



Burghley and the Victorians

When was the Victorian Period?

This period is named after Queen Victoria who was born in 1819 and died in 1901. She was Queen for 63 years and a lot happened during this time. There were lots of inventions such as; electricity, telephones, motor cars and stamps. Lots of people, including children, worked hard in mines and factories, then in 1880 a new law sent children to school instead. Britain grew wealthy and powerful and began to control other countries too like India, Canada, Australia and parts of Africa this was called the British Empire.

Did Queen Victoria visit Burghley?

In 1835 a young Princess visited Burghley with her mother the Duchess of Kent. When she visited, her mother slept in a huge state bed and insisted her daughter slept next door; the only bed that could be found was a small camp bed which was used for Officers to sleep in during the war. The little bed Princess Victoria used is still at Burghley, but when she returned in 1844 as Queen Victoria and she slept in a much bigger bed!

Queen Victoria's Bed



Fascinating Queen Victoria Facts

The Queen stayed at Burghley for 3 days.

She came to attend a Christening.

She planted a huge Oak tree, but used a child's spade!

She sent a portrait to thank Lord Burghley for the visit.

Prince Albert



How did the Royal Couple enjoy their visit?

Prince Albert was the godfather to Lord Burghley's baby daughter Sophia. At the Christening the Vicar was so nervous he drank too much sherry, forgot his glasses and started the service before the Royal couple had arrived!

It was forgotten at the Grand banquet at the end of their visit in the Great Hall at Burghley.

Queen Victoria



Burghley Challenge:

- Why is Prince Albert linked to Christmas Trees?
- How many children did Queen Victoria have?
- Who succeeded Queen Victoria?
- What else can you find out about the Victorian period?