

Richard III Society, Inc.

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# Ricardian Chronicle

Newsletter by and about members of the American Branch of the Richard III Society

## Announcing:

2016 GMM General Membership Meeting (formerly AGM)
Richard III Society American Branch
Denver, Colorado ~ Sept 23-25, 2016

Dawn Shafer and Jackie Hudson

The Rocky Mountain Chapter along with the Tidewater and Illinois Chapters are excited to announce that **Dominic Smee** will be the 2016 GMM keynote speaker.

Dominic is well known to Ricardians as Richard III's present day body double, since he has the same type and degree of scoliosis that Richard did. He generously volunteered to undergo a series of challenges to prove that Richard was the formidable warrior we all know that he was. If you haven't seen it, watch "Richard III—The New Evidence" on YouTube, which shows Dominic's journey through these challenges. It can also be seen on PBS in the US in the series "Secrets of the Dead—Richard III Resurrected" here.



Accompanying Dominic will be his Mother, Christina Smee, author of "The Rose of Middleham" which is available on Amazon.com. She also appears in the video and she and Dominic are volunteers at the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Center. Stay tuned as well for information on the band "The Legendary Ten Seconds" who have music CD's of their songs and instrumentals about Richard III.

Please save the date and plan to join us in Denver! Hotel and event information will be made available as plans are finalized. The discount airline Frontier is based in Denver and can have some very low fares. The weather in Colorado is beautiful in late September, the mountains will be in full fall color, so it will be a spectacular time for many reasons.

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#### Interview with Anne Easter Smith

As many of you already know, Anne Easter Smith is not only a member of the American Branch of the Richard III Society, but also a prolific author of Ricardian fiction, that began with the publication of A Rose for the Crown in 2006, followed by The Kings Grace (2009), Queen by Right (2011), Daughter of York (2011), and Royal Mistress (2013). She is currently working on her sixth book about the Yorkists, but you'll have to read this interview to learn what it's about.

#### Q. How long have you been a Ricardian?

I read Josephine Tey's Daughter of Time when I was 21—a very long time ago—and I was hooked on the idea that Richard was not who we had been taught he was in our English history books. The book so intrigued me that I had to read everything else about Richard I could lay my hands on. I only became a member of the society in the early 1990s, simply because I didn't know it existed. A good friend in England bought me my first annual membership!



#### Q. In your opinion, what are a historical fiction writer's main task and talent?

A love of research is key; be a seeker of truth and if you need to bend it for dramatic license make sure you own up to that in a Author's Note. As a writer of historical biography, I think my responsibility is to be true to the people I choose as my main characters. Do not misrepresent them if there is no evidence in history of your characterization. I like to think that I make history so palatable and accessible that readers will want to rummage in the archives and chronicles for themselves and find out more. Of course you will gain far more by reading the chronicles, letters and histories of the period. But what historical fiction does is bring those people to life and perhaps give you an appetite for doing more research on your own. However, just like watching a bio-pic on TV—you shouldn't believe everything you see. I try very hard never to have a person in the wrong place at the wrong time, and I will do my best to see if there is any evidence that someone was or was not at a certain castle when I want them to be, but I will not mess with history. If I cannot find anything that says Cecily Neville never met Joan of Arc, but the research tells me these two women were in the same building in Rouen at the same time (one in the royal apartments and the other in the dungeon) then I feel it's plausible that they did meet. As a reader of HF, I think you have to learn to recognize a writer who respects the history rather than one who, with one obvious anachronism, can have me throwing a book across a room! If you question something in an historical novel, then go and seek out the truth in the non-fiction shelves. Fiction is fiction after all!

# Q.You weave some fictional characters into your books. Is it easier to create an outright fictional character and backstory or create a credible historical character with a known backstory?

They both have their challenges. It sounds easier to have a historical figure all mapped out for you, but it's actually harder to write a novel within the confines of a factual life story if you are passionate about adhering to history. For the most part I use fictional characters for less important people or those of a lower class, simply because we don't have much information about those kinds of people to go on. Where I can, I will find real names in household lists (such as Wat Smith, who I found in John Howard's Household Books). But it still takes me a lot of time to create a whole life around a minor character, which means researching in the more everyday world of 15th century England. For example, I created Fortunata, an Italian dwarf talented at tumbling and sleight of hand tricks, who is given to Margaret of York in Daughter of York, and becomes Margaret's confidante. I read about the fashion of "owning" a dwarf—much in the same way as a king "owns" a jester—and discovered that Mary of Burgundy had her own and so created one for Margaret. My most important fictional character is Katherine Haute, my imagined mother of Richard's illegitimate children. In order to have a plausible explanation as to why we do not know with whom Richard had Katherine and John (and possibly Richard of Eastwell), I had to keep her out of the public (and the chronicler's) eye. I therefore created a more modest milieu for her to live in, and that was a lot of fun to write.

# Q. Your novel, A Rose for the Crown is your own personal revision of the Shakespearean myth. Why did you want to write a novel about Richard? Was this your first book?

Yes, unless you count the 60 pages of a regency romance I scribbled in notebooks commuting up to London from my home in Surrey to my job as an executive secretary in an ad agency! Ever since I was a little girl having fantasies or daydreams I was always in a long dress running through castles and gothic cathedrals. Don't tell anyone but I still have them. I started my love of history at school and in the holidays I would gobble up historical novels—Jean Plaidy, Georgette Heyer, Anya Seton—and when, in my 40s, I somehow fell into a job as features editor at a daily newspaper in Northern New York State, I began to think about writing my own novel about Richard. After all, I now had some writing experience. I not a clue how to go about it though, I just wrote from the heart and 900 pages later, I had a book! After my agent instructed me to edit 300 pages at least from it, no one was more astonished than I that it sold to Simon & Schuster (in a two-book deal). I am so happy it was a success with more than 150,000 copies sold in tandem with Daughter of York.

# Q. You are known for your meticulous attention to historical detail. Tell us some of your favorite ways to research.

I cannot start writing until I have walked in my characters shoes—geographically that is. I have traveled to almost all of the locations in all five books and walked through castles, manor houses or towns. Sometimes it's hard to imagine what Baynard's Castle might have looked like when you are staring at an ugly 1950s office building on that spot, but you can look up and down the Thames and spot church spires that would have been there, bends in the river, and imagine the hundreds of boats that would have plied the waters ferrying people across to the south bank or up to Westminster or down to Greenwich. I make appointments with archivists at castles or country houses before I go and they often find dusty documents from our period to photocopy for me. I got a handwritten genealogy chart from Raby Castle's historian documenting Ralph Neville's progeny with details not usually found in any text book. I make a note of flowers, trees, birds that I see in each region as I travel there, and I take lots and lots of photographs. I love going to museums and studying artifacts from 15th century, like musical instruments, cooking utensils, furniture etc. The Museum of London is one of my favorites. But paintings and tapestries from the period show me how men tied their hose, what dogs were common, how long shoe points were, etc. Of course, nothing beats finding historical facts in well researched non-fiction. Love it when an historian happens to mention that e.g. the summer of 1460 was one of the wettest recorded—it goes into my book.

#### Q. Who are some of your most trusted secondary sources?

Paul Murray Kendall was a conduit into reading about the real Richard all those years ago, but I've found some of his research refuted by later scholars. Also, because I know he is a revisionist, I read his book with a generous pinch of salt. I prefer Cora Scofield's two volume Life and Reign of Edward IV (and proudly own a now hard-to-find set), Charles Ross's Edward IV (his Richard III only covers Richard's kingship), John Ashdown-Hill and Annette Carson, to name a few. There are so many more good books about the period than when I first began writing A Rose for the Crown in 1997, and the internet has exploded with research material, too. When I started in the mid '90s, I relied heavily on the members of a couple of great email Listservs, like the RIII Society and Late Medieval Britain ones, to get answers or source ideas. I miss those people in the hodgepodge of email and Facebook groups that spring up every week and that I'm asked to join, it seems. Not sure which ones have the real scholars anymore. Ah, those were the days!

#### Q. Tell us a bit about your latest book. It has Richard as protagonist, right?

After writing around Richard for five books with female protagonists, I'm finally ready to tackle the Real Thing! I am currently lacking both an agent and a publishing contract, which in some ways is very freeing, because I can write the book I want. However, I'm good with deadlines (remember my newspaper training!) and it's very easy to procrastinate, because this this is a scary project. Getting into a man's head is not easy for a woman, especially Richard's. When my former agent greeted the news that I was writing Richard's story finally, her lack of enthusiasm was obvious with her response: "Oh no, not another Richard III book. Well, it will have to be a very different Richard III book or I won't be able to sell it." So, how to make this one stand out? I am using a very unusual narrator (I'm superstitious so I won't tell you who for fear of jinxing the project) in order to weave in the story of finding Richard's bones and the ensuing research and eventual burial. So, it is not a straightforward "biography" from birth to death. I hope to show that Richard never wanted to be a king, and that he wore the crown heavily. Certainly, I will take his scoliosis into great consideration as it starts to impinge on his physical and mental

health, and for that I am awfully grateful to Dominic Smee who talked to me for almost an hour about dealing with his own disease.

Wish me luck finishing the book and getting it published! It will benefit Richard's reputation if I do. Thanks for inviting me to talk to you.

Thank you, Anne for such an interesting and illuminating discussion about your writing. To learn more about Anne and her work, visit her website at anneeastersmith.com.

Editor's note: While I intend to contact other Ricardian authors that I know about, do not wait for my email. Please contact me at info@r3.org if you have written Ricardian fiction and would like to publish an interview in this newsletter.

~ToC~

## Ricardian Road Trip

Susan Troxell

For me, the most interesting period of Richard's life as a man and duke began in 1471. That was the year he returned from exile in Burgundy, led his first troops in combat at the Battles of Barnet and Tewkesbury, and received from Edward IV an assemblage of castles, manors and offices that would form the backbone of his great affinity in the North of England. I had been invited to speak at the Richard III Foundation's conference at Market Bosworth on October 17, so my husband and I decided to plan our annual holiday around my talk and to visit Ricardian sites from the 1470s that sometimes get overlooked in favor of the more famous ones like Middleham Castle, Fotheringhay, and Bosworth Battlefield.

Upon arriving at Manchester International Airport, we loaded our bags into our rental car and drove only 45 minutes to the strikingly beautiful Forest of Bowland in the "Red Rose" County of Lancashire. In July, 1471, Edward IV granted Richard the Mastership of the Forest of Bowland in the royal duchy lands. It was one of the few Lancashire duchy offices in which Richard was active—in other respects, he deferred to the Stanleys who jealously guarded their familial entitlement to those offices, so much so that Edward IV had to twice intervene and order Lord Stanley to stop meddling in the offices he'd given to Richard.



The Forest of Bowland is the perfect place to decompress after a long trans-Atlantic crossing and to adjust to a new time zone. It's all rolling green hills dotted with countless sheep, ancient towns and churches, mossy dry-stone walls, and a network of bubbling brooks that swell over their banks during heavy rains. There, we stayed at a very small B&B in Newton-in-Bowland whose friendly owners, outspoken Yorkshire folk (the eastern side of Lancashire is more "White Rose" than "Red Rose" country), were surprised to be receiving guests from America. We were delighted by pleasant views from our bedroom window.

The owners of the B&B directed us to several walking routes in the area, including one on Pendle Hill, famous for its 17th century witches and the place where George Fox, in 1652, had a vision which inspired him to establish the Quaker movement. Not to be deterred by our jetlag, my husband and I succeeded in climbing the very steep 5-mile route up this "hill" (only 90 feet short of being a mountain!) and were treated to stunning vistas of North Yorkshire and the Pennines. At the end of the day, we rewarded ourselves with a hearty pub meal at Parker's Arms, where we had the best venison burger ever tasted and a pie filled with "salt marsh lamb" and cockles.



Salt marsh lamb, by the way, is a local delicacy and is made from lambs who graze on coastal vegetation which lends a unique flavor to their meat. We'd never encountered it

before and it was absolutely delicious with the cockles. Of course, this only made us more excited to try a wide variety of savory pies throughout our trip, and I suppose I could make an argument that sampling them lent another historical dimension since meat pies were greatly consumed during the 15th century. Don't believe me? OK, I admit we love English pub food. But, anyway, back to history and our trip...

The next day we relocated our lodgings to the Masham-Ripon area in North Yorkshire, and this served as our "home base" for the next several days. Ripon is a bustling cathedral town, famous for its racetrack and the "Ripon Hornblower." It's also well-situated for making day trips to a plethora of Ricardian sites, including Middleham, Barnard Castle, Sheriff Hutton, Jervaulx Abbey, Fountains Abbey, Coverham Abbey, and Skipton Castle. It was to the latter, Skipton, that we first journeyed.

Skipton Castle touts itself as being "one of the best-preserved and most complete medieval castles in England" according to its pamphlet. The original motte and bailey wooden castle was erected in 1090, and later replaced by a stone structure in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Many elements of the 12<sup>th</sup> century castle and its chapel are still evident. Edward II gave the castle to the Welsh Marcher lord Robert Clifford in 1310, who initiated additional improvements, and it remained in the Clifford family possession until 1461, when the 9<sup>th</sup> Lord Clifford was attainted following Towton. Richard obtained possession



Figure 3 Skipton Castle

of Skipton in 1475 when he acquired it from Lord Stanley in exchange for his Welsh castle in Chirk. It remained in Richard's possession until his death in 1485, and as one can see from the photograph, a large Tudor-period manor house was added by the Clifford family when they regained possession after Bosworth. The combination of medieval and Tudor-style architecture is charming and there is a lovely courtyard.

Skipton was one of the last Royalist holdouts in the North during the English Civil War and surrendered to Cromwell's army after sustaining a long siege. Fortunately, the attempt to "sleight" the castle didn't work completely and, while the castle lost its original roofs, the Parliamentarians later permitted Lady Anne Clifford to replace them—with the caveat that they were not strong enough to bear firing cannon. Lady Anne is credited with planting a yew tree in 1659, which still graces the courtyard.



Figure 4 Skipton Castle - countyard with yew to related in 1659



Figure 5 Market Day in Skipton, North Yorkshire

Skipton is also a busy market town, and our visit coincided with their Monday market day. It was enjoyable seeing the local crafts, household goods and foodstuffs being sold on the High Street, many of which had a distinctive Yorkshire flair. We were also surprised to see that Andrew Cargenie, someone from our home state of Pennsylvania, provided the funds for Skipton's Public Library!

The desirability of possessing Skipton castle must have been very high for Richard. He was in the process of assembling his great Northern affinity and the honor of Skipton had

not only a fine castle with a garden, park, game reserves, private chases over the Pennine uplands and dales, but also a flourishing agriculture, commercial growth in the town, patronage of Bolton Priory, and extensive estates and honorial jurisdiction. Richard acted as patron of the local parish church of the Holy Trinity, granting it £20 in 1483 for the construction of its oak roof, the timbers of which are still in place today along with their original 15th century roof bosses. The church became a mausoleum for the Clifford family, following the dissolution of Bolton Priory.



Skipton



Figure 7 Rievaulx Abbey - Refecto

The next day we visited Rievaulx Abbey and another of the lesser-known castles possessed by Richard. Like Fountains and Byland Abbeys, Rievaulx was one of the great Cistercian monasteries of medieval Europe, and its ruins are said to be the "most complete" of any of the dissolved religious houses in England. It has one of the most spectacular natural settings, being set within a deep valley in the North York Moors National Park; however, to take a photograph from the best vantage point one has to pay an admission price of over £5.00 per person to the National Trust's Rievaulx Terrace. (It was raining and it didn't seem worth the price of admission just to take a photograph.)

At the height of its popularity, as many as 650 men—monks and lay brothers—prayed, sung masses, lived and worked within a completely self-sufficient community. In 1322, Edward II was visiting Rievaulx when his army was surprised by the Scots on nearby Shaws Moor and defeated by them at the battle of Byland. Other than that, the abbey seems to have been cut off from the rest of the world, suffered significant losses during the Black Death, but made something of a comeback during the 15th century



Figure 8 Rievaulx Abbey—Presbytery

when records show the monks renting out pastureland to 49 tenant farmers. Visiting ruins of such grand buildings is always awe-inspiring—albeit a little melancholy.

The next stop was to Helmsley Castle, only three miles from Rievaulx. I'd never heard of this particular castle in all my "Ricardian" reading, but Edward IV granted it to Richard following the execution of George, Duke of Clarence, in 1478. Helmsley became a great castle when Robert de Roos II (c. 1186-1227) set about rebuilding the pre-existing fortress structure. De Roos, also known as "Fursan," was one of the 25 barons chosen to ensure King John's compliance with Magna Carta, and this was highlighted in an exhibit at its visitors' center.





The castle remained in the continuous possession of the de Roos lords until the Battle of Hexham in 1464, when its current owner was executed and attainted. The castle's east tower dominates the nearby town of Helmsley and the surrounding parkland where medieval lords would have enjoyed hunting and other recreational pursuits. Although Richard possessed this castle from 1478-1485, there is no record of him residing here. However, he might have dropped by for a visit when he was at Rievaulx Abbey on May 20-21, 1484 according to Rhoda Edwards' "The Itinerary of King Richard Ш"

The next day we visited Ripon Cathedral and Richmond Castle. I'd been to Ripon several times in the past, and have always particularly enjoyed its late 15th century misericords. They are amazingly three-dimensional and depict Biblical scenes and medieval beasts and monsters in the most vivid manner.

The wood carver who made the Ripon misericords seems to have been somewhat famous in his day; his work is attributed at other cathedrals, Figure 11 Ripon Cathedral misericord depicting the talle of Samson, removing the of Gaza and making off with them before the Philistines could capture him particularly the misericords at Beverly Minster, which we



unique livery colla

visited later in our trip. There is also a beautiful alabaster effigy of Sir Thomas Markenfield, who died in 1398. He is wearing a most unique livery collar that reflects his service to Richard II, as it shows a stag at rest within a park pale.

His descendant, another Thomas, was appointed High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1484 and fought with Richard at the Battle of Bosworth. Markenfield Hall is only 3 miles from the cathedral is considered one of the best-preserved moated 14th century country houses in England. The current owner opens it up to the public at limited (and erratic) times of the year, so if you're lucky you might

get a tour of it.

We then drove 25 miles from Ripon to Richmond Castle, splendidly situated high above the River Swale, with a lovely town and World War I military museum at its feet. This is a Grade I listed building and it, along with the town, provided several hours of pleasure. The castle was part of the Honor of Richmond, one of the largest estates of medieval England dating back to a gift made by William the Conqueror to Alan Rufus, Count of Penthièvre in Brittany. Possession of the castle did not necessarily entail possessing the Honor, as the latter extended over 8 counties.



Like Helmsley, Richard came into possession of Richmond Castle following the execution of his brother George in 1478. One can climb to the top of the 12th century keep and enjoy breathtaking views of the castle walls and towers, the manicured "Cockpit" garden, and River Swale. The town is full of charming shops and tea rooms, making it a perfect place to rest one's feet while savoring scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam.



The next day, as we made our way to Market Bosworth for the conference, we stopped at Conisbrough and paid our respects to the birthplace of Richard's grandfather, the third Earl of Cambridge.

From the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> century, Conisbrough was in the possession of the de Warenne Earls of Surrey. It passed to the Crown (Edward III) when the family line ran out of surviving heirs, and the king granted it to his son Edmund of Langley, first

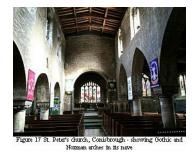


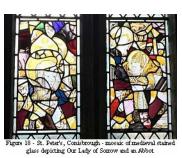
Duke of York. While Fotheringhay was the primary Yorkist residence, Conisbrough was an important secondary residence. With the accession of Edward IV to the throne in 1461, it again became a Crown property. Interestingly, the last recorded repairs to the castle were carried out under Richard's orders in 1482-3, so it seems that he had an emotional attachment to it. He was not alone. Both Geoffrey of Monmouth and Sir Walter Scott used Conisbrough Castle as a setting for their imaginative flights into history.

Perhaps one of the more surprising "gems" we discovered on the trip was the Conisbrough parish church of St. Peter's, which boasts architectural details from the Anglo-Saxon, Gothic and Norman periods.

The church was founded in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, making it one of the oldest parish churches in all of England. It contains a stone font, pulpit, a mosaic of ancient stained glass, and a Norman grave cover, all from the medieval period.











Following the Richard III Foundation conference, our tour of England concluded with our embarking "The Pride of Bruges" operated by P&O Ferries from Hull to Bruges, Belgium. It was the first time we'd ever taken a ferry to the Low Countries, and I was excited to be retracing Richard's 1470 journey, when he was forced to flee and seek refuge in his sister's, the Duchess of Burgundy's, sphere of power. Thankfully, we were not harassed by Hanse ships along the way and instead were treated to all the modern conveniences of hot food, private sleeping cabin, and an ensuite garderobe! (I should mention here that the Palace of Louis de Gruuthuse, where Richard likely stayed during his 5 months in the Low Countries, and the Cathedral of Our Lady which contains the tombs of Charles the Bold and his daughter Mary, were both closed to visitors for major restoration work. They are scheduled to be reopened to the public in 2017.)

However, before we boarded the ferry in Hull, we stopped by Beverly Minster for a quick look. Ninety minutes was far too little time to give to this magnificent church, which holds the tomb of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, who infamously failed to come to Richard's defense at Bosworth. It is also notable for having one of the greatest collections of carved stone images, including figures playing a vast array of medieval musical instruments. One could literally spend the whole day looking at the stone images, because they run from the spiritual to the heraldic to the comedic. My favorite was the depiction of the Deadly Sin of gluttony, featuring a man with cloven-hooved feet, bent over and clutching his belly. I should have heeded this "warning" in Bruges, where the temptations of chocolate, waffles, pastries, ales, frites, and waterzooi stew frequently led me astray from the path of virtuous moderation.





Figure 22 The Deadly Sin of Ghittony, Beverly Minster.

I've read certain accounts that Richard, as a young man of 17 years, may have also been a little indulgent with food and maybe the ladies, during his stay in Bruges. But I'm probably thinking of a historical fiction novel. It's much more likely he spent most of his time hob-nobbing with rich merchants and town burghers to raise funds and troops for Edward IV's much-anticipated bid to recapture the English throne. Although our trip included transportation by jet, car, ferry, and train, it seems we'd have to travel by time machine to answer the many mysteries about our Richard.

#### ~ToC~

## Thoughts on The Daughter of Time

(Excerpt from King's Games: A Memoir of Richard III and King's Games: The Commentaries)

Nance Crawford Nance@NanceCrawford.com

JOSEPHINE TEY was the pen name used by Elizabeth MacKintosh (1896—1952) when writing thrillers. In her day, Miss MacKintosh was regarded as a rival to Agatha Christie, although her body of mystery work was not nearly as voluminous. Under the pen name Gordon Daviot, she also wrote for the theater, and her drama of Richard II, *Richard of Bordeaux*, was Sir John Gielgud's first great London success.

"Truth is the daughter of Time."

Ask any member of the Richard III Society, "How did you come to join the group?" and the most frequent response will be, "I read *The Daughter of Time*."

The Daughter of Time has never been out of print since its initial publication in 1951. Almost continually under option since, as of this writing it has never been produced as either a stage play or a film. For very good reasons which are no reflection on the skill and meticulous craft of the author, *The Daughter of Time* is, intrinsically, a difficult, if not impossible, novel to adapt to dramatic form.

Detective Inspector Alan Grant is the linchpin of half a dozen mystery novels, three of which have been adapted for film or television. The other three include her most famous work, voted Number One in "The Top 100 Crime Novels of All Time," by the United Kingdom Crime Writers' Association in 1990

In *The Daughter of Time*, Grant stands alone (or, rather, lies alone, his leg strung up in traction, the unseemly result of chasing a known felon). We meet him at the height of boredom, imprisoned in hospital, attended by an efficiently cheerful young nurse. In his circumstances, he is, at first, not a particularly sympathetic character. Initially petulant and self-absorbed, any translation to stage or screen would make the character very dependent on the command and charm of the actor playing him. He becomes truly empathetic through his tenacious curiosity, his bulldog determination to solve the puzzle.

He is not a comfortable protagonist. He is a man visited only by his housekeeper, Mrs. Tinker, Sergeant Williams, his second at the Metropolitan Police, and Marta Hallard, a renowned actress of the London stage, all standard stock characters that any reader of British Whodunits recognizes immediately. Charming and to the purpose, they are, otherwise, empty vessels.

Additionally, it is not terribly easy to find enormous sympathy for Marta Hallard's American "woolly lamb," Brent Carradine, who turns up to become Grant's on-the-ground history researcher. He is spoiled—a poor little rich boy who has followed his heart's desire to London, and doesn't have the gumption to let his domineering father know what he is really up to. Heaven forefend that his allowance should be cut off, and he be left with the necessity of finding a way to support himself on his own earnings. He is also, in 1951, an anachronism, a character formed twenty years earlier, at the edge of, but unaffected by, the Great Depression, a device straight out of an Astaire/Rogers movie. By 1951, an intelligent American male of his age and social standing would evidence a sharper, more cynical edge. After all, he would have spent puberty with the fascinating horror of the Second World War, a cumulative generational and societal experience that not even the most sheltered American child would

have been able to avoid. (It would not be in the genes of the son of Carradine the First to not like Ike.) Brent Carradine is the major necessary device Tey was compelled to invent in order to construct her novel.

The problem with dramatizing the book is that, although it appears to be about Alan Grant, and his inflamed desire to keep from going mad while confined in a hospital room (not even on the surface effective dramatic fodder), it is, in fact, a story of Richard III, cunningly told, a literary exercise of admirable intent which, through no fault of the author, appears to be untranslatable, as it stands, to any other medium.

It never leaves the hospital room. As much as we may come to admire Richard, as much as we are happy to accept, with Grant, the probable guilt of Henry VII, theatrically, we would be bored.

Who cares if Henry had the deed done? We don't. We haven't met him. He appears after the fact and, thus, doesn't belong in the picture. There is no way to write him into the drama.

The great irony is that, while *The Daughter of Time* was being created, a contemporary historian of the Yorkist age was combing records, compiling research on Richard.

Published in 1956, five years after the death of Josephine Tey, Paul Murray Kendall's *Richard III* was based in extensive archival research. Kendall, a history professor at Ohio University, created a readable, exciting work that includes impassioned conjecture regarding the emotional responses of the central participants. Although the book skates at the edge of the presentation of fiction, he chose not to muddy the primary text with personal conjecture about the notorious mystery associated with the king, instead presenting a separate appendix dealing with the fate of the two princes in the Tower.

If time had been kind, if the historical record had been more accessible to her, Josephine Tey could undoubtedly have written a more dramatically translatable novel, one which would not have defied adaptation for so many years.

There are five copies of her book on the shelf behind my desk.

Somewhere along the way, I was fortunate to stumble across a hardback published by Macmillan and Company in the United States in 1951. It does not say, "First Edition," but it is the single bound copy I've found. The flyleaf tells me that I paid \$2.25 (plus tax) in a used book store. To its right live four paperback editions, in order of height. The paperbacks show a variety of quotes from critics at the time of the original publication:

"Astonishingly different . . . intense dramatic excitement . . . no superlatives are adequate . . . one of the permanent classics in the detective field"

Anthony Boucher, The New York Times

"Beautiful suspense . . . completely fascinating . . . you will find the book one of the most absorbing you have ever read"

San Francisco Chronicle

"Not only one of the most important mysteries of this year, but of all the years of mystery"

Los Angeles Daily News

"This is the sort of especially satisfying book we have been led to expect from Miss Tey...if a more enchanting book comes my way this year I shall be surprised."

James Sandon, New York Herald Tribune

"Original and absorbing"

New Yorker

"ONE IN A MILLION"

Boston Globe

All absolutely true.

As fascinating today as it ever was.

With an ending that is dynamite on the printed page, but would be just plain death in a theater—which is undoubtedly the reason Gordon Daviot did not write it as a play.

#### Chapter News

#### Michigan Chapter:

Lawrence Irwin, Moderator

The Michigan Chapter of the Richard III Society has had another successful year, thanks to the continued efforts of our core members. We have an active (full-dues paying) membership of 19, of which eight to 10 regularly attend our meetings. We continue to meet quarterly, with most of our meetings held at the Bloomfield Township Public Library.

Our January meeting featured a talk by our long-time member Dianne Batch on life in a medieval castle, based on the book by the Gies historian couple.

Our spring meeting, held in May, hosted an open discussion of the reburial of King Richard in Leicester Cathedral.

We held our annual coronation banquet, in July, at a new location, St. CeCe's, a lively Irish style pub restaurant in Detroit's Corktown.

The October meeting continued the Gies' *Life in a Medieval*...series, where Dianne spoke about life in a medieval city (Troyes, France).

Our traveling exhibit about King Richard III has gone to several Detroit area public libraries this year. We are considering hosting the 2018 AGM; our last one in 2010 was successful. We are planning to have another medieval banquet in spring 2016 with new menu choices. We welcome new members to our small but lively Michigan Chapter.

#### The Ragged Staff

Michigan Chapter Meeting Minutes October 2015

Our Coronation Banquet was held on July 6, 2015 at St. CeCe's on Barlow in Corktown. Present were Dianne Batch, Rose Wiggle, Linda Peecher, Jim Murphy, Charles Fickeau and Larry Irwin. We all enjoyed the lively pub atmosphere with the stones Irish counties map on the wall in front of us. We drank a toast to the reburied King Richard and discussed the latest news regarding the society and other related historical matters. We decided to move Dianne's planned program on the Gies' *Life in a Medieval City* to the quiet atmosphere of the BTPL. There was no American Branch AGM in 2015 for Michigan members to attend and report on; the next American AGM will be in 2016.

#### **Bannockburn Beats Bosworth**

While the Battle of Bosworth Field may be significant to Ricardians—a view that is not necessarily shared by others. According to a BBC poll asking responders to select the most significant battle on British soil, the winner was Bannockburn, fought between troops led by Robert the Bruce of Scotland and King Edward II of England. Described in an article in *History Revealed Magazine* as "apivotal victory in the fight for Scottish independence from British rule, the battle of Bannockburn was a classic case of wit over superior numbers and weaponry, says Julian Humphrys ("the same might be said of the battle of Agincourt on October 25, 1415, in which Henry V defeated a much larger French army"). Surely the 700th anniversary celebration a few months ago was more enjoyable for many Scots in light of the growing strength of the Scottish National Party. Following Bannockburn at 33% was the Battle of Britain with 23% and Hastings at 19%. Bosworth was way down the list with only 3%.

#### Richard III's Speaker of the House

In light of the recent resignation of Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner, it might be noted that Richard Ill's Speaker of the House of Commons during his short reign was his close ally and, like Boehner and King Richard, a Catholic, William Catesby.

Following the battle of Bosworth, Sir William (as noted in Wikipedia) "alone of those of importance he was executed three days later at Leicester." The suggestion that he might have made a deal with the Stanleys before the battle comes from his will when he asked them "to pray for my soul as ye have not for my body as I trusted in you."

#### Richard III's Ghost

There have been sightings of Richard III's ghost lately, as noted in the Oct. 4th online Daily Mail, "A psychic says that the ghost of Richard III is haunting Leicester Cathedral after taking a photo which she claims shows an image of his face in a stone slab. Christine Hamlett, of Northwich, Chesire, took the photo after visiting the resting place of the 15th-century monarch earlier this month. She claims she could feel Richard's presence in the historic building and was shocked when she looked over her photos of the day. The 58 year old medium said" I felt totally calm inside the cathedral—I felt a calming presence and I think it might have been Richard. I always take pictures and send out my thoughts when I visit places and when I looked back at the pictures of the slabs afterwards I was stunned—I saw Richard's face staring back at me. I've felt close to Richard for quite some time so it was a real privilege to visit. I did feel a bit strange. I 'm used to reaching out to spirits but I felt weirdly reassured. It was unusual."

#### **Drinking Water in Medieval Europe**

Coping with unclean water drinking water has been a centuries-old problem. As noted in the online article by Lauren Davis on i09.com, *No, Medieval people didn't drink booze to avoid dirty water*, 'It seems to be common wisdom that Europeans in the Middle Ages drank primarily beer and wine because water wasn't safe to drink. This, however, is a persistent myth as water was a regular part of the Medieval diet. Food historian Jim Chevallier examines what he calls "The great Medieval water myth" at his blog *Les Leftovers ...He* notes that some Medieval writers laid out instructions on how to tell bad water from good (and sometimes even recommended boiling water that smelled iffy), and mentions one physician who recommended against drinking too much water. But there are no writers who have been known to recommend against the drinking of water completely, nor to have recommended beer and wine as a means of avoiding water. To the contrary, many writers express the thirst-quenching pleasures found in a good cup of water."

#### Henry VIII, McLeod Syndrome and Jaquetta's Curse

Why, in the words of the authors, P. Stride and K. Lopes Floro, in this 2013 article from *The Journal of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh*, did King Henry VIII (a grand-nephew of King Richard

III) decline "from ajovial, athletic, popular, young "bluff King Hal" into a paranoid, tyrannical and ailing old man struggling to produce a male heir"? Their explanation has nothing to do with drinking water, rather they "explore in detail the recent suggestion by Whitley and Kramer that Henry's infertility was caused by Kell antigen and his psychosis by the associated McLeod syndrome (MLS), a progressive neurological disorder characterized by behavioral changes, late-onset dementia, peripheral neuropathy and haemolytic anaemia."

The authors noted that diabetes may have contributed to Henry VIII's slow healing from a jousting wound in his leg (they note that Edward IV may also have had diabetes) but doubt that diabetes or obesity had anything to do with his earlier reproductive problems. They also doubt that Henry VIII had syphilis, as congenital syphilis was not present in his legitimate or illegitimate children or sexual partners (they wonder if syphilis was introduced to Scotland by Perkin Warbeck's mercenary army).

The authors note that Jacquetta Woodville's first marriage, to John, Duke of Bedford, produced no children. However, her marriage to Richard Woodville produced 13 children, including Elizabeth, the wife of King Edward IV and the grandmother of King Henry VIII. The witchcraft charges against her were dropped when Edward IV regained his throne 'but were revived by Richard III in the Titulus Regius act, alleging that Jacquetta procured Edward's marriage to Elizabeth through witchcraft. A modem understanding of medicine suggests that Jacquetta may have cursed Edward not by witchcraft but through genetics at the Kell locus.

The authors note that to prove the presence of the Kell positive gene in the seven sons of Jacquetta and Richard Woodville, one would find that none of the sons had more than a single healthy child, which is indeed the case. In Henry VIII's case, "three of his four surviving children were the product of that woman's first pregnancy, consistent with predictions assuming Kell incompatibility" (the future Mary I being the one exception). The authors thus accept that Henry VIII may have possessed the Kell positive gene. However, a survey of Henry VIII's medical history leads them to discount having McLeod syndrome (MLS), as suggested by authors Whitely and Kramer. The fact that Henry VIIJ's grandfathers showed no evidence of mental illness, plus the fact that he is unlikely to have inherited both a lone X chromosome (Kell) and an X-linked mutation (MLS) from Elizabeth of York. Testing the bones of both Henry VIII and the possible "Princes in the Tower" would further elucidate the theories, but those tests are unlikely.

#### Agincourt 600th Anniversary

Amidst the anniversary of the years of World War I comes the 600th anniversary of the battle of Agincourt. As noted in an article in the online Daily Mail, "The Agincourt Alliance, an Anglo-French re-enactment group supported by the town's historical centre and local tourist agencies, is now proposing a 'Big Shoot'. The Alliance's website reads: "We want to recreate an arrow storm with at least 1,000 archers," adding: "We need a minimum 1000 acher bloc to try and recreate Henry V's first arrow volley made in 1415. Each archer will need a minimum 30 suitably specified arrows. This means rubber blunted arrows with long wooden shafts and fletched with real white feathers" The Daily Mail article How English Archers Won the Battle of Agincourt noted: "The French were met by a furious bombardment of artillery from the English archers, who wielded innovative longbows with a range of 250 yards. French knights were totally unprepared to meet that weapon. Weighed down with heavy armour and become bogged down on the narrow and slightly upward sloping battlefield they were sitting target. As more knights entered the battle they became even more vulnerable to a cascade of deadly arrows. Almost 6,000 Frenchmen lost their lives at the Battle of Agincourt, while English deaths amounted to just over 400. The stunning victory turned the tide for the English during the Hundred Year's War (1337 -1453) for control of the French throne. Henry V was eventually recognized in 1420 as heir to the French throne and the regent of France. But France would go on to eventually win the Hundred Year's War."

#### **October Meeting**

The October meeting will be at our usual location, the Bloomfield Township Public Library, on October 18at 2:00. Besides Dianne's program, we will also be holding elections for chapter officers, including Moderator, Treasurer and Secretary. The Olivier film of Shakespeare's *Richard III* will be showing at the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts on Saturday, November 28 at 3:00. We can decide if it is worth asking to leave some notice of the other view of Richard III on that occasion. Our annual dues of \$10.00 are due at the October meeting.

#### New England Chapter

August 22, 2015 Meeting Minutes Acton Memorial Library, Acton, MA

June-Anne Greeley, NE Chapter Moderator

The meeting began with introductions of those attending including new members.

During lunch, business items of the chapter were discussed:

- 1. Plans for the annual December 'Holiday Luncheon and Raffle' were discussed, including date and place. June-Ann Greeley confirmed further investigation of suitable sites and a reservation before the next meeting in November.
- 2. Reminder to members about the October 'Renaissance Faire' in CT
- 3. Reminder to members also about the 2016 annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire. The chapter has been scheduled for a session during the conference: a workshop on writing medieval historical fiction. Chapter members are invited to participate in the workshop which will be open to all conference attendees.
- 4. The April meeting of the Chapter will take place after the workshop at the conference.
- 5. Suggestions of topics and plans for subsequent meetings were shared:
  - f. visit to Yale Beinecke Library (closed until Sept. 2016 for renovations)
  - g. Skype in special speakers (such as members of the Richard Project)
- 8. Members were reminded to submit items to the Newsletter and the *Chronicle*. Joan confirmed that she would follow up with emails during subsequent weeks.
- 9. June-Ann confirmed that the next regular meeting would be in early-to-mid November.
- 10. There was some discussion about developing social media sites for the chapter itself, including the chapter's own Facebook page.

After the business of the chapter was finalized, the chapter enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Sally Keil on her trip to England for the (re)interment of RIII. Sally generously shared with the members her full experience of the events leading up to and during RIII's royal burial, including many excellent photographs and details of events. The chapter thanks Sally providing everyone with a dynamic and comprehensive experience of the full occasion.

Many thanks also to all who contributed food for the luncheon, especially Diana Rubino who baked a special cake in honor of the day (RIII's fall at Bosworth, August 22, 1485, 530 years ago).

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.

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November 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Babbidge Library, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT (many thanks to our hosts, Janet and David Avery)

June-Ann Greeley, NE Chapter Moderator

11:00am: The meeting began with introductions of the membership. New members were welcome 11:20: Business of the chapter (June-Ann Greeley):

- Minutes of the 8/22 meeting were read and accepted.
- Reminder of December 6, 2015 Holiday Luncheon and Raffle at the Altnaveigh Inn and restaurant in Storrs, CT. Members were asked to consider participation in the raffle since it is a major fund-raiser for the chapter. Confirmation of attendance was requested by December 2, 2015.
- The Avery's son shared with the membership research he is conducting on the library holdings and publications on the "boys in the Tower."
- Confirmation of the chapter's participation at the Medieval and Renaissance Forum at Keene State in Keene, N.H. The chapter will hold a session on the writing of medieval historical fiction. After the Forum session, the chapter will hold its regular meeting.
- Joan Szechtman explained the Society's publications, the *Register* and *Chronicle*, encouraging submissions.
- Members were asked to submit ideas for future meetings, including special speakers and special topics.

11:50: Lunch

12:15: presentation by Dr. Marylynn Salmon from her recent publication, *Secrets of the House of York*. Dr. Salmon's presentation was intriguing and compellingand open up areas of new research and investigation that will surely excite the RIII world. The chapter thanks Dr. Salmon profusely for taking the time to share her fascinating research with us and we look forward to hearing more about her scholarship.

2:00pm: Meeting adjourned.

Thanks to all who contributed edibles and potables to the luncheon: a goodly meal was shared by all!

#### Tidewater Chapter: Tour of Ricardian Sites

Bob Pfile, Moderator

In October 2015, the Tidewater Chapter sponsored a tour of Ricardian sites. The tour was conducted by the Take Us Touring Company. We visited more than ten sites including Fotheringay, Middleham, and, of course, Bosworth Field. David Harvey, our tour guide, provided expert insight into the history and background of Richard's life. We had five members of our chapter and six travelers from across the country. The picture below was taken at Oakam Castle. This tour was so successful; we are considering another in early 2017.



Following our return from the tour, we held our quarterly meeting on November 7, 2015. Our program consisted of a discussion and description of the tour. A handout and photographs were used to describe the highlights of our travels.

Our next chapter meeting will be held on January 23, 2016.

Should you have any questions about the Tidewater Chapter, please contact Bob Pfile at rpfile43@gmail.com.



# ex libris

Rare and delightful books from the non-fiction library



#### Non-Fiction Book Fundraiser

We are pleased to offer for sale surplus copies of texts from our Non-Fiction Library. This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase books about Richard III and his time period for your own Ricardian library. You may have noticed that, due to the upswing of interest in Richard III following the discovery and reinterment of his remains, the cost of books about him have skyrocketed on Amazon, eBay, etc.

Proceeds from this sale will go to help defray the cost of bringing Dominic Smee to the 2016 GMM in Denver, Colorado.

The list of book titles, and a suggested donation, is provided below. Please email your selection to our Non-Fiction Librarian, Susan Troxell, and mail a check payable to "Richard III Society" to her in the amount of purchase price *plus shipping and handling*. See the shipping cost information below. Books will be mailed to you upon receipt of the check.

Please submit your order request and check payable to "Richard III Society" to:

Susan Troxell researchlibrary@r3.org 114 Lombard Street Philadelphia, PA 19147

#### Shipping & handling costs:

In the United States: \$5 for one book; \$7.50 for two to three books Outside the United States: Please contact the Librarian above for a quote

Due to expected interest, we recommend that you provide Susan with a list of books you are interested in purchasing, in order of priority, so that if your first choice has already been sold, we can hopefully honor your alternative selections.

Thank you and Loyaulte me lie!

#### RICHARD III SOCIETY—AMERICAN BRANCH NON-FICTION LIBRARY SURPLUS BOOKS

#### Author: Title, Suggested Donation

Abbott, Jacob: Richard III, \$5

Alderman, C.L.: Blood Red the Roses, \$5

Aston, Margaret: The Fifteenth Century: The Prospect of Europe, \$5

Bennett, Michael: The Battle of Bosworth, \$1

Brooke, Richard: Visits to Fields of Battle in England, \$16

Dening, John: Secret History: The Truth about Richard III & the Princes, \$30

Drewett, Richard: The Trial of Richard III, \$3

Evans, H.T.: Wales & The Wars of the Roses, \$5

Goodman, Anthony: The Wars of the Roses—Military Activity & English Society, \$5

Gill, Louise: Richard III & Buckingham's Rebellion, \$5

Gillingham, John: *The Wars of the Roses*, \$5 Griffiths, Ralph: *The Reign of King Henry VI*, \$10 Hallam, Elizabeth: *The Wars of the Roses*, \$10

Hammond, PW & Sutton, Anne: Richard III—Road to Bosworth, \$5 Hanham, Alison: Richard III & His Early Historians 1483-1535, \$40

Harvey, John: The Plantagenets, \$5

Haswell, Jock: The Ardent Queen-Margaret of Anjou, \$5

Hicks, Michael: Richard III, \$5

Jenkins, Elizabeth: The Princes in the Tower, \$5

Keegan, John: The Face of Battle, \$5

Kendall, P. (ed.): Philippe de Commynes—The Universal Spider (Louis XI), \$5

Kendall, P.: Louis XI—the Universal Spider, \$5

Kendall, P.: The Yorkist Age, \$5

Kendall, P.: Warwick the Kingmaker, \$5

Kendall, P.: Richard the Third, \$5

Lander, J.R.: Conflict & Stability in 15th Century England, \$5

Lander, J.R.: Crown & Nobility 1450-1509, \$5 Lander, J.R.: Government & Community, \$5

Lander, J.R.: The Wars of the Roses, \$5

Lindsay, Philip: On Some Bones in Westminster Abbey, \$10

Lindsay, Philip: *The Tragic King: Richard III*, \$5 Lindsay, Philip: *King Richard III—A Chronicle*, \$5

Littleton, Taylor: To Prove a Villain: The Case of Richard III, \$5

Macaulay, David: *Castle* [Children's Book], \$5 Macaulay, David: *Cathedral* [Children's Book], \$5 Maurer, Helen: *Margaret of Anjou* [PhD Thesis], \$10 Murph, Roxane: *Richard III: Making of a Legend*, \$5

Murray, Jane: Kings & Queens of England, \$5 Neillands, Robin: The Wars of the Roses, \$5

Pollard, A.J.: Richard III & the Princes in the Tower, \$5

Potter, Jeremy: Good King Richard?, \$5

Rees, David: Son of Prophecy: Henry Tudor's Road to Bosworth, \$5

Ross, Charles: *Edward IV*, \$5 Ross, Charles: *Richard III*, \$5

Saccio, Peter: Shakespeare's English Kings, \$5

Seward, Desmond: Richard III: England's Black Legend, \$5

St. Aubyn, Giles: *The Year of Three Kings*, \$5 Storey, R.L.: *The End of the House of Lancaster*, \$5

Tudor-Craig, Pamela: Catalogue to NPG's Richard III Exhibit (1973), \$20

Weir, Alison: The Princes in the Tower, \$5

Williams, H.S.: The Historians' History of the World (1485-1642): \$1

Williamson, Audrey: *The Princes in the Tower*, \$5 Wolffe, B.P.: *The Crown Lands 1461-1536*, \$5

### New Acquisition: Audio/Visual Library

Susan Troxell, Non-fiction Librarian

We're pleased to announce that British composer Geoff Davidson has donated an audio recording of the March 26, 2015 concert of his *Middleham Requiem*. The Richard III Society sponsored the performance, and its patron,

the current Duke of Gloucester, along with Lady Gretton, the Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, were in attendance among hundreds of other Society members at St. James the Greater church. The *Middleham Requiem* is a dramatic oratorio telling the life, reign and death of the last Plantagenet king of England. It was premiered in Fotheringhay in 1993.

In the words of Phil Stone, "It is a mixture of the spoken word and sung pieces, the words being taken from contemporary documents and interspersed with the Latin text of the mass. The first part of the *Requiem* tells of Richard's early life from his plan to found a College at Middleham, hence the work's title, then through to the battle of Barnet until his coronation, celebrated by the populace singing the 'Rex tremendae'. The second part begins with the death of Richard's son, followed by that of Queen Anne, when Richard cries aloud 'Libera me', followed by the words known today as King Richard's Prayer. With appropriate martial music, Richard goes to meet with Henry Tudor at Bosworth, the battle being fought against the words of the 'Dies irae'. After the death of the king, the choir quietly sing 'Requiem aeternam'—Richard III is at rest."

Four copies of the concert are available in audio CD format for American branch members to borrow. Our non-fiction librarian also has a copy of the Program Notes which contain the full libretto and biographies of the performers. Please contact Susan Troxell at researchlibrary@r3.org if you are interested in borrowing one of the CDs. Note: the composer has asked us to be mindful that no copies are to be made of the CD in any format whatsoever. This recording has not been licensed for commercial sale or broadcast, and is only available to members of the Richard III Society.

#### **Submission Guidelines**

Joan Szechtman

- Keep it simple. Please use a standard 12 point font, preferably Times New Roman. Microsoft's default font is fine too.
- Use italics for book titles, article titles, publication titles, and foreign language.
- Try to put only one space between words and after punctuation, including the ends of sentences. I justify text, so extra spaces throw justification off.
- If the document has images, please submit them separately, marking their place in the document like this: <file name such as Fig1>.
- Do not resize your images. I can always make them smaller to fit, but can't make them larger. Images for print files need to be 300 dots per inch size, so if the image needs to be 1" by 2" on paper, then it has to be 300 dots (or pixels) by 600 dots to print properly.
- Image file format should be jpg, png, or tif. Most cameras will produce jpg images.
- Document file format should be doc, docx, odt, or rtf. I can import most PDF files, but if the font in the PDF is "fancy" such as some gothic fonts, it may not import well. So if you have no other choice but to submit a PDF document, please be aware that I may have to reject it.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me at info@r3.org if you have any questions on something that you want to submit.

#### **Chronicle Publication Schedule**

Pub. Schedule 

June Issue 

December Issue 

November 15 

Submission Deadline 

May 15 

November 15

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Note: If you do not see a chapter near you and you would like to reach out to other Ricardians in your area, please contact the Membership Chair at membership@r3.org. She will circulate your email address to members in your area. If you later decide to go ahead and form a chapter, please contact the Chapters' Advisor at chapters@r3.org.

# Membership Application/Renewal Dues

| Regular Membership Levels                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Individual \$60.00 \$                                                                                         |
| Family membership: add \$5.00 for each additional adult                                                       |
| at same address who wishes to join.                                                                           |
| Please list members at the same address (other than yourself) who are re-joining                              |
| For non-U.S. mailing address, to cover postage please add: \$15.00 \$                                         |
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| Honorary Fotheringhay Member \$75.00 \$                                                                       |
| Honorary Middleham Member \$180.00 \$                                                                         |
| Honorary Bosworth Member \$300.00 \$                                                                          |
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| Morris McGee Keynote Address Fund \$                                                                          |
| Schallek Special Projects Fund \$                                                                             |
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| c/o Sally Keil                                                                                                |
| 1219 Route 171                                                                                                |
| Woodstock CT 06281 (U.S.A.)                                                                                   |

#### Annual Report

#### Chairman's Report, 2015

Jonathan A. Hayes Chairman, American Branch, Richard III Society Vice President, Richard III Society (UK)

It has been a truly great year to be a Ricardian. Ricardians from all over the world, including approximately 10% of the American Branch membership, converged on Leicester in March for the reinterment of King Richard III. While I've already reported on the reinterment week, there are a couple of points I want to highlight.

First, Tracy Bryce from Canada, Dorothea Preis from Australia, Rob Smith from New Zealand and I were able to meet with the parent Society officers—a first. While not a lot was accomplished, it was agreed that modern communications would be employed in the future to give the overseas Branches more input into Society deliberations. It would be churlish of me not to thank Sally Keil for all the marvelous work she put into making the American Branch reception such a success and to thank Sonia Tower for her sterling efforts in producing that magnificent Concert for a King and Susan Burns for her wonderful playing at the Concert. And again, the citizens of Leicester did themselves proud. If you haven't visited Leicester: go. If you have: go back.

Board meetings in June and September dealt with the need to amend the By Laws for biennial meetings and to establish standing committees to work on the GMM. Sally Keil and Joan Szechtman have done sterling work in bringing us further into the electronic age. There have been the inevitable glitches but we are going in the right direction in this area.

The Medieval Academy of America (which administers the Schallek Fund) proposed taking over ownership. The Board decided to not accept this proposal as it would not be in accordance with the intent of Maryloo Schallek's bequest. The Academy has accepted this decision and also will provide the abstract for the paper of the Fellowship winner to the Ricardian Register for publication for our membership. We also will shortly be signing up for Amazon's "smile" program whereby you can contribute to the Society through Amazon purchases. More later.

At the Colorado GMM, there will be an election of officers. Mary Retallick has indicated she will not be running for re-election. The position of Vice Chairman will also be up for election. And, of course, other positions. I want to encourage all members who have an interest to step up. It's a chance to help steer the American Branch to greater things.

~ToC~

#### 2015 Q3 YTD Treasurer's Report

Lisa Pince, Treasurer

- Income, Expenses, Balance Sheet 2015: We will pay for two years worth of UK Society memberships in 2015 due to the transition between treasurers and setting up a new bank (Wells Fargo) for the American Society. Oct to Oct 2014/15 membership was paid in January 2015 and the Oct to Oct 2015/16 membership will be paid in November 2015. As the UK membership fee remains at £18 per US member, the USD amount is anticipated to be about 12,500, depending on exchange rate. Current membership is 427. We also experienced additional shipping costs from the UK for the reburial souvenir booklets and larger than normal bulletin weights.
- **Budget 2016**: Current membership is 427. Full expense of the automated membership system is now in place. The membership software has a monthly charge of \$49. The financial component of the system, administered by Blue Pay, has two charges. A monthly administration fee (running so far at \$17 per month) and a volume driven charge. As more members use a credit card to pay the fee goes up. So far it as ranged from \$45 to \$84. At this point, there is not enough data to accurately annualize for 2016. So I budgeted a liberal \$100/month. I suspect this number is high probably will be closer to 80/month.

- AGM 2016: At this point in time, we should have adequate monies for Dominic Smee to attend the AGM with reasonable expenses paid: airline ticket, taxi fare to and from DIA, hotel accommodations, meal allowance, etc.
- **Library Situation:** Due to the generous contributions from our members, the library losses were minimized. To date, donations were \$1465. Replacement costs were \$641. Unfortunately, the shipping costs were at least \$1150. We are expecting additional money from the sale of duplicate publications.
- Calvert and Vanguard funds: are finally in the process of being transferred to Jonathan, Lisa and Mary's names. These funds are somehow tied to the Chase Savings account. Once the transition is complete, Diane will be able to transfer the remaining money in the Chase accounts (she tells me it's about \$5000) into the new Wells Fargo account.
- Amazon Smile: The American Branch now participates in Amazon Smile, which means we get 0.5% of all eligible purchases made through smile.amazon.com. To initiate your participation, search for amazon smile from amazon.com for instructions and links to enroll. Already donating through Amazon Smile? Just click on "change charity" from smile.amazon.com if you wish to switch your donation to us.

As a reminder: all membership dues are figured according to the IRS requirements, which mean that **only** funds that cover the fair market value of benefits to members can be counted as dues. Any amount over that is counted as a gift. For the Richard III Society, the \$60 basic dues and each \$5 for additional family members is called dues on these reports, and any amount over that is counted and reported to the IRS as a gift. If not otherwise specified, the gift goes into the General Fund. ie: An Honorary Fotheringay member is accounted for as dues for \$60 and a gift into the general fund of \$15.

| Asset Summary as of 9/30/2015 |
|-------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|

| Fund or Bank<br>Acct                     | Beginning Balance Jan 1 2015       | Mutual Fund<br>Purch's | Mutual Fund<br>Redemp's | Ending Balance<br>June 30      | Total Earnings or Loss |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Calvert Ultra<br>Short Income - A        | \$5914.09                          | 0                      | 0                       | \$5934.62                      | \$20.53                |
| Vanguard Total<br>Bond Mkt Index<br>Fund | \$140011.77                        | 0                      | 0                       | \$139777.02                    | 234.75 *               |
| Totals                                   | \$145925.86                        |                        |                         | \$145711.64                    |                        |
|                                          | Balance<br>beginning Jan 1<br>2015 |                        |                         | Balance ending<br>Sept 30 2015 |                        |
| Wells Fargo<br>Checking<br>Account       | \$20936.59                         |                        |                         | \$28799.91                     | NA                     |
| Wells Fargo<br>Saving Account            | \$950.30                           |                        |                         | \$2300.65                      | NA                     |
| Chase Bank Checking and Savings Account* | \$5316.42                          |                        |                         | \$5316.42                      | NA                     |
| Paypal Account                           | \$1413.81                          |                        |                         | \$2156.42                      | NA                     |
| Totals                                   | \$28617.12                         |                        |                         | \$38573.40                     |                        |

<sup>\*</sup>Per Diane Hoffman

# **Balance Sheet Q3YTD 2015**

| Income<br>Dues         | Detail                                                 | Amount | Totals<br>20915 |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Blue Pay Card Credit   |                                                        |        | 143             |
| Gifts                  | General Fund                                           | 4267   |                 |
|                        | McGee Fund                                             | 0      |                 |
|                        | Schallek Fund                                          | 65     |                 |
|                        | Weinsoft Fund                                          | 225    |                 |
|                        | Library Replacement                                    | 1465   |                 |
| Gifts Total            |                                                        |        | 6022            |
| Investment Income      | Dividends, Interest,<br>Capital Gains<br>Distributions |        | 20.53           |
| AGM Income             | Cash from raffle tickets etc                           |        | 95              |
| Shipping               | Refund from library<br>shipping (via<br>Higgenbotham   |        | 284.03          |
| USPS                   | Library Loss Replacement                               |        | 200             |
| Advertising            | Refund from GoogleAd (via Ingals)                      |        | 285.89          |
| Sales Dept             |                                                        |        | 182.93          |
| Total Income           |                                                        |        | 28148.38        |
| Expenses               | Notes                                                  |        |                 |
| Conference Calls       |                                                        |        | 181.08          |
| AGM Expense            |                                                        |        | 0               |
| Reinterment Open House | One time expense March 2015                            |        | 1650.89         |
| NY State Fees          | Filing fee for state tax return                        |        | 50              |

# Balance sheet Q3YTD 2015 Cont.

| Income                                                       | Detail LIK P. LIK C.                                                        | Amount    | Totals    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Ricardian Register<br>Printing, Mailing; UK<br>Mailing in US | UK Publications are<br>mailed with Ricardian<br>Register within US          |           | 5394.57   |
| UK Society Membership<br>Fees                                | Paid in January; will pay<br>another approx 12-13k in<br>November 2015      |           | 12125     |
| UK Publications,<br>Shipping                                 | From UK to US                                                               |           | 3203.5    |
| Publicity                                                    | Google Adwords                                                              |           | 1335.81   |
| Website                                                      | Domain Registration                                                         |           | 0         |
| Bank Fees                                                    | Includes wire transfer fees<br>for UK payments; check<br>imaging capability |           | 114       |
| Non-fiction Library<br>Shipping Costs                        |                                                                             |           | 1115      |
| Non-fiction Library<br>Replacement Costs                     |                                                                             |           | 641.12    |
| Fiction Library                                              |                                                                             |           | 185.22    |
| Investment Income                                            | Market Losses                                                               |           | 234.75    |
| Sales Dept                                                   | Inventory costs                                                             | 305.02    |           |
|                                                              | Shipping and<br>Administration                                              | 140.89    |           |
|                                                              | Total                                                                       | 445.91    | 445.91    |
| Neon Membership<br>Website                                   |                                                                             |           | 52        |
| Blue Pay                                                     | Monthly administrative fees                                                 | 50.52     |           |
|                                                              | Additional volume fee                                                       | 155.57    |           |
|                                                              | Total                                                                       |           | 206.09    |
| Misc Office Supply Costs                                     | Treasurer expenses                                                          |           | 40.04     |
| Total Expenses                                               |                                                                             |           | 26230.94  |
| Income minus Expenses                                        |                                                                             |           | 1917.44   |
| Balance Sheet                                                |                                                                             |           |           |
|                                                              | Cash, savings, investments                                                  | 174542.98 | 184285.04 |
|                                                              | Other assets                                                                | 0         | 0         |
|                                                              | Total assets                                                                | 174542.98 | 184285.04 |
|                                                              | Total liabilities                                                           | 0         | 0         |
|                                                              | Net assets                                                                  | 174542.98 | 184285.04 |
|                                                              |                                                                             |           |           |

## **Budget 2016**

|                                                         | 244500 2010 |                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Income                                                  | Amount      | Notes                                                                                                                             |
| Dues                                                    | \$22500.00  | Conservative estimate of 375 members at \$60 annually. All members calculated at single rate for budgeting and tax purposes only. |
| Gifts                                                   | \$5000.00   | Includes all "dues" over \$60 (or \$65 for family)                                                                                |
| AGM 2016 Registrations & Sales                          |             | TBD                                                                                                                               |
| Sales Dept                                              | \$250.00    |                                                                                                                                   |
| Investment Income                                       | \$500.00    |                                                                                                                                   |
| Income Total                                            | \$28250.00  |                                                                                                                                   |
| Expenses                                                | Amount      | Notes                                                                                                                             |
| AGM 2016                                                |             | TBD                                                                                                                               |
| Board Expenses                                          | \$500.00    | Office supplies, postage, software                                                                                                |
| Conference Calls                                        | \$250.00    |                                                                                                                                   |
| Libraries                                               | \$500.00    | Fiction and Non-fiction                                                                                                           |
| NY State Fees                                           | \$50.00     | Annual tax filing fee                                                                                                             |
| Ricardian Register Publishing & mailing UK publications | \$5000.00   | Mailing includes 4 Bulletins, 2<br>Register and the annual Journal.<br>Publishing is 2 Registers.                                 |
| Memberships in UK Society                               | \$13000.00  | This assumes UK membership fees remain at £18 per US member                                                                       |
| Shipping for UK Publications, UK to US mailing house    | \$5000.00   | Approx 1250 x 4 (quarterly)                                                                                                       |
| Blue Pay monthly fee                                    | \$120.00    | Based on 20 per month                                                                                                             |
| Blue Pay Volume fee                                     | \$1000.00   | Innsuffient 2015 data to annualize for 2016                                                                                       |
| Neon Membership Fee                                     | \$600.00    | \$49 per month                                                                                                                    |
| Publicity                                               | \$1200.00   | Google Ads                                                                                                                        |
| Sales Dept                                              | \$400.00    | Replenish inventory                                                                                                               |
| Bank Fees                                               | \$200.00    | Includes wire transfer fees                                                                                                       |
| Expenses Total                                          | \$27820.00  |                                                                                                                                   |

#### Membership Report:

Sally Keil, Membership Chair membership@r3.org

2015 was a big year for the Membership Dept: we had a large delegation of members flying over to England for the reinterment of King Richard III, we hosted a cocktail reception in Leicester to say 'Thank you' to all of our colleagues in the UK who did so much and worked so hard for that event, and we moved all our membership records over to a new online system. Whew!

Regarding the new system: if you haven't yet set up a log on account and password to permit you access to your membership record, not to worry: a very steep learning curve has taught me that the easiest way to accomplish this is for me to set you up with these codes and then you can log on and change the password for security purposes. Very simple. SO! If you'd like me to set you up with the new system just drop me an email and let me know. What are the benefits of doing so? Lots! 1) If your mailing address changes you can go into the system and update your member record accordingly: don't want the Ricardian publications coming your way to go astray! 2) New email address? Be sure to update your record so that important messages continue to come to you. 3) Like to know when your membership is up for renewal? Easy: log on and find out. And while you're there, you can renew via credit card now. No longer is it necessary to go hunting for an envelope and stamp to mail in a check. 4) Want to end the annual renewal process altogether? Now you can 'auto renew': your credit card will be charged each year to renew your membership for you, automatically (you will receive an email from me just before the charge goes through, to confirm this with you...). Can't be much simpler than that!

For those of you who dislike computers and really do not want to be bothered, not to worry: you may continue to pull the Membership form out of the Ricardian Register, fill it in, select your membership level and mail it back to me with your check enclosed. This option will always be there for you.

Final note: we now have 435 members in the American Branch. We are working to build up regional chapters, so that members can share Ricardian fellowship with others living near them. I have set up reports for each of the regional chapter heads that they can check periodically to see if any new Ricardians have moved into their area. If you would like to inquire about a regional chapter near you please contact Nita Musgrave at chapters@r3.org.

## Chapters' Advisor 2015 Report:

Nita Musgrave Chapters' Advisor GMM Standing Committee Chair

My main job is usually to keep track of what is going on with the chapters. I also try make sure that listed chapters are still actually functioning and that the information listed for the chapter contacts is still accurate. Every year I ask the chapter contacts to send in a report which can be published in the Register or sent out in the newsletter which informs us of the activities that have been undertaken during the year.

This year I have had a new element added to my job. I am now the Chairman of the GMM standing committee. this will involve working with the committee as they plan the meeting and try to recruit others to serve on the committees which will be needed to plan the book sale, raffle and entertainment. I am now working with the Rocky Mountain chapter as they make their plans and decide on a hotel. As plans progress I will be keeping the Board updated. Thus far, the GMM is scheduled for Sept. 23-25, 2016 in Denver, Colorado, with Dominic Smee as our keynote speaker.

#### Non-Fiction Library Report

Susan Troxell, non-fiction Librarian researchlibrary@r3.org

This has been a very eventful year for the non-fiction library. It saw its physical transfer from North Carolina to its new home in Philadelphia, and that in and of itself was a massive effort. While well over 95% of the materials arrived safely, unfortunately, the US Postal Service managed to lose a small number of boxes. Insurance claims were pursued, and partial compensation was paid by the USPS to the Society as a result of the loss. However, that still left a shortfall in the ability to replace some of the rarer and out-of-print texts. We communicated with the Parent Society in the UK to see if they had surplus copies that they'd be willing to donate to our Branch. They were most helpful in replacing a few. We sent out a member-wide appeal to help raise the funds to replace the remainder, and it was gratifying to see the response. We raised over \$1,000 which should be sufficient to restore the non-fiction library and to help fund additional acquisitions going forward. It's a difficult time to be buying older texts on the open market; as many of you might know, some books written years ago go for outrageous sums, so our current non-fiction librarian has had to finagle and bargain to purchase such books. But with the variety of used book vendors on the internet, we are expecting to be able to complete this process with no adverse impact on the Society's cash reserves. The process of restoring lost texts will continue into 2016, and hopefully will be completed by summer.

On another and very optimistic note, we decided to divest the non-fiction library of some of its redundant copies by offering them for purchase to the Society's membership. This has been another very gratifying experience. So far, we've raised close to \$300, and will be opening up the sale to the public. The proceeds of this sale will be ear-marked to help subsidize some of the speakers who will be traveling to our next General Membership Meeting in Denver. For surplus books that are not sold, we will be donating them to a suitable charitable cause, such as the Free Library of Philadelphia.

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#### **Editor's Report:**

Joan Szechtman, Editor info@r3.org

This year saw the introduction of our semi-annual (June & December) electronic newsletter, *Ricardian Chronicle* and the new semi-annual publication schedule (March & September) for the *Ricardian Register*.

The benefit of reducing the number of *Register* issues from its original four/year to two was glaringly apparent in the September issue where we were able to enjoy six high quality articles instead of the one or two of many past issues.

The inaugural newsletter issue was a huge success. Many thanks to all the folks who contributed to the first issue, sharing their experiences attending Richard III's reinterment in Leicester, UK. All *Chronicles* can be found on the American Branch website at r3.org/newsletter/.

~ToC~