

ASSIGNMENT

NEWS



JULY 2026

CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email bronwenstacey@btinternet.com

Allotments Secretary	Karl Debenham <i>The new Chair is Bryn Hurren</i>	07584 996211
Assington Baby and Toddler Group	Rev Tricia Box	07747 124592
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)		07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30, Wed 9-12	
Boxford CEVC Primary School (office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk)	Head: Emma Lea	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moira Grant	01787 211513
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Community Choir	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
County Councillor (james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk)	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	07970 196884
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 370011
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Floodline 24/7	SCC Flood Management	0345 606 6171
Footpath Warden	Jeff Stacey	01787 210354
Horticultural Society	Karen Wiles	
Member of Parliament (james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk)	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Mobile Library - Vicary Estate Junction	Saturday 11th July	3pm - 3.30pm
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
bronwenstacey@btinternet.com	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
david.wiles@live.co.uk	David Wiles	07811 108702
andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com	Andrew Hill	01787 827112
	Mark Armitage	
	Kimberly Howard	
Parish Council - Clerk (clerk@assington-pc.gov.uk)	Christine Hargan	01449 674727
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton	restaurant@shouldermutton.co.uk	01787 703309
Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School (admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk)	Head: Mrs Kelly McGrath	01206 262418
Vicar (vicar@parishchurch.co.uk)	The Revd Daniel Whiffin	07309 947039
Village Hall – Bookings	Karen Wiles	07983 002072
Village Hall - Caretaker		07547 190948
Village Hall - Charity Secretary		
Womens Institute, Boxford (annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk)	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

The Assington News is a community magazine funded primarily through adverts and donations, for which we are always most grateful. **ADVERTS. RATES pa : £20 for 1/8 size page advert, £35 for 1/4 page advert, £60 for 1/2 page advert, £120 for a full page advert. Contact Jeff Stacey, 01787 210354, assingtonassociation@icloud.com**

The Assington Association Bank Account details for payments and donations:

Account no: **01345159**. Sort Code: **30-98-31**. Please make cheques payable to **The Assington Association**.

The ASSINGTON NEWS NOW IN COLOUR ONLINE at <https://assington-pc.gov.uk/assington-news/>

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THINGS TO DO IN JULY



'Last Tuesday'

Coffee and Chat

in the Village Hall

The next meeting will be on

Tuesday 28th July

at 10am.

See you there!

WINSTONS WHEELS
DOG CHARITY NO 1191322
will be fundraising at the
LEAVENHEATH FETE

on

SATURDAY 4th JULY

BETWEEN 12 – 5 pm

On the Village Green

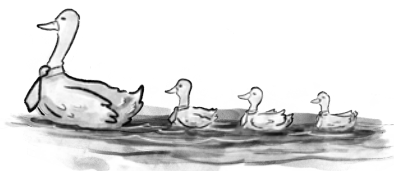
Assington Baby & Toddler Group

Mums, dads, grandparents, carers and childminders living in and around Assington. Bring your little ones to a friendly, accompanied babies and toddlers group in the lovely, airy Village Hall

9 July
10 September

Thursday twice a month in term time
from 9:30-11.00 am, at £3 per family

Revd Tricia Box - 07747124592



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contact

Bronwen Stacey :

bronwenstacey@btinternet.com

ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bob Cowlin (temperatures)

and Bill Milner (rainfall)

HISTORY annual rainfall :

2016	599.5	2021	582.3
2017	571	2022	419
2018	559	2023	662
2019	597	2024	620
2020	636	2025	382

2025 was the driest year since Bill began keeping records in 1977

2022	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	7	12	-6.5
FEB	46	13	-4
MAR	29	18	-2
APR	9.5	22	-6
MAY	37	25	0
JUNE	33.5	30	2
JULY	5	36.5	6
AUG	11.5	32	7
SEPT	25	25	1
OCT	63	18	0
NOV	107.5	14	-2
DEC	45	10	-9.5

2023	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	41	10	-7
FEB	3	14	-7
MAR	78	15	-6.5
APRIL	65	8	-2
MAY	19	22	1
JUNE	15.5	30.5	6
JULY	72.5	28	8
AUG	65	29	4
SEP	41.5	30.5	5
OCT	137	23	-2
NOV	61.5	11	-7
DEC	63	11	-3

2024	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	47	9	-7
FEB	95	9	-1
MAR	38	18	-4
APR	49	18.5	-3
MAY	83.5	25	3
JUNE	17.5	28	2
JULY	84.5	30	4
AUG	17.01	30.5	5
SEP	66	26.5	-0.5
OCT	53.5	19	-2
NOV	41	14	-4
DEC	28	10.5	-2.5

2025	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	39	9	-9
FEB	32	13	-6
MAR	5	18	-7
APR	25	26	-2.5
MAY	14	27	-0.5
JUN	36.5	31	6
JULY	44	33	5
AUG	11.5	30	6
SEP	26.5	24	0
OCT	38.5	19	0
NOV	82.5	14	-2
DEC	27.5	10	-4

2026	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	90	7	-9
FEB	76	14	-3
MAR	19	15	-3
APR	7.5	22	-2
MAY	12	31	-2



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PARISH CHURCH NEWS



<https://www.assingtonchurch.org.uk>

*Letter from Andrew Clifft,
Reader in the Benefice of
Bures with Assington and
Little Cornard*



Dear Friends

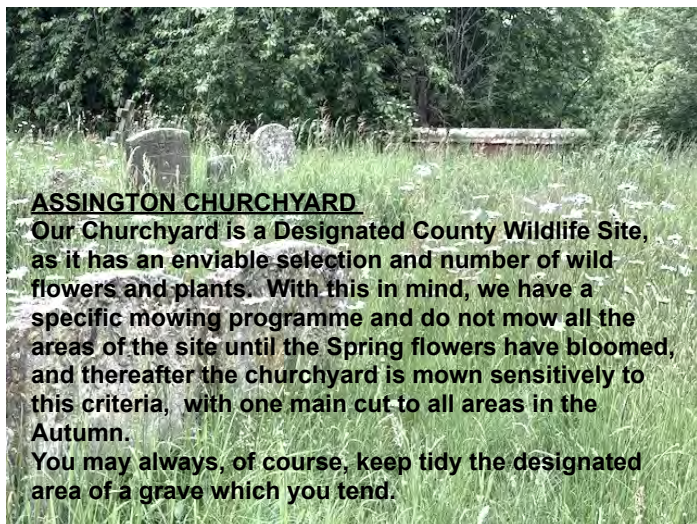
It's almost incredible how this year is passing by so quickly. The summer solstice has been and gone and we know that the daylight hours are gradually shortening; but at this time of year, no one is really bothered. For children and families, the summer holidays will shortly begin and of course, the wonderful Bures Music Festival and the sight of the "Big Top" will be there in the heart of Bures, for all to see.

An event like this, doesn't just happen on its own accord. It needs people who are willing to give up their free time to help run and organise, in order for it to be a success. This willingness to help is an important part of living in a community. There are many residents who give up their time freely for the betterment of village life here in Assington as well.

In the Bible, Jesus was asked what the most important commandment was. He replied, "To love the lord your God with all you heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength" and then he quickly added " Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

A successful community is based on the principal of "loving one's neighbour" and we give thanks to those here in Assington, that this is a driver for those who put their energy back into the community. However, the arrow of time travels in one direction and new volunteers are needed both in our church here and outside to keep this spirit alive. I invite you to ponder upon the words of Jesus and help continue in perpetuating this neighbourly love.

Yours in Christ Andrew Clifft



ASSINGTON CHURCHYARD

Our Churchyard is a Designated County Wildlife Site, as it has an enviable selection and number of wild flowers and plants. With this in mind, we have a specific mowing programme and do not mow all the areas of the site until the Spring flowers have bloomed, and thereafter the churchyard is mown sensitively to this criteria, with one main cut to all areas in the Autumn.

You may always, of course, keep tidy the designated area of a grave which you tend.



ALL WELCOME TO ASSINGTON CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY

5th July @ 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION

(12th July: *Bures BIG TOP @10.15am*
Lt Cornard Morning Worship @ 10.30am)

19th July @ 10.30am MORNING WORSHIP

(26th July: *Bures Morning Worship @10.30am*
Lt Cornard Holy Communion @10.30am)

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR VISITORS
ON FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,
and at other times by prior arrangement with key
holders:**

Bronwen Stacey 01787 210354

John Symons 01787 211534

Vicar: Daniel Whiffin 07309 947039

email: vicar@parishchurch.co.uk

Associate Priest :

Rev Simon White 07572 418555

Reader Emeritus:

Dr John Symons 211534

Churchwarden: Bronwen Stacey 210354

Organists: Bronwen Stacey

Peter Dakin

Secretary: Emily Cartlidge 07967 724266

Update on the Tower Project WE ARE GETTING THERE!

We are pleased to report that we now have £101,000 (in round terms) in the "kitty" for the Project and have calculated that we now need " only" £49,000 more, and we can begin the works.



**Assington Church
TOWER PROJECT**



QRCode

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Tower Project
Our Grateful Thanks



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BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

Report from Roz Mortlock

We had sunny weather for our Open Day on 17th May and hope everyone who came along to have a go at bowls enjoyed their time with us. We know that some of you will be back to play bowls with us very soon and we still welcome new players. We have 'roll ups' and coaching sessions on Saturday mornings from 10.00am - do come along and see what it's all about. We are sure you will enjoy it and hopefully get hooked on this fun and exciting game. It's not all competitions at Boxford Bowls Club - social bowling is a key part of our diary throughout the outdoor season. So come along, meet new people, walk a few thousand steps and just enjoy this sport. We are a friendly bunch!

I had to share this photo I took the other day. What an amazing rainbow after torrential rain and hail stopped play in a bowls match. We are so lucky in Boxford to have such a picturesque setting for our Bowls Club.



Well done to three of our ladies - Roz Mortlock, Cynthia Hollingsworth and Lynda Oxford. They were selected to play for the Ladies North Essex County game at home in Radwinter last week against Northants Ladies in the Donald Steward competition.

North Essex had a sound win against Northants. Well done ladies.



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THE VILLAGE BBQ

on

SATURDAY 13th JUNE

Report from Anna Clayton

The weather was kind to us as we bbq'd, chatted and watched some good cricket and rounders at the village hall.

Other games available to try included sack 'races', corn hole (enjoyed by smaller people dropping the bean bags through the holes!), giant jenga and some team work on the 'big feet' game!

There were introductions and warm welcomes to those newly moved into the village, and children getting stuck into a game of cricket.

Thanks to David Wiles and Andrew Hill for their BBQ skills, to Esme for tasty brownies, all topped off with some s'mores toasted on the firepit.

A smashing £389.60 raised towards the Church Tower Project - thank you all.

A great idea by Simon White for this social event....keep an eye out for the 2027 mid summer BBQ and games social.





VILLAGE NEWS

JOHN SYMONS IS NOW OUR READER EMERITUS



May 17th was my last hurrah as a reader (in the Church) and everyone was SO nice to me and gave me such a lovely send off that I feel I must express my thanks.

Thanks to the Revs. Daniel and Simon (who ran the service) and Mary (prayers); to Peter who played the organ; to Jeff and Harry (readings; to Bonwen and Tricia (for the flowers) and to Sarah, Linda, Val and numerous others (who organised and supplied the food and copious drinks that followed).

I have really enjoyed being a reader and, indeed, all my time being part of such a lovely church community, and I am still here!!

It was also the wedding anniversaries of Charles and Sarah and Tom and Jane --congratulations-- what a day !!

Thank you all. John Symons

ASSINGTON VILLAGE CHARITY UPDATE

At our recent annual general meeting, one of our very much admired and respected trustees, Louisa Symons made the decision to retire from her active role on the Assington Village Charity Committee. Louisa has been part of the committee for at least 25 years being involved with organising and running events and productions, then taking on the position of lettings secretary until four years ago, as well as being a trustee. She is always there for residents of the village and still works hard on the increasingly popular coffee mornings on the last Tuesday of every month, as well as being very hands on at the village fete with the bric a brac stall. She is also the co-ordinator of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for the village.

Louisa will be very much missed, but we all wish her a very happy and thoroughly well-deserved retirement. She was presented with a large potted David Austen Rose for her garden with the gratitude of the present committee and all who worked with her over the years, a village legend.

The village hall has been re decorated and looks a lot brighter and fresher. The lobby, main hall, meeting room, storage room, and toilet ceilings have all been done. Thanks to Lee and his team for an excellent job.

The committee are in the planning stages of a fund-raising event for later in the summer, this is to help with our spiralling running costs as we have to be compliant with current legislation on health and safety, contractors are not cheap but vital to keep us up to date. Please support this event when it happens, it is your village hall, we are just the custodians.

We now have Long Melford Ladies Football team using the pitch for training on a Wednesday night, perhaps prospective lionesses may come from it!

We are still looking for some help for a new chairman, and a part time caretaker that is a paid position and vital for the upkeep of the facility.

We have the 49th Horticultural Show coming up in August, please give it your support , it is part of village tradition and would be nice to celebrate the 50th Anniversary in style next year.

If you would like to form an events team it would be very much welcomed, please get in touch, the committee would support it.

Lastly thank you to the committee member and trustees for their continued support, and to our replacement trustee Karen Wiles for accepting the role, and to our regular hirers who help make our survival possible.

Kind regards
David Wiles (current chairman until October)



CHARLIE HAYLOCK

Readers may remember that in July 2023 Charlie presented a talk in Assington Village Hall on the film 'The Dig', when he told us about his personal role in helping Ralph Fiennes, who played Basil Brown, and the other "Suffolk" actors to learn their Suffolk accents.



Charlie (to use his stage-name) recently retired from presenting his one-man shows, but he has been in touch to let us know of his current projects.

We have a special place in our hearts for Charlie who, some time ago, was the landlord of our wonderful village pub: the now-famous - nationally, as well as more regionally- Charlie Haylock used to be the landlord of The Shoulder of Mutton from the late 1970s until the mid 1980s.

Charlie, whose real name is, appropriately for a pub landlord, Gordon Alecock, has since become an authority on regional dialects; he has written books and undertaken tours giving presentations and lighthearted (but informative) talks on how and why people speak differently in different parts of

He tells us:

“Since retiring from doing my one-man shows and talks, I have ventured out into other projects, and I've been commissioned to recite classical works of literature in a regional Suffolk accent . . . which is now on YouTube with illustrations;

the links are below:

It includes Shakespeare, Keats, Byron to name but just a few . . . but also some humorous ones including Edward Lear and T.S.Eliot.”



the country.
He has also recently been awarded an honorary doctorate and is now :
Charlie Haylock, Hon. Doc. University of Suffolk,

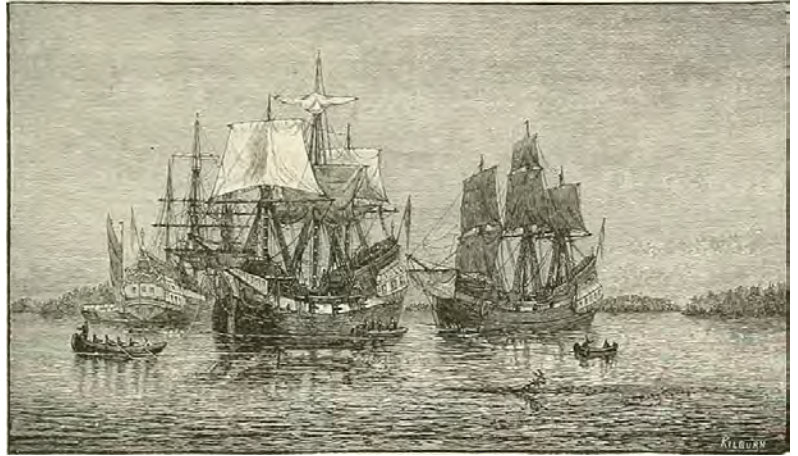
Classic Poems in Suffolk - Part 1 <https://youtu.be/wSw4PwfzR10>
Classic Poems in Suffolk - Part 2 https://youtu.be/lj3LnE0vy_s
Classic Poems in Suffolk - Part 3 <https://youtu.be/wBdwZf2VDzU>

CHOIR NEWS

Having enjoyed a fabulous time at LeeStock, where we sang to more than 1000 people, you can catch our next performance at Leavenheath Fete on Sat 4th July at 1.50pm. This will be our last performance for quite a while as we are taking a sabbatical for the rest of the year, so make sure you come and join the fun - the fete is a brilliant day out with lots of stalls and things to see and do.

If you get there for midday you'll also witness three Assington residents, along with others, performing in their new band Whiskey Stour!

Nettie



400th ANNIVERSARY of the 1630 WINTHROP FLEET

From Nigel Chapman

I am reaching out for some help from any local 'historian' however amateur, like me. We have a Groton History Society, that I co-founded, and we are about to launch a Project 400 to celebrate the Winthrop Fleet setting sail to New England in 1630. This will culminate in a celebration in 2030.

I have identified several Assington folk and families who sailed with John Winthrop in 1630. We would like to trace their stories, if at all possible, as part of a wider recognition of the many many people from the Box River Area who made the incredible journey to seek a new life in a new world.



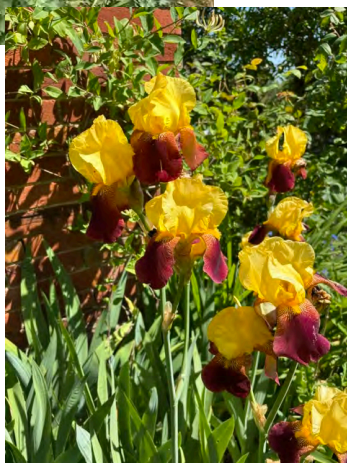
Please do get in touch with me if you are interested in being involved, or know anybody who might be able to help.

Many thanks
Nigel Chapman
<nigeljchap@gmail.com>

OPEN GARDEN-CUM GARDEN PARTY

From Bronwen Stacey

Thank you to all those who came along to our 'trial' summer open garden-cum-garden party.



As it was also intended to be a fund-raising event towards the Church Tower Project, the 'deal' was that the

entry charge was £5 per person, which included the first glass of sparkling wine (or non-a equivalent), and then when everyone settled down for the remainder of the afternoon, there was plenty of drink available, with donations requested. Savoury nibbles to go with the wine were provided.



We were very fortunate with the weather: in preparation we had been uncertain whether it was going to rain, or be too hot, or "just right" so we prepared for as many eventualities as we could: we had a marquee, a table with an umbrella, seating beneath a pop-up gazebo, and extra chairs and seating arranged artistically in the shade beneath the large oak tree. As it turned out, the afternoon became very

hot and sunny, and the shady seating was appreciated by the visitors.

Also we were very fortunate to be able to offer greeting cards with envelopes, suitable for all purposes, all showing beautiful photographs of local Assington and Suffolk views and scenery, which have been kindly donated by Jacqui Egglestone. Jacqui's late husband Keith, was a keen photographer, and these cards show off his artistic eye and professional ability. There are more still



available - watch out for them at future events.

It turned out well. Not only did everyone stay and chat, enjoy the scenery, - and some people even looked at the garden! - but we met some new friends, and even visitors to the area.

£275 was raised from generous donations, sales and entry fees, towards the church Tower Project.

We were so busy that we almost forgot to take any photographs, and only remembered to take one at the last minute!

COMMUNITY LIBRARY IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Many of you will know it well: the small room in the Village Hall, where the mobile Post Office is situated on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. For many years the shelves have been filled (to overflowing) with books of all types and sizes, which had been donated by the owners when they had read them, hoping that someone else would pick them up and similarly enjoy reading them, for the suggested donation of 50p per book, proceeds for the Church.

Book donations continued to roll in, particularly at the time of the annual church Village Fetes, for the book stall.

In the past month, the Village Hall has been redecorated, and the shelves had to be emptied so that the painting could take place. The money box for the donations was also opened.....and we are pleased and most grateful to announce that the sum of £78.40 has been raised in this way, for the church funds.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this process over the time: thanks for the books and for using the 'system' by making your 50p donations; thanks to Michelle for setting up the scheme in the first place and thanks to David for manfully emptying the shelves single-handedly at short notice for the redecorations to take place.

NATURE WATCH

Rainbows



The front cover photograph was taken very recently during a thunder storm. We had a spate of weather when dark clouds suddenly appeared, travelled swiftly overhead, the sky turned black, the lightning flashed, the thunder rolled, and the rain descended in an absolute sheet of water; occasionally we had a brief hail-storm instead!

We arrived home on the early evening of 8th June to find a rainbow almost in our garden. As we dashed to take photos before the rainbow faded and disappeared, the rainbow moved a little further into the field; one never quite reaches to claim the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow!

As we know, if it is raining it must also be sunny simultaneously for us to be able to see a rainbow: rainbows caused by sunlight always appear in the section of the sky directly opposite the sun.

However, you don't need rain to see a rainbow:



they can occur wherever sunlight interacts with airborne moisture, and can be seen in the mist of a waterfall, in sea spray at the beach, inside garden sprinklers on a sunny day, or sometimes in a halo of cloud around the sun.

A rainbow is an optical phenomenon caused by sunlight refracting (bending), reflecting, and separating inside water droplets. Because they require specific angles between the sun, the water, and your eyes, every rainbow is a highly personalised illusion. No two people see the same rainbow: since a rainbow's appearance depends strictly on the exact position of your eyes relative to the falling raindrops the person standing right next to you is viewing a slightly different set of light rays bouncing off different droplets.

Rainbows are actually full circles; we normally only see an arch, because the ground gets in the way: if you view a rainbow from an aeroplane or a high mountain peak you will



see a complete unbroken circle.

Sometimes a fainter secondary bow forms above the primary rainbow when light reflects twice inside the same raindrop. Because of this second bounce, the colour order is completely reversed, and the area in between the two bows looks darker, known as **Alexander's band**.

RED
ORANGE
YELLOW
GREEN
BLUE
INDIGO
VIOLET

A 'common' mnemonic used by people to remember the colours of a rainbow in the correct order is:

"Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain"

Mnemonics are learning techniques or memory tricks designed to help us encode, retain and recall information.

The term originates from ancient Greece and is derived from **Mnemosyne** (pronounced nee-**MOS**-ih-nee), the goddess of memory in Greek mythology. The "M" in the word is completely silent, starting with the "N" sound.

You can read more about **Richard of York** and his battles on the next page.....

RICHARD OF YORK, 3rd Duke of York (21.9.1411 - 30.12.1460)



Not to be confused with King Richard III (1452 - 1485)



Richard Duke of York was the father of two English kings, Edward IV and Richard III.

Richard of York, 3rd Duke of York was born in Conisbrough Castle on 21 September 1411. This Castle was built in the 1170s by Hamelin Plantagenet; it still stands today as a 90-foot, 12th-century circular keep—one of the earliest and most complete of its kind in England. (English Heritage)

Richard 3rd Duke of York, also called **Richard Plantagenet**, was a leading English magnate and claimant

to the throne during the Wars of the Roses. He was a member of the ruling House of Plantagenet by virtue of being a direct male-line descendant of King Edward III's fourth surviving son.

However, it was through his mother, Anne Mortimer, a descendant of Edward III's second surviving son, that Richard inherited his strongest claim to the throne, as the opposing House of Lancaster was descended from John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, the third surviving son of Edward III.

The lesser title but greater estates of the Mortimer family, along with their claim to the throne, also descended to him

on the death of his maternal uncle Edmund Mortimer, 5th Earl of March, in 1425. Once he inherited the vast Mortimer estates, he also became the wealthiest and most powerful noble in England, second only to the king himself. An account shows that York's net income from Welsh and marcher lands alone was £3,430 in the year 1443–44.

As a claimant to the English throne, Richard Duke of York's attempts to gain power helped precipitate the Wars of the Roses (1455–85) between the houses of Lancaster and York.

In 1453, King Henry VI suffered a catastrophic mental breakdown that left him completely unresponsive. The severe mental illness of Henry VI rendered him unfit to rule and created rampant factionalism among his nobles, and catastrophic military defeats in France. This forced the creation of a regency, leading Richard, Duke of York, to be named Lord Protector.

He controlled the government for brief periods during the first five years of this struggle to decide the ruling party of the country.

The national instability allowed the House of York to capitalise on the discontent. When royal authority broke down in the 1450s under the incompetent regime of Henry VI, Richard became the leader of the Yorkist cause and claimant to the throne as the rivalry between Lancastrian and Yorkist factions culminated in open warfare, and so when Henry recovered (momentarily) in 1455, York and his allies were unwilling to give up their newfound power, creating an explosive political divide.

A new phase of the civil war began in 1459 when the Yorkists were scattered after a skirmish at Ludford Bridge and Richard Duke of York fled to Ireland, whilst the Lancastrians executed those on whom they could lay hands. From then on the struggle was bitter. Both parties laid aside their scruples and struck down their opponents without mercy. In 1460 The Yorkists defeated the Lancastrian force at Northampton and Richard of York tried to claim the throne, but settled for the right to succeed upon the death of Henry, but the Queen still opposed this decision, and fought on....

In 1460 Richard Duke of York was declared a traitor and his estates were seized, but Conisbrough was garrisoned for him.

Gathering forces in northern England, the Lancastrians surprised and killed Richard of York at the Battle of Wakefield in December 1460. His head was stuck on a spike over Micklegate Bar in York, wearing a crown of paper and straw.

But three months later his 18-year-old son Edward defeated the Lancastrian army at the Battle of Towton, in 1461. Richards son then ascended the throne as Edward IV.

Following his death at the Battle of Wakefield, Richard Duke of York was initially buried at Pontefract Castle.

In 1476 his son, King Edward IV, had his remains exhumed and moved in a grand state funeral to the collegiate church at Fotheringhay. However, after the original tombs fell into ruin during the Reformation, Queen Elizabeth I ordered the remains of the Duke of York to be reinterred in their present location inside the main parish church, St Mary and All Saints Church in Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire.





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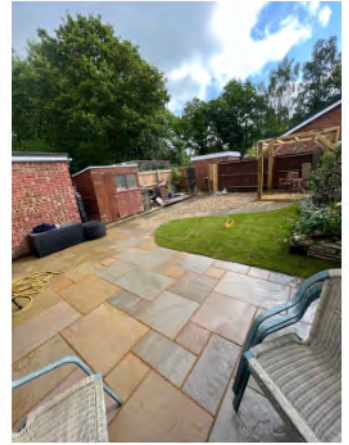
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