

# ADAM POUNTNEY

[adampountney496@gmail.com](mailto:adampountney496@gmail.com) or  
[adam@adamjpountney.com](mailto:adam@adamjpountney.com)

[linkedin.com/in/adampountney1](https://www.linkedin.com/in/adampountney1)

Cambridge  
England  
United Kingdom

[www.adampountney.com](http://www.adampountney.com)

Particularly interested in current affairs, the use of history in public life and the film and television industry.

## EXPERIENCE

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### **Deputy Editor of The Caistorian magazine** **Caistorians' Association**

Oct 2022 to present

Following four years of writing and proofreading, since 2022 I have served as the Deputy Editor of the Caistorian, the magazine of the Caistorians' Association. This is an unpaid, voluntary role.

My experience:

- Worked with the editor on an annual basis to create a stimulating, c. 44,000-word magazine for the entire cross-generational body (ages 18 - 95) of Caistor Grammar School alumni.
- Independently researched and wrote c. 2,500 - 3,000-word historical articles for the magazine on the school's history (e.g. about acclaimed mathematician and Victorian scholar Sir Thomas Little Heath; the school's ex-headmaster Anthony Bower).
- Copy-edited and proof-read multiple drafts of the magazine, ensuring contributions from various contributors (whether a retired newspaper journalist or an NHS Clinical Entrepreneur) align to the magazine's house style, are grammatically correct and easy to read.
- Organised social media engagement via Instagram to stimulate ex-students of an age 19 - 25 demographic to write for the magazine and pass news to the editor.
- Alongside the editor, oversaw the printing, delivery and distribution of the magazine (both via a bespoke 84-page printed copy and digital PDF copy) to our readership of c. 300 people.

### **Academic Tutor** **Freelance**

Jun 2019 to present

Since 2019, I have occasionally worked as an academic tutor, giving both general academic advice and more tailored history teaching to ex-secondary students.

My experience:

- Tutored an ex-secondary student on improving A-Level historical essay writing for examination, regarding both form and content, as well as making sure the requirements mandated by an exam board's mark scheme were fulfilled (in this case AQA).
- Advised an ex-secondary student looking to apply to university as a mature student on the form, content and tone of a personal statement, taking care to give specific tips on how to fulfill both clearly defined UCAS extracurricular and more vague 'supercurricular' requirements.

**Committee Member**  
**Caistorians' Association**

Oct 2018 to present

Since 2018, I have been a committee member of the Caistorians' Association, the official alumni organisation of Caistor Grammar School with a member base of c. 350 people. This is an unpaid, voluntary role.

My experience:

- Organised and delivered a series of annual alumni events, principally reunions held in the school. This required complex coordination with the school's leadership and site management team, as well as the creation of historical displays and the creation of tour routes to help a vast array of ex-students and staff (from ages twenty to ninety) reminisce and explore with ease.
- Organised and created teaching materials for an in-school 'Caistorian Day' in July 2022. Working with the chair of the committee, the school's Head of Sixth Form and the then-Assistant Head in group sessions, I used these materials to teach Year Seven students about aspects of the school's history they may not be aware of. This principally involved photographs, Google Maps data and acted-out reminiscences from the Caistorians' archive.
- Worked closely with the chair of the committee to continue the digitisation of the Caistorians' complex photographic and document archive, principally through scanning and transcribing. This includes materials dating back to the 19thC which require careful handling and preservation (e.g. glass plate photographs and surveyors' plans from the 1860s).
- Contributed to the Caistorian magazine by writing articles on an annual basis, copy-editing and proofreading.
- Coordinated digital-facing means of communicating with members (e.g. an email account, social media).

**President**  
**Christ's College History Society**

Jun 2021 to May 2022

I was one of the three co-presidents of the Christ's College History Society. This was an unpaid role for which I was selected by the fellows of Christ's College, Cambridge.

My experience:

- Organised and introduced a multimedia seminar event discussing changing practices in public history from the 20th to 21st centuries. This was attended by a prominent producer of history documentaries (for the BBC, ITV and History Channel) and author of public history books, alongside a leading Russell Group historian involved in geospatial analysis and the aural reconstruction of lost spaces.
- Hosted and coordinated a series of in-person academic seminars throughout the year, including a dissertation evening showcasing the research of undergraduate and MPhil history students.
- On behalf of college and university academics, hosted and introduced a hybrid in-person/Zoom seminar on the college's history.
- Managed the society's c. £2k budget (mandated by the college JCR) and in turn organised transport, accommodation and reimbursement for visiting guests attending seminar events.
- In collaboration with the college's catering department, arranged an important c. 35-head annual dinner for the college's History undergraduates, graduates and fellows, coordinating room booking, dietary requirements and a seating plan to make the event run as smoothly as possible.

**Performing Arts Technician**  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Jan 2019 to Jun 2019

I served as the Performing Arts Technician at Caistor Grammar School for the Spring and Summer terms in 2019. The role's remit primarily consisted of general administration within the school's Music Department during term time.

My experience:

- Worked directly with the Head of Music during lessons.
- Prepared teaching materials for use from Year 7 through to A-Level.
- Helped the school's peripatetic music teachers with timetabling and lesson management.
- Delivered weekly sessions as part of Trinity College London's Arts Award to a group of participating sixth-form students, supported by the Head of Music.
- Created and led a Performing Arts Evening, through which Arts Award students could work with younger students to actively carry out a series of arts workshops necessary for part of their award.
- Worked with teaching staff in the Music and English Departments during the planning and execution of many extra-curricular activities. These included House

- Plays, the whole school yearly production, school services, school concerts, and external trips (e.g. to the National Civil War Centre, Newark)
- Trained and possess knowledge regarding the practical application of child safeguarding legislation, particularly with respect to actively handling and working with confidential data on students and their welfare (through SIMS), both in school and during extra-curricular activities.
  - Underwent an enhanced DBS check and granted an Enhanced DBS Certificate (to be renewed as of December 2023).

**Examination Invigilator**  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Jun 2019

I worked as an invigilator at Caistor Grammar School during the Summer 2019 UK GCSE and A-Level examination series.

My experience:

- Overseen by the school's examinations officer, served as both as part of a invigilation team as well as a solo invigilator (dependent on the number of candidates sitting exams).
- Carefully handled and prepared confidential exam papers and additional materials with absolute discretion for timed examination.
- Possessed familiarity and preparedness to engage in emergency contingency measures in the case of disruptive events during an exam (e.g. fire).
- Personally responsible for ensuring exam rooms were secure environments which complied with JCQ regulations. This included ensuring candidates did not engage in any form of malpractice throughout the course of their timed examinations.

**EDUCATION**

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**MPhil in Modern British History**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**  
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Oct 2022 to Jun 2023

My papers:

The birth of BBC Two and a culture for modernity, c. 1964 - c. 1970 (Dissertation)  
Debates in Modern British History  
Interpreting Modern Ireland, 1845 to the present  
Modern Britain and the Caribbean  
Research Challenge

My experience:

- Independently researched and wrote a 20,000-word dissertation (supervised by Professor Peter Mandler) alongside three 4,000-word essays.
- Engaged in extensive archival research into programming and audience response at the BBC Written Archives.
- Conducted and recorded an in-person, c. five-hour oral history interview with an ex-BBC journalist/art historian, creating from this a 16,545-word transcript and audio files for archival use.
- Conducted two oral history interviews via Zoom with ex-BBC cinematographers.
- Assessed UK Treasury and broadcasting policies at the National Archives.
- Trained to run/handle 16mm film prints at the British Film Institute.
- Gave multiple presentations (e.g. on Irish history; a Fitzwilliam Museum exhibit).

**BA, History**

Oct 2019 to Jun 2022

**Christ's College, Cambridge**

**First class with distinction (Part I), First class (Part II)**

*Activities and societies: Christ's College History Society*

My Part I papers:

British economic and social history, since c. 1880

British political history, since 1880

European history, c. 900 to c. 1450

Film and Society, 1946-69: The remaking of national identities

The history of the United States from 1865

North American history, c. 1500 to 1865

My Part II papers:

The growth of popular topography in suburban London, c. 1910 – c. 1950 (Dissertation)

Historical argument and practice

Material culture in the early modern world

A Women's History of War, 1750 - 1815

My experience:

- Independently researched and wrote a 15,000-word dissertation (supervised by Professor Peter Mandler).
- Independently researched and wrote c. 2,500-word academic essays on a weekly basis.
- Conducted archival research at the Bishopsgate Institute on early 20thC British publishing.
- Studied museum skills (e.g. object handling, tombstoning).

- Used census data and Google Earth to map the member base of a notable yet unresearched 20thC London topographic society.

### **A-Levels**

Sep 2016 to Jun 2018

**Caistor Grammar School**

**5 A\* grades**

*Activities and societies: Secretary to the School Council (2017 - 2018), Caistor Focus, Church History Project, International Ambassadors, Young Enterprise*

I was a pupil at Caistor Grammar School from September 2011 to June 2018.

My A-Level results:

History - A\*

English Literature - A\*

Government and Politics - A\*

Religious Studies - A\*

General Studies - A\*

These results made me the highest performing student in my year.

### **GCSEs**

Sep 2014 to Jun 2016

**Caistor Grammar School**

**2 A\* grades, 4 A grades, 4 B grades**

*Activities and societies: Caistor Focus, Junior European Society, School Council*

I was a pupil at Caistor Grammar School from September 2011 to June 2018.

My GCSE results:

History - A\*

Religious Studies - A\*

English Literature - A

Geography - A

Music - A

Biology - A

English Language - B

Mathematics - B

Chemistry - B

Physics - B

### **IGCSE, German**

Sep 2014 to Jun 2016

**Caistor Grammar School**

**B grade**

*Activities and societies: Caistor Focus, Junior European Society, School Council*

I was a pupil at Caistor Grammar School from September 2011 to June 2018.

My IGCSE results:

German - B

**Primary education**  
**Scawby Primary School**

Sep 2004 to Jun 2011

## **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

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**Mrs Vincent Astor Prize in History**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Jun 2022

Awarded as I was the highest ranked Part II History student within my cohort from Christ's College, Cambridge.

**Postgraduate Scholarship**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Jun 2022

Awarded due to my Part II History examination performance.

**Robert Owen Bishop Postgraduate Studentship in History**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Jun 2022

Full funding for my MPhil in Modern British History. Awarded due to my Part I History examination performance and my placement within internal Faculty of History MPhil cohort ranking.

**Scholarship**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Dec 2021

Awarded due to Part I History examination performance.

**Mrs Vincent Astor Prize**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Sep 2021

Awarded as I was the highest ranked Part I History student within my cohort from Christ's College, Cambridge.

**Exhibition**  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Apr 2021

Awarded as financial recognition of my performance through the first two years of my course.

**Levy-Plumb Exhibition Prize in History** Dec 2020  
**Christ's College, Cambridge**

Awarded as recognition from both my supervisor and college of my high performance whilst studying North American history, c. 1500 to 1865.

**The Coppin Cup for Politics** Sep 2018  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Awarded as I was the highest ranked A-Level Government and Politics student within my cohort.

**The Headmaster's Cup for Secretary to the School Council** Sep 2018  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Awarded as recognition of my role in the Senior Prefect Team as one of two secretaries to the School Council.

**The Reverend Preston Cup** Sep 2018  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Awarded as I was the highest ranked overall A-Level student within my cohort.

**The Slater Cup for History** Sep 2018  
**Caistor Grammar School**

Awarded as I was the highest ranked A-Level History student within my cohort.

## **ORGANISATIONS**

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**Caistorians' Association** Oct 2018 to present

**Christ's College History Society** Jun 2021 to May 2022

## **LICENCES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

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**Enhanced DBS Certificate** Oct 2018  
**Disclosure and Barring Service**

## LANGUAGES

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**English:** Native proficiency

**French:** Elementary proficiency (CEFR A1)

**German:** Elementary proficiency (IGCSE in German)

## SKILLS

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### **Photographer** **Personal interest**

Oct 2018 to present

Since October 2018, I have been pursuing an interest in photography, teaching myself how to use both film and digital cameras.

Working with both media (although principally with film), I take a pure in-camera approach to exposure, metering and image-making, which brings me great pride and joy. Creating images in this manner gives me full awareness that the results desired have been photographed on the negative (or analogue positive in the case of slide film). The only digital alterations I perform are occasionally straightening images.

My photographs are all accessible on my website (see above).

My experience:

- Over five years' worth of experience working with a 35mm film camera and a set of well-maintained lenses, using black and white, colour negative and colour slide film.
- Over five years' worth of experience working with a digital DSLR consumer standard camera and two well-maintained zoom lenses, transferring an in-camera film approach to digital photography.
- Over two years' worth of experimentation with a large-format 120 film camera from the 1950s.

## OTHER INTERESTS

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Photography and cinema  
Art and architecture  
Current affairs