

# Special Interest Morning

**THE DAY PARLIAMENT BURNED DOWN**  
**with DR CAROLINE SHENTON**  
**AUGUST 31st, 10:00 AM**  
**RSVP 24th AUGUST**

### **The Lecturer**

Dr Caroline Shenton is an archivist and historian. She was formerly Director of the Parliamentary Archives in London, and before that was a senior archivist at the National Archives. Her book *The Day Parliament Burned Down* won the Political Book of the Year Award in 2013 and Mary Beard called it 'microhistory at its absolute best'. Its acclaimed sequel, *Mr Barry's War*, about the rebuilding of the Palace of Westminster, was a Book of the Year in 2016 for *The Daily Telegraph* and *BBC History Magazine* and was described by Lucy Worsley as 'a real jewel, finely wrought and beautiful'. Caroline was Political Writer in Residence at Gladstone's Library in 2017, has appeared at the Cheltenham, Hay and Henley literary festivals and on BBC radio and TV.

### **The Day Parliament Burned Down**

In the early evening of 16 October 1834, to the horror of bystanders, a huge conflagration destroyed Parliament's glorious old buildings and their contents. Based on the acclaimed book of the same name, this talk takes the audience through the gripping hour-by-hour story of the fire through contemporary depictions of the disaster by Turner, William Heath and others.

### **Mr Barry's War: Rebuilding the Houses of Parliament**

The Houses of Parliament is one of the most famous and staggering buildings in the world. It rises serenely from the Thames at Westminster, on a site which has been the centre of power and government in England from the earliest times. It is a masterpiece of Victorian architecture and a spectacular feat of civil engineering; but from the beginning, its design and construction were a battleground for its architect, Charles Barry. The practical challenges, were immense. Battling the political interference, soothing the genius of his partner Pugin, and coming in three times over budget and twenty-four years behind schedule, this lecture will tell the story of how Charles Barry created the most famous building in Britain.



## **Payment - Please sign and send**

Please pay \$50 using either of the methods below no later than Mon 24th August 2020. Participants will be registered strictly in order of receipt of application and payment. Guests may be invited but preference will be given to Members. To ensure your place at the Special Interest Morning, please return the slip below either by post or via email to [adfnewcastle@gmail.com](mailto:adfnewcastle@gmail.com)

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