

Crown and Country: Grimsthorpe & Coronations



A Symposium to be held at Grimsthorpe Castle, Lincolnshire
Saturday 24 June 2023



The Trustees of the Grimsthorpe and Drummond Castle Trust are delighted to welcome you to our first annual Symposium. In the coronation year of King Charles III, our theme will be the past, present and future of British coronations, and their historic link to Grimsthorpe Castle and its family.

Grimsthorpe Castle is uniquely placed to host such an event. The Willoughby de Eresby family, who were gifted Grimsthorpe in 1516 by Henry VIII, has held the office of joint hereditary Lord Great Chamberlain since 1626. Their vital role at coronations and other state occasions has been rewarded over the centuries by the acquisition of royal furnishings and artefacts. These form the backbone of Grimsthorpe's historic art collection and an important part of our national cultural heritage.

We are privileged to be joined by a panel of guest speakers who are experts in the field of history, art history, royal ceremonials and court culture. They include the current Lord Great Chamberlain, Lord Carrington, and the Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, Dr John Martin Robinson. Fresh from their key roles in Charles III's coronation, their extraordinary insights will give us an insider's view of the ceremony and its organisation. Sir Hugh Roberts and Dr Timothy Schroder will discuss coronation 'perks', notably furniture and plate (for the day of the Symposium only, items of coronation plate dating from 1603 to 1821 will be on display). Dr Philip Mansel will be looking at the English Court and its European counterparts from the 17th Century to the 19th Century.

We will be exploring coronation traditions, visual magnificence, and the social and political importance of royal connections in the development of the English country house. The Symposium will reflect the current exhibition at the Castle of artefacts with royal provenance from Grimsthorpe's unique historic collection. Dating from Charles II's coronation in 1661 to Elizabeth II's in 1953, items on display comprise rarely seen Georgian and Victorian thrones; furnishings; portraits and coronation costumes (including George II's robes, a contemporaneous replica of George IV's costume, and Baroness Willoughby de Eresby's dress as Maid of Honour to Elizabeth II).

The ticket price includes light refreshments and a cold buffet lunch, as well as an opportunity to visit the gardens, tour the Castle and view the exhibition. Join us in the Vanbrugh Hall (lauded by Pevsner as 'unquestionably Vanbrugh's finest room') to discover the history of these treasures and their cultural significance in the beautiful surroundings of Grimsthorpe Castle, its Park and Gardens.



Details of directions to Grimsthorpe and travel by public transport are included at the end of this leaflet

Individual **£55** Student **£45**

Biographies of Guest Speakers



The Lord Carrington DL

Rupert Carrington, 7th Baron Carrington runs his own financial advisory business, the family farming partnership and property management company. He also sits in the House of Lords as a Crossbencher peer.

He lives in Buckinghamshire, where he has held various county appointments including that of High Sheriff of the County.

He began his career in the City at Morgan Grenfell & Co Limited where he worked for seventeen years and was responsible for their business in Hong Kong and China. On leaving he became a director of various international asset management companies which is a role he still performs.

He succeeded to the Barony on the death of his father in 2018 and was elected to the House of Lords in the same year at a crossbencher hereditary peer by-election. He speaks principally on the environment, agriculture, and housing.

On the accession of King Charles III on 8 September 2022, Lord Carrington became Lord Great Chamberlain of England, according to the hereditary rotation of the office between the three noble families of Willoughby de Eresby, Cholmondeley, and Carrington.

Lord Carrington will officiate in his formal capacity of Lord Great Chamberlain at the coronation of Charles III on 6 May 2023.



Dr John Martin Robinson

John Martin Robinson is an architectural historian and officer of arms. Previous roles include the architectural editor of the Survey of London and the Historic Buildings Inspector for Westminster.

Since 1988 he has advised on the restoration of numerous country houses, churches and other listed buildings. His Conservation Plan for Seven Dials in Covent Garden won the 1988 Camden Environmental Award.

Dr Robinson was a trustee of Burghley House for five years and Chairman of the Art and Architecture Committee of Westminster Cathedral until 2022. He has been Architectural Writer for *Country Life* for the past forty years, and is Heraldic Adviser to the National Trust. He is also a Knight of Magistral Grace of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. In 1978 he was appointed Librarian to the Duke of Norfolk Earl Marshal. He is a trustee of Arundel Castle, Burghley House and Wilton House.

Dr Robinson was Fitzalan Pursuivant Extraordinary at the College of Arms from 1982 and is now Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, in which office he will take part in the coronation of Charles III on 6 May 2023.

His publications include *James Wyatt 1746-1813 – Architect to George III* (2012), *Requisitioned: The British Country House in the Second World War* (2014) and *Wilton House: The Art, Architecture and Interiors of One of Britain's Great Stately Homes* (2021).



Sir Hugh Roberts

Sir Hugh Roberts, Surveyor Emeritus of The King's Works of Art, was Director of The Royal Collection, the art collection of the British Royal Family, from 1996 to 2010. He joined the Royal Collection as Deputy Surveyor of The Queen's Works of Art in 1987, having previously worked from 1970 at Christie's, where he was a main board director from 1976. On his retirement in 2010 he was appointed Surveyor Emeritus and was created a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. He has written extensively on English and French furniture and decorative arts in Royal Collection exhibition catalogues and major journals, and is the author of *For the King's Pleasure* (2001), *The Queen's Diamonds* (2012) and *Industry and Ingenuity: the partnership of William Ince and John Mayhew* (2022).



Dr Timothy Schroder

Timothy Schroder is a historian and lecturer on silver and goldsmiths' work. Previous roles include head of silver at Christie's, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and a Consultant Curator at the V&A. He is currently President of the Silver Society, a trustee of the Wallace Collection and a member of the Fabric Commission of Westminster Abbey. He has served two terms as Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company. Publications include *British and Continental Gold and Silver in the Ashmolean Museum* (2009) and *'A Marvel to Behold', Gold and Silver at the Court of Henry VIII* (2020).



Dr Philip Mansel

Philip Mansel's books include *Louis XVIII* (1981); *The Court of France 1789-1830* (1989); *Paris between Empires* (2001); *Dressed to Rule: Royal and Court Costume from Louis XIV to Elizabeth II* (2005); and *The Eagle in Splendour: Inside the Court of Napoleon* (reissued 2015). His latest book *King of the World: the Life of Louis XIV*, published by Penguin in 2019, won the Franco-British Book Prize. He is a co-founder of the Society for Court Studies www.courtstudies.org, a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Society of Literature, and president of the scientific committee of the Centre de Recherche du Chateau de Versailles. He is currently working on a history of nineteenth-century Europe, to be called *The Power of Courts*.



Timetable of Events

Arrival from 10.00

10.00-11.00 **Coffee/Tea**

11.15-12.00 **Introduction** (10 mins)

Emma Miller (Curator, Grimsthorpe and Drummond Castle Trust)

The Coronation of Charles III: anticipating the new King's Reign

The Lord Carrington DL & Dr John Martin Robinson FSA (30/40 mins + questions)

12.00-14.00 **Lunch**

Opportunity to look around the Castle and exhibition (guides will be in each room/area), and to visit the gardens.

14.00-14.45 ***Coronation Perquisites of the Lord Great Chamberlain: thrones, furnishings and plate at Grimsthorpe***

Sir Hugh Roberts GCVO FSA and Dr Timothy Schroder FSA (45 mins + questions)

15.00-15.30 **Coffee/Tea**

15.45-17.00 ***The English Court from William III to George IV: Country-houses, national politics and Europe*** (30 mins)

Dr Philip Mansel

Grimsthorpe and Coronations (45 mins + questions)

The Lord Carrington, Dr John Martin Robinson, Sir Hugh Roberts, Dr Timothy Schroder, Dr Philip Mansel

Final Thoughts

Emma Miller

17.00 **End**

HOW TO FIND US

Grimsthorpe Castle is on the A151 between Colsterworth and Bourne, approximately 15 minutes' drive east of the A1

Sat nav: PE10 0LY

What3Words: rails.spare.squirted

Nearest rail stations:

Peterborough (50 mins from London King's Cross)

Grantham (70 mins from London King's Cross; or trains from York, Sheffield, Leeds and the North)

Stamford (66 mins from Cambridge)

From all the above stations Grimsthorpe is 20-30 minutes by taxi

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