



THE SEALED KNOT

LOVE HISTORY? LIVE IT WITH THE SEALED KNOT



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Event Guide



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OVERVIEW

The Sealed Knot is the oldest re-enactment society in the UK, a registered educational charity, and the single biggest re-enactment society in Europe.



The Sealed Knot brings the history of the English Civil Wars to life by staging events throughout the country all year round, offering a chance to experience at first hand the stark realities of a nation at war with itself, as well as providing a glimpse of everyday life in those turbulent days.

The Sealed Knot offers events of a variety of scales to suit almost every space and budget, working closely with our Sponsors to meet their own funding criteria and conducting research into local events to bring history to life in a meaningful and relevant way for our audiences.

This guide will give you an idea of the types of event we can provide, what each one includes and what the logistical needs are for venues who open their doors to host a Sealed Knot re-enactment.





RE-ENACTMENT WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH

Whether you are a heritage venue that has links to the English Civil War, looking to accurately re-create events that happened at your location, or a local enterprise simply looking for something fun to add to a family day out – we can provide what you need.

Each Sealed Knot event is led by a muster organiser who will be local to you and manned by a regiment who will take the time to get to know and understand the individual needs of your venue and organisation. They will conduct research into history specific to your local area and can theme your event around a particular topic to achieve your vision.

We will work closely with you to discuss how we can best fit into the spaces that you have available, what we can provide within your budget, and how we can add elements to our events that will appeal to your target audience. Your individual muster organiser will be a direct point of contact throughout the negotiation and planning stages and will be available throughout the event providing clear lines of communication to address any issues and ensure that the event goes without a hitch.

We can provide everything from large events where we are the main focus of the day, with a full schedule of activities, through smaller events that sit alongside other displays such as at village fetes, steam shows, and armed forces days, or very small bespoke events that dramatically re-create a specific scenario.

SOME IDEAS FOR SCENARIOS:

- The siege of a historic house
- An army encampment
- An open field battle
- A Cavalry engagement
- A local skirmish
- An Artillery bombardment
- A political debate
- A town garrison





HASSLE FREE HERITAGE

The Sealed Knot prides itself on producing events that put as little pressure as possible on our Sponsors time and resources. We provide all of the man-power and resources needed to create the Heritage element of your overall event without the headache.



All of our events include:

- All logistical needs for the campsite and battlefield areas.
- A set-up & pack-down crew to receive logistical items to site and supervise the setting up of all areas of site ahead of the event and pack down at the end.
- Public Liability Insurance and a full Risk Assessment covering the event, plus medics to cover first aid for our own members where needed.
- A 'gate guard' at the entrance to our modern campsite to provide security.
- Images and text for use in marketing the event and the sharing of social media posts from our own pages as well as listing the event on our website with links to your ticketing platform.

Our Major events also include:

- A commentary team to talk the public through the displays and battles as they unfold.
- An event plan submitted to the local council, outlining all safety considerations and performance aspects.





TYPES OF EVENT

CAMEO/MUSEUM EVENTS

These events are small-scale events where a small number of our members will populate your space to add a bit of 17thC flavour. They are often focused on a specific theme with 'show and tell' element for public engagement. These can include a dramatic reconstruction of events such as court trials, or the king's visit to a historic home and are suitable for even the smallest of venues.



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Our children's activities include worksheets with quizzes and activities to complete as they explore the Living History to earn a reward and sticker.

We include a 'kiddies drill' encouraging youngsters to have a go with miniature replica weapons and put them through their paces as they train to become a 17thC soldier.

There will be a chance to dress up in the authentic clothing including armour and helmets so that they can look the part.

LIVING HISTORY AND DISPLAY EVENTS

These events include a Living History display with a variety of traditional skills on show based in authentic tents depicting an army encampment. This type of event can include drill displays to demonstrate how the different arms worked together in the English Civil War, as well as children's activities and interactive elements for the public throughout the day.

SMALL MINI EVENTS

In addition to the Living History, drill displays and children's activities, these events include a small skirmish with 1 or 2 units of each infantry division per side. They can depict a small local skirmish of troops, creating a short story to engage the public. These events work well alongside other attractions, for example at village fetes or family fun days, and are also effective in providing an English Civil War element to multi-period events.





LARGE MINI EVENTS

Our Large Mini events tend to be stand-alone events where the Sealed Knot displays and skirmish are the main focus of the day for visitors. Including a skirmish with 3 to 6 units of each infantry division per side as well as a larger-scale Living History, drill displays and children's activities. With the addition of Cavalry or Cannon these events are perfect for bringing the 'big spectacle' feel to smaller venues.



LIVING HISTORY

Our Living History encampments capture the imagination of visitors with the sights, sounds and smells of 17thC tented civilian life.

With a range of displays that can include cooking, crafts, medicine, and the making of clothing, armour and weapons, the public can get up close and personal with all of the facets of an English Civil War army on the move.

Our members have expertise in their chosen areas, and can give talks and demonstrations to your audience, allowing them to have a go wherever possible.

MAJOR MUSTER EVENTS

Including a full-scale battle with 3 to 4 brigades of infantry per side, plus troops of Cavalry and batteries of Cannon. Our largest events generally take place on bank holiday weekends and are effective in drawing the crowds to large estates all over the country. With an extended Living History encampment and a series of different displays throughout the day leading up to the spectacle of our main battle, these are showstopper events not to be missed.





PRICE AND SPACE GUIDE



Our pricing is flexible depending on what resources are needed, and what can be provided for example firewood or access to toilets – we will work with you to discuss what options are available. If you have certain funding criteria that need to be met to use a specific pot of money to host us, we can work with you to meet those needs.

The space we require varies, and the list below is just a guide. Spaces can be divided rather than one large area and we are happy to negotiate this with you during an initial site-visit before any contracts are signed.

Scale of event	Approximate number of re-enactors	Price guide (prices subject to VAT)	Guideline amount of space needed
Cameo/Museum	Up to 20	£100 - £500	A small room
Living History & Drill Display	20 – 100	£500 - £2000	¼ - 2 acres
Small mini	100 – 250	£1500 - £4000	2 – 5 acres
Large mini	250 – 700	£3000 - £7000	5-15 acres
Major	Full society	On enquiry	40+ acres

Cavalry and/or Cannon and an outdoor PA system can be added to any scale of event for an additional charge if desired.

Cameo, Living History & Small Mini events can be offered as 1 day or 2 day events – Large Mini and Major events are a minimum of 2 days.

For larger events lasting more than 1 day, some of the space we require is for a modern campsite to provide overnight accommodation for our members.

As a volunteer society we cannot guarantee exact numbers attending each event. Numbers above are guideline attendance.





GET IN TOUCH

Interested in hiring us to add a bit of English Civil War spectacle to your venue or event?

Get in touch by emailing events@thesealedknot.org.uk

Or fill out our online form at <https://www.thesealedknot.org.uk/book-us/>

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

STEP 1 – 1st Contact

Our events director will check your requirements and allocate an event organiser in your area to contact you. You may be contacted directly for a Major muster.

STEP 2 – Set a Date

Your event organiser will contact you directly for further details and to set a date for your event. This date will be held for you until the event is confirmed, preventing clashes.

STEP 3 – Site Visit

Your event organiser will come to you on site to see what space you have available and discuss options of scale of event based on your budget and venue.

STEP 4 - Confirmation

When the broad outline of your event has been agreed we will prepare contracts to be signed by both parties confirming the event and planning will begin.



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Follow us on social media to keep up to date with our latest news:

@thesealedknot



@TheSealedKnot1642

The Sealed Knot also provides bespoke Education Visits for Schools and Community Groups. Please see our events brochure or email education@thesealedknot.org.uk for more information.

