

**From:** Paul Tritton, Hon. Press Officer

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### **Conflicts, wars and revolutions**

Dr Jacqueline Bower will lead two courses in the Kent Archaeological Society's 'Leisure Learning' programme at the society's library in Maidstone Museum this autumn and winter.

The first, 'Kings, Barons and Peasants, 1066 - 1381,' will cover conflicts between the monarchy, church and nobility in Norman England; war with France; the first English Parliaments; and the consequences of the Black Death.

The second course, 'War, Revolution and the Rise of Nationalism in Europe, 1720 – 1914', will deal with conflicts between European nations from the French Revolution to the outbreak of the First World War.

'Understanding European history is vital to understanding the world we live in today', said Dr Bower. 'The impact of the First World War is still felt in European affairs and in individual families. As we approach the centenary of the outbreak of war, there'll be a lot of focus on the events of July and August 1914, and we too will look at the days and weeks up to the point when "the lamps went out all over Europe". But the origins of the First World War can be traced much further back than that, and that's a theme we'll be pursuing through this class on eighteenth and nineteenth century Europe'.

Dr Bower has an M.A. in English Local History from the University of Leicester and a Ph. D. in Economic and Social History from the University of Kent.

She has taught history for various Adult Education providers for many years, with a focus on English and European history, and has researched and written on several aspects of the history of Kent.

Her special research interests are the history of the maritime communities in Kent, the economic and social history of early modern Kent, and family history in Kent.

The courses begin on Monday September 23 and run for 20 weeks. For further details and a booking form email Joy Sage at [joysage@btinternet.com](mailto:joysage@btinternet.com)

Further Information: Joy Sage at [joysage@btinternet.com](mailto:joysage@btinternet.com) and <http://www.kentarchaeology.ac/learning/learning.html>