

Lady Godiva

Who: Lady Godiva, Leofric (husband, Earl of Mercia and Lord of Coventry), King Canute (Cnut), Coventry's residents, Peeping Tom

What: Ride, horse, dare (Leofric dared his wife to ride naked on the promise that he would stop collecting the tax), Canute's bodyguard (paid for by the tax), Canute is famous for telling the tide to turn back (to prove to his courtiers that he was not as powerful as they claimed), Heregeld (type of Danegeld), surprised Leofric when she did, long hair covered her body (Bible: Corinthians), Godiva asked people of Coventry not to look, one man did look, tailor, blinded by wrath of God, Leofric converted to Christianity

Where: Coventry

When: 1035AD, midday on market day

Why: To cut tax, stop collecting the tax, (why the dare) because Godiva sponsored local arts and Greek and Roman art included nudes

How: Naked