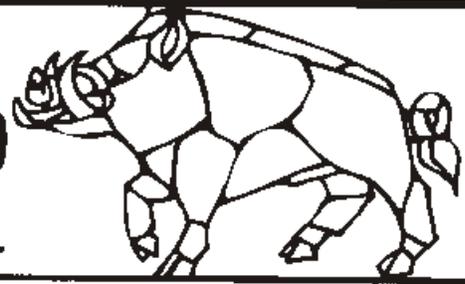


Richardian REGISTER



Richard III Society, Inc.

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The Tower and the Princes

King Edward V and the Duke of York in the Tower of London, by [Paul Delaroche](#)

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

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

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

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

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Copy Deadlines:

Spring	March 15
Summer	June 15
Fall	September 15
Winter	December 15

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EDITORIAL LICENSE

Carole Rike

In the Winter issue of the *Register*, the sources for Susan Higginbotham's article on the Duke and Duchess of Buckingham were dropped from the end of the article. They are included here on page 19, with apologies to Susan for this oversight.

Thanks to South African Ricardian Annette Carson for her article, *The Princes in the Tower*, a follow-up to Dr. Hancock's article on the Princes in the Fall, 2008 issue of the *Register*. Discussion of the Princes further spurred an exchange of emails between Ms. Carson, Dr. Peter Hancock, and Helen Maurer. I plan to include these in a Post column in our next issue.

Thanks also to Charlie Jordan and his committee for their continued efforts on behalf of Ricardian crossword puzzles. Charlie has managed this despite medical problems in his household.

And our stalwart Myrna Smith.

We have the continuation of the recap of the 2007 Ricardian Tour on page 20, and look forward to soon having an article on the 2008 tour.

Look for more detailed information on the 2008 AGM in Florida. Many plans are underway at this time. Dr. Hancock will be our featured speaker at the luncheon.

May all of you have a peaceful and blessed Summer. And for those Ricardians in the Midwest floods, our hearts go out to you.

All Society business is handled on a volunteer basis, so the assistance of the membership is vigorously sought. Opportunities for volunteers are available in all areas, using many different kinds of talent. Please inquire if you are able to assist with the work of the Society.

Contact Pamela J. Butler, Membership Chair, at P. O. Box 92066, Albuquerque, NM 87199-2066, or by e-mail at membership@r3.org.

One special way you can contribute is to send items for publication in the newsletter, e.g. book reviews, articles of Ricardian interest, questions which may encourage feedback from other members; crossword puzzles, graphics, cartoons, etc. Our only exclusion is fiction—which we do not normally include in this publication.

*We
Need
Your
Help!*

THE FINANCIAL ISSUES JUST OVER THE HORIZON

W. Wayne Ingalls,
Chair, Richard III Society, Inc. (American Branch)

As I have mentioned previously, the Richard III Society, Inc. (American Branch) is on the verge of some difficult financial decisions.

One of the benefits of the membership in the American Branch is membership in the Parent Society in the UK. The ability to vote in the Parent Society elections (if you attend the UK AGM) and receiving the Parent Society's publications (the quarterly *Bulletin* and the annual *Ricardian*) are the chief benefits of Society membership.

The cost of these benefits for the last several years has been £5 /year per US member, plus the cost of postage for mailing the UK publications. Last year, the Parent Society felt that they had held the line on a price increase for as long as they could, and that a significant price increase was warranted. It is the Parent Society's view that the reason for the big increase now is "because an anomalous situation had been allowed to go on for far too long and your members had become used to paying well under their share of the subscription."

The £5 /year per US member (+ shipping costs) increases to £11 + shipping costs from 2 October 08, and to £16 + shipping costs from 2 October 09. As our

current membership dues per year of \$35/member barely covers all our expenses now (including our quarterly *Ricardian Register*) increased payments of approximately \$22/member (at the current exchange rate) by October 2009 will certainly put us "in the red." The bottom line here is that we need to arrive at some combination of cost-cutting or dues raising that covers the increased costs of the UK publications.

One of the cost cutting measures we proposed to the Parent Society was to electronically send us the files of the UK publications for us to print here and save on postage. In December, I heard back from the Parent Society that the proposal had been discussed and rejected.

As a hard reality check, during a recent Executive Board meeting I found that the Canadian Branch already has dues of \$60 Canadian per year — and they do not receive our high quality *Register*.

The Board is taking a hard look at ways to cut costs and minimize dues increases. We would appreciate your ideas to make up the \$22/member shortfall (by email, mail or the listserv) or other alternatives to deal with the upcoming price increases.

Loyaulte me lie,
Wayne

FIVE GRADUATE STUDENTS WIN 2008 SCHALLEK AWARDS

The Richard III Society, American Branch, has been supporting graduate study into later medieval England since 1980. Since becoming fully funded by the generous bequest from the estate of co-founder Maryloo Spooner Schallek, the award is now administered on our behalf by the Medieval Academy of America. Five students were chosen to receive \$2,000 awards to help fund their dissertation research:

- **Sonja Drimmer**, *The Visual Language of Vernacular Manuscript Illumination: John Gower's Confessio amantis* (Pierpont Morgan MS M126)
- **Donna E. Hobbs**, *Telling Tales out of School: Schoolbooks, Audiences, and the Production of Vernacular Literature in Late Medieval England*
- **Mollie M. Madden**, *The Black Prince at War: Late Medieval Military Logistics*
- **Rosemary O'Neill**, *Accounting for Salvation in Middle English Literature*
- **Matthew Sergi**, *Recreation and Festival in Chester's Pageants, 1400-1577.*

In addition to these five awards, a \$30,000 Schallek Dissertation Fellowship is awarded in the fall. This award essentially frees an advanced graduate student from the need to teach or hold other employment in order to concentrate on research.

The Schallek scholarship program, named by founders and principal contributors William B. and Maryloo Spooner Schallek, supports scholarship that deepens and enriches our understanding of the history and culture of later medieval England and, thus, Richard III and his contemporaries, and strengthens the American Branch's ties to the medieval studies community. A list of award recipients from the program's inception to its move to the Medieval Academy of America can be found at <http://www.r3.org/edu.html#schallek>. This list will be updated with the Medieval Academy-awarded recipients in the near future.

THE TOWER AND THE PRINCES

Annette Carson

I was fascinated to read Peter Hancock's article about the Tower of London in the Fall edition of the *Ricardian Register*, as I am sure were many other Ricardians. Having left England to live in South Africa twenty years ago, it's a long time since I last visited the Tower. However, over the past five years I have spent many long hours considering the grounds as they used to be several hundred years ago, as part of my research for a new book which is being published by The History Press (formerly Sutton Publishing) this summer. When I tell you the title is *Richard III: The Maligned King*, I scarcely need to explain what my book is about.

In Peter's article the geography of the Tower is examined in relation to two sources of information about the fate of Edward V and his brother Richard, Duke of York. Those sources are (a) Sir Thomas More's *History of King Richard the Third*, and (b) the Tower of London itself — or rather the 'traditions' promulgated by the people whose job is to manage what they would undoubtedly describe as the Visitor Experience. I will return to the Tower authorities later.

Peter has done an excellent job deconstructing these sources and pointing out their shortcomings. The gaping lapses of credibility in Thomas More's account are of course common cause for Ricardians. It is a marvel that otherwise quite rational historians (and some not so rational) actually claim to believe More's lurid fables about events that happened when he was a child, narrated some 30-40 years later in a work of literature that the historiographer Alison Hanham calls a 'satirical drama.'

My own decision when writing my book was to afford his tall tales no house-room, so More is entirely dismissed from the serious sources I have consulted.

Should any doubts remain as to the advisability of placing any reliance on More, consider this statement by Peter Hancock: "The disappearance of the Princes in the Tower is rightly dubbed one of the greatest mysteries of all time." Few people would argue with this. Yet if one believes Thomas More, there is no mystery at all. It's all there in black and white, complete with dates, places and a wealth of circumstantial detail — the identity of the king who ordered their murder, the precise manner in which it was performed, the cast of characters who carried out his wishes, their names, physical descriptions and job titles. To round it off, More offers us a choice of ways in which the bodies were disposed of.

What more could one want? A credible source, perhaps? This More obligingly supplies by means of his

unique and unsubstantiated recital of a confession by Sir James Tyrell, conveniently long-since dead.

So if Thomas More has all the answers, why have people considered it a mystery for the past 500 years? The reason, of course, is that More's so-called solution has never stood up to scrutiny, and is so hedged around with 'ifs' and 'buts' that history has rightly labeled the case unsolved.

Leaving aside such works of dramatic fiction, we are left to piece together the events of 1483 from more reliable contemporaneous sources. Details and references for all the following assertions may be found in my book.

Establishing Timelines

One of the most basic foundations of detective work is establishing timelines. We know that Edward V was lodged in the Tower of London, doubtless in the royal apartments at the Lanthorn Tower, by decision of the royal council in May 1483. He was in residence there by 19 May and was joined by his brother Richard on 16 June. As a result of the Hastings plot of mid June, security was heightened and Edward's existing attendants were replaced. This is revealed by the Italian spy Dominic Mancini, one of whose principal informants was Edward's physician, Dr John Argentine — an extremely knowledgeable source.

In or about July, while Richard III was away on his post-coronation progress around England, an attempt to abduct the princes was foiled (as described by the antiquarian John Stow and supported by Thomas Basin). This must have forced a rethink of security arrangements around the princes, and my suggestion is that as a result they were moved to different quarters within the Tower of London. This is examined later under Geography.

To continue with our 1483 timeline, at the beginning of August preparations for an uprising started coming to light with the aim of restoring Edward V to the throne. In response, Richard III ordered the production of quantities of arms. Mid-month at Brecon, Bishop John Morton suborned the Duke of Buckingham to rebel. Buckingham meanwhile enjoyed the full trust and confidence of Richard until at least 16 September.

In early September Buckingham set off on a tour all over the southern counties of England, ostensibly pursuing commissions of enquiry ordered by Richard to investigate rebellious activity. What he was really doing was offering himself to the rebels as their new leader, which must have involved a lot of fancy footwork and fast

The Tower & The Princes

talking for the man who was Richard's closest aide and Constable of England: not a task accomplished in a couple of days. So Buckingham must be allowed at least until, say, 10 September before his new credentials were established throughout the south and west, and his proclamations against Richard were ready to be issued.

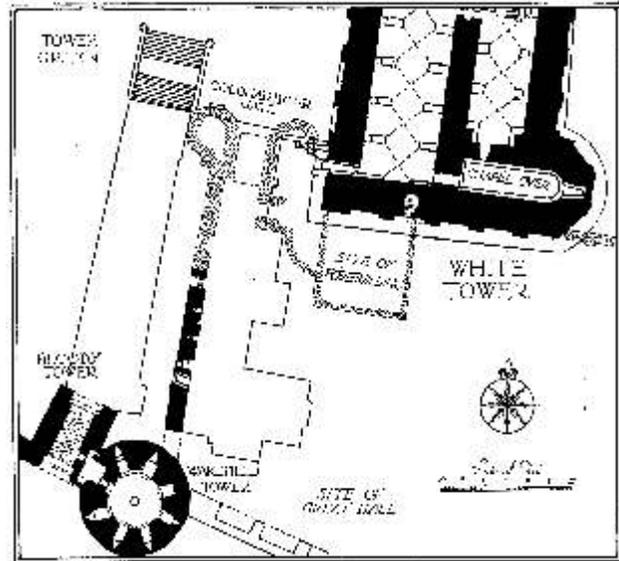
At the end of August Richard himself, still on his royal progress, had arrived in York where on 8 September he arranged an impressive investiture for his son as Prince of Wales. The *Crowland* chronicler, aghast at such lavish expenditure, spends all of 100 words droning on about the "splendid and highly expensive feasts and entertainments" frittered away in the hated north of England. Meanwhile, adds our chronicler, "while these things were happening, the two sons of King Edward remained in the Tower of London with a specially appointed guard." A clear indication (supported by Polydore Vergil, for what it's worth, and demolishing More) that no harm had befallen the princes by 8 September.

Continuing with the *Crowland Chronicle*, we are able to trace the timeline of the uprising commonly known as Buckingham's Rebellion. In essence the chronicler writes that men in certain counties decided to take up arms, and that Buckingham was proclaimed their leader, but then "a rumour arose that King Edward's sons, by some unknown manner of violent destruction, had met their fate." In these circumstances the rebels quickly realized a change of leader was essential. Note that the chronicler does not confirm the rumour as true or false, neither do we know whether the rebels actually believed it or were merely insuring against its possible veracity. Either way it is unlikely such a rumour was spread if the princes were still in London and capable of being put on show to disprove it. Thus we have a likely date of mid September for their disappearance.

The Geography of the Tower

Dominic Mancini left England some time after Richard III's coronation, probably in late July. His final item of intelligence about the princes is that they were "withdrawn into the inner apartments of the Tower proper," whereafter they began to be seen less and less. Three things may be deduced from this.

First, logic suggests that the move was in reaction to the July plot described by Stow, therefore we have an approximate date for it. Second, because Mancini does not merely say "withdrawn into the inner apartments," it seems that in specifying 'the Tower proper' he is indicating a location different from where the boys were lodged at the time (N.B. Mancini never tells us where the princes were held in the first place). And third, since no



Lawrence Tanner's inaccurate plan

— Geoffrey Wheeler

earlier change of lodging is mentioned in any account, it is reasonable to suppose that this was the first time they had been moved from their original lodgings in the Lanthorn Tower.

The Lanthorn Tower is part of the inner curtain wall of the Tower of London complex, situated at the south-east extremity of the Inmost Ward and overlooking the River Thames to the south. It has its own private garden area to the east, which is very likely where the princes were observed playing and shooting.

We now need to ask ourselves what Dr Argentine meant by withdrawal into the Tower proper — something in contrast, one would suppose, to the peripheral tower in which they were residing, since this was deemed insecure. My own suggestion is that he meant the central keep known as the White Tower, where King Richard could have ordered special accommodations to be prepared for the boys rather than leave them at the more vulnerable periphery.

My ever-helpful curator at the Tower of London tells me that the Garden Tower, dubbed the Bloody Tower in the late Tudor period for reasons unconnected with the princes, did not have a storey added after the 15th century: it was divided into its present two storeys. So the top room in which the princes were allegedly murdered, according to so-called tradition, existed in 1483. However, although the Garden Tower had been refurbished to luxurious standards a century earlier when Edward III stayed there, it was probably seldom inhabited at the time of the events we are describing, as by 1483 the royal apartments were located in the well-appointed Lanthorn Tower.

Thus when Edward V was lodged in the Tower of London as a precursor to his coronation, the council

undoubtedly would have arranged for him to stay in the royal apartments of the day. He would have remained in the Lanthorn Tower at least as long as his coronation plans remained in place, which takes us to the third week of June.

The events of the subsequent days and weeks are not clearly known to us, but certainly it would have been a PR disaster for Richard to downgrade the boys' quarters — or incarcerate them — while seeking approval of his candidacy for the throne.

Richard himself had chosen to reside at Baynard's Castle, which was convenient for traveling by barge on the river. Apart from staying at the Tower for one night before his coronation, as tradition demanded, he did not relocate there; so there was no need to oust the princes from their current lodgings. When security concerns were uppermost in July, any transfer of the boys to the Garden Tower, which like the Lanthorn was part of the curtain wall, did not qualify as a safer place into which they might be withdrawn.

We must be careful, too, about terminology: the princes were never *imprisoned*. If they had been, we should have heard all about it from reports by those who were in London at the time — certainly the Croyland chronicler and Mancini via his informant Dr Argentine.

In terms of the ghoulish tales with which visitors to the Tower are regaled, my friendly curator refers to them

as “the mythology surrounding the two princes,” and adds that in the current display, “the Bloody Tower as a location for the murder is one of the myths explored.”

The Discovery of the Bones

Moving on to the year 1674, we come to the discovery of some children's bones at the Tower of London. In this connection there is another source I would like to add to Peter Hancock's list, and that is the excellent two-part article by Helen Maurer published in *The Ricardian* issues of December 1990 and March 1991.

Helen managed to assemble nearly all the reports of this discovery that are worth considering, and she also provided a thorough description of some of the salient changes the Tower underwent over the years prior to 1674. Some of the details quoted by her have been superseded by subsequent research, but this is inevitable. I am fortunate to have seen advance material from a new book due for publication later this year which recounts the findings of the recent White Tower Recording and Research Project.

The accounts written by those actually involved in the 1674 discovery (and, in Sir Christopher Wren's case, the account recorded by his son) agree on three main facts. The bones were found ten feet deep in the ground; they were discovered “in digging down” a staircase that was being demolished; and this staircase led from the king's lodgings to the Chapel of St John in the White Tower. (The king's lodgings were situated in the Inmost Ward.) An additional reliable source remarks that the bones were found “in digging some foundations.”

Notoriously *unreliable* sources mention all sorts of flourishes — e.g. the remains being found “face to face in a chest,” and accompanied by scraps of velvet. These embellishments must be dismissed.

The rather foolish Victorian plaque sited inside the small doorway illustrated by Peter gives the impression that the staircase under which the bones were found was the spiral stair leading from that doorway up to the chapel, cut out in the 14th century from the south wall of the keep, which at its base is 15 feet thick. This must also be dismissed.

Opinions vary as to the configuration of the exterior staircase under which the remains were found in 1674. This is because we have no helpful visual depiction of this area prior to the mid 16th century. Even then, such depictions as survive are less than reliable and provide none of the details we are looking for.

We know there was a square stone forebuilding built around the main entrance of the White Tower, which was removed along with its associated staircase and other structures in 1674. The stone access stairs as



Reconstruction of Tower forebuilding
— Anthony Pritchard

The Tower & The Princes

originally built probably ran east-west like the present timber reconstruction. But these stone stairs up to the forebuilding must have been removed at some time. This would have been necessary at least by 1508 in order to make way for the Jewel House, a structure that was erected right across the south face of the White Tower.

Since they couldn't have the Jewel House and the stone staircase occupying the same space, the staircase obviously had to be reoriented. Stairs were still needed rising to the small doorway leading ultimately to the chapel, because by now they were using the chapel more and more for the storage of state documents. The forebuilding was too small to contain these stairs, despite Lawrence's Tanner's hopelessly inaccurate and ill-proportioned plan published in 1934 – see Fig. 1.

My reconstruction, therefore, shown as Fig. 2, offers the most sensible arrangement of the entry stairs after 1508, and may indeed have been the arrangement ever since the 1360's. Although conjectural, it is based on a Royal Armouries reconstruction presently on display at the Tower.

It will be noticed that no Jewel House is shown, and no small turret at the south-east corner of the forebuilding. This is because we really do not know the configuration of either of these structures, so the illustration imagines the area without them. Depending on the date, whether the 14th, 15th, 16th or 17th century, different structures were added and modified and removed in this area, so we have no idea how it looked at any given time. Nevertheless, access by staircase along the lines of Fig. 2 remained a necessity all the while. So it is my argument that the external stone stairs demolished in 1674 must have appeared something like this. And it was under these stairs that the bones were found.

Whose Bones?

Given that the Tower of London site has been in use since before the Roman occupation, it should not surprise anyone that bones are there to be dug up. What should have surprised those people in 1674 who leapt to identify their discovery as the princes was the inordinate depth at which they were found, when the average depth of a grave in the 15th century was around 2-3 feet.

This, unfortunately, is what comes of following the fertile imagination of Thomas More, whom we can confidently believe never dug a hole in his life, let alone to bury bodies ten feet deep at dead of night in a royal palace occupied by hundreds of servants, guards, employees of the mint and the menagerie, clerics attached to the chapel, cleaners, cooks, armourers, and heaven knows how many other staff needed to keep the Tower supplied, armed, maintained and serviced on a daily basis.

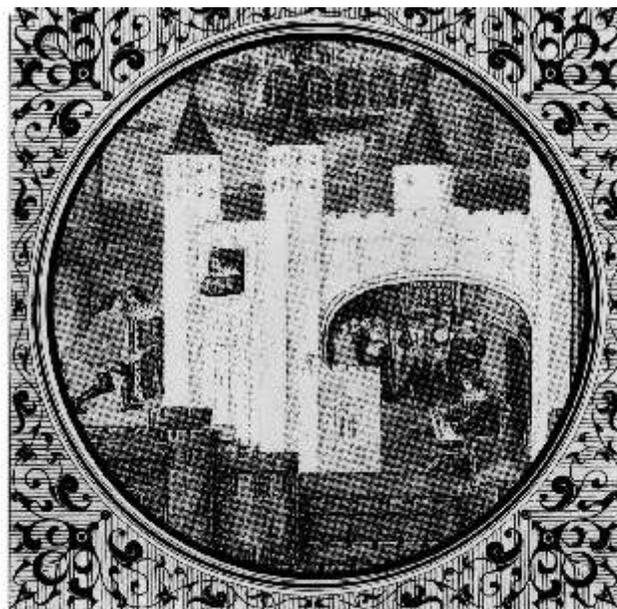
From 1933 onwards, ever since their examination by the over-enthusiastic Lawrence Tanner and William Wright, the bones inurned in Westminster Abbey have been assumed by historians and scientists to be those of the princes. Conclusions have been reached about consanguinity, age, gender and antiquity despite a complete absence of credible evidence. In recent years scientists have ceased writing articles making claims which other scientists leap to refute, and historians have tended to be less dogmatic. Even Michael Hicks in his biography of Edward V, while admonishing unbelievers, sits uncomfortably on the fence as to what he personally believes about the bones.

The mystery of the princes therefore *remains* a mystery. We do not know when either of them died, nor whether either death occurred in the Tower – or even in England. What we can reasonably conclude is that they were neither imprisoned nor murdered in the Garden Tower; and that burying their bodies in secret ten feet under a stone staircase is beyond the realms of credibility.

Certainly the curators of the Tower of London regard the association of the Garden (Bloody) Tower with their disappearance as a myth, so most of the stories presently sold to visitors in London are pure fiction. Or, to borrow Peter's picturesque phrase, confabulations rather than realities.

About the Author

Annette Carson pursued a varied career in the entertainment world before becoming a professional writer in the 1980s. She publishes occasional non-fiction books on subjects that catch her interest, the last being a biography of the British rock guitarist Jeff Beck (published in the USA by Backbeat, 2001). She has had a life-long interest in Richard III, is a member of the Richard III Society, and has been a contributor to The Ricardian.





2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2008
ORLANDO, FL

Holiday Inn International Drive Resort,
6515 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819
407-248-2188
www.hi-idrive.com

Group room rate: \$89 night

The registration fee includes Continental breakfast on Saturday, lunch on Saturday and snacks at our cash bar reception on Friday night. The banquet is always a gala event and the Sunday breakfast is a Society fund raiser.

The hotel is approximately 20 miles from Orlando Airport but there is easy access via private transportation company (Mears) for \$17 one-way or \$28 roundtrip. The hotel has over 650 rooms and more than sufficient meeting space to accommodate our needs. It is right around the corner from Universal Studios and only 2 miles from Sea World. The hotel is only ten minutes from the Disney Magic Kingdom and only a little over an hour drive away from Bush Gardens, Kennedy Space Center and beaches on both coasts.

This location that offers moderate room rates with a first class establishment and within easy commuting distance to a major airport.

As an added attraction, there is the potential for those wishing to do so to include a fun-filled social evening at Medieval Times in nearby Kissimmee, FL. We are considering a possible group visit for those wishing to stay an extra night (Sunday 9/28) to the nearby Medieval Times. We can use private transportation (cars) if it is a small group or hire van/bus if we have a larger group.

For those who have never been to a Medieval Times, it is a great dining and show experience with mounted horsemen (jousting matches), medieval dinner and pageantry and costumes. The website for those interested is www.medievaltimes.com.

Although we do not have a Florida Chapter we have been fortunate to secure the assistance and support of Florida Ricardian Virginia Poch who is a great asset in helping the Board put together plans for the 2008 AGM. We are working on several options for speakers and entertainment during the AGM.

All of the above is preliminary info to assist in your travel plans — we will publish full information and applications in the Summer *Register*, on our website, and in a separate mailing to the membership.

This will be an important AGM as we have much to discuss at our business meeting on Saturday afternoon - September 27th.

On behalf of Chairman Wayne Ingalls and the Executive Board, any inputs or thoughts on our proposals will be greatly appreciated.

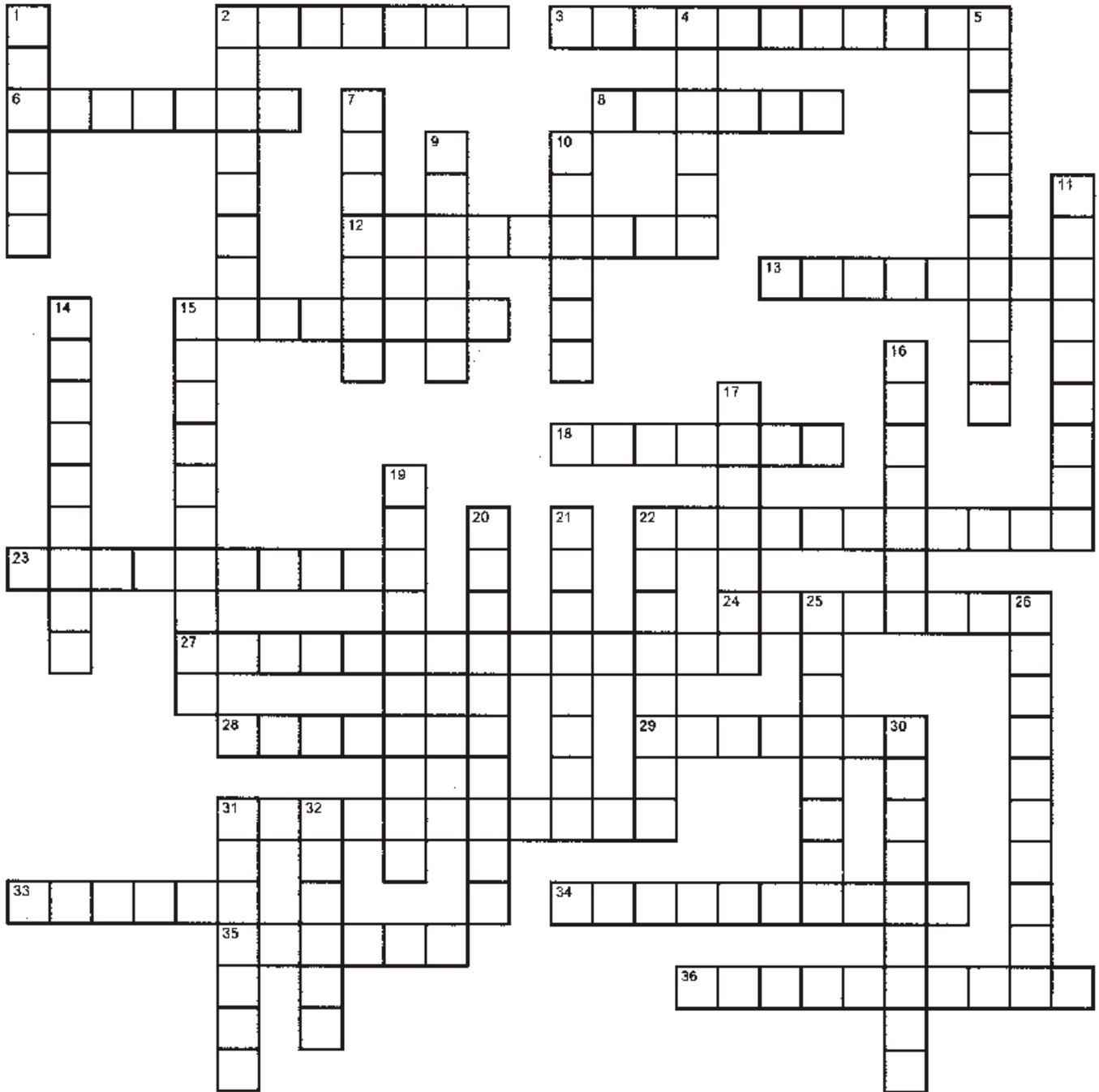
More on this in near future.



MAKING A LIVING

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

This puzzle introduces occupations.



— Solution, page 23

Across

2. Preserved "...horses by the preventing their destruction by bad shoeing..."
3. Made and sold wax candles.
6. Butcher/seller of fowl.
8. Edward IV issued a charter to this profession's guild in 1462. Members also practiced surgery and bloodletting.
12. Often a daughter or wife of a mercer, she made braids, laces, ribbons, fastening, etc.
13. Upholsterer; aka "soft furnishers."
15. Embroiderer.
18. 15th century Englishwomen found this an acceptable trade for adding to their family's income.
22. These made "high-rise" shoes designed to help the wearer avoid mud in the streets.
23. Seller of fish.
24. The tradesman Thomas Gibbs combined mercery, vestment-making and embroidery in this career. He was King's Embroiderer to _____.
27. made and sold tallow candles.
28. Medieval women called the _____ to help them in childbirth.
29. Workers at the royal mint in the Tower of London preferred to be called _____; they were often called moneyers.
31. The bridges and churches they designed made the _____ the "aristocrats of the medieval craft world."
33. Made bows.
34. AKA scribes or clerks, these were low-ranking professionals who sometimes ran small schools to supplement their incomes from copying manuscripts.
35. Crafted blades, swords, and surgical instruments.
36. The _____ sold spices because physicians prescribed spices and spice mixtures as medications.

Down

1. "Well, better wits have worn plain statute-caps." Better wits may have included the makers of the legally-required (for some) caps.
2. Crafted arrows. This professions' guild split from the bowyers in 1371.
4. AKA carriers or carters.
5. Alice Claver, one of London's most successful silkwomen, supplied decorations for Edward IV's books and mantle laces for the coronation robes of _____ and Queen Anne.
7. Weaver.
9. Generally not a popular figure in a typical village, the _____ was often thought to hold back some of the grindings.
10. Barrel makers.
11. Twisted raw silk into thread.
14. John Argentine was Edward V's _____. Later, he treated Henry VII's son.
15. A village mainstay, this profession's patron saint was Saint Eloy.
16. A craftsman who made bits and the other metal parts of horses' bridles. Now with an "n."
17. Wine-maker
19. Specializing in working with cordovan leather, _____ earned good profits from apprenticeship fees as well as from their customers.
20. Transported goods on waterways.
21. They produced candlesticks and small pots and pans.
22. A keeper of an ale house or tavern.
25. Carried passengers on waterways.
26. A purveyor of provisions.
30. Makers of spurs.
31. Sold silk, linen, gown-cloths, bed curtains, coverlets, plus a variety of small items such as dice and mirrors.
32. Cobbler

REPUTATIONS

Compare him [Richard III] now, judiciaall reader, impartially with other Princes. Judge truly of all their actions, their forme of government, their lawes and ordinances, the upholders, the streinth, the sinews of government, and thou shalt finde him as inocent of cruelty, extortion and tirranye as the moste, as wise, politicke and valiant as aney. If soe, censure his actions, his ordinances accordinge to their desertes, and this my Encomium as a charitable wellwisher to an oppressed defamed kinge.

The above (with punctuation slightly modernised) is the concluding paragraph of Sir William Cornwallis the Younger, *Encomium of Richard III*, written circa 1580.

The Encomium is the earliest known defence of Richard. It is thought to have been written as a response to the then still extant account by Cardinal Morton, to which Cornwallis probably had access through his connections with the family of Sir Thomas More.

From the Newsletter of the Mid Anglia Group



RICARDIAN READING

Myrna Smith

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

 *The Square Halo and other mysteries of western art* – Sally Fisher, Harry N. Abrams, Inc, N.Y., 1995

While on the staff of the Metropolitan Museum, Sally Fisher noticed that many people find pictures at a museum, especially those from the Middle Ages and Renaissance, more than a bit puzzling. “There is a group of gorgeously dressed persons. Each holds an object: keys, a sword, a small dragon on a leash, a little tower, a pair of eyes on a plate . . . No one says a word. The title is Sacred Conversation. What can it mean?” But as she points out, without a context, what would the proverbial Martian make of “cannonballs piled up like fruit . . . birth announcements on which large birds seem to abduct babies . . .” etc.

We need wonder no more. Ms. Fisher gives us that context, not only of Bible stories and legends of the saints, but also of ancient Roman and Greek myth. You may know some of the stories in outline, but it is doubtful that you know the kind of detail the artists put into their works. The square halo of the title, for instance, indicates that the person so adorned was still alive at the time of painting, therefore technically not a saint. A black or dark-colored halo was reserved for Judas and other bad guys, unless it simply resulted from the picture’s needing to be cleaned.

As for belief, that is up to the individual viewer. “How many people . . . have visited Hamlet’s castle, Juliet’s house in Verona, and know the addresses of Sherlock Holmes and Leopold Bloom? . . . the work, once it is created by the artist, becomes reality.”

Ms. Fisher has created a handsomely illustrated book, fit to grace the coffee table, but very useful as well.

(The headings in this column are taken from or adapted from the website www.godchecker.com, compiled by Chas Saunders and Peter Ramsey. Interesting, irreverent, irrelevant very colorful, and they also sell T-shirts!)

St. Jerome (347-420) Patron saint of librarians, scholars and students. Usually depicted poring over musty old documents, with a skull on his desk.

 *The Prince In The Tower* - Michael Hicks, Tempus Publishing (Great Britain), 2003, 2007

This is the first biography of Edward IV’s older son — which raises the question of whether a biography of the boy is even possible. Less than thirteen years old when he dropped forever from public view, he spent almost all his life in relative seclusion being prepared to assume the role of king following his father. About himself as a person we know almost nothing. Professor Hicks recognizes these limitations and approaches his task by considering young Edward not so much as a person but as a symbol — the heir to the throne. He starts with an overview of the realm young Edward would be expected to rule, the background of the government and, importantly, the expectations there would be of a monarch; what does a proper monarch do and how does he act? From there he delves into the sexual politics of Edward IV’s reign, all of which would greatly affect young Edward. In this Professor Hicks does, to my way of thinking, a commendable job of detailing a tangled and sticky mess. His discussion of the Woodville connection is thought provoking. There’s the making of a book there — which would be sure to be controversial!

Young Edward was not only Prince of Wales but also Earl of Chester and Duke of Cornwall; Professor Hicks’ discussion of the governing responsibilities and control and use of the revenues from these estates is again instructive and worth a book on its own. Although the boy had some ceremonial duties, obviously all decisions were made in his name by his guardians in council.

Professor Hicks dismisses most of the reasons for Richard III’s accession as irrelevant. Young Edward, he says, had been recognized as king by all — including Richard — and that was that. Even if the Princes were illegitimate (and he concedes they may very well have been), he does not feel bastardy by itself would have been a serious impediment to the throne. Even if you don’t find his arguments convincing (I don’t), his discussion of what things could constitute, or be a bar to, a legitimate claim to the throne is well worth reading.

It seems no-one can write about this period without trotting out their own theory of what happened to the Princes, and Professor Hicks is no exception. He marshals his arguments pointing ever, ever closer to Richard as a murderer — and then destroys it at the end with his acceptance of the Tyrell “confession.” One hates to think that someone who has given such evidence of sound scholarship

and clear presentation skills could be so gullible as to swallow that blatant piece of arrant balderdash — but there you have it. While Tyrell’s “confession” was rumored at the time of his execution, Professor Hicks follows the version in Sir Thomas More’s book. The “Man For All Seasons” has proven to be a very successful con artist over the centuries and nowhere is his snake oil more prominent than in his tale of the young Princes’ deaths. Due to consideration of space, I will highlight just one point: More claims “Dighton indeed yet walks alive” after the deed — we are supposed to believe a confessed, known regicide, killer of the current king’s brothers-in-law is toddling down to his local for a quiet pint? Anyone who could fall for that would surely be interested in an investment opportunity in a slightly used bridge.

In spite of that, there’s a lot to recommend about this book. It has much sound scholarship and, in spite of being an academic historian, Professor Hicks writes well. One hopes he will retain that trait along with acquiring a sounder acquaintance with how the real world works outside the ivory tower. Con artists and flim-flam men are not a twentieth century invention. They certainly had them in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

This is a reprint of a book published in 2002.

—Jonathan Hayes

St. Adelaide (931-999) Patron saint of empresses, princesses, second marriages and step-parents.

Daughter of King Rudolph of burgundy. First husband, Lothair of Italy, was poisoned. She refused to marry the usurper’s son and was beaten and imprisoned. She escaped and met Otto, future emperor of Germany. They had five children, including Otto Jr. When Jr became Otto II, his wife forced our heroine into exile so they could take over. After his death she bounced back and became regent for her grandson Otto III. How she got on the saintly calendar? Perhaps for having the patience of a saint.

 **LADY OF THE ROSES—Sandra Worth, Berkley Books, 2008**

I am so excited to get the chance to review Sandra Worth’s new book *Lady of the Roses*. I have eagerly anticipated this after completing her trilogy *The Rose of York* series. Ms. Worth centers her novel on the commencement of the turbulent War of the Roses. She spends several pages of the novel developing her characters, the main ones being Lady Isobel Ingoldesthorpe from the Lancastrian camp and John Neville, Yorkist and brother to the famed “Kingmaker” Warwick.

Ms. Worth’s writing prose make her novels feel like a piece of artwork. You reread them, think about them, visualize them, and then reread them again. A typical sentence:

“With great effort I raised my eyes to the faces that pressed around me, stained with tears, loss, and agony. The moaning ceased, and there fell a silence that howled like an empty wind as it blew through us, changing everything, binding us together in a massive chain without shape or substance. Forged of grief eternal, this chain was more powerful than any steel, for it secured us in its black claws for all time and was never to be broken.” Her whole novel is filled with this same vivid writing.

Filled with a cast of familiar characters *Lady of the Roses* is told through the Neville viewpoint, which evokes a lot of different considerations and is actually the first time I found myself not really liking Edward IV and vindicating Warwick’s rebellion. In regards to Elizabeth Woodville, Sandra Worth embodies her with the characteristics that would eventually lead to the severing of ties between Warwick and Edward IV. Elizabeth is portrayed much as history has left her for us, finding favors for her family and doing hateful things to those who had remained staunch Yorkist supporters. I found myself really questioning King Edward’s ability to lead the country when he made such a rash choice in a wife. This gave me an even deeper admiration for John Neville and Richard of Gloucester’s support and loyalty to Edward and a justification for Clarence’s defection to the other side.

Ms. Worth uses a first person “insider” viewpoint for developing Queen Marguerite. (Margaret of Anjou) She is unforgettable and ruthless with the stroke of Ms. Worth’s pen. As Isobel is the Queen’s ward she is a way for the reader to experience the transformation of Marguerite. Isobel, in her misguided but commendable belief that everyone is good, is shocked as she watches Marguerite transform into an unscrupulous woman consumed by hatred and revenge. After the battle at Wakefield Isobel says “I shrank back in horror I couldn’t comprehend a thing so vile! By her actions, Marguerite had broken all the rules of engagement. Never, ever, even in my darkest nightmare, had I envisioned her capable of such sacrilege, such incredible cruelty.” Isobel’s shock and outrage is even more profound due to the fact that she does personally know the Queen. She of all people would be the one who could express most authentically the change in Marguerite.

Ms. Worth uses Warwick’s own words to empower the reader to gain the insight needed for his character. Warwick is developed thoroughly and exudes strength but not invincibility. A good example of this is in one of my favorite scenes as Warwick prepares for the 2nd battle of St. Albans. John Neville is mortified by Warwick’s choice of location and argues for a change in the positioning of the camp. Warwick replies “Who are you to question my judgment, I, the hero of England? No one attacks at night ... ’tis dishonorable!” John looked at him as if he’d taken leave of

his senses. “Has she not proven to you with our father’s head that she cares not a whit for honor? ... for God’s sake, man!” This exchange between the two brothers cleverly points out their personality differences as well as the real motivations that are propelling the brothers to engage in these battles. John is driven as a loyal servant of the Yorks; Warwick’s motivation is for his own glory, self-promotion and interests. In this passage, as in others, the reader feels as though they are actual bystanders watching the disagreement unfold and preparing for the coming battle.

By the end of the novel the reader has come to love John and Isobel. We have admired John’s bravery, his devotion to his family, his loyalty and presence. Isobel has shown perseverance and courage throughout, often risking her own safety for the sake of her John. She is beautiful, courageous, steadfast and strong. Despite knowing the outcome of the novel ahead of time, I still found myself in tears by the end of the novel and wishing for a different ending. The poignancy of the novel is in its reality. In the novel is a continuous thread we see over and over again in history. John and Isobel are just two real names and faces representing all the millions of people whose loves and families have been sacrificed to war.

For any who disparage inaccuracy in historical fiction (which I myself do) I think Ms. Worth’s nearly four-page bibliography speaks for itself. She also ends her novel with an afterward that lists the historical figures, and explains some of her sources and areas where she used dramatic license. Ms. Worth definitely makes history “user friendly” and presents it in such an enticing way that the reader cannot help but want to seek out more information on the historical characters and time period presented.

Find time to read Ms. Worth’s latest masterpiece. You will find yourself swept up with two of the most memorable characters ever explored in print, John and Isobel Neville, in one of the saddest yet most momentous events that changed British history.

— *Lori Braunhardt*

(Sandra has been translated into Spanish and Russian, and has another book in the works, about Elizabeth of York.)

St. Brendan (484-577) Took 17 monks on the voyage of a lifetime in a large leather coracle.

Encountered everything from icebergs to volcanoes to impossible mythical monsters like whales. Probably reached America 900 years before Columbus. No particular patronage.

 *Opening Atlantis* – Harry Turtledove, New American Library, N.Y., 2007

According to the endpaper maps, the continent (or very large island) of Atlantis is located in the Atlantic Ocean, 10 days

journey from the continent of Terranova, still undiscovered when the book opens in 1451. It is discovered/opened by Breton and English fishermen, who are attracted by, of course, the fishing, the game — a moa-like bird they call “honkers,” 20-foot long “lizards.” and more — by the lush farmland, but most of all, for the English, by the opportunity to escape the Wars of the Roses. In actual fact, these wars did not impact the ordinary people too much, nor was chain mail worn at this period, as it is in the book, but since this is alternate history and alternative geography, we can assume alternate costuming also. One thing that would make any kind of armor problematic is Atlantean weather, which is hot and humid.

A few years after its settlement, the fledgling colony is invaded by the exiled Earl of Warwick. The settlers are not very happy, especially when he starts to tax them. The story follows several generations of the Radcliffe family and their Breton opposite numbers, the Kersauzons, as their civilization becomes more advanced, more multicultural (but not more united), and more explored, and the native flora and fauna become rarer.

The middle section tells the story of Red Rodney Radcliffe, the pirate, his daughter Ethel (is this the name for a pirate queen?), and his respectable distant cousins. In the third section, set in the 18th century, it becomes obvious that the settlement has parallels with the larger Terranova — slavery for one. Instead of the French and Indian War, they are caught up in a conflict between the French and the Spanish. As might be expected, Turtledove leaves an opening for another book or books in this series.

I couldn’t find any reference for a St. Frieswide. As a substitute, and for the name if nothing else, I give you: St. Hosanna of Mantua – (1449-1505) A Dominican mystic who managed to remain a novice for 37 years. No known patronage.

 *The Apostate’s Tale* – Margaret Frazer, Berkley Prime Crime, N.Y. 2007

At about the same time that “Atlantis” is being discovered, trouble comes to St. Frideswide’s Priory, in the form of a “repentant” Magdalen, a former novice who eloped with a man, and now returns with her young son. Frevisse sympathizes with the boy, but is deeply suspicious of his mother, not without reason. But could she really be behind an attempted poisoning? And if so, how? And why are Domina Elizabeth and her brother acting so mysterious? We see much of the day-to-day workings of the convent before Frevisse gets it all sorted out.

Is the nun-detective an anachronism in her 15th century setting? Ms. Frazer says not. Although the word “detective” had not yet been coined, “detect” and “investigate” were certainly in use. “There are books extant from at least the 1200’s detailing how to go about investigating a crime. They were not fools in the Middle Ages. They were as

varied a people as we are now — some wiser, some more foolish; some more capable, some less; some skilled one way, some skilled another — all living a complex and multi-layered life, not sitting around in squalid ignorance waiting ... for the Renaissance to enlighten the world (which it did not; it merely threw a different light).

This may be the last of Dame Frevisse's essays in detection, though I hope not. But one wonders how much time she will have to devote to sherlocking, what with her new responsibilities at the story's end..

Some feedback on an earlier book in the series, well worth looking into, if you haven't already:

St. Sebastian – (???-288) Patron saint of archers, soldiers, arms dealers and weapons manufacturers, ironmongers and blacksmiths. Used for target practice.

 *The Traitor's Tale* – Margaret Frazer, Berkley Publishing Company, N.Y., 2007

The year is 1450, a tumultuous year, of unpunished murders, of a commons in revolt. There are so many traitors in the plot that it is difficult to discern which is the singular one of the title.

The Dukes of Suffolk and Somerset have conspired to lose Normandy to the French. Suffolk is murdered by “pirates,” but the captain of the ship he sailed on receives a royal reward. The Duke of York in Ireland has men loyal to him over King Henry. These men may be termed traitors. The one most concerned in this book is Joliffe, a former traveling player, a spy and adventurer. Frevisse is drawn into a dangerous situation by her cousin, Lady Alice, the widowed Duchess of Suffolk. Lady Alice is frightened for her safety and the heritage of her seven-year-old son. Into this complex situation rides the Duke of York, coming to defend himself from charges of treason. He undertakes to defend Lady Alice in return for a mysterious letter penned by Suffolk before his death, naming his betrayer. The outbreak of war is still to come.

The interesting thing for Ricardians is the appearance of Sir Thomas Stanley, King's man, not yet a baronet. He is drawn as arrogant, foolish and cowardly. He is described as “a cur dog who thinks he's a wolf,” and “the mean-minded wretch to do the worst he can.” This character was set early and developed into a traitor at Bosworth.

— Dale Summers

St. Abel (???-???) Son of Adam and Eve. Patron saint of dying people.

 *The Bloody Tower; a Daisy Dalrymple mystery* – Carola Dunn, Mina tour Books, N.Y., 2007

Our flapper-era heroine, a daughter of the aristocracy and a free-lance author, has, in the course of several books, met a

firmly middle-class Scotland Yard detective, married him over the opposition of both their families, and produced boy and girl twins – and solved several murders along the way. A simple tour of the Tower of London for an article commissioned by an American magazine turns deadly. No wonder her Jessica Fletcher-like gift for attracting crime causes comment.

The version of an earlier (15th century) crime in the Tower is pretty conventional, but as the author says on the pre-title page: “The inhabitants of my Tower are fictional and bear no intentional resemblance to any actual residents of HM Tower of London in 1925, nor at any time before or since.”

Just a fun read; it doesn't pretend to be anything more.

St. Genesius (???-303) Patron Saint of Actors. Performing a satire in Rome about Christian baptism, he got lost in the plot and converted himself.

 *Shakespeare – The World As Stage* – Bill Bryson, Atlas Books, N.Y. 2007 (?)

This is one of a series of Eminent Lives. Others include the lives of Ulysses Grant, George Washington, George Balanchine, Beethoven, Muhammad, and others. The editor turned the assignment on Shakespeare to travel writer Bill Bryson, who has nerve enough to tackle almost anything, as evidenced by even a partial list of his titles (*A Short History of Nearly Everything, The Mother Tongue, Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words, The Lost Continent*) and do it entertainingly. However, he approaches the biography of his subject with caution. “Even the most careful biographers take a supposition – that Shakespeare was Catholic or happily married or fond of the countryside or kindly disposed toward animals — and convert it within a page or two to something like a certainty. The urge to switch from subjunctive to indicative is ... always a powerful one.”

The author muses on the difficulty of deciphering 16th century handwriting, and the even more daunting task of decoding the spelling of that period — though the clerk who could use the names Darby and Bradley interchangeable must surely have been at the limits of the spectrum. He has no hesitation about taking sides on who wrote Shakespeare, a subject much discussed in scholarly journals, including ours. He is firmly a Stratfordian, and gives reasons.

In spite of being able to come to few other definite conclusions about his subject, Bryson spends a lot of ink on William Shakespeare's private life, his business dealings, his friends and enemies, coworkers and coauthors, because that is what the series is about. But he devotes some to Shakespeare's literary life too. As he says, “No one sets scenes more brilliantly and economically than Shakespeare,” and cites the opening lines of *Hamlet* as an example. Of course,

even Jove nods, and W.S. turned out some prime nonsense also, but the fact that, per the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*, he was responsible for “roughly one-tenth of all the quotable utterances written or spoken in English since its inception,” goes a long way to explain why some people think one man couldn’t have done all of that in one lifetime!

Also weighing in on the debate is a fictional treatment by Jennifer Lee Carrell, *Interred With Their Bones* (Penguin, London, 2007). Ms. Carrell, a professor of history and literature at Harvard, makes the arguments for all sides skillfully and eruditely. But she does not forget to include a lot of action and suspense as well. The heroine, a Shakespearian scholar, actor and director (some wish-fulfillment here?) is Kate Stanley — yes, a descendant of *those* Stanleys, and her mentor is Rosamund Howard — you guessed it. The latter gets herself murdered, and we are off to the races, literally racing off to find a manuscript that will prove the Great Question once and for all — maybe. Can the answer be in the American West? That doesn’t call for as much of a suspension of disbelief as the supposition that all that still matters after 400 years. But people do still have strong feelings about it, although I hardly think it would run to blowing up libraries. Not just your everyday public library, which would be bad enough, but rare book collections.

Kate is highly intelligent as well as adventurous, but she makes the usual damsel-in-distress bodice-ripper mistake of trusting the wrong man. Will they never learn? It will take a certain amount of education to enjoy or even understand this novel, but it’s far from dry-as-dust.

 *The Wanton Angel* – Edward Marston, St Martin’s Press, N.Y. 1999

You would never know that William Shakespeare ever lived from Marston’s recreation of the Elizabethan theater. He would be competition for Lord Westfield’s player’s resident playwright! That playwright may soon be without occupation, for London’s innyard theaters are being closed. Blot an “angel” (backer) is found who will build them another one. Alas, their troubles are only beginning.

One of the plays they propose to produce is *Richard Crookback*, which “begins with the coronation of its central character, who had schemed his way to the throne and rejoiced in his villainy while doing so.” It appears to be played mostly for comedy.

Another beach-blanket mystery, and none the worse for that.

 *Shakespeare After All* – Marjorie Garber, Pantheon Books, N.Y., 2004

Near the end of her chapter on Richard III, Marjorie Garber comments that Richard’s popularity with audiences might be called a “victory of theater over history No societies have

sprung up to defend and lionize Richmond. He wins the crown and the queen but not the play.

Shakespeare’s *Richard III* may have defeated history in another sense. The Duke of Marlborough is supposed to have said that Shakespeare’s version of history was all the history he knew. English young people were said to take their history from Shakespeare and their theology from Milton. But 21st century audiences don’t have to perpetuate this kind of victory of theater over history; they can see Shakespeare’s plays on stage and on film; they can read a variety of historical interpretations of the events Shakespeare dramatized; they can compare Shakespeare’s version to historians’ versions, and they can decide what to think for themselves. This is much more fun than settling for Shakespeare’s version of events.

In 38 thoughtful chapters, Marjorie Garber encourages her readers to consider Shakespeare’s 38 plays in a variety of contexts. Her interpretations invite readers to free themselves from traditional limits as they learn about theater history, literary history, social and political history in relation to Shakespeare’s plays.

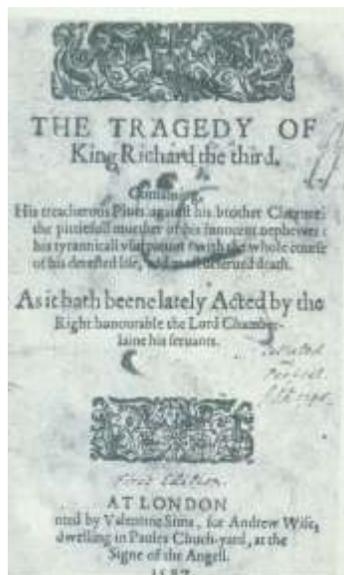
Garber’s chapters on *Richard III* and the three *Henry VI* plays may improve some Ricardians’ opinions of Shakespeare and his so-called history plays. Garber is aware of the differences between Shakespeare’s version of history and the many academic and popular versions that compete for reader’s attention. She emphasizes the artificial quality of Shakespeare’s version, which was crafted to meet the demands of Elizabethan theater. Again and again, Garber points out anachronisms which enabled Shakespeare to condense years of history into an afternoon’s entertainment. He took many liberties as he developed Richard’s character in *Henry VI*, Parts 2 and 3. In Part 2, Shakespeare shows an adult Richard killing the duke of Somerset in a fair swordfight. (The historical Duke of Somerset died in the first battle of St Albans, May 22, 1455; Richard was just 2 ½ years old.) In the last scene of Part 3, the duke of York, accompanied by his oldest son Edward, an adult Richard, the duke of Norfolk, the marquess of Montague, the earl of Warwick and a band of soldiers, enters the “Parliament House” in London. After Edward and Montague brag about the Lancastrian blood on their swords, Richard throws down the duke of Somerset’s head. York’s confrontation with Henry VI later in this scene shows that it re presents the Settlement of October 1460. Four and a half years separated Somerset’s death from the Settlement. In addition to showing Richard as a man of action rather than empty words, the stage direction suggests that Richard had preserved Somerset’s head for 4 ½ years by diabolic arts. (The historical Richard was 8 years old)

Later, Shakespeare subtracts about 10 years from the historical earl of Rutland’s age, turning him into a sacrificial

victim. (The historical Edmund, earl of Rutland died at age 17 in the battle of Wakefield, Dec. 30, 1460; the historical Richard was 8 years and 3 months old). The brother who lives to dominate the stage in *Richard III* continues his anachronistic development through the remaining scenes. Shakespeare places an adult Richard at Edward, earl of March's side at Mortimer's Cross. (While the historical Edward was defeating the Lancastrians at Mortimer's Cross, an 8 year 4 month old Richard was in London with his mother and his brother, George.) At the time Shakespeare's Richard celebrates his ability to give Machiavelli lessons, the historical Richard was 12 years old.

One of Shakespeare's most striking anachronisms occurs in *Richard III*. Margaret of Anjou appears at Edward IV's court in early 1483. (She died in France in August 1482.) Drawing on traditions from Senecan and English revenge tragedies, "Shakespeare turns Margaret into Richard's nemesis. Representing older value systems, she curses and prophecies. Her lines echo Old Testament and Senecan tragedies. Garber describes Richard's lines as: "energetic, seductive, volatile ... full of fresh imagery, of stopping and starting, of surprises in tone and character." In soliloquies, Richard compares himself to the medieval stage's "Vice" and the renaissance stage's Machiavelli. Representing updated amorality, Richard stage-manages several plays-within-the play, confidently plotting, dissimulating, manipulating, out-witting nearly everyone onstage with him. Richard can do all this, but he can't deceive Margaret of Anjou or evade her curses. As Fortune's Wheel carries Richard downward, his acting and management skills deteriorate: Buckingham changes sides, Edward IV's widow deceives him about her marriage plans for Elizabeth of York, Henry Tudor invades, and Richard ends his reign offering to trade is kingdom for a horse.

All of this contributes to the "victory of theater over history" that Garber describes in terms of Richard's audience appeal and Henry Tudor's deficiency. But her chapters on the three Henry VI plays and *Richard III* give history a victory over misunderstandings about theater, fiction and fact. Many folk takes end with short verses such as: "They were always happy and content/While here we are without a cent," or "They lived happily every after/While here we sit grinding our teeth."



These verses tell audiences they have reached the boundary between the story and everyday life. Some of Shakespeare's plays end with similar couplets. Shakespeare's contemporaries may have recognized a boundary between plays and everyday life, just as folk audiences recognized a boundary between folk tales and everyday life. People such as the duke of Marlborough, who haven't recognized this boundary, have shortchanged themselves. But Garber's readers don't have to shortchange themselves in this way, because she balances accurate history with her literary and character analyses. She includes a brief history of the Richard III Society in her chapter on Richard III. She points out distortions and inaccuracies in the Tudor version as well.

Ricardians who are planning public education displays can benefit from reading the *Henry VI* and *Richard III* chapters in *Shakespeare After All*. These can help Ricardians show that no one has to settle for limited, distorted versions of history or Shakespeare's plays. Misunderstandings about theater need not defeat history.

After a good weekend's public education work, Ricardians might enjoy relaxing with a chapter on *Comedy of Errors* or *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Or even one of the lesser known plays, such as *Pericles*, the first Shakespearean play to be performed after English theaters reopened in Charles II's reign. Or *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, which Shakespeare wrote in collaboration with John Fletcher. Readers who can't find a performance can at least read and enjoy the play, which they might have missed if Garber had stayed within traditional limits. General readers can enhance their appreciation of any of Shakespeare's plays by reading Garber's chapter about it.

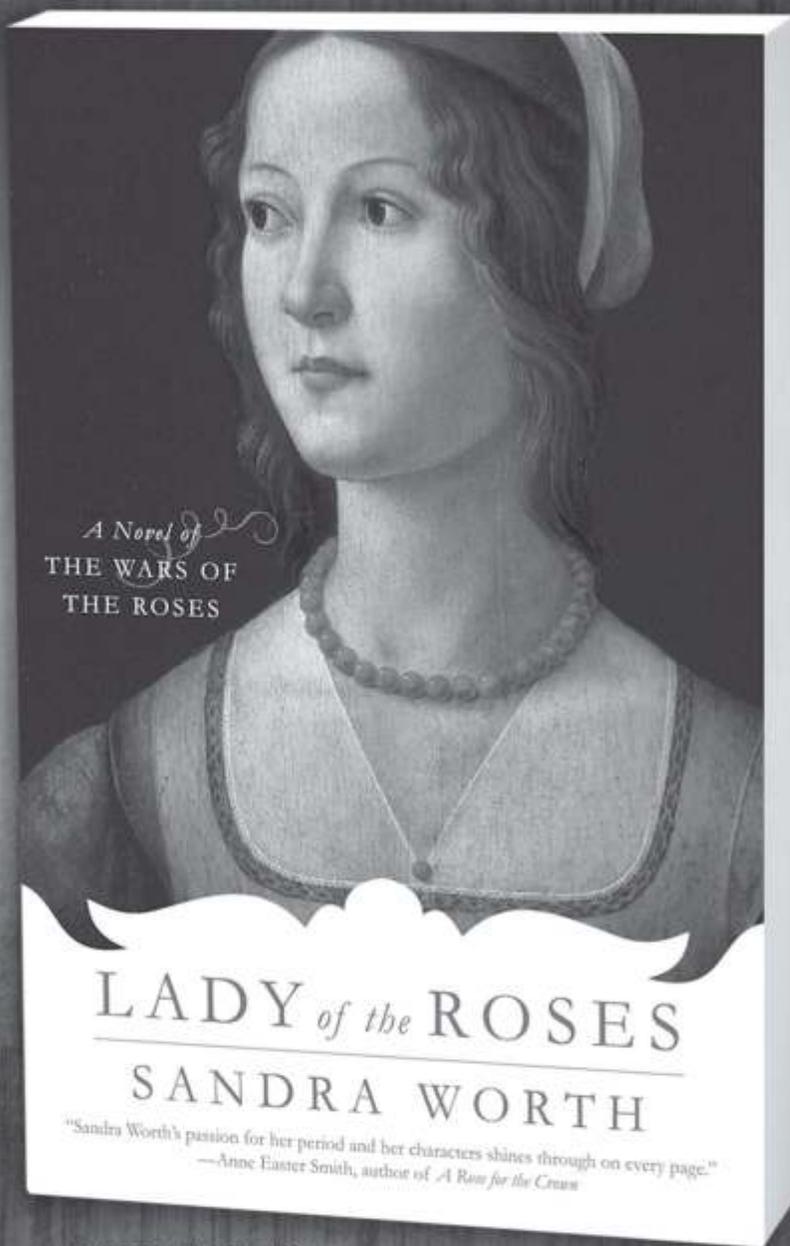
This is a book for relaxed reading, rather than all night marathons. Anyone who relaxes with *Shakespeare After All* is likely to find their time well spent.

— Marion Davis.

A few more in this rather eclectic calendar:

- St. John Bosco (1815-1888) Patron saint of editors
- St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (1891-1941) b. Edith Stein, Carmelite nun and victim of Auschwitz because of her Jewish ancestry. No patronage as yet.
- St Clare, Clare of Assisi (1194-1253) Patron saint of telephones, television and telecommunications, also cell phones, satellite broadcasts and eye disorders.
- St Anthony the Abbot, aka Anthony the Great (251-356) Patron of just about everything, from amputees to swineherds. (The tantony pig, remember?)

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THE SECOND DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BUCKINGHAM

Susan Higginbotham

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2007 RICARDIAN TOUR

Pam Butler, Linda Treybig & Virginia Poch

(Continued from the Winter, 2007 *Register*)

Buckland Abbey

Pam: Traveling again down the narrow, winding, hemmed-in roads, we found nearby Buckland Abbey, once home to Sir Francis Drake. We reunited with the Devon & Cornwall group members, who were able to get there earlier via shortcuts accessible to smaller cars. Bus signs along the road indicate that it's accessible via public transport; this was confirmed by the sight of some very large buses (coaches) in the parking lot.

On the way to the main house, and via a stop at the gift shop, we had to pass through the largest structure on the property, the barn, with its 18th-century cider press. By then, there was an apple orchard.

Buckland was established as a Cistercian monastery in 1298, the last one to be built in Britain. It prospered for most of its 250 years, although by the time of the Dissolution, only one abbot and twelve monks were still here. In 1541, Henry VIII sold it to Sir Richard Grenville, who barely had time to start converting the abbey when he drowned in 1545, commanding the doomed *Mary Rose* warship in Portsmouth Harbour. His son Richard completed the conversion in 1576. In the following year, Sir Francis Drake completed his circumnavigation of the globe and then anonymously bought the house from Grenville.

There is also a much larger-than-life statue of Sir Francis Drake ready to greet all those who've climbed the stairs to see the display and the short film about his life and times. Nearby is a bronzed plaster sculpture showing Elizabeth I and Philip II playing an imaginary chess game—and Elizabeth is winning. There is a replica of a portion of a ship to convey the “feel” of being on board. Throughout the house are several portraits of the family.

Buckfast Abbey, a Working Monastery

Pam: This was originally founded half-a-century for the Conquest, and was (and now again, is) a working monastery. It fell to the Dissolution in 1539, but in 1882, three-and-a-half centuries later, monks returned to rebuild it. The current church was completed in 1938, and has a spectacular window. Within this large complex of operations is a gift shop selling many unique gifts. Some of the products are produced on the premises itself, such as honey.

Somerset and Dorchester

Linda: On the first day of July, we made our way east into southern Somerset, where we visited Lytes Cary, an

enchanted little medieval home surrounded by informal garden. One can still detect strong echoes of family life as lived during that era.

Pam: This house is named for Lytes Family, who owned it for several centuries, and Carey River. The Great Hall has a mid-15th-century open roof with 3 tiers of curved windbraces, a typical West Country feature. In fact, Cotehele's Main Hall had the same kind of roof, which is almost as beautiful as a hammerbeam roof.

The Lytes Cary Great Hall is filled with tapestries and exotic ceramics.

The studious Henry Lytes studied both genealogy and botany and in 1578 published a translation of a famous Flemish herbal book, *Niewe Herbal*, illustrated with 870 woodcuts dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I.

In 1588, on the day Elizabeth went to St. Paul's Cathedral to give thanks for the English win over the Spanish Armada, Henry Lytes presented her with a book which was probably more fanciful than serious, stating that because place names in England and the area around ancient Troy had similar-sounding names, that Britons were probably descended from Trojans. The title was *The Light of Britayne*; Henry probably intended this to be a pun on his own name.

Getting to Dorchester

Linda: From Lytes Cary, we headed south, and after making a stop to view the Cerne Abbas Giant (a huge and quite unique chalk figure on a prominent hillside), we made our way into Dorchester and checked into our hotel where some of the ailing appreciated the chance for a good rest before dinner.

Pam: Sherborne is a pleasant-looking town on this route, and I hope to return one day to see the abbey and the castle home of Sir Walter Raleigh, which was passed on to the Digby Family in 1617.

Dorchester is famous for the author Thomas Hardy and for the cruel Judge Jeffries, who held some of “The Bloody Assizes” courts here and sentenced many area residents to death (or “transportation” to the Americas) for their alleged participation in the Monmouth Rebellion of 1685.

Dorchester has several interesting museums; one relates to the county's history and another has King Tut exhibits. We stayed at the Wessex Royale Hotel, which is within a short walking distance to all the town's sights and conveniences.

Linda: July 2. The sightseeing in Dorset began with a visit to the dramatic ruins of **Corfe Castle**. Set on a hill above its

attractive stone village, Corfe Castle has a colorful history. It also has specific connections to King John and was also once in the keeping of a young Richard III as Constable and later of Lady Margaret Beaufort.

Pam: The spectacularly-sited castle, high on a hill which was naturally defensible, was one of many built on the orders of William the Conqueror.

Corfe Castle was a favorite of King John's, and served the traditional roles of fortress, palace, and prison. John, following the usual peripatetic itinerary of kings, spent only 37 days of his 16-year reign here, although he forced his niece Eleanor (sister to the murdered Prince Arthur) to remain here during her entire lifetime as a prisoner. She and her two Scottish princess attendants were treated well, however, and given nice clothes to wear. Most of the 24 knights who had originally accompanied them, however, attempted to seize the keep and 22 of them were probably starved to death in the castle.

King John ordered the execution of Peter of Pomfret in 1213, as one of Pomfret's prophecies was that King John's reign would end that year, and too many of the prophet's forecasts had come true.

In 1106, a century before King John's reign, King Henry I imprisoned his elder brother Robert here. During the reign of King Stephen, whose battle against his cousin Matilda for the throne created a civil war lasting 19 years (1135-1154), Stephen attempted to lay siege to the castle twice, in 1138 and 1139, but had to abandon the attempt both times because his army was needed more urgently elsewhere.

Edward II, after his capture, is said to have spent some of his imprisonment at Corfe Castle, as well as at Berkeley Castle. In 1330, three years after Edward II's alleged death, his half-brother Edmund Earl of Kent was persuaded to believe that the deposed Edmund was still at Corfe. Edmund sent a letter to his brother promising to free him, but the jailers kept the letter, which was used at Edmund's trial for treason.

Edmund was soon executed.

The castle's booklet states that "The most high-born constable of Corfe Castle was the ten-year-old Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who later became Richard III." There's nothing like an early start in life! When Henry VII visited it in 1496, he decided to grant the castle and manor to his mother, Lady Margaret Beaufort, but because it was in dire need of modernizing and improvement, he persuaded Parliament to grant £2000 for repair and improvements, including fireplaces.

Elizabeth I sold the castle and estate to her dancing master and favorite, Sir Christopher Hatton, who used it as a country estate. Decades later, Corfe Castle belonged to Charles I's Lord Chief Justice, Sir John

Bankes. When the English Civil War broke out in 1642, Sir John was in Oxford with the king, and it was up to Lady Bankes to hold out against Parliamentary troops. In 1643, the first siege lasted for six weeks and the Parliamentarians departed after the loss of one hundred men, while Lady Bankes only lost two.

Sir John returned to discover all the damage which had been done, then was obliged to return to King Charles I in Oxford, where he died in 1644. A second siege in 1645 lasted two months, and Lady Bankes held out until an insider betrayed her and brought in Parliamentarians disguised as Royalists. The defenders could not withstand being attacked both without and within, and Lady Bankes was forced to surrender. A truce was signed allowing Lady Bankes to leave with her garrison and to keep the seals and key to the castle as an acknowledgment of her bravery.

By an act of Parliament, the castle was destroyed in 1646. Several months of undermining it with explosives succeeded in destroying a castle which had lasted six centuries. After the Restoration, Lady Bankes' second son Ralph was allowed to recover what property he could locate, but rather than trying to rebuild the enormous ruined castle, he built a new house near Wimborne called Kingston Lacy.

Athelhampton

Linda: The first venue of the afternoon was Athelhampton, a beautiful late medieval home with gardens and an excellent dovecote.

Pam: Athelhampton is a late 15th-century hall built by Sir William Martyn, who had been Lord Mayor of London in 1493. Only the hall itself, the core of the house, has survived unaltered over the centuries, as the family both made additions and deleted them during the next centuries.

Athelhampton is said to have a very unusual ghost: an ape which belonged to the Martyns in the 16th century. It is said that one can hear it trying to escape from the cellar in which it was trapped.

Twenty acres of gardens is the strong point, with its fountains, pavilions, and flowers, balustraded terraces, statues, and obelisks.

Linda: The day concluded with a visit to Bere Regis, birthplace of Cardinal John Morton, later Bishop of Ely. Morton built the 64-ft. tower and painted roof of the nave in the fine church. Probably the most famous of Bere Regis's residents were the Turberville family, whom Thomas Hardy selected as the basis for the D'Urberville family in his great novel, "Tess of the D'Urbervilles."

Pam: Cardinal Morton's mother was a Turberville, and the local Turberville family has a chapel in the South aisle. There is also a Morton chantry chapel. In 1485, he donated a beautiful oak ceiling which has a unique design, and there

are carved statues representing the 12 Apostles; at the east end, one of the roof bosses is believed to be that of Cardinal Morton.

Winchester Cathedral and Arundel Castle

Linda: On this, our final day on the road, we headed for Winchester, where we visited the wonderfully historic cathedral. Winchester was second in importance only to London during Saxon and early medieval times, and many medieval kings and other nobles are buried in its cathedral – as are the novelist, Jane Austen and other persons of fame. The first king of all England, Egbert, was crowned in Winchester in 829 AD, as was Alfred the Great and many of his successors. It was the capital of Saxon England and, until the medieval era, vied with London in administrative importance. The cathedral (with the longest nave in England) features an unrivaled series of chantries, fine Pre-Raphaelite stained glass, and a modern shrine of St. Swithun.

Pam: We parked by the statue of King Alfred and walked a circuitous route to the Cathedral, figuring out the more direct route as we returned. Approaching the church from the north, we could see the outlines of the Saxon church in the grass.

Jane Austen's tomb is the first thing we saw, located in the north aisle, not far from the entrance. Her tomb in the floor contains loving words from her family, but no mention of her fame, but the brass plaque on the adjacent wall adds that information. Passing by a black "marble" Norman font, we approached the presbytery, located at the crossing. A very large screen containing lots of life-sized figures covers the east side of the presbytery; this is a 19th century restoration of the screen which had been destroyed earlier. The present version includes Queen Victoria, whereas the screen added by Bishop Waynflete during his tenure of 1475-90 contained primarily religious saints.

There are 6 mortuary chests placed on top of the presbytery screens, 3 on the north side and 3 on the south side, containing the bones of various pre-Conquest kings and bishops, and those of Queen Emma, who was married both to Ethelred the Unready and to the Danish king Cnut.

Behind the screen is the retrochoir; many of the medieval tiles in this area have been restored to red-and-gold brightness, and some have been replaced. The knight's effigy in the north aisle is that of Arnold de Gaveston, father of Piers. Towards the center are the tombs of four of Winchester's influential bishops, and the feretory (a long metal, triangular box shaped like a tent which serves as a portable shrine) of St. Swithun. The four bishops are Beaufort, Waynflete, Gardiner, and Edington. Waynflete is famous for having founded Magdalen College, Oxford;

Stephen Gardiner performed the ceremonies for the marriage of Queen Mary I and King Philip II here.

St. Swithun was a Bishop of Winchester who had advised King Aethelwulf and his young son, the future King Alfred; he died in 862 when Alfred was 13. St. Swithun was given a simple grave outside the west door of the old Saxon cathedral. Eventually, the idea of translating his bones to the interior of the cathedral became popular with the king and people, and this was done July 15, 971. It apparently rained for the next 40 days, giving rise to the legend that the weather on St. Swithun's day determines the weather pattern for the subsequent 40 days. In the 19th century, an Englishman tested the theory and found the reverse pattern to be true, but the English cling tightly to cherished legends.

Just outside the Lady Chapel is a statue of Joan of Arc which appears to look away from Cardinal Beaufort's painted effigy, no surprise when considering his role in her condemnation. South of Beaufort's tomb is Bishop Fox's chantry. He has a "cadaver tomb," with the skeletal figure below the regular effigy, making acknowledgment of the transitory nature of life on earth.

Continuing on to the tomb of William of Wykeham: this man achieved great works in the time of Edward III and Richard II. Not only was he the Bishop of Winchester, he was twice Chancellor of England. He founded New College, Oxford, and Winchester School; his surveying and architectural abilities were used in improving Windsor Castle, and in converting Winchester Cathedral's nave from a Norman style to a Perpendicular style.

From the south transept, one can get to the library containing the Winchester Bible, which dates from the 12th century and is one of the greatest surviving Bibles of that era. It's written on calf-skin and has large, colorful illustrations. A few steps from the library is the Triforium Gallery, which contains the rescued pieces of the cathedral from previous destructive episodes.

Arundel Castle

Linda: Our final venue of the tour was magnificent Arundel Castle, home of the Howard family

Pam: Arundel Castle and its grounds have a similar layout to that of Windsor Castle, and although most of the castle we see was built in the late 19th century, some parts of it date back to William the Conqueror's time,

such as the 100-ft.-high central motte, built in 1068. There is a keep at the top with a dungeon (and for me, the thought of climbing UP to a dungeon was a novel thought.)

The armory's walls are filled with artistically arranged guns and swords, guarded by suits of armor (and

a castle guide as well.) Stepping out of this room to a balcony above the magnificent chapel gives pause.

The route returns through the other side of the armory to bring the visitor into the huge Barons' Hall, with its oak hammerbeam roof. Tapestries, tables, paintings, furniture...

From the Barons' Hall, we proceeded through the Picture Gallery of the Howard family, the first one being of Richard's loyal friend, John Howard, First Duke of Norfolk. The Dining Room is accessed through this hallway; this space was once the area used for a chapel by Henry II. On display in one of the cases are the relics said to be the rosary beads of Mary Queen of Scots, a cross, and her prayer book.

Some of the bedrooms are on display (and on certain days, more bedrooms are on display), including the Victoria Room, where Queen Victoria and Prince Albert stayed during a visit in December 1846.

The Drawing Room has tables full of miniatures of the Howard Family and of prominent people they would have been acquainted with. Above the fireplaces, several coats of arms are on display.

The library's architecture is not unlike that of a miniature church, with its crossbeams, and it's filled with mahogany and red-velvet furniture. There is a Richard III portrait on one wall, seen just before leaving the library.

MEDIEVAL RECIPES: TOWRES

Jean Kent

Ingredients:

- Eggs
- Marrow
- Powdered pepper, mace, cloves, saffron
- Sugar, salt,
- Chopped cooked pork or veal

Make a thick batter of the yolks and marrow. Add the powdered ingredients, sugar and salt, and (if you wish) the pork or veal. Strain the egg whites, add saffron and salt. Set an oiled pan on the stove, allow the whites to flow over the pan. When stiff add the batter in the middle. Loosen cake all around and close it four square and fry it. Serve immediately

Reprinted from *RiLL*, Sept. 1970 *RN* is the magazine of the Canadian Branch.

Outside the castle enclave itself, there are wonderful gardens which include an conservatory, and the FitzAlan Chapel. Further on is the Cathedral itself.

London

Linda: And finally, we were underway for London, arriving in the early evening. After a short break to freshen up, some of us gathered for dinner in the hotel restaurant, while a few others who felt more energetic, walked to a restaurant nearby to meet Phil Stone, Chairman of the parent Society, his wife, Beth, and several of our other English friends for an enjoyable late dinner.

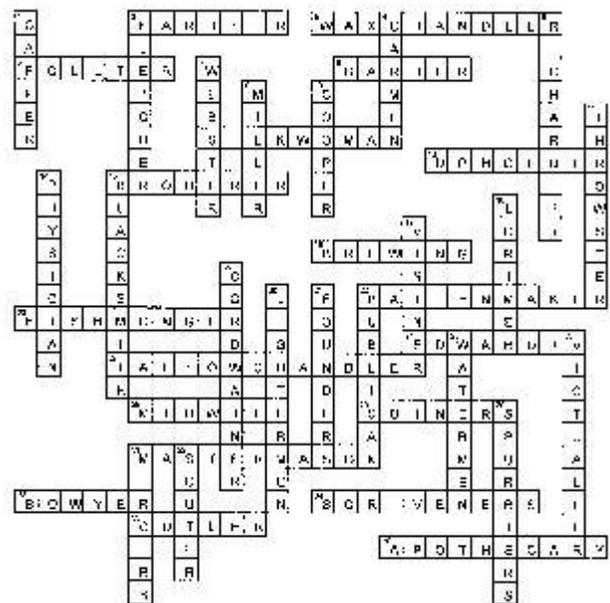
Tour Coordinator's Note:

A finer group of fellow Ricardians simply couldn't be found anywhere! This harmonious group was everything that could have been hoped for, and I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each one of them.

My special thanks to those who were of inestimable help when Nancy became so ill she had to be hospitalized, as well as those who offered their assistance when I fell ill and wasn't able to fulfill all my responsibilities as I would have wished. You were all super!

Linda Treybig

PUZZLE SOLUTION



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