



WINCHELSEA 1066 FESTIVAL

Part of the 1066 Heritage Festival Programme.

Winchelsea & Area Archaeological & Historical Society
(WAAHS)

SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER 2026 at 2pm

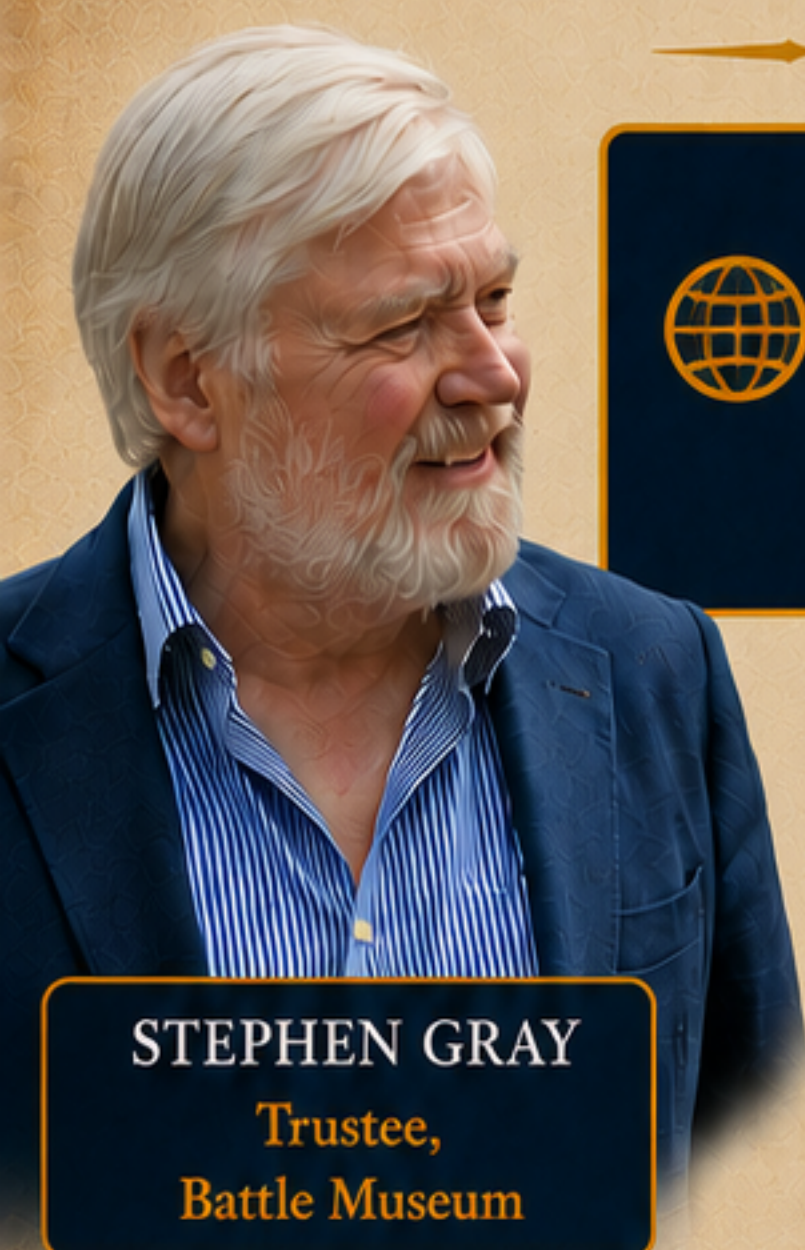
The New Hall, Rectory Lane, Winchelsea TN36 4AA

STEPHEN GRAY



JONATHAN STARKEY

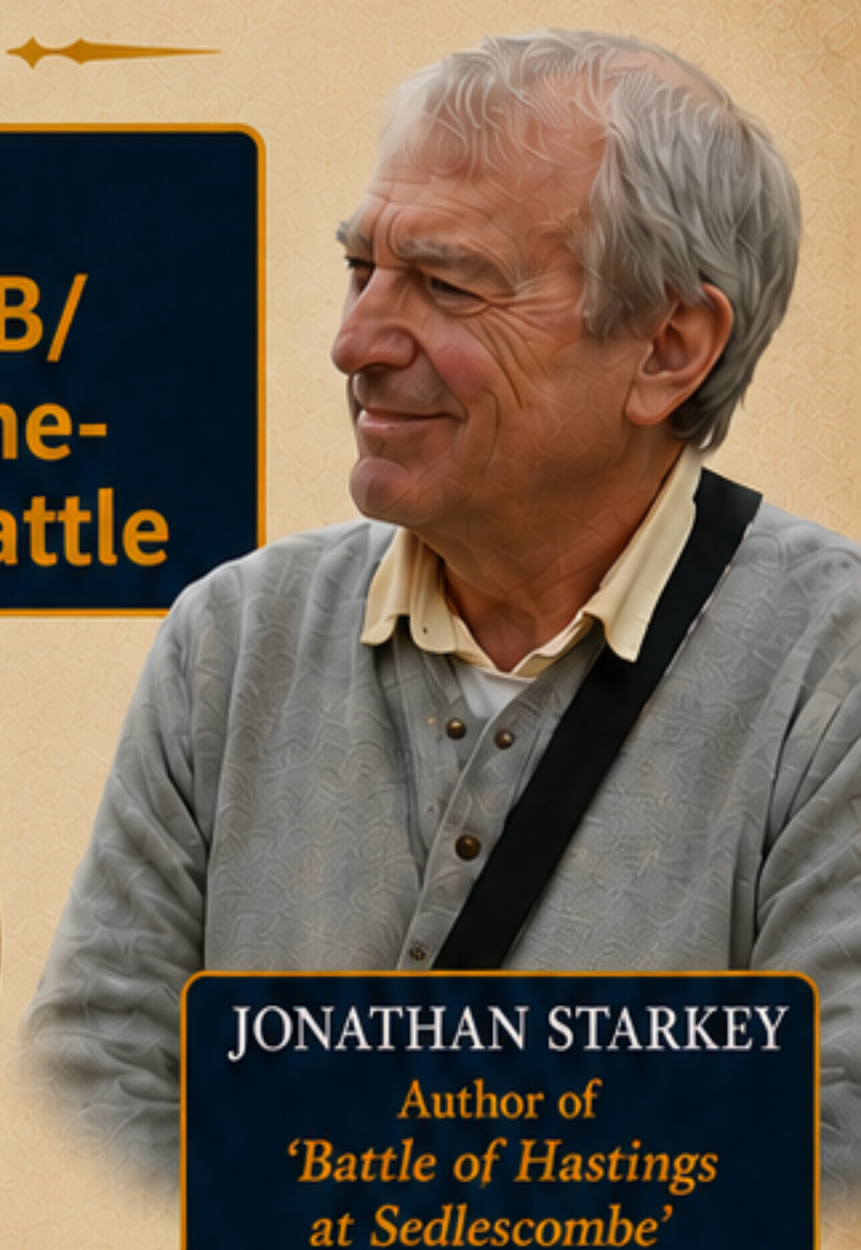
A HISTORICAL DEBATE



STEPHEN GRAY
Trustee,
Battle Museum



Book using
[www.zeffy.com/en-GB/
ticketing/the-site-of-the-
norman-landing-and-battle](http://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/the-site-of-the-norman-landing-and-battle)



JONATHAN STARKEY
Author of
*'Battle of Hastings
at Sedlescombe'*

“The Site of the Norman Landing and the Subsequent Battle”

WAAHS have invited Stephen Gray, a retired Architect and Trustee at Battle Museum, and Jonathan Starkey, author of the ‘Battle of Hastings at Sedlescombe’, for a lively debate on the possible Sites of the Norman Landing and the subsequent battle.

OUR SPEAKERS:

- **STEPHEN GRAY** – a resident of Battle whose family traces its ancestry to Anchetil de Graye, one of the Normans listed on the Abbey’s battle roll.

- **JONATHAN STARKEY** – a retired business executive, formally IT Director and Chief Operating Officer for two of the world’s biggest Investment Banks.



**ENTRY £5 for WAAHS and WCS MEMBERS
otherwise £10**

Registered Charity No. 1143524

WINCHELSEA 1066 FESTIVAL



WINCHELSEA CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)

What was the English landscape like when the Normans invaded?

 **Saturday**
24th October
10.30 for 11.00

**at the New Hall,
Winchelsea**



Dr Michael Bintley

Associate Professor of Medieval English Literature at the University of Southampton

Dr Bintley will describe what the countryside of England was like in 1066 using evidence from texts, material culture and the Bayeux Tapestry.

Dr Michael Bintley, Associate Professor in Medieval English Literature at the University of Southampton is the author of 'Settlements and Strongholds in Early Medieval England Culture'.



£5 for WCS
and WAAHS
Members



Book Online using the link
[www.zeffy.com/en-GB/
ticketing/annual-gala-5527](http://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/annual-gala-5527)



£10 to
non members

Join us for a fascinating exploration of England on the eve of the Norman Conquest through history, archaeology and storytelling.



1066 HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Winchelsea & Area Archaeological &
Historical Society (WAAHS)

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2026 AT 11AM

The New Hall, Rectory Lane, Winchelsea TN36 4AA



Kathleen Tyson on *“A Tale Told: A Bard’s View of the Bayeux Tapestry”*



Speaker: Kathleen Tyson MA (Hons) in Medieval History, has researched the Norman Invasion of 1066 using as a primary source the *Carmen Widoonis*, the earliest written account of the Norman Conquest. The Bayeux Tapestry is thought to have been created shortly after the *Carmen*, as its pictorial depiction and text closely parallel that earlier work. In her talk Kathleen will discuss the unravelling story of the Tapestry, frame by frame, her conception being that it was intended to be unrolled behind a bard as he sang the tale of the great exploit.



ONLINE BOOKING ESSENTIAL:
£5 for WAAHS & WCS Members.

All others £10.

[www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/
a-tale-told-a-bards-view-of-the-bayeux-tapestry](http://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/a-tale-told-a-bards-view-of-the-bayeux-tapestry)

WINCHELSEA 1066 FESTIVAL

Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)

The Bayeux Tapestry Through The Ages: Embroidering, Restoration, Conservation

❀ Saturday 31st October 14.00 for 14.30
at the New Hall, Winchelsea

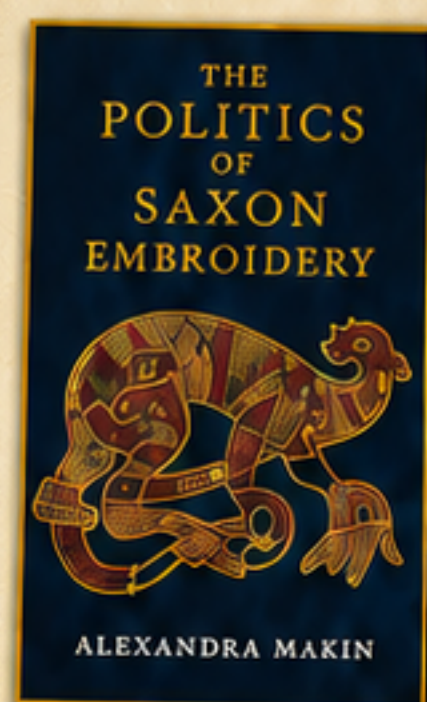


Speaker:

Dr Alexandra Makin

The author of a fascinating book on the politics of Saxon embroidery is a Textile Archaeologist and Third Century Fellow at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU).

Dr Makin is also a Member of the Scientific Committee for Research for the Bayeux Tapestry and works with the team at the Musée de la Tapisserie de Bayeux on a number of projects.



£5 to WCS and
WAAHS Members,
£10 to non-members



Online Booking Essential.
Use the link

[www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/
the-bayeux-tapestry-through-the-ages-
embroidering-restoration-and-conservation](http://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/the-bayeux-tapestry-through-the-ages-embroidering-restoration-and-conservation)

Discover the story behind
and the craft, conservation and scholarship that continue its legacy today.

Winchelsea 1066 History Festival

October 14th marks the 960th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings, arguably one of the most significant days in English history. The resultant Norman Conquest ended nearly 500 years of Anglo-Saxon rule, shifting England's political, cultural and linguistic ties away from Scandinavia and towards continental Europe.

To commemorate the anniversary, the **Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)**, the **Winchelsea & Area Archaeological & Historical Society (WAAHS)**, **Friends of the Ancient Monuments (FOAM)**, **St Thomas' Primary School**, and **Andrew Scott** have come together to present the **Winchelsea 1066 Festival**—a unique programme of talks, debate, walks and exhibitions celebrating the people, places and events of 1066.

With the Bayeux Tapestry on display from 10th September at the British Museum and preparations already underway in Normandy for the **2027 'Millennium' (or 'Willennium')** — celebrating the thousandth anniversary of the birth of William the Conqueror — there has never been a better time to revisit this remarkable period of history.

Festival Events

Date	Event	Venue
10 October – 2.00 pm	The Site of the Norman Landing and the Subsequent Battle (WAAHS)	New Hall
24 October – 11.00 am	What Was the English Landscape Like When the Normans Invaded? (WCS)	New Hall
24 October – 3.00 pm & 7.00 pm	The Great Debate (FOAM)	Lower Court Hall
31 October – 11.00 am	A Tale Told: A Bard's View of the Bayeux Tapestry (WAAHS)	New Hall
31 October – 2.30 pm	The Bayeux Tapestry Through the Ages (WCS)	New Hall

At a Glance

Saturday 10th October at The New Hall (2 for 2.30 pm)

The Site of the Norman Landing and the Subsequent Battle

Two eminent local historical researchers, Stephen Gray MSc and Jonathan Starkey MA, who have both published numerous historical articles, will debate the differing claims as to the site of

the Norman landing in 1066 – where did William actually one of the greatest unanswered questions of 1066—**where did William actually land, and where was the battle fought?**

To be Moderated by three retired High Court Judges.

Book Online: www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/the-site-of-the-norman-landing-and-battle or using the QR Codes on posters.

Saturday 24th October at the New Hall (10.30 for 11.00 am)

What Was the English Landscape Like When the Normans Invaded?

Dr Michael Bintley (Associate Professor of Medieval English Literature, University of Southampton) explores England's landscape in 1066 using archaeology, literature and the Bayeux Tapestry.

Book online: www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/annual-gala-5527 or using the QR codes on posters.

Saturday 24th October at the Lower Court Hall (Afternoon & Evening)

The Great Debate

What if Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada and William of Normandy could each make their case to become King of England?

Presented by FOAM in the style of a modern televised election debate, complete with audience questions, Norman refreshments and a vote to decide the winner.

Book online: <https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on/winchester/the-medieval-court-hall/the-great-debate/2026-10-24/d-owgowkfrzwyly>

Saturday 31st October at the New Hall (10.30 for 11.00 am)

A Tale Told: A Bard's View of the Bayeux Tapestry

Kathleen Tyson MA (Medieval History) published historian and translator of the 'Carmen Widonis' presents a fascinating new interpretation of the Bayeux Tapestry, suggesting it may originally have been intended to accompany the performance of a travelling bard.

Book: www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/a-tale-told-a-bards-view-of-the-bayeux-tapestry or using the QR codes on posters.

Saturday 31st October at the New Hall (2 for 2.30 pm)

The Bayeux Tapestry Through the Ages: Embroidering, Restoration and Conservation

Dr Alexandra Makin, a member of the Scientific Committee for Research for the Bayeux Tapestry, explores how the tapestry was created, preserved and studied today.

Book: www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/the-bayeux-tapestry-through-the-ages-embroidering-restoration-and-conservation or using the QR codes on posters.

Throughout October

Walk the 1066 Route

Andrew Scott's illustrated guide to the Icklesham–Rye section of the 31-mile **1066 Country Walk** (available soon) from: www.winchelsea.com

Display Boards in The Lower Court Hall

There will be an exhibition in the Lower Court Hall, related to the Norman Conquest produced and curated by Andrew Scott (more details to follow).

Young People's Exhibition

Children from **St Thomas' Primary School** will be creating artwork inspired by the Norman Conquest. Their work will be exhibited within Winchelsea during the festival (venue to be confirmed).

We hope you can join us.

Whether your interest lies in conservation, archaeology, landscape history, military history, the Bayeux Tapestry or simply the fascinating story of 1066, we hope you will find something to enjoy in this year's programme.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to the Festival of History this October.

The Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)

Winchelsea and Area Archaeological and Historical Society (WAAHS)