

## Dead under a car park



In September 2012, under a small car park in Leicester, a gruesome discovery was made.

A skeleton was found buried in the earth.

Could this be a body that had been missing for over five hundred years?

Could this be the body of a king?

In order to find out who it was, we need to go back in time ...

A long way back, to a time when powerful families had their own armies and fought each other in bloody battles all over England.

To a time when two men fought each other in a muddy field for the honour of being called "King of England".



*People today acting out one of the battles from that time.*

## The death of a king

Picture the scene. It is 22 August 1485. A terrible battle is taking place near a town called Market Bosworth, in the centre of England.

A man is thrown from his white horse. He is surrounded by enemy soldiers armed to the teeth.

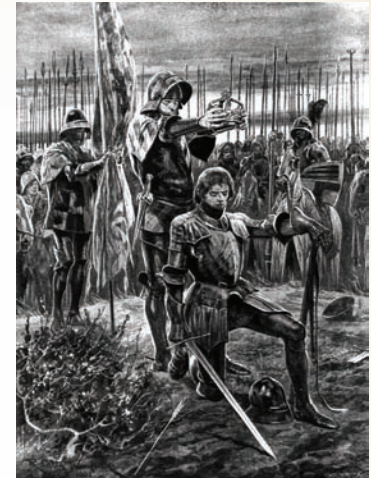


He is the most powerful man in the country, King Richard III, but that does not save him.

The soldiers show no mercy. Someone strikes the killer blow.

As one man lies dying, another man cheers.

The king is dead. Now England has a new ruler, King Henry VII.



*King Henry VII is crowned at the Battle of Bosworth.*

\* \* \* \*

It was a surprise victory for Henry and his followers.

King Richard was the last English king to die in battle.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

It is common to use Roman numerals for kings or queens with the same name.

Here, V = 5 and II = 2.

So Henry VII = Henry **7th**.