

The Year of Three Kings

Christopher Wilkins

24 September 2026

***The Year of Three Kings* captures a world where loyalty is fragile, war is brutal and personal ambition can both motivate and endanger.**

The year 1483 would become known to history as the 'Year of Three Kings', with the rapid and dramatic succession of English kings Edward IV, Edward V (his son) and Richard III. As the Wars of the Roses sweep towards their dramatic conclusion, Robert, a young Scot, is drawn into this whirl of events with secret missions and delicate tasks. His exploits include purloining a fortune in gold, an attempted assassination and becoming embroiled in a disastrous rebellion in Wales, where he rescues a duchess. Amid the political chaos, Robert struggles with questions of honour, identity and survival as the Year of Three Kings plays out.

Christopher Wilkins served in the Welsh Guards in London and on active service in Aden and the Oman. He left the Army and joined the Sunday Times, later establishing a free-sheet newspaper with a circulation of 100,000. He was founding chairman of an intelligence-gathering organisation he named 'Hakluyt', which continues to flourish. Until recently he was the chairman of a renewable energy company. He is on the Advisory Board of Global Strategy Forum, a nonpolitical organisation for discussion and debate on foreign, defence and security matters. Christopher's previous publications include a biography of Edward Woodville, *The Last Knight Errant: Sir Edward Woodville and the Age of Chivalry*, which was published by Bloomsbury in 2010.

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Author Christopher Wilkins

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Endorsements for The Year of Three Kings

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“Never has the 15th century seemed more relevant to the modern day. A gripping read.”
– **Dom Joly, writer and comedian**

“Enthralling ... this novel brings to light a chapter of history that is both important and little understood – I wanted it to go on!” – **Kevin Tebbit, former permanent secretary at the Ministry of Defence**

“What a splendid read! Wilkins has remarkable mastery of the historical context, and of the minutiae of the lives of so many fascinating characters. Robert Elliot has a winning personality.” – **Sir Robertson Young, former high commissioner to India**

“Story telling of a very high order of loves and battles in the borderlands of 15thC Scotland & England.” – **David Campbell, publisher of Everyman Books**

“A vivid and consistently imagined recreation of the swirl of events and personalities that saw the end of the Plantagenet era, told with a strikingly pinpoint command of historical detail.” – **Professor Gordon Turnbull, general editor of the Yale Boswell Editions**

“The whole thing combines exciting, non stop action with politically savvy and fascinating background context and structure.” – **Stephen Romer, poet, essayist and stipendiary lecturer, University of Oxford**

“Wilkins’ genius lies in his talent for weaving fascinating nuggets of historical detail into a thrilling plot with a rich cast of characters. The result is both a vivid depiction of life in the late fifteenth century and an utterly gripping adventure story. I could not recommend The Year of Three Kings more highly!” – **Jacqueline Jinks, director, Global Strategy Forum**

“Christopher Wilkins’s book is a gripping read...a tale of 15th Century power, patronage, plotting and intrigue, founded on deep knowledge of the history of the time, and written with the pace, narrative, twists and turns of a 21st Century thriller. A thoroughly enjoyable read.” – **Lieutenant General Sir James Bucknall, former commander of the NATO Rapid Reaction Corps**