

Guy Fawkes/Bonfire Night

Guy Fawkes night is a tradition dating back to 1605. It is nowadays also known as Bonfire Night; it takes place each year on the 5th November. A man called Guy Fawkes attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament and kill King James I using 36 barrels of gunpowder. His reason for this was because England was a Protestant country at the time but he was a Catholic and wanted England to be a Catholic country. He hatched a plan with a group of other people which is now known as the 'Gunpowder plot'. However, his plan failed as the police found out what was going to happen the night before. Guy Fawkes was arrested for treason and burnt at the stake for his crimes. King James I ordered everyone to have a bonfire on the 5th November to celebrate capturing the criminals.

Nowadays, Bonfire Night is a very popular cultural event in England. Firework displays are held up and down the country and models of Guy Fawkes are made with old clothes which are stuffed with newspaper. These models are thrown onto bonfires to symbolise the burning of Guy Fawkes.

Many people hold garden parties on this night and buy their own fireworks and sparklers. Food is also an important aspect of Bonfire Night, people tend to eat jacket potatoes and hotdogs and also toast marshmallows on the bonfire. For me, I consider Bonfire Night to be the start of winter and the build up to Christmas.