

The Richard III Society

Promoting research into the life and times of Richard III since 1924

Patron: HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO, Founder S Saxon Barton



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 23 MARCH 2015

RICHARD III HAS BEEN FOUND BUT THE SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE WILL CONTINUE

- The discovery of King Richard's remains has inspired new interest in the controversies surrounding his life and reign
- Richard III Society has been seeking an evidence-based re-assessment of the king for over ninety years
- The Society is funding the *Inquisitions Post Mortem* project managed by the University of Winchester
- The Society is supporting a new transcription and translation of Polydore Vergil's history

The discovery of King Richard III's remains in Leicester has provided significant new evidence relating to the controversies surrounding this monarch. We now know Richard had scoliosis but the level of his condition was of a type which did not deter from his prowess as a soldier, confirmed by the contemporary accounts of his capability and success on the battlefield at Tewkesbury, Barnet and various other combats on behalf of the House of York. The discovery of the King's remains has inspired new interest in the controversies surrounding his life and character but, despite the new evidence, there remain gaps in our knowledge and understanding of his life and times which only further research into surviving records can bridge.

The Richard III Society, chaired by Dr Phil Stone, continues to promote research into this enigmatic King and his times. With an impressive track record since its founding in 1924, the Society has researched, through a network of members who are both eminently qualified historians and enthusiastic amateurs, primary source material which it has presented in published form. The first of such was the *British Library Harleian 433*, a record of Richard III's grants and letters which is an essential source for his reign. In 1985 the Society established *The Richard III and Yorkist History Trust*, a charitable body which provides support for the preparation and publication of source material.

The Richard III Society make bursaries available to post-graduate students undertaking relevant studies and hold their own conferences and study weekends to bring together members and the wider 15th Century academic community. The Society is currently helping to fund a project, managed by the University of Winchester, to transcribe and publish the *Inquisitions Post-Mortem* of Richard's reign to throw more light on individuals, their connections and much more. The Society is also providing support to a well-known historian to undertake research in French archives focussing on the period when Henry Tudor was in exile there. A third project currently being supported is the transcription and translation of the original Latin version of Polydore Vergil's *History of Richard III* found in the Vatican archive.

The Richard III Society remains committed to encouraging evidence-based research and, in this week of the King's re-burial, it is timely to focus on the continuing need to secure a meaningful reassessment of his life and reputation. A reputation buried for centuries under layers of propaganda and misplaced tradition.

-ENDS-

About the Richard III Society

With a worldwide membership and local branches the Society is actively engaged in original research through its own initiatives and through collaboration with other institutions bodies and scholars. Through the Richard III and Yorkist History Trust, a charitable body established by the Society, we publish important academic works and make research grants.

The Society publishes an annual journal, *The Ricardian*, with original articles on fifteenth century history and a quarterly members' magazine the *Ricardian Bulletin*.

Visit www.richardiii.net

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The reinterment of King Richard III – with dignity, honour and solemnity