

RICARDIAN CHRONICLE



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Board News

From the Chair

We are rapidly reaching the end of another calendar year, and what a banner year it's been for the Richard III Society and the American Branch!

Our branch reached a milestone of 450 members following the release of the movie *The Lost King*. I especially would like to extend a warm welcome to all those who have just joined or re-joined, and hope that you find your membership here to be informative, engaging, and inspiring to your historical interests.

The biggest announcement in the past six months has been the stunning discoveries made by Philippa Langley and her Missing Princes Project, as reviewed in the PBS documentary *Secrets of the Dead* and presented in greater detail in Philippa's book, *The Princes in the Tower: Solving History's Greatest Cold Case*, which is now available for sale and would make a great holiday gift for your Ricardian friends.

The Missing Princes in America Project, overseen by Philippa Langley and led by our own Sally Keil, also wrapped up their extensive search of hundreds of archives in American institutions. While they did not find the "smoking gun" documents that the Dutch Research Team located in Lille, Arnhem, and Dresden, this work still proved that there are literally thousands of medieval documents here in the United States that need transcription, translation, and historical analysis.

The American Branch's sponsorship of scholarly work on the Edward IV Roll at the Free Library of Philadelphia (Lewis MS E201) continues to produce amazing results. Although it's still too early to release the findings of the team of medievalists who have been working on this roll, I believe it will become a jewel in the American Branch's crown and a positive reflection on the serious work we promote to advance a rigorous reassessment of the historical material from the Yorkist era.

Looking forward to 2024, there is much to anticipate, including a new program of Zoom talks, the release of new books and editions, including the much-anticipated itinerary of Richard as Duke of Gloucester, and, of course, our General Membership Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico (see below).

I hope you enjoy this issue of the December *Chronicle* and wish everyone a most joyous holiday season!

From the Editors

It has been my great honor to have served as the American Branch's editor since 2011. As much as I have enjoyed publishing this newsletter (*Ricardian Chronicle*) and the journal (*Ricardian Register*), it is time for fresh ideas and for me to retire. Therefore, I'm delighted to introduce my replacement, Tara Kolden. I will work with her during this transition period through to the publication of the March issue of the *Ricardian Register*. —Joan Szechtman.

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I'm thrilled to be taking on the editor role and am extremely grateful to Joan and the Board for giving me this opportunity.

Although I'm relatively new to the Society, my interest in Richard III dates back to my childhood. My mother has always had a strong interest in history, so alongside the fairy tales she read to me when I was little, she also told me stories about the Wars of the Roses and, in particular, tales about her favorite historical monarch, Richard III. I hope that my background in print and digital editing and my lifelong love of history will help me serve you well as I assist the branch in publishing future issues of the *Chronicle* and *Register*.

My family has a tradition of exchanging limericks on birthdays and holidays, and by way of introduction I'll leave you with a silly Ricardian poem:

The body of Richard the Third  
Has thankfully been disinterred  
But the king's in a strop  
Over losing his spot  
In the car park—which was marked "reserved."

—Tara Kolden

## Members Gather for UK's 2023 AGM

Susan Troxell, Chair

Members from all over the UK, and some from as far away as the US and Panama, gathered for the Annual General Membership meeting at the Museum & Town Hall in Reading, a town that featured prominently in Richard III's life and the Wars of the Roses. Amongst the lucky attendees were myself and my husband, as emissaries from the American Branch, who made our first trip to the UK since the global coronavirus pandemic.

Philippa Langley was interviewed by journalist Alec Marsh about her eagerly-awaited book and TV documentary about the survival of the "Princes in the Tower" and the findings of the Missing Princes Project. There was great buzz about how the television show will impact the public's opinion of Richard III, but unfortunately, Philippa was under a non-disclosure agreement with the producers so she couldn't divulge any details. Her book came out in November.

The keynote lecture was given by Dr Joanna Laynesmith, the just-appointed editor of *The Ricardian* journal and instructor of medieval history at Reading University. She spoke about political prophecy and how the House of York used it, especially in manuscripts and genealogical rolls. It was edifying to hear her extol the American Branch's sponsored project involving the Edward IV Roll at the Free Library of Philadelphia (see the update contained within this issue), as the manuscript elaborately uses political prophecy to great effect.

The final event was the Business Meeting led by UK chair Matt Lewis. The meeting largely involved the motions to increase membership dues and discontinue the Seniors' discount, both of which passed by a majority. See update below about how the American Branch will be affected.

Of course, there were plenty of opportunities to browse the booths and meet other Ricardians in person. Jane Trump, the Branches and Groups Liaison Officer, greeted me at her booth, which represented all global branches of the society. It was so nice to see the American Branch's research journal—the *Ricardian Register*—proudly displayed amongst publications from other branches and to see many photographs of our members (including our current Secretary, Sally Keil) in her collage.

I would highly recommend any member attend an AGM in the UK if they are able to arrange the travel. It presents a wonderful opportunity to "geek out" with fellow "history nerds," pick up some Ricardian merch, and hear all about the good work being done to redeem Richard III's historical reputation.



Speakers at the AGM in Reading



Philippa Langley and Susan Troxell



The Branches & Groups table



The audience at the AGM

## UK Votes to Increase Membership Rates

At the 2023 AGM in Reading, UK, a majority of members approved the motion to discontinue the Seniors' discount and increase all adult subscription rates.

This, along with the already-increased price for direct overseas mailings of the Ricardian Bulletin, means that the American Branch will be paying the UK almost 45% more per member for all the benefits accruing to membership with the UK Richard III Society CLG (receiving the *Ricardian* journal, the Ricardian *Bulletin* magazine, invitations to the UK Zoom talks, and discounted entrance to select UK historical sites).

Being an all-volunteer organization with no offices or related overhead, the UK had few options for bringing costs down. They are currently exploring a "digital-only" option, where members may elect to avoid overseas postage costs and instead receive digital files of the *Bulletin* and *Ricardian* journal. But even with potential cost savings in that area, the UK CLG was projected to lose money with the existing subscription rate structure. Members agreed that an increase of £3/£4 on individual/family levels was reasonable and necessary. These increases will go into effect October, 2024.

Members should know that when they sign up with the American Branch, their UK membership (or what the UK calls "subscription") is paid out of their dues to the Branch, and the Branch operates on the remaining money. With more money going to the UK and less to the American Branch, it means we will be running deficits, i.e., net income from dues will not fully cover our usual annual operating expenses. Like the UK parent society, the American Branch is also an all-volunteer organization with no offices, staff, or related overhead or "fat" to trim off its operating budget. We have been extremely fortunate that our fiscal deficits have always been covered by the generosity of our members through charitable donations. But it is becoming more evident that our current dues structure needs review.

The Board of Directors of the American Branch is very aware that price increases could have a negative impact on retaining existing members, especially in uncertain times. We are currently communicating with the UK CLG to explore ways to soften the impact of these increases, and will put forth a proposal at the upcoming 2024 GMM in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

## Off the Beaten Path Reviews

Since the Ricardian *Register* covers fiction and non-fiction book reviews, the newsletter's review will focus on other media. This includes art and graphic novels, puzzles, video and board games, podcasts, and of course, movies.



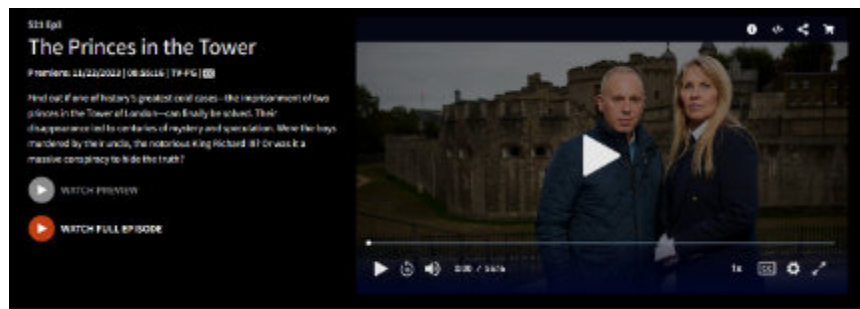
### The Princes in the Tower—a TV review

*Secrets of the Dead: The Princes in the Tower* (season 21, episode 3) aired Nov. 23, 2023 on PBS. View it online through your local PBS station (you may need to create an account and purchase a PBS Passport subscription).

This program presents highlights of Philippa Langley's research into the fates of the "Princes in the Tower." Langley and her team of researchers have explored archives in England, Ireland, Europe, and elsewhere in the world in the hope of finding credible evidence of what happened to the princes. Langley invites criminal barrister Rob Rinder to review the evidence and credibly challenge whether it proves or disproves her theory of what happened to the boys.

Rinder begins by meeting with Tower historian Tracy Borman to learn about the accepted version of the princes' fate. This interview and the questions Rinder asks provide a glimpse of how he approaches criminal investigations. We see that he does not accept statements at face value, but looks for evidence that supports the statements.

Langley and Rinder then examine four documents that Langley has identified as key evidence to support her theory that the princes were not murdered in the Tower, and in fact survived Richard III. —Joan Szechtman



### Yorkist Bishops—a Zoom review

Presentation by Dr. Joel Rosenthal. Available to members of the Richard III Society at [r3.org/past-zoom-talks/](https://r3.org/past-zoom-talks/) or from the main menu: FOR MEMBERS/VIDEOS (password required).

On October 15th, 2023, Dr. Joel Rosenthal presented a discussion of the bishops in power during the reigns of Edward IV and Richard III. Dr. Rosenthal is Distinguished Emeritus Professor of History at the State University of New York, Stony Brook.

The talk began with an exploration of the prosopography—an investigation into common characteristics—of the bishops of the time. They tended to be well-educated men, most of them holding doctorates in theology or law, able to read and speak Latin, and with considerable experience at running the bureaucratic systems of their dioceses—even if they were frequently absent from their home turf.

These were the men already installed in dioceses throughout the realm when Edward IV came to power. They were therefore "inherited" by the new king, much the way a new U.S. president inherits a sitting Congress. The bishops brought experience, but also political baggage, and were forced to make a choice: support the Yorkist cause, absent themselves from court and return to their dioceses, or place themselves in open opposition to the new regime.

Dr. Rosenthal discussed how most of the bishops were skilled at political maneuvering. Over half the bishops from Richard III's reign not only managed not to get caught up in opposition to Richard, but also avoided being branded "Ricardians" and went on to serve Henry VII in notable roles, including Chancellor and Keeper of the Privy Seal. One was even tasked with traveling to Rome to

obtain the Pope's blessing for Henry VII's marriage to Elizabeth of York. Given the times, this non-partisanship seems surprising, but most bishops saw themselves as secular servants not to any one king, but to the state.

There was an interesting discussion during the Q&A session after the talk where the question arose of whether being members of the clergy protected the bishops from the worst political fallout. Dr. Rosenthal stated that the bishops' positions offered some protection but did not offer them full immunity. Two were lynched; others who opposed Richard found themselves assigned to geographically removed regions. But the fact that most survived and had upwardly mobile careers after Henry VII took the crown suggests that the most successful bishops were not saintly figures, but talented bureaucrats and diplomats.

For more on this and other topics in medieval history, consider exploring the many books that Dr. Rosenthal has authored, edited, and co-edited, including *Medieval England: An Encyclopedia* (co-edited with Paul Szarmach and M. Teresa Tavormina) and *Social Memory in Late Medieval England: Village Life and Proofs of Age*. —Tara Kolden

**If you are interested in reviewing a Zoom talk on our private YouTube library, please contact the editor at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org).**

## **Tant le Desiree—a music review**

*Tant-le Desiree* is a Ricardian concept album of songs that begin with narratives written and recorded by Sandra Heath Wilson.

The minstrels of The Legendary Ten Seconds:

- Ian Churchward: lead vocals, 6 & 12 string guitars, bass guitar, mandola and mandolin
- Lord Zarquon: Mellotron, Hammond-Nord Electro 3, Roland XP50, MTron Pro and Mini Moog keyboards, drums and percussion
- Camilla Joyce: vocals
- Rob Bright: guitar & banjo
- Tom Churchward: melodeon
- Gentian (the sisters, Jingle & D D ): backing vocals on By Hearsay

All songs written by Ian Churchward, Elaine Churchward & Lord Zarquon except the lyrics for "The Boar Lay Slain," written by Frances Quinn.

The first song with a narrative, "The Ragged Staff," begins as the narrator, Cecily Neville, mother of Richard, Edward, and George, proclaims Richard as her favorite son. So begins Richard's story, through her eyes and emotions. The following narratives continue her journey with her husband King Edward IV, as in "The Gold It Feels So Cold," when Edward assembles an army to go to France and threaten war. The French king bribes King Edward with French gold. Ashamed at his and her son George's corruption, Cecily believes Richard was too honest and incorruptible to attend with King Edward. In "The Court of Richard III" Cecily tells us of the joy in Richard's court, the music and dancing, what a gracious host he was, and how it ended all too soon. The songs that follow continue Richard's story as he falls at Bosworth; she proclaims his innocence in harming his nephews and refutes the cruel Tudor accusations that he was a deformed hunchback. She sums it up saying, "Tudor was a creature of vile corruption, within and without."

Many of the songs have lyrics further describing Richard's reign, sung by Ian Churchward, founder of The Legendary Ten Seconds. The music is lively and upbeat, and the instruments as they sounded in Richard's time transport us back through the centuries. It's entertaining and informative, for a seasoned Ricardian or anyone who wants to learn Richard's story through authentic music and Richard's devoted mother Cecily. —Diana Rubino



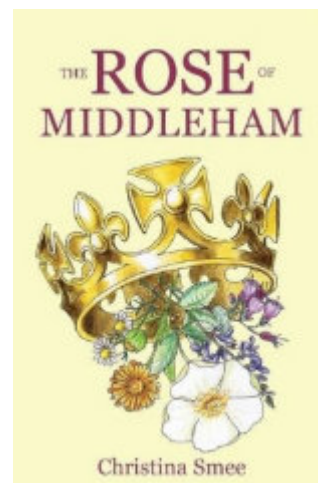
## Save the Date for the 2024 General Members' Meeting

Dawn Shafer, Rocky Mountain Chapter

### GMM 2024 in Santa Fe, New Mexico—November 1-3, 2024

Join us in Santa Fe for the Richard III Society 2024 GMM. Dominic and Christina Smee from England will be joining us once again. As soon as the hotel and event space are finalized, the details will be announced.

Dominic has the same scoliosis as Richard III. He took part in the documentary *Richard III: The New Evidence*, which demonstrated that Richard could wear armor and ride a horse into battle. Watch the documentary on YouTube channel or as part of PBS's *Secrets of the Dead* series, available on [PBS Passport](#) (you may need to create an account and purchase a PBS Passport subscription). Christina Smee is the author of *The Rose of Middleham*.



### Santa Fe, New Mexico

[Santa Fe](#) is often called “The City Different,” referring to its unique art, architecture, and cuisine, which blend Native American and Spanish cultures. It’s the oldest capital city in the U.S. (good Jeopardy! trivia), and it’s part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network thanks to its amazing mix of museums and galleries, historic sites, and Native American heritage.

If you’re an art lover, plan to visit the Canyon Road galleries and the Georgia O’Keeffe museum. And don’t forget Meow Wolf, the immersive art experience sponsored in part by local resident George R.R. Martin. Explore Native American handmade art and jewelry and learn about the history of the conquistadors, who established the city in 1609.

See you on the Margarita Trail!

## The Edward IV Roll: Closing in on the Translation and Display Project

Laura Blanchard

It’s so close we can taste it! The Edward IV Roll transcription, translation, and display team will be presenting a sneak peek at their work to Free Library of Philadelphia staff on December 12, and we expect that we will be ready for a public launch next April. Here is a progress report on the project and the team. All praise to the vision of the American Branch in supporting this work, which has captured the enthusiastic attention of the leadership of our parent society—not to mention many members of the manuscript community.

The project, with a shout-out to the Branch for its financial support, was mentioned in remarks at the introduction to a symposium on *The Image of the Book: Representing the Codex from Antiquity to the Present* in late November. The symposium, a joint project of the Free Library and The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) Libraries’ Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, drew 100 in-person and 500 online attendees and there was a lot of break-time buzz about our project.

### The Manuscript

As previous reports have noted, the roll (Free Library of Philadelphia Lewis E201) is about 15 feet in length, 19 inches in width, and lavishly illustrated. It shows the descent of Edward IV from Adam, Eve, Noah, Brutus, Arthur, and a constellation of luminaries from seven important genealogical lines. The roll starts with a heroic portrait of Edward’s splendid self, complete with endorsements from God.

It hammers home his right to the crown graphically with 54 shield and banners from legendary founders of Britain as well as those seven lines, together with badges such as the rose-en-soleil, the sun, the falcon and fetterlock of York, the white lion of March, the black bull of Clare, and the white hart of Richard II.

Soon, those of us who are not skilled in medieval Latin or the art of deciphering tiny writing full of shorthand abbreviations will be able to unravel the secrets of this scroll, thanks to generous contributions from the American Branch and individual donors.

## The Team

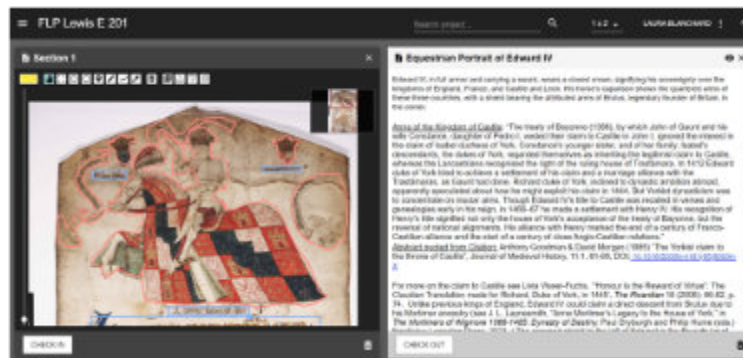
The transcription and translation team is supervised by Penn professor Emily Steiner, who supervised the transcription of another Edward IV roll in the early 2000s (also funded by the Branch) and who was delighted to take on this new project. The team consists of Ariel Bates and Noa Nikolski, the graduate students tasked with the transcription, and Emma Dyson, a classicist who is rapidly developing a taste for medieval studies. Following a process employed with similar projects, the two transcribers work independently on the entire manuscript and then compare their work letter by letter, identifying and correcting discrepancies. It is then translated. The team meets (virtually, via Zoom) with Professor Steiner to review the work and provide quality assurance.

On a parallel track, Dot Porter, Curator of Digital Projects at the Schoenberg Institute, has imported high resolution images of the manuscript into the Digital Mappa software. These are now being “mapped” by Porter and her two trained American Branch volunteers, Cheryl Greer and me. The manuscript has been split into seven images, and the goal is to have the first two images mapped and annotated in time for the December 12 presentation to Free Library staff.

On yet another parallel track, research is ongoing to provide more comprehensive annotations on the graphic material to provide context on the relevance to the purpose of the roll.

## The Project

What does this mean? The image below makes it a bit clearer. On the left is a portion of the manuscript, with sections of text and image outlined (blue for text, green for heraldic banners, pink/red for unclassified). In this case, the border of the pink/red outline of Edward IV has been clicked and brings up information on the equestrian portrait of Edward IV. (Note: This text is still in draft format and may change.)



This is an exciting project and is the culmination of about 25 years' involvement by the American Branch. The manuscript was in desperate need of conservation prior to its first public exhibition in centuries, at the 2001 Leaves of Gold exhibition at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. That exhibition and its catalog dramatically increased the roll's visibility to a broad audience of scholars as well as the general public. Contributions from the American Branch and individual donors made that possible. This in turn made it possible to digitize the manuscript and make it available in extremely high resolution through the Free Library and Penn Libraries websites, and also made it possible for the manuscript to be displayed at the Folger Shakespeare Library earlier this century.

Now, not only the images but the content will be available for a worldwide audience in a format that is easy to understand.



## Scholars Delve Into Edward IV Roll, Find Surprises: Phase One Report

Susan Troxell, Chair

Earlier this year, the American Branch funded four scholars at the University of Pennsylvania to begin transcribing and translating Free Library of Philadelphia [Lewis MS E201](#), a propaganda scroll combining a chronicle of the history of the world from Creation with a genealogy of Edward IV.

Believed to have been made near the time of the king's accession in 1461, the scroll is replete with Yorkist heraldry, imagery and symbolism, and identifies the king's youngest brother as "Ricardus: frater dicti Regie Edwardi ac Dux Gloucestrie," or "Richard: brother of the said King Edward and also Duke of Gloucester." Alongside the visual elements, the scroll has extensive prose and textual features written by medieval scribes in abbreviated Latin calligraphy. For a layperson unfamiliar with Latin or paleography (the study of ancient writing systems), these areas are basically incomprehensible.

What was being said in these long paragraphs that run the length of the scroll?

To answer that question, the American Branch funded a project to transcribe and translate the textual elements. The handwriting would be interpreted, abbreviated words would be spelled out, and the Latin would be translated into English. Given its length of over 15 feet, the project was conceived to unfold in multiple phases as it was difficult to predict the amount of time needed. Phase One funding allowed two Ph.D. students to spend 50 hours each to transcribe the handwriting, another to spend 20 hours translating into English, and a professor to supervise the students. At the end of this phase, the team would report on its progress to the American Branch's board of directors, before a decision would be made to fund the remainder of the manuscript.

Happily, the board has now received a report on Phase One, and we were very pleased to learn that the students were able to produce a high-quality preliminary transcription and translation of over half of the roll's text. Although we can't share the results yet, we're confident that our members will find the results startling and unexpected once they are published.

The team, through its supervisor Professor Emily Steiner, said they had encountered challenges, especially since multiple scribes appeared to have worked on the roll, each with their own style and apparently not communicating with each other, leading to inconsistencies. Early on, they confronted unusual mythical histories and personae not typical in rolls of this nature. And even when the text was obviously pulling from another medieval source, the writer often "bowdlerized" it by removing irrelevant material.

Despite these challenges, the work produced so far will certainly have an impact on how we interpret MS E201, and perhaps similar rolls. It may even inspire a doctoral thesis or two. Probably the most fulfilling aspect is how the students' studies have been enriched by working on the project. As two students reported:

This has been my first big paleographical project, so my knowledge was limited coming in. With that being said, I've learned so much during the course of working with this manuscript....The biggest challenge for me is the frequent use of scribal abbreviation throughout the manuscript. These abbreviations can be simple and standardized—it took me a while to realize "ao dm" was short for "anno domini," for example—but sometimes the scribes use their own form of shorthand that is unique to this manuscript. Sometimes they don't even stick to those conventions throughout the manuscript itself, so you find yourself looking back through the text to see if they've used this shorthand anywhere earlier in the manuscript (which they often haven't). The entire process feels quite a bit like detective work, but it is so rewarding when you are able to untangle the mysteries. I feel incredibly grateful to have been able to work on this material and have found it invaluable to my education as a medievalist. While I've learned so much from my individual work on this project, I've learned even more from watching Emily, Noa, and Emma work. It's hard to overstate how difficult this work is, especially with how few resources we have to decipher some of the text on the page. It can often feel like you're starting with nothing, but I felt so grateful to have such a

wonderful group guiding me through it. Thank you to everyone at the Richard III Society American Branch for this opportunity! It truly means so much to me.

Ariel Bates

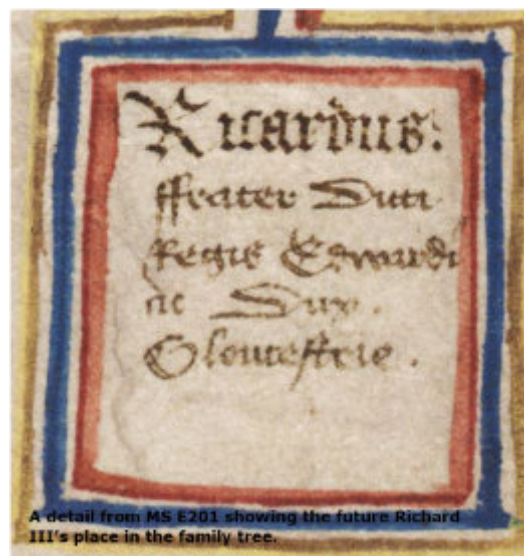
Ph.D. Candidate, English Department  
University of Pennsylvania

I was hired to work on the Lewis Roll as a Latin translator, but from the beginning, my role has been much more interesting than simply translating text. The transcription presented me with quite a few puzzles: sections of text that didn't make sense, strange abbreviations, and words that weren't in the dictionary. For these, I returned to the manuscript, and the puzzles slowly began to resolve themselves. For some sections, a nonsense word or phrase could be corrected by finding the Latin source from which the text was copied. This is how I became acquainted, for example, with the Latin poem *On the Origin of Giants*, a story about how Britain was populated by the giant offspring of fifty castaway sisters. For damaged, crabbed, or heavily abbreviated sections, the text became legible after I had read up on whatever figure or event was being described—sometimes in the work of a modern historian, sometimes in a medieval history, like that of Geoffrey of Monmouth or Gregory of Tours. I spent hours poring over certain particularly difficult passages, and as a result of the time I've spent with it, I feel a sense of intimacy with the Lewis Roll. But the experience has given me more than knowledge of a single text. Now, I have a real familiarity with medieval historiography and its way of bridging the biblical, the mythical, and the historical. I never would have guessed that studying a genealogy could be so rewarding.

Emma Dyson

Ph.D. Candidate, Classical Studies  
University of Pennsylvania

The Board has agreed to fund the transcription/translation of the rest of the roll, and it looks forward to sharing the results of this very exciting endeavor! As they say, watch this space.



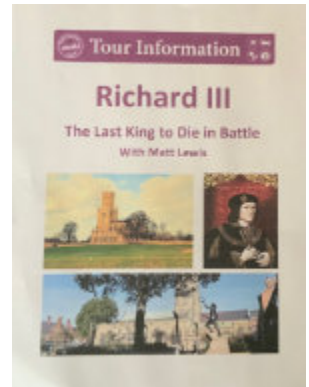
## A Ricardian Ramble

Pauline Calkin

As an inveterate traveler and a Ricardian, how could I resist a weekend tour around Leicester and Fotheringhay led by Richard III Society Chair Matt Lewis? Well, I couldn't, and with a few days in London beforehand, this made a perfect short fall vacation.

The tour group met at the Hilton Hotel Leicester on Friday evening where Matt Lewis gave a dynamite introductory talk covering the Wars of the Roses and (almost) all things Ricardian. His one-hour talk was energetic, articulate, and, impressively, delivered without notes. At the dinner following, he sat at the same table as I did and he answered a barrage of questions from us all with the same aplomb.

In the morning, we visited the King Richard III Visitor Centre in Leicester and were given plenty of time to explore its extremely well-done displays. Alas, the Cathedral is closed until next month (perhaps requiring a return trip?) so we could not view Richard's tomb, but volunteers from the Cathedral gave a presentation and a slideshow in which they explained how, among other things, the pall and the tomb were made. Did you know that the coat of arms on his tomb is not painted, but is pietra dura, inlaid stone?



Then in the afternoon, we went to the Bosworth Battlefield. On Albion Hill, Matt explained that he believes that Richard's charge was a planned tactic motivated by the presence of the third army on the field that day—that of the Stanleys. After touring the heritage center, we were driven down to where the silver boar badge was found, which experts believe was the true location of the battle, now a private farm. "This is where the 300-year-old Plantagenet dynasty ended, and the Tudor dynasty began, changing England forever," Matt eloquently intoned as he pointed to a field of maize. It was a deeply moving moment, and I was not the only one present who had to fight back tears.

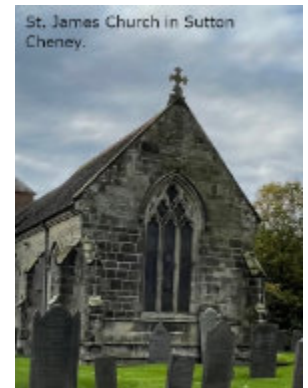


Matt Lewis on the battlefield.

We then visited the pretty St. James Church in Sutton Cheney where tradition has it that Richard heard his last mass. My spirits were lifted by seeing the boar banner and various brightly embroidered kneeling

cushions donated by society members.

Back at the hotel, we heard a talk by Matthew Morris, "The King under the Car Park—Greyfriars, Leicester, and the Search for Richard III." Yes, he did sort of gloss over the reason why the archaeologists exhumed the bones in trench one, but other parts of his talk were more interesting. The evidence of battle trauma and matching DNA from two lines of descent was not sufficient to confirm the remains as Richard's. Scientists had to account for over 140 persons who would have had matching DNA. By using the process of elimination, all but Richard was excluded.



St. James Church in Sutton Cheney.

The first stop on a beautiful Sunday was Lord Hastings' never completed manor of Kirby Muxloe.



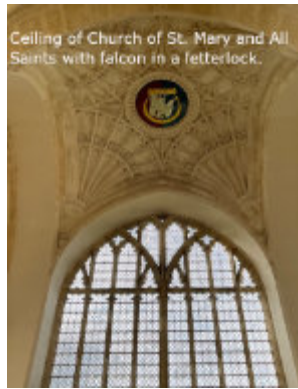
Matt Lewis and Nicola Tallis.



The corner tower at Kirby Muxloe.

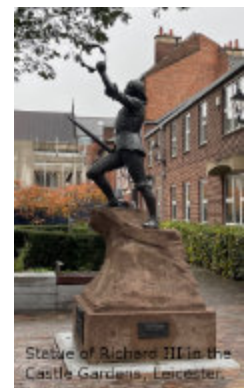
Let's just say that his building plans were cut short by Richard. The tour manager, Nicola Tallis, was not just in charge of logistics (e.g., making sure everyone got on the bus) but is also the author of a biography of Margaret Beaufort, and she and Matt discussed the rights and wrongs of Richard's execution of Hastings. You can probably guess which one opined that it was an act of tyranny while the other said something about a constable's court.

Our lunch stop was the town of Oundle near Fotheringhay. The Cotswolds have nothing over these places in the charm department.



We ended the trip at what was for Richard the beginning—his birthplace at Fotheringhay. (And also the place where Mary Queen of Scots was executed.) There is not much left of the castle, but the Church of St. Mary and All Saints is the church of the House of York where Richard's father, Richard, Duke of York, and mother, Cecily Neville, were reinterred in the sanctuary by Elizabeth I. Their son, Edmund—killed at the Battle of Wakefield along with the Duke is also there.

On the hour journey back to Leicester, Matt and Nicola discussed the fate of the Princes in the Tower. Matt gave us his thoughts on the Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck affairs as well as his fascination with the theory of Jack Leslau, an amateur art historian, that a Hans Holbein portrait of Thomas More's family contains hidden evidence of the continued survival of the Princes in the Tower (eye roll!). A debate between Nicola Tallis and Matt ensued on the fate of the princes, and I thought Matt ended strongly by pointing out that Richard would not have benefited by murdering the princes and then keeping quiet on the matter. Their sparring added to the experience. They are friends despite their differences of opinion over Richard, and we all enjoyed their good-natured banter throughout the trip. All in all, the tour fulfilled my expectations, and I would certainly consider joining another such tour if the opportunity presents itself.



## Chapter News: Tidewater Chapter

Several years before Covid interfered with group gatherings, I attended a Smithsonian Lecture on Richard III given by Carol Ann Lloyd Stanger, who, if you remember, was one of our main speakers at our GMM last year. At the end of the lecture, I had a question and so went to the podium where I met two interesting men, Bob Pfile and George Usher. Huh. They told me there was a Richard the Third Society! Who knew? I joined. Mr. Pfile had started the Tidewater Chapter some years previously and eventually he needed to have someone take his place.

I volunteered, but really had no idea how to generate enthusiasm within a group that was scattered from Harper's Ferry, throughout the Metro Washington D.C. area and now includes members in Delaware and New Jersey. The American Branch President, Susan Troxell, asked me how to go about a book group, since she knew I was a member of several and thus began my query of the Tidewater Chapter. Yes! Let's do a book group! However, how do we pick a book? Several suggestions later, we settled on *The Survival of the Princes in the Tower: Murder, Mystery and Myth* by Matthew Lewis, also the Chair of the RIII UK Society and a very nice man!

Off and running, we needed a Zoom gathering to meet each other and Matt Lewis said he would also like to join us and answer questions we might have before we actually finished the book. Gee, I'd never hosted a Zoom, and managed to mess up the time (there are *two* time zones in the UK, who knew?). One meeting cancellation later and a new invitation posted, and we had our first meeting this morning. Out of now 16 members, eight were present plus Matt Lewis. Forty minutes flew by, and I actually needed to schedule a second session a few minutes later. Those in attendance seemed to really enjoy themselves and we chose January 20th as our deadline to finish the book and discuss it. Each reader has been asked to think of three questions as they read that they would like to have discussed.

Matt Lewis was agreeable to joining us for the discussion despite being a very busy fellow, so while we may have an interim Zoom, we're looking forward to the 20th of January. Matt's second edition of his book with new information will come out in December, so the discussion might well be especially interesting!

Liz Bateman,  
Chairman of the Tidewater Chapter  
RIII Society, American Branch



## Eulogy for Pamela Jean Paige Butler

Delivered 7 October 2023 by Craig A. Butler  
Mountain View Cemetery, Pocatello, Idaho

On the back of this tombstone—which my mom designed herself—are some words from William Blake: “To see the world in a grain of sand, and heaven in a wild flower, hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an hour.”

I wish I'd asked her when I had the chance why she chose these particular lines. She might've told me at some point and I've just forgotten, but reflecting back on her life now, I think they capture something that was deeply true about her: she always looked past the surface of things, always wanted to understand how and why things were the way they were. She was, first and foremost, a student. She was a voracious reader, a relentless researcher, an adventurous world traveler. John Dewey once said that “Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.” and that's exactly how my mother saw it—life, for her, was an opportunity to learn as much as she could about the world.

Pamela Jean Paige was born here in Pocatello on October 10, 1953. She grew up with her sister Sue and her two brothers, Buddy and John, up on La Brea street on the hill. Growing up, she dreamed of leaving home and traveling the world. It was obvious from an early age that she was

extremely smart, and always did well in school. When she was young, she attended the LDS church with the family, but when she was 13 she wrote a letter to the Bishop asking a bunch of awkward questions. I'd love to find that letter someday and see what her actual questions were, but anyway she never got a satisfactory answer, and drifted away from the church after that. At some point in her teenage years she discovered Milton Friedman's book, *Capitalism and Freedom*, which set her firmly on the path of being a free-market economic conservative for the rest of her life.

Pam went to Highland High School here in Pocatello, where she became a writer and page editor for the school paper, the *Rampage*. Whenever she talked about it, her face would light up and she'd remind you that she was known as "Pam Paige of the *Rampage*!" A few years ago I was going through some things at her house in Albuquerque and ran across her scrapbook of all her *Rampage* columns and articles. She was always meticulous and organized, so of course she'd saved them all. I showed her the scrapbook and she was thrilled to see it again. She asked me to read some of the articles out loud to her, and we spent a couple of hours just going through them. Her days at the *Rampage* helped her develop a clear, matter-of-fact writing style that she kept throughout her life. You could always count on her to report every important detail about an event in her letters to the rest of the family.

In February 1971, when she was 17, Pam was named "Sorooptimist Girl of the Month" and had a profile published in the *Idaho State Journal*. In that article, it said that she rated politics and journalism as her fields of interest, and that she hoped to serve as a foreign service officer. The list of activities she was involved with in high school included serving as vice president of the Spanish club, winning several Foreign Language Festival awards, her scholarship to the Spanish language immersion camp, as well as her roles at the *Rampage* and awards from the Idaho High School Press Association, which awarded her second place for interview and third place for editorial writing. She was also a member of the Pep Club, Girls Council, Future Teachers, Future Nurses, a treasurer in junior achievement, publicity chairman for Girls Council autumn tea, and a member of the Candy-strippers. She received an AMS perfect spelling award and was active in 4-H. Anyone listening to this list of accolades will recognize her in it—she had so many interests and was accomplished in all of them, so active in her community, always the one organizing everything.

In the fall of 1971, she started at ISU. She was the first member of her family to go to college, and she was immensely proud of the fact that she paid her own way by working various jobs. Her first two years there were spent pursuing her interests in the humanities: politics, journalism, English, Spanish. But the job market of the 1970s was tough, and after two years of college she decided to change course and pursue a degree that would help her get a job after graduation. She enrolled in ISU's school of pharmacy and started taking the prerequisites in the fall of 1973. It was in those classes that she met her future husband, Paul Butler, who had just moved to Idaho from California to start the same Pharmacy program. They had Physiology class together at 9am, followed by Biophysics at 10am, and started sitting together and walking together from one class to the next. She knew very quickly that she wanted to marry him, but she believed it was important to know someone for at least a year before getting married. So, almost exactly a year later, on August 16, 1974, at 10am, they were married by a local justice of the peace. She liked to tell the story that she got married that morning and went to work that afternoon, and when her boss asked her what she'd done that day she said, "I got married." He replied, "Well, you could have asked for the day off!"

Pam and Paul stayed in Pocatello until she graduated with her Bachelors of Science in Pharmacy in 1978. That summer, they bought a bright orange F-150 pickup truck—which my dad still has—and they went on a two-month road trip around the country, camping everywhere they went. They drove from here all the way to Maine, down to Virginia, and back, visiting Chicago, Niagara Falls, New York City, Boston, Washington DC, and many places along the way. In all, they went through 23 states. They made it all the way back to Wyoming before the truck started to break down on them, but managed to make it all the way back to Pocatello. That road trip became something of a family legend for us growing up, and I'm sure it only increased her appetite for traveling.

After fixing the pickup truck, the two of them packed up and set out again—this time for California, where my dad was getting his master's. They found a little apartment in Sepulveda, just over the hills from UCLA. Pam, now a licensed pharmacist, got a job at Thrifty and worked at stores all over the Los Angeles area. One story she loved to tell from that time was getting to know Scatman Crothers when she worked at the Hollywood Thrifty where he picked up his prescriptions, and she

really enjoyed getting to know him.

Sometime in late 1979 or early 1980, Pam realized she was pregnant. She kept working at Thrifty until around April, and then moved with Paul to Albuquerque, New Mexico in May. I was born soon after in July 1980, and my mom dedicated herself full-time to the job of being a mother. In her journal she wrote that she'd always do everything she could to help me, and she really did. Not knowing anyone in Albuquerque yet, she joined and helped organize a local babysitting co-op, and some of my earliest memories are from those get-togethers with other parents and their kids. She had a great sense of humor about parenting, too—one of her favorite stories to tell about raising me was that, one time when I was two or three years old, I was standing by the window and watching the neighbor's van pull out of the driveway, and I said, "Van go! Van go!". Right away, she saw a golden opportunity, and trained me that whenever she asked who my favorite artist was, I should say, "Van go!"

Soon I was joined by my two wonderful sisters, Kelly and Lisa. Pam put all of her organizational and educational skills into her parenting. She was our first teacher, and if the job of a teacher is to instill a lifelong love of learning then she succeeded brilliantly. She filled the house with books, taught us to read, and conveyed her own love of learning to us. To this day, all three of us are avid readers, writers, and learners, and we owe all of that to her.

We did some traveling to visit family for the holidays growing up, and we all loved coming up to Pocatello for a snowy Christmas, complete with sliding down the icy street on inner tubes—which my mom definitely did not approve of. When we got a little older, she started planning family vacations. With her typical air for organization, she planned detailed trips for us all over the country—Seattle one year, Philadelphia the next, South Dakota, Alaska. In 1996 she planned a big family trip for us to Europe, including England, France, Belgium, and Germany. I remember on that trip we managed to leave one of my dad's bags behind on a train in Belgium. Mom, who was the only one of us who could communicate in French at all, talked to a Belgian train station manager to try to get it back. My poor dad had to survive the rest of that trip without his luggage, but mom kept in touch with that station agent and did eventually get the bag back. She kept up correspondence with him for a couple of years, and they exchanged gifts for awhile—I remember getting some great Belgian chocolates from them one year. She was so good with things like that, so quick to smile and make friends, even in another country and another language. People just couldn't help but see how genuine and caring she was.

As we three kids got a little older and more interested in building our own lives, Pam started to plan more trips for herself. She was always an avid historian, but the internet really helped her connect to others with similar interests. While doing genealogy research, she discovered a connection in our ancestry to John of Gaunt, an English prince and military leader who fathered many, many children, including the future King Henry IV. By the early 2000s her research had led her to the Richard III Society, a group interested in the Wars of the Roses and in rehabilitating the reputation of the king who Shakespeare made into such a memorable villain. She served the society as Membership Chair and Online Member Services coordinator for years, getting to know every new member as they joined.

The Richard III Society also gave her a new outlet for research and writing. She contributed numerous articles and trip reports to the society's magazine, the Ricardian *Register*, in the 2000s. She was especially prolific when it came to trip reports. She'd go on trips to England on her own or with groups of fellow Ricardians, and then write up detailed accounts of their travels for the newsletter. These accounts are so detailed that you could easily retrace her steps, and she even offered a lot of commentary on places she should have visited but didn't—notes to herself for future trips and other travelers.

One of my favorites of these was an article she wrote about her July 30, 2004 visit to Fotheringhay, a small village in Northamptonshire outside Peterborough where a castle and cathedral were important strategic locations in the middle ages. She was planning to catch the 10am bus that morning to continue on to St. Albans. As anyone who went on one of her trips can tell you, she always had every stop and connection planned down to the minute. That morning, the bus driver either didn't see her or didn't realize she was waiting for the bus, and drove right past her without stopping. She described running into the street behind the bus, waving her arms frantically to get his attention, but

he just kept going.

Fotheringhay is such an out of the way place that there's only one bus a day, so she was stranded there. But she was always an optimist, always quick to see the silver lining, and always interested enough in everything to find joy in an unexpected extension of her stay somewhere. Needless to say, she knew enough about the area to spend that day walking all over the town, visiting various historical sites before eventually finding a walking path to another town where she was able to catch another bus. Her article describing this unplanned day in Fotheringhay is eight pages long.

You know, when I was a teenager, I disliked how inquisitive my mother could be. I didn't dare tell her when I had a new girlfriend or something, because she'd immediately come up with a thousand questions about it. It wasn't until a little later that I understood she wanted to know everything about my life because she cared so much about me, and I came to really appreciate that about her. I knew that I could always tell her about anything that was going on in my life, no matter how trivial, no matter how silly, and she'd always listen to everything that was on my mind. She was so proud of her three children, and you could tell by the way she'd brag about us whenever she got the chance. We never heard a discouraging word from her about whatever we were doing in our lives; somehow she always found a way to be happy about whatever we were up to.

She loved all her family here in Pocatello, too, and always wanted to stay close to all of you. After all of her travels and adventures around the world, she wanted to return here at the end, to rest beside her mother and her father in this place where it all began. She asked me to take some of her ashes with me, and leave some of them behind wherever I travel, so that while she's always at home here, she can still keep exploring the world with me as well.



## *Ricardian Chronicle* Ad Policy and Submission Guidelines

The American Branch of the Ricard III Society will accept ads that are of Ricardian interest including events, tours, music, books, art, and other merchandise.

### Ad fees:

There are no fees for ads by members of any branch of the Richard III Society.

Ad fees of \$50 USD apply to ads by a member in behalf of a company they are affiliated with, or by non-members for ads that are still within the parameters of Ricardian interest.

All other types of ads are not accepted and the American Branch reserves the right to reject any ad.

### Discounts:

Ad discounts will be offered in return for a benefit to the Society or its members—for example to recognize a discount on a product or service being offered to members.

Some advertisements may be carried free—for example if this is an event being run by the Society or if it is to support a charity or other good cause; or as part of a mutual arrangement with an equivalent body;

### *Ricardian Chronicle* schedule:

Submit ad by May 1<sup>st</sup> for inclusion in the June issue.

Submit ad by November 1<sup>st</sup> for inclusion in the December issue.

(Note: To allow for publishing and distribution delays, the ad should not be for events and tours that are to happen on a day in the first half of publication month.)

### Technical Guidelines:

Fonts: The publication will use only one standard font throughout. If you need to have a special font, convert it to an image.

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Once the advertisement is published, the advertiser and their customers are acting at their own risk.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org).

## Article Submission Guidelines

Keep it simple. Please use a standard 12-point font—such as the default font of the word processor. Use italics for book titles, article titles, publication titles, and foreign language.

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 not larger. Images 300 dots per inch size, so if the image is 1" by 2" in the article, then it is 300 dots (or pixels) by 600 dots for the correct size.

Image file format should be jpg, png, or tif. Most cameras will produce jpg images.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me at [info@r3.org](mailto:info@r3.org) if you have any questions on something that you want to submit.

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### \*\*Notes:

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](mailto:membership@r3.org). He will circulate your email address to members in your area.

If you do not see your chapter listed here, please contact the Membership Chair at [membership@r3.org](mailto:membership@r3.org) and provide the current contact information.

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