursaries, 2010–11.

Royal Holloway: 4x competitive departmental small research grants, 2010–13 (total: **£1,050**).

University of Kent, Faculty Rotary Prize: 'Best Performance in Final Degree Examinations', 2008.

University of Kent, School of History Prize: 'Best Second Year Performance', 2007.

## Teaching (select)

### Teacher of History, Rugby School (Sep 2019– )

#### PhD Supervision

Co-supervisor for a collaborative doctoral award with the Open University on public schools and empire as part of the *Schools of Empire Project* (2023–6; see below).

#### A-Level Courses (OCR)

The Crusades, 1095–1192 (2020– )

Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1035–1107 (2019–20).

Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th Centuries (2019– ).

Coursework supervisor (2020– ).

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) supervisor (2019–21).

#### International Baccalaureate Courses

Extended Essay supervisor (2025– )

#### IGCSE Courses (Edexcel)

A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–72 (2019–).

Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905–24 (2019– ).

Weimar and Nazi Germany (2019– ).

The Middle East: Conflict, Crisis and Change, 1917–2012 (2019– ).

#### Year 9

Suffragettes; First World War; Apartheid in South Africa; Windrush Scandal and Historical Migration (2021–22, 2023–).

#### **Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, University of Leeds (May 2017–Aug 2019)**

##### 2nd-year UG Courses

Jewish Communities in Medieval Europe (Oct–Dec 2018): 11 weeks, 9x one-hour seminars; 26 students.

##### MA PG Courses

Palaeography: Reading Medieval Manuscripts (Jan–Apr 2018; Jan–Apr 2019): 11 weeks, designed and delivered 6x two-hour seminars; 14 students.

##### PhD Examination

Internal examiner of a PhD thesis on the crusades (2018).

#### **Lecturer in Medieval History, Trinity College, Dublin (Sep 2015–Apr 2017)**

##### 1st-year UG Courses

Popes, Kings and Crusaders: Europe, c.1075–1250 (Sep–Dec 2015; Sep–Dec 2016): 12 weeks, 22x one-hour lectures, 6x one-hour tutorials; 126 UG and 30 extramural students. Designed, convened and taught.

Europe 1215–1517: Religion, Death and Culture (Jan–April 2016; Jan–April 2017): 12 weeks, 4x one-hour tutorials; 50 students.

##### 2nd-year UG Courses

Group Project: Chivalry, War and Violence strand (Sep 2016–Apr 2017): Year-long mentor for 3x groups of 6 students (total 18 students) producing 25-minute presentations, individual essays and group portfolios on independent research projects.

Writing History in the Middle Ages (Jan–Apr 2016): 12 weeks, 11x one-hour tutorials; 11 students. Co-taught.

##### 3rd- and 4th-year UG Courses

The Crusading Movement, c.1095–c.1300 (Jan–Apr 2016; as a year-long module Sep 2016–Apr 2017): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour tutorials; 36 students. Designed, convened and taught.

##### MPhil PG Courses

The Thirteenth-Century Papacy: Vitality and Vulnerability (Jan–April 2016; Jan–April 2017): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour tutorials; 4 students. Designed, convened and taught.

##### Supervision

1x 20,000-word MPhil dissertation on 'Peacemaking between Christians and Muslims in the early thirteenth century' (2015–16).

3x 10,000-word BA dissertations (2016–17).

#### **Dozent (Lecturer), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (Apr–Jul 2015)**

##### 2nd- and 3rd-year UG Courses

Die Kreuzzüge im Mittelalter (Apr–Jul 2015): 14 weeks, 12x two-hour seminars; 11 students. Designed, convened and taught in German.

#### **Assistant Lecturer, University of Kent (Sep 2011–Jan 2013)**

##### 1st-year UG Courses

Later Medieval Europe, c.1066–1450 (Jan–Apr 2012; Sep 2012–Jan 2013): 12 weeks, 2x one-hour lectures, 11x one-hour seminars; 53 students.

## 2nd- and 3rd-year UG Courses

Popular Religion and Heresy, c.1000–c.1350 (Oct, Dec 2012): 2x one-hour lectures, 3x two-hour seminars; 32 students.

The Crusades (Sep 2011–Jan 2012): 12 weeks, 11x two-hour seminars; 32 students.

## **Pastoral Roles**

Personal Tutor in Whitelaw boarding house, Rugby School (2019– ).

Assisting the Housemaster, I am responsible for the wellbeing and safety of 54 students in the boarding house, involving weekly on-site emergency cover. I am personal tutor to 10 pupils every year in a pastoral role.

Senior Member ('Vice-Warden'), Connaught Hall, University of London (2010–12).

Assisting the Warden, I was responsible for the wellbeing and safety of 230 intercollegiate students, predominantly undergraduates, but also graduates and exchange students, providing on-site emergency cover.

## **Administrative Roles and Service (select)**

Head of Oxbridge, Rugby School (2021– ).

Keeper of the Scholars, Rugby School (2021– ).

Director of MPhil Medieval History Programme, Trinity College, Dublin (2016–17).

Co-convenor of Medieval History Research Seminar, University of Leeds (2017–19).

Standing Committee Member of the Leeds International Medieval Congress (2018–19).

## **International Research Networks**

Invited member of the British Academy research network 'Making of Europe', University of Kent (2022–23).

Invited member of Leverhulme Trust research network on 'News and News Cultures in the Middle Ages', University of Exeter/Institute of Historical Research (2019–22).

Invited member of Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) research network 'Stilus curiae: Spielregeln der Konflikt- und Verhandlungsführung am Papsthof des Mittelalters', Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (2014–18).

Invited member of international symposium 'The Medieval Papacy: Governance, Communication, Cultural Exchange', Rikkyo University, Tokyo (2017).

Invited member of AHRC research network 'Remembered Places and Invented Traditions: Thinking about the Holy Land in the Late Medieval West', Birkbeck, University of London (2012).

Invited participant in AHRC research network 'Church, Law and Society in the Middle Ages', University of Cambridge (2011–12).

## **Membership of Academic Societies and Professional Bodies**

Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society (elected 30 Apr 2021).

Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (elected 24 Nov 2017).

Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (2014– ) [reference no.: PR065788].

Member of The Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East (SSCLE), The Haskins Society, and The Canterbury and York Society.

## **Outreach and Public Engagement (select)**

Co-director of the *Schools of Empire: Class and Colonialism, c.1750–c.1945* project at Rugby School, (2020– ): [www.schoolsofempireproject.co.uk](http://www.schoolsofempireproject.co.uk)

Mentioned in *The Times* and the *Guardian*.

Recognised in Highlights of The National Archives' Year in Review 2021.

**Winner**, Boarding Schools' Association prize for Best New INDEX (Inclusivity and Diversity Excellence) Initiative 2022.

**Finalist**, Independent Schools of the Year 2023.

Gold Standard Internship Host, University of Oxford 2023.

Author of blogpost 'Top 5 First Crusade Letters for 'Proofed' blog (2024).

Exhibitor at Leeds 'Be Curious 2018' open day: designed and presented card game 'Church Invaders' (Mar 2018).

Public lecture at TCD on 'St Francis of Assisi: A Religious Revolutionary' (Feb 2016).

Spoke to 'Sandymount Study Group' (Dublin local interest group) on 'France and the Crusading Movement' (Feb 2016).

Historical consultant for TV drama 'Vikings', series 4, episode 16; uncredited (Dec 2015).

Podcasts:

['The First Crusade w/Dr Thomas Smith' - Historically Confused #3](#)

['Crusades Livestream with Thomas Smith' - Well That Aged Well](#)

['The First Crusade' - Well That Aged Well](#)

['Historian and Author Interview' - Gabriel Garcia, The Wandering Quill](#)

['Rewriting the First Crusade' - Gone Medieval \(History Hit Network\)](#)

['Rewriting the First Crusade' - The Medieval Podcast with Danièle Cybulskie](#)

['The First Crusade \(Episode 4\): What role did Muslim disunity play?' - Teach Medieval Podcast](#)

['The First Crusade \(Episode 3\): What role did Byzantine support play?' - Teach Medieval Podcast](#)

['The First Crusade \(Episode 2\): What role did religious fervour play?' - Teach Medieval Podcast](#)

['The First Crusade \(Episode 1\): What role did military skill play?' - Teach Medieval Podcast](#)

['Papal Calls to Crusade: Mobilising Support for the Crusader Cause in the Middle Ages' – The War & Diplomacy Podcast: From the Centre for War and Diplomacy at Lancaster University](#)