

Please complete this form and send it before 27 August 2014.

The conference fee will be £28.00, which includes coffee, lunch and tea. Please make cheques payable to the University of Leicester.

Name .....

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Please reserve places at the Joan Thirsk conference for ..... people. I enclose a cheque for.....

There are some bursaries for students. If you wish to apply for one, write to the address below, with 100 words on why you wish to attend the conference.

Send forms, cheques and any enquiries to Chris Dyer, Centre for English Local History, University of Leicester, 5 Salisbury Road, Leicester LE1 7QR.



Joan Thirsk, who died in October 2013, was the leading agrarian historian of the late 20th century, and it is appropriate that a conference should be held at Leicester where she worked for 14 years. She is probably best known for her research into regional farming, but wrote much about rural industry, changing tastes and fashions, 'projects', and innovations in the rural economy. The conference is intended not to look back, but rather to identify Joan Thirsk's relevance for historians now, and to display new work which has been influenced and inspired by her.

## Farmers, consumers and innovators: the world of Joan Thirsk



A conference to be held at the University of Leicester

Saturday 20 September 2014.

## Programme

10.00. Registration, coffee.

10.30 Welcome

Morning 10.45-1.15

### Theme 1: Farmers and fields

(Chair: Richard Jones) (10.45-12.15)

**Tom Williamson**, Revisiting 'The Common Fields': settlement patterns and field systems in England, c. 800-1250

**James Bowen**, Early modern enclosure and agrarian communities in pastoral Shropshire

**Nicola Whyte**, The common fields and social relations in early modern Norfolk

### Theme 2: Innovations

(Chair: Andrew Hopper) (12.15-1.15)

**Craig Muldrew**, Were spinners an industrial workforce in the early modern countryside?

**Jon Stobart**, The village shop, 1660-1760: innovation and tradition

1.15-2.00 Lunch

**Round table on regions** (Chair: Chris Dyer) (2.00-2.45)

**John Broad, John Chartres, David Hey,**

Countries and regions in early modern England

**Theme 3: Consumers**

(Chair: Jane Whittle) (2.45- 4.15)

**Susan North**, Galloon, fringe, ribbon, inkle and points: purchasing fashionable dress and accessories in rural England 1550-1750

**Mark Dawson**, Oatcakes: farming and diet in the north midlands

**Richard Hoyle**, Peter Walkden and the world of goods: an early eighteenth century Lancashire consumer

4.15 Concluding remarks and tea.

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The Centre currently offers an MA in English Local History and from 2015 an MA in English Local History and Family History. There are also opportunities to study for an MPhil or to join our large community of PhD students.

More information can be found on the Centre's website: [www.le.ac.uk/elh/](http://www.le.ac.uk/elh/)



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