



A Silk Weaver at Work on the Loom

The Huguenots -Traces of a lost community

A Talk by Prof. Jackie Eales and Clive Bowley - 13th November 2025

England experienced two waves of Huguenot immigration - in the late C.16th and again in the late C.17th. Many of these settled in Canterbury and particularly in St Alphege parish, bringing with them weaving skills that transformed the economy of the City.

In time, they moved on, mostly to London. However, in the late C.18th, John Calloway revitalised the industry with his invention of 'Canterbury Muslin', establishing a large mill by the river at Kingsmead.

Today there are few physical traces of this once great industry, although Huguenot names remained evident in local businesses right through into the mid C.20th.

Professor Jackie Eales and **Clive Bowley** will be jointly giving a talk exploring the personalities and history of some of Canterbury's Huguenot families and looking the physical traces and topography of the weaving trade in the Blackfriars, Kingsmead and surrounding areas. The talks, illustrated with historic photos, prints and map views, will attempt to uncover the nature of the weaving industry as it existed in Canterbury in the C.17th and C.18th

Details of the talk:

- **Date / Time:** Thursday 13th November 2025 - 6.30 for a 7.00 start
- **Location:** The talk will be held at the **Dominican Guest House** (Beerling Hall). Access from St Peters Lane, Canterbury
- **Cost:** Tickets - £10.00 - to include a glass of wine— Please pay at the door
- **Booking:** Booking is advised. Please contact **Alan Roberton 7798645141** or spracanterbury@gmail.com