

Adelaide Branch Richard III Society



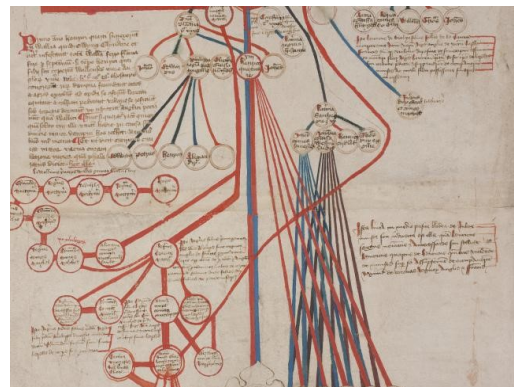
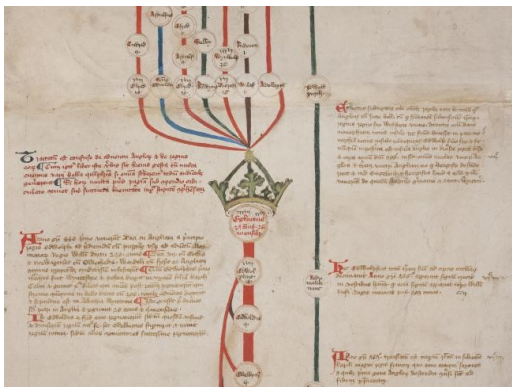
Again a big reminder that this Saturday we have Sue Garforth coming and this time she will, by request, be doing her talk on the mystery around Lord Darnley and Mary Queen of Scots. Guests welcome. 1.30pm NCW house 95 South Tce Adelaide. \$5 + mantel piece raffle prize.

Meetings

Our February meeting had 11 people + Ella attending and several apologies. Minutes of December's meeting were read and accepted. The Treasurer reported we were still in the black.

We had **correspondence** from L Wells in reply to newsletter being sent to her and a request for reminiscences of early years of the Branch. L Gill sent through a photo of the wall of Greyfriars Priory, since demolished.

There was news of the Canterbury scroll, a 16 foot scroll intended to glorify the House of Lancaster and later overwritten to promote the rival Yorkist dynasty. It's been held at Canterbury University in New Zealand since 1918. (comment from members- why hadn't NZ branch mentioned it?- from Secretary in reply- no newsletter from them since early last year so no news anyway).



Current Archaeology magazine 336 has article on Richard III's resting place.

In General business there was a change in the programme for March with Sue Garforth coming to give a second talk, this time on Lord Darnley (by popular request). Death apologies only 😊 and guests welcome.

Valerie mentioned the community hall at Edwardstown oval had been knocked down and there were some flower vases if you wanted them and some receipt books which she gave to our treasurer Kevin.

Judith reminded us she was giving a talk to Noarlunga branch of U3A so taking pamphlets and pens. Also she had brought along photos from coronation dinners of 1993, 1995 and 1996. Another item was the Wars of the Roses as presented by the Tabloid Press

From the Secretary- new pens \$2 each or 2 for \$3 or even better 3 for \$5. Pay Secretary if interested.

Meeting closed, followed by afternoon tea and the watching of the final episode of Medieval lives- Birth, Marriage and Death.

Here's a reminder of what each episode was about.

Historian and author Helen Castor, explores how the people of the Middle Ages handled the most fundamental moments of transition in life: birth, marriage and death. In doing so she reveals how people in the medieval world thought and what they believed in. For the people of the Middle Ages the teachings of the Catholic Church shaped thoughts and beliefs across the whole of Western Europe. But by the end of the Middle Ages the Church would find itself in the grip of momentous change and the way of medieval birth, marriage and death would never be quite the same again.

Episode One: A Good Birth

For a Medieval woman approaching the moment of labour and birth, there were no antiseptics to ward off infection or anaesthetics to deal with pain but there was God. The medieval world understood that the pains of labour were the penalty for the original sin of humankind; so, to get through them, she needed the help of the saints, and the blessing of God himself. This was one of the most dangerous moments a medieval woman would ever encounter and some aristocratic and royal women gave birth as young as 13. Birth took place in an all-female environment and male world of medicine was little help to a woman in confinement. But by the end of the Middle Ages the momentous changes to the religious life of England reached right into the heart of this most domestic and secret of life's rites and stripped away the comfort that old Church had offered to labouring women.

Episode Two: A Good Marriage

Unlike birth and death, which are inescapable facts of life, marriage is rite of passage made by choice and in the Middle Ages it wasn't just a choice made by bride and groom, they were often the last pieces in a puzzle, put together by their parents, with help from their family and friends, according to rules laid down by the Church. But in the Middle Ages marriage was actually much easier to get into than today - you could get married in a pub or even a hedgerow simply by exchanging words of consent - but from the 12th century onwards the Catholic Church tried to control this conjugal free for all. For the Church marriage was a way to contain the troubling issue of sex but it was not easy to impose rules on the most unpredictable human emotions of love and lust.

Episode Three: A Good Death

Most of the time, we try not to think about death. But the people of the middle ages didn't have that luxury. Death was always close at hand, for young and old, rich and poor - even before the horrors of the Black Death, which killed millions in a few short months. But for the people of the Middle Ages death wasn't an end but a doorway to everlasting life. The Church taught that an eternity spent in heaven or hell was much more important than this life's fleeting achievements and there was much you could do to prepare for the next life in this one. How to be remembered - and remembering your loved ones - shaped not only the worship of the people of the middle ages but the very buildings and funding of the medieval Church itself.

Advance notice of mini conference- Letter from Denise Rawlings NSW branch

Dear Susan

Not sure if you will remember, but NSW ran what we call a mini conference in 2016 in Albury. It has been a bit of a tradition to do something in-between the Australasian ones.

Helen and I found this mock Tudor (suitable venue don't you think?) in Albury and organised a day there. We can't make meetings in Sydney so this is something we can manage. The response was very positive and we had lots of requests for another.

Sydney committee have approved the idea again so though not anything formal ready to come out yet (a few weeks away to get pricing etc) we do have a date and thought you might like to at least do a save the date in case anyone is thinking of coming this way or is about at the right time.

Conference day will be Friday 9 November with presentations and a banquet that day. Some will arrive on Thursday as usual. There may be a lunch or such in the area (renowned for wine and history) on Saturday if enough are interested.

The venue will be the Albury Manor House Hotel. <http://www.alburymanor.com.au/>

You were booked but I think you might not have been able to come at the last moment? Perhaps yourself or other members might be tempted again this time. It would be nice to meet up.

You might remember also I was chasing a banner to be made at the time. You gave me some great advice. I have eventually found someone at work that made it for me. I whimped out on time and ability! It turned out really well. I need to make a stand for it but will organise that in the next month or so.

Hope some of you might find you are around and like to drop in. More detailed information and a booking form will come out from our secretary in the near future.

cheers

Denise

(I had been going but it worked out we had to pick up the pups then so I cancelled.)

From Pam (Worcester branch secretary)

Thanks to Ian Churchward and Margaret Owens for this link to an article about people who have been inspired by the discovery of Richard III – Dominic Smee, Michael Ibsen and Ian Churchward

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-41174229>

Thanks to Margaret Owens for the article about Dominic Smee.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/blog/time-richard-iii-life-afterwards/>

Thanks also to Margaret for the link to a TV programme, available for 25 more days. It's the latest episode of the BBC Stitch in Time series, available on iPlayer for 25 more days. This one is a re-creation of the gold-embroidered jupon worn by the Black Prince over his armour. Toby Capwell shows costume historian Amy Butchart the basics of fighting on foot in armour and she wears the finished jupon over armour to test visual effect, weight, range of movement and so on. It's an amazing garment, intended for leading from the front in battle.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09q047h>

Thanks to Hugh Wood of the Mortimer History Society for the following:

I know this is well before our period, but I suspect some members will be very interested.

Leintwardine is in North Herefordshire where the river Clun runs into the Teme. There are significant remains from its time as a Roman trading post and 'Travelodge'. The High Street follows the line of the Roman Watling Street.

Leintwardine Historical Society have commissioned a model showing how Leintwardine may have looked during the Roman period. It will be on display in the Reading Room behind the library in Leintwardine High Street between 11.00 and 3.00 on Tuesday 27th February and thereafter in the history room at the Community Centre on Tuesday mornings and on the first Saturday of the month.

This article, includes a video that shows the model: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42939192>

Thanks to Margaret Owens for this information:

The Yorkshire Museum at York has a new display including the Middleham Jewel and a boar badge belonging to a supporter of Richard:

<https://www.yorkshiremuseum.org.uk/exhibition/medieval-york-capital-of-the-north/>

Items from the Museum's permanent collection of the region's greatest surviving treasures. Explore how York became England's second city and how its fortunes rose and fell with its ties to the Crown and the Church.

Many thanks to Margaret Owens for finding these in response to Janet Trimbath's email: Re Janet's query about Toby Capwell on You-Tube:

He gave a lecture about Richard's armour to the Richard III Soc conference in Leicester in 2013:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Sn9F0VHTjY>

The lecture was also on the Richard III Soc website as part of the coverage of that conference.

And there's a lecture called Richard III: The Scoliotic Knight to the Chivalry Today conference in California, 2014

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_1aS_KpJaw

He was involved in the 2013 Channel 4 documentary which introduced Dominic Smee as Richard's body double so it may well be that the Callifornia version of his lecture takes account of findings in the course of making the programme.

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| <p>Rilla McEvoy Chairwoman Susan Walladge Secretary Richard III Society Adelaide South Australia branch richardiii-sa.org.au</p> |
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