



THREE KINGS "CHARLES" IN BRITISH HISTORY



KING CHARLES I
(1625-1649)



KING CHARLES II
(1660-1685)



KING CHARLES III
(2022 to date)

Prince Charles III is the third person from the British royal family whose name is Charles. Earlier there were two more members of the same name who ruled. That's why the third has been put in his name. Now do you know who Charles I and II were?



CHARLES I

Charles I, the son of James I, becomes king of Great Britain in 1625. He helps the poor and needy. However, he also believes that kings should be able to rule as they pleased, without being told what to do by anyone else. Charles I is the King of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1625 to 1649. Three months after becoming king, Charles marries Henrietta Maria of France, the daughter of Henry IV of France. Henrietta Maria is Catholic and England is Protestant. Henrietta's religion causes division between Charles and parliament, who doesn't approve of the Catholic faith. Charles' reign, which ends with his execution, was a time of turbulence and civil war.



CHARLES II

Charles II is born in 1630 to Charles I and Henrietta Maria. King Charles II is one of the most popular monarchs in British history. He rules the kingdoms of England, Ireland, and Scotland from 1660 until his death in 1685. This is a period commonly known as the *Restoration Era*. This is because he restores to power of a king after 11 years of republican rule (Charles



II's father, King Charles I, is executed by republican forces led by Oliver Cromwell).

Charles II is a tolerant king and grants religious freedom to Catholics and Protestants. Theatres are opened for the first time in years, and people are granted much more liberties. Charles II is

nicknamed the "merry monarch" because of his love of music and grand entertainment. He is intelligent and interested in scientific research, art, and literature. In 1665 THE GREAT PLAGUE hits London, killing thousands of people. In 1666 THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON destroys much of London. So Charles II appoints his friend, **Christopher Wren**, to rebuild London. Wren creates designs for more than 50 new churches, including Saint Paul's Cathedral.

