



One of the world's most famous buildings, the Palace of Westminster stands magnificently between the River Thames and Westminster Abbey. Generally known these days as the Houses of Parliament it is formally, as it has been for a thousand years, a royal palace which retains its royal name.



Let MIKE OGDEN be your guide to the fascinating history of the palace, beginning in the distant days of King Cnut and King Edward the Confessor.....

Learn how Westminster, then well outside London, gradually became the seat of royal power in England after the Norman conquest;

Discover how the first parliaments met at Westminster during the 13<sup>th</sup> century, how they came to include untitled people as well as the nobility, and how the Lords and Commons eventually became established bodies with their own meeting places;

Hear how the Gunpowder Plot almost succeeded in killing King James I, and how his son Charles I became the only monarch ever to enter the House of Commons when he attempted to arrest MPs who dared to oppose him;

See the demise of the old palace in the disastrous fire of 1834, and the building of the new Houses of Parliament in stone brought by canal, sea and river from a quarry near Rotherham;

Experience the shock of the German bombing in 1941 which destroyed the Commons chamber and caused other extensive damage.

And learn about the proposals to relocate Parliament while the buildings are restored and renewed.

**Finally, join Mike Ogden for a tour around the splendid buildings that now grace the site, and enjoy a little of the biting humour and wit of the House of Commons.**

The talk is available for a fee in North Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. Venues further afield may be possible.

Fee and travel cost details are given on the website:

[www.mikeogden.moonfruit.com](http://www.mikeogden.moonfruit.com)

To ask about a venue and date please call Mike Ogden on 07741 777768, or email [ogeewriter.mike@gmail.com](mailto:ogeewriter.mike@gmail.com)