

The Journal of the Richard III Society of Canada

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## Notes from the Chair

After a relatively quiet summer, the past few weeks have been a whirlwind as we've prepared for the launch of the new Ricardian year.

Our membership renewal deadline of October 2nd is past, and we will send the members' roster and payment off to the UK very shortly. The parent Society Annual General Meeting and Members' Day in York, UK and our own virtual Canadian Branch AGM are behind us. There was lots of interesting news announced at both these events, and I urge you to read the minutes of our Branch AGM in this issue of the *RIII*. Thank you to all of you who took the time to attend these meetings, contributing your thoughts and lending your support to the successful operation of our Society.

We have **Ray Rawlings** to thank for expanding our boundaries at our September meeting, when he looked at *Other Unjustly Maligned Dudes and maybe a Dudette*. We learned that Richard III is not the only historical figure to have suffered "bad press" over the centuries. Ray introduced us to a selection of individuals who have been denigrated for years — even centuries — by commentators, but who, in recent years, have experienced the rehabilitation of their reputations through modern research. His list included Emperor Nero, Mohammad Mossadegh, Queen Marie Antoinette, Mary Magdalene, and President Richard Nixon, to name just a very few.

I encourage members across the country to attend our Branch meetings via the Zoom meeting platform. You can connect using the link we send you in the meeting invitation. Check this issue of the *RIII* for the upcoming meeting schedule. Meeting notifications are emailed to members two weeks before the meeting date, with the web link sent closer to the actual meeting date. We would love to see you!

Speaking of members, we are delighted to welcome new members **Marion Livingston** and **Lorrie Naylor** from Ontario and our *first* overseas Affiliate Member, **Carole Hughes** from Lancashire, UK. I do hope you join us at an upcoming Zoom meeting, so we can get to know you better. As we go to press, I've learned that **Jane Buyers** and **Don Druick**, also from Ontario, have joined our ranks. Jane is the daughter of Canadian Branch founders Bill and Anne Buyers, whose efforts in 1966 to gather Ricardians together, created what we have today.

Lastly, I wish to recognize and thank those members who have included donations to the Branch with their membership renewals. Our Branch is not a registered charity and cannot issue tax receipts, so your unexpected generosity is deeply appreciated. We recognize the responsibility you've given your

Executive Committee to put these resources to good use in supporting the Branch and the Society and promoting the cause of King Richard III.

Vivat Rex Ricardus!

— *Tracy*

## **From the Editor**

This is a very full newsletter and we have more for the next issue. As always, we welcome your contributions.

*Christine Hurlbut,*  
*Editor*

## **Membership inquiries**

Please contact Sheilah O'Connor at [membership@richardIII.ca](mailto:membership@richardIII.ca).

## **The Canadian Branch on Twitter**

— **Sheilah O'Connor, Communications Officer**

Interested in what 15<sup>th</sup> C historians are up to? Enjoy beautiful manuscripts? Want to get the latest on Richard III? Join the British Museum, Leicester Cathedral, and Ricardians around the world in following our Twitter feed ([www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)). We tweet pictures of Ricardian places in the UK, alert readers to upcoming talks and conferences, and share other items of interest as they arise.

We follow hundreds of people and are followed by well over a thousand. You can find us **@RichardIIICA**.



## **The Transformation of Witchcraft in the 15th Century, Part 1**

— **James Pratt, East York, Ontario**

*Due to the length of this paper, Part 2 will appear in the next issue. —Ed.*

Most Ricardians are familiar with the incident in Act III, scene iv of Shakespeare's *Richard III*, where the pointless John Morton, Bishop of Ely is sent on an equally pointless errand for some strawberries, while Gloucester and Buckingham withdraw to confer regarding what to do about Hastings.

When they return, Gloucester strikes at Hastings like a coiled serpent in the following exchange:

GLOUCESTER

I pray you all, tell me what they deserve  
That do conspire my death with devilish plots  
Of damned witchcraft, and that have prevail'd  
Upon my body with their hellish charms?

HASTINGS

The tender love I bear your Grace, my lord,  
Makes me most forward in this princely presence,  
To doom th'offenders, whatso'er they be:  
I say, my lord, they have deserved death.

GLOUCESTER

Then be your eyes the witness of their evil.  
See how I am bewitch'd! Behold, mine arm  
Is like a blasted sapling wither'd up!  
And this is Edward's wife, that monstrous witch,  
Consorted with that harlot, strumpet Shore,  
That by their witchcraft thus have marked me.

HASTINGS

If they have done this deed, my noble lord—

GLOUCESTER

If? Thou protector of this damned strumpet,  
Tellest thou me of ifs? Thou art a traitor:  
Off with his head! Now by Saint Paul I swear  
I will not dine until I see the same.  
Lovell and Ratcliffe, look that it be done;  
The rest that love me, rise and follow me.

From the modern reader's standpoint, the scene is perhaps not very effective. Since most of us (I hope) no longer believe in sorcery, the accusation seems clumsier, more trumped up than it might have to Shakespeare's audience, most of whom probably lived in a mental universe suffused with supernatural powers that could be subjected to manipulation, whether for good or evil ends, by those adept in certain arts.

Magic and magical thinking were inseparably entwined with just about every field of knowledge that passed for science in the medieval and early modern periods. Medicine as taught in the schools relied heavily on magical beliefs; so did theology (indeed, what is theology but superstition on stilts?). Even in law, though falling into disuse by Shakespeare's time, there still lingered procedures that were essentially magical in nature, such as trial by combat, by wager of law, and by ordeal. And of course, climbing down from the ivory towers, every

village had its adepts who were skilled in the manipulation of supernatural forces to effect various folk remedies, whether they be wise women or apothecaries.

In such an environment, imbued from top to bottom with magical thinking, where almost everybody was implicated in “witchcraft” in a very broad sense, the question we should ask is not “why did people see witchcraft everywhere?” but rather, “how did witchcraft become a threat requiring extreme measures by Church and state to eradicate it?” This paper will examine how the concept of witchcraft underwent this transformation over the course of the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Witchcraft and the Law: Treason or Heresy?**

Let us begin by examining the uncertain legal status of witchcraft in England as it stood up until the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>1</sup> In England, the law as it related to witchcraft was mainly tucked away in two areas of the criminal law: the law of treason (and petit treason) and the law of heresy.

#### **Treason**

The core of English treason law was the statute 25 E.3 c.2. Among the acts constituting treason, there was “compassing or imagining” the death of the King, his wife, or his eldest son. “Compassing or imagining” sounds vague, rather like thoughtcrime. Fortunately, as interpreted by the judges, compassing or imagining was not merely an inward mental event; it had to be manifested in some outward act. But since any other direct acts tending towards the death of the King are already covered by other clauses of the statute, some other kind of action must be meant here, one that might not tend towards the death of the King in and of itself, but does manifest that evil animus. This is precisely what Shakespeare’s Richard accuses Hastings of.

The story came from More and from Hall’s *Chronicle* (1548), and the latter makes clear that none of the witnesses actually believed that Hastings’ witchcraft withered Richard’s arm, for “there was no manne there but knewe that hys arme was euer such sith the day of his birth.”<sup>2</sup> However, by the statute, the act that stemmed from treasonable “compassing or imagining” need not have had any efficacy; just the mere *attempt* to conjure spirits for the purpose, if witnessed, would have constituted treason.<sup>3</sup> It was not so much the

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<sup>1</sup> The following information on the legal status of witchcraft in England mostly comes from Sir Edward Coke, *The Third Part of the Institutes of the Laws of England* (1644); and Sir Matthew Hale, *The History of the Pleas of the Crown* (1736). Hereafter referred to as *III Inst.* and *P.C.* respectively.

<sup>2</sup> Hall’s *Chronicle* (London: J. Johnson *et al.*, 1809), p. 360.

<sup>3</sup> Of course, the law also required a trial by Hasting’s peers, which he does not get in the play. Robert Fabyan’s 1516 relation of this incident, which pre-dates both More’s and Hall’s accounts, reiterates the summary nature of

use of magic, but the purpose to which the magic was put, that constituted this crime.

Again, magic of one kind or another was widely believed in, and there were many common magical practices that were not considered illicit. The *Compendium Maleficarum* (1608) for example, attempted to distinguish legitimate magic from witchcraft. There was *natural* magic, which involved skill in observing and interpreting natural phenomena, and there was *artificial* magic, which involved actively harnessing and using natural forces for human ends. The *Compendium's* description of natural and artificial magic is a bit vague and fanciful, but at its core is the idea that the legitimate magician was a sort of proto-scientist.<sup>4</sup>

Just about everybody believed in the power of planets to influence human affairs, and so the practice of judicial astrology was not criminal; indeed it was viewed as a sort of science. But if one were to get an astrologer to cast the King's horoscope in order to find out when he would die, this fell under "compassing or imagining" the King's death and constituted treason, even though such forecasting was not intended to *bring about* the King's death. It manifested a certain criminal hostility towards the King. And if he furthermore *summoned demons* to help him, that constituted treasonable witchcraft. Using demons or the Devil to aid in performing magical acts for evil ends was at the core of the notion of sorcery. At law, according to Chief Justice Edward Coke's definition, a "witch is a person that hath conference with the devil, to consult with him or to do some act." <sup>5</sup>

Petit treason is similar to high treason, except that it involved not the killing of the King, but of some other person towards whom one was in a relationship of duty and subordination: wife to husband, child to parent, servant to master, cleric to superior. Thus, petit treason often occurred in a domestic context. And it often involved poison. Poisoning, both in Roman and common law, was a crime viewed with particular horror for three main reasons. First, it was a secret crime, usually done by those whom one trusted and lived with in some intimacy, such as spouses or servants. Its victims were therefore particularly vulnerable, and its secret nature made it *murder* rather than just generic homicide or manslaughter. Second, it was — or at least was viewed as — a *gendered* crime, a method of killing mostly resorted to by women. A female murderer was seen as something particularly unnatural. Third, to the pre-

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the execution, done "without iugement, or longe tyme of confession or repentaunce." However, it makes no mention of witchcraft. See Fabian's *Chronicles* (London: F. C. and J. Rivington *et al.*, 1811), p. 668.

<sup>4</sup> Francesco Maria Guazzo, *Compendium Maleficarum* (New York: Dover Publications, 1988), Bk. I, ch. 2, p. 3ff.

<sup>5</sup> Coke, III *Inst.* ch. 6, p. 43.

scientific mind, the knowledge required in the mixing of poisons, in the manipulation of chemical cause and effect, was classed as natural magic. And insofar as it was applied to the purpose of murder, it was *evil* magic. All three of these elements – secrecy, femininity, and evil magic – would end up being core elements at the heart of the witchcraft paranoia. Reginald Scot, in his *Discoverie of Witchcraft* (1584), noted that “sometimes a murtherer with poison is called a witch.”<sup>6</sup> And as for witchcraft being increasingly seen as a feminine crime, consider the following: In a 1568 slander case, the justices held that a man can sue for being called a “conjurer” or a “witch,” because such words could only be taken as an insult.<sup>7</sup> And yet, in 1580, in another slander case, the Chief Justice of the Queen’s Bench held that calling a *woman* a witch was not slander, “for it is common speech among men to call old women witches.”<sup>8</sup>

## Heresy

It might seem remarkable that in England the first statute specifically targeting witchcraft was not passed until 33 H.8.<sup>9</sup> However, there had long been a royal writ on the books called *de hæretico comburendo* (“of the burning of heretics”) authorizing the execution of those found guilty of heresy. As the name of the writ implies, the punishment for the felony of heresy was burning at the stake. The distinctiveness of the penalty, and the fact that there were cases of witches who had suffered it, led James I’s Chief Justice, Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634) to deduce that witchcraft was simply a form of the felony of heresy.<sup>10</sup> A generation later, Chief Justice Sir Matthew Hale (1609-1676) was of the same opinion, classifying witchcraft and sorcery as heresy.<sup>11</sup> (As a judge, Hale had himself presided over a famous witch trial at Bury St Edmunds in 1662).

Although witchcraft fell under heresy and was technically punishable by burning, in practice, before 1400 prosecution in the secular courts was rare and the ultimate punishment of burning was even more so. According to Hale, “I find very rarely death inflicted [for heresy]; before the reign of *Richard II*. The usual penalty was confiscation, and seizure of goods.” He also notes the difficulty of prosecuting witches: witchcraft or “fascination” is not a felony

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<sup>6</sup> Reginald Scot, *The Discoverie of Witchcraft* (New York: Dover Publications, 1972), Bk. 5, ch. 9, p. 62.

<sup>7</sup> Sir John Baker (ed.), *Sources of English Legal History: Private Law to 1750 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), p. 704: “An action on the case lies for calling the plaintiff ‘conjurer’ generally, so it seems. Likewise for calling him a witch... for it cannot be understood *in bonam partem*, prima facie.”

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 699-700: “The facts were that the defendant said to the plaintiff that she was a witch.... WRAY C.J. and GAWDY J. that these words would not maintain an action, for it is common speech among men to call old women witches.”

<sup>9</sup> And it was repealed 1 E.6.

<sup>10</sup> Coke, III *Inst.* ch. 6, p. 44.

<sup>11</sup> Hale, *P.C.* Vol. I, ch 30, p. 383.

“because no external act of violence was offerd, whereof the common law can take notice, and secret things belong to God.”<sup>12</sup> Killing by means of witchcraft could not be prosecuted as homicide, for lack of evidence of a physical act that could have caused the death. However, the witch could be charged with heresy, insofar as they were witnessed to be summoning demons.

To illustrate the difficulty of prosecuting witchcraft in the common law courts pre-1400, Coke cites the case of a man taken in Southwark on a charge of sorcery. The case is undated, but the presiding judge being John Knyvett places it later in the reign of Edward III. The man was taken

with a head and a face of a dead man, and a book of sorcery in his male [satchell], and was brought before Sir John Knevett then chief justice: but seeing no indictment was against him, the clerks did swear him that from thenceforth he should not be a sorcerer, and was delivered out of prison, and the head of the dead man and the book of sorcery were burnt at Tuthill at the cost of the prisoner. So as the head and his book of sorcery had the same punishment, that the sorcerer should have had by the ancient law, if he had by his sorcery praied in aid of the devil.<sup>13</sup>

In other words, although the authorities rightly saw his possession of a dead man’s head and a book of sorcery as suspicious, they had no choice but to set him free, since there was no formal indictment, in that no one had come forward to formally accuse him of either witchcraft or murder. In addition, there was no one who witnessed any kind of incantation or conjuration of evil spirits, which was a formal requirement of witchcraft-as-heresy, nor did anyone see an act of violence against the now-headless dead man that could constitute homicide. Still, one wonders what he planned to do with that head.

One further obstacle that lay in the way of successfully prosecuting witchcraft-as-heresy in the common law courts was that the accused could often escape a heresy conviction by pleading error. By pleading error and relinquishing the faulty belief, the accused might thereby demonstrate his lack of guilty intent or *mens rea*, which was a requirement for criminal conviction.

So much for the status of witchcraft in English common law courts before 1400. Witchcraft *could* be prosecuted – again, as heresy – in the ecclesiastical courts, and there conviction was more common (in part because of the procedure in those courts — more on this later). However, in England at least, the ecclesiastical courts had no power to execute any punishment beyond the usual spiritual ones, penance, excommunication, or degradation in the case of

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<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.* p. 394 and ch. 33, p. 429.

<sup>13</sup> Coke, *op. cit.* p. 44. The “ancient law” Coke refers to would have been Exodus 22:18: “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.”

clerics. Punishment could be avoided by abjuration of the heretical belief in question and was typically only imposed in cases of contumacy (persisting in the belief and refusing to abjure) or relapse (abjuring and then subsequently relapsing into heresy).

Where the Church authorities wished to impose a corporal penalty, such as burning at the stake, they would have to send a certificate to the King and his council verifying that the accused had been convicted of heresy, and requesting that the writ of *de hæretico comburendo* be issued, directing the secular authorities to execute the punishment. However, *de hæretico comburendo* was not a “writ of course” — it was not issued automatically upon application. In practice, the King and council were reluctant to issue the writ, particularly where it seemed that the charge was without merit or the trial and conviction lacked justice.

This apprehension concerning the justice of causes tried in the ecclesiastical courts was prudent and had to do with fundamental differences in procedure between canon law and common law.<sup>14</sup> In the English common law courts, procedure was *adversarial*. The judge was a neutral referee between two opposed parties; he was not to intervene except to pronounce on points of law where necessary. He was not supposed to involve himself in finding out matters of fact — that was the job of juries. Aside from refereeing, he would instruct the jury (“If you find facts X and Y to be the case, then you are to find the accused guilty of Z”), he would announce the verdict, and he would declare the sentence, if applicable.

By contrast, procedure in legal systems based on Roman law, such as the ecclesiastical courts, was *inquisitorial*. There were no juries. Judges could intervene in a trial, interrogating parties and witnesses, searching out matters of fact as well as law. Indeed, in many cases, the judge might also be the prosecutor who brought the case before the court in the first place. One can see how this inquisitorial concentration of powers in a judge could be prone to abuse. Also, Roman procedure countenanced the use of torture to extract evidence — though in England this was not the case, at least in theory.<sup>15</sup> It was

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<sup>14</sup> On this point, see Christopher S Mackay, “General Introduction,” in Mackay (ed. and trans.), *Malleus Maleficarum* (2 vols.) (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), p. 67ff.

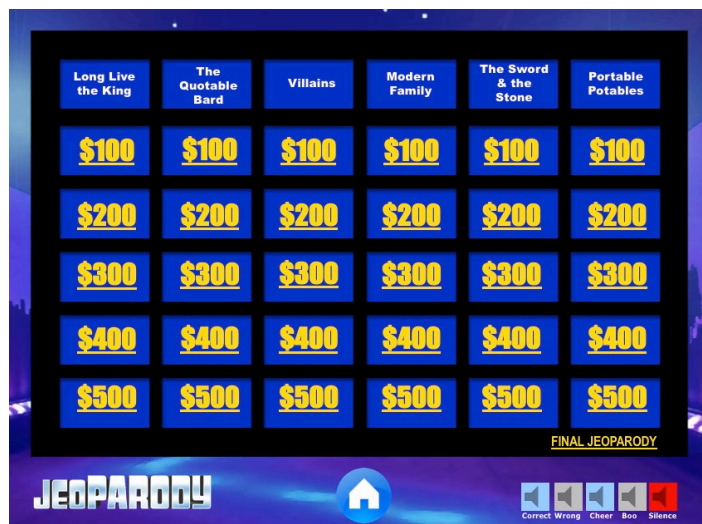
<sup>15</sup> But see David Jardine, *On the Use of Torture in the Criminal Law of England Previously to the Commonwealth* (London: Baldwin and Cradock, 1837). Jardine explores the curious fact that although the common law did not officially countenance torture, in practice it was not uncommon, especially under the Tudors and Stuarts. For a contemporary view of the superiority of English law with regard to torture, there is the testimony of Chief Justice Sir John Fortescue (c. 1394-1479), *A Learned Commendation of the Politique Lawes of England* (London: Richard Tottel, 1567), ch. 22, fo. 46ff. See also, Sir Thomas Smith (1513-1577), *De Republica Anglorum. The maner of Governement or policie of the Realme of England* (London: Henrie Midleton, 1583), Bk. II, ch 24, pp. 85-86.

fortunate for the Southwark sorcerer that Justice Knyvett had no such powers. If his case had come up after 1401, the outcome might have been different, for in that year, the system just described underwent a fundamental change, and law became entangled with theology.

— To be continued —

## Ricardian Jeopardy

— by Catya Hynard, Toronto, Ontario



On Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at what would have been our traditional Founders' Day picnic, RIII Society members got together over Zoom for a friendly (yet competitive) game of Jeopardy – or “Jeopardy” as the slide deck referred to it.

The game was open to all: a member of the ‘audience’ was asked to select a category, and the category questions were revealed from \$100 to \$500.

Everyone kept track of their responses and ‘winnings’ on the honour system. Answers were shared after the ‘timer’ had run down.

If you were unable to attend the call and would now like to play, you’ll find the questions to each of the six categories, as well as the Final Jeopardy question, below. Answers will appear on a following page. Good luck!

### The Questions

#### Long Live the King

100:	The documentary ‘Looking for Richard’ was the directorial debut of this Oscar winning actor.
200:	In 1962, Vincent Price played Richard III in this Roger Corman film.
300:	This knighted British actor who infamously appeared in the movie ‘Caligula’ also played The Duke of Clarence in Laurence Olivier’s 1955 Richard III.
400:	In this year, Josephine Tey’s ‘Daughter of Time’ was voted #1 in the top 100 crime novels of all time by the British Crimewriters’ Association.
500:	Richard III appears as a character in this play, attributed to Thomas Heywood, a contemporary of Shakespeare’s.

**The Quotable Bard (*From the Shakespearean quote, name the Plantagenet King who spoke*)**

100:	"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers."
200:	"Is Clarence dead? The order was reversed."
300:	"So wise so young, they say, do never live long."
400:	"He was but as the cuckoo is in June, Heard, not regarded."
500:	"Believe me, lords, my tender years can tell Civil dissension is a viperous worm that gnaws the bowels of the commonwealth."

**Villains (*Remembering that one person's villain may be another's hero*)**

100:	This villain, who turned against Richard III in 1485, was later convicted of treason and executed for his support of the pretender Perkin Warbeck.
200:	This villain ordered the execution of the Duke of Clarence's daughter.
300:	This villain, executed for treason in 1483, was married to Catherine Woodville.
400:	This villainous mother shares a name with the mother of Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham.
500:	This villain was said to have inspired Confederate anti-Lincoln propaganda with his story of Richard III.

**Modern Family**

100:	The House of Plantagenet originated from this province in France.
200:	To locate an appropriate mitochondrial DNA match to Richard III, John Ashdown-Hill traced an all-female line of descent from this sister of Richard.
300:	This is the maiden name of Mrs. Joy Ibsen.
400:	This acknowledged illegitimate son of Richard III, John of Gloucester, was also known by this moniker.
500:	This daughter of the Duke of York underwent surgery to correct scoliosis at the age of 12.

**The Sword & the Stone (*Battles and Castles*)**

100:	Richard III was born in Fotheringay Castle which is located in this English county.
200:	Perched on a narrow sandstone ridge, this is the last castle Richard stayed in.
300:	The Battle of Bosworth Field took place on this day of the week (22 August, 1485).
400:	On Sept 11th & 12th of this year, 2021, a medieval festival will be taking place to commemorate this April 1471 battle.
500:	A newsletter circulated the week after the Battle of Towton reported that this many people died on the battlefield (to the nearest thousand).

### Portable Potables

100:	During the Middle Ages, water was often unsafe to drink. This was the most common alternative.
200:	Food for nobles was often served on trenchers, plates made from this
300:	Isotope analysis on the remains of King Richard III revealed he drank up to how much wine a day in the last years of his life?
400:	This 16th century public house, located in Market Bosworth, was named after Henry Tudor.
500:	Huntsman cheese, also known as Stilchester, is made with alternating layers of Stilton and this other cheese.

### Final Jeopardy

**Question:** The Richard III Society was founded in 1924 as The Fellowship of the White Boar by Samuel Saxon Barton, who did *this* for a living.



### Winning entry in the 2021 Original Art Contest

— by Catya Hynard, Toronto, Ontario

As announced at our Annual General Meeting on October 2, our Original Art Contest winner is Casey Glasgow, a 3rd-year student in Aerospace Engineering at Concordia University in Montréal and niece to A.J. Hunter, a member of The Canadian Branch of the Richard III Society, who lives in Vancouver. Congratulations to Casey and A.J.! It's very exciting to share Casey's inspired drawing amongst this autumn's Ricardian memorabilia offerings.

### About the Artist

Ms. Glasgow is part of Space Concordia, and has been in the rocketry division since 2018; she is now changing to their robotics division for a new experience. She is fascinated by the effects that war technologies have on society and how they can indirectly impact living conditions (e.g. while wheel improvements were intended for application on war chariots, they also impacted common transportation). Ms. Glasgow has shared, in her bio details, that she is highly

dyslexic and loves to draw and play music; she plays both French horn and trumpet. She is also pleased to share that she has recently adopted a 14-year-old cat, and is completely smitten with him.

You can see more of Ms. Glasgow's art at: <https://www.deviantart.com/spirittothewind>



### **The Inspiration**

Those familiar with the statue of Richard III in Leicester, England, will recognize one inspiration behind Casey Glasgow's original work. Ms. Glasgow also referenced shield shapes and designs from the time period, depicting '55' on the illustrated shield, a reference to our branch's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021. Her winning entry features an artistic depiction of Richard III led by a stylized white boar (in murrey), with the words below: *Canadian Branch*, "*I'll Live or Die a King This Day*" (in burgundy).

### **The Medium**

To depict Richard III and the white boar, Ms. Glasgow used the *Procreate* art application on iPad, with an edited version of 'studio pen'.



## Minutes of Our Branch Annual General Meeting

— by Victoria Moorshead, East York, Ontario



The Annual General Meeting of the Richard III Society of Canada was held on Saturday, 2 October 2021, online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Mona Albano; Norma Bassett; Andrea Bellefeuille; Tracy Bryce; Clement Carelse; Chris Dickie; Elaine Duncanson; Barbara Griffith; A.J. Hunter; Leslie Hart; Lisa Hocking; Christine Hurlbut; Catya Hynard; Carole Hughes; Elizabeth Ann Macdonald; Victoria Moorshead; Eric Moles; Anne Michaelis; Sheilah O'Connor; Jamie Pratt; Greg Robinson; Ray Rawlings; James Scheer; Charles Veale; Doug Woodger; Ian Yeates

GUEST: Margaret Dunsdon

REGRETS: Don Bryce, Murray Grabinsky; Andrea Reynolds; Sheila Smith

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3.33 p.m. EDT, starting with a toast to Richard III.

Tracy Bryce began the meeting by acknowledging the help and support of Jamie Pratt for “hosting” the AGM through his work account and moderating the AGM, and Victoria Moorshead for taking the minutes.

A quorum was decreed, as 19 of 61 current members were in attendance at the time of registration; quorum being the next whole number over one tenth of the total membership of the Branch.

Tracy then read out the Richard III Society’s mission statement to begin the AGM.

### 2020 Annual General Meeting minutes

- ✿ Tracy asked members to look at the 2020 AGM minutes as they appeared in the AGM 2021 booklet which had been shared with all members earlier in September for review.
- ✿ James Scheer pointed out that he is in Ontario, contrary to what was stated in the 2020 minutes, “[Tracy] went on to acknowledge and thank ‘out of Ontario’ members Leslie Hart, Elizabeth Ann Macdonald, James Scheer, and Ian Yeates, all of whom have been long-standing members.” Tracy thanked him for the correction, which was duly noted.

Motion for acceptance of the amended 2020 Annual General Meeting minutes: James Scheer  
Seconder: Leslie Hart  
Vote: Carried unanimously

## **Officers' Reports**

### ***Editor***

- ✿ Christine Hurlbut began by thanking Mona Albano for her help with the *RIII*. Christine stated that three issues have been produced this year and encouraged submissions to the *RIII* from across the country, not just Toronto.

Motion for acceptance of the Editor's report: Sheilah O'Connor  
Seconder: Norma Bassett  
Vote: Carried unanimously

### ***Sales Officer***

- ✿ Catya Hynard reported that the sales office had been closed for most of the year due to the pandemic, but that it was now open again. She also offered to help members in sourcing Ricardian items from outside of the sales office.
- ✿ There would be a feature in an upcoming *RIII* of items available through the sales office.
- ✿ Catya then addressed A.J. Hunter's question, which he had submitted earlier: "Catya's report mentions suggestions for sales items. I would like to suggest pens, coffee mugs, beer mugs and maybe shot glasses with our Canadian logo on them. I like my merchandise to have practical purpose as well as decorative!" Catya responded that she liked these ideas, but unfortunately, we would have to buy some items in bulk, such as the coffee mugs, which means that we might have items around for a very long time. However, she would look into some of the other suggestions he made.
- ✿ A.J. suggested a calendar featuring important Ricardian dates and Richard III-related images would be a nice idea and the concept was met with enthusiasm.

Motion for acceptance of the Sales Officer's report: Chris Dickie  
Seconder: Andrea Bellefeuille  
Vote: Carried unanimously

### ***Membership and Communications Secretary***

- ✿ Sheilah O'Connor said that we had seventy members last year and as of the AGM, we had sixty-one members.
- ✿ The Richard III Society of Canada website continues to be maintained.
- ✿ Our Twitter account now has 1,308 followers as of 2 October 2021.
- ✿ Lisa Hocking asked if it would be possible to let members know that their membership payments have been received. Sheilah said that if you hear

from her again, then that means that she has not yet received your payment.

Motion for acceptance of the Sales Officer's report: Lisa Hocking  
 Secunder: Christine Hurlbut  
 Vote: Carried unanimously

### ***Librarian***

- ✿ Victoria said that she has updated the Buyers Library catalogue.
- ✿ Like the sales office, the Library has been closed for most of the year with just one item taken out.
- ✿ Victoria then addressed A.J.'s question, which he had submitted earlier: "I was wondering if it might be useful to number the items in the library for ease of both the librarian and the borrower. I realize that it has just recently been updated but just an idea. There's a lot of material there and I thought it might be easier for both parties if one ordered 'Items 3, 6, and 110' for example rather than the whole author and/or title listed." She said it was a good suggestion, but to implement it would take far longer than the time it would save once it was done. Plus, with the books as they are now stored, any book can be found in a matter of moments.
- ✿ She then went on to say that if the Buyers Library is culled, the system would have holes in it. A.J. asked what would happen to the books that would be culled, and Victoria said that she expected that they would be offered to the membership through a silent auction.
- ✿ She mentioned that Jane Buyers, daughter of the late Bill and Anne Buyers, had reached out earlier in the week to offer her parents' Ricardian items to the Buyers Library/archives. Victoria was going out the following day (October 3) to pick up the items from Jane. Some of the items would be added to the silent auction with Keith Angus' items, and some would be added to the archives, depending on what was already there.

Motion for acceptance of the Librarian's report: Sheilah O'Connor  
 Secunder: A.J. Hunter  
 Vote: Carried unanimously

### ***Treasurer***

- ✿ Victoria said that we were in a healthy position and that she was not going to read out the numbers in the report as that would be boring.
- ✿ She also said that banking expenses were low this year.
- ✿ Victoria then addressed A.J.'s request, which he had submitted earlier: "The David Yuill bequest clarification - is this earmarked for a particular purpose or program?" She explained that \$500 of the original \$2,000

from 2007 is still in the general bank account and earmarked for Society projects involving architecture, as David was interested in the subject, but that \$500 had been put towards the Leicester Dig project in 2012.

Motion for acceptance of the Treasurer's report: Catya Hynard  
 Secunder: A.J. Hunter  
 Vote: Carried unanimously

### **Vice Chair**

- ✿ In the absence of Andrea Reynolds, Tracy read the Vice Chair's report. The Vice Chair organizes the thrice-yearly executive meetings.

Motion for acceptance of the Vice Chair's report: Elaine Duncanson  
 Secunder: Doug Woodger  
 Vote: Carried unanimously

### **Chair**

- ✿ Tracy said that she sent an abridged version of her report as it appeared in the AGM booklet to the Parent Society, which she hopes will appear in the December *Bulletin*.
- ✿ Elizabeth Ann Macdonald commented on the Parent Society's AGM, held earlier in the day, and said that she felt that overseas branches were being treated as "an add on" by the Parent Society. Tracy said that with Helena Smith, the new Branches and Groups Liaison, she hopes we will be "a voice that deserves to be heard."
- ✿ Catya said that we took the Branches and Groups Liaison appointment of Helena seriously and that we had a three-hour long executive meeting to consider which of the four candidates we would vote for. Sheilah added that the Branches and Groups Liaison position is now a part of the Parent Society's board.

Motion for acceptance of the Chair's report: Christine Hurlbut  
 Secunder: Mona Albano  
 Vote: Carried unanimously

### **Nominations and Elections**

- ✿ Sheilah began the executive committee elections. She stated that there had been no nominations received by the September 18 deadline as set out in the *RIII*. There were no nominations from the floor.
- ✿ Sheilah then outlined each of the officers' duties, as well as comments on the position, such as needing space for books in the Buyers Library or Excel skills for tracking membership.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominated</b>	<b>Result</b>
Membership Secretary	Sheilah O'Connor	Acclaimed
Communications Secretary	Sheilah O'Connor	Acclaimed
Sales Officer	Catya Hynard	Acclaimed
Treasurer	Victoria Moorshead	Acclaimed
Editor, RIII	Christine Hurlbut	Acclaimed
Vice Chair	Andrea Reynolds	Acclaimed
Librarian	Victoria Moorshead	Acclaimed
Chair	Tracy Bryce	Acclaimed

- ✿ A.J. then asked why Mona, who assists with the production of the *RIII* newsletter, is not a member of the executive. Tracy responded that the executive with six members was already quite large, that the newsletter is already represented by the editor, and the executive didn't need to be "top heavy." Mona added that she was happily the newsletter committee.

### ***New Business***

- ✿ Tracy, Sheilah, Mona, and Elizabeth Ann all attended the Parent Society AGM held on Zoom earlier that day. A number of announcements were made at the event that also affect the Canadian Branch:
- ✿ Tracy announced the big news that Sheilah had been awarded the Robert Hamblin Award for work done of particular merit and "beyond the call of duty." Tracy gave a quick summary for members of Sheilah's "years and years" of service, starting in 1983 with the re-enactment of Richard's coronation to her years on the executive; her work on the website; the talks at libraries she has given; the Twitter account she maintains for the Richard III Society of Canada and the Society as a whole. Sheilah shares the award with Anne Ayers of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Group, who has also done stellar work for the Richard III Society.
- ✿ Tracy then went on to say that the unincorporated Parent Society will be closed on 31 December 2021 and that all assets will be transferred to the new corporation.
- ✿ She explained that this will affect the Canadian Branch in a few ways, but the biggest will be the changing of our fiscal year from August 23 – August 22, to July 1 – June 30. The benefit is that membership payments made on or before August 22 will appear in the year that they are made, instead of appearing in the earlier year.

Tracy moved that we change the financial year to July 1 – June 30.  
 Motion for acceptance of the amended financial year: Chris Dickie  
 Secunder: Andrea Bellefeuille

Vote: Carried unanimously

- ✿ Tracy discussed the proposed name change of the Canadian Branch membership level of “Associate Members” to “Affiliate Members” as the Parent Branch already has Associate Members, which is used to describe Branches and Groups.

Motion for acceptance of the adoption of the name change to  
Affiliate Members: Sheilah O'Connor

Second: A.J. Hunter

Vote: Carried unanimously

- ✿ Tracy mentioned that we were going to have to review and revise our Branch Constitution and create a Code of Conduct in light of these changes. However, we were waiting on the forms from the Parent Society.
- ✿ Tracy then announced that the late Sharon Kay Penman, author of *The Sunne in Splendor*, has donated her papers to the Parent Society. They are presently with the acting Chair of the American Branch Susan Troxell and will eventually be available to Society members and the public.
- ✿ Both the *Bulletin* and the Parent Society website will be relaunched. The website will feature a members-only section. Tracy said that the relaunch would be in a few weeks according to the Parent Society, but Sheilah, who is involved with the website itself, said it would likely be “much longer” than that.
- ✿ Tracy said that there are several exciting initiatives coming up:
- ✿ A play, presently known as the “York Play,” has been commissioned to counter Shakespeare’s version of events.
- ✿ The BBC is filming a documentary with Lucy Worsley on Richard III. The documentary also features Matthew Lewis, Chair of the Richard III Society.
- ✿ The Society is working on a Richard III documentary for *Dan Snow’s History Hit*, a podcast and online TV channel. *History Hit* will have exclusive rights to the content for a few years, then the rights will pass back to the Society. There is hope that the project might be available for broadcast here in Canada.
- ✿ A new portrait of the Princes in the Tower has been commissioned by the Parent Society. The painter is historical illustrator Matthew Ryan. It is hoped that this image will be used in place of the traditional depictions of the Princes that are sinister and that this will have a “brighter tone.”
- ✿ The Articles of Association, Society rules, and Branches and Group rules were all adopted.

- ✿ Tracy said that the motion for the Branches and Group Liaison appointment was carried.
- ✿ A poll was taken of members at the Parent Society AGM, and most were not happy with the facial reconstruction, which is now on the website and widely disseminated. There are hopes that a better image can be circulated.
- ✿ Tracy touched on the bankruptcy of E-Mediacy. We will now be sending our membership payments to the Parent Society post office box.
- ✿ Phillippa Langley was asked at the Parent Society AGM about the upcoming movie, *The Lost King*. She has signed a non-disclosure agreement, but said that we “should enjoy it.”
- ✿ Phillippa also runs the Missing Princes Project, which hopes to find out what happened to Edward and Richard and has hinted that there will be big news for 2022, but again, she has signed a non-disclosure agreement.
- ✿ Chris Dickie said that it seemed the Parent Society was moving away from research to more media-centric projects. Tracy said that the Parent Society has a five-year plan and one of the aims is to reach an expanded audience. Sheilah said that the Parent Society was modernizing and hoping to appeal to younger potential members.
- ✿ Elizabeth Ann asked if all the new projects meant that the overseas membership fees would be increasing. Tracy said that she didn’t know and that “we will have to see.”
- ✿ Charles Veale asked if the bones in the Abbey would be analysed. Tracy said that Elizabeth II, who has direct jurisdiction over Westminster Abbey does not want the bones disturbed. However, her successor might feel differently.
- ✿ Tracy then touched on the issue of media contact as covered at the Parent Society AGM. For immediate news of small importance, the Canadian branch is permitted to make statements. However, for big announcements, such as the confirmation that the bones in the parking lot were indeed Richard III, the Parent Society will be handling those.
- ✿ The Canadian AGM returned to this side of the Atlantic with the announcement of the winning art entry for the Ricardian Art Contest. Catya shared her screen through Zoom and announced that Casey Glasgow, niece of member A.J. Hunter, was the winner with her entry featuring a charging boar and the statue of Richard III with a golden crown. Catya gave a brief but impressive biography of Casey and shared with the membership that the image would be used on Canadian-branch

memorabilia. A.J. was very touched that his niece's work was chosen and said that she would be delighted to learn the good news.

- ✿ Lisa congratulated the executive for their work, despite the limitations of the pandemic.
- ✿ Elaine Duncanson shared that she was working on her debut paper for the Canadian Branch for the November meeting and shared that it would be, "The English Language in the Late 15th Century: An educated guess as to what and how King Richard spoke."
- ✿ Ian Yeates thanked everyone through Zoom chat for the AGM.

There being no further business, Tracy adjourned the meeting at 5.12 p.m. EDT.

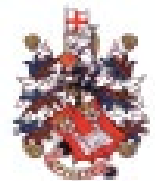
Tracy Bryce, Chair Victoria L. Moorshead, Recording Secretary



## Richard III Society Prize Essay 2022

— by Iain Farrell and Helena Smith

The Richard III Society is offering a prize of £200 for the best essay on a topic relevant to "***The Life and Times of Richard, Duke of Gloucester (Richard III) 1452-85.***" Entrants must be under the age of 19 by 1st September 2022. There will be second prize of £100 and a third prize of £50. Prize winners will be notified by 30th September 2022.



Please email as below to receive details of how to send an entry.

Iain Farrell, Education Officer  
Richard III Society  
[education@richardiii.net](mailto:education@richardiii.net)

## Richard III Memorabilia

— by Catya Hynard, Toronto, Ontario

In addition to a number of custom-order items featuring Ms. Glasgow's illustration, you will also find, further below, a selection of memorabilia available in our own branch's memorabilia stores and, for anyone looking for some inspiration from further afield, a variety of items available for you to personally purchase through other sources.

### Custom Memorabilia featuring original contest art by Casey Glasgow

The following memorabilia items will be custom-ordered and shipped directly to you by the company fulfilling the orders. All prices are in Canadian dollars, and each custom item features the winning art entry by Casey Glasgow. *Custom items take 7-10 business days before shipping.*



#### Custom Order: Playing Cards

\$16.99

Add more fun to game night with a deck of playing cards featuring original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III.



#### Custom Order: 11 oz Mug

\$14.99

Always start the day with a smile with this customized mug featuring original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III. 11 oz mug; white handle and inside.

**Custom Order: Mousepad**

\$15.99

Keep your Ricardian interests at your fingertips with this mousepad featuring original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III. Mousepad features an anti-slip, rubberized base and the smooth fabric top allows your mouse to glide with ease. Measures 7.5"x9"

**Custom Order: Coaster set**

\$19.99

Grab the attention of your guests with this set of 4 coasters with rounded corners, customized with original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III. Includes holder. Measures 4"x 4"

**Custom Order: Socks**

\$24.99

Put your best foot forward and have some fun with these custom printed socks featuring original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III. (25 different colours available; appearing in Royal Blue here.)

Small - Mens 6-8 / Ladies 6-9

Large - Mens 9-13 / Ladies 10-13

**Custom Order: 16 oz. Frosted beer stein**

\$29.99

Kick back and enjoy a cold drink from this 16 oz frosted beer stein, customized with original art by Casey Glasgow, inspired by Richard III.

**Custom memorabilia orders may be placed by email to [sales@richardiii.ca](mailto:sales@richardiii.ca).**

Shipping cost for custom memorabilia orders is calculated by the company fulfilling the orders, which will ship directly to you.

Please write a cheque to the *Richard III Society of Canada* or use PayPal. Email [sales@richardiii.ca](mailto:sales@richardiii.ca) for PayPal payment details.

**Please Note – 5% of total order will be added to PayPal payments to cover fees.**

### **Ricardian Memorabilia from our branch's stores**

These memorabilia are a sample of items available from the Canadian Branch's stores. For a list of additional available items, please visit <https://www.richardiii.ca/ricardian-memorabilia/>. All prices are in Canadian dollars.



#### **Gold Angel Replica Key Ring**

\$12.50

Key ring with replica gold angel coin of Richard III dated between July 1483 and June 1484. This replica is based on an original coin found in August 2012, close to the site of the Battle of Bosworth.

*1 key ring in stock*

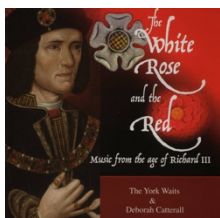


#### **Enamel boar badge**

\$23.50

White boar with gold highlights on a blue and red enamel background; approx. 1".

*5 badges in stock*



#### **York Waits CD "The White Rose and the Red"**

\$16.00

Music from the age of Richard III with 22 tracks including *Mi very joye*, *Portugaler* and *Danse de Ravensteyn*.

*1 CD in stock*



#### **Yorkshire Rose stickpin**

\$7.00

Purchased in York – metal stickpin displaying the Yorkshire Rose, the heraldic device of the House of York.

(0.5" / 1.3 cm diameter)

*2 pins in stock*

**Orders from our branch's stores may be placed by email to [sales@richardiii.ca](mailto:sales@richardiii.ca).**

Shipping of items from our branch's stores is calculated based on the total weight of the order and the destination of shipment. I can provide a quote of the shipping cost in advance of sending your order.

Payment accepted by cheque made out to *The Canadian Branch of the Richard III Society* or via PayPal. Email [sales@richardiii.ca](mailto:sales@richardiii.ca) for PayPal payment details.

**Please Note** – 5% of total order is added to PayPal payments to cover fees.

### Looking further afield

Looking for something not available through the Canadian branch's stores? Check out The Richard III Society Mail Order Catalogue from the parent society: [http://www.richardiii.net/downloads/2021\\_04\\_16\\_catalogue.pdf](http://www.richardiii.net/downloads/2021_04_16_catalogue.pdf).

Alternately, you may find some exciting memorabilia items through other legitimate online sources, such as the King Richard III Visitor Centre in Leicester where you'll find this popular item, below:



#### **Hanging decoration from Leicester Richard III Visitors' Centre**

This textile King Richard III decoration is lavishly embroidered with a golden brocade attached for hanging. Measures 17 cm in length x 6.5 cm in width x 2 cm in depth.

#### **Where to shop:**

<https://kriii.myshopify.com/products/richard-iii-hanging-decoration>

£12

*Price listed may have changed online and don't include shipping*

If you are looking for something specific and require assistance with online research, do not hesitate to reach out to [sales@richardiii.ca](mailto:sales@richardiii.ca) and I'll be happy to provide what information (and online links) I can. Happy online shopping!



## Answers to Ricardian Jeopardy

### Long Live the King

100:	Who is Al Pacino
200:	What is 'Tower of London'
300:	Who is Sir John Gielgud
400:	What is 1990
500:	What is 'Edward IV'

### The Quotable Bard

100:	Who was Henry V (King Henry V, Act 4 Scene 3)
200:	Who was Edward IV (Richard III, Act 2 Scene 1)
300:	Who was Richard III (Richard III, Act 3 Scene 1)

400:	Who was Henry IV (King Henry IV Part 1, Act 3 Scene 2)
500:	Who was Henry VI (King Henry VI Part 1, Act 3, Scene 1)

### **Villains**

100:	Who is Sir William Stanley
200:	Who is Henry VIII
300:	Who is Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham
400:	Who is Margaret Beaufort
500:	Who is William Shakespeare

### **Modern Family**

100:	What is Anjou
200:	Who is Anne of York
300:	What is Brown
400:	What is John of Pontefract
500:	Who is Princess Eugenie

### **The Sword & the Stone**

100:	What is Northamptonshire
200:	What is Nottingham Castle
300:	What is Monday (based on the Julian calendar)
400:	What is the Battle of Barnet
500:	What is 28,000

### **Portable Potables**

100:	What is beer
200:	What is bread
300:	What is a bottle
400:	What is The Red Lion
500:	What is Double Gloucester

### **Final Jeopardy**

**Answer:** What is a surgeon

## Gloucester & Bristol branch, February meeting

The branch's February meeting will be delivered via Zoom, so that we all can enjoy it. Look for an email message from our Chair giving the details for registering.

### ***Warwick the Kingmaker: an illustrated talk by John Reid***

Date: Saturday, February 5, 2022

Richard Neville, earl of Warwick and Salisbury, was the greatest English magnate of the Later Middle Ages. As heir to four great families and earldoms he was the richest noble in 15<sup>th</sup>-Century England and dominated the first two phases of the Wars of the Roses. He was the greatest of the "Over-Mighty Subjects" and his career was crammed into a life of just 42 years. The talk will provide a comprehensive appreciation of the achievements and reputation of this key figure.

## Canadian Branch Meetings

### September meeting

Ray Rawlings presented his paper "Other Unjustly Maligned Dudes and maybe a Dudette" via Zoom.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM was conducted via Zoom; a small group of Ricardians met at a restaurant afterwards to commemorate Richard's birthday.

### Meeting schedule

Currently, our meetings are held on Zoom. It works on a computer in a browser or app and on smartphones, where you will want a Zoom app. Meetings are usually on the second Sunday of the month and are at 2 p.m. Eastern time. Online meetings are hosted by Jamie Pratt or Murray Grabinski, with our thanks.

<b>Meeting Date, 2021 – 2022</b>	<b>Paper or Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
November 14	The English Language in the Late 15th Century, by Elaine Duncanson	Zoom
January 9	Aliens in Yorkist England, by Sheilah O'Connor	Zoom
February 13	Music at the Yorkist Court, by Sheila Smith	Zoom
March 13	A paper by Chris Dickie	Zoom
April 10	Richard's London Today, by Victoria Moorshead	Zoom

<b>Meeting Date, 2021 – 2022</b>	<b>Paper or Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
May 8	TBA	Zoom
June 12	TBA	

Please look for our emails about Zoom meetings in other areas.



## **Richard III Society of Canada executive 2021–2022**

Chair: Tracy Bryce, [Chair@richardIII.ca](mailto:Chair@richardIII.ca)

Vice-Chair: Andrea Reynolds, [ViceChair@richardIII.ca](mailto:ViceChair@richardIII.ca)

Treasurer: Victoria Moorshead, [Treasurer@richardIII.ca](mailto:Treasurer@richardIII.ca)

Membership & Corresponding Secretary: Sheilah O'Connor,  
[Membership@richardIII.ca](mailto:Membership@richardIII.ca)

Editor, *RIII*: Christine Hurlbut, [RIIIEditor@richardIII.ca](mailto:RIIIEditor@richardIII.ca)

Librarian: Victoria Moorshead, [Librarian@richardIII.ca](mailto:Librarian@richardIII.ca)

Sales Officer: Catya Hynard, [Sales@richardIII.ca](mailto:Sales@richardIII.ca)

Thank you to Mona Albano, [mona.albano@gmail.com](mailto:mona.albano@gmail.com), for helping to produce the *RIII*.

