



PRIFYSGOL CYMRU
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
UNIVERSITY OF WALES
Trinity Saint David

Institute of Education and Humanities/
Yr Athrofa Addysg a'r Dyniaethau

**MA Dissertation Approval Form/
Ffurflen Gymeradwyo Traethawd Hir MA**

Student Name/ <i>Enw Myfyriwr</i>	Catherine Clarke
Degree Scheme/ <i>Cynllun Gradd</i>	MA Medieval Studies
Start date/ <i>Dyddiad cychwyn</i>	October 2020

I have completed Part 1 of my degree.

*Please delete as appropriate.

Yr wyf wedi/ ar fun cwblhau Rhan 1 o fy ngradd

** Dileu fel sy'n briodol*

Title of Dissertation:

Teitl eich Traethawd Hir

'I am pope; I am king, and bishop and abbot in my own land.'

An exploration of the life of John de Charlton, 1st Lord Charlton.

Aims and Objectives:

Nodau ac Amcanion

To create a single, full and detailed account of the life of John de Cherleton, 1st Baron Charlton.

To analyse the impact of his power and influence in the Barony of Powys and the surrounding areas.

To establish his role and influence in the reigns of Edward I, II and III.

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

Crynodeb (tua 500 gair):

John de Cherleton was born sometime in the late thirteenth century into a family based in Charlton in Shropshire. We have few details of the de Cherleton family before this time, but it is known that John and his brothers rose from relative obscurity to become influential and powerful men locally, within the church and royal court. Aspects of John's life have been discussed in a number of academic works but only in the context of other issues, such as the history of Shropshire, the barony of Powys, the fall of Edward II, or the monastic history of the area. I have been unable to find a complete, detailed account of his life and therefore propose to make him, his wealth, power and influence, the focus of my dissertation.

In my dissertation, I intend to explore the origins of his family and his early life as a soldier in the service of Edward I in the Scottish campaigns of 1298 to 1304, and his rise in the royal household of Edward, Prince of Wales. I would like to combine the references to him in existing secondary sources to provide an account of his life and experiences at this time. I will show how he rose in the royal household from yeoman, to knight, to chamberlain and further research his time as chamberlain to Edward II to expand upon the existing accounts of his involvement in court life. I will explore how his wealth, status and power grew considerably during this period, with land grants and his marriage to Hawise de la Pole. Hawise, the daughter and heir of Gruffudd, Lord of Powys, brought John the title of first Lord Charlton and secured him the barony of Powys. I will examine how this inheritance, disputed for many years by Hawise's uncle, led to the involvement of some of England's leading and most powerful nobles. I will also consider how he expressed his position of power and influence locally, as an English marcher lord, ruling lands previously held by the Welsh.

During the turbulent reign of Edward II, John is an important if less well-known figure, and was involved in many of the key events. I would like to highlight how he successfully navigated these politically challenging times. John's life here is remarkable in that he was named in the new ordinances yet was arrested for supporting the rebellion of Thomas of Lancaster; he became an ally of Roger Mortimer; and although responsible for the execution of the Earl of Arundel, kept his position of royal favour into the personal reign of Edward III. Whilst individual elements of this information can be found in different accounts of the period, I can find no single discussion which focuses on events from his perspective and the part he played in them.

I would also like to include the less well documented contribution that he and Hawise made to their local communities, churches and monasteries, and how he expressed his wealth and power through building projects in Welshpool, Shrewsbury and the surrounding areas. I would like to conclude by examining his legacy in terms of the wealth and status of his family at the time of his death.

Short Introductory Bibliography:
Llyfryddiaeth rhagarweiniol byr

Primary Sources

Calendar of Close Rolls Edward I-III

Calendar of Patent Rolls Edward I-III

Calendar of Papal Registers Relating to Great Britain and Ireland

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Proposed Supervisor: <i>Goruchwyliwr awgrymedig</i>

Please indicate whether ethical approval for project is needed – YES/NO
Nodwch a oes angen cymeradwyaeth foesegol ar gyfer y prosiect - OES / NAC OES

Please indicate whether sufficient resources are available for the project – YES/NO
Nodwch a oes digon o adnoddau ar gael ar gyfer y prosiect - OES / NAC OES

The above topic, proposal, and supervisor have been agreed:
Cytunwyd ar y pwnc, y cynnig a'r goruchwyliwr uchod:

Signed : Programme Director/
Llofnod Cyfarwyddwr y rhaglen

Date:.....
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