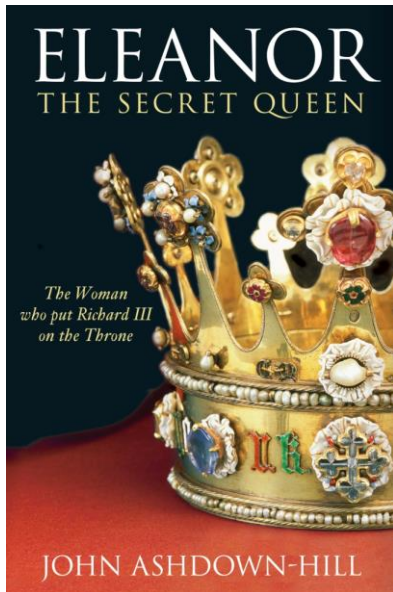


Information Sheet



ELEANOR

The Secret Queen

The Woman who put Richard III on the Throne

John Ashdown-Hill

Published February 9th 2009 at £25 hardback

The secret history of Eleanor Talbot, the woman at the heart of the controversy surrounding the accession of Richard III

One of English history's great mysteries has surrounded the legitimacy of Edward IV's children (the Princes in the Tower). When Edward died in 1483, the Yorkist succession was called into question and the crown passed to his younger brother, Richard, Duke of Gloucester. Richard, too, found himself entangled in the web of uncertainty since those who believed in the legitimacy of Edward IV's children viewed Richard as a usurper.

John Ashdown-Hill argues that Eleanor Talbot was married to Edward IV and that this marriage was not acknowledged in her lifetime despite her excellent family credentials and that, therefore, Edward's marriage to Elizabeth Woodville was bigamous, and their sons illegitimate.

- The first full biography of Eleanor Talbot, Lady Butler and her marriage to Edward IV
- Looks at Eleanor's controversial secret history
- New research using contemporary sources shows Eleanor's role in the downfall of the House of York

John Ashdown-Hill is an expert on Eleanor and her secret marriage to Edward IV. He has extensively researched the DNA of the House of York including that of Richard III and the Princes in the Tower. John is a member of the Royal Historical Society, the Society of Genealogists, and the Richard III Society. Currently living in **Colchester, Essex**, John writes numerous articles on history and genealogy, and gives lectures on 15th century and local history.

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