

## Ode to the Plantagenets

Oh to have lived in 1066  
When William invaded the Saxons for kicks.  
To have been there at Hastings with banner and sword  
Instead of a 20th century broad.

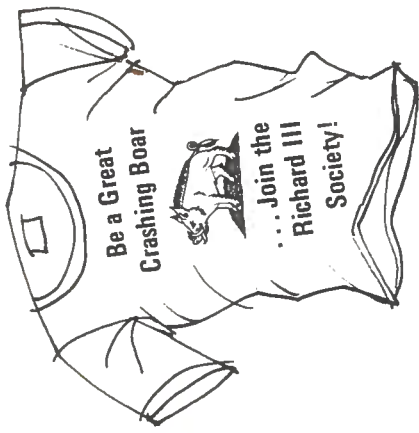
By Henry the First I know I'd be dazzled.  
(By Matilda and Stephen I know I'd be frazzled.)  
To Henry the Second I'd surely surrender.  
Alas, here I sit all alone with my gender.

Now Henry, now Geoffrey, now Richard and John,  
Any of you would sure turn me on.  
I'd crusade with Richard to far ports of call,  
And dally with John in the castle hall.

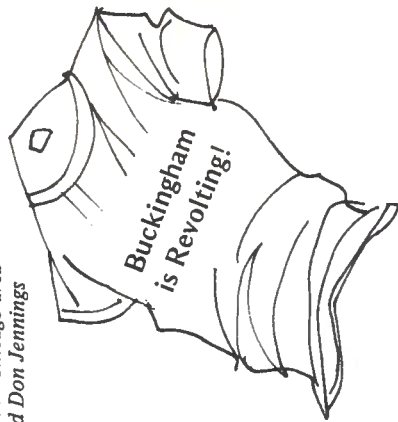
Using feminine wiles and shedding some tears,  
I'd have rescued Edward the Second from Piers.  
And of Alice we'd never have heard a word  
If I could have cuddled with Edward the Third.  
While dreaming of romance I can only lament  
That I'm not the Joan who was Fair Maid of Kent.  
And wouldn't I love to have made hanky pank  
With Lancastrian heroes like Henry the Cinq.

Richard of Gloucester: that Bosworth ado  
Would never have happened if we had pitched woo!  
I would have been scribe, or squire, or jester  
To have followed the boys of the Planta Genesta.

JOAN L. ROBC  
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Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580



*T-shirts anyone?  
Suggested by Susan Armstrong  
of Montreal and Chicago-area  
regional head Don Jennings*



*from the Ricardian dictionary=  
Historectomy - The planned,  
deliberate removal, from records,  
archives and memory, of previously  
fived-upon truths. (SEE MORTON,  
MORE, HALL, HOUNSHED, SHAKESPEARE.)*

Notice: Like Geoff Wheeler in England, I want all press notices concerning Richard III, also programs of productions of the play, theatrical notices, articles on actors, etc. All material will be acknowledged, originals copied and returned if you wish. Bill Hogarth, Box 217, Sea Cliff, NY 11579.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

Richard III Society, Inc.

# The Ricardian Register



Issue 4 1978



## '78 AGM

### CHAIRMAN POTTER'S GREETING TO AMERICAN MEMBERS

I'm very pleased to send greetings to all American Ricardians and only sorry that I can't be with you to celebrate the day and enjoy your play. I do sometimes come to New York, but not, alas, at the right time of year. In fact, I'm recording this message now from the center of the world, viz: Fifth Avenue, New York City, not far from the Zoo. But the month is August and I have to hurry back to England for the annual Bosworth Day service at Sutton Cheney, where I hope that the clergyman conducting the service will again suffer a (no doubt divinely inspired) slip of the tongue as he did in a sermon a year or two ago, and refer to King Richard as Saint Richard. Even those in the choir stalls could scarce forbear to cheer. I hope that you'll feel as I do that this has been another good year for Richard III. Certainly his cause has had some most welcome publicity in the American

press, thanks to the great good efforts of Bill Snyder, Bill Hogarth and Charlie Wood. Not all publicity is good publicity but this has been, apart from one slight aberration by Charlie. Nothing impresses public opinion more about Richard III than the very fact of the existence of a Richard III Society. To spread this knowledge is a great service in itself, and for people to become aware that distinguished citizens are dedicated members is another. There are two main aspects, I believe, to the Ricardian cause: one is scholarship and research; the other is communication and public witness. I hope, therefore, that the Scholarship Fund and the Leicester Memorial Fund will be seen as complementary, and that both will be well supported. Certainly if all American Ricardians are as generous donors to the Leicester Memorial as Bill Hogarth has been, then we should be well on our way towards the target. The Daughter of Time in Bacon's phrase is Truth - not Elizabeth of York. We don't have much longer before the 500th anniversary of Bosworth, and the start of the blackening of Richard's character and reputation. That is surely time enough. By 1985 I trust that with the help of every one of us a reasoned re-assessment will be accepted and enshrined in all the history textbooks. English Ricardians are with you in spirit today and every day. He was our king and would have been yours too if only he had been allowed long enough to discover you.

*Full reports on the 1978 Annual General Meeting and much more. . .*