Magna Carta at 800





Inner Temple Library 2015

800th Anniversary of Magna Carta

On 15 June 1215 King John sealed Magna Carta, the Great Charter, to bring peace between himself and the rebelling barons. Although the peace did not last, and the charter was annulled, it was resurrected under his successor Henry III and has since been considered the foundational document for the primacy of the rule of law, binding even the king. The charter contained "a number of fundamental values that both challenged the autocracy of the king and proved highly adaptable in future centuries. Most famously, the 39th clause gave all 'free men' the right to justice and a fair trial. Some of Magna Carta's core principles are echoed in the United States Bill of Rights (1791) and in many other constitutional documents around the world, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the European Convention on Human Rights (1950)." (www.bl.uk/magna-carta/articles/magna-carta-an-introduction)

The 800th anniversary of the original issue of Magna Carta has prompted many commemorative exhibitions and events, some of which are listed below. The Inner Temple Library joins this commemoration by highlighting the texts in our collection that our members can access for their own study of Magna Carta.

Magna Carta Celebratory Events

Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury: Canterbury in the Age of Magna Carta: 6 June – 6 September

www.canterbury.co.uk/Beaney/whats_on/Canterbury-in-the-Age-of-the-Magna-Carta.aspx

Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury : Magna Carta Rediscovered 2-19 July

www.canterbury.co.uk/Beaney/whats on/Canterbury-in-the-Age-of-the-Magna-Carta.aspx

Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury: Our Great Charter: 13 – 28 June www.canterbury.co.uk/Beaney/whats_on/Canterbury-in-the-Age-of-the-Magna-Carta.aspx

British Library: Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy: Until 1 September www.bl.uk/events/magna-carta--law-liberty-legacy

Inner Temple: Various events: www.innertemple.org.uk/index/magna-carta-2015

Durham University: Magna Carta and the Changing Face of Revolt: 1 June – 31 August www.dur.ac.uk/palace.green/magnacarta/

Lincoln Castle: exhibition: www.visitlincoln.com/index.php/magnacarta

Salisbury Cathedral exhibition

www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/magna-carta-800-anniversary-celebrations-2015/new-exhibition; www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/salisbury-magna-carta-events-2015-0

The Temple Church: exhibition: www.templechurch.com/magna-carta-1215-2015-londons-temple-and-the-road-to-the-rule-of-law/

Material in the Inner Temple Library about Magna Carta

Magna Carta, religion and the rule of law / edited by Robin Griffith-Jones and Mark Hill (2015)

Magna Carta then and now: address to the Friends of the British Library / Lord Sumption (2015)

Magna Carta / with a new commentary by David Carpenter (2015)

Magna Carta uncovered / Anthony Arlidge and Igor Judge (2014)

Magna Carta: muse & mentor / edited by Randy J. Holland (2014)

The origins of the English Parliament / John Maddicott (2013)

Magna Carta. 2nd edit. / James C. Holt (1992)

The minority of Henry III / David Carpenter (1990)

Magna Carta and the idea of liberty / edited by James C. Holt (1972)

Law and legislation from Aethelberht to Magna Carta / H.G. Richardson and G.O. Sayles (1966)

Habeas corpus and Magna Carta: dualism of power and liberty (Magna Carta: topical essays)) / Daniel Meador (1966)

An ancient partnership: local government, Magna Carta, and the national interest (Magna Carta: topical essays) / John Bebout (1966)

Magna Carta and property (Magna Carta: topical essays) / Gottfried Dietze (1965)

Criminal justice in our time (Magna Carta: topical essays) / Yale Kamisar, Fred E. Inbau, Thurman Arnold; edited by A.E. Dick Howard (1965)

The church shall be free: a glance at eight centuries of church and state (Magna Carta: topical essays) / Arthur Sutherland (1965)

Magna Carta and its influence in the world today / Ivor Jennings (1965)

Magna Carta – event or document? (Selden Society lecture) / Helen M. Cam (1965)

The governance of mediaeval England from the Conquest to Magna Carta / H.G. Richardson and G.O. Sayles (1963)

Magna Carta: a pageant drama / Thomas Stevens (1930)

Magna Carta commemoration essays / [by W.S. McKechnie et al.]; edited by Henry Elliot Malden; with a preface by Viscount Bryce (1917)

Magna Carta: a commentary on the Great Charter of King John, with an historical introduction / William McKechnie (1914)

The prison-house unmasked in a letter to Her Most Gracious Majesty: shewing that arrest and imprisonment for debt are violations of Magna Charta, and therefore illegal, and also the cruelty and inutility of the present system / Runnymede Secundus (1837)

The Statutes of the Realm: printed by Command of His Majesty King George the Third in pursuance of an address of the House of Commons of Great Britain, from original records and authentic manuscripts (1810-1828)

The statutes at large, from Magna Carta to the end of the Eleventh Parliament of Great Britain ... / collated and revised ... by Danby Pickering (1762-1807)

Law tracts / William Blackstone (1762)

The Great Charter and Charter of the Forest, with other authentic instruments: to which is prefixed an introductory discourse containing the history of the charters / William Blackstone (1759)

Som sober inspections made into the cariage and consults of the late-Long Parlement, wherby ocasion is taken to speak of Parlements in former times, and of Magna Charta, with som reflexes upon government in general (1655)

Magna Charta, cvm statvtis, tvm antiquis tum recentibus, maximopere animo tenendis, iam nouiter excusa & summa diligentia emendata & correcta: cui adiecta sunt nonnulla statuta, nunc demum tipis aedita (1618)

A collection of all the statutes, from the begynning of Magna Carta, vnto the yeare of our Lorde 1557 (1565)

The great charter called in latyn Magna carta, with divers olde statutes whose titles appere in the next leafe, newly corrected (1542)

Magna carta in F. Whereunto is added more statut[e]s than euer was imprynted in any one boke before this tyme: with an Alminacke & a calender to know the mootes.

Necessarye for all yong studiers of the lawe (1529)



