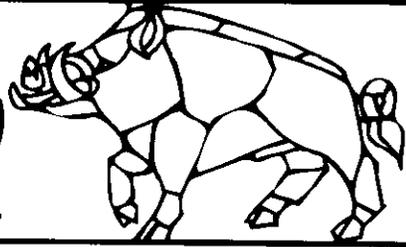


Richardian REGISTER



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— Susan Dexter

The Polarizing Plantagenet?

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

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

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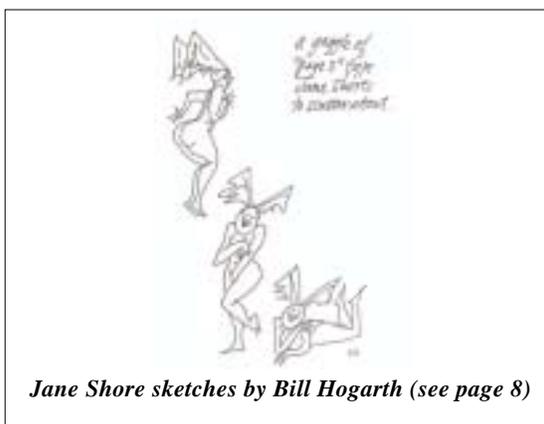
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Future Annual General Meetings 2002 *Michigan*



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EDITORIAL LICENSE

Carole Rike

Dr. Peter Hancock returns in this issue with an article on the personality (and mystique) of Richard III (page 4). We have in the pipeline an extensive re-visiting of the Battle of Bosworth by Dr. Hancock, on which he previously wrote for the *Register*. Look for it in the Spring, 2002 issue.

Thanks to Susan Dexter for again supplying the cover artwork in this issue, even though I gave her conflicting directions (like the drawing!).

All Ricardians — if their tenure is sufficient to allow them to remember Bill Hogarth — are saddened to learn of his death. Bill is survived by his wife, Martha, and daughter Susan. Both cooperated extensively with Charlie Wood in his preparation of a gracious remembrance of Hogarth (see page 8). Laura Blanchard and I looked for copies of old *Registers*, when Bill was editor, because he did many really clever pieces of artwork. Neither of us could put our hands on them at once, so we used the drawings from the Nokes' *Ricardian Cleribews, Carols and Songs*. (We could not contact Elizabeth Nokes in time for permission to use the illustrations, so we do hope we have not erred in the matter!)

Unless the New Orleans floods have totally claimed them, I should have the back issues somewhere and hope to include in future issues additional examples of Hogarth's work.

We tend to overlook past officers in the Society, and perhaps should correct that. Too often people serve very diligently on the Society Board and then disappear into the ranks. Since we have a fair turnover of membership each year, it is difficult to build a real "history" of the Society. Bill and Martha Hogarth were both very dedicated members of the Society in the late 60's and early 70's and yet most newer members will not have heard of them.

Carole's Careless Corner: In the Fall issue feature article by Colin Richmond, the plate that was imposed for printing lopped off a line and a half of text at the very end. A number of members have contacted me regarding the missing lines. The article should end: "And second, that there is a pleasant impiety in the idea that the college was founded not only out of the revenues of the richest bishopric in England and of the proceeds of an Englishman's wellgotten gains in the French war, but also, *in the case of Thomas Danvers, from the profits of a traffic in drugs.*" A corrected PDF has been posted on the website.

I am looking for articles in 2002!

THE POLARIZING PLANTAGENET

P.A. Hancock

Introduction

Over the years, I have become progressively more interested in Richard III, the one time Duke of Gloucester and last Plantagenet King of England. I often ask myself why should this be so? After all, Richard's reign was just over two years in length, one of the shortest of the modern era and he is now separated from us in time by over half a millennium. Only one great battle took place during his reign and that was the one in which he lost his life. By many conventional measures of precedence then, Richard III ought to be a footnote to history, as are several Monarchs who spent much longer on the throne of England. However, it is very clear from publications such as the present one and similar journals, that Richard is far from being consigned to the bottom drawer of History. While there are many reasons for the continuing fascination which Richard exercises (see for example, Colwell, 2000) here I want to articulate my idea as to why this is the case.

The direct stimulus of the present article was my reading of Seward's (1982, 1997) text: *Richard III: England's Black Legend*. This is quite a comprehensive account of the King's coming to power, his reign, and his ultimate demise. But more and more as I read the book, I found that the tenor of the work, clearly anti-Ricardian, was dictated not so much by the factual information that was laid before the reader, but rather by the opinion of the author imposed upon those facts. In reality, virtually all of the evidence that was presented was open to interpretation and thus re-interpretation and to indicate this propensity, I would like to use one specific example.

An Illustrative Example

Since Seward relies so much on the veracity of the account given in Sir Thomas More's *The History of King Richard III*, I shall use one of the commentaries upon a most controversial incident as a particular example. The passage concerns the burial places of the putative 'Princes in the Tower,' one of the most disputed aspects of the Ricardian story. Seward gives an extensive quotation from More (Seward, 1997, pg. 151-152), culminating in:

"... After the wretches (Dighton and Forrest) perceived them (the Princes) - first by the struggling with the pains of death and after, long lying still - to be thoroughly dead, they laid their bodies naked out upon the bed and fetched Sir James (Tyrell) to see

them. Who, upon the sight of them, caused the murderers to bury them at the stairfoot, meetly deep in the ground under a great heap of stones." (the designations in the parentheses are mine).

Seward stops here but there is more in More, the quotation continues:

"Then rode Sir James in great haste to King Richard and showed him all the manner of the murder, who gave him great thanks and, some say, there made him a knight. But he allowed not, as I have heard, the burying in so vile a corner, saying that he would have them buried in a better place because they were a king's sons. Lo, the honorable courage of a king! Whereupon they say that a priest of Sir Robert Brackenbury took up the bodies again and secretly interred them in such place as, by the occasion of his death which only knew it, could never since come to light. (More, 1976 edition, pg. 88).

More's account might have been given relatively little evidentiary weight except for subsequent events at the Tower of London. Almost two hundred years later, in 1674, during building renovations, workers were demolishing a staircase to the White Tower and at a depth of ten feet (Seward, 1997, pg. 154) they found a wooden box containing apparently, the bones of two children. Eventually, in 1678, Charles II had the bones interred in an urn in Westminster Abbey where they remain to the present day. Unfortunately for history, there may have been tampering with and removal of some of the bones in the four-year hiatus prior to this internment.

My primary concern is not for argument about the veracity of this account (although I consider this aspect briefly below). Rather, it is about how the account is used and misused, especially on this occasion by Seward, but also as it has been by other authors. More provides us with an account and then, depending upon our view of Richard it seems we are forced to select from this account accordingly. For the anti-Ricardian Seward, the finding of the bones has great confirmatory value. For him, More has undoubtedly heard something of the truth of the matter and this provides independent, external corroboration of More's account. Unfortunately, for Seward, he then has to repudiate his authoritative source since Sir Thomas actually reports the Princes are not buried at the stairfoot but at some undisclosed location elsewhere. Seward then leaps from the realm of reality to sphere of speculation:

“More’s most serious mistake is his tale of a priest having later reburied them. But perhaps this was the impression of Tyrell and Dighton themselves since ‘whither the bodies were removed they could nothing tell. It might have been the King’s original intention, but it was never carried out. It could also be accounted for by Brackenbury having a priest say the prayers De Exequis of even a Mass over the spot where they lay, although it was unconsecrated ground – this would undoubtedly be in keeping with Richard’s always obsessive anxiety that the souls of the dead should rest in peace. (Seward, 1997, pg. 155).

There are so many assumptions and potentially fallacious conclusions in this one paragraph that it is worth unpacking them in detail. Seward claims More makes his ‘most serious mistake’ in relating the ‘tale of the priest having later reburied them.’ Yet Seward apparently has no basis for this other than his own opinion. Having taken the anti-Ricardian stance, Richard must now be guilty and evidence confirmatory of this guilt is readily embraced. Contrary evidence must be somehow dismissed and now the authoritative Sir Thomas has made a ‘serious mistake.’ But contrary opinion could simply assert that More’s first statement about the burial is the serious mistake and the argument devolves rapidly from one about evidence to one about opinion. Interestingly, Sir Thomas himself cannot actually be faulted since the observant reader will have noted that he is careful to frame certain of his statements with “as I have heard” and “Whereupon they say.” Clearly the famous lawyer understood very well what hearsay evidence represents and its ultimate value. Like a form of ‘cold reading’ in parapsychology, More now has his bases covered. If the bodies are discovered ‘at the stairfoot’ (notice not in a staircase, this is not a perfectly accurate prediction), More is vindicated and confirmed in his observations. However, if the bones are not discovered there, More is not discommoded in any way! After all, everything is now down to the meddlesome priest who has moved the bodies! In formal logical terms, More has now described a condition (at the stairfoot) and its antithesis (not at the stairfoot) which thus covers all possible states of the world. Whatever occurs he cannot lose. It is little wonder Sir Thomas was considered one of the foremost intellects of his age.

From this flawed premise, Seward then jumps into the ‘fire’ of fantasy, cogitating upon the introspective impressions of two individuals now dead this five hundred years. This is speculation pure and simple and adds nothing evidentiary to our understanding. However, his following comment that ‘it might have been the King’s original intention, but it was never carried out’ is more serious. Here, Richard is assumed

guilty and now stands accused of not having his actions carried out. Tortured logic indeed! Seward then completes his trinity of speculations by drawing Brackenbury and his priest into the story, saying prayers over the staircase. One is constrained to ask — where is the evidence for this event? The final comment is largely prejudicial with little basis in fact except to paint Richard now as ‘obsessive’ and ‘anxious.’ If in this sentence, we substitute the word ‘devout’ for ‘obsessive’ and ‘concern’ for ‘anxiety,’ we can see how the perception changes. But then, unfortunately, one’s comprehension of Richard at this level is based on a choice of adjectives not on a consideration of fact.

. . . a major source of fascination with the last Plantagenet King is that he forces a reaction from us, a reaction that says as much about ourselves as it does about the historical Richard . . .

One subsequent problem to arise is a little more polemic in nature but as it adds to our example it is certainly worth considering. On many occasions in his treatise, Seward compares Richard to Machiavelli’s Prince. Although Seward is aware of the anachronism (since Machiavelli only completed his text following upon Lorenzo de Medici’s 1512 seizure of the Florentine Republic and therefore after Richard’s death), Seward attributes to Richard an almost unprecedented degree of ruthlessness, accusing him of “the nastiest state murders in English history.” Yet we are to believe, having commissioned the supposed thugs, Dighton and Forrest, to perpetrate the act, Richard refrains from subsequently murdering these cut-throats, regicides and, given their knowledge, extremely dangerous men, whose names other than the present association would be long lost to history. Having murdered his nephews, we are now expected to believe that the conniving and efficient Richard would balk at dispatching their assassins? But, we find More reporting that “Dighton, indeed, yet walketh on alive in good possibility to be hanged ere he die.” Given the nominal date of 1513 for the writing of More’s treatise, if this statement is true, Dighton survived for at least thirty years, that being at least five years beyond the death of Henry VII. Seward indicates that Dighton told the story of the murder of the Princes to anyone who would listen and cites Francis Bacon for his source. In Bacon’s (1622) *History of the Reign of King Henry VII*, this is rendered as: “But John Dighton, who it seemeth spake best for the King (Henry VII), was forthwith set at liberty, and was the principal means of divulging this tradition” (parenthesis mine). Apparently then Henry VII, an individual not known for the attribute of kindness, let the murderer of his wife’s brothers walk

The Polarizing Plantagenet

the streets of London throughout his more than twenty year reign. Henry VIII, another not known to spare the axe, also apparently ignored his Uncles' assassin for at least five years of his reign. So, again, we have an example of wishing to portray one view of Richard (as effective and venomous tyrant) together with a second known state of the world (Dighton's survival), which argues an apparent opposite.¹ Perhaps history itself is the attempt to distill the probable from the possible but consistency should at least be one of the fundamental guiding concerns.

The one thing about this particular example, which raises it above so many others that could have been cited, is the possibility of resolution. In this particular case, we still have the remains that were found and could, given modern techniques, at least address the veracity of the claim that these are indeed the bones of Edward IV's sons. Indeed, their sister's remains lie in close proximity and their father's remains are at Windsor, not so many miles away. The only modern-day evaluation of the bones was conducted almost seventy years ago and forensic techniques have improved so significantly in the interim that new information would certainly be forthcoming.² Whether this evaluation is conducted depends upon the present governing authorities but the current level of DNA-based identification would certainly encourage the expectation of a resolution. Of course, a positive result would provide support for this component of More's account, it would not necessarily render confirmation of the other parts of his story (see also the comments by Mark Redhead on pg. 164, *The Trial of Richard III*).

The Polarizing Plantagenet

I do not want the reader necessarily to become embroiled in this one particular issue, nor do I want this to be seen simplistically as a critique of Seward for surely, the self-same criticism may be leveled at many pro-Ricardian authors who employ the exact same strategy to emphasize the positive as opposed to the negative aspects of the late King's story. Rather, it is the polarizing effect of Richard that is critical here. As discussed by Campbell (1973, 1988), there is a very strong tendency for us to categorize famous individuals into the role of either hero or villain and this appears to represent a very deep-seated human necessity. And we do not need additional empirical research to confirm this for us, since such divisions are presented to us every day in virtually all media from the lowest form of Tabloid newspaper and popular video game to the most sophisticated of Journals and television Documentaries. We even see it on the evening news! In the story of the King, it is exceptionally interesting to note that early representations of Richard as the arch-villain have triggered more

modern revisionist versions that have come close to representing Richard in the role of Saint! In fable and in the uncertain history of late 15th Century England, there appears very little room for the middle ground!

It is the case in almost any historical exploration, and the story of Richard III is prime example, that the informational context is under-specified. What I mean by this statement is that we do not possess a sufficiently full and detailed account of critical events to provide a single, accepted explanation. A cursory examination of the circumstances surrounding the Kennedy Assassination, for example, shows that even pictorial evidence is by no means definitive. The simple fact of the reign of Richard III is that the evidence that we have to date is insufficient to provide comprehensive understanding, especially about the major, contentious events of his reign. These lacunae induce dissatisfaction. Because of this, readers are forced to place their own interpretation upon what has been recorded. In the absence of fact, opinion fills the vacuum.

While this is, at some level, true for all historical circumstances, I know of few situations in which the evidence is balanced so finely that the dichotomy is almost forced. It is therefore the leitmotif of the late King that even a cursory familiarity with his story comes to mean adopting a position of either condemnation or advocacy. Thus, I think that a major source of fascination with the last Plantagenet King is that he forces a reaction from us, a reaction that says as much about ourselves as it does about the historical Richard. He holds up an historical mirror that, while seemingly composed of fact, is actually one in which we ourselves must largely decide upon the image that is to appear.

This under-specification need not necessarily persist. For example, it is only in the last century that Mancini's manuscript was re-discovered and published. As I noted earlier, the DNA determination of the bones in Westminster Abbey may well render new insight and, of course, no one can know what manuscripts reside in what archive, waiting, hopefully, to be re-discovered and integrated into the evolving picture of the last Yorkist monarch. That Richard forces us to face ourselves is then, I think, the most potent of factors that stimulates our continuing interest. Paradoxically, it also forces us ask, whether Richard would be less interesting if we knew some of these answers?

Conclusion

Let me finish upon a positive and personal note. I very much appreciated Seward, as an author stating his position. The first words of his text are:

This is a very personal interpretation of Richard III. No book on the Heathcliff of English Kings can be anything else. It is difficult to avoid having strong views on a man who committed the nastiest state murders in English history." (Seward, 1997, pg. xiii).

One would struggle to get more direct than that! Given the forthright way in which his opinion is expressed, I feel I should do no less. I am pro-Ricardian, not because I believe Richard to be guiltless of all the crimes attributed to him. Indeed, I believe the execution of William, Lord Hastings for example, was at the very least illegal. No - I am pro-Ricardian because of the assumption of innocence. The *Trial of Richard III*, (Drewett & Redhead, 1984) found insufficient evidence to convict him of the vast majority of murders that, for example Shakespeare attributes to him. It is certainly the case that my opinion should and will be swayed by further evidence, such as might be rendered from the bones in Westminster Abbey. However, until then the case against Richard is not-proven and he must be given the benefit of that doubt as much for ourselves in this era as for the late King in his.

Notes

1. To give Seward his due, he does spend a considerable time trying to build a form of psychological profile of Richard. Unfortunately, it is shot through with these contradictions and fails to persuade even on a surface level. However, since the present observations are about the nature of opinion, I strongly recommend that individuals read the text and having balanced the *evidence*, make up their mind for themselves.
2. The argument about the identity of the remains in the urn in Westminster Abbey continues unabated (see Drewett & Redhead, 1984 [1990 Edition, Postscript, pgs 161-164]).

LIST SERV REPORT

Lorraine Pickering made the first posting of the quarter. There were 127 postings in the fourth quarter of 2001. The events of September 11th, have certainly put a damper on listserv participation. At one point there was a lull of over two and a half weeks. Let's hope that 2002 holds better promise.

A total of 37 members posted messages over this period. The Most Frequent Posters were Laura Blanchard, followed by Lynda Hickox. There were about 32 different message threads. The most popular thread concerned Colin Richmond. Three other popular threads were: AGM 2002, one that included what Richard may or may not have said on Bosworth

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Muriel Williamson

Field and what his horse may or may not have been named and a lovely little thread on how to tell if a query is ridiculous. In retrospect, this last one makes it tempting to invite Donald Rumsfeld to give us a course on how to determine ridiculousness (if you've seen him in action in a press conference, you'll realize he deserves to have a new word) in a question.

The listserv is a free service open to all Society members worldwide. To join, send an email to Richard3-subscribe@plantagenet.com. Or, to subscribe to the digest only, send an email to .

If you have any difficulty, email questions to: richard3-owner@plantagenet.com.

WILLIAM HOGARTH DIES

Charles T. Wood

Members will be saddened to learn that former Chairman William Hogarth died in Sea Cliff, Long Island, on November 12, 2001. He was 75.

Bill joined the Society two years after the American Branch's informal founding in 1961, but legally speaking he himself became our second founder when as co-chairman in 1969 he got us chartered in the State of New York as the Richard III Society, Inc. Incorporation gave us permanent legal being, and Hogarth also believed that the tax-exempt status that went with it would help him raise the funds needed for long-term projects such as the graduate fellowship program he hoped to create. That dream became a reality in 1978 when Bill and Maryloo Schallek agreed anonymously to fund our first fellowship, and Bill Hogarth then chaired the fellowship selection committee as well as the Society down to 1985. In addition, he also saw to it that the fellowships were renamed in Bill Schallek's honor after his death, thinking that this change could well encourage Maryloo's continuing benefactions, which has certainly proved to be the case.

In 1978 the *Register* printed a thumbnail biography which claimed that "William Hogarth is a graphic designer, artist and illustrator whose multiplicity of interests has resulted in over 40 children's books, the creation of national advertising campaigns, museum exhibitions, and the writing, designing and editing of archival film presentations." True, but impressive as that list is, it just scratches the surface. As Bill's wife Martha observed in a recent e-mail message commenting on a professional resumé he had written some years ago, "Did he mention he once danced with a Martha Graham troupe? Or that he was the voice of an early character on radio? Or that he did the artwork and stage set for the show which

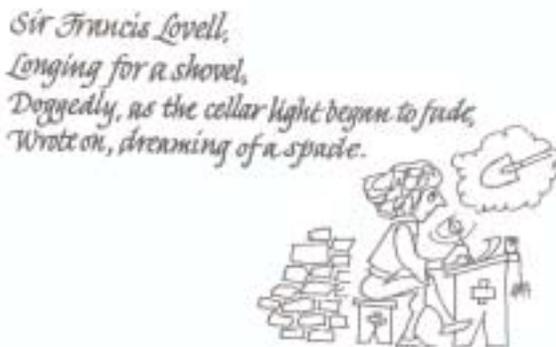


Elizabeth of York with Morton twirling his fork

has the dubious distinction of having the shortest run on Broadway (the audience left after the first act)? And of course I'm sure he neglected to mention that he appeared on JEOPARDY! sometime around 1969 and blew the question on RIII!"

As these examples suggest, Bill's great good humor was matched only by the range of his enthusiasms, most of which were housed in the Hogarth home, a wonderfully Victorian gingerbread gothic. If every Renaissance prince was supposed to have at least one chamber of marvels with which to impress his visitors, Bill had no less than six (including the living room), every nook and cranny crammed with books, correspondence, posters, works-in-progress, and all the other marvels that had caught his fancy. Martha and Bill's daughter Susan are in charge of making sense of this treasure trove, and she reports that even though her father had been selling books on the Internet for months, roughly 24,000 still remain, including two-thirds of his Ricardian collection.

Such evidence may suggest that Bill Hogarth's imaginative reach exceeded his organizational grasp, but the fact that his own affairs were often disordered should not obscure the true organizational genius he showed with the Richard III Society, first as co-chairman, then as vice-chairman, and, finally, as chairman from 1983 to 1985. When he became co-chairman in 1965, the Society had only a dozen members, so he turned his attention to publicity, writing pamphlets and some of our first obituary notices for *The New York Times*. In addition, he also got speakers for the AGM like A. L. Rowse, a man whose outrageous remarks in 1967 may have offended members present but also attracted many new ones after being



*Sir Francis Lovell,
Longing for a shovel,
Doggedly, as the cellar light began to fade,
Wrote on, dreaming of a spade.*

memorably reported in *The Saturday Review*. He also found the time to appear on shows like Jeopardy! while writing most of the articles in, and doing the layout for, the *Register*. In fact, he even devised the way it is still packaged with the *Ricardian* for mailing, piggybacking that saves the Society literally hundreds (if not thousands) of dollars in postage each year. More importantly, all these labors paid off in a membership that grew from the lonely dozen of 1965 to about 650 less than fifteen years later.



Mistress Jane Shore counting her blessings

At the 1977 AGM, Bill Hogarth was the principal speaker, and he reported that his address, titled *Richard III: On Stage and Off*, was really “a compressed version of a book-in-progress.” Although that book lies unfinished somewhere in one of his chambers of marvels, the opening paragraph of his AGM remarks makes it clear just why it would have been worth reading:

This is a birthday tribute to a man 525 years old, and most curiously alive in the minds of an increasing number of people every year. In the current mode, I should warn you that the story of King Richard III is for mature audiences only: there is sex and violence to come, skeletal remains, lopped-off heads... and one of the most famous whodunits in history.

In William Hogarth the Richard III Society, Inc. has indeed lost an illustrious member and leader, founder and friend.

Editor’s Note: The illustrations are clever cartoons Hogarth provided for Elizabeth Nokes’ *Ricardian Clerihews, Carols and Songs*.

Mr. Hogarth’s book, *Richard III: On Stage and Off* is available from the Society Research Librarian.

If other members have remembrances of Mr. Hogarth, the *Register* would welcome them.

MOVING OR TEMPORARILY AWAY?

Your quarterly Ricardian publications are mailed with the request to the U.S. Post Office to notify the Society of changes of address and forwarding addresses. This service costs the Society extra money, but we think it’s worth it to ensure that as many members as possible receive the publications to which they are entitled.

A recent issue of the Ricardian Register “rewarded” us with an unusual number of postal returns marked “Temporarily Away” or “Moved – Left No Forwarding Address,” greatly adding to the consternation and perplexity of those of us who must deal with these cases.

So, please, please, *if you are moving, let us know your new address as soon as possible.*

If you will be away temporarily, please ask your Post Office to hold your mail for you. If you miss an issue because your Post Office returned it to us, please notify the Editor of the *Ricardian Register* when you are able to receive mail, so that your issue can be re-mailed.

Mail that is returned to us as “Temporarily Away” or “No Forwarding Address” costs the Society \$2.97 for the return, plus approximately \$2.53 to mail it to you a second time. Donations to cover these extra costs are, of course, welcomed.

Your change of address notices should go directly to the Membership Chair: *Eileen Prinsen, 16151 Longmeadow, Dearborn MI, 48120*, or e-mail address changes to *membership@r3.org*. Please don’t forget to include other changes that help us contact you, such as new telephone number, new e-mail address, or name changes.

And while we’re on the subject... More and more of the Society’s business is being done by e-mail, when possible. As postage costs rise, this makes good economic sense. For many of us, our e-mail address changes much more frequently than our mailing address. If yours does change, please notify the Society by e-mailing the details to: *membership@r3.org*. If you are also subscribing to the listserv, e-mail *richard3-owner@plantagenet.com* to have your listserv e-mail address changed, too.

ANNUAL APPRECIATION AWARD CITATIONS

Background: The Board together with Roxane Murph, 2001 AGM Chair, and with Ex Officio Board members Webmaster Laura Blanchard and *Ricardian Register* Editor Carole Rike decided to cite active Committee Chairs and other members who had given generously of their time and services in furtherance of the Society's goals during the past Ricardian year and at the 2001 AGM, as follows.

Peggy Allen, "for serving as a panelist in *Thomas More on Trial* at the 2001 AGM Schallek Breakfast."

Tina Cooper, "for ongoing contributions to the Society's American Branch website, especially for creating pages for AGM 2001."

Susan Dexter, "for ongoing graphic design services to *The Ricardian Register* and to other Society endeavors."

Floyd Durham, "for his workshop presentation at the 2001 AGM, *Medieval English Mysteries*."

Jeanne Faubell, "for dedicated service in the position of Fiction Librarian, 1997 - current."

Nancy K. Laney, "for preparing materials for presentation on the Society's American Branch website."

W. Wayne Ingalls, "for serving as a panelist in *Thomas More on Trial* at the 2001 AGM Schallek Breakfast and for many contributions to the planning and production of the 2001 AGM."

Nancy Madison, "for many contributions to the planning and production of the 2001 AGM."

Walker Madison, "for serving as a panelist in *Thomas More on Trial* at the 2001 AGM Schallek Breakfast and for many contributions to the planning and production of the 2001 AGM."

Helen Maurer, "for long-time and dedicated service as Librarian of the Judy R. Weinsolt Memorial Research Library."

Rania Melhem, "for creating the Ricardian library display which appeared at the Jefferson Parish, LA,

West Bank Regional Library during October 1-31, 2000, and for dedicated service on the Sales Team, 2000 - current."

Sharon Michalove, "for her workshop presentation at the 2001 AGM, *Clements Markham, Richard III, and All That*."

Pamela Mills, "for service in the position of Chapters Coordinator."

James Moore, "for writing, producing, and acting as defendant in *Thomas More on Trial* at the 2001 AGM Schallek Breakfast."

A. Compton Reeves, "for presenting the Morris McGee Keynote Address at the 2001 AGM."

Yvonne Saddler, "for dedicated service in the position of Audio-Visual Librarian, 1995-current."

Sue Scurlock, "for many contributions to the planning and production of the 2001 AGM."

Lloyd Scurlock, "for his workshop presentation at the 2001 AGM, *To Prove a Bastard: the Pre-Contract and the Princes in the Tower*, and for many contributions to the planning and production of the 2001 AGM."

Myrna Smith, "for ongoing dedicated service as Book Review Editor of *The Ricardian Register*."

The Southwest Chapter and AGM Chair Roxane Murph, "for organizing and hosting AGM 2001 in Fort Worth, September 28-30, 2001."

Janet Trimboth, "for continuing to gather and organize Ricardian books and materials to be donated to schools in the Society's name."

Linda Treybig, "for organizing and leading the highly-enjoyed and well-regarded 2001 Ricardian tour."

Barbara Vassar-Gray, "for dedicated service providing assistance to the Membership Chair with the never-ending tasks of that job."

— continued, page 11

Ruth Anne Vineyard, “for assistance with producing a second edition of her popular *Oh, Tey, Can You See?* teaching tool and for donating the proceeds of sales thereof to the Schallek Fellowship Fund.”

Muriel Williamson, “for dedicated service in the position of On-Line Member Services Manager/Listserv Moderator, and for maintaining the “Index to Books Reviewed in *The Ricardian Register* on the Society’s American Branch Web site.”

Sandra Worth, “for serving as a panelist in *Thomas More on Trial* at the 2001 AGM Schallek Breakfast.”

As a policy, Board members receive an award for their Board service only at the end of their terms, not each year, though they may be cited from year to year for other activities in addition to their Board duties. If you know of a member who has performed a service for the Society, please bring it to the attention of the Board.

MARYLOO SCHALLEK; FOUNDED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

As we were going to press, word reached us that Maryloo Schallek, who with her husband Bill was one of the originators of the American Branch’s scholarship fund, died August 5 at her home in Nutley NJ. Maryloo was active in the Branch in the 1970s and early 1980s, taking part in a number of Society outings and also playing an active role in our project to provide kneelers for Sutton Cheney Church.



Maryloo Schallek with her beloved sheltie, Ashley

Laura Blanchard, current administrator of the scholarship project, will be preparing a more detailed memorial to her for the next issue of the *Register*. Maryloo made a generous bequest to the scholarship program that bears her husband’s name.

THE 2002 AMERICAN BRANCH TOUR

The Ricardian Rover

In the Footsteps of Richard III

June 22 – July 2, 2002

IT’S NOT TOO LATE to join our friendly little band of travelers for a truly unique touring experience, as we explore the England of Richard III! This delightful tour is perfect for those with a keen interest in Richard III and England’s medieval period in general. Sites we will visit having associations with Richard III include among others: the ancient cities of York and Exeter; Middleham, Richmond, Pickering, Conisburgh, Kenilworth, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Corfe castles; the parish churches at Middleham, Sutton Cheney, Sheriff Hutton and Bere Regis; Great Malvern Priory; Exeter and Salisbury cathedrals; the ruins of Eastwell Church, where Richard Plantagenet (believed to be a natural son of Richard III) is buried; and, for the first time, the Great Hall of Eltham Palace, built by Edward IV. We will enjoy our always-excellent guided tour of Bosworth Battlefield, where Richard III lost his crown and his life, and hang our memorial wreath in Sutton Cheney church. At several sites, we will be warmly received and accompanied on our sightseeing by old and new Ricardian friends from various English branches and groups — always special occasions! Also included in the itinerary will be many other outstanding venues. We will tour in a comfortable small coach with helpful driver/courier, and you will be accompanied by Linda Treybig, long-time member of the Richard III Society and experienced tour Ricardian tour director/escort. Our accommodation will be in charming small hotels and coaching inns with excellent ratings, where you’ll be met with a cordial welcome, a comfortable bed and delicious meals.

If you wish to experience England on an intimate scale, traveling along beautiful back-roads and through lovely old-world villages with a small, congenial group of people who share your interest in Richard III, this tour is for you! You are sure to return with happy memories of a very special Ricardian experience. **Tour registration deadline is February 20th**, so request your brochure and further details right away! Please contact:

Linda Treybig, 340 Sprague Rd., # 303, Berea, OH 44017

Phone: (440) 239-0645; E-mail: treybig@xcelnet.net

TWO-YEAR MEMBER PROFILES

(Compiled by Eileen Prinsen)

Richard III reigned for only a little over two years. In commemoration of that fact, this regular feature in the Ricardian Register profiles people who have renewed their membership for the second year (which does not, of course, mean that they may not stay longer than two years!). We thank the members below who shared their information with us – it’s a pleasure to get to know you better

Arthur R. Fillebrown, former seagoing radio operator, broadcast station engineer and announcer, and now retired electronic engineer, became interested in Richard through Josephine Tey’s book. With his wife, Priscilla, he toured the Richard III sites in England some years ago, but does not recall how he discovered the Society. A resident of Washington, Virginia, his many leisure interests range from numismatics to French and Latin Literature; and “coupement du gazon” which I’m guessing has something to do with mowing the lawn! (Tel: 540-937-5873).

Lisa Ann Guastella, Coordinator in Strategic Marketing for Sony Music, became interested in the Society through a friend. Her leisure interests are British History, Cricket and Cooking, her pursuit of which must be benefiting greatly since she has recently moved to Catford, England! (Tel: (011)-(0)208-699-3356.) E-mail: garrick39@earthlink.net.

Patricia (Pat) K. Maynard, legal administration assistant of Edwardville, Illinois. As with many of our members, Pat joined the Society after reading Sharon Kay Penman’s *The Sunne in Splendour* and subsequently discovering our site on the Internet. Her many interests include reading, gardening and writing. (Tel: 618-659-1074)

John J. O’Farrell, of Point Lookout, N.Y., currently employed as a teacher, lists among his interests music, history and sci-fi. John’s long-time interest in Richard was stimulated originally by a college report assignment. As he says: “I read Kendall and was hooked. My interest was confirmed when I saw the Richard III Exhibit in London in 1973.” (Tel: 516-431-6625)

Joellen Pickens, enthusiastic supporter from Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, says: “I’ve always loved English History, and travel in the UK. The first time I read of Richard, I

was hooked. The first time I was in York, I felt I was “home.” And when I walked Bosworth Field, alone, on a clear cold winter’s morning, with no-one about, I felt Richard near me.” Joellen continues: “My mother had a picture of York’s “Shambles” when I was very young, and every night before bed, I wanted to be lifted up so I could look at that picture—that was at the age of 2 years old—even then, I knew! I now wear a silver ring engraved with a line from the play *Richard III* by Shakespeare.” Joellen’s other interests include her profession—Registered Nurse—and leisure activities, including travel, reading and gardening. E-mail: JoellenPickens@hotmail.com.

Catherine Quigley, Retired and living on Staten Island, New York, Catherine’s leisure interests, like most Ricardians, include reading and traveling. She reports that she became interested in the Richard III Society after reading our other most popular book, Sharon Kay Penman’s *The Sunne in Splendour*. (Tel: 718-667-3252)

Carol Rondou, whose leisure interests include Armored Combat, vinting and travel, says she found the Society through her involvement in the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). “My area of interest is 15th Century England, especially The War of the Roses [and] I found the parent society’s website while doing research.” Carol, currently a resident of Menasha, Wisconsin, is an active member of the SCA where she is known as “Baroness Deirdre Wydeville”—no relation to you know whom!—she is a staunch Yorkist! (920-720-9011) E-mail: lilith@execpc.com

Angela M. Shrader, Newspaper Advertising Rep of Spearfish, South Dakota, also came to the Society through *The Sunne in Splendour* where, she says: “I fell in love with Richard III and instinctively believed he was good and just.” Angela adds: “I think it’s great there are so many people who feel as strongly about Richard III as I do. Their interest and new discoveries prove the past is never dead. I only wish I could have more personal contact with other members. I’d love to participate in a group trip if one is ever organized” (Tel: 605-722-0721) E-mail: xtuc2#rushmore.com

(**Editors note: *Angela, and others interested in a group trip, are directed to page 30 of the Fall Ricardian Register for full details of the 2002 American Branch Ricardian Tour—June 22–July 2, 2002. See also ad on page 11 of this issue.*)

RICARDIAN HONOR ROLL - 2001

Year Joined

1966	35 - Year Members Mrs. Roger M. Crosby, II	Ms. Linda K. Jack Miss Sylvia Katcher Mrs. Joan R. Lea Mr. Kenneth G. Madison Ms. Pam Milavec
1971	30 - Year Members Ms. Peggy Ann Dolan	Mrs. Florence Miller Major James D. Mitchell Ms. Nancy Northcott
1981	20 - Year Members Ms. Becky Aderman Dr. Ray Akin	Ms. Janet O'Donnell Mary and George Pratchett Eileen C. & Hans Prinsen Dr. Judith Pruski
1986	15 - Year Members Mrs. Barbara Baker Barillas Mrs. Judith M. Betten Sgt. Barton J. Chandler Patricia A. & Thomas L. Coles Ms. Helen D. Cure Mary L. & Donald D. Donermeyer Ms. Jane L. Kirkman Mr. Larry N. Pumphrey Mrs. Elizabeth N. Ray Mrs. James L. Rich Mrs. Edith S. Walker Mrs. Maryann Williams	Miss Mary M. Retallick Marjorie A. Roth Miss Rhonda S. Shore Mrs. Rosemary Sortino Hon. Donald E. Walter Linda and David Wesselink Miss Jennifer Winch Mr. Robert York
1991	10 - Year Members Mr. Robert L. S. Angres Mrs. Irene W. Appleman Mrs. Diana K. Ayres Karen M. & Regina Barnes Ms. Jake Bearden Mr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Bearor Mrs. Mary E. Bourke Mr. E. N. Brandt Mrs. Heather Kathryn Burke Ms. Karen A. Chesrown Mrs. Jo Ann Christenholz Ms. Kathleen C. Corwin Ms. Virginia Cross Mrs. Gloria Ralph Dale Ms. Dale L. D'Angelo Ms. Kimberly Dziurman Mrs. Dan Ervin Mrs. Andrea B. Fisher Ms. Judy K. Gardner Mr. Peter R. Graze Ms Elizabeth D. Haynes Mrs. Margaret Dawson Hellyer Mrs. Sara P. Horne Ms. Jane Hughes Mrs. Jean R. Husson	1996 5 - Year Members Ms. Elena Andreadakis Mr. Harvey Blustain Mr. Michael Bongiorno Kathleen Casey Mrs. Dawn Dixon Cotter Mrs. Darlene Duncan Ms. Evelyn Fair Ms. Jennifer A. Funk Ms. Elizabeth Good Dr. Peter A. Hancock The Rev. Canon Harry Hart Major W. Wayne Ingalls Mrs. Marilyn F. Koncen Ms. Nancy K. Laney Mr. Henry E. Laura Ms. Bety T. Lord Hope Elizabeth Luder Mrs. Pat Matl Mr. Jonathan Megerian Mrs. Nita S. Musgrave Ms. Rita Alexis Paduch Ms. Maryann Rivas Mr. David E. Ruml Mr. Stephen H. Smith Mrs. Marcia K. Stone Marilynn, Alan, & Diana Summers Ms. Dale R. Taber Mr. Jerome B. Victory

2001 DICKON AWARDS

In most years, it is our custom to present one single Dickon award, for outstanding service to the Society. This year, however, there were two people with records of service — considering both length and quality — so similar that the Dickon award committee could not choose between them.

Therefore, at the 2001 AGM in Fort Worth, the Society presented dual Dickon awards to Fiction Librarian Jeanne T. Faubell and Audio-Visual Librarian Yvonne Saddler.

Jeanne has served as Fiction Librarian since 1996 and Yvonne has handled the Audio-Visual Library since 1995. With Jeanne living in Falls Church, VA, and Yvonne residing in Poulsbo, WA, together they give the Society's library efforts a truly transcontinental aspect.

Jeanne and Yvonne thus follow in the footsteps of their fellow-librarian, Helen Maurer. Helen was recognized with a Dickon award in 1995 for her service as the Judy R. Weinssoft Memorial Research Librarian. A complete list of Dickon award winners to date is below. Site of previous AGM's are also included.

Previous Dickon Award Recipients And AGM Sites

Year	Dickon Award Recipient	AGM Host City
2001	Jeanne Faubell	Fort Worth, TX
2001	Yvonne Saddler	Fort Worth, TX
2000	Dianne Batch	New York City
1999	Bonnie Battaglia	Metairie, LA (New Orleans area)
1998	Myrna Smith	Florence, KY (Cincinnati area)
1997	Judie Gall	Chicago, IL
1997	Compton Reeves	Chicago, IL
1996	Peggy Allen	Philadelphia, PA
1996	Sharon Michalove	Philadelphia, PA
1995	Helen Maurer	Seattle, WA
1994	Alan O. Dixler	Dearborn, MI (Detroit area)
1993	Laura Blanchard	Newark, NJ
1993	Joe Ann Ricca	Newark, NJ
1992	Carol Bessette	New Orleans, LA
1992	Mary Miller	New Orleans, LA
1991	Maryloo Schallek	Los Angeles (area), CA
1990	Roxane Murph	Boston (area), MA
1989	Joyce Hollins (Hiller)	Cleveland, OH
1988	Elizabeth (Libby) Haynes	Alexandria, VA
1988	Linda McLatchie	Alexandria, VA
1987	Carole Rike	Fort Worth, TX
1986	Dr. Morris McGee	San Francisco, CA
	<i>(1986 was the first year the Society awarded the Dickon)</i>	
1985	(and all prior AGM's)	New York City



RICARDIAN POST

On Saturday, September 29, while some Ricardians were at the Annual General Meeting in Texas, I was in Ontario, California, at a gathering held by the local chapter of Mensa, the high-IQ society. There I presented a 50-minute program, "Richard Redux," in which I described the ten murders attributed to Richard III, the facts that in some cases exonerate him, and the mystery that still shrouds the disappearance of the young princes. About 35 people listened attentively, and after the presentation, several expressed interest in the books I had quoted from: *The Daughter of Time* by Josephine Tey, *The Usurpation of Richard III* by Dominic Mancini, and *The Life and Times of Richard III* by Anthony Cheetham.

In 2002, I may speak to another group of Southern California Mensans about Richard, and I hope to augment the presentation with portraits—either slides or large color prints—of Edward IV, Elizabeth Woodville, Henry VI, Henry VII and, of course, Richard. When I contacted Yvonne Saddler, the Audio/Visual Librarian, she offered to loan me several videotapes, but did not seem to have portraits. Is there a Society member who knows where I can find them?

Jaye Black

From the LMB Mail List:

Dear Friends,

Good news on the local TV news this evening.

It seems that English Heritage [who look after Middleham] have allocated half a million pounds towards the preservation of the ruins of Sheriff Hutton Castle, because it was "A" base and residence of Richard III. [Don't want people getting too cocky!] This is marvelous news because the place, which is privately owned by a farmer, who got it "in with the deeds" and didn't know what he had bought beforehand, is in rack and ruin as Brian and I and others were discussing last year. Now, thank God, the ruinous Elders with their penetrating roots will be expunged, stonework will be reinforced as necessary, and access will, in return, be guaranteed. Wonderful tidings aren't they?

One further point emerged — some may remember the "Row" which developed as to the location and "actual size" of the ruins, which several Listers claimed to have visited and nearly missed and so on. It appears the owner did exactly the same thing when he first inspected his new acquisition. He said this evening that the whole thing was totally obscured in parts by barns and other old farm buildings — he didn't realise the true size of the place and the remaining ruins until he had cleared all this out. Maybe that's why Brian and I thought Sheriff Hutton was quite a substantial ruin and several others [who shall be nameless to save their blushes] kept on claiming "There's nowt there...."

I will endeavour to discover the timetable for work in early course, but we may hope that, even by next summer, Sheriff Hutton will again be worth adding to visitors' itineraries, as it was in Richard's day.

Geoffrey Richardson

Dear Eileen,

Today I received the Richard III Society package that you sent me. Looks like fun. Thanks!

For the record, my first contact with Gloucester came when I was a grade school kid forty years ago. I watched a stage version of *Richard III* on television and was fascinated by Richard's audacity and Shakespeare's language. My latest contact with Ol' Crookback was a local production a couple of months ago. My review of the play will appear in the Fall 2002 issue of *Shakespeare Bulletin* due out in January. I prepped myself for the task by reading every word of commentary in my library about Shakespeare's play but ended up enjoying my dust-covered copy of *To Prove A Villain* the most!

I finally took the plunge and joined the Society after being encouraged numerous times in the past by a long-time Ricardian Sunny Clark, an old friend of mine whom, I am sad to say, I have lost track [of].

Mel Meeks



AMERICAN BRANCH MEMBERS WHO JOINED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 01, AND NOVEMBER 30, 2001

Samantha Crouse
James M. Gaver
Marsha Jensen
Martha W. Jordan
Bettie Ladd
Joan C. Larson
Loretta Matson
Melvin Meeks

Michele Miller
Russell Milton
Richard F. Mitchell
Barbara T. Murphy
Suzanne Pontius
Scotty Tuttle
Jean Van Delinder

AGM SPEAKERS SAY THE DARNDDEST THINGS

You can hear — and learn — all sorts of things at the AGM workshops. Here's a sample from Fort Worth, 2001.

Lloyd Scurlock spoke on the legitimacy of Edward IV's and Elizabeth Woodville's children, and how children of bigamous marriages have been legally viewed during and since the 15th century. Speaking, as he noted, on Michaelmas Day (Sept 29), Lloyd took us from Titulus Regius to Texas law to the British Legitimacy Act of 1976, detailing especially how his interpretation of that last one had been helped by correspondence with an English judge.

Lloyd's concluding remark brought forth much appreciative Ricardian applause. First he noted that in today's supposedly kinder gentler times children are not stigmatized by the law for parental misdeeds. However, he concluded that, when taking into consideration everything we know about the legal system of the 15th century, "we Ricardians can truthfully say that **ALL THE EVIDENCE IS ON OUR SIDE.**" [*emphasis added.*]

Sharon Michalove treated AGM'ers to The Secret Life of Sir Clements Markham. At least, the parts of Markham's life that Sharon described were heretofore secrets to most Ricardians. He didn't live exclusively — or even mainly — to defend Richard III's reputation, exchanging those famous rejoinders with James Gairdner in the *English Historical Review*.

No, a large part of Sir Clements' life involved polar exploration. At 14 years of age, he shipped on HMS Collingwood, and followed that in a few

years by joining one of the expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin and his lost ships. He continued with a career as a civil servant with the Inland Revenue, fellowship in the Royal Geographical Society, and President of the Hakluyt Society. Unhappily, he was influential in the choice of Robert Falcon Scott as leader of the Admiralty's disastrous 1911 Antarctic expedition.

Sharon gave us a picture of a man who was one of those larger-than-life 19th century Englishmen, pointing out that one fellow-human being who crossed Markham's path described him as a "peripatetic encyclopedia."

Floyd Durham led the AGM through a survey of English Medieval mystery fiction. This was, as they say, a Learning Experience. Did you know that the genre started in 1977, with Ellis Peters' Brother Cadfael? Pace, Tey.

Along the way, Floyd covered Sharan Newman's list of *Six Things You Know about the Middle Ages (That Aren't True)*. We also learned about famous historical incidents/mysteries that have drawn authors again and again to use fiction to speculate about them. Finally, Floyd's great handout chart makes it easy for a devotee of the genre to pick his time period (Roman Britain to 1492), his preferred setting (John o'Groats to Land's End, so to speak, with some Ireland, France, and Rome thrown in for good measure), and favorite detective type, and come up with the books he's most likely to enjoy.



RICARDIAN READING

Myrna Smith

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

COLUMN WITHOUT A THEME (It had to happen sometime!)

📖 *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Medieval Civilization*
– Aryeh Grabois, Octopus Books, London, 1980
ISBN 0-7064-0856-X, \$20-#50 at abcbooks.com

Good buy or good-bye?

Aryeh Grabois, a professor of medieval history at the University of Haifa, wrote most of the entries for *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Medieval Civilization*. Published in 1980, the work includes many beautiful photographs and pertinent illustrations as well as some text entries about people, terms, and events not found in other more general reference books. This is a beautiful book — but not necessarily one that should be on every Ricardian's shelves.

Grabois attempts to move beyond the “confines” of most general encyclopedias — a concern he notes in the foreword — and includes entries on Islamic, Jewish and “Oriental” topics. He writes, “Nor is it possible to leave out the great Oriental civilizations — those of India, China and Japan...” and later “...there is no better way of demonstrating the universality of the Medieval world than by studying the continuous inter-relationships in the intellectual and scientific fields...”

At first glance, the entries seem to reflect Grabois' commitment to inclusion. One notices the many entries introduced with point-blank identifiers such as “Jewish poet,” “Jewish mystic,” or “Moslem scholar. (Bede is an “English scholar.” This begs the question of what rationale Grabois used in identifying the religious or national origin of the subjects — many are specifically identified but many others are not.) The reader can easily see that a number of entries are about subjects not generally touched on in Medieval History 101 courses. There are entries on Islamic culture(s), rulers and mystics. The encyclopedia includes general entries on China, India and Japan; the entry for Khmer includes a clear black and white photograph of Angkor Wat. It also has articles on Greek (Byzantine) philosophers, Greek Orthodox religious ideas, Byzantine buildings, and — moving further west — mentions more Hungarians than I knew existed.

Digging past the first glance, however, the reader will probably notice that fewer entries than expected

are actually about “Oriental” topics especially given Grabois' statements about inclusion. (One might argue the definition of “Oriental” — he points to the Far East as “Oriental.”) An entry on “Ming” might be expected but is not in the book; “daimyo” is not found although “lord” — with its Latin “dominus” and Anglo-Saxon “hlaord” origins — is.

The period covered is approximately 400-1400 AD. Henry V is there, Henry VI isn't. This, of course, limits the encyclopedia's usefulness to the Ricardian. There is a nice photograph of a coin from Edward IV's reign, but I am not sure why it is included or why it is placed where it is. You will not find “Richard, Duke of York,” although one can easily be sidetracked from the “Richard's” to the color photo of York Minister — again, strange placement — it's found on p. 609 near nothing related. The Ricardian will be disappointed to find that the entry for “Plantagenet” ends abruptly with “The dynasty came to an end in 1485.”

The illustrations are wonderful. There is a good mixture of color and black and white photographs and the book has ample reproductions of drawings and woodcuts — as one would expect of a book with “illustrated” in the title. If there is a quibble here, many of the illustrations have captions, but few describe the source of the illustration or where the original might now be found.

Because Grabois has included more than 4,000 entries in a single-volume work, some of the entries lack depth. The entry for Geert Groote, for example, mentions the Brethren of the Common Life, but fails to explain its significance. Montanism is found under “Montanist heresy” but we find little about Montanus and have to turn to Encyclopedia Britannica to learn that this movement was described in Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History* or that Tertullian left the Church and became a convert to the heretical movement.

But Britannica doesn't rule everywhere. No mention there of “Leliaerts” whereas Grabois lists it as “a political party in 14th-century Flanders which endorsed allegiance to France.” Britannica fails to provide articles on Widukind, Beaulieu, or Court of Piepowders; *The Illustrated Encyclopedia* gives information on each. Neither shame nor fame here —

Ricardian Reading

Grabois' focus is Medieval whereas the Britannica is a general encyclopedia.

Grabois provides a list of abbreviations as well as a "select" bibliography. Scant 5 maps – black and white — are provided. No maps of the Orient or "the great Oriental civilizations" — a visible fault in a work claiming inclusion of East with West. A chronological table is divided into columns for Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Moslem World, Far East and Asia, and, finally, a single column for Society, Economy, Arts, Letters and Science.

A few minor irritants should be mentioned. Grabois' publishers have placed the page numbers on the inner columns making them difficult to see. They have also chosen to identify subjects of separate articles with an asterisk, which leaves the reader encountering many asterisks while reading. A different method — perhaps bolding — would be less distracting. There is no table of illustrations; that device might have helped the reader understand the method used for placing illustrations, many of which seem simply to have been plopped in any available space. There is no index, but since the work is in standard alphabetic order, there probably does not need to be one. Grabois has included an index of "names, terms and subjects that are not [separate] titles of entries."

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Medieval Civilization is a beautiful book. The author's intent of including subjects that others may overlook, as well as his attempt to weave philosophical, religious, and cultural topics in with more traditional political/economic entries, is admirable. But this work will be of limited use to the Ricardian and offers the non-Ricardian less diversity than may now be found elsewhere. Given the availability of digital resources and technology that can deliver updated references and color maps and illustrations — an unfair comparison since those were unavailable at the time of the book's publication — one will be better served leaving this book at the used bookseller's and waiting for the 2002 DVD edition of Britannica. In 1980, this would have been a "good buy;" today, it's "good-bye."

— Charlie Jordan.

...LIE AS SNUG WITHOUT THE CHURCH AS WITHIN

 *Inward Purity And Outward Splendour – Death and Remembrance In The Deanery Of Dunwich*, Suffolk, 1370-1547 – Judith Middleton-Stewart, The Boydell Press, Woodbridge, 2001, ISBN 0 85115 820 X

In spite of having chosen which might be considered a rather narrow focus for this, her PhD thesis, Ms Middleton-Stewart's opening forewords are in regard to the 'long time' it has taken to produce. And that is

understandable. The Reformation, Cromwell, and the ravages of time have deteriorated or destroyed records, even to the engravings on gravestones. But enough remains to develop an overview of the feelings and motives of Englishmen and women of late medieval and early modern times as they 'arranged their affairs.' Death, she reminds us, was then "perceived as the next stage of the souls journey."

The subject is approached from different aspects: testaments and wills, brasses and gravestones, chantries and liturgies, the churches themselves, all in the context of their time. Oddly enough, as the author tells us, one can seldom deduce the presence of the Reformation from the individual wills. There are a number of clear and attractive photographs, some in color.

The period covered includes the Yorkist era, so is of interest to Ricardian scholars. But has it any relevance for people today? Middleton-Stewart implies a criticism of 20th-21st century attitudes:

.. countless men and women will never be held in the community's memory, remembrance being erased at the source....Memorial slabs are reduced to small tiles, flesh and bones to ashes rather than dust, both set in impersonal gardens of remembrance...

She has a point. Modern cemeteries are meant to look like parks, but deceive nobody. But public reaction to the victims of the WTC tragedy and, on a more micro and subdued scale, to the death of George Harrison, show that the desire, even the necessity, to memorialize is still with us. So yes, it is relevant to modern times.

This handsome book may be obtained from Boydell & Brewer, P.O. Box 41026, Rochester, NY, 14604-4126. Their website is www.boydell.co.uk.

— m.s.

SANS PEUR ET SANS REPROCHE

 *The Age of Edward III*—J.S. Bothwell, Editor, York Medieval Press, York, 2000 ISBN 1 903153 06 9

Edward III is of some relevance to Ricardians, for without him there would have been no Yorkists, no Lancastrians, no Wars of the Roses, no Richard III Society. The conference held in York in July 1999 on his life and times deals less with his progenerative ability than with all of the traits that made him a successful ruler.

Some of these traits surfaced at an early age. Caroline Shenton, in *Edward III and the Coup of 1330* recounts the teen-aged king's wresting power from his mother and her lover, a story full of adventure, secret passages, all the best of chivalry. It's amazing how often the children of dysfunctional families turn out to be as normal as the next person.

Edward had help, of course. J.S. Bothwell's *Edward III, The English Peerage, and the 1337 Earls: Estate redistribution in Fourteenth-Century England*, shows Edward as dispenser of patronage and land. "Edward III's Enforcers: The King's Sergeants-at-Arms in the Localities," by Richard Partington delineates the duties and perks of the king's men-of-all-work, who, like the non-com of today, seem to have done most of the work while the captains took the credit. "Sir Thomas Ughtred and the Edwardian Military Revolution," by Andrew Ayton, is a sketch of the sub-marshal of the king's army at Crecy, and David S. Green's "Politics and Service with Edward the Black Prince," brings the study down to the next generation. Returning to the character of King Edward himself, Anthony Musson speculates on "Second 'English Justinian' or Pragmatic Opportunist? A Re-examination of the Legal Legislation of Edward III's Reign." Conclusion: Something of both. "Some Reflections on Edward III's Use of Propaganda," by A.K. McHardy, proves that the 20th century only invented the phrase "spin-doctor." The fact existed centuries before. McHardy starts his chapter with "Edward III, like Mrs. Thatcher, needed a good war," but ended up with more war than he needed.

W.M. Ormrod's *A Problem of Precedence: Edward III, the Double Monarchy, and the Royal Style*, shows a practical example of Edward's propaganda: calling himself the King of France and England, or England and France, depending on his audience. In "Edward III and the Plantagenet Claim to the French Throne" Craig Taylor considers the validity of the King's claim to the throne of France (although what he really wanted was Aquitaine). He quotes from *English Medieval Diplomatic Practice* about the status of women: "By nature the deaf, the mute, the insane, and minors, because they are wanting in judgment...by custom women and slaves, not because they do not have judgment, but because it is received that they do not administer civil offices." A nice distinction, to be sure.

The Anglo-French Peace Negotiations of 1354-1360 Reconsidered, by Clifford J. Rogers, give a practical demonstration of Edward's military and diplomatic success. Finally, Michael Bennet's s brings the symposium full circle, proving that Edward's mother was not so much in disgrace that she could not live a full social life, and in fact she was a great help to her son in his dealings with France.

The years under consideration by these conferees end before the Edward's rather sad old age, although he was not that old by modern standards. As with the above book, Boydell and Brewer are the U.S. publishers.

— m.s.

WITHOUT SCRUPLES

📖 *The Evidence Exposed* – Elizabeth George, Hodder & Stoughton, 1999

This book is a collection of three short stories, only one of which need concern Ricardians. The second story, "I, Richard," involves Malcolm Cousins, a grammar school teacher and Bosworth Field tour guide, who burns to redeem Richard's reputation, but whose morals are no match for those of his hero-King. He has written his masterpiece, but needs the evidence, a letter written in Richard's hand, directing the Abbot of Jerveaux to deliver "Edward, the Lord Bastard, and his brother Richard, Duke of York" into the hands of John, Earl of Lincoln.

The letter was written and hidden in Sutton Cheney church on the night before the battle, proving that the boys were alive at that time. But the document is in the hands of Malcolm's former friend and present enemy, Bernie Perryman, a drunkard with a weak heart and a grasping wife. Malcolm seduces Bernie's wife and encourages her subtly to murder her husband, so that the document will fall into Malcolm's hands and he can publicly expound his theory: that Elizabeth of York, with the queenship within her grasp, collected her brothers from the abbey and delivered them to assassins.

In an ironic twist, Malcolm loses the manuscript, and is stuck with an amorous, adulterous wife.

That George has Ricardian leanings is clear from the staunch Yorkist sympathy of her aristocrat detective, Thomas Lynley. The stories are too short for her to develop the suspense and drama of her longer works, but any theory that exonerates Richard should be given consideration.

— Dale Summers, TX

(Yes, but I do wish that she had made at least one of her characters in this short story likable!

— m.s.)

📖 *The Knight And the Rose* – Isolde Martyn, Berkley/Jove, February 2002

In *The Knight and the Rose*, Isolde Martyn tackles a subject dear to many Ricardian hearts, clandestine marriage. Her heroine, Lady Johanna FitzHenry, is so demoralized by her husband's brutality that she considers suicide. Desperate to save her, her mother concocts a plan to dissolve the marriage by proving a precontract. The scheme lacks only a prior husband, but one soon falls into their hands.

Fleeing from the battle of Boroughbridge with young Edmund Mortimer in tow and hiding a secret of his own, a young nobleman named Geraint stumbles onto Johanna's family lands. King Edward II's

troops are searching for rebel survivors, and he needs a safe haven. Johanna's mother sees him as the answer to a prayer. She has no compunction about anything necessary to rescue Johanna, so she uses Mortimer's safety as a bargaining chip, forcing Geraint to play the part of Johanna's precontracted spouse. The supposed bastard of the Bishop of Hereford, Geraint ran away from a monastery in his youth because of mistreatment by the monks. The Mortimers sheltered him when his family would not, and his loyalty will not allow him to risk Edmund's life.

Some readers may have difficulty accepting the ease with which the characters perjure themselves, while others may find Johanna's dire situation reason enough for their actions. Although this novel is published as a historical romance, it takes a grittier look at medieval life and marriage than is usual for that subgenre. Martyn skillfully depicts the growing trust, friendship, and unexpected love between Johanna and Geraint, while presenting a frank, detailed portrait of medieval marriage litigation. Her descriptions of the medieval world bring its glory and squalor alive.

Martyn, an Australian Ricardian, does not shunt the period's history aside to develop the romance. As she did in her award-winning debut novel, *The Maiden and the Unicorn*, she spices the story with intrigue revolving around Edward II's political and marital problems. Queen Isabella, the Mortimers and the Despencers stride across the pages, ultimately deciding Johanna's and Geraint's fates, while the future Edward III keeps his own counsel. The story moves a bit slowly in a few spots, but its richness of detail and vivid action compensate.

Readers who like historical romances with meaty history should enjoy this book. Those who aren't particular fans of romance novels but enjoy historical novels with romantic plots may also find *The Knight and the Rose* appealing.

— Nancy Northcott

WITHOUT A MOTHER TO GUIDE HER

📖 *Destiny Lies Waiting* – Diana Rubino, Domhan Books, 9511 Shore Road, Ste. 514, Brooklyn, NY 11209, 1999

📖 *Thy Name Is Love* – Diana Rubino, Domhan Books, same address, 1999

Denys Woodville falls in love at first sight with Valentine Starbury, and he with her, but they are parted before they can learn each other's name.

Well, that can't be the entire story, and it's not. They will eventually find each other, and in the meantime a marriage has been arranged for Denys, with Richard, Duke of Gloucester. This fills both of them with horror, because they regard each other as brother

and sister. With the aid of the Duke, and a few complications along the way, she is wed to her true love, as is Richard. Par for the course of any good historical romance.

There is a parallel plot, however, which removes the story from the genus 'standard or garden bodice-ripper' (though a few bodices do get ripped). Denys bears the Woodville name, is the ward of Elizabeth Woodville, and has been led to believe she is a Woodville by-blow, but she doesn't believe it. Given Elizabeth's character as depicted here, small wonder she wouldn't want to. She searches for her true parentage, and although happily married at the end of the first book, has not yet discovered it.

The second book mentioned opens in 1483, and recounts events down to shortly after Bosworth Field. During the course of these events, Denys finally uncovers the secret of her birth, and it is a bit of a shock to her, as well as a surprise to the reader.

Rubino uses Poetic License #985133 to move time and events around, as she explains in an afterword. As in her time-travel novel, *One Too Many Times*, the dialogue is written in a racy combination of 15th and 20th century colloquial. The characters joke around with one another, and Richard, though described as rather straight-laced, can give as good as he gets. In regard to dialogue, however, one thing that annoys me is that the convention of one speaker to a paragraph is not consistently followed, and sometimes there will be a paragraph break in the middle of a paragraph, or even in the middle of a sentence. Result of being overly trustful of the computer, I suppose.

There are two more books to come in the series, *The Jewels of Warwick*, and *I Love You Because*, which will perhaps take the story on to the times of Perkin Warbeck. I'm looking forward to them. The books come in various formats, with different ISBN numbers for each. Write to the publishers for information.

— m.s.

📖 *The Temptress* – Claire Delacroix, Dell Publishing, NY, 2001

The Temptress is the final book in *The Bride Quest* series. It follows the adventures of Esmeraude, a maiden in search of adventure, and her determined suitor, Bayard.

Bayard has returned from the Third Crusade, a follower of King Richard I. Determined to protect his family's holding, he learns that he must win Esmeraude's hand before his grandmother will name him her heir. Esmeraude's parents have arranged for the most eligible men in the kingdom to compete for her hand. But she surprises them by embarking on her own quest, seeking the man her heart will tell her is right. She is convinced that none of the men her

parents have invited are right for her. After setting a riddle for all those gathered, she flees. If one of the knights is indeed meant for her, he will be able to solve the riddle and claim her.

Bayard arrives to find the lady in question gone. Determined not to be thwarted, he sets off in search of her and finds her. She seduces him, believing that men want only her maidenhead. Little does she know that the stranger is one of her suitors, one who is not put off by her behavior. Once Bayard understands Esmeraude's yearning for adventure, he allows her to have one, admiring her spirit. They meet up with her other pursuers at her sister's castle, where the wooing begins in earnest. But there is one knight determined to have Esmeraude who values her only for her ability to bear children, and when he learns that she is indeed with child, the adventure becomes a desperate race to save herself and her child.

Part fairy-tale, part adventure and part romance, *The Temptress* is an engrossing read. In the hands of a less talented author it could have been very cliched, yet each time the story appears to be going in one direction the author surprises the reader with a deft plot turn. Esmeraude is a spoiled young lady who at first appears to be a stereotypical heroine – feisty, beautiful, stubborn and silly. Yet the author soon shows that she is much more than that, as Esmeraude learns from her mistakes and matures. When she realizes that Bayard does not believe in marrying for love, she sets out to show him otherwise. Bayard is an intelligent and worthy hero, one who battles his own demons and comes to realize there is more to love than he ever expected.

The depth of the author's research is clear in the many historical details, yet she manages to slip them into the narrative unobtrusively. Ms Delacroix has been writing novels set in the Middle Ages for many years and her comfort level is obvious. Though historical events don't play a huge role in this story, there is no doubt that it is set firmly in the medieval world. An interesting subplot involves Dame Fortune, who appears after one of the characters invokes her name.

All the characters are unique and well depicted, even the most minor ones. Ms Delacroix's writing style is fluid and elegant, with just enough archaic language to give a medieval flavor without overwhelming. There is also a supernatural element to the story, handled deftly by the author, adding to the fairy-tale quality of the story.

I found little to criticize as I read the book in two sittings. If the pace lagged a couple of times, specifically with a very minor subplot concerning the romance of Esmeraude's younger sister, it did little to detract from the book's overall appeal.

Fans of the romance genre looking for a well-written, literate tale would do well to pick up *The Temptress*.

— Teresa Eckford, Canada

JESTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

📖 *Thirteenth Night* – Alan Gordon, St Martin's Press, NY, 1999

📖 *Jester Leaps In* – Alan Cordon, St Martin's Press, 2000

Here we meet Feste, Viola, Malvolio, Sebastian, and all the gang from TWELFTH NIGHT, fifteen years after — all except Duke Orsino. He has apparently thrown himself off a cliff just before Feste comes on the scene. Viola does not believe this, and persuades the newly-arrived-in-town Feste to look into the matter. An odd choice? Not at all, for Feste is a member in good standing of the Guild of Fools, which in this depiction, is a sort of combination of U.N.C.L.E. and Interpol. He solves the mystery (look for the least likely character) and wins the fair lady — in fact the Duchess.

In the sequel, *Jester Leaps In*, Viola has married the jester and gone off for a life of adventure. She learns the trades of clown and spy, and manages to keep up with Feste. This is no easy task, as he, like all members of his Guild, is a master not only of juggling and similar arts, but also of several methods of self-defense. The Guild members, and their apprentices (Viola is still an apprentice) go where they are sent for a good cause. That is, what the Guild decides is a good cause, and the Guild owes allegiance to no single government. This will lead the couple to rubbing shoulders with some little people (really Little People), some very big people (the Emperor), and some very mean people. And there is a cliffhanger at the end. What more could one ask for?

— m.s.

SHAKESPEARE WITHOUT TEARS

📖 *A Mystery of Errors* – Simon Hawke, Tom Doherty Associates, NY, 2000

Shakespeare himself is featured in this story. Going off to London to make his way in the world, and perhaps to get away from Stratford, he meets Symington Smyth (quickly rechristened Tuck), and they decide to team up. A wise move, for their combination of brains (Will's) and brawn (Tuck's) enables them to save a young woman from a bad marriage, track down a murderer, and even save their own skins on occasion. Shakespeare finds his niche in the the-ay-ter, but Smyth's talents lie in other areas. A good thing, because he is a terrible actor. The mystery of the girl with the hot-and-cold running suitors may be pretty obvious, but the goings-on

Ricardian Reading

backstage help to make up for any deficiencies in the plot, and it's an interesting speculation about Shakespeare's 'missing' years. If you like backstage mysteries, try this one. I think you'll enjoy it.

— *m.s.*

SCOTCH WITHOUT WATER

📖 *The Scottish 100*— Duncan A. Bruce, Carroll & Graf, NY, 2000

This is a selection of potted biographies of Scotsmen and women who have been influential in history/arts/medicine, etc. As some entries are doubles, the count is actually more than 100, and many others are noted in passing. Some of course are the obvious and expected ones: William Wallace, Robert Bruce, Burns, - but others are surprising. Since Bruce (the author, not the king) extends the definition to include anyone of Scottish extraction, there are entries on Edvard Grieg, Marconi, Mary Cassat, and Immanuel Kant, among others!

To avoid making the book an encyclopedia, the author naturally has had to leave some otherwise deserving folks out. Sean Connery has an article, perhaps because of his Scottish Nationalism, but other well-known actors, such as David Niven, are only mentioned. They are legion, or should I say McLegion? There are rich men (Carnegie), poor men (not so many, but Poe died broke), doctors (Alexander Fleming), lawyers (John Marshall), merchants (Elizabeth Arden), soldiers (Grant and MacArthur), sailors (John Paul Jones.). Understandably, there are no beggermen, but surely there have been a few notorious Scottish thieves and bad guys. The only one who comes close to that description here is John Law, whom the author considers to have been more sinned against than sinning. How about Deacon Brodie, who was the inspiration for Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde? How about Sawney Bean? There are also no Indian chiefs, in spite of a variety to choose from: John Ross of the Cherokees, MacGillivray and McIntosh of the Creeks, Osceola of the Seminoles. No mention is made of William Penn Adair Rogers, who, although he wasn't a chief, was pretty influential in his time, as Will Rogers. Sam Houston is included, though.

Interesting and fun to read.

— *m.s.*

A few Capsule Comments/ Unexpected Defenses (?) Attacks (?)

📖 *Legends, Lies & Cherished Myths Of World History* (Richard Shenkman, HarperCollins, NY, 1993) contains a brief but generally favorable section on Richard III.

And in her mystery novel, *The Forgotten*, Faye Kellerman puts words in the mouth of a 'Goth' character.

On being asked by a policeman: "Did you and Ernesto ever talk about Hitler?"... she replies:

"About Hitler, Stalin, Ivan the Terrible, Louis the XVI, Marie Antoinette, Bluebeard, Jeffrey Dahmer, Gacy, Ed Gein, Lizzie Borden, Richard III...what else? So I have a fixation about the dark side."

No indication whether she regards Richard as a villain, a victim (like Marie Antoinette) or possibly wrongly accused (Lizzie, according to some).

From a puzzle book called *Are You As Smart As You Think?*, by Terry Stickels, St Martin's Press, NY, 2000, comes this interesting method of (ahem) exposing pretenders:

Two identical young men claim to be the heir to the throne. All parents are dead and there are no records. "The prince knows he is the prince. The impostor grew up in the hills of a neighboring country hearing the stories about the lost prince..."

"An elder of the king's court" comes up with the foolproof solution. He brings the claimants together and tells them:

"For centuries, the Royal Family has taken precautions for such possibilities... What you don't know is that every Royal Heir has a small Royal Emblem imprinted with indelible ink on the inside of the left buttock at birth. I will give the impostor 30 seconds to tell me he is not the Prince, and if I don't hear from him, I will check for the Royal Emblem. If the impostor does not admit his lie within 30 seconds, he will be killed on the spot..."

The Prince, of course, was calm, assuming that he had the Royal Emblem (which was non-existent). The impostor had no choice but to drop trou, with predictable results. Too bad Henry VII didn't think of this with Perkin Warbeck. Or maybe he did! I would never have thought of that solution, which I guess proves I'm not as smart as I think.

Having descended from the serious, if not sublime, to the — er, having descended, it is now time to bring this column to

THE END.

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9/30/2001**

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A Special Contribution:

The Middle Atlantic Chapter forwarded the balance of its Chapter Treasury funds to Branch Treasurer Wayne Ingalls, asking that the money be applied to the Schallek Fellowship Fund, the Morris McGee AGM Keynote Speech Fund, and the General Fund. We thank all the Chapter members and will apply the money as they have requested.

FIRST-TIME AGM ATTENDEES

These people attended their first AGM in 2001, at Fort Worth:

Valerie Benoy, Fort Worth
Dorothy Dietz, Houston
Floyd Durham, Fort Worth
Patty Durham, Fort Worth
Elizabeth York Enstam, Dallas
Mary Helffrich, La Canada, CA
Marsha Jensen, Austin
Jayney Mack, Las Vegas
Nancy Madison, Arlington, TX
Walker Madison, Arlington, TX
Amber McVey, Austin
William McVey, Austin
Frank Wessling, Seattle
Kathryn Ziemba, Houston

The AGM was more sparsely attended this year than most, coming so soon after the terrorist attacks. Many people who were planning to attend had to cancel their plans at the last minute. Many familiar AGM "regulars" were sorely missed. So every attendee, and especially these "first-timers," made a special contribution by coming and doing his part to continue life as we know and cherish it. We hope to see these good people and many more at future AGM's, including Detroit 2002.

The Plantagenet Connection

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Anyone looking to reactivate the Southern California Chapter, please contact Pam Mills at Shakespeare.@prodigy.net for guidelines on chapter formation and related assistance.

SOUTHWEST

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