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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Family and a Fortune A book talk with author Rebecca Fraser

Newport, RI – September 2017 – On Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 5:30 pm, join author Rebecca Fraser for a talk based on her new book, “The Mayflower: The Families, the Voyage, and the Founding of America” (St. Martin’s Press, 2017). The book sheds new light on the Winslow family caught up in all the perils of crossing the ocean and settling in the wilderness. During her talk, Ms. Fraser will discuss a cache of unknown documents in London’s National Archives that she discovered during her research that show that a major court case developed between the son-in-law of Rhode Island Governor Benedict Arnold, Edward Pelham, and his half-sister Penelope, the wife of Governor Josiah Winslow. Born in England, Pelham married Freelove Arnold the youngest daughter of Governor Benedict Arnold and spent the rest of his life in Newport.

Rebecca Fraser is a writer and broadcaster whose previous work includes a biography of Charlotte Bronte, putting Charlotte in her proper context by examining her life within the framework of contemporary attitudes to women. Ms. Fraser was President of the Brontë Society for many years . She wrote the introduction to the Everyman Edition of “Shirley and the Professor” and is a contributor to the BBC History website. Her most recent book, “The Story of Britain” (W.W. Norton) is a highly readable account of British history.

“*The Mayflower: The Families, the Voyage, and the Founding of America*” takes place at the NHS Resource Center, 82 Touro Street, Newport, RI, and costs \$5 per person, \$1 for NHS members, active and retired military with ID. Reservations suggested as space is limited; call 401-841-8770. This program is generously sponsored by the Harborside Inn.

About the Newport Historical Society

Since 1854, the Newport Historical Society has collected and preserved the artifacts, photographs, documents, publications, and genealogical records that relate to the history of Newport County, to make these materials readily available for both research and enjoyment, and to act as a resource center for the education of the public about the history of Newport County, so that knowledge of the past may contribute to a fuller understanding of the present. For more information please visit www.NewportHistory.org.

*The Mayflower: The Families, the
Voyage, and the Founding of America*
by Rebecca Fraser
(St. Martin’s Press, 2017)

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