

Speaker Biographies

Monday, 12th August 2019

Professor Chris Day



Chris Day worked until 1994 for the Victoria County History, a major work of reference for local history, engaged in researching and writing the history of the city of Oxford and of the surrounding region. He also contributed to the multi-volume official History of the University of Oxford. It was in recognition of his work as a local historian that in 1987 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

He joined Oxford University Department for Continuing Education in 1994 as University Lecturer in Local History, later serving as Director of Studies for Local History. In 2006 he moved to the Department's International Programmes Division, where he was Director of Academic Programs until 2011. Since 1994 he has been a Fellow of Kellogg College.

Professor Chris Rowley



Professor Chris Rowley GradCIPD, BA, MA (Warwick), DPhil (Nuffield College, University of Oxford), Kellogg College, University of Oxford & Cass Business School, City, University of London.

He has 30+ years in university systems in the UK, Europe & Asia following work and industry experience. During those years he has published 700+ journal articles, books & chapters & practitioner reports. Now, Chris is Editor at several prestigious journals such as: Asia Pacific Business Review, Journal of Chinese Human Resource Management, Journal of International Trade & Commerce. Chris is an experienced speaker for range of sectors, organizations and universities including those from the UK, US, China, Korea and Japan, and regularly gives interviews for international news stations. He has featured on radio stations such as ITV, Arirang TV, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5, ABC Radio, China Radio International, American Public Media Radio, Sputnik Radio. His writing can be found in newspapers like the Financial Times, CBNC, Bloomberg, China Daily, Japan Times, Guardian and the Independent.

Professor Graeme Leach



Graeme Leach is CEO & Chief Economist of Macronomics, a macroeconomic, geopolitical and future megatrends research consultancy launched in 2016. Graeme is a visiting professor of economic policy, a member of the IEA Shadow Monetary Policy Committee and has a weekly column in the City AM newspaper. Over the past decade, he has undertaken over 100 live television and radio interviews for BBC News, Sky News, the Radio 4 Today Programme and Radio 4 World at One. Prior to forming Macronomics, Graeme was Director of Economics and

Professor Ashley Jackson



Ashley Jackson is Professor of Imperial and Military History at King's College London and a Visiting Fellow at Kellogg College, Oxford. He has published widely on aspects of British imperial history, with a special interest in the Empire during times of war and with regional specialisms in the history of Africa and the Indian Ocean region. He has also written on the popular culture of the British Empire, the Empire's built environment, and Winston Churchill. He joined the Defence Studies Department at King's

College London in 2004 after eight years as a Research Fellow at Mansfield College, Oxford, and a brief spell as Lecturer in Imperial and Commonwealth History at Oxford Brookes University. He completed his British Academy-funded master's (1993) and doctorate (1996) at New College, Oxford, where he also served as Junior Dean.

Wednesday, 14th August 2019

Dr Martin Holmes



Martin has been teaching at Oxford University since 1981, in that time he has written numerous books on Government Policy's effect on economics, and multiple articles in scholarly journals, newspapers, and business publications. His skills have elected him as guest lecturer at universities in the USA, S Korea, Germany, Netherlands, Australia, USSR and Poland. In 1993, Martin began work as Co Chairman of the London Think Tank "The Bruges Group", which advocates for a restructuring of

Britain's relationship with the European Union and other European countries.

Thursday, 15th August 2019

Chris Lowe



Chris Lowe is the Director of Public Affairs for ASDA, the UK subsidiary of Walmart. Chris manages all the government relations activities for the company and his team are based in London, Brussels, Edinburgh and Belfast, as well as a team dedicated to local government and stakeholder engagement. Prior to joining ASDA in January 2016, Chris was a partner in a public affairs consultancy, Instinctif, where he managed accounts in several different sectors. Chris's previous roles

were as Head of Public Affairs for PwC in the UK, a similar position at the largest UK brewer Scottish & Newcastle, and he started his career in IBM UK. Chris has a degree in Economics from Nottingham University.

Site visits

Blenheim Palace

Blenheim Palace is a monumental country house situated in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, England, residence of the dukes of Marlborough. It is the only non-royal non-episcopal country house in England to hold the title of palace. Blenheim Palace was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987. Its construction was originally intended to be a gift to John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough, from a grateful nation in return for military triumph against the French and Bavarians at the Battle of Blenheim. However, it soon became the subject of political infighting, which led to Marlborough's exile, the fall from power of his duchess, and irreparable damage to the reputation of the architect Sir John Vanbrugh. Designed in the rare, and short-lived, English Baroque style, architectural appreciation of the palace is as divided today as it was in the 1720s. It is unique in its combined usage as a family home, mausoleum and national monument. The palace is also notable as the birthplace and ancestral home of Sir Winston Churchill.

Houses of Parliament

The Palace of Westminster serves as the meeting place of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Their work is similar: making laws (legislation), checking the work of the government (scrutiny), and debating current issues.

The Commons is publicly elected. The party with the largest number of members in the Commons forms the government. Members of the Commons (MPs) debate the big political issues of the day and proposals for new laws. It is one of the key places where government ministers, like the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, and the principal figures of the main political parties, work. The Commons alone is responsible for making decisions on financial Bills, such as proposed new taxes. The Lords can consider these Bills but cannot block or amend them. The House of Lords is the second chamber of the UK Parliament. It is independent from, and complements the work of, the elected House of Commons. The Lords shares the task of making and shaping laws and checking and challenging the work of the government.

BMW MINI Plant

Plant Oxford is the birthplace and heart of MINI production. Manufactured to individual customer specifications, hundreds of MINIs leave the plant's assembly lines each day, off to meet new owners in more than 110 countries around the world. Three UK plants have had a part to play in MINI production - Plant Hams Hall makes engines, Plant Swindon produces body pressings and sub-assemblies for MINI, and all this comes together at Plant Oxford with body shell production, paint and final assembly.