

# Guy Fawkes Night

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*"Fifth of November" redirects here. For the date, see [November 5](#).*



Festivities in [Windsor Castle](#) by [Paul Sandby](#), c. 1776

**Guy Fawkes Night**, also known as **Guy Fawkes Day**, **Bonfire Night** and **Firework Night**, is an annual commemoration observed on 5 November, primarily in Great Britain. Its history begins with the events of 5 November 1605, when [Guy Fawkes](#), a member of the [Gunpowder Plot](#), was arrested while guarding [explosives](#) the plotters had placed beneath the [House of Lords](#). Celebrating the fact that [King James I](#) had survived the attempt on his life, people lit [bonfires](#) around London; and months later, the introduction of the [Observance of 5th November Act](#) enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure.