

Guy Fawkes/ Bonfire or FIREWORKS Night

- It's a serious affair for the British

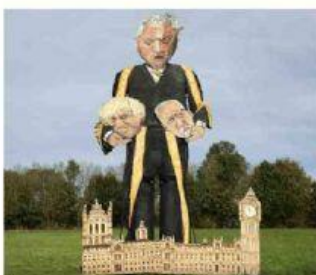
Until 1859 it was compulsory by Royal Decree to celebrate this event in every town in the land!

The celebration marks the failed attempt on 5th November in 1605 to blow up England's **Houses of Parliament** by a group of Catholics. The **Gunpowder Plot** aimed to replace the Protestant King James I with a Catholic queen. The **36 barrels** of an estimated **2,500kg** of gunpowder being guarded by the ill-fated **Guy Fawkes** would, if successful have significantly changed the face of London as we know it causing chaos and devastation over a near **500m** radius.



Nowadays we see a more **secular** enjoyment of this historical occasion with some considering it the perfect reason for an official national holiday. Due to clear safety concerns recent years have seen less privately held **firework** and **bonfire** events in preference to larger official town displays. These are often professionally managed by the local fire brigade or military personnel.

Giant bonfires are typically topped with an **effigy** of Guy Fawkes. In the days leading up to 5th November children would make **guys** like scarecrows from old clothes and ask "Penny for the Guy?". Now effigies are often made of other noteworthy modern personalities which are publicly



paraded to raise funds for their communal bonfire and firework events. In the ongoing effort to impress, some effigy choices have, perhaps unsurprisingly been contentious. Previous **politicians** and **notorious celebrity** effigies with the honour of being burnt include: Boris Johnson, Jeremy Corbyn, John Bercow, Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin, Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden, Harvey Weinstein and Wayne Rooney.

Odd One Out:

(identify the word in each line that doesn't belong)

- 1) Donald Trump, Wayne Rooney, Saddam Hussein, Clothes, Boris Johnson
- 2) Fire Brigade, Military, Houses of Parliament, Politics, Royalty
- 3) King, London, Houses of Parliament, England, Town
- 4) Gunpowder, Fireworks, 1605, Effigy, Bonfire, Blow-up
- 5) 500m, Boris Johnson, 36 Barrels, 2500kg
- 6) Plot, Conspiracy, Catholic, Penny, Protestant
- 7) 1859, 5th November, 1605, Scarecrow
- 8) Event, Catholic, Display, Holiday, Parade, Celebration, Milestone

Category Connect:

(draw a line)

Guy Fawkes
Dates
Occasions
Places
Celebrities
In Flames
Measures
Professions