

NEWS RELEASE

Leicestershire Promotions 2024 Tourism and Hospitality Awards

Embargoed until 00:01 5th December 2024

A 'remarkable, tenacious and determined' researcher awarded 'Outstanding Contribution To Tourism' accolade

At the climax of a glittering ceremony held in Leicester last night, a very special award of Outstanding Contribution To Tourism was presented to Philippa Langley.

Philippa led the search for Richard III through her original Looking For Richard Project and was praised for her tenacity and determination which in spite of what seemed like insurmountable barriers, she pushed through and eventually instructed the exhumation of the mortal remains of King Richard III, uncovered under the northern end of a car park in Leicester in 2012 right where she said they would be.

In presenting the accolade, Martin Peters of Tourism Specialists, Leicestershire Promotions, recounted how a chance meeting and Philippa's passion and compelling story led to them becoming involved and supporting the project.

He said 'this is an extraordinary story of a remarkable individual and I am in no doubt that it is down to Philippa alone that the remains were discovered. We are making this award to reflect the impact of this momentous discovery and the transformative effect it has had on the visitor economy of Leicester and Leicestershire and to recognise and pay thanks to Philippa.'

On receiving the award Philippa commented 'to have received this award and recognition for my discovery of King Richard is the most incredible honour and I would like to thank Martin Peters and his team at Leicestershire Promotions. The Looking For Richard Project took 10 years. It was a retrieval and reburial project and I'm so pleased and heartened that the return of the king has helped the city of Leicester and its remarkable people.'

2024 is the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Bosworth Visitor Centre and the 10th Anniversary of King Richard III Visitor Centre and next year marks the tenth anniversary of the reinterment in Leicester Cathedral.

ENDS