

# Workshop on Shakespeare

## *Henry V*

For InterEducation

Given by Eileen Fitzgerald

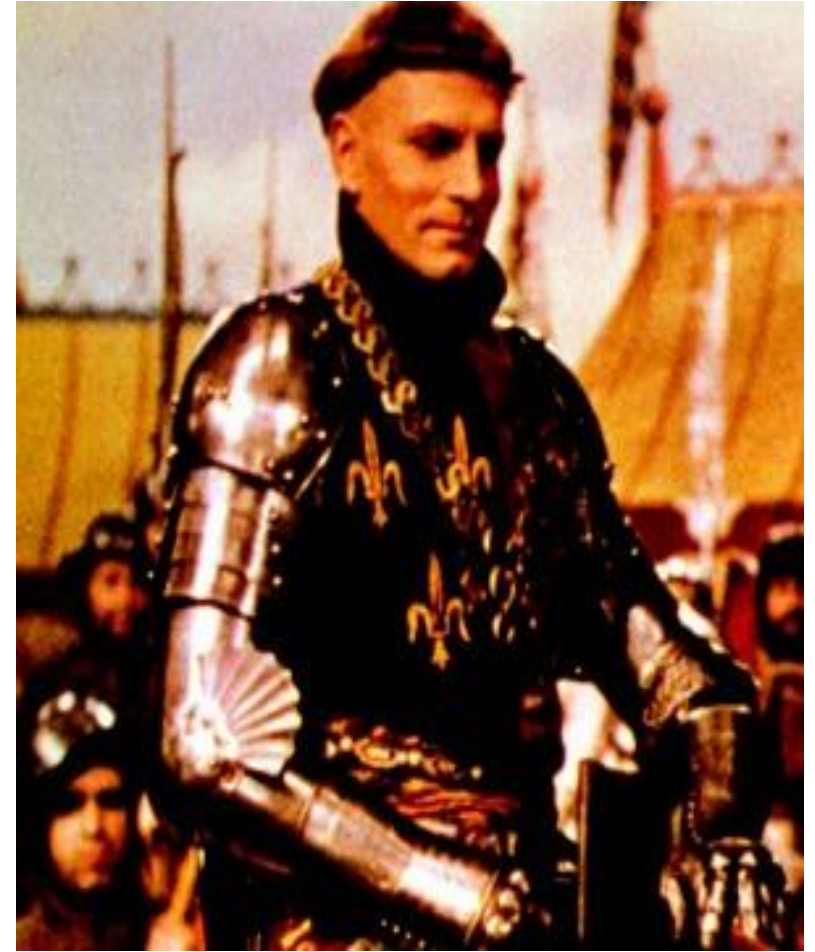
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## Henry V in Current English Political History

- Because it is Shakespeare and because of the perceived patriotism of this play, it has a unique place in current English cultural history
- The film starring Laurence Olivier was made at great expense in 1944. The aim was to bolster English resolve in the difficult period before the end of WWII
- Much of Shakespeare's dialogue can be read as patriotic, but Shakespeare is never simple. More later
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x26GN6rQbZI>

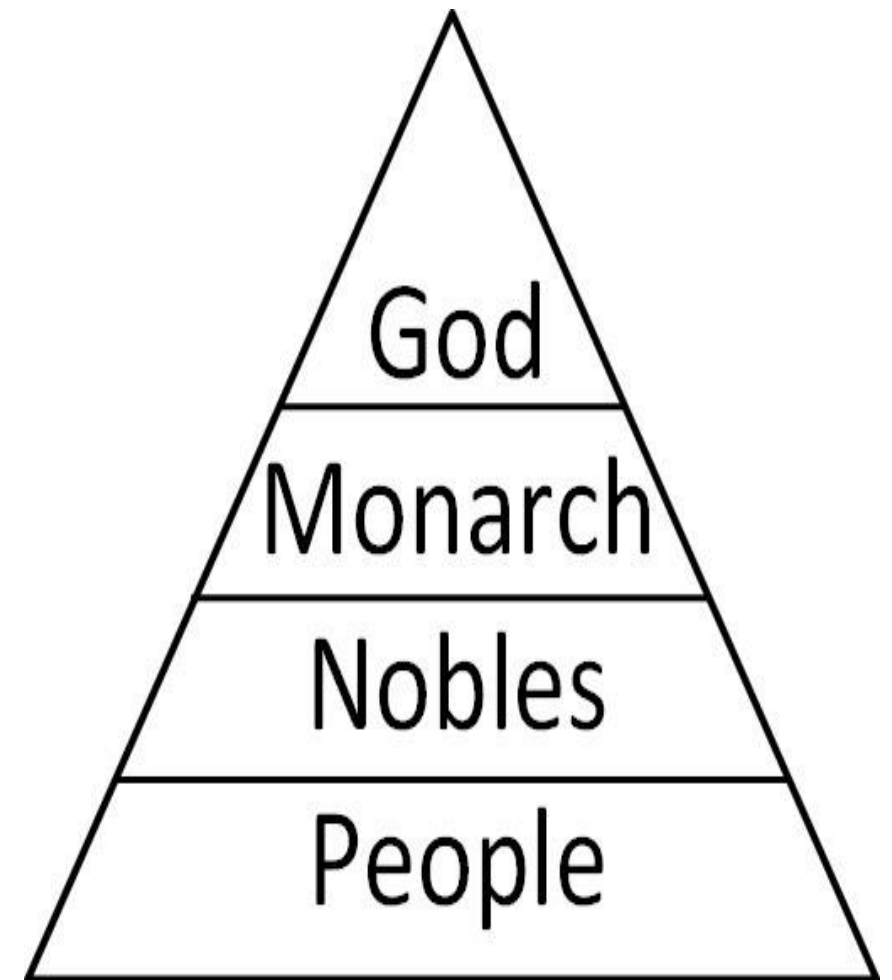


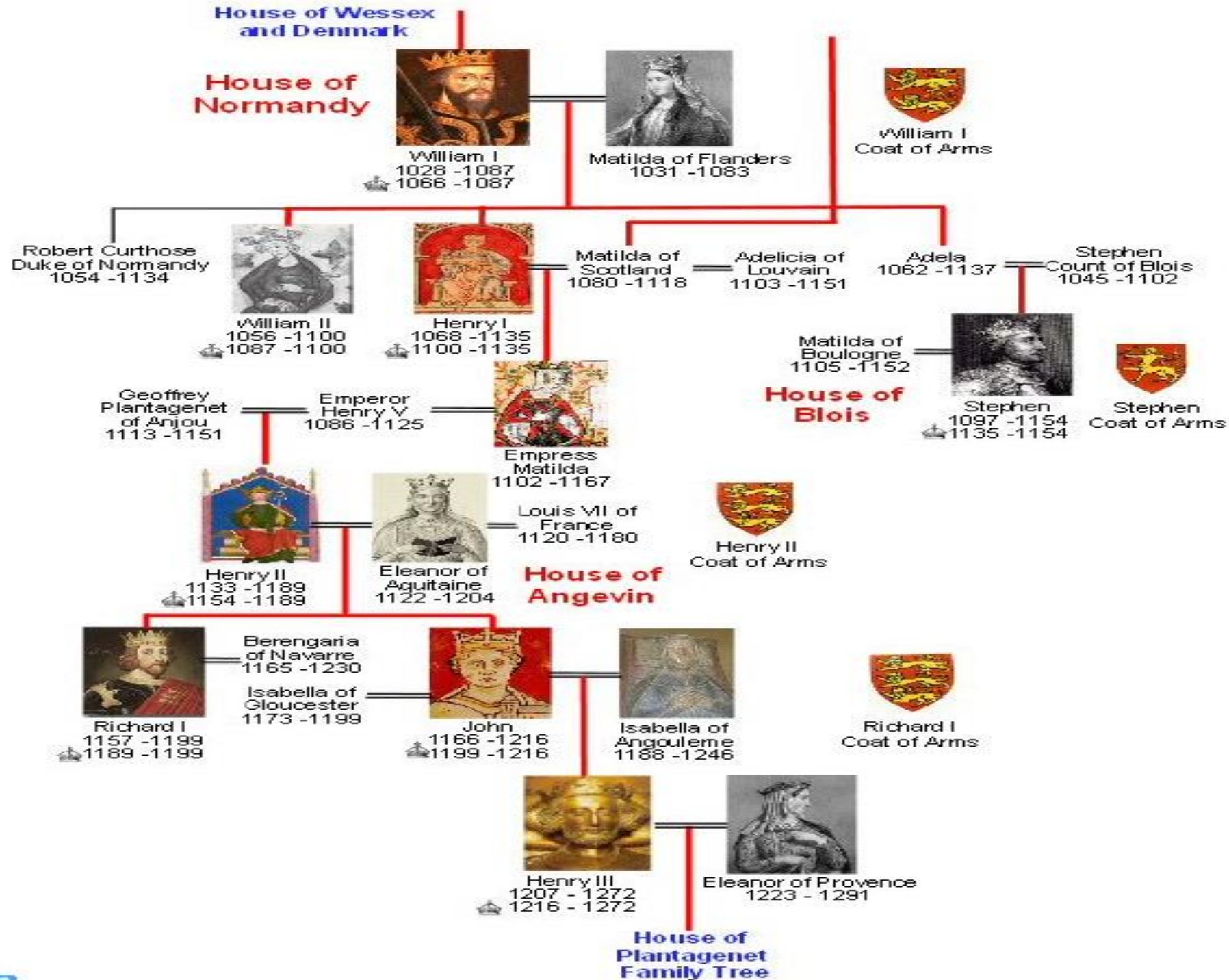
Laurence Olivier as Henry V in 1944

# Patriotism, Monarchy and Legitimate Succession

- *Henry V* written in 1598-9.
- Elizabeth I, was then 66 with no heir.
- There is oblique mention of an expedition to quell rebellion in Ireland under the Earl of Essex in 1598 (5:0:29-34).
- This is one way the play is dated.
- On his return from Ireland The Earl of Essex rebelled against Elizabeth and was executed in 1601
- This was the only known time that Shakespeare himself was in trouble with the government. The Globe put on a performance of *Richard II* on the eve of the Rebellion in February 1601

<https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/Shakespeare-Richard-II-Rebellion/>

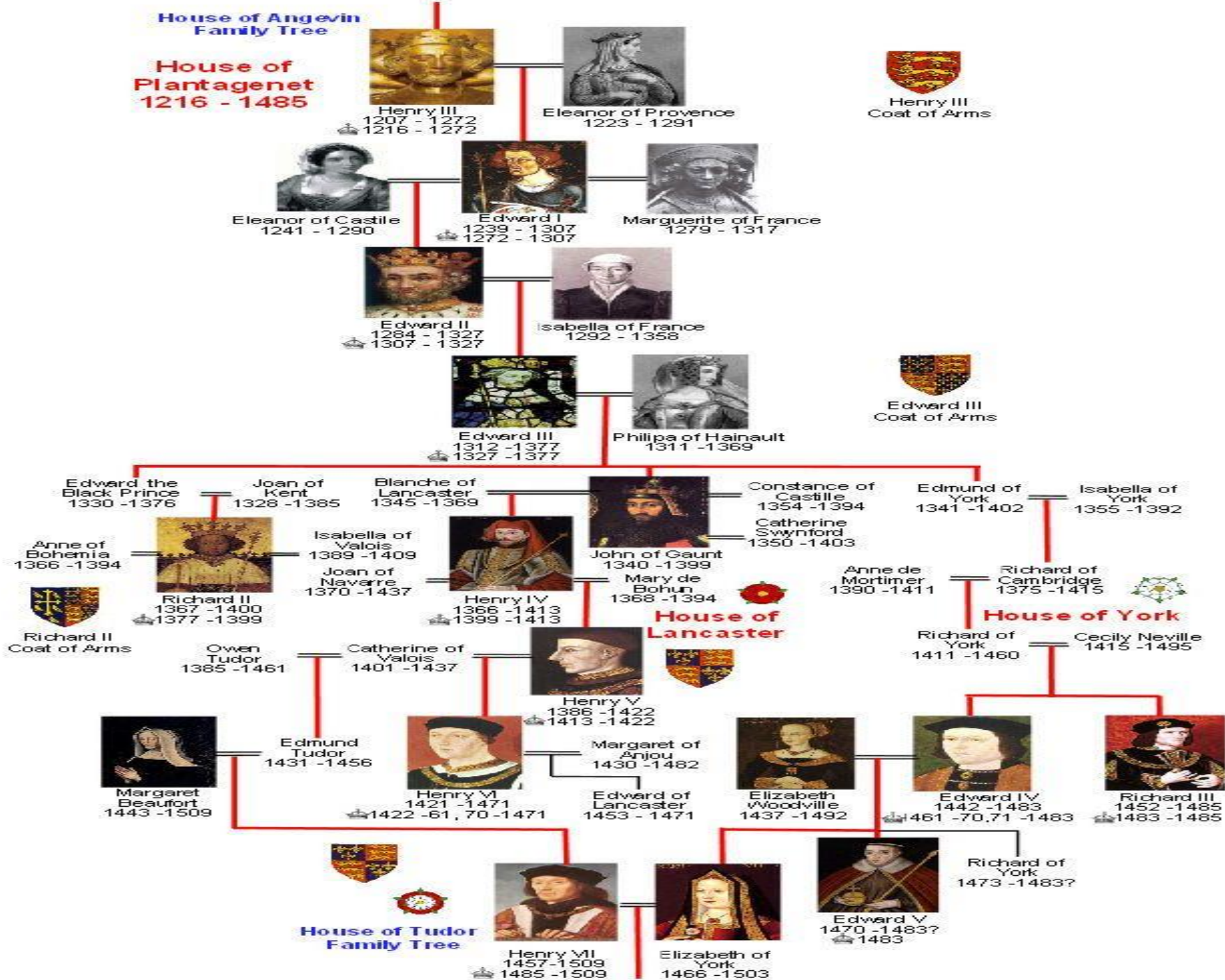






**House of Angevin  
Family Tree**

**House of  
Plantagenet  
1216 - 1485**



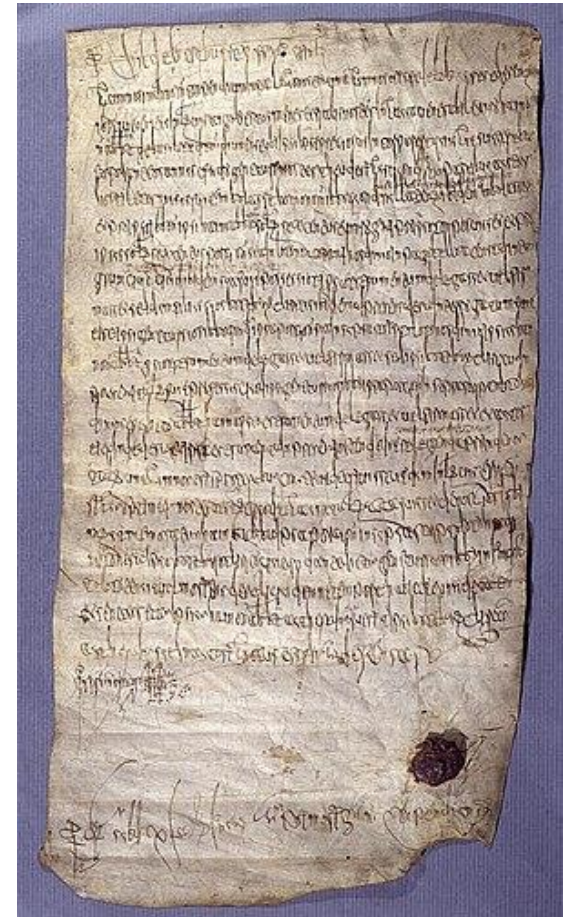
# Henry V





## English claims to rule France.

- Often perceived as a deeply patriotic play *Henry V* is not so straightforward.
- English Kings from Edward III onwards claimed a right to the French Throne through the wife of Edward II, Isabella of France (1295-1358)
- By the time of Henry V this had caused what is known to history as The Hundred Years' War
- Amidst the patriotism, and the praise for Englishmen, there is subtle questioning of the rights of the English to be causing deep disruption on the soil of what had become another country.



A Document from the Court of Childebert III (679-711)

# Shakespeare the Feminist – Salic Law

- Patriarchy: the legal exclusion of women from power. This is just one aspect of Patriarchy that was problematic for Elizabeth I
- From Elizabeth's speech at Tilbury – "I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too"

<https://www.bl.uk/learning/timeline/item102878.html>

- Henry V bases his claim to the throne of France on descent through the female line. This is not permitted under Salic Law

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OavL-FrNdIA>



Fig. 7.—The King of the Franks, in the midst of the Military Chiefs who formed his *Treuste*, or armed Court, dictates the Salic Law (Code of the Barbaric Laws).—Fac-simile of a Miniature in the "Chronicles of St. Denis," a Manuscript of the Fourteenth Century (Library of the Arsenal).



## Elizabeth I 1533 – 1603 Queen from 1559

- Elizabeth was the last Tudor Monarch, born 1533 to Anne Boleyn second wife of Henry VIII, She was his first Protestant Queen.
- Anne Boleyn was executed by a jealous King Henry who accused her of adultery and incest. Elizabeth succeeded her sister Mary 1<sup>st</sup> in January 1559
- Mary was married to King Philip of Spain and had tried to turn England back into a Catholic country
- Elizabeth's political approach to many things became famous as in fact, doing nothing, or its modern equivalent, watch and wait. This included the knotty problem of finding a husband and providing an heir. She was not inclined to give birth to a rival.
- Elizabeth died in 1603 and was succeeded by her nephew, James VI of Scotland who became James I of England.



Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> The Ditchley Portrait by Marcus Gheeraerts the Younger circa 1592. National Portrait Gallery

## James 6<sup>th</sup> Scotland (1566 – 1625) Becomes James 1<sup>st</sup> England 1603

- Son of Mary Queen of Scots and Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley who was born 1545 and assassinated 1567 just after James was born.
- After a precarious childhood, James follows Elizabeth onto the English throne in 1603
- James's queen, Anne of Denmark was a Catholic
- Gunpowder plot November 1605 – state opening of Parliament. This was an attempt to assassinate James and restore Catholicism. These were turbulent times, but Shakespeare thrived.
- James was a great admirer of poetry and music. He was a writer himself.
- In 1603 he sent to Bankside to inform Shakespeare and his company that he wished to be their new patron. They were now to be 'The King's Men'. They appeared in his Coronation procession and were given money to buy robes. Promotion!
- James 1<sup>st</sup> dies March 1625



James 1 (of England)  
Sixth of Scotland by  
Mytens. 1621

# A Shakespearian Chronology of Composition

1589-1591	The Two Gentlemen of Verona. The Taming of the Shrew	1599-1601	As You Like It. Hamlet
1591	Henry VI Part 1. Henry VI Part 2.	1601	Twelfth Night
1591-1592	Henry VI, Part 3. Titus Andronicus	1600-1602	Troilus and Cressida
1592-1593	Richard III. Edward III	1603-1604	Measure for Measure. Othello. Sir Thomas More
1593	<b>Venus and Adonis published</b>	1604-1605	All's Well That Ends Well
1594	The Comedy of Errors	1605-1606	King Lear. Timon of Athens
1594-1595	Love's Labours Lost	1606	Macbeth. Antony and Cleopatra
1595	Richard II. Romeo and Juliet. A Midsummer Night's Dream	1607-1608	Pericles, Prince of Tyre
1595-1596	Love's Labours Won, Henry IV Pt 1	1608	Coriolanus
1596	King John	1609	<b>The Sonnets published</b>
1596-1597	The Merchant of Venice.	1609-1611	The Winter's Tale
1597	The Merry Wives of Windsor	1610	Cymbeline
1597-1598	Henry IV Part 1, Henry IV Part 2	1610-1611	The Tempest
1598-1599	Much Ado About Nothing	1612-1613	Cardenio (Version of Don Quixote – now lost). Henry VIII
1599	<b>Henry V.</b> Julius Caesar	1613-1614	The Two Noble Kinsmen
		1623	First Folio published




# Shakespeare – life and works. Contents page from First Folio published 1623 – seven years after Shakespeare’s death

For argument’s sake, let’s assume that all the works attributed to William Shakespeare are indeed written by him. He was certainly an actor.

- **Born:** April 1564, Stratford-upon-Avon
- **Died:** May 3, 1616, Stratford-upon-Avon
- **Spouse:** Anne Hathaway (b. 1556 m. 1582)
- **Children:** Susanna (b.1583) and (Twins) Hamnet and Judith (b.1585) Hamnet died aged 11

Shakespeare left Stratford and went to London. He may have been a sailor or lawyer at any time in the two periods know as ‘the lost years’ (1578-1582) before his marriage and (1582-1592) after the baptism of his twins and before his appearance in documents about the London stage.

He was in his early forties when he wrote *The Winter’s Tale* – probably thought he was getting old



**A C A T A L O G V E**  
of the severall Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies contained in this Volume.

COMEDIES.	
<i>The Tempest.</i>	Folio 1.
<i>The Two Gentlemen of Verona.</i>	20
<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor.</i>	38
<i>Misfire for Misfire.</i>	61
<i>The Comedy of Errors.</i>	85
<i>Much ado about Nothing.</i>	101
<i>Love's Labour lost.</i>	122
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream.</i>	145
<i>The Merchant of Venice.</i>	163
<i>As you Like it.</i>	185
<i>The Taming of the Shrew.</i>	208
<i>All is well, that Ends well.</i>	230
<i>Twelfth-Night, or what you will.</i>	255
<i>The Winter's Tale.</i>	304

HISTORIES.	
<i>The Life and Death of King John.</i>	Folio 1.
<i>The Life or death of Richard the second.</i>	23

TRAGEDIES.	
<i>The Tragedy of Cæsar.</i>	Folio 1.
<i>Titus Andronicus.</i>	31
<i>Romeo and Juliet.</i>	53
<i>Timon of Athens.</i>	80
<i>The Life and death of Julius Cæsar.</i>	109
<i>The Tragedy of Macbeth.</i>	131
<i>The Tragedy of Hamlet.</i>	153
<i>King Lear.</i>	223
<i>Othello, the Moore of Venice.</i>	240
<i>Anthony and Cleopatra.</i>	246
<i>Cymbeline King of Brittain.</i>	269

# Venus and Adonis – Long poem published by Shakespeare himself with dedication.

Venus and Adonis published 1593. Shakespeare put his name to this manuscript and dedicated it to Henry Wriothesley, Third Earl of Southampton

'Vilia miretur vulgus; mihi flavus Apollo Pocula Castalia plena ministret aqua.' Translates *Let the common man admire trash or vile things; may golden Apollo serve me full cups of Castalian waters*

TO THE

RIGHT HONORABLE HENRY WRIOTHESLY,

EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON, AND BARON OF TICHFIELD.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I know not how I shall offend in dedicating my unpolished lines to your Lordship, nor how the world will censure me for choosing so strong a prop to support so weak a burden only, if your Honour seem but pleased, I account myself highly praised, and vow to take advantage of all idle hours, till I have honoured you with some graver labour. But if the first heir of my invention prove deformed, I shall be sorry it had so noble a god-father, and never after ear so barren a land, for fear it yield me still so bad a harvest. I leave it to your Honourable survey, and your Honour to your heart's content; which I wish may always answer your own wish and the world's hopeful expectation.

Your honours in all duty,  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.



TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
Henrie VVriothesley, Earle of Southampton,  
and Baron of Titchfield.

**R**ight Honourable, I know not how I shall offend in dedicating my unpolisht lines to your Lordship, nor how the worlde will censure mee for choosing so strong a proppe to support so vveake a burthen, onely if your Honour seeme but pleased, I account my selfe highly praised, and vowe to take aduantage of all idle houres, till I haue honoured you vvith some grauer labour. But if the first heire of my inuention proue deformed, I shall be sorie it had so noble a god-father: and neuer after eare so barren a land, for feare it yeeld me still so bad a harvest, I leaue it to your Honourable suruey, and your Honor to your hearts content, vvhich I vvish may alvvayes ansvvere your ovvne vvish, and the vvorlds hopeful expectation.

Your Honors in all dutie,

William Shakespeare.

Sonnets – The Fair Young Man. Henry Wriothesley – Third Earl of Southampton  
Sonnet 18 ‘Shall I compare thee to a Summer’s Day?’

Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.  
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
And summer’s lease hath all too short a date.  
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,  
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;  
And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
By chance, or nature’s changing course, untrimmed;  
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,  
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow’st,  
Nor shall death brag thou wand’rest in his shade,  
When in eternal lines to Time thou grow’st.  
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,  
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.





## Local Connections to Shakespeare: Titchfield Abbey

- <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/titchfield-abbey/history/>
- Home of the Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's patron
- The Third Earl was also involved in The Essex Rebellion of 1601. He narrowly escaped execution
- Very likely where some of Shakespeare's plays were first performed, especially in plague years.
- Titchfield Tithe Barn. Good evidence for early plays such as *Love's Labours Lost* first performed here. Now a wedding venue and conference centre.
- Shakespeare stayed at Titchfield often in the 1590s
- Members of the Wroithesley family buried in the Church of Saint Peter, Titchfield. Splendid tomb of the Third Earl.
- <http://www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk/>



# Wriothesley tomb at Saint Peter's Church, Titchfield, Hampshire



Tomb commissioned in 1594 by the Second Earl for himself and his father. The Third Earl is the young kneeling figure on the side

Sonnet 55 by Shakespeare

Not marble nor the gilded monuments  
Of princes shall outlive this powerful rhyme,  
But you shall shine more bright in these contents  
Than unswept stone besmeared with sluttish time.  
When wasteful war shall statues overturn,  
And broils root out the work of masonry,  
Nor Mars his sword nor war's quick fire shall burn  
The living record of your memory.  
'Gainst death and all-oblivious enmity  
Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room  
Even in the eyes of all posterity  
That wear this world out to the ending doom.  
So, till the Judgement that yourself arise,  
You live in this, and dwell in lovers' eyes.



# Henry V – Local connections. The Southampton Plot The Red Lion (not really) and Southampton Castle.



55 High Street, Southampton SO14 2NS,  
England Phone 023 8033 3595



<http://www.hampshire-history.com/southampton-castle/>



## Publishing History for *Henry V*

- We have two versions of *Henry V*. The Quarto published in 1600 and the Folio published in 1623, after Shakespeare's death.
- The Quarto is possibly taken from 'foul papers' scripts actors would have used when touring the play.
- Quarto is a book size, as is Folio which is larger.
- The height of a single Folio page is typically approximately between 12-13 inches (31-33 cms) and the width is typically about 8 – 8 3/4 inches (20-22cms). A quarto would be half that, the paper being folded in four rather than two.
- Most productions of the play use the Folio version although scholars also study the Quarto

