

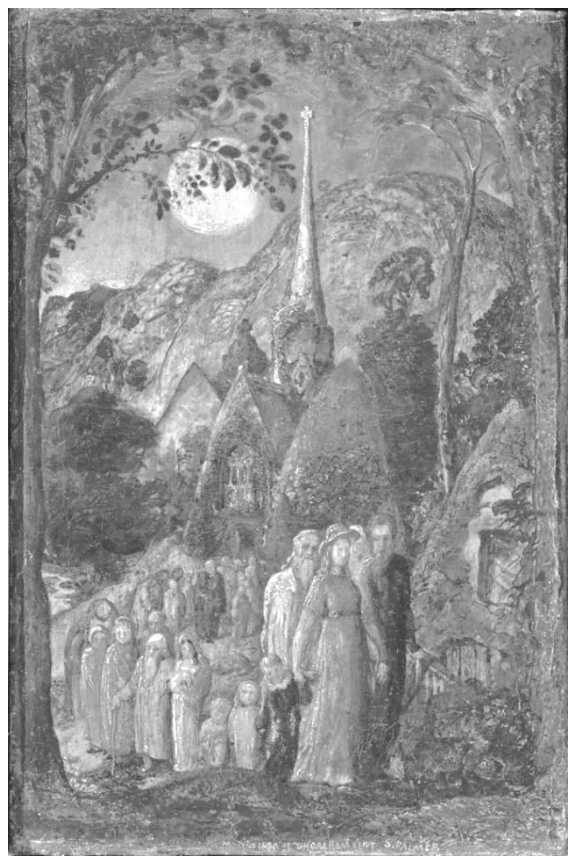
SOCIETY
for
CHURCH
ARCHAEOLOGY



M.S.R.G.
MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT
RESEARCH GROUP

CHURCH AND SETTLEMENT:

🌀 Rural churches and the medieval landscape 🌀



2015 CONFERENCE FEATURING

- ❖ new research on local ecclesiastical sites
- ❖ special tour of Cathedral and new Richard III Heritage Centre
 - ❖ visits to rural church sites in the Vale of Belvoir
- ❖ keynote talk by Professor John Blair, University of Oxford

September 4th – 6th 2015
at the John Foster Hall, University of Leicester

<http://www.archaeologyuk.org/socchurcharchaeol/conferences.html>
<http://medieval-settlement.com/events/conferences>



CONFERENCE DETAILS



The 2015 conference will be held in Leicester, a city with a variety of religious sites and houses, including the Cathedral, which began as the Saxon Church of St Martin, and St Nicholas' parish church, traditionally the oldest church fabric itself in Leicester which possibly dates to the 9th century. However, despite the splendid array of urban places of worship, it is the surrounding rural landscape which provides the theme for this year's conference: the early rural church foundations and their connections with their respective settlements, two categories which are too often kept separated, rather than integrated, in medieval studies. From the earthworks and possible priory remains at Kirby Bellars to the ruined hilltop church at Colston Bassett, the nearby ecclesiastical scene is diverse in its church types, settlement forms and relationships within the landscape. Through an assorted range of talks and in-depth site tour of the nearby rural landscape, this theme of 'church and settlement', whether intimate relationship or nodding acquaintance, can be explored through different cases, allowing our definitions to be questioned and according it the special value it deserves.



Colston Bassett

- ❖ David Parsons, *'All Saints' Church, Brixworth, in its local context*
- ❖ Richard Jones, *Dedicatory place-names*
- ❖ Aleks McClain, *Churches, commemoration and settlement in the Anglo-Norman north*
- ❖ Emma Chapman, *Family expression in parish burial in 10th-16th century England*
- ❖ Gareth Davies, *Church, market and social life: a perspective from recent excavations and survey at Lenton Priory, Nottingham*
- ❖ John Blair, *Local churches c 900-1050*

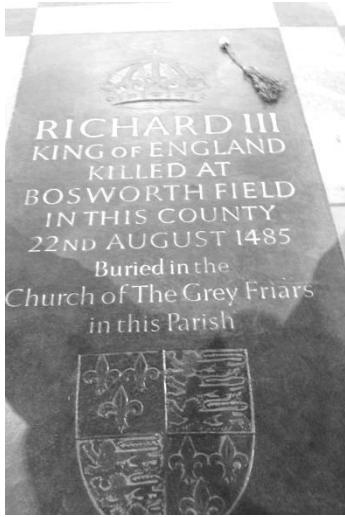
This will be preceded by a special guided tour on the Friday evening around the Cathedral and new Grey Friars King Richard III Visitor Centre, site of the Franciscan friary made famous recently as the burial place of Richard III, followed by an informal meal at Le Pierre Bistrot on Millstone Lane.

Sunday will be devoted to a full-day excursion to local churches and settlements around southern Nottinghamshire and northern Leicestershire, including Little Dalby, Kirby Bellars, Car Colston and Colston Bassett, where we will lunch at the Neville Arms in Kinoulton.





CONFERENCE DETAILS



Leicester Cathedral

On the Friday before the conference proper, delegates will have the opportunity to join a tour which will start at Leicester's cathedral, originally St Martin's church which received its first bishop in 680, though from the 11th to the 20th century it was under neighbouring dioceses. Largely rebuilt in the 13th and 14th centuries, its latest addition is of course the ambulatory tomb for Richard III, with the newly-built Grey Friars Visitor Centre adjacent. This unique opportunity to receive a guided tour of the centre after hours will be followed by an informal dinner at Le Pierre Bistrot, one of Leicester's finest restaurants situated in the heart of the city.



On the Sunday, we will be visiting a range of captivating sites relating to the diverse church and settlement themes of the conference, centred in the southern Nottinghamshire/northern Leicestershire region. This will begin with Little Dalby, a classic church south-east of Melton Mowbray isolated amongst the earthworks of a deserted medieval village, now within the park of a stately home, where we will tour its fascinating structures. This will be followed by visiting Kirby Bellars, just to its west, an interesting earthwork site with a fine church that is reputed to be the remains of the priory church.



St Marys, Car Colston

We will then travel north to Colston Bassett, one of the Vale of Belvoir's more picturesque villages, where we will lunch on the way at the well-reputed Neville Arms pub and restaurant in Kinoulton. Afterwards, we will be guided around the ruined church and its surrounding landscape by Andrew Marriott.

Finally, we will continue on to Car Colston, where Paul Everson will provide a detailed tour on the village and church, before returning back to Leicester for the homeward journey.





TIMETABLE



Friday

- 16.30-17.00 – Registration at Oadby Student Village, Leicester
- 17.30 – Coach leaves Oadby to arrive in Leicester city centre
- 18.00-20.00 – Tour of cathedral and Richard III centre (led by Deirdre O'Sullivan and Matthew Morris)
- 20.15-23.15 – Informal dinner at Le Pierre Bistrot
- 23.30 – Coach returns to Oadby



Richard III Visitor Centre, Leicester

Saturday

- 07.30-09.00 – Breakfast
- 09.00-09.15 – Registration
- 09.15-9.50 – David Parsons, *'All Saints' Church, Brixworth, in its local context*
- 9.50-10.30 – Richard Jones, *Dedicatory place-names*
- 10.30-11.00 – Tea/coffee and biscuits
- 11.00-11.40 – Aleks McClain, *Churches, commemoration and settlement in the Anglo-Norman north*
- 11.40-12.15 – Emma Chapman, *Family expression in parish burial, in 10th-16th centuries*
- 12.15-13.00 – AGMs
- 13.00-14.00 – Lunch
- 14.00-14.40 – Gareth Davies, *Church, market and social life: a perspective from recent excavations and survey at Lenton Priory, Nottingham*
- 14.40-15.30 – *Church and settlement in the Vale of Belvoir: overview of Sunday's fieldtrip*
- 15.30-16.00 – Tea/coffee and cake
- 16.00-17.00 – John Blair (keynote), *Local churches and rural settlement in Late Anglo-Saxon England*
- 19.00-20.00 – Dinner at Oadby, followed by drinks at bar



St Peter's, Kirby Bellars



St James, Little Dalby

Sunday

- 09.00 – Leave Oadby
- 09.40-10.40 – Tour Little Dalby
- 11.00-12.30 – Kirby Bellars
- 13.00-14.00 – Lunch (Neville Arms, Kinoulton)
- 14.10-15.00 – Colston Bassett (led by Andrew Marriott)
- 15.30-16.30 – Car Colston (led by Paul Everson)
- 17.30 (approx) – Return to Leicester



Venue

The conference will be held in the John Foster Hall at the University of Leicester, the largest hall in Oadby Student Village and a popular event venue with catered accommodation (John Foster Hall, Manor Road, Leicester LE2 2LG). There is parking at the Oadby Village (to guarantee a space, please pre-book when you register), but delegates might find it more convenient to arrive by public transport.

Accommodation

Delegates are strongly encouraged to book their accommodation in the 4 Star catered en-suite rooms which are available at an excellent value at the hall. A full English breakfast is included in the price.

Booking

- **Delegates may wish to note that SCA and MSRG memberships* start at £12**
*visit www.archaeologyuk.org/socchurcharcaeo1/membership.html and medieval-settlement.com/membership/ for more details
- **Quick and easy booking is through the University of Leicester's shop@le portal (email conferences@leicester.ac.uk – telephone 0116 223 1680), where their helpful Conference Office manages registration and payment for all event components**
- **To register please visit <https://shop.le.ac.uk/>. In the search box on the left of the screen enter 'church and settlement' - the conference registration information will then be shown on the right, where you can choose from the following package options:**

Friday evening dinner and special tour of Leicester cathedral and Grey Friars Visitor Centre*

SCA/MSRG members and non-members £10 []

*please note dinner is not included in the fee and will be paid at the venue

Saturday conference, including lunch

SCA/MSRG members £45 []

Non-members £55 []

Saturday conference dinner

SCA/MSRG members and non-members £18 []

Sunday tour, including lunch at the Neville Arms, Kinoulton

SCA/MSRG members £25 []

Non-members £30 []

Accommodation

Friday evening bed and breakfast £34 []

Friday evening dinner at accommodation* £18 []

Saturday evening bed and breakfast £34 []

* for delegates who arrive on Friday evening after the coach leaves Oadby for the city centre and Friday tour and meal

[Please note there is a £10 registration surcharge, and that VAT is applicable to the Saturday dinner and accommodation]

- **Payment methods accepted include bank transfer, credit card and cheques***
* bookings cannot be made until cheques have been cleared, thus early registration is highly recommended
 - **Deadline for booking is Saturday, August 29th**
 - **Any queries about or difficulties with on-line booking, please contact our Conference Secretary: Anne Sassin (email asassinallen@gmail.com – telephone 07896 125 207)**
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Travel Information

By Train

- Leicester has a main line connection to London, the north and the Midlands via East Midlands Trains.

By Bus

- The Arriva bus service number 31/A is available year round from the Leicester Train Station to Leicester Road (A6), which will be followed by a 10 minute walk to the Oadby Conference Centres.

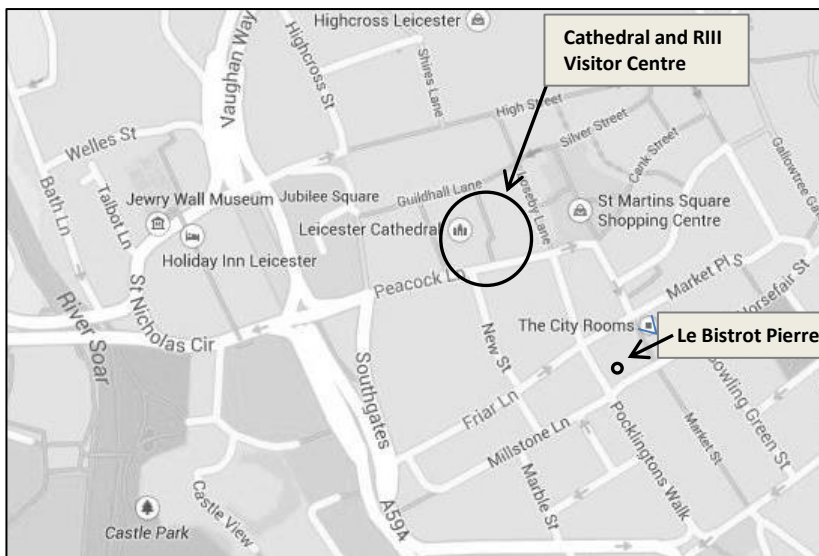
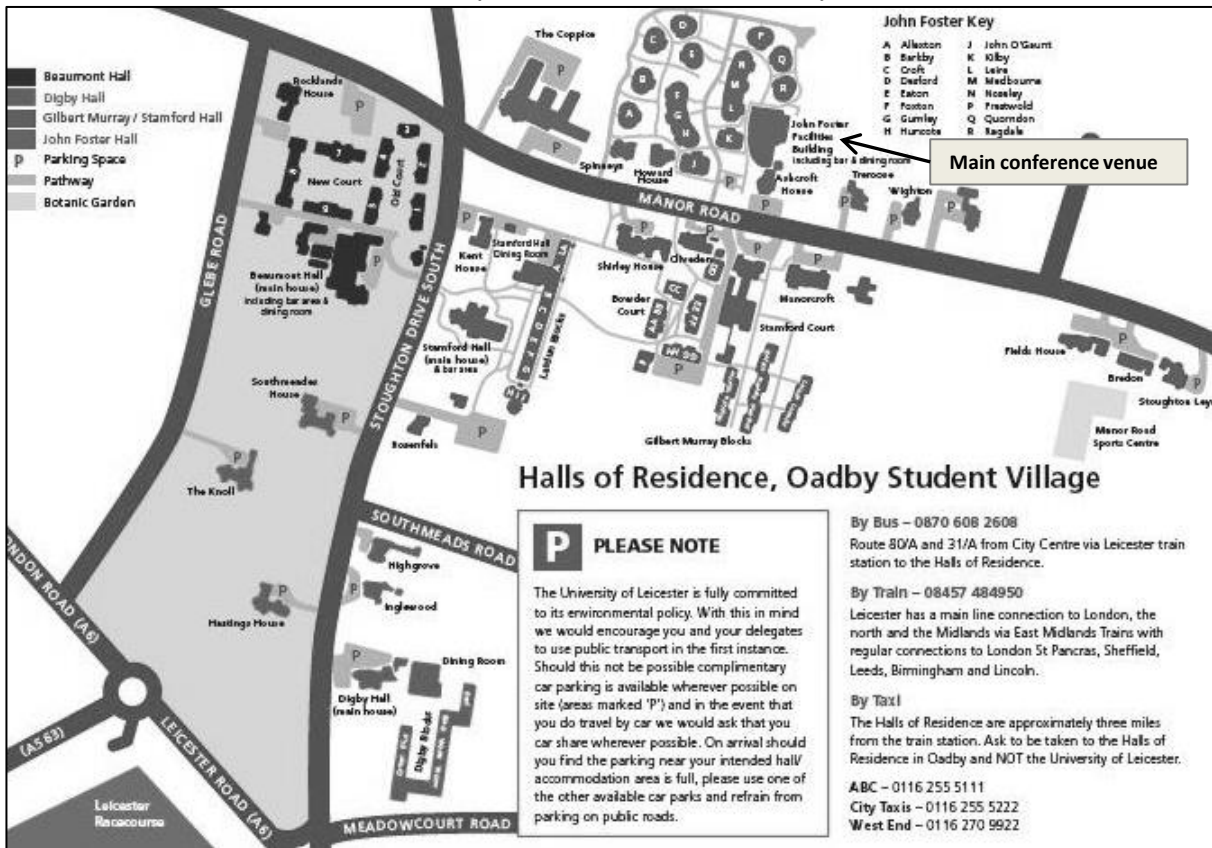
By Taxi

- Taxis are available from a taxi rank within Leicester train Station, or if you prefer to book in advance the below numbers might be helpful:

Swift Fox Cabs 0116 262 8222

ABC Taxi's 0116 255 5305

Please remember that Oadby is approximately three miles from the train station, and to ask to be taken to the John Foster Hall in Oadby, and NOT the University of Leicester.



Friday evening tour

Please note that a shuttle will be arranged to take delegates from Oadby into town for the special tour of the Cathedral and Grey Friars Visitor Centre, which will leave at 17.30. Any delegates who arrive later and miss this shuttle are welcome to meet the group at the Cathedral by 18.00 for the tour, but booking is essential.