

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT

5TH NOVEMBER 1605

Causes

Protestant King James I passed harsh laws against Catholics - the plot aimed to kill him and restore Catholicism as England's official religion

1605 Thanksgiving Act - 5th November commemorated every year

Catholics forced to swear oath of allegiance to monarch

Catholics restricted from being MPs or voting

Consequences

Lasting effect on treatment of Catholics

Events

1

Robert Catesby plotted with a group of Catholics to blow up Parliament, killing the King and replacing him with a Catholic

2

Guy Fawkes filled the vaults below Parliament with 36 barrels of gunpowder - but an anonymous letter warned Robert Cecil of the plan (King's chief minister)

3

Fawkes was discovered and arrested, then tortured at the Tower of London to name the other plotters - they were found guilty of treason and hung, drawn and quartered

