

Introductory Reading Lists

The lists that follow are primarily the Research Committee's personal favourites and those that we have found most useful in understanding Richard III and his world. They should not be read as definitive Richard III Society recommendations.

1. For casual readers/newcomers to the fifteenth century

Josephine Tey's novel, *The Daughter of Time*, remains a very accessible introduction – it is where many of us started. For non-fiction we would suggest the following.

Biographies of Richard III

David Baldwin, *Richard III* (2015) – an up to date, cradle to grave, balanced and accessible biography
Annette Carson, *Richard III: The Maligned King* (2008) – a very popular modern defence of Richard III (some over-speculation: suggesting that Elizabeth Woodville murdered Edward IV)
John Ashdown-Hill, *The Last Days of Richard III and the fate of his DNA* (2010/2013) – 'The book that inspired the dig', very readable and thorough reconstruction of Richard's last months, burial and after
Paul Murray Kendall, *Richard III* (1955) – a readable biography, classic defence of Richard III, sometimes over imaginative in its descriptions
David Horspool, *Richard III. A Ruler and his Reputation* (2015) – not flattering to Richard or to the Society but a readable work useful for those wanting to know how 'non-Ricardians' see things

The Debate

Jeremy Potter, *Good King Richard: an account of Richard III and his reputation 1483-1485* (1983)
V. B. Lamb, *The Betrayal of Richard III: an introduction to the controversy*, ed. P. W. Hammond (2015)

Richard's Family

Sarah Gristwood, *Blood Sisters. The Women behind the Wars of the Roses* (2013) – a very balanced account which tells the story of the Wars of the Roses from the women's perspective
A. J. Pollard, *Edward IV: the Summer King* (2016) - Edward's life and reign in just 160 pages

Looking for Richard III

Philippa Langley and Mike Jones, *The King's Grave: the Search for Richard III* (2013)
A. J. Carson ed. *Finding Richard III. The Official Account of Research by the Retrieval and Reburial Project* (2014)
Mathew Morris and Richard Buckley, *Richard III: The King Under the Carpark* (2013)

2. For children

Rosalind Adams, *The Children's Book of Richard III* (2014) primary school age
Stuart Hill, *I was there ... Richard III* (2014) key stage 2 – fiction but an interesting introduction
Morris and Buckley, *Richard III: The King Under the Carpark*, and Josephine Tey, *The Daughter of Time* (as above) are both accessible for lower secondary school age children.

3. For students or those who want further reading

Biographies

Charles Ross, *Richard III* (1981) the biography still found on all university reading lists, not particularly pro-Richard

Rosemary Horrox, *Richard III: A Study in Service* (1991) in depth study of his affinity/administration etc
Peter Hammond, *Richard III and the Bosworth Campaign* (2010) an up to date assessment of one of the most debated aspects of Richard's life

Classic Early Defences of Richard III

Horace Walpole, *Historic Doubts on the Life and Reign of King Richard III* (originally 1768), published with a new introduction by Peter Hammond, 1987.

Caroline Halsted, *Richard III as duke of Gloucester and king of England* (1844)

Clements Markham, *Richard III, his life and character* (1906)

Richard's Family

Anne Crawford, *The Yorkists. The History of a Dynasty* (2007)

Cora Scofield, *The Life and Reign of Edward the Fourth* 2 vols. (1923) - the most deeply researched biography of Edward IV, still the starting point for all other biographers

Charles Ross, *Edward IV* (1974) – more accessible than Scofield, classic student text

Hannes Kleineke, *Edward IV* (2009) – combines academic rigour with very readable style

Michael Hicks, *False, Fleeting, Perjur'd Clarence* (1980)

Harry Schnitker, *Margaret of York* (2016)

The Wars of the Roses

D. Grummitt, *A Short History of the Wars of the Roses* (2013)

A. J. Pollard, *The Wars of the Roses* (2013)

Getting Closer to the Sources

Sean Cunningham, *Richard III. A Royal Enigma* (2003)

Anne F. Sutton and Livia Visser-Fuchs, *The Hours of Richard III* (1996)

Anne F. Sutton and Livia Visser-Fuchs, *Richard III's Books* (1997)

Anne F. Sutton and Peter Hammond, *The Coronation of Richard III: the extant documents* (1983)

Keith Dockray and Peter Hammond, *Richard III: From Contemporary Chronicles, Letters and Records* (new edition, 2015)

Keith Dockray, *Edward IV: a Source Book* (1999)

For further suggestions and access to out of print books, see the Barton Library catalogues.