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Association des Juristes Franco-Britanniques
Franco-British Lawyers Society

CONFERENCE

A STITCH THROUGH TIME WITH THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY
FILER LE TEMPS GRACE A LA TAPISSERIE DE BAYEUX

Friday 27th November 2026
9:30 am – 5:30 pm

The Residence of the French Ambassador
11 Kensington Palace Gardens
London W8 4QP

All talks will be in English, but questions in French are welcome.

There is no fee for this event. Those attending are encouraged to become members of the Franco-British Lawyers Society (special low rates for students and trainee solicitors)

For information, contact the AJFB/FBLS at: fbls@outlook.com or any representative of the society at this conference

PROGRAMME

9 :30AM - REGISTRATION

9 :45AM - INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS

Welcoming address by Her Excellency Madame Hélène Duchêne, *Ambassador of France to the United Kingdom*,
Response by Floriane Laruelle, Vice-President of the AJFB/FBLS *in charge of the England and Wales section*
Introduction and Chair of the morning session by Christopher Devereux.

10:15AM - THE NORMAN CONQUEST

- Rules for Rulers in Eleventh-Century England
  Mark Hagger, *Senior Fellow, University of Lincoln*
- A Time for Conquest? William and his duchy before the battle of Hastings
  Hugo Fresnel, *Lecturer, Université de Picardie*

11:15AM - COFFEE BREAK

11:30AM - THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY AND 1066

Professor Michael Lewis,
Curator of the Bayeux Tapestry at the British Museum

12:15PM - MAKING THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY

Professor Gale Owen-Crocker,
Professor Emerita, University of Manchester

1:00PM - REMARKS

Simon Horsington, *Vice-President d'Honneur and Founder of the AJFB/FBLS*

1:10PM - LUNCH

2:30PM - INFLUENCE OF NORMAN LAW ON ENGLISH LAW

Introduction and Chair
Lise Jaulin, *liaison judge for the United Kingdom and Ireland*

Nicholas Le Poidevin KC

3:15PM – COFFEE BREAK

3:30PM – THE RULE OF LAW, THEN TO NOW

Introduction and Chair
Sir Michael Tugendhat

Dominic Grieve KC and Duncan Fairgrieve KC (Hon.)

Followed by questions

5:15PM – CLOSING REMARKS

Frédéric Goldberg, *President-Elect of the AJFB/FBLS*

Speakers

HE Hélène Duchêne



Ambassador of France to the United Kingdom

After joining the French diplomatic service at the Quai d'Orsay in 1989, HE Hélène Duchêne rose quickly through the ranks via various EU postings to become France's Permanent Representative to NATO (2016–19). She is a *Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur et de l'Ordre National du Mérite*. She became the Ambassador of France to the United Kingdom on 12th October 2022.

Floriane Laruelle



Senior associate in the Children Department at Dawson Cornwell

Floriane Laruelle is also the Vice President of the FBLS in charge of the England & Wales section. She is recognised as a "Recommended Lawyer" by The Legal 500 2026. She is a Resolution Accredited Specialist in Public Children Law and Domestic Abuse.

Christopher Devereux



Member of the AJFB FBLS management committee

Christopher Devereux has a particular interest in the fine arts and in art law. He qualified as a solicitor in private practice and subsequently moved in-house practising commercial, corporate and intellectual property law. Subsequently, as in-house counsel at two leading FTSE 100 consumer products companies, he undertook the defence of product liability claims internationally, as well as public law, EU and regulatory litigation.

Mark Hagger



Senior fellow of the University of Lincoln

Mark Hagger was reader in medieval history at Bangor University until January 2026. He is now a senior fellow of the University of Lincoln. He is the author of Norman Rule in Normandy, 911-1144 (Woodbridge, 2017) and William: King and Conqueror (London, 2012) as well as a number of articles that focus on rule and government in Normandy and England and the sources that tell us about them.

Hugo Fresnel



Senior Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of Picardie Jules Verne

Hugo Fresnel is a member of the TrAME research laboratory (UR 4284) and an associate member of the Centre Michel de Boüard – CRAHAM (UMR 6273). His research focuses primarily on the political history of the medieval Norman worlds between the 10th and 12th centuries, with a particular interest in questions relating to princely violence and the intermediaries through whom power and authority were exercised within these societies.

Professor Michael Lewis



Curator of the British Museum's Bayeux Tapestry exhibition

Formerly, Michael Lewis managed the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) as Head of Portable Antiquities and Treasure at the BM. Prior to that, he worked as a Curator at the National Maritime Museum (1997-2000) and then for the PAS since 2000, first as a Finds Liaison Officer (in Kent), then its Outreach Officer (2001-2003), Deputy Head (2003-2015) and Head (2015-2025). He is also a Visiting Professor in archaeology and social humanities at the universities of Exeter, Reading and Helsinki, with a particular interest in medieval small finds; he is co-investigator on the AHRC-funded Medieval Ritual Landscape project (2022-2026).

Michael is best known for his work on the Bayeux Tapestry. It was the topic of both his MA and PhD theses, the latter exploring the Archaeological Authority of the Bayeux Tapestry (awarded 2004). In 2008, he co-organised an international conference on the Bayeux Tapestry at the British Museum, published as The Bayeux Tapestry: new approaches (2011). Since then, he has written several books, including The Story of the Bayeux Tapestry (Hb 2021, Pd 2024, 2026) with Dave Musgrove, as well as many articles. In 2013, he joined the Bayeux Tapestry scientific committee, which has played a role in advising on the interpretation and display of the Tapestry at the Bayeux Museum (opening in 2027).

Professor Gale Owen-Crocker



Professor Emerita of The University of Manchester

Gale R. Owen-Crocker BA, PhD, FSA is Professor Emerita of The University of Manchester where she was formerly Professor of Anglo-Saxon Culture and Director of the Manchester Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies. She has written and lectured widely on the Bayeux Tapestry and has contribute to the official British Museum publication associated with the exhibition of the Tapestry in London. Her book, The Design of the Bayeux Tapestry, was published in July 2026.

Simon Horsington



Barrister, Associate of 4-5 Gray's Inn Square

Simon Horsington is a Barrister, Associate of 4-5 Gray's Inn Square. He was called in 1978. He was in-house counsel in an international banking group. He was in-house counsel for the investment management regulator. He practised from the Annexe of the then Tony Clarke's Chambers, both English and French law and UK tax law, and Britten Street Chambers in company and tax law. He has worked with laws/lawyers in some 30 jurisdictions and some 10 governments. Current interests, AI, maritime law, the law of conflict, International Criminal Court, and also the developing law of inner and outer space and planetary law, including manufacturing. He is the initiator in 1988 of the AJFB / FBLS and was its second Vice-President. The Society was launched in September 1990 at the Inaugural Annual Colloquium, Grand' Chambre, Cour de cassation, thanks to the late Premier Président Pierre Drai. Simon is currently *Vice-Président d'Honneur Fondateur*. He has worked both practically and strategically to develop the four sections of the Society, its events and academic awards. He has also practised '*pro bono*' since 1977 (eg gaining Charitable status for Medecins sans Frontières UK 1994) and assisted the French Embassy in the UK since 1991. He is a chevalier in: Légion d'Honneur, Ordre National du Mérite, Ordre du Mérite Maritime; an officier in the AN Franco-Britannique. He is Vice-Président of the ANM Ordre du Mérite-Représentation Grande Bretagne and a founder member of the SMLH-UK, Légion d'Honneur.

Lise Jaulin



Liaison judge in United Kingdom and Ireland

Ms Lise Jaulin has been French Liaison Judge for the United Kingdom and Ireland since September 2024. She is responsible for facilitating judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance between the United Kingdom and France, as well as between Ireland and France, in criminal, civil, and commercial matters.

After studying law at the Universities of Poitiers and Cambridge, Ms Jaulin was admitted into the French National School for the Judiciary in 2006 and became a French judge in 2008. Between 2008 and 2017, Ms Jaulin served as an investigating judge and then as a prosecutor. From 2017 to 2024, she held various roles within the French National Anti-Terrorism Prosecutor's Office, acting as prosecutor and then permanent secretary and lead for communication.

Nicholas Le Poidevin KC

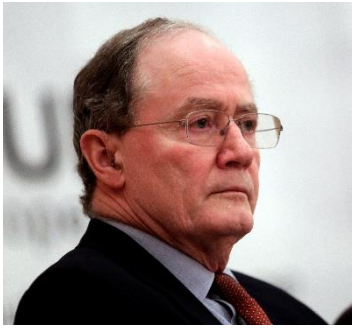


Barrister from Lincoln's Inn

Nicholas Le Poidevin practises as a barrister from Lincoln's Inn. His interest in legal history dates back to university and he has been president of the Selden Society, the principal association devoted to the study of English law. His edition of The Reports of John Bryt 1410-1411, reports of cases in the common-law courts under Henry IV, will be issued by the Society shortly.

His day job has given him long experience of trusts and estates. Much of his work is offshore. He is the senior editor of Lewin on Trusts (20th ed., 2020; 21st ed. forthcoming).

Sir Michael Tugendhat



Former a Judge of the High Court of England and Wales and of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey, and a Bencher of the Inner Temple

Sir Michael Tugendhat is a former a Judge of the High Court of England and Wales and of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey, and a Bencher of the Inner Temple. He was a scholar at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge where he graduated in Classics and Philosophy, and held a Henry Fellowship at Yale University. From 1970 to 2003 he practised at the English Bar specialising in freedom of expression and privacy. He is a past President of l'Association des juristes franco-britanniques Franco-British Lawyers' Society.

His publications include: *Liberty in France and Britain 1159-1789: Restoring Human Rights* (Boydell Press, 2026) and *Les droits du genre humain: la liberté en France et en Angleterre (1159–1793)*, Société de Législation comparée, Paris, 2021, both with Elizabeth de Montlaur Martin; *Liberty Intact: Human Rights in English Law*, Oxford University Press, 2016; 'Une introduction historique sur Magna Carta et son rayonnement', Aristide Lévi (ed), *Les libertés en France et au Royaume-Uni: état de droit, rule of law: à propos de l'anniversaire de la Grande Charte de 1215: actes du colloque en hommage à Roger Errera, Paris, le 30 novembre 2015,* le Conseil d'Etat, la Société de législation comparée et l'Association des juristes franco-britanniques, 2016, vol. 28, 41–46 and *The Law of Privacy and Media* (Oxford University Press, first edition, 2002).

Dominic Grieve KC



Barrister, President of the Franco-British Society and Trustee of the Franco-British Council

From 1997 to 2019 he was MP for Beaconsfield. He was Attorney General in the government of David Cameron from 2010 to 2014 and chair of the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament from 2015-2019.
He is also the Co-President of the European Movement UK.

Duncan Fairgrieve KC (Hon)



Professor Duncan Fairgrieve KC is a professor of law and practising lawyer

He holds contemporaneously academic positions at the Université Paris Dauphine PSL, where he is Professor of Comparative Law and Dean of the London Campus of Université Paris Dauphine PSL, and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, London, where he is Senior Research Fellow in Comparative Law.

Duncan Fairgrieve is a leading comparative lawyer, with research interests spanning comparative, European and international law. He has published many books and articles in leading journals worldwide, in both English and French, including 23 authored or edited books on comparative law topics. He edited the festschrifts for Lord Slynn and Lord Bingham. He was educated at King's College London, Oxford University and the Sorbonne, Paris. He was appointed as an Honorary King's Counsel in 2022 for his academic work on comparative law.

Duncan Fairgrieve also practises as a barrister from 1 Crown Office Row in London, and as a French avocat from 49 boulevard de Courcelles, Paris. He has an international and cross-border practice with particular expertise in European and international law. He has appeared in cases before all major jurisdictions in England and France, including the English Court of Appeal and the UK Supreme Court, and the French Court of Appeal.
Professor Fairgrieve regularly appears as a media commentator on legal-related issues, including international law & European matters.

Frederic Goldberg



Avocat au Barreau de Paris, foreign registered lawyer in England and Wales
Frédéric Goldberg has been the vice-president of the AJFB/FBLS since 2010. He has chaired the French section since 2019 and has been elected to chair the AJFB/FBLS for 2027-2029. Alumnus of the Exchange Program between the Paris Bar and the Inns of Courts of England and Wales, he has been recognised several years as a key lawyer in the France and Paris Legal 500 for dispute resolution – commercial litigation when working at Soffer Law firm. He founded his own law firm in 2025 and deals with French and international litigation. He is also the chair of the twinning committee between Vire Normandie and Totnes and a director of the Association nationale franco-britannique (ANFB).

Miles Preston

This event has been organised thanks to the generous sponsorship of Miles Preston

Miles Preston is the risk advisory, ultra-high net worth and high net worth specialist family law firm in London providing 'exceptional client service… with unparalleled sophistication and commercial vision'. It is the original leading boutique divorce and family law practice in London with a specialism in international divorce and trust cases.

Association des Juristes Franco-Britanniques

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For more information on the Association des Juristes Franco-Britanniques Franco-British Lawyers' Society, you can visit: www.ajfb-fbls.org

In memoriam

The Right Honourable Lord Justice McCloskey - In Memory of Sir Bernard (1956-2026)



We remember Sir Bernard with deep sadness, but also with profound gratitude: for his distinguished service to the law, his generous friendship and the encouragement he gave to so may. Educated at Queen's University Belfast, he was called to the Bar in 1979 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 1999. His appointment to the High Court in September 2008 was followed by his knighthood as a Knight Bachelor, conferred by Queen Elizabeth II on 3 March 2009. These honours reflect a remarkable career.

His public service took many forms. He chaired the Northern Ireland Law Commission from 2009 to 2012, served as President of the UK Upper Tribunal's Immigration and Asylum Chamber from October 2013 to October 2017, and was Presiding Judge of the Northern Ireland Judicial Review Court from September 2017 to September 2019. Each role formed part of a life devoted to the law and its administration.

On 5 September 2019, Sir Bernard was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal of Northern Ireland, subsequently joining the Privy Council. He retired earlier this year, leaving a judicial legacy that will endure long beyond his time on the Bench.

He delivered more than 1,000 judgments in Northern Ireland and had a breadth of legal expertise spanning EU law, European and international human rights law, immigration law, public law and procedural law which speaks to his learning and dedication. Yet his contribution cannot be measured in judgments alone. It lives, too, in the knowledge he shared and the people he encouraged.

Sir Bernard cared deeply about the next generation of lawyers. Through his dedicated support for the Schools of Law at Queen's University Belfast and University of Ulster, and his lectures and seminars at home and abroad, he shared his knowledge with generosity and enthusiasm. His talks combined insight with entertainment; he had a gift for engagement and conversation that lit up the room.

His curiosity and friendships reached far beyond these shores. Fluent in French and Spanish, he delighted in European languages and the legal communities they connected. He was a member of the Association des Juristes Franco-Britanniques / Franco-British Lawyers' Society (AJFB/FBLS), Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association, Franco-British-Irish-Scottish Judges' Colloque (FBC) and International Association of Refugee Judges (IARL). Through these associations and various projects, he put his belief in legal exchange into practice.

He had extraordinary energy. He worked tirelessly to strengthen Franco-British friendships, encouraged legal exchange and shared his knowledge with those beginning their careers. Alongside the wisdom of a remarkable jurist were warmth, compassion and generosity. His perseverance inspired others. He was willing to give his time with courtesy and kindness which inspired and enriched the lives of everyone around him.

For the Society, AJFB-FBLS, Sir Bernard was both a dedicated leader and a dear friend. As a Director/Trustee, its Vice President and President of its Northern Ireland Section, he gave generously of himself, bringing people together through a shared love of the law. He championed the advancement of young lawyers, both locally and across the nations, establishing Northern Ireland's first inter-varsity moot between UU and QUB this year.

One especially fitting expression of his vision was the AJFB/FBLS Colloquium he organised at Belfast City Hall in October 2026. More than 200 lawyers, academics and law students came together to consider the impact of advancing technologies on The Young Lawyer in the Third Millennium. A resounding success and a keystone event for the Society, it brought young lawyers into conversation with members of the judiciary from across the UK and France. It captured so much of what mattered to Sir Bernard: education, friendship and the meeting of generations. That gathering remains a lasting part of his legacy.

Beneath these achievements lay steadfast ethical convictions and a personal faith that sustained his commitment to justice and rights for all. Those principles, evident from his earliest years in practice, remained central to his life. He brought a deep understanding of life and strongly held beliefs to his most recent focus: establishing the Thomas More Society in Northern Ireland.

Sir Bernard's death on 10 November 2026 leaves an immense loss for the AJFB/FBLS and all who knew him. We remember a distinguished judge, a generous teacher and a cherished friend. We give thanks for his life and for what he shared with us. His legacy rests not only in his contribution to the law, but in the friendships he strengthened, the opportunities he created and the values he lived. Those gifts will continue to inspire us.

The Society’s thoughts and sympathies are with Lady McCloskey and all the family at this time
May Sir Bernard rest in peace.

> Michelle Cully, AJFB/FBLS Director, 12/11/2026