

**THE TUDORS IN SUSSEX**  
**SEPTEMBER 2019 MONTHLY TALK**  
**BY PAUL ULLSON**

Paul Ullson was dressed in appropriate Tudor clothes and immediately held the interest of an extremely full audience.

This was a day of 'FIRSTS' for me! It was my first assignment since 'putting my hand up' to join the Arun West U3A Committee and thus was co-opted onto their Talks Team.

My first attendance at a Monthly Talk. My first meeting with this brilliant Historian, Mr. Paul Ullson, and my very first attempt at closing a Meeting and saying 'thank you' for a very enjoyable afternoon.

I thought I had a reasonable knowledge of the Tudor period - I soon realised I only had the framework. The in-depth picture portrayed by Paul was far more illuminating and informative than expected and he made the point that the subject of history covered by schools put too great an emphasis on the dates Kings and Queens reigned - Chronology.

He took us back to the Plantagenet King Henry V to show us how the Tudor lineage started during the Hundred Years' War with France and the Houses of York and Lancaster, ending with the War of the Roses and Henry VII on the throne. This was a period of conspiracy, betrayal, wars, power struggles, murder, mass murder, torture, state trials and executions, bloodshed and inhumanity. MERCY was an unknown word!

His talk covered all the Tudor Kings and Queens. He spoke of Owen Tudor who married Catherine de Valois, the widow of Henry V. He was also the grandfather of Henry VII thus initiating the House of Tudor and he told us to remember this name. Owen Tudor was captured early during the War of the Roses and beheaded at Hereford.

The Tudors succeeded the House of Plantagenet. Henry VII was the first Tudor monarch descending through his mother from the Royal House of Lancaster. Henry VII married Elizabeth of York, thus uniting the two royal houses and ending the War of the Roses.

Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I, Elizabeth I, were all discussed in great detail. An amazing afternoon.

Jennie Marchant

