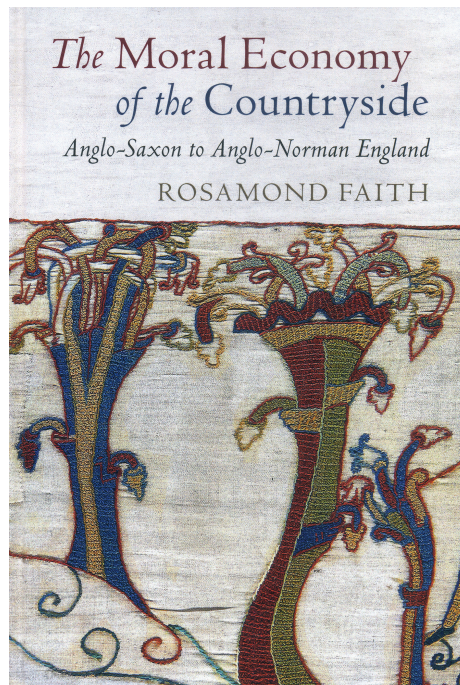


Joan Thirsk Memorial Prize 2020

The Society is pleased to announce that the Prize for 2020 has been awarded to Rosamond Faith, for her book, *The Moral Economy of the Countryside*, published by Cambridge University Press.



The President of the Society, Paul Brassley, writes: 'As in previous years, it is gratifying to see that 2019 produced an excellent crop of entries for the Thirsk Prize. They were all potential winners, and covered periods ranging from the eighth century to the twenty-first, but the judges were unanimous in awarding the prize to Rosamond Faith for her book, *The Moral Economy of the Countryside: Anglo-Saxon to Anglo-Norman England*. The book explores the structure of values and obligations in Anglo-Saxon landed society which determined whether behaviour was judged to be right or wrong, and explains how these ideas affected landholding. Concepts of rank, reciprocity, and worth were changed by the Norman Conquest, so by the twelfth century a formerly free peasantry owed regular labour and rent in cash or kind to a new class of landlords. The culmination of a lifetime's work, this book makes comprehensible a huge amount of knowledge, secondary literature and primary sources. Beautifully written, and sensibly priced, it's exactly the kind of book that Joan Thirsk would have enthused about.'