



The Richard III Society
Adelaide South Australia Branch

Newsletter

March 2016

Our March meeting was to be held at Mt Hurtle winery Woodcroft. Due to the number of apologies because of the heat, other family dos, Fringe, Clipsal, illness etc we decided to cancel. A suggestion was to reschedule for Saturday 7th May if that's okay with everyone and Mt Hurtle winery and have the quiz later in the year.

Don't forget meeting this Saturday 1.30pm for 2pm. \$5 plus mantelpiece raffle prize. Topic The Princes in the Tower

BOOKS

One of the things I like to do is check out various second hand bookshops and op shops (Vinnies, Salvos, Red Cross, Goodwill etc). Sometimes you do well and this time I found these fiction books

*2 copies of **Sharon Penman's The Sunne in Splendour**

*copy of **Elizabeth George's The Evidence Exposed** (with the short story I, Richard)

* copy of **Marian Palmer 's The White Boar**

copy of **Conn Iggulden's Wars of the Roses Trinity**

*copy of **Philippa Gregory's The Lady of the Rivers** (Jacquetta Woodville)

copy of **Barbara Gaskell Denvil's The King's Shadow** (set in 1483 before & around Edward IV's death)

*copy of **Isolde Martyn's The Silver Bride**

Those marked * for sale -\$2 or \$3 each if you are interested.

And these 2 real finds for our library-

Chris Skidmore's Bosworth The Birth of the Tudors (2014)

And **Michael Hicks Richard III** (2003)

Cost me \$3 and \$2.25 respectively and are in great condition.

Even Richard III looked after the justice system : By [John Bolch](#) February 29, 2016

I've always been fascinated by history – I studied it at school and at university, and for much of my life since history books have dominated my reading matter. It is often stated that one of the primary reasons for studying history is the lessons that it can teach us for the present. Normally, those lessons come in the form of learning from the mistakes of our forefathers. Sometimes, however, the lesson comes in a different, quite unexpected, form.

So it was for me over the weekend whilst I was devouring a particularly good history of the Wars of the Roses, a period I had largely overlooked previously. When I reached the part where the

apparently evil Richard III seized the crown, the last thing I anticipated was a lesson in good justice, particularly one that resonated so clearly with the current plight of our justice system. However, as



we shall see, Richard was not the one-dimensional villain that so many history-tellers over the following centuries would have us believe. He may have been a usurper, responsible for heinous crimes including the death of the princes in the Tower, but he understood the necessity for a good system of justice in his realm.

The history tells us that over Christmas 1483 Richard's mind had been on the plight of England's poor, who found themselves unable to get justice due to the high costs of the legal system. A justice system that is only affordable for the wealthy – now where have we heard that before? The history goes on to tell us that on the 27th of December Richard granted a yearly payment for life of £20 to his clerk John Harington, who served the Court of Requests, a court designed to hear the 'bills, requests and supplications of poor persons', thereby offering them a route to legal redress that would not ruin them financially.

Clearly, those in our government responsible for our justice system do not appear to have read their history. Instead of ensuring that all people have proper access to justice – a thing that is not only their right but also surely for the benefit of a fair and, ultimately, peaceful society – this government have done precisely the opposite. Under the cover of an apparent need to save money, they have embarked upon a systematic dismantling of our justice system that has resulted in swathes of our society being denied access to justice.

That programme has, in particular, [removed legal aid](#) for many (including most people involved in private law family disputes), hugely [increased court fees](#) (a process that shows no sign of ending and includes fees for child maintenance applications) and [closed large numbers of courts](#), making it more difficult for many to get to a court, especially for those of low means. These policies have resulted in a situation in which access to justice is effectively denied to those who can't afford it – an increasingly large section of society.

What happens when people are denied access to justice? Well, it seems that that was something that Richard III understood, even if our government do not, and it goes much further than merely being denied a particular right, such as child maintenance or a fair divorce settlement. Those denied justice

will feel excluded from society and will ultimately take the law into their own hands. If this sounds like an exaggeration, we have in fact already heard warnings of this in the field of family law, for example non-custodial parents trying to force custodial parents to agree to contact demands rather than pursuing those demands through the courts, and custodial parents moving children away rather than arguing children applications at court without proper representation.

The government's attack on our justice system is real, and it is dangerous. A proper all-inclusive system of justice is essential for all in society, and that includes those who are sufficiently well-off not to be affected by the government's policies. It seems remarkable that this could have been understood by someone often described as a tyrant 500 years ago, but not by a government in the enlightenment of the 21st century.



John Bolch often wonders how he ever became a family lawyer. He no longer practises, but has instead earned a reputation as one of the UK's best-known family law bloggers. Founded by Marilyn Stowe in 1982, Stowe Family Law has grown to become the UK's largest standalone family law firm with offices in Central London, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester & Hertfordshire.

Comment from Andrew - February 29, 2016 at 7:54pm

What do you mean – “even” Richard III?

Richard was a Good Egg and is the victim of much vicious propaganda from that parvenu Tudor, the Earl of Richmond; it was he who had his brothers-in-law in the Tower murdered.

He should not have been buried in Leicester, nor in York either. He should have been laid to rest in the Abbey, in the beautiful chapel which the Tudor built for his wife (Richard's niece and true successor after the death of the Princes) and for himself and which is known to history – which is written by winners – as Henry VII's Chapel; near Elizabeth and with his bony finger in the socket formerly occupied by the Welsh usurper's eye.

Not that I prefer my roses white

Awards for Leicestershire thanks to Richard III:

<http://www.leicesterm Mercury.co.uk/Richard-III-affect-helps-county-scoops-prizes/story-28892058-detail/story.html>

The [King Richard III](#) Partnership picked up the bronze medal in the Tourism Experience Category of Visit England's Awards for Excellence 2016, which took place on Tuesday night in Blackpool.

The prize was awarded for the six-day series of events beginning on March 22 with the procession of the king's coffin from Bosworth Battlefield to Leicester and finishing with a church service the day after the king's reinterment at Leicester Cathedral.

And have you been following the football in the UK? Leicester City is still doing well.



Ian Churchward has sent the artwork for his song about the Battle of Towton which is being released on Richard The Third Records on the anniversary of the battle.

Subject: The British Penny (this one thanks to Valerie)

The British Penny
European Union Directive No. 456179

In order to bring about further integration with the single European currency, the Euro, all citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland must be made aware that the phrase "Spending a Penny" is not to be used after 30 April 2016.

From this date onwards, the correct term will be: "Euronating".

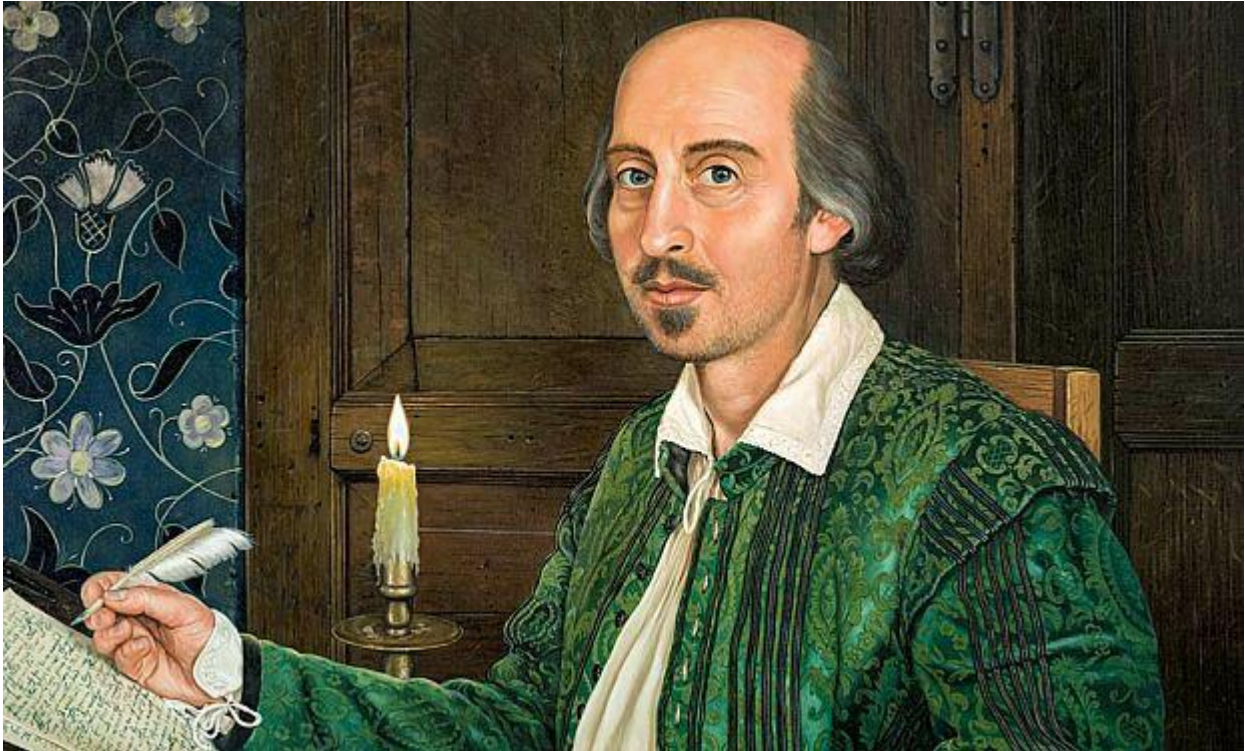
It is hoped that this will be a great-relief to everyone. If you have any questions, just give us a tinkle.

Always interesting to read the news on line and the next 2 I found by searching Richard iii news.

New portrait of William Shakespeare as 'flesh and blood' man you might see down the pub

A new portrait of William Shakespeare produced for the 400th anniversary of his death claims to be the most accurate representation ever made of the Bard

By [Patrick Sawyer](#) The Telegraph 7:30AM GMT 21 Feb 2016



A detail from Geoff Tristram's new portrait of William Shakespeare Photo: The Artist's Print Room

His stature as a playwright is unquestioned. His importance as a symbol of England is widely celebrated and his central role in world literature is hailed in almost every country

But one central question about William Shakespeare has continued to trouble both historians and admirers to this day: just what did he really look like?

While hundreds of portraits of the writer have been produced since [his death 400 years ago](#), only two or three are generally accepted to be his actual likeness, with just a handful of other said to have come close.

Indeed one of the most famous, the Flower Portrait, was revealed in 2005 to be a 19th century forgery.

But now a new portrait of Shakespeare has been produced which claims to be the most accurate representation ever made of the Bard.

After studying as many existing portraits of Shakespeare as he could – from etchings and wood cuts to statues and painting – Geoffrey Tristram, an artist from Stourbridge, in the West Midlands, is convinced he has produced the most authentic likeness of the man to date.



The new portrait claims to be the most accurate representation of the playwright Photo: The Artist's Print Room



Geoff Tristram at work Photo: The Telegraph

The immediately recognisable domed forehead is there, as are the Elizabethan cuffs and collar and the writer's trademark goatee beard and moustache.

But Mr Tristram is confident his portrait has done what so many others failed to do – make him real.

“I turned him into flesh and blood,” he said. “Like a chap you might see down the pub.”

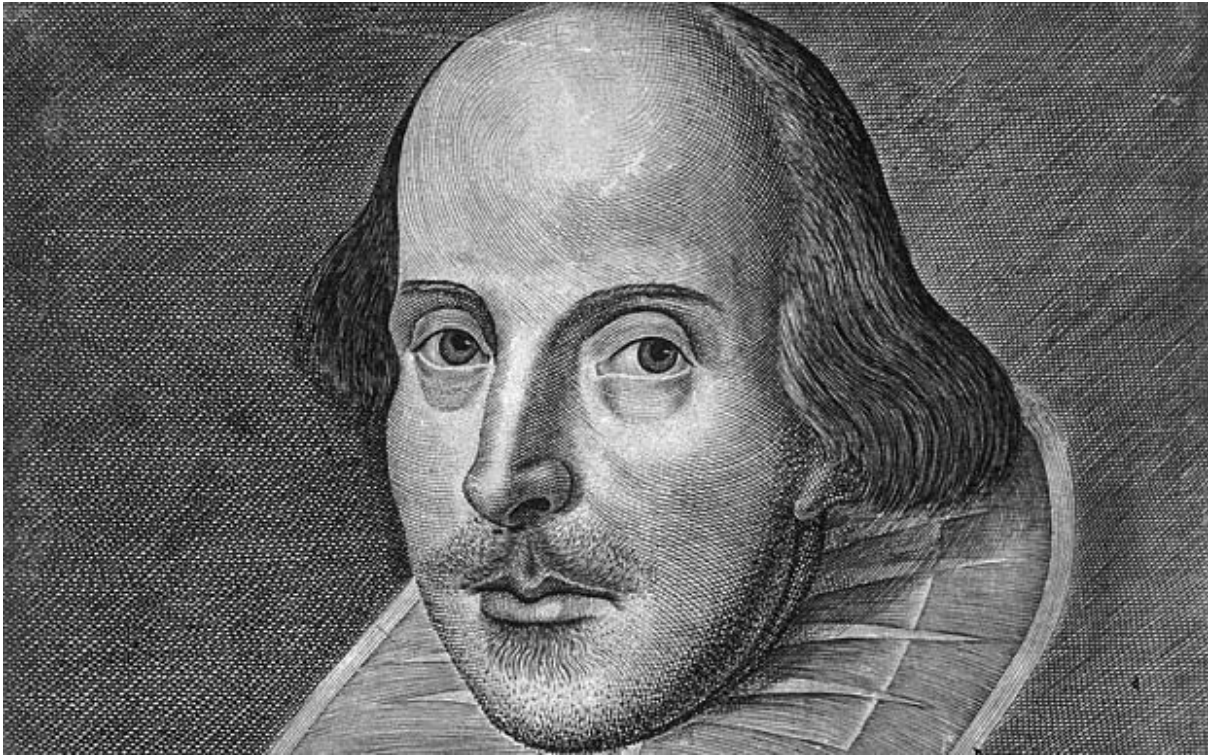
He based the portrait closely on the famed etching of Shakespeare by Martin Droeshout used as the frontispiece to his collected works, printed in 1622, and which his friend and fellow playwright Ben Johnson said most closely resembled him – along with his death mask and a painting from 1810 attributed to John Taylor, known as the Chandos portrait.

After producing several initial studies and sketches Mr Tristram set to work.

He enrolled his friend and neighbour Simon Millichip as the body double for Shakespeare, hired an Elizabethan outfit from a Birmingham costumier and convinced the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust to let him use the location of the playwright's birth, in Henley Street, for a brief sitting.

“I studied all the existing portraits,” said Mr Tristram, a professional illustrator whose previous works has been used by Penguin Books, the BBC and the Past Times chain of shops. “I took the Droeshout etching as the main basis. Ben Johnson said it was the one that most looked like him, although he appears still in it, with a strange collar that looks as though he's wearing an ironing board.”

Mr Tristram, who produced the painting in partnership with Stratford-upon-Avon town and district councils, was at pains to paint [a living, breathing man rather than an icon.](#)



Droeshout's etching of The Bard Photo: Alamy

“I was scared to death of painting someone who is so famous but whose actual face we’re not really sure about. I tried to humanise him and make Shakespeare a real person.

But he didn’t really look like that man we think of as Shakespeare until I put the Frank Zappa-style beard and moustache on him. That, along with his hairstyle, triggers the recognition.”

The finished portrait, measuring three feet eight inches by three feet, will hang at Stratford Town Hall for the festivities commemorating Shakespeare’s death, after which it will be put on sale, along with 400 limited edition prints.

Copies of the new image will be printed on 15,000 masks to be distributed to revellers for the anniversary celebration in Stratford, on April 23.

Mike Gittus, chairman of Stratford-on-Avon District Council said: “The William Shakespeare 400th Anniversary portrait is a skilful interpretation of the face of Stratford-upon-Avon’s most famous son. We hope that royalties from the sale of signed prints of the portrait will raise much needed funds to help safeguard Shakespeare’s Birthday Celebrations.”

The new portrait shows [Shakespeare at his desk, quill pen in hand, writing by the light of a single candle](#). In front of him is a sheet of paper with written on it some of Shakespeare’s own words.

Close inspection reveals they are the opening lines from the soliloquy in which Hamlet contemplates the nature of his grief and melancholy, with its opening phrase: “O, that this too too solid flesh would melt/Thaw and resolve itself into a dew!”



The 'Chandos' portrait by John Taylor Photo: Alamy

Shakespeare's grave to be radar scanned despite famous curse

Shakespeare's grave is to be scanned using radar technology to discover the secrets lurking within



By [Hannah Furness](#), Arts Correspondent 10:00PM GMT 06 Mar 2016 The Telegraph

When a grave is deliberately inscribed with a curse upon any who dared disturb the bones within, it is a brave man indeed who seeks further knowledge of what is inside.

But the lure of [William Shakespeare](#) has proved too much for some.

The playwright's grave is to be examined carefully for the first time this year, with a high-tech radar survey allowing experts to discover what lies beneath the soil of the Stratford cemetery.

Holy Trinity Church, in Stratford upon Avon, has granted permission for documentary-makers to investigate [Shakespeare](#)'s grave without physically disturbing the site.



The inscription on Shakespeare's grave in Stratford Church Photo: Alamy Stock Photo



The playwirght's grave in the Warwickshire church Photo: Alamy Stock Photo

A preliminary radar survey has already taken place, with results due to be broadcast in a Channel 4 documentary later this spring.

The examination is part of nationwide [commemorations of the 400th anniversary](#) of [Shakespeare](#)'s death, and forms part of a major push from academics, theatres and broadcasters to increase knowledge of the Bard.

Radar scans are most commonly used in graveyards to detect unmarked or previously unknown graves, allowing experts to find coffins and learn details about their size, shape and material they are made from.

In this case, it is believed documentary-makers will be seeking to learn more about Shakespeare's life and family.

It is not yet clear whether scans would show any items buried within the coffins, but it is likely to give a clearer picture of a possible family vault: his wife, Ann Hathaway, daughter Suzanna, son-in-law Dr John Hall and Thomas Nash, his grandson-in-law are buried in the chancel alongside him.



William Shakespeare Photo: Alamy

The playwright was buried in 1616, with the gravestone carrying the warning: "Good friend, for Jesus' sake forebeare, To digg the dust enclosed heare; Bleste be the man that spares thes stones, And curst be he that moves my bones."

The grave study will follow comprehensive research into New Place, [Shakespeare](#)'s Stratford home.

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust has already mapped out precise plans of what the home would have looked like, including the kitchen, oven foundations and remains of a cold store.

Demolished 250 years ago, the site – due to reopen in July - will give admirers of Shakespeare their most useful glimpse yet into his day-to-day life.

The [Shakespeare](#)'s grave project follows [calls last year for it to be physically exhumed](#). Then, one academic argued the “extraordinary success” of digging up the grave of [Richard III](#) means the “potential of undertaking forensic analysis” is now recognised.



The remains of King Richard III

found buried deep beneath a Leicester car park Photo: University of Leicester

The results of the scan are expected to be announced before this summer's World Shakespeare Congress, a worldwide gathering of 1,000 academics likened to the Olympics of Shakespeare studies.

A spokesman for Holy Trinity Church said: ““We can confirm a scan of the grave has been completed.

“Any research or investigation within Holy Trinity Church can only take place with the express permission of the church.

“Requests are always dealt with on a case by case basis, and may be subject to confidentiality agreements.

“The results of the scan will be revealed as part of a Channel 4 documentary later in the spring.”

Sorry..... couldn't resist this one sent to me by Judith Carr-

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him (Oh, man, this is so bad, it's good...) A super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

Another one thanks to Judith.

Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym.

You think English is easy? I think a retired English teacher was bored... THIS IS GREAT!

Read all the way to the end it took a lot of work to put this together!

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.*
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.*
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.*
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture..*
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.*
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.*
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.*
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.*
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.*
- 10) I did not object to the object.*
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.*
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.*
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.*
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present*
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.*
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow*
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.*
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.*

19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are animal organs. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

PS - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?