

## **Medieval Arms and Armour**

On Monday evening, 14th November, Richard Knox gave one of the most remarkable talks and presentations that the Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves Local History Group has ever heard.

As Keeper of the Donington-le-Heath Manor House and the Bosworth Battlefield Centre, Richard is an expert in all matters medieval. As an archaeologist and historical re-enactor he is also eminently qualified to explain just how and why arms and armour was used in Britain from the 1st to 17th centuries, from the Roman invasion to the English Civil War.

By enthusiastically demonstrating how a remarkable assortment of armour was worn, and how a terrifying array of weaponry was used, Richard kept his audience enthralled. The result was a dramatic highlighting of the age-old struggle between offence and defence; a tale as old as human history and one which continues to this day.

Best of all, Richard's talk was illustrated with artefacts of iron, steel, wood and leather rather than by pictures projected on a wall. Most of these objects were of course reproductions - though entirely accurate ones. However, Richard also brought along a splendid 17th century sword from his own collection. This, as they say, will be a hard act to follow.

David Nicolle