



# 5 November GUY FAWKES

## A HISTORIC MOMENT

**London.** *The Houses of Parliament. Midnight.*

*Rats move in the cellar. It's dark and cold. Then, footsteps on the stone floor. A light is coming. The rats hide in the shadows and a man enters the cellar. He is carrying a lantern and his breath smokes in the cold November air.*

*Tonight is the night. He kneels down next to a pile of wood and starts to move the sticks. Then he hears voices. People are coming. Quickly he goes to the door. But it is too late ...*

*"We arrest you in the name of the king!"*

*Behind the pile of wood they found 36 barrels of gunpowder - enough to blow the whole building sky high.*

**The assassin:** Guy Fawkes.

**The plan:** To blow up the Houses of Parliament with King James and all his ministers.

**The mistake:** One of Guy Fawkes' friends wrote a letter to a relative. It told <sup>Guido Fawkes</sup> <sup>Robert</sup> <sup>Win</sup> not to be in the Houses of Parliament on November the fifth. The relative gave the letter to the king.

**The price:** Death. Guy Fawkes was executed.

Today (the 5th of November) became a day of fun. It's all celebrating with lighting bonfires. And the top of the model of Guy Fawkes! As he burns children

*"Remember, remember, the Fifth of November  
Gunpowder Treason and Plot;  
I see no reason why Gunpowder Treason  
Should ever be forgot."*

### THE DAY MY DAD WENT MAD!

I remember one year we made an excellent Guy. My dad gave me and my brother his old trousers and jacket. We stuffed them with paper and made a head out of a bag full of rubbish. We used my broken football boots for his feet and some rubber gloves for hands.

The evening came and we put him on top of the bonfire. The whole family were there and we had a great time! We lit fireworks, cooked potatoes in the fire and everything.

But next morning, my dad went crazy! He was taking the bonfire ashes away when he saw something - a half burnt wallet. Inside were some coins and three half-burnt twenty pound notes. Nobody had remembered to check the pockets.

Jason 17

**Bonfire Night Humour**

**Amy:** What do you eat your potatoes with on bonfire night?

**Gary:** Guy forks.

### A DOG'S LIFE

Bonfire Night is a nightmare for cats and dogs. They don't like the loud bangs made by the fireworks. So we weren't surprised when our friends asked us to look after their golden retriever. They wanted to go to the public display. We said it was no problem because we weren't going anywhere.

They brought Sam - that's the dog's name - to our house at 7 pm. Then they left. At first everything was OK. Then the dog wanted to go to the toilet outside. I opened the back door. Big mistake!

Our neighbours were having a bonfire party. An air bomb exploded above the house and the dog started to howl. I tried to get it inside but it ran away. I ran after it. I could hear the bang and whizz of fireworks. The dog was in total panic. It went straight through the hedge and onto the road. Thank God there were no cars!

It took me an hour to find him. He was hiding in a ditch. When I tried to pat his head he bit my hand.

Now I know why fireworks are dangerous!

### FIREWORK FACTS

**Holy Smoke!**  
Fireworks were used in China 2000 years ago to celebrate religious events. Jesus was alive at this time.

**The Big Bang**  
Some of the rockets they used were three metres long. The rockets were attached to ten metre bamboo poles.

**Expensive Explosions**  
In the UK you have to be 16 years old to buy fireworks. If anyone sells fireworks to a child under 16 they may have to pay a £5000 fine.

**Handle with Care**  
Bangers cause more accidents than any other type of firework. In the UK one person per year dies because of an accident with a firework.