

# WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE ON THE TRAIL?

In November 1605 a small group of young men, including Guy Fawkes, attempted to assassinate the King of England and Scotland, and all the nobles, bishops, and members of the House of Commons in one fell swoop.

The plan involved hiding 36 barrels of gunpowder under the House of Lords, to be detonated at the time of the State Opening of Parliament. Four centuries later this event is still commemorated by bonfires and fireworks.

Who were these men and why did they plan such a stupendous act of treason? Why did 5 November become such a significant date in the calendar? What relevance does this event have for our own times?

To mark the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot a range of partner institutions have devised a series of *Gunpowder Plot 400* events that seek to answer these questions. By following the Gunpowder Trail you can discover the Gunpowder Plot for yourself.

## Houses of Parliament

Information: 020 7219 4272  
London SW1  
🚶 Westminster  
🚶 Victoria

### The Gunpowder Plot: Parliament and Treason in 1605

Monday – Friday, 10am – 5pm  
(20 July – 18 November 2005)  
Saturday 10am – 5pm  
(1 August – 5 October 2005)  
For details of Saturday opening at other times please telephone or visit our website.

This free exhibition in Westminster Hall will provide an introduction to the events of 1605 in a location close to the scene of the actual events. The religious background of the conspiracy will be explained in both a European context and in relation to political events in England before the accession of James I and afterwards. The relationship between the House of Lords as it was then and the present buildings will be described as will the discovery of the plot and the eventual execution nearby of Guy Fawkes and some of the other conspirators. The connection between these events and the celebrations held on 5 November for 400 years will be explored.

## HM Tower of London

Advance tickets and information: 0870 756 7070  
Tower Hill  
London EC3  
🚶 Tower Hill, Bank,  
Tower Gateway DLR  
🚶 Fenchurch St,  
London Bridge

### Gunpowder Treason

2 July 2005 – 30 June 2006  
The Tower of London played a key role in the Gunpowder Plot story. The gunpowder explosives planted under the House of Lords were sent to the Tower after the discovery, the leading conspirators were imprisoned there and Guy Fawkes was interrogated and tortured there. Seven conspirators including Fawkes left the Tower gates for execution.

Presented in conjunction with the Royal Armouries, this new audio-visual display will tell the Tower's story of the arrest, imprisonment, torture and death of Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plotters. It will emphasise the continuing historical importance of the Gunpowder Plot with regards to contemporary political events, religious terrorism and conspiracy investigations. Costumed events on the theme of Guy Fawkes are also planned throughout 2005.

## National Portrait Gallery

Tel: 020 7306 0055  
St Martin's Place  
London WC2  
🚶 Leicester Square  
🚶 Charing Cross

### Gunpowder, Treason and Plot

17 September –  
18 December 2005  
Open daily 10am – 6pm,  
Thursday & Friday until 9pm

This display of paintings and engravings in Room 4 will provide a visual and historical context for the events commemorated on Bonfire Night, focussing on key figures involved in the Gunpowder Plot. Guy Fawkes and his fellow conspirators will be shown alongside those they sought to overthrow. It will be accompanied by a series of related lectures and room talks.

## The National Archives

Tel: 020 8392 5202  
Ruskin Avenue  
Kew, Richmond, Surrey  
🚶 🚶 Kew Gardens

### Display of signed confessions of Guy Fawkes

1 October –  
19 November 2005  
The signed confessions will be on display in the museum and online at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/events](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/events)

### Gunpowder 400: The People and the Plot

5 November 2005, 12 noon  
Tickets: £5/£4 concs

Everyone has heard of Guy Fawkes, but who were the other people behind the plot? Join Mark Nicholls, fellow of St John's College Cambridge, and author of *Investigating the Gunpowder Plot*, who will give his views on the subject. Who were the conspirators, what brought them together and what did they hope to achieve?

## Shakespeare's Globe Exhibition

Information: 020 7902 1500  
Bankside  
London SE1  
🚶 🚶 London Bridge

### He Who Whispers: Shakespeare and the Gunpowder Plot

April 2005 – February 2006  
Shakespeare and The King's Men first performed *Macbeth* in 1606, showing their loyalty to the Crown in response to the plot to kill King James I. But what do we really know about Guy Fawkes and the Catholic conspirators? Did the Government conceal its intelligence until the last minute? Did Robert Cecil, Lord Salisbury the Spymaster General, use the Plot for his own ends?

Was Shakespeare's London justifiably paranoid about invasion from the European Catholic superpowers?

In partnership with the Metropolitan Police and The National Archives, we will look beyond the traditional story surrounding the events of 5 November 1605. Uncover the facts behind the fireworks!

## City of Westminster Archives Centre

Tel: 020 7641 5180  
St Ann's Street  
London SW1  
🚶 Victoria  
🚶 St James's Park,  
Westminster

### Westminster City Archives November 5th at Tower Hill

The Sub Rosa Theatre Company and the City of Westminster Archives Centre join forces to present an explosive new play based on the story of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. The premiere performance of the play will take place on Tower Hill on 5 November 2005.

### Remember, Remember

An exhibition about Westminster and the Gunpowder Plot will be held at City of Westminster Archives Centre from September to December 2005.

## Museum of London

Info & tickets: 0870 444 3850  
London Wall  
London EC2  
🚶 St Paul's, Barbican

### Understanding Guy Fawkes

Study day, 5 November 2005  
Family events, 6 November 2005  
This will feature speakers on the destruction of the Catholic fabric of London in post-Reformation times, the function of the Elizabethan and Jacobean secret police, what the Jesuits now think of how they were held responsible for the Plot (and why are the conspirators not saints?) and the parallels with modern movements or groups which use bombs with the intention of bringing about regime change.

## Hatfield House

Tel 01707 287010  
Hertfordshire AL9 5RQ  
🚶 Hatfield

Visit this great house, built by Robert Cecil, the King's chief minister who unmasked the Gunpowder Plot.

Easter Saturday (26 March) –  
28 September,  
Saturday – Wednesday only.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE ON THE TRAIL?

## Royal Gunpowder Mills

Information: 01992 707370  
Beaulieu Drive  
Waltham Abbey, Essex  
⇒ Waltham Cross

### Robert Catesby's Last Stand

10 & 11 September 2005

A costumed re-enactment which follows the fleeing plotters after Guy Fawkes' arrest and torture. It will be accompanied by **Remember Remember...** an illustrated talk that takes a close look at the background of the Gunpowder Plot.

### Guy Fawkes Experience

24 & 25 September 2005

Family event with children's activities. Discover the story of gunpowder treason and plot through lights and lamps, Stuart foods, Stuart dance and games, secret messages and meet the Ghost of Guy Fawkes.

### Gunpowder, Treason and Plot

31 October – 11 November 2005 (excluding weekends)

Educational events for Key Stages 1 & 2 (School visits only)

## Coughton Court

Information: 01789 400777  
Near Alcester, Warwickshire  
⇒ Birmingham International

Coughton Court is the ancestral home of the Throckmorton Family, of which four of the plotters were members. Sir Everard Digby and his wife were living at the Court at the time of the Plot. The current owner, Mrs Throckmorton, is marking the 400th anniversary with a series of events during 2005.

### Gunpowder Plot Exhibition

Opening of exhibition and anniversary events by David Starkey on 21 April 2005

### Anniversary events

11 June: *The Powder Treason*  
A costumed historical demonstration

2 July: *The Gunpowder Plot in Print*, Father Abbott Geoffrey Scott OSB

23 & 24 July: *Living History 1605*, Gunpowder Plot Lifestyle Re-enactment

August: Gunpowder Plot Fayre children's bookfest

September: Gunpowder Plot Fayre walks and talks

10 September: *Are Monks Museum Pieces?* Father Boniface

22 October: *The York Waits*  
Gunpowder Plot entertainers with traditional Tudor music

5 November: Fireworks Spectacular and 1605 Gunpowder Plot Fayre

## Royal Shakespeare Company

Tickets: 0870 609 1110  
The Swan Theatre,  
Stratford-Upon-Avon  
⇒ Stratford, Warwick Parkway

### Gunpowder

9 March – 5 November 2005

In the 400th Anniversary year of the Plot, the RSC presents an explosive season of political drama entitled *Gunpowder*. Shakespeare and his contemporaries were dramatists to England's most conflicted times. 400 years on, the RSC presents five plays from both then and now. The season in the Swan Theatre culminates with a specially commissioned new play by Frank McGuinness, with its final performance on Saturday 5 November.

In order of opening, the plays are:  
*Thomas More* by Shakespeare, Munday and Chettle  
*A New Way to Please You* by Middleton, Rowley and Massinger  
*Believe What You Will* by Philip Massinger  
*Sejanus – His Fall* by Ben Jonson  
*Speaking Like Magpies* by Frank McGuinness

## Syon House

Tel: 020 8560 0882  
Syon Park  
Brentford, Middlesex  
⇒ Brentford

**Special Events** at Syon House to commemorate the links between Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland, and Thomas Percy, with the Gunpowder Plot.

29 & 30 May 2005  
Baroque 'n' Roll present Jacobean music and dance.

29 May – 30 October 2005  
**The Percys and the Plot Exhibition**  
(Wed, Thurs, Sun only)

30 October 2005  
**Malicious Mayhem and Mania**  
Re-enactors take you through the events leading up to 5 November 1605.

4 November 2005  
Evening lecture (ticket only) – on the day Henry and Thomas Percy dined at Syon 400 years ago.

**Other events about the Percys and the Gunpowder Plot will be taking place at:**

### Alnwick Castle

Tel: 01665 510777  
Northumberland  
⇒ Alnmouth (5 miles)

### Petworth House

Tel: 01798 344970  
West Sussex  
⇒ Pulborough (5¼ miles)

# GUNPOWDER, TREASON & PLOT

## 400TH ANNIVERSARY

# THE GUNPOWDER TRAIL



Detail from *The Gunpowder Plot Conspirators, 1605*, by an unknown artist:  
National Portrait Gallery, London.

Gunpowder Plot 400 logo: Parliamentary Copyright House of Lords 2005.  
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Visitors are advised to check details in advance.  
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[www.royalgunpowdermills.com](http://www.royalgunpowdermills.com) ..... [www.coughtoncourt.co.uk](http://www.coughtoncourt.co.uk) .....

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