

[Claire Ridgway](#)23:57

I make it time to begin. Welcome everyone to tonight's expert live chat with Nathen Amin, who has done two wonderful talks for us now on Henry VII. Thank you, Nathen, you're a joy to listen to! So, tonight, Nathen is here to answer your questions on Henry VII and also his research and books. One lucky chat participant will be picked at random to receive a copy of Nathen's latest book "The House of Beaufort".

[Claire Ridgway](#)23:57

Hi Bill!

[Lorna Wanstall](#)23:58

Hi Bill

[Nathen Amin](#)23:58

Hello all.

[Bill Wolff](#)23:58

Hi

[Claire Ridgway](#)23:58

I'll start things off by asking about the Stanleys. Nathen, do you think they were waiting to see what would happen or do you think they were always planning on supporting Henry?

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:00

Hi Roland!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:00

I think Thomas Stanley was happy to wait at the sidelines and just present himself to the victor. Many English nobles sat out the battle as neither leader was able to garner much support. Stanley turned up, but like Northumberland, just didn't engage. His brother, however, William, basically had nothing to lose and everything to gain. I think he was always planning to intervene. I guess the age-old question will be whether William acted independently or whether Thomas was in on it. It's difficult to know

[Nathen Amin](#)0:01

I will say I did once hear an interesting theory that the many Welshmen in William's retinue intercepted on their own initiative but this may be wishful thinking from Welsh historians

[Roland Hui](#)0:01

What happened to George Stanley whom R III took as a hostage?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:01

Do you think that MB had some influence in making Stanley come down on H7 side

[Roland Hui](#)0:01

Hello Claire 😊

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:01

That is an interesting theory!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:02

Nothing happened to George, really. It seems the order was given to have him executed by Richard but it was never carried out. He went on to do ok under Henry VII but predeceased his father so never became earl in his own right

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:02

Hi Laurie!

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:03

Hi Claire!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:03

Lorna - difficult to say. I think she tried her best, naturally, but Stanley wasn't in thrall to Margaret, and had his own position to consider. He was his own man, to my mind, and may have considered her pleas, but ultimately acted in the manner he saw was best for him and his line. Remember, his loyalty was to his own children, which weren't Margaret's children. So she had SOME influence, but not ALL of it

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:04

Poor George. Went through all the hassle of being R3 prisoner nearly lost his head as a result and never got to be Earl

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:04

Although I'd read about the places Henry had marched through, it never hit me that Henry was avoiding South Wales and going quite far north. Very interesting to hear that.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:04

So was the marriage of MB and Stanley on a purely business footing

[Nathen Amin](#)0:05

Lorna - his son did eventually become Earl, and Claire might know better but I think a Stanley was quite high in the line of succession during the reign of Elizabeth at one point (Fernandino??) so dynastically it all worked out quite well

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:05

But do you feel that H7 would have come out victorious anyways, even without Stanley? since R3 made some unwise moves at the end?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:06

Claire - yeah, Henry stuck to West Wales and went north. South East Wales was very Yorkist (well, the area we would recognise today as South East Wales, i.e. Brecon, Raglan, Hereford, Ludlow etc)

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:06

Yes, that's right re the Stanleys.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:07

Lorna - It does seem a business marriage. Stanley had his heirs and his power, so Margaret was hardly his route to power (until Henry came along anyway). Margaret's earlier marriage to Henry Stafford does seem far warmer, despite how portrayed in the White Queen

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:07

Conor Byrne recently wrote an article on Anne Stanley's claim to the throne here on the site. Here's a link for reading later - <https://www.tudorsociety.com/anne-stanley-englands-rightful-queen-by-conor-byrne/>

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:07

The White Queen - grrrr!

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:08

Thanks Claire!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:08

Laurie - interesting point but I'm unsure. Richard had attacked Henry and his initial attack failed. He may have been isolated and killed no matter what, as he had left his main army. Stanley intervention obviously guaranteed he was finished, but he may have been overcome anyway. It was a risky manoeuvre.

[Roland Hui](#)0:08

The White Queen - 'rolling my eyes'

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:08

This is something I really can't understand with R3 an experienced soldier making the mistake on riding into a bog, why? what was he thinking

[Nathen Amin](#)0:09

Lorna - impatience. anger. frustration? I have a short temper and I guess we act without thinking. Two years of struggling on the throne, his wife and son dead, his nobility not supporting him, this bloody Welshman acting up, maybe he just temporarily lost it.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:10

The White Princess makes steam come out of my ears.

[Bill Wolff](#)0:10

Ha, Very good, Nathen.

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:11

Interesting Nathen.. but as an anointed king, there is a case that he shouldn't have led a battle anyways!

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:11

I loved the story of that Burgess in Shrewsbury with Henry climbing over his belly/body to enter the town. Brilliant! Where does that story come from?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:11

RE White Queen and White Princess, I just don't understand the need to make it so stupid, both the sets and the script. Look how well done the Shakespeare Hollow Crown or the Ken Follett Series was, Pillars of the Earth.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:11

Nathen, hadn't thought of that, I guess he was so desperate to get rid of the Welsh Milk sop once and for all and get back to building a better England, with a good wife and children by his side

[Roland Hui](#)0:11

The 'white

[Roland Hui](#)0:12

The 'white ' books were plain silly with Elizabeth Woodville practicing witchcraft, etc.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:12

Hi RealTudorLady!

[RealTudorLady](#)0:12

Evening all. I want to ask Nathan why was Henry VII so afraid of eight years old Edward, Earl of Warwick as he couldn't succeed anyway due to his father's treason?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:13

Hello real Tudor Lady, how are you?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:13

Claire - it came from the Town Chronicler and may have happened, but I reckon was probably just a nice way of saying that he had come to an agreement to let him through. A bit of storytelling. Incidentally the exact same story is told with Rhys ap Thomas doing the same in West Wales.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:13

Not too bad, thanks Lorna.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:13

Thank you!

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:13

I love stories like that.

[Roland Hui](#)0:15

Nathen - what's your opinion of the alleged letter written by E. of York saying she wanted to wed R III?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:15

RealTudorLady - consider that Henry IV (1399), Edward IV (1461) Henry VI (1471) and Henry VII (1485) became kings of England whilst subject to acts of attainder. The fact that Warwick was under attainder because of his father was irrelevant, really. If Henry Tudor could become king, then anyone could. And he knew that better than anyone

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:16

Did H7 try to find out what happened to the princes

[Nathen Amin](#)0:16

Roland - convenient that George Buck, the first 'Ricardian', came across it but no copy exists. Convenient, is all, in making Richard seem like a nice cute guy. I don't believe it existed.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:17

Thanks, yes, of course if he gained his freedom and support then of course he could. The Battle of East Stoke showed Henry still had enemies among the support for York.

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:17

No it makes R3 seem like a dirty uncle!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:18

Lorna - no real evidence to suggest so. It seems to have been ignored, and with good reason. Would you, as the new king, want to make a cult of two young boys from a previous reign? Dig too deep and find out they were weren't dead, making your own position fraudulent? Seems Henry just tried to move on. A New Day.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:18

I don't believe R3 or H7 had anything to do with the Princes disappearance/death

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:19

How did EoY feel about her brothers disappearance

[Nathen Amin](#)0:19

Laurie - I think Buck was hoping it would more be 'See, Richard couldn't have been horrible if his niece fancied him, not that he encouraged this. It was all her, the bad female unable to control her

carnal desires. But of course, who couldn't around wonderful Richard"

[Nathen Amin](#)0:20

Lorna - no evidence whatsoever to speculate, unfortunately. At least nothing I'm currently aware of. Maybe I'll come across something as my research for my current book continues but I'm not aware of anything at moment

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:20

I liked your point about Henry organising his coronation for before Parliament met to emphasise that he only owed his title to himself and not to Parliament or anyone else. He was making a real point of that, asserting his authority. Interesting.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:20

I don't believe the letter refers to her marriage to Richard but his promise to find E of York and her sisters husbands. I don't believe Elizabeth was in love with R3 and even if she was he wasn't interested. In fact he was negotiating to marry Joanna of Portugal and to wed E of York off to Manuel.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:20

Do you think R3 was intending to marry EoY.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:21

Claire - a man who knew what he wanted and had recognised the way to go about it. He was not going to be anyone's puppet, and he wasn't.

[Roland Hui](#)0:21

Philippa Gregory obviously made good use of the Buck letter to write her books. she had RIII and E of York as lovers.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:21

Yes, very true.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:22

Lorna - no chance. It would have been a silly move that would have divided England further, more along morality grounds. Richard wasn't stupid.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:23

In anycase he couldn't have married EoY even if he had wanted to, and not just for the obvious reason of consanguinity.. If he had wanted to amarry her and had obtain papl permission, the whole Titus regus bit would have been invalid

[Nathen Amin](#)0:23

I think a lot of modern historians, particularly Ricardians, seem to lack logic in their arguments. These guys may have been 500 years ago, but human nature is human nature. It never changes. I look to the most logical thing to do when I study history, and to me, it often makes the most sense.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:24

I am still in recovery after the White Princess. It was the worst thing I have ever watched and the portrayal of the women as witches, Henry as a rapist and even E W as a right schemer. It was a most false view of history.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:24

Lorna - I agree. A king with a lot of power, influence, wealth and continentla pull MAY just have secured papal support, but that wasn't Richard at that point in history.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:24

RE White Queen - Battle of Barnet featuring about 6 people in a forest, Bosworth in the snow

[Nathen Amin](#)0:24

WHAT??

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:25

RTL LOL I know what you mean, it was H7 leather bondage outfit that got me

[Roland Hui](#)0:25

Nathen - what began your interest in Henry VII?

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:26

Bosworth in the snow? Seriously??

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:26

No to mention MB impression of an ostrich

[Nathen Amin](#)0:26

I have all the time in the world for Pillars of the Earth and World Without End TV Series'. Absolutely wonderful to watch. And believable.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:26

I've read Follet's books but not seen the series yet. Love the books though.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:26

Yeah Claire the first thing I thought when I saw it was "Snow in August!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Duh

[RealTudorLady](#)0:27

Same group of trees for every battle.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:27

Oh dear!

[Roland Hui](#)0:28

Talk about low budget - LOL!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:28

Roland - I got into Henry VIII as most people probably tend to do. Big King. Wife Killer. Glamorous. He's the showbiz king that pulls you in. But I'm Welsh and I kept getting these tantalising glimpses in introductions to Henry VIII about his Welsh ancestry without much more said. Add to the fact that I'm a big rugby playing, boxing-loving, kind of guy - there's only so much romantic 1530s faction feuding over wives I can handle. It didn't take too long to discover this Welsh Tudor king who effectively won a 30 year conflict full of wars and murders.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:28

It seems strange that we know so much more about H8 than we do H7. H7 overcame tremendous odds to become King.

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:29

Do you think that he really was in love with E of Y?

[Roland Hui](#)0:29

Have other people here seen the tv series 'The Shadow of the Tower'? The actor who played H7 was excellent.

[Bill Wolff](#)0:30

Nathen, I just finished Thomas Penn's White King. Enjoyed it, and H7's micro managing the income

streams

[Nathen Amin](#)0:30

Tell you what - the story of Henry VII with the budget of a Braveheart or Kingdom of Heaven would be absolutely wonderful. It's a perfect Hollywood script. Doesn't need embellishment. The boy born fatherless in middle of rural Wales, handed over to his father's enemies to be raised, escapes certain death by fleeing abroad, lives penniless a captive, comes home to kill the king, marry the queen and raise a race of kings. What more do you want?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:30

Roland Excellant series, and the actor play H7 is brilliant

[Elizabeth Goodman](#)0:31

I rediscovered some episodes on YouTube, as good as i remembered it Roland!

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:31

That would be such a good series or film Nathen. It's weird how he's been ignored really.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:31

Laurie - as much as love existed in that time, yes. We know this from the way they comforted each other after Arthur's death. No record of affairs, mistresses, bastards and he never married again (though he considered it for a brief period but never pulled the trigger unlike his son)

[Nathen Amin](#)0:32

Roland - Shadow of the Tower is absolutely unbelievable. James Maxwell IS Henry VII.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:32

How did H7 view his son Hery? Arthur we know was the chosen one so to speak

[Laurie Duerr](#)0:32

Thanks, yes good point; it is good to know that they were likely happy together..

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:32

I've seen clips on YouTube but must sit down and watch the whole thing.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:33

Nathen I beleve he did contemplate marrying KOA, but I think it was purely because he wanted Ferdinand's money.

[Roland Hui](#)0:33

H7's treatment of the young widowed Katherine of Aragon comes off as rather callous. Is that fair to say?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:34

Lorna - no real evidence until he became heir, then he was protected so much that young Henry clearly began to chafe towards the end of the reign. There is a great quote somewhee by a foreign ambassador about how great a master Henry VII was to the boy, who could hope for no greater teacher. Seems to be more teacher-pupil than modern understanding of father-son. Adnd with good reason - Prince Henry had the entire hopes of the Tudor dynasty on his shoulder. His father had not won the crown in battle and kept it just to lose it. No wonder young Henry grew up obsessed with raising his own heir.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:34

Do you think that when H7 was o his death bed, he told young Henry to marry KOA or do you think that was all down to H*

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:36

Yes I have to agree there Roland . H7 treatment of KOA is shocking

[Nathen Amin](#)0:36

Roland - yes, i;ve been meaning to blog about it. He treated Katherine fairly initially, and they seemed to get on. But once Arthur died, personal niceities went out of the window in favour of political neccessity. You essentially had Henry and Katherine's father Ferdinand feuding over her dowry. Who had right to it? I wouldn't say it was just Henry's flaw in this matter (as Ferdinand was her father, after all, and she his favourite daughter apparently) but more how women were viewed at the time. She simply was a valuable asset.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:36

I am a Ricardian and proud but even I think Henry Vii has been underrated as a King. He was smart and careful and he was reasonable considering his childhood. He had to contend with one Prince from the Tower or another for more than ten years which must have been very stressful. Yet he didn't overreact and when in the end he did execute Warbeck (Richard of England) and Warwick he really had little choice. It was a cruel but real necessity otherwise he wouldn't be safe. His fiscal policy was sound although it is criticised as he used Dudley and Epsom to enforce it but it kept the noble families in check. It was better to have them all owe money than execute them anyway. It must have been a shock when William Stanley was implicated in the Warbeck affair. After all of that he finally was able to hand the throne over in peace and I also believe E of York had a sound influence on him. He was not the same after her death.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:37

Lorna - impossible to say about KOA on deathbed. I don't know.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:37

To me that is the only black spot in H7 reign. Do you think it might be partly down to blme? H7 blamed KOA for arthur's loss

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:40

I completely agree, RTL. He's the founder of the dynasty but gets overlooked in favour of HVIII and Elizabeth. It's sad and frustrating.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:40

Lorna - I don't think it was blame. I think it was simply, in the context of the decade, an important issue not to be seen weak againsr continental rulers. At this time, you had the king of Spain, England, France and Maximilian, King of the Romans, all constantly competing for supremacy in Europe. Sometimes friends, sometimes rivals, always scheming. Katherine was just collateral in the tussle between Henry and Ferdinand. Neither could be seen to back down, and both needed the funds. Personal feelings didn't really come into it. Remmeber, Katherine was no longer the hope of the Tudor dynasty. She was just a financial asset. And you could argue that she had done her job and Henry did have a just claim to the dowry. Kings weren't nice, they were doing their job

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:41

If I have remembered it rightly H7 money grabbers had a way of making sure the nobels coughed up. They were fined X amount if hey coughed the money up very quickly then it was clear that they could afford more and again asked for more. If they were slow in coughing up, then they were hiding something so they were told to pay more money

[RealTudorLady](#)0:42

Yes indeed Lorna and there was a lot of scandals as well, but that's the way with enforcers.

[Roland Hui](#)0:43

Has anyone visited H7 and E of York's funerary monument? It's magnificent!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:43

This is known today as 'Mortons Fork' and Ricardians love to use it to beat Henry with. In fact, it was a Yorkist invention! Edward IV came up with it. Much of what Henry VII did as king was simply copying Edward. Henry wasn't this 'new king' as once believed. Many academics now see him as Edward's 'real heir'. Remember, most of Henry's support in becoming king wasn't Lancastrian, but dissident Yorkists from Edward IV's household who hated Richard

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:43

Makes sense, so really poor KOA was the meat in a very stale sandwich

[Bill Wolff](#)0:43

Yes Roland, it is.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:43

Roland - wonderful but hard to get a quiet moment at. And pictures absolutely banned which is a shame

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:45

Nathen, what are you working on at the moment with regards to research and writing?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:46

Pretenders to the Tudor Crown. The story of the three serious pretenders who tried to topple Henry VII from his throne - Warbeck; Simnel and De la Pole.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:47

Great! Sounds like it will be a wonderful read.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:47

Did H7 take the pretenders seriously

[Nathen Amin](#)0:48

Hopefully. The topic only ever gets tackled from the view of them being princes in the tower. I rather look at Henry's reign, his life, his decisions, and how he handled the battles and invasions and plots that followed.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:48

Lorna - yes, very. Remember, he was a nobody who became king. If he could, anybody could.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:48

That Henry had Katherine of Aragon for a bride for his son shows his confidence and astuteness as a ruler because he saw Spain, the new growing super power as the ally to see off France and he saw an alliance with Scotland as the way to secure his borders and end their support for Yorkist pretenders. He was the founder of a new important dynasty and Spain was just growing as well and he was able to court both just as he was sought by the Netherlands and Spain to join the Holy League. It shows he was regarded as a genuine player in international affairs.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:49

Simnel I know was given a job in the kitchens and rose to become a falconer, died some time in H8 reign I believe

[Nathen Amin](#)0:50

Yes Lorna. He worked in the household of a guy called Thomas Lovell, one of the great workers of

Henry VII's reign. A position of privilege to be his falconer. He did well, did Simnel. Henry VII was hardly a bloodthirsty monster as sometimes said. In fact, he was fairly magnanimous in victory.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:51

I think H7 wanted peace within England after the blood shed and death of the wars of the roses

[Nathen Amin](#)0:52

He really did. He started with the best intentions. Life wore him down by the end

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:52

I would say he succeeded well n that, England was at peace in his reign only H8 threw the spanner in the works and messed it all up

[Nathen Amin](#)0:52

Kings very rarely reigned for decades without descending into mean and bitter mindstates. As they say in politics, all political life ends in failure.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:53

Even great kings like Henry V and Edward III were losing it by the end. Look at Henry VIII. He had a good decade long run before losing it

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:53

Yes I would say H7 looked very haggard and much older than his years when he died

[Nathen Amin](#)0:53

Sean Cunningham in his new book out later this year says this energetic 28 year became so beaten down by 52 when he died, his effigy looked almost 30 years older

[Nathen Amin](#)0:54

Same as Elizabeth I, really. All those plots and not knowing who to trust soon took their toll

[Roland Hui](#)0:54

H7 was said to be rather good looking when he was 28.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:54

that's true, I guess H7 lived on his wits more or less from day 1

[Nathen Amin](#)0:55

The man was a survivor in all manner of the word.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:55

Far more impressive man and area of study than his son, who my wife considers nothing more than a 'spoilt rich brat'. She's right

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:55

We're just coming up to the hour. Thank you so much, Nathen, for joining us. It's always an honour and a pleasure to have you here. Thank you to you all for joining in and asking such wonderful questions. It's been a fun hour.

[ADMIN Tim](#)0:55

Thank you all for coming this evening. Congratulations to Laurie Duerr who is tonight's winner of a copy of "The House of Beaufort" by Nathen. Thanks so much for your time Nathen!

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:56

yes very true, life was not easy for him, even when he became king. In fact it probably grew a lot worse for him when he became King

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:56

Congratulations to Laurie!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:56

Henry VII is the father who built himself up from nothing and Henry VIII is the son who splurged the wealth.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:56

Well done Laurie!

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:56

So true!

[RealTudorLady](#)0:56

I believe he took Warbeck seriously at first because he was a true threat and he really couldn't pinpoint who he was. The lad was hailed in France and the Netherlands and Scotland and Ireland. It took some digging around and some time before he came up with the story of him being Perkin Warbeck after he had questioned several people and then he had to make his nobles and people accept it. I believe he feared his wife might think Warbeck was the true Prince Richard if she saw him so Elizabeth was kept away from him. In the end Henry said he didn't believe it but it was difficult at first.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:56

Happy reading Laurie

[RealTudorLady](#)0:56

Congratulations Laurie. I recommend it.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:57

H7 wealth was all gone in little over 5 years

[Roland Hui](#)0:58

Considering that few people spoke English back then, unless you're actually English,, I'm surprised Warbeck who almost certainly spoke English with a Flemish accent, was taken seriously as one of the Princes in the Tower.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:58

Well, time for bed, I think. Thank you everyone. If you haven't managed to catch Nathen's talk then please do, it's excellent - <https://www.tudorsociety.com/expert-talk-henry-vii-bosworth-to-coronation-by-nathen-amin/>

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:59

Great to see you again Nathen, and good luck with your new book, sounds like facinating read.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:59

Yeap the kids always spend mum and dad's money.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:59

Roland. The Irish earl of Kildare notably called him 'the French lad' in 1492. Suggests he was either known to be of French background (Tournai) or still sounded French

[Nathen Amin](#)1:00

Cheers Claire and Lorna

[Lorna Wanstall](#)1:00

Time to climb the old wooden hill to nobby land.. Take care and keep safe everyone Xx

[Claire Ridgway](#)1:00

Thank you so much, Nathen! Good night!

[Roland Hui](#)1:00

bye all 🍌

[Elizabeth Goodman](#)1:00

Good night everyone and thank you x