



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 in September.

I've just recently returned from a visit to England with family, a trip that had been booked long before the sudden passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. While some of our planned sightseeing was cancelled owing to the preparations for her funeral, I did visit St. Paul's Cathedral and sign a book of condolence and light a candle. We were amongst the crowds along Whitehall and in St. James' Park, when her coffin arrived in London. And while we elected not to join the 5-mile queue and wait up to 14 hours to attend the lying-in-state, we were able to view it live-streamed on television from Westminster Hall. By September 19th we had moved on out of London, but we watched the ceremonies live on the BBC — from the transport of her coffin from Westminster Hall to the Abbey, the funeral service itself, the procession out of London to Windsor and the committal service in St. George's Chapel. I've always had a great respect and admiration for the Queen, and I felt gratified to be in the UK at this time and to share the sorrow of her passing.

My thanks go to Executive Committee members Sheilah O'Connor, Victoria Moorshead and Andrea Reynolds for "holding the fort" at the September 11th meeting, while I was enroute to the UK. I understand the speaker Dr. Stephanie Lahey's presentation on *Parchment Quality and Scribal Choices in Later Medieval England* was well received.

Our membership renewal deadline of October 2nd is now past, and we will be sending the current members' list and payment off to the UK very shortly. The parent Society Annual General Meeting and Members' Day in Leicester and our own virtual Canadian Branch AGM are behind us. If you could not attend our branch AGM, I urge you to read the minutes in this issue of the RIII, so you can stay informed.

Once again, thanks go to our outgoing Executive Committee members, Andrea Reynolds and Catya Hynard for their time, energy, good advice and support over the past few years in service to the Branch and Society. Your contributions made a significant impact to our success.

Also at this time, we're pleased to welcome new Executive Committee members Andrea Bellefeuille as Vice Chair, and Sheila Smith as Sales Officer to the team. The rest of the EC has already tapped into your experience and wisdom, and it is certainly a good fit!

I also encourage members across the country to attend our Branch meetings via the Zoom meeting platform. You can connect via a computer, tablet, or cell phone: you just need a web browser (Edge, Safari, Chrome, Firefox, etc.) and

the link we send you in the meeting invitation. Check this issue of the RIII for the list of upcoming meetings. Meeting invitations are emailed to members two weeks before the meeting date, with the Zoom link sent closer to the actual meeting date. We love to see new faces!

Speaking of new faces, we are delighted to welcome new members **Robyn Woodyard** and **Margaret Catroppa**. I do hope you find your membership interesting and rewarding, and perhaps we shall meet you at an upcoming meeting.

Last (but not least) 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, the Society and promoting the cause of King Richard III.

Vivat Rex Ricardus!

— *Tracy*

From the Editor

Many (most?) members of our Branch cannot remember a time when Elizabeth II was not on the throne. Whether medieval or modern, the transition from one monarch to another brings a cascade of emotions, notably regret at the loss of a remarkable ruler, and hope for the success of a new reign. One might have wished that our new King had followed his grandfather and chosen a new regnal name.

“King Richard IV” might have been an inspired option....

A couple of newspapers are speculating that the new king might consider allowing the purported bones of the princes to undergo DNA testing, which her late Majesty opposed.

In the last issue of *RIII*, I asked members to send links to websites or Facebook groups which might be of interest. A Toronto member suggests "Medieval and Tudor Period Buildings Group" on Facebook. An interesting archaeology website is Digventures at <https://digventures.com/>. Any favourites you can share?

Christine Hurlbut-Carelse,
Editor



Meighen Forum: Richard III Discovered and Uncovered

— by Julie Rank, Stratford, Ontario

This very interesting panel discussion took place at the Stratford Festival on Thursday, July 7, 2022, at Lazaridis Hall in The Tom Patterson Theatre. It's part of the "Peer into the Playbill" series.

The chief participants at this event were Sheilah O'Connor, Membership and Corresponding Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the Richard III Society, Susan Troxell, Chair of the American Branch of the Richard III Society; Professor Randall Martin, Adjunct Research Professor at Western University and former University Research Professor at the University of New Brunswick; and David Prosser, the former Literary and Editorial Director at the Stratford Festival.

Lazaridis Hall seats 199 people and there were 175 at this event. You could feel the excitement in the air! Sheilah O'Connor did a wonderful, and very informative, presentation about the "real" Richard III. We heard about his public life and his many good works, his relationship with his brothers, his love for his wife and son, and Richard's deeply felt grief at his son's death. Ms. O'Connor also spoke of the actual dates and timelines of people and events, as opposed to Shakespeare's version.



Susan Troxell and Sheilah O'Connor

With the use of very interesting slides, Ms. O'Connor revealed many of the truths, and "Shakespearean" untruths, about Richard III. She also spoke about The Richard III Society, its Mission Statement, and why people generally join the Society. It was a fascinating presentation, and the audience was completely captivated. There were many murmurings throughout the presentation and much nodding of heads.

Susan Troxell went through the process of how, who, and when the search for Richard III's remains began. Ms. Troxell showed slides of the parking lot, the dig, Richard III's skeleton, and of the coffin at the reinterment ceremony at Leicester Cathedral. Many in the audience had obviously followed this miraculous discovery in 2012, as people recognized such names as Philippa Langley and John Ashdown-Hill. The various tests done on the skeleton were explained by Ms. Troxell and she showed the picture of the people who are descendants of Richard III through his mother. Again, many nods of heads and murmurings throughout the audience!

Professor Martin focused on the play and provided many insights into the characters, and how many of the speeches in the play reflected the political atmosphere and issues of the time in which the play was performed, such as the question of succession when Queen Elizabeth I would eventually die. He pointed out how the play is so relevant to current times and, without naming names, the tyrants we see in the world today. More murmurings and nods! Professor Martin explained that Shakespeare wrote entertainment, and that actual historical events were sacrificed for a piece of good theatre. This play was one of Shakespeare's most popular and was always a bestseller.

The audience was totally engaged during the presentation. People asked all kinds of questions from, what happened to Richard's feet, to why didn't Richard make a statement, at the time, about the disappearance of the Princes in the Tower? David Prosser did a wonderful job as moderator, asking his own in-depth questions, and passing on the questions sent up from the audience.

The presenters agreed that the common perception of Richard III is perpetuated by the play. They hoped people would remember that it is a play and would make the effort to discover the real Richard III. When the Forum event came to an end there was a huge round of applause, and dozens of people surged toward the stage to speak further with the presenters. One lady said she was so thrilled by what she had just heard that she plans to join the Society as soon as possible. All the audience, no matter what level of their knowledge about the topic, came away definitely knowing more about the real Richard III, the "digging for Richard," and the reasons underlying Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard III. The panel talk was a great success! Congratulations to Sheilah O'Connor, Susan Troxell, and Randall Martin.

Movie: *The Lost King*

— by Mona Albano, North York, Ontario



This much anticipated movie, an account of the discovery of Richard III's skeleton, premiered September 9 at the Toronto International Film Festival. It was directed by Stephen Frears of Leicester, who also directed *My Beautiful Laundrette* and several other films. It stars Sally Hawkins as Philippa Langley, the motivating force behind the search, and Steve Coogan as her ex-husband John. Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope wrote the screenplay.

There's an article in Wikipedia under "[The Lost King](#)."

Here are some short reviews from members who attended the TIFF screenings in Toronto. This is by no means a comprehensive review and we hope members will take the opportunity to see the film when it's available.

Andrea B. of Toronto has an interesting view:

"I enjoyed the movie. It was a real thrill seeing the Society represented and the *Ricardian Bulletins* displayed. The Society members meeting in the pub were characterized as being slightly wacky, though intelligent and endearing, and it reminded me of how welcome everyone made me feel when I first joined. Made me realize how much I miss seeing you all at our in-person meetings too."

Christine offered "5 adjectives to describe my reaction to the movie:"

Familiar — Challenging — Stirring — Revealing — Vindicating

Membership inquiries

Please contact Sheilah O'Connor at membership@richardIII.ca. This is renewal season.

Bosworth remembrance

— by Mona Albano, North York, Ontario

The Canadian Branch places an In Memoriam in the *Globe and Mail* newspaper, while the parent society places one in the *Telegraph*. In addition, The Society, the Australasian branches, and the Canadian branch all contribute to two wreaths surrounding a memorial plaque Richard III and those who fell at Bosworth, in St. James' Church, Sutton Cheney.



Here are two pictures: the wreaths, and the Canadian society's tag.



— Photos courtesy of Joolz Williams

Bosworth after the battle: the protection and preservation of Ricardian battlefields

— Chris Dickie, Toronto, Ontario

Why save a battlefield? They are, after all, places of violence and death. And when it comes to medieval battlefields (such as those from the Wars of the Roses), there has often been difficulty locating them. Subsequent landscape changes can make contemporary accounts unhelpful. Weapons and armor were normally removed from the field, leaving few physical artifacts for archaeologists to uncover. Even mass graves would later be exhumed in many cases and the dead reburied elsewhere. The end result is that until recently archaeologists largely ignored battlefields. They might be turned into parks (Bosworth) or golf courses (Northampton) or homes (Wakefield) but few serious efforts were made to study them.

That all changed with the survey of the Little Bighorn battlefield in the 1980s. Following a grass fire that swept across the area, a full and comprehensive examination of an historic battlefield was done for the first time. It revealed previously unknown information about the battle and challenged some of the longstanding assumptions about General Custer's last stand.

Today, battlefield archaeology — the systematic multi-disciplinary study of a battlefield in its entirety — has become essential to our understanding of past conflicts and how those conflicts may inform present-day socio-political issues. It can confirm or contradict contemporary accounts of the battle. It can provide evidence of new military techniques. It can give a precise location of not only where the battle took place but also where the various participants were before, during and after the engagement. In short, it can fill in gaps and correct inaccuracies in the historic record.

At Bosworth, for example, the survey that was conducted between 2005 and 2009 revealed startling information about the battle, not the least of which was its location. Whereas previously it had been located on Ambion Hill (roughly where the heritage center is located), the discovery of round shot and a heraldic boar badge more accurately placed Richard's engagement with Henry almost two miles away, closer to what is now known as Fenn Lane. The Towton survey of 1996 not only confirmed location of the battlefield but also presented a vivid picture of the ferocity of medieval warfare through the discovery of hundreds of arrowheads as well as skeletal remains bearing obvious signs of combat-related trauma. The Barnet survey of 2015 suggested that the precise location of that battlefield is now in doubt.



Battlefield locations from the Wars of the Roses. Barnet, Bosworth, Tewkesbury, Northampton, Edgecote, Stoke, Towton and Blore Heath have all been registered. (thehistoryjar.com)

But battlefields only give up their secrets if they are still around to be studied. So with the advent of battlefield archaeology came an interest in battlefield protection and preservation. In 1991, after an international conference on ancient battlefields as national treasures was held at the University of Leicester, several of the attendees came together to establish a charitable organization dedicated to the preservation, presentation and interpretation of battlefields as historical and educational resources.

Battlefields Trust, as it is still called, almost immediately began work with English Heritage (as it was then called) on efforts to protect some of the country's most significant battlefields. The government had just issued a white paper recommending that battlefields be recognized in the same way as other historic monuments. As a result, the UK's first Battlefield Register was created in 1995.

The main criteria for inclusion were historical significance and a fixed location (through local tradition and contemporary accounts). But there were other considerations as well. These included topographical integrity (how much had the landscape changed since the battle took place), archaeological potential, documentation, military innovations (especially key for battles during the Wars of the Roses when artillery was first being used), biographical association (that is, who were the participants) and commemoration (e.g.: plaques, pillars, references in Shakespeare, etc.). These criteria continue to determine inclusion, although only a handful of battlefields have been added since 1995.

Originally 43 battlefields were identified for protection under the registration system. That number now sits at 47. Of the Wars of the Roses battlefields, Barnet, Bosworth, Tewkesbury, Blore Heath, Northampton, Stoke Field and Towton were all immediately inscribed. Edgecote was added in 2013.

Some battlefields, like St. Albans (which was fought in the streets of a market town) and Wakefield, were already too developed to merit registration. Others like Mortimer's Cross could not be securely located and so were excluded but with the proviso that new information could result in registration at some later date.

The purpose of the Register is to offer these battlefields protection through the planning system. But it isn't statutory protection. Registration is simply a material consideration in planning decisions, which are a local matter. Planning committees are guided by the National Planning Policy Framework. Under that framework, registered battlefields are designated heritage assets of the highest significance. Therefore, development that "substantially" affects them is only to take place in exceptional circumstances.



Round shot recovered by Barnet battlefield survey (archaeologydataservice.ac.uk)

Of course, words like “substantially affect” are music to a lawyer’s ears. They were eventually considered in the so-called Bedford case, which did not involve a battlefield at all but was concerned with the erection of three wind turbines that people feared would impact certain other heritage assets. Crucially, the argument against the turbines was not made by Historic England, but by an anti-wind power group. In the end, the judge decided that substantial harm meant no less than total destruction.

As you can imagine, that is a very high threshold when it comes to battlefields. Aside from digging it up in its entirety, it would seem that virtually anything could be done to a battlefield and not totally destroy it.

However, there is some question as to whether subsequent planning policy guidelines have lowered that threshold by stating that it is the degree of harm to an asset’s significance that must be assessed. Again, what exactly takes away from a battlefield’s significance? Would a wind farm, an industrial park, or a racetrack? All of these have been proposed on or near registered battlefields.

Ultimately, it has been left to local planning authorities to decide these questions on a case-by-case basis - balancing the degree of threat against economic and political considerations.

In the case of Bosworth Field, for example, that balancing act has been performed by the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council – with decidedly mixed results. The Council receives two to four planning applications a year that potentially impact on Bosworth Field. Normally, the Battlefields Trust is alerted to these applications and prepares an assessment determining the impact of the threat.

The problem is that borough councils are concerned with many more issues than just heritage preservation. They also have to worry about affordable

housing, good jobs and attracting business to the area. This perfect storm of interests descended upon Bosworth when long-time local employer MIRA (Motor Industry Research Association) decided it wanted to build an 83-acre self-driving car track that would highly impact 1% of the battlefield. In particular, it would affect the area where Henry likely first saw Richard's army.

Part of the difficulty was that the dimensions of the battlefield had changed as a result of the survey of 2005-09. It now stretched beyond the boundaries of the heritage park. As well, organizations that would normally question the wisdom of disrupting even 1% of such an historically relevant battlefield – Battlefields Trust, the Richard III Society – were not aware of the application until very late in the process.

There was a scramble to get the public on board. There were petitions and protests and even a special debate in Parliament, but all to no avail. The MIRA application went ahead.

What made it such a bitter pill to swallow is that the Council in 2013 had specifically set out a policy designed to protect the integrity of Bosworth Field. Entitled "The Way Forward" it acknowledged the importance of the battlefield and specifically argued that any new development within the area must not have an adverse impact on its special qualities. With MIRA, the Council seemed more willing to bow to the will of a powerful local corporation than stick to its own policy.

The fallout has apparently chastened it. Most recently, it has denied both a solar farm and a development for 6 new homes (though that decision has since been appealed to the government minister in charge of planning). As well, it has been working with the Battlefields Trust on the problem of permitted development rights, which do not require planning permission (e.g.: erecting agricultural buildings.)

Still, the bottom line is that 1% of Bosworth Field is now gone and it is gone for good.

And it is not just development that threatens the integrity of battlefields. These sites can be impacted by non-agricultural uses that do not require planning permission. Music festivals leave behind extraneous materials that make systematic surveys incredibly challenging (coins, tent pegs and ring pulls from canned drinks). Also, replica arrowheads, buckles, buttons, etc. from re-enactors. In these cases, the Battlefields Trust engages with landowners and re-enactors to encourage them to move events to less-sensitive areas.

Certain agricultural practices can also affect the archaeological potential of a battlefield. Since the rate of corrosion of metal artifacts in soil is determined by soil chemistry, agrochemicals that increase acidity pose a threat to anything

that's lying near the surface. Similarly, there can be mechanical damage as part of cultivation. Even deep ploughing can have a negative effect on artifacts, bringing them closer to the surface where the greater amount of oxygen leads to greater rates of decay.

One new agricultural threat comes from so-called "green waste". Contrary to what the name implies, green waste contains metal fragments in addition to organic matter and landowners are often given incentives to spread it on their lands. Unfortunately, it introduces a high level of contamination that makes metal detecting virtually impossible. This was experienced during the Barnet survey and could make other surveys far more challenging moving forward.

Once again, engagement and education of landowners and tenant farmers is the key, encouraging them to follow agricultural practices that will not pose a threat.

Perhaps the greatest threat outside of development comes from the non-systematic survey and collection of artifacts by hobbyists. Illegal metal detectorists or "nighthawks" are especially a problem when the battlefield has been securely located through the recovery of artifacts by archaeologists. Almost immediately it becomes a target. Another concern is the well-meaning but similarly disruptive "rallies" during which hundreds of metal detectorists might descend on a sensitive site over a single day or weekend.

This has led to conflict with organizations like Battlefields Trust, whose policy is that no metal detecting should take place on nationally important battlefields without professional supervision. The Trust has also been pushing for statutory protection from metal detecting for registered battlefields as currently exists for scheduled monuments.

Of course, not all metal detectorists are unaware of the threat they may pose, and many are supportive of the Trust's aims. In fact, it is questionable if surveys such as those done at Barnet and Mortimer's Cross could be done at all without the participation of volunteer detectorists.

Aside from education and robust legislation, a few other avenues for battlefield protection have been explored by people and organizations concerned with their preservation.

For example, at some point UNESCO may extend its World Heritage designation to include historic battlefields. In the past it has been hesitant to inscribe monuments that stand for mankind's worst impulses, but that thinking could change given the number of battlefields that have been put forward by member states. Given its international recognition and historical importance, Bosworth may have the best shot in this regard, but it would require a push by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and that is unlikely to come

anytime soon. And even if the political will was there and it was ultimately inscribed by UNESCO, that would not bar development. But it would be a powerful disincentive given the clout and international prestige the designation brings.

Finally, there is also the option of outright purchase by battlefield-friendly organizations. This has been floated at both Culloden in Scotland (by the Scottish Battlefield Trust) and at Tewkesbury (by the Tewkesbury Battlefield Society), but the value of the land is such that in most cases the cost would be prohibitive.

Currently the best hope for preserving and protecting historic battlefields is through education and awareness. The more the public is aware of the inherent value of these sites, the easier it is for organizations such as the Richard III Society and Battlefields Trust to generate support for meaningful protection – either by lobbying for a stronger legislative response to the problem or by opposing threats at the local planning level.

So long as these long-ago battles are seen as an integral part of a story that continues to have relevance today, the fields and moors and heaths over which they were fought will have a good chance of surviving. But if they are forgotten, developers will have their way, fields will be contaminated, physical evidence will be destroyed (or illegally removed) and a crucial part of Ricardian history could be lost to us forever.



Bosworth battlefield near Fenn Lane. (Google map street view)

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Book review: *The Last Daughter of York*

— Sheilah O'Connor, Toronto, Ontario

Cornick, Nicola. *The Last Daughter of York*. Toronto: Graydon House, 2021

(Published in the UK as *The Last Daughter*)

Serena Warren has never gotten over the disappearance and presumed death of her twin sister, Caitlin. Now, 11 years later, she has been called back to Minster Lovell because her sister's body has been found.

Meanwhile, 550 or so years before, 5-year-old Anne Fitzhugh has been taken out of bed, and brought to the solar where her uncle, the Duke of Warwick, informs her that she is to marry his ward, Francis Lovell. These two stories are told in alternating chapters. Readers will probably see how they fit together sooner than the author intended, but it is an entertaining story, nevertheless.

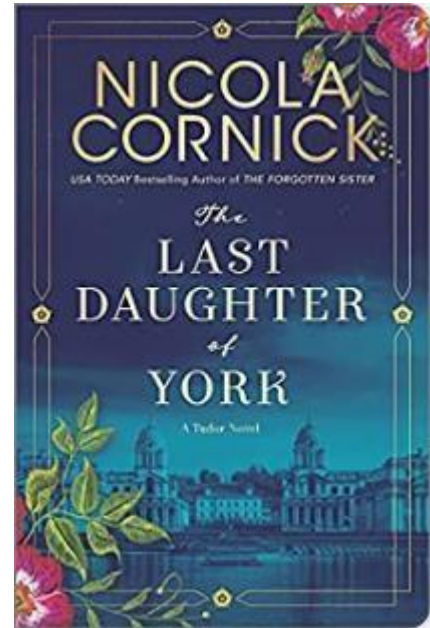
The historical part of the novel covers some 30 years or so, and we meet Richard, Edward IV, Elizabeth Woodville and others, but the focus is on Anne and Francis.

The modern section of the book must explain the history of Minster Lovell and the Yorkist age and Cornick has characters asking questions that they absolutely should know the answer to, but it allows the other characters to explain all the background. It is clunky and since members of the Society will know all this anyway, I found it slowed the plot considerably. But then, the author didn't write it just for us!

Cornick has written a number of other historical novels and has an easy writing style. For the most part her characters are believable and interesting although she clearly has no idea what a 5-year-old is like as the young Anne Fitzhugh thinks and speaks like a teen. Luckily for the reader, she grows up quickly and becomes more realistic. Because the book was written after the discovery of Richard III's body, that fact is included.

Although there is a strong fantasy element to the book, it is first and foremost historical romance. Indeed, the most fantastical element is the cover image which has nothing at all to do with the story!

I give it four out of five stars.



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Richard III Society of Canada

1 October 2022

The Annual General Meeting of the Richard III Society of Canada was held on Saturday, 1 October 2022, as a virtual meeting via Zoom.

PRESENT: Mona Albano; Andrea Bellefeuille; Don Bryce; Tracy Bryce; Chris Dickie; Elaine Duncanson; Murray Grabinsky; Barbara Griffith; A.J. Hunter; Leslie Hart; Christine Hurlbut; Catya Hynard; Katlin Kelly; Garry Marnoch; Victoria Moorshead; Sheilah O'Connor; Jamie Pratt; Andrea Reynolds; Sheila Smith; Charles Veale; Doug Woodger

REGRETS: Elizabeth Ann Macdonald

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2.02 p.m. EDT.

A quorum was decreed, as 20 of 71 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 reminded attendees of online meeting etiquette.

Tracy followed with a toast to Richard III.

2021 Annual General Meeting minutes

- Tracy asked members to look at the 2021 AGM minutes as they appeared in the AGM 2022 booklet, which was shared with all members earlier in September for review.
- Garry Marnoch asked if the change of the Canadian Branch membership level of “Associate Members” to “Affiliate Members” was due to the Parent Branch already using the term. Tracy replied that it was.

Motion to accept the 2021 Annual General Meeting minutes: Chris Dickie
Second: Sheilah O'Connor
Vote: Carried unanimously

Officers' Reports

Editor

- Christine Hurlbut began by thanking Mona Albano for her help with the *RIII*. Christine went on to encourage members from across the country to share items for the publication, including favourite websites.
- Christine stated that three issues have been produced this year.

Motion to accept the Editor's report: Andrea Bellefeuille
Secunder: Elaine Duncanson
Vote: Carried unanimously

Librarian

- As Victoria Moorshead was taking the minutes for the Annual General Meeting, Tracy Bryce summarised Victoria's report on her behalf.
- A.J. Hunter asked about the culling of the Library that had been proposed earlier. Victoria said that as a number of members of the executive had objected, it was abandoned.
- Tracy then asked Victoria if she could do the silent auction from Keith Angus' donation within the next year. Victoria explained that she didn't want to do it only to be faced with limitations at the post office due to restrictions because of a resurgence in COVID.
- Mona Albano asked if the Buyers Library catalogue was online. Victoria said that it was on the Society's website.

Motion to accept the Librarian's report: Sheila Smith
Secunder: Sheilah O'Connor
Vote: Carried unanimously

Sales Officer

- Catya Hynard said that there was nothing new to her report as it appeared in the AGM booklet. She said that it had been a busy year with the art design contest and the related merchandise orders.
- There were no questions.

Motion to accept the Sales Officer's report: Doug Woodger
Secunder: Christine Hurlbut
Vote: Carried unanimously

Membership and Communications Secretary

- Sheilah O'Connor said that we had 71 members last year and that as of the AGM, we had 56 members for 2022-2023.
- She reminded members to send in their membership forms as well as their payments.
- She also updated her report to say that a fourth person has asked about membership and has joined.

Motion to accept the Membership and Communications Secretary's report: Mona Albano
Secunder: A.J. Hunter
Vote: Carried unanimously

Treasurer

- As Victoria Moorshead was taking the minutes for the Annual General Meeting, Tracy Bryce summarised Victoria's report on her behalf.
- Victoria reported that the PayPal account had a balance of \$425.75 and the Royal Bank account had a balance of \$8,924.58, for a total of \$9,350.33.
- Sheilah O'Connor mentioned that we now have e-transfers for membership payment. Victoria concurred, but said that it was introduced after the reporting period of July 1 to June 30, so it will be in next year's report.
- Victoria also mentioned that charitable donations made by the Society will be appearing on the website. Sheilah said that some coding issues were happening that prevented the list from appearing at the moment.
- There were no questions.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Jamie Pratt
Secunder: Barbara Griffith
Vote: Carried unanimously

Vice Chair

- Andrea Reynolds shared that she has stepped down, but that she saw the executive as a "supportive group" that gave her a "full experience" as a member of the Society.
- Tracy Bryce said that it was important for us to have new blood like Andrea's on the executive.
- There were no questions.

Motion to accept the Vice Chair's report: Sheila Smith
Secunder: Christine Hurlbut
Vote: Carried unanimously

Chair

- Tracy Bryce mentioned Sheilah O'Connor's talk at the Stratford Festival earlier in the summer.

- She also had sent a version of her Chair’s report to the *Ricardian Bulletin* for publication in a future issue.
- She also said that she “can’t do it without you folks” as an appreciation to the members for their support.
- There were no questions.

Motion to accept the Chair’s report: Andrea Reynolds

Secunder: Chris Dickie

Vote: Carried unanimously

Nominations and Elections

- Sheilah O’Connor began the executive committee elections.

Position	Nominated	Result
Librarian	Victoria Moorshead	Acclaimed
Sales Officer	Sheila Smith	Acclaimed
Vice Chair	Andrea Bellefeuille	Acclaimed
Treasurer	Victoria Moorshead	Acclaimed
Membership Secretary	Sheilah O’Connor	Acclaimed
Corresponding Secretary	Sheilah O’Connor	Acclaimed
Editor, RIII	Christine Hurlbut	Acclaimed
Chair	Tracy Bryce	Acclaimed

Other business

- Jamie Pratt commented on having the Buyers Library in his one-bedroom home and that space was a premium for those in Toronto. A.J. Hunter said that he had considered taking over the Library, but that getting it to British Columbia would be a great expense. Barbara Griffith suggested a storage locker, but the ongoing expenses and delays in getting items to members would be prohibitive. Andrea Reynolds and Murray Grabinsky said that they are considering taking over the Library, as they now live in Cornwall and have a larger basement with bookshelves.
- After the elections, Andrea Bellefeuille said that she was “very honoured” to be the new Vice Chair and Sheila Smith thanked everyone.

- Sheilah O'Connor commented that it took three of us to do the job of Tracy Bryce at the September meeting – herself to chair, Victoria Moorshead as back-up, and Andrea Reynolds to do the minutes. New Business:
- Tracy Bryce mentioned that we, as members of the parent Richard III Society, agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct put out last year. Tracy said that she would send out the Code of Conduct and our own branch's updated constitution after the meeting.
- The Parent Society held its own AGM earlier today and both Tracy and Sheilah attended the event. They said that the audio was very bad, so not all matters discussed could be heard.
- The presentation was by Tim Sutherland, who spoke about the battle wounds of Richard III compared to wounds suffered by others in battles such as Towton.
- Sheilah shared that the Society-commissioned painting of the two princes, which will be available to anyone, could be finished shortly and the York play was also discussed, but it too is unfinished at this time. Kim Harding was presented with the Robert Hamblin Award.
- Joanna Laynesmith and Iain Farrell were the joint winners of the inaugural Jeremy Potter Award for the Schools Conference project on the Wars of the Roses.
- There are two new members of the board, Annette Carson and Kim Harding.
- There was a discussion about access to the Vatican Apostolic Archive for possible papers and the upcoming 100th anniversary of the Society's founding, in 2024. In the U.K., the Duke of Gloucester will attend a celebratory dinner.
- It was proposed that an increase of £3 (three pounds) should be made to all levels of membership, as the Parent Society is "losing money every year".
- Sheilah O'Connor commented on Anne Sutton's death, as this leaves the *Ricardian* without an editor. A.J. Hunter suggested Annette Carson, who, although a published author, does not have the academic training for a scholarly journal.
- Victoria Moorshead then thanked Catya Hynard and Andrea Reynolds for their service on the executive of the Richard III Society of Canada.

- Garry Marnoch commented on the range of topics covered by Society members in their presentations in the past year and thanked the speakers.
- Doug Woodger commented that if the Parent Society is losing money, perhaps they should go down to three issues of the Bulletin a year. Sheilah said that that had not been suggested at the AGM. A.J. Hunter said that he thought the Bulletin was a good publication and he would be interested in seeing more issues, not fewer. He then went on to say that there might be an upcoming meeting of Ricardians on the West Coast. A.J. then kindly offered to pay for the Zoom licence for the Society, as he felt he got a lot out of the Society and wished to see it continue online.
- Charles Veale suggested hybrid meetings – online and in-person. Victoria Moorshead said that she was attending a meeting (non-Ricardian) on Thursday that is hybrid and would report on the matter at a future meeting.
- Garry Marnoch said that he felt the Bulletin was a great mission statement for the Society and that it is a high-quality resource.
- Barbara Griffith asked Sheilah O'Connor and Tracy Bryce about being in the U.K. during the days following the Queen's death.
- Charles Veale asked if the bones in Westminster Abbey would be analysed for surviving DNA now that the Queen is dead and can no longer object. The Parent Society already has a playbook for how they are going to go about getting permission from Charles III to do this.

The Annual General Meeting ended with Catya Hynard and Chris Dickie running a Richard-III-themed Jeopardy game. Eighteen members stayed for the game. At 3.33 p.m. EDT, the meeting was adjourned.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Sheilah O'Connor

Seconder: Mona Albano

Vote: Carried unanimously

—Tracy Bryce, Chair Victoria Moorshead, Recording Secretary



Meeting Schedule 2022-2023

During the pandemic, our meetings will be conducted remotely. using Zoom. Meetings are usually on the second Sunday of the month and are at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

Date	Paper/Activity
October 1, 2022, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)	AGM via ZOOM
November 13, 2022	Ray Rawlings <i>Bishop Robert Stillington</i>
January 8, 2023	Sheila Smith <i>Katherine Neville, Duchess of York</i>
February 12, 2023	Clement Carelse <i>Medieval Cathedrals: Concept and Construction</i>
March 12, 2023	Juliet Howland <i>Philippa of Clarence: The Mother of York</i>
April 9, 2023	Catya Hynard <i>Familial resemblance through royal portraiture</i>
May 7, 2023	Andrea Reynolds <i>TBA</i>
June 11, 2023	Richard III Society of Canada members <i>Selected Ricardian biographies for website</i>

Please also look for our emails about remote meetings in other areas.

Memorabilia Sales

— Sheila Smith, Toronto, Ontario

I am very pleased to be taking on the position of Sales Officer and hope to continue from the excellent work done by Catya Hynard before me.

Currently, our stock includes window decals, enamel brooches, magnets, tote bags, and tea towels from our 50th anniversary. These items can be viewed on our website: [Ricardian Memorabilia](#) – Richard III Society of Canada.

I have lots of ideas and suggestions for the future. In the meantime, I would love to hear from our members about what they would like to see. My mandate is to provide “suitable Ricardian or medieval items for sale to the membership”. So, send me your wish lists (but no guarantees!). I would love some feedback; please reach out to me at sales@richardiii.ca.

Richard III Society of Canada Executive 2022–2023

Chair: **Tracy Bryce**, Chair@richardIII.ca

Vice-Chair: **Andrea Bellefeuille**, ViceChair@richardIII.ca

Treasurer: **Victoria Moorshead**, Treasurer@richardIII.ca

Membership & Corresponding Secretary: **Sheilah O’Connor**,
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Thank you to Mona Albano for production assistance for the *RIII*. mona.albano@gmail.com

