

Adelaide Branch Richard III Society



Meetings

December 2nd is our Christmas lunch. Lunch is from 12.30pm. Bring along to share your favourite Christmas memory, or song, or Christmas carol or Christmas story..... Mantelpiece raffle is Christmassy items please.

November 4th meeting minutes

With 15 people and Ella present and 1 apology, Rilla welcomed everyone to the meeting. September's minutes were read and accepted and no treasurer's report due to his absence.

We then had a surprise for Margaret. Rilla read out the speech she gave when we presented Margaret with Life Membership of our Branch but this time Margaret was given the Robert Hamlin Award. She and a NZ member Margaret Manning had been jointly given the Award at the UK's AGM. Well done and congratulations to both of them.

The Robert Hamlin Award was instituted in memory of the former Chairman as a means of recognizing work done by members of the Society that is of particular merit and "beyond the call of duty". In their own way, each recipient is, or has been, a tireless worker for the Society or for furthering its aims.

In General business Sue shared the emails from Anne Devrell who had been at the UK AGM and had brought the certificate back to NSW in her luggage along with some Ricardian items she picked up for our mantelpiece raffle. These she posted to Sue. Our thanks to Anne for that, much appreciated. She commented that Phil Stone gave a good speech as to why it was the choice of the Committee and he also handed the certificate with "the greatest of pleasure" to me. Anne also delivered our report very well with comments that went down well. Anne also included the motion to amend the system for determining AGM venues. Those present were apparently horrified at the costs involved. So were we!

Next meeting is Saturday 2nd December, our Christmas lunch. 12.30pm

Food- Rilla, Di and Anne-sweets, John, Lisa Judith- savoury Lyn- both, Val -basil salad, Judy sausage rolls, Sue bread, butter, table cloths, serviettes, crackers, wine, +both

Meeting closed followed by Lyn Gill talking about illuminated manuscripts. This was to be followed by a workshop but we ran out of time. Workshop to be done next year.

Photos were taken of Margaret with her Hamlin certificate. Rilla and Sue to email copies to editor of Bulletin for December's edition. It would be ready to go to the printer with a space saved for Margaret's photo. Below are the photos Sue took.



John Forster, Judith Carr, Lisa Cortez, Anne Cooper, Margaret Collings (standing) Craig Mack



From Lyn Gill further to her talk on illuminated manuscripts at the November meeting.

Dr. Janina Ramirez unlocks the secrets of illuminated manuscripts was recently on Foxtel history and I thought her presentation was very good.

I have listened to a Professor talk on the subject at Lambeth Palace at the 500year celebration of the Bible into English.

[http://docuwiki.net/index.php?title=Illuminations: The Private Lives of Medieval Kings](http://docuwiki.net/index.php?title=Illuminations:_The_Private_Lives_of_Medieval_Kings)

[http://docuwiki.net/index.php?title=Illuminations - Treasures of the Middle Ages](http://docuwiki.net/index.php?title=Illuminations_-_Treasures_of_the_Middle_Ages)

The two noted sites below were on **you tube** and it was good to know how they were made these beautiful pages on vellum including the parchment production in these days. I hope it will make it far more interesting and hopefully exciting to try it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aDHJu9J10o>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPXORT_Wt-A

From Pam (Worcester branch) 25/11/17

Margaret Owens spotted on the British Library online bookshop that the introduction to The Daughter of Time referred to Richard III as a hunchback, and has managed to get it changed:

She e-mailed them giving them links to the Leicester and Lancet info about the analysis of Richard's skeleton and telling them that considering the extent of press coverage of the discovery and investigation she expected better of a respected academic institution.

She received the following reply:

“Thank you for your email. We currently stock over 6000 titles and whilst we do try to ensure the descriptions we use are accurate we do rely heavily on information and copy supplied by publishers and authors themselves to allow us to make books available to the public as quickly and easily as possible. The work of fiction you highlight was published in 1951, and the description supplied by the publisher does still reflect this and the thinking at that time.

Our online bookshop is only maintained by 2 members of staff, and every item is added manually, so as you will understand keeping a track of every single description, across thousands of works, with up to 100 new titles added monthly can sometimes lead to anomalies, especially as a book such as Daughter of Time was added to the online bookshop inventory prior to 2012 and subsequent archaeological discoveries.

I have amended the description to remove the reference you mention and this should appear on the live website within 12 hours.”

<http://bookshop.nationalarchives.gov.uk/9780099536826/Daughter-of-Time/>

Although the introduction to the book still contains the word hunchback, it does make it clear that this is what people of the time thought:

"for centuries he was vilified as the hunch-backed wicked uncle, murderer of the princes in the Tower" [True].

"Josephine Tey's novel The Daughter of Time is an investigation into the real facts behind the last Plantagenet king's reign, and an attempt to right what many believe to be the terrible injustice done to him by the Tudor dynasty. Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard, recuperating from a broken leg, becomes fascinated with a contemporary portrait of Richard III that bears no resemblance to the Wicked Uncle of history." [Accurate - not a hunchback and not a murderer.]

Well done Margaret!

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The Richard III Discovered Exhibition from the University of Leicester is going to Galway in Ireland.

<http://www.advertiser.ie/galway/article/96655/hail-the-king-science-and-technology-festival-brings-richard-iii-saga-to-galway>

A ghost walk at Bosworth.

<http://www.leicesterm Mercury.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/bosworth-battlefield-holding-paranormal-ghost-734623>

The Archbishop of Canterbury recalling his participation in Richard's reburial.

<http://www.itv.com/news/central/2017-11-13/archbishop-of-canterbury-discusses-richard-iiis-burial/>

A very brief article in the Express about Edward V.

<https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/top10facts/874493/King-Edward-V-birth-england-nobember-2-richard-III-reign>

A gold half angel coin from Richard's reign found near Bosworth is to be auctioned in London next month.

<http://www.leicesterm Mercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/richard-iii-rare-coin-found-788233>

From Margaret Flint (NCW)

Fleeing army may have dropped Richard III gold coin

George Sandeman November 18 2017, 12:01am, The Times

A gold coin more than 500 years old has been discovered by an amateur treasure hunter close to the battlefield where Henry Tudor triumphed over Richard III in the Wars of the Roses.



Michelle Vall discovered the half angel 11 miles from Bosworth Field in Leicester Caters News Agency

Michelle Vall, a teaching assistant from Blackpool, found the coin, a half angel, during a charity metal-detecting event at Monks Kirby in Warwickshire in September. The site is 11 miles south of Bosworth Field in Leicestershire.

The coin was minted during the two-year reign of Richard III Caters News Agency

The coin was minted during the two-year reign of Richard III — the last Yorkist king, who was killed during the battle in 1485 — and is one of only a handful in existence. The coin measures about 2cm in diameter and weighs less than 3g and is expected to fetch £15,000 at auction.



The coins were introduced in 1472 during the reign of Richard's brother Edward IV.

Ms Vall, 51, spent two and a half hours in the field before discovering the coin. "It was deep down, about 16 inches below the surface, and the soil there is thick clay so it took a bit of digging out," she said. "I spotted this glint of gold in the hole, although I obviously did not know exactly what it was at first.

"I put it in the palm of my hand and then I went back to the organisers' tent. One of them identified it and people became very excited. That was when I realised that it was a half angel."

Experts have speculated that the coin may have been dropped by one of Richard's soldiers fleeing the battle after he was killed by men loyal to Sir William Stanley. It is up for auction on December 13 at a sale of coins, historical medals and paper money at the auctioneer Dix Noonan Webb in London.

Christopher Webb, head of the coins department, said: “This is a very rare discovery that has miraculously survived in a Warwickshire field for more than five centuries.

“Its importance as a coin is enhanced by the tantalising possibility that it may have belonged to one of Richard’s army whose defeat at Bosworth ended the Wars of the Roses and ushered in the Tudor dynasty.”

Ms Vall, who took up metal detecting two years ago, said she was selling the coin because it was too valuable to keep and that she did not want it left out of sight in a cupboard.

“I feel privileged that I have found something so precious and historic,” she said. “The memory of that day, the excitement not just of myself but also of other detectorists, when I found that beautiful, tiny piece of historic gold will live with me for the rest of my life.”

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Debrett Ancestry Research
Colwell Wood and Colwell Wood Cottage

September 6 2017
Author Susan Morris

In a clearing in the heart of **Colwell Wood**, in the parish of Offwell, near Honiton in Devon, stands a seemingly insignificant cottage known as **Colwell Wood Cottage**. This property, and the land around it, was the subject of one of our first ventures into house history back in the 1980s. It proved a remarkably rich subject for research, yielding links with some of the most powerful landed families in medieval England, a Napoleonic war hero and a King.

Colwell was never a manor as such, but as a small estate its history can be traced back to the Domesday Book. As part of much larger estates it passed through the hands of the great aristocratic families of **de Courtenay**, **Hungerford** and **Hastings**. During the Wars of the Roses, and the period of Yorkist rule between 1461 and 1485, it was held by the ill-fated Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who finally became King Richard III.

Colwell Wood Cottage



Bluebells in Colwell Wood



The aristocrats were succeeded as landowners in Colwell by the local gentry – **Franklin, Collins, Southcott, Marwood and Mayne** – some of whose names live on in memorials in Offwell church.

This history of this period was a complex one, since the estate was fragmented, with different pieces of the jigsaw changing hands fairly frequently.

Admiral Sir Thomas Graves, who was second in command to Lord Nelson at the **Battle of Copenhagen** (1801), bought Colwell Wood in 1798 for £1,210. In 1805 he gave it to his daughter Mary, and shortly afterwards the Cottage was built. The wood was a sound investment, for timber fetched high prices, but it had also acquired a new value. Whereas natural woodland had traditionally been viewed with trepidation, full of danger and mystery, the Romantic age saw it with new eyes. For those who had leisure, a ramble in the woods was now something to be relished, and the steep wooded dells of Offwell had already won the heart of the parish's most famous son, **Edward Copleston, Bishop of Llandaff**, who in 1825 wrote to a friend:

Thereafter, the dual functions of Colwell Wood can be traced more readily. It firstly remained a valuable asset with its timber and cover for breeding game birds, and secondly it was a picturesque retreat. In 1985 Colwell Wood was fortunate in being acquired by an owner who appreciates the natural beauty of the place over and above any commercial interests. He has funded years of painstaking research, restored the Cottage, and striven to preserve its tranquility and natural habitat for the benefit of future generations.

The results of years of painstaking research are now available in our detailed, illustrated ***History of Colwell Wood and Cottage***. Pedigrees of the Graves, Mayne, Collins and Marwood-Elton families are included. The volume will be of value to anyone with an interest in Devon history or in small English estates. Above all, it demonstrates that no matter how small or apparently insignificant a piece of English property is, dig deep and a rich and varied history may emerge.