



**National
Trust**

Boleyn Festival Draft Programme – January 2012

Thursday 17th May

6pm to 10pm

Elizabeth Griffiths - The Boleyns' home at Blickling; Academic historian, Elizabeth Griffiths, present some exciting new evidence about the Tudor house at Blickling where Anne Boleyn was probably born.

David Loades - In his recently published book *The Boleyn Family*, David Loades explored the Boleyn family and their roots in Norfolk. Hear him present his theories about this controversial family.

Alison Weir – After her acclaimed about Anne Boleyn's last days, Alison Weir has turned her attention to the true story of the other Boleyn girl. In *Mary Boleyn: "The Great and Infamous Whore"* Alison dispels the myths and delves for the facts in the opaque world of Tudor politics.

Keynote Address - Eric Ives: The Life and Death of Anne Boleyn

Eric Ives is Emeritus Professor of English History at the University of Birmingham. Regarded as the pre-eminent expert on Anne Boleyn this is your chance to hear his authoritative version of the life and death of the woman who chose "the Most Happy" as her personal motto.

Ticket price £25 to include a glass of wine

Friday 18th May

7pm to 9pm

Nicola Shulman – The author of "Graven with Diamonds", the acclaimed biography of Thomas Wyatt discusses the poet's relationship with Anne Boleyn and the role of poetry in Henry VIII's court.

George Bernard – In his controversial book "Fatal Attractions" George Bernard, professor of early modern history at the University of Southampton, argues that Anne was guilty of adultery, desperate as she was to provide Henry with a male heir. Hear George explain his controversial theory and justify his belief in Anne's infidelity.

Ticket price £10 to include a glass of wine

Saturday 19th May

6pm to 8.30pm

Molly Housego - Dressing the Queen – see acclaimed historical costumier, Molly Housego, be dressed in an authentic recreation of Anne's courtly attire

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Suzannah Lipscomb – In her book *1536, the year that changed Henry*, Suzannah Lipscomb explores the physical, political and personal failures that Henry VIII faced in 1536. Hear her “enlightened and comprehensive analysis” of the King who signed his wife’s death warrant in 1536.

Alison Weir - *The Lady in the Tower: The Fall of Anne Boleyn* : Alison Weir reprises her informed and spirited defence of Anne Boleyn through the prism of Anne’s last days, incarcerated in the Tower of London. knowing her violent death was imminent and grieving for her three-year old daughter, Elizabeth who she would never see again.

Cantocardia music group

Ticket price £20 to include a glass a wine

9pm to 1am

Neil Storey - Ghost talk and midnight vigil, will the ghost of Anne Boleyn haunt Blickling on the anniversary of her death?

Ticket price £20.00 to include a glass of wine and light refreshments

Book both events for £35

Sunday 20th May – Literary High Tea

3 – 5pm

Take tea in Lord Lothian’s study with four best-selling historical novelists – Alison Weir; Suzannah Dunn (*The Queen of Subtleties*); Sarah Gristwood (*The Girl in the Mirror*) and Harriet Castor (*VIII*).

Ticket price £25 includes a selection of home-made cakes and sandwiches and copious cups of tea

A festival pass for all events costs £90.

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