NEW PUBLICATION

North-West England from the Romans to the Tudors

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> Edited by Keith J. Stringer



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NORTH-WEST ENGLAND FROM THE ROMANS TO THE TUDORS

Essays in Memory of John Macnair Todd

Edited by Keith J. Stringer

Size 245 x 174mm xviii + 288 pages, with 32 figures Hardback Extra Series XLI ISBN no. 978 1 873124 65 9

The eight essays in this well-illustrated book not only reflect John Todd's scholarly interests and pay tribute to him, but provide readers with novel insights into the history of north-west England, and of Cumbria in particular, over some 16 centuries. The themes explored include how deeply the North West was affected by the Romans; the political and cultural achievements of the kingdom of Northumbria; the impact and consequences of Viking expansion; the early medieval Church in Cumbria; twelfth-century Carlisle's burgess community, and the city's role as a centre for royal visits and diplomacy; the relative importance of crown power and aristocratic lordship – that of the Moultons of Gilsland – as forces for organising people's lives and allegiances in peace and war from c.1240; the fortunes of another great noble family in medieval Cumberland, the Lucies of Allerdale and Cockermouth, from the twelfth to the fourteenth centuries; the achievements of a remarkable Lancastrian polymath, Laurence Nowell (d. c.1569); and the life and work of Bishop May of Carlisle (1577–98).

The essays range broadly over the interconnected fields of economic, political, religious and socio-cultural history. Three studies take account of the new light shed by archaeology over the past 30 years; the others are firmly based on documentary material, often little known, such as medieval charters and court records, sixteenth-century maps, and the post-Reformation archives of the diocese of Carlisle. In the process, many important questions are addressed in detail for the first time; and each contributor's findings are presented in a highly readable style.

John Todd (1934–2009) was a notable historian of north-west England, a highly respected lawyer and churchman, and a Past President of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society.

Keith Stringer is Professor of Medieval British History at Lancaster University, and has recently been awarded a Leverhulme Trust Fellowship for work on Scottish royal records. He is also a Vice-President of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, and chairs its Outreach Committee.

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