

Talking of Tudors - Goodies & Baddies



Pendennis Castle

Was built by Henry VIII as one of the 'Device Forts', a series of coastal forts built to defend England after his divorce from Catherine of Aragon had made him unpopular with the French and Spanish. These 30 forts are also known as the 'Henrician Castles'.

The Battle of Bosworth



Richard III had 9000 well rested soldiers waiting on Ambion Hill, he waited for Henry to organise his soldiers before the battle began! Henry's soldiers charged up the hill with such ferocity that they drove Richard's army back. Reinforcements rallied though and Richard's army started to fight back. Henry quickly rode towards Lord Stanley to persuade him to send his men in to fight, even though Richard was holding Stanley's son hostage. Richard saw Henry moving and rode himself to intercept him,



hoping to end the battle quickly. However Stanley saw that Richard was now separated from his men and ordered his men to attack. Richard was killed and Henry won the battle thanks to the help of Lord Stanley.

The Defeat of the Armada

The Spanish Armada sailed in a crescent formation, with large slower ships in the middle and smaller faster ships on the outside, making it very difficult for the English to attack them. The English lit beacons along the coast and into London as an early warning system. The Spanish headed into the English Channel and to the European coast to pick up ammunition and supplies. Sir Francis Drake ordered eight 'Hell Burners' to be built - old ships loaded with burnable things, that were set alight and set to drift into the Spanish ships at night. This broke the crescent formation and caused the Spanish fleet to disperse in panic. They couldn't get back through the Channel so sailed up the east coast and around Scotland, falling foul of bad weather and running out of food. Some sailors landed at Ireland but they were attacked and killed. Of the 35000 Spanish who started out, only 10000 returned home.