



Oxford through history - Tudor times

Oxford's Tudor history is linked in to what was happening in the politics of the time. What happened at the royal court made a huge difference to Oxford.

This was a period known as the English Reformation, when Henry VII decided that he should be in charge of the English Church, not the Pope in Rome. His daughter Mary I, who was a Roman Catholic believed the Pope was the Head of the Church. And Henry's younger daughter who would become Elizabeth I agreed with what her father believed...

Because the Church held a lot of power in England, politics was closely linked to the Church's power. As Oxford had many Abbeys, Monasteries and Churches, significant events would happen in the town (it became a city in 1542).

You might like to watch the Horrible Histories special about Henry VIII. Obviously it's not about Oxford, but it could help you understand something of what was going on at the time.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b060fvs8/horrible-histories-series-6-6-horrid-henry-viii-special>

The Horrible Histories bits about Mary I may also give you some idea about her reign.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcvuZEiZZM>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJX_dDdIqI8

1. In what year was Cardinal College founded by Cardinal Thomas Wolsey? Why was he not able to complete the work?
2. Cardinal College was refounded in 1532 and again in 1546 by which monarch? What name did it have in 1532? What name does it have now?
3. There are lots of facts about this particular college buildings and history. Find out at least three different facts.
4. What new subjects did Henry VIII introduce into the University? How was this a significant change from what had been studied before?
5. Who were Thomas Cranmer, Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer? What did they do? What happened to them? How are they remembered?

Useful websites might be:

<http://www.localhistories.org/oxford.html>

<https://www.britainexpress.com/cities/oxford/stuart.htm>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford>