The King Comes to Newark

A Civil War story & colouring book



This book belongs to _____

The Governor's House Café · Stodman Street · Newark

CHAPTER 1

The King and the Quarrel

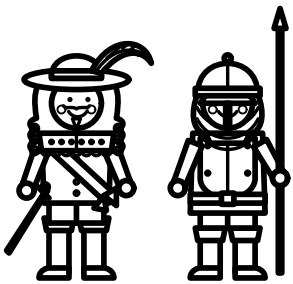
Nearly 400 years ago, England had a king called **King Charles the First**. He believed a king should make all the big decisions by himself. But **Parliament** did not agree!

In 1642 their arguing turned into a war: the **English Civil War**. The King's soldiers were called **Cavaliers** and wore feathery hats. Parliament's soldiers were called **Roundheads**, because some had very short hair.

The town of **Newark** chose the King's side. A soldier called the **Governor** kept the town safe. He lived in a tall black-and-white house on Stodman Street, built way back in **1474**. Today we call it **the Governor's House**!

Word Wizard

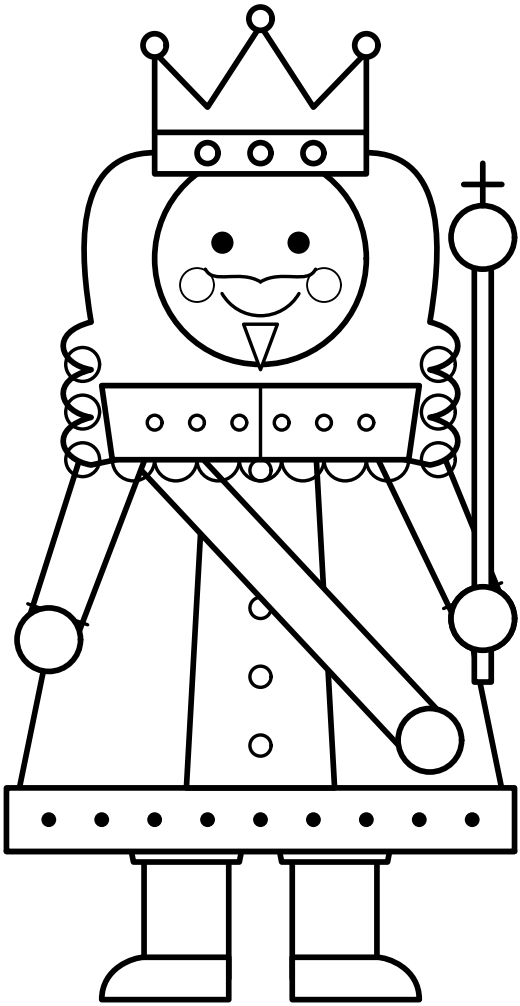
Parliament – a group of people who help to make the rules for the whole country.



King Charles the First

Colour his crown, his robe and his royal sceptre.

Psst! A tiny crown is hiding on every page from 2 to 7. Can you find them all?



CHAPTER 2

A Royal Visitor

In October 1645, King Charles himself came to Newark.

His nephew, **Prince Rupert**, was one of his bravest leaders. But Rupert had lost the city of Bristol to the Roundheads, and the King was very cross.

Rupert rode to Newark to explain. There was a big, loud argument, right here at **the Governor's House**!

Afterwards, Prince Rupert and his friends rode away, and soon the King left Newark too.

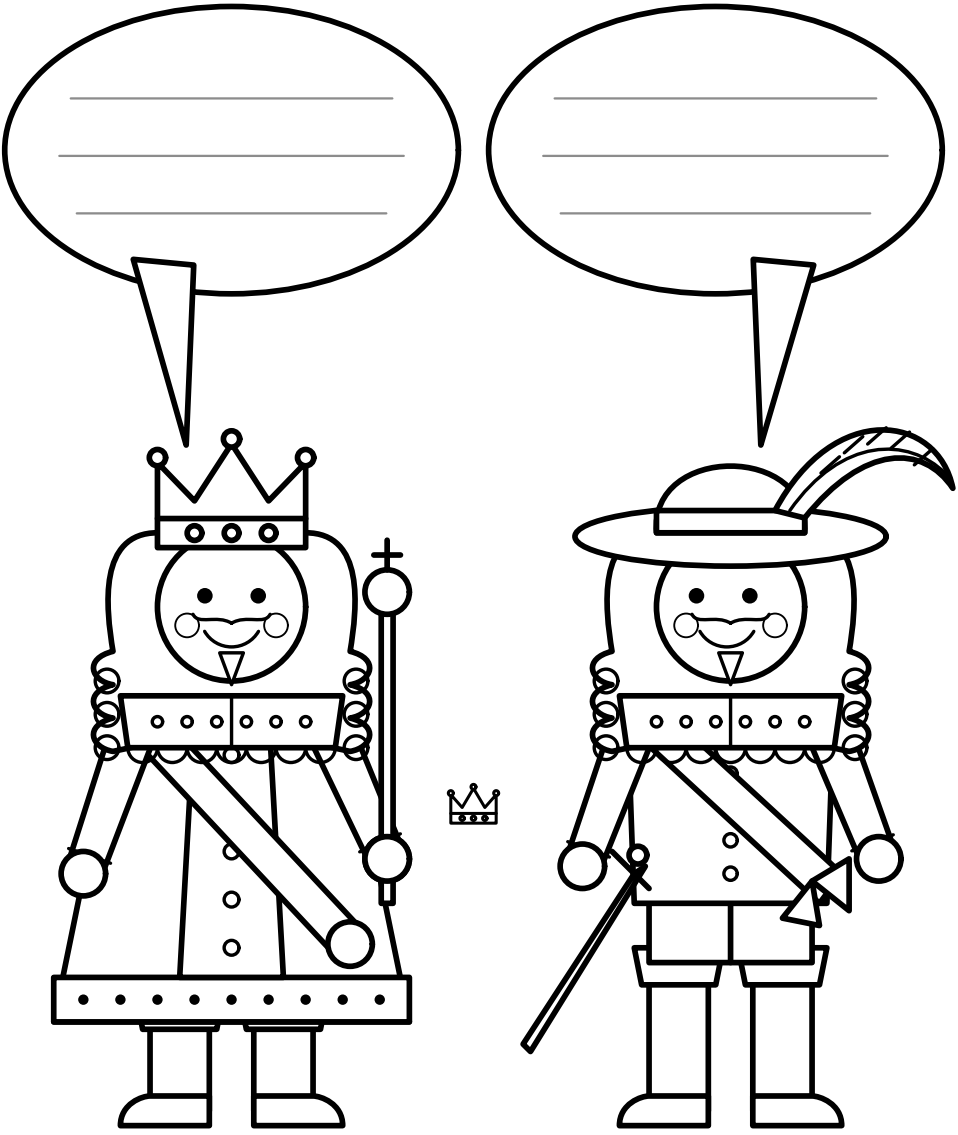
Word Wizard

Nephew – the son of your brother or sister.



The Big Argument

What do you think they said? Write it in the bubbles.



King Charles **Prince Rupert**

CHAPTER 3

The Siege and the Café

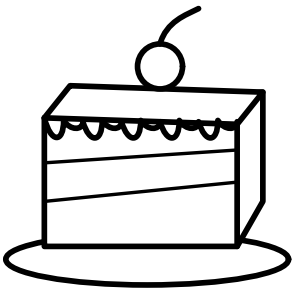
Then the Roundheads and the Scottish army surrounded Newark. This is called a **siege**. No food could get in, and people grew hungry. Short of money, they cut up silver cups and plates into **diamond-shaped coins** stamped **OBS NEWARK 1646**.

In May 1646 the King gave himself up to the Scottish army at Southwell, and told Newark to stop fighting. The brave town surrendered, and the siege was over.

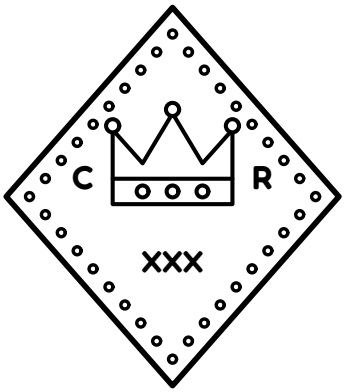
The Governor's House is still standing. Now it is a **café**, where you can eat cake and colour in the very place where kings and princes once walked!

Word Wizard

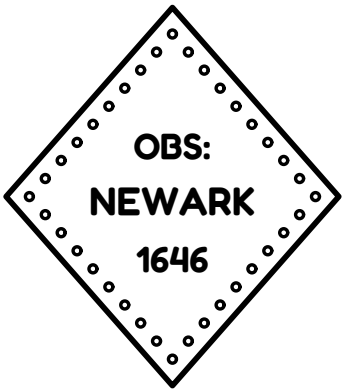
Siege – when an army surrounds a town so nothing and nobody can get in or out.



Newark Siege Money

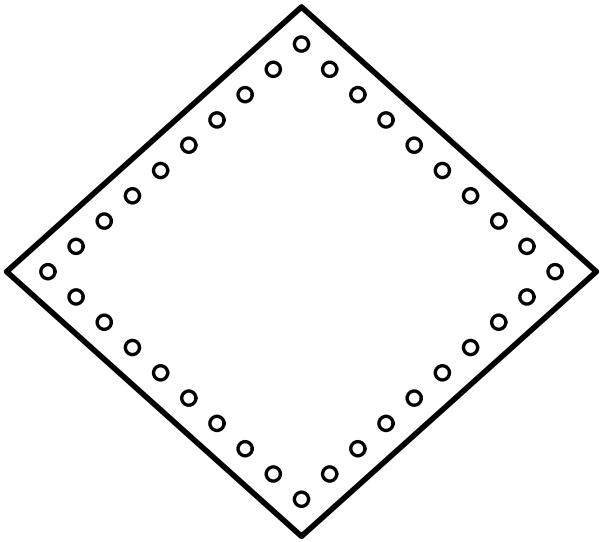


Front



Back

Now design your own coin!



Tip: real siege coins were silver. Use grey or silver!

Fantastic Facts

- The Governor's House was built in **1474**. That is more than 550 years ago!
- It is a **Grade I listed** building. That means it is one of the most special old buildings in England.
- Find the super-old **long-drop toilet** halfway up the second stairs. It may be one of the oldest toilets in the UK!
- Newark was put under siege **three times**. It only gave up when the King told it to.
- Look closely at Newark's big church. You can still see a hole made by a **cannonball**!
- Prince Rupert had a big white poodle called **Boye**, who went everywhere with him, even into battle.
- A huge earth fort from the war, the **Queen's Sconce**, can still be seen in a Newark park today.

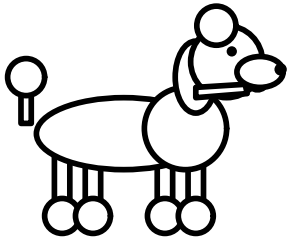
Want to find out more?

Visit the **National Civil War Centre** in Newark and follow the **Civil War Trail** around the town. Just ask our staff for more information!

Quick Quiz

1. What were the King's soldiers called?
2. What shape were the siege coins?
3. When was the Governor's House built?

Answers: 1. Cavaliers 2. Diamonds 3. 1474



Boye the poodle

Crowns found: ___ / 6