

Adelaide Branch Richard III Society



Meetings

As there are no minutes for May meeting as this was our picnic meeting. Unfortunately it rained to begin with and then was threatening for the rest of the afternoon so we (7) had an indoor picnic, lots of yummy food and drink and had a good catch up with each other. An all female meeting too!!

Congratulations to Rilla and David McEvoy, first time grandparents to Peyton James McEvoy, 6lb 7oz, 19 ins born 3.50 am Saturday 27th May.

Judith

Coming meetings

3rd June- back to basics- 4 topics (everyone)

1st July- coronation lunch

5th August- back to basics (everyone)

2nd September- back to basics (everyone)

7th October- AGM

4th November- Lyn on illustrated manuscripts

2nd December- Christmas lunch

Judith left mid May to spend about 3 months with Louise who now lives in Liverpool and works for Liverpool University.

From Judith 18/5/17

The weather is changeable, sunny at the moment (6am) but I have been out and about, jet lag not really a problem. I went into the city to a very interesting art display and tour and borrowed some books from the library. Louise and I have done a few chores and had a meal out and visited a new Egyptian display at the museum, some of the mummies haven't been on display for 70 years. Never seen any like it, individual toes and fingers bound. We have spent a lot of time planning a few days away and go to Naples on Monday until Thursday when Louise has to chair a meeting. Love Judith

23/5/17

Louise and I had a really early start! We left Liverpool at 4.15am drove to Manchester airport and got to Naples about 11.00. About mid 20s so nice. Walked miles this afternoon around lanes and to the port to enquire about catching the ferry to one of the islands Ischia. Lovely hotel, just had a shower. We had pizza for lunch. Love Judith xx

Here are Judith's photos of Naples, first 2 with Louise.





Marion Moulton tells me that in the May issue of "History Revealed" there is an article on Richard III.

<http://www.historyrevealed.com/history-revealed/issue/may-2017>

I have received a lot of emails and it's all to do with a performance of Richard III in Leicester Cathedral. It's certainly stirred a lot of reaction. As you can see from those I have included. The websites are worth looking at.

More information about this play sent by Marion Moulton. I too am surprised at the comments made by Richard Van Allen on behalf of the society.

I am absolutely lost for words and that doesn't happen very often, In fact it could be called a phenomenon. But this absolutely takes the biscuit.

Leicester Cathedral are allowing a performance of a play called "Something wicked This Way Limps" or a performance of Shakespeare's play, "Richard III" to take place in the Cathedral right next to the tomb of Richard III.

I just can't believe it, though after the showing at the Cathedral at the Re-Interment weekend I'm not surprised. It just enhances what we thought. Leicester Cathedral are saying "we've got him and we'll do what we like" Putting it bluntly "They are taking the p***!"

Have a look at these two websites.

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2017/may/07/richard-iii-shakespeare-staged-leicester-cathedral?CMP=twl>

Here is the info on the play

<http://www.anticdisposition.co.uk/richard-iii-2017.html>

If you wish to complain write to these two e-mail addresses. As individual members we cannot write and complain direct. It's up to the members of the Executive Committee to do so.

RIII Secretaries: secretaries@richardiii.net

Chairman : Phil Stone : ptstone@blueyonder.co.uk

These people are in a position to complain and withdraw the statement given to the Guardian.

It's also giving ammunition to those fringe Groups for Richard III who are dissatisfied with the way the Society have conducted the whole project and societies like " the Henry VII Appreciation Society" It will show we have no backbone.

Marion Loyaulte me Lie And I mean it!

The latest reports about that play being staged in Leicester Cathedral.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/may/08/richard-iii-staging-in-leicester-cathedral-condemned>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-39856414>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/05/10/richard-iii-row-plan-stage-shakespeare-play-denigrates-king/>

Gil Bogner's suggestions below are excellent, given that the play will go ahead and other companies all round the world keep performing it. I find it deeply upsetting to watch so never go to see it but the truth needs presenting to the audience.

Best wishes from Pam

From: Bogner, Gil [<mailto:gil.bogner@stvincent.edu>]

Subject: RE: Richard III at Leicester Cathedral

Might a humble yank from across the pond provide another perspective on the performance of Shakespeare's *Richard III* at Leicester Cathedral?

It's plain that there is a lot of shock and anger about this. May I suggest, however, that this event could become a teaching opportunity. After all, there will be a large audience of lay people in one place. Perhaps some historian from our society might be permitted to provide a brief introduction prior to the performance that places the play and it's dramatic version of Richard in its proper historical context. Perhaps after the performance, for those who wish to stay, there could be a more

in-depth informational/question and answer session. I don't know if the powers that be would consent, but if the Society works with the director or those in charge of this production, a negative might be turned into a positive.

I know that when I teach my course on medieval films, even awful distortions like *Braveheart* and *Kingdom of Heaven* can be used as launching points for wonderful historical discussions. Rather than railing against Hollywood's treatment of the Middle Ages (something I cannot prevent), I work within it to guide my students to a better understanding of the period. Anyway, thanks for listening.

(Perhaps even some of those wonderful books from the reading list could be sold in the foyer?)

Gil Bogner Research Officer American Branch

The following statement has been issued on behalf of the Richard III Society with regard to the performance of Shakespeare's play 'Richard III' at Leicester Cathedral -

Proposed performance of Richard III in Leicester Cathedral

Contrary to reported quotes in the media, the Richard III Society does not support the performance of Shakespeare's play 'Richard III' due to take place in Leicester Cathedral in July.

It is both insensitive and disrespectful to stage a play that denigrates Richard III, an anointed king of England, in the very place where he was re-buried with 'dignity and honour' only two years ago.

Many people, and not just members of the Richard III Society, will be perplexed and disheartened at the prospect of this particular play being performed in the cathedral. We will make our feelings known to the cathedral authorities and will ask that their decision be reversed so that 'dignity and honour' can prevail.

The Executive Committee

Richard III Society

From Pam

Here is Philippa's response to the production. I'm sorry I didn't spot this before.

<https://www.thestage.co.uk/news/2017/looking-richard-project-leader-condemns-cathedral-production-richard-iii/>

From Valerie Gannon vgann1@aol.com

I saw a production of King John in October and that was staged around his tomb in Worcester Cathedral. Shakespeare obviously provides a good income

On 9 May 2017, at 08:36, Jane Tinklin <jane.tinklin@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi

The problem is that those in charge see it as a way to gain publicity.

Also Shakespeare is a standard and a guarantee of "bum's on seats".

We know it's historically inaccurate but to the general public it is a famous play.

Regards Jane

On 9 May 2017 07:39, "Patricia Hibbs" <pat.hibbs@yahoo.co.uk> wrote:

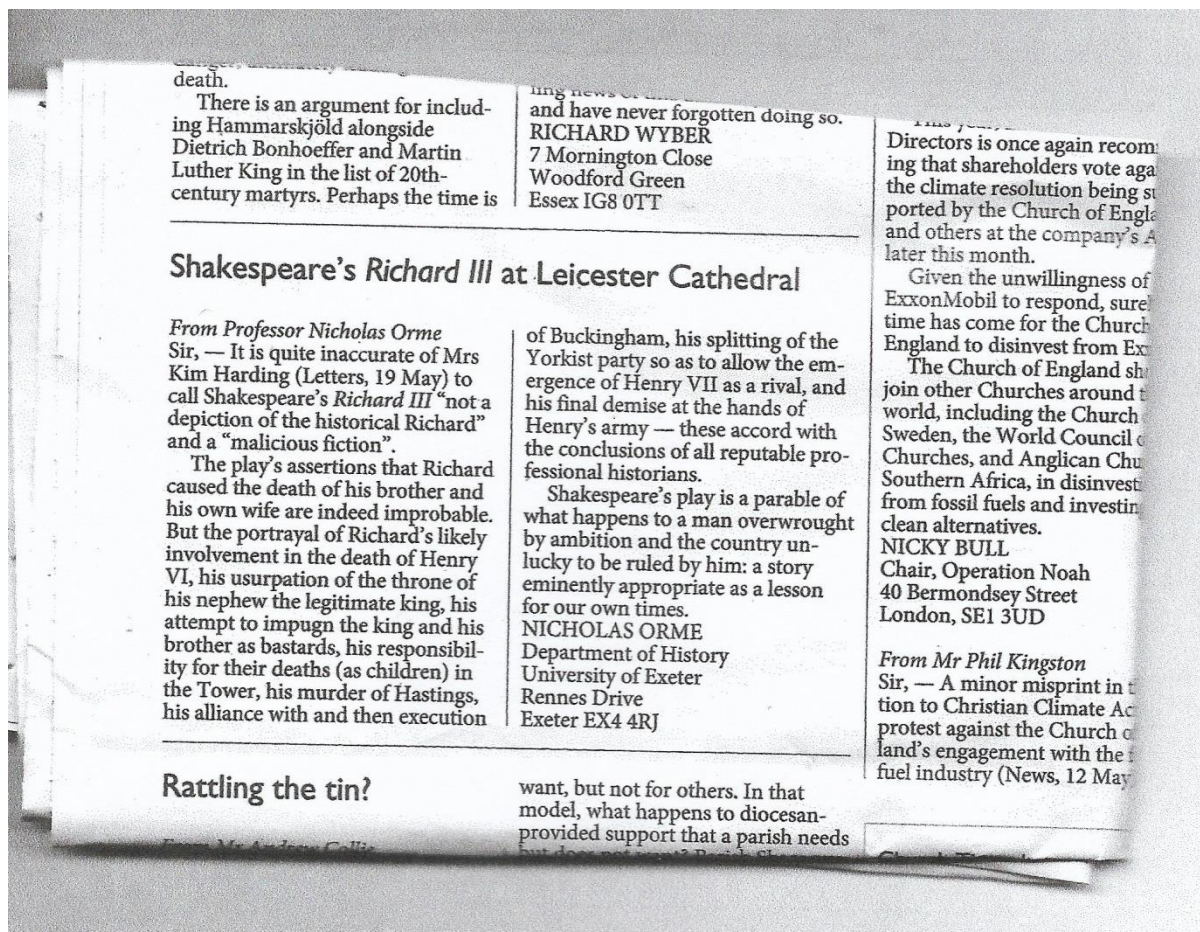
I think it's shameful that Leicester Cathedral are agreeing to this. I think it's also surprising that Gloucester Cathedral is staging a performance! LML Pat H

On 8 May 2017, at 09:59, Pam Benstead <pb@richardiiiworcs.co.uk> wrote:

Dear All, Here's how The Telegraph reported the news.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/05/07/shakespeares-richard-iii-staged-sensitive-production-cathedral/>

Marion Moulton sent Pam this photo which one of her friends had sent to her. It's a letter from a Nicholas Orme who hails from the Department of History at Exeter University. You'll see he hasn't a clue about Richard III and has learnt nothing from recent publications about the king.



Oh dear, how difficult myths are to shift!

Let's start with the easy one, Henry VI. First off, if Henry *was* murdered, it would have been authorised by Edward IV. Secondly is it really credible that a prince of the blood would

personally act as executioner, a role that was seen as socially degrading, and more than that, *personally* kill an anointed king, which was seen as a big no-no?
Come along, this is Easter Bunny stuff, except the Easter Bunny is easier to believe in.

Brian Wainwright.

Blog (Writing - Greyhounds and Fetterlocks)

<http://brianwainwright.blogspot.com/>

Blog (House of York) <http://yorkistage.blogspot.com/>

Blog (Great Central) <http://7mmgreatcentral.blogspot.com/>

2 more interesting articles

<http://nerdalicious.com.au/history/did-the-princes-survive-richard-iii-and-the-princes-in-the-tower/>

<http://nerdalicious.com.au/history/the-problems-of-richard-iiis-y-chromosome-the-problems-relating-to-the-burials-at-clare-priory-and-the-problems-of-working-with-historic-england/>

John has sent me this link to his latest research into trying to clarify why Richard III's Y chromosome is different to other descendants of Edward III.

Absolutely fascinating:

<http://nerdalicious.com.au/history/the-problems-of-richard-iiis-y-chromosome-the-problems-relating-to-the-burials-at-clare-priory-and-the-problems-of-working-with-historic-england/>

best wishes from Pam

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.”

— Albert Einstein



“No one is actually dead until the ripples they cause in the world die away...” — Terry Pratchett