History

Find out about Kingswear Castle's past...



Hello! Welcome to Kingswear Castle. My name is Edward, I'm 17 years old and the year is 1522. I've been living here with my **garrison** for around eight months now, but there have been soldiers here on and off since it was built in 1502.

Soon after Henry VIII was crowned King in 1509, he ordered that the army and **navy** were increased. That's around the time when the number of soldiers stationed here increased — our job is to man the guns which protect Dartmouth harbour from enemy attack.

Life here isn't easy — it's freezing cold at night-time and when there are huge storms, the sea throws up massive waves that crash over the top of the castle. That's really not much fun when you're on lookout duty, although I suppose it does keep you wide awake during your night shift!

One of my main jobs is to keep the big guns clean so that they are ready to be fired at enemy ships.

Have you ever heard a cannon fire before? They use **gunpowder** and are so loud; the ringing in our ears carries on long after the gun has been fired, which makes it really hard to follow instructions from our commander.

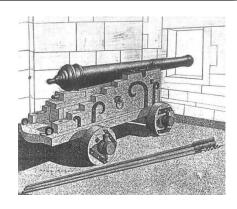
Fact:

A 'garrison' is a group of troops or soldiers stationed in a fortress or town to defend it.

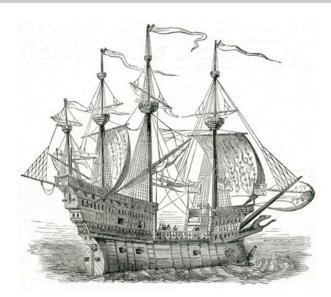
The **navy** is a branch of the army that fights on, under or over the sea. It protects its country as they carry on ocean trades and carries out attacks and other missions at sea during war.

Gunpowder is a chemical explosive, it's made from a mixture of saltpetre, sulphur and charcoal. On the 5th of November 1605, Guy Fawkes was caught trying to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London with 36 barrels of gunpowder!

Edward helped fire a cannon a bit like this. A cannon ball was put into the muzzle and some gunpowder went into a compartment at the back. When this was lit, the gunpowder exploded and this made the cannon ball shoot out of the muzzle.







Henry VIII's warship, the Mary Rose, was moored in Dartmouth's safe harbour.

The castle is in a great position for spotting enemy ships, with three walls facing the sea. Looking out for land-based enemies is a little trickier though. Can you see that the **parapet** at the back of the square tower is higher? This gives a better view and extra protection from land armies approaching from the hillside above.

The parapet was also a great viewpoint to watch the King's warship, the Mary Rose, sail in to the estuary! Watching her sail past was something I'll never forget – I've heard that she's so big that during wartime operations, she can hold 700 crew members – wow!

Facts:

The **Mary Rose** was completed in 1512 – she served the Tudor navy for 33 years in battles against France, Scotland and Brittany. In 1522, the ship moored up in Dartmouth harbour to collect food and other provisions before setting sail for the Isle of Wight. In 1545, she led the attack on a French invasion fleet, but sadly sank in the Solent. In 1982, the warship was raised from the seabed and is now in Portsmouth Dockyard as a museum. Perhaps you've seen it on a school or family trip?

A **parapet** is a low protective wall along the edge of a roof, bridge, or balcony. At Kingswear Castle, the parapet raises up towards the rear corner of the square tower.

A **garderobe** is a medieval toilet – they were very different to modern toilets – just a seat over a long shute where your poo would fall down and plop into a pit, or in the case of this castle – into the sea! Euww...

When we aren't manning the gunrooms or keeping watch, we spend our time in the first floor room here, playing cards by candlelight and sharing stories about our lives before the war. It's not all that comfortable, especially as there's no heating or running water and we still have to make use of the **garderobe**, but at least we have our very own wine store – hic!

I hope your time here is more comfortable than mine!

Unruly Rulers

Who were the Tudor kings and queens?

This lot were a blood thirsty bunch, always chopping off heads. Tudor is the family name of the kings and queens. The first Tudor was Henry VII in 1485 and they lasted till Elizabeth I. Then the Tudors' cousins, the Stuarts, ruled from James I to Anne.



King Henry VII He defeated bad King Richard and became the first Tudor king. Hooray!

1485



1509

King Henry VIII

6 wives, only 1 son. Angry at the Pope horrible Henry made himself Head of the Church destroying all the Catholics churches.



King Edward VI

Henry VIII's only son, he had some big shoes (and clothes) to fill! King at nine and dead at 16. Poor Eddie.

1547



1553

Lady Jane Grey

Only 16 when she became Queen for just 9 days before Mary Tudor took the throne. Off with her head!



Back to Catholics again. Bloody Mary was her name, burning Protestants was her game.

1553

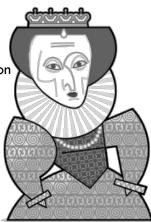


1558

Queen Elizabeth I

Good Queen Bess knew leaving religion alone was best. (Unless the Catholics attacked!) Had lots of boyfriends but married none.







Meet King Henry VIII - who ruled when Edward was stationed at Kingswear Castle.



Hi Henry!

So when did you become king? I became King on 21 April 1509 when I was 18.

What are you most famous for?

I had six wives — there is even a rhyme about them: Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived!

What is your favourite thing to do? I love hunting, jousting and tennis. Especially

when there is a big feast afterwards.

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

I made my own church because the Pope (he's the head of the Catholic church) wouldn't let me divorce my first wife. No one can tell me what to do!

Artwork © David Lyttleton



What does Kingswear Castle look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building? Draw a circle around the ones that do.

Does Kingswear Castle look similar to nearby buildings?

Castle Tall

Pretty Industrial

Stone Brick

Symmetrical Home

Square Elegant

Friendly Low

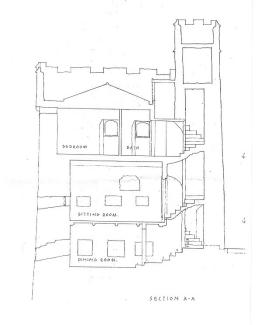
The square tower at Kingswear Castle was built for King Henry VII (that's Henry VIII's dad) in 1501, around six years after the completion of its 'sister' castle Dartmouth, on the other side of the river.

The Corporation of Dartmouth – a group of rich and powerful men – asked for this second castle to be built to protect Dartmouth harbour from raids by the French.

The round tower isn't nearly as old, it was added in 1855 by a rich 22 year old called Charles Seale Hayne. He used the castle as his summer home.

Fact:

Although the castle was built as an offensive weapon, it wasn't manned on a regular basis and was only ever really used for combat during the Civil War, and later by the marines in World War Two.



The square tower is built directly onto the bedrock of the cliff, holding it in place against violent sea storms. The walls are 5 feet thick at the base – that's probably thicker than you are tall! - reducing to 3 feet at the top. Can you see how the walls slope inwards on the plan opposite?

The square concrete tower you can see today was added on during the Second World War when the Marines used it as a defensive base.

Did you know?

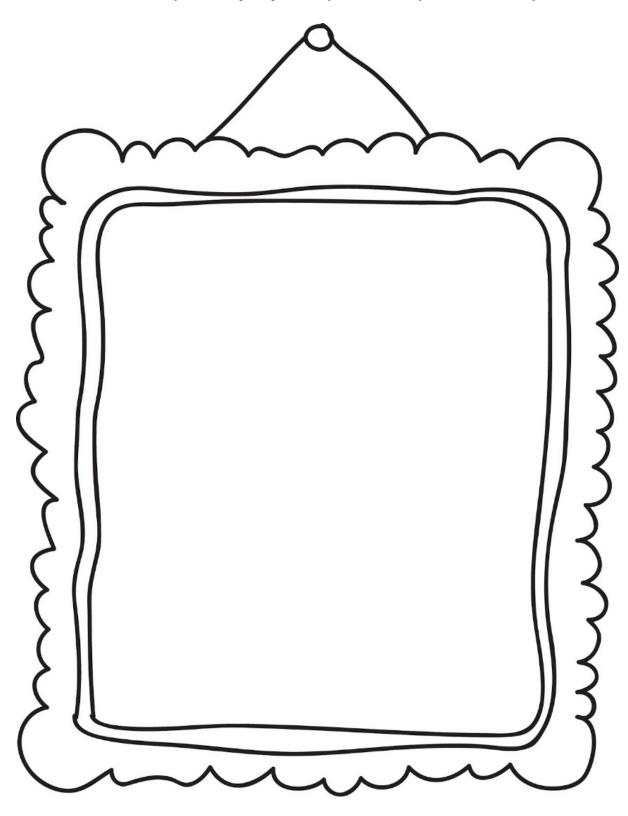
Dartmouth and Kingswear Castles were the earliest fortifications in Britain to be designed specifically for the use of large guns or cannons. So they were bang up to date (geddit?) when they were built.



Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up from lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

Have a go at drawing Kingswear Castle.

Please tell an adult where you are going so they don't worry about where you are!





What is Kingswear Castle built from?

Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was dug out of **quarries** and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

The main towers at Kingswear are built from **shaley** coastal stone which is likely to have come from only a few hundred yards away. The dressings to the doors and parapets however, are made of local red sandstone, which is a much softer stone. Have a look at the difference.

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.

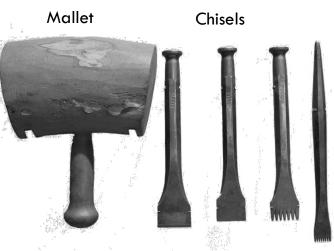


In medieval and Tudor times, stone was taken out of the ground by hand. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.

Fact: Shale is a kind of stone that splits easily. Look out for pieces on it on the beach.

People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. The stone window below has been carved into shapes called ogees. They use a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone. Imagine how hard it must have been to carve these windows just using a mallet and chisels.







Sometimes stone masons carved faces and animals called gargoyles. You often find these in churches, up near the roof. Here are some examples. Have a go at designing your own gargoyles. Make them as ugly as you like!









What other building materials can you find outside and inside Kingswear Castle?

Circle what you can see and note down where you found them.

Stone Glass

Wood Plastic

Metal Clay

Flint Concrete

Brick Ceramic

Quest



Discover more about Kingswear Castle

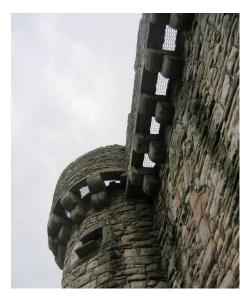
Kingswear Castle has been here for over 500 years. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

Can you make out the initials on this door?

It looks a little like S.b, but it's actually S.H after Charles Seale Hayne who restored the castle in 1855 and added on the round tower.



Go into the circular bedroom. Can you see the corbels? Corbels are the blocks of stone that support the ribs of the vault. If you look closely at them you'll be able to see the coats of arms and crests of the Seale and Hayne families.



15th century machicolations at Craigmillar Castle in Scotland

Castle defences...

Stand outside of the front door and look up. Can you see the gaps? These are 'Shutes of Machicolations' (say mash-i-col-ashuns) — if enemies made it to the front door, missiles or stones could be launched down these holes at them. They could also be used to pour water down if the enemy started a fire at the door to try to burn it down!

How many windows?

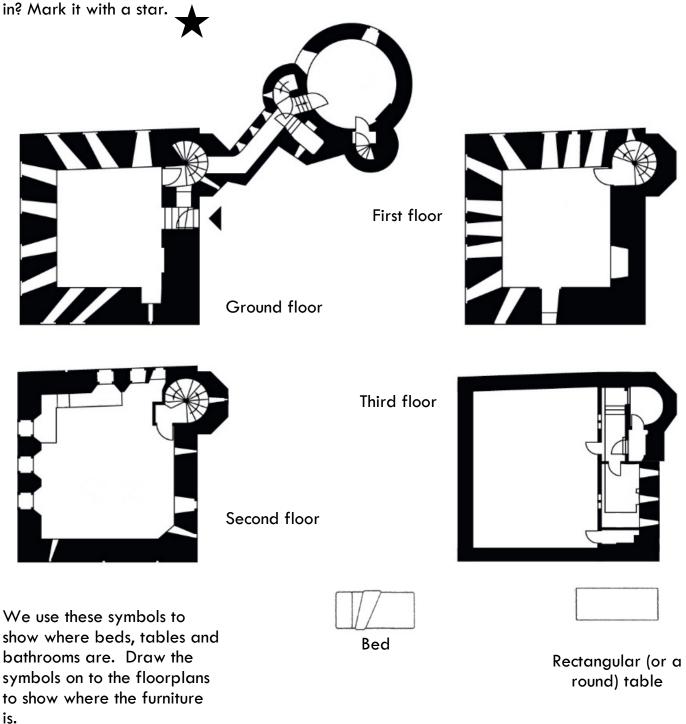
Have a walk around the square tower – how many windows can you find? Does the number of windows decrease the higher up the building you go?

Can you guess why there are so many, and why they are so small? (Answer on the puzzle sheet – no cheating!)



Living in Kingswear Castle

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Kingswear Castle has four floors. The plan below shows you the shape of the ground floor. Can you find the bedroom you are sleeping in 2 AA and it with a start of



Bathroom

Cooker

Sofa

Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Kingswear. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite piece of furniture Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor	Your favourite window
	What can you see from the windows? Perhaps there are boats bobbing on the sea, or a playful seal in the water? Have a go at drawing the scene in the box below.



Kingswear Castle Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and what might have been here when Edward lived here. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

В	S	S	G	Z	Α	Υ	S	G	Н	M	Н
Α	0	Н	U	0	В	Р	Α	Α	Α	0	T
Α	L	I	Ν	Р	0	R	R	R	Е	0	U
R	D	Р	S	0	D	В	Υ	Ν	С	R	0
T	I	S	R	Е	0	R	0	Е	L	Ν	Μ
1	E	T	R	U	0	T	Α	S	Е	U	Т
L	R	0	R	S	S	Ν	Υ	Е	J	G	R
L	В	R	Е	D	Ν	Α	М	М	0	С	Α
Е	G	U	Ν	P	0	W	D	Е	R	Χ	D
R	W	Α	F	0	R	T	R	Е	S	S	Ν
Υ	S	Ν	0	S	I	R	R	Α	G	Ν	K
D	Е	٧	0	Ν	T	Е	P	Α	R	Α	Р
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SOLDIER MARY ROSE **DEVON GARDEROBE** SHIPS

COMMANDER PARAPET HARBOUR DARTMOUTH OCEAN GARRISON

CANON SANDSTONE **FORTRESS GUN ROOM**

GUNPOWDER CHAIN **ARTILLERY GUNS TROOPS**

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.





Can you answer these questions correctly?

1.	When	was	the	square	tower	at	Kingswear built?	
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1401

1501

1601

1701

2. Who added on the round tower in 1855?

James Bond

Charles Seale Hayne

Henry Palmerston

Henry VIII

3. How thick are the walls at the base of the square tower?

2ft

20ft

5ft

30cm

4. Who used the tower during the Second World War?

Territorial Army

Marines

Royal Air Force

Special Forces

5. Which nation was Kingswear Castle built to defend against?

The French

The Germans

The Australians

The Mexicans

6. Who was on the throne when Edward was stationed at Kingswear Castle?

(Psst... check unruly rulers!)

George VI

Victoria

George VI

Henry VIII

7. Which stone is used for the door and window surrounds?

Limestone

Sandstone

Quartz

Slate

8. What is a garderobe?

A soldier

A fancy wardrobe

A medieval toilet

A dressing gown

9. What is the castle on the other side of the river called?

Dartmouth Castle

Harlech Castle

Windsor Castle

Edinburgh Castle

10. What was the name of Henry VIII's warship?

Ella May

Mary Rose

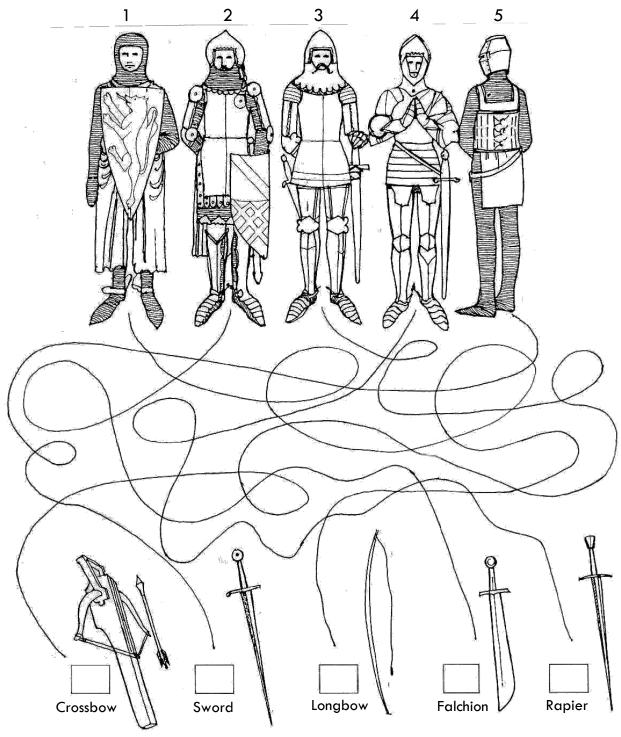
May Flower

Grace Dieu



Which weapon is whose?

Each object is a soldier's weapon. Match the soldier to his weapon.



Did you match them all correctly? Put your score in the box.



Now colour the soldiers in.



Answer sheet:

Question & Answer:

- 1. 1501
- 2. Charles Seale Hayne
- 3. 5ft
- 4. Marines
- 5. The French
- 6. Henry VIII
- 7. Sandstone
- 8. A medieval toilet
- 9. Dartmouth Castle
- 10. Mary Rose

How many did you get right?



Did you know?

The Corporation of Dartmouth ordered that a chain be put between Kingswear Castle and Dartmouth Castle to stop enemy ships from coming in to the harbour. Imagine how long and thick that chain would have been!



Quest answer: The openings weren't always windows, they were used to stick the guns out of and the more guns, the bigger the range of fire. The openings are just big enough for the muzzle of the gun. This means that the enemy couldn't fire into the holes.

Write an acrostic poem about Kingswear Castle.

Κ			
I			
N			
G			
S			
W			
E			
Α			
R			



Design your own flag

Since ancient times flags have been used to identify groups of people, countries and armies. Flags are mainly used today to represent a country. Did you know that Devon has its own flag? It's called St. Petrocs's Flag and looks like the picture below. The flag is on a green background with a black outlined white cross running through it.

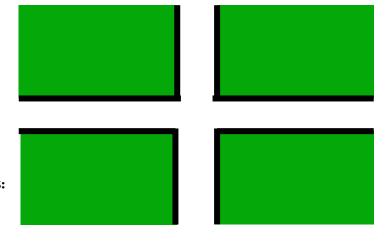
Each colour has its own meaning:

Yellow: means truth, loyalty and justice White: means bravery and strength Red: means peace and honesty

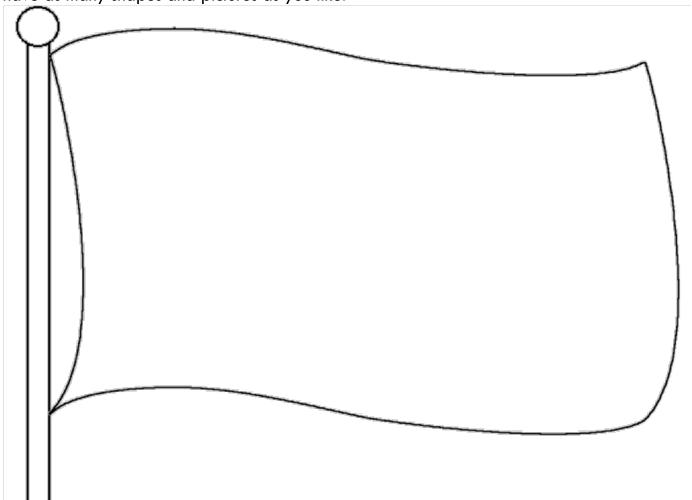
Blue: means generosity
Green: means determination
Black: means hope, joy and love

Flags also have lots of different symbols: Stripe Cross Star Crescent Circle





Have a go at designing your own flag that best describes you! It can be as colourful and have as many shapes and pictures as you like.





Design Your Own Castle...

Think about what shape it would be? Square like the original Kingswear Tower, or round? What defences would you have? Large guns or canons, or perhaps you'd have machicolations? Where would your soldiers sleep? Show your own flag flying!



Create a shell photo frame

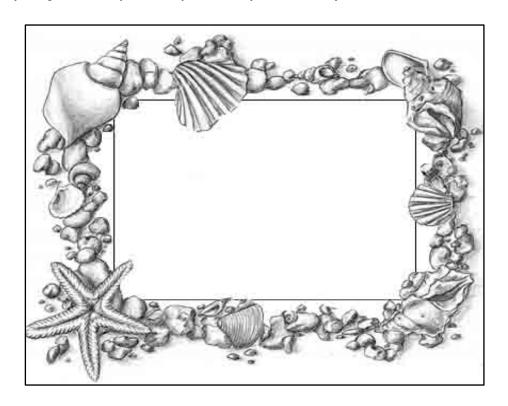
This is the perfect way to remember the seaside when you get home. You will need lots of different shells or little pebbles for this so if you go to the beach make sure you collect some. Get as many different shapes and sizes — it will make your photo frame more interesting!

You will need:

1 photo frame (it can be one you already have or get one from a charity shop) Shells

PVA glue (make sure it's this sort of glue) Spatula/ old paint brush Glitter paint

- Make sure that all your shells are clean and dry.
- Cover the table with a tablecloth or newspaper it may get messy!
- Now you can decorate to stick the shells onto the photo frame put some PVA glue
 onto the edges of the shell using a spatula/ old paintbrush. Press the shell onto the
 frame careful not to knock the shells already on the frame as you glue more shells on.
- Leave the glue to dry for at least 3 hours (it may take longer)
- Check glue has dried by gently trying to move shells
- Once dry the frame is finished unless you want to paint the shells or put some glitter paint on the shells to make them sparkle!
- When you get home put in a photo of your holiday at Crownhill Fort.





Bake some scones

If you haven't ever had a scone you are missing out! Devon and Cornwall are famous for their scones. They are plain cakes that you cut in half and spread clotted cream and jam on each side. This is called a cream tea. Mmmm I could eat scones all day!

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

75g of butter 1 large egg

225g of self-raising flour 2 tbsp milk

Pinch of salt Clotted cream

40g caster sugar Jam

Pre-heat the oven: fan 220 °C: 425 °F: Gas 7

- Grease a baking tray.
- Sift flour and salt into bowl. Rub butter into the mixture until it looks like breadcrumbs.
 Add the sugar.
- Beat the egg and buttermilk together in a separate bowl.
- Add the egg and milk mixture to the flour mixture. Mix it all together with a spoon and then with your hands. This is called dough (say 'doh').
- Put some flour on the work top and then put the ball of dough onto it.
- Roll the dough into a circle (about 2.5cm thick). Then cut out the scones (if you don't have a cutter use a glass, making sure it too gets flour on the rim).
- Put them onto the baking tray and brush them with milk. Bake on the top shelf for 10-12 minutes.
- Let them cool and then serve with lots of clotted cream and jam! Yum!

