

# SE u3a Forum Summer School

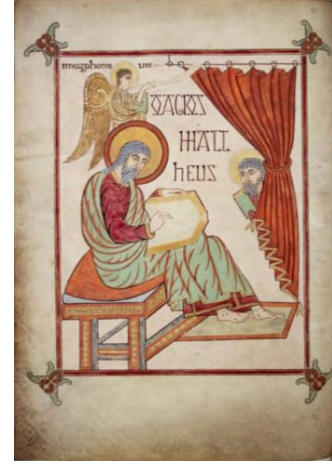
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

University of Chichester



## Irish & Anglo-Saxon Illuminated Manuscripts AD 600-1066 – Max 12

The origins of manuscript production will be traced from their first appearance in Ireland and the British Isles to the Norman Conquest. While Christianity was introduced to Britain during the Roman period the earliest texts survive from Ireland from where Anglo-Saxons learned the Latin language and manuscript production. The first modestly decorated books developed over some fifty years into such treasures as the Book of Durrow and other texts made at Lindisfarne, Wearmouth & Jarrow and other monasteries.



Lindisfarne Gospels  
BL Cotton MS Nero D.iv, f.2r

### Summer School Course - 2024

The first liturgical books to have survived from our period were made in Ireland and are incomplete texts and fragments. Their innovative decoration developed over the next decades and resulted in the first near-complete Gospel book to have survived in the Book of Durrow with its carpet pages and full-page portraits of the evangelist symbols; man, lion, calf and eagle.

We shall turn the book's pages to understand the arrangement of canon tables and other prefatory material to the Gospels and how they influenced the appearance of all subsequent texts. The illustrations in such works as the Lindisfarne Gospels and Book of Kells frequently had multiple layers of meaning which shall be explored.

Around 850 Viking raids and settlement all but ended manuscript production until a revival of the arts under King Alfred and his successors. Increased diplomatic contact with Europe along with the introduction of a continental inspired monastic revival transformed the character of liturgical book decoration.

*For further information please contact the tutor*

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