

Introduction From New Branch Member Pauline Mainwright To The Article On Wakefield

At the beginning of 1999, a friend and I decided that we needed a focus for occasional (e.g. maybe once a month) ‘days out’ – and, as we were both interested in Richard III, we agreed that a RIII trail might prove interesting. It was some time since either of us had done any reading about Richard – so we did a quick ‘refresher’ and then made a list of the places we wanted to visit. That very basic list has since grown enormously - and the ‘occasional’ days out have developed into something of an obsession! But what an amazing time we have had in the last eighteen months – visiting parts of England that we had never been to before, finding ‘links’ to Richard and the Yorkists in many unexpected places, learning so much more about the fifteenth century generally and, not least, making so many new friends, mainly because of an initial contact with Geoffrey Richardson.

Pam has suggested that I share some of our visits with you, so I will try! I don’t pretend to be an expert or an academic – so please don’t expect any profound insights into the fifteenth century. Just a glimpse of some of places or people connected with that troubled century. Maybe these articles will remind you of your own visits – or whet your appetite to go and visit them yourself. Enjoy!