

RIVERSIDE DICKENS FESTIVAL

DICKENS DIARY

OCTOBER 2023 VOL: FALL

RDF Inc. Welcomes Roy J Regalado & John C. Kariotis Jr. to the Board



TWO TEAS WITH GERALD DICKENS

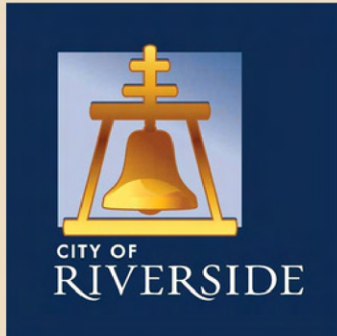
On September 17, 2023 Gerald Dickens came to do 3 of his shows at the Riverside First Congregational Church. The first double bill of 'Mr Dickens is Coming' and 'Dickens & The Queen', was a most enjoyable afternoon: Uriah Heep made people squirm, Bond made people laugh, and Dickens' letter to Queen Victoria telling her that he did not 'perform for individuals' made people gasp. After a brief interval, Gerald performed his relatively new show based around the only meeting between Charles Dickens and his Queen.

The late show was A Christmas Carol. Many in the audience laughed and cried, the audiences were invited to ask questions after each performance. RDF provided an 'English Tea' that was enjoyed by the guests as they watched. Scones, cream and jam – which order should the latter two be smeared on? Gerald said, "that famously depends on whether you are eating your cream tea in Cornwall or Devon. In Cornwall you put jam on first, in Devon it is the cream that takes precedent", and as Nancy provided 'Devonshire Clotted Cream' she advised the audience members appropriately.

Gerald has been away from Riverside for a few years, it is our hope that we can bring Gerald's performances more regularly in the future.



Join our Riverside Dickens Festival Sponsors



DICKENS DIARY



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NEW VENUE!

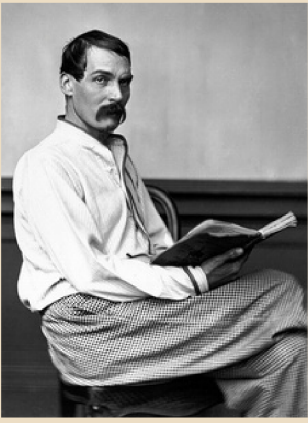
Jensen Alvarado Historic Ranch and Museum

4307 Briggs Street Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

RIVERSIDE DICKENS FESTIVAL February 24-25, 2024

For More information scan the QR code
or check our website





Rich^d. F. Burton

Sir Richard Francis Burton (1821-1890) was a notorious superhero (or antihero) and swordsman of the Victorian era.

While at Trinity, the half-Irish Burton challenged another student to a duel for mocking his moustache. Burton learned 29 languages and became proficient in fencing. During an expedition to Africa, he was impaled with a native spear, the point entering one cheek and exiting the other, and leaving a scar that can be seen in this photo. He was forced to make his escape with the weapon still stuck through his face. Along with participating in clandestine operations, Burton was renowned for his fighting skills and earned the nickname "Ruffian Dick" because he had "fought in single combat more enemies than perhaps any other man of his time."

Burton authored a number of important texts on the sword (including *Sword & Bayonet Exercises*, a classic book on the history of the Sword, and his "Sentiment of the Sword" about fencing) and translated a number of important Eastern cultural and mythological texts.

A scholar, spy, and world explorer, he also had an interest in the occult, native sexual practices, drugs, runes, snake charming, was initiated into an esoteric Sufi brotherhood, as well as into a Hindu sect, all of which made him a subject of controversy and fascination in his time.

A linguist, he reportedly learned to identify up to 60 monkey "words," which he recorded in a "monkey vocabulary." In 1886, Queen Victoria made him Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George.



LITERACY & ART CONTEST

Every journey has a beginning, and for the literary career of Charles Dickens it was *The Pickwick Papers*. *The Pickwick Papers* acts as a creative bridge between the Regency Era and Victorian Times. Using the theme of Journeys and Discoveries, explore how the world changed from these two eras.

Topics may include, but are not limited to: visual arts, performing arts, food and culinary arts, literature of all kinds and genres, customs and cultures, fashion, life, styles or any associated or relevant topics related to the theme of Journeys and Discoveries.

Submissions Due JANUARY 31, 2023 send to

Dickens Festival Educational Environments dickensfesteducation@gmail.com



QUEEN VICTORIA

Melanie Preston has stepped into the role of Queen Victoria for the Riverside Dickens Festival.

She looks forward to meeting you at the 2024 Riverside Dickens Festival February 24-25 that will be held at Jensen Alvarado Historic Ranch and Museum located at 4307 Briggs Street Jurupa Valley, CA 92509





Did you know that in 1884 the first production standard electric car in the world capable of being reproduced and sold to the public was revealed?

Did you know that by early 1900 1/3 of all vehicles on the road were electric?

They started to disappear rapidly around 1920 with the introduction of gasoline by Henry Ford.

Ferdinand Porsche, the founder of the eponymous sports car, produced an electric vehicle named the 'P' in 1898, before creating the world's first hybrid offering, which was powered by both electricity and an internal combustion engine.

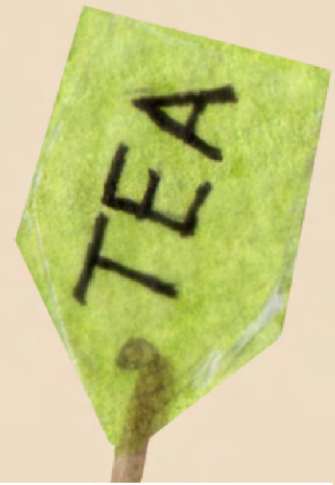
So what's new that all the present generation of EV fanbois are harping about when some companies could make them way back in 1884. However, gasoline fired engines killed EVs from the face of America then!

Mercedes-Benz also offered an electric model called the Mercedes Mixte, in 1906.

This car was adopted as a taxi in the cities and even became a race car in 1907.

Therefore, there's nothing so novel in EV.

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The Victorian era was a time of great social and economic change, and Volunteering played an important role in addressing the challenges of the time. Victorians from all walks of life volunteered their time and skills to help others, and many made significant contributions to their communities and society as a whole.

Here are a few examples of strong Victorian era volunteers:



Florence Nightingale (1820–1910): Nightingale is best known for her work as a nurse during the Crimean War, where she oversaw a team of nurses who cared for wounded soldiers. She is considered to be the founder of modern nursing. but she was also a prolific writer and advocate for healthcare reform. After the war, she founded the Nightingale Training School for Nurses, which also established nursing as a professional discipline and remembered today for her dedication and compassion.



William Booth (1829–1912): Booth was the founder of the Salvation Army, a Christian social service organization that provides food, shelter, and other assistance to the poor and homeless. Booth was a tireless advocate for the poor, and he dedicated his life to helping them. The Salvation Army has helped millions of people around the world, and it is one of the most successful volunteer organizations in history, and its methods are still used by many organizations today.



Octavia Hill (1838–1912): Hill was a social reformer who worked to improve the lives of the poor in London. She founded the Charity Organisation Society, which provided financial assistance to the poor and helped them to find jobs. She founded the Kyrle Society, which provided decent housing to the poor. Hill also worked to improve the lives of the poor in other ways, such as by providing them with educational opportunities and access to fresh air and green spaces. She also pioneered the use of social workers to help the poor and disadvantaged.



Thomas Barnardo (1845–1905): Barnardo was a Christian philanthropist who founded the Dr. Barnardo's Homes for Orphans and Destitute Children. The homes provided a safe and loving environment for children who had been orphaned or abandoned. Barnardo also worked to improve the lives of poor children through education and vocational training.





Mary Seacole (1805-1881): Seacole was a Jamaican-born nurse who volunteered her services during the Crimean War. She set up her own hospital, where she treated both British and Russian soldiers. Seacole was known for her courage, compassion, and skill as a nurse. She is often overlooked in the history of the Crimean War, but she was a true hero.



Charles Dickens (1812-1870): Dickens was one of the most famous writers of the Victorian era. He was also a passionate social reformer, and he volunteered his time and resources to a number of causes, including education for the poor and prison reform. Dickens's writing helped to raise awareness of social problems, and his volunteer work helped to make a real difference in the lives of many people.



In addition to the individuals listed, there were many other strong Victorian era volunteers who worked in a variety of fields, including education, healthcare, social welfare, and the arts. For example, volunteers founded and ran many of the schools and hospitals that served the poor during this time period. They also established libraries, museums, and other cultural institutions that helped to enrich the lives of their communities.

Victorian era volunteers were motivated by a variety of factors. Some were motivated by their religious faith, while others were motivated by a sense of civic duty or a desire to help those in need. Regardless of their motivation, Victorian era volunteers made a significant contribution to society. They often faced challenges and opposition, but they persevered in their work and made a significant impact on the world.

Would you like to Volunteer?

Volunteers
needed

ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES: OPERATIONS, EDUCATION, FASHION SHOWS, BOOK SHOP, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, DICKENS DIARY, PUBLIC RELATIONS, PRINT MEDIA, EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS, FUNDRAISING, PUB NIGHT, TAVERN, FEZZIWIG'S BALL, INFORMATION BOOTH, MARKETING/PUBLICITY, OLIVER'S ALLEY, PERMITS, GRANTS, PARADE, ROYALS COORDINATING, SOCIAL MEDIA, VENDORS, VOLUNTEERS, & WEBSITE

Riverside Dickens Festival has been celebrating the life and works of the Dickensian, & Victorian era since 1993!

Join us each year during our festival of culture, educational entertainment, arts, crafts and fun!

Riverside Dickens Festival's Mission Statement:

To promote literacy, provide educational entertainment and expand awareness of social similarities between Victorian times and the present.

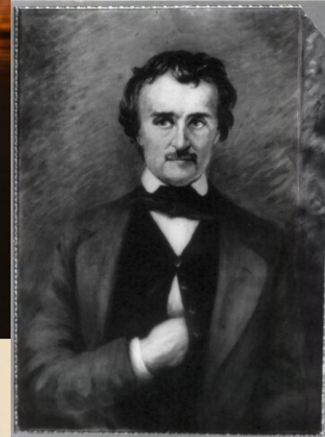


Help promote Literacy!



[HTTPS://DICKENSFEST.COM](https://dickensfest.com)

Were Charles Dickens & Edgar Allan Poe friends?



Were Charles Dickens & Edgar Allan Poe friends?

Charles Dickens and Edgar Allan Poe met twice in 1842, during Dickens's tour of the United States. Poe was a great admirer of Dickens's work, and he had written favorable reviews of Dickens's novels in American magazines. Poe was also eager to meet Dickens in person and to seek his advice on publishing his own work in England.

Their first meeting took place in Philadelphia on March 6, 1842. They met at Dickens's hotel, and they talked for several hours about literature and other topics. Poe was impressed by Dickens's warmth and intelligence, and Dickens was impressed by Poe's knowledge and insights.

They met again a few days later, and this time they talked about Poe's poetry and short stories. Dickens offered to help Poe find a publisher in England, and he also gave Poe some advice on his writing.

However, their relationship was never particularly close. They only met twice, and they didn't correspond regularly. It's likely that their different personalities and backgrounds made it difficult for them to form a deep friendship.

So, were Charles Dickens and Edgar Allan Poe friends? It depends on how you define friendship. They met twice, and they had a mutual respect for each other's work. However, they didn't have a close relationship, and they didn't correspond regularly.



— RIVERSIDE —
DICKENS
— FESTIVAL —

Did Charles Dickens own a raven?



Yes! , Charles Dickens owned a pet raven named Grip. He acquired her in 1841, and she became a beloved member of the Dickens family. Dickens was fascinated by ravens, and he often incorporated them into his writing. Grip is thought to have inspired the raven in Dickens's novel *Barnaby Rudge*, as well as the raven in Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven."

Grip was a female common raven, and she was known for her intelligence and playful personality. She was also known for her mischievous side, and she was known to steal things and tear up furniture. Despite her antics, Dickens loved Grip very much, and he was heartbroken when she died in 1842.

After Grip's death, Dickens had her taxidermied and mounted in a glass case. He kept her in his study, where she could look down on him as he wrote. Grip is now on display at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Dickens's ownership of a raven was unusual for his time, but it is a testament to his love of animals and his fascination with the natural world. Grip was a unique and memorable character, and she continues to inspire people today.

