

August 2021

Dear Member

As you know Bosworth Links is a Community Based Archaeological Project which began in 2016. Some members will have taken part in the digs in 2017, 2018 and 2019. If you did and enjoyed taking part, there is good news! If you did not take part but wished you had done so, there is good news! But where did it all begin?

For me it was almost fate. Lynne and I had decided to join the Market Bosworth Society after moving back to Market Bosworth. What started as a membership enquiry ended up in me becoming elected Chairman. Peter Loseby was stepping down and persuaded me to offer myself to the members as their next chairman. Sometime earlier Peter had discussed an idea with Chris Peat and Tony Squires to fill in the gaps in our historical knowledge between 1410 and the 1086, roughly speaking, the exit of the Romans and the arrival of the Normans. As the idea developed the Market Bosworth Society took it forward. Having secured a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the support of Professor Carenza Lewis, whose method we adopted together with others such as Peter Liddle MBE and Mathew Morris. Peter Liddle ran our pottery identification masterclasses for us and Mathew, led the test pitting. We recruited Gemma Tallis as our project leader and the project was underway. A small sub-committee, initially made up of me, Peter Loseby, Heather Broughton, Richard Liddington, Mathew Morris, Gemma Tallis, Judy Buckell, and Marion Lambourne developed and delivered the project.

Over those three years we dug 60 test pits in and around Market Bosworth with over 130 adult volunteers and 550 children taking part. Ages ranged from three to ninety, everyone had a role to play, and every role was key to the success. We discovered pottery dating to the Neolithic Era (circa 500 BC) and a computer chip dated to the twenty first century. We discovered Roman Pottery, Early, Middle and Late Saxon pottery, Tudor Pottery all the way to the modern era. We charted the population rises and falls over the centuries. We uncovered human stories, a clay pipe maker



died, and his wife took over the business of making clay pipes. All from looking at what was in a relatively small hole in the ground, and from which a huge seven boxes of finds were unearthed.

We and our volunteers had so much fun we did not want the project to end. We decided to embark on something not previously attempted or documented. If market Bosworth was a hub, did the villages nearby share the same history? We were going to get this underway in 2020 but we all know what happened next. It will now take place in 2021 to 2024. Our plan is to start work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, next year.

So, come on, get involved, read the reports, look at the photographs and enjoy the video all here: <https://marketbosworthsociety.com/bosworth-links/> but far more importantly fill in the volunteer form and become part of this wonderful project.

Come on, let's go time travelling!

## Quiz time

Starting this month with an easy one with a midlands Theme!

1. What chocolate company is situated at Bournville?

- Nestle
- Terrys
- Mars
- Cadbury

2. Which city is situated in the Midlands?

- Glasgow
- Bristol
- London
- Birmingham

3. The village of Snowhill was used in which 2001 movie?

- 'Bridget Jones Diary'
- 'Lucky Break'
- 'Parole Officer'
- 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone'

4. Which theme park is situated in the Midlands?

- Alton Towers
- Oakwood
- Chessington
- Thorpe Park

5. Britain's first indoor real snow slope is situated in which Midland town?

- Tamworth
- Wolverhampton
- Leamington
- Dudley

6. What of these BBC children's programmes are not filmed in the Midlands?

- Brum
- Teletubbies
- Tweenies
- Rosie and Jim

7. What is the name of the millennium attraction in Birmingham?

- Millennium Dome

- Millennium Bridge
- Angel of the North
- Millennium Point

8. What is the Metro system in the Midlands?

- Underground railway
- Shopping Arcade
- Police Squad
- Tram Link

9. Which football team is not a Midlands team?

- Middlesbrough
- West Bromwich Albion
- Aston Villa
- Wolverhampton Wanderers

10. How many miles approximately from Birmingham to London?

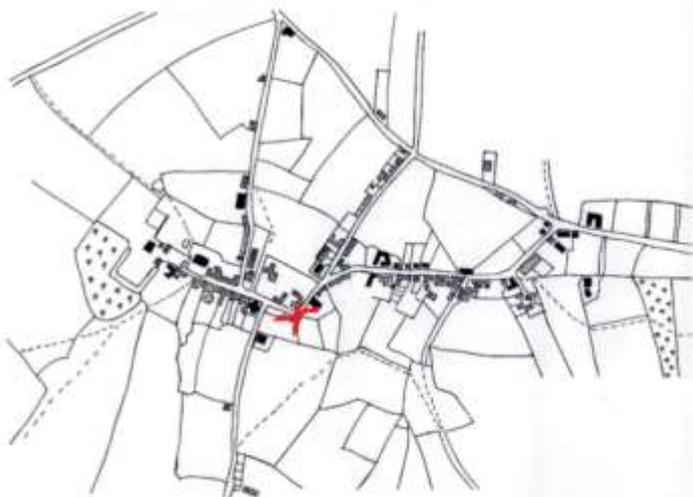
- 149
- 110
- 142
- 76

## Newbold Verdon Heritage Walks

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August, Lynne and I went for a Heritage Walk in Newbold Verdon with Roger King. Roger will be coming to us as a lecturer in October. Roger has written a booklet Newbold Verdon 1920 to 1950 which is a fascinating history of the village packed with interesting facts and human stories. I have included a short excerpt in a previous Newsletter and plan to share more later, all with Rogers permission. Roger has collected a huge archive of priceless documents about Newbold Verdon and is in the process of making them available via the library. Heritage Walks have only just started running, but Roger did an excellent job. We commenced at 6:00 pm and we were both astonished when we realised it was 8:00 pm. The time simply melted away.

We met at the junction of Mill Lane and Main Street. I have indicated on the 1930's map (shown left) where

that is. It is all rather different now to how it was back then. We travelled only a relatively short distance in metres but over a hundred years in time. We learned so much, and I don't want to spoil it for you. One event which I doubt will be repeated happened when we had not moved far. We were standing opposite the War Memorial when we were joined by the owner of the adjacent cottage. The cottage was once a butchers shop (I was surprised at just how many butchers shops and pubs for that



matter there were in Newbold Verdon in the 1920's). The owner told us that his cottage still had a wooded wheel which the butcher used to hang meat. He insisted we come in and see it. We all traipsed through his house, his wife poor woman, was eating dinner but smiled and welcomed us. The wooden wheel is near the ceiling and is supported by a round wooden beam. The wheel still goes around. I don't know if Roger will be adding this to the walk but if so, hopefully not at dinner time. We moved on to the Old Schoolhouse (seen below taken from Brascote Lane)

Built through sheer tenacity on the part of the then Rector who was desperate for the village to have a school.



That school was not always prized, as we shall read! The book contains some references to the school logbook:

### **Date School Logbook Entry 6th Nov 1945**

*Mr Statham (school governor) visited the school and criticised the 'very dirty condition' He suggested redecoration and floors to be refurbished.*

*The Head Teacher added that owing to war conditions, no painting and decorating had been done for nearly eight years.*

And then

### **9th Jan 1946**

*The school has been emergency decorated but not painted*

Two years later, the head teacher was reporting a problem of a different kind. In September of that year he recorded that there were only 98 children in the school, down from 130 in 1947, and, therefore, he had to return to teaching full time.

### **School Logbook Entry, 27th July 1948**

*This terrific drop in numbers is the largest in our history and is due to (1) the policy of building houses for this village in Desford and (2) a very large age group leaving*

His predicament only lasted a couple of years when the fall in pupil numbers was reversed following the erection of large numbers of new houses in Newbold Verdon. Mr Cadle's reference to the house building at Desford was in relation to a number of houses erected to re-house those living in some of the poorest accommodation in both villages. John Hill believed that this wholesale movement of families out of Newbold was, for him, the moment when the village began to change.

Another logbook entry demonstrates the rural nature of the village during the second world war:

## School Logbook Entry 16<sup>th</sup> September

*This afternoon the children went gleaning in Mr Milner's field.*

17th September *More gleaning today. 6 tea-chests of wheat gathered*

26<sup>th</sup> September *School closed tonight for fortnight potato harvest.*

Roger goes on to explain in the book that Gleaning was the collecting in of the heads of wheat that had not been gathered by the farmer and his workers when harvesting. It would not have been economical to ask farm labourers to do this task, but a group of children could do it for free.

Six tea chests of wheat were gleaned that would otherwise have gone to waste. Later that month, the whole school closed for a fortnight so that children could help with the potato picking. This brought back memories of my own childhood although as I was a 'worker' on South Farm for the Perry's, and they did not grow potatoes I did not suffer the back aching work of spud bashing.

We carried on towards the Hall, now Hall Farm and the Church, St. James. Both my paternal grandparents are buried there, my father worked on the tower in the 1960's and both my children were Christened there.

On the way to the church, we learned where the Blacksmith was and that men waiting to see the doctor in the front room of a cottage opposite gathered to keep warm by the furnace in Winter. We learned about the lives of some of the inhabitants of the small, two up two down cottages one did very well for himself, but there I go again, giving you the plot! One of the cottages on Church Row was inhabited by Charles Bacon, he describes his home and gives an inventory (see below) The Living room was 12' by 14' (3.6M by 4.2M) and a kitchen of 8' by 6' (2.4M by 1.8M) above were two identically sized rooms.

### Charles Bacon describes the inventory of his home

*It is with pride I set out an inventory of my early home furniture.*

*Living Room - Square deal table, oak side table, 1 long case clock, armchair, easy chair, 4 small chairs, 1 stool and a homemade couch, 4 pictures and a small book case. On the table was the family Bible, Pilgrims Progress and Sankeys Hymns and others. On the floors were homemade rugs. The floors downstairs were common bricks whilst upstairs were of plaster and straw covered with homemade mats.*

*Kitchen - Small brick wash stand, shelves and pantry under the stairs.*

*Front Bedroom - two beds, 1 wooden box. In one corner was a clean sheet hanging up for a wardrobe. In this were 4 long silk top hats with crepe hat bands. My mother lent these to neighbours at Funerals. She also attended many at sickness and death.*

*Back bedroom - One three quarter bed, one stand, two small wooden barrels for keeping wine and homemade herb beer.*



The picture on the left, taken in 1952 shows Miss Jean Prime, May Queen and her entourage standing on the Hall Steps. To her left is my late Aunt Joyce Pengelly (nee Palmer).

To book a place on one of these truly excellent walks please contact Roger via email [roger@rogerking.co.uk](mailto:roger@rogerking.co.uk). I cannot recommend them highly enough. Thank you to Roger for his kind permission to share extracts from his book.

## Market Bosworth Society – Summer Visit to the Blaby Icehouse.

We have waited since February 2020 for events to resume and what better than an open air event in the lovely



*Let the visit commence!*

Bouskell Park? Even this was not straightforward as Covid reared its ugly head in July when the guide team were told to self-isolate after one of their members contracted the virus. Happily, all went smoothly in August and a small but enthusiastic band of 14 members had a most enjoyable afternoon visit. After grouping up in the car park we were met by Gemma who was to be our guide. Gemma was the Project Manager for the refurbishment of the Icehouse so there was none better to guide us. We were told that the park was the pleasure ground for the Victorian occupants of Blaby Hall just across the way and the land had been purchased by Blaby Council to create a park, giving it a separated feeling. The Park is well used with people exercising themselves and their dogs. We next walked to the side of the park to look at Blaby Hall built in 1837 on the site of a previous hall. It is in private ownership, and we were not able to visit. The undulations of the ground suggested that there may be something below, LIDAR was used to look at any underground features. A series of test pits were dug. Surprisingly little was found until the 40cm mark when almost every pit produced Medieval pottery from between the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries, with some producing Roman pottery. What was going on before or after that remains a mystery, it may have been a small medieval farmstead just outside of Blaby. There will be a link to the Test Pitting Reports issued imminently and I will share that with members when we have it. The pottery found was kitchen ware are not quality pottery associated with tableware or even that likely to be used by residents of any Manor House. We noted that some of the buildings resembled closely the Stable Block (now Reception) at Bosworth Hall.

The icehouse was built in 1848 and was designed to store ice from the pond immediately behind it. It is very unlikely that the Victorian owners of the Hall would put ice from the pond into their drinks, but ice would have been used to cool items and extend the shelf life of comestibles. Ice was imported from time to time but there is no evidence that was the case here. The icehouse was situated at the edge of the Pleasure Ground and just before a pathway known as The Long Walk. Gemma likened this to parking one's Rolls on the drive to impress visitors as owning an icehouse was a Victorian status symbol. The name of the park comes from the Bouskell family who practised law and lived in Blaby Hall in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Peter Loseby reminded us that there was a solicitor by that name who practised in Market Bosworth. Peter went on to say that he always wore a brown suite with a brown hat and a red rose in his lapel.

Throughout the park could be seen examples of ridge and furrow, and a medieval style landscape. The ridge and furrows appeared to run at ninety degrees to each other, in some places. Very reminiscent of Market Bosworth Country Park, particularly just off the entrance to Bosworth Hall. The depressions were caused by two factors. One, a linear depression appears to be the remnant of an ancient way where a test pit did find evidence of rough cobbles the second by quarrying for clay which can be found just below the surface in places.

We were provided with torches to enter the icehouse which had been extensively rebuilt but to the same standard and materials used originally.



Lime mortar was used to rebuild the walls. Each brick was carefully numbered and replaced in the exact position from whence it was taken. Reclaimed bricks of the same period were used to fill in for any lost bricks or bricks which could not be reused. The walls are a double skin, like a modern cavity and they stood on an earth



foundation. Within the icehouse we could see the drain which allowed thawed ice to flow out back to the pond and the hatch in the roof (shown right) through which ice would be thrown for storage. The current doors replaced similar oak doors with blacksmith made handles and hinges.

Thank you, Gemma, for an excellent tour. There are more photographs on the latest news page.

**Our Second Quiz is a little different but still local so you should do well. No excuses and no cheating!**

LEICESTERSHIRE PLACES OR VILLAGES

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22. 👮☕🌳
23. 🌧️💎

## Good news from the Gardening Club

Judy Buckell  
Chairperson Market Bosworth Gardening Club  
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Market Bosworth  
Nuneaton CV13 0NU

01455 290475

[judychrisjohn@btopenworld.com](mailto:judychrisjohn@btopenworld.com).

## MARKET BOSWORTH GARDENING CLUB IS UP AND RUNNING AGAIN AT LAST!!

We are delighted to say that we can start to meet again in Covid safe arrangements at our usual venue of the hall of the Church of Our Lady and St Gregory on Station Road Market Bosworth at 7.30pm.

New and existing members very welcome £4 on the door.

Programme so far for the season:

**Friday September 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Simon Gulliver- Wildlife, the Environment and Organic Gardening

**Friday October 1<sup>st</sup>:** Jeff Bates- Clematis and Other Climbers

**Friday November 5<sup>th</sup>:** Andrew Mikolajski- Shakespeare's Plants and Gardens.

More details from Judy Buckell (contact details above)

## Battle of Bosworth Shields 111 to 116



**111 Sir Robert Brackenbury of Denton, Durham Birth date Unknown Died 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1485**

Sir Robert Brackenbury an English courtier, and Constable of the Tower of London lived during the reign of Richard III. He is believed to have been responsible for enabling the likely murders of the Princes in the Tower, though there is no conclusive proof. He died defending the King at the Battle of Bosworth Field.

He was a younger son of Thomas Brackenbury of Denton, County Durham, England. This was a family which had been known in Durham since the end of the 12th century. They were lords of the manors of Burne Hall, Denton and Saleby. Robert inherited Saleby; in the immediate vicinity of Barnard Castle. Barnard Castle had passed to the Duke of Gloucester (later Richard III) in the right of his wife, Anne Neville in about 1474. Richard III and Brackenbury, were therefore, close neighbours. Indeed, a tower of Barnard Castle is still called Brackenbury Tower.

Brackenbury was one of Richard III's close associates. He was treasurer of Richard's household when he was Duke of Gloucester. When King Edward died Brackenbury was almost certainly one of the Northerners who accompanied Richard to London. Shortly after Richard took the throne Brackenbury received several appointments, including Constable of the Tower of London. After the collapse of the Buckingham Revolt he was rewarded with large grants of land in the south-east of England forfeited by Rivers and the Cheney family and in 1484 was appointed sheriff of Kent.

Brackenbury remained Constable of the Tower and on 17 July 1483 he was appointed Constable of the Tower for life. He was also given the very lucrative post of Master of the King's Moneys and Keeper of the Exchange, that is, Master of the Mint after the execution of William Hastings, 1st Baron Hastings, the previous incumbent. Many other honours and duties were laid on him. In March 1485 he was entrusted with Richard's illegitimate son, John of Gloucester, whom he took to Calais to become its Captain. In May he was placed in command of the defence of London. His income must have exceeded £500 per year – more than many Barons. He was better rewarded than all but three or four of the household. Between August 1484 and January 1485, he was knighted. Brackenbury seems to have been a popular character and had a wide learning. The Italian poet Pietro Carmeliano, dedicated one of his Latin works to him.

As Constable of the Tower of London, Brackenbury inevitably figures in any account of the fate of Richard III's nephews, the Princes in the Tower.

For example, in Thomas More's version of the life of Richard III, More says that after the coronation on 6 July 1483 and while on his way to Gloucester, Richard sent John Green to Brackenbury with written orders for Brackenbury to kill the princes. Brackenbury, says More, replied "that he would never put them to death, though he should die therefore". So Richard then ordered Sir James Tyrrell to go to Brackenbury with a letter by which he was commanded to deliver to Sir James all the keys of the Tower for one night, "to the end he might there accomplish the King's pleasure". Although Thomas More seems to have written a rather convincing account of the events during the reign of Richard III, it should not be relied on completely. Thomas More was only 7 years old during the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

In 1485, when news arrived that Henry Tudor had landed in Wales he was ordered to escort Lords Hungerford and Bouchier to Leicester but en route they escaped. When Richard III marched against the invader, Brackenbury hurried himself to reach the King and arrived two days before the Battle of Bosworth Field, in which he had joint command of Richard's vanguard; he took part in the final charge on Henry and was killed by Sir Walter Hungerford of Farleigh fighting beside Richard III. On 7 November 1485, Brackenbury was posthumously attainted by Henry VII. In a document antedating Henry Tudor's rule, Brackenbury was charged with having "assembled to them at Leicester ... a great host, traitorously intending, imagining and conspiring the destruction of the king's royal person, our sovereign liege lord".

Brackenbury's attainder was partly reversed in 1489 in favour of his sisters and illegitimate son, allowing them to recover the family lands but not the new grants from Richard III. Ralph, his nephew and heir inherited Saleby.



### 112 Percival Thirlwall of Thirlwall, Northumberland Unknown - 1485

Sir Percival Thirlwall was of the Thirlwall family, and he lived in Thirlwall Castle, his family seat from 1325 until 1748. Shown below left.



Sir Percival Thirlwall was the standard-bearer of Richard III during the Battle of Bosworth Field. Thirlwall fought alongside Richard during his final charge against Henry VII – which was considered to be the "swan song of medieval chivalry" – as he was his standard-bearer. He was slain after the intervention of Sir William Stanley and his force. Legend has it that, although Richard's group was failing, Sir Percival held the standard of his King aloft whilst fighting a desperate fight, continuing to do so even with the loss of his legs during combat; he is said to have held the standard until his last breath.

This is how Sir Percivall Thirlwall was portrayed in the Ballad of Bosworth Fielde: "Sir Percivall Thriball, the other hight, & in his hart was true; King Richards' standard hee kept upright until both his' leggs' were hewen him froe; to the ground he wold neuer let itt goe, whilst the breath his brest ws within; yet men pray ffor the knights' that ever was soe true to their King." Shown right is how Sir Percival may have looked before the battle.



### 113 Sir Gervase Clifton of Clifton Nottinghamshire 1438 – 12<sup>th</sup> May 1491

Here is another example of how family names can cause confusion for researchers. Our Sir Gervase was the son of Richard Clifton whose elder brother was Sir Gervase Clifton. He was beheaded in 1471 following the battle of Tewkesbury. Richard then became the heir apparent after his older brother's death. Born in Clifton Nottinghamshire in 1431 his mother was Alice Clifton nee booth. His first marriage was to Alice Clifton nee Neville, on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1456. Following her death, he married again in September 1483 this time to Agnes Clifton nee Constable. He had three children, William Clifton, Gervase Clifton and Aveline Clifton who became a Stanhope. Sir Gervase was a loyal supporter of the Yorkist movement fighting for Richard III at Bosworth. He had several honours among which were Treasurer of Calais in 1482, Sheriff of Nottingham and Derby in 1488, which was bestowed upon him by the new king Henry VII. He died in 1491 and was buried in St. Mary's Church Clifton



The following extract is from Notes on the Early History of the Clifton Family, author unknown. "He was forty years of age when he succeeded his father and was already a prominent supporter of the Yorkist cause. Edward IV appointed his "trusty and well-beloved squire Gervase Clifton" to be receiver-general of all the royal manors and lordships in the counties of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and he was Sheriff three times in that king's reign (1472, 1477 and 1482).

Richard III heaped still greater favour upon him. He was made a Knight of the Bath at the Usurper's coronation, was a commissioner of array for Nottinghamshire and for the East and West Riding of Yorkshire in 1484, and in the same year was rewarded for his services against the rebel Duke of Buckingham by a grant of the Manor of Ratcliffe-on-Soar and lands in Kingston and Kegworth formerly belonging to Buckingham, the Manor of Overton Longueville in Huntingdon forfeited by Sir Roger Tocotes, and the Manor of Dalbury and lands in Etwall and Wirksworth, Derbyshire, part of the escheated estates of Henry, Duke of Exeter. That he was one of the king's trusted supporters is proved by the fact that in 1483-5 he was in the commission of the peace for Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire and the East and West Riding. Sir John Beaumont in his poem on the Battle of Bosworth said that Sir Gervase Clifton was slain there fighting for Richard III, and that only the intercession of his friend Sir John Byron saved his estates for his son, but this is a fiction. He not only survived the change of dynasty in 1485 but managed by some means to procure the favour of the new king. Perhaps like Lord Stanley he changed sides in time to secure a hold on Richmond's gratitude. He was Sheriff of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire in 1488 and in the commission of the peace until he died in London in 1491. As one of the executors of Laurence Bothe or Booth, Archbishop of York, he was responsible

for the founding in 1481 of two perpetual chantries of two chaplains for divine service daily in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist in the Collegiate Church of St. Mary, Southwell "for the good estate of the king and his consort, Elisabeth, Queen of England, and for their souls after death, and the souls of the said Archbishop and his parents and benefactors."



#### **114 Viscount Francis Lovell of Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire.**

Francis Lovell, 9th Baron Lovell, 6th Baron Holland, later 1st Viscount Lovell KG (1456 – Circa 1487) was an English nobleman who was an ally of King Richard III during the War of the Roses. Sir William Catesby, Sir Richard Ratcliffe and he were among Richard's closest supporters, and the third character famously called "the Cat, the Rat and Lovell our dog" in an anti-Ricardian squib. In addition to being an ally, Lovell is attributed as Richard's best friend.

Lovell carried on resisting the new king Henry VII after the Battle of Bosworth in support of the Yorkists. He disappeared after the battle of Stoke Field. He may have survived and lived anonymously but it is more likely he perished in that battle. Some think he escaped to Scotland and some Oxford.

Francis was the son of John Lovell, 8th Baron Lovell and Joan Beaumont, daughter of John Beaumont, 1st Viscount Beaumont. When his father died, the probably eight-year-old Francis inherited the titles of Baron Lovell and Baron Holland. He became a ward of Edward IV of England, who gave him into the charge of Richard Neville, 16th Earl of Warwick, where Edward's youngest brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester also spent some time. It may have been there that the two young men first formed their close association.

By 1466, he was married to Anne Fitzhugh, daughter of Henry Fitzhugh, 5th Baron Fitzhugh. Fitzhugh had married the Earl of Warwick's sister Alice Neville and supported Warwick's rebellion against Edward IV in 1470. As the pardon issued to Henry, Lord Fitzhugh includes Francis Lovell it can be assumed that Francis lived with his father-in-law at this time. When Edward IV had re-established his rule in 1471, he granted the wardship of Francis Lovell, who was still underage, to his sister Elizabeth and her husband John de la Pole, 2nd Duke of Suffolk.

Upon the death of his paternal grandmother Alice Deincourt in 1474 he inherited a large estate, including the lands of the baronies of Deincourt, Grey of Rotherfield, and the feudal barony of Bedale, long a possession of the Stapleton family. The arms of these families all appear on his Garter stall plate in St George's Chapel, and in stained glass windows at Carlton Towers. He was now one of the wealthiest barons in England not holding an Earldom or Dukedom.

Lovell became a follower of his friend, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, to whom he was also linked through their respective marriages: his wife, Anne Fitzhugh was the first cousin of Richard's wife Anne Neville. Lovell served under Richard in the expedition to Scotland in 1482, and was knighted by Richard for it, the same year. After the death of Edward IV on 9 April 1483 he became one of his patron's strongest supporters, though he seems not to have taken an active political part in the proceedings at that time. He had been created a viscount on 4 January 1483, and while still Lord Protector Richard made him Chief Butler and constable of Wallingford Castle.

Richard acceded to the throne on 26 June 1483; at his coronation on 6 July 1483, Francis Lovell bore the third sword of state. Lovell was promoted to the office of Lord Chamberlain, replacing the late William Hastings, and was made a Knight of the Garter in 1483. Lovell helped in the suppression of Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham's rebellion (1483).

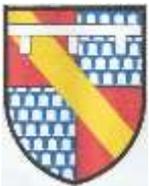
In July 1484, William Colingbourne, a Tudor agent, tacked up a lampooning poem to St. Paul's Cathedral, which mentions Lovell, whose family's heraldic symbol was a silver wolf, among the three aides to King Richard, whose emblem was a white boar:

The Catte, the Ratte and Lovell our dogge  
Rulyth all Englande under a hogge.

In June 1485, Lovell was appointed to guard the south coast to prevent the landing of Henry Tudor. However, Henry Tudor landed in Wales near Milford Haven avoiding the stronger defences of the English south coast. While no chronicle account of the battle mentions Lovell, it seems certain that he fought for Richard at the Battle of Bosworth. The Ballad of Bosworth Field notes that he was sent to Southampton, but it is believed he returned in time to give battle at Bosworth. He escaped death at Bosworth. After the battle, Lovell fled to

sanctuary at Colchester and from there escaped the following year to organise a revolt in Yorkshire that attempted to seize Henry VII. After the failure of this plot, Lovell tried seizing Henry VII in York by himself, and is believed to have been behind an attempted assassination of Henry in York. After the failure of both these attempts, then he first joined fellow rebels at Furness Falls and later fled to Margaret of York in Flanders.

As a chief leader of the Yorkist party, Lovell took a prominent part in Lambert Simnel's enterprise. With John de la Pole, Earl of Lincoln, he accompanied the pretender to Ireland and fought for him at the Battle of Stoke Field on 16 June 1487. He was seen escaping from the battle and may have eventually fled to Scotland, where on 19 June 1488 James IV issued a safe conduct to him. There is, however, no indication he ever arrived or lived in Scotland, and there is no further information about Lovell's fate. Francis Lovell's wife, Anne Fitzhugh, was granted an annuity of £20 in 1489. She was still alive in 1495; the date of her death is not known. Speculation surrounding the Viscount's death include Francis Bacon claiming that he lived in a cave or vault in Scotland. Even more fanciful is that a skeleton found in 1708 in a secret chamber of the family home Minster Lovell in Oxfordshire were his remains. If he did hide there it would have been quite audacious as the property belonged to Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, uncle of king Henry VII which would have meant it an odd place to stow away.



### 115 Sir Marmaduke Constable of Somerby Lincolnshire

Sir Marmaduke Constable (c.1456 – 20 November 1518) of Flamborough, Yorkshire, was a courtier and soldier during the reigns of Richard III, Henry VII and Henry VIII. Constable (shown below left, not assembling his snooker cue) was born around 1456 He was the eldest son and heir of Sir Robert Constable (4 April 1423 – 23 May 1488) of Flamborough, Yorkshire, and Agnes Wentworth (d. 20 April 1496), daughter of Roger Wentworth of North Elmsall, Yorkshire, by Margery le Despenser.

It is now believed that the Constables of Flamborough were followers of the Percy's. Marmaduke's father was in the service of King Edward IV in 1461, but by 1470 both Marmaduke and his father were in the service of Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland. Marmaduke campaigned with the Earl in Scotland in the early 1480's, and Northumberland knighted him at Berwick in August 1482. Marmaduke's epitaph states that he had been with Edward IV in France in 1475, perhaps under Northumberland.



By December 1483 Constable was a knight of the body to King Richard III, and was granted forfeited lands after Buckingham's rebellion. One of the lands he was awarded was the Manor of Bosworth in 1484 replacing the Harcourts, albeit temporarily as Lord of the Manor and interrupting their ownership since 1193. On 28 March 1484 the King granted him the constableness of Tutbury Castle, and other offices.

It is unclear whether Constable fought for Richard III at Bosworth, the Ballad of Bosworth Field records him only as a supporter of Richard III. In any case, he was not attainted, and was granted a pardon by Henry VII on 18 November 1485, was a knight of the body to the King by May 1486, and accompanied him to the wars in France in 1492.

Constable succeeded his father in May 1488, and in November of that year became sheriff of Yorkshire. The first three years of Henry VII's reign were disrupted by risings in the North. Constable's brother-in-law, Sir Humphrey Stafford of Grafton, Worcestershire, was executed at Tyburn on 8 July 1486 for his involvement with Francis Lovell's rising and the Earl of Northumberland was killed by a Yorkshire mob in a rising in 1489. After Northumberland's death, Constable became an associate of Thomas Howard, then Earl of Surrey, who nominated him in 1509 to the Order of the Garter. In 1513 Constable commanded the left wing at the Battle of Flodden under Howard, for which service he received a letter of thanks from the King dated 26 November 1514 in which he is addressed as Sir Marmaduke Constable the elder, 'called the little'.



Constable died on 10 November 1518 after swallowing a frog (some say a toad) while drinking a glass of water. In the Church of St Oswald in Flamborough one may still read a rhyming epitaph describing his life and prowess (shown left).

Constable married firstly Margery Fitzhugh, daughter of Henry Fitzhugh, 5th Baron Fitzhugh, and sister to Alice and Elizabeth Fitzhugh by whom he had no issue.

Constable married again to Joyce Stafford, daughter of Sir Humphrey Stafford (1400 – 7 June 1450) of Grafton, Worcestershire, slain at Sevenoaks by the rebel, Jack Cade, and Eleanor Aylesbury (born c.1406), the daughter of Sir Thomas Aylesbury (d. 9 September 1418) and his second wife, Katherine Pabenham (c.1372 – 17 June 1436), by whom he had four sons and two daughters. They were, Sir Robert Constable (c.1478–1537), knighted at Blackheath on 17 June 1497, and executed for treason for taking part in the Pilgrimage of Grace. He then married Jane Ingleby, the daughter of Sir William Ingleby of Ripley, Yorkshire, by whom he had three sons and four or five daughters.

Another noteworthy member of this family was the regicide, Sir William Constable (died 1655) who fought for Parliament in the English Civil War, and was a signatory to the death warrant of Charles I of England.



### 116 Lord John Audley of Markeaton, Derbyshire 1423 - 1490

Lord John Tuchet, 6th Baron Audley, 3rd Baron Tuchet (1423 – 26 September 1490) was an English politician. John Tuchet was the son of James Tuchet, 5th Baron Audley (c. 1398 - 1459). He married Ann Echyngham (daughter of Sir Thomas Echyngham (died 1444) and Margaret Knyvet, and widow of John Rogers of Bryanston), with whom he had seven children. He acquired his title by writ in 1459 on the death of his father.

In 1460 at Calais, then belonging to the English crown, he was taken prisoner by the Earl of Warwick whilst on a military expedition during the Wars of the Roses. He there met the future Edward IV and was persuaded to defect to the Yorkist cause and fought for Edward at the Battles of Mortimer's Cross (1461), Barnet (1471) and Tewkesbury (1471). He was subsequently invested by Edward in 1471 as a Privy Counsellor . He received commissions of Array. He was joint commander of the Army and held the office of Master of the King's Dogs in 1471. He was present when King Edward bestowed the title of Earl of Winchester upon Louis Soigneur de la Gruthuyse in 1472.

Richard III appointed him Lord High Treasurer in December 1484, in succession to Sir John Wood.

John Tuchet died on 26 September 1490 and was buried at Shere, Surrey. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir James Tuchet, 7th Baron Audley (1463–1497). He was survived by his wife Anne, who was buried at Bermondsey and whose will was written in 1497 and proved in 1498.

More to follow next month!

**Contact Details** Please see the website [www.marketbosworthsociety.com](http://www.marketbosworthsociety.com) for information or email on [info@marketbosworthsociety.com](mailto:info@marketbosworthsociety.com) or if you would like to call me then 07930149408. Correspondence can be sent to Market Bosworth Society, c/o 29 Warwick Lane, Market Bosworth, Leicestershire CV13 0JU.

If you have any items you would like to preserve for future generations, please contact me, or any Committee member. You will find a lot of information on the website and there are some very interesting videos which have been shared by members to entertain one and all, they can all be viewed here: <http://marketbosworthsociety.com/video-page/>

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Nigel Palmer  
Chairman

## **Midlands Quiz Answers**

1. Cadbury
2. Birmingham
3. Bridget Jones Diary
4. Alton Towers
5. Tamworth
6. Tweenies
7. Millennium Point
8. Tram link
9. Middlesbrough
10. 110

## **Leicestershire Villages Quiz Answers**

- 1) Anstey
- 2) Groby
- 3) Earl Shilton
- 4) Belvoir
- 5) Thornton
- 6) Whitwick
- 7) Beaumont Leys
- 8) Wanlip
- 9) Newbold Verdon
- 10) Huncote
- 11) Foxton
- 12) Ratby
- 13) Nanpantan
- 14) Mountsorrel
- 15) East Goscote
- 16) Peckleton
- 17) Rothley
- 18) Frog Island
- 19) Nailstone
- 20) Measham
- 21) Seagrave
- 22) Copt Oak
- 23) Whetstone