

Free **GIANT** map of Britain inside tomorrow

Daily Mail



Fury over 'out of touch' judges who defied 17.4m Brexit voters and could trigger constitutional crisis

ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE

MPS last night tore into an unelected unelected... By **James Slack** Political Editor

Into chaos Mrs May's timetable for invoking article 50 in March next year

DO DO HINK ARE?

foreign y will oters

incredible arrogant

Stephen Poliakoff

We're less interesting of the audience days

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MONASTERIES

and the preservation of the past

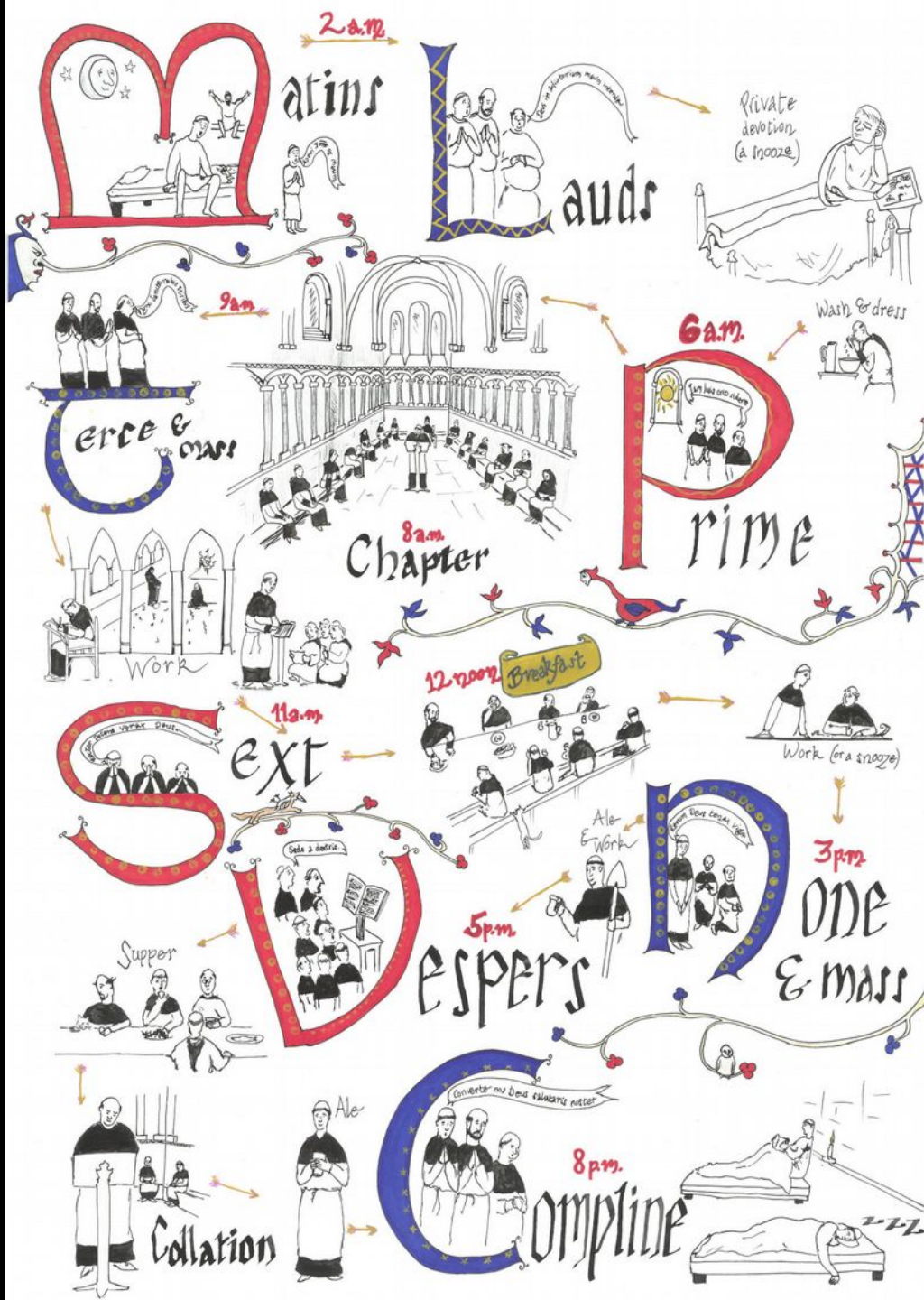


Monasteries in Medieval Society

Purposes of monasteries



The Monastic Day



Work

- Manual labour
- *Lectio divina*
[sacred reading]



Lectio Divina

- The Bible
- Monastic writers, such as John Cassian, RSB
- Saints' lives, such as the Life of St Anthony
- Theology, e.g. Gregory's homilies

Reading leads to writing

- Study, glossing
- Copying of manuscripts and texts
- Oblates
- Schools

Networks of Monasteries

- Lending of books and manuscripts
- Orders – Cluny/Cluniacs; Cîteaux/Cistercians
- Monastic – Lay lending/borrowing

Reasons for Preserving the Past

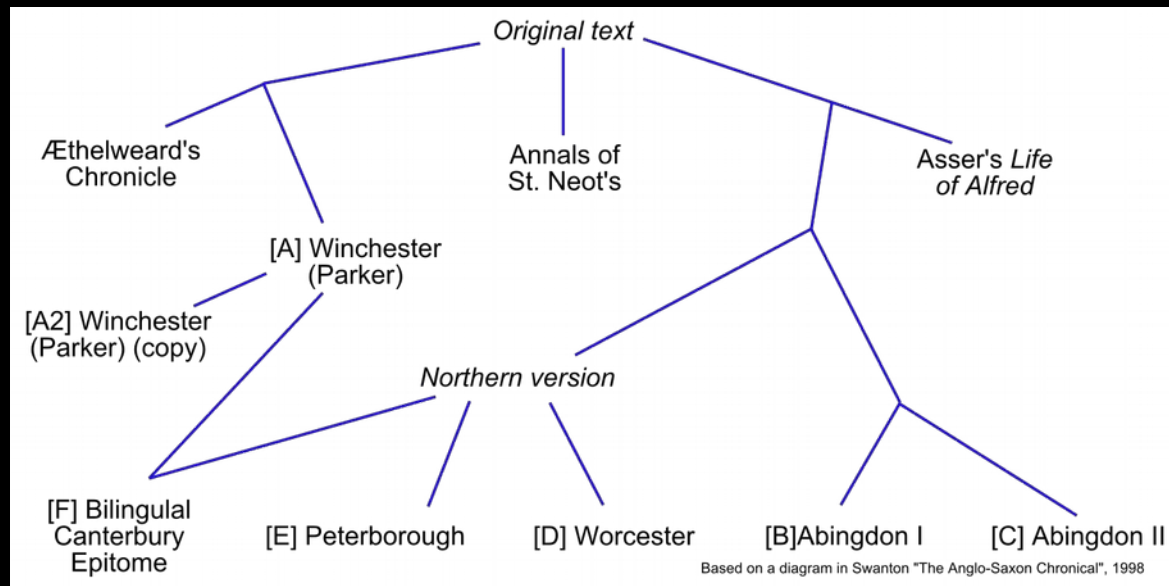
- Genuine personal interest
- Ownership – land, things
- Identity – monastic, ‘national’

Ways of 'preserving the past'

- Annals
- Chronicles
- Saints' lives
- Other lives
- Institutional histories
- Charters and cartularies

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

- Go to Moodle/Writing History/Sources.
- 890s ff.
- Original author(s)??? To do with Alfred???
- Several monastic copies and continuations



ASC – interest in:

- Genealogy
- Chronology
- Simple chronicle form
- Records but does not analyse or attempt to explain

Bede (d.733)

- Monk of Jarrow (child oblate)
- addressed to Ceowulf, king of Northumbria, who read a draft
- didactic - comments, explains, interprets
- names his authorities (credibility)
- church as 'news network'
- 'true rule' of history'
- different league to ASC
- agenda
- Christian meta-narrative
- takes a long perspective



England 1066 to c. 1130

- Historical writing at ancient Anglo-Saxon abbeys, e.g. Worcester, Canterbury, Durham (why?)
- 1066 – invasion, land-grabbing, new superiors

Ħemming of Worcester

“Wulfstan, bishop of this see, caused this book to be written to teach his successors about the things which have been committed to their care and to show them which lands belong (or ought justly to belong) to the church, and which have been unjustly seized by evil men, first during the Danish invasions, later by unjust royal officials and tax gatherers, and most recently by the violence of the Normans in our own time.”

Also from Worcester:

- Florence of Worcester, *Chronicon ex Chronicis*
- John of Worcester
- A tradition of historical writing

Durham

- Heir to the island monastery of Lindisfarne and St Cuthbert. Home to the treasures of St Cuthbert
- Cathedral priory – begun 1083; consecrated 1093



Symeon of Durham (d.c.1129)

- Inspired by Bede (d. 733)
- History of the Church of Durham
- The Unjust Harassment of Bishop William (in the Moodle book)
- central importance of Durham and its status

Canterbury Cathedral

- Archbishop Lanfranc demoted some of the Anglo-Saxon saints and removed them from the calendar. So ...
- Eadmer, monk of Canterbury, wrote their history and their lives in order to demonstrate their holiness and the importance of Canterbury
- Antiquity = status = importance = don't mess with us!



William of Jumièges

- *Gesta Normannorum Ducum* (Deeds of the dukes of the Normans)
- Written c. 1070/71
- William a monk of Jumièges, an important and well informed abbey, which was a ducal foundation in Normandy
- It had close connections with England through Robert of Jumièges, bishop of London (1046) and archbishop of Canterbury (1051)
- *Motives for writing history? How can/should we use him?*

William of Malmesbury (d.1143)

- Consciously models himself on Bede
- Child oblate
- Half Norman, half English
- Abbey librarian
- *Gesta Regum*
- *Historia Novella*

Motives for writing history? How can/should we use him?

Orderic Vitalis (d.1142)

- Born near Shrewsbury in 1075
- Child oblate
- St Evroult, Normandy

Motives for writing history? How can/should we use him?

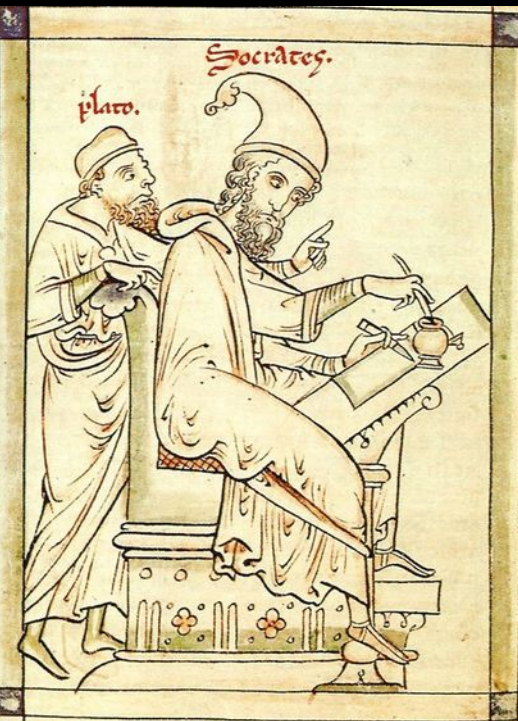
The History of the Monastery of Selby

- Monasteries and foundation histories
- Written by a monk of Selby in 1174
- Gives Selby a legendary origin
- Benedict the wandering monk of Auxerre & the middle right finger of St Germain



Matthew Paris

- Monk of St Albans



- St Albans – important stopping point
- *Chronica Majora, Flores historiarum* and many more...
- Used written sources and news he'd heard
- Brilliant artist



Annals and Chronicles

- Time important – Divine Office (hours); Easter (Easter calculations – very complicated)
- Monasteries as recorders of events
- Annal – Latin *annus* = year
- Chronicle – Greek *chronos* = time
- contemporary/retrospective

Annals of Merton Priory

Duxit exatim.
Anno Dm. m. c. lx. Hoc anno
maria ab abbatisa filia regis
steph. nupsit macheo comiti
Bolome. Hoc anno dedit Gozo
x Smitapuis London reddum. lx.
sol ecclie Syton.
Anno Dm. m. c. lx. Hoc anno
obit theodaldus cantuariar
x chieps. Et cantuaria pene tota
arsit. Hoc anno capella in fir
x marie Syton dedicata est.

.ij. tempore Rothari. imperatoris.

Anno dñi. m. c. xxx. ij. Hoc an
no londonia pene tota combusta
est de igne Gileberti Veb. et.

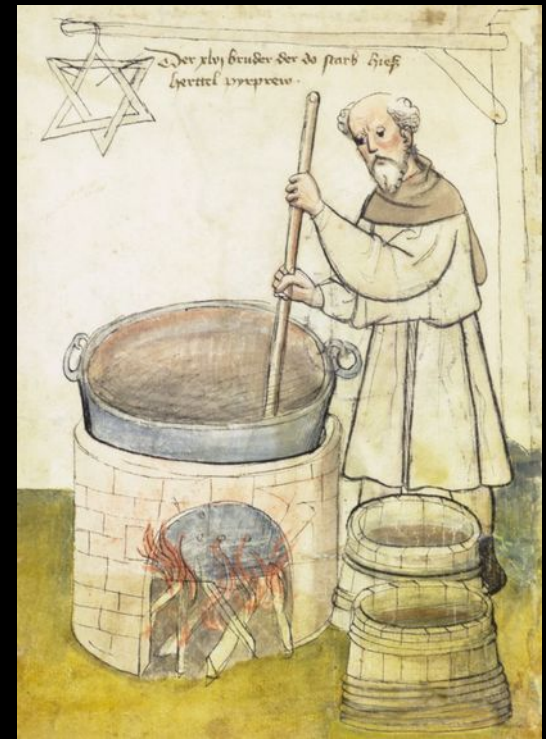
Anno dñi. m. c. xxx. iij. Hoc an
no mense martio natus est ce
nomannus Henricus primoge
nitus. Gaufridi plantagenest

THE DUNSTABLE ANNALS

- ❖ Content and scope
- ❖ Authorship
- ❖ Value
 - ❖ Local; national; international
 - ❖ What can you learn from this extract?
 - ❖ Who or what is represented; in what way?
 - ❖ What else do we need to know?



In the same year [1262], around the time of the feast of John the Baptist [24 June], we had a beer failure. We bought on credit from Henry Chadde twenty pounds worth of malt, and also five casks of wine worth ten marks.



When the king was in foreign parts, Baldewin, earl of Devon, Ingelram de Percy, and up to 60 others of the king's household died. The king himself battled a fever, and nearly died. And Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester died, through malice, at the table of Peter of Savoy, uncle of the queen; and William de Beauchamp likewise died.

Non-monastic history writing

- Monasteries and hospitality
- Local clergy and laity
- Secular clerics and history – see Gerald of Wales!
- Lay literacy increasing

Arnold fitz Ghedmar (d.1275)

- London merchant (son of German immigrants)
- Wrote a book using William of Malmesbury, a lost London Annals (connected to Southwark and Merton), lists of Sheriffs etc.
- Lived close to Southwark Priory, Bermondsey Abbey and Merton's Prior

Christine de Pizan (d.c.1432)

- Daughter of physician to French king
- Father and husband died, leaving her with widowed mother and small children
- No income
- Started to write poetry
- Wrote biography of Charles V
- First author to live entirely from being author!

