

Guy Fawkes Day



Who is Guy Fawkes?

Lived: 13 April 1570 – 31 January 1606

- Converted to Catholicism from Anglicanism and went to Catholic Spain.
 - Fought for Spain against Protestant Dutch reformers. Travelled to Spain to seek support for a Catholic rebellion in England but was unsuccessful.

Gunpowder Plot

- Fawkes introduced to Robert Catesby, who planned to assassinate King James I and restore a Catholic monarch to the throne.
- The plotters secured the lease to an undercroft beneath the House of Lords, and Fawkes was placed in charge of the gunpowder they stockpiled there.
- Authorities received an anonymous letter and so they searched Westminster Palace during the early hours of November 5th, and found Fawkes guarding the explosives.



Gunpowder Plot (cont.)

- Over the next few days, he was questioned and tortured, and eventually he broke. Immediately before his execution on January 31st, Fawkes jumped from the scaffold where he was to be hanged and broke his neck, thus avoiding the agony of the mutilation that followed.
- Fawkes became synonymous with the Gunpowder Plot, the failure of which has been commemorated in England since November 5th, 1605.
- His effigy is traditionally burned on a bonfire, commonly accompanied by a firework display.

REMEMBER,
REMEMBER,
THE FIFTH OF
NOVEMBER...

*Remember, remember, the 5th of November
The Gunpowder Treason and plot;
I know of no reason why Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be forgot.*







Modern Day England

- Started on November 5th, 1605 when English citizens celebrated that King James had survived the assassination attempt and burnt fires.

Today

- The present-day Guy Fawkes Night is usually celebrated at large organized events, centered around a bonfire with extravagant firework displays.



America's Past



- Until the American Revolution it was a popular holiday to celebrate in the American colonies.
- Last known American location to celebrate it?
 - Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in 1892.

Popular Culture Today....



V for Vendetta

(2005)

Popular Culture Today (cont.)

- Anarchy, social change, anti-government, anti-establishment



ANONYMOUS

We are Legion. We do not forgive. We do not forget. Expect us.