

# Slingsby Castle and the rich during the Stuart era

LO: I can describe some aspects of life during the 1600s



Reconstruction of what the castle may have looked like



King Charles I

When the current Slingsby Castle was built, around 1630, **Charles I** was king. Sir Charles Cavendish of Slingsby was one of his noblemen.

**Charles I** was actually the target of Guy Fawkes's Gunpowder Plot!

*He was also eventually beheaded; we will find out more about this later.....*



Historians are still not sure about what happened to the castle;

- some say it was **never finished**.
- Some think it was **finished, but not lived in**,
- whilst others think it was **lived in for a short period**.



Wealthy Stuarts loved to demonstrate their wealth and status, and Slingsby Castle would have been an extremely impressive residence. Can you imagine what it would have been like to visit it? It would have been filled with people and noise as it was a place of work as well as a home. There would have been dozens of servants, and the lord would have administered his estate from there.



The rich would have worn elegant clothes.



The Stuart era was a time in which improvements in trade and transport allowed more exotic foods to be imported. These would have been very expensive indeed. **Pineapples, for example, were so rare and so expensive that they were displayed as ornaments rather than eaten!** The rich would have held banquets with lots of dishes. They would eat dishes such as roast veal and venison and drink French wine.



Later in the Stuart era, a wonderful new drink became popular....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPLq7yiu03o> (parental supervision required)..

The rich did not work on the land so had time for activities like falconry, hunting, jousting, tennis and bowls.



Audley End House was built in 1680, a bit later than Slingsby Castle.



Watch this video about life for one of the servants who worked at Audley End (youtube: parental supervision required)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AX5Ad-FNjvM&feature=youtu.be>

## Now try answering these questions 😊

- 1) Who was the king when Slingsby Castle was built?
- 2) There are different ideas about what happened to Slingsby castle: can you write down two of them
- 3) What did people do with pineapples?
- 4) Can you name two sports that were enjoyed at this time?