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


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


Richard’s Family


Looking for Richard III


2. For children


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
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**
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**
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
Hannes Kleineke, *Edward IV* (2009) – combines academic rigour with very readable style
Michael Hicks, *False, Fleeting, Perjur’d Clarence* (1980)

**The Wars of the Roses**

**Getting Closer to the Sources**

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