

King Charles I – Martyr or Tyrant by Dr. DAVID SMITH

Saturday 8th January 2022

The lecture will investigate the personality, beliefs and policies of Charles I, the only monarch in English history to be put on trial and publically executed. In particular, we will explore the extent of his responsibility for the outbreak of the English Civil War, and assess how far he brought his own fate upon himself. Throughout, we will consider whether he should be seen as a martyr or as a tyrant.



David L. Smith is Fellow, Director of Studies in History and Graduate Tutor at Selwyn College, Cambridge. His books include *Constitutional Royalism and the Search for Settlement, c 1640-1649* (1994), *A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603-1707: The Double Crown* (1998), *The Stuart Parliaments, 1603-1689* (1999), and (with Patrick Little) *Parliaments and Politics during the Cromwellian Protectorate*, (2007). He has edited (jointly with Patrick Little and Joel Halcomb), *Letters, Writings and Speeches of Oliver Cromwell, III: 1653-8* (forthcoming in 2022), and he has also co-edited several collections of essays, including most recently (with Thomas S. Freeman) *Biography and History in Film* (2019)