

## BRANCH PROGRAMME 2019 – 2020

We are very much indebted to our Branch Secretary for the hard work she has put in when arranging this varied programme.

Please show your appreciation by helping arrangements to run smoothly. Members are asked to book early, using the slips provided and to pay by the dates specified. Please write the event being booked on to the back of your cheque. Further payment information can be found on the back cover of the programme.

The Branch is not able to take bookings without a properly completed booking slip.

Richard Wheeldon  
Branch Chairman

### MEETINGS:

Time: Please note that meetings will begin at **7.30 pm**.

Venue: Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre  
Grantham, NG31 9PY.

Prices for all coach trips will include Driver's gratuity whenever possible.

You must check with Travel Wright Ltd on 01636 703813 if you are planning to park at Wrights' Depot.

Worried about parking your car? No problem, there is plenty of secure parking at Westborough Lodge Farm; just ask Jean!

### School History Prize

Each year the Branch chooses a local school and awards a substantial cash prize, to be spent on learning materials, together with a prize to a pupil presenting the best school project about King Richard III. A book will also be awarded as an addition to the school library.

Members are asked to nominate either a junior or senior school for consideration. Please send your ideas to Jean Townsend.

### TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2019

#### *'30 YEARS OF EXPERIMENTING WITH HISTORY, ON & OFF THE SCREEN'*

A talk by Ruth Goodman – in conjunction with The Friends of Gainsborough Old Hall Association.

A specialist in British social history, Ruth is a familiar face on TV presenting such programmes as 'Secrets of the Castle' and 'Tudor Monastery Farm'. Ruth's intriguing journey has influenced her life in the modern world. She has challenged many of the 'facts' that are regularly tossed around in books, on screen and on the internet. Working with an amazing array of fascinating and talented people, her interest in history has opened so many doors and made life a richer, more engaging experience. Not dry and dusty, but vigorous, creative and highly social.

Gainsborough Old Hall, Parnell St, Gainsborough, Lincs, DN21 2NB

Time 7.30pm

£8.00 per ticket – please see MAUREEN WHEELDON. Cheques to Richard III Society Lincolnshire Branch.

### FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2019

#### BRANCH CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Welby Arms, Allington, Nr Grantham, Lincs, NG32 2EA

Time: 7.30 for 8.00 pm.

Price: £24.00 for a 3-course meal, tea/coffee.

Cheese board is £1.50 extra to be paid when booking. Menu choice available from Jean.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW.

PLEASE NOTE that cheques made payable to Richard III Society Lincolnshire Branch marked 'Christmas Dinner' on the back, should be handed/sent to our Treasurer, Ruth Meates. Please see the back cover for Ruth's address.

### WEDNESDAY 04 DECEMBER 2019

#### *BRANCH CHRISTMAS VISIT TO CASTERNE HALL, DERBYSHIRE*

Our lunch stop will be at Ashbourne, which has over 200 listed buildings, a beautiful church, some good independent shops and plenty of places to eat.

Casterne Hall is a manor house set high above the Manifold Valley in the heart of the Peak District. The Hurt family acquired Casterne Hall in the late 15<sup>th</sup> Century and live there still. The house is a mixture of periods and is very much a family home. On arrival a glass of mulled wine will be followed by a talk about the history of the house by the owner, Charles Hurt. The house will be traditionally decorated for Christmas (even the dolls' house is decorated!). Exploration of the house will be followed by a substantial tea in front of the log fire.

We are privileged to have this opportunity to visit this family home; our party cannot exceed 25 people. Early booking is advisable.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW.

Price - £40.00 per person – includes coach travel, house tour and tea. The full amount is due with the booking. Cheques payable to JEAN marked 'Casterne Hall' on the back.

Coach pick up times: Wright's Depot 8.30 am, Balderton 8.45 am, Royal Oak Long Bennington, 9.00 am.

SATURDAY 18 JANUARY 2020 – Please Note the Date

*BRANCH PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AND MEMBERS' EVENING*

This is your evening, with time for a chat over tea, coffee and cake! Browse the book stall or join in the competitions. The choice is yours.

There will be our annual Photographic Competition, judged by retired Grantham photographer, Gary Cant. Gary was a professional photographer and he is constantly surprised at the diversity of subject matter; he finds something of merit in all the entries, so do not be afraid to have a go. Anyone can enter - you do not need an expensive camera to take a good photograph. Just send two of your photographs size 8" x 10" on any historical subject to Jean before 07 January 2020. No names on the back, but please give each an appropriate title! A fabulous prize awaits the winner, with prizes for the runners up. If you cannot attend but wish to enter the photographic competition, please send your photographs to Jean; she will ensure they are returned safely.

Jean will also devise one of her fiendish quizzes with yet another super prize for the winner.

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm.

WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2020

*A WINTER WARMER COACH TRIP*

*BEVERLEY MINSTER AND THE TOWN'S HIGHLIGHTS WITH DR JONATHAN FOYLE*

Beverley is the subject of Jonathan's latest book and the day will be spent exploring the Minster and the town in his company. Jonathan is both a knowledgeable and inspirational speaker and our members are extremely lucky to share his expertise. It will be a fascinating and educational day. There are places to take lunch close to the Minster or take your own food if you prefer.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW.

Price - £45.00 per person. Cheques payable to JEAN marked 'Beverley Minster' on the back.

Coach pick ups: Wright's Depot, Balderton, Royal Oak Long Bennington. Times to be advised.

SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2020

*'WEIRD AND WONDERFUL CREATURES OF THE MEDIEVAL BESTIARY'*

A talk by Elaine Mein.

Elaine is a historic trader and semi-professional actor. She presents her talks in costume in the guise of a medieval Cunning Woman, with a range of found and made objects to help people see life through the eyes of ordinary medieval men and women. An informative and amusing speaker who really knows her subject. Be prepared for an entertaining evening.

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm.

FRIDAY 06 MARCH 2020

*A MYSTERY TOUR*

Following the success of last year's trip, many members have asked that a Mystery Tour be included in this year's programme. However, there must be enough people to cover expenses before Jean can book the coach and organise an itinerary. A good way to blow away the winter cobwebs and explore somewhere unexpected! Friends and family are most welcome

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN BY END JANUARY

Price – to be advised and will depend upon numbers, but should be approximately £35.00 per person and include a two-course lunch.

The more passengers, the cheaper the trip!

Coach pick up times to be advised.

SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2020

*'MASTER MAIL MAKER'*

A talk by Nick Checksfield.

Nick really is a Master Mail Maker; he also restores objects for museums etc. A professional lecturer, his talk covers many subjects including mail, armour and knighthood. He will bring along some examples of his craft.

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm.

SUNDAY 12 APRIL 2020

*SUNDAY LUNCH AT BESTWOOD LODGE\*, NEAR NOTTINGHAM*

Our annual visit to the site of the medieval hunting lodge where Richard III was staying when he heard that Henry Tudor had landed at Milford Haven. Come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the edge of Sherwood Forest in a place familiar to King Richard. Raise your glass to the last Plantagenet King of England. This is an opportunity to view the superb commemorative plaque presented to the hotel in August 2019 by the Richard III Society.

Lunch at 1.00 pm. Sunday lunch is a carvery with vegetarian options. Choose your lunch on the day but please book with JEAN by the end of FEBRUARY and include £5.00 deposit per person.

Price to be advised.

This is an 'own cars' excursion. Anyone requiring a lift should please see Jean.

\*Bestwood Lodge Hotel, Bestwood Country Park, ARNOLD, Nottingham, NG5 8NE.

THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2020

*ST GEORGE'S DAY*

We traditionally celebrate with a bring and share supper, but this year there will be a pub lunch instead, to avoid the cost of venue hire if only a few people wish to participate. Add prestige to the occasion by wearing something patriotic - red and white, St George's colours. A ribbon will do!

The venue will be The Royal Oak in Long Bennington. The price will be whatever you choose from the menu.

Time 12.30 for 1.00.

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2020

'LAUND ABBEY, RICHARD III AND THOMAS CROMWELL'

An illustrated talk by Katie Bridges.

Katie returns by popular request. She is a historian specialising in the social and cultural history of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Century England. Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm.

MONDAY 11 MAY – THURSDAY 14 MAY 2020

*COACH HOLIDAY TO MONMOUTHSHIRE*

Based at the Speech House, which was originally built as a hunting lodge for Charles II in the very centre of the Forest of Dean. It is an interesting building that retains some historic features and artefacts from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, but most importantly it has a reputation for good food! It is the site of one of the two existing Verderers Courts in this country. The Court meets four times a year in the dining room and has been doing so since the 1600s. The hotel does not have a lift but with this in mind, Jean has booked as many courtyard bedrooms as available and a couple of first floor rooms. Some of the rooms have four-poster beds! All rooms have tea/coffee making facilities, en-suite bathrooms, free WiFi and televisions. There is wheelchair access and mobility scooter charging.

The hotel is ideally located to visit Chepstow Castle, Raglan, Monmouth (to see the 14<sup>th</sup> Century Monnow Bridge and birthplace of Henry V). Abergavenny has the beautiful St Mary's Church, known as the Westminster Abbey of Wales because of its size and memorials dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> Century. Jean will attempt to get into Tredegar House, which is one of the architectural wonders of Wales.

Price - £382.00 per person includes all coach pick-ups, all visits, 3 nights bed and breakfast and evening meal (with a meal choice). Single supplement (in a double room) is £60.00 inclusive. Personal insurance can be arranged at £16.50 per person at time of booking.

There must be at least 20 people to run at this price.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW WITH A £50.00 NON-RETURNABLE DEPOSIT PER PERSON WITH YOUR BOOKING FORM AS ROOMS HAVE TO BE SECURED ASAP. Cheques payable to JEAN, marked 'Wales' on the back. The full amount must be paid BY THE END OF MARCH.

Coach pick-up times: Wrights' Depot 8.00 am, Balderton 8.15 am, Westborough Lodge 8.30 am. There is plenty of secure parking at Westborough Lodge – please see Jean.

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2020

*AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ...*

*RICHARD III MEETS EBAY*

*A MESSAGE FROM JEAN*

The Branch Auction has been poorly attended in recent years. In addition the 2020 Denton Street Market will not be held and the Branch will feel the loss as our tombola stall is an important source of income. Consequently Jean Townsend has devised another way in which to fund the programme of events. She needs the support of members.

Would each member please donate an item for Jean to sell on eBay. The following sell well: vintage clothing; old and new cameras or watches – working or not; binoculars; jewellery; mobile 'phones and old telephones; transport memorabilia; vintage, leather, Italian and designer handbags; suitcases; good shoes and boots; vintage linen; medals etc. No glass or large pottery items please although small pottery items are acceptable. Anything vintage is especially popular at the moment. Weight is not a problem – the buyer pays the postage or collects the purchase in person. Now is your chance to clean out your cupboards and drawers or to raid the charity shops! One item per member please, or more if you are feeling generous. Jean is giving her time freely; all members need to do is give support and contribute to this venture.

There will be a superb prize for the member whose items of sale make the most money plus another prize for the runner up.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR DONATED ITEMS ARE WITH JEAN BY 15 MAY 2020.

Saturday 13 June 2020 - the winner will be revealed at a get-together.

We will not have our usual Pot Luck supper but please bring some nibbles to share or cake and a drink of your choice. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. This evening will celebrate the Branch's 44<sup>th</sup> year. Jean will bring some slides of past visits and events; she promises these will raise a smile!

If you cannot attend, worry not; the winner and runner up will still get their respective prizes.

Time – 7.30 pm

Venue will depend upon numbers.

Jean gives her thanks in anticipation of members' support.

SATURDAY 27 JUNE - MONDAY 29 JUNE 2020

By popular request

*COACH TRIP TO COUNTY DURHAM TO SEE 'KYNREN' ... A JOURNEY THROUGH 2000 YEARS OF ENGLISH HISTORY'*

This is a multi-award-winning action packed live theatre on an enormous scale. It is the story of England performed by a cast of 1000. Kynren is an Anglo Saxon word meaning kin or family. This is a spectacular event and a 'must see' for anyone, whether you are a history buff or not.

Based at the Redworth Hall Hotel near Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, a 17<sup>th</sup> Century Jacobean manor house situated in 26 acres of landscaped grounds. The hotel was once the family home of George and Eleanor Crosier and is a very picturesque building. All rooms are en-suite; there is a swimming pool and a spa.

There will be time for visits to Durham and the new installations at Beamish.

Price - £289.00 per person includes all coach pick-ups, all visits and superior seats at Kynren and bed, breakfast and evening meals.

Single supplement (in a double room) is £55.00. Personal insurance can be arranged at the time of booking at £19.50 per person

There must be at least 20 people to run at this price for Jean to organise an itinerary.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW WITH A £50.00 NON-RETURNABLE DEPOSIT PER PERSON WITH YOUR BOOKING FORM.

Cheques payable to JEAN, marked 'Kynren' on the back. The full amount must be paid BY THE END OF APRIL.  
Coach pick-ups: Wrights' Depot, Balderton, Westborough Lodge. There is plenty of secure parking at Westborough Lodge – please see Jean. Pick-up times to be advised.

FRIDAY 17 JULY 2020  
THE MUGASETH MEMORIAL LECTURE  
'THE RESTLESS KINGS'

A talk by Dr Nick Barratt

This is the title of Nick's latest book; a vivid and humane study of the Plantagenets' diabolical and devious first family. Nick is an author, broadcaster and historian and Director of Senate House Library at the University of London. Genealogical Consultant for the TV programme 'Who Do You Think You Are?', he also presented 'Live the Dream' on TV, together with Melissa Porter and 'So You Think You are Royal?'. Nick is a superb speaker and returns to the Branch by popular request.

Venue: The Urban Hotel Grantham, Swingbridge Rd, Grantham, NG31 7XT.

Time 7.30pm PRICE £8.00 per ticket.

Tickets will be on sale in April – please see MAUREEN WHEELDON. Please book by the end of MAY. Cheques to Richard III Society Lincolnshire Branch.

SATURDAY 08 AUGUST 2020  
BRANCH FUND RAISING EVENING  
'HIDDEN TREASURES'

An illustrated talk by Jean Townsend.

We are all aware of the famous treasures to be found in this country, including great houses, works of art and the priceless and beautiful artefacts that can be found in our museums. This talk explores the not so famous and, in some cases, the virtually unknown. The obscure treasures that are sometimes tucked away or in plain sight but not appreciated for what they are. Their historical importance is often undervalued. Jean will reveal some of her favourite Hidden Treasures. Each has a story to tell and they are an eclectic mix of items, ranging from buildings to exquisite domestic pieces.

We will have a raffle and a book stall. Please donate raffle items to MAUREEN WHEELDON and books to STEVE FOOTIT.

Tickets £6.00 – includes tea/coffee and cake.

Offers of help and home made cakes please!

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm

Tickets will be on sale in April – please see MAUREEN WHEELDON. Please book by the end of MAY. Cheques payable to Richard III Society Lincolnshire Branch.

SUNDAY 09 AUGUST 2020.

BRANCH PICNIC - 'TWO COUNTIES THAT LAY CLAIM TO ROBIN HOOD, A PINHOLE VIEW OF ERIC, THE BURIAL PLACE OF THE HUSBAND OF ANNE NEVILLE (AUGUSTINE CANONS LAID HIM TO REST). A CHURCH THAT SHELTERS A COUSIN OF RICHARD III, A NIECE OF WARWICK THE KINGMAKER AND A GRIEVING HUSBAND'S TRIBUTE TO A DEAD WIFE. WHERE ARE WE?'

Answers to Jean in an envelope prior to the picnic. There will be a prize for the winner.

By popular request, we will have another coach trip and mystery tour. The usual picnic format will apply; bring your own chair and a picnic lunch. If the weather is poor, we can picnic on the coach. Come along and enjoy pleasant countryside and beautiful historic buildings. There will be morning coffee/tea and biscuits en-route and a yummy afternoon tea.

Price - £40.00 per person - includes coach, coffee/tea and biscuits, all visits and sumptuous afternoon tea.

Cheques to be payable to JEAN, marked 'Picnic' on the back, before the end of APRIL. PLEASE NOTE - We must have 25 people to run at this price. The outing is subject to cancellation dependent upon a review of the number of bookings received by the end of May.

Coach pick up: Wrights' Depot, Balderton, Royal Oak Long Bennington. Pick-up times to be advised.

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 2020  
*REQUIEM MASS FOR KING RICHARD III – SPITAL CHAPEL, LINCOLNSHIRE*

This is a moving occasion followed by delicious refreshments by courtesy of the Lincolnshire Branch. The Chapel is a unique and lovely building in which to remember King Richard and all who fell on Bosworth Field. If you have never visited Spital Chapel you will be amazed, as it is a lovely little building. Seats are limited at this event.

Attendance by ticket only. Book with JEAN. There is no charge for this event, which is held in the afternoon; time to be advised.

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER – MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2020  
'COACH HOLIDAY TO NORTHERN FRANCE'

Visiting the Palace of Fontainebleau, the medieval walled town of Moret Sur Loing and the world-famous water gardens of Chateau de Courances. Close by is the medieval village of Milly-la-Forêt and the lovely artists' village of Barbizon. Fontainebleau was a royal hunting lodge in the Middle Ages and a haunt of the French kings. It was the favourite residence of both Francis I and Napoleon Bonaparte. Parts of the palace date from the 11<sup>th</sup> Century and its interior is sumptuously furnished. The splendid grounds even include an English garden! Fontainebleau Palace and Moret Sur Long are on the edge of the mysterious and ancient Fontainebleau Forest.

We stay at the Novotel Saclay, a renovated farmhouse with inside and outside pools. There is disabled access and free portage. All rooms have tea/coffee making facilities and en-suite bathrooms.

Price - £424.00 per person includes coach pick-ups, return Eurotunnel crossings, 3 nights bed and breakfast, all evening meals, all visits. Single supplement (double room) £103.00. Personal insurance can be arranged at £30.00 per person, payable at time of booking.

PLEASE BOOK WITH JEAN NOW WITH A £50.00 NON-RETURNABLE DEPOSIT PER PERSON.

Cheques payable to JEAN, marked 'France' on the back. Please note that the full amount must be paid by the end of MAY.  
Coach pick up: Wrights' Depot, Balderton, Westborough Lodge. Pick-up times to be advised.

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2020

*BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*

Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Community Centre – 7.30 pm.