



History Shorts: Edward IV

Cathy Burke

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From the History Shorts series comes a new ebook on King Edward IV.

Edward IV is not the most famous of English kings, but he sits on the periphery of some of the most famous events in English history. He ruled over England during part of the Wars of the Roses, his brother was the infamous King Richard III, who was rumoured to have murdered his nephews, and it was Edward IV's sons who were the reportedly murdered nephews! More recently you may have come across his name through the TV adaptation of Philippa Gregory's Wars of the Roses novelizations, including one entitled "The White Queen" about Edward IV's wife and queen, Elizabeth Woodville.

While Edward IV was married to his wife, Elizabeth, until his death, it didn't stop him from having a string of mistresses, and it is this that Edward IV is probably most famous for. His reputation as a womaniser was reknowned even in his day, and Edward fathered more than his fair share of illegitimate children, along with fathering 10 children by his wife, Queen Elizabeth.

Edward IV belonged to the House of York, and was descended from King Edward III, being the great-grandson of Edward III's 3rd son, Lionel Duke of Clarence. It was this faction of Edward III's family, the House of York, which fought so vigorously with the House of Lancaster, who were also descended from Edward III, through his 4th son, John of Gaunt. The on-going battles between these 2 factions are now known as The Wars of the Roses.

However you came across his name, I hope this book piques your interest to discover even more about this man, and this era of history, which has so many fascinating stories to share.

Whilst telling the story, you will also come across some extra titbits of information, in the Did You Know? sections. An example of this is: did you know Edward IV was the first Yorkist King?



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