

It's nearly the hour. Thank you so much for coming to the live chat today, and a big thank you to Nathen for the wonderful talk and for being here to answer our questions. His talk on Joan Beaufort and her links with Richard III and the other players in the Wars of the Roses was fascinating. Even though I'm forever reading about that period, I never realised Joan's familial links to everyone. Very interesting.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:00

Chats are better than Zooms at this time. Can be done from bed!

[RealTudorLady](#)0:00

Good evening everyone. Good evening and thanks for being here again, Nathan. Hi Claire and all. Yes, not bad, Lorna.

[Bill Wolff](#)0:00

I'm laughing, Clare!!!!

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:00

I'm sort of in bed, still on holiday at the moment

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:00

Nathen, and in pjs!

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:00

Yes, it's really fine music, Claire.

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:00

Just dinner time here in Ontario Canada



[Claire Ridgway](#)0:00

Hi Barbora!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:00

Yep! Far more relaxed all around

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:01

Nathen, what made you research Joan Beaufort in the first place?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:01

Would love to visit Ontario

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:01

I love Lorna's expression, "our Tudor home".

[RealTudorLady](#)0:02

It's something people forget, that the Sons of York had a Beaufort granny who was a remarkable lady.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:02

Clare, Lorna's expression is spot on.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:02

Hi Laurie!

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:03

Well the Beauforts sure left their mark on England and the Monarchy

[Nathen Amin](#)0:03

Honestly, she just happened to be there - I couldn't research the Beaufort family and ignore her story - I don't believe this is the age any more to obscure or omit female stories. Particularly in the Beaufort family when there are incredible women - Katherine Swynford, two Joan Beauforts and of course Margaret Beaufort. The Beaufort women deserve a book of their own

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:03

I do feel that Joan B was a formidable person, perhaps as formidable as Margaret B

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:03

The portcullis is everywhere I go in the UK

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:03

Nathen, well, you need to write that book!

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:03

Michelle andon coins as well

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:04

So true Nathan

[Nathen Amin](#)0:04

The Portcullis is today the badge of parliament. A Beaufort legacy to the nation.

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:04

Yes I have many from my trips to the UK

[RealTudorLady](#)0:04

That they married into and were connected to the Neville Percy and every other in family at the time shows their influence and importance.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:05

I pushed my word limit in the Beaufort book to the very extreme and needed several extensions before I was denied any more. I would have liked to have delved deeper.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:05

Yes it is. I was wondering how Nathen got into the Beauforts, that's interesting. Your book to be published next year is about the Beauforts, isn't ugly?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:05

No reason why you can't do a part 2 book Nathen

[Nathen Amin](#)0:05

It was nice to examine her more for the Tudor Society. She is definely an attraction at all of my talks I give

[Nathen Amin](#)0:06

The Beaufort book was published in 2017

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:06

I will have to get the book now, Thank you Nathen

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:06

I'd love to read a book on the Beaufort women.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:06

I thought it was on preorder on Amazon??? I must check again.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:07

For overseas people (as in outside UK) I always reccomend using Book Depository to buy your books. They ship worldwide for free from the UK and often are cheaper. Also no need to wait for overseas release dates.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:07

That's much better, I'm reading even more this year than ever.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:07

Joan's husband, Ralph Neville was a canny one having his castles and lands moved to his second

family like that and its almost as if he saw two Kings in their future. 😂

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:07

Nice, thank you

[Nathen Amin](#)0:08

My next book, Henry VII an the Tudor Pretenders is the one currently on preorder

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:08

Book depository are better than Amazon, for readers and authors.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:08

Ralph and Joan Neville gambled on that royal bloodline being more important in the future and by god they were correct

[Nathen Amin](#)0:09

Book Depository are actually owned by Amazon, but seem to offer a better service. Same as Goodreads is owned by Amazon actually

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:09

Nathen yet another book to order, I'm playing with an idea about Lambert simnel so it will be good to view him from another perspective

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:09

Ah, I was looking it up this morning, in a rush to go out. So will look for the 2017 book.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:10

Lambert Simnel is a great figure and definitely a fine fiction character in waiting - even from the perspective of him NOT being a prince. An interesting life he lived nonetheless

[RealTudorLady](#)0:10

My favourite child of Joan and Ralph is our Proud Cis, Cecily Neville, another remarkable and fascinating woman.

[Barbora Bell](#)0:10

Hi everyone, I am driving and while at a red light, I am trying to type a quick question. Nathen, can you please remind us how Ralph Neville gained the guardianship of Richard of York?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:10

Yes Cecily Neville was certainly a very tough woman

[ADMIN Tim](#)0:11

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY AND RESPONSABLY BARBORA

[Nathen Amin](#)0:11

Wardships were basically just bought from the crown. So Ralph Neville stumped up the cash for Richard of York, and was obviously considered not a threat by the crown who were happy for him to do so. Ralph's wife being a sister to the king of course never hurt.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:12

I actually wonder what proud cis felt about the pretenders.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:12

Yes I knew about Goodreads, but not Book Depository. A local author said he gets a better deal from BD

[Nathen Amin](#)0:12

Actually I think at this time if was the reign of Henry VI so Joan would have been great-aunt to the child king, but principle still remains

[RealTudorLady](#)0:12

Was Richard of York just a child?

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:13

Clare, personally I do better with Amazon as an author. If it wasn't for Amazon I'd never have started publishing. But BD are very good for worldwide shipping.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:13

We have no record of what Cecily Neville or Elizabeth Woodville thought about pretenders - I think tellingly in her final will and testament the only child Elizabeth mentioned was her living son

Thomas Grey. No mention of '🤪 rince Richard' (aka Warbeck). Incidentally Warbeck also made absolutely no mention of the passing of his "mother" which you would have expected

[RealTudorLady](#)0:13

Amazon and the Beaufort Neville affinity have a lot in common, they own and influence everything.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:14

Wasn't it tradition that young aristocrats etc went to live with Luther courtly families to be trained?

[Barbora Bell](#)0:14

Thank you Nathen. Was Richard of York 12 at the time when he became his ward? We're his parents dead?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:14

Yes Richard of York was orphaned as a child

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:14

Very interesting Nathen

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:14

@Clare Shepherd:

[Nathen Amin](#)0:15

Yes both his parents, Anne Mortimer and Richard Earl of Cambridge were dead. Cambridge in fact was executed for treason

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:16

were there many people wanting to buy the wardship of Richard of York. Was it only how much money a person could come up with that would succeed or were there other factors to come into play there

[Nathen Amin](#)0:16

So as a noble orphan he became property of the crown. And sold to Ralph Neville. It would have been known that Ralph planned to marry the ward into his family, as often happened. The son of a traitor being passed to a very very loyal crown subject and, through his wife, even Lancastrian family, was a wise move.

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:16

Do we know anything about Joan and Ralph's marriage. Did they work as a team, or were they very separate getting on with things?

[RealTudorLady](#)0:17

The recent DNA analysis of Richard III from his male Beaufort ancestors showed two parental breaks or at least that was the reason given. Do you think someone was very naughty along that line or that there is another explanation?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:18

Proud Cis and the Beaufort line were Lancastrian, how did Proud Cis feel about marrying Richard of York and thus becoming a Yorkist

[Nathen Amin](#)0:20

I mean, we don't know anything about the personal relationship between Joan and Ralph. As you know, most of what we know about these historical figures tends to be conjecture at best, with fiction tropes becoming accepted as 'fact'. All we can deduce is they had many, many children (14 together at least) so it was very physical at the least. Though that doesn't necessarily suggest modern concepts like 'love'. Dynastically, it was a success. That's about what we can say. Notably Joan was NOT buried with him in the tomb he prepared, but rather with her mother Katherine Swynford.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:20

The Duke of York was killed at Agincourt and the Earl of Cambridge executed the same year and I think Richard his son was about six so he became a state ward. Then he was purchased by Ralph. The York line went back via the female Mortimer line.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:20

RTL there was the slur against Proud Cis that Edward was not the son of Richard of York, but his father was an archer

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:21

Thank you! They must have been such a formidable couple.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:21

I'm not an expert on the DNA but I do know that everyone has become obsessed with this Beaufort line break and are using it to further their Ricardian arguments, when in truth the line break could

have even occurred in the 1600 or 1700s. From what I understand there is nothing to suggest when it took place.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:22

Cicely Neville wouldn't have had an issue become a "Yorkist". Becoming a Yorkist at the time of their marriage didn't mean anything in reference to the Lancaster-York feud which came much later

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:23

Thank you Nathen

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:23

Was a very silly feud anyway.

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:24

Yes it was, very silly but changed so many things.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:24

That led to much bloodshed, though

[RealTudorLady](#)0:24

Thanks Nathan, no it's not known but the theories abound. I doubt Cis slept with an archer, Lorna, despite the slur over the birth of Edward IV and other explanations have been shown for his legitimacy, although Clarence was obsessed with it.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:25

Yes the war of the roses was a bloodfilled nightmare for England

[Nathen Amin](#)0:25

All discussions about parentage are ultimately pointless in my opinion - whether we're talking Henry VIII, Edward IV, whoever. The only thing that mattered in a time before DNA tests was whether the father recognised the son. I don't personally get involved in wondering who was the real father of who. It's an unanswerable topic really

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:25

Yes it did @Clare

[Nathen Amin](#)0:26

Take Henry VIII - we know he recognised bastard children - he did for FitzRoy. So discussing whether the Carey kids or the Perotts etc were his children is likely to drive one insane as there's no answer.

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:26

How true Nathen

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:26

RTL I agree, but the rumour was whispered and obviously some people will have believed it.. Proud Cis was a no whore

[Bill Wolff](#)0:26

And HII and Wm Longspee!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:27

Yes but the rumour was spread by anti-Edwardians to ruin his credibility and fuelled by his own brother.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:27

It's just propaganda and despite what many will have you believe, nobody weaponised propaganda as well as the York boys

[RealTudorLady](#)0:27

That's true, Nathan and the perspective husband and fathers didn't have a problem. I think the wars of the roses is still going on between Tudorites and Ricardians. Oh well life is made less boring I guess.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:27

That is entirely true. DNA has caused many upsets when a father discovers he's child/children aren't his. Prior to the 20th century descent couldn't be proved. Probably just as well.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:28

Seems strange to me that George, who I believe was proud of his favourite should voice such a slur on his own mother

[Nathen Amin](#)0:28

Richard of York accepted and recognised Edward IV as his son. All other conversation is basically void in my opinion. EVEN if we use modern DNA to prove such and such wasn't the son of so and so

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:29

That was all it took a father to say he is mine and that's the end of the argument

[Nathen Amin](#)0:30

Even today - many non biological fathers are absolutely the father if they raised and cared for that child where the biological father was absent.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:30

How old was Joan B when she died? After 16 children the poor woman must have been exhausted. Cecily also had about 14 although about 6 died in infancy or childhood.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:31

The saying goes any man can be a dad, but it takes a real man to be a father

[Nathen Amin](#)0:31

Joan died in November 1440 so would have been around 61

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:31

If Henry's illegitimate son had survived, Henry may not have become such a monster.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:31

She died at Howden in Yorkshire at a building owned by her son Robert who was Bishop of Durham

[Nathen Amin](#)0:32

The building is actually still there, just opposite the remains of Howden Minster

[RealTudorLady](#)0:32

Thank you, Nathan. That's a good age. Is Raby open to the public?

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:32

Funny how Edward IV was accepted by his family but his own brother, Richard III, had him deemed illegitimate

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:32

Clare I think Henry was destined to be a monster..

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:33

Well he had other physical problems that must have maddened him with pain as he aged.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:33

Michelle I think it was George who tried to say E4 was illegitimate

[Nathen Amin](#)0:33

Raby is open but it's a private estate so you must pay. It's one of the finest homes in the UK

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:34

In addition to a problematic character

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:34

I must put Raby on my must-see list.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:34

Me too.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:34

I've had the pleasure of filming there in the private chapel. It was the chapel in which Joan herself would have prayed

[Nathen Amin](#)0:34

A magnificent place. The northern Hever, in some ways

[Claire Ridgway](#)0:35

It is wonderful to visit places that were important to these people and that they used.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:35

True his health issues wouldn't have helped but most of his issues were self-inflicted and he just wallowed in his own crapulence blaming everyone else for his problems

[RealTudorLady](#)0:35

Actually Michelle, Richard III didn't deem him illegitimate. It was George who did that. Richard III mentioned it for propaganda only and the sources actually disagree as to what was actually said.

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:36

Yes but after George was executed, Richard has the Princes' deemed illegitimate, no? Due to the marriage before EW

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:36

Why did George try to steal the throne? Was it down to jealousy

[Nathen Amin](#)0:37

Yes he was. He was just ambitious. All the Yorks were wrong uns ha!

[Nathen Amin](#)0:38

And why not? Look at the example they were set by Richard of York - if you can't obtain your desires by political means, seize the crown.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:38

It's remarkable Henry VII was able to break this horrific cycle that started in 1399 with the deposition of Richard II

[Nathen Amin](#)0:39

Remember. Henry VII oversaw the first peaceful transfer of power from father to son in 87 years. Nearly a century of instability. That is astonishing

[RealTudorLady](#)0:39

Richard maintained a good relationship with his mother so had he actually said he was illegitimate that would not have happened. Edward and Richard were declared illegitimate due to Edward IV marrying Eleanor Talbot before Elizabeth Woodville. It was Edward V he was talking about but Mancini who didn't speak English reported it was his brother and got it wrong.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:39

Michelle, E4 may or may not have married before he married EW no one knows, but I think Richard III just found it very convenient to endorse his right to the throne

[Nathen Amin](#)0:39

Who knew the 'Peace king' Henry VIII, both York and Lancaster, the rose both white and red, would eventually lead to such bloodshed

[RealTudorLady](#)0:40

Henry Tudor didn't do too badly as King either.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:40

I would swear Nathen concerning what I think of H8 but I'll get slapped wrists..

[Nathen Amin](#)0:41

right man in the right place at the right time at the right age who happened to be unmarried.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:42

I view Henry VIII's accession in 1509 as the real end of the Wars of the Roses. A highly popular king with dual lineage accepted by all. His rise ended the wars

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:42

H7 I feel did manage to bring peace and stability to the country who were sick of war.. He wasn't to know that H8 was to almost destroy all that H7 brought to the country

[Nathen Amin](#)0:42



It wasn't 1485, as the pretenders and conspiracies proved. Some see it as 1540 when Henry VIII got rid of the Pole family but they weren't actually ever a real threat.

[RealTudorLady](#)0:43

Yes, Bosworth wasn't the end of the wars. The kick-off again with John de la Pole and Warwick/Warbeck lead to more bloodshed at East Stoke in 1487.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:44

Nathen I agree in part, but when he tried to rid himself of COA the country was rather divided and never really got fully united again until Elizabeth sorted it out

[Nathen Amin](#)0:44

Yes but that was 1527ish. Henry had a very popular and successful run for around 15 odd years before that

[Nathen Amin](#)0:45

You could argue a lot of Henry VIII's later actions were BECAUSE he had been so popular early in his reign. We can see it with celebrities today - they believe their hype

[RealTudorLady](#)0:46

I think people forget that Henry VIII was 17 when he came to the throne and his Neville and Pole cousins and friends were well in with him for a long time until religious and political changes and bangs on the head made him turn against everyone

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:47

I heard something very funny about Elizabeth the other day.. I don't know if it's true or not, but it is very Elizabeth like..... When Henry was told that Elizabeth would make a good queen he said "No wench can rule England" and she replied "This wench can and will"

[Barbora Bell](#)0:47

Nathen, was the feud between Duke of Gloucester and Bishop Beaufort based on the control of the infant Henry VI? Or was there more behind the scenes?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:49

Was the Duke of Gloucester planning to try and take the throne from his Nephew?

[Nathen Amin](#)0:49

No Barbora, that's basically it. Men and power. The real power, John Duke of Bedford, was busy in France so England was wide open. Gloucester wanted full rule and Beaufort preferred ruling by a council. Just a difference in political ideology that turned into an ugly feud and in truth led partly to the Wars of the Roses.

Consider that Gloucester's protegee was Richard of York and Beaufort's was Edmund Beaufort. Those men were set apart at young ages not through fault of their own

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:49

When you think the previous 116 years to the War of the Roses were also the 100 years war, England must have been weary of war. Particularly the poorer people who were burdened by tax and war service.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:49

But without hindsight, who could have known what would have happened.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:49

No I don't believe Gloucester was trying to take the throne

[Nathen Amin](#)0:50

He was just haughty and power hungry.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:50

What was the average age of a soldier in battle for the first time.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:51

Seems a job description of medieval and Tudor men

[Nathen Amin](#)0:51



I wouldn't know. I suppose from about 14-16 they become squires so would have been on the periphery of battle at least

[Michelle Nasello](#)0:51

Right Clare!

[RealTudorLady](#)0:51

Thanks for the information about Raby. It sounds beautiful. There isn't any evidence to show Richard was planning to take the crown, but circumstances forced his hand.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:51

Yes I get the impression that the Duke of Gloucester was very bombastic and eccentric.

[Barbora Bell](#)0:52

Seems like he was a man who acted before thinking things through.

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:52

Boys of 14 had civic duties to keep the King's peace and train in archery, and some of the archers at Agincourt were not much older.

[Barbora Bell](#)0:53

This might be a basic question...which of the brothers did Jaquetta of Luxembourg marry?

[RealTudorLady](#)0:53

Eccentric I think. He passed a lot of laws which benefited the ordinary person against greedy nobles. He practiced impartial justice. He was a good King, maligned by history.

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:53

It's a awful thing to think about.. children fighting an adult war

[Nathen Amin](#)0:53

Jacquetta married the Duke of Bedford

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:55

I think a fourteen year old was regarded as a man, and could be fined in his parish, if he didn't try to prevent a crime.

[Barbora Bell](#)0:55

Nathen, which one of the Beaufort brothers is your favorite?

[Lorna Wanstall](#)0:55

Barbora, then she married Richard Woodville

[Barbora Bell](#)0:55

Yes. I know, just could not remember which Duke she married first.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:56

The key thing to remember about Richard III is he came to power controversially and had one parliament. It had to be a friendly parliament. If he had reigned 24 years like Henry VII he would have become unpopular. ALL medieval kings become unpopular after they rule for a decade or more. This idea Richard III would have been a good ruler forevermore is nonsense.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:56

Of the original generation, it's definitely Thomas Beaufort, the baby. He was a remarkable man, a soldier who pulled himself high to become Henry V, his nephew, right hand man

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:56

Be was very popular in the north.

[Barbora Bell](#)0:57

Yes, He was quite remarkable. Too bad he did not have any children. 🤔

[RealTudorLady](#)0:57

I believe Richard's father was arrogant, but then he was doing a decent job until Henry VI recovered and supported his Beaufort relatives. O.K it's more complex but the war of the roses kicked off partly because of this feud.

[Nathen Amin](#)0:57

His popularity was tied in to the Neville inheritance of course, which he had just lost in 1483. May have encouraged his move for the crown

[Clare Shepherd](#)0:58

Yes, that could be it, Nathen

[Lorna Wanstall](#)1:00

Richard had made himself unpopular with some of the nobles, perhaps that was down to how he took the throne. I understand his reason for taking the throne but not the way he went about it.. That seemed a very hole in the corner sneaky back handed way of doing it

[Claire Ridgway](#)1:00

A wonderful hour as always. Thank you, Nathen, for answering our questions, and thank you everyone for attending! Barbora is the winner of Nathen's book "The House of Beaufort" so we'll get that sent out - congratulations, Barbora!

Take care everyone!

[RealTudorLady](#)1:00

I would recommend a visit to Middleham if anyone is in the region near York. The power base in the North was key to what happened next but Richard also did a good job up here.

[Bill Wolff](#)1:00

Thanks Nathen and Tudor Pals, for a terrific hour! Have a great weekend.

[Barbora Bell](#)1:00

Nathen, can I just thank you for writing such wonderful book. It was full of facts, quotes, and knowledge, yet it was so approach-ably written. I enjoyed reading every page.

[Nathen Amin](#)1:01

Thank you very much all

[Michelle Nasello](#)1:01

Congratulations Barbora

[Michelle Nasello](#)1:01

Thank you for your time Nathen



[Barbora Bell](#)1:01



wow! My lucky day. Thank you indeed.

[Nathen Amin](#)1:01

No problems Michelle. Was fun

[Michelle Nasello](#)1:01

Good night everyone

[Lorna Wanstall](#)1:01

Gosh that hour went fast.. Well done barbora happy reading.....

[Clare Shepherd](#)1:02

Thanks Nathen, that your went so quickly

[Claire Ridgway](#)1:02

Thank you everyone and good night! Enjoy your weekends!

[RealTudorLady](#)1:02

Thanks Nathan. Wonderful talk. Congratulations Michelle. Enjoy.

[Clare Shepherd](#)1:02

And you Claire and all at Tudor home.