

Guy Fawkes

On November 5th in the United Kingdom, it's Guy Fawkes Night!





What is it?

1605

Guy Fawkes, a Catholic man, wanted to blow up the British parliament, the Palace of Westminster. He wanted to assassinate the monarch, King James I.

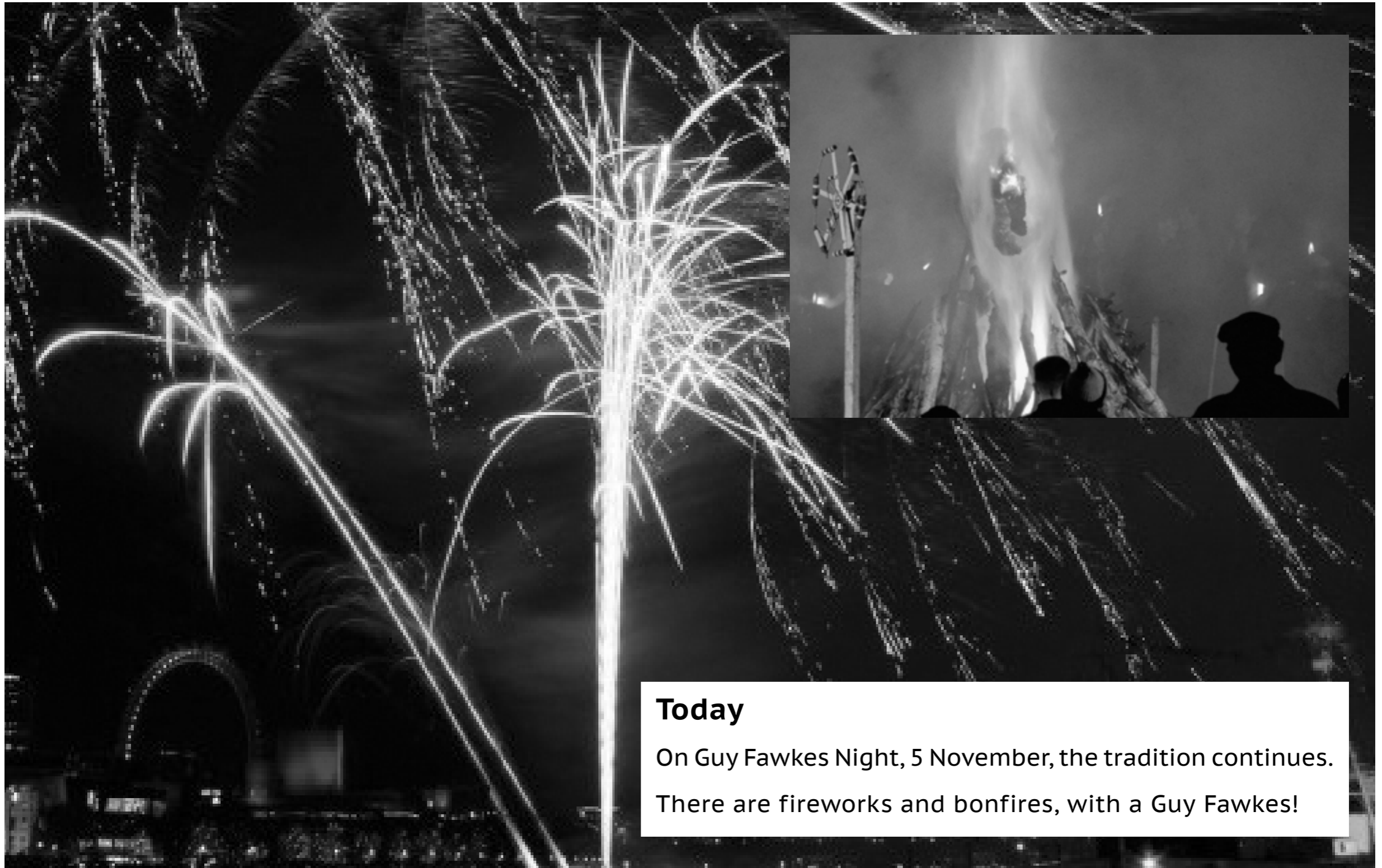
On the fifth of November, the military discovered the conspiracy. Fawkes was captured and he was a prisoner in the Tower of London. He was tortured and executed.

To celebrate the end of the conspiracy the British had big bonfires, with a model of Guy Fawkes.

Help

blow up (v) destroy with explosives

conspiracy (n) a group's secret plan for criminal activities



Today

On Guy Fawkes Night, 5 November, the tradition continues.

There are fireworks and bonfires, with a Guy Fawkes!

Guy Fawkes and Parliament

The State Opening of Parliament is an annual ceremony, when the monarch ceremonially opens, or starts, the new session of parliament. The Queen reads a speech.

Before the State Opening there is another ceremony connected to Guy Fawkes. The Yeomen of the Guard are the monarch's bodyguards. They protect the Tower of London. Before the State Opening, they search the Palace of Westminster for explosives.



The Yeomen of the Guard (also called Beefeaters) are the monarch's bodyguards.

