

Restoration and Great Fire of London – Year 4

Monday 3rd September 1666
The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666
St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Timeline of Events

Sunday 2nd September 1666
The fire starts at 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

Wednesday 5th September 1666
The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666
The fire is finally put out.
Thousands of people are left homeless.

The Restoration 1660

1658 1659 1660 1660/1661 1670s

Cromwell died in 1658. He nominated his son to be the Lord Protector, but Richard Cromwell did not have the drive or desire for leadership that his father had.

There were other problems too:-
The RUMP PARLIAMENT was restored in December 1659.

There was no successor to Cromwell who was acceptable to both the army and to parliament. It was clear that the government could not work without a king or a king-like figure.

Parliament contacted Charles II, Charles I's son.



In April 1660 Charles accepted parliament's terms for a return. Some of these terms were:

- Charles controlled the army, but not parliament.
- Charles II could not raise tax without Parliament.
- Charles did not have to call parliament, but he did every year.

Charles returned to London and his RESTORATION was met with cheering crowds.

Straightaway he had some issues to deal with

- In the DECLARATION OF BREDA he promised to forgive and forget those who killed his father.
- Charles made all religious groups conform to the Church of England. (People were fined for not going to church. There was a common Anglican prayer book that all churches had to use.)

Charles II was a good ruler. However, in the 1670s and 1680s many people thought he was too sympathetic to Catholicism.

- A political group called the WHIGS were formed who wanted to limit Charles and prevent his Catholic brother, James from being King.
- Another group called THE TORIES opposed the WHIGS and supported Charles and James.



Charles I



Charles II



James II



Oliver Cromwell



William & Mary - Glorious Revolution

Key Vocabulary

- Bakery** – a place that makes bread, cakes etc.
- Diary** – a book that people write about their lives in.
- Eyewitness** – a person who has seen something and can give a description of it.
- Firebreak** – a gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
- Fire hooks** – a giant hook used to pull down houses.
- Flammable** – when something burns easily.
- Leather bucket** – leather was used to make buckets before plastic was invented.
- London** – the capital city of England and the United Kingdom.
- Pudding Lane** – the street where the fire started.
- St. Paul's Cathedral** – A very large church in London which burnt down during the fire. A new St. Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
- Tower of London** – where King Charles II lived in 1666. The fire was stopped just before it reached the palace.

