



SPECIAL INTEREST MORNING

Thursday 20th November 2025

10am – 1pm at Sidmouth Rugby Football Club

A Portrait in Stone: The Great Cathedrals of Medieval England

A two-lecture special interest morning by Mark Cottle

The great medieval cathedrals of England were built over a time span of 500 years. In terms of resources called upon, space covered, design and craftsmanship employed, this period marks the greatest single architectural achievement in English history. The lectures follow the evolution of cathedral building with particular reference to structural and aesthetic details together with some of the fascinating figures and events behind them.

Lecture 1 : Norman and Early English

After a short introduction on the functions of these cathedrals, we will first look at the Norman cathedrals (1066-1180) in particular, the greatest example, Durham. We will move on to Peterborough, Norwich and Ely with reference to Norman features of cathedrals like Canterbury and Winchester. For Early English (c.1180-1250), we will concentrate on Wells and Salisbury, again the most impressive examples of this style.

Lecture 2 : Decorated and Perpendicular Gothic.

For Decorated (c.1250-1350), we will concentrate on Exeter, the most complete example of this style, but also include other examples e.g. Ely, Lincoln. For Perpendicular, (c.1350-1550), we will start with Gloucester - not completely Perpendicular - like Winchester it's a mixture of different styles - but it provided the template e.g. the rebuilt naves at Winchester and Canterbury.

The cost of the day, including coffee, will be £25 per person.

Payment can be made by BACS (preferred method) to:

The Arts Society Sidmouth; Sort Code: 405240; Acc. No. 00060214

If payment is by BACS please email or call me to confirm place/places.

catherinebech10@gmail.com 01395 708693/07717743348

Alternatively, complete the slip below and send with your cheque to:

Catherine Bech, 1 Sea View Terrace, Higher Hill View, Sidmouth, EX10 9DQ.

Please reserve places at £25 each for the Special Interest Morning on Thursday 20th November. I enclose my cheque payable to The Arts Society Sidmouth.

Name/s:

Email:

Phone no: