



The Richard III Society  
Adelaide South Australia Branch

**Newsletter**      May/June 2016

Meeting this Saturday- Kevin will be talking about The Minor Woodvilles.

Rita Durkin has written another book called Shakespeare and Richard III. She is donating a copy to the library and if anyone wants a copy, email your request to [ritarita@fastmail.fm](mailto:ritarita@fastmail.fm)

WA branch is holding the next Australasian conference in October 2017 and would like an indication of who might be interested in attending. Please let me know at the meeting Saturday or by email if you won't be at the meeting. No names wanted.

NSW branch has their mini conference Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November in Albury - the information was sent out to you and they need a booking deposit by 16<sup>th</sup> June. Rita Durkin may be going to present a talk on her new book.

[Albury mini conference Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November](#)

I'm considering going. Would drive across but stop overnight on the way. I am not a fan of long distance driving! I could take some people in my car. Lisa

Adelaide branch meeting 7<sup>th</sup> May meeting

Present S Walladge, K Jones, A & K Feldman, L Cortez, V Walden, M Collings, D Haynes, D Mitchell

Apologies J Forster, R Overy, J Mann, J Carr, R McEvoy, L & C Gill,

Minutes of previous meeting accepted

Correspondence & News

Ricardian Times NZ now being emailed by new editor.

Ricardian Recorder from UK

Dickon Independent Worcestershire branch newsletter

From Margaret Flint- The Guardian Richard III \_ Now is the winter.... adapted to fit with Leicester City's League Championship win.(see later in newsletter)

Michael Morpugo's fairytale- The Fox and the Ghost King. BBC4 radio programme (watched on ipad)

From the internet-

How it feels to stand next to a medieval King March 2015 History Magazine

Benedict Cumberbatch- Sometimes I think I want more brain space. You only get one chance to do a role like this. 22 April 2016 Telegraph

Richard III A Hostage to fortune by David Harspool BBC History Magazine Dec 2015

Have we completely misinterpreted Shakespeare's Richard III? BBC History Magazine 21 April 2016

10 things you need to know about the Battle of Bosworth BBC History Aug 2014

6 Myths about Richard III BBC History

7 places that shaped the life of Richard III History Extra Feb 2015

#### Treasurer's report

\$677.51 in bank Cheque to S Walladge for pens. \$131.50

#### General Business

Pens have arrived from National Pen. \$2 each. Black ink but assorted barrel colours- mainly black, purple, grey with Richard III Society Adelaide SA Branch on them.

Lisa Cortez- website available but blog not working –will send password. Reminder to Secretary to send how many members to Lisa.

Mini conference NSW branch in Albury November 2016 Information available if interested.

Richard III Laurence Olivier

From D Haynes- Keep an eye on SBS Thursday afternoons –have a variety of programmes- the latest was Life in Tudor Times

A Feldman gave her speech on WW1 Soldiers as practice session to an audience. She asked for reactions/feedback afterwards which led to some discussion on deaths of soldiers and how it affected their families.

Meeting closed followed by Quiz.

2 teams of 4 and three rounds of questions plus 2 smartie questions. Well done to the Dames who defeated the WW1 Veterans by 4 points.

# Richard III on Leicester City, kings of England

Stephen Moss reimagines Richard III doffing his cap to the [unlikely winners of the 2015/16 Premier League title](#) in his most famous Shakespearean speech. Tuesday 3 May 2016 07.35 BST

## **Richard III, as reimagined by [Stephen Moss](#)**

Now is the winter of our discontent  
Made glorious summer by this championship.  
Although, in truth, a York man in my heart  
(Though some of course dispute I have that valve)  
The Minstermen this term have shown such poor defence  
They are condemnéd to the Conference.

Since Leicester was my final resting place,  
Following my reverse at Bosworth Field,  
The Foxes have become my second love,  
A steady passion for my vulpine ways.  
And after last year's fight with relegation  
How sweet the plaudits of a smitten nation.

Unheralded when this campaign began,  
Our team of misfits put the stars to flight.  
Vardy, Mahrez, the tireless N'Golo Kanté,  
Huth, Simpson, Schlupp, inspiring captain Wes.  
The vigilant Schmeichel patrolling his steely line  
Drinkwater you will say, but I prefer wine.

"Who gives a Fuchs?" That was always my motto.  
I rose against the odds to win the crown.  
In Leicester I see that same will to succeed,  
Doing down the critics and naysayers, all.  
I, too, was mocked, my public always wary,  
Just like the mighty Claudio Ranieri.

Together we are vindicated, Claudio and I,  
My move from car park to cathedral  
Mirroring his from tinker to talisman.  
The King Power Stadium, how I love that name,  
A palace of fire and fury, fame and favour,  
All funded by Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha.

Next season we will do it all again, and more.  
Madrid and Munich will feel our stern resolve.  
Doubters will mock, bookmakers price us down,  
But we will prick their baseless prophecies.

Our team will steer us through the fearsome thicket.  
Oh! my kingdom for a premium season ticket.

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# Fairy tale expert: Leicester City win really was magical

May 5, 2016 7.03pm AEST

[Victoria Anderson](#) Visiting Researcher in Cultural Studies, Cardiff University [Cardiff University](#) provides funding as a founding partner of The Conversation UK. Disclosure statement Victoria Anderson does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organization that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond the academic appointment above.

.Before you read this, you should probably know that I do not claim to be any kind of expert on football. In fact, my level of soccer-related ignorance is such that in order to write this article on Leicester City's historic win at all, I first had to learn that the Premier League is not, in fact, another name for the First Division.

These “minor” details aside, what I am able to offer with a reasonable level of expertise is an outsider's perspective, an assessment of Leicester City's “fairy tale” win. Exactly how does one structurally define a fairy tale, and can we accurately describe The Foxes' win as such? Or are we simply misapplying a label, leaving us relegated to the – ahem – bottom-of-the-table as far as sloppy metaphors are concerned?

First, we should probably define what we mean by “fairy tale”. For Leicester City, the term is being used to convey the idea that the team won from a position of abject impossibility; it seems their name was initially a “byword for failure” and their chances of winning rated at [5,000–1](#) at the start of the season. To put that into perspective, the USA beating England in 1950 has previously been cited as one of the most unlikely things ever to have happened in football history. The odds of that were [500–1](#).

But while other clubs have poured money into the game, winning the league by importing the most expensive players money could buy, Leicester City have won on what seems like a wing and a prayer. But it's not just this sort of rags-to-riches story that has created the “fairy tale” effect; added to that is the seeming impossibility of the feat achieved and the vaguely uncanny addition of [Richard III](#). His skeletal re-interment in Leicester Cathedral last year has led [some to suggest](#) that the dead King himself had a hand in the Foxes' turn of fortune.

It may not surprise you to know that there is an entire science devoted to the study of folklore, as if it were a form of archaeology – which, in a sense, it is. Folklore has been collected and dissected from all around the world, broken up, analysed and classified into types, categories and taxonomies. There has never been a 100% fail-safe definition of “fairy tale” as opposed to a folk tale, but since the term “fairy” tends to refer to the elusive fairy folk, fairy tales always seem to refer to a slightly other reality than the one we normally inhabit. Dead kings and impossible odds? That sounds like another reality to me. Check.



King Richard III's coffin. Andy Rain/EPA

But what about the [morphological](#) (yes, you read that right – told you it's a science) structure of the Foxes' fairy tale? According to folklorist Vladimir Propp, true fairy tales can be [broken down structurally](#) into 31 discrete elements.

This “morphology” begins with an initial situation that somehow connotes a lack or villainy of some kind, and moves through a series of intermediate functions to arrive at a conclusion of a marriage or some other worldly form of success whereby the initial lack and/or villainy is liquidated. Intermediate functions include meeting the villain, completing the task, leaving home, acquiring a magical agent, defeating the villain, pursuit, rescue and so on and so forth.

It's hard to grasp in the abstract, so let's use an example. Take Jack and the Beanstalk. Jack starts out dirt poor (the Lack) and loses the only item of value he possesses – a cow, which he swaps for some beans (the Magical Agent) given to him by a mysterious old man (the Donor). To cut a short story even shorter, tiny Jack defeats the mighty fee-fi-fo-fumming giant (the Villain), obtains the eminently useful gold-laying hen and becomes Lord and Master of all he surveys. Yes, exactly like Leicester City, except Claudio Ranieri is the mysterious old man and the league is the gold-laying



hen. And all those big-money clubs? They're the Giant.



Meanwhile, the Leicester Foxes club nickname exists because Leicestershire is considered the birthplace of English fox hunting. The fox is a [staple character in English folklore](#) (and indeed, elsewhere) and is typically characterised as a trickster and even a shapeshifter. In the context of the hunt, the fox is the [ultimate hero](#): the little guy who outruns and outsmarts the big, bumbling giants on horseback with dogs baying for blood: Jack against a horde of Giants. The Leicester Foxes use a fox as their emblem; a kind of totem, if you will.

But laying Good King Richard to rest in his proper place (rather than below a car park) also fits – not so much with Propp’s morphology, but with mythic structures surrounding the [hero’s birth](#) and the death of the Father/King. Fairy tale heroes are typically at least semi-orphaned, but core cultural myths such as Oedipus, Horus, Hamlet – and, uh, The Lion King – also pivot on the Father King’s wrongful death and its attempted resolution by the Hero-Son. Hero-Son? Leicester City. Mufasa? Richard III.

So there you have it, an article which – if football knowledge is anything to go by – should never, ever have happened. But then, impossible tasks are indeed the stuff of fairy tales. Which I think brings us up to: The End.



Dear All,

<http://www.burtonmail.co.uk/King-Richard-III-visited-Tutbury-Castle-just/story-29307109-detail/story.html>

I got quite excited when I read this, but then went to consult Rhoda Edwards’ invaluable book *The Itinerary of King Richard III 1483 – 1485* and of course it is listed in there so nothing new at all! But it seems the castle custodians will make something of the connection at last.

Confession time – being slow on the uptake and not liking Shakespeare’s play about Richard III, I hadn’t realised before (or had forgotten) that Rosemary Hawley Jarman’s brilliant book *We Speak No Treason* and Rhoda Edwards’ brilliant book *Some Touch of Pity* take their titles from the play. It’s dawned on me watching *The Hollow Crown* as I have the subtitles on. I know all the rest of you will have known this for years!

Best wishes from Pam



A plane with the sign 'Had a Hunch We'd Win - Richard III' flies over the ground during the Barclays Premier League match between Leicester City and Everton at the King Power Stadium on May 7th , 2016 in Leicester, United Kingdom.

## From Judith 12<sup>th</sup> May

I have been with my sister in Sussex for a week. She has sold her flat and bought one where there is a stair lift and someone on call. I have helped her sort and pack things. She doesn't have a removal date yet. It is a long trip from Liverpool to Eastbourne, I left Louise house 9.45, 5 minute walk to local station caught local train to city 7 minutes, 5 minute walk to Lime Street the main Liverpool station, caught 10.40 train to London, arrived Euston 1.05 got Underground to Victoria station then train to Polegate. Arrived there about 3.15 pm and 5 minute ride in a taxi to my sister's house! I met up with Louise in London on the way back and we had a short holiday. We visited the reconstructed Globe theatre where we had an excellent tour and saw the exhibition. We went to the theatre and saw Lady in Black a mystery play which I enjoyed. We also visited what remains of the Palace of Westminster and Big Ben etc. It poured with rain but not cold. The train fares are quite expensive I got specials on line but the return trip cost about \$220. I have had lovely food! Back in Liverpool now, the sun shining this morning, a bit of a rest I think today! Love Judith

The Globe theatre



Inside getting ready for a performance of Midsummer night's dream.



Me near the Houses of Parliament

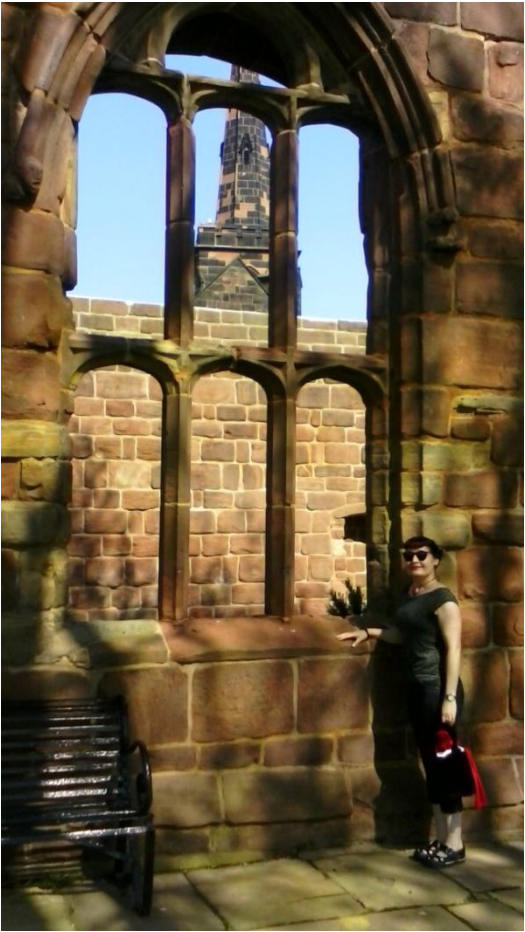


**13<sup>th</sup> May**

A beautiful warm, sunny day. Such a contrast to yesterday in London. We caught the ferry across the Mersey and visited the Birkenhead Priory. It was established in the 1150s and the monks started the first ferry. We had a very enjoyable time with a guide who was very informative. We got the train back and went for a drink in the rooftop garden opposite the Liver building. As neither of us felt like cooking we had a Thai meal at one of our favourite restaurants at Liverpool One, a big shopping complex near the docks. Caught the train and now resting. Another lovely day!



Birkenhead Priory





A day out in Liverpool 18<sup>th</sup> May Louise's birthday. We went to the Pre-Raphaelite exhibition in Walker gallery.



I saw this plaque as we walked along Rodney Street.



Chestnut trees in flower.



Eating lunch at Mowgli cafe



Latest news- Judith and Louise have gone to Naples for a three day holiday.

