



THE RICHARD III SOCIETY

Year Ended 31 March 2013

Mission Statement

In the belief that many features of the traditional accounts of the character and career of Richard III are neither supported by sufficient evidence nor reasonably tenable, the Society aims to promote, in every possible way, research into the life and times of Richard III, and to secure a reassessment of the material relating to this period, and of the role of this monarch in English history.

Foreword

I am very pleased to introduce our annual report for the period 2012/2013, which has been an exceptional and historic year by any measure. The finding of King Richard's remains and the prospect of their eventual honourable reinterment has inspired us all, and I pay tribute to Philippa Langley and John Ashdown-Hill and all those involved with the Looking for Richard project and the Greyfriars dig. Its success has raised Richard III's profile amongst the public and the media and there has been an increase in interest in the work of the Society, too, which is reflected in the impressive increase in our membership. Meanwhile the work of the Society continues and we remain financially sound and enthusiastic for what the future holds.

During the reporting year, we have inevitably lost a number of valued members, foremost amongst them being Lesley Boatwright. She made an enormous contribution to our work and, with all the others we have lost, she is greatly missed.

This report provides an overview of our work and activities over the past year, all of which have been made possible thanks to the contribution of members at every level throughout the Society. They give their time freely and willingly and I thank them all and commend this report to the membership.

Phil Stone (Chairman)

Key achievements for 2012/13

- Support for Philippa Langley's highly successful Looking for Richard project.
- Organising the Leicester Conference in early March 2013, the first to focus on the Greyfriars excavation. This popular and noteworthy conference was heavily oversubscribed, despite nearly 500 places being available; it was also one of the largest events ever organised by the Society.
- Ongoing comprehensive coverage of the Greyfriars excavation and its result in the *Ricardian Bulletin* and *Bulletin Extra*.
- A 53% increase in membership.
- Design and launch of our new and greatly improved website.
- Completion of work on the publication of the York Wills.

THE FACIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF RICHARD III

The Richard III Society funded and commissioned the facial reconstruction from the skull of Richard III. The work was undertaken by Professor Caroline Wilkinson of Dundee University and unveiled to the world at a press conference on 5 February at the Society of Antiquaries.



- Organising the successful 2012 Triennial Conference in Loughborough, which focused on the new evidence for the location of the battle of Bosworth.
- Launching of the RIII mailings, providing members with up to date information and news.

The Society

The Society was founded in 1924 under the name The Fellowship of the White Boar. It was refounded in 1956 on a wider membership basis and formally changed its name to The Richard III Society in 1959. The Society is an incorporated body bound by a constitution and managed by an executive committee elected at the AGM, which takes place each October.

Governance

Patron

HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO has been the Society's Patron since 1980.

THE ROBERT HAMBLIN AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY

This award was established in 2002 to recognise members who have given significant service to the Society; it is named in honour of the late Robert Hamblin who was Chairman of the Society from 1989 to 2002. In 2012 the award was made to **Philippa Langley** in recognition of her lead role in the success of the Looking for Richard project.

President and Vice Presidents

Peter Hammond FSA was re-elected President at the 2012 AGM. For the year October 2012 to September 2013 five vice-presidents were elected: John Audsley, Kitty Bristow, Moira Habberjam, Carolyn Hammond and Robert Smith.

Executive Committee: At the 2012 AGM the following were elected to serve on the committee: Lesley Boatwright, Howard Choppin, Paul Foss, Marian Mitchell, Wendy Moorhen, Lynda Pidgeon, Phil Stone, Anne Sutton, Richard Van Allen, David Wells, Susan Wells and Geoffrey Wheeler. Phil Stone was subsequently re-elected chairman with John Saunders and Stephen York ex-officio members. During the reporting year Howard Choppin resigned from the committee and Lesley Boatwright sadly passed away.

The Executive Committee meets every two months at the Civil Service Club in London.

Standing Committees: These are permanent bodies with specific tasks and responsibilities delegated from the

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AWARDED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOOKING FOR RICHARD PROJECT

Two life memberships were awarded during 2012/2013; to **Philippa Langley** for her outstanding achievement in leading the Looking for Richard project and to **Dr John Ashdown-Hill** in recognition of his significant contribution to the success of the project and its outcome.

The Looking for Richard project led to the archaeological excavation on the site of the Grey Friars that commenced in August 2012. Human remains were found in the choir of the church and these were subsequently confirmed as belonging to King Richard III on 4 February 2013.



Photo © University of Leicester

Executive Committee. Current standing committees are: Research Committee, Visits Committee, *Bulletin* Editorial Committee, Website Committee and Ways & Means Sub-Committee.

Working Parties: These are temporary bodies established by the Executive Committee to examine a specific area of Society business. Current working parties are as follows: Publications and Distribution Working Party and the Constitution Working Party. The latter did not meet during the reporting year.

Secretariat

The role of the Secretariat is a vital one, providing support for the Chairman and Executive Committee, Website Committee and the Ways & Means Sub-Committee. Additionally, it is the key link between the Society's management and the wider membership, including the Branches & Groups Liaison Officer. It is also the first point of contact for general Society enquiries made via post, telephone, e-mail and the website. The Secretariat has responsibility for organising key Society events such as the Members' Day and Annual General Meeting. During 2012/13, in addition to the general duties outlined above, the year saw a considerable increase in activity as a result of the Greyfriars excavation. This generated thousands of items of correspondence – letters, e-mails and telephone calls – all of which needed a polite and considered response.

Membership

During the reporting year the membership department continued to be managed by Wendy Moorhen. The Society's subscription year runs from 2 October, in contrast to our financial year, which begins 1 April. The statistics below are therefore taken from the membership year 2 October 2011 to 1 October 2012, and relate to the state of the membership as at 31 March 2013.

At 31 March 2013 we had 2,777 paid memberships, of which 49 were part-paid. Total individual membership, after adjustment for the family membership category (which assumes 2 per household), lapsed members who may yet pay their subscriptions and inclusion of the USA branch (291), stood at 3,401 as compared to 2,222 last year.

The number of lapsed members fell significantly as compared to the previous year; these are members who fail to renew their subscriptions but do not officially resign their membership. They receive the December *Bulletin* but are removed from the mailing list in the New Year. This year 234 letters (227 last year) were sent to such members and as a result the figure in this category as at 31 March was reduced to 76 (135 last year). The final lapsed figure for the subscription year 2010/2011 was 103.

Membership increased by 53% during the reporting year

The membership database records the breakdown by country (family memberships counting as one unit and including lapsed and resigned members) as follows: Australia 110; Austria 3; Belgium 2; Brazil 1; Bulgaria 1; Canada 82; Denmark 3; Finland 2; France 10; Germany 15; Hong Kong

1; Ireland 7; Israel 1; Italy 1; Japan 3; Kenya 1; Malta 2; New Zealand 24; Norway 1; Poland 1; Portugal 3; South Africa 1; Spain 5; Sweden 3; The Netherlands 12; UK 2,515; USA (including members of US Branch) 360.

From 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 there were 1,018 applications to join the Society (up from 140 last year), the vast majority having been recruited via the internet, particularly the Society's website. The Greyfriars excavation and its outcome has had a very positive impact, 893 of the year's new members having joined after the commencement of the dig in August 2012. The recruitment and retention of members continues to be a priority for the Executive Committee, and we will continue to seek new ways to consolidate and expand our membership base, especially at a time most favourable to us.

Communication

The Ricardian: This has been published since 1961, and over the years has developed into a widely respected scholarly journal of late-fifteenth-century studies. It continues to flourish under Anne Sutton's editorship and enjoys a good assortment of contributions from members and academics, and has no trouble in finding an excellent array of reviewers.

This year of 2012–13 has been an eventful one for *The Ricardian*: the acquisition of a new printer and the first use of colour illustrations. Both have proved very successful. Contributions have continued to be on a wide variety of topics, from the Order of the Garter and Charles the Bold, Richard's administrative reaction to floods, a re-evaluation and update of the topographical evidence which allows us to locate the battle of Bosworth, to a sixteenth-century Italian's attempt to write the lives of eight women who lived during the Wars of the Roses and the career of Friar John Brackley, a contributor to the Paston Letters. Fifteen reviewers have done sterling work reviewing 21 books, and summary notes have brought another 21 books and articles to members' attention. Livia Visser-Fuchs is thanked again for assisting on the index.

Ricardian Bulletin: the Society's in-house magazine was first published in 1974, with a new style and format introduced in the summer of 2003. During the reporting year the editor, Lesley Boatwright, passed away and an editorial team took over her role. Whilst the events at the Greyfriars have dominated content, the magazine has continued throughout the reporting year to offer an increasing range of Society-focused information and historical articles. In addition to our extensive coverage of the Greyfriars dig we have carried, amongst others, articles based on the Society's wills session at the Leeds Medieval Congress and a groundbreaking article on the psychology of Richard III. As well as comprehensive reports on Society events, the magazine also covered subjects as diverse as Yorkist era sports (to tie in with the London Olympics) and Robert Frupp's play about Richard III, *Dark Sovereign*. Colour has been used throughout the reporting period, and we plan to extend this in future issues.

Society website: Throughout the reporting year work has

RICARDIAN BULLETIN EXTRA

Ricardian Bulletin Extra

FEBRUARY 2013



This special edition of the *Ricardian Bulletin* is issued to commemorate the finding of King Richard's remains and to publicise the Society's special conference on 2 March. The March Bulletin will reach members three to four weeks later than usual, allowing us time to cover in detail the outcome of the Greyfriars dig.

A message from the Chairman

The remains of King Richard III have been found at last. We are satisfied that on the basis of the evidence, scientific and circumstantial, that it is indeed King Richard who lay forgotten under a Leicester car park. The successful outcome of the DNA tests has been especially reassuring.

This will be of profound historical significance and, for members of the Society, it is a poignant moment that offers an renewed opportunity to make the case for the King's rehabilitation and to do so with extra vigour.

For King Richard himself, his remains will again be entombed in consecrated ground and finally after more than half a millennium they will receive the honour and dignity appropriate to an anointed English King. For this we must all be grateful.

On behalf of all members, I wish the success of the 'Looking for Richard III' project and thank and commend all involved with the Greyfriars dig and its outcome. History has been made and, surely, King Richard's posthumous career must now enter a new and more promising era.

A king is found

On the morning of Monday 4 February 2013 the University of Leicester held a historic press conference which confirmed that the human remains found on the site of the Greyfriars belong to King Richard III. The news dominated the headlines and social media and raised the profile of the King's remains ever that fateful day in August 1485. University of Leicester researchers revealed a wealth of evidence – including forensic analysis, radiocarbon dating and skeletal examination – proving the identity of the skeleton. Here is a summary of the findings and conclusions.

• DNA from skeleton matches that of two of Richard III's maternal line relatives. Leicester genealogist verifies King's maternal line relatives. Leicester genealogist verifies King's maternal line relatives.

• Radiocarbon dating reveals individual died in the second half of the 15th century or in the early sixteenth century – consistent with Richard's death in 1485.

• Skeleton reveals severe scoliosis – cannot be believed to have occurred at the time of puberty.

• Although around 5 feet 10 inches tall (1.72m), skeleton must King Richard III would have stood significantly shorter and his right shoulder may have been higher than the left.

• Feet were truncated at an unknown point in the past, but a significant time after the burial.

• Corpse was subjected to 'humiliation injuries' – including a sword through the right breast.

• Individual had unusually slender, almost feminine, build for a man – in keeping with contemporary accounts.

• No evidence found for 'wounded arm' – as proposed by Shakespeare.

• Possibility that individual's hands were tied.

• Grave was heavily dug, was not big enough and there was no shroud or coffin.



Below: the face of Richard III. This facial reconstruction from a CT scan of the Greyfriars skull (shown) was created by Professor Caroline Wilkinson and commissioned by the Richard III Society. For the full story, see p. 2.

A message from Philippa Langley

The discovery of King Richard III is nothing short of extraordinary. This historic moment represents the culmination of an extraordinary five-year quest to uncover the real Richard III. Today that dream has been realised. To those around the world who search the Greyfriars dig from distance and speculation, you give us one member whose you said: 'Search for him, find him, honour him. It is now time to fulfil this mandate and hence this much maligned monarch with a ritual that fits a king, and a total re-orientation of his life and times.

Richard Buckley, the lead archaeologist for the Search for Richard III project, said: 'It is the academic consensus of the University of Leicester that the individual interred at Greyfriars on August 2012 is indeed King Richard III, the last Plantagenet King of England.'

University of Leicester genealogist Dr Tim King confirmed that DNA from the skeleton matches that of two of Richard III's closely related descendants – 'Canadian-born farmers' make Michael Thomas and a second person who wishes to remain anonymous.' The DNA (continued on p. 2)

We issued a special edition of the *Bulletin* within days of the 4 February confirmation that King Richard's remains had been found.

continued on maintaining and updating the Richard III Society's website. The decision was taken during 2012 to undertake a comprehensive redesign; whilst the existing site functioned reasonably well it was dated in style and needed improvements, particularly with its navigation. Wendy Moorhen led the project to develop the new site, which became more urgent with the Greyfriars discoveries and the subsequent worldwide interest in King Richard. The brief for the redesign was agreed early in January with the objective of having the first phase of 17 new pages completed in time for the 4 February announcement by the University of Leicester. Expectations were exceeded and we achieved 35 pages by the deadline and in the days following the confirmation that King Richard's remains had been found our website was receiving 1.4 million visits a day. Inevitably the new site had a few hitches, but these were swiftly resolved. By the end of the reporting year good progress was being made on phase two of the redesign.

Facebook: The Richard III Society Facebook page made its debut in 2010 and, given the importance of social networking in communicating information, our presence will expand and we will seek opportunities to promote our work further through it. At the end of the reporting year we were approaching 7,000 visitors who indicated they liked the site. Much activity has been generated by the Greyfriars excavation and the continuing debate over King Richard's final resting place.

R.I.I.I.mailings: In the December 2012 *Bulletin* members were asked to register their interest in receiving news updates via e-mail. Since then c. 1,500 members have joined R.I.I.I.mailings, from all corners of the world. New Society members who provide an e-mail address are now added to R.I.I.I.mailings automatically, and are sent a welcome message

explaining the service. RIII mailings became particularly important when events surrounding the Greyfriars dig began to move at a faster pace, and we needed an extra way of contacting members with breaking news. Weekly e-mails sent so far have focused on notifications about relevant television programmes and Society events.

Comments received from members enjoying this service have been encouraging, and the low level of members 'unsubscribing' implies a broad level of satisfaction with the material we are disseminating and the frequency of e-mails.

Public relations, publicity and the media

King Richard's III story continues to capture headlines and interest but in a manner unthinkable 500 years ago. This past year, with the finding of the remains of Richard III, has proved to have been both an exciting and traumatic one for the Society, especially from the point of view of public relations and the media. Key points to note are:

- We spent a lot of time fielding media requests from all over the world, including radio and TV stations, as well as answering requests from reporters from some of the world's leading newspapers and journals. On-air interviews were conducted with not only the BBC and ITV stations in the UK but from countries as far afield as the USA, Canada, South Africa, Australia and Russia. In conjunction with this activity we also issued 11 press releases in response to the Greyfriars dig and subsequent developments. All of this media attention has helped to raise the profile of the Society immeasurably.
- Knowing exactly how much is a dark art – as well as a costly one – but the initial reports we have received back up the general feeling that the discovery of the bones in Leicester was one of the stories of the year. Of particular interest was the appetite from abroad, particularly the USA, where the story continues to turn heads.

- Initially the queries came in from the media but soon we had many requests from members of the public covering a whole range of subjects. In all we received and answered somewhere in the region of 2,000 e-mails and probably 800 telephone calls.
- In support of these developments we placed major advertorials in *History Today* and the *BBC History Magazine* and also hosted a press conference at the Society of Antiquaries in London for the unveiling of the facial reconstruction of Richard III, at which all UK national newspapers were present. The campaign was shortlisted at the CIPR excellence awards, making the finals from hundreds of entries and was even featured as a case study in *PR Week* – the industry bible.
- Carrying this momentum forward we organised the first post-Greyfriars conference at the University of Leicester in March, which included keynote speakers from the Looking for Richard team and the University of Leicester.
- The Society is continuing to support major medieval events such as Tewkesbury and Bosworth and will, as usual, have a major presence at the latter this year. We are also assisting a group being brought over from the USA to follow a Ricardian Trail being led by Sharon K. Penman, the author of the historical novel *Sunne in Splendour*.
- On the publicity side we have added to our growing range of Ricardian merchandise, including postcards of the facial reconstruction and jute bags which will be able to take laptops. We are also currently working on a range of new items which should be available later in the year.

Ricardian research

The Society's primary purpose is to promote research into the life and times of Richard III and we undertake this through four key areas: *The Ricardian*, research projects, publications and individual members' research. The Greyfriars excavation and its outcome generated much additional work for the Research Committee, with a high volume of enquiries from members, the press and the public. This inevitably impacted on time available to spend on research and related projects. Key projects and activities this year include continuing work on the following:

York Wills project: Work was finalised on the editing and indexing of the wills and arrangements made for their publication in the spring of 2013.

Lesley Boatwright's legacy projects: On her death in September Lesley left unfinished a number of projects she was working on; in addition to the Wills project, these include: the miracles of Henry VI, an itinerary of Richard's life to 1483, a translation of the original Latin version of Polydore Vergil's *History of Richard III*, E404 (Exchequer grants) and the final editing of the Middleham Accounts. It is the intention of the Research Committee to carry on these projects and to see the results published. We will keep members informed of progress with these projects via the Research News section of the *Bulletin*.

The Ricardian Chronicle: see overleaf.

Bursaries: The Society funds three annual bursaries, one

PR CAMPAIGN

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE | THE RICHARD III SOCIETY

RICHARD III'S LEGACY:

Good King Richard?

"He contents the people wherever he goes better than any prince, for many a poor man that has lately suffered wrong has been relieved and helped by him... God has sent him to us for the benefit of us all!"
— JOHN OF THORNHILL (c.1480)

The discovery of a human skeleton under the Greyfriars site in Leicester and the prospect of his being Richard III has captured the headlines. The discovery has raised questions about his reign and his legacy.

The achievements of this short reign of twenty-six months have been overshadowed by historical myths and legends surrounding his death, with some still embedded in our consciousness.

As king of England Richard III is an enigma. He is remembered for his role in the Wars of the Roses, but also for his role in the discovery of the bones of Richard III. He is a man who has captured the imagination of the public and the media.



The information about the work of the Richard III Society and membership details can be found on our website.



MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES

King Richard also developed an early form of legal aid, which provided support for those unable to afford to pay for a lawyer. This was a significant step towards the development of the legal system as we know it today.

Richard's death has sometimes been suggested as a long and painful struggle. However, the accounts of his death, both as king and duke of Gloucester, describe a peaceful and dignified passing. This has led to a re-evaluation of his character and a recognition of his role as a just and fair ruler.

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By the 14th century the common law had become complex and open to the manipulation of lawyers. Richard III's reign was marked by a commitment to legal reform and the establishment of a system of legal aid. This was a significant step towards the development of the legal system as we know it today.

BBC History Magazine advertorial.

RESEARCH IN ACTION – THE RICARDIAN CHRONICLE

This major new project was launched in 2011 and aims to record events and activities in England in a chronological order for the period April 1483 to August 1485. It is a highly participative project, with a focus on local events and records. It is now gathering momentum and so far has 44 participants, who have contributed entries that now number several hundred. There will be regular reports in the *Bulletin* to encourage new participants and to share its findings with members.



administered by the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, one by the Institute of Historical Research (IHR), London and the third by the Society itself. The last is open to members studying for higher degrees. These bursaries provide students with much-needed extra funding when other sources of finance are increasingly limited. The 2012 IHR bursary was awarded to David Yorath, who is registered for a PhD at Bristol University; his subject is 'Henry VII, Ricardianism and the cautious reassertion of the crown in northern England 1485–1497.' There were no successful applications for the remaining two bursaries. During the reporting year Tig Lang continued in the role of Bursary Officer, with responsibility for the promotion of the bursaries and the management of the application process.

The Research Weekend 2013: This was due to be held from 12 to 14 April in York at the Elmbank Hotel, with the theme 'Richard III: his friends and foes in the north'. Arrangements for this event were finalised during the reporting year.

Triennial Conference 2012: The eleventh conference took place from 20 to 22 April in Loughborough, with the theme 'Bosworth and Warfare: new finds, new discoveries', the focus was on the discovery of the new site of Bosworth, the Towton war graves, and new thinking about battle records, armour and weapons.

Leeds International Medieval Congress 2012: The Society was again present at this prestigious event with its own bookstall as part of the event's book fair. The congress attracts 1,500 academics from around 70 universities worldwide.

Palaeography course: 17 members enrolled on the course during the year. Reasons for enrolling vary widely, from a desire to contribute to the Ricardian Chronicle project, through living in an old house with ancient deeds to be read, to something to do during retirement. When students return their work, most comment that although not easy, the work gives a sense of achievement.

The Barton Library

When Dr S. Saxon Barton, the founder of the Society, died in 1957, he left his collection of Ricardian books to the recently refounded Society, and these 21 volumes formed the

nucleus of the collection later to become known as the Barton Library in his memory.

During the reporting year 85 new items were added to the collections of books, papers and audiovisual material that are available for members to borrow, many of the books by donation from generous members. One hundred and four items were borrowed: 33 non-fiction books, 3 novels, 42 papers and 26 tapes. In



Dr S. Saxon Barton

addition to advising members on their choice of reading material the Library team also looked up information, and supplied photocopies. Work has started on updating the catalogues of all sections of the Library, and the revised lists will be appearing on the Society's new website.

The Library Team raised £356 towards Library funds by selling duplicate library books and donations of books from members – this more than covers the cost of running the Library and buying new items for stock.

Branches and Groups

At the end of the reporting year there were a total of 20 branches and 13 groups; the majority are active, with regular programmes of events. Many, though not all, branches and groups publish newsletters or journals, copies of which are held in the Society's 'papers' library. Most groups are located in England, and of the branches, four are in Australia, one in Canada, 11 in England, one in New Zealand, one in Scotland, and one in the United States of America. The Branch and Group Liaison Officer, Jacqui Emerson, took up her role during the reporting year, taking over from Angela Moreton and Pauline Pogmore, whom we thank for all their hard work. The Liaison Officer provides an important link between the branches and groups themselves and collectively with the wider Society, and issues a regular newsletter, *The Ricardian Recorder*.

Some branches hold their own study and lecture days, particularly the Leicester, Norfolk, and Yorkshire branches. The Canadian and US branches held a successful conference and joint AGM in Toronto at the end of September 2012.

Richard III & Yorkist History Trust

The Richard III & Yorkist History Trust is a charitable trust established by the Richard III Society in 1986 to further education and research related to the history of late-fifteenth-century England and to encourage the publication of such research. It took over most of the Society's academic publishing activities but retains close links with its parent body, which appoints the majority of its nine trustees. The principal duties of these Trustees are to commission and see through the press new publications, and assess applications from scholars and publishers for financial assistance towards

their research and the expenses of publication.

The Trust celebrated its 26th anniversary during the reporting year and since 1986 has published 13 books, the latest being *The Herald's' Memoir 1486–1490: court ceremonial, royal progress and rebellion*, edited by Emma Cavell. In 2013 the Trust made a large grant towards the publication of the latest volume of the Harlaxton Medieval Studies series, volume XXIII, *The Yorkist Age*, edited by Hannes Kleineke and Christian Steer.

The Trust match-funds the Society's bursaries to York University and the Institute of Historical Research and is considering plans for a Richard III Historical Research Prize for an author's first published article in a refereed journal. This will also be match-funded by the Society.

In the current Trust year plans have been made for a series of research monographs. This series will provide an opportunity for the publication of recently completed doctoral theses on topics related to late medieval English history.

Ricardian heritage

There are a number of associated organisations that reflect the Society's links during the reporting year with places of Ricardian interest:

Ricardian Churches Restoration Fund: A full list of the fund's donations can be found on the Society's website. The current RCRF trustees are Elizabeth Nokes and Phil Stone.

Friends of Fotheringhay: Phil Stone, the Fotheringhay co-ordinator, is a member of the Friends' committee, and over the years the Society has made many gifts, both practical and financial, to the church.

Barley Hall: The York Archaeological Trust (YAT), who own the Hall, have day-to-day management of the building. Society officers Lynda Pidgeon and Carolyn and Peter

THE STILLINGFLEET BOAR BADGE

In 2012 the Richard III Society donated £2000 to the Yorkshire Museum towards the cost of the conservation, cleaning and display of the Stillingfleet Boar badge, found near Stillingfleet, Yorkshire in 2010. The badge is silver-gilt and resembles one found at Bosworth. Stillingfleet manor passed to Francis, Lord Lovell in 1474 after the death of his grandmother Alice Deincourt, wife of William, Lord Lovell.



Hammond are part of an advisory committee to the YAT on the Hall. Individual support for Barley Hall can also be achieved through membership of the Friends of the York Archaeological Trust.

Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre: The Society has continued to contribute to the recent redevelopments at the centre, including the Bosworth Portal. We remain in close contact through the Joint Secretaries, who act as our liaison point with the centre's management and ensure that the centre is regularly supplied with Society brochures and publications.

Visits

The first excursion during the reporting year was in May 2012 to Stratford upon Avon, and then on to the lovely manor of Baddesley Clinton. This was the last trip enjoyed by the late Lesley Boatwright, a visits stalwart of many years' standing. In July there was a trip to Northamptonshire to visit Rothwell and the family-owned Southwick Hall, a charming mishmash of several centuries' alterations and additions. August was busy, with the annual visit to the Bosworth battlefield. The following weekend there was a short visit to Bruges to see 'The Pageant of the Golden Tree', which celebrates Margaret of York's marriage to Charles the Bold. Bruges is always a pleasure to visit and the good weather during the procession helped make this a memorable occasion. Following October's AGM in York, we had a full coach for a visit to Jervaulx Abbey and Middleham. Rounding off the year, as usual, was the Fotheringhay Carol Service, well attended and everyone in good voice. Numbers on the year's trips were very encouraging, so please keep supporting the Visits team. The team works hard to organise visits to places of interest and they welcome new participants as well as longer-standing ones. For those new to the Society these visits are a very good way to meet other members and to have a rewarding and enjoyable day out or longer.

Sales

The Society's sales function continues to be delivered by a small team of able and willing volunteers, led by the Sales Liaison Officer, Sally Empson. Other members of the team include Helen Ashburn, Heather Falvey, Keith Horry and Judith Ridley. We lost Anne Macmillan as a stockholder in April 2012, with her move to Greece. Sally wrote more about the team's work in a feature in the December 2012 *Bulletin*.

The Executive Committee remains very grateful to all team members for their willingness to give their time and work freely for the good of the Society. The Joint Secretaries, Sue and Dave Wells, are themselves key members of the team: acting as major stockholders and leading face-to-face sales.

Total gross sales for the reporting year were £11,318.90: this is more than double the figure for the previous year. We made 28% of our sales by value in a single day with our stall at the Society's Leicester Conference on 2 March. The Society's jute messenger bag and a postcard of the facial reconstruction of Richard III were two new items of stock launched at that event.

The future

With the heightened interest in King Richard III following the Greyfriars excavation, we will seek to take advantage of the many new opportunities offered to us to promote our work. We will also continue to ensure that our finances remain sound and our members receive value for money in terms of the publications, information and services we provide for them. Key objectives for the coming year are:

- To work co-operatively with Leicester Cathedral (or wherever else is chosen) over the plans for the reinterment of King Richard's remains, and to ensure that these plans reflect the king's royal status and importance in English history.
- To seek a proper memorial for King Richard in York, to reflect both the king's close connections with the city and its own high regard for him.
- To work constructively with the Mayor's Office and Leicester City Council over the development of the Richard III visitor centre, to ensure a balanced portrayal of Richard III and acknowledgement of the work of the Richard III Society.
- To continue to take advantage of media and other opportunities that offer the chance to make the case for a reassessment of King Richard's life and reputation.

- To maintain the Society's commitment to evidence-based historical research and to develop our research programme and encourage further projects, such as the Ricardian Chronicle, that allows wide participation by members.
- To continue supporting the Richard III & Yorkist History Trust's ongoing programme of publications, and to support the Research Committee's commitment to complete and publish the various unfinished projects of the late Lesley Boatwright.
- To continue to improve our services to members by maintaining and improving the quality of our website and the *Ricardian Bulletin*, and sourcing new sales merchandise.

Future events include the following:

- The 2014 Research Weekend will take place from 12 to 14 April at the Park Inn Hotel in York.
- The 2015 Triennial will take place at Burleigh Court in Loughborough from 17 to 19 April.
- The next two AGMs will be held as follows: 2013 in London, and 2014 in Norwich.

The Richard III Society was founded nearly 90 years ago and we have many achievements to be proud of, particularly our considerable contribution to fifteenth-century research and scholarship. We will continue to work hard in the years ahead to ensure this continues and to encourage a reassessment of the life and character of King Richard III.



Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2013

The interest in the Leicester dig and the finding of Richard's remains prompted increases in subscription income and sales. Unsurprisingly this was also an excellent opportunity to spend productively some of our accumulated funds and as a result marketing and website costs are markedly higher and spending on the *Bulletin* much increased. In addition there have been many associated costs which have been put together in the Looking for Richard project.

If you find the 'overdrawing' at the bank and the working deficit alarming, please consider that the apparent overdrawing was down to a flurry of activity at the end of the month and in fact the cash at bank on 31.03.13 was £5,448.27 – it rarely goes below £2,000. The working deficit was indeed an excess of expenditure over income, but the Society's accumulated funds are for just that sort of thing – to spend when we need and want – and we still have a very healthy balance.

Paul Foss (Treasurer)

The accounts are printed on p. 8

RICHARD III SOCIETY
Accounts for year ending
31 March 2013

	2012-13	2011-12	No 2 Account – Visits & Funds	
	£	£	£	
Income			Funds	
Subscriptions	58,652.37	57,500.00	Palæography course	783.39
Subscriptions in advance	8,772.13	210.00	RCRF	1,888.52
Sales less cost of sales	10,835.11	4,244.00	Visits	
Donations	2,892.65	7,824.00	Bosworth	100.00
Bank Interest	62.03	50.00	Fotheringhay	100.00
Royalties	26.21	47.00	Study w/e	1,579.72
Advertisements		290.00	Newcastle	4,502.66
Accumulated surplus N°2 account			Leicester	5,006.87
	81,240.50	70,165.00	Whitechapel	-300.00
			£	13,661.16
Expenditure				
Marketing			Accumulated Fund	
<i>general</i>	6,641.41	1,755.00	£	£
<i>website</i>	13,843.46	1,456.00	Cash at Bank	
Ricardian & Bulletin			Main Account	-128.78
<i>print</i>	15,752.10	11,395.00	Deposit (BMM) A/c	113,500.00
<i>distribution</i>	8,077.83	7,121.00		113,371.22
Administration			Creditors	-80.00
<i>committee</i>	5,311.25	2,585.00	Net liquid assets	113,291.22
<i>membership</i>	12,795.96	6,719.00	Other assets	
Treasurer's expenses	574.40	428.00	Library	17,000.00
Accountancy	80.00	75.00	Stock	2,965.00
Donations & Bursaries	1,100.00	2,164.00	Prepayments	1,358.44
Library	207.68	50.00		21,323.44
Bank & Card charges	388.90	956.00		134,614.66
Purchases	4,870.15	5,304.00		
AGM costs	1,462.14	2,245.00		
Prepayments	1,358.44			
Looking for Richard	14,725.44			
Deficit to accumulated fund	-5,948.66	27,912.00		
	81,240.50	70,165.00		
Summary				
B/fwd	11,819.88	81,908.00		
Income	81,240.50	70,165.00		
Expenditure	-87,189.16	-42,254.00		
Transfer from BMM a/c	-6,000.00			
Cash at Bank	-128.78	109,819.00		