



For King or Parliament?



In wars between countries the people of a country are united against a common enemy. In a Civil War people living in the same country are divided and fight against each other. During the English Civil War friends fought against friends and members of the same family found themselves fighting against each other. Most ordinary people did not want to become involved but many were forced to take sides anyway. England was turned upside down. Communities were pulled apart and everybody was affected in some way. The effects of this on society were devastating.

For the King.

The people who supported King Charles I were called **Royalists**. They were known by their enemy as **Cavaliers**. Their elegant uniforms were based on the court dress of the time; tunics, plumed hats and knee-length leather boots. The King's supporters tended to be noblemen and their servants, Catholics, supporters of the Church of England, the Irish and people in the north and Wales.

Some of the key Royalists involved in the story of the siege of Bolingbroke and the Battle of Winceby were:

The Marquis of Newcastle brought his army down into Lincolnshire from Hull where they had been besieging the town.

Sir John Henderson led the relief force from Newark that was intercepted and defeated by the Parliamentarians at the Battle of Winceby.





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For Parliament

The people who supported Parliament against the King were called **Parliamentarians**. They came to be known by their enemy as **Roundheads** because they cut their hair short at a time when long hair was fashionable.



Parliamentarian
Musketeer

They also wore much simpler uniforms of leather tunics and a metal helmet and breastplate. Parliamentarian support was most likely to come from

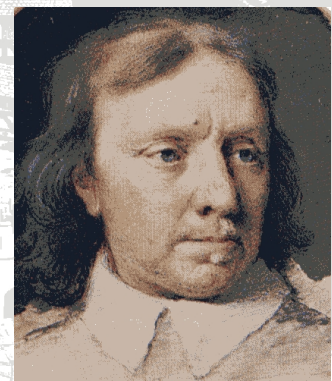
Puritans, gentlemen, merchants and townspeople, the Scots, people in London and the south-eastern half of England and the navy.

Some of the key Parliamentarians involved in the story of the siege of Bolingbroke and the Battle of Winceby were:

The Earl of Manchester raised an army in the south of the county.

Sir Thomas Fairfax escaped from Hull and brought his army south to fight the Royalists.

Oliver Cromwell was relatively unknown early in the Civil War but he was a very successful cavalry leader and rose to prominence over the course of the war. After Charles I's execution in 1649 and the abolition of the monarchy he ruled England as Lord Protector until his death in 1658.



Oliver Cromwell

In reality people sometimes changed sides according to how things were going in their areas, and defeated soldiers often joined the winning side after a battle. This may well have happened after the siege of Bolingbroke and the Battle of Winceby.

