

## Thomas Tyldesley (1612-1651)

Sir Thomas Tyldesley was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 1612 at Woodplumpton (Lancashire), the eldest of six children of Edward Tyldesley and Elizabeth Preston.

He intended to be a lawyer but later became a soldier.

His wife was called Frances and they had three sons and seven daughters.

Tyldesley was a lieutenant colonel in the army of King Charles I and fought at the Battle of Edgehill. He recruited regiments of cavalry, infantry and canon. Due to a desperate storming, and sacking of Burton-on-Trent whilst escorting the Queen down to London, he received the honour of Knighthood.

He, unfortunately, had an argument with and killed a linen weaver in Manchester on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1642. However, as the King was recruiting soldiers for the civil war the killing was explained as a civil war related death. This means that Thomas Tyldesley is reported as the first person to draw blood in the English Civil War.

He later served as an important commander in all three civil wars that comprise the English Civil War. He was loyal to the Crown throughout the wars and never surrendered to the Parliamentarians.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> August 1651 he was killed in action in the Battle of Wigan Lane.

There is a monument to Sir Thomas Tyldesley in Wigan at the site of his death.

Sir Thomas Tyldesley is my ancestor.

By Lizzie Tildsley 4B

