# History – Battle of Alton – Year 5 – Summer 2

## Vocabulary Top Ten:

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| Civil War | a war that is fought between two groups of people who live in the same country |
| commonwealth | countries that used to make up the British empire |
| divine right of kings | kings chosen by God so their authority could not be challenged. |
| leather cannon | a cheap, light weapon used in war |
| Lord Protector | in charge of the country in place of a king or queen |
| Parliamentarian | supporter of Oliver Cromwell also known as a Roundhead |
| Protestant | a member of the Christian church |
| Puritan | people who wanted to change the Church of England |
| reform | to make better or improve |
| Royalist | a support of the king also known as a Cavalier |

Charles I



Royalist (Cavalier)



Oliver Cromwell



Parliamentarian (Roundhead)



**Leather Cannon**



## Key Facts:

The first Battle of Alton took place in February 1643. The Parliamentarians (Roundheads) and Royalists (Cavaliers) fought each other before the Parliamentarians escaped.

On the 13th September 1643, the English Parliament ordered Major General William Waller to gather forces for the "protection" of Hampshire County.

Royalist forces led by Sir Ralph Hopton, arrived in Alton as they were short of provisions.



Civil War bullet holes in the door of St Lawrence Church



St Lawrence Church pulpit where Col Boles hid

On the 13th December 1643 William Waller set off to Alton, attacking from the north and west.

Royalists fled, leaving 200 men behind with Col Boles in charge. They withdrew to St Lawrence Church.

Col Boles was killed in the fierce fighting.

Up to 200 men were killed during this battle.

**1625**
Charles I became king





**1642**
Preparations for the First Civil War begins



**1643**
Battle of Alton



**1649**
Charles I executed



**1653**
Cromwell becomes Lord Protector



**1660**
Monarchy restored