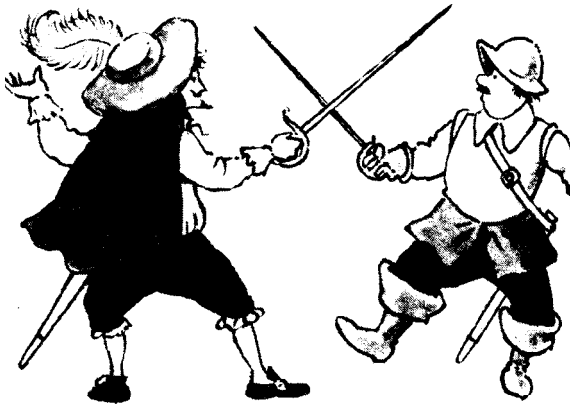


# The Civil War

By Mrs Tasker  
www.SchoolHistory.co.uk



Who fought whom?

On 22 August 1642, King Charles raised his standard at Nottingham and called on his subjects to support him against Parliament. Those who did support him were called **Royalists**. His soldiers were known by the enemy as **Cavaliers**. Although Cavalier simply means horseman, it was

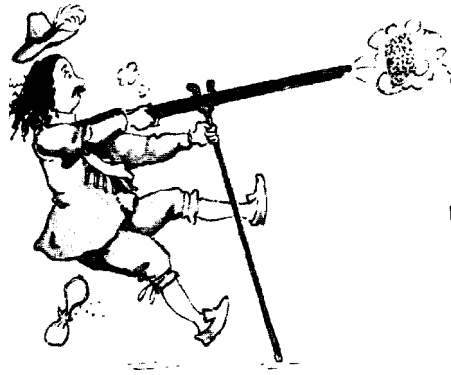
an insult since the word was commonly used for the Spanish Cavaliers (*Caballeros*), who had a reputation for cruelty and brutality in the Dutch Wars. However, it soon became quite elegant and romantic to be known as Cavaliers. They were clothed in dashing uniforms that were based on court dress of the day. They wore knee-length leather boots, tunics and hats complete with plumes.

**Parliamentarians** were supporters of the radical MPs who were opposing King Charles. They too had a nickname, the **Roundheads**. Again, this was an insult as it referred to the fact that many of them cut short their hair at a time when long hair was the fashion. There are two reasons for the nickname 1) the London apprentices (a crowd of the MP's supporters) who first caused the majority of trouble during Strafford's trial (the King's chief minister) wore their hair in this way; and 2) the Puritan parliamentarian's wore their hair short to show that they were not vain. The Roundheads were not as well equipped as the Cavaliers and their clothing was much simpler. The uniform consisted of a leather tunic, a metal helmet and later a metal breastplate.



After 1644, a new army was raised. The **New Model Army** was nationally organised and paid extremely well for the time around 10p per day! These men were in the ranks based on merit rather than social standing and were employed in an attempt to take politics out of the army; however, these soldiers were mostly puritans and as a result religion remained an important factor in the war. By 1645, The Parliamentarian army was winning and consequently was given a new

nickname, they became known as the **Ironsides**. This was because they stood firm in battle and were decisive in the war.



Answer the following questions in full sentences where appropriate:

- 1) Draw a table with two columns indicating the two Sides, nicknames, supporters, strongest area of support in the country, differences in costume and religion.
- 2) Write down in your own words what the following were: Cavalier, Roundhead, New Model Army, and Puritan.
- 3) Why do you think the New Model Army did not change sides to support the King and why do you think they won?

The Musketeers were armed with guns, which took a long time to load, they also carried gunpowder, and a lighted fuse at all times. They were footsoldiers and marched alongside the Pikemen. Pikemen were armed with pointed pikes (javelin type weapons), they marched in the centre of the footsoldiers and fought in groups called hedgehogs!



- 4) Look at the information on Will Lambert, the Musketeer and Henry Wooton, the Pikeman. After reading the information copy and label each picture into your exercise book. Then answer the following: What do you think was the most effective way of fighting and why (give three reasons)?
  - 5) Would you have felt safest on the battlefield as a Musketeer or Pikeman?
  - 6) Would you have felt safest on the battlefield as a Royalist or a Parliamentarian?
- Choose an **aspect** of the Civil War: a key character, a battle or a side and find out all you can about it. You can choose how you would like to present it but it **must** be approximately 500 words and handed in by the deadline your teacher sets.