

Richard III: His life from his bones

Jane Evans, British Geological Survey

AGM Off-Topic Talk, The Geological Society

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When the Richard III Society teamed up with Leicester University and Leicester City Council to look for the mortal remains of King Richard III very few people would have predicted the global interest that this small scale excavation created. The “King in the Carpark” captured the imagination of the public. This talk will describe the dig and the way in which all the evidence was pieced together, from the initial discovery, through the osteological, isotope and DNA evidence in order to provide a convincing identification of the King. The story provides an insight into the archaeological and associated disciplines as seen from both the scientific and media perspective.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Prof Evans is an isotope geochemist working for the British Geological Survey. The early part of her career focussed on geochronology studies in the UK and overseas, often in support of field mapping studies. As the use of isotope analysis widened into the field of archaeology she started to specialize in tracing human movement and migration and now collaborates widely on this topic. She is a long standing member of the Geological Society. In her spare time she enjoys bee keeping and kayaking.

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