



**Urgent Please see**

<https://marketbosworthsociety.com/members-feedback/>

(hold the Ctrl key whilst clicking on the above link)

June 2021

Dear Member

June has been a much better month than the damp May we endured and the coming of the sun brings us hope of a lovely Summer - not even a diversion from the Government's road map can deflate us! I had some very good news recently which I will share with you. I am certain that you will recall Johan Verspay who stayed with Lynne and I for a few weeks in 2018 whilst he volunteered for Bosworth Links. He wanted to learn about Community Archaeology and where better to learn about it than Market Bosworth? We have kept in touch and recently received a lovely card from Johan with this news.



It really cheered us up reading about baby Hugo's safe arrival into the world. I have already sent best wishes from us all at the MBS as I know you would want that. Once the travel bans are fully relaxed we plan a trip to the continent of Europe, assuming we will still be welcome, and plan a visit to see Johan whilst there.

## Heritage Matters

Thanks to those who responded to my request for help last month. I also placed the request for support in Aspect and the Graphic. I have had a number of responses but still need more. The more of you that contact me the more likely we will be to protect our precious assets. I have been given permission to share an example with you provided that it remain anonymous:

*Having read your article in The Graphic, I thought I'd write a quick note in support of keeping the gates on the gated road. Like you, I think the gated road is a valuable asset for community, which we are lucky to have, and it would be great to think this could be preserved for future generations.*

*Having lived either in Bosworth or the surrounding villages for nearly 40 years, I have very much used it, and have many memories of it.*

*For many years, the sight of the cattle that grazed it was a real feature of the road, but more than that, the wildlife in general, that inhabit the wide verges, hedges, and countryside beyond.*

*I now use it on a weekly, if not daily basis, for runs, walks, and cycling.*

*I cycled along there last night and saw a friend of mine who I went to school with, teaching his son to ride his bike, just as I have done with members of my family in the past.*

*Over the years, I have also used it with the rugby club, for pre-season training, doing sprint training on the hill towards Sutton Cheney.*

*It has also become surprisingly busy with walkers since lockdown, as a place where families, particularly the old and young, can use as a safe place to walk, probably because it is flat and easy to walk on, but most importantly with little or no traffic, because of the gates.*

*What makes it unique, are the gates, which make it safe to carry out these activities.*

*I think they provide a double function, firstly, to prevent traffic in the first place, and secondly, those that do use it, respect it as a place, where vehicles effectively give way to pedestrians (or livestock), and therefore drive slowly, and with caution.*

*Removing the gates would effectively open the road up, like the other roads in the area, with the potential for 60 mph (or more) traffic.*

*It reminds me in many ways as Bosworth's mini version of 'Bradgate Park'. Imagine if they opened that up as a public road, and the effect that would have on people's enjoyment of it.*

*I'm not sure I have worded this particularly well, but I thought it might help.*

Please send in your support for the Gated Lane and the Landing Strip.

You will I hope by now have filled in your feedback form about Heritage through the link at the top of the first page. Did you find it easy to do? Do you think the questions relevant? What other questions would you like to see? I can make this a regular feature if it is popular. I think it a quick and simple way to collect information. No personal information will be shared just the numbers of answers and the nature of the answers. Come on, have your say!

## **Entertainment the Elizabethan way**

I have received an email from Hexachordia. You may recall that last December the Society arranged for you to have access to one of their performances. The email is self explanatory and you will be able to see the price lists and availability for individuals and groups. I am hoping to reschedule our audience with King Henry VIII for next June (2022) and they may be a good accompaniment to that event.

Dear Nigel

I hope you don't mind me emailing you because you have previously bought an eTicket for your group to one or more of our eConcerts and Docu-Concerts. We really appreciate your support during the continued pandemic restrictions.

Encouraged by the lovely feedback we have received from many of you regarding our eConcerts and Docu-Concerts, we have been busy working on more pre-recorded videos. To date, we have produced four different videos:

AN ELIZABETHAN PROGRESS - A one-hour Docu-Concert recreating the sights and sounds of the 1578 summer progress.

THE ITALIAN JOB - A fifty-minute Docu-Concert exploring the development of lute music during the early Italian Renaissance.

KEMP'S JIG - A fifty-minute Docu-Concert following the exploits of a Shakespearean comic actor.

IN FROST & SNOW - A thirty-minute seasonal eConcert.

For each of the four videos, we have produced a little teaser clip, all of which can be viewed at <http://www.hexachordia.com/virtualhex.html>. Pricing for individuals and groups are given beneath each clip on this page. From here, you can buy an eTicket by PayPal or, alternatively, contact me to pay by BACS or by cheque.

Even if your group does not wish to purchase an eTicket for any further Hexachordia videos, we would be grateful if you would consider disseminating this information to your members, in case they wish to buy an individual eTicket. Thank you very much.

If you wish to contact Sarah, her details are:

*Sarah Doig*

**Hexachordia**

*Phone: 07807 916419*

*Email: [info@hexachordia.com](mailto:info@hexachordia.com)*

*Website: [www.hexachordia.com](http://www.hexachordia.com)*

*Twitter: <http://twitter.com/HexachordiaUK>*

*Facebook: <https://facebook.com/hexachordia>*

If interested please go to the website (remember to hold down the Ctrl key if using a computer, desktop, or laptop).

## Elizabethan Questions and Answers (at the end of the Newsletter)

- **1. Who was the queen at the time of Elizabethan England?**
  - A. Queen Elizabeth I
  - B. Mary I
  - C. Queen Elizabeth III
  - D. Queen Elizabeth I
  - E. Sir Francis Drake
- **2. Who was the Queen's father?**
  - A. King Edward VI
  - B. Sir Francis Drake
  - C. Henry VIII
- **3. How old was Elizabeth when she became queen?**
  - A. 45
  - B. 15
  - C. 22
  - D. 25
  - E. 36
- **4. What did people do for entertainment in the Elizabethan England period?**
  - A. Dancing
  - B. Lute, virginal, viola, recorder, bagpipe, and the fiddle
  - C. Drama
  - D. Dice, chess, checkers, and a variety of card games
  - E. All the Above
- **5. In Elizabethan England, houses are not only places to live; they are**
  - A. Also places to farm.
  - B. Also places to practice dancing.
  - C. Status symbols
  - D. Places to garden
- **6. The type of houses during this period were**
  - A. Royal works
  - B. Great houses
  - C. Smaller country homes
  - D. Farmhouses
  - E. All the above
- **7. As the royalty of the Elizabethan period grew,**
  - A. he houses decreased in size.
  - B. The house increased in size and magnitude.
  - C. The houses remained the same.
- **8. Torture is the use of physical or mental pain, often to...**
  - A. Obtain information
  - B. Punish a person
  - C. Control the members of a group to which the tortured person belongs.
  - D. All the above

- **9.** Torture has been used for at least (Fill in the blank) years and has been widespread
  - A. 2,000
  - B. 5600
  - C. 500
  - D. 20
  - E. 150
  
- **10.** When Elizabeth took the throne, torture was used (Fill in the blank) than in any other period of history.
  - A. More
  - B. Less
  - C. Equal to
  
- **11.** An outlaw was often...
  - A. Taken to jail
  - B. Hung
  - C. Strapped to the saddle of a rider, which him to run at full speed the entire trip (with occasional cantering to catch his breath)
  - D. All the above
  
- **12.** Some Famous Elizabethan Women were..
  - A. Queen Elizabeth I
  - B. Margaret Douglas
  - C. Lady Arabella Stuart
  - D. Bess of Hardwick, Countess of Shrewsbury
  - E. All the above
  
- **13.** Daily life in Elizabethan England varied according to...
  - A. Status
  - B. Location
  - C. Houses
  - D. Both B+C
  - E. Both A+B
  
- **14.** Elizabethan Life Customs & Festivals were based on....
  - A. Church calendar
  - B. The sun
  - C. Feasts, Fairs and Festivals
  - D. Customs & Festivals.
  - E. A+C+D

These Newsletters are not just thrown together you know!

We turn now to our third and final part of Peter's excellent history of the Dixie family. We join the family in November 1905 at a very sad time.

### SIR ALEXANDER BEAUMONT CHURCHILL DIXIE – AFTER BOSWORTH 1883 – 1924

#### DEATH OF LADY FLORENCE DIXIE (shown here from an illustration for Vanity Fair)

The following are direct transcripts from Douglas's diary.

November 6<sup>th</sup> *'Letter from darling Mother saying she had been very ill and that she did not believe she would ever be better but forbidding me to do or say anything or it would kill her'*.

November 7<sup>th</sup> *'On returning home (from church) Baby broke the news to me that my darling Mother had passed away at midnight. Wired Bertie'*

November 8<sup>th</sup> *'Left for the Glen by 10:30 train. Bertie and Uncle Archie met us at Cummertrees Station. Poor old Father utterly broken and very ill. We had to get the doctor in to see him today. We all spent our time sitting with Father in turns but it was a sad and sometimes trying time'*.

November 9<sup>th</sup> *'Uncle Archie met us at the station. Dear old Father was persuaded to go to bed last night and spent all today dozing. We all went to see him for a little but did not stay long as he was tired'*.

November 10<sup>th</sup> *'Father was up today but very restless and keen to get away. He left here at 10 to stay at Bournemouth with Aunt Ellie'*.

November 11<sup>th</sup> *'Darling Mother was laid to rest at Kinmount this forenoon, very quietly only Uncle Archie, Cousin Arthur, Bertie, Baby and I and a few old tenants being present. Pouring wet day. Poor old Father has arrived safely'*.

November 10<sup>th</sup> Douglas and his wife moved to the Glen where they were to stay for the rest of the year.

November 20<sup>th</sup> Sir Alexander returned to the Glen looking better for his stay in Bournemouth.

#### 1906

April 3<sup>rd</sup> *'trouble with that awful selfish ass at the Glen. Have had quite enough of him it's too much for Babs and I so we shall chuck the show'*.

April 11<sup>th</sup> *'wire from the Glen asking us to return. Declined with thanks'*.

April 20<sup>th</sup> Returned to Castle Street Dumfries to find that all of the belongings they had taken to the Glen had been returned. Douglas records *'trying to sort out the things sent from the Glen never have I seen anything so utterly disgraceful'*.

July 21<sup>st</sup> *'plans upset by a telephone call from Cousin Arthur saying my hateful Father had that morning married a barmaid in Carlisle'*.

The lady in question was Alice, widow of Edward John Ewart younger daughter of David Jackson of Kingston, Jamaica. It is a matter of conjecture if she was a barmaid in Carlisle at the time of her marriage or an exaggeration on the part of Douglas.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> *'drove up to the town after lunch and interviewed the editors of the Dumfries papers to stop publication of any news of this hateful marriage'*.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> Albert wrote to Douglas *'he had heard that BD (presumably Beaumont Dixie) was going to move to Middlesbrough – Aristocratic place just about fit for the swine'*.

August 30<sup>th</sup> *'Letter from BD the meanest and most selfish I have ever read. Much upset because the Trustees are making proper allowance for me and coolly suggests I should refuse it. Selfish devil Lindsay and I might starve for all he cares.'*

July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1910 Douglas and his wife visited his Father at Glen Stuart and met his second wife for the first time *'Poor old Father changed a good bit. Lady Dixie seems a decent soul'*.

September 10<sup>th</sup> *'That ass at the Glen giving trouble again. Down at the Glen to see Lady Dixie and did not get home until 10:00pm'*

September 12<sup>th</sup> *'Insane letter from that ass at the Glen received this evening'*.



In the final years of Lady Florence's life and following his bouts of gastric problems Sir Alexander had abstained from drink, but following his wife's death he took up the drink again and this led to his irrational behaviour which led to a difficult relationship with his family from 1906.

Furthermore in 1902, the year when Douglas married, the Dixie Trust of 1875 was amended with the result that Douglas's allowance of £100 per annum was increased so that he could support his wife and children. It is not clear how Albert was affected but it is believed that when "*Albert left for good*", it was because of a family dispute following the amendment of the 1875 Trust.

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1912 A letter was received from Cousin Arthur *'That awful Father of mine is quarrelling and giving trouble to the trustees again. Confound the old brute'*.

The dispute between Sir Alexander, the Trustees and his children rumbled on. A Mr. Roddick a solicitor from a practice in Annan seemed to be acting for the Trustees whilst another solicitor, Mr Stewart was acting on behalf of Douglas.

October 18<sup>th</sup> Douglas writes *'More worrying letters from Stewart anent my wretched Father. God help me this indeed a hard cross I have to bear'*.

However, by 1914 relationships seem to have improved when, on January 5<sup>th</sup>, Douglas travelled to 'Gell' the home of his Father and Lady Dixie. Their home lay on the outskirts of the small village of Castle Carrock. Douglas described it as a *'nice house – scenery lovely – village close to house but well concealed. The drawback is the station being somewhat far away (How Mill 3 miles)*.

Douglas notes that his Father seemed pleased to see them. They went for walks together every day. On the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of January Douglas records that he and his Father had business talks before he finally records on his return to Cassaland *'Glad in a way to be back but felt sad all the same – poor old Father I hated leaving him'*.

January 13<sup>th</sup> Following wires from Albert it seems that Douglas's warmth of feeling for his Father was short lived. He records *'am afraid more trouble with Gell its too sickening'*.

January 14<sup>th</sup> *'More wires from Bertie today am afraid there is bound to be another row with Father. Hopeless job trying to deal with him'*.

January 15<sup>th</sup> *'Bertie wired that he had apparently had a most satisfactory interview with the Public Trustee this morning'*.

January 18<sup>th</sup> Douglas's birthday 38 years old. *'Crafty letter from Father confound him, really he's too mean and despicable for words. It's enough to make a saint lose patience'*.

January 24<sup>th</sup> *'More worrying letters great explosion from Gell it is indeed a weary business'*.

January 29<sup>th</sup> *'Letter from Father alternately threatening, bribery and whining – mean cur am fed up with him'*.

January 30<sup>th</sup> Wire from Bertie *'confound this unnatural unscrupulous and utterly selfish Father of ours he is the limit'*.

February 15<sup>th</sup> Douglas records *to our horror Father arrived in a motor (2 men) at 8:15 pm. – very maudlin – had a most trying time- some row with Lady Dixie – Persuaded him to return home at about 10:15 taking a letter from Babs to Lady Dixie'*.

February 17<sup>th</sup> Babs received a reply from Lady Dixie who absolutely refuses to continue to live with Sir Alexander.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> Mr Roddick reports that Douglas's Father has returned to Gell but things appeared to be in an awful muddle. Mr Roddick will be having a meeting with the Public Trustee tomorrow.

April 17<sup>th</sup> Letter from Mr Roddick informing Douglas that the Deed of 1902 is being made irrevocable.

May 27<sup>th</sup> Douglas receives a copy of the deed from Mr Roddick. Douglas remarks *'this weary business anent Father is I think drawing to a satisfactory conclusion'*.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Sir Alexander and Lady Dixie attended the wedding of his youngest son Albert to Margaret Hunter Watson. The service was conducted by his brother-in-law the Rev. Lord Archibald Douglas the fact that they attended the wedding would suggest that the long running dispute had finally been resolved.

Douglas's diaries ended abruptly in October 1914 but there is a small amount of correspondence which allows us to have some idea of how Sir Alexander ended his days.

In 1916 Douglas joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders as a Private and was medically discharged on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917. It seems out of character for Douglas to have resigned from the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Kings Own Scottish Borderers with the rank of Captain to re-join the forces as a Private. Certainly, correspondence from Sir Alexander suggests that it was not without its controversy. On the 5<sup>th</sup> September

Sir Alexander wrote to Field Marshall Sir Evelyn Wood VC. In the reply there is reference to *'the pathetic story of your son's case and the generously worded letter of his former brother officer'*

It goes on to advise *"obtain from someone in authority a statement showing the improvements your son alleges he made to the quatering arrangements Kinross District"*.

Sir Evelyn Wood explains that he retired in 1904 from his position of Adjutant General and was unable nor did he have the influence to intercede on Douglas's behalf. In a letter that Douglas wrote to his stepmother on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October he makes no mention of any involvement in a case that Sir Alexander referred to when writing to Sir Evelyn Wood.

It is likely that Sir Alexander was not only suffering from a drink problem but was showing irrational behaviour.

On July 1, 1917 Sir Alexander received a reply to a letter he had sent to Dr. Thomas of Beech House in Market Bosworth. The doctor encouraged Sir Alexander to take the medicine that had been prescribed and to keep himself calm during his medical examination. The advice to stay calm might have been significant. At the time of the letter Sir Alexander had moved to Appleton Croft in York.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917 Douglas wrote to Lady Dixie sympathising with the difficulties she was experiencing living with his father. He went on to explain that his father was sending absurd letters requesting that his son should not only visit him but also to take his side in any dispute he had with his wife. He assured Lady Dixie that he would do no such thing and if it came to it he would side with Lady Dixie.

Douglas then sent a long letter to Lady Dixie on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1917 from which it appears that Lady Dixie had recently left Sir Alexander possibly following an illicit affair with a maid servant which is alluded to in the letter. Douglas went on to state that his father was intolerable when drunk but when sober he was not so bad and he believed that Lady Dixie had gone back because she also saw some good in him. He had sympathy for her when she returned to Appleton Croft to find the place in a sorry state.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1918 Sir Alexander sent his son a long and morose letter discussing the arrangements that he would like Douglas to make on his death.

Remembering that Sir Alexander had been a very wealthy man when he married Lady Florence in 1875, he now estimated the value of his estate at £50,000. He explained that he was to do what he wished with it but felt that Douglas should ensure that his son Wolstan, the future 13<sup>th</sup> Baronet should receive two thirds of the sum.

He went on to say that he intended to purchase a burial plot, presumably at Kinmount. He closes with the remark that his mind is at peace.

A few days later he wrote again to Douglas describing why his relationship with the Douglas family was so 'awkward'. He felt that it was none of his doing the blame resting on Sybil and Arthur.

In a later letter it transpires that Arthur Johnson-Douglas, cousin of Douglas had told Sir Alexander that *"I should never rest beside your dear mother"*. This had been Sir Alexander's wish.

Sir Alexander then suggested to Douglas that he should contact William Palmer of Station Road Market Bosworth the son of William Palmer former gardener at the Hall and who had pushed the 10<sup>th</sup> Baronet about in a wheelchair. This was to consider a burial plot in the churchyard.

Sir Alexander then goes on to discuss his religion. He was a practicing Roman Catholic but then it became obnoxious to him. We have seen this was at the time his wife became confined to a wheelchair. He claims never to have liked the Roman Catholics which would suggest he took the faith in order to marry his wife. He described Catholics as being 'swanky'. He did not care for the Church of England because it is 'cold stiff and cheerless' but he had taken a liking to the Wesleyan because after prayers they had no sermon.

The letter though rambling does give an insight to Sir Alexander's situation in late 1918.

There is a wire in the archive dated 7<sup>th</sup> September 1920 sent in reply to Sir Alexander's wire to the King, George V, at Balmoral Castle. In which it informs him the matter he raised is being passed to the Home Secretary.

By 1922 Sir Alexander had move to a new home called Elmwood on Manor Road Scarborough. He was looked after by a Dr. Edmondson who asked Sir Berkley Moynihan a noted abdominal surgeon to examine his patient. The reason was not given other than needing to check the urea in his blood. An operation was carried out in September 1922 in Leeds presumably for the removal of a kidney stone although that is a matter of conjecture. The cost of the consultation and operation carried out by Sir Moynihan came to £168.

Sir Alexander died at his Scarborough home on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 1924. Despite his letters of 1917 to Douglas concerning the arrangements he wished to make he made his final will in January 1924 when he left his whole estate to his wife Alice.

There is one final postscript to his story. Lady Dixie wrote to Archibald Douglas. He was the Rev Lord Archibald Douglas brother of Lady Florence. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1924 she asked Archibald Douglas if he could confirm that Sir Alexander was a Roman Catholic. Presumably, this was to ensure that his funeral service was of the correct denomination. Lord Archibald responded that he had always been of the opinion that Sir Alexander had been a 'remainder Church of England' and that Sir Alexander had never assented to becoming a Catholic, he was never listed in the Catholic Directories as a Catholic Baronet so he was a 'backsliding Catholic' but more likely a member of the Church of England. If Lord Archibald was correct Sir Alexander must have given the impression that he had converted to the Roman Catholic faith to marry Lady Florence and he devoutly practiced the Catholic faith between 1888 and 1892 even though he was technically still a member of the Church of England. But as Sir Alexander remarked to his son Douglas in 1917 '*In the eyes of God all religions are the same*'.

Peter Loseby March 2021

Thank you, Peter, for a remarkably interesting biography of Sir ABCD after he left Bosworth Hall. I can promise more from Peter on the Dixie family next month.

## How much do you know about King Richard III?

1. What was the name of Richard's wife?
  - a) Anne Neville
  - b) Anne of Cleves
  - c) Anne of York
  - d) Elizabeth Woodville
  
2. When did the battle of Bosworth take place?
  - a) 1489
  - b) 1480
  - c) 1485
  - d) 1491
  
3. In which city are Richard's remains buried?
  - a) Leicester
  - b) Canterbury
  - c) London
  - d) York
  
4. What were the names of the two nephews who went missing?
  - a) George & Henry
  - b) Henry & Richard
  - c) Edward & George
  - d) Edward & Richard
  
5. Which of the following conditions did the skeletal remains reveal?
  - a) Scoliosis
  - b) Leprosy
  - c) Withered right arm
  - d) Tuberculosis
  
6. Who's DNA was used to confirm the remains were Richards?



- a) Derek Turner
- b) Michael Ibsen
- c) Barry Peters
- d) Mike Thurlow

7. How old was King Richard III when he died
- a) 22
  - b) 32
  - c) 42
  - d) 52

Answers at the end of the newsletter.

## Shields Research 92 to 98



92 Sir Thomas Strickland, of Sizergh, Westmorland (1440 – 1497)

Sir Thomas was the eldest son and heir of Sir Walter Strickland. Sir Thomas married Agnes, daughter of Sir Thomas Parr. The latter was grandfather of Katherine whose third and most important marriage to Henry VIII soon caused the Parrs of Kendal to forsake their ancient heritage for the more exciting life of the Court. He also fought on the Yorkist side at Barnet (1471), where he was knighted by Edward IV, as

well as fighting at Bosworth in 1485 for Richard III. His heir was Sir Walter Strickland. He had six children three sons and three daughters.

Sizeberg Castle, shown left, is now owned, and operated by the Nation Trust. It is a quick hop up the M60 (toll) about 160 miles and around three hours. Should I approach the Committee to see if we can have a visit?



93 Sir Thomas Mauleverer, of Allerton Mauleverer, Westmorland. (1444 -circa 1497)

A forged family tree suggested that the Mauleverer family arrived with William the Conqueror but in fact the first mention of the family was in 1105. Back then Richard De La Mauleverer (the De La was dropped sometime in the twelfth or thirteenth centuries) was already lord of the manor of Allerton. The family improved their fortunes by a series of successful marriages and sitting in the 'middle ranks of the gentry'. The family provided three Sheriffs of York. Born in

Doncaster, Sir Thomas lined up with King Richard III at Bosworth. Under Richard III he was appointed Sheriff of Devon, which was very unpopular with the people of Devon. They resented being ruled over by a Northerner with growing resentment. He was of the same draft as Marmaduke Constable who took over the



lands of the Harcourts in Market Bosworth. In fact, there were some nine constabships in the South after 'Buckingham's rebellion' including those of Exeter and Old Sarum which went to Lord Scrope and John Musgrave, respectively. In addition, Sir Thomas Mauleverer received the rule of the towns and ports of Plymouth and Saltash and the castle and manor of Plympton in Devon worth £120 per annum (formerly held by John Halwell). Sir Thomas was married to Elizabeth De La River (1449) from Devon and was father to two sons and two daughters, Sir Richard Mauleverer, Kt., of Allerton; Anne Constable; Gilbert Mauleverer and Bridget Vavasour. The Mauleverer family were at Allerton for over 600 years and in St, Martins Church

there are several effigies to the family. It is not known for sure, but believed that the effigies, made of wood and shown here, are Sir Thomas and his wife Elizabeth.



#### 94 Sir Humphrey Stafford of Grafton, Worcestershire

Sir Humphrey Stafford (c. 1427 – 8 July 1486) of Grafton Manor in Worcestershire, was an English nobleman who took part in the War of the Roses on the Yorkist side. He was executed by Henry VII following his fighting for Richard III and his role in the Stafford and Lovell rebellion. He was married to Catherine Fray (1437–1482), the daughter of Sir John Fray, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, in Grafton. They had eight children.

Sir Humphrey Stafford and his brother Thomas Stafford, joined by Francis Lovell, 1st Viscount Lovell, led the inauspicious Stafford and Lovell Rebellion in 1486. The conspirators hoped to restore the Yorkist monarchy. While Lord Lovell went to Yorkshire, the Stafford brothers went to the Midlands. On 23 April 1486, after a failed attempt to seize Henry VII in York, Lord Lovell escaped to Burgundy. In the meantime, the Stafford brothers' rebellion in Worcester had failed, in part due to lack of planning and also because



King Henry had some support in that area. During this time King Henry was on a nationwide tour of the country. As soon as he advanced towards Worcester to eliminate Yorkist support, on 11 May 1486 the Stafford brothers fled to sanctuary at Culham. Even though Stafford had sought sanctuary, Henry decided to force Stafford to kiss his feet. Stafford was forcibly removed from his sanctuary on the night of 13 May by John Barrowman and one follower. Henry then ordered Humphrey's execution, but pardoned the younger Thomas. The arrest prompted a series of protests to Pope Innocent VIII over the breaking of sanctuary; these resulted in a Papal bull

in August which severely limited the rights of sanctuary, excluding it completely in cases of treason, thereby vindicating the King's actions. Humphrey was executed at Tyburn on 8 July 1486. The effigies in St. Johns Church of Sir Humphrey and his wife Catherine are shown above.



#### 95 Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland of Alnwick, Northumberland

Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland KG (c. 1449 – 28 April 1489) was born into an established English aristocratic family. After losing his title when his father was killed fighting the Yorkists, he later regained his position. He led the rear guard of Richard III's army at the Battle of Bosworth, but failed to commit his troops. He was briefly imprisoned by Henry VII, but later restored to his position. A few years later he was murdered by

citizens of York during a revolt against Henry VII's taxation. Some suggest that Henry deliberately did not commit to the battle leaving King Richard III exposed whilst others refer to the terrain which prevented his engagement in the battle.

Percy was the son of Henry Percy, 3rd Earl of Northumberland, and his wife Eleanor Plantagenet. His father was first cousin to (among others) Edward IV of England, Anne, Duchess of Exeter, Edmund, Earl of Rutland, Elizabeth, Duchess of Suffolk, Margaret of York, George, Duke of Clarence, and Richard III of England. Percy himself was second cousin to (among others) Elizabeth of York, Edward V of England, Richard, Duke of York, Arthur Plantagenet, 1st Viscount Lisle, Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury, Edward, Earl of Warwick, and Edward of Middleham. Both Perkin Warbeck and Lambert Simnel claimed to be his second cousins. As can be seen the family was well connected.

His father was loyal to the House of Lancaster. Henry Percy's wife, Maud Herbert, had in fact been first betrothed to Henry of Richmond, who would usurp the throne in 1485 and become Henry VII. He was killed in the Battle of Towton on 29 March 1461. The earldom of Northumberland was forfeited to the victorious Yorkists. The adolescent Percy was imprisoned in the Fleet Prison. He was transported to the Tower of London in 1464.

In 1465, John Neville was named Earl of Northumberland in his place. Percy eventually swore fealty to Edward IV and was released in 1469. He petitioned for the return of his paternal titles and estates to him. He gained support by Edward IV himself. John Neville had to quit his title and was instead named Marquess of Montagu in 1470. However the restoration of the title to Percy was delayed by the Parliament of England until 1473. He was made a Knight of the Garter in 1474.

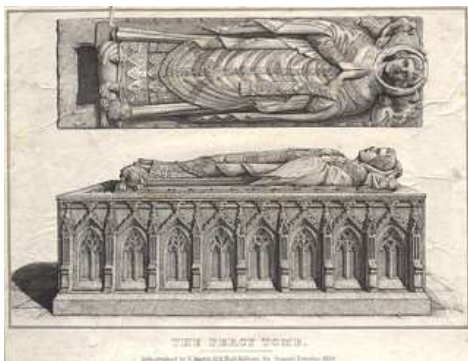
For the following twelve years, Percy held many of the important government posts in northern England, such as warden of the east and middle marches, which were traditional in his family.

He commanded the Yorkist reserve at the Battle of Bosworth Field on 22 August 1485. Percy never committed his forces to the battle. His inactivity played an important part in the defeat and death of Richard III. Historians suspect him of treason in favour of victor Henry VII of England, although there is an alternative theory that his forces, placed behind those of King Richard, were in no position to take part in the battle before Richard was killed.

Percy was arrested along with Ralph Neville, 3rd Earl of Westmorland and Thomas Howard, 2nd Duke of Norfolk. He was nominally imprisoned for several months but swore allegiance to the new King. Henry VII released him on terms of good behaviour. Percy was allowed to retain his titles and lands as well as being allowed to return to his old posts and was in fact sent on diplomatic missions for the crown, something that would not have occurred had Henry VII not trusted him implicitly.

At some time between 1473 and 1476 Percy married Maud Herbert (1448 – 27 July 1485/1495), a daughter of William Herbert, 1st Earl of Pembroke (1423–1469) by his wife Anne Devereaux. They had eight children:

Henry Percy, 5th Earl of Northumberland (14 January 1478 – 19 May 1527), who married Catherine Spencer. Alianore Percy, Duchess of Buckingham, died 1530), wife of Edward Stafford, 3rd Duke of Buckingham. Sir William Percy (d. 15 September 1540), who married firstly Agnes Constable and secondly Margaret Soothill, widow of Sir John Normanville. Alan Percy (born 1479), Master of St John's College, Cambridge Sir Josceline Percy Baron Beverley (1480–1532), who married Margaret Frost. Grandfather of Thomas Percy (who took part in the Gunpowder Plot) Arundel Percy (1483–1544).



Anne Percy, Countess of Arundel (27 July 1485 – 1552), second wife of William Fitz Alan, 11th Earl of Arundel and finally Elizabeth Percy.

In April 1489, Percy held temporary residence in his estates of Yorkshire. Henry VII had recently allied himself to Anne of Brittany against Charles VIII of France. Taxes rose to finance the military action. Sir John Egremont of Yorkshire led a riot in protest at the high taxation, known as the Yorkshire rebellion. Percy was targeted by the rioters as he approached the city and slain on 28 April. He was buried at Beverley Minster.

Above is the tomb of Henry Percy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Northumberland.



96 Sir Christopher Warde, of Givendale, Yorkshire (1451 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 1523)

Sir Christopher, son of Sir Roger Warde and Jane nee De La Tunstall, came from a powerful and well-established family living in Givendale (not Guiseley as is often quoted. I think spellcheck is the culprit here.) At the time of his death Sir Christopher held several properties and much land, he died seized of the manors of Giselay, Givendale, Neuby, Hescheholde (now Esholt), Estkeswike, Athewolton (now Adwalton), Drighelyngton and Grenehamerton, and a moiety (half) of the manor of Great Usborne. Guiseley was worth 40 marks yearly, Givendale 80 marks, Newby and Esholt 20 marks each. He married Margaret nee Gascoigne in 1475 and went on to have eight children.

Christopher went with the army to Scotland in 1482 and there he was knighted, possibly made a Knight banneret by the Duke of Gloucester on 24 July or else dubbed knight by the Earl of Northumberland in the field at Shefford. Under English custom the rank of knight banneret could only be conferred by the sovereign on the field of battle. There were some technical exceptions to this; when his standard was on the

field of battle he could be regarded as physically present though he was not. His proxy could be regarded as a sufficient substitution for his presence.

Some report that he was the standard bearer of Henry VIII. He may have been, but he appears on no listings or documents I have seen. I think people have been confused by banneret. A knight banneret, sometimes known simply as banneret, was a medieval knight ("a commoner of rank") who led a company of troops during time of war under his own banner (which was square-shaped, in contrast to the tapering standard or the pennon flown by the lower-ranking knights) and was eligible to bear supporters in English heraldry. The wife of a banneret was known as a banneress. A banneret ranked between a knight bachelor and an Earl or Duke.

Sir Christopher fought on the side of King Richard III at Bosworth and obviously survived. As we know he held lands and property at his death which he was able to pass on he was not attained and appears to have been allowed to go in peace after the battle by King Henry VII. Little is known about his life following the battle of Bosworth except that he probably died quite suddenly at the age of 72 as he did not leave a will and is buried in Esholt. His grave and any effigies appear lost as St. Paul's church was built 400 years after his death.



97 Sir William Gascoigne of Gawthorpe, Yorkshire (d.1488)

Sir William Gascoigne was better known as, Sir William Gascoigne V coming from a long line of Williams which continued after his death. He was a distant cousin of Marmaduke Constable; the Constables kept a close friendship with the Gascoigne's for many years. He married Margaret, daughter of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland (1421 – 1461), with whom he had several children, his heir was the violent Sir William Gascoigne VI. The family

fortunes were greatly enhanced by Sir William V establishing the family as the most powerful in the West Riding of Yorkshire. There is some confusion as to his birth and death years. Sir William had strong ties to the city of York entering the Corpus Christi guild in 1473 (which may give a clue to his birth year). Most entrants to that guild were aged 21 (although some were unusually aged 16, I can find none who entered after the age of 21 and so the birth year would have been between 1452 and 1457) and regularly attended the city council meetings before his death in 1488. Some report his death in 1486 and 1487. There was a writ delivered to the city of York in 1488 stating that Sir William had died. He served as the West Riding peace commissioner, between 1472 and 1475 and again between 1481 and 1485. He was made a Knight of the Bath in 1478, at the marriage of Richard Duke of York, and Knight Banneret in 1482 by Richard Duke of Gloucester. In 1483 he became a Knight of the Body for Richard III.

Sir William redesigned the family home the Gawthorpe estate. Richard III granted permission to rebuild the Gawthorpe and Harewood mills, impark two estates. One of 400 acres surrounding Gawthorpe manor and a neighbouring park of 2200 acres. A licence to crenellate Gawthorpe manor was granted in 1480. The connection to the City of York and the knighting of Sir William would indicate an allegiance and strong Yorkist loyalties, but evidence suggests otherwise. Whilst his father fought and died on the Lancastrian side at Towton there is no evidence that Sir William V partook in any battles of the Wars of the Roses prior to Bosworth field, even though he had family members on both sides. That could be why he did not take part, wishing to avoid the anger of one side of his family or the other. Even then he may not have been engaged in battle as his brother-in-law Henry Percy, the Earl of Northumberland was unwilling to commit troops during the battle. Sir William V held no public offices prior to 1472 a year in which he became strongly associated with Henry Percy, an association which appeared to improve his fortunes considerably. Following the release of Margaret's brother, Henry Percy (d. 1489), from prison, where he was held from adolescence, his association with Yorkshire appears to have grown, and with it, his closeness to William Gascoigne. It is not surprising that Percy would associate himself with the head of the most powerful resident family in the West Riding, who happened to also be a relative, to orientate and to establish himself as a leading figure in Yorkshire politics. Following Percy's re-acquisition of his ancestral lands, William V acquired positions, wealth, and authority with relative speed. Sir William V's son William VI and brother-in-law Sir Robert Plumpton were with Percy upon his brutal murder at Thirsk in 1489 and were among those who delayed attending Henry VII's rally against the rebels due to the fact they were busy burying the late Earl.



There is a Gascoigne monument at All Saints' Harewood is attributed to William Gascoigne V and Margaret Percy 107. It is presently the most westerly tomb in the Gascoigne chantry chapel. The tomb chest is like that of the Gascoigne-Clarell monument. It consists of separate niches and buttresses with cusped canopies. The north side has nine niches, the south, eight: the west end four and the east, three. There are shields on the buttresses of the north, west and south ends. The central shield on the west end is larger than the others and is held by two angels. On the east end, in the centre, is a smaller shield held by a single angel. The shield is quartered and bears three lozenges in fess in the first quarter. The two remaining niches on the east end contain the figures of St. Christopher and St. George. St. George is depicted in plate armour, and beneath his feet is a dragon. He wields a broken lance, the tip of which is in the dragon's head. St Christopher appears to be holding a figure of the Christ-child. In the niches of the west end are St. John the Baptist, carrying a lamb on a book, and St Anthony the Great, the founder of monasticism. On the north side of the tomb chest are four more saints: St. Lawrence, St John the Evangelist, St. James of Compostella, and St. Michael the Archangel. Of the remaining five niches on the north side, all are filled with knightly weepers. They wear armour styled to 1460-1480. On the south side all the niches are filled with female weepers. Of the effigies, the lady's head lies on two cushions with angels on either side. The face is veiled in the style of a widow. She wears a mantle and a full gown. Around the waist is a girdle with a decorated pendant end. Also, hanging from the pendant is a rosary. Two dogs are by the feet. Like the previous tomb, the knight's head lays upon a helm, bearing a bulls-head crest. He wears plate armour, but it is mostly covered by a short-sleeved tabard. The effigy also wears gauntlets and a main skirt. Routh and Knowles have speculated that between the effigy's clasped hands is a heart. Around the neck is an alternating chain at the centre is a rose. He also wears a dagger and a sword. The sabatons rest upon a lion.

Extracted from: *The Gascoigne Family, c. 1309-1592: Gentry and Identity* Christopher Matthew Bovis.



98 Sir Robert Ughtred of Kexey, Yorkshire (c.1428–c.1487)

Sir Robert Ughtred was the son of Sir Robert Ughtred and Joan Aske. He had two brothers George and James and a sister Anne who was admitted to the Corpus Christi Guild of York. She became a nun, but I cannot trace the order she served. He married Katherine a daughter of Sir William Eure of Stokesley, Yorkshire. They had four Children, three sons and a daughter. Robert, who died in 1487, Christopher, Anthony, and Eleanor. I can find little more about Sir

Robert except that he fought on the side of King Richard III at Bosworth. It is possible that like sir William Gascoigne Sir Robert did little at the battle. Certainly, his sons Christopher and especially Anthony thrived under Henry VII and his son Henry VIII. I can find no details of any offices held by Sir Robert except that he was granted a charter in 1475.

Sir Robert died on the 12th of Oct 1487 and is Buried in the Franciscan Priory, York, North Yorkshire which fell victim to Henry VIII dissolution in 1538. There being no effigies of tombs for Sir Robert or Katherine.

Footnote.

I have mentioned before the need to be extra careful and to cross check facts from a number of sources and websites. The 'Ancestry' type sites appear to be particularly lacking in accuracy. It is not made easier by the succession of same named generations but below is an example of a site which proclaims that it is: MY HERITAGE Trusted information source for millions of people worldwide

[Christopher Sir Warde, 1420 - 1521](#)

**Christopher Sir Warde** was born in 1420, at [birth place](#), to Roger (Sir) Warde and Joan Warde (born Tunstall).

Roger was born in 1430, in Givendale, Yorkshire 1472.

**Christopher** married Margaret Warde (born Gasgoyne).

Margaret was born in 1425, in Gawthorpe..Yorkshire.

They had 2 children: Thomas Warde and [one other child](#).

His occupation was [occupation](#).

**Christopher** passed away on [month day](#) 1521, at age 101.

Here is a mishmash of information. The Author would have us believe that the son was born 10 years before the father and lived to 101. Gascoigne is incorrectly spelt. Do be careful when researching.

If anyone would care to add to the mini histories of the participants in the battle, please contact me. The information is not exhaustive as I am aiming to give a flavour of the lives of people fighting a battle in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. I am always ready to add, subtract or amend.

**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. © Market Bosworth Society 2020

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

#### Answers to the King Richard III quiz

1. Ann Neville
2. 1485
3. Leicester
4. Edward and Richard
5. Scoliosis
6. Michael Ibsen
7. 32

#### Answers to the Elizabethan Quiz

1. A
2. C
3. A
4. E
5. C
6. E
7. B
8. D
9. A
10. A
11. D
12. E
13. E
14. E