

TOPIC: The Stuarts (1603-1714)

After the Tudors come the Stuarts, beginning with James I who became King of England in 1603. James was unpopular and he was nearly blown up by Guy Fawkes in the famous Gunpowder Plot of 1605. His son Charles quarrelled with Parliament and led the country into a terrible civil war, losing his head in the process, but his son Charles II was restored to the throne after the death of Oliver Cromwell. The period was dominated by religious conflict, culminating in the Glorious Revolution which saw England's last catholic King, and superstitious 'witchcraft' beliefs. However, it was also marked by advances in science during the enlightenment.



TIMELINE:		KEY PEOPLE:	WHAT THEY DID?
1603	James I (VI Scotland) becomes King after death of Queen Elizabeth I	Robert Catesby	Catholic ringleader and planner of the Gunpowder Plot
1605	(Nov 5) Gunpowder Plot led by Guy Fawkes & Robert Catesby is foiled	Robert Cecil	James I's chief minister, discoverer of Gunpowder Plot
1620	Pilgrim Fathers (puritans) set sail from Plymouth for the New World	King Charles I	Ruled from 1625 to 1649 & whose mistakes led to civil war
1625	Charles I becomes King of England & Scotland after death of James I	King Charles II	Restored to the throne in 1660 and ruled until 1685
1629	Charles I closes down Parliament after a rowing about money & taxes	Oliver Cromwell	Parliament's greatest general / became Lord Protector
1642	The English Civil War begins - between Royalists & Parliamentarians	Guy (Guido) Fawkes	Ex-soldier - prepared the explosives in the Gunpowder Plot
1646	Royalists surrender after heavy defeats at Marston Moor and Naseby	Queen Henrietta Maria	French catholic princess who became wife of Charles I
1649	King Charles I is put on trial for treason and then executed in London	Matthew Hopkins	'Witch-finder General' who caught over 200 witches
1653	Oliver Cromwell becomes Lord Protector of England as there is no King	King James I (VI)	Son of Mary Queen of Scots – invited to be King of England
1660	The monarchy is restored to the throne – Charles II is crowned King	King James II	Younger catholic brother of Charles II – overthrown in 1688
1665	Great Plague returns and decimates London during a long hot summer	Lord Monteagle	Catholic nobleman – sent a letter about the Gunpowder Plot
1666	Great Fire of London destroys the city including old St. Paul's Cathedral	Samuel Pepys	Famous diarist – witness to Great Plague & Fire of London
1688	Glorious Revolution – catholic James II replaced by William of Orange	Prince Rupert	Dashing Royalist cavalry commander during the civil war
1714	Death of Queen Anne – last of the Stuarts – followed by Hanoverians	William of Orange	Protestant Dutch prince who became King of England

KEY VOCABULARY:

Accession	When a 'monarch in waiting' takes over the throne	Interregnum	Commonwealth period (1649-60) when England had no King
Assassination	A murder carried out for political or religious reasons	Lord Protector	Title to given to Oliver Cromwell after King Charles I's death
Cavalry	Soldiers who fought on horseback in the Civil War	Monarch	A 'gender-neutral' word used to describe a King or Queen
Civil War	War where a country splits and begins fighting itself	Musketeer	Soldiers who fought with muskets during the Civil War
Divine Right of Kings	Ancient belief that Kings were chosen by God to rule	New Model Army	Professional army created by Cromwell to win the Civil War
Enlightenment	When people used science & reason to understand the world	Parliamentarian	Supporter of Parliament in the civil war (see also Roundhead)
Executed	When a prisoner is put to death, e.g. by beheading	Puritan	Protestant with strong beliefs about worship and the Bible
Familiar (of a witch)	Demon disguised as an animal, e.g. black cat or a toad!	Radical	Person with extreme beliefs about ruling the country
Glorious Revolution	When William & Mary became King & Queen of England	Republic	Country that is ruled without a monarch, e.g. the USA
Great Plague	Seventeenth century version of the medieval Black Death	Royalist	Supporter of the King in the Civil War (see also Cavalier)
Infantry	Soldiers who fought on foot with pikes in the Civil War	Treason	A serious crime committed against the monarch/state

