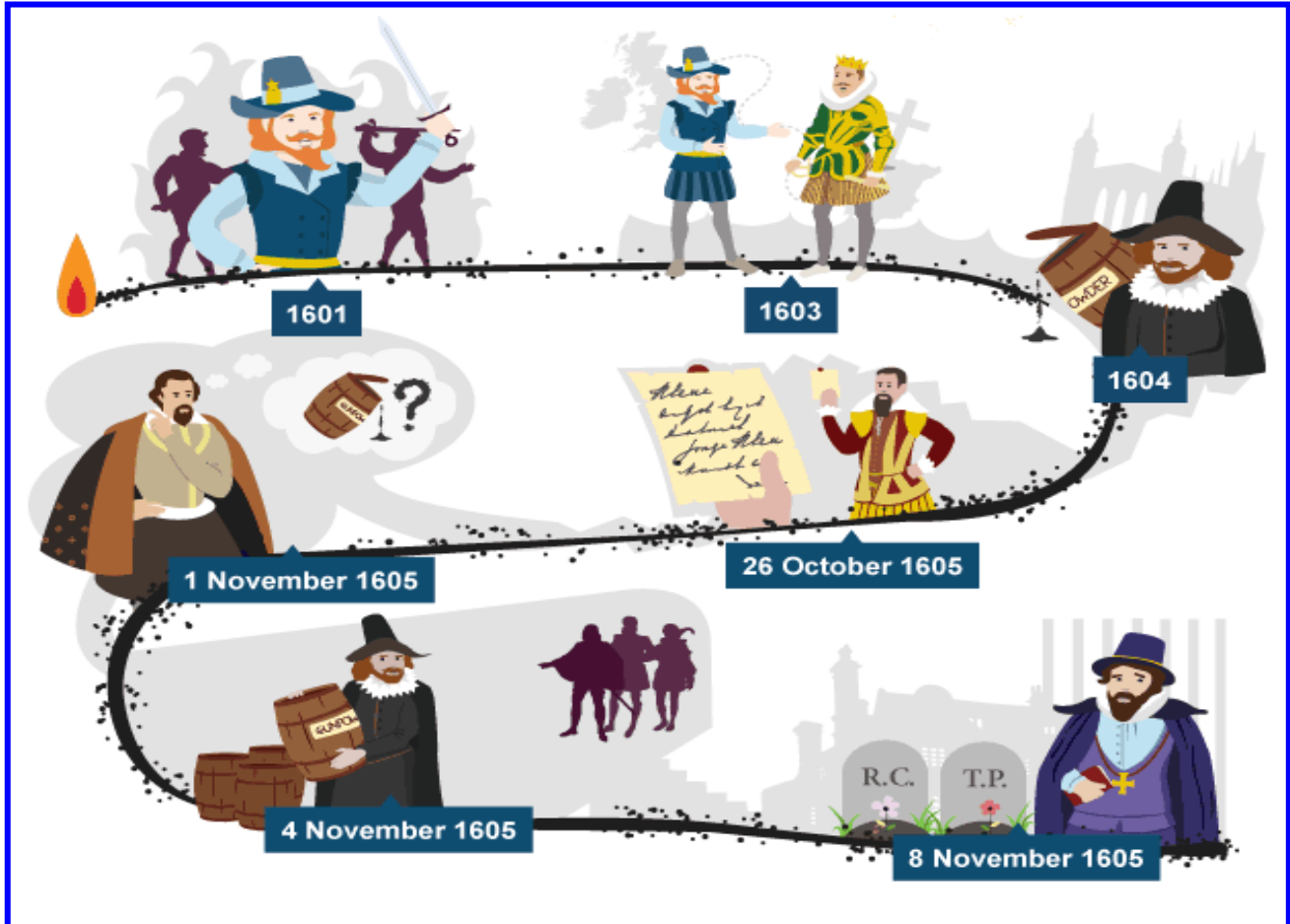


Guy Fawkes

The plot

Here is a timeline of events surrounding the Gunpowder Plot from a 17th-century government report. It's worth remembering this is based on the confessions of the plotters, which were obtained under torture:



1. Robert Catesby takes part in the **Earl of Essex's 1601 rebellion**, but is pardoned.
2. In 1603, he tries unsuccessfully to persuade the **King of Spain** to invade England.
3. In 1604 he returns to England, where he recruits other Catholics to join a **plot to kill James**. One of them is **Guy Fawkes**. The group plans to **blow up the House of Lords** when King James comes to open Parliament on 5 November. At first they try to dig a tunnel from a nearby house. When this fails, one of the plotters – Thomas Percy – rents a cellar underneath the House of Lords. Fawkes buys 36 barrels of gunpowder.
4. On 26 October 1605, ten days before Parliament is due to meet, **Lord Mont eagle** got an anonymous letter warning him not to go. It says: they shall receive a terrible blow this Parliament; and yet they shall not see who hurts them. Monteaule takes it to the king. The plotters realize they are discovered, but decide to carry on anyway.
5. 1 November: when he sees the letter, **James** realizes that it means some plot of gunpowder.
4 November: **Fawkes** is caught red-handed with the gunpowder.
6. 8 November: The other plotters are chased to Holbeche House in Staffordshire, where **Catesby and Percy** are killed. **Francis Tresham**, Lord Monteaule's brother-in-law, is arrested and sent to the Tower. He dies there.

