

Dear Member

Welcome to your August Newsletter. As usual we have tried to pack it with items which are of interest and provide information. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. After all feedback is the breakfast of champions.

Summer Visit Report Middleton Hall 17th August 2023.

It is always gratifying when a plan comes together and our visit to Middleton Hall embodies that perfectly.



Not far away; 34 minutes in truth, full of interesting history and plenty of sunshine, something we have been missing this Summer. Middleton Hall is in North Warwickshire, not far from Tamworth and as we discovered on the road to Drayton Manor Park, almost midway between there and the Belfry. Very easy to find. The history of the Hall spans almost 1000 years from Saxon times to the modern day, and we can enjoy it now due to a band of determined volunteers that rebuilt the Hall from a derelict state. The walled Garden was full of colour and scents and dates back to 1717 when work started. The orangery and the attendant conservatory were gone but the garden remains.

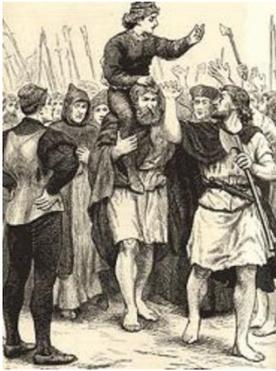
The Hall comprises of several buildings, many with ancient original features such as woodwork, doors and wattle and daub, a forerunner or larch lap plaster. There is the beautiful Tudor Jettied Building, The John Ray Building, The Stone Building, The Moat and Bridge and the Tudor Barn (the latter not part of the tour but home

to several small shops and a coffee shop).

The history of the Hall reads as 1086, entry in the Domesday Book. 1185 The Knights Templar were granted 60 acres of land belonging to Middleton Hall. 1285 saw Philip de Marmion granted a court leet and gallows and the stone building was constructed. In 1493 Middleton Hall was inherited by Sir Henry Willoughby, the start of over 400 years ownership by the Willoughby family. The Tudor Great Hall was built in 1497. Then in 1530 the jettied building was constructed. In 1553, famous for his explorations, Sir Hugh Willoughby perishes whilst on his arctic expedition to find a northeast passage to China. He froze to death in horrendous cold. In 1575 the buildings were given a sprucing up to receive Queen Elizabeth I. Whilst at the Hall she knighted Sir Francis Willoughby in the Great Hall. Rumour has it that he was reluctant to be knighted as he felt it would increase his responsibilities to the crown. In 1647 The John Ray building was constructed (more of him later) and in 1666 John Ray arrives at Middleton Hall. A year later he publishes Francis Willoughby's *Ornithologia*, the first book on ornithology ever published. In 1712 great rejoicing took place at the Hall when Thomas Willoughby became the first Lord Middleton. In 1720 the West Wing was completed and the walled garden was also completed. After 429 years of ownership the Willoughby family were forced to sell the Hall to pay death duties in 1924. In 1966 the estate was purchased by Amey Roadstone Corporation for gravel extraction. In 1980 restoration began, and continues to this day. Some former land is owned by Aston Villa FC. Thank you to all the members who came along and made it a lovely social and interesting day.

I promised to tell you about John Ray, botanist. Below is an article written by Walter Baynes for the Dixie Grammar School Association <http://www.thedgsa.co.uk/>. Walter does a better job than I ever could. But First....

Next Month The Battle of Stoke Field – Kevin Winter 21st September 2023

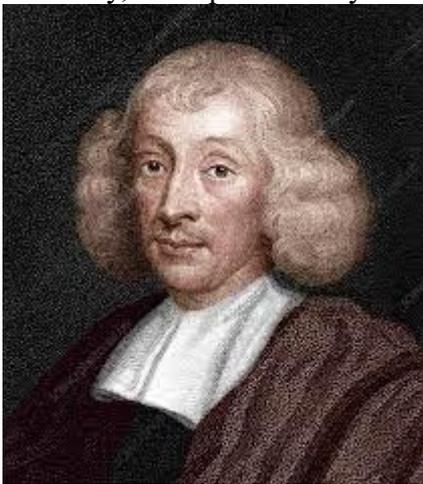


September sees us returning indoors to the Free Church on Barton Road where at 7:30 pm we will hear all about the Battle of Stoke. Kevin Winter is a member of the Battlefields Trust and has agreed to come and be our guest speaker. The Battle of Stoke Field took place almost two years after the deciding battle in the Wars of the Roses. The pretender Lambert Simnel crowned as "King Edward VI" in Dublin on 24 May 1487 came to England. Landing in North Lancashire in June 1487, trouble was obviously brewing. King Henry VII was not about to stand by and have his crown stolen by a pretender. So on the...but wait. I am telling you the plot! You will have to come to the meeting to hear all about it.

Should you wish to bring a friend who is not a member, please do so as they will always be welcome, subject to seating capacity. We make a small charge of £3.00 to non-members to help defray the costs of the evening. I look forward to seeing you there.

JOHN RAY, Botanist. 1627 - 1705.

John Ray, also spelled Wray until 1670, was born Nov. 29, 1627, at Black Notley, Essex. He died on Jan. 17,



1705 at Black Notley. He was a leading 17th-century English naturalist and botanist who contributed significantly to progress in taxonomy. His enduring legacy to botany was the establishment of species as the ultimate unit of taxonomy.

Ray was the son of the village blacksmith in Black Notley and attended the grammar school in nearby Braintree. In 1644, with the aid of a fund that had been left in trust to support needy scholars at the University of Cambridge, he matriculated at St. Catherine's Hall, and moved to Trinity College in 1646. Ray had come to Cambridge at the right time for one with his talents, for he found a circle of friends with whom he pursued anatomical and chemical studies. He also progressed well, taking his bachelor's degree in 1648 and being elected to a fellowship at Trinity the following year.

Ray's string of fortunate circumstances ended with the Restoration.

Although he was never an excited partisan, he was thoroughly Puritan in spirit and refused to take the oath that was prescribed by the Act of Uniformity. In 1662 he lost his fellowship. Prosperous friends supported him during the subsequent 43 years while he pursued his career as a naturalist.

That career had already begun with the publication of his first work in 1660, a catalogue of plants growing around Cambridge. After he had exhausted the Cambridge area as a subject for his studies, Ray began to explore the rest of Britain. An expedition in 1662 to Wales and Cornwall with the naturalist Francis Willoughby was a turning point in his life. Willoughby and Ray agreed to undertake a study of the complete natural history of living things, with Ray responsible for the plant kingdom and Willoughby the animal.

The first fruit of the agreement, a tour of the European continent lasting from 1663 to 1666, greatly extended Ray's first-hand knowledge of flora and fauna. Back in England, the two friends set to work on their appointed task. In 1670 Ray produced a *Catalogus Plantarum Angliae* ("Catalog of English Plants"). Then in 1672 Willoughby suddenly died, and Ray took up the completion of Willoughby's portion of their project. In 1676 Ray published *F. Willoughby . . . Ornithologia* (The Ornithology of F. Willoughby . . .) under Willoughby's name, even though Ray had contributed at least as much as Willoughby. Ray also completed *F. Willoughby . . . de Historia Piscium* (1685; "History of Fish"), with the Royal Society, of which Ray was a fellow, financing its publication.

Ray had never interrupted his research in botany. In 1682 he had published a *Methodus Plantarum Nova* (revised in 1703 as the *Methodus Plantarum Emendata . . .*), his contribution to classification, which insisted on the taxonomic importance of the distinction between monocotyledons and dicotyledons, plants whose seeds germinate with one leaf and those with two, respectively. Ray's enduring legacy to botany was the establishment of species as the ultimate unit of taxonomy. On the basis of the *Methodus*, he constructed his masterwork, the *Historia Plantarum*, three huge volumes that appeared between 1686 and 1704. After the first two volumes, he was urged to compose a complete system of nature.

To this end he compiled brief synopses of British and European plants, a Synopsis Methodica Avium et Piscium (published posthumously, 1713; “Synopsis of Birds and Fish”), and a Synopsis Methodica Animalium Quadrupedum et Serpentine Generis (1693; “Synopsis of Quadrupeds”). Much of his final decade was spent on a pioneering investigation of insects, published posthumously as Historia Insectorum. In all this work, Ray contributed to the ordering of taxonomy. Instead of a single feature, he attempted to base his systems of classification on all the structural characteristics, including internal anatomy. By insisting on the importance of lungs and cardiac structure, he effectively established the class of mammals, and he divided insects according to the presence or absence of metamorphoses. Although a truly natural system of taxonomy could not be realized before the age of Darwin, Ray’s system approached that goal more than the frankly artificial systems of his contemporaries. He was one of the great predecessors who made possible Carolus Linnaeus’ contributions in the following century.

Nor was this the sum of his work. In the 1690s Ray also published three volumes on religion. The Wisdom of God Manifested in the Works of the Creation (1691), an essay in natural religion that called on the full range of his biological learning, was his most popular and influential book. It argued that the correlation of form and function in organic nature demonstrates the necessity of an omniscient creator. This argument from design, common to most of the leading scientists of the 17th century, implied a static view of nature that was distinctly different from the evolutionary ideas of the early and mid-19th century. Still working on his Historia Insectorum, John Ray died at the age of 77.

Information from Britannica.

Yes, there was and is a lot to see at Middleton Hall, and many of the members attending said that they would return soon. The price for admittance for adults, incidentally, is just £8.00 (£12.50 for a guided tour). Lynne and I walked through the Walled Garden to the Middleton Pool, a manmade lake dating back to the 16th Century. It is believed to be the earliest manmade pool in Warwickshire and was originally a fish stew pool. Not far from the Hall is the RSPB Middleton Lakes. Described as beautiful and tranquil, Middleton Lakes is a mosaic of wetlands, meadows and woodland in the heart of the River Tame Valley. Several kilometres of trails lead visitors through a variety of rich habitats, alive with a variety of birds including grey herons, kingfishers and lapwings. Entry is free and information is available here <https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/middleton-lakes/> Car parking fees are £4.00 or you can park at Middleton Hall (where the loo is situated) and walk to the lakes, about a 15 minute walk. Once there you will find a visitor centre open at weekends and picnic tables. We intend to revisit the Hall soon, with the intention of visiting the nature reserve.

Whilst at the Hall I took numerous photographs and you can see them here <https://marketbosworthsociety.com/middleton-hall-summer-visit-17th-august-2023/> all 213 of them, if you went on the visit you may even see yourself there. See if you can spot the original door!

Thanks to everyone who attended the visit, it was a lovely relaxed and interesting day.

Lady Florence Dixie: The aristocrat who fought for women's football

Both Peter and Ingrid had seen this article on the BBC and alerted me to it. Following the links I was sent I have been able to reproduce the article here, by kind permission of the BBC.



Lady Florence Dixie was an early supporter of women's football

By Giancarlo Rinaldi, Correspondent.

South Scotland reporter, BBC Scotland news website

As the Women's World Cup is held in Australia and New Zealand, many may be unaware of the debt the sport owes to an aristocrat from southern Scotland.

Lady Florence Dixie was born in 1855 at Kinmount near Cummertrees in Dumfriesshire.

One of twins, she was the youngest of six children of the eighth marquess of Queensberry.

She would go on to become the first president of the British Ladies Football Club (BLFC) in 1895.

Born Florence Douglas, her family's story was a tragic and controversial one.

Her father died in an accident while cleaning a gun, one of her brother's was killed on the first ascent of the Matterhorn and another was involved in [the notorious Oscar Wilde libel case.](#)

Growing up, she travelled widely and quickly developed interests in writing, travel and sport.



Lady Florence Dixie and Cetewayo king of the Zulus. (Image – Getty Images.)

Lady Dixie gained a reputation for her writing during her travels

She married Sir Alexander Beaumont Churchill Dixie - nicknamed Beau - in 1875 and they had two sons. Soon after their births, Lady Dixie set off on a trip to South America which would form the basis of her book, *Across Patagonia*, in 1880 which established her reputation as a writer.

She was appointed as the Morning Post's war correspondent in South Africa and later became a prominent campaigner for sex equality.

This led to her pioneering role in sport as the first president of the BLFC.

It came at a time when some medical professionals were calling for women and girls to be banned from playing.

Those views got short shrift from Lady Dixie.



THE FIRST MATCH OF THE BRITISH LADIES' FOOTBALL CLUB

DRAWN BY H. M. PAGET

IMAGE SOURCE

ALAMY

The BLFC played its first match at Crouch End in London in 1895

"There is no reason why football should not be played by women, and played well too, provided they dress rationally and relegate to limbo the straitjacket attire in which fashion delights to clothe them," she argued.

"In association football, a player must be light and swift of foot, agile, wiry, and in good condition.

"Are not these physical requisites just the very characteristics of good health most to be desired for women?"

She said she had accepted the presidency "with pleasure" when asked to take it.

"If the British public will only give encouragement to the idea, which is now being put into practice, of football for women it would soon take a firm hold and become an approved custom," she wrote. "Let women, therefore, go in for this most excellent game and earn for themselves that improved physique which will not only improve their appearance but their health as well."



SOURCE: REUTERS

The Women's World Cup is being staged in Australia and New Zealand

In his book, *The Lady Footballers*, James Lee said that she would have been an attention-grabbing appointment as a figurehead for the sport.

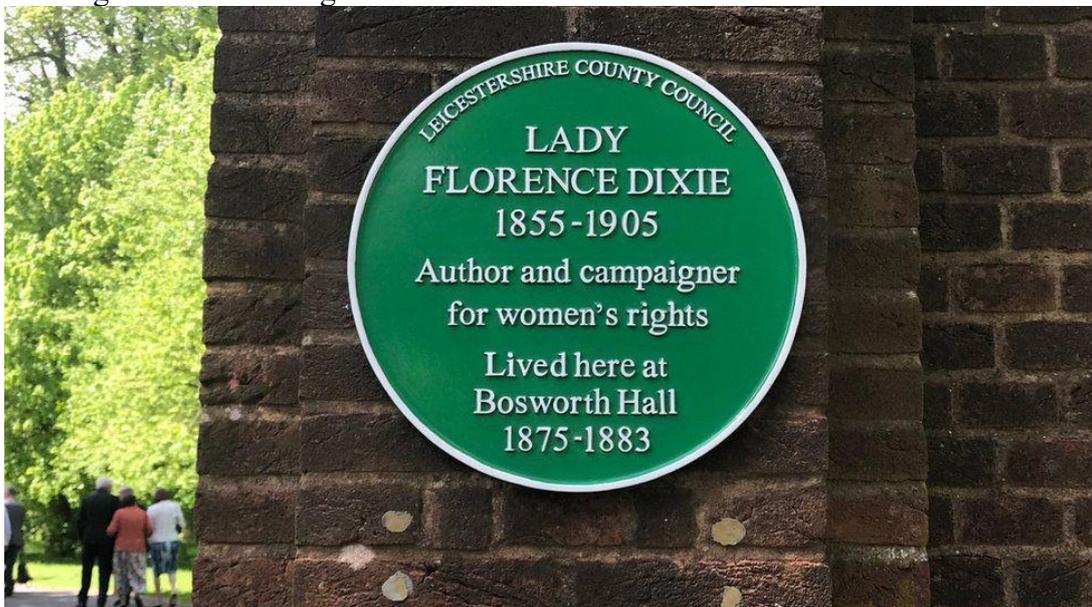
Her notoriety and writing skills combined to provide it with greater exposure than it might otherwise have had.

"Tearing down the barriers that restricted women was the core of her philosophy and motivation," he wrote.

"The presidency of the BLFC offered her another battlefield on which to fight that war."

Alongside team captain Mary Hutson, who played under the pseudonym Nettie Honeyball, they tried to change attitudes towards the women's game.

In March 1895, the team's first match took place at Crouch End in London in front of a crowd of 10,000 people and further games were arranged in Scotland.



A plaque in honour of Lady Florence Dixie was installed at Bosworth Hall Hotel.

Although Lady Dixie's association with the BLFC came to an end within a couple of years, her promotion work raised awareness of the sport in Victorian Britain and paved the way for future developments.

She died, aged just 50, in November 1905, and was buried in the family grave at Kinmount.

A plaque was installed many years later in her honour at Bosworth Hall Hotel in Leicestershire - where she lived for eight years - to recognise her importance in the fight for women's rights.

She may not have lived to see it, but she helped to start a journey for the game to become the global phenomenon it is now. [The Honeyballers: Women who fought to play football - BBC News](#)

As I type this we eagerly await the outcome of the Lionesses fortunes in the Women's World Cup.

Eleanor Dixie

I am pleased to be able to tell you that Eleanor has returned home to the United States safely and continues to recover from the stroke she suffered in July. Eleanor reads the Newsletter and I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her a speedy recovery to full health.

Peter Shaw. Bosworth Field: A Battlefield rediscovered.

You may recall that Peter asked if we could help with information about Harris Bridge and John Dexter, seeing the article in Aspect responded. Peter emailed me again to say that he has written an article, 'Bosworth Field: a battlefield rediscovered?' with his brother Jack which is published in the British Journal for Military History, Issue 9 March 2023. It will raise a few eyebrows, trust me.

You can see the article here <https://bjmh.gold.ac.uk/issue/view/125/BJMH%209%2C1> but do not worry if you do not have access to the internet, I have included the full article at the end of this Newsletter.

On that subject, please remember that the Market Bosworth Community Library does have computers and knowledgeable volunteers who can help you to get online.

Gladman: Application to build 125 houses on land south of Shenton Lane.

Many of you will be delighted to hear that Gladman lost their appeal against non-determination and the application has been refused. You can read the whole report here [Reference: APP/K2420/W/23/3317090 \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#) and select documents, appeal decision. Whilst this is excellent news and the Planning Manager gave the protection of the Conservation Area, as defined as a Heritage Asset substantial weight in making his decision. It may not be the end of the road for Gladman. If you read the documents you will see in paragraphs 17 & 18 that development of the field behind Stanley Road (not the field adjacent to Shenton Lane) would have a negligible effect on the character and appearance of Market Bosworth. This may encourage Gladman to reapply with housing limited to this area. Whilst I hope not we may have another battle to fight.

Can You Help

Hi

Harriet Storer was my great-grandmother. I live in Adelaide, South Australia. Harriet Storer born 1859 in Market Bosworth came to Adelaide in 1876. Her father was William Storer born 1806 (I think). There were many Storers living in both Market Bosworth and Enderby however I do think my assumptions are correct. I have sufficient information about Harriet's life after she came to Adelaide, My one concern is to confirm the name of her parents and grandparents. I am writing a history for my family which focuses on my Grandfather and Harriet Storer. There were quite a few Storers living in Adelaide even before Harriet arrived. I think she could have been influenced by them to come to Australia. Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated.

With respect Fay Blanks

Margaret has started researching and has found an amazing amount of information in a short time. Here are just some of her discoveries:

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

[Page 17]

Parish (or Township) of		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of		Town of		Hamlet or Tything, &c., of		Ecclesiastical District of	
M111		M111		M111		M111		M111		M111		M111	
No. of Schedule	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	HOUSES Inhabited (1911)	Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	CON-DITION	AGE of		Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether Blind, or Dumb, or Deaf			
						Male	Female						
132	South Park	1	Elizabeth Peck	Wife	41				Warwick Newnham				
			George Peck	Head	33			Ag Lab	by road M111				
133		1	William Stone	Head	42			Ag Lab	by road M111				
			Mary Ann Stone	Wife	41				do				
			Elizabeth do	Daughter	12			Scholar	do				
			Frederick do	Son	10			do	do				
			Mary do	Daughter	6			do	do				
			Ann do	Daughter	1			do	do				
134	Wood & Place 1		James Green	Head	47			Printer	Wotton-under-wood				
	Place 1111		Ann do	Wife	23			Housewife	Wotton-under-wood				
			Harriet do	Servant	21			Little child	do				
			Joseph do	Servant	12			do	do				
			James do	Servant	14			do	do				
			William do	Servant	14			Servant in Agricultural	do				
135		1	James Peck	Head	35			Carpenter	do				
			Elizabeth Peck	Wife	36			do Wife	do				
			Joseph do	Son	1			do	do				
136		1	James Peck	Head	63			Charles Peck	do				
			James Peck	Wife	46			do Wife	do				
			John Peck	Son	15			do	do				
			George Peck	Son	12			do	do				
137		1	James Peck	Head	35			Grave	do				
			Mary Peck	Wife	22			do Wife	do				
			James Peck	Son	12			Scholar	do				
			Mary Peck	Servant	16			House Servant	do				
Total of Houses...		6	Total of Males and Females...		12	13							

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE Reference: R.G. 9 / 2263

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Eng.—Sheet D.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

[Page 18]

Civil Parish (or Township) of		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of		Town of		Village or Hamlet, &c., of		Local Board, or (Improvement Commissioners) District, of		Ecclesiastical District of	
M111		M111		M111		M111		M111		M111		M111		M111	
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (1911)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION	AGE of		Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether 1. Deaf and Dumb 2. Blind 3. Imbecile or Idiot 4. Lunatic					
						Male	Female								
	James Kimberlin		James Kimberlin	Son		6			Leicester M. Bosworth						
	George G. do		George G. do	Son		14			do						
	Robert do		Robert do	Son		3			do						
	William do		William do	Son		9 mo			do						
	James Peck		James Peck	Servant	Man	18		Cowman & Hosier	do						
	Ann Peck		Ann Peck	do	"	16		Domestic Serv	Carlton						
	James Peck		James Peck	do	"	15		Nurse Girl	Bilston						
69		1	Michael Peck	Head	Man	40		Saddler	M. Bosworth						
			Sarah A. do	Wife	"	36			Leicester						
			Esther J. do	Son	"	7			M. Bosworth						
			George M. do	"	"	1			do						
			Rose Harbourn	Servant	Woman	20		Domestic Serv	Manchd. Birmingham						
70		1	George Peck	Head	Man	22		Plumber & Glazier	Leicester M. Bosworth						
			Ellen do	Wife	"	40			Cheshire Lancashire						
			Thomas Peck	Servant	Man	17		Scholar	Leicester Dudley						
			Esra Peck	Apprentice	Man	16		Plumber & Glazier	Leicester						
71		1	Thomas Peck	Head	Man	35		Bailiff (formerly)	M. Bosworth						
			Elizabeth do	Wife	"	35			do						
			Sarah J. do	Servant	Woman	11		Scholar	do						
72		1	Thomas Peck	Head	Man	57		Printer	Wotton-under-wood						
			James do	Servant	Man	25		Housekeeper	Leicester M. Bosworth						
			Harriet Peck	Servant	Woman	23		Domestic Serv	Carlton						
			Charles Peck	Servant	Man	14		Hosier	Bilston						
73		1	William Peck	Head	Man	54		Ag Lab	M. Bosworth						
			Mary A. Peck	Wife	"	52			do						
			William do	Servant	Man	3		Scholar	do						
Total of Houses...		5	Total of Males and Females...		15	11									

* Draw the pen through such of the words as are inappropriate.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

[Page 17]

Civil Parish (or Township) of		Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parish or Township of		Town of		Village or Hamlet, &c., of		Local Board or (Improvement Commissioners) District of		Ecclesiastical District of	
Market Bosworth								Market Bosworth						Market Bosworth Hundred	
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. of NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (B.)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION	AGE of		Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether					
						Males	Females			1. Deaf-and-Dumb	2. Blind	3. Imbecile or Idiot	4. Lunatic		
64	Market Place	1	Jarah Meath	Head	Man	36		Domestic	Lincolnshire						
			Jarah Meath	Wife	Woman	24		Domestic	do						
			Charles Meath	Brother	Man	12		Domestic	do						
			Elizabeth Meath	do	Woman	14		Domestic	do						
65	do	1	Thomas Meath	Head	Man	76		Servant	do						
			Anna Meath	Wife	Woman	34		Wife	Lincolnshire						
			Mary Meath	Daughter	Woman	7		Scholar	do						
			Ann Meath	do	Woman	4		do	do						
66	do	1	Ann Meath	Head	Woman	61		Domestic	do						
			Elizabeth Meath	Wife	Woman	64		do	do						
67	do	1	Thomas Meath	Head	Man	34		Domestic	do						
			Anna Meath	Wife	Woman	30		Wife	Manchester						
			Ann Meath	Daughter	Woman	6		Scholar	Lincolnshire						
			Mary Meath	do	Woman	4		do	do						
68	do	1	Mary Meath	Daughter	Woman	10		do	do						
			Ann Meath	do	Woman	7		do	do						
			Elizabeth Meath	do	Woman	21		Servant	do						
			Thomas Meath	do	Man	20		Domestic	do						
69	do	1	Ann Meath	Head	Woman	12		Domestic	do						
			Elizabeth Meath	Wife	Woman	47		Wife	do						
			Mary Meath	Daughter	Woman	38		do	do						
			Ann Meath	do	Woman	7		Scholar	do						
Total of Houses..		5	Total of Males and Females..		21										

* Draw the pen through such of the words as are inappropriate.

Eng. Sheet 11

37

Parish or Township of		Ecclesiastical District of		City or Borough of		Town of		Village of	
Market Bosworth						Market Bosworth			
No. of Schedule	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, or Deaf-and-Dumb
					Males	Females			
154	Bosworth Way	Ann Handley	Head	Man	73		Scholar	Lincolnshire	
		George Handley	Son	Man	41		do	do	
		James Handley	Son	Man	9		do	do	
		William Handley	Son	Man	5		do	do	
155	Bosworth Way	William Handley	Head	Man	55		Wharfinger	Lincolnshire	
		Harriette Handley	Wife	Woman	54		do	London	
		William Handley	Son	Man	19		at Home	Lincolnshire	
159	Bosworth Way	William Handley	Head	Man	33		Labourer	Lincolnshire	
		Mary Handley	Wife	Woman	31		do	do	
		Ann Handley	Daughter	Woman	7		Scholar	do	
		Kate Handley	do	Woman	7		do	do	
		Elizabeth Handley	do	Woman	2		do	do	
160	Bosworth Way	Joseph Handley	Son	Man	5		do	do	
		Thomas Handley	Head	Man	61		Labourer	Lincolnshire	
		Elizabeth Handley	Wife	Woman	60		do	Lincolnshire	
		George Handley	Son	Man	24		at Home	do	
		Ann Handley	Daughter	Woman	21		at Home	do	
161	Bosworth Way	William Handley	Son	Man	76		at Home	do	
		Emma Handley	Granddaughter	Woman	11		do	do	
		Thomas Handley	Head	Man	86		do	do	
Total of Houses..		I 4-U - B		Total of Persons..		102			

The Year 18 14

By whom the
Ceremony
was performed.The Wright
RectorThe Wright
RectorBAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Market Bosworth
in the County of Leicestershire in the Year 18 14

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1814. August 11- No. 225.	Eleanor Frances Anna Daughter of	William Walton & Anne Dixie	Dixie	Normanton Torrville	Baronet	The Wright Rector
August 18 No. 226.	William son of	William & Mary	Rowel	Belston	Labourer	John Pugh Curate
Sept 3 No. 227.	Mary Daughter of	Joseph & Ann	Town	Market Bosworth	Labourer	The Wright Rector
Sept 3 No. 228.	Harriet Daughter of	Joseph & Mary	Storer	Market Bosworth	Stocking maker	The Wright Rector
Sept 5 No. 229.	Ann Daughter of	Thomas & Ann	Hollyland	Market Bosworth	Butcher	The Wright Rector
Sept 11- No. 230.	Mary Ann Daughter of	William & Mary	Wright	Market Bosworth	Labourer	The Wright Rector
Sept 21 No. 231.	Maria Daughter of	Thomas & Sarah	Mary	Market Bosworth	Shoe-maker	The Wright Rector
Sept 24 No. 232.	Henry Alfred son of	James & Sophie	Boord	Market Bosworth	Attorney	The Wright Rector

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Market Bosworth
in the County of Leicester in the Year 1877

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1877. Jan ^y 28 th No. 137.	William son of	Thomas & Sarah	Godfrey	Water in the Parish of Market Bosworth	Farmer	The Wright Rector
Jan ^y 26 th No. 138.	Sarah Daughter of	John & Sarah	Wilcox	Market Bosworth	Labourer	The Wright Rector
Jan ^y 26 th No. 139.	John son of	Thomas & Elizabeth	Stevens	Market Bosworth	Shoehin Maker	The Wright Rector
Feb ^r 10 th No. 140.	William son of	John & Mary	Stuart	Market Bosworth	Shoehin Maker	The Wright Rector
Feb ^r 10 th No. 141.	Francess Daughter of	Abraham & Sarah	Andson	Market Bosworth	Shoehin Maker	The Wright Rector
Feb ^r 23 rd No. 142.	Jane Daughter of	Joseph & Frances	Boyle	Market Bosworth	Game Keeper	The Wright Rector
March 5 th No. 143.	Sarah Daughter of	Thomas & Sarah	Lee	Market Bosworth	Labourer	The Wright Rector
March 11 th No. 144.	James son of	James & Ann	Neeth	Market Bosworth	Labourer	The Wright Rector

When Baptized.	
1877. March 13 th No. 145.	
March 16 th No. 146.	
March 30 th No. 147.	
April 5 th No. 148.	
April 19 th No. 149.	
April 20 th No. 150.	
May 11 th No. 151.	
May 15 th No. 152.	

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of Market Bosworth
 in the County of Leicesters in the Year 1842 3.

Nimrod Bills of the Parish
of Sheepy Magna
 and Martha Billings of this Parish

were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
 this fourteenth Day of
December in the Year One thousand eight hundred and forty two

By me Beaumont Dixie Rector.

This Marriage was solemnized between us { Nimrod Bills
the mark of Martha Billings

In the Presence of { William Steffon
George Billings
 No. 232.

1843

David Saunt of this Parish
Bachelor
 and Ann Hestall of this Parish
Spinster

were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
 this fifth Day of

January in the Year One thousand eight hundred and forty three

By me Beaumont Dixie Rector.

This Marriage was solemnized between us { David Saunt
Ann Hestall

In the Presence of { Joseph Saunt
the mark of Ann Hestall
 No. 233.

1843

William Store of this Parish
 and Mary Anne Wright of this Parish

were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
 this seventeenth Day of

January in the Year One thousand eight hundred and forty three

By me Beaumont Dixie Rector.

This Marriage was solemnized between us { the mark of William Store
Mary Anne Wright

In the Presence of { the mark of William Wright
George Billings
 No. 234.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Market-Bosworth
 in the County of Leicester in the Year 1859.

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1859. July 29 th No. 569.	Harry son of	Henry and Mary	Harris	Market- Bosworth	Servant	Chas. Webb, Curate.
August 3 rd No. 570.	Mary Isabella daughter of	John Wristly and Hannah	Gibson	Market- Bosworth	School- master	Nath. P. Small, Rector.
August 12 th No. 571.	Harrist daughter of	William and Mary	Storer	Market- Bosworth	Labourer	Chas. Webb, Curate.
August 12 th No. 572.	Anne daughter of	Joseph and Elizabeth	Dudley	Market- Bosworth	Coal- Higgin	Chas. Webb, Curate.
Born April 7 th 1855. No. 573.	Rosa daughter of	Samuel and Sarah Susannah	Chitham	Market- Bosworth	Brazier	Chas. Webb, Curate.
Born Jan 1 st 1858. No. 574.	Mary Ann daughter of	George and Ann	Shuker	Market- Bosworth	Blacksmith	Chas. Webb, Curate.
Aged 2 ^{1/2} 4 10 ^{ths} 7 th No. 575.	Mary Ann daughter of	William and Ann	Henson	Market- Bosworth	Labourer	Chas. Webb, Curate.
Aged 6 m ^{ths} No. 576.	William Son of	William and Ann	Henson	Market- Bosworth	Labourer	Chas. Webb, Curate.

(The YEAR 17)

No. } *Thomas Taylor* of the Parish of *Measton*
and *Phyllis Finckes* of this Parish were

Married in this Church by *Banns*
this *thirtieth* Day of *December* in the Year One Thousand *Eight* Hundred
and *Eleven*

By me *The Wright - Rector*
This Marriage was solemnized between Us, } *Thomas Taylor*
Phyllis Finckes

In the Prefence of } *Mary Barber* *John Gorton*

No. } *John Holyland* of the Parish
and *Mary Worley* of this Parish were

Married in this Church by *Banns*
this *fourteenth* Day of *February* in the Year One Thousand *Eight* Hundred
and *Twelve*

By me *The Wright - Rector*
This Marriage was solemnized between Us, } *John Holyland*
Mary Worley

In the Prefence of } *The Holyland* *Elizabeth Subbald*

No. } *James Greener* of the Parish of *Leach*
and *Ana Carter* of this Parish were

Married in this Church by *Banns*
this *fifth* Day of *March* in the Year One Thousand *Eight* Hundred
and *Twelve*

By me *The Wright - Rector*
This Marriage was solemnized between Us, } *James Greener*
Ana Carter

In the Prefence of } *John Freeman* *Jane Verow*

No. } *William Wright* of the Parish
and *Mary Bamford* of this Parish were

Married in this Church by *Banns*
this *twentieth* Day of *May* in the Year One Thousand *Eight* Hundred
and *Twelve*

By me *The Wright - Rector*
This Marriage was solemnized between Us, } *William Wright*
Mary Bamford

In the Prefence of } *William Bamford* *John Wright*
Mary Bamford

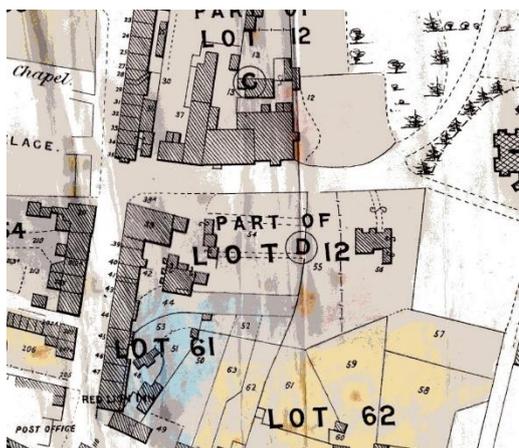
A Question Answered or is it?

At the end of July we received this email.

Hi

Please would you be able to advise if the Bosworth Hall & Estate sales catalogue of 1884, ref. S1/MISC/02 held in your archive, is the same sale as that which was reported in local newspapers of July 1885, the following year? If so would you be able to confirm if the details of lot 12D refers to a house occupied by T. Farren (my great uncle) in Church Street. It was sold for £650 to S. Perry in the 1885 sale according to the local press but wondered if the sale catalogue provided more details of the property, if from the same sale.

Thanking you in advance for any information you can provide.
Kind regards, Rob Farren.



Luckily Margaret (Howard) was already working on a copy of the Sale Catalogue for 1885 and so was able to send me some scans which I shared with Rob. As you can see 12D does include Holy Bones which was at one time the property of Samuel Hunt Perry. We know this because he had a boundary stone placed at the northern edge of his property in response to Tollemache Scott placing one on the southern boundary of his. They are still in place today and can be seen on the footpath to St. Peter's Parish Church

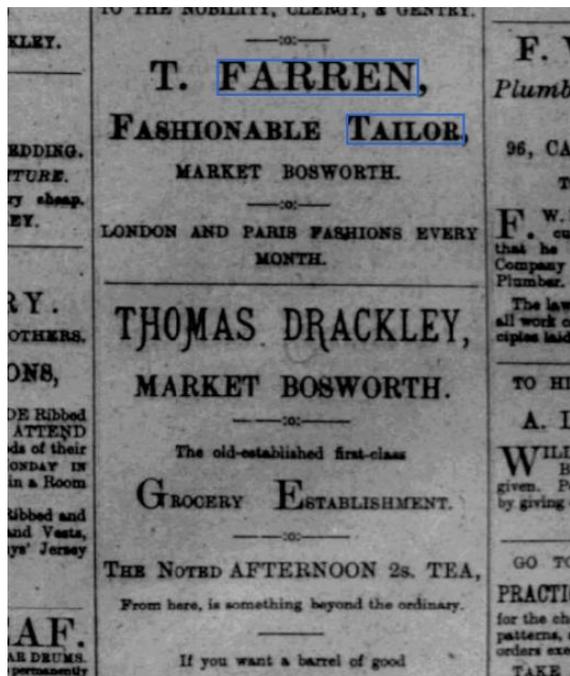
from Church Street.
The next email said:

Hi Rob

Happy to help, I had heard the name Thomas Farren mentioned before. I have found him in a Leicestershire Post Office Directory as a Tailor and Organist. Unfortunately, the item is not dated. You have probably already seen this

https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/History_gazetteer_and_directory_of_Leice/NxUHAAAQAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Thomas+Farren+Organist&pg=PA684&printsec=frontcover

I will let you know what we can discover about your great uncle. I have also found a reference to houses owned by S Perry and T Farren and will look into that in case it is linked.



Hi there. Thanks for the additional information. Yes I will send you a copy of my findings regarding this branch of the Farren family when it's all collated. You may like to know that Thomas had three sons. One committed suicide in the canal, one died during a typhoid outbreak and one lived to old age and was a successful tailor and seed & beer agent. When Thomas himself died a very long and detailed obituary was placed in the local press. All this info I will send in due course. Thank you for your help and interest these past few days.
Kind regards, Rob Farren.

In response Rob sent me a couple of images:

The cuttings came from the Hinckley Times and Bosworth Herald dated Saturday February 22nd, 1890.

Peter reminded me that Holy Bones was the residency of the Estate Head Keeper and that there was at that time a small opening/window on the East side from where the estate workers would be paid. I also found a mention of Mr Thomas Farren and organist here: [History, gazetteer, and directory of Leicestershire, and ... Rutland; toget... - Google Books](#). Also as Rob was asking about the house I provided a link to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Planning Portal which contains details of the house from 2014, a report by the University of Leicester Archaeological Department. [ViewDocument \(hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk\)](#) I also found Thomas Farren, Tailor mentioned in the Leicestershire Post Office Directory (undated unfortunately).

In the final email I mentioned that There was also a Farren on Main street, about 4 doors from the Red Lion, opposite a narrow jitty also called back lane. Possibly not connected but this Farren ran a laundry with a large copper boiler. On Saturdays and during the Bosworth Show the copper was used to cook chips. Could be a relative but I would date this as somewhere between the two world wars. I have spoken to people, who could recall getting chips from there as young children.



Margaret sent even more information:

The latest email from Rob reads:

Hi there. Thanks for the additional information. Yes I will send you a copy of my findings regarding this branch of the Farren family when it's all collated. You may like to know that Thomas had three sons. One committed suicide in the canal, one died during a typhoid outbreak and one lived to old age and was a successful tailor and seed & beer agent. When Thomas himself died a very long and detailed obituary was placed in the local press. All this info I will send in due course.

Thank you for your help and interest these past few days. Kind regards, Rob Farren.

I am really looking forward to reading the Farren family history and I am sure you will too. For the time being if you can add anymore to the information please contact me.

14

(D) HOUSE, &c., Let to THOMAS FARRER, Yearly Tenant, Lady Day Entry, subject to Twelve Months' Notice to Quit, at an Apportioned Rent of £

No. or Plan.	Description.	State.	Quantity.	Total.
38	Brought forward ... Brock-built and Tiled House, with Tailor's Shop and Beer Store. The House contains Five Bed Rooms, Two Kitchens, Entrance Passage, Parlour, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Larder and Cellar, adjoining an Tailor's Shop, Beer Store, and Loft; and in Yard, Coal House, Lean-to Two-Bay Open Shed, Four-Staff Stable and Loft, Cold Shed, Fire-Chase House, Wash House, Pigery, Cow House, and Open Shed.	...	A. S. P. 0 0 19	975 1 31
38a	...	...	0 0 5	
38b	...	...	0 0 1	
40	...	...	0 0 1	
44	Garden...	...	0 0 32	0 1 18
(B) LAND, held by the said THOMAS FARRER, with the above-mentioned HOUSE, at an Apportioned Rent of £				
416	Garden ...	Arable	0 1 2	
415	Old Park Meadow ...	Pasture	5 3 37	6 0 39
(A) PADDOCK, Let to W. WILKINS, Yearly Tenant, at an Apportioned Rent of £7.				
467	Paddock ...	Pasture	2 1 39	
467a	Paddock ...	Pasture	0 0 20	2 2 19
(B) GARDEN LAND, Let to various Tenants.				
399	Garden... .. G. Bousall ...	...	0 0 22	
400	Garden... .. R. Godson ...	...	0 0 15	
401	Garden... .. G. Woods ...	...	0 0 13	
402	Garden... .. W. Westwright ...	...	0 0 14	
403	Garden... .. Storer ...	...	0 0 13	
404	Garden... .. Alden ...	...	0 0 21	
417	Garden... ..	...	0 0 32	
Apportioned Rent £3 13s. 6d.				0 3 17
(C) A Brick and slated Residence, Let to Dr. Thomas, Yearly Tenant, Lady Day Entry, subject to Twelve Months' Notice to Quit, adjoining the Entrance to Mansion, containing Three Sitting Rooms, Seven Bed Rooms, Surgery, Three-Staff Stable, Two Loose Boxes, Two Coach Houses, and Gardens ...				
12	...	...	0 1 3	
53	...	...	0 0 18	0 1 21
Apportioned Rent £37.				
(C) Brick and slated Residence in Church Road, containing Three Sitting Rooms, Four Bed Rooms, and Office, Let to Mrs. MORRIS, Yearly Tenant, Six Months' Notice.				
13	...	...	0 0 20	0 0 20
Apportioned Rent £20.				
(C) Brick and slated Residence, containing Three Sitting Rooms, Five Bed Rooms, Two Offices, Kitchen, Beer House, Dairy, and Cheese Room, with Yard, Out Office, and Garden; also with Farm Buildings and Yard, occupied by John RANNEY, as an Apportioned Rent of £20.				
16, 17, 18	...	...	0 2 2	
37	...	...	0 0 2	0 2 2
Apportioned Rent £20.				
(D) Modern Cottage Residence, with Out-office, and Gardens, in Church Street, as occupied by W. Wood, Gardener. Estimated Rent £8.				
56	...	...	0 0 38	0 0 38

Market Bosworth a Seat of Learning.

You have probably heard that the Old Rectory is under plans to turn it into a Special Education Needs School. As consultees of matters affecting the Conservation Area the Market Bosworth Society has been asked to comment upon the plans. You will recall that I circulated them last month. The result has been

broadly welcoming of the plans with some reservations. Together with comments from your Committee I submitted the following:

The Market Bosworth Society broadly welcomes the repurposing of The Old Rectory to a SEN School. It is a pleasant change to have an asset imported rather than removed. Market Bosworth has a good record for education, there has been a school in Market Bosworth since the 12th Century. *The Dixie Grammar School has one of the oldest foundations in the country, with benefactors on record from 1320. It was re-founded by the Dixie family in 1601. The present school building built in a symmetrical Tudor style between 1827 and 1829, has a former entrance flanked by polygonal panelled turrets, above which is a cast iron plaque. With the Latin dedicatory inscription.* (Market Bosworth Town Trail Guide and Souvenir). There are also two other schools in Market Bosworth, St. Peter's Junior Academy and The Bosworth School, also an academy. In many respects it is a most suitable location for a special needs school. Situated on the edge of the town centre but within sight of a rural landscape it offers a contemplative setting suitable equally for a rectory or a school. We would wish that priority be given to pupils from Market Bosworth and the hub linked villages before widening the catchment area.

Whilst we offer no objections to the plans we would wish to make the following remarks.

- The street scene is to be preserved. The larger gates planned must match perfectly the existing gates in style and colour. This is true for all street viewed aspects.
- The heraldic plaques must be retained. The inscription "*not of the light of the eyes, but of the light of the mind*" is highly appropriate to an educational establishments especially a SEN school.
- Any alterations to the external faces of the building must use matching materials and styles.
- Internal alterations (installing of lifts and widening of doors for example) must be sympathetically completed and must not detract from the protected nature of the building.
- No extensions to be built which would be visible from Rectory Lane.
- Any extensions must be of the same style and material as the existing building.
- The operators of the school must engage in a dialogue with existing schools to minimise the disruption to traffic flow. Rectory Lane is a one-way street and all exiting traffic must turn left and head for the Town Centre. We were surprised that LCC Highways have no comment to make. We would suggest that the Planning Officer examine a recently completed traffic survey if available or request that one is commissioned. There is considerable disruption and almost gridlock during the twice daily school runs. We would not wish for this new facility to exacerbate this situation.
- There must be sufficient onsite parking for all users with ample room to exit Rectory Lane without causing delays.
- Any large vehicles, minibuses for example, must not be parked in such a way as to obscure the view of the Old Rectory from Rectory Lane.
- All trees and hedges to be retained and preserved especially those along Rectory Lane. The building must not be obscured from view from Rectory Lane.
- Any building ground works must be preceded by an archaeological survey. In 2018 Bosworth Links a community led archaeological project dug two pits at the Old Rectory. The results can be seen here <http://marketbosworthsociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2018-186v11.pdf> on pages 43 to 48.

Apart from the above comments consideration must be given to the Market Bosworth Neighbourhood Plan. Especially Policy CE1a which requires all new building within Market Bosworth to be in keeping with its Character Area etc. Policy CE1b which requires new development not to harm important views (such as that of the Old Rectory from Rectory Lane). Market Bosworth enjoys a green canopy and that must be preserved. We look forward to welcoming this new facility to Market Bosworth.

I hope I have captured the spirit and the detail of the comments sent to me, thank you to those who have submitted comments. It has been most helpful in constructing this response.

The plans for a SEN school gave me an idea. If there has been a school in Market Bosworth since 1320 there must be some famous (or hopefully infamous) old boys and girls. Knowing that Walter Baynes, Archivist of the Dixie Grammar School Association (<http://www.thedgsa.co.uk/>) enjoys being kept busy I asked him for a series of articles about famous former pupils. Walter was most enthusiastic and assured me he had enough

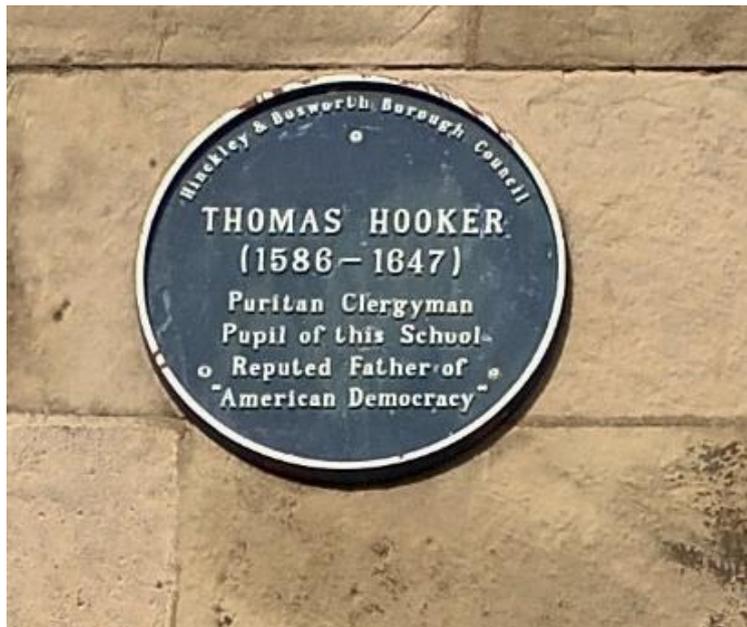
material to keep articles going to Christmas at least. So, here is the first of his articles. Oh, and by the way if you know of anyone please send in the details.

Famous Dixie Grammar School Pupils

Many readers of the Newsletter will know of the Blue Plaque commemorating Thomas Hooker mounted on the wall of the Dixie Grammar School in the Square.

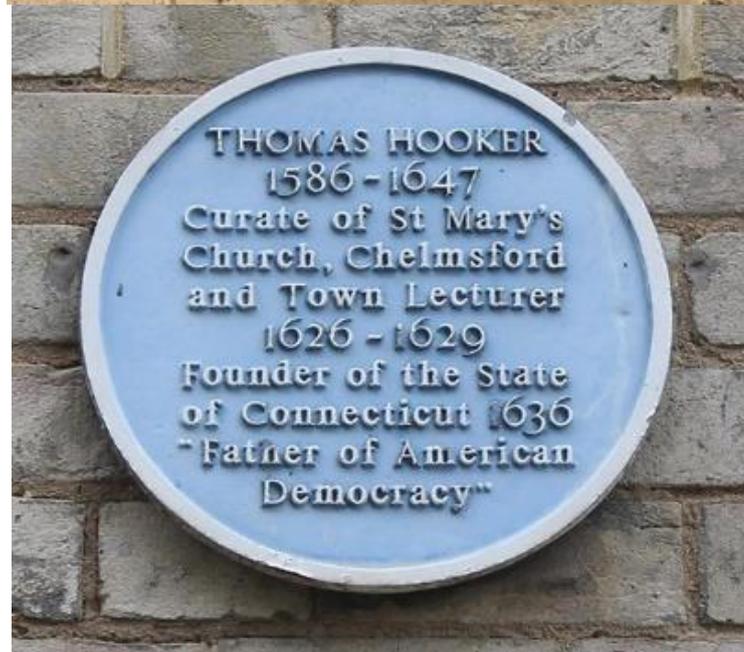
But apart from the details contained on the plaque it is unlikely that they will know much more about the man. His life is worthy of a much better understanding. So who is he and what did he achieve after his time in Market Bosworth?

Thomas Hooker was born in Markfield on July 5th, 1586. He joined the tiny school in Market Bosworth, along with eight other boys, where he would have been taught by the then schoolmaster Roger Armson. Thomas was



allowed the privilege of being the only boarder at the school since he lived around ten miles away and would have had great difficulty in arriving for lessons on time, especially in the winter. Lessons started at 7.00 am until 11.00 in the mornings and from 1.00 until 5.00 in the afternoons. In the summer months they started at 6.00 am.

After leaving Bosworth Thomas studied at Queen's College, Oxford, before moving to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in 1603 in order to take advantage of the Dixie Scholarship there. It was during his time at Cambridge that he met John Harvard and the two became great friends. It was around this time that Thomas read, and was influenced by, William Bradshaw's book about English Puritanism. As Bradshaw was born in Market Bosworth it is possible that he had also been a pupil at the old school in Bosworth. Thomas obtained his B.A. in 1608 and his M.A. in 1611. He then became a Fellow on The Dixie Foundation at Emmanuel College - one of the first to receive this financial assistance.



Thomas Hooker became the Rector of Esher before moving to Chelmsford where he found fame as a lecturer and leader in Puritanism. In recognition of this, near Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex, there is a blue plaque fixed high on the wall of a narrow alleyway, opposite the south porch, which reads: "Thomas Hooker, 1586-1647, Curate at St. Mary's Church and Chelmsford Town Lecturer 1626-29". Hooker's lecturing on Puritanism did not please his

superior, Bishop William Laud, who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury. So in 1630 it was time for Thomas to escape Laud's wrath and he quickly moved to Holland where he became the leader of the Puritan Sect there. However the group soon became disillusioned and many, including Hooker, returned to England. In 1633 he sailed on the "Griffin" from Downs, in Kent, landing at Plymouth, in Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts, on September 3.

He became the pastor of a company of Puritans who had arrived from England the previous year. He and his



supporters became unhappy under the influence of John Cotton, and in 1636 he led a group to Connecticut to settle and found the city of Hartford, named for Hertford, England, the birthplace of one of Hooker's assistants, the Rev. Samuel Stone. Critical of restricting suffrage to male church members with property, Hooker sought a more universal suffrage and told the Connecticut General Court in 1638 that "the people had the God-given right to choose their magistrates". This view was an advanced one for his time and led some historians to call him "the father of American democracy," Hooker had no intention of separating church and state; he declared that "the privilege of voting should be exercised according to the will of God". He was active in



formulating the "Fundamental Orders of Connecticut" (1639), which later helped shape aspects of the Constitution of the United States of America. The "Fundamental Orders of Connecticut" is often referred to as the world's first written democratic constitution establishing a representative government.

The Thomas Hooker died during an epidemic on July 7, 1647, at the age of 61, two days after his 61st birthday.



The location of his grave is unknown, although he is believed to be buried in Hartford's Ancient Burying Ground. There is a plaque on the back of the First Church. Because there was no known portrait of him, the 1938 statue of him that stands in front of Hartford's Old State House, was sculpted by Frances Laughlin Wadsworth from the likenesses of his descendants.

Hartford is not without a sense of humour regarding its origins. Each year in October, organisations and citizens of Hartford dress up in outrageous costumes to celebrate Hooker Day with the Hooker Day Parade. T-shirts sold in the Old State House proclaim, "Hartford was founded by a Hooker."

National Lottery

Please share with any group which may qualify for a grant.

The National Lottery Community Fund have launched the new £75 million Community Organisations [Cost of Living Fund](#).



The funding is for frontline charities and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations that are experiencing increased demand for critical services and increased costs in delivering them.

The main priority is to fund organisations supporting low-income households and individuals.

To be eligible, applicants must already run critical services around at

least one of the following:

- Food and emergency supplies, e.g., food and baby banks or the provision of hot meals, clothes or toiletries.
- Emergency shelter, e.g., night shelters or other accommodation for people experiencing homelessness.
- Safe spaces, e.g., domestic abuse services and youth services.
- Warmth, e.g., warm rooms and spaces.
- Financial and housing advice, e.g., giving people advice because of the increased cost of living.

Organisations must also be facing both:

- Increased demand for these critical services, and
- Increased costs of delivering these critical services.

The funding can be used to cover both project and core costs retrospectively from July 2023 until 31st March 2024.

Grants of between £10,000 and £75,000 are available and the deadline for applications is 16th October 2023 at 12 noon.

And now..



How well do you know the Anglo Saxons?

1. The original inhabitants of Britain were:

A. The Celtic Britons

B. The French

C. The Romans

D. The Americans

2. The real Roman conquest spread through Britain after:

A. 55 BC, with Julius Caesar's military expedition

B. 43 AD, under Emperor Claudius

C. 5 BC, with Julius Caesar's military expedition

D. 78 AD, under Emperor Claudius

3. The Anglo-Saxons began to invade Britain in the

A. The first half of the 5th century

B. 6th century

C. 7th century

D. 8th century

4. King Arthur is the most legendary

A. Anglo-Saxon king

B. Celtic king

C. Both

D. None

5. The Anglo-Saxon period is characterized by:

A. The introduction of the feudal system

B. The end of the feudal system

C. The division of England into a number of small kingdoms

D. None

6. King Alfred the Great tried to stop

A. The Anglo-Saxon invasion

B. The Danish invasion

C. Both

D. None

7. Under Canute

A. The Anglo-Saxons extended their kingdom

B. The Danish supremacy was ended

C. The Anglo-Saxons ended their kingdom

D. The Danish supremacy was established.

8. The Anglo-Saxon king was chosen for his:

A. Bravery

B. Economic superiority

C. Wealth

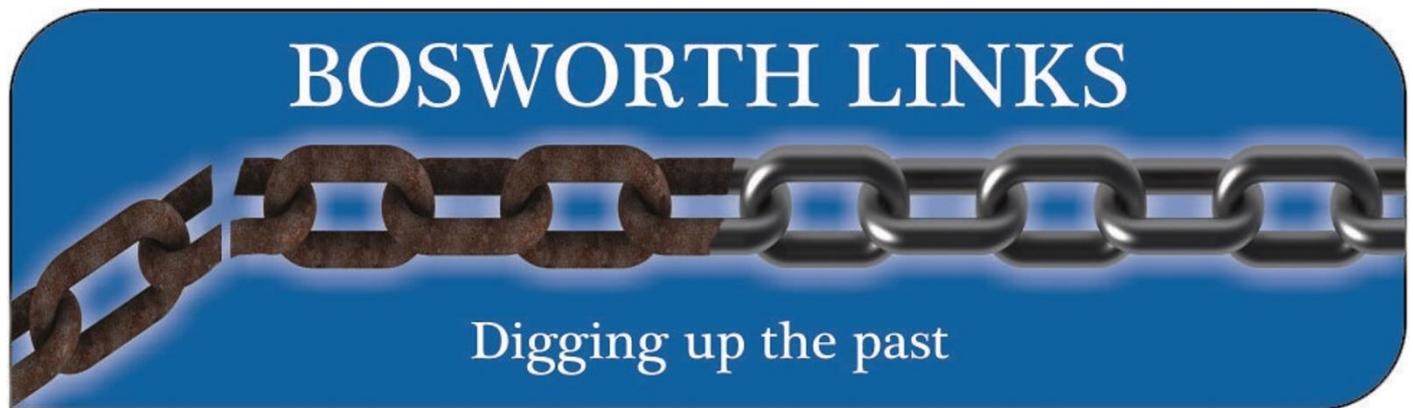
D. Intelligence

9. The ideal of Germanic cultures was that the king should strive after:

- A. Success
- B. Power
- C. Enduring fame
- D. None

10. The scops:

- A. Celebrated the king's glorious actions
- B. Fought at the king's side
- C. Yielded
- D. None of these



Are you getting excited? I am. Not long now to the Cadeby dig on the 9th and 10th of September. Gemma has been working very hard and we now have 18 test pits lined up. She and Mathew will be visiting next week to confirm that the sites are suitable. Thank you to those who came to chat with us at Cadeby Fete. It was a wet miserable day but we had a lot of fun and laughs chatting with the visitors. As usual I was prowling around the front of our stand and managed to lure several innocent and unsuspecting victims into signing up as hosts or volunteers. I hear that over £4000 was raised for Cadeby church, a fantastic amount in the rain.

It is (as the song goes) all about **YOU!** We cannot do this without you so please go to

www.marketbosworthsociety.com/bosworth-links and fill in a volunteer form. We



will also make your friends, neighbours, relatives, colleagues, etc etc most welcome. There may not be many more chances for you to take part so do not hesitate. If you can sit down you can take part. Although big strong men and women who can dig are equally sought and welcome. You will get to do something really special, have fun and star in a professional film by the renowned Bill Newsinger (shown left). Bill has been an integral part of Bosworth Links since 2017 and we are truly grateful to him for his mastery of the camera. If you don't believe me see here <https://vimeo.com/billnewsinger>. Whatever you do, don't miss out, some do and some wish they had.

Latest news is that the Carlton and Coton finds have now been identified and the long awaited reports will be available very soon.

Come on, lets go time travelling!

HISTORY LECTURES BY MONTH AT GRESHAM COLLEGE 2023-24

You can watch these lectures on-line for free, you will need to register first.

September 2023

Wed 20, 6pm, [Ancient Goddesses of Sex and War](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; Central London Venue TBC/
Online/ Watch Later [gres.hm/ancient-goddesses](#)

October 2023

Tue 3, 6pm, Writing, Dr Malachi McIntosh; Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn/ Online/ Watch
Later [gres.hm/writers-windrush](#)

Thu 5, 6pm, Renaissance, Professor Kate Dossett; Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn/ Online/
Watch Later [gres.hm/women-harlem](#)

Thu 12, 6pm, Africa, Professor Madhu Krishnan; Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn/ Online/
Watch Later [gres.hm/literary-africa](#)

November 2023

Tues 7, 6pm, [Pilgrimages, Pandemics and the Past](#), Tom Holland; Gresham College Barnard's Inn Hall
Holborn/ Online/ Watch Late [gres.hm/pilgrimages-holland](#)

Wed 8, 6pm, [Were There Pagan Goddesses in Christian Europe?](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; central London
Venue tbc / Online/ Watch Later [gres.hm/pagan-goddesses](#)

Wed 22, 6pm, [Antisemitic Conspiracy Theories: Past, Present and Future?](#) Professor Richard Evans,
Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn/ Online/ Watch Later [gres.hm/antisemitic-conspiracy](#)

February 2024

Wed 14, 6pm, [Dragons: A History](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; central London Venue tbc / Online/ Watch
Later [gres.hm/dragons](#)

March 2024

Wed 6, 6pm, [Ritual Nudity in History and Religion](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; central London Venue tbc /
Online/ Watch Later [gres.hm/ritual-nudity](#)

April 2024

Wed 24, 6pm, [The Western Magical Tradition](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; central London Venue tbc / Online/
Watch Later [gres.hm/western-magic](#)

June 2024

Wed 5, 6pm, [Witch-Hunting in European and World History](#), Professor Ronald Hutton; central London
Venue tbc / Online/ Watch Later [gres.hm/witches-europe](#)

Wars of the Roses Quiz (an easy one)

- 1 How many years did the Wars of the Roses last?
 - A. 24
 - B. 30
 - C. 8
 - D. 15
- 2 Which overmighty magnate was known as the 'Kingmaker'?
 - A. Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick
 - B. Henry Beaufort, Duke of Somerset
 - C. Edmund, Earl of Rutland
 - D. James Butler, Earl of Wiltshire and Earl of Ormond
- 3 Why did the earl of Warwick and King Edward IV fall out?
 - A. Edward insulted Warwick's shoes
 - B. Warwick joked that Edward's head was too big for the crown
 - C. Edward embarrassed Warwick with his choice of bride
 - D. Warwick was bribed to betray Edward
- 4 How did Henry VI attempt to end the Wars of the Roses?
 - A. He offered to abdicate, but was refused
 - B. He challenged Edward IV to single combat, but was rejected
 - C. He held a parade to reconcile the Yorkists and Lancastrians, but it was unsuccessful
 - D. He paid an assassin to kill Richard Duke of York, but the plot failed
- 5 Which pivotal figure in the Wars of the Roses did William Shakespeare later describe as a "she-wolf" with a "tiger's heart wrapped in a woman's hide"?
 - A. Anne Neville

- B. Margaret of Anjou
- C. Margaret Beaufort
- D. Elizabeth Woodville

6 According to the popular children's mnemonic, who 'gave battle in vain' at Wakefield on 30 December 1460?

- A. Richard, Duke of York
- B. Richard III
- C. Henry Beaufort, Duke of Somerset
- D. Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby

Community Safety Partnership

Here are a few items from the latest newsletter for you.

HAVE YOUR SAY You can influence policing priorities in your Neighbourhood, receive updates and see what we are doing. Sign up to Neighbourhood Link by visiting www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk or visit one of our police stations. Find out what we are doing in your area by visiting the Leicestershire Police website at www.leics.police.uk, use your location to find out crime statistics, the priorities you have raised and what we are doing about it. If you have a car with keyless entry (the door unlocks when you get near it without having to use the key) use a signal blocker pouch or box to store your key or fob

RETAIL WATCH The partnership in Hinckley and Bosworth have provided funding via the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner to help support Hinckley Business Improvement District launch a system called DISC, which enables retailers within Hinckley town centre to report shoplifting incidents with key stakeholders in a timely way. This follows the successful and ongoing Hinckley BID initiative to set-up and finance a 'PUBWATCH' DISC scheme 3 years ago. As further support to attack Hinckley town-centre crime and in an ongoing drive to share information via a direct communication link with CCTV – Hinckley BID have issued the police, licensed venues and key retail businesses with more hand-held radios which are suitably located so that when issues happen in any area they can be dealt with in a timely manner by CCTV and the police. The CSP provided a contribution towards the funding needed to set up the DISC scheme and to help purchase more retail radios, with the BID covering the remainder of the cost. The RetailWatch scheme went live in June and will increase chances of positive outcomes in terms of apprehension, victim and public protection and successful prosecution. Executive member for Hinckley & Bosworth Community Safety, Councillor Michael Mullaney added: "This is fantastic news for the town centre, the retail-radio scheme has been created to meet local needs and for individuals to be able to share information about issues or incidents quickly. This is a great form of partnership working and having more radios will enable early identification of issues and crime". Hinckley BID report an enthusiastic response to this initiative with 100 signed up so far. BID Director Steve Wegerif said 'We are delighted to have received this additional support and to continue to work so closely with the OPCC and HBBC. If our town-centre businesses are to prosper, we need to help them protect against thieves and to increase the number of successful convictions. Our town-centre Police officers work very hard, we just needed to provide the tools that help them achieve the results.'

Bosworth Field Rediscovered. Jack and Peter Shaw

As promised above the full article as published in the British Journal for Military History, Volume 9, Issue 1, March 2023 You can view the whole of volume 9 here and jolly interesting it is too!

<https://bjmh.gold.ac.uk/issue/view/125/BJMH%209%2C1> (Hold the CTRL key whilst hovering)

I hope you enjoy reading the articles. I had a devil of a job editing them to fit the pages so please bear with me if they are not as clear as usual.

Bosworth Field: a battlefield rediscovered?

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ABSTRACT

The Bosworth Project concluded that the deciding battle in The Wars of the Roses was fought entirely at Fenn Lane and the site proposed is the only feasible candidate. However, the authors suggest that the narrative provided overlooks or downplays key aspects of contemporaneous accounts to support those conclusions. It is instead proposed that the primary site of battle was in a nearby location and an alternative narrative is offered that matches more of, and better accommodates, the contemporary accounts of battle events.

Introduction

Between 2005 and 2010 The Bosworth Project was undertaken by The Battlefields Trust in an attempt to find the true site of the Battle of Bosworth Field.¹ Detailed field investigations were conducted around Sutton Cheney, Dadlington, Shenton, and Stoke Golding. The project's findings were ultimately reported in *Bosworth 1485: A Battlefield Rediscovered*.²

A Battlefield Rediscovered?

The Bosworth Project aimed to draw together three separate strands of research: original accounts, historic terrain, and battle archaeology. However, the team's search of accounts for 'Redemore' (the original name for the battle) and 'Sandeford' (the site of King Richard's death) was inconclusive: reporting that '[F]urther work needs to determine the precise location, extent, and character of Redemore, and its relationship with the arable fields of the surrounding villages.'³

*Jack Shaw and Peter Shaw are independent scholars based in Australia who developed an interest in the location of the Battle of Bosworth while previously living in the area. DOI: [10.25602/GOLD.bjmh.v9i1.1685](https://doi.org/10.25602/GOLD.bjmh.v9i1.1685)

¹The Bosworth Battlefield Project (hereinafter Bosworth Project), https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/bosworth_hlf_2011/ Accessed 18 September 2022.

²Glenn Foard and Anne Curry, *Bosworth 1485: A Battlefield Rediscovered*, (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2013). Page references in this article are to the second (2018) edition.

³Bosworth Project, 'Report on the documentary sources for the reconstruction of

The documents examined have been largely disappointing in that they have not provided detailed descriptions of the pre-enclosure landscape. Nor have references to Sandeford been found, while only one additional reference to Redesmore has been identified to support the thirteenth-century record previously discussed by Foss.⁴

There were also remaining uncertainties regarding the historic terrain, including the marsh which featured prominently in contemporary accounts of the battle. The researchers could find only fragmentary areas of wetland and conceded that further work was required 'to establish a more coherent picture of this key element of the battlefield terrain'.⁵ In the meantime they were, 'unfortunately, thrown back onto a combination of place names and soil data to define the potential extent of the medieval fen'.⁶

Running out of time, the project was left with an ever-expanding search for archaeology – '[w]ithout a securely located site from the other research, our survey of the battle archaeology had become the only way to find the battlefield' and it was here that their perseverance paid off.⁷ A metal-detected lead shot, found in the very last week of their allotted time, was later determined to be medieval and had been fired. This one discovery prompted the project leader to declare the 'Bosworth problem' solved. Understandable hyperbole given the circumstances.

Foard and Curry attempt to offer an all-encompassing interpretation that ties the finds together by 're-running the sequence of documented events, but set within the historic terrain and informed by the artefact scatter'.⁸ In this new narrative, the site of battle is identified, not as Ambion Hill in Sutton Cheney as many have held, but instead along a portion of Fenn Lane (once a Roman road) lying largely within Upton township. This interpretation is not without its problems, and caveats are scrupulously given for many of the conclusions. Despite more than 30 lead shot found in the extended time given to the project, plus other significant finds, the authors of this article still believe that the conclusion drawn was premature and overreached. There will be later discussion

the historic landscape of Bosworth battlefield' by Mark Page, (hereinafter *Historic Landscape*), p. 8.

https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archiveDS/archiveDownload?t=arch-1114-1/dissemination/pdf/Reports/Bosworth_landscape_documentary_report.pdf

Accessed 10 February 2023.

⁴*Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁵Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 81.

⁶*Ibid.*

⁷*Ibid.*, pp. 96-97.

⁸*Ibid.*, p. 180.

here around what other alternatives regarding the lead shot may be considered, following this broad critique of the Foard & Curry interpretation that contests both its underlying assumptions and the plausibility of some of the theory's critical elements.

The sources drawn upon by this article are predominantly the ones used by The Bosworth Project and nothing is added to the debate regarding the veracity or strength of these or any other sources. At this stage, it is simply wished that the narrative will match more sources than any previous theory, whilst accepting that further work and evidence is needed. The authors will, however, declare their agreement with those, such as Charles Ross, who say 'on both historical and literary grounds, the [Stanley] 'Ballads' (for they are not ballads as such but poems) deserve most serious consideration as a major historical source.'⁹

Redemore and Sandeford

The names given immediately after the battle were 'Sandeford' and 'Redemore' (both subject to spelling variations). These names appear in the York House Books, which contain council meeting reports from just days after the battle

[T]he king assertayneth you, that Richard due of Gloucestre, late callid king Richard, was slayne at a place called Sandeford, within the shyre of Leicestre.¹⁰

Wer assembled in the counsail chambre ... to understand how they shall be disposed enent the king's grace Henry the sevent, so proclamed and crowned at the feld of Redemore.¹¹

Thus, the names of Sandeford and Redemore are linked by eyewitness accounts to the same events, at the same location, at the same point in time, and are supported by Henry's subsequent royal proclamation. Unfortunately, Sandeford and Redemore remain the most elusive of places. Neither the Bosworth Project nor any other researcher has plausibly placed them together on a map, then or since. Sandeford, as a 'sand-bottomed-ford' is generally accepted. Redemore is more problematic and, along with misleading maps and the positioning of the marsh, contributes greatly to the subsequent confusion as to the battlefield location.

⁹Charles Ross, *Richard III*, (London: Eyre Methuen, 1992), p. 235.

¹⁰Francis Drake, *Eboracum, or the History and Antiquities of the City of York*, (London, 1736) (hereafter, 'Drake'), pp. 121–122, reprinted in *The York House Books, 1461–1490*, Appendix V, edited by L. Atreed, (Stroud: Sutton Publishing, 1991), pp. 735–736. [City Officials Ride to King Henry, Royal Proclamation Read in City, 25 August 1485].

¹¹York City Archives, HB 2/4, f. 169v, reprinted in *The York House Books, 1461–1490*, Volume I, edited by L. Atreed, (Stroud: Sutton Publishing, 1991), p. 368.

Foard & Curry follow the impressive research of Peter J. Foss in tracing the name 'Redemore' to a 1283 reference to 'six roods of meadow in Redmoor, in Dadlington', with the name (they say) derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'Hroed-mor', a low-lying moor full of reeds.¹² Yet the same distinguished author, in his 'History of Market Bosworth', describes a 'wide plain' stretching three miles west from Bosworth containing the hamlets of Near and Far Coton, which are 'positioned on a spur of Bosworth's own hill, commandingly placed just above "Redmore Plain"' and notes that '[I]n the 15th and 16th Century, this entire area was known as Redmoor Plain'.¹³ Foss quotes William Hutton in support, who stated 'its [Bosworth Field's] real name is Redmore Plain from the colour of the soil, as the meadows on the west are called White-moors for the same reason.'¹⁴ Yet Foard & Curry reject the suggestions that the name 'Redemore' comes from the local soil colour, whilst overlooking similarities with the naming of 'Whitemoors'.

Similarly, Foard & Curry cleave to the 'Rede' element as a reference to reeds rather than the colour, claiming the 'moor' in 'Redemore' signifies low-lying ground rather than an upland moor – which is 'a tract of open uncultivated upland; a heath', or 'an open area of hills covered with rough grass' – that has red-coloured soil.¹⁵ Yet, a number of historical names for the battle used the word 'heath' such as 'Brown Heath' (Hutton), 'Bosworth heth' (Calais Chronicle), 'Redesmore heath' (Fabyan) and the Welsh name for the battle unambiguously supports the soil-colour argument. 'Rhos Goch' translates as 'moor red'.¹⁶

As for 'Sandeford', the original name given for the location of Richard's death, Foard & Curry state that 'the jury is still out';¹⁷ the fact that it was not located by the project

¹²Peter J. Foss, *The Field of Redemore: The Battle of Bosworth, 1485*, 2nd edition, (San Francisco: Kairos Press, 1998), p. 34.

¹³Peter J. Foss, *The History of Market Bosworth*, (Sandhurst: Sycamore Press, 1983), p. 7.

¹⁴*Ibid.*, p. 24.

¹⁵Oxford Learners Dictionary Online

https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/moor_1 Accessed 11 February 2023; Cambridge English Dictionary Online

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/moor> Access 11 February 2023.

¹⁶Geiriadur Ar-lein Cymraeg-Saesneg/Saesneg-Cymraeg (Welsh-English/English-Welsh Online Dictionary), University of Wales,

https://geiriadur.uwtsd.ac.uk/index.php?page=ateb&term=rhos&direction=we&whichpart=exact&type=noun#ateb_top. Accessed 29 September 2022.

¹⁷Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 196.

is 'taken as confirmation of Thornton's hypothesis that it was not a real place'.¹⁸ This can be agreed, in the sense that it was a descriptive reference or local name only. So why can the same not be said for 'Redemore'?

The Marsh

This is one of the few physical clues to the battlefield location provided by contemporary sources. Following Polydore Vergil, Hall offers some context with regard to the landscape and the orientation of the armies

Betwene both armies ther was a great marrysse which therle of Richemond left on his right hand, for this entent that it should be on that syde a defence for his part, and in so doying he had the sonne at his backe and in the faces of his enemies. When kynge Richard saw the earles compaignie was passed the marresse, he commaunded with al hast to sett vpon them.¹⁹

Writing 500 years after the battle, Ross categorically states that 'when all available sources suggest that the fighting began early in the morning' Vergil, with regard to the position of the sun, and writing 20 years after the battle and with access to eyewitnesses – 'had simply got his facts wrong'.²⁰ This given position of the sun fits the argument that the two main armies faced each other north-south (more of which later) but is inconvenient to anyone wanting them to face each other east-west. For example, Richard Mackinder describes a manoeuvre to 'put' the sun behind Henry rather than him having 'left' it there.²¹ Others have suggested an afternoon battle to achieve the same result. Foard & Curry have an east-west approach but place the marsh literally between the armies; forcing Henry to move around it, Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland inactive because of it, and claims of confirmation from the lead shot found within it.

¹⁸Ibid., p. 94.

¹⁹Edward Hall, *Hall's chronicle: containing the history of England, during the reign of Henry the Fourth, and the succeeding monarchs, to the end of the reign of Henry the Eighth, in which are particularly described the manners and customs of those periods. Carefully collated with the editions of 1548 and 1550*, London, printed for J. Johnson &c, 1809, (reprinted New York, AMS Press, 1965), (hereinafter Hall), excerpt reprinted in Bosworth Project, 'Transcripts and translations of the primary sources relating to the battle of Bosworth' (hereinafter Transcriptions/Translations), p. 30.

https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archiveDS/archiveDownload?t=arch-1114-1/dissemination/pdf/Reports/Bosworth_Primary_Source_Transcripts.pdf Accessed 10 February 2023.

²⁰Ross, *Richard III*, p. 220.

²¹Richard Mackinder, *Bosworth: The Archaeology of the Battlefield*, (Barnsley: Pen & Sword, 2021), p.112.

The problem arises from different potential meanings of the word between: a point on a straight line from A to B, versus a point from A and B but to one side. For example, in 2019, the BBC reported the discovery of a sixth-century Anglo-Saxon burial site 'between a pub and Aldi supermarket' when in reality, the grave site formed an almost 90-degree angle with the other two sites.²² Thus, any medieval use of the word 'between' should be viewed with caution.

There is no dispute that there was a small area of Dadlington called 'Redmoor' in the thirteenth-century but, even if accepted that it derives from 'Hroed-mor' and not the soil colour, there is no evidence of that name still being in use in 1485. Nor whether that area was by then cultivated, or marshland that was somehow still worthy of purchase. This, however, is ultimately irrelevant because Foard & Curry admit that the proposed battle-site 'lies mainly in Upton township ... not within Dadlington' but argue that 'this should not be a problem' claiming that it might have instead been where Richard's army first deployed (even though the book places him elsewhere on page 182).²³

The Bosworth Project identified two possible candidates for its marsh, with both possibilities based on fragmentary evidence. Foard & Curry recognise that their inability to determine from the archaeology which of their candidates played the central part in the battle is problematic, but the possibility that neither did is not countenanced. Instead, Foard & Curry offer a narrative of the opposing forces' movement before, during, and after the battle that is designed solely to support one of their candidates because if the other equally possible location was true, it would contradict their own theory. 'We therefore consider their (the troops') location principally by using the documentary record and by considering the tactical possibilities provided by the terrain, in the light of each army's approach to the field'.²⁴ However, this narrative is equally problematic.

Bosworth Field

So, why was Bosworth chosen? For that we need to look at where the respective armies were located in the lead up to the battle. From the *Crowland Chronicle*, Richard is known to have moved out of Nottingham on 19 August

²²'Southend Burial Site UK's Answer to Tutankamun', *BBC News* (9 May 2019) <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-essex-48203883>. Accessed 21 September 2022.

²³Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 195.

²⁴*Ibid.*, p. 182.

Meanwhile ... the enemy was making haste and moving by day and night towards a direct confrontation with the king and therefore it was necessary to move the army, though it was not yet fully assembled, away from Nottingham and to proceed to Leicester.²⁵

Projecting Henry's progress in a straight line from mid-Wales through Welshpool, Shrewsbury, Newport, and Stafford, takes one directly towards Nottingham. This north easterly direction challenges the commonly held view that Henry was heading southeast, and his target was London. If Henry was moving 'towards a direct confrontation with the King' and the King was not ready, Richard would then find it 'necessary to move the army'. This he did and arrived in Leicester the same day. Only now, over ten days after landing, was Henry heading towards London by duly shadowing this move. '[T]hen Henry turned aside and sought Litchfield, where he passed a night outside its walls'.²⁶ He is known to have arrived at Lichfield on 19 August and moved to Tamworth the next day.

Thereby, on the morning of 21 August, Henry was at Tamworth and Richard at Leicester. These cities are on a straight-line, east-west alignment, 23 miles apart and Bosworth is the exact mid-point. The route taken in 1485 has now been lost but, according to Foss quoting the 'letters patent issued by Elizabeth I in 1601', the governors of Bosworth school were required to purchase a chest with three locks to be kept 'next the street leading from Leicester towards Lichfield'.²⁷ This route from Leicester would have been that which a now-prepared Richard took if he was heading directly to Henry at Tamworth or, more likely, if Bosworth was the expected place of battle.

Despite being the first placenames associated with the battle, Sandeford and Redemore soon fell into disuse, displaced by early sixteenth century references to the Battle of Bosworth Field. Battles often take their name from local identifiers, nearby towns or villages, routes to and from battle, camps, or places of burial. So why, in the decades following the battle, did the association with a nearby village displace the earliest names assigned to the battlefield?

²⁵Nicholas Pronay and John Cox, eds & trans, *The Crowland Chronicle Continuations: 1459–1486*, (Stroud: Sutton Publishing, 1986), (hereinafter *Crowland Chronicle Continuations*), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 5.

²⁶Polydore Vergil, *Anglica Historia* (1555 version), A hypertext critical edition by Dana F. Sutton, The University of California, Irvine, (posted August 4, 2005), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 116.

²⁷Foss, *History of Market Bosworth*, p. 53.

The suggestion is that both the absence of any suitably situated 'Sandeford' or 'Redemore' on contemporary or later maps *and* the rapid (in historical terms) abandonment of these names in referring to the battle indicate that these were descriptive references – whether coined by the witnesses to the battle themselves or adopted from local usage – rather than names that were in any sense formal or official. First-time visitors would need visual features to provide reference when describing to others where they had been. A 'red moor' and a 'sandy ford' would have been simple and effective descriptors for the eyewitnesses who reported back to York council the very next day.

Over time, however, the value of these descriptions would diminish. There are many red soils and river crossings in the area; for those writing decades or more after the battle, reference to more permanent and less ambiguous features was necessary. The next level of formality would be to use the name of the nearest human habitation or permanently named site. Vergil, Fabian, Hall, and The Great Chronicle of London all stated that Richard camped at Bosworth on the night before the battle. Not one contemporary source refers to Richard at any other local village.

Notably, neither a pre-battle march by Richard from Leicester to Ambion Hill nor a post-battle march by Henry from Fenn Lane to Leicester – as would follow from the scenario proposed by Foard & Curry – would pass through Bosworth. Would other closer villages not then be of sufficient size and importance to have lent their name to the battle?²⁸ Also, the much-larger Hinckley is just as close to Fenn Lane as Bosworth. The focus of inquiry must therefore be on finding a location that links the three key sites identified by witnesses: Redemore, Sandeford, and Bosworth. Where, in the Bosworth area, is a location that answers these requirements *and* supports a credible narrative of how the battle played out on its' topography?

The answer is Wellsborough.

An Alternative Narrative

Wellsborough lies three miles (4.8km) due west from the centre of Market Bosworth in the county of Leicestershire. It is one mile (1.6km) north of Sibson, two miles (3.2km) south-east of Twycross, and two miles east (and within the parish) of Sheepy. First recorded as a chapelry of Sibson in 1220, Wellsborough may have been a farm settlement since Roman times but was known to be depopulated by 1445. The profile of Wellsborough is that of long flat-topped ridge, with the high ground (above 100m) half a mile in length (east/west) by a quarter-mile breadth (north/south) and covering an approximate area of 30 hectares (78 acres). Combining various points, there are

²⁸Dadlington, Sibson, Stoke Golding, Sutton Cheney, and Shenton are all closer to the proposed site at Fenn Lane.

360-degree views commanding many square miles. The surrounding land slopes gently to all sides at a gradient of less than four per cent and the soil colour is predominantly red. Wellsborough has an elevation of 117 metres with Twycross slightly higher at 126m. Between the two is the River Sence at 79m. Sheepy, at 85 metres elevation and Sibson, nearer to 100m, are both prone to flood.

The authors suggest that each of the armies – Henry, Richard, Lord Stanley, and Sir William Stanley – occupied high ground at four corners that collectively enclosed the area where the battle took place. This roughly square area stretched from Atherstone (5.5 miles east) to Stoke Golding (3.5 miles north) to Market Bosworth (4.5 miles west) to Sheepy Magna, and 3.5 miles south back to Atherstone. Henry was at the south-west corner (at Merevale), Lord Stanley at the south-east (near Stoke Golding), Sir William at the north-west (Sheepy or Twycross), and Richard at the north-east (Bosworth). This clear statement by Vergil, a source used to support many arguments, has been mostly ignored by historians, 'Richard, hearing his enemy was approaching, was the first to come to the place of battle, the village of Bosworth, a little beyond Leicester. There he pitched camp.'²⁹ A possible clue to where Richard camped lies at Near Coton, one mile along the spur of high ground west of Bosworth, with splendid views to both south and west. The same high ground that Foss said was 'commandingly placed just above "Redmore Plain"'.³⁰ Later maps called part of this Coton area 'King's Hill'. 'And aftyre contynuyd his Journay tyll he cam unto a vyllage callyd Bosworth where In the ffyeldys ajoynant bothe hostys mett.'³¹

The authors suggest that those 'fields adjoining' were at Wellsborough.

The Approaches

It is the authors' view that 'Bosworth Field' is the ground between Wellsborough and Sibson. The following account of what happened (and where) awaits confirmation of new evidence that will support original witness accounts of the battle within this topography.

²⁹Vergil, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 117.

³⁰Foss, *History of Market Bosworth*, p. 7.

³¹The Great Chronicle of London, ed. A.H. Thomas and I.D. Thornley (London, 1938) [Guildhall Library MS 3313], pp. 237-238, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 16.

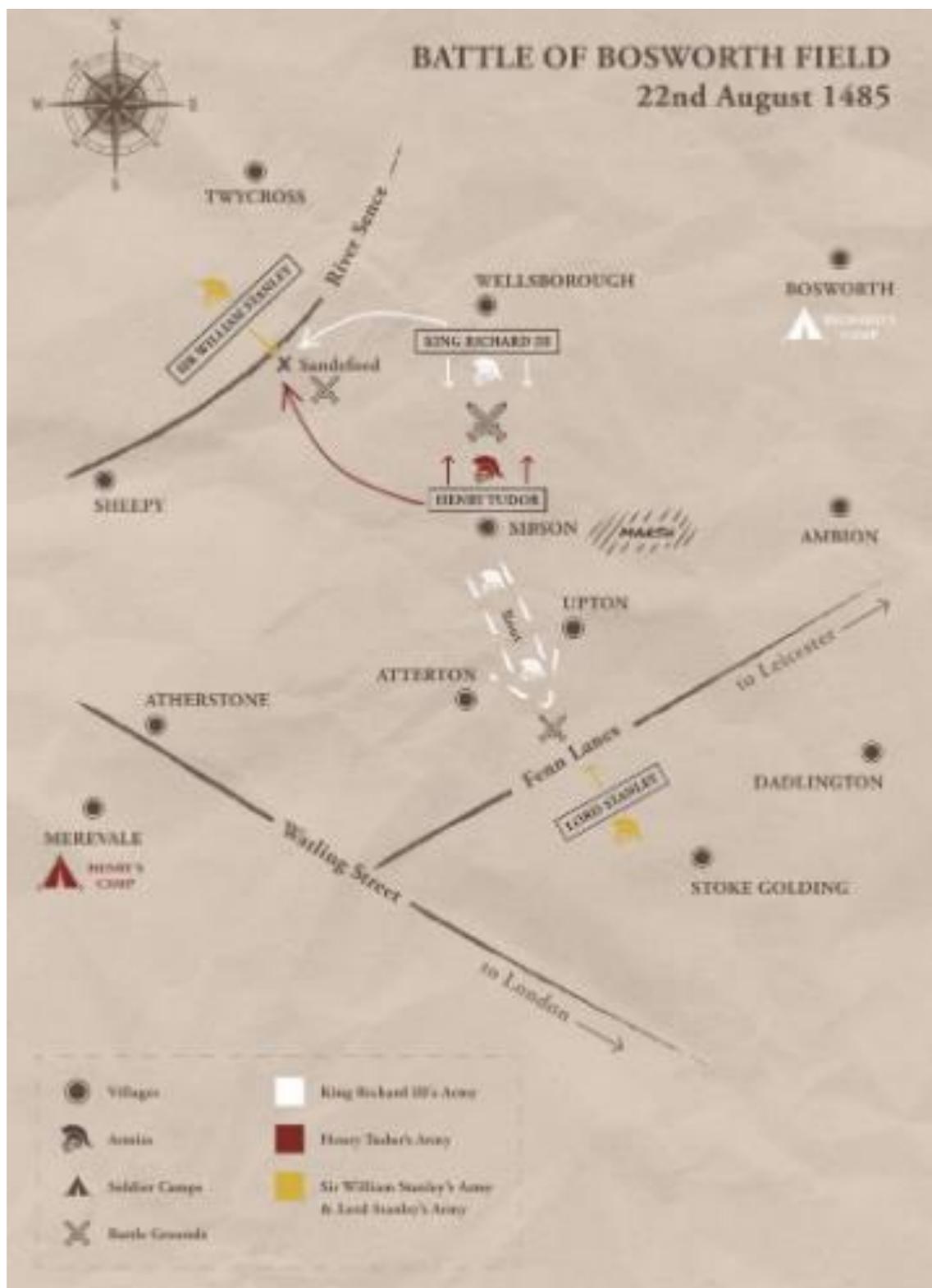


Figure 1. Map of the Battle of Bosworth as conceived by the authors

If the camp locations were as described above, then the approximate distances to 'Bosworth Field' are as follows: Richard (Bosworth) – 1.5 miles; Lord Stanley (Stoke Golding) - 2.5 miles; Sir William (at Sheepy or Twycross) – 1.5 miles; Henry's most northerly camp and his last reported location before the battle (Atterton) – 1.5 miles. This places all four armies roughly equidistant from the field of battle, with the ground between them generally flat (i.e., a plain) but gently rising to the high point at Wellsborough.

Henry may have collected his forces at Witherley, where he is known to have knighted his standard bearer William Brandon and others. He could then have used Atterton to array his forces. Of course, Atterton also works as a setting-off point for Fenn Lane because it avoids the problem of traversing the marsh at Fenny Drayton; however, it should be noted that if one heads east from Atterton, Witherley or Fenny Drayton, one is heading uphill and Richard's forces (had they been at Fenn Lane) would not have been visible until less than a mile away. This fits with Jean Molinet's description of a 'quarter league' between the forces, but not with other sources that imply the armies could earlier see each other from a much greater distance.³² Whereas, Wellsborough – two miles away - is visible from Atterton.

'King Richard [houed] on the mountaines', taken from the 'ballad' of Lady Bessye this clearly indicates that Richard was on high ground.³³ In 'Bosworth Field', Sir William was also described as being on a 'mountain' and this narrative can only fit with the two adjoining hills of Wellsborough and Twycross. The 'ballads' also say that Sir William Stanley was 'hyndemost' but did not say to whom. It has always been assumed to be Henry, but what if he was behind Richard? As a declared traitor this would make the King watch his back (possibly using Northumberland to do so) and so prevent him from concentrating his larger army onto one battle front – a sound tactical approach.

The two adjoining hills of Dadlington and Stoke Golding do not work for Fenn Lane as the battle site because Sir William would be 'hyndemost' to neither Richard nor Henry, and Lord Stanley would be brought within view of his son, Lord Strange who was being held as a hostage, and who only reported his uncle being there at the start of the battle'

if itt ffortune my vnckle to lose the ffeild—
as god defend itt shold soe bee!—
pray her to take my eldest sonne
& exile him ouer the sea³⁴

³²Georges Deutrepont G. Doutrepont and O. Jodogne, eds, *Chroniques de Jean Molinet*, 3 vols. (Academie Royale de Belgique. Classe des Lettres et des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Collection des Anciens Auteurs, Belges, Brussels, 1935–37), Volume I, (hereinafter Molinet), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 1.

³³'The Song of Ladye Bessye', British Library Harleian MS 367, fos. 89–100. Printed in *Bishop Percy's Folio Manuscript. Ballads and Romances*, ed. J. W. Hales and F. J. Furnivall, 3 vols, (London, 1868), III, pp. 319–363, (hereinafter 'Song of Ladye Bessye'), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 111

³⁴*Ibid.*, p. 112.

The Marsh(es) Revisited

Molinet refers to Richard's horse leaping into 'a marsh from which it could not retrieve itself' at, or after, Richard's death at Sandeford, but does not say if this was the same marsh referred to at the start of the battle.³⁵ Most authors have assumed this, which has given rise to some convoluted theories to situate events – from the vanguard's clash to Richard's charge and death, then the ensuing rout and subsequent slaughter – and all within the ambit of the one marsh.

The authors believe the contemporary descriptions allow the possibility of there being two areas of marsh/boggy ground and suggest that this is the reason for the separate name, 'Sandeford' being given to the site of Richard's death, while still occurring within the context of the battle at 'Redemore'. Tentative locations are offered for a marsh on 'Redemoor' and areas of soft ground at a 'Sandeford' that crosses a river, not a marsh.

First the marsh. East of today's A444 road and between the almost parallel roads of Tinsel Lane and Sibson/Shenton Lane, centered approximately 2000 metres due east of Sibson and 400 metres north of Shenton Lane, is the converging point of all the run-off water from the surrounding hills of Wellsborough, Upton, and Bosworth into what is locally known as the 'Sence Brook' – officially the (Leicestershire) River Tweed. Even today, this section of the Sence Brook is prone to waterlogging. It is suggested that in 1485 it was a sizeable marsh.

The position of the marsh at this location allows enough space alongside it to be level with the ridge line at Sibson. This small plateau is in an arc running south to west either side of the current A444 road and is centered on Saint Botolph's church. If Henry's forces had lined up here, it would exactly match the 'quarter league' (ca 0.86 miles, or 1.4 kilometers) distance between the two armies described by Molinet, '[T]he French also made their preparations marching against the English, being in the field a quarter league away.'³⁶

The nearest equivalent point in terms of height to Wellsborough is 2 miles away at Twycross. In fact, Twycross is slightly higher at 126 metres but both, in medieval terminology, would be called 'little mountains'. Mid-way between them at 79 metres is the Sence, which flows for 20km from the north-west at Bardon Hill (the highest point in Leicestershire), heading southwest and nearly reaching Watling Street. The Sence Brook rising from Barwell in the east flows under the A444 immediately south of Sibson before joining the Sence at Ratcliffe Culey (a distance of 13km). The brook drops 50 metres at a gradient of 1:650 which results in a slower flow and a muddy,

³⁵Molinet, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 2.

³⁶Ibid., p. 1.

marshy, and more meandering channel than the Sence, before both join the River Anker near Atherstone shortly after. The authors believe that Sandeford is a crossing point of the Sence between Wellsborough and Twycross near Harris Bridge on the A444. This bridge can be dated back to at least 1582, when the will of Richard Orton provided money towards its' upkeep, but the true origins of the name are unknown. Dare the authors suggest the original local name was *Harry's bridge*? In the past, the surrounding area was marshy enough to contain osier beds. It was/is always prone to flood and could still have pockets of soft ground even in summer.

The authors respectfully differ with the assertion by Foss that one must 'dispense once and for all with the notion that the battle of Bosworth involved the defense of a hill against an assault on it by an ostensibly smaller army. This is Hutton's view followed by Kendall, Ross, and Williams. As we have already established, the battle was fought on a plain - the plain of Redemore.³⁷ It should be pointed out that the gradient at Wellsborough is sufficiently slight to qualify as a 'plain' yet still be high enough for a battle and a coronation to be on the same piece of land i.e., for Henry's coronation to occur on the field of Redemoor.

The Stanleys

Before the battle, and with his son held hostage, Lord Stanley could not afford to be seen too close to Henry.³⁸ If Richard was convinced that Lord Stanley stood ready to prevent Henry from 'escaping' (unlikely given his direction-of-intent thus far) south towards London, then he (Richard) would not need to march via Roman roads out of Leicester – towards Fenn Lane - to achieve the same result. By the same reasoning, Lord Stanley would have had to move out of Atherstone prior to Henry's arrival and find somewhere else to camp.

The authors are in selective agreement with Prof J J Bagley when he says

Lord Stanley halted his troops at Stoke Golding; there he was strategically placed to help either side and distant enough to avoid being involved in the first stages of the battle.³⁹

This sits well with Vergil's observation that he was 'midway between the two armies'⁴⁰ with midway meaning Henry at Merevale and Richard at Bosworth. This was the same tactic and distance used by Lord Stanley at Blore Heath in 1459. Fabyan said that

³⁷Foss, *The Field of Redemore*, p. 47.

³⁸Hall, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 20

³⁹John J. Bagley, *The Earls of Derby 1485-1985*, (London, Sidgwick & Jackson, 1985), p. 33.

⁴⁰Vergil, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 117.

'[s]ome stood hovering afar off till they saw to which party the victory fell' and Ross helps us understand that 'If Henry won with help from Sir William, then Lord Stanley could claim credit. If not, his own non-intervention might save the family fortunes from Richard's wrath.'⁴¹

Sir William joined Henry at Stafford on 19 August, and they departed for Lichfield the next day

Unto Lychfild they ryde; a hatrot of armes came to number the company that was with the knight; it was a goodly sight; gonnes in Lychefylde craked; glad was all the chivalry that was on Henry's party.'⁴²

'[G]uns in Lichefeild they cracken on hye to cheere ... our Kinge.'⁴³

No proof appears to exist that Henry landed with guns or if he used them in battle. The comment that 'gonnes ... craked' clearly indicates that there were guns at Lichfield and that they were fired in celebration – an important point to note. The Bosworth Project found a problem with 'the way in which rounds of very different calibre lie in close proximity.'⁴⁴ This should not happen when guns of various sizes are fired from the same point. Consideration of a separate firing event on a different day, or similar celebratory firing at a battle-winning-rout, may add to our knowledge with regard to the random shot-scatter at Fenn Lane.

On 20 August, when Henry and Sir William were marching to Tamworth, word reached them that Lord Stanley was in trouble, as 'Bosworth Field' recorded,

Througheout Lychefylde rydes that knight; and on the othar syde taryed he, tyll a message cam to hyn, and sayd, 'Lord Stanley is his inemyes nye; they be but a lytle way atwyne; he will fight within thre howres with Richard of England, callyd

⁴¹Robert Fabyan, *Chronicle* (first printed 1516 by Richard Pynson as *The new chronicles of England and of France*), (hereinafter Fabyan), Transcription/Translations, p. 16; Ross, *Richard III*, p. 218.

⁴²Harleian 542, f.34. Printed in *Leicestershire and Rutland Notes and Queries*, ed. John and Thomas Spencer, vol I (1881-1891), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 41.

⁴³'The Ballad of Bosworth Felde', BL Additional MS 27879, fos. 434-443. Printed in *Bishop Percy's Folio Manuscript. Ballads and Romances*, ed. J. W. Hales and F. J. Furnivall, 3 vols. (London, 1868), iii, pp. 233-59. (hereinafter 'Ballad of Bosworth Felde'), Transcriptions/Translations, p. 75.

⁴⁴Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, pp. 185-186.

kyng.' [Sir William] came to Adorstone ere nyght, wher the lord Stanley lay in a dale, with trompets, and a goodly company: all that nyght they ther abode.⁴⁵

Sir William immediately rode ahead to Atherstone. Henry, having possibly halted in hesitation and/or consultation, lost contact with his army as darkness fell on that long days' march and was forced to hide overnight before re-joining his army, at Tamworth, the following morning.

So, was there a battle that day or not? And, if so, did it happen at Fenn Lane? The above suggests a battle and there is supporting evidence. Inquisition *post mortem* for 20-21 August 1485 record the deaths of seven 'tenants-in-chief' – a not-insignificant amount compared to sixteen such deaths at Bosworth Field.⁴⁶ These were men of status and responsible for raising their share of the troops called for by Richard and Henry. Four of the deaths were men from Suffolk and Essex; Richard Broughton, Sheriff of Leicester and Warwickshire, was another. If this many men of status were killed in one day, it is likely that many more deaths were not recorded. Three hours was enough time for Lord Stanley to deploy guns near Fenn Lane and it seems plausible that a conflict occurred given the scenario of different armies – with different allegiances and agendas – crossing paths at the same time. This could include Sir Richard Brackenbury (controller of the royal arsenal), bringing an artillery train to the battle at Richard's command and if there was such an event, then further work is required to untangle the knot of who was where, when, and doing what, because evidence for this could be amongst that found by the Bosworth Project.

Monday August 22 - Movements & Battle

Foard & Curry propose that the armies of Richard and Henry approached from opposite ends of Fenn Lane and faced each other, either side of a marsh, in an east-west orientation. The presence and effect of a marsh is also the reason given for the spread of ballistic evidence claimed to have been fired by Richard at Henry's approach. They further lead us to understand that Henry, at the marsh, moved 90 degrees left - supposedly in a pre-determined 'feint' – and that the marsh was also the reason that Lord Northumberland did not attack the rebel vanguard when it passed in front of them because, 'as so eloquently explained by Vergil, the marsh was a fortress'.⁴⁷ Adding,

This is almost certainly the same manoeuvre as that described by Vergil, where the vanguard turned so that the sun was at their back and the marsh, which lay

⁴⁵Harleian 542, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 41.

⁴⁶David Baldwin, paper presented to the 'Bosworth Revisited' conference, 19 August 2006.

⁴⁷Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 188.

between the two armies, provided protection for the right flank' – and that this 'was the decisive move on which the outcome of the battle hung'.⁴⁸

But Vergil does not use the word 'turned', he actually uses the words 'purposely kept [the marsh on his right]' and 'also by doing this he [Henry] left the sun behind [i.e., at his back, where it was already]'.⁴⁹ The combination of these words indicates that there was no deviation in direction. And, besides, would it really be a 'feint' if there were no prospect of marching through a marsh that Foard & Curry say was impenetrable?

Vergil also says, 'When the king saw the enemy pass by the marsh, he commanded his men to attack'.⁵⁰ If both armies approached with a marsh between them, at what point would Henry have been considered to have 'passed' the marsh if it initially impeded his forward progress? In turning 90 degrees left, only by reaching the extent of the marsh, in this new direction, could he then have 'passed' it. But, even now, he would still not have 'passed' it in his original direction of travel and the authors suggest there was nothing to prevent Northumberland from firing had he been there. So, at neither point would Richard have considered Henry to have 'passed' the marsh. Hence, with this supposed manoeuvre, there was no 'trigger' to start the battle. Sources say that battle was joined *after* Henry's army had passed the marsh. For Foard & Curry to claim the marsh degraded ballistic velocity would mean that Richard's artillery fired *before* Henry had passed the marsh. The conclusion drawn, therefore, is that this area, marsh or otherwise, was not the primary battlefield.

Figures vary over how many thousands of bowmen were present at Bosworth, but each was capable of firing six arrows per minute, possibly more. So, whilst it is plausible to suggest complete degradation of all of those arrows, it is still disappointing to note that no arrowheads were discovered by the Bosworth Project. This leaves open the tantalising and very real possibility that the initial engagement of the battle happened elsewhere.

The Crowland Chronicle, Molinet, and Diego de Valera agree that the initial movement was that of Henry's army.

The king had the artillery of his army fire on the earl of Richmond, and so the French, knowing by the king's shot the lie of the land and the order of his battle, resolved, in order to avoid the fire, to mass their troops against the flank rather

⁴⁸Ibid., 186.

⁴⁹Vergil, Transcriptions/Translations, pp. 117–118.

⁵⁰Ibid.

than the front of the king's battle. Thus they obtained the mastery of his vanguard, which after several feats of arms on both sides was dispersed.⁵¹

By the absence of a comma, Molinet appears to suggest that Richard's guns showed Henry 'the lie of the land'. This is a somewhat pointless argument if the ground was virtually flat, as is the case with Fenn Lane. The 'lie of the land' needs to be a separate element of a list (guns/lie of the land/order of battle) proving that guns, either centrally or enfilade fired, could not see west of the A444 from Tinsel Lane. The downward-sloping ridgeline running southwest from Wellsborough would have blocked the view and this is why the French attacked Richard's right flank. By taking the battle over this ridge, Henry could move away from the guns and shift the focus west towards, and within the view of, Sir William Stanley. This move would have reduced Richard's ability to see and control the whole of the battlefield that began on a north/south axis and using the lie of the land in this way could well have been the tactical masterstroke that won Henry the battle.

Despite no one else previously using such an obvious route through their 'fortress' of a marsh, Foard & Curry have Richard using Fenn Lane to charge Henry with cavalry.⁵² Precariously undertaken along a narrow lane of unstable surface, this move was needed to provide context for the high-status find of a gilded sword guard 500 metres away. They suggest it is proof that Henry's standard bearer William Brandon was killed here by Richard and ask, 'is this the very location where king and pretender clashed?'⁵³

Then, despite no other source saying so, Foard & Curry have Richard driven back 600 metres (with or without a horse?) so that he can be in the correct spot for the rightly-famous silver gilt boar brooch to be found, 'surely no coincidence and compatible with the death or capture of the two most important individuals in the royal army'.⁵⁴ Certainly a find of major significance from an high-status participant, although Professor Michael Lewis (Head of The Portable Antiquities Scheme at The British Museum) cautioned, 'Some people think that the badge identifies the actual spot where King Richard perished, but that might be reading too much into it.'⁵⁵ Much has been made of the boar brooch but it is no more proof that Richard died here than a rare Spanish half-real is proof that Salazar, a known combatant for Richard, was escaping from Wellsborough.⁵⁶ The suggestion has not been seen that, rather than being lost in

⁵¹Molinet, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 1.

⁵²Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 192.

⁵³*Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁵⁴*Ibid.*, p. 193.

⁵⁵'Crushed Bronze Age cup shines out among 1.5m detectorists finds', *The Times*, 9 July 2020.

⁵⁶Portable Antiquities Scheme WAW-BC30DD 1474-1504

combat, the boar brooch was deliberately discarded as a natural act of disassociation with the losing side to whom you had previously showed your support. Could it now belong to Lord Stanley? A bonus of this convenient relocation, by the way, is that it places Richard 'only' 400 (rather than 1,000) metres from his suggested original marsh-crossing point of Fenn Lane, which Foard & Curry wish to designate as 'Sandeford'.

The authors believe that Wellsborough was at the time uncultivated and have trouble understanding why (as some suggest) any commander would deliberately choose to fight elsewhere in fields with deep ridge-and-furrow ploughing surrounded by ditches and hedges. And surely no commander would deliberately compromise his artillery by deploying it behind a marsh, nor expect his men to engage in hand-to-hand fighting whilst trying to walk through one? The Crowland Chronicle reports

[T]here now began a very fierce battle between the two sides; the earl of Richmond with his knights advanced directly upon (*no 'feint' nor change of direction here*) King Richard while the earl of Oxford, next in rank after him in the whole company and a very valiant knight, with a large force of French as well as English troops, took up his position opposite the wing where the duke of Norfolk was stationed.⁵⁷

Consider Richard's army along what is now Tinsel Lane, which runs parallel to and 400 metres below the Wellsborough ridge top, offering 180-degree views and facing Henry's army directly south along Sibson ridge, three-quarters of a mile away. Views to the west are more limited until one reaches what is now the junction with the A444 Burton Road. If Henry had moved towards Sir William in an arc from Sibson to seek help, then he would not have been visible to Richard from Tinsel Lane. Confirmation of this reduced power of supervision appears to exist in the poem 'Bosworth Field' by Sir John Beaumont in 1629.

[T]he king intended at his setting out / To helpe his Vanguard, but a nimble scout / Runnes crying; Sir, I saw not farre from hence, / Where Richmond hover with a small defence, / And like one guilty of some heynous ill / Is couer'd with the shade of yonder hill. ... Then Richard with these newes himselfe doth please / He now diuerts his course another way, / And with his army led in faire array, / Ascends the rising ground, and taking view / Of Henries souldiers, sees they are but few.⁵⁸

⁵⁷*Crowland Chronicle Continuations, Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 6. Authors Italics.

⁵⁸Beaumont, J., 'Bosworth-field: A Poem. Written in the Year 1629 and Dedicated to King Charles I' (Gale ECCO, 2018), p. 52.

For Richard to 'ascend the rising ground', he would climb back to the highest westerly point of Wellsborough. From there, he could fully see Henry at Sibson making his way towards Sir William near Twycross. Vergil said that he 'attacked him [Henry] from the flank, riding outside the battle-line', which fits with Richard charging to the west of his vanguard and towards the Sence.⁵⁹ This move (desperate or calculated genius) could very well have succeeded but for the timely intervention of Sir William Stanley, 'remembre the brekfast that he promysed hym, downe at a backe he hyed, and set fiersly on the kynge.'⁶⁰

Although some use the word 'banke', Ian Forbes Baird says it should be 'backe'; effectively meaning 'around the back'.⁶¹ There is validity in either interpretation since Sir William was both behind Richard at the outset and on a slope possibly from the high ground now occupied by Copton Ash Farm – 108m elevation and less than half a mile from the Sence.

The Rout

Foard & Curry say 'Sandeford need not necessarily be the place of the battle itself but instead it indicates the place where Richard was killed in a rout ... although there is strong evidence to suggest that he died on the field.'⁶² The authors believe that Richard's death was not 'in a rout' but at the start of it. Sir William took advantage of Richard's dislocation from his main body of troops and descended upon him before he had time to escape or be rescued. The onward flooding of the battlefield by these extra troops, possibly combined with the celebratory cheering by those who could see King Richard dead, caused the panic and thus the rout. In this theory, Sandeford was the first point of contact for Sir William's troops and Richard was not killed in the rout but was rather the trigger for it to begin, with 'Meanwhile after a brief encounter Oxford quickly routed the others fighting in the forefront, of whom a goodly number were killed fight.'⁶³

With the battle taking place in the south and west quadrant of Wellsborough, the options for escape were as follows: for those engaged at Sandeford, some may have had chance to escape north which may have been Salazar's exit strategy, hence the significance of where the half-real was found; otherwise, the rapidly-closing gap caused by the direction of attack from Sir William Stanley and his men forced them into the ongoing vanguard action, this would, in turn, have escalated the panic and put Richard's

⁵⁹Vergil, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 118.

⁶⁰Harleian 542, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 42.

⁶¹Ian Forbes Baird, 1990 p.358 *Poems concerning the Stanley family (Earls of Derby) 1485-1520* <https://theses.bham.ac.uk/id/eprint/575/>. Accessed 21 September 2022.

⁶²Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 66.

⁶³Vergil, Transcriptions/Translations, p. 118.

men to flight. The rout would then be on, and escape routes would soon diminish. Foard & Curry say that Oxford pursued Norfolk towards a windmill, one of the very few times they ascribe any veracity to the Bosworth 'ballads', with a site in Dadlington 'by far the most likely candidate'.⁶⁴ Previously only finding watermills in the immediate Wellsborough area, an alternative windmill, at the Coton site proposed for Richard's camp, can now be offered.⁶⁵

The option for the majority of those pursued – if there was a marsh to the east of Sibson as proposed – was likely to be downhill and south-eastwards. Pursuing troops would have driven them through Upton and into the waiting arms of Lord Stanley at Fenn Lane, just as Molinet described '[T]he vanguard of King Richard, which was put to flight, was picked off by Lord Stanley'.⁶⁶ Hutton describes a two-mile pursuit 'towards Stoke' which many historians have dismissed as making no sense from nearby Ambion Hill or Fenn Lane but fits perfectly if originating from Wellsborough. A rout is more deadly when fleeing men become trapped (as at Towton in 1461) but, in the scenario proposed by Christopher Gravett - with a rout towards Dadlington windmill and away from all other combatants - there is nothing to trap the men being chased.⁶⁷

The pursuit of a rout with mediaeval artillery is impossible. Instead, the authors' proposal is that Lord Stanley's guns were already lined up near Fenn Lane and that the rout was forced onto them. Trapped by Henry's chasing troops, Richard's men simply had nowhere left to go. And this seems consistent with Lord Stanley's *modus operandi* that he would not care to which routed side he was firing on - safely knowing 'to which party the victory fell'.⁶⁸ Because more died in the rout than at the main battle, is this a possible reason why original maps show the battle to be in this area? Or was it because of the 'Dadlington field' signet warrant reference in 1511?

...biolding of a chapel of sainte James standing upon a parcell of ground
where Bosworth' feld, otherwise called Dadlyngton' feld, in our countie of
Leicestr' was done.⁶⁹

⁶⁴Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 192.

⁶⁵Historic Environment Record ID-MLE2910 1067-1539

⁶⁶Molinet, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 1.

⁶⁷Christopher Gravett, *Bosworth 1485 The Downfall of Richard III*, (Oxford: Osprey 2021), p. 81.

⁶⁸Molinet, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 1.

⁶⁹TNA C.82/367/no.15: signet warrant, 1511. Transcribed in O.D. Harris, 'The Bosworth Commemoration at Dadlington', *The Ricardian*, 7.90 (1985); *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 65.

This warrant is often taken as proof that the battle took place there, but another interpretation is that the area near Stoke Golding and Dadlington was indeed a parcel or part of the battle – but not the main site – and that part was ‘otherwise called Dadlyngton feld’. The authors feel it should join ‘Redemore’ and ‘Sandeford’ as the final part of this battle-triumvirate.

The Aftermath

Meanwhile, back at Wellsborough

‘Which praier finyshed, he replenyshed wt incomperable gladnes, ascended vp to the top of a littell mountaine’⁷⁰

‘Henry ... climbed a nearby hill, where ... with a great shout his soldiers acclaimed as him as king’.⁷¹

It is claimed by Foard & Curry that the change of a hill name in Stoke Golding from ‘Garbrody’s Hill’ to ‘Crown Hill’⁷² is proof that Henry was crowned there after the battle. ‘Now that the location of the battlefield is known (sic), such identification is given further support from Vergil’s reference to Henry going from the battlefield to a nearby hill where he was crowned. Crown Hill is the only prominent hill close to the battlefield.’⁷³

But Vergil did not say ‘going from the battlefield’. Henry was crowned at Redemore, where the battle took place and Stoke Golding is not connected closely enough with battle-related finds to justifiably be described as the same piece of land. If true, this makes Garbrody’s Hill the wrong crowning site, and their location of the main battle site wrong as well.

Knowing that Richard was dead – because he was a witness – it is very unlikely that Henry would have joined the pursuit of a rout that ended at Fenn Lane. Instead, he would have stayed at Wellsborough because, from the Sence (Sandeford), it is only a few hundred yards of rising red ground (Redemoor) to reach Wellsborough’s crowning hill of Bosworth Field.

Conclusion

This article is not a case of our site versus theirs as they are both part of the same story. Whilst agreeing with Hicks that ‘the main fighting seems to have taken place

⁷⁰Hall, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 32.

⁷¹Vergil, *Transcriptions/Translations*, p. 118.

⁷²Foard & Curry, *Bosworth 1485*, p. 87.

⁷³*Ibid.*

beyond the large area studied', criticism that The Bosworth Project investment return was 'meagre' [and] "does not substantially alter or confirm what little was already known' is a trifle harsh.⁷⁴ The Bosworth Project provided a basis for the considerable effort needed to shift intransigence that the battle occurred at Ambion Hill and so opened up possibilities for sites not previously considered. Unfortunately, a new intransigence has seemingly taken hold and other possibilities have not been explored.

The authors believe that Wellsborough has the strongest case to be called 'Bosworth Field'. The authors' alternative narrative is coherent, easy to understand, and achieves the aim of matching more contemporary sources than any previous theory.

It does not dismiss the Bosworth Project's findings but rather includes them to much greater effect.

⁷⁴Michael Hicks, *Richard III The Self-Made King*, (New Haven: Yale University Press 2021), pp. 23-24.

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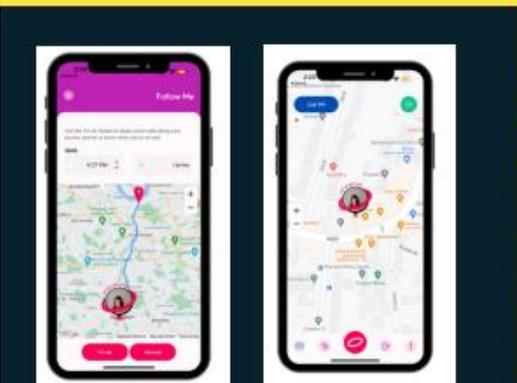
Neighbourhood Link – August Newsletter

I thought that as we have many parents and grandparents, husbands and wives as members this article may be of interest to you. I know I worried when my children were out and I dare say you are the same. Here is an app which may be of interest to you.



help me Angela

help me Angela is a personal safety service, available to everyone. Read on to hear how the app's Personal Safety Specialists helped one commuter escape a difficult situation...



One Friday night, Kate* was travelling home by train when two drunk men began making sexually aggressive comments towards her. When she moved carriages, they followed her, and when she got off at her stop, they did too. Feeling intimidated, Kate used the 'help me' button' on the app and sought immediate help from a Personal Safety Specialist. Using the optional GPS service, the team were able to guide Kate to a nearby supermarket and call her a taxi, while the two men decided to walk away. The next day, help me Angela contacted Kate to check in and offer her follow up support.

Visit [help me Angela's website](http://helpmeangela.org.uk) to learn more about how they can help you stay safe.

*Name changed to protect identity

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If you have any items you would like to preserve for future generations, please contact MBS, or any Committee member.

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Nigel Palmer

Chairman

Anglo Saxons

Answers

1. A. The Celtic Britons
2. B. 43 AD, under Emperor Claudius
3. A. The first half of the 5th century
4. B. Celtic king
5. C. The division of England into a number of small kingdoms
6. B. The Danish invasion
7. D. The Danish supremacy was established.
8. A. Bravery
9. C. Enduring fame
10. A. Celebrated the king's glorious actions

Wars of the Roses

Answers

1. B 30
The conflicts dragged on for 30 years if we consider the ending to be the battle of Bosworth in 1485. However, there were fewer than 15 months of actual fighting, leading one contemporary writer, Philippe de Comynes, to comment: “If any conflict breaks out in England one or other of the rivals is master within ten days or less.”
2. A Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick
Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, played pivotal roles in gaining the throne for Edward IV in 1461 and then the redemption of Henry VI in 1470. “An adept politician, Warwick knew how to manipulate popular discontent to his advantage and that of the kings he served,” writes Sarah Peverley. “But when he found himself marginalised and at odds with Edward IV, his volte-face in championing Henry VI’s hopeless cause set him and his Lancastrian conspirators on a collision course with disaster.”
3. C Edward embarrassed Warwick with his choice of bride
In 1464, while Warwick was in negotiations with France to arrange a marriage for the king, Edward made a secret match with Elizabeth Woodville, a Lancastrian widow with two children. It was an insult twice over for Warwick, who resented both the advancement of the large Woodville clan and the snub over France.
4. C He held a parade to reconcile the Yorkists and Lancastrians, but it was unsuccessful
Henry VI attempted instigate a ‘Love Day’ on 25 March 1458 to help reconcile the warring factions of the Wars of the Roses, and it included a procession through the streets of London in which the leading Lancastrians held hands with the leading Yorkists. The plan did nothing to quell the hostility between the two sides.
5. B Margaret of Anjou
Margaret of Anjou was queen consort of Henry VI and, following his incapacitation, the rallying point for the Lancastrian cause.
“When Margaret of Anjou was brought to England in 1445, to wed the Lancastrian king Henry VI, she was widely regarded as little more than a pawn in a marriage contract designed to cement a truce in the long war with France,” writes Sarah Gristwood. “Within a matter of years, her single-mindedness would prove a major catalyst in sparking the Wars of the Roses.”
6. D Leicester

In 2012, researchers and archaeologists found a skeleton under a car park in the city of Leicester, which DNA analysis later confirmed to be that of the last Yorkist king. He was found to have sustained 11 injuries before his death at the battle of Bosworth in 1485, three of which may have been fatal.