



Local History – The Civil War Knowledge Organiser

Key Events

1603	Elizabeth I dies, James VI of Scotland becomes James I of England
1605	Gunpowder Plot – Catholic plan to blow up Parliament and King James.
1625	James I dies - his oldest son Charles becomes King Charles I.
1629	The Personal Rule of Charles I starts - he closes down Parliament for 11 years.
1640	The Personal Rule comes to an end – Parliament is reopened
1642	The English Civil War starts
1649	Execution of Charles I
1653	Oliver Cromwell is made Lord Protector of England.
1660	Restoration of the Monarchy – Charles II becomes King
1665	The Great Plague of London



Key vocabulary

Divine rights of Kings	Belief that Kings power came from God and therefore nobody could defy them
Treason	The crime of acting to overthrow the government or harm/kill the monarch
Monarch	Usually a King or Queen
Parliament	Body of chosen representatives that run Great Britain
Dragoon	Cavalry soldier who fought on foot
Cavalry	Soldier who rides a horse into battle
Pike-men	Soldiers who carried long 10ft spears called pikes
Government	The people that rules the country or place
Restoration	The return of monarchs to the throne of England
Cavaliers	Nickname given to supporters of Charles
Roundheads	Nickname given to supporters of Parliament
Royalists	A person who supports the principle of monarchy or a particular monarchy.

Key People



Oliver Cromwell was an MP, who rose to fame due to New Model Army in the English Civil War. After the war, he was one of the MP's who signed Charles I death warrant. He later became Lord Protector of England, leader of England until his death in 1658.



Charles I

The eldest son on James I, Charles also believed in the Divine Right of Kings. This led to arguments with Parliament, which in the end led to the English Civil War. Charles eventually loses, and is the only King to be put on trial and executed by the country.

Siege of Basing House



Basing House was attacked by Parliamentary troops on 3 occasions. The final assault came in August 1645 when 800 men took up position around the walls. The garrison held out, despite further reinforcements to the attacking force, until Oliver Cromwell himself arrived with heavy artillery. By 13 October 1645, the walls of the house had been breached, Cromwell stormed the site and left it a burning ruin

 Royalists (also known as Cavaliers)	 Parliamentarians (also known as Roundheads)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fought for King Charles I Some were Catholic Often had long hair Often wore fancy clothes and hats with feathers in them They surrendered and were defeated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Found for parliament Oliver Cromwell was an officer Most were Protestant Often had their hair cut short, which gave them the name Roundheads Often wore round helmets