

# The Provisions

The official newsletter of  
Simon de Montfort 2014

July 2013

This was a busy summer 750 years ago. In the space of three weeks, Simon de Montfort had secured the Cinque Ports, the loyalty of London, and forced Henry, holed up in the Tower through most of it, to capitulate again on the Provisions. The king might have finally learned his lesson had his wife and son not been made of sterner stuff. As trusty John Mansel and archbishop Boniface were fleeing to the continent, Edward and the ever dependable Robert Walerand carried out their heist of the New Temple. With no deposit insurance in those days, all the Londoners could do was vent their fury on Queen Eleanor as she attempted to escape by water. Their assault on her barge from London Bridge took place on 13 July and I will be there, on the present structure, to mark the occasion with only the most symbolic of objects in hand.



London Bridge – the royals picked  
the wrong people to mess with

The recent dig carried out by the Sussex Archaeological Society turned up no new finds at Lewes. The museum will still have to go without any authentic artefacts before the anniversary celebration next year, but at least they got the BBC's attention. See the report here: <http://youtu.be/cryKhCCAgGw>

The annual Tewkesbury Medieval festival will be held on 13 and 14 July this year and the [Simon de Montfort Society](#) will man its own booth there. According to the website, the event features a wide range of period entertainment, including music, dance and drama as well as a collection of fascinating characters from the past. More about it here: <http://www.tewkesburymedievalfestival.org/index.htm>

I'm pleased to learn that [The Historian](#) has accepted my article *Before the Smoke Clears* for publication in its summer issue. Beyond merely retelling the murder of Henry of Almain, it vets one theory that Edward's kindness to Eleanor and concessions to her sons was all about atoning for Evesham, letting bygones be bygones. The Montforts were still a power on the continent and he didn't need the savagery of his Marcher friends hanging over his head. That he thought he had actually achieved something suggests he had either his father's innate naiveté in him or he was just being his usual conceited self.

Go to the [website](#) to subscribe or send an email to [provisions@simon2014.com](mailto:provisions@simon2014.com).