

## Newcastle U3A General History Summary of Meeting April 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

### Welcome/ £1/Programme 2018/ News/ What's on? /Challenge

#### *'An Introduction to the Bayeux*

#### *Tapestry- What does it really tell us?*

#### *Part 1 Why did William win the battle of Hastings?' led by Catherine*

**Introduction:** Our aims today are to look closing at pictures of the tapestry and ask ourselves

- i) What do they tell us?
- ii) Are they reliable?
- iii) Why William won the battle?

What is the tapestry? The ppt slides illustrated that it was an embroidery Who made it? Possibilities of women or monks in Kent. However, this would be explored in part 2

**The tapestry:** Pre battle: The slides showed the activities of Harold with Edward and William especially the oath Harold might have made to William to support him becoming the new king. Harold wins the Battle of Stamford Bridge but then he made the decision to march a depleted army south soon after to fight William. Harold's army is tired and many left to go back to their farms.



**The battle: location is Senlac Hill.**

Preparations- William's professional army is well prepared and William appears to enjoy a meal the night before with his nobles.

9a.m. the battle begins. William's archers are seen going up Senlac Hill followed by the cavalry. Both have to retreat. By 12, William rests the men. Two more attacks are made by the Normans, Bretons and Flemish. Twice they turn and run in an effort to get Harold's men to break ranks and pursue them. The third time, it is too much for the English and they are defeated. Harold and his half brothers were killed.



**Working in twos or threes**, members received packs. They looked at a map tracing the journeys made by William and Harold.

Secondly, they matched Bayeux pictures to descriptions and tried to place in chronological order.

Thirdly, on a graphic organizer, they sorted the cards into those which told us why William won the battle

Members then **discussed** their findings

The slides recommenced with some scenes to look out for e.g. Harold's men tucking their clothes into their breeches as they entered the sea to embark on their boats!

The work was incomplete but the final scene depicted William and his men after the battle.

Plenary: Does it tell us why William won the battle?

Is it a reliable source?

Why/not?

The members were thanked for their participation