

# A GAME OF WHITE QUEEN (BLOG)

*All the news that's fit to chronicle...*

**March 1461** - and the kingdom is in grave peril of all-out civil war. We now have two rival kings, Edward IV for York and Henry VI for Lancaster. It is a time for all men - good, bad and ugly - to take sides... I write this diary as a neutral, a man wishing only peace - and juicy gossip to write about.

**June 1461.** The situation is developing. Burgundian mercenary the Compte d'Monet has been delayed from the first gathering of the nobles on July 6<sup>th</sup>. So too has Lord Easton of Ashburton, who has requested his forces be mustered by Earl Lowe, champion of House Lancaster. This chronicle has yet to hear from Earl Purbrick, champion of the Yorkists, or from others of their affinity, though rumour has it King Edward has been tarrying with peasant girls of dubious virtue. Still, it's nice to have a hobby... In the meantime Earl Lowe has sent us this proclamation of behalf of King Henry...



King Edward - 'The Sun in splendour'? Nine out of ten housewives who expressed a preference said, 'he's hot'.

# Your King Needs You



His Majesty, Rightful King of England, Henry VI

Requests the pleasure of your assistance on the battlefields of England to protect sovereign rule and end ensure our Glorious Nation is not led by the deformed child killer to be.

As an added incentive we have  
Land  
Titles  
God on Our side  
And cookies

## Trip Advisor review 1460

Lancashire is a cracking place to take the kids, loads to do and loads to eat - visit the famous Dark Satanic Mills, the Mintake Mines of Kendal (which is near Lancashire), and the famous 3000 foot tall Blackpool Tower.

But just remember, if you are foreign (Dorshire, Cockney, etc) you will need to speak loud, and slow there are quite a few deaf people in Lancashire. Remember to greet locals with the traditional Lancastrian welcome - "D'wat?", followed by a playful crunching clash of heads.

The local language, called "Lanky Twang" is an attractive singsong dialect. Every sentence in Lanky Twang begins with the expression "Ce, now....."

There's so much to do, you'll never want to leave. And apparently they eat cats there?!

**Sponsored by Mad Marg PLC a wholly owned subsidiary of the House of Lancaster .TM**

Clearly Earl Lowe is poking fun at the ambitions and deformity of King Edward's kid brother, Richard of Gloucester. This chronicle cannot doubt this slur will go unchallenged by the House of York...

**July 1461.** The 'Cousin's War' we all feared seems to have 'kicked-off'. Earl Hobbit has renounced neutrality... and declared himself a 'mercenary' - siding with Lancaster for an undisclosed 'transfer fee'. King Edward was dallying near Nuneaton with ladies sundry, for 'what happens in Nuneaton stays in Nuneaton' - when the army of King Henry approached, seeking battle - an engagement scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>. Woe to the kingdom that it has come to this exchange of blows...



Lady Elizabeth Grey (nee Woodville), the daughter of Earl Rivers, has declared for Lancaster. Rumours reaching this chronicle suggest she is a witch!!! Responsible reporting prevents us, however, from passing on such scurrilous gossip...

## THE BATTLE OF NUNEATON - 20<sup>th</sup> JULY 1461

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment. We will then dice for Yorkist 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *Please let the gamesmaster know what miniatures you can supply. If we have insufficient we will scale down the game.* We will be using 'Hail Caesar' rules. All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue' unless downgraded as per the below random, already diced for. *Champions - please let the Gamesmaster know in advance your choices.*

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbeck & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senlesse, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, Lord Easton (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbits as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Elizabeth Woodville (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 2 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 3 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice four infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'. Replace one unit if wished with Lord Hobbit's Gallowglass.

Characters deemed 'standing at the back watching' will always escape the field, ready for the next battle. The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day...

## WHAT HAPPENED

- 1) 3 X Men-at-arms and 1 X archer unit failed to appear for York. Witchcraft?
- 2) FOR LANCASTER: Lord Easton's 3 X men-at-arms and Lord Hobbit's 1 X archers were deemed Levy. 'Standing at the back': Lady Elizabeth Woodville, King Henry VI, Queen Margaret of Anjou. FOR YORK 2 X men-at-arms units were deemed levy. 'Standing at the back': None.
- 3) York deployed first 6" in, followed by Lancaster.
- 4) Forces at end of battle:

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 3 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*).

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday the Younger, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, Lord Easton

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Elizabeth Woodville

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 2 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 3 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 2 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*).

King Edward status increased to 6; Earl Tolliday's reduced to 0 by wont of his death and his son's youth. King Henry's is reduced to 2.

**July 20<sup>th</sup> 1461.** Being an account true of The Battle of Nuneaton. In the centre of the field was a church and yard, to the north of this an area of broken ground, and to its south a plain, thence a forest, beyond which was a lake. Inferior in numbers King Henry's army didst seek to make a spirited attack. After a slow start the Yorkists didst counter-attack, and an arrow storm forced back Earl Lowe's host, and the noble Earl

Tolliday was killed in the thick of this Lancastrian assault, for his son William will now claim his title and, no doubt, take the field to avenge his father's glorious death in battle as he broke two York men-at-arms and one archer. But all did not go well for King Henry, and three of his men-at-arms and Lord Hobbit's Irish Gallowglass didst break, and a hole didst appear in the centre of the Lancastrian line plugged only by the noble Earl Hobbit. Such was Earl Lowe's hatred of the Duke of Gloucester he impetuously charged - but then King Edward didst shatter Earl Hobbit's line, and battle was ended, both side claiming the greater victory. After Earl Purbrick didst say to a chronicler, *'King Edward drove the traitors from the field of battle with hardly a casualty, the traitors chased into the fields and barns cowering and begging for their lives'*. Earl Easton pointed out he, *'drove back opposition on our left flank, and will continue to support the Lancastrian cause'*, Earl Lowe believes, *'my success with the cavalry does demand suitable reward from His Majesty King Henry'*. As greater was the loss to Lancaster much enhanced is King Edward's reputation, for his army fell back on Oxford to regroup, that of King Henry's back to Nottingham.

A recently discovered manuscript has conclusively proven to be a copy of a copy of a copy of an original written by the prior of Nuneaton, and is almost certainly an eyewitness account of the bloody Battle of Nuneaton 20<sup>th</sup> July 1461. The full translated version follows.... *'Praise be to God. Was there ever a braver or more noble soul than young Lord William who with mine own eyes did rush to the aid of his stricken father Lord Tolliday and carry him from the field of battle. Cruel fortune was it that the righteous and just cause of the Lancastrian house was dealt such a bitter blow. Praise be to God, William lives to avenge his father's death at the hands of the sons of Satan Yorkists, those defilers of young boys and players of the pink oboe. Cowards to a man were the Yorkists who ran from the centre of the field. Brave beyond words behaved the men under the Lord Hobbit's banner who fell. Foul smelling, gutless maggots are the Yorkist slime who claim to be men.'*

*How brave, handsome, good, excellent person is the Lord Easton of Ashburton...* (pictured here driving his men forward), *'who leading only a few units of lowly peasant levy troops drove back the Knights and men at Arms of the Yorkist right flank – shame on them. Glory to God. Earl Lowe faced with one unit of knights a whole host of Yorkist bile, that stain on humanity and Christendom which, by the power of God and a few just men will be exterminated. This is an accurate and unbiased account of the terrible Battle of Nuneaton'*. Lords and Commons both might indeed note that the blessed prior is retained as confessor by the noble Lord Easton, who is in discussion for the 'rights' to his epic tale via the new mass 'social media' of printing....



After the battle our reporter spoke to the rival monarchs about how they prepare for battle. King Henry said, *'mainly I pray before, during an all night vigil, to seek the intercession of the Almighty. Generally I leave organising the army to the wife, but I like to watch the battle and pray to the Lord for victory'*. King Edward said, *'mainly I spend all night with a flagon of mead and couple of ladies, as my very personal guests. Generally I leave organising the army to my kid brother Richard, but I like to get stuck in and fight on the day and lead my army from the front'*. Two very different styles of leadership, there...

**August 3rd 1461.** The Earl of Surrey and the Earl of Oxford have declared for Lancaster, whilst Lady Halliwell (and her friends) and Lady Mitchell have declared for York. If the Lord is militarily favouring the pious King Henry, it seems the ladies favour the dashing King Edward. Then, if a further development, the Comte d'Monet has sided with Lancaster for an undisclosed fee - as the rivals advance on Leicester...



## THE BATTLE OF MARKET BOSWORTH - 17<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 1461

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue' unless downgraded as per the below random, already diced for. *Champions - please let the Gamesmaster know in advance your choices.*

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbeck & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senlesse, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); Lady Olivia Mitchell (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 4 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 9 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, Lord Easton, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbits as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Elizabeth Woodville (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 5 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day...



This chronicle notes that the powerful Earl of Warwick has yet to declare for either side. Oh - and bring your doublet - the woods of Bosworth are notoriously snowy in August...

#### WHAT HAPPENED (INCLUDES EVENTS OF AUGUST 31<sup>st</sup>)

- 1) 1 X Artillery, 2 X Men-at-arms and 3 X archer units failed to appear for York, including their levies. 1 X Artillery, 2 X Men-at-arms, 1 X Cavalry and 2 X archer units failed to appear for Lancaster, including their levies.  
Treachery?
- 2) FOR LANCASTER: 'Standing at the back': Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Lady Elizabeth Woodville. FOR YORK: 'Standing at the back': Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); Lady Olivia Mitchell
- 3) York deployed first 9" in, followed by Lancaster.
- 4) Forces at end of battle:

#### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbeck & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senlesse, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends) (1 X D6-1); Lady Olivia Mitchell

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

#### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, Lord Easton, the Comte d'Monet

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None

1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 4 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

King Edward status decreased to 5; Earl Brewer's reduced to 0 by want of his death and his son's youth. King Henry's is increased to 3.

**August 17<sup>th</sup> 1461.** Being a true account of the Battle of Market Bosworth. Tis said that before battle the Yorkists didst look to see if new continental 'evade' tactics could be used, a sign of nerves? House Lancaster opened the battle, the Burgundians of the Comte D'Monet initially delayed, the forces of House York reaching a hill line to hold. Then the Burgundians didst charge, the whole Lancaster line storming right well the Yorkist hill line. For York the noble Lord Rutland was wounded, but will be certain to recover by the grace of God as York fought back. Yet lo, Lancaster continued to attack, led by the strangely absent seeming Lord Hobbit, and didst inflict grievous losses on York, for Lord Brewer did fall, to be succeeded by his son, Tarquin. At this point Earl Purbrick didst order a retreat upon London, King Edward being indisposed, dealing with succouring several Vinland damsels in distress in a V'Gas inn, and is the wont of members of the household royal. King Henry, meanwhile, was to prayer, as is his wont, Earl Lowe ordering the Lancastrian army in pursuit.

**August 31<sup>st</sup> 1461.** Following the resounding victory at the Battle of Market Bosworth the following proclamation as issued by King Henry:-

His Highness, by the Grace of God, has instructed the Royal College of Arms to amend the Titles and Deeds of the following nobility, for their roles and actions in support of His Most Royal Highness:-

Earl Easton To be raised to the rank of Duke, entitled The Duke of Kent, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of Leeds Castle

Earl Tolliday To be raised to the rank of Duke, entitled The Duke of Somerset, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of the Castle of Taunton

Earl Hobbit To be raised to the rank of Duke, entitled The Duke of Dublin County, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of the Castle of Dublin

The Comte d'Monet In gratitude for his loyal service to be raised to the rank of Marquis, entitled The Marquis of Monmouth, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of the Castle of Cardiff

Earl Lowe To be raised to the rank of Duke, entitled The Duke of Lincolnshire, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of the Castle of Lincoln

To his opponents King Henry extends the olive branch of Peace. Should any supporters of the Yorkist pretender wish to reassess their loyalty and values, now would be a good time to consider your place in this world. His majesty is keen to show he is as merciful and gracious in victory as Our Lord would wish, praise to God.

One of Lady Halliwell's friends has died in childbirth, rumour saying the offspring be a royal bastard (no names no pack drill). Lady Elizabeth Woodville has also died in childbirth, her husband Sir Edward Grey of the plague. New rumours have also been recently broadcast that the Duke of Gloucester, though manfully overcoming his disability in battle, tires easily because of it, and is a little too fond of good food and good wine to be as effective as he once was...

**September 7th 1461 and after.** Lady Isobel Neville and the Earl of Lincoln have declared for Lancaster, bringing their forces and influence; the Earl of Carlisle and Lord Hastings for York, bringing theirs. The Yorkist retreat on London was diverted by King Edward to Winchester, pursued by King Henry's army, who quickly invested the town. The siege was brief, the pestilence striking both sides, but moreso York, prompting King Edward to ride forth to seek battle with his army on October 19<sup>th</sup>.



## THE BATTLE OF WINCHESTER - 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 1461

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment, Winchester at York's back. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue' unless downgraded as per below.

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends 1 X D6-1); Lady Olivia Mitchell (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (1 gun and crew), 3 X units of Cavalry (6 miniatures per unit), 5 units of archers (16 miniatures per unit), 6 units of men-at-arms (16 miniatures per unit). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, Lord Easton, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbit's as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Isobel Neville (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (1 gun and crew), 6 X units of Cavalry (6 miniatures per unit), 8 units of archers (16 miniatures per unit), 10 units of men-at-arms (16 miniatures per unit). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day. York MUST retreat to Winchester and be besieged, Lancaster will not be able to pursue into the town, and the siege will recommence.

As the battle approached King Edward's advisors prompted him to marry, thereby to secure lawful heirs to legitimise his claim to the throne. Lord Easton, meanwhile, believed he deserved greater reward for his endeavours, and wished the matter brought to King Henry's attention. Yorkist propaganda was circulated, suggesting Lady Margaret Beaufort 'to make Lady Macbeth like Mistress Minogue' in both her demeanour and moral behaviour

## WHAT HAPPENED

- 1) For Lancaster Earl Lowe was injured whilst hunting, and was unable to attend upon the battle. Nor for York was Lord Rutland, afflicted by illness, and Lord Brewer, involved in settling family affairs. Lord Easton was duly appointed temporary commander for Lancaster (a fateful decision).
- 2) 3 X Men-at-arms and 1 X archer units failed to appear for York, including their levies. 2 X Men-at-arms, 1 X Cavalry and 2 X archer units failed to appear for Lancaster, including their levies. Treachery?
- 3) FOR LANCASTER: 'Standing at the back': Lady Isobel Neville. FOR YORK: 'Standing at the back': Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); Lady Olivia Mitchell
- 4) York deployed first outside of the walls on Winchester, followed by Lancaster. *N.B. The battle was scaled down to half size, units lost have been accordingly doubled in casualty returns.*
- 5) Forces at end of battle:

## YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol.

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends) (1 X D6-1); Lady Olivia Mitchell.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

## LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet  
OTHER NOBLES: Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None.

1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 4 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 2 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 4 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

LORD EASTON'S FACTION

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Easton

OTHER NOBLES:

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Isobel Neville (impotent prisoner - no effect).

King Edward status increased to 6; Earl Purbrick's reduced to 0 by want of his death and his son's youth. King Henry's is decreased to 2.

**19<sup>th</sup> October 1461.** Being a true account of the Battle of Winchester. York deployed first outside of the walls of the city, followed by the larger Lancaster army, who, warned by a spy, advanced in battle array. The Comte D'Monet excused himself, citing a leaky roof. The outnumbered Yorkist host boldly advanced, the forces of Lancaster seemingly halted by command breakdowns. Missing Earl Lowe's iron grip, peradventure? The army of House York crashed into Lancaster's centre, Earl Purbrick bravely leading the bound, breaking four Lancastrian archer units. But lo - at this crisis of the battle didst Lord Easton defect to York, taking Lady Isobel Neville as hostage, and two personal men-at-arms units with him. Yet in this desperate struggle Earl Purbrick nobly fell, to be succeeded by his son, Earl Philip, Duke Richard of Gloucester taking battlefield command for York (or he'd get the hump, geddit?). Lord Tolliday took command for Lancaster, Lord Hobbit's continued and extended inaction noted. Treachery or 'protecting King Henry'? Two more Lancaster archers were routed but with Lord Hobbit finally moving forward Lord Tolliday counter-attacked, slaughtering Lord Easton's two renegade men-at-arms units. But in the melee two more Lancastrian men-at-arms fell - the situation now so

desperate even King Henry charged - but blundered into a rout of two cavalry units. Two more Lancastrian men-at-arms perished - the Earls of Carlisle and Middlesex also were killed in the scrum. Quitting the field Lancastrian army has retreated upon Southampton, King Henry ordered prayers, vespers and fasting in penitence for sin.

After the battle Lady Isobel Neville was taken into Lord Easton's 'personal protection' (sic) and has been escorted to his lair in Ashburton Castle with his lordship, who has declared his 'neutrality'. King Henry's ministers have placed a price of 10,000 Ducets upon Lord Easton's head - and the Earl of Warwick has demanded the release of his daughter. King Edward's army is currently in York, where he again receives diverse and various petitioning ladies of all social orders.



LADY ISOBEL NEVILLE - AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE AS LORD EASTON'S  
'GUEST'?



**Late October 1461** Lord Lowe has expressed his outrage at the events of Winchester, once they were reported to him, Lord Easton responding by an open epistle to the noble Lords, the champion of House Lancaster:-

TO THE LORD LOWE

Sire,

*I am not yet privy to your council regarding my actions at Winchester, merely to hearsay. No doubt your thoughts have already been poisoned by those turds of men who call themselves your supporters. If voices speak against me I have been wronged most grievous. It was I and I ALONE who bravely faced the enemy forces. I ALONE moved forwards into the attack. Again and again I called for the flanking forces of Lord Tolliday and Lord Hobbit (a self confessed MERCENARY) to speed in all haste and thus crush the enemy. My Lord, four units of our finest noble cavalry on my left flank made NOT ONE MOVE throughout the proceedings, NOT ONE, except to FLEE from the field of battle. Lord Hobbit called it a 'blunder'. Can you believe him? Even though ALONE I faced the entire Yorkist array could the day have been gloriously won if either Lord Hobbit or Lord Tolliday moved to my assistance. What of the Lord Tolliday? Thrice times and again did I repeatedly call upon him to advance upon the right flank of the enemy host. Thrice times and again his three (THREE) Men at Arms units fail to answer my plea. I ALONE with only archers faced the enemy! Sire, it is the Lords Tolliday and Hobbit whose action should be questioned and are shameful NOT mine. Be it known that the danger to the life and limb of the Lady Isobel Neville was most real and imminent. I ALONE was in a position to save her. I challenge any to doubt the battle all but lost and I believe that was through, at best, gross dereliction of duty and, at worst, a foul plot by both Lords Tolliday and Hobbit to discredit me and my good name. By pledging allegiance to the Yorkist cause I ALONE have managed to grasp some salvage from a most appalling predicament and ADDITIONALLY preserve the body and virtue of her Ladyship Isobel Neville. I have faith in Almighty God that you are as merciful and gracious as you say, and I know you to be, and will grant me the doubt when I say everything I did was for the glory of your name but primarily to prevent Issy (as she is want to be called) falling into the hands of fornicators. Let it be known that I have moved myself and her Ladyship to Ashburton Castle to take up my duties as Steward where I await communications. Be it also known that the Earl of Warwick should fear not for the safety of his daughter and, in fact, I wish to ask the noble Earl for permission to wed her.*

*I trust this message reaches you safe - spies are everywhere.*

*Your servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton*

Lady Warwick is reported 'incandescent with rage', as she'd hoped her daughter would wed King Edward; Richard Neville, Earl Warwick still wondering what is to be done. In the meantime, Lord Lowe didst reply.

TO THE LORD EASTON

Sire

*I trust Ashburton Castle is to your liking?*

*I have heard both sides of the story and can make no judgment either way.*

*The one thing that must happen is a return of the Lady Neville to her father post haste.*

*Courting her may best be done when the Nevilles do not feel beholden to anyone. I feel sure they will see the sense in such a union and it would have my full support and I feel that of His Majesty the King. Meddlesome Yorkists are indeed everywhere and will be dealt with in the fullness of time. I myself will be concentrating on recovering from being thrown from my horse whilst traversing the Grove.....a broken kneecap seems likely but until the physiks have bled and leached me on Thursday I am taking the only medicine that seems to work, Brandy and apathachorical paracetamol.*

Your servant

Lord Lowe

Then - the Yorkists weighed in:-

TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND

Sires

*Methinks Lord Easton could benefit from having the Earldom of Essex, and all revenues and manors pertaining to, added to his titles, as a reward for his services at Winchester. Likewise Sheriff of Nottingham, the King's Justiciar of Essex, all to be granted on an unambiguous declaration of support for the true monarch, King Edward IV.*

*Given under my seal,*

*Philip, Earl Purbrick, Earl Marshal of England.*

Lord Warwick, says:-

TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND

Sires

*It is unthinkable that I, a peer of England, called by some 'Kingmaker', should stand aside and permit my eldest daughter held by Lord Easton. I am advised that to force a maid to wed against her will is a most grievous sin in the eyes of Holy Mother church, one with which up I will not put. Cautioned by the forceful representations of my wife and daughter Anne I am left with no alternative by to call my retinue to array and to march*

*upon Castle Ashburton to free my beloved daughter Isobel, whom I have high hopes will marry either Prince Edward of House Lancaster, or one of the York boys (preferably Edward).*

*Given under my seal,*

*Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick and 'Kingmaker'©.*

*'Kingmaker'© is a registered trademark of Neville Enterprises Inc. All rights reserved.*



**RICHARD NEVILLE, EARL OF WARWICK AND 'KINGMAKER'© - 'LET MY DAUGHTER GO AND NO ONE GETS HURT'**

To all this Lord Easton replies (at some length):-

*TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND*

*Sires,*

*The Lancastrians have bestowed upon me the rank of Duke, entitled The Duke of Kent, with commensurate estates befitting the rank and stewardship of Leeds Castle. Faced with almost certain death or capture on the battle field at Winchester I declared for Edward IV, thus saving my life and, thanks to my quick thinking and cunningness, found myself also in the possession of Ladyship Isobel Neville - a very attractive bargaining piece! Although the battle was already*



*lost my defection was the catalyst that persuaded the Lancastrians who remained to quit the field, this preserving the lives of many nobles, and those of the common weal. The battle was a complete, resounding and unexpected success for the late Earl Purbrick. In gratitude for this act of statesmanship the Yorkist faction have offered me the following - in addition to my existing titles - Earldom of Essex, and all revenues and manors pertaining to, likewise Sheriff of Nottingham, the King's Justiciar of Essex. I have cheekily asked for the Lady Isobel's hand in marriage (she is ten years old now and so only a few years off marriageable age), much to the anger of her father Richard who is on his way with his retinue towards Ashburton castle. (I thought he would be pleased that her daughter was safe - just goes to show how wrong you can be!). So - King Edward IV recognises me as Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and the Steward of Leeds castle. Henceforth I shall claim these titles - duly and correctly appointed to me by the one true and rightful King Edward IV. Taking an independent stance I am now beholden to allocate upon myself to such troops as my standing and status demand. Should it so please God I would like to honour my altered allegiance to the house of York.*

*With this in mind - I send the following messages:-*

*To Lord Lowe, The Duke of Lincolnshire  
Sire, I fart in your general direction!*

*To Philip, Earl Purbrick, Earl Marshal of England*

*Sire, your mercy, benevolence and understanding will not go unnoticed by God and this, your humble servant. Your wisdom, clemency and forgiveness towards my previous misguided actions against the King have humbled me and I will be forever in your personal debt. Let it be known that I now declare for the true King Edward IV and seek*

*now to quickly find an opportunity to prove my worth in his fight against his enemies. Be it known that I have travelled with the Lady Isobel to Leeds Castle where I have spent much effort in preparing its defences. I am informed that the Earl of Warwick is proceeding with a small army. Be assured that the Lady Isobel is unharmed but I am eager to know your plans for this young lady. Should I resist the Earl Warwick, or return his daughter to him? I await your instructions.*

*Your servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds castle.*

To all this Lord Lowe responds:-

*TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND*

*Sires,*

*I find Lord Easton's offensive language unbelievable... I can only assume there is some Yorkist intervention afoot.*

*To my Lord of Warwick, called by some 'Kingmaker'©.*

*Sire*

*I have tried reason and negotiation for the safe and immediate return of your daughter, but this has been met my derision and rejection. I can only assume Yorkist intervention has played a part in this and Lord Easton is a pawn in their dangerous games. Should you wish to advance up the Duke of Kent, he is in residence at Leeds Castle, his strength will be minimal as most of his retainers died at the battle of Winchester, or at least that is my understanding. Should you wish to make military overtures towards him you will have my full support, and if Yorkist sympathisers are indeed found to be in cahoots (which they are) then my armies will fight in full support to secure the safe release of the Lady Isobel*

*Lord Lowe, Duke of Lincoln (etc etc...)*

To all this Lord Warwick, the 'Kingmaker'© responds:-

*TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND*

*Sires,*

*By my troth I find this civil strife that pits brother against brother, cousin against cousin and neighbour against neighbour distasteful in the extreme. Why are we killing our fellow Englishmen when there are*



*French and Scots we can put to the sword for the enrichment of all, as my knight Farage doth incessantly remind. Yet Lord Easton's behaviour is impossible to tolerate. I do not wish to take sides in this 'Cousin's War' between rival kings what I didst not make, but I insist upon my daughter Isobel being returned unharmed by her captor. I have assured Lord Purbrick I will not take sides, and I will not, thus I urge him make Lord Easton see sense. I have no quarrel with York or with Lancaster, but I will prevail in assuring the safe return of my beloved daughter Isobel. My wife Anne - and my shrewish daughter also confusing called Anne - are as one with me on this. I therefore march with my forces to Kent upon Lord Easton. I thank Lord Lowe for his offer of assistance, and trust this matter will not come to physical strife.*

*Given under my seal,*

*Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick and 'Kingmaker'©.*

*'Kingmaker'© is a registered trademark of Neville Enterprises Inc. All rights reserved.*



**LORD WARWICK'S FACTION (ALIGNMENT NEUTRAL - WILL NOT SIDE WITH YORK OR LANCASTER IN BATTLE)**

**MAIN NOBLES:** Earl Warwick.

**OTHER NOBLES:**

**INFLUENTIAL LADIES:** Lady Anne Neville (1 X D6).

1 X unit of Cavalry (6 miniatures per unit), 1 units of archers (16 miniatures per unit), 2 units of men-at-arms (16 miniatures per unit). Reduce to choice one infantry unit from 'retinue' to 'levy'.



All good people of the realm may find this chronicle of interest:-



### THE WARWICK JOURNAL

We live in dark days, when those who seek to keep the King's peace - whichever king that be - are forced into action. Our reporter caught up with King Henry's counselor Lord Lowe upon his recent visit.

Q. My Lord, doth Lady Lowe have a comment about why, when our beloved Lady Isobel was in her care to learn the latest Spanish courtly fashions, she was so easily abducted for Lady Lowe's guardianship by the most foul Lord Easton?

A. Forsooth, the Lancastrian press office is carefully considering its response to that Yorkist biased question, and the journalist will be investigated upon the rack to ensure his lack of bias before answer be forthcoming.

Q. Yet, my Lord, security experts claim the incident was a breach of security and is of concern given the heightened alert over terrorism threats?

A. Know your place - blaggard!

Q. Rumour suggesteth Lady Julia was having, as is the custom of her people, a siesta during the incident?

A. Knave! I blame Lord Easton, posing as a jogger whilst fleeing the scene of his treachery! It was a carefully conceived and executed Yorkist plot. They will be rooted out and dealt with in the time honoured way for those who betray the King.... We'll start with the burning of the bits... It's a Christmas tradition or something like that warms the cockles of heir hearts. I mean, 'their'. Definitely no heirs after that. Lord Warwick should declare of Lancaster.

Q. With all due respect, my Lord, House Warwick wishes to remain neutral in this war without an enemy. Should Earl Easton return to us our beloved Lady Isobel, all will be well.

A. War without an enemy! Edward of March is a usurper - and Earl Purbrick but a Wat Tylerist of the worst kind.

Q. Thank you my Lord.

*'Kingmaker'© is a registered trademark of Neville Enterprises Inc. All rights reserved.*



PAGE 37. FASHION SPECIAL -  
WHAT TO WEAR WHEN  
ABDUCTED BY A NOBLE LORD  
AND CARRIED OFF TO HIS  
CASTLE...

THE DUCAL FAMILY IN HAPPIER  
TIMES



Now, at last, Lord Easton is being obliged to take action:-

*To Philip, Earl Purbrick, Earl Marshal of England*

*Sire, I urgently need your guidance. Earl Warwick will be here in a few days hence and although we be well stocked with weapons, and the defences are strong, we only have enough water for two weeks, should Lord Warwick decide to besiege us. Please send urgent discourse or have ye abandoned us? What is to be done with the Lady Izzy?*

*Your servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds castle.*

**TO THE LORD EASTON**

*Your Grace, Duke, Earl, Justicar of Essex, Sherriff of Nottingham*

*I would rightly counsel magnanimity, following our glorious victory at Winchester, and show a rightful and generous respect to a father's just concern for his daughter's welfare. Assure My Lord Warwick that the Lady Izzy will be treated with all due honour and respect, and returned to her father's care, at a time and place of his choosing. That would be my counsel; you may feel that the situation you find yourself make it inappropriate or not possible. Be assured that His Majesty King Edward, the Fourth of that Name, does not forget loyalty; any force required to meet your just needs will be dispatched forthwith.*

*Given under the Great Seal of England at the command of his Majesty  
Philip, Earl Purbrick, Earl Marshal of England.*

Panic? The measured reply from Lord Purbrick of a 'politician'? We shall see on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November when Lord Warwick's forces reach Leeds Castle. Will it then, as the common people say, 'all kick off'?



Maybe not:-

*To my Lord Earl of Warwick, called by 'Kingmaker'©.*

*Sire*

*I most humbly welcome you to Leeds Castle and can only beg your forgiveness for your troubles. Be assured that your daughter has been treated at all times with the utmost respect, and I would remind your lordship that she was taken into my safe custody to protect her from the ravages of battle, and if not for my prompt intervention, and with God's grace, all manner of horrors may have befallen her. I am most relieved to know your loyal retinue has accompanied your journey and will thus ensure her Ladyship is returned safe to Warwick in these troubled times. Vagabonds are everywhere. I await your arrival with all humility and, should you decide to tarry for a few days at Leeds Castle you will be treated as a most honoured guest and, no doubt, we can discuss the best way to bring about God's peace to our country which has suffered much already with unnecessary bloodshed.*

*Your servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds Castle.*

*TO THE LORDS OF ENGLAND*

*Sires*

*I have this day received the above epistle from the most craven Lord Easton, and march with all speed to Leeds Castle retrieve my beloved daughter Isobel. It is unthinkable that I, a peer of England, called by many 'Kingmaker', should not demand satisfaction for this affront, for Lady Warwick and I cannot forget Lord Easton's unchivalrous remarks - I trust made when in his cups - about my fair daughter. Nor too, am I content concerning the role of Lord and Lady Lowe's retinue in this affair that allowed her to be 'saved' on a battlefield, albeit she be a headstrong maid, for I recall when necessary it became to banish minstrel Harry Styles, of whom she had become too fond. Yet dearly I detest this war that pits brother against brother, father against son etc etc. I will arrive at Leeds Castle on Sunday in the hope that peace may yet come to England, for are we not 'all in this together'?*

*Given under my seal,*

*Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick and 'Kingmaker'©.*

*'Kingmaker'© is a registered trademark of Neville Enterprises Inc. All rights reserved.*



**November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1461.** And lo, it came to pass, that Lord Warwick didst descend with his retinue upon Leeds Castle, and most obsequiously did Lord Easton apologise and return to him his beloved daughter Isobel, and the noble Earl Richard Neville didst return to his Midlands holdfast with all his forces rallied to the banner of the ragged staff, much aggrieved at this war that hast riven the land, despite the entreaty of his shrewish daughter Anne he, 'duff them all up a treat'. At the aforesaid meeting didst Lord Easton again declare his allegiance to House York. And yet more moves were afoot. The Duke of Clarence, having finished a right good butt of Malmsey wine, has declared for his brother King Edward, as has Earl Cardiff. King Henry's heir, Edward of Lancaster, has seemethly to inherited his mother Queen Margaret's fiery gingeriness, and although young has taken the field for his House, as has Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers, rallied to King Henry, after much prayer and contemplation and expensive whoring in sundry taverns (by coincidence, another of Lady Halliwell's girls has died in childbirth).

Thus fortified the forces of Lancaster have elected - after much prayer by the King - to quit Southampton to again march upon their Yorkist foes in Winchester, whereso King Edward has again decided to meet them outside of the walls of the town, in what many pundits and chroniclers are calling a 'replay'; Earl Hobbit blaming the earlier Lancastrian defeat upon the fickle intervention of Dame Fortune, as well as Earl Easton's treachery and Earl Lowe's absence, his latter lordship again stricken by bad legs since his hunting accident.



KING EDWARD  
PREPARES TO SEE TO A  
LOYAL PETITIONER'S  
URGENT DEMAND ('OH  
ER, MATRON...')

## THE SECOND BATTLE OF WINCHESTER - 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 1461

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment, Winchester at York's back. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue' unless downgraded as per below.

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke Of Clarence, Earl Cardiff (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends 1 X D6-2); Lady Olivia Mitchell (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day - will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 5 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 10 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbit's as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln. Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 6 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day. York MUST retreat to Winchester and be besieged, Lancaster will not be able to pursue into the town, and the siege will recommence. NPC Nobles may be 'brigaded' into additional cavalry units.

As the battle approached - due to the influence it is alleged of Yorkist ladies - much of Lancaster's force was delayed. Indeed, with King Edward and his closest advisors tarrying, battlefield command was handed to alleged 'turncoat' Earl Easton, who deployed first. While Lancaster declared it would respect all citizens of Winchester and prepared to attack, young Earl Playle has joined York as squire to King Edward, under the 'guidance' of Earl Easton.

## WHAT HAPPENED

- 1) Lord Purbrick, Lord Rutland and Lord Brewer arrived of their wits late, having consumed much in their cups.
- 2) FOR LANCASTER: 'Standing at the back': King Henry, Queen Margaret. FOR YORK: 'Standing at the back': Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); Lady Olivia Mitchell
- 3) York deployed first outside of the walls on Winchester, followed by Lancaster. Forces at end of battle:

## YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton, Earl Playle.

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke of Clarence, Earl Cardiff.

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends) (1 X D6-2); Lady Olivia Mitchell.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 5 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

## LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet

OTHER NOBLES: Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, The Earl of Oxford, Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: None.



1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*). Reduce to choice three infantry units from 'retinue' to 'levy'.

King Edward status increased to 7; King Henry's is decreased to 1.

**7<sup>th</sup> December 1461.** Being a true account of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Winchester. Lancaster again attacked, this initial charge falling just short of the Yorkist line, poorly positioned with their backs to the city walls. Lord Easton was again accused of cowardice, as he evaded Earl Hobbit's initial charge to pin the Yorkists against the town, though the noble Irish Lord was subsequently slain in the melee; for York Duke Richard of Gloucester and King Edward also wounded, though the latter has recovered and the former will remain sore afflicted by his bent spine for all eternity so it pleaseth God.



Lancastrian allegations about Earl Easton's valour were now proven false when he himself was wounded, as was for Lancaster Earl Lowe. Lancaster also had slain the lords Middlesex, Surrey and Lincoln. The Comet d'Monet again did not much move for Lancaster, and until their reinforcement didst arrive had little impact; said force led by the new earl Hobbit who didst most promptly declare 'blood feud' upon the House of Easton. As the Yorkists pressed on the right the Burgundians didst finally advance, but it was all too little too late. King Edward had his wounds dressed by sundry ladies undressed, and on the field didst order Lord Easton knight the young Earl Playle. Quitting the field the Lancastrian army has retreated upon Oxford, King Henry ordering prayers, vespers and fasting in penitence for sin; King Edward a huge

party, with many comely ladies, and much mead, and a top band in attendance. Oh - and jelly and jesters. In the meantime, anxious to be recorded in the chronicles, Lord Easton didst send this dispatch to King Edward:-

*Sire,*

*God was truly gracious on that day. Truly, I was most troubled by deploying with our backs to Winchester's great walls. Sorely was my fear realised with the fast approach of the Lord Hobbit. So fearful were they that my own troops twice refused to move in response. Indeed, my centremost body of men-at-arms were destroyed and I foresaw in that instant complete and utter ruin for my House and the Yorkist cause. If it had not been for the lack of knowledge by Lord Hobbit in how to proceed with gentlemanly conduct after such an attack in a 'Hail Caesar' fashion, compounded by the confusion of battle, plus the acoustics of wearing a helmet, (I cannot hear a thing), my fortunes may not have revived. Such is war! My prayers were duly answered and Lord Hobbit was slain by my troops but my joy was tempered by fearsome wounds received to my own person whist in most terrible combat with the Lord Hobbit's household. It is with some regret that the Lord Hobbit is dead, and I have prayed for his soul, for once he was my friend. My wounds are healing most pleasingly and soon I will be strong enough to take up the sword again for the Yorkist cause. I am hopeful that my service to the cause in the forefront of the fighting has been recognised and has put final pay to the false rumours that I, in some way, am but a snivelling rat-toad of a coward whose oath counts for nothing more than a fart. My restoration of the unharmed Lady Isobel to her father doth also indicate my honour, for so it pleases God to grant me the ease of s clear conscience.*

*Humbly*

*Lord Easton*

**By late January 1462.** Over the festive period many councils of war are called by both sides, to seek allies, for to renew the struggle, for there are black deeds afoot as the Kings of Scotland and France offer forces, hoping to maintain England's civil strife, as does Master Shore of the London merchants, on to a nice little earner, and even Lord Blackadder. Young lords now of age have consolidated their lands; Lord Targuin Brewer, Philip Earl Purbrick and William Earl Tolliday have all mustered new troops. Earl Rivers had declared for Lancaster, as has his wife Lady Jacquetta, who some call witch for she is Burgundian of birth, and we all know what they say about Burgundian ladies. The Earls of



Southampton and Nottingham have meanwhile declared for York. Thus there was a great mustering of forces as nobles across the land girded themselves for war, King Henry in much prayer for his sins, King Edward in much whoring to add to his. Indeed, King Edward didst advance from Winchester with his host upon Oxford, whence King Henry chose to remain, but was obliged to lay siege as Lancaster refused open battle, the city being well provisioned. And lo, in the bleak midwinter there was much pestilence of both besieged and besiegers, but more so the latter, as it pleased God. This didst induce King Edward to attack, and divert troops to such diverse siege works as were necessary, and they didst succeed in breaching the walls of Oxford, and to prepare for attack upon the feast of St Nigel (1<sup>st</sup> February 1462).



## THE BATTLE OF OXFORD - 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 1462

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment, Lancaster inside Oxford, the walls of which have two 12" gaps in them to simulate breeches. The whole of Oxford is a built-up area. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue'.

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton, Earl Playle (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke Of Clarence, Earl Cardiff, Earl Southampton, Earl Nottingham (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (*and her friends 1 X D6-2*); Lady Olivia Mitchell (*enemy will lose 1 X D6 units of their choice on the day*). *Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 4 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 14 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

*TEMPORARILY WITHDRAWN FROM ORDER OF BATTLE IN SIEGE WORKS (BUT AVAILABLE IN FUTURE ENGAGEMENTS):* 3 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 3 X units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*).

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbit's as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln. Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville, Earl Rivers the Elder (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Jocquetta Rivers (*enemy will lose 1 X D4 units of their choice on the day*). *Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 6 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 9 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day. York MUST retreat to Winchester, Lancaster will not be able to pursue into the town. Should York prevail Lancaster will lose an additional 1 X 6 units in a retreat, each noble having a 1:3 chance of escape. NPC Nobles may be 'brigaded' into additional cavalry units.

As battle approached Chroniclers discerned hubris descend upon the Yorkist camp. Lord Easton wrote:-

*Sire*

*Alas; one of my many wounds has turned septic and I am completely unable to ride or walk. My surgeons tell me that it is not serious and I just need plenty of rest and red wine. I am therefore unable to answer the summons to Oxford in person. As a demonstration of my commitment and loyalty to the Yorkist cause my eldest son is sent in my place together with my full retinue which is placed at the disposal of my King to assist in the battle as is seen fit.*

*Your humble servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justicar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds Castle.*

Then Earl Brewer was delayed to entertain a Spanish delegation; young Earl Playle in penitence, and Earl Purbrick delayed by a broken cart, for so it pleased his sainted mother, Donna, the dowager Lady Purbrick, to have it most promptly fixed. Earl Rutland did not appear until near the end of the engagement, and for Lancaster not did the Comte d'Monet, their contributions being minimal.

#### WHAT HAPPENED

- 1) Earl Lane was in battlefield control for York; Earl Lowe for Lancaster.
  - 2) FOR LANCASTER: 'Standing at the back': King Henry, Queen Margaret, Lady Rover. FOR YORK: 'Standing at the back': Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); Lady Olivia Mitchell
  - 3) York and Lancaster deployed simultaneously, followed by Lancaster, the former losing 4 X Men-at-arms; the latter 1 X artillery and 2 X Archers.
- Forces at end of battle:

#### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton, Earl Playle.

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke of Clarence, Earl Cardiff.

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends) (1 X D6-2); Lady Olivia Mitchell.

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 5 units of men-at-arms (*10 miniatures per unit*). *Note these totals include forces regained to active service after the lifting of the siege of Oxford.*

#### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet

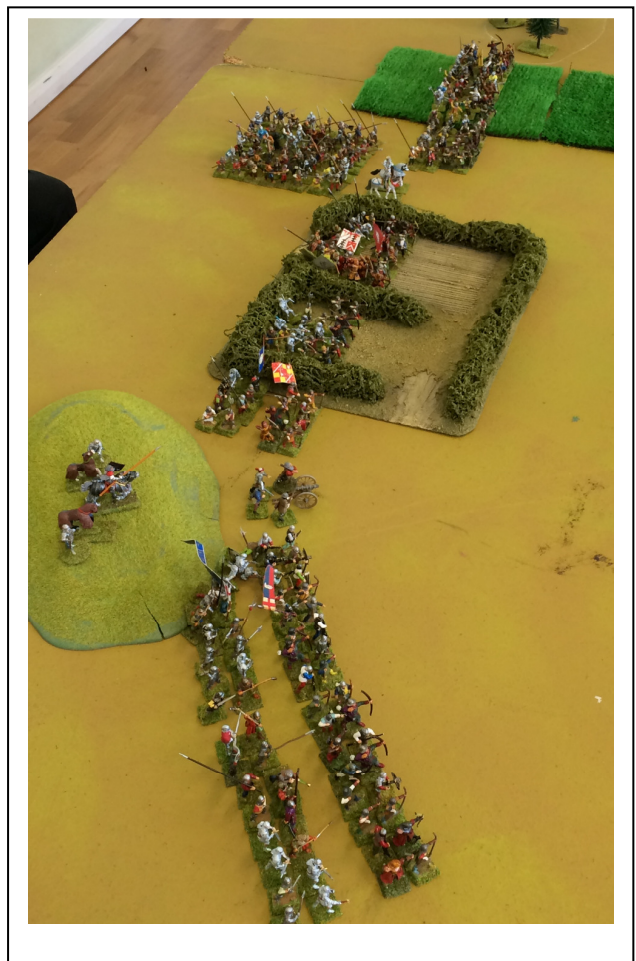
OTHER NOBLES: Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, The Earl of Oxford, Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers, Earl Rivers The Elder

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Jocquetta, Lady Rivers.

1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 4 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*).

King Edward's status decreased to 6; King Henry's is increased to 2.

**1<sup>st</sup> February 1462.** Being a true account of the Battle of Oxford. Having secured wide breeches in the city walls York advanced, opening up an 'arrowstorm' on the walls. Lancaster stormed out with a massed cavalry charge, sweeping away five Yorkist infantry units, Lord Lowe bravely leading the charge, but this slowed upon ploughed land. Earl Tolliday was unable to rally his troops to support this attack, and Yorkist crossfire caused the Lancastrian cavalry to pull back. Indeed, blundering Lord Hobbit's forces panicked and two units ran





back into the fleshpots of Oxford (treachery or incompetence?) for it is doubtful they attended university lectures or divine service. This spurred Earl Tolliday to advance, and for York gave Lord Lane the heart to counter-attack. Yet here didst Earl Lowe charge again to sweep away four Yorkist units, at which point Lord Lane ordered a retreat upon Winchester; scribes tittle-tattling the House of York is running scareder than a nun who had mislaid her habit and finds herself at one of King Edward's parties...

Due to the plague and economic depression *all recruiting of forces will henceforth cost double points.*

*The following rule changes have been suggested and (generally) adopted.*

- 1) All cavalry may only charge pole/pike armed foot when these are disordered.*
- 2) In all cases formations will be allowed a minimum of one move.*
- 3) Pole arms count as double-handed and long spears.*



After the Battle of Oxford Lord Lowe didst write:-

*Sires*

*Has Lord Rutland crossed the Rubicon? 'Things would have turned out a lot better for the York army with a better general'. If I were Lord Lane I'd probably be considering whether I felt valued, or just abandoned and now slighted by my supposed allies. There is always a place in House Lancaster for such an able and noble General such as Lord Lane should he wish to declare for King Henry. It's not too late to see the light Just sayin'.*

Peradventure. For the pestilence hath struck and Lady Mitchell and Lady Woodville have died, some allege in childbirth, though one was of too tender years, and one far too mature.

Heartened by Lancastrian success Lady Margaret Beaufort; her son Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond; and his uncle Jasper Tudor has declared for Lancaster. As has Lady Anne Neville, youngest daughter of the Earl of Warwick, given to wardship of Queen Margaret, for it is hoped she may become bethrothed to her son Edward of Lancaster, thereby to turn Lord Warwick 'the Kingmaker™' to House Lancaster. Earl Lincoln has likewise declared for Lancaster.

In further news Miles, Earl Milton has declared for York - King Edward also receiving aid from The King of France as both sides raise forces

As the Lancastrian army pursued York south King Edward launched an unsuccessful ambush (twice) - and the armies have met at Chieveley, bravely in their battle set, for March 15<sup>th</sup>.



ANNE NEVILLE - WYTCH  
OR NICE POSH BIRD FROM  
THE MIDLANDS ?

**15<sup>th</sup> March 1462.** As the day dawned for the Battle of Chieveley on March 15<sup>th</sup>, great hosts of Lords, of both York and Lancaster were found to be struck down by malaise, 'as though of Watneys they had drunk' (sic). As the armies camped uneasily, who was to know when next each would strike?

**Spring 1462.** As the malaise continued both armies drew off to quarters, the pious King Henry welcoming the extra time at penitence and prayer; King Edward the extra time drink and whore. Yet moves were afoot, and both armies met again on the same ground at Chieveley on May 17<sup>th</sup> 1462. Who would triumph? York or Lancaster? For if a glorious summer is coming, after a winter of discontent, if Lancastrians always pay their debts, will York have a cunning plan..?





## THE BATTLE OF CHIEVELEY - 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 1462

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue'.

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton, Earl Playle (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke Of Clarence, Earl Cardiff, Earl Milton, The French Ambassador (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (*and her friends 1 X D6-2). Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 9 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 8 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbit's as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln. Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville, Earl Rivers the Elder, Henry Tudor, Jasper Tudor, Earl Lincoln (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Margaret Beaufort (*enemy will lose 1 X D4 units of their choice on the day*), Lady Anne Neville (*enemy will lose 1 X D1 units of their choice on the day*). (*Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 4 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 10 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day. York MUST retreat to Winchester, Lancaster to Oxford. NPC Nobles may be 'brigaded' into additional cavalry units.



Just efore the battle Lord Easton didst write:-

*Sires*

*Let it be known that, thanks be to God, I have fully thus recovered from my grievous wounds and will, with full retinue, make quick travel to the place known as Chieveley before May 17th to re-unite with my King and join in battle with mine enemies.*

*Your humble servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds Castle.*

Peradventure. For the battle didst begin.

#### WHAT HAPPENED

- 1) Earl Purbrick was in battlefield control for York; Earl Lowe for Lancaster.
- 2) FOR LANCASTER: 'Standing at the back': King Henry, Queen Margaret, Lady Margaret Beaufort; Lady Anne Neville, sundry noble. FOR YORK: 'Standing at the back': Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends); King Edward; Richard, Duke of Gloucester; sundry nobles.
- 4) Lancaster deployed first, followed by York, the former losing no troops; the latter 6 X Archers, 4 X Men-at-arms and 4 X Cavalry. Forces at end of battle:

#### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbrick, Earl Brewer, Earl Easton, Earl Playle.

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senseless, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke of Clarence, Earl Cardiff, Earl Milton, The French Ambassador.

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (and her friends) (1 X D6-2).

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (1 gun and crew), 5 X units of Cavalry (6 miniatures per unit), 1 units of archers (16 miniatures per unit), 4 units of men-at-arms (10 miniatures per unit).

#### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln, Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville Earl Rivers, Earl Rivers The Elder, Henry Tudor, Jasper Tudor

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Margaret Beaufort, Lady Anne Neville.

1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 4 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures per unit*).

King Edward's status decreased to 5; King Henry's is increased to 3.

**17<sup>th</sup> May 1462.** Being a true account of the Battle of Chieveley. For t'was a grave defeat for House York. After Lancaster deployed York faffed around with the deployment, but didst then advance in array, their battles set, for they had great advantage of numbers. But woe to House York, for many were engaged in a flank march by Lord Rutland, whilst for Lancaster Lord Hobbit didst boldly charge in a desire to settle the issue before these troops could be brought to bear. At first this attack was stalled by Earl Easton's lowly archers miraculously

withstanding a cavalry charge, for his men do love the Earl for he gives them wine and much else, and they do call his 'The Earl's Luck'. Then didst Earl Lowe join his cavalry in pursuit of Earl Easton, who many in



Lancaster call turncoat and worse, and didst sweepingly breakthrough said Earl's stout archers. Earl Hobbit too pressed on, and there was much slaughter, and by the time Earl Rutland didst appear Earl Purbrick quit the field along with Lord Easton, the noble Earl Rutland covering the rout, for 'tis unfair to call such crushing losses a retreat. The Yorkist remnant didst them move upon Winchester, thence to London, The Lancastrians in position to follow-up... King Henry has ordered prayers in celebration; King Edward a skin of wine to drown his sorrows...

Due to the plague and economic depression *all recruiting of forces will continue to cost double points.*





**June 1462.** Then Lord Easton didst write:-

*Sires*

*First of all I would like to dispel a nasty rumour going around that I am a cowardly turncoat who runs away at the first opportunity. Let me say this – my horse was spooked by the devilish Lancastrian guns and my horse bolted – so there.*

*Your humble servant*

*Lord Easton of Ashburton, Earl of Essex, Sheriff of Nottingham, Justiciar of Essex, Duke of Kent and Steward of Leeds Castle.*

With King Henry's great victory many nobles and commoners have rallied to his cause, including Master Shore (merchant), Earl Norwich, Earl Southampton, Earl Newcastle, Earl Nottingham, Earl Mansfield, Earl Salisbury and Earl Grey of Tiffin, for with the plague and the economic downturn all forces must now be paid for to support, due to dislocation, the burden of war falling hard upon the people.

Then didst the Duke of Buckingham declare for York, and Lady Isobel Neville for Lancaster for, peradventure, she did not forget nor forgive her fear when held by Earl Easton; this leaving her father Lord Warwick 'The Kingmaker™' the only major noble yet to declare.

With reinforcements added did King Edward march for Tunbridge Wells, pursed by King Henry's now maximum host, and battle is once again to be drawn...



## THE BATTLE OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS - AUGUST 1462

The gamesmaster will set out the terrain, before deployment. We will then dice for 'removals', then for first deployment, one unit at a time for each side, followed by the placement of player character figures. *If we have insufficient miniatures we will scale down the game and will use 'HS' rules.* All units will be 'Knights' / 'Retinue'.

### YORK

MAIN NOBLES: Lord Rutland, Earl Purbeck & Escort, Earl Brewer, Earl Lane, Earl Easton, Earl Playle (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure*)

OTHER NOBLES: William Lord Stanley, Sir Roger de Senlesse, Duke Richard of Gloucester, King Edward IV, Earl Bristol, Earl Carlisle, Lord Hastings, George Duke Of Clarence, Earl Cardiff, Earl Milton, The French Ambassador, The Duke of Buckingham (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Geraldine Halliwell (*and her friends 1 X D6-2*). *Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 6 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 2 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

### LANCASTER

MAIN NOBLES: Earl Tolliday, Earl Lowe & Escort, Earl Hobbit, the Comte d'Monet (*player characters - please represent by a character by a character figure - Lord Hobbit's as Gallowglass*)

OTHER NOBLES: Earl Middlesex, Queen Margaret of Anjou, King Henry VI, Henry Lord Stanley, Earl Surrey, The Earl of Oxford, Earl Lincoln. Prince Edward of Lancaster, Anthony Woodville, Earl Rivers the Elder, Henry Tudor, Jasper Tudor, Master Shore (merchant), Earl Norwich, Earl Southampton, Earl Newcastle, Earl Nottingham, Earl Mansfield, Earl Salisbury and Earl Grey of Tiffin, (*will be attached to units or standing at the back watching*)

INFLUENTIAL LADIES: Lady Margaret Beaufort (*enemy will lose 1 X D4 units of their choice on the day*), Lady Anne Neville (*enemy will lose 1 X D1 units of their choice on the day*), Lady Isobel Neville (*enemy will lose 1 X D1 units of their choice on the day*). (*Will stand at the back and watch*)

UNITS: 1 X unit of artillery (*1 gun and crew*), 7 X units of Cavalry (*6 miniatures per unit*), 4 units of archers (*16 miniatures per unit*), 7 units of men-at-arms (*16 miniatures*).

The battle will end when one side seeks to quit the field and retreat, ready to fight another day. York MUST retreat to London, Lancaster to Winchester. NPC Nobles may be 'brigaded' into additional cavalry units.