



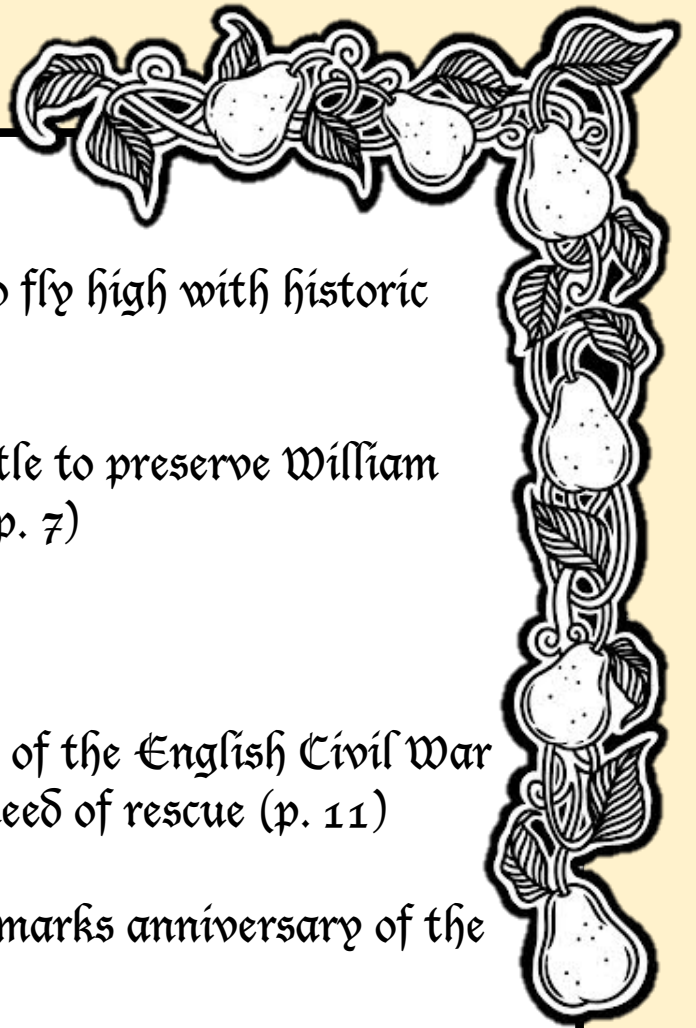
# Heritage Champions

## The Battle of Worcester Society

2023/2024 Review



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# Unlocking History:

*£1,500 Civil War Book Donation and a Monumental Nine-Volume Gift to the Hive*



**A little light reading? We've acquired Stephen Roberts' 9 volume "The History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1640-1660". This mammoth set has 1,800 MP bios; a true Parliament tell-all, spilling the inner working and dramas of the era. Donating to the Hive.**

From Battlefield to Bookshelf! We are delighted to announce a generous donation of books, valued at over £1,500,

to The Hive, Worcester's dynamic library and learning centre. The donation, which focuses on the English Civil War

in general and the Battle of Worcester in particular, brings some rare and highly sought-after resources to local history enthusiasts and scholars alike. Following up on this year's initial donation, the Society is proud to reveal plans to contribute an exceptional new addition: *The History of Parliament: The House of Commons, 1640-1660* – a nine-volume set edited by local historian, Dr. Stephen Roberts. This monumental work offers an in-depth exploration of 1,800 biographies of MPs who served during the tumultuous years of the English Civil War, providing a fascinating glimpse into the political and personal dramas that shaped the nation during this pivotal period.

Dr. Roberts gave a highly acclaimed talk at The Commandery earlier this year, and has devoted his career to uncovering the stories of those who shaped the nation's political

landscape during the mid-17<sup>th</sup> Century. The Battle of Worcester Society is thrilled to support his work by donating this incredible set of volumes to the Hive, ensuring that future generations can continue to explore the stories of the MPs and their roles in the English Civil War.

Tim Young, a member of the Battle of Worcester Society Executive Committee commented: ***“This donation is a powerful way to bring the past to life, offering invaluable insights into one of the most turbulent and transformative periods in British history. We hope that these books will inspire new generations of historians, students, and curious minds to dig deeper into the history of our nation.”***





**Chris Hodson, Art and Design Technician of Worcester Sixth Form College with the first banner for the Battle of Worcester Society's exciting project.**

## *Worcester's Civil War Past to Fly High with Historic Banner Project*

The Battle of Worcester Society, in partnership with Worcester Sixth Form College, Royal Grammar School Worcester, and Heart of Worcestershire College, is excited to announce plans for a

groundbreaking initiative to honour Worcester's unique position in English Civil War history. The project will see the creation of historical banners that symbolise Worcester's pivotal role, as it hosted both the wars beginning in 1642 with the



Battle of Powick Bridge, and its ending with the Battle of Worcester in 1651.

Worcester's banners will be authentically hand painted by local students, guided by their teachers and the Battle of Worcester Society. These creations will echo the designs and emblems of the 17th-century regiments offering a visual journey through Worcester's historical landscape.

Pending council planning approval, the first banners will be displayed in Copenhagen Street in summer 2025, establishing a vibrant, history inspired addition to the city's streets.

The project has already seen a remarkable start, with Chris Hodson, Art and Design Technician of Worcester Sixth Form College creating a stunning initial banner, setting the tone for the historically authentic work that will follow. Daniel Daniels, Chairman of the Battle

of Worcester Society, said: *"This 'living history' project aims to transform Worcester into an immersive Civil War experience, the first city in Britain to adorn such a project. By enriching key locations with historically accurate banners, the city will bring its Civil War legacy to life, inviting both residents and visitors to engage with its past in a dynamic and educational way. This initiative not only showcases Worcester's strategic role as the setting of both the first and last battles of the Civil War but also positions the city as a major destination for heritage tourism.*

*"The banner project is a tribute to Worcester's historical significance and a powerful way to connect our community and visitors to the events that shaped our country. We are thrilled to see Worcester students actively bringing this legacy to life through their art and historical insight. Senior leaders at Worcester City Council are very supportive of the project."*

Ed Senior, Worcester Sixth Form College Principal, said: *"I am pleased that the College has the*

*opportunity to collaborate on the Banner Project to celebrate the rich history of Worcester. I am proud that Chris Hodson, a colleague at WSFC, has created an inspirational piece of art which will encourage students in Worcester and beyond to engage with the project and I am confident that the artistic talent and creativity of our young people will result in a fantastic array of banners that can be appreciated by the whole community."*

John Pitt, Headmaster of RGS Worcester, said, *"We are delighted to be supporting the Banner project which will engage our pupils working with our History and Textiles departments and is another way of bringing the past alive for them and for others. As a History teacher, I know that it is good to have different ways of engaging with the past and Worcester played such a significant part in the English Civil War. The banners will celebrate this and demonstrate the City's rich history in a bright and interesting way. As one of the oldest schools in the country, we felt that RGS Worcester should be involved in such an unusual and interesting project."*



**The first completed banner depicts the Royal Standard, as used by King Charles II. It features the arms of the kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland, as well as the fleur-de-lys of the Kingdom of France— representative of the English monarchy's historical claims to the French throne.**

Michelle Dowse, Principal and CEO at Heart of Worcestershire College said: *"The English Civil War started and ended in the heart of Worcestershire, so it's fitting that we are involved in this fascinating project which celebrates the city's focal role in one of the most turbulent periods in our history. Our Art and Design students love a challenge, and this Historic Banner Project promises to be something they'll not only relish but will take pride in and remember for years to come."*

# Unmasking History: *The* *Battle to Preserve* *William Guise's* *Legacy in* *Worcester*

The Battle of Worcester Society has been in discussion with the owner of the former Costa Cafe shop on the High Street re the William Guise death mask. The owner has very kindly agreed to donate both the replica mask (currently residing inside the building) and the far more important original death mask (currently residing in the 'alley way' just outside the building) so they can be viewed in more prominent locations.

William Guise was perhaps one of Worcester's most important inhabitants leading up to the Battle of Worcester and yet, many are not aware of his huge



**The death mask in question, situated at the old Costa building in the City Centre.**

significance. It was William Guise who alerted Oliver Cromwell about the royalist plans shortly before the Battle of Worcester in 1651. He was subsequently hanged by the royalists as a traitor. After the battle of Worcester, William Guise was specifically singled out by Cromwell for his bravery and his widow received a pension. In a letter to the speaker of the House of Commons, William



Lenthall, Cromwell wrote the following:

*“I also humbly present to your charity the poor distressed wife and children of one William Guise, of the City of Worcester, who was barbarously put to death by the enemy for his faithfulness for the Parliament. The man (as I am credibly informed) feared the Lord; and upon that account likewise deserveth more consideration...”*


From our Society's perspective, and indeed other Worcester historical societies, we have been wanting to move the (original) mask for years, even before the old Costa Coffee closed. Even when the premise was open, it was very difficult to organise tours to properly see the mask. With the building now closed, there are no visits for groups or members of the public to see. With the very kind consent of the building's owner and the

enthusiastic support of senior leaders of Worcester City Council, plans were set in motion to bring these historical artefacts into a far more prominent and visible location for the benefit of all.


The journey to relocate however, has been obstructed by bureaucratic hurdles. Red tape threatens to shroud these invaluable pieces of history in perpetual obscurity. The preservation of our heritage should not be hindered by these inefficiencies.

Every effort must be made to ensure that the masks find a location where they can be appreciated by all. Worcester is perhaps England's most significant Civil War city. We need to take this fully into account and grasp opportunities when they are offered to us.

# BOWS Talks of 2024



The  
Battle of Worcester  
Society



PRESENTS

## The Battle of Ripple

13 April 1643  
The Lead up, The Battle, The aftermath  
A Talk by

### GREGG ARCHER

Trustee of the Battlefields Trust, Co-chair of its Mercia Region


**Tuesday 30th January 2024**

In the Glass Room at the Hive  
Sawmill Close, Worcester


Talk begins 7:15 pm

Ticket £7.00

- Tourist Information
- Online at: [www.battleofworcestersociety.com](http://www.battleofworcestersociety.com)
- Call BoWS on 07952 511111
- Commandery Museum



The  
Battle of Worcester  
Society



PRESENTS

## The Civil War in Worcestershire

WORCESTERSHIRE 1642

A Talk by

### Max Keen

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

In the Glass Room at the Hive, Worcester  
Doors open 6:30 pm Talk begins 7:15 pm

Ticket £7.00    £5 BoWS members    £3 Students


Available from:

[christineshaw1651@gmail.com](mailto:christineshaw1651@gmail.com)


[www.battleofworcestersociety.com](http://www.battleofworcestersociety.com)

(go to our events page)

On the night, at the door



The  
Battle of Worcester  
Society



PRESENTS

## The Siege of Dudley Castle

A Talk by

### Elaine Joyce

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

In the Glass Room at the Hive, Worcester  
Doors open 6:30 pm Talk begins 7:15 pm

Ticket £7    BoWS members £5    Students £3

Available from:

Email: [christineshaw1651@gmail.com](mailto:christineshaw1651@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01905 358 640  
Online: <https://thebattleofworcestersociety.com>  
(go to our events page)  
Or: On the night, at the door

# BoWS Talks of 2024

The Battle of Worcester Society PRESENTS

## The Blazing World

A New History of Revolutionary England  
A Talk by **Jonathan Healey**  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

The Battle of Worcester Society PRESENTS

## MAKING A MASSACRE

CROMWELL, IRELAND AND THE 'SLAUGHTER OF INNOCENTS' SCANDAL'  
A Talk by **Tom Reilly**  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024

The Battle of Worcester Society PRESENTS

## THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT PROJECT (1640-1660)

A Talk by **Stephen Roberts**  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
In the Great Hall at the

The Battle of Worcester Society PRESENTS

## Oliver Cromwell and his contribution to our democracy

A Talk by **Howard Robinson**  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
In the Commandery Great Hall, Worcester  
Talk begins 7:00 pm

Ticket £7 BoWS members £5 Students £3

Tickets available from

- Tourist Information at the Guildhall
- Online : [www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com](http://www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com) (Visit our Events page)
- Call BoWS : 01905 358 640
- Or : On the night, on the door

The Battle of Worcester Society PRESENTS

## CHARLES I'S PRIVATE LIFE

A Talk by **Mark Turnbull**  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
In the Commandery Great Hall, Worcester  
Talk begins 7:00 pm

Ticket £7 BoWS members £5 Students £3

Tickets available from

- Tourist Information at the Guildhall
- Online : [www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com](http://www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com) (Visit our Events page)
- Call BoWS : 01905 358 640
- Or : On the night, on the door

# Powick Bridge:

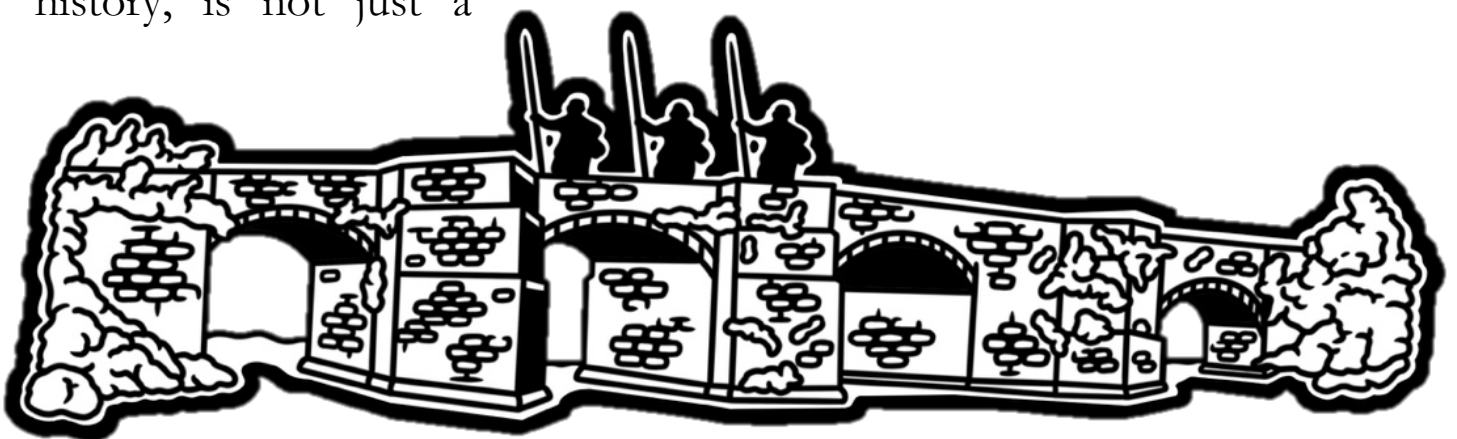
## *Battleground of the Civil War and an Historic Landmark in Need of Rescue*

It was the 382nd anniversary of the Battle of Powick Bridge this September, marking the first skirmish of the English Civil War in 1642. This year brings an urgent and poignant reminder of the bridge's historical significance. Powick Bridge, which also saw action during the decisive Battle of Worcester in 1651, has suffered partial collapse. In response, Worcestershire County Council has initiated repair efforts to preserve this crucial piece of British heritage. The bridge, a silent witness to the conflict that shaped the course of British history, is not just a

physical structure but a symbol of the tumultuous times of the 17th century. Its collapse has stirred concerns among historians, locals, and civil war enthusiasts about the preservation of such a historic site for future generations.

Brian Bullock, Vice Chairman of the Battle of Worcester Society said: *"The Battle of Worcester Society was the first organisation to voice concern over the partial collapse of sections of Powick Bridge in February 2024.*

*"While Worcestershire County Council has finally taken steps toward*





**A lone civil war musketeer standing solemnly before the damaged bridge, in deep reverence for the bridge's place in history and the importance of its preservation.**

*restoring the bridge, it is vital that the public remains engaged and supportive to ensure that this monument does not fade from view. Efforts are underway to not only repair but also raise awareness of the bridge's importance in the narrative of British history.*

*"Local community members and heritage groups are calling for continued attention to the restoration process. "Powick Bridge stands at the heart of our Civil War history. Its significance goes beyond the structure itself: it's a*

*link to our past. We must ensure its preservation for future generations."*

*"It is distressing to witness that this issue was not given the attention it deserved, probably leading to the unfortunate occurrence we now face", said Mr Bullock.*

*"We hope there is a comprehensive investigation into whether recent developments contributed to or caused this incident. The community is eager for clarity on this matter, and we urge that information is provided by the*

*appropriate authorities about what were the exact factors that led to the bridge's current state.*

*"We are keen that this historically significant bridge, part of Worcester's heritage, is repaired as soon as practical and that measures are put in place to ensure it does not happens again."*



*This stunning raised sculpture of Powick Bridge, Worcester by renowned sculptor, Ken Potts captures the fierce clash of 1642: a past we must ensure is protected.*



*Oil painting of Powick Bridge by Paul Stanley.*



**Muskets fired from Fort Royal Park, the site of one of the most decisive engagements of the Battle of Worcester, in commemoration of the battle's 373<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary and in remembrance of all the lives lost.**

## Annual Drumhead Ceremony marks Anniversary of the Battle of Worcester

On 3 September, the Battle of Worcester Society hosted its annual Drumhead Ceremony to commemorate the 373<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the pivotal battle of 1651. The solemn event, held on the anniversary of the final clash of the English Civil War, paid tribute to the thousands of

lives lost during a conflict that forever changed the course of history.

The ceremony began with a march from Worcester's Cornmarket to the Guildhall, led by The Worcester Reenactors and the Executive Committee of



the Society and attended by a good number of supporters. The Mayor of Worcester, Councillor Mel Alcott, joined the marchers as they proceeded to Fort Royal Park, a site that holds deep historical significance. A highlight of the event was the thunderous musket volley that echoed across the city, punctuating a moment of silence to honour the fallen.

This year's ceremony included the planting of an oak tree at Fort Royal Park. Councillor Lynn Denham, leader of Worcester City Council, joined The Battle of Worcester Society, to

plant the tree as a lasting memorial to those who fought and died in the Battle of Worcester. Councillor Denham reflected on the importance of the occasion, saying, *“Thousands of people lost their lives as they fought for their beliefs in our city's streets and fields on September 3, 1651. This was a*





*defining moment, not only for Worcester but for the whole nation, so it is an honour to plant this oak and create a lasting memorial to the Battle of Worcester.”*

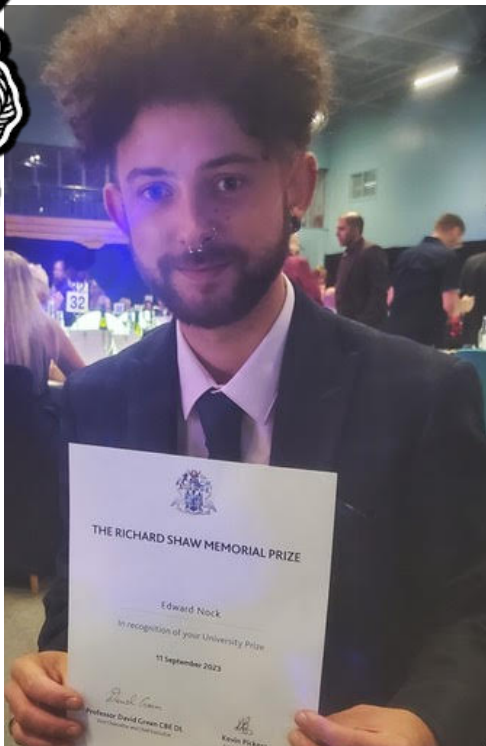
The choice of an oak tree holds symbolic significance, as it references the future King Charles II's daring escape following the Parliamentary victory. After the battle, Charles Stuart famously hid in an oak tree at Boscobel House before fleeing to France, ensuring his survival and eventual restoration to the throne.

The Battle of Worcester, fought in 1651, marked the culmination of the English Civil War. It sealed the victory of the Parliamentary forces over the Royalists and forced Charles Stuart to flee, bringing an end to a tumultuous period in British history. The annual Drumhead Ceremony ensures that the sacrifices made during this monumental event are not forgotten and that the lessons of history remain alive in the collective memory of Worcester and beyond.





## ***The Battle of Worcester Society and the University of Worcester partner in academic prize***



**T**he Battle of Worcester Society is proud to announce its partnership with the University of Worcester on the prestigious “Richard Shaw Memorial Prize.” The annual award, established in commemoration of the former Chairman of the Society, Richard Shaw, aims to recognise outstanding work in early modern history, which covers

the period from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century.

Daniel Daniels, Chairman of the Battle of Worcester Society, said: *“Working closely with the University of Worcester, and in particular Professor Darren Oldridge, has resulted in the establishment of this Memorial Prize, a testament to the Society’s commitment to both honouring the memory of our former Chairman and to fostering a deep appreciation for Early Modern History.*

*“We are thrilled to announce that the inaugural winner of last year’s prize is Ed Nock, whose exceptional dissertation on representation of the escape of the future Charles II after the Battle of Worcester stood out.*



*Ed's work is a captivating and original study of printed accounts of this highly significant historical event in the seventeenth century. The partnership reflects a shared responsibility to academic excellence and the preservation of historical heritage."*

Darren Oldridge, Professor of Early Modern History at the University of Worcester said: *"It is lovely to recognise the great work our students do on the some of the earlier periods that we teach at the University. These include the Reformation in the sixteenth century, the English Civil Wars, and the age of the Enlightenment. We really appreciate the generosity of the Battle of Worcester Society in establishing this prize. They have done so much to raise public awareness of early modern history in the city, and are ideal partners for us."*

Christine Shaw, Richard's wife and Membership Secretary of The Battle of Worcester Society said: *"Richard would have been thrilled to know that such an honour has been bestowed upon his name; particularly in a way that encourages young people to discover more about their local history."*



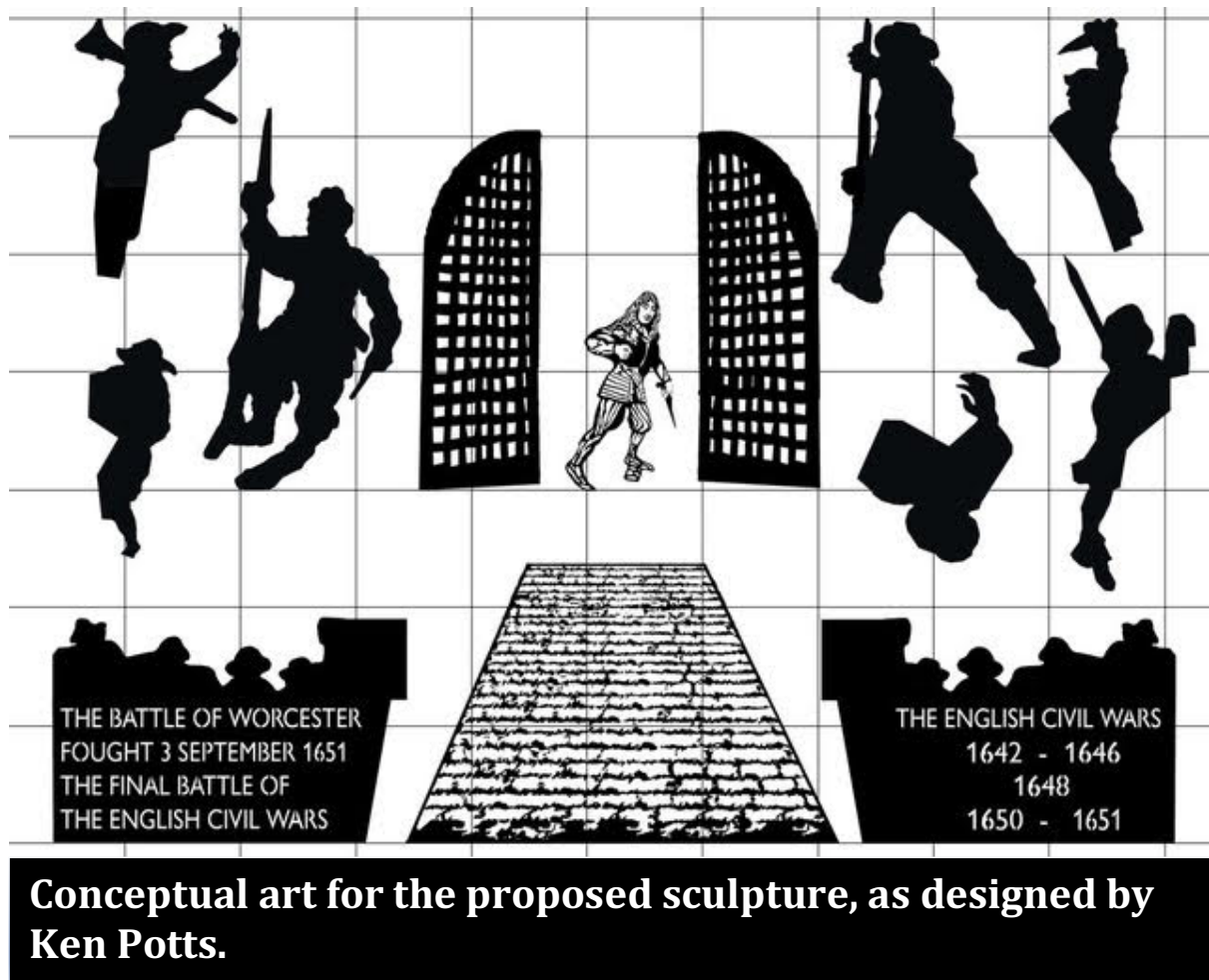
# Battle of Worcester Memorial at Risk as Funding Faces Cuts

Labour government has indicated it is “minded to withdraw” financial support promised by the previous administration, including more than £50,000 earmarked for the memorial. The remainder of the funding has already been raised by the Society.

Councillor Mel Allcott, Mayor of Worcester has emphasised the project’s national significance, stating, *“Worcester’s role in the Civil War is a part of our shared history. This isn’t just about our city; it’s about the country. We deserve the government’s support, and we won’t stay silent while these promises are reconsidered.”*

The Battle of Worcester planned national memorial is under threat as the government considers withdrawing Levelling Up funds. Sir Keir Starmer’s





The Battle of Worcester Society has also written to Alex Norris, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government, expressing deep concern about the potential funding loss.

**Why This Matters:** The Battle of Worcester, the final conflict of the English Civil War in 1651, was a defining moment in British history, shaping the nation's constitutional development. Despite its significance, there is no national focus on this period. The

proposed memorial aims to address this gap, serving as both an educational resource and a cultural landmark.

Worcester's unique role in the war—home to its beginning at Powick Bridge in 1642 and its conclusion in 1651—makes it an unparalleled site for this recognition. The Levelling Up Fund would not only honour this heritage but also boost the local economy by fostering tourism and creating jobs.

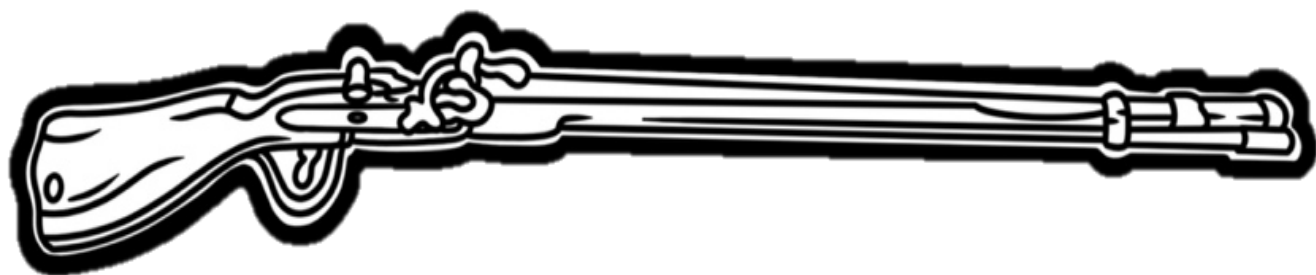
**A Call to Action:** Losing this funding would be a significant

setback, jeopardising the memorial and leaving this chapter of history without proper commemoration. The Battle of Worcester Society urges supporters to join the campaign and ensure the government delivers on its promises to preserve this vital piece of national heritage.

Our vision is to have this impressive sculpture situated at Kings Street car park, Worcester. Renowned sculptor, Ken Potts, recognised for his exceptional work including the sculpture of Edward Elgar at Worcester High Street, will be at the helm of this artistic endeavour. The sculpture is designed to be made from laser cut steel set in layers to show the action and drama of the event. Detail will be cut in profile with enhancement by engraved and coloured treatment over the basic finish. Occupying only the width of the existing boundary wall, the monument will allow for a seamless integration within King Street car park. While

giving the appearance of sitting on the wall, the sculpture will be stiffened and supported utilising the steel layers and additional bracing to the rear with appropriate attachment to minimal foundations.

The Society's planned monument would be the first national monument of its kind in the country recognising that the civil war killed a higher proportion of the British population than any other war in British history. One in ten of the male population died, more than three times the proportion who died in World War 1 and five times the proportion than in World War II. The civil war affected just about every family in the country, no more so than Worcester, which played such a key role in the conflict. By creating this pioneering national civil war sculpture, we aim to achieve more than a memorial—we envision a catalyst for a vastly heightened appreciation of our shared history and a boost to



Worcester's local economy. The presence of this sculpture will undoubtedly elevate Worcester's standing on the national heritage map and create a new opportunity to raise the profile of this most important period in British history to a wider audience giving them a greater understanding of its importance. A memorial to the English civil war would have several positive economic impacts for the city including:

- **Increased tourism:**

The English civil war was a significant part of Worcester's history, a memorial would attract history enthusiasts, scholars and tourists interested in learning more about this pivotal period. The influx of visitors would boost the local tourism industry.

- **Enhanced cultural offering:**

Worcester's Commandery already services a historical attraction. Placing a memorial opposite the Commandery would create a historical corridor, enriching the cultural landscape of the city.

- **Stimulate local businesses:**

With increased footfall around the memorial site, nearby businesses such as cafes, restaurants, shops and other retail establishments would experience higher patronage.

- **Educational opportunities:**

The memorial would serve as an educational resource, offering guided tours, interpretive exhibits and informational materials about the civil war. Schools and tour groups would organise visits to the memorial, bringing in additional revenue.





# Upcoming Talks for 2025



- ◇ 30<sup>th</sup> January: **David Morrison** talking on the **Worcester Cathedral archives**
- ◇ 27<sup>th</sup> February: **Chris Bishop** on the **history of Worcester City Football Club**
- ◇ 27<sup>th</sup> March: **Richard Carter** discusses the role of two **Worcestershire clergymen in the return of the bishops after the Restoration**
- ◇ 24<sup>th</sup> April: **Professor Ronald Hutton** on his latest Cromwell book, **“Oliver Cromwell, Commander in Chief”**
- ◇ 29<sup>th</sup> May: **Dr Erica Canela**– **The Quakers in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century**
- ◇ 26<sup>th</sup> June: **Dr Jonathan Healey** on his latest book, **“The Blood in Winter, A Nation Descends”** (not out yet!)
- ◇ 31<sup>st</sup> July: **Andrea Zuvich**, on her book **“Ravenous: Charles II’s Most Infamous Mistress”**
- ◇ 28<sup>th</sup> August: **Dr Charlotte Young**– **John Bradshaw**
- ◇ 25<sup>th</sup> September: **Professor Alice Hunt** on her book, **“Revolutionary Republic”**
- ◇ 30<sup>th</sup> October: **Robbie Porter**– **Richard Cromwell**
- ◇ 27<sup>th</sup> November: **TBC**
- ◇ 7<sup>th</sup> December: **Christmas Lunch!**





# BOWS Gallery



*Travel back in time to the final battle of the English Civil War at Worcester with this incredible illustration by Tony Chance. History brought to life in vivid and vibrant detail.*



*The Duke of Hamilton, residing in Worcester since 1651*



*Fantastic mural on the London Rd commemorating the assault on Fort Royal.*



*A spot of time travel- back to Worcester, 1651. Colourised.*

*Was the last  
cavalry battle  
charge on  
English soil  
the royalist  
charge that  
aided Charles  
Stuart's escape  
after the Battle  
of Worcester?  
Asking for a  
friend!*

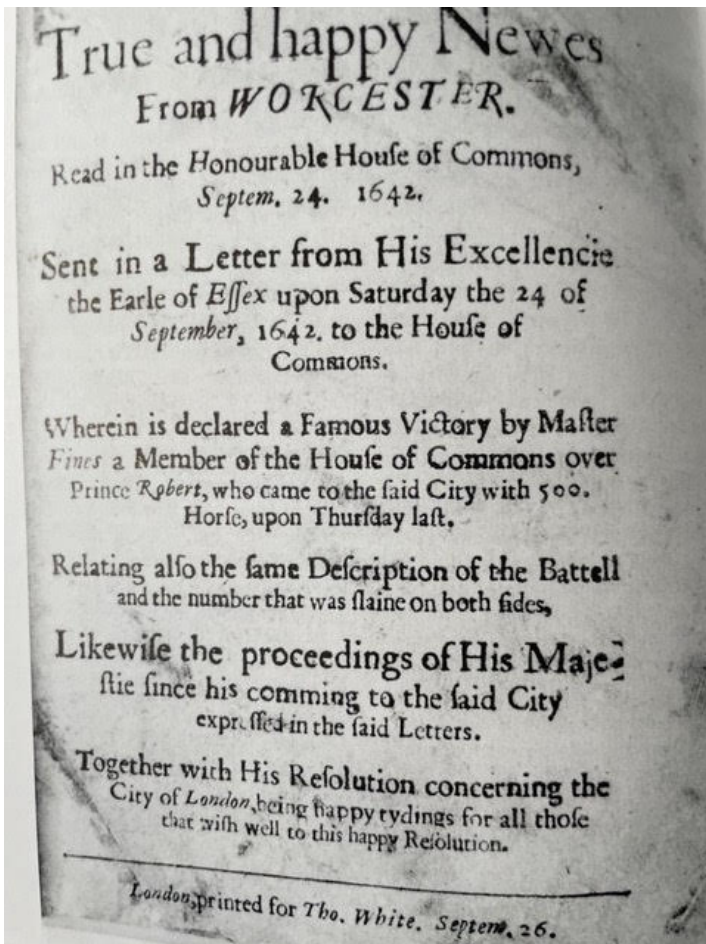




In Worcester, even our pub signs boast royal charm. King Charles II beckons with that “let’s have a drink from the King Charles House”- the escape route after the Battle of Worcester!

*(Editor’s note: The Cardinal’s Hat just down the road do pies that are just as good!)*



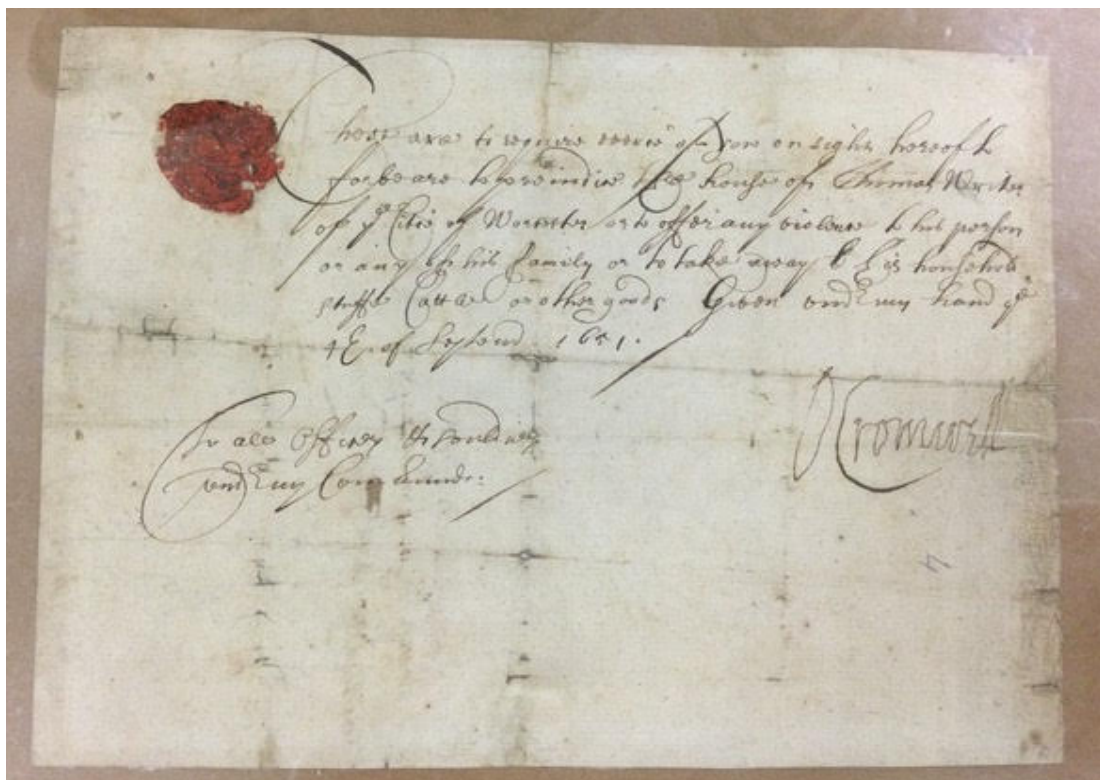


**The Civil War ignited in 1642. The period saw the first use of printed propaganda on a huge scale by both sides. This pamphlet falsely claimed the skirmish at Powick as a parliamentary victory.**



**Witness the magic of learning without the internet! This young history buff is diving deep into the past, learning about the Battle of Worcester at our exhibition in Worcester's Guildhall!**

*An order from Oliver Cromwell the day after the Battle of Worcester to all his officers and soldiers not to attack Thomas Winter, his horse or steal any of his possessions. Signed by Cromwell, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1651.*



# *Leading historians join The Battle of Worcester Society in prestigious dinner talk at the Bishop's Palace, Worcester*



**Professors Ronald Hutton (left) and Peter Gaunt (centre), with our Chairman, Daniel Daniels (right).**

Two of the country's leading historians assessed one of Britain's most captivating and controversial figures in British in a sold out event at the Bishop's Palace, Worcester.

In a poll of greatest Britons, Oliver Cromwell was ranked in the top 10 that included the likes of Churchill, Shakespeare and Brunel.

**The Battle of Worcester Society**  
Presents  
**Oliver Cromwell**  
Soldier, Statesman, Politician

Celebrating our 20th anniversary this year, the Battle of Worcester Society is very excited to announce that it will be hosting a prestigious dinner at the Bishop's Palace, Worcester, the site where King Charles I himself visited on 15th June 1644. Oliver Cromwell, one of the most captivating and controversial figures in British history, will be appraised by two of the UK's leading historians, the eminent Professors

Ronald Hutton and Peter Gaunt  
**15th June 2023**  
**Bishop's Palace, Worcester.**

Arrival from 6:30pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Carriages 11:30pm  
Tickets priced at only £50 per person including three course dinner, wine, cheese & biscuits & coffee

Dress code  
Dinner Jacket or lounge suits

Tickets available from:  
Daniel Daniels; dd@danieldaniels.com  
Timothy Young; tim.young@zen.co.uk

**WORCESTER** **BOSCH**

Oliver Cromwell won the Battle of Worcester which ended the civil wars and set the scene for a non-hereditary head of state for the first time (and thus far only time) in our history.

Sponsored by Worcester Bosch and the Worcestershire Ambassadors, the event saw the two eminent historians provide valued insights and



interpretations of the country's only commoner head of state.

Professor Peter Gaunt is Professor of History at the University of Chester. He is a renowned historian and author who specialises in early modern British history, particularly the Civil War and military aspects of this period. Peter has also served as Chairman of the Cromwell Association.

The other leading expert is Professor Ronald Hutton. Professor Hutton is

professor of history at the University of Bristol. He is a Patron of the Society. Professor Hutton is a leading authority on the history of the British Isles in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He has written numerous books, including on Oliver Cromwell.

Both Gentlemen appear on television and radio and are often quoted in academic sources.



**A few more photos from our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event in 2023.**



# why not join us??

Membership information can be found on our website:

[www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com](http://www.thebattleofworcestersociety.com)

*We're also on Facebook, Instagram and X. Give us a follow for news and updates- let's get 1651 trending!*



*The Battle of Worcester Society*



*@battleofworcestersoc1651*



*@BoWSociety*







### *Before you go:*

Check out this stunning work-in-progress from our resident artist Paul Stanley. Paul is bringing the Battle of Worcester to life with this new oil painting. Limited high quality prints will be available soon....



*“When your wives and children shall ask you where you have been, and what news: say you have been at Worcester, where England’s sorrows began and where they are happily ended”*

– Hugh Peter/s, Parliamentarian preacher