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In the belief that many features of the traditional accounts of the character and career of Richard III are neither supported by sufficient evidence nor reasonably tenable, the Society aims to promote in every possible way research into the life and times of Richard III, and to secure a re-assessment of the material relating to the period, and of the role in English history of this monarch

The Richard III Society is a nonprofit, educational corporation. Dues, grants and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Dues are \$35 annually for U.S. Addresses; \$40 for international. Each additional family member is \$5. Members of the American Society are also members of the English Society. Members also receive the English publications. All Society publications and items for sale may be purchased either direct at the U.K. Member's price, or via the American Branch when available. Papers may be borrowed from the English Librarian, but books are not sent overseas. When a U.S. Member visits the U.K., all meetings, expeditions and other activities are open, including the AGM, where U.S. Members are welcome to cast a vote.

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Your ad in the Register will reach an audience of demonstrated mail buyers and prime prospects for books on the late medieval era, as well as for gift items and other merchandise relating to this period. They are also prospects for lodging, tours and other services related to travel in England or on the continent. Classified advertising rates for one-time insertions: Full Page: \$150; Half Page: \$75; Quarter Page: \$50.

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EDITORIAL LICENSE

Carole Rike

Susan Higginbotham debuts in this issue with an article on the King's Mother-in-Law, the little known Countess of Warwick. Susan's historical novel about Edward II, *The Traitor's Wife,* won the silver award for historical fiction in *ForeWord Magazine*'s 2005 Book of the Year Awards.

Geoffrey Wheeler did his usual yeoman's job of producing short-notice artwork for the cover. Thanks to both Susan and Geoffrey for their efforts.

Myrna is here, in her usual rare form, with a theme of summer vacations and Charlie Jordan and his helpers have produced another Ricardian puzzle for your education and entertainment.

We have some news from the Chapters, a diary of the 2006 Ricardian Tour and a word from our new Chairman, who officially took office on October 2. I have continued to list the old board (at left), as this is the last issue of that board's year; the Winter issue, due shortly, will feature the new board.

Look for renewed energy and involvement from your newly elected board. We have had an all-female board for a number of years; while I firmly believe that if you need a job done, get a woman, this may have not have been best for us. I suspect we badly needed an infusion of energetic male participation. I use the word "suspect" to protect me from my fellow sex and provide wiggle room just in case I'm all wet!

On a personal note, we are now mostly settled in our new home, although I continue to miss New Orleans and many facets of my old life. I am learning all the joys (and problems!) of country life. Among what I miss the most is having an orderly library — and people to talk to who read books.

We are almost caught up with the *Register*. Thanks for hanging in there.

ON THE COVER

Anne Beauchap, Countess of Warwick, from the Rous Role (English Version - British Library)

Lower right, detail from the family tree drawing in "The Beauchamp Pageant" (British Library)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings fellow Ricardians!



The American Branch has faced significant challenges in recent years. Hurricane Katrina, busy schedules and competing priorities have each taken their toll upon our membership. While these are setbacks, we are not defeated. King Edward IV and our Richard faced exile in Burgundy, yet they did not give up — and neither shall we do so.

While the American Branch was unable to conduct our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2006, the Executive Board submitted their reports and these will be included in the Winter issue. The Board was hard at work and the Society remains

strong. On an even more encouraging note, as a result of the first board meeting of 2007 I am happy to report that we are moving forward on four key fronts: revitalizing the non-fiction and fiction libraries; working on the 2007 AGM; building our membership; and raising our public profile.

I encourage each of you to get involved in the Society in some way. If you have internet access, there is almost always at least one interesting thread being discussed on the Richard III members-only listserv. Consider getting involved with your local Chapter. If you have several local members, but no local Chapter, consider starting a local Chapter. Buy and wear a Ricardian pin or a t-shirt and be prepared to answer questions about "the Real Richard III." Put an "In Memoriam" ad in your local newspaper this 25th of August. Write an article for this publication. Set up a Ricardian booth at a local Renaissance Faire. Involvement in the Society or in promoting Ricardian themes can only be limited by your own imagination.

The future of the American Branch is bright because of the dedication of its membership. I look forward to a year of renewal and resurgence in the Richard III Society, American Branch.

Loyaulte me Lie,

Wayne Ingalls Chairman

RESEARCH & FICTION LIBRARIANS APPOINTED

Several outstanding volunteers volunteered for the positions of librarian. The Board's final choice was heavily weighted towards those in proximity to the old librarians and able to assist with inventory transfer. The cost of shipping books from one place to another can be quite expensive for the Society.

New librarians are Brad Verity (Research) and Gilda Felt (Fiction).

Many thanks to Ananaia O'Leary and Jean Kvam for their past service. The libraries are a serious commitment for a member to undertake and carry the dual responsibility for the safekeeping of Society property, as well as service to the membership.

Thanks also to Helen Maurer, past Research Librarian, who assisted the Board in planning and selection of new officers.

BOOK DONATIONS

The Board plans to designate a new position to accept Book Donations.

We have several recent offers of books donated to the Society, which always presents a transportation problem and a need to match the donations with what we have in our library, culling duplicates.



More details will be available in the next Register.

The King's Mother-in-Law: Anne Beauchamp, Countess of Warwick

Susan Higginbotham

Wife to a kingmaker and mother to a queen, Anne Beauchamp, Countess of Warwick, is nonetheless one of the more shadowy figures caught up in the Wars of the Roses. Yet her life intersected with those of the most powerful men of the time, and her wealth would be much desired by some of those men.

The Bride

Anne was the daughter of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and his second wife, Isabel le Despenser, who married at Hanley Castle on November 26, 1423. Richard Beauchamp had served Henry V and later served as tutor to the young Henry VI, a role in which he carried the king to his coronation. The earl would continue to serve Henry VI as an adult.

Though Richard's marriage was one of state—Isabel was sole heiress to the Despenser family fortune—it evidently was not without its sentimental side. Richard was inspired to write a ballad in honor of Isabel, twenty years his junior, though the work may be that of his secretary John Shirley. One stanza reads:

her flourying youthe in lustynesse grownded in vertuous humblesse causeth that she cleped is mystresse I yow ensure¹

Isabel herself was a patroness of John Lydgate, who wrote "Fifteen Joys of Our Lady" at her commission.

Richard had married Isabel in hopes of begetting a son, and Isabel soon obliged by producing Henry, who was born on March 22, 1425 at Hanley Castle. Anne, born at Caversham, followed in September 1426. With the prospect of inheriting the Beauchamp and Despenser estates, little Henry was a very attractive catch, and he was soon snapped up by Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, as a husband for his daughter Cecily. Henry did not come cheap: the Neville family paid the Beauchamp family 4,700 marks for the marriage, and agreed to another match to boot: that between Anne Beauchamp and Richard Neville. Michael Hicks places the double wedding at Abergavenny at about May 1436. Anne Beauchamp would have been nine; her husband, born on November 22, 1428, seven.

Where the prepubescent Anne stayed after her marriage does not seem to be known. Richard Beauchamp having been appointed as Henry VI's lieutenant in France, he, Isabel, and Henry sailed there in 1437 amid violent storms. Their voyage is recalled in The Beauchamp Pageant, which pictures the three of them lashed to a mast of the ship and praying mightily, along with the sailors below. Anne is neither pictured on the ship nor mentioned in the accompanying text; perhaps she had remained in England. If she did, she never saw her father again, for on April 30, 1439, Richard Beauchamp died at Rouen Castle, aged fifty-seven. His body was carried to St. Mary's Church near Warwick Castle, where his effigy can still be seen in all of its bronze splendor. Isabel returned with the body of her husband to England in October 1439, but fell ill and went to the Convent of the Minoresses in London, where she died on December 1 of that same year, after having been visited during her last illness by Henry VI himself. Isabel chose burial at Tewkesbury Abbey with her first husband and her Despenser forebears; the chantry she established there still survives. Isabel left a will giving precise details as to the design of her effigy. She directed:

And my Image to be made all naked, and no thing on my hede but myn here cast bakwardys . . . and at my hede Mary Mawdalen leyng my handes a-crosse, And seynt Iohn the Evangelyst on the ryght syde of my hede; and on the left syde Seynt Anton, and at my fete a Skochen of my Armes departyed with my lordys . . .²

Sadly, if Isabel's tomb was made to her specifications, it no longer survives.

With both Richard Beauchamp and Isabel le Despenser dead, Henry Beauchamp entered the household of Henry VI. Anne presumably went to live with her young husband's family, if she had not been living with them already. When Anne and Richard began living together as a married couple is not known; their first child was not born until 1451. In 1449, however, their lives changed dramatically. Henry Beauchamp died in 1446, survived by a young daughter, Anne, who died herself in 1449. Within days of the girl's death, Richard Neville became Earl of Warwick in the right of Anne Beauchamp.

Both of Anne's parents had been great landowners. Anne's right to their land was not uncontested, as she had half-sisters or their issue from both her parents' first marriages. Michael Hicks in *Warwick the Kingmaker* and elsewhere has described the machinations with regard to the Beauchamp-Despenser inheritance in painstaking

The King's Mother-in-Law

detail, and to even summarize it here would take pages. Suffice it to say that owing largely to the fact that Anne was her brother's only sibling of the full blood, most of the land ended up under Warwick's control and stayed there until his death at the Battle of Barnet. Richard Neville and Anne Beauchamp had not only become an earl and a countess, but a very wealthy couple.

What was their marriage like? Was Anne loyal and loving, or sullen and subservient? Nothing, sadly, tells us. Warwick was not always faithful to his wife, for he had at least one out-of-wedlock child, Margaret, who married Sir Richard Huddleston in 1464, Warwick having provided a marriage portion of two hundred pounds and some land. (Margaret would attend her half-sister Anne Neville when the latter became Queen of England.) Male infidelity, however, was not regarded with the opprobrium that attended female infidelity (even the censorious Richard III produced two and possibly three bastards), so it is more likely than not that Anne Beauchamp accepted her husband's straying, on whatever scale it was, with resignation. Still, the Earl of Warwick was dutiful in honoring the memory of his wife's parents, and Anne would be by his side throughout the events of his later career, facts that tend to suggest that their marriage was at least a companionable one.

Anne Beauchamp evidently had difficulty conceiving children, as would her daughter Anne Neville. It was not until September 1451 that the countess gave birth to her eldest daughter, Isabel, in Warwick Castle. Anne was twenty-five at the time, a late age to start childbearing when noble girls routinely married in their early teens and began having babies soon thereafter. She may well have suffered miscarriages or stillbirths, for in 1453 she obtained a papal dispensation to eat eggs and meat in Lent because she was "weakened by former illnesses and the birth of children." It was not until June 1456 that Anne Neville was born, also at Warwick Castle.

Child-bearing, however, was not Anne's only preoccupation during this time. Her residence at Warwick Castle would have allowed her to supervise closely the construction of her father's tomb and chantry at nearby St. Mary's Church. The work, which was completed by 1460, was an enormously expensive undertaking—2,400 pounds for the chapel and 720 pounds for the tomb—and the impressive results can still be seen today.

Certainly the most significant events for Anne at this stage in her life, though, was the political strife between the houses of Lancaster and York that had engulfed the nation, a conflict in which her husband was increasingly playing a leading role.

In May 1457, Warwick's appointment as captain of Calais took him overseas. Anne, and probably her

daughters, accompanied him. She was most likely still there when Warwick, having returned to England, and other leading Yorkists staged an uprising and were routed at Ludford. Warwick, his father the Earl of Salisbury, and the Earl of March-the future Edward IV-fled to Calais, where they arrived in November 1459. In June 1460, the three earls returned to England, and the Yorkists had soon seized control of the government. Warwick found time in August 1460 to hasten back to Calais and bring both his wife and his mother, and presumably his daughters, back to England. Anne went to Warwick Castle, where she perhaps stayed for the next few months. They must have been terrifying ones as England erupted into war again after the Duke of York tried to claim the crown. Warwick's father was executed after the Battle of Wakefield, while the Duke of York was killed in the battle. Ultimately, though, the Yorkists prevailed. By March 1461 a new king, Edward IV, was on the throne.

Anne's life over the next few years would be a quiet, somewhat shadowy one. Warwick's household was famous for its open-handed, ostentatious hospitality; presumably the countess played her part in making certain each morning's five oxen were duly prepared. By 1465, her future son-in-law Richard, the Duke of Gloucester, had arrived in the Warwick household, where he would remain until 1468 or early 1469. Anne, her husband, her daughters, and young Gloucester are all recorded as being at the September 1465 enthronement of George Neville as Archbishop of York. Other than this, little is known about Anne's whereabouts.

Tensions were building between Edward IV and Warwick, however. For some time, Warwick and Edward IV's brother George, Duke of Clarence, had been discussing a match between George and Warwick's oldest daughter, Isabel. A papal dispensation was obtained in March 1469, despite Edward IV's objection to the match, and in July 1469, the wedding took place in Calais. Both Anne and her husband witnessed the ceremony.

Anne's next trip overseas, in April 1470, would be far different. This time, her husband and Clarence were on the run from Edward IV, and they took Anne and her daughters, including the heavily pregnant Isabel, with them. While the family was still aboard ship, Isabel went into labor. Anne Beauchamp, described by John Rous as "glad to be at and with women that travailed of child," would be sorely tasked on this occasion; the boy, Anne Beauchamp's first grandchild, was stillborn on April 16, 1470, and had to be buried at sea, the fugitives having been turned away from the harbor at Calais. It was a bad portent; not quite a year later, Anne Beauchamp would be a widow.

In the meantime, Warwick regrouped. Landing in France, he soon allied himself with his old enemy Margaret of Anjou, arranging as part of their agreement that his younger daughter, Anne Neville, should marry Henry VI and Margaret's seventeen-year-old-son, Edward, Prince of Wales. Warwick and his countess have been castigated for making such a match, particularly by historical novelists who portray Anne Neville and Richard of Gloucester as childhood sweethearts and Prince Edward as a brute, but Anne Neville, the co-heiress to a fortune and the daughter of a couple who themselves had married well before their teens, would not have been brought up to expect to marry for love. And had her father's plans for her succeeded, she would have been married to no mean catch-a future king. In any case, though Prince Edward was described by one witness as always talking about cutting off heads-perhaps an understandable state of mind for a youth who had been deprived of his birthright as heir to the throne-there is no indication that he ever included Anne Neville in the list of those he intended to axe.

With Edward and Anne Neville betrothed and awaiting a dispensation, Warwick rejoined his fleet in August. He would never see his wife or daughters again. Anne Beauchamp and her daughters remained with Margaret. By September, Warwick and his son-in-law Clarence had arrived in England, forcing Edward IV to flee abroad. Henry VI was once again the king, though a nominal one controlled by his councilors.

Anne Neville married Prince Edward on December 13, 1470, at Amboise. Along with Margaret of Anjou, Anne Beauchamp was present at the ceremony. Margaret, Edward, Anne Neville, and Anne Beauchamp remained in France, though Isabel left to join Clarence in England. By March, Margaret and the rest were ready to embark for England, but the weather had other plans and kept them there until April 13, 1471, when they finally set sail.

When Anne Beauchamp, traveling separately from Margaret and the newlyweds, arrived in Portsmouth, it was to a changed world. Edward IV had returned to England; Clarence had deserted Warwick's cause. Worse was to come with her husband's death at the Battle of Barnet on April 14, 1471, Easter Sunday. Hearing the news, Anne Beauchamp did not join Margaret's party, which had landed at Weymouth. Instead, she headed for Beaulieu Abbey, where she claimed sanctuary. The Earl of Warwick's body, along with that of his brother, was taken to St. Paul's Cathedral. There the brothers' bodies were stripped except for loincloths and exposed to public view for three days before finally being taken to Bisham Abbey, the resting place of their family, for burial.



Remains of Bealieu Abbey, Hampshire Afer the Battle of Barnet, Queen Margaret and the Countess of Warwick took refuge here. The Queen stayed only a few days, the Countess remained for 14 years

Though the war was already over for Anne Beauchamp, the last gasp of the Lancastrian cause came several weeks later at the Battle of Tewkesbury, where Prince Edward was killed. Henry VI met his death, presumably through murder, soon thereafter, in May 1471.

With victory came spoils for Edward IV's younger brothers. Anne's other son-in-law, George, Duke of Clarence, promptly set about claiming Warwick's and his widow's lands, disregarding the rights of his sister-in-law, Anne Neville, and his mother-in-law, Anne Beauchamp. Richard, Duke of Gloucester, not one to sit by and let his brother collect all the Warwick spoils, then pressed for the widowed Anne Neville's hand in marriage. Thus began a sordid episode out of which Anne Beauchamp would emerge without an acre of land to call her own.

The Widow

Gloucester's role in the disinheritance of Anne Beauchamp has been downplayed by his defenders, most notably Paul Murray Kendall, who paints a touching picture of Richard settling for a paltry share of the Warwick inheritance before marrying his sweetheart Anne Neville and escaping court "to breathe the free air of the moors."³ Richard then gallantly rescues his mother-in-law from Beaulieu and has her taken north.

The reality was rather different. Gloucester may well have had an affection for Anne Neville, whom he had presumably known when he was staying in her father's household, but he was hardly a lovesick boy helpless against the machinations of Clarence. Instead, he argued vigorously for his share of the inheritance, impressing the Crowland chronicler, who wrote, "All who stood around, even those learned in the law, marveled at the profusion of the arguments which the princes produced for their own cases."⁴ Richard, meanwhile, took care to preserve his rights in Anne Neville's lands; should their marriage be dissolved, he would retain a life interest in her estates, provided that he remained single.

While others were carving up her estates, Anne

The King's Mother-in-Jaw

Beauchamp remained in Beaulieu Abbey. She was very much aware that she was the rightful owner of the Beauchamp and Despenser lands that she had inherited from her parents, as well of her jointure and dower rights in her husband's lands. From sanctuary, she wrote a petition to Parliament, reminding it, in absence of clerks, she hath written letters in that behalf to the king's highness with her own hand, and not only making such labours, suits, and means to the king's highness, soothly also to the queen's good grace, to my right redoubted lady the king's mother, to my lady the king's eldest daughter, to my lords the king's brethren, to my ladies the king's sisters, to my lady of Bedford, mother to the queen, and to other ladies noble of this realm; in which labours, suits, and means, she hath continued hitherto, and so will continue, as she owes to do, till it may please the king, of his most good and noble grace, to have consideration that, during the life of her said lord and husband, she was covert baron, which point she remits to your great wisdoms, and that after his decease, all the time of her being in the said sanctuary, she hath duly kept her fidelity and liegeance, and obeyed the king's commandments. Howbeit, it hath pleased the king's highness, by some sinister information to his said highness made, to direct his most dread letters to the abbot of the monastery of Beaulieu, with right sharp commandment that such persons as his highness sent to the said monastery should have guard and strait keeping of her person, which was and is to her great heart's grievance.

The countess went on to ask Parliament "to ponder and weigh in your consciences her right and true title of her inheritance, as the earldom of Warwick and Spencer's lands, to which she is rightfully born by lineal succession, and also her jointure and dower of the earldom of Salisbury aforesaid."⁵

The petition went for naught, and the lands were partitioned between the countess's sons-in-law, though neither Clarence nor Gloucester was happy with his shares. The squabbling was still going on in June 1473, when James Tyrell finally conveyed Anne Beauchamp out of sanctuary to Richard's estates, giving rise to rumors that Edward IV might bestow all of her lands upon Gloucester. Gloucester might have been motivated partly out of family feeling, and Anne Beauchamp may have found living in his household more congenial than living in sanctuary, but a change of scene was all she gained from the move. Indeed, in an act of Parliament in 1474, she was declared naturally dead, thereby allowing her daughters - and, more important, her sons-in-law - to hold her estates as if by inheritance. Gloucester, though he did not gain all of her estates as rumored, did gain a more satisfactory share than he had before. Anne Beauchamp was

left with nothing. She would be utterly dependent on her son-in-law for her welfare for years to come.

The countess was not the only Neville who was stripped of her property. Gloucester also benefited from a 1475 act of Parliament, this time depriving George Neville, Duke of Bedford and son to the John Neville who had died at Barnet, of his share in the Neville lands. The 1475 act was the tidying up of old business: Gloucester had already received most of the Neville land in 1471, though as neither the Earl of Warwick nor John Neville had been attainted, the lands were rightfully George Neville's. Now Parliament decreed that Richard and his heirs would hold the Neville lands as long as there was any male heir of John Neville alive. Further fleecing of George Neville took place in 1478, when George was stripped of his dukedom. Gloucester had control of George's wardship and marriage; though Kendall viewed this as another instance of benevolence on Gloucester's part, Gloucester had sound reasons for wanting to keep a close eye on the shorn sheep that was George Neville, lest the youth grow into a man unhappy about the loss of his lands. As it turned out, George Neville never did marry, and died without male heirs shortly before Gloucester took the throne as Richard III.

Anne Beauchamp's next years are a blank. Where she lived and how closely she was kept are unknown. Rous would later accuse Richard of having locked her up, and she might well have been under some sort of house arrest, though presumably of a genteel sort. Alexandra Sinclair reports that a servant of hers is recorded as buying goods in York, but this says nothing about the size of the household she was allowed to keep.

The countess's older daughter, Isabel, died in 1476 and was buried in Tewkesbury Abbey, the burial place of Anne Beauchamp's mother and her Despenser forebears. Whether Anne Beauchamp had any contact with Isabel before the latter's death is unknown, as are her thoughts when Clarence had Isabel's servant Ankarette Twynyho hung on charges of poisoning Isabel.

Even after her youngest daughter became queen in 1483, Anne Beauchamp remained in obscurity. She played no role in the coronation and is not recorded as being present. According to Michael Hicks, however, on July 1, 1484, she was allocated eighty pounds a year, an allowance that Hicks believes meant that she was released from Richard III's custody and allowed to set up her own household. This was a paltry sum given the wealth that she had once commanded, especially since it would have been in Richard's power as king to treat her more generously.

The Countess of Warwick, however, had not forgotten her birthright. After Richard III's death at Bosworth, she succeeded in getting a grant of 500 marks per year from Henry VII in 1486, and in the Parliament of 1487, she was restored to her estates. This restoration was evidently only a straw arrangement, for she promptly regranted her lands to the Crown, except for the manor of Erdington, which she reserved for herself and her heirs. It has been pointed out that this resulted in the disinheritance of her grandson, the young Edward, Earl of Warwick, but it is highly unlikely that she had any choice in the matter.

The countess had two surviving grandchildren at the time, both by her daughter Isabel. Edward had been ordered confined to the Tower in 1486, so his imprisonment would have probably warned Anne Beauchamp of the necessity of moving cautiously around the new king. The young earl continued to be the heir to his Montague estates, though, so Anne Beauchamp may have hoped that he would be eventually be released and restored to the rest of his inheritance as well. She had no way of knowing, of course, that by 1499, Warwick would be executed, ostensibly for his involvement with Perkin Warbeck, more likely to reassure Ferdinand and Isabella, whose daughter was to marry Henry VII's son Arthur, that Arthur would have a safe hold on the throne. On the other hand, Anne Beauchamp would have seen her granddaughter Margaret living comfortably at court; the young girl was present at the christening of Prince Arthur in 1486 and at the coronation of Elizabeth of York in 1487. Sometime during this period, Margaret married Sir Richard Pole. Anne could not have foreseen either that this grandchild too would die at an executioner's hands, at the command of Henry VIII in 1541.

Anne Beauchamp's fortunes improved further in December 1489, when she was granted many of her ancestral lands for life and appointed principal keeper of the forest of Wychwood. The last years of her life were uneventful, though there was a plan to drag the countess back into the world of conspiracy once more in 1491. In that year, John Taylor, who was attempting to provoke an uprising in favor of the Earl of Warwick, wrote a letter to a co-conspirator suggesting that Anne Beauchamp be solicited to aid the movement by writing to the King of France for his support. If the aged countess ever received such a request, nothing indicates that she was so foolish as to act on it. She died before September 20, 1492, having outlived both her daughters and her sons-in-law and having lived through all or part of the reigns of Henry VI, Edward IV, Richard III, and Henry VII.

The Beauchamp Pageant

Several historians have credited Anne Beauchamp with commissioning *The Beauchamp Pageant*, a pictorial celebration of the life of Anne's father, Richard Beauchamp.

Illustrated in pen and ink by an unknown artist, the *Pageant*'s text is thought by some to be the work of John Rous. Rous was a chantry priest in Guy's Cliffe, a foundation established by Anne Beauchamp's father, and he was well acquainted with Anne's family. Rous had presented *The Rous Roll*, a history of the Earls of Warwick, to Richard III and his queen.

Kathleen Scott suggests that the *Pageant* was presented to Henry VII by Anne Beauchamp as part of her attempt to be restored to her estates. As Alexandra Sinclair points out, however, the manuscript depicts a crowned (and humpless) Richard III in a page devoted to genealogy, a touch Henry VII was unlikely to appreciate. The inclusion of the bothersome young Earl of Warwick and his sister, less threatening only because of her gender, would not have appealed to the insecure new king either.

Anne Sutton and Livia Visser-Fuchs, later echoed by Alexandra Sinclair, suggest an alternative explanation: that the manuscript was commissioned by Anne Beauchamp for the benefit of Richard III's son Edward as an example of the "chivalric virtues of marital prowess and service to king and country"⁶ exemplified by Richard Beauchamp. Sinclair also points out that some of the roundrels and shields in the genealogy have been left blank and that this unfinished state of affairs can be explained by the prince's sudden death in 1484.

Citing Anne Beauchamp's impoverished condition after the Battle of Barnet, Pamela Tudor-Craig disputes the idea that the countess commissioned the Pageant. She suggests that the king and queen themselves were the patrons. While this cannot be ruled out, it seems likely that Anne Beauchamp, as a living connection to Richard Beauchamp, would have played a role in the Pageant's creation, if not as patron, then at least as a consultant. Moreover, if the Pageant was indeed intended for the prince, it is quite possible that the expenses the countess incurred for the project would have been subsidized by the king and queen. The possibility that Anne Beauchamp commissioned the Pageant for her own eyes and that its completion was interrupted by Rous's death in January 1492 may be worthy of consideration also, given the lack of any hard evidence as to its date.

It is a pity that the *Pageant* cannot be traced decisively to a specific patron or purpose, for knowing definitely that it was commissioned by Anne Beauchamp for her grandson would tend to indicate that there was at least domestic harmony, if not great affection, between Anne Beauchamp and her royal son-in-law and daughter following her dispossession from her estates. As it is, its provenance remains another medieval puzzle missing a final piece.

The Countess in Fiction

Where historians have to speculate and speak in terms of probabilities, novelists can happily fill in blanks. As Richard III remains a popular subject for fiction, the women surrounding him have come in for their fair share of attention too, most often in a manner that shows the king in the best possible light.

Though usually a bit player in such novels, the Countess of Warwick is the heroine of one work of historical fiction, Sandra Wilson's Wife to the Kingmaker. As children, Anne and Warwick loathe each other on first sight and eventually settle into a chilly marriage, consummated forcibly by Warwick at his father's insistence. Rather abruptly, the couple's feelings shift from distaste for each other to love. Nonetheless, Anne, feeling neglected, strays into an affair with her brother-in-law John Neville, though conscience and a revival of her love for Warwick lead her to end the liaison. A lovelorn John drunkenly reveals the affair to Edward IV, who uses the secret to terrorize Anne into keeping quiet about her knowledge of Edward's marriage to Eleanor Butler. Widowed, Anne spends a whopping six years in Beaulieu Abbey before Edward IV, trusting to her good faith and to his execution of Clarence to keep Anne silent, agrees to release her into the care of the selfless Richard. The novel ends with the countess happily on her way north to the home of her daughter Anne and her son-in-law Richard.

Other novels in which Anne appears as a character take a similar tack, following Kendall in treating Anne's stay with Richard as an instance of his generosity of character and ignoring or minimizing the loss of Anne's lands. The most florid of the bunch, Rosemary Hawley Jarman's *We Speak No Treason*, contains a moving scene in which the Countess of Warwick, aged and feeble, totters into Richard's great hall following her stay in sanctuary, her arrival there having been arranged as a surprise for Anne Neville. (Historically, the doddering countess would have been only in her forties at the time of her arrival in Richard's household.)

Sharon Penman's portrait of Anne Beauchamp in *The Sunne in Splendour* is somewhat more developed than most, though strangely unsympathetic for an author who usually summons up some feeling for even her most problematic characters. Anne is portrayed as a blindly devoted wife and as an indifferent mother who callously promotes her husband's ambitions by forcing Anne into marriage with Prince Edward, and she is condemned for heading to sanctuary rather than to her daughters' side following the Battle of Barnet. Once she is in sanctuary, she makes her situation worse by writing blistering letters to Anne Neville and Richard, who are so high-minded that they rescue her from sanctuary anyway. No sooner does Anne arrive in the couple's household than she picks a fight with her daughter, who takes the opportunity to heap guilt upon her mother by informing her that her forced marriage with Edward has made it difficult for her to enjoy sexual relations with Richard as well as she should. Though Penman's novel is well researched, she, like other Ricardian novelists, largely glosses over the episode of the living-dead countess, treating Richard as the chief injured party in the transaction and Clarence as the only brother motivated by greed.

Reay Tannahill's The Seventh Son is a welcome exception to the Ricardian party line. Though Tannahill is more sympathetic to Richard than otherwise, she portrays Richard as Clarence's match in land-grabbing. Richard lays claim not only to the estates of the Countess of Warwick, but to those of the Countess of Oxford. ("Another old lady!" he mutters at one point.) Richard has Anne Beauchamp fetched out of sanctuary to humor the pregnant Anne Neville, but makes no bones about his desire for his mother-in-law's estates and sends her off to a faraway manor to get her out of his hair. The Countess of Warwick, refreshingly, is quite the opposite of grateful when she arrives in the Gloucester household: "You and your appalling brother George have stolen everything from me," she snaps at Gloucester. Tannahill's view of Richard as a ruthless young man not squeamish about running roughshod over others' rights when it suits his purpose, though not one that will endear her to hardcore Ricardians, is probably close to the truth-at least as far as the Countess of Warwick was concerned.

Conclusion

Like many women of her time, Anne Beauchamp is known to us chiefly because of the men associated with her-her knightly father, her ambitious husband, her covetous sons-in-law. Even when her younger daughter became Queen of England, Anne Beauchamp remained in the shadows. Nonetheless, she left an impression on one man, who left us with an enduring description of a woman he probably knew well. Writing that the "good lady had in her days great tribulation for her lord's sake," John Rous concluded that the countess was ever a full devout lady in God's service, free of her speech, to every person familiar according to her and their degree, glad to be at and with women that travailed of child, full comfortable and plenteous then of all things that should be helping to them, and in her tribulations she was ever to the great pleasure of God full patient, to the great merit of her own soul and example of all others that were vexed with any adversity. She was also gladly ever companionable and liberal and in her own person seemly and beauteous, and to all that drew to her ladyship, as the deed showed, full good and gracious.⁷²

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NEW RICHARD III SOCIETY COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE IN CROMER

On Saturday 2 June the Norfolk Branch plans to inaugurate a new Richard III Society plaque at Cromer, on the north Norfolk coast. The plaque will commemorate the arrival of Edward IV and his brother, Richard Duke of Gloucester, at Cromer on 12 June 1471, on their return from exile in the Low Countries. All members of the society are warmly invited to attend this event.

Cromer was a well-known port in the fifteenth century, and we know the names of a number of Cromer merchants and ship-owners (and their vessels) which had dealings with Sir John Howard in the 1460s. When Edward IV and his brother Richard were returning from exile in the Low Countries at the beginning of March 1471, they made straight for the coast of loyal, Yorkist Norfolk, hoping to land at Cromer.

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- 1. Brindley, p. 110.
- 2. King, p. 309.
- 3. Kendall, p. 128.
- 4. Quoted in Hicks, Anne Neville, p. 137.
- 5. Wood, 100-04.
- 6. Sutton and Visser-Fuchs, p. 148.
- 7. Introduction, *The Rous Roll*, p. xviii. The modern English is that of Charles Ross.

About the Author

Susan Higginbotham has worked as an attorney and an editor and currently works for a legal publisher. Her historical novel, *The Traitor's Wife: A Novel of the Reign of Edward II*, was published in 2005 and is about one of Anne Beauchamp's maternal ancestors, Eleanor de Clare.

The new plaque will be unveiled in the early afternoon of Saturday 2 June 2007, thus giving members of the Society from other parts of the country, plenty of time to reach Cromer. Trains to Cromer run regularly from Norwich station, and if visitors need help with planning their journey, the Norfolk Branch will be glad to provide this. In addition to inaugurating the new plaque, we plan also to visit parts of old Cromer, including the parish church, completed in 1437 — a landmark which Edward IV and his brother must have seen in 1471, whether or not they landed. There will also, of course, be time for tea!

> John Ashdown-Hill, 8 Thurlston Close, COLCHESTER CO4 3HF email *ljfash@essex.ac.uk*, by Saturday 5 May 2007

Offices & Titles

The Ricardian Puzzlers are Charlie Jordan, Lorraine Pickering, Marion Davis, and Nancy Northcott. The Ricardian crossword puzzles are intended as a fun method of learning about Richard and his life and times. Each puzzle will have a theme and clues are drawn from widely available sources. Suggestions are welcomed; please send comments to Charlie at charlie.jordan@earthlink.net.



Solution on page 31

Offices & Titles

Across

- 1. Henry _____, D. of Buckingham, served as Lord Great Chamberlain. One of the great offices of England ranked below Lord Privy Seal and largely associated with the earls of Oxford during 12th through 16th centuries. Distinct from Lord Chamberlain, which was a household office.
- 2. Francis Lovell also served as the Chief _____ of England for Richard III. This office ensured that proper quantity and quality of wine were available to the king and household.
- 4. This earl served two terms as Edward IV's Lord High Treasurer. He was Henry Bourchier, earl of
- 6. This office ranked as one of the great offices, but was largely unused after 1421 except during the trial of peers or at coronations. John Howard, D. of Norfolk, served as ______ at Richard's coronation. Not to be confused with steward of the household.
- 8. John Gunthorpe was keeper of the _____ for Richard III. One of the great offices of state.
- 12. Yeomen of the _____ performed a variety of tasks including caring for Edward IV's books whenever the King's household moved.
- 14. Shire-reeve
- 15. _____, Bishop of Ely, and his nephew both served Edward IV as master of the Rolls of Chancery.
- 17. _____ was Richard III's Master of the Mint.
- 18. This official was responsible for an important center of English trade. He was the Marshal of _____.
- 20. The parliament of 1482-83 made Richard, Duke of Gloucester, ______ of the West March for life.
- 21. _____ of the household. Preeminent role in the household, this person is responsible for the household and is "juge of lyf and lym" in the household.
- 22. John Tuchet, Lord _____, became Richard III's Lord High Treasurer in 1484.
- 25. In 1483, the Duke of Norfolk replaced the Duke of Gloucester as _____ of England.
- 27. In 1483, the Duke of Buckingham replaced the Duke of Gloucester as Constable of _____.
- 29. John Howard, D. of Norfolk served not only as treasurer of the royal household from 1467 to 1474, but also as _____. Associated with the earls and

dukes of Norfolk since mid-1300s.

30. _____ of the household; this was the 3rd most powerful role in the household. The officer worked with the treasurer of the household and supervised accounts. Modern spelling varies.

Down

- 1. William Catesby served as Richard's _____ of the House 1483-84.
- 3. John de la Pole, E. of Lincoln, served as Richard's _____ of Ireland.
- 5. William Catesby served as Richard's chancellor of the _____; this office is not the same as that of Lord High Chancellor.
- 7. Edward IV appointed England's first _____
- 9. _____ of the household. In charge of all receipts for the king's household.
- 10. William Berkeley, E. of Nottingham, served as Grand ______ at Richard's coronation. This official oversaw distribution of charity. Distinct from King's _____.
- 11. In Norman times, this office was part of the King's Household. Over time, the position gained independence, a new title, and permanent quarters in London. By the fifteenth century, the _____ was one of England's three chief government offices.
- 13. Sir John Howard received a salary of 40 pounds a year when he served Edward IV as _____.
- 16. John Kendall was a "senior officer" in Richard's household. He held the position of King's _____.
- 17. John _____, Bishop of Lincoln served as Richard's Lord High Chancellor.
- 19. The core of the King's Council consisted of three chief officers of state: the Chancellor, the Keeper of the Privy Seal, and the _____, who acted as President of the Council in the king's absence. Separate office from that of _____ of the household.
- 23. Francis ______ served as chamberlain of the household, not to be confused with Lord Great Chamberlain.
- 24. _____ of the Chamber were responsible for guarding the king and his possessions during the Yorkist era.
- 26. Dick Whittington served as one.
- 28. Thomas Borough was made Master of the _____ in 1480. This officer was responsible for overseeing the king's stable.

FOUR SAINTS OF NORTHUMBRIA

C n the year 635 AD, Oswald, who had spent some of his early years in St. Columba's monastery on the isle of Iona, became King of Northumbria (uniting Bernicia to the north and Deira to the south) and summoned Aidan, an Irish monk also from Iona, to start a monastic community on the island of Lindisfarne. Aidan became its first Bishop. Aidan and he and the monks he brought with him picked the sheltered southwest area of the island to build the monastery. They worked as missionaries, walking the lanes and talking to people; because they spoke Gaelic and had difficulty with the native Northumbrian language, King Oswald often served as translator for the listeners. Aidan established a school to train twelve Northumbrian boys, including the future St. Chad, to continue his good works.

A legend involving Oswald and Aidan occurred at an Eastertide dinner at Bamburgh. Shortly after the prayer had been given, starving beggars appeared at the door and King Oswald responded by picking up a large silver platter and heaping it with meat for the unfortunate ones. Aidan was so impressed that he prayed that the king's arm would never decay, and the incorruptible arm was said to have remained intact for nine centuries.

In 642 AD, Oswald was killed in battle and his body dismembered. His head was eventually taken to a church near Bamburgh, where it stayed for some time until taken to Lindisfarne. He was succeeded as king by his brother Oswiu (or Oswy) in the north (Bernicia) and by Oswin in the south (Deira), with whom Aidan became affiliated.

King Oswin gave Aidan a magnificent horse, perhaps as a testament to the latter's dignity or to give ease and speed to his journeys. But Aidan's motto was, "If you are to meet people, you need to have your feet on the ground," and he wouldn't have wanted wealth or the adverse attention it would have. When a poor man met him and asked for alms, Aidan gave him the horse.

Soon after King Oswiu of Bernicia had King Oswin murdered, Aidan went to Bamburgh, presumably in order to denounce the action, but he suddenly became ill. He died in a tent pitched against the western wall of the parish church on 31st August 651 A.D., with his head leaning against a post that served as a buttress. The church was burned twice in the days following, but each time this post escaped the fire — a fact that was naturally set down as miraculous. His body was buried at Lindisfarne, but parts were transferred to Iona by Bishop Colman upon his resignation in AD 664. Other relics seemed to have Pam Butler

made their way to Glastonbury Abbey.

At the very moment of Aidan's death, a shepherd at Melrose saw a vision: light broke through the darkness of night and a "heavenly host" claimed a spirit of brightness and returned with it heavenwards. The shepherd, Cuthbert, soon learned of this coincidence and concluded that he'd seen Aidan being lifted to Heaven by angels. This inspired him towards religious life, but this had to wait until he'd served some time as a soldier. After this, he became a monk at the abbey in Melrose, where he became renowned for his piety and learning. He also helped to found a monastery in Ripon in 657 AD.

In 658 AD, Wilfrid was elected abbot at Ripon and insisted on practicing Roman-style Christianity as opposed to Celtic-style. Wilfred, about the same age as Cuthbert, had spent some of his early years at Lindisfarne under the patronage of King Oswiu's wife, Queen Enflaeda. He found fault with the Celtic traditions and wanted to go to Rome to learn ecclesiastical doctrine. The Queen encouraged him, and he went to Canterbury (where the Roman style of worship was used). He returned to England and was overbearing in imposing his views on the reluctant monks of Melrose.

Celtic Christianity was slightly different from the Roman style of Christianity, mostly presentational. A great dispute arose between the factions favoring the practices of the Celtic church in Northumbria and those who advocated the ways of the Roman church, which dominated practice in the south of the country. It was centered on the timing of Easter festival and was considered a major controversy. This dispute was mediated by King Oswiu at the Great Synod at Whitby in 664 AD. The main supporters of the Celtic Christianity at Whitby were Colman of Lindisfarne, Hilda of Whitby and Cedd Bishop of Essex. Wilfrid defended the Roman Christian cause and persuaded the Northumbrian King Oswiu to convert Northumbria to Roman Christianity. He argued that the Roman ways of St. Peter, which were followed by the vast majority of the Christian world, were superior because Christ had said that St. Peter was the rock upon which his church was built, and that St.Peter would have the keys to the Kingdom. Since the same could not be said for St. Columba, and because King Oswiu feared that a vengeful St. Peter would refuse him admission to heaven if he refused the Roman ways, Wilfrid prevailed.

St. Colman of Mayo, Bishop of Lindisfarne resigned in a huff and returned to Scotland with all who would

— continued, pagea 27

15TH ANNUAL TOUR OF THE RICHARD III SOCIETY

In the Footsteps of Richard III

June 23 - July 3, 2007 Come join our little band of Ricardians on a marvelous adventure, as we explore the England of Richard III! This delightfully different tour fits the bill perfectly if you are a sociable person with a keen interest in Richard and in medieval England! Sites we will visit having associations with Richard III include, among others, Middleham, Bolton, Warwick, Corfe and Arundel castles and the parish churches of Middleham, Sutton Cheyney, and Bere Regis, as well as glorious Wells Cathedral. Our travels will also include a full day at leisure in the ancient city of York, where you can explore the magnificent Minster and enjoy your choice of York's many other treasures. And, of course, we will make our annual pilgrimage to Bosworth Battlefield where Richard lost his crown and his life. After hanging our annual memorial wreath at Sutton Cheyney Church, we will be treated to an excellent guided tour - of even greater interest now that it also includes information on the alternative battlefield site of Dadlington. We hope to conclude this special day with a short jaunt to the nearby city of Leicester to visit the superb statue of Richard III in the castle gardens.

Also featured in the tour will be many other choice venues - historical Berkeley Castle, the unique cloistered ruins of Mt. Grace Priory, two engaging medieval manor houses, legendary Glastonbury Abbey, the fascinating "plague village" of Eyam, and Haddon Hall, England's most outstanding medieval stately home. From time to time, we will be accompanied during our sightseeing by Ricardian friends from various English branches and groups 34 always special occasions for all of us! On our 2007 tour, we will enjoy a rare excursion into the England's West Country, where we'll meet friends from the friendly Devon & Cornwall Branch and will visit (among others) Buckfast Abbey, home to Sir Walter Drake. And, as a final touch, add the opportunity to visit the famous "Mary Rose" one of Henry VIII's finest ships, recovered from the watery deep!

A truly unique tour, The Last Plantagenet King is a superb alternative to the large, impersonal "package" tour or the hassle of self-drive. Just sit back and enjoy 11 days of leisurely touring and real camaraderie in our comfortable, mid-size coach. Our lodgings, mainly located in attractive market towns or villages, will be in charming smaller hotels and coaching inns where you'll be met with a cordial welcome, a comfortable room with full amenities, and delicious meals. Most of our lunches will be at picturesque village or countryside pubs that are recommended for their tasty food. Your enthusiastic tour coordinator/escort and host will be long-time member Linda Treybig, who has planned and led 15 previous Ricardian tours.

Group size is limited to a maximum of 12 (minimum of 7) with space available on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Preference will be given to members of the Richard III Society, but other interested persons are welcome as well. Several members are already committed to the 2007 tour, so please register as early as possible and join us for a truly memorable tour!

LAND TOUR RATE & PAYMENT SCHED-ULE: \$2,950.00. (Single Supplement: \$350.00). Deadline for reservation form and deposit of \$300.00 is February 20, 2007. Balance in full is payable by April 15, 2007. Airfare and London hotel are not included in rate. Please see General Information.

Cancellation Fees:

- 60 days or more before departure:Loss of deposit plus any non-recoverable payments made on client's behalf.
- 45-59 days before departure:35% of tour cost plus any non-recoverable payments made on client's behalf.
- 30-44 days before departure: 50% of tour cost plus any non-recoverable payments made on client's behalf.
- Less than 30 days before departure: Nonrefundable (but any recoverable monies may be returned to client.)

CANCELLATION PENALTIES APPLY, SO TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED! PLEASE ASK FOR DETAILS.

The Itinerary

June 23: Welcome to Richard III's England! A very special journey is in store for you on arrival at Manchester Airport. Boarding our coach, we will transfer to our attractive hotel in Yorkshire. You'll have the rest of the day free so you can settle in, get a little catch-up sleep, do some exploring on your own, and begin (or resume!) your acquaintance with this fabulous country. Tonight, we'll enjoy the first of many delectable dinners together. OVERNIGHT (3 nights): Harrogate/Knaresborough area

June 24: Richard's favorite dwelling in all England must claim high priority in the itinerary of any Ricardian! So our first day of sightseeing will begin in the charming little town of Middleham, where we'll greet old friends from the Yorkshire Branch and spend the morning exploring the extensive ruins of Richard's mighty castle, as well as the parish church. After a leisurely lunch together, we will make the short drive to Bolton Castle, home of the Scrope family (followers and friends of Richard III) and one-time prison of Mary Queen of Scots. Classified as a fortified manor house, this impressive structure really is more castle than manor house (even having the requisite dungeon!) and offers breath-taking views out across Wensleydale. Our second day will conclude with a visit to Mt. Grace Priory, a rare and quite fascinating medieval foundation of the Carthusian order, in which monks lived a solitary life in self-contained, little apartments, somewhat like medieval condos! Standing in a fully restored unit, one can gain some insight into medieval monastic life as lived up through Richard's era. The stunning Dales scenery adds the crowning touch to a wonderful day!

June 25: A whole day in York is yours to spend as you choose! In this timeless, eminently walkable city, well known to Richard III, you can stroll through a maze of medieval streets, walk the ancient walls, browse in fine shops, and visit many worthy attractions. You shouldn't' miss glorious York Minster (250 years in the building!) or the Merchant Adventurers Hall, Europe's most outstanding medieval guildhall (with which Richard was doubtless well acquainted). This wonderful small city also boasts the ruins of Clifford's Castle, the National Railway Museum, the one-of-a-kind Castle Museum, and much, much more. Enjoy!

June 26: Up bright and early, we will board our coach and say farewell to Yorkshire. Our journey today will deliver us to two prime sites in Derbyshire. Our first venue today will be the little "plague village" and church of Eyam, with its touching story of bravery and self-sacrifice. (You will learn about the origin of one of our most well-known nursery rhymes.) This afternoon, we will visit one of England's most unique homes - beautiful Haddon Hall. This rare 12th century structure, home to the Dukes of Rutland and possibly the earliest of co-called "stately homes" in the country, has undergone amazingly few changes through restoration and modernization over the centuries. Set amidst heavenly gardens and surrounded by lovely countryside, it never fails to charm its visitors. We arrive at our attractive hotel in the West Midlands in the late afternoon. OVERNIGHT (2 nights): Leicestershire

June 27: Today we pay homage to the life and death of Richard III with our annual visit to Bosworth Battlefield. This hallmark day begins with the hanging of our American Branch memorial wreath at little Sutton Cheyney church, followed by an excellent guided tour of the battlefield, during which there are sure to be both lively discussions as to the course of the battle and moments of quiet reflection. Those who wish will also have an opportunity to visit the battlefield

exhibition for a small charge. After a satisfying lunch in the greatly appreciated new cafeteria on the premises, we hope to pay a brief visit to the splendid statue of Richard III in the nearby city of Leicester before returning to our comfortable lodgings.

June 28: A gentle journey southwards this morning brings us to famous Warwick Castle, a World Heritage site and home of Warwick, the Kingmaker. Birthplace of Anne Neville (Richard's queen), Warwick Castle was the setting for many historical events over the centuries and also played host to Richard III during his coronation progress. Our stop in Warwick will also include the notable Beauchamp Chapel. This afternoon will include a leisurely trip through the mellow, golden countryside of the (oh, so quaint!) Cotswolds, as well as a visit to Berkeley Castle. Full of history (most notably the imprisonment and death of Edward II) and owned by the same family for over 800 years, Berkeley Castle features both a medieval kitchen and magnificent Great Hall and is surrounded by a fine terraced Elizabethan garden. OVERNIGHT (1 night): Bath / Bristol area

June 29: We kick off this Friday morning with an easy journey south to the old market town of Wells and its glorious cathedral. This architectural gem is still surrounded by much of its medieval complex - both the old and new Bishop's palaces and the fine chapter house, as well as a charming little lane of medieval cottages called Vicar's Close, many inhabited today by the cathedral choristers. Having explored the cathedral and its precincts, we will make our way to ancient Glastonbury Abbey. Rich in religious and historical connections and one of England's earliest centers of Christianity, Glastonbury Abbey is believed to be the burial site of King Arthur and Queen Guinevere - altogether an intriguing place to visit. Finally, heading for the West Country, we settle into our comfortable hotel on the outskirts of dramatic Dartmoor (shades of "The Hound of the Baskervilles"!). OVERNIGHT (2 nights): South Devon

June 3 Joined by members of the Devon and Cornwall Branch, our first venue today will be Cothele, a splendid example of a medieval knight's home near Plymouth. (At one time owned by Sr. Richard Edgecumbe who fought with the Lancastrians at the Battle of Bosworth, Cothele can therefore claim a slight Ricardian association.) Following an afternoon visit to Buckfast Abbey (converted to an unique home for St. Walter Drake), we will enjoy a traditional Devonshire clotted cream tea and end the day with a stop at the interesting ruins of Hound Tor Medieval Village on Dartmoor.

July 1: On this relaxing day, we will make our way into pastoral Somerset. Here, in a peaceful rural setting are the interesting ruins of Muchelney Abbey, the Priest's House

and unique parish church. (See if you can spot the surprise in one of the windows!) Next on our agenda is the enchanting medieval manor house of Lytes Cary, where one can still detect strong echoes of family life as lived during that era. Also included will be a stop to view Cadbury Castle (a hill fort believed to be the most likely site of Camelot), a relaxing lunch in a country pub, and a look at the famous Cerney Abbas Giant, Dorset's ancient hillside chalk figure in all his glory! OVERNIGHT (2 nights): Dorset or Hampshire

July 2 Today, our sightseeing in Dorset begins with a visit to the dramatic ruins of Corfe Castle. Set on a hill above its attractive stone village, Corfe Castle has a colorful history. It also has specific connections to King John and was also once in the keeping of a young Richard III as Constable and later of Lady Margaret Beaufort. This afternoon, our first venue will be Athelhampton, a beautiful late medieval home with gardens and an excellent dovecote. The day will conclude with a visit to Bere Regis, birthplace of Cardinal John Morton, later Bishop of Ely. Morton built the tower and painted roof of the nave in the fine church. Probably the most famous of Bere Regis's residents were the Turbeville family, whom Thomas Hardy selected as the basis for the D'Urbeville family in his great novel, "Tess of the D'Urbevilles."

July 3: This, the final day of our tour, will include three sites of great interest. First on our agenda will be venerable Winchester Cathedral. The first king of all England, Egbert, was crowned in Winchester in 829 AD, as was Alfred the Great and many of his successors. It was the capital of Saxon England and, until the medieval era, vied with London in administrative importance. The cathedral (with the longest nave in England) features an unrivaled series of chantries, fine Pre-Raphaelite stained glass, a modern shrine of St. Swithin, and other marvelous features too numerous to list (but those of you who are Jane Austen fans will want to search out her tomb)! On to Portsmouth to view the fabulous Mary Rose, the only 16th century warship in the world on display and a favorite of Henry VIII's. And finally, we will visit mighty Arundel Castle, hereditary home of the Howard family (friends and loyal supporters of Richard III). Then, we're off to London, arriving at our hotel in the late afternoon. Regrettably, all good things must come to an end but, before we go our separate ways, you are all invited to join your escort at a restaurant near our hotel for a farewell dinner tonight. As you return to your home, you are sure to carry with you many fond memories of a delightful odyssey following in the footsteps of Richard III! OVERNIGHT (1 night): Central London

To help you enjoy your sightseeing to its fullest, each tour member will be provided with a packet of background information on every site we plan to visit.

A FINAL WORD DON"T miss this opportunity to

take part in a top-notch Ricardian excursion! DO say you'll join us! Traveling through England's beautiful countryside and villages with a small group of friendly fellow Ricardians who share your interest in the man called Richard III, enriching your knowledge of him and his times, exploring fascinating places off the beaten track, discovering the best of both medieval and contemporary England = AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!

General Information

Cost of land tour: \$2,950.00 in shared room (Single Supplement: \$350.00) — Air extra (see below) Land tour includes:

- 11 days of touring in comfortable midi-coach (smaller vehicle for less than 8)
- Services of driver/courier and tour coordinator/escort throughout tour
- 11 nights' accommodation
- Full English breakfast daily
- 9 three-course dinners
- All admissions, entrance fees, and donations to churches included in the itinerary
- Full baggage handling during the course of the tour
- All service charges and value added taxes on the above Driver's gratuity (a generous group tip)

Not included: Airfare (tickets arranged by your escort as a courtesy if desired)

Lunches, snacks, or beverages not included in price of meals

2 evening meals (1 in Yorkshire & 1 in London)

Return airport transfers (assistance provided with individual arrangements)

Laundry, telephone calls, room service, individual tips, or other personal expenses

Additional Information

Air arrangements: The land tour begins at Manchester Airport, where we'll all meet on the morning of June 23, and officially ends in London on July 3. Linda Treybig will be pleased to help you make your air arrangements, whether you prefer to join other group members for the flight to England or travel independently. OR you are free to make your own air arrangements if you like. Please note: Dates of departure and return are flexible.

Pre/Post-tour arrangements: If you would like to spend more time on your own in England either before or after the tour, you will be offered assistance with all your arrangements, including itinerary suggestions, hotel or bed & breakfast recommendations, and public transportation or car rental.

Lunches: Lunches are not included in the price of the tour, so that each person may choose from a varied menu

according to his or her appetite. (Your expense budget should allow at least $\pounds 6.00$ to $\pounds 6.50$ per day for lunch.)

Booking Conditions

Reservations are only considered confirmed on receipt of deposit of \$300.00 per person. Reservations and deposit must be received by February 20, 2007, but it is wise to book as early as possible. DEPOSIT IS NONREFUNABLE.

Tour balances are due and payable by April 15, 2007. If later bookings are accepted, payment in full is required at time of booking. PAYMENTS MUST BE BY MONEY ORDER OR BY CHECK MADE PAY-ABLE TO LINDA TREYBIG. Regrettably, credit cards cannot be accepted.

Responsibility Clause

The Richard III Society, Inc. and Linda Treybig, tour coordinator/escort (who acts only as agent in arranging transportation, hotel accommodation and all other services included in this tour) decline all liability or responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property, personal injury, or any expense connected with the provision of services for this tour. The tour coordinator reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant and to make changes in the itinerary whenever deemed necessary for the convenience, comfort or safety of the tour participants. Luggage and personal articles are at the owner's risk unless insured. Should the number of participants not meet the minimum number stated (7), the tour coordinator reserves the right to adjust the tour price or to cancel the tour. However, the tour will not be cancelled less than six(6) weeks before the scheduled date of departure. If the tour should be cancelled, the limit of liability is the return of monies paid by the tour participant.



Amalee Mahoney and Joann Endress at the Lakes Renaissance Faire

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"Embarking upon a noble literary endeavour, Sandra Worth gives us the life of Richard of Gloucester in an extremely well-researched trilogy... This admirable historical novel belongs on the shelf of all true Ricardians next to Daughter of Time." – India Edghall, The Historical Novels Society Review.

IF YOU LIRED... Jean Plaidy THEN YOU'LLLOVE... Sandra Worth. – The Romantic Times

Crown of Destiny

Editor's Choice. "While dosing it heavily with historical fact, she makes *Crown of Destiny* absolutely pulse with human emotion... A deep and gripping rend." – *Ilysa Magnus, The* Historical Novels Society Review.

Fall from Grace

"Excellent historical details and emotions abound in this tale of power and greed." – The Romantic Times

"The anthor's research impresses, as does her passion for the era... An admirable and well-written work, worthy of attention." – Marguret Barr for The Historical Novels Society Review



June 23 - July 3, 2007

REGISTRATION FORM

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CITY, STATE, ZIP:	Y, STATE, ZIP: PHONE:					
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Smoking Non-smoking _	I would like a s	single room (\$350.	00 supplement).	Yes		
* If, due to your physical condition will do our best to accommodate	n, you <u>require</u> a shower your needs.)	rather than a bath	, please check here.	(We		
PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOL Your tour coordinator, Linda Trey tour arrangements you require at	/big, will be happy to am	ange your airfare	and help you make an	y pre/post-		
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Please mail registration form and	d deposit payment by ch		er to:			
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A JOURNAL OF THE 2006 RICARDIAN TOUR

The annual Ricardian tour for the American Branch of the Richard III Society in 2006 was a great success. We stayed at many charming hotels and B&Bs and had lunch in equally charming pubs, many of the pubs dating back hundreds of years. After meeting at Manchester, our destination was North Yorkshire. At Leyburn we were treated to a view of the Yorkshire Dales from our B&B. Next day at Middleham Castle we were met by several members of the Yorkshire Branch of the Society who added much to our tour by describing life at the castle. One interesting bit regarded the rabbit warren, which could still be seen from the castle bailey. Meat for supper was readily at hand; all that was necessary was to send a beagle to the warren to flush a rabbit into the waiting bag of the cook's assistant.

At Saint Akelda and Saint Mary's church, we viewed the Richard III memorial window installed by the UK Society and gazed in awe at the beautiful architecture. This sense of awe never seemed to fade—it only grew. Even so, eventually some of us began to think, ho-hum, another cathedral, or another abbey; but upon arrival, we would be fascinated by the stunning architecture and the vision and skill that went into creating these edifices.

After a delightful show at the Birds of Prey Centre, where we heard the kookaburra's laugh, we had time to visit Richmond Castle and climb the keep. The spiral staircase here is very narrow and you found yourself brushing the sides (well, some of us did) as you climbed.

The next day began with Rievaulx Abbey, an especially beautiful site dating back to the 12th century. We despaired at the destruction of the many abbeys we visited, that such beauty meant so little to those in power at the time. Amazingly beautiful tiles covered the floor of Rievaulx at one time—some are still in place—and the museum there explains how they were made. Could our advanced society do as well under the same circumstances?

At Castle Howard, which was the location for the BBC series, <u>Brideshead Revisited</u>, we had the benefit of extensive knowledge regarding the house and its items of interest from tour guides in each room, some in period costume. The grounds were equally beautiful, with peacocks that seemed just as anxious to show off their plumage as we were to see it. After a brief visit to the little church at Sheriff Hutton (just in the case the alabaster tomb there does indeed contain the bones of Richard's son Edward), we arrived at York.

Linda, our tour coordinator, being a wise woman, left us to do as we pleased on our day in York which meant we all went off in a gazillion directions, trying to fit in as much as possible. York Minster was on everyone's list, and some were lucky enough to attend Evensong there. Other must-sees were the Shambles, Clifford's Tower, the Merchant Adventurers Hall, Barley Hall, and the various Bars, especially Micklegate Bar where the heads of Richard's father and brother Edmund were put on display after their defeat at the Battle of Wakefield. Many of us tried to walk all the walls around York-some succeeded, some came close. Other places of interest were Fairfax House which was recently refurbished and opened to the public, and last but not least, the Castle Museum and the Yorkshire Museum, home of the famous Middleham Jewel. (One of the charming things we had picked up on by now was the Brit's way of asking 'How are you?' Only they say 'Are you all right?')

Next day began with Conisburgh Castle, birthplace of Richard's grandfather and possibly his father as well. The interesting circular keep was furnished on each floor to show how it might have looked when it was occupied.

Hardwick Hall, a stunning masterpiece built in the 16th century is amazingly well preserved. Bess of Hardwick and her husband were given the onerous task of guarding Mary, Queen of Scots, for 15 years at their own expense. The stress of this burden eventually led to the breakdown of their marriage whereupon Bess threw herself into building this magnificent home.

After visiting Hardwick Hall, we made a brief stop to view the castle at Ashby de la Zouche, once the home of William Lord Hastings. One of our members was introduced there to stinging nettles, and we all learned that dock neutralizes the sting and can always be found growing in the same area.

From Lichfield the following day, we made our way to Bosworth Battlefield—a haunting place for some of us. Our guide, Pauline, was delightful, having that dry English wit and the ability to present Bosworth's history succinctly and interestingly. Three white roses were placed at the memorial where it is thought Richard was slain. At Richard's Well, Pauline offered some history few of us were aware of. Upon her marriage to Henry VII, Elizabeth of York took as her personal attendants family members of both Catesby and Ratcliffe – strange behavior toward the loyal friends of the dreaded Uncle Richard. At the church at Sutton Cheney, Linda hung our memorial wreath — Richard, rest in peace. A brief visit was also paid to the church at Dadlington where many of those slain at Bosworth were buried in a mass grave.

On our way to the Welsh border country next morning-a beautiful, sunny day-we visited Wenlock Priory in the charming little village of Much Wenlock. The audio tour of the priory was fascinating but didn't leave much time to explore the village. The sentiment of some of us upon leaving was, rather than Much Wenlock, it was Not-Enough Wenlock. But Ludlow Castle was waiting, where Edward V spent much of his boyhood prior to his father's untimely death. It was at Ludlow that Cecily Neville, with her sons George and Richard, stayed behind at the mercy of the Lancastrians during one outbreak of the Wars of the Roses. From Ludlow, which was in the process of being set up for the Shakespearean festival, we visited a fascinating little church dating to Norman times at Kilpeck and then spent the night near Hereford. Some of us fell asleep to the sound of the abbey bells next door. Some of us didn't, but enough about that.

Goodrich Castle, our first stop the following day, is situated on a massive piece of bedrock and overlooks the River Wye. The climb to the top of the keep is more challenging than most, with only a rope to cling to rather than the customary rail. Still, I'm sure we had it better than the original occupants. A sign at the bottom of the stairs after you've managed to get back down warns: Dark and Dangerous Stairs. Thanks, but we already figured that out. After Goodrich we visited Tretower Court, which was in the process of being set up for a film about young Dracula. The props only added to the sense of history here. From there we made our way to Carmarthen, Wales, for the next two nights.

Pembroke Castle, the birthplace of the usurper, Henry VII, contains many interesting displays, including life-size tableaux and models of the castle from the Middle Ages. From there we visited magnificent St. David's Cathedral, the ceilings of which are stunning, as are those in so many medieval cathedrals. The goal must have been to make all who enter look up, and be lifted up.

Wending our way back to England next day, we stopped at the National History Museum near Cardiff. Buildings representing various periods of Welsh history have been moved here to make a marvelous open-air museum. It was a rainy day and some of the resurrected dwellings had a fire going in them, making them really seem like home-a magic moment for Sandy, who would have moved in straightaway if they had let her. From there we visited Chepstow Castle. An ornate wooden door there has been dated back to at least the 1190s through tree-ring dating. It was only moved inside in 1962. Things were built to last back then! Our next treat was Tintern Abbey; by then fog was settling in, which only added to the ambience—another magic moment. We spent the night at charming Ross-on-Wye, looking out on 'strawberry fields forever'.

At Tewkesbury Abbey the next morning, we were treated to the sound of organ music while we sought out the Sun in Splendor, saw the door that Edward IV's men forced their way into using their pikes, and viewed the burial site of Edward, Prince of Wales, killed in the battle there by Edward IV's men. Smells of polish filled the air from the efforts of one of the parish members and, upon engaging her in conversation, it was learned that she loves America, has visited it twice, and it just 'blew her up'.

At Sudeley Castle, we visited the burial site of Henry VIII's sixth and most fortunate wife, Katherine Parr. Sudeley has beautiful rose gardens; their fragrance filled the air. Figures of Henry VIII and his six wives are available for viewing in period clothing—some of us were lucky enough to see them. After Sudeley, we stopped at Minster Lovell Hall, where Francis Lovell's father is buried in the church. It was easy to imagine Richard visiting with his friend Francis beside the River Windrush. We arrived in London late afternoon.

The last event of a tour can be anti-climactic, but not our visit to the British Library. Linda arranged for Kathryn Johnson to meet us there, and after settling us in a private room, Kathryn began by saying William Lord Hastings' Book of Hours wouldn't be available for close-up viewing. But when she brought out Cecily Neville's 'Visions of St. Matilda,' any disappointment no longer mattered. There inside the cover of the book, was the signature: Anne Warwick; and under it was another signature: R. Gloucester. Some of us felt this refuted the assertion by certain historians that there was no affection between Richard and Anne. Kathryn then showed us an original application for a loan to which Richard had appended his own personal note and signature when he was 17: "I pray you that ye fail me not at this time in my grate need as ye wulle that I shew yow my goode lordshype in that matter that ye labour me for." Richard

But the best was yet to come: Kathyrn explained that in centuries past, signature collectors would keep the signatures, but not the document preceding them, so in a book entitled 'Royal and Noble Autographs' was a single piece of paper with the signatures of 'Edward Quintus', 'Richard Gloucester' with his motto 'Loyaulte me lie' and 'Harre Bokyngham'. It is assumed this item dates to Stony Stratford. Richard's penmanship was exquisite and we were all very moved at the sight of it; for some, it was the high point of this tour.

We were also shown a book entitled 'De Re Militaria' dealing with military tactics which was commissioned by and illuminated for Richard when he was king. It contained his and Anne's illuminated coats of arms. All the illuminations were beautiful and it was amazing to think that real gold was used. One note of interest: Kathryn explained that lapis lazuli was more precious back then even than gold, and thus they used powder from this precious stone to color the Virgin Mary's robes. (Maybe you, too, have wondered why Mary is always shown in blue.)

All in all, this special visit to the British Library was a proper ending for a great tour and, of course, the memories will last forever.

More Magic Moments: Listening to Carole playing the Bösendorfer grand piano at Castle Howard; Evensong at York Minster; Elvis' voice wafting from an apartment near the Shambles in York at 6 AM; schoolboys doffing their hats to an American tourist while visiting the Victorian Street at the Castle Museum; the charming garden scene behind Erasmus Darwin's home in Lichfield; Tewkesbury Abbey as the splendid organ was played; Richard III's original handwriting from 500 years ago; hearing Carole announce her arrival to her hero: "William Marshal (illustrious 12th C. Earl of Pembroke), I am here"; friendships begun!

Tour Coordinator's Note: What a splendid time we had! The weather was great; we enjoyed some really mouth-watering meals, saw an excellent selection of sites, and met with a warm welcome everywhere. Group members were: Sandra Boudrou, Pamela Butler, Patricia Earnest, Janis Eltz, Renee Little, Carole Orlando, Loretta Park, Evelyn Perrine, and Susan Vaughn. This friendly and congenial group of women couldn't have been more satisfactory fellow travelers. Thank you all for contributing to my many fond memories of our 2006 Ricardian tour!

Linda Treybig

ARE YOU DESCENDED FROM THE PLANTAGENETS?

In English-speaking countries descent from a monarch is more common than you might think.

The Plantagenet Kings, especially Edward I and Edward Ill, had a number of younger children whose lines have continued and over the generations they have gradually married into lower and lower social classes.

At each generation the number of ancestors doubles, two parents, four grandparents &c. If we assume the average generation is 25 years long then in the roughly 800 years since AD 1200 there have been 32 generations. This "means" that each person alive today is descended from over two thousand million people alive in the year 1200.

Of course there were not that many people alive in AD 1200. The apparent discrepancy is explained by the fact that, through cousin marriages amongst their descendants, many people alive today are descended from a particular person of AD 1200 more than once, that is, though many lines. We are all the result of a fair amount of in-breeding.

Nevertheless, given a relatively stable indigenous

population, and the absence of a rigid caste system which prevents out of caste marriage, (both of which have been present in English society since the Middle Ages), there is a high probability that a person living say 1,000 years ago, if he has any descendants living today at all, has so many descendants that a large proportion of the people living today in the same geographical area will share a descent from him.

Royal descent is no exception to this, because the English royal family did not insist on royal marriages for all its children, and has thereby disseminated its genes into the population as a whole. Royal descent is, however, easier to prove than descent from less notable ancestors.

It has been suggested that as many as 80% of people of English descent are descended from the Plantagenets whilst the English geneticist Professor Stephen Jones estimates 25%. However, the number who could prove such a descent is likely to be very much smaller than the number who actually have it.

See Royal Descents of Famous People, by Mark Humphrys.

From 'Ricardus Rex', the newsletter of the Victoria Branch

Jerome Howard Klein In Memoriam

Jerome Howard Klein died on December 12, 2006, age 70, after having been slowed down by two strokes in four years. At Jerry's request, his body was cremated and his ashes scattered. On December 17, a very complete and concise obituary appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle. It spoke of some of the key accomplishments of his life.

As many US Ricardians (and more than a few others) may recall, Jerry generally managed to stimulate a lot of discussion on the US Richard III forum – and also on Becky Vacara's "Later Medieval Britain" site. He could never stay "on topic", and managed to insert into almost any conversation interesting information on his own life and insights — more or less relevant, as he saw them, to the subjects at hand.

I met Jerry in 1997 when I tried to revive the inactive Northern California Chapter. The effort to re-activate the Chapter did not prosper, but Jacqueline Bloomquist and I got to know Jerry very well, as did the Battaglia family, who had actually inducted Jerry into the Society. A great (if not "compulsive") reader and bibliophile, Jerry had met Bonnie Battaglia at the Placer County Library after she had set up a special display for Richard's birthday. He also joined and drew great pleasure from the book club of which the Battaglias are charter members.

Jerry knew little or nothing about Richard III when he joined the Society, even though, as a collector of rare coins, he owned a Richard III groat now worth about \$5,000 or more in the numismatists' market. If he didn't know very much about Richard, Jerry knew volumes about human nature and motivation, which never really changes over time.

Although he often managed to offend some, and irritate many, a special shelf in Jerry's hospital room was laden with "get well" cards from his R3 and LMB friends following his second stroke in 2002.

Jerry attended the New York AGM in [??? 2000 ???], his first-and-only appearance at an AGM. There he met, and might be said to have fallen in love with, both Maria and Sandra Torres. He spoke of them often for several years afterward. Jerry was deeply saddened by Sandra's death.

Jerry made one of his life's really meaningful friendships through the Richard III Society. Although they never got to meet face to face, Jerry loved "talking" via e-mail with the late Geoffrey Richardson. The two delightful old gentlemen "got along like a house afire"! They corresponded regularly for several years, until Geoffrey's death took a part of Jerry with him. When Geoffrey was in hospital, suffering from the intense heat of an atypical British summer, Jerry arranged for Becky Vacara to purchase and deliver an electric fan to Geoffrey. I can visualize the two of them, face-to-face now, endlessly debating history and politics overall, with a special emphasis on Richard.

Thanks, Jerry, for having spent some really enjoyable times with us, sharing your insights (on-topic or not)!

Jerome H. "Jerry" Klein

Jerome H. Klein died in Sacramento on December 12 following a long illness. He was 70. Jerry was active in the San Francisco labor movement in the late 1960's, working for the Department of Social Services, through the SEIU. [Service Employees' International Union] He was appointed by Dianne Feinstein to the San Francisco Planning Commission in 1981, and served in that position for four years. He continued to work with the Planning Department as a permit consultant in the City until he became ill in 2002. He was born in New York City in 1936. He received a bachelor's and a master's degree in education from the City College of New York, and taught in the New York school system for several years. After moving to San Francisco in 1968, Jerry worked in the Department of Social Services as a social worker with a Native American caseload. He received a master's in Social work from SFSU [San Francisco State University] in 1973. Over the years, Jerry belonged to many organizations reflective of his varied interests, including the Soviet Jewry Action Group, the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club, the San Francisco Ancient Numismatic Society and the Richard III Society. He is survived by his wife, Susan, of Shingle Springs; daughter, Elizabeth, of Portland, OR, as well as a sister, Rita, and extended family living on the East Coast. At his request, no services will be held.

Published in the San Francisco Chronicle on 12/17/2006

Editor's Note: Jerry and I discussed and planned an article on medieval money for many years. At one time, he sent me an incomplete version. As I have a few things left that were upstairs when Katrina hit, if I am able to locate the article, I will share with you at a later date.

Judy Pimental

ARIZONA Moderator: Joan Marshall

Joan reports that they have a core group of six or seven members who meet four times a year. For the past three years they have been sending a donation to The St. James Church of Dadlington, to coincide with the August 22nd service in memory of King Richard the Third's loss at the Battle of Bosworth. Recently, member Georgia Howeth donated to the church fund a beautiful handworked runner with matching napkins.

Other recent activities include reading and discussion of Helen Maurer's "Margaret of Anjou" and the Loveday of 1458.

The members of the group maintain contacts with other women's reading groups, such as a recent one which featured Jane Austin, and at which some of their members were dressed in Regency style costumes. When the RIII gals mentioned that they dressed in 15th century costumes, some members asked for information about the Society, and will receive some copies of the Richard III Society's publications.

EASTERN MISSOURI Moderator: Bill Heuer

Over the years our Chapters experience periods of great interest and activity, followed by a falling off of members, for many reasons—change of leadership, changes in employment, folks moving out of town, etc.— so Mr.Heuer reports that at the moment the Eastern Missouri Chapter is down to just four members. However, although they are not able to present a quarterly meeting as such, they do meet and socialize together; continue to support the American Branch of the Richard III Society, and keep their eyes open for new members.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER Chairman: Joyce Tumea

A major undertaking for the Illinois Chapter is an idea they have proposed for The Illinois Chapter of the RRIII Society to hold what they are calling "A CA-SUAL Meeting" to be held the week-end of May 4-6-2007, to which any other nearby Society members (Michigan or Wisconsin) would be invited)—although they say that anyone interested from anywhere is welcome, as long as it is understood they are not booking

Eileen Prinsen, Chapter Co-Ordinator

hotels, etc.), for the purposes of: informal networking, sharing an English-themed meal, etc. to which we may wear costumes, enjoying the educational/informational program, and enjoying some entertainment;-i,e,-etc.there may be some Ricardian playreading for visitors and guests, etc. Interested persons contact Joyce Tumea by E-mail: *joytunea@sbcglobal.net*.

The Chapter has up-to-fourteen or so people; they meet four to six times a year. They attend the Renaissance Faire in Wisconsin each August near the time of Richard's death, and they hold a short memorial service at that time.

Visits have included Medieval Times and Soft's Stitches a costume warehouse. They have hosted two successful AGM's within a seven-year period. They have also created a woman's history read-'n-act-ment, called "Medieval Women with Moxie." This includes several women from Richard's time, including his Mother, sister, niece, wife, and her sister. This entertainment is considered a way to educate the public on Richard and has proven a great way to capture the attention of many women from Downers Grove, some of whom are also members of the American Association of University Michigan (AAUW) members. We gave a program for AAUW.

MICHIGAN AREA Moderator: Larry Irwin

The Michigan Branch holds four meetings a year—three of them are devoted to programs presented by members of the Chapter, and concern recent new theories and/or information regarding the past events. Once a year on the seventh of July we celebrate Richard III's Coronation with a grand dinner at the Fox and Hounds Restaurant in Birmingham.

Over the past several years we have visited and heard lectures on several of the beautiful structures, buildings and churches, in Southern Michigan—these include Cranbrook and Ford's Utopian Village; Christ Church Cranbrook; Detroit's famous Mariners' Church where on August 22, 2003, with the kind consent of the Rector and Members of the Board of Trustees, we were able to acknowledge the 518th anniversary of the Battle of Bosworth at which King Richard III lost his life. Just

— continued, page 22

recently, following the 11 a.m. service at the Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church, we were given a most extensive and informative tour of this beautiful Gothic church.

Recently, five members of the American Branch attended the Parents' Society's 50th anniversary celebrations in York, U.K. where, in addition to interesting lectures, displays, some great fellowship, and a really grand celebration dinner, we attended and equally grand and beautiful service at York Minster.

Over the past twenty years we have hosted the American Branch Annual General Meeting several times, and look forward to doing so again within the next year or two.

MINNESOTA CHAPTER Moderator: Margaret Anderson

There are currently nine members of the Minnesota Chapter.

We seem to be a bit in abeyance right now, since we have not met within the past year. However, I have been intending to try and get something set up before the end of the year so we can still call ourselves a chapter

In the past have met at members' homes, as well as a pub called Keegan's in Minneapolis.

We have done some paleography lessons, and attempted to construct a timeline of all the important people involved in the events between April and July 1483. We discussed ways to collaborate with the Medieval Studies program at the University of Minnesota, and ways in which we might publicize and attract new members. We have also had simple social meetings where we talk about just about anything that interests from travel to history to music. We hope to have something more substantive to report next year.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER: Moderator: Kirsten Moorhead

Thirtynine members are currently on the books (i.e receive updates, invitations, minutes .etc.) We meet four times per year.

Save for the first meeting of 2006, we have met at the Concord Free Public Library in Concord, MA. Programming has revolved around the chapter application process, fundraising, and our 2006 outreach project.

As a group we have attended a Renaissance Fair in Connecticut and visited the Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester, MA.

We are very excited about our first outreach project – a month long educational display at the Portland Public

Library in Portland, ME. We have also created a web presence to assist us in communicating with members and to introduce our chapter to the people of New England,

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER Chairman: Jonathan Hayes

We have nineteen (19) members in our chapter. We have five meetings a year, in different members' houses.

The Pacific Northwest Chapter had a good year with our usual five meetings. The first, in March, was held at the home of chapter President, Jonathan Hayes. Jonathan also gave the presentation, a report of work in progress on his research into the career of William Brandon, Henry Tudor's standard bearer at Bosworth. Hopefully, this research will see the light of day at some point as an article in the *Ricardian Register*.

The second meeting was held in June at the home of chapter Treasurer, Jackie Cox. There was no formal presentation, but the attendees enjoyed the chance to get together and the informal discussion was enjoyable.

We always try to have our August meeting as close to the date of Bosworth as possible. This year Jean Macdonald hosted the meeting and gave the presentation. Her talk was on castles: their history, development and the multiple uses they had beyond just defense.

The October meeting, held by Marge Nelson, featured an excellent presentation by Allen Nelson on wine in medieval England — where it came from, who drank it, cost and how different was theirs from ours. Members got to sample wine from what had been Eleanor of Aquitaine's dominions also.

Chapter President Jonathan Hayes traveled to York at the end of September for the parent Society's 50th AGM. All the American attendees were treated most royally with true Ricardian hospitality. It was a most memorable occasion. He also got to spend a day at Middleham with friends — though, it being a Monday, the Richard III pub was closed and he wasn't able to have a pint there!

Marianne Rivas hosted the traditional December potluck lunch meeting. Chapter business was discussed and the meeting schedule for 2007 was set.

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA Moderator: Joseph Wawzyniak

Joseph reports that the Chapter has been dormant for a year or two, but has plans to resurrect in the future.



Ricardian Reading

Myrna Smith

Most books reviewed here can be purchased at www.r3.org/sales.

What I Did On My Summer Vacation....

Here's what Ellen Perlman did on her summer vacation. While in Milan, strolling along, I saw on the ground outside a (what should I call it?) one-man flea market? – a book in English. It's title: *The Year 1000: What Life Was Like At The Turn Of The First Millennium: An Englishman's World* by Robert Lacey and Danny Danziger. Immediately, I bought the book for 2 euros. I think it's a First Edition.

The authors have taken as their inspiration the Julius Work Calendar, a product which was created in the writing studio of Canterbury Cathedral about 1030 A.D. It was written on parchment with ink made from the galls of an oak tree. At the top of each page was the name of a month and the sign of the zodiac, with the days of the month running down the sheet. Its purpose was religious; it listed holy days which were to be celebrated in the church.

This book, however, published in 1999, is not a calendar, but it has borrowed the drawings which were at the bottom of each page of the Julius Work Calendar and replicated them on the title page before each chapter. "Welcome to Engla-lond" is the title for the month of February, for example, and it is illustrated by three young men who are pruning away in a vineyard. The authors introduce you to real people from the time – Aelfflaed, Wulfgeat, and bishop Aelfwold, for example – whom the authors discovered through reading their wills.

Information abounds, but never in a dull monotone. Rather, Mr. Lacy and Mr. Danziger, who have obviously done a great deal of research, recreate charming tales of life and those who lived it a thousand years ago. It's a slight book, just two hundred pages, but, using a quote from it by Aelfric, Abbot of Eynsham: "We dare not lengthen this book much more, lest it be out of moderation and should stir up men's antipathy because of its size."

—Ellen Perlman, FL

Day Trip

A Day In A Medieval City – Chiara Frugoni, with an introduction by Arsenio Frugoni, Translated by William McCuaig, University of Chicago Press, 2005 Chira Frugoni guides her readers through a composite medieval city on a warm day. The tour begins in the country, where the city's food is grown. It follows a road through ripening fields through a city gate.

Inside the city walls, Frugoni calls her readers' attention to street sounds. Men sing while they work. Peddler's calls offer small items such as rings, pins, tablecloths and ribbons for sale. Shopkeepers and customers speak to each other through windows that open onto the street. A wooden shelf, hinged to the bottom of the window, folds out to form a display counter for the shop owner's goods. Details from 14th and 15th century Italian frescoes show people on balconies and at shop counters.

Medieval city-dwellers heard bells ringing throughout the day. Bells marked the passing of time or warned that a fire or some form of violence had broken out. Manuscript illustrations from 13th century France and 14th century Bern show a bell-ringer and firefighters at work.

Animal voices mingled with human in medieval city streets. 14th century French and Italian paintings show pigs, donkeys, and flocks of sheep sharing streets with humans. When the weather was warm enough, caged birds called form open windows. A whimsical 12th century English drawing suggests that English audiences could hear a performing bear speak to its trainer. 14th century English manuscripts show jugglers, acrobats and musicians performing in the streets. A creatively anachronistic 15th century French manuscript shows a musician dressed in 15th century clothes playing among a cast of masked actors who are performing a Roman play. The audience is labeled *populus romanus* although the buildings and city walls are as medieval as the musician's clothes.

Exceptionally popular preachers could fill a church square with listeners. In a 15th century Sienese painting, crowds kneel around a wooden stage from which St. Bernardino speaks. A length of red cloth fastened to stakes separates women from men. All of the women appear to be listening to the saint, but at least six of the men are looking away from the speaker, as if to comment on his sermon or other matters.

Gambling, drinking and fighting went on in spite of preachers. Frugoni guides her readers through a broad range of violent events. Although she apparently feels it is necessary to include a wide variety of possibilities, the number and intensity of violent incidents conflicts with the title she has given her book. Weary readers are justified in asking how so many horrific events could have fit into one day; or how a city which experienced so many violent events in one day could have survived them.

Next Frugoni leads her readers past a funeral procession to a doctor. Doctor's images in a 13th century French manuscript and a 14th century Italian fresco suggest that medieval city-dwellers had reason to feel ambivalent about doctors. Examples of saints healing the sick suggest that some had more confidence in miracles than in doctors. But a 15th century fresco showing a pharmacist with his assistants and a customer offers a more hopeful view.

Frugoni leads her readers form public to private space through medieval childbirth rooms. In addition to standard views of the births of Jesus and the Virgin, she includes exceptional childbirth scenes in her tour. An early 14th century illumination shows Julius Caesar entering this world by caesarean section. A more fanciful 15th century Italian tempera painting shows a flying devil stealing the infant St. Stephen from his cradle. This illustration is one of four that show variations in cradle design. Frugoni says that Italians made cradles that rocked the baby from head to toe, while most European cradles rocked form side to side. Another type of cradle hung from the ceiling like a hammock, but a 14th century Sienese tempera painting shows how unsafe such a cradle could be: a saint is bringing a baby that fell out of this cradle back to life.

After showing a variety of saints healing children suffering from a variety of injuries, Frugoni offers some images of children enjoying good health. One of the most attractive is a 15th century German illumination showing Jesus as a toddler. He's standing inside a wheeled wooden frame between the Virgin, who is weaving, and St. Joseph, who is shaving a wooden plank. Other manuscripts and panel paintings show childrens' games and toys.

Some of the most appealing illustrations show mothers teaching their children to read. A 14th century drawing shows St. Anne teaching the Virgin to read from a book; St. Anne uses a thin, cane-shaped pointer to guide the Virgin's eyes down the page. A 15th century fresco shows a boy standing beside his mother, reading from a book in her lap. Their hands supporting the book overlap, and the mother's free hand gently guides the child's hand holding a pointer down the page.

Adult's reading aids include ingenious reading stands and eyeglasses. A 15^{th} century illustration from

Boccaccio's *Livre de Cleres et Nobles Femmes* shows a woman reading at a wall mounted book stand. A 14th century Italian fresco shows Cardinal Hugo of Provence wearing eyeglasses as he copies a manuscript. The woman sitting at the wall-mounted stand is reading by firelight.

Keeping household fires going was an essential task, and keeping the fires from burning houses down was equally important. Italians who could afford to build their kitchens on the top floor did so in hopes that a kitchen fire wouldn't spread to the floors below. But top-floor kitchens increased the labor involved in carrying water from a well to the cook. So a bucket of water was made to last as long as possible. Food, dishes, hands may have been washed in dirty water, or not washed at all, "for a bucket of water had to last a long time, and thus, though no one realized the connection, diseases and epidemics lasted a long time, too."

In spite of the labor involved in getting water, medieval city-dwellers did not go unwashed for weeks or months. Frugoni says that Italian women in Boccaccio's time washed their hair every Saturday night. Newborns were bathed three times a day. Some cities had public bathhouses. An illuminated initial from a 14th century Austrian manuscript shows two women washing a man's hair. A 15th century illustration from the Decameron shows a bathhouse servant carrying water in two wooden buckets supported by a pole across the shoulders, while customers relax in bed after their baths.

Medieval city-dwellers were used to sharing beds. Another Decameron illustration shows travelers sharing beds at an inn. Still another shows servants sharing beds. Even hospital patients are sharing beds in a 15th century French miniature painting.

Frugoni's medieval day ends with an image of a new beginning, a rooster crowing on an Italian column capital. "All sleep, and dream their dreams, until at the crow of the cock, hope returns. "

Although this isn't a picture book, Frugoni has made her illustrations as important as her text. The generous variety of sources which Frugoni draws on gives her readers many chances to learn something new. Readers who can give relaxed attention to the rich variety of details in the illustrations will be well repaid. Most readers should find this day in a medieval city well spent.

—Marion Davis.

Vacation From Hell

Heretic – Bernard Cornwell, Harper Collins, NY 2003

In my review of *The Archer's Tale*, I expressed a wish to meet Thomas of Hookton again, and so I have. But the books are coming faster than I had imagined. This is the

Ricardian Reading

third in the series. I have missed the second, Vagabond.

But certain trends have developed. As *Heretic opens*, Thomas has been tortured by a Dominican. His cousin, Guy de Vexille, a fanatic follower of the faith of the Cathars, has killed Thomas's wife, Eleanor. This is convenient, because Thomas rescues a girl condemned for heresy on the eve of her burning, and falls in love with her. He is excommunicated for his good deed; the girl, of course, is not a heretic.

The plot boils down to a struggle between the cousins, each believing the other has knowledge of the Grail. The battle scenes are realistic and detailed. Naturally, Thomas wins, killing his cousin. He returns to England, finds the Grail, an earthen cup which has been under his nose all of his life. He then throws it as far as his young, strong arm can hurl it, into the sea.

—Dale Summers, TX

Dale says she wrote the above while suffering from poison oak – that's no way to spend a vacation! This resulted in having a lot of time to watch TV, specifically the Inspector Lindley series on PBS. (Lindley is a closet Ricardian.) Dale says she is disappointed in the series, as it seems to be getting "grimmer and grimmer." I must confess I'm disappointed too. None of the characters looks as I have imagined them.

On a side note, Dale would like to hear of any new Kate Sedley or Candace Robb books, and so would I. Can any of you Gentle Readers help us?

If It's Thursday, This Must Be Belgium

The Anchor Atlas Of World History: Vol. I, From The Stone Age To The Eve Of The French Revolution; Vol. 2, From The French Revolution To The American Bicentennial – Herman Kinder and Walter Hilgermann, translated by Earnest A. Menze, with maps designed by Harald and Ruth Bukor, Anchor Books, NY, c 1974

Wars and marriages continually changed boundaries between medieval European countries. Some histories that describe these events are rich in genealogical charts, put poor in maps. So it's good to have a historical atlas handy.

This paperback devotes 37 pages to late medieval Europe. In addition to the maps showing boundary changes from England to Russia and the Ottoman Empire, topical maps show the distribution of universities, countries that supported the pope in Avignon vs. countries that supported the pope in Rome, major trade centers and trade routs, the spread of the Teutonic Knights, and city leagues in the German Empire.

All maps are in full color and appear on left-hand pages. All text appears on right-hand pages. Full page maps are 3 ¼" x 6". Many pages have two half-size maps; some have four small maps. An abridged 8-page

index has to cover 287 pages of maps and text in Volume 1. Readers who want to follow the development of Burgundy can find 17 index entries for "Burgundy, Burgundians." But readers who want to find "Brabant" or "Armagnac" won't find them in the abridged index. Volume 2 contains a full index for both volumes, which includes "Brabant" but not Armagnac. Yet a little detective work locates Armagnac on maps titled "The Hundred Years War in France." Readers who want to follow the development of England will find 24 entries under "England" in the abridged index in Volume 1 and 32 entries in the full index in Volume 2. They will also find a "See Also" reference to "Britain" that leads to 82 entries. Since the indexer has used regular, bold and italic typefaces to indicate various meanings, readers must interpret the fine print carefully to avoid arriving at unwanted destinations. In spite of the index's complications, patient readers who enjoy humor and a little detective work are likely to find this paperback a helpful and affordable reference work. - Marion Davis

Atlas Of World History – John Haywood, with Brian Catchpole, Simon Hall, Edward Barratt, Barnes & Noble, NY, 1977

This one-volume hardback covers the years 4,000,000BC through A.D. 1997. Each map is laid out as a double page spread, 18" x 11 11/16" in size. Each double-page spread includes a full-color map, a timeline, text and an illustration from the time period. Designers were careful to keep place names from disappearing into the gutters, so readers won't have to guess at fractions of names close to the center of the book.

The section titled "The Medieval World, AD 600-1492" contains 21 maps. Among the topics covered are: the spread of world religions, AD 600-1500; the Crusades: War, revolt, and plague in 14th century Europe; the economy in medieval Europe, 1000-1500.

Most of the double-page spreads devoted to places cover an entire continent. Few focus on a single country. These double-page spreads are attractive and informative, but they may not include some places that readers want to find. Each page of the 10-page index contains six columns of small type. Readers who want to follow the development of Burgundy can find eight index entries. But readers who want to find "Brabant" won't find it in the index or on a map. Readers who want to know where Armagnac was can find "Armagnac dynasty in the index and "1419 - John the Fearless murdered during peace conference with the Armagnacs" on the timeline for Map 54. They can also find that "...early 15th century France was divided by the rivalry between the Burgundian and Armagnac families." But they cannot find "Armagnac" on Map 54, although there is a space on the map where it was located. This is disappointing for readers who would like to know where one of the parties in a major French conflict had its power base. Readers who want to follow the development of England will find 12 index entries under "England" and 27 entries under "Britain," with "See Also" references to "British Empire" and "United Kingdom."

This atlas might be more helpful to topic-oriented readers than those who want to find specific places. Its holistic approach can encourage readers to ask themselves new questions and think about places and events in new ways. Its attractive layout can encourage readers to explore new topics and unfamiliar parts of the world. But it may not be as good a reference tool as the *Anchor Atlas Of World History*.

Although both of these atlases have drawbacks, both qualify for copies of Sir Walter Scott's bookplate, which says: "Please return this book. I find that though many of my friends are poor arithmeticians, they are nearly all good book-keepers."

-Marion Davis.

Everyday Life Of Medieval Travellers – Marjorie Rowling, illus. By John Mansbridge, Dorset Press, NY, 1971

How did medieval travelers get about, without benefit of an atlas, map or GPS? Learn how in this compendium. If they didn't have maps, they did have guide books and handy phrase books:

- "Is the inn comfortable?I hope no lice, fleas or vermin have been left there."
- "The room has been cleaned. You will be comfortable in it . . . True, there is a great pack of rats and mice about the place. But I've set snares for them, so there should be no trouble."

The various chapters deal with the many different

types of travelers in medieval Europe: merchants, royalty, nobility and their emissaries, soldiers, outlaws and vagabonds, entertainers, doctors, artisans, hermits, crusaders and the religious. It is copiously and clearly illustrated, and the copy I have still has a very handsome dust wrapper. No doubt out of print, but look in libraries and used bookstores. – M. S.

Ride A Cock Horse To Banbury Cross

Heavy Words, Lightly Thrown: the reason behind the rhyme – Chris Roberts, Gotham Books, NY, 2005

This is listed as "Nursery Rhymes, English – History and criticism" - must be "higher criticism." How could you criticize a nursery rhyme? I know, a lot of people do object to some on the grounds of violence, perhaps. Maybe they are on to something. Who would have thought that Humpty-Dumpty has sexual connotations? On the other hand, "Rock-a-bye-baby" which seems to celebrate child neglect if not cruelty, might simply have a horticultural meaning. "Hark, Hark, the Dogs do Bark," may date back to Tudor times, and "London Bridge" to the Conquest – the Danish Conquest, that is.

Perhaps the historical origins that Roberts comes up with shouldn't be taken as gospel. He (I think it's he) doesn't seem to take his history too seriously, as he frequently goes off on side paths, e.g. to the RSPCA, William of Orange, a "Mr. Coleman." A glossary is appended for the benefit of American readers, who might not understand some of his references, though he sometimes digresses in that too!

—*M.S.*

And what did YOU do on your summer vacation? If you read any good books, or any awful books, let me know! myrnasbook@cableone.net

FIFTH FIFTEENTH-CENTURY CONFERENCE 6-9 May 2007

Allerton Park and Retreat Center, Monticello, IL

The triennial conference will be take place from 6 May to 9 May 2007, the days immediately preceding the Forty-Second International Medieval Congress at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI (10-13 May 2007). The site for the conference will once again be the scenic Allerton Park and Retreat Center in Monticello, IL. Featured speakers include Prof. Barrie Dobson of Cambridge University (retired) and Prof. Pamela King of the University of Bristol. Prof. Dobson will be giving a plenary address entitled "The Rise of the Professions in Fifteenth-Century England," and Prof. King will deliver a keynote address on "Confraternities, Civic Shows, and the Rhetoric of Fifteenth-Century English Urban Culture."

The deadline for paper proposals is Friday, 3 November 2006. Papers should be approximately 45 minutes long and can deal with any aspect of fifteenth-century English history or culture. (The conference definition of "fifteenth-century England" is rather broad, covering England and its realm — both insular and continental — from c. 1350 to c. 1550.)

FOUR SAINTS (continued from page 12)

follow him, eventually returning to Ireland with 30 disciples and settling at Mayo. Cuthbert was sent away from Melrose by St. Eata to be prior at Lindisfarne, in order that he might introduce the Roman customs into that house. This was a difficult matter which needed all his gentle tact and patience to carry out successfully, but the fact that one so renowned for sanctity, who had himself been brought up in the Celtic tradition, was loyally conforming to the Roman use, did much to support the cause of St. Wilfrid. In this matter St. Cuthbert's influence on his time was very marked. At Lindisfarne he spent much time in evangelizing the people.

He retired in 676 on the small isle of Farne, near Bamburgh, to lead a life of contemplative austerity, but this lasted only until 685, when he reluctantly agreed to become the Bishop of Lindisfarne. He was buried at Lindisfarne and his tomb became celebrated for miracles. In 698, when he was reburied, his body was found to be incorrupt. The monks made a beautifully-carved oak coffin for him, and a monk named Eadfrith, who was the Bishop of LIndisfarne from 698-721 AD, may single-handedly have written the Lindisfarne Gospels.

The island became a place of pilgrimage, but its growing wealth caused it to become the target of Danish Viking raids. One such raid in 875 AD forced the monks to abandon the island, but they took the Lindisfarne Gospels, St. Cuthbert's coffin (in which the head of St. Oswald had been placed), and relics of St. Aidan with them and they wandered for 7 years in Cumberland and Galloway. In 883, St. Cuthbert's body was laid to rest at Chester-le-Street, near Durham, where it remained for about a century before being moved to Ripon for a few months during a time of Viking raids. While it was being returned to Chester-le-Street in 995 AD, it came to a place east of current-day Durham, where the cart carrying it would not move. After three days of prayer, St. Cuthbert appeared to a monk named Eadmer to reveal that he wanted his body buried at Dun Holm, which meant "Hill Island." No one knew where it was until a milkmaid revealed that she was looking for her dun cow at such a place. The monks buried Cuthbert's body in a temporary church built from tree boughs, after which a small stone "White Church" was completed in 998 AD. It was at this site a century later, 1093, that the Normans began building Durham Cathedral as we know it today. In 1104, when St. Cuthbert's body, along with the head of St. Oswald, was being placed in his shrine at the high altar in the newly-built Durham Cathedral, it was still found to be incorrupt.

GENEROUS RICARDIANS

Sept-Oct. 2006

BOSWORTH LEVEL Mary Ellen (Ellie) Pierce MIDDLEHAM LEVEL

Gilda Felt

FOTHERINGHAY LEVEL Joanne Aarseth and Carol Jackson Dr. Terry L. Adkins Peggy Allen Barbara Baker Barillas Carol M. Barnstead Bonnie Battaglia and family Elizabeth C. Brand Jeanne P. Carlson Jacqueline C. Cox Alan O. Dixler Jean Domico Tom Duffy Carrie J. Johnson Virginia C. Johnson Steven B. Rogers **Beverlee Weston** OTHER GENEROUS RICARDIANS Lisa Baas Jacqueline F. Bloomquist

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Charles VI of France m Isabeau of Bavaria



It is interesting to examine the French royal ancestry of Henry VI and of Henry VII and his descendants. Katherine of France, wife both of Henry V and of Owen Tudor was the daughter of Charles VI of France and his wife, Queen Isabeau. Both of Katherine's parents had certain curious features. Incidentally Katherine was not the only daughter of this couple to become queen of England. One of her elder sisters had been the second wife of Richard II, but she was only a child at the time of her marriage and was returned to France by Henry IV apparently unused, and in 'nearly new' condition

Offices & Titles



following Richard's deposition.

Queen Katherine's mother, Isabeau of Bavaria, has been described as a nymphomaniac, and she later pronounced some of her own children (including her son and heir, the Dauphin) to be bastards. Her English grandson, Henry VI, seems not to have inherited his grandmother's libido, though his pronouncement that his wife's son, Edward of Lancaster, must have been fathered by the Angel Gabriel, has been seen by some as compromising the boy's legitimacy. Isabeau's great great grandson, Henry VIII, may have had a trace of the libido, and he certainly displayed a penchant for declaring his children bastards.

As for Isabeau's husband, King Charles VI of France is celebrated chiefly for having been mad. His illness started in the spring of 1392, when his hair and nails began to fall out, he had feverish fits, and showed signs of occasional incoherence. Against medical advice, Charles embarked on a military campaign, during which his condition worsened. His incoherence deteriorated into gibberish, and he was observed to abuse trees and shrubs both verbally and with obscene gestures. He also became violent in his behaviour to his attendants, ultimately killing four of his own knights, after which he lay on the ground, motionless (except for his wildly rolling eyes) and speechless.

Although Charles made a partial recovery, he later became convinced that he was made of glass. He then refused to travel for fear that the vibration would shatter him, and he insisted on having his clothes reinforced with metal rods, for protection. It was about this time that his medical advisors became inclined to think that the king was possessed by demons. By 1405 Charles was refusing to wash, be shaved, or change his clothes.

It is well-known that Charles' grandson, Henry VI also suffered from bouts of insanity, and it has been generally assumed that his ailment was inherited. Charles VI's Tudor descendants, on the other hand, have been assumed to have escaped this affliction. Is it possible, however, that Henry VIII's megalomania and paranoia were part of his heritage?

From the newsletter of the Mid Anglia Group

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN

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If you are interested in forming a chapter, contact Eileen Prinsen, Chapter Co-ordinator (see page 3 of this issue)

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Country: Phone:		Fax:				
E-Mail:						
 Individual Membership Individual Membership Non-US Family Membership \$35 + \$5/member 	\$35.00 \$40.00	Contributions: Schallek Fellowship Awards: General Fund (publicity, mailings, etc) 	\$			
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