



The Barony of Unser Hafen

April 2015



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BARONIAL CALENDAR

Unser Hafen Calendar Link

<http://unserhafen.wix.com/unserhafen#!page3/cee5>

Baronial Althing and Populace Gathering

Starting May 3rd we will be moving to Warren Park, Fort Collins, from 2-6 pm.
Contact Sir Alexander MacAndres for details at knightmarshal@unserhafen.org

Calligraphy and Illumination Guild

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 at Wellmark, 3601 El Caminito Court, Loveland.

Other times by appointment at Lady Anne's home in Loveland.

We will focus on learning new scripts, but anything scribal will work! Calligraphy bears no resemblance to handwriting, so even if your handwriting is terrible, come and give it a try!

Contact Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley for details: monroefischer@icloud.com

Craftsman's Guild

First & third Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:00. See below for more information.

Contact Lady Rosamonde Carver for details and locations: aands@unserhafen.org

KINGDOM EVENTS

May 2015

2	Barony of Dragonsspine	Maydays		Selene
2	Kingdom of Atenveldt	Atenveldt Coronation	P/P	
2	Barony of al-Barran	Albuquerque Renaissance Faire	K/Q	Elisee
9-10	Barony of Caerthe	Coronation	K/Q P/P	Morgan
16	Shire of Draca Mor	"The Mor you know..." - A&S Collegium	K/Q	Zypher
21-25	Barony of al-Barran	Grand Outlandish	K/Q	Edric
21-25	Canton of Hawks Hollow	Inlandish - Battle of 5 Armies		Yukihana
June 2015				
13-14	Barony of Caer Galen	Enduro		Thomas
13	Barony of the Citadel of the Southern Pass	Citadel Hatilude		Abdulla
13-18	Kingdom of Calontir	Lillies War	K/Q	
18-21	Shire of Plattefordham	Northern Realms War	K/Q	Bran
26-28	Shire of Aarquelle	Aarquelle Highlands Rapier Camp	K/Q	Aegeon/Carmina
26-28	Barony of Unser Hafen	Heros and Legends		Alexander
27	Barony of al-Barran	Nock on Wood		Michael
July 2015				
2-6	Shire of Drygestan	Keepers of the Dry Stone	K/Q	Decimus
10-12	Shire of Rio de las Animas	Rio Defender		Gareth
11	Barony of Caer Galen	Monkey`s Quest for the Unicorn Horn		Katherina
17-19	Barony of Caerthe	Fighters Folly 2		Forrester
24-26	Shire of Plattefordham	Here There Be Dragons		Vilmund
31-7	Kingdom of the East	Penssic	K/Q	
August 2015				
15	Barony of Caer Galen	Fall Crown Tournament	K/Q/P/P	Signy
September 2015				
2-7	Kingdom of the Outlands	Battlemoor	K/Q	TBA
3-7	Kingdom of Northshield	Known World Metal & Glass Symposium		Katriona
11-13	Shire of Nahrun Kabirun	Clann Wars	K/Q	Idunn
26	Barony of Caer Galen	Bow, Bridles and Blades		Cera
October 2015				

2-4	Barony of Fontaine dans Sable	Warders of the Western Gate	K/Q	Kathryn
3	Shire of Villaleon	Corazon de Leon IV		Millicent
7-12	Kingdom of Caid	Great Western War	K/Q	
10	Barony of al-Barran	StagsCon		Adam
17	Shire of Aarquelle	Aarquelle Defender 30		Audrey

November

2015

1	Barony of Fontaine dans Sable	Fontaine Toy Box		Mariah
7	Barony of Dragonsspine	Dragonsspine Baronial Arts & Sciences		Lydia
7	Canton of Bofharrach	Brewers Feast		Safiyya/Soren
14	Barony of Fontaine dans Sable	Fall Coronation	K/Q/P/P	TBA
14	Kingdom of the Middle	Known World Academy of the Rapier / Known World Co		Marie

December

2015

5	Shire of Windkeep	Hunters Feast		Rhys
12	Barony of Caer Galen	Caer Galen Midwinter		Massimiliano

Announcements:

Subscription to the Tossplot: if your name needs to be corrected, or you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley at chronicler@unserhafen.org.

Althing: Sundays, 2:00 - 6:00, moving **outdoors** on May 3rd to Warren Park, Fort Collins. It will include Arts and Sciences activities, music, dancing, and sociazing.

Lecture Series:

The Middle Ages as seen in the Modern World

Presentations by
Mistress Agnes de Lanvallei and
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley
and you???
Wellmark, 7:00 - 8:00ish

May 13: Southern Spain: Catalans and Moors

Mistress Agnes de Lanvallei

Medieval Spain's history is complex. In the South, Christians reconquered the east centuries before that last Moors surrendered. Barcelona, Catalonia and the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean were periodically independent between about 800 and 1100 AD. Even after they became part of the Kingdom of Aragon and then the unified Spain by marriage they maintained a separate culture and language that persists today. Along the South, the Alhambra is the only medieval Islamic palace still standing

Watch the Unser Hafen Website and your email for future dates!

If you would like to contribute to this historical series please contact Mistress Agnes de Lanvallei, kkeeler1@unl.edu

Craftsman's Guild

There are some exciting things happening on Thursdays here in Unser Hafen. The Craftsman's Guild is meeting every first and third Thursday of the month. So far we have done leather bottles, felting, and casting belt fittings and other findings out of pewter in soapstone molds. On the schedule for the coming months we are continuing to explore casting techniques and are venturing into making period shoes. For those that would like to participate, soapstone blanks are available for \$5, and the pewter is sold by finished weight after you cast your pieces. Folks are welcome to bring their own pewter to melt if you don't wish to purchase ours. You can get pewter plates at thrift stores sometimes and that makes it a lot less expensive.

For the Period Shoe project, we are recommending that you bring an old sock and some extra canvas or heavy weight fabric to be cut up to make a pattern, so

before we cut into the leather we should have a good pattern to go off of. Leather for this project is up to the individual, but there had been discussion about buying some sole leather as a group. Also please check out this website which is an excellent source for patterns and techniques:

<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carl.../shoe/SHOEHOME.HTM>.

Future projects are always in the planning, so if you have something you have always wanted to make, or have a skill you would like to share, consider coming out to play with us!

Thanks

Lady Rosamonde Carver

970-775-7598

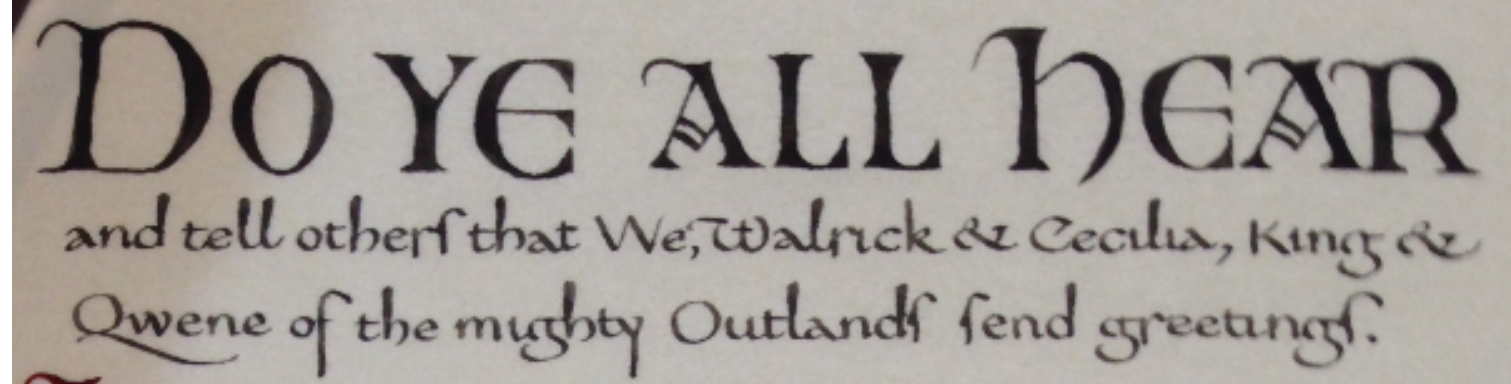
How to Get Out of the Mud in the Middle Ages

Walking out-of-doors in the medieval period was a messy business. Mud, water, rocks, grasses, scat, all had to be dealt with. Shoes in the eleventh century and onward, especially for those with money, were not made for this type of environment. Something had to be done.

Pattens, from the French 'pate' meaning claw or hoof, were created to raise the wearer off of the ground and give them a bit of grip. The soles were either made from wood or from multiple layers of leather. Leather straps went around the tops of the shoes. They began as simple clog-like over-sandals, but in the fifteenth century became fashion statements, sometimes even being worn alone like sandals.



The Craftsmen's Guild is ready to make shoes. Perhaps some pattens might be a good idea to go along with simple leather shoes?



CALLIGRAPHY AND ILLUMINATION CUILD

Experienced scribes, come polish your style or learn a new script!

Beginners, come learn the beautiful art of lettering!
All are welcome

Tuesdays at Wellmark
3601 El Caminito Court, Loveland
6:00 - 8:00

Other times by appointment.
You are welcome to contact Lady Anne for an appointment!
We will meet in her kitchen in Loveland.

For more information contact
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley
monroefischer@icloud.com, 970-669-9213

GUILDS, ACTIVITIES, GATHERINGS

Archery Practice: See the Unser Hafen Populace Facebook page for Unser Hafen Archers at: [Unser Hafen Archers](#). Contact Lord Thomas Marston, 970.599.0714

Archery Practice in Bofharrach: Contact His Excellency Tracker, Baro of Unser Hafen, baron@unserhafen.org.

Artisan's Day: A gathering of artisans in the Barony. Coordinated by THL EllaAnne de Kari, ellaanne.dekari@gmail.com

Baronial Business Meetings: Third Friday of every month, Perkins Restaurant at Crossroads, dinner at 6:00, meeting 7:00 – 9:00. Contact seneschal@unserhafen.org. For carpooling from Ft. Collins contact EllaAnne de Kari at ellaanne.dekari@gmail.com. From Loveland contact Anne Morley at chronicler@unserhafen.org.

Baronial Populace Gatherings: Quarterly. Contact seneschal@unserhafen.org.

Boffharrach Officer's Meetings: Last Friday of each month, Perkins Restaurant meeting room, 227 Greeley Mall. Contact Lord Nicolaau Machado, bofharrach_seneschal@unserhafen.org

Boffharach Populace Gathering: First Friday of each month, locattion to be announced each month. Contact Contact Lord Nicolaau Machado, bofharrach_seneschal@unserhafen.org

Blacksmithing & Bowyer's Guild: Contact Master Thorfinn Greybeard, 970.667.1284

Brewer, Vintners & Cordials Guild: Contact Master Thorfinn Greybeard, 970.667.1284

Calligraphy and Illumination Guild: Tuesdays at Wellmark in Loveland. Other times by appointment. Contact Lady Anne Morley, 970.669.9213, monroefischer@icloud.com

Cantores Lupini: Currently on a Break. Contact Lady Danielle de la Rochelle, mol@unserhafen.org

Chandler's Guild: Contact Lord Liam MacMillan, 970.622.0132, bill.colby@comcast.net

Craftsman's Guild: the first and third Thursdays of the month. Contact Lady Rosamonde Carver, aands@unserhafen.org

Equestrian Practice: Contact Lady Cecelia O'Connor, 970.420.6652

Althing: Fighter Practice and Populace Gathering. 2:00 pm, Sunday afternoons at the Fieldhouse, CSU.

The Worshipful Company of Leathercrafters: Contact Lady Cecelia O'Connor, 970.420.6652



Website



Unser Hafen Yahoo Site



Facebook

THE COURT OF UNSER HAFEN



His Excellency

Baro Tracker

baron@unserhafen.org

Her Excellency

Barono Meadhbh

Daingen int Slebhe

baroness@unserhafen.org

Court Stewards - Clan MacColla

Court Herald - Sir Felix Sniumi

Largesse Coordinator -

Defender - Sir Felix Sniumi

Protector - Don Tristan Grey

Warden - Master Daffyd of Emmett

Equerry - M'Lady Tracy

Arts & Sciences Champion - Lady Rosamonde Carver

Pencerdd Bard - Lady Danielle de la Rochelle

Baronial Guard - Lord Ekkehardt, Sir Kolgrimm Olafsson, M'Lord Morgan of Dragonsspine, Lord Fredrick of Long

Ladies in Waiting - Lady Danielle de la Rochelle, Lady Jennifer

BARONIAL OFFICER LIST

Seneschal:

Lord Gerrit d'Orleans
(Ethan Hall) 909.568.7155
seneschal@unserhafen.org

Chancellor of the Exchequer:

Lady Elyse

Minister of Arts and Sciences:

Lady Rosamonde Carver
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Quartermaster: OPEN

(Deb Brannock)
exchequer@unserhafen.org

Deputy Exchequer:
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exchequer@unserhafen.org

Barbican Pursuivant Herald:
Lady Saffiya bint Faris al-Dani
(Joshi Solomon Freville)
herald@unserhafen.org

Knight Marshal:
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(Darrick Hildman)
knightmarshal@unserhafen.org

Marshal of Fence:
Lord James MacPhearson
aka Haggis
(Nolan Smith)
fence@unserhafen.org

Captain of Archers:
Lord Thomas Marston
(Ronald Whittaker)
archery@unserhafen.org

Hospitaller/Chatelaine:
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(Nolan Smith)
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Chronicler:
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Minsier of Lists:
Lady Danielle de la Rochelle
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CANTON OF BOFHARRACH OFFICER LIST

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Exchequer:
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bofharrach_exchequer@unserhafen.org

Herald:
Lady Madeleine de Seraucourt
(Erin Miller)
bofharrach_herald@unserhafen.org

Seneschal of Rammes Keep
Lord Giovanni
(Giovannie Velez)
gnvelez@mail.colostate.edu
ramskeep_seneschal@unserhafen.org

Templar Sergeant of the UNC Middle Ages Society
aka Brummbär Halten
Baldwin de la Berne
(Dane Banner Barnes)
barn8810@bears.unco.edu



LETTER FROM THE BARO AND BARONO OF UNSER HAFEN

Greetings to the Populace of Unser Hafen!

Winter's grip is lessening and we are looking forward to Spring's arrival. Dancing, Arts and Sciences and holiday celebrations are now in the past and it is once again time to plan for the wonderfully busy summer season of events.

May 9th is the Coronation of Tam and Katheryn hosted by the Barony of Caerthe. We hope to see many of our Populace there to greet their new Crown.

Soon after on Memorial Day Weekend, we will be looking forward to Inlandish, the Battle of the Five Armies, where members of our Barony will vie for the titles of Champions in Heavy Weapons, Rapier, Archery and Equestrian events. Please come and participate or just cheer on your favorite competitor. This event will be a collaboration of the four northern Baronies and the Shires and will take place in Caerthe at the Byers site. There will be lots to do and many people to share good times with.

In mid-June, we are invited to the Northern Realms War in Northshield. We will be travelling out of our Kingdom in support of our northern Shires as they defend the Outlands' borders.

At the end of June, the Barony will be hosting Heroes and Legends conveniently located in Loveland, CO. This will be a camping event to included all martial forms, including equestrian. Come join in the fun and make your own Legends.

We're looking forward to spending time with all of you this summer. Where ever your travels take you, travel safe!

Yours in Service,
Tracker and Meadhbh
Baro and Barono of Unser Hafen

Letters from Officers

From the Seneschal:

Better weather (we hope) is upon us and it is time to look forward to outdoors events. Our Barony is taking part in the Colorado Medieval Festival, June 5-7 in The Savage Woods, Loveland, CO. We will be demonstrating fighting, heavy and light, archery, and arts and sciences demonstrations as well as hands on time. Come, show off your garb and help us advertise the SCA.

Not long after the Medieval Festival is our own event, Heroes and Legends. A camping event, it will be held at the same location in Loveland, June 26-28. It will include fighting for heavies, rapier, equestrian, archers as well as the arts and sciences. There will be something for everyone.

I look forward to seeing you this June!

Yours is service,

Lord Gerrit d'Orleans
Seneschal of Unser Hafen

From the Exchequer:

Greetings,

No news is good news! Please come and help at Heroes and Legends, and Newcomers to ensure our continuing success.

In service,
Lady Elyse,
Unser Hafen Exchequer

From the Arts and Sciences Minister:

Greetings unto the populace of Unser Hafen!

It's spring and the projects are calling ... they are saying you hoo, camping season is coming ... the weather is perfect to do outdoor projects

The Equestrians have been answering the call, Lady Gwen has been busy sewing barding for her horse, and there has been two work days for all the equestrians to build new equipment and fix the old, in preparation for the summer.

Lord Gerrit has been working with a group of Brumarbär Halten [UNC] students making armor and has also been making a woven metal Balzo for the Golden Thimble competition where Mistress Helene is heading a team of 4, on the 25th of April.

Lady Anne Morley gave a fascinating talk about Living amidst historic England, part of an continuing series by Mistress Agnes and Lady Anne. The next one will be Southern Spain: Catalans and Moors, on May 13th given by Mistress Agnes.

Calligraphy classes, taught by Lady Anne Morley, will hopefully restart on Tuesdays. She is also meeting scribal students at her home by appointment, and the good lady proudly represented Unser Hafen at the Canton of Hawk's Hollow, Heralds & Scribes Symposium.

Craftsman's guild continues to meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The last few months they have been casting pewter in soapstone, and will continue that for a few more meetings. They are also staring a shoe making project due to begin Thursday, the 7th of May.

Mistress Rosalind is hosting two garbathons, the 2nd and 16th of May at Wellmark Keep. Its the perfect opportunity to make some garb in the company of those that know what they are doing, and get ready for the camping season.

There is talk of getting a Blacksmithing day up an running; I don't have details yet, but I will post on Facebook as soon as I know anything.

The Barony is hosting two upcoming events, a demo at the Colorado Medieval Festival in Loveland CO and an event: Heros and Legends, The demo at the Medieval Festival runs Friday 6/5 from 12pm-6, Sat. and Sun. 10-6pm. We are in need of some people to come out and display their Arts and Science works and maybe do a class or two . Please consider coming to the Demo and bringing something you are working on to show the public what awesome things we do, and if you have a class you would like to teach, the event would be the perfect venue to teach it.

Thanks from the A&S officer
Lady Rosamonde Carver
970-775-7498

From the Knight Marshal:

We have lots coming up!

Colorado Medieval Festival Demo

June 5, 6, 7

The Savage Woods

1750 Savage Rd, Loveland, Colorado 80538

The demo runs Friday 6/5 from 12pm-6, Sat. and Sun. 10-6pm.

Come and join us as we put on a demo at the Colorado Medieval Festival in Loveland CO. We will be fighting heavy and light and displaying our many arts and sciences.

Free for SCA participants.
Schedule to be posted.

Contact Sir Alexander at dhildman@gmail.com

Heroes and Legends

The Barony of Unser Hafen

The Savage Woods

1750 Savage Rd, Loveland, Colorado 80538

Site opens June 26th at noon and closes June 28th at 3pm.

Join Unser Hafen for a fun camping weekend where you can be a Hero or a Legend. Friday night set up your camp and enjoy a relaxing night with friends. Saturday we will have plenty for the heavies, rapier, equestrian, archers and arts and sciences. Sunday we will have Warrior Games! Foam sword fighting, period sports and fun before you pack up and go.

Baronial Althing and Populace Gathering

May 3rd fighter practice moves outside to Warren Park in Fort Collins from 2-6pm

Free

If the weather cooperates we will be gathering as a Barony.
There will be Heavy and Light tournaments.
We will have an A&S show and tell from our winter projects.
We will be talking about upcoming events like Inlandish, The Medieval Fair Demo, Heroes and Legends and Newcomers.

So please bring some chairs and refreshment and join us in the beautiful Warren Park to celebrate the coming of Summer.

Yours in Service
Alexander

From the Marshal of Fence and the Hospitaller:

Greetings from the Rapier field and the Hospitlar office!

So this year we have a ton of new players and a setup of events coming made for them! In helping out Rammes Keep I cannot express how rewarding it is to work with these enthusiastic fresh faces; they remind us that what we do is magical, and this enthusiasm is contagious beyond belief. We've had the first few road trips out of the Barony for these folks and visiting teachers coming through to show them views from outside the local circles.

We're now heading into the summer, and I'd like to recommend that everyone put time and effort into snagging someone new and taking them along on your trips. You remember how it was, perhaps? Leaping into the events and the Society is much easier and more comfortable when there's at least one friendly face along with you? Be that friendly face, that free ride or source of used gear for someone's first adventures.

If there's an idea for the summer you'd like to see, jump in and volunteer to run it! People do as others do, so don't hesitate to ask where you can step in and help. These times we play are both of history and legend, the one is fact and science and the other creative inspiration, so let's share both with all of the energy we can!

Yours in conscription,

Haggis of Unser Hafen

From the Captain of the Archers:

Another quarter is upon us. There is an archery practice scheduled for 3 MAY at 2-4 pm in Windsor park archery range. Hopefully the weather will cooperate & I will not get another 2 feet of snow – ha ha !

Inlandish is May 21-25, for our champions and I hope I will see some of our archers there as

the Unser Hafen Champion Archer will be chosen.

June is going to be a very busy month. The Northern Realms War, June 18 – 28, I also hope to see our archers there to help defend the Outlands and the Shire of Plattefordham. We also have demos at the Colorado Medieval Festival Demo on June 5-7. There is also Heros and Legends June 26 – 28. Archery practice will be on June 7th.

July the practice will be on the 5th. Here There Be Dragons is on the 24 – 26 of July.

I have a small amount of loaner gear available. I have made new strings for the bows.

Thomas Marston
Captain of the Archers

From the Webminister:

Greetings good gentles!

Our website is complete, and is being regularly (or somewhat!) updated. Be sure to check it out for information about our fine Barony. If you see any problems, or have any ideas, please email me at uhwebminister@gmail.com.

Yrs in Service,
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

From the Chronicler:

Greetings, revered Populace of Unser Hafen!

Here is your quarterly Tossplot. If you do happen to read this, please let me know!

With my fascination for history, and love of learning, I enjoy writing articles for this newsletter. However, the topics so far are of my interest. I would really like to get suggestions from you of subjects ***you*** would like to know more about! For suggestions, articles of your own or photos to include, please contact me at chronicler@unserhafen.org.

Yrs in Service,
Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

With the recent discovery of the burial place and bones of England's King

Richard III you might be interested in hearing a bit about what has been going on:

The Middle Ages Return to Twenty-first Century England

By Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley
(Dr. Marjorie Monroe-Fischer)

‘A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!’ (Shakespeare, William. Richard III)

Amidst pomp and pageantry, King Richard III was laid to rest once again, this time in Leicester Cathedral on 26 March 2015. England’s Richard III, known to us best through Shakespeare’s play, was found buried beneath a car park in Leicester in the middle of England. In 1986 a paper was published suggesting that he was buried in the Church of the Grey Friars which, if not destroyed by twentieth-century construction, was probably under the city somewhere. In 2011 a group from the University of Leicester decided to start looking for the Church of the Grey Friars and Richard’s burial place. On 5 September 2012 they found a skeleton which was obviously hurriedly buried, without a coffin and in a space too short requiring the head to be up at an odd angle. The skull showed two wounds to the skull, and a very crooked spine.





A direct descendent of Richard's sister, Anne of York, was found in Canada. His mitochondrial DNA was a perfect match for that of the skeleton. King Richard III had been found!

After much deliberation, fighting and planning, the remains of King Richard III were reinterred in a specially created tomb in Leicester Cathedral, the nearest cathedral to the location of his death.



With the skull a likeness was created forensically. DNA suggests that Richard's eyes were blue, and his hair fair, but likely it darkened with age.



This portrait was painted sometime between 1515-1520, some thirty-plus years after his death. It shows no malformation of body, yet sources from his period and into the next century claim variousknew the late king wrote: ‘He was little of stature, ill fetured of limmes, croke backed, his left shoulder much higher than his right, hard favoured of visage’ (More, Thomas. History of King

Richard III) Another from the same period, Polydore

Vergil (1470-1555) wrote that ‘he was lyttle of

stature, deformyd of body, thone showlder being higher than thother, a short and sowre cowntenance, which semyd to savor of mischief and utter

evydently craft and deceyt.’ (Vergil, Polydore. *English History*) malformations. Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), who could possibly have spoken with people whknew the late king wrote: ‘He was little of stature, ill fetured of limmes, croke backed,

his left shoulder much higher than his right, hard favoured of visage’ (More, Thomas. History of King Richard III)

Another from the same period, Polydore Vergil (1470-1555) wrote that ‘he was lyttle of stature, deformyd of body, thone showlder being higher than thother, a short and sowre cowntenance, which semyd to savor of mischief and utter evydently craft and deceyt.’ (Vergil,

Polydore. *English History*)

Born in 1452 during the War of the Roses, Richard Plantagenet was the youngest son of Richard, Duke of York who was a cousin of King Henry VI.

The War of the Roses, 1455-1485, was a civil war between two families claiming the English throne through Edward III, the York family (the white rose) and the Lancaster family (the red rose). Upon the death of Henry VI Richard's eldest brother seized the throne. Edward IV (of the York family) then quietly married a Lancastrian widow. Because of her status their children were declared illegitimate. Following considerable strife and the death of his brother, Richard was installed as king in 1483. It is believed that Richard then had his nephews, the sons of Edward IV, murdered in the Tower of London in order to protect his claim to the throne. It was also suspected that Richard may have killed Henry VI, and later poisoned his own wife.

In spite of these suspicions Richard was known as 'the most famous prince of blessed memory.' (City of York Records, 1485) And Thomas Langton, the Bishop of St. David's wrote to a friend 'On my trouth I lyked never the condicions of ony prince so wel as his; God hathe sent hym to us for the wele of all...' The website 'What History Has to Say about Richard III' (http://www.richard111.com/what_history_has_to_say_about_ri.htm) has nothing but praise for this king in spite of the murderous rumours.

Following continued strife between the two families, the Lancastrian Henry Tudor killed Richard at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 and began the Tudor era as Henry VII. He married Elizabeth of York the next year which united the two families and ended the War of the Roses. Henry then put the two roses together to make what has lasted through the ages as the Tudor Rose.



The celebrations for the reinterment of King Richard III began with a procession on 22 March 2015 from the University of Leicester to Bosworth Field, the site of his death, and on to Leicester Cathedral. 8,000 people visited as he lay in state. Then on 26 March the service was held for his reinternment. It included a Catholic sermon in homage to his own religion, a poem written for him and read by the star of the television series Sherlock, and an anthem composed for the occasion by British composer Judith Bingham. For the text Bingham viewed Richard's own books held in the British Library. She chose the text from *The Book of Ghostly Grace* by thirteenth-century St. Mechtilde. Bingham is a personal friend and the subject of my doctoral dissertation. *Ghostly Grace* was sung as the coffin was lowered into its final resting place.



After more than five-hundred years, King Richard III has found his final resting place.

Eleanor of Aquitaine

Queen Consort of France and England

Part II

by

Lady Anne Elizabeth Morley

(Marjorie Monroe-Fischer, 26th Great Granddaughter)

Louis finally managed to get his marriage to Eleanor annulled on 21 March, 1152. Eleanor immediately returned to her homelands and went about the business of ruling. Being the most eligible and wealthy woman at that time, she escaped at least two kidnap attempts. This must have prompted her to write to Henry in England to come marry her soon. Some modern historians have most likely mistakenly interpreted this as a proposal from her. On 18 May, two months following her annulment, Eleanor and Henry quietly got married in Poitiers Cathedral. Technically, Eleanor was Louis' ward, and should have asked his permission to marry, but the couple anticipated his reaction. Louis became furious at losing such a large portion of land, but although much younger, Henry was the stronger man. Louis attempted raids on Eleanor's land but was quickly defeated.

Henry went back to England, leaving Eleanor pregnant and ruling Aquitaine.



In August of 1153 their son William was born (which must have infuriated Louis, but also reassured him that God had not meant for them to have been married). Earlier in the summer, Eustace, King Stephen's son and heir had died. The Treaty of Wallingford (1153) allowed Stephen to rule for life, but made Henry of Anjou heir to his throne (Britannica.com). Stephen died the following October and on 19 December 1154 Henry II and Eleanor were crowned in Westminster Abbey. The Abbey at that time was of Norman/Romanesque architecture, probably looking something like the building that Henry II is holding in the painting above, with rounded Romanesque arches like the border above his head. The Westminster Abbey that we know today was begun on 16 May 1220 during the reign of Henry and Eleanor's son, Henry III (Westminster-Abbey.org).

English society during Eleanor's reign was feudal. The king ruled 'by the grace of God.' He was aided by his nobles who each controlled the land and people surrounding their castle. It was during this time that the original wooden keeps of these castles were replaced with the stone keeps that we see today. Under the lord was a constable who ruled in his absence. The lord's military consisted of knights who, when not on campaigns, participated in illegal tourneys. Tourneys were not legalized and made respectable until 1194 by another son of Henry and Eleanor, Richard I, also known as Richard the Lionheart.

Eleanor's beauty was legendary. The German songs entitled *Carmina Burana* wrote:

If all the world were mine
 From the seashore to the Rhine,
 That price were not too high
 To have England's Queen lie
 Close in my arms. (Owen, Eleanor of Aquitaine)

Philippe de Thaün wrote:

God save Lady Eleanor,

Queen, who is the arbiter
Of honour, wit and beauty,
Of largess and loyalty.
Lady, born were you in a happy hour
And wed to Henry, King. (Weir, p. 126)

Yet, chroniclers seem to have seen no reason to mention Eleanor very much during Henry's reign. Births were, of course, recorded, but little else. There is, however, evidence that she did utilize the power given to queens in the twelfth century, 'sharers in the imperial kingship.' (Ibid, p. 126) Henry was frequently away at war, so Eleanor must have acted as his regent. Documents exist under her name and seal until 1163 (Ibid, 126). Her rulings, written in Latin, were signed 'Eleanor, by the Grace of God, Queen of England.' (Ibid, p. 127) As time wore on, her importance and control increased. In her great riches she was a big benefactor to the Church.

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