

Adelaide Branch Richard III Society



Meetings

A big reminder that the November meeting is you contributing to Elsewhere in the 15th century. Can be an event, a person, or just generally what was happening.

Also have you paid your subs? If not please do so asap.

Subs this year will be BOAR \$30, senior and student \$65 and full and senior family \$75.

If you wish to pay to our bank account directly through internet banking

Bank SA Richard Third Society (Adelaide Branch) Inc

BSB 105-120

Account number 027680340

Please include your name in message to recipient so Kevin knows who it's from and/or email me to say you've paid.

Our October meeting was our AGM where reports were presented by chairperson Di Haynes, secretary Sue Walladge, Treasurer Kevin Jones and librarian Rilla McEvoy. These people were re elected with Judith Carr and Lisa Cortez joining the committee. The meeting was followed by the 2nd episode of Medieval life- Marriage.

Chairperson's report AGM 2016

Thank you to members for attending our monthly meetings and for their support of our group.

Thanks go to those members who arranged research and presented interesting talks and videos.

Special mention to the committee for their efforts, with a big thank you to our Secretary Sue for the extra lengths she goes to, supplying us all with news, information and products.

Thank you all.

Di Haynes Chairperson

Secretary's Report AGM October 1st 2016

At our AGM last year we awarded Margaret Collings life membership of our branch for all the time, effort and hard work she had put in for some 30 years. Also Judy Mann stood down as Chair person after only 1 year due to personal family reasons and Di Haynes took over that position. Kevin Jones and I retained our positions as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Rilla McEvoy and Lisa Cortez came on board our committee. After the meeting we watch The Reburial of Richard III programme shown recently on SBS and made the day of the actual reburial. Listening to Benedict Cumberbatch read the poet laureate's poem was a reminder for our members to write their own poem.

Lisa also organised our website and we appreciate the time and effort that went into setting that up. She had some teething problems to begin with setting it up but now you can find us at richardiii-sa.org.au . Thank you Lisa.

November's meeting dealt mainly with what we wanted on our website and a couple of articles from various sources were read.

December was our usual Christmas lunch and the reading of the poems written by Margaret Collings, Lisa Cortez, Lyn Gill, Di Haynes, Valerie Walden, Rilla McEvoy, Anne Cooper, John Forster and Sue Walladge was a highlight. Copies of the poems were sent by request to Jacquie Emerson in the UK to be published in the Ricardian Recorder.

In February Amy Feldman read her talk on Kaiser Bill and asked for feedback on her presentation and content. We watched a DVD on The Princes in the Tower which was not good- to be polite.

March was supposed to be our picnic at Geoff Merrill winery where one of our members works but unfortunately heatwave conditions lead to cancellation and try again later.

In April meeting was a second DVD on the Princes called Medieval Murder- The Princes in the Tower. Both DVD were quite honestly dreadful, biased, and full of inaccuracies. One highlight of the meeting was the story behind our pen order. The pen order goes to Ireland to be filled and I had a very nice Irishman in his lovely accent confirm that we wanted "Richard turd society Adelaide SA branch" inscribed on the pens.

In May we held our quiz and worked in 2 groups of 4. Thanks to Rilla McEvoy who helped sort out questions with me using questions from previous quizzes researched and written by Margaret Collings. Our pens arrived and were available for sale.

In June Kevin Jones continued with his interest in the Woodville family by talking about the less well known members.

July was our very tasty coronation luncheon and we were supposed to bring along our portrait of Richard III. Due to John Forster in his last year as one of the judges for Childrens Book week talking and showing us books from 3 categories, the portraits were overlooked. A shame as some of them were very well presented.

In August Rilla McEvoy entertained us with her talk on Sir Laurence Olivier. Previously she had talked on Olivier's Richard III film. We also welcomed back Judith Carr from 5 months in the UK visiting her daughter Louise. She brought back a special edition of the BBC History magazine on Richard III to go in our library.

September's meeting saw Anne Devrell attend our meeting. She lives in NSW and made the effort to attend while in SA. Lisa Cortez gave her talk on The Princes in the Tower, giving her theory on what happened to them.

So that was our year. Average attendance of 10. Newsletters/magazines from the UK, Worcester, Victoria, NSW, NZ, USA and new –WA. There has been a number of DVDs added to the library, the 2 on the Princes, the 4 part series Britain's Bloody Crown and The man who killed Richard III (Rhys ap Thomas). Also throughout the year books by Michael Hicks, Chris Skidmore, Colin Iggulden , Annette Carson and Leicester Cathedral's photographic record were added to the library as well as internet news stories. This lead to our librarian having to do a stocktake. Rita Durkin, one of our members gave us a copy of her latest book on Richard II and that play and Anne Devrell donated one as well as Ricardian stuff we used as raffle prizes.

Thank you to Di Kevin Lisa and Rilla for all their hard work. And thank you to our members who continue to support our branch.

Sue Walladge Secretary.

Librarian's report AGM 2016

Since the discovery of King Richard's bones in the Leicester Council car park in 2012 (a momentous occasion in history; especially for Ricardians) Sue Walladge has been very busy buying books about the dig for our library. At our meetings she has shown us the books and given us her valuable insight into the content. Sue has also compiled many folders dedicated to the dig, the reburial and any other relevant information. All well worth borrowing.

Judith and Louise Carr have also provided us with valuable information about the discovery, the confirmation that the bones were indeed RIII, and the reburial. Luckily for us Louise was in the thick of things in Leicester.

In September this year Sue Walladge and I (with the help of her son Rhys) took all our books, magazines, talks etc out of the cupboard and did a stocktake. We spent quite a few hours but the effort was worth it. We discovered quite a few items missing, we culled (culled items will be up for grabs) and we put everything back into the cupboard.

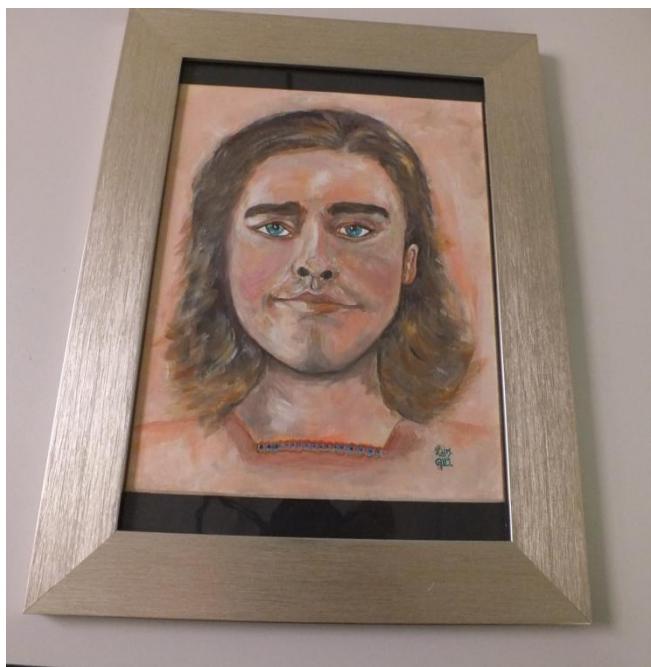
Our last stocktake was in 2013 and we have added a considerable number of books and magazines since then.

If you haven't checked out our library I strongly suggest you do so. We have acquired a wonderful selection of fiction and non fiction books. Also the talks that have been given over the years are very entertaining and well worth a read. They can also be used for anyone wanting to give a talk and doesn't know where to start.

Rilla McEvoy

Kevin Jones's financial statement (which I am not reproducing here) showed our Intricklings and Outpourings and a final balance of \$749.96 with subs to UK to paid out of that.

We also brought back our portraits. And here they are.

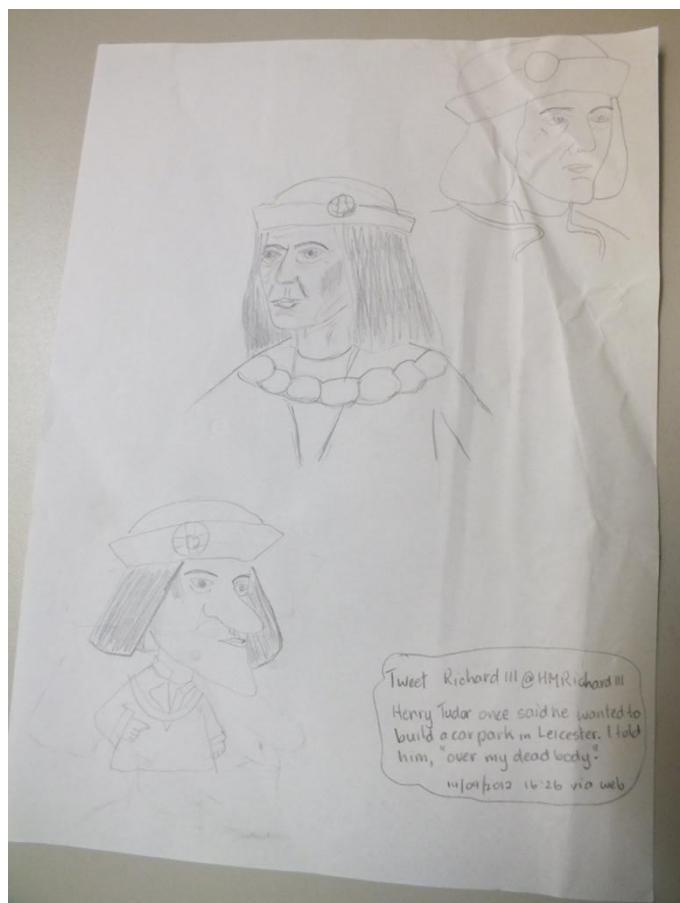


by Lyn

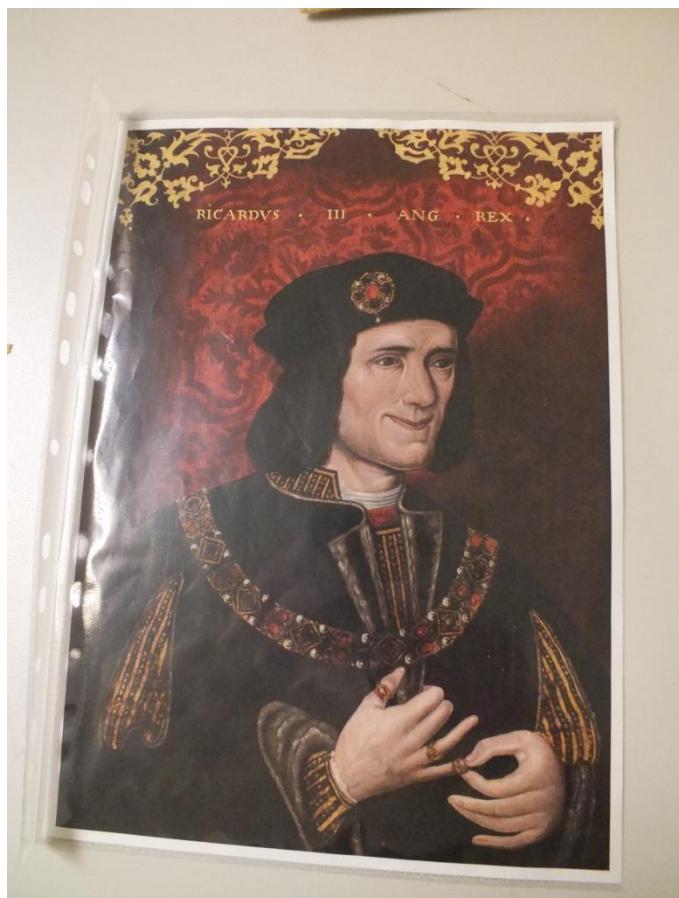




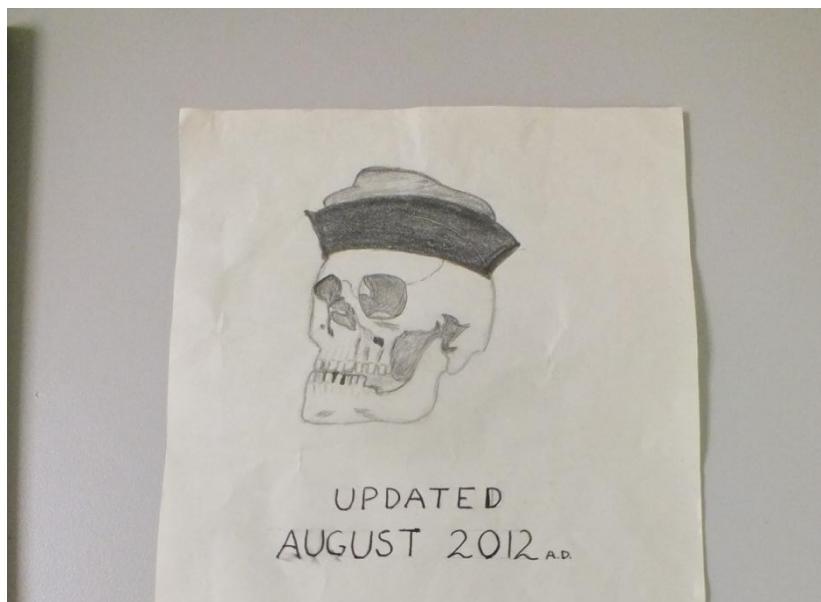
Judith



Sue



Margaret





Rilla

Afternoon tea included a toast to Richard for his birthday and birthday cake.



Judith, Lyn & Chris



Margaret, Anne, Di, Valerie



Anne, Di, Valerie Lisa & Judith

A website/blog worth a look is
<https://mattlewisauthor.wordpress.com/category/king-richard-iii/>

From the UK

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY FOR KIT HARINGTON

Actor Kit Harington (Jon Snow in 'Game of Thrones') is a descendent of one of Richard III's closest friends and has expressed an interest in Richard III. The Society has given him three years honorary membership in the hope that he will be a staunch ally attracting further people to Richard's cause.

Kit says

"First of all I'd like to thank the Richard III Society for the Honorary Membership and I'm so very pleased to have been granted it. When I received the first email from Mary it very much piqued my interest. The topic of my ancestor William Catesby had never been raised with me before and I was very curious what questions I'd be asked and how much more than me she knew! When the questions were then forwarded from her, Amanda and Sharon I was even more interested and knew I really had to have this interview with them, I'm only sorry that I've been unable yet to do this due to pressures of work, however I do intend to go ahead with sitting down with them as soon as I can.

Having met Mary, Amanda and Sharon in London after a performance of Dr Faustus I have to say that, if they are representative of the Society, King Richard III will always be remembered honestly. I'm very much looking forward to meeting them again.

Once again I thank the Society for the membership and I will look forward to reading the quarterly magazine which I understand from Mary is with my agent in London.

with my best regards,
Kit Harington. "

New evidence: The bones of the 'Princes in the Tower' show no relationship to Richard III

July 27, 2016

**Press Release for The Secret Queen
by The History Press**

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Dr Ashdown-Hill, a leading expert on Richard III and the Wars of the Roses, and a key member of Philippa Langley's [Looking For Richard](#) Project that discovered Richard III in a car park in Leicester, has today revealed that the 'bones in the urn' in Westminster Abbey,

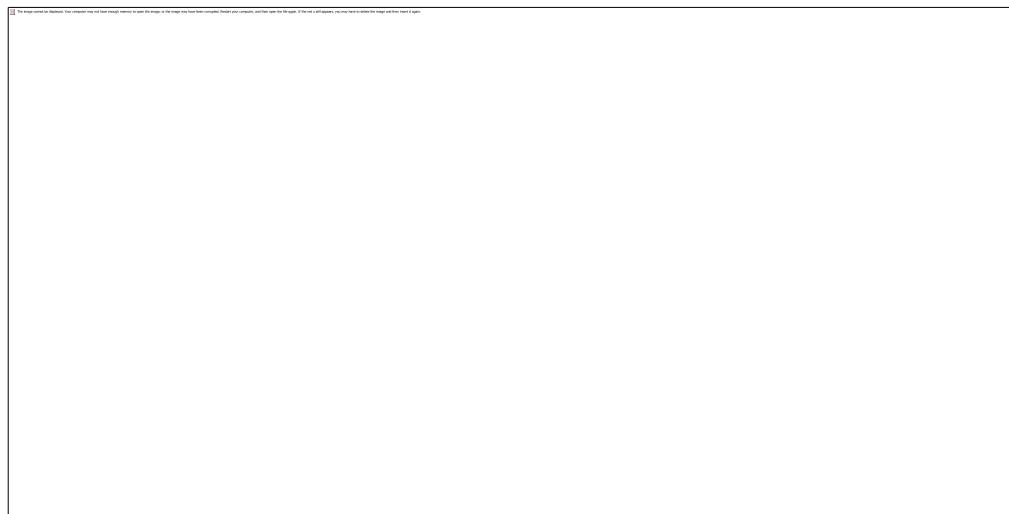
believed for centuries by traditional historians to be those of the ‘Princes in the Tower’, apparently have no blood relationship to King Richard III.

This discovery, which throws into question the identity of the ‘bones in the urn’, is revealed for the first-time in Dr Ashdown-Hill’s highly acclaimed work, [The Secret Queen: Eleanor Talbot, the Woman Who Put Richard III on the Throne](#), in a new and updated paperback edition published in July by The History Press.

The ‘Princes in the Tower’ were the nephews of King Richard III (1483-85) who vanished during his reign.

With no evidence of any murder, their disappearance ignited one of our greatest unsolved historical mysteries.

The remarkable finding is part of Dr Ashdown-Hill’s continuing investigation into the mythology surrounding Richard III and came about through his analysis of the medieval monarch’s dental record.



X-ray evidence of skull from Norwich (possibly Talbot) with congenital missing tooth

The dental record reveals that Richard III had no congenitally missing teeth, in sharp contrast to the ‘bones in the urn’, where both skulls are said to present this genetic anomaly.

Previously it has been argued that this feature provided strong evidence of the royal identity of the ‘bones in the urn’.

It was claimed that the ‘Princes’ inherited their missing teeth from their grandmother, Cecily, Duchess of York.

But Dr Ashdown-Hill’s latest discovery strongly suggests that the ‘bones in the urn’ are not related to Cecily’s son, Richard III, who was a first degree relative of the ‘Princes’.

Scientific studies of hypodontia (congenitally missing teeth) have further suggested that the anomaly is relatively rare, being present in less than 5% of the population, and is slightly more prevalent in the female population.

This discovery adds further weight to the many questions now surrounding the identity of the ‘bones in the urn’, and raises the possibility that the remains may even be those of as yet unidentified females.

In 1674, the bones were discovered at the Tower of London by workmen digging ten feet below the stairs that led from the Royal Apartments to the White Tower.

Four years later, they were reburied in the urn in Westminster Abbey by Charles II who had been persuaded to accept that the remains were the ‘Princes in the Tower’.

The story of a stair burial for the ‘Princes’ had been proposed in the 16th century by Thomas More. However, in his account, now generally discredited by academia as a dramatic narrative, More went on to say that the bodies were removed from the stair burial and taken elsewhere.

What caused the four-year delay in the reburial of the bones in Westminster during the reign of Charles II, where the bones were kept during this time, and if they are indeed the same bones that were discovered in 1674 by the workmen, is also not known.

Dr Ashdown-Hill states,

This newly-revealed dental evidence is another remarkable discovery from the results of the Looking For Richard Project. Modern scientific analysis applied to the flawed 1933 investigation of the ‘bones in the urn’ has revealed that the sex and historical period of death of the remains is unknown. My latest discovery now casts doubts on the dental claims put forward in 1934, 1965 and 1987. Nor can we be sure that there are just two sets of bones within the urn. It used to be thought that there were two sets of bones in the Clarence vault at Tewkesbury Abbey, where Richard III’s brother was buried. But when I had those remains re-examined in 2013 it emerged that there were three or possibly four individuals present – information published by The History Press in my book *The Third Plantagenet*. The only way we will ever truly be able to answer all the questions about the ‘bones in the urn’ is, of course, either by further archival discoveries, or scientific analysis.

He also states,

I’m very excited about this new, updated edition of my work on Eleanor Talbot, published by The History Press. The book includes a remarkable new facial reconstruction of Eleanor’s putative remains, produced by experts at the University of Dundee. It also contains important new dental evidence in respect of Eleanor’s putative remains, provides evidence of when and where she could have married Edward IV, and offers two new theories for what may have caused her early demise.

Philippa Langley of the Looking For Richard Project states,

By discovering Richard III, the Looking For Richard Project succeeded in demolishing so many of the myths surrounding this much maligned monarch. We dared to question where others merely repeated. Indeed, by questioning the age-old story of the ‘bones in the river’ we succeeded in finding the king. Now it’s been revealed that the remains we found in Leicester question the received wisdom and dogma surrounding the disappearance of the sons of Edward IV. This exciting new discovery by Dr Ashdown-Hill is another step forward in our quest for knowledge, so that one day we may be able to uncover the truth about one of our most enduring historical mysteries. The search continues.

John Ashdown-Hill is a freelance historian and a bestselling author with a PhD in history. He regularly presents his research, and has achieved an excellent reputation in late medieval history. A Channel Four TV documentary was partially based upon Ashdown-Hill’s DNA research in *The Last Days of Richard III*. In 2015, Philippa Langley and Dr Ashdown-Hill were awarded MBEs by HM The Queen for their work in the discovery and identification of Richard III.