

NOT FORGOTTEN MOVING AWAY YOUR DUST

BY PETER DANIEL



Dustman Ernest Boots collecting the Covent Garden rubbish during a Suffragette protest 1913 Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

THANKS TO NATIONAL LOTTERY PLAYERS



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA



City of Westminster

MOVING AWAY YOUR DUST

FOREWORD



The Mayor of Westminster and the Dean of Westminster Abbey unveiled a replacement staff war memorial outside Westminster City Hall in Victoria Street on 1st July 2016. The centenary of the death of Ernest Boots.



Thanks to National Lottery Fund players, nine classes visited the memorial as part of our Moving Away Your Dust project to view the name of Ernest Boots, the forgotten council dustman.

Thanks to National Lottery Fund players, Westminster Archives have been able to put together our *Moving Away Your Dust* project for our local community and schools. The drama side of this project evolved from research undertaken by Westminster Archives in 2016. This followed the shocking discovery that the Westminster Council Staff War memorial had been removed, probably destroyed, from the council's former H.Q. in Charing Cross Road. The council commissioned a new memorial to be unveiled in 2016 and asked Westminster Archives to research the names on the memorial to find a story that could involve local schools in the unveiling. The sad story of Ernest Boots, who was killed on 1st July 1916, was discovered. As this was one of the most significant days for Britain in WW1, a decision was made to unveil the new memorial to mark the centenary.

In 2024, the National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded Westminster Archives £74,418 for our *Moving Away Your Dust* project. This is to commemorate the bicentenary of the Grosvenor Canal, which was opened on March 10th 1825. Ernest Boots spent his whole life in and around the canal and was one of the many 'unsung heroes who move away our dust.' To involve the local community and schools, we have worked with MoD Theatre company to create a show that weaves his story into other stories that Westminster Archives use annually for Westminster Abbey's Remembrance week. Although the story line is fictional, all of the characters are real people.

PETER DANIEL WESTMINSTER ARCHIVES 28TH NOVEMBER 2024

GROSVENOR CANAL OPENING 1825

The opening of the Grosvenor Canal by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives



The Grosvenor Canal was opened in 1825, and ran on land in Lord Grosvenor's estate, from the Thames to Grosvenor Basin. The site of the basin is now covered by Victoria Station. The top part of the canal was closed to enable the station complex to be enlarged in 1899. The remaining short length of canal was purchased in 1906 by Westminster City Council. A further section was in-filled in 1927 to provide space for housing. Westminster placed a great importance on the canal because it was the means by which central London's waste was disposed. For almost a year from July 1928 the canal was closed for major repairs and improvements to facilitate this important traffic. In the late 1940s and early 1950s other local authorities including Kensington and Chelsea added their refuse to the traffic carried. It closed in 1994.

OPENING OF THE GROSVENOR CANAL.

Probably no improvement in or near London has been greater than that which has lately taken place on Earl Grosvenor's estate, between Pimlico and Chelsea.

The hour appointed for opening the Canal yesterday was near high water, which was five o'clock, when every thing being arranged for the aquatic procession, Earl Grosvenor, accompanied by Mr. BOODLE, his principal Steward; Mr. CUNDY, his Architect, and several other Agents, entered a large pleasure barge for twelve rowers, to proceed through the first flood gates, upon which a numerous band of wind instruments, amounting to upwards of thirty performers, struck up *God save the King*. This vessel was followed by a number of barges of various descriptions with colours flying. Both shores were lined with an incalculable concourse of spectators. Several royal salutes were given, and other discharges of small cannon, muskets, pistols, &c. were discharged, the Band following the Noble Earl's barge, playing "*Rule Britannia*," and other national airs. The aquatic procession, after proceeding round the Canal, came to an anchor in the Basin, when those on board the Noble Earl's barge partook of a sumptuous cold collation, at which his Lordship presided. The Canal and Basin was only commenced on the 5th July, 1823.

Morning Post - Friday 11 March 1825

AFTERMATH



*If we forget the
horror of war, we
are doomed to
repeat the mistakes
of the past.*

SIEGFRIED SASSOON

*'Have you forgotten yet?...
Look down, and swear by the slain of the War
that you'll never forget.'*

SIEGFRIED SASSOON, TUFTON STREET, 1919



AFTERMATH 2014

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, or well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedule **213**
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (Last Birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
<p>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.</p> <p>No one else must be included.</p> <p>(For order of writing, see Examples on back of Schedule.)</p>							
<p>Write in each column the name of the person, and in the column headed "Age" the age in years and months, and in the column headed "Sex" the sex of the person.</p> <p>Write in the column headed "Particulars as to Marriage" the date of marriage, and in the column headed "Profession or Occupation" the name of the person's occupation.</p> <p>Write in the column headed "Birthplace" the name of the place where the person was born, and in the column headed "Nationality" the name of the country where the person was born.</p> <p>Write in the column headed "Infirmity" the name of the infirmity, and in the column headed "Remarks" any other particulars.</p>							
Ernest Boots	Head	28	Married 6yrs	Sweeper City of Westminster	Pimlico London		
Sarah Boots	Wife	30	Married "		Farrington Berks		
Ernest Boots	Son	5			Pimlico		
William Boots	Son	3			Pimlico		
Sarah Boots	Dau	1			Pimlico		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, hallway, lobby, cloak, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, hallway, lobby, cloak, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: Ernest Boots

Postal Address: 157/2 Victoria Dwellings Battersea Road

1911 census Victoria Dwellings Battersea National Archives

Westminster & Pimlico News

A LONDON NEWSPAPER GROUP PUBLICATION EST 1887 WPN 6997 Thursday, January 5, 1995 TEL: 081 741 1622 30p

WHERE'S OUR TRASH GOING?

THE imminent closure of Westminster's only rubbish depot will cause environmental havoc on central London roads, it was claimed this week.

Labour councillors fear the Tories will choose the cheapest option of getting rid of Westminster's rubbish at the expense of the environment.

Labour councillor Simon Winters has launched a campaign to block plans to close the Gatliff Road depot in Pimlico.

He fears the shutdown will mean the 40,000 lorries which deliver rubbish there will have to travel further by road.

Residents, who have campaigned for 30 years to have the depot closed, are fuming at Mr Winters' suggestion that it should stay.

But he argued: "It's a disgrace that they're planning to close the depot."

"It will put hundreds of lorries of waste onto the roads where the depot uses the excellent idea of moving that rubbish away on barges along the Thames."

By ELENA ANTONIOU

"The real problem has been the systematic underfunding of the Gatliff Road and Ebury bridge estates and the depot, which fails European standards."

"The Tories are now trying to pacify a constituency angry about these things."

Currently, the rubbish is loaded onto barges and transported by river to a landfill site.

Councillor Winters believes the Tories are sacrificing wider environmental issues to win votes in one of Westminster's marginal wards.

Gatliff Road Residents Association Chairman Paul Fallon said: "I am absolutely disgusted by the suggestion that the depot should stay."

"We believe the council has two options - move the depot or move the residents. We will continue our fight until the depot goes."

Tory ward councillor Nikki Woodhead Page said: "It's absurd to suggest we are neglecting the wider issues."

"There are more than 1,000 residents affected by the depot. In the summer the smell is appalling and the noise and disturbance from lorries is unacceptable."

"When considering the new contracts it is possible there will be options for moving the waste by rail or river and we will consider all the issues."

A final decision about the closure will be made in May.



Happy New Year babies

● New Year's Day in Notting Hill welcomed these two bundles of joy to its nappy wearing population.

● Chuffed-to-bits mum Debbie Isaac (right), 35, gave birth to a 7lb 2oz baby girl at St Mary's Hospital in Paddington at 11pm on Sunday.

● The family, who live in Pencombe Mews, have still to decide on a name for their third child.

● Other new arrivals to Notting Hill on January 1 included Lily Sweet Pea Cooper, pictured below with proud mum Karen.

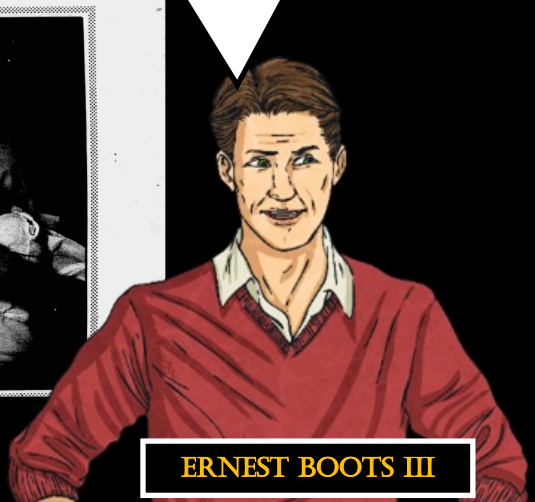


BOAT SHOW PRIZES

... along there me heartiest here's your chance to climb on board and win some great sailing gear from the Boat Show. See our nautical competition on page 20



Me names Boots, Ernie Boots. Same as me Dad, same as me grandad. I worked on the dust. Same as my old man, same as his old man. Then they closed Gatliff Road depot in 1994 and I called it a day.



ERNEST BOOTS III

Westminster & Pimlico News - Thurs 5 Jan 1995

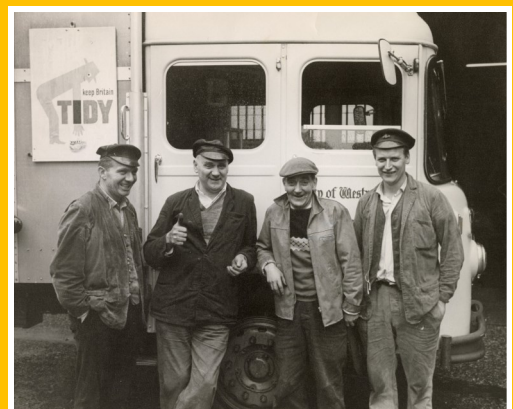
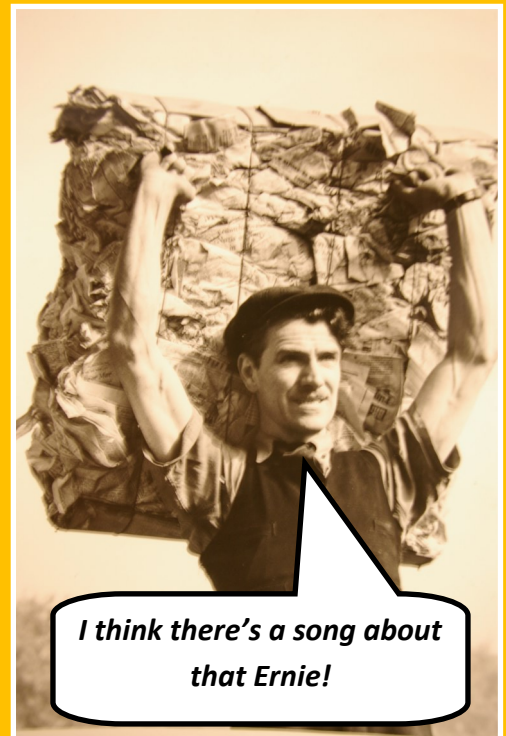
Westminster Archives

MY OLD MAN'S A DUSTMAN



Now here's a little story
To tell it is a must
About an unsung hero
That moves away your dust
Some people make a fortune
Others earn a mint
My old man don't earn much
In fact he's flippin' skint

Oh, my old man's a dustman
He wears a dustman's hat
He wears cor blimey trousers
And he lives in a council flat
He looks a proper narner
In his great big hobnail boots
He's got such a job to pull 'em up
That he calls them daisy roots
And his name was Ernest Boots!



Westminster Archives has many images of 20th century dustmen and road sweepers

AFTERMATH 2014

WAR MEMORIAL DESTROYED



Westminster Council's former HQ Charing Cross Rd

It was 2014, the centenary of the First World War, and Ernie wanted to know more about his grandad. His old man had told him that his grandad's name was on the Westminster Council Staff War memorial, which was inside the old council H.Q. at Charing Cross Road. It was now a Nat West Bank, and I asked the cashier where it was, and he said:

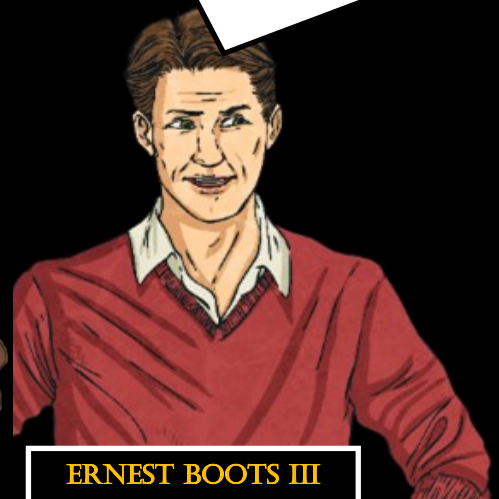


JULIE BOOTS



My wife Julie told me the disappointing news. It all seemed to be a bit of a dead end. What had happened to grandad's war memorial? I wanted to find out, but my mates at work thought I was wasting my time. "Why worry about somebody you never knew?" they said, "Someone who died years before you were born." So I kind of gave up on it all.

**"What war memorial?
There's no memorial
here. Next customer
please."**



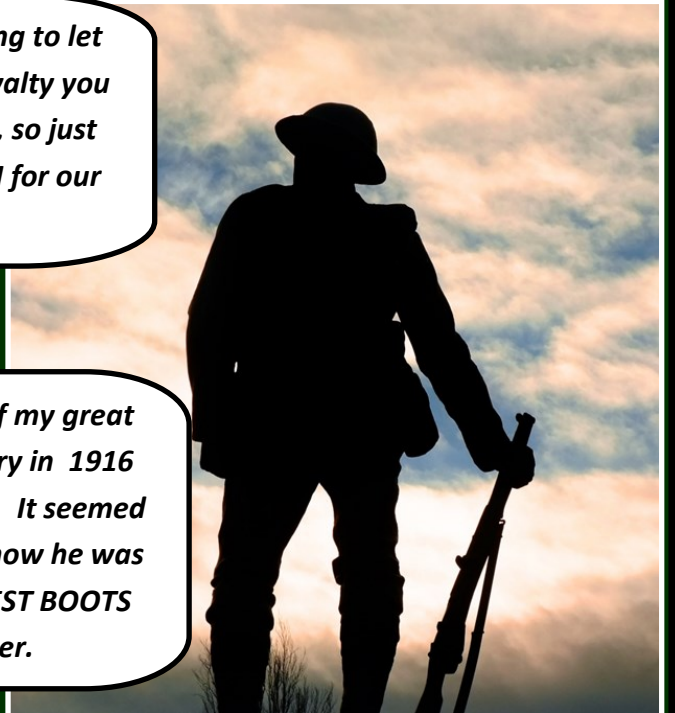
ERNEST BOOTS III

AFTERMATH 2014

Dad thought that was that, but I wasn't going to let it lie. Oh, I'm Ernest, Ernest Boots-If I was royalty you would call me Ernest the Fourth, but I'm not, so just call me Ernie. I did some research on Ernest I for our school's WW1 project.



I couldn't find any pictures of my great grandad. Just a one line entry in 1916 newspaper: **KILLED E.R.Boots**. It seemed like he was a nobody, but I know he was a **SOMEBODY**. He was **ERNEST BOOTS** and he deserved better.



ERNEST BOOTS IV

I'm Ernie's sister, Sarah, and I took up the case. I found out his only memorial had ended up as rubbish in a skip. The irony of it!



SARAH BOOTS II

We were at a dead end, but that's when searching through the drawers at home, I found my great nan's diaries. She was a Sarah too-so that makes me Sarah II!

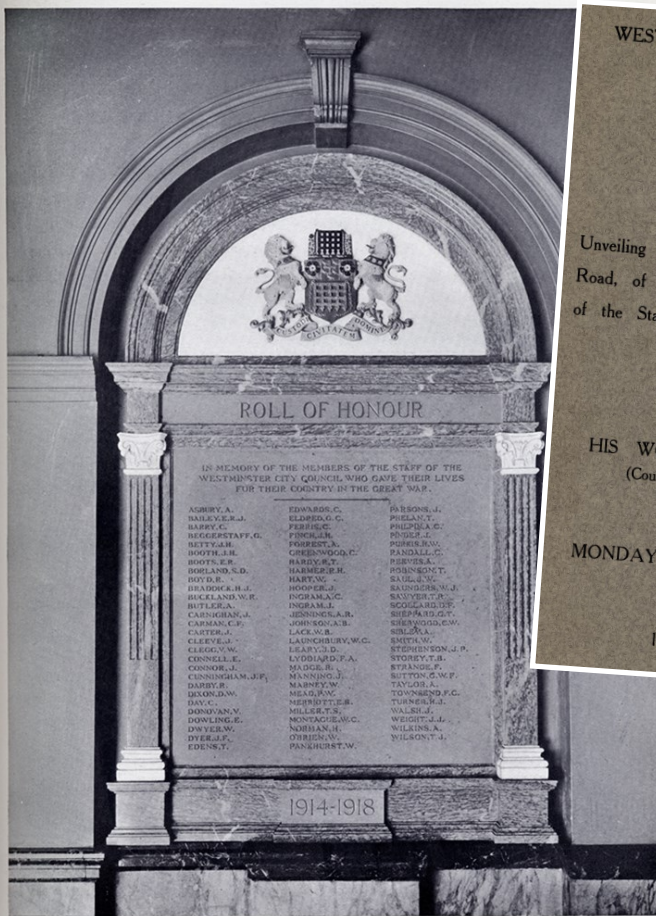
BATTERSEA.
KILLED.—Bdr. A. H. Jackson, RFA; F. Axleby
" " " T. A. Barnes, RB; Sergt. H. Legg. Mac
Peacefull, LondR; W. S. Hall, KRRC; H. J.
Bailey, RBerksR; E. R. Boots, KRRC; E. A.
Melling, BWKentR; W. Stanbry, WestRidingR;



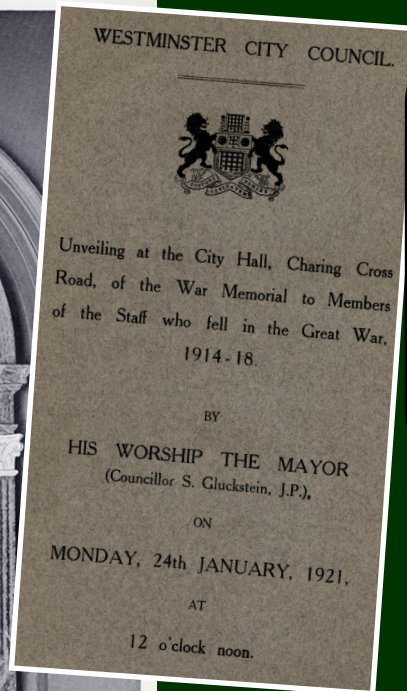
field. Dinner with Ali
27th Shopped with Alix
down To Oving, arrived
afternoon met by Miss Hurrell +
the children. Tea in schoolroom,
dinner alone with Miss Hurrell.
28th Went in to Chichester in the morn-
ing + went on to Slin down + walk-
ed over the downs with Miss H.
while the children had their riding
lesson. Poring with rain. Went

is lovely + had
tea. letters from A.
+ Binkie. Then took out Sonia
+ Binkie. After luncheon I went
with Miss H. + fetched Mademoi-
selle from Chichester. saw the
lows. Saw Ben's new grey-
hound "Spring" running. Took
Mademoiselle back + shopped
baked the Christmas cake

AFTERMATH 1921



Westminster Council staff war memorial Charing Cross Road



The WCC memorial was unveiled in 1921

MONDAY 24th January 1921

Went to London to see the Mayor of Westminster unveil the staff war memorial. It's five years since Ernie was taken from me and I've never really got over it.



SARAH BOOTS



My Ernie, God rest his soul, was buried at Maroc British Cemetery, near to where he was killed, but I've never had the money to go and see his grave.

1. Why do you think they make all the graves in British military graveyards the same?

EPITAPHS OF THE WAR

"Equality of Sacrifice"

A. "I was a Have."

B. "I was a 'have-not.'"

(Together).

"What hast thou given which I gave not?"

RUDYARD KIPLING

SARAH BOOTS

AFTERMATH 1925

MOTHERS' UNION.

PRINCESS MARY OPENS NEW HOME AT TUFTON STREET.

Princess Mary Viscountess Lascelles opened on Tuesday the Central House of the Mothers' Union, known as the "Mary Sumner House," in memory of the society's founder. The "house" is a handsome, five-storey building, situated in Tufton-street, Westminster, and overlooking the river. The Princess was met at the door of the house by Master David Barclay Waterhouse, the grandson of the central president, Mrs. Hubert Barclay, and was gravely presented by him with a bouquet of mallow-maisons and delphiniums. She was welcomed by Mrs. Hubert Barclay, the vice-presidents, and the diocesan president for London, Dame Beatrice Hudson Lyall.

In the assembly hall she was received by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who dedicated the building, the Bishop of Southwark, and the Rev. O. Hardman, acting chaplain of Mary Sumner House. Dedicationary prayers were offered by the Archbishop, and the Princess then declared the house open.

Mrs. Hubert Barclay recounted that ten years ago her predecessor, Mrs. Wilberforce, inspired the Mothers' Union with the idea of building a great house which should be called by the name of the founder.

The Princess accepted purses on behalf of the building fund, and Mrs. Barclay explained that the mothers themselves had raised £245,000 in small sums. Messages of congratulation were received from Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

Later, a service was held in the chapel, which was designed as a war memorial for the Mothers' Union by the late Mr. Paul Waterhouse during his last illness, the design being completed by his son.

Westminster & Pimlico News - Fri 24.7.1925

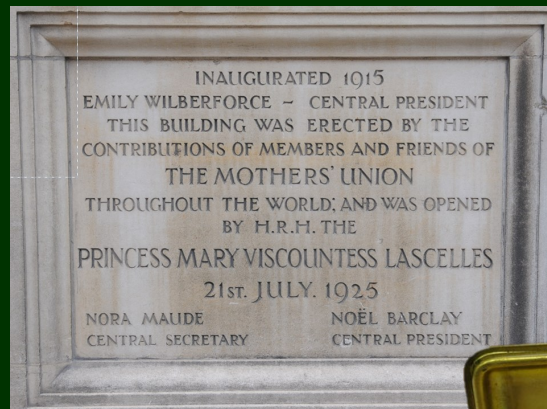
TUESDAY, 21st July, 1925

Went back to Pimlico to see some of my old friends at the Elephant and Castle pub in Great Peter Street.

We read together our great nan's 1925 diary, where she'd met other grieving families, who helped her get over her own loss.



Mary Sumner House in Tufton Street is the H.Q. of The Mother's Union



King George V's daughter Princess Mary opened Mary Sumner House on 21st July 1925



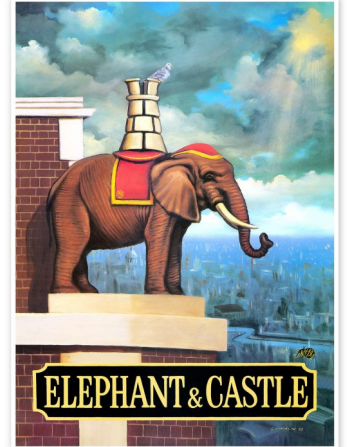
On the way there we saw that Princess Mary opening the new Mother's Union building in Tufton Street.



Princess Mary raised money for Xmas presents for soldiers in 1914

SARAH BOOTS

AFTERMATH 1925



Dating from 1729, or earlier, the pub was first named the Castle, renamed Elephant and Castle around 1800 and became the Speaker in 1999. The area around the pub was, until clearance started in 1850, known as *The Devil's Acre*, London's very worst slum, according to Charles Dickens, albeit next to the world's first public gas works.

TUESDAY 21st July 1925

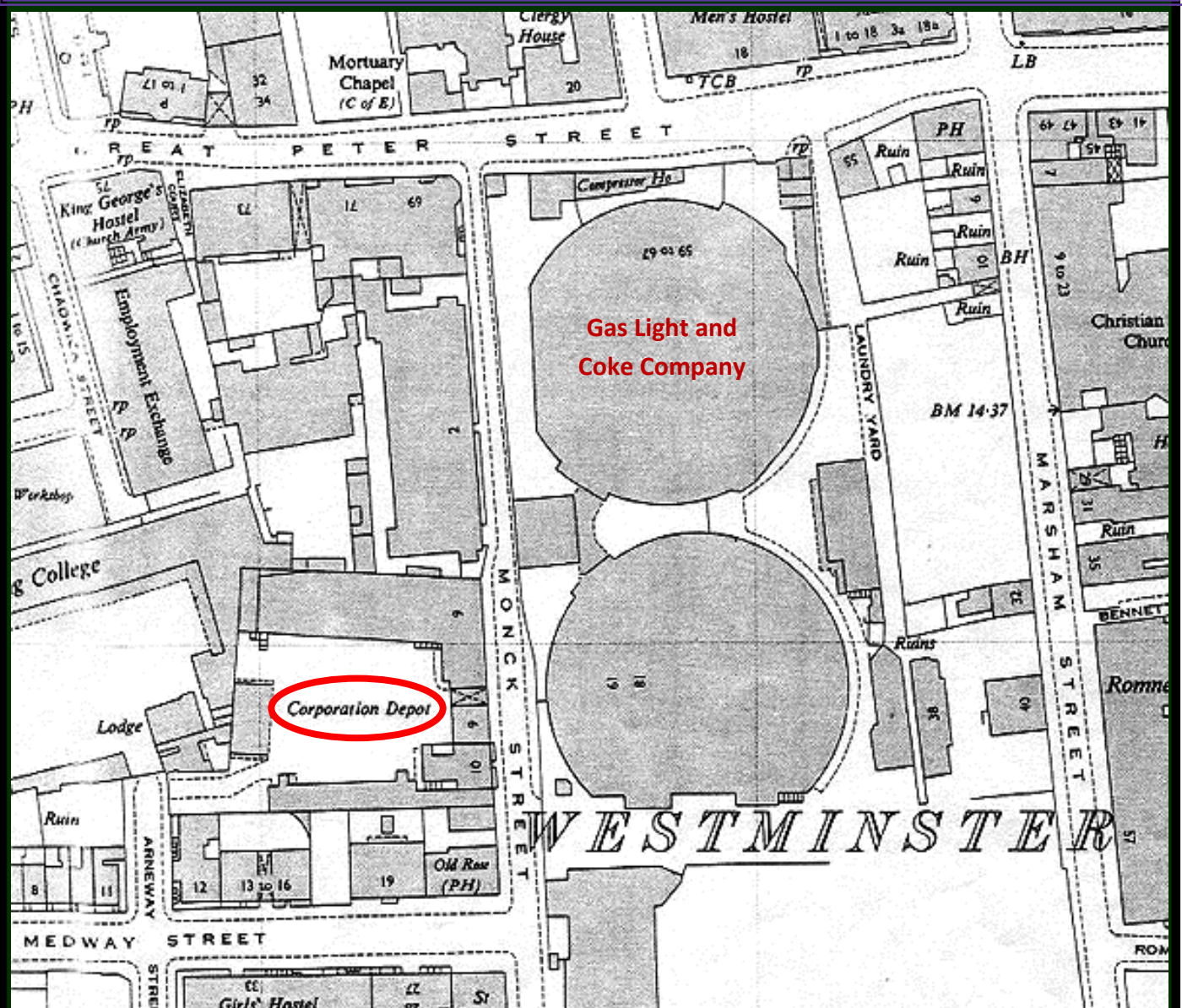
Some of the families, who had been to the opening of the Mother's Union building, came to the pub and we got chatting.



SARAH BOOTS



MONCK ST DEPOT OS MAP



There had been a private dust yard in the Monck Street area before the council established its depot mentioned by Holingshead's 'Ragged London' in 1861. On the opposite side of the road to the depot were the two gas holders of the world's first public suppliers of gas, The Gas Light and Coke Company. These two gas holders were built in 1877 and demolished in 1937. The North Rotunda (Anson) was connected to Downing Street by a tunnel during WW2 and was used as a bunker by Winston Churchill.



SARAH BOOTS

TUESDAY 21st July 1925

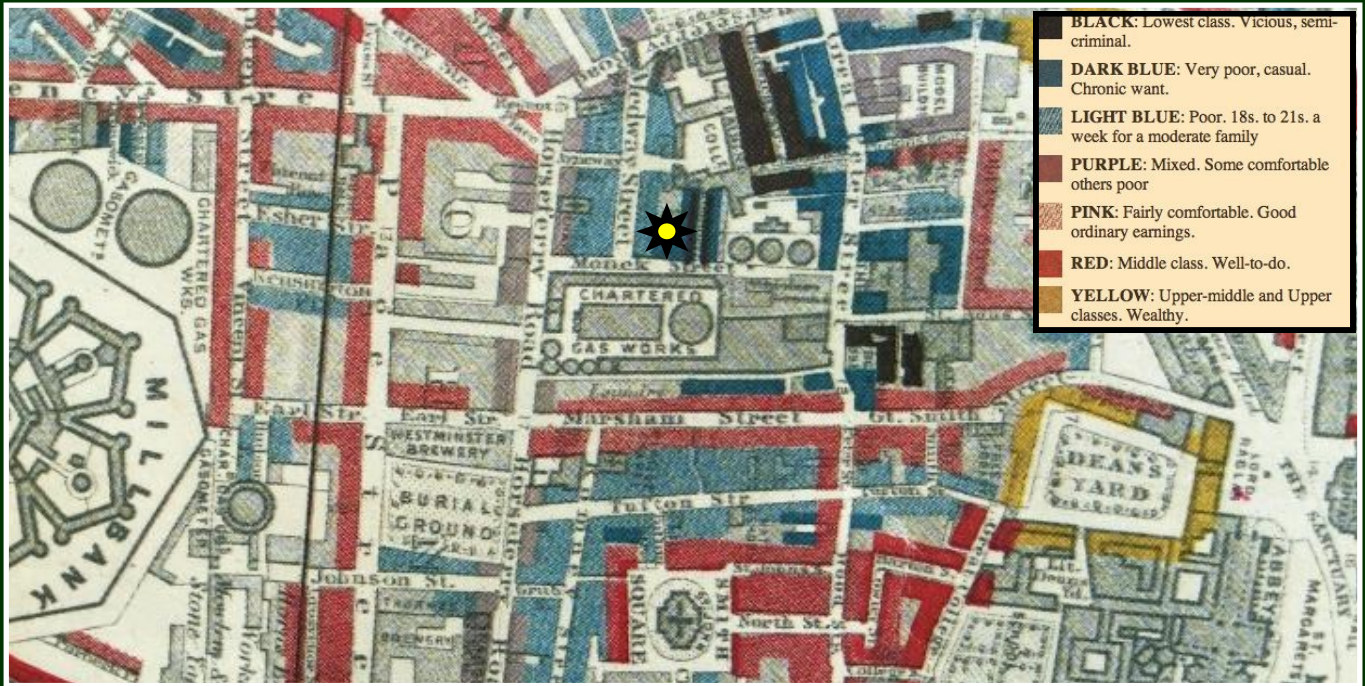
I told them that the pub brought back happy memories of when I used to meet Ernest here after he finished work. It was in here he'd told me he'd joined up in 1915.



WHERE WAS MONCK ST DEPOT?

'The yards at the back of the houses contain little mountains of ashes and vegetable refuse; and a dust contractor's yard, in the centre of the street, seems to have burst its bounds, and to have nearly poured out its oyster-shells, cabbage-stalks, and broken china into the open thoroughfare.'

Ragged London (1861) by John Hollingshead described St Anne's Place in the Devil's Acre



SARAH BOOTS

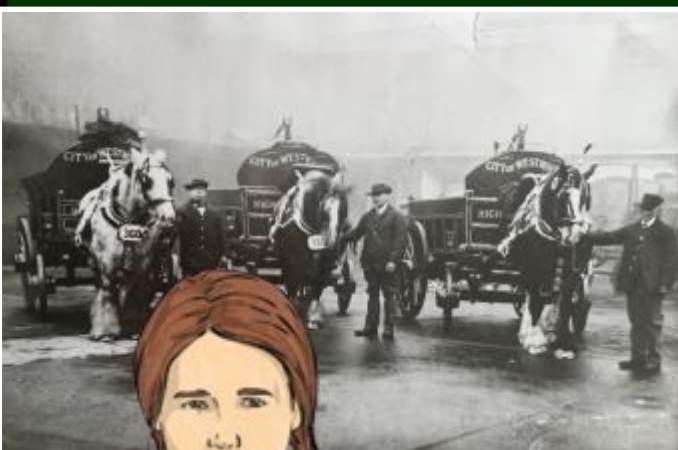
When my Ernest worked for Westminster Council, he was based at Monck Street Depot- (shown with a yellow star). This was in a notorious area once called the Devil's Acre.

2. What category did Charles Booth put Monck Street in?

INTERNATIONAL POO CRISIS



By the 1800s, London was in a rather...sticky situation. All transportation, whether of goods or people, depended on horses. **London had 11,000 horse-drawn cabs; several thousand buses, which required 12 horses per day, and added an extra 50,000 horses;** and a large number of carts, drays, and wains, which were constantly making deliveries. The vast amount of horses created major problem London. The biggest concern was that for every horse that worked the streets, a large amount of manure and urine were left behind. **On average, a horse can produce anywhere from 15 to 35 pounds of manure and around 2 pints of urine per day.** This created a Poo Crisis in most of the great cities of the world. Ernest was employed by Westminster council as a street sweeper to tackle this problem, that would only be finally solved by the internal combustion engine. **Westminster Council even had an annual car rally on the Embankment to encourage car use!**



SARAH BOOTS

Ernest was first employed as a street sweeper to try and tackle Westminster's poo crisis. He can't claim to have solved it. Credit for that has to go to the motor car.

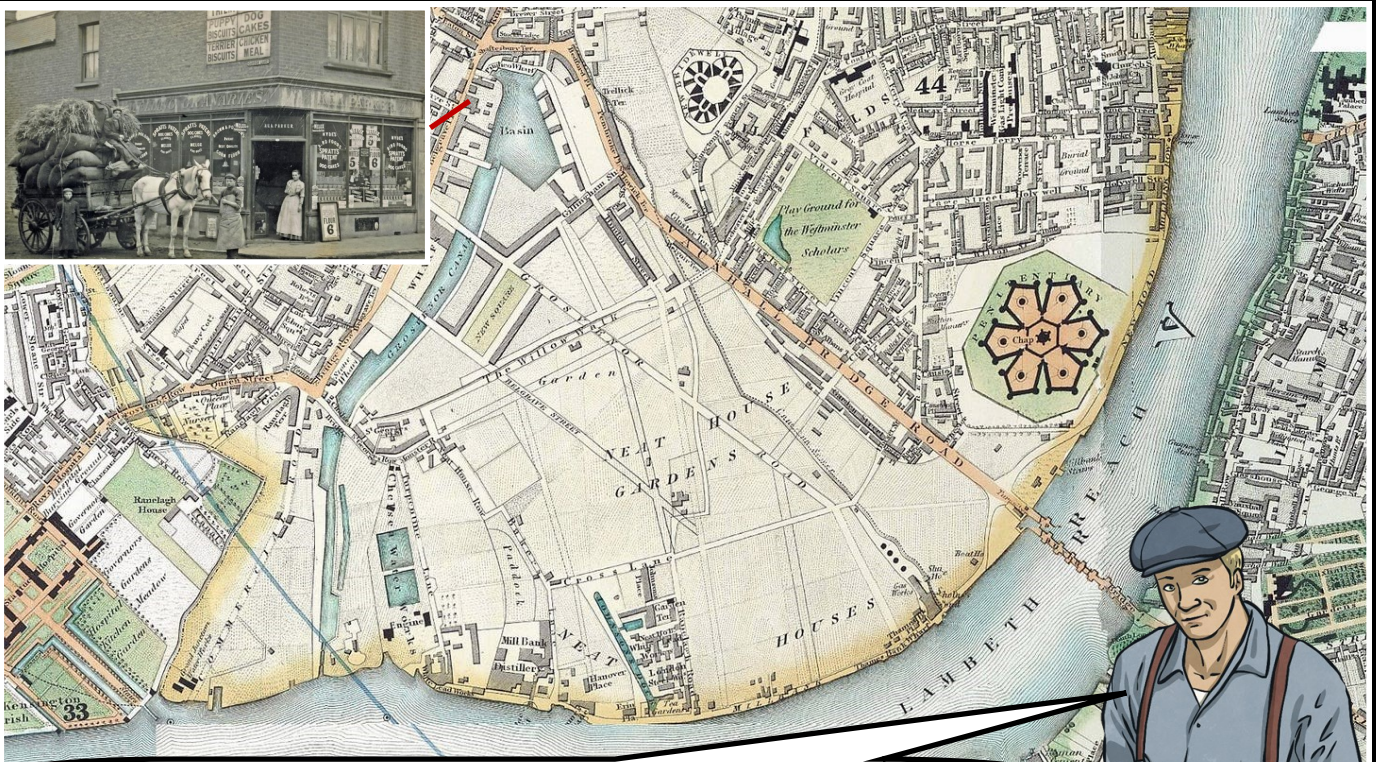
3.Can you name the big cities that had a poo problem?

BILLY BOOTS THE CARMAN

But Ernie used to joke that he was clearing up the mess his Dad Billy Boots had made.



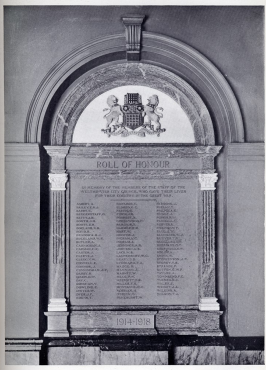
Grosvenor Canal Basin with barges of animal fodder being unloaded Kate Morton for Westminster Archives



'My old man Billy Boots worked as a carman delivering forage for horses.
I reckon he provided a lot of the raw material behind that Poo Crisis.

ERNEST BOOTS I

ERNEST BOOTS SONG



I love me daisies!



VERSE 1

Ernest Boots, Ernest Boots -
He's very serious about his footwear.

Ernest Boots Ernest Boots - and what he's
trodden in, I wouldn't go there...

Picking up the rubbish for me and you
Picking up the rubbish like some folks do
Picking up the rubbish for me, not you -
You're very very very very
Tidy too!

VERSE 2

Ernest Boots, Ernest Boots -
He's serious about street hygiene

Ernest Boots Ernest Boots -
and quite particular about the routine.

Picking up the rubbish for me and you
Picking up the rubbish like some folks do
Picking up the rubbish for me, not you -
You're very very very very very very
very very very very very Tidy too!

Coming behind you with something to do
Coming behind you with his, Big fat Broom.....
Oi!

Ernest Boots, Ernest Boots -
We've had a bit of bother with the Horses,
Ernest Boots Ernest Boots - We're going to
have to toughen up resources.

Picking up the rubbish for me and you
Picking up the rubbish like some folks do
Picking up the rubbish for me, not you -
You're very very very very
very very very very
very very very very
Tidy too!
You're tidy too
You're tidy too!

VERSE 3

Ernest Boots, Ernest Boots—
He shoulda been a posthumous something

Ernest Boots Ernest Boots -
But they went and put
his statue in a dustbin.

Picking up the rubbish for me and you
Picking up the rubbish like some folks do
Picking up the rubbish for me, not you -
You're very very very very very very
very very very very very
Tidy too!
You're tidy too, You're tidy too!

VINCE BURKE

GOODBYE-EE ERNEST



SARAH BOOTS

My Ernie's round included the West End, so he was always about at chucking out time from the theatres. You had that Vesta Tilley and the White Feather League handing out white feathers shaming men to join up..



Oi! You young man! The dustman chappie. Why are you not in khaki? Will you join your country's army or are you a coward?

Goodbye-ee! Goodbye-ee!
Wipe the tear, baby dear, from your eye-ee
Though it's hard to part I know, (I know)
I'll be tickled to death to go!
Don't cry-ee, don't sigh-ee
There's a silver lining in the sky-ee!
Bonsoir old thing, cheerio, chin-chin
Nah-poo, toodle-oo, goodbye-ee!



You joining up mate?

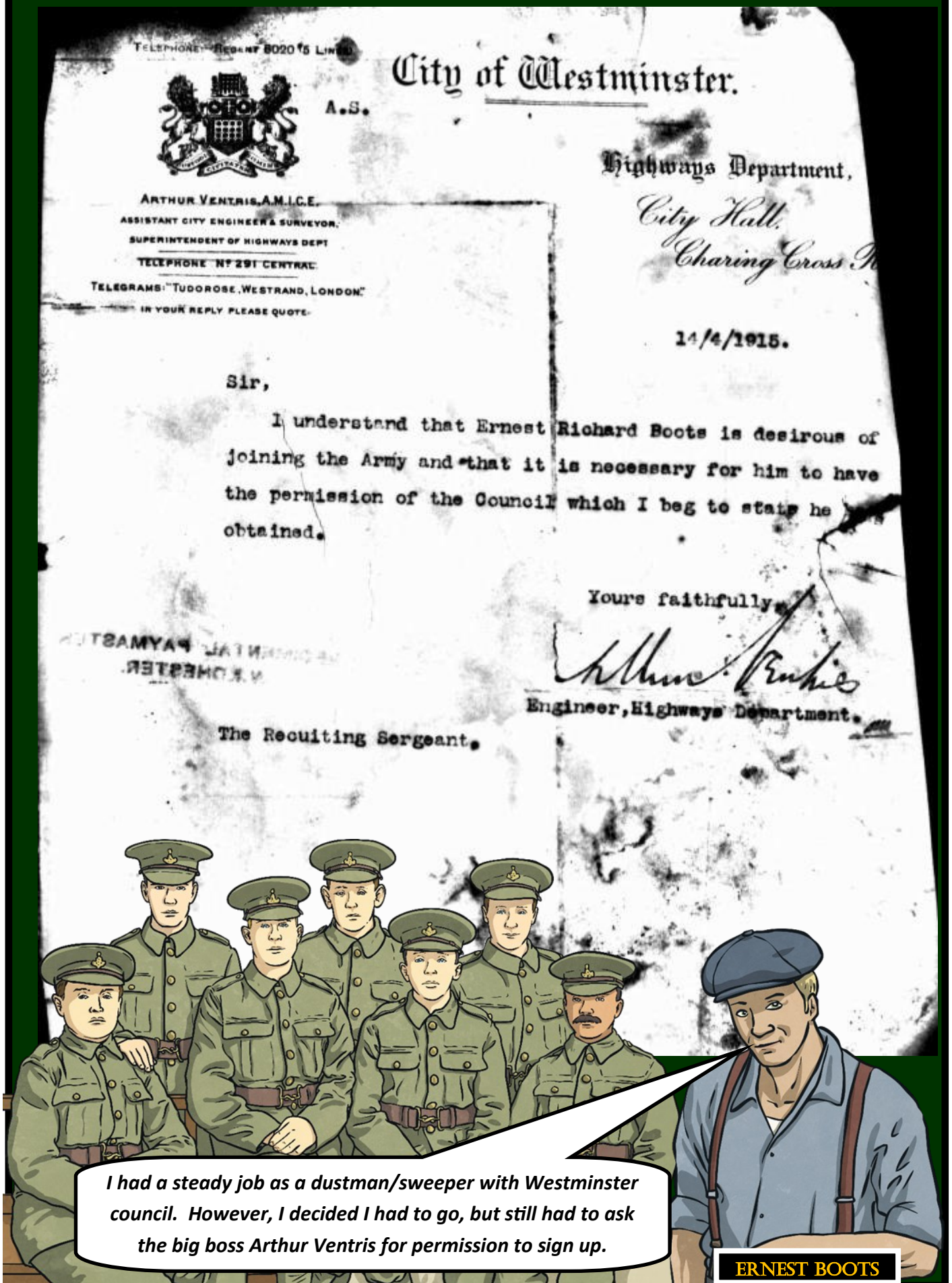
What about you?

Every time I walked past the Army Offices at Cockspur Street, I felt pressure to join up: 'Men of the Empire. Your King & Country Need You. Enlist Today.' So that's what I did.

ERNEST BOOTS I

Nah, I've got flat feet

CALL TO ARMS 1915



K.I.A. 1ST JULY 1916

641—W.L. 11751-1400.—500,000.—5-15.—C. & G. Forms B. 1047.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps *2nd Kings Royal Rifles*

Regimental No. *2096* Rank *Rfm* Name *Ernest Boots*

Enlisted (a) *5/15* To *1/16*

Date of promotion to present rank

Extended Re-engaged

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
<i>31.5.16</i>	<i>2nd Kings Royal Rifles</i>	<i>Embarked for France</i>	<i>Bombampton</i>	<i>31.5.16</i>	<i>Draft Roll</i>
<i>1.6.16</i>	<i>1st Bn</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>Haarlem</i>	<i>1.6.16</i>	<i>Draft Roll</i>
	<i>2nd Bn</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>In the field</i>	<i>13.6.16</i>	<i>Draft Roll</i>
		<i>Killed in action</i>		<i>1.7.16</i>	<i>CR 3.7.16</i>

Major
For Officer in Infantry Section
General Headquarters 3rd Division

Dad was killed on the 1st July 1916. I was ten.

He had only been at the front for a week. It was at a place called Loos, a diversionary attack, that's all we know.



ERNEST BOOTS II

PRE-BATTLE BOMBARDMENT

On **1st July 1916**, the Battle of the Somme was launched following a seven day artillery preparatory bombardment. With over **1,700,000** shells being fired, a bombardment of this scale had never before been seen in modern warfare.



THE MEN WHO FOUGHT

750,000 men from **27** divisions went into the attack, of which over **80%** were from the British Expeditionary Force (BEF).



THE FIRST AND BLOODIEST DAY

On the first day of the battle **19,240** British soldiers lost their lives. With approximately **58,000** casualties, it was the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army.



E. R. Boots, Dustman—Death on Active Service.

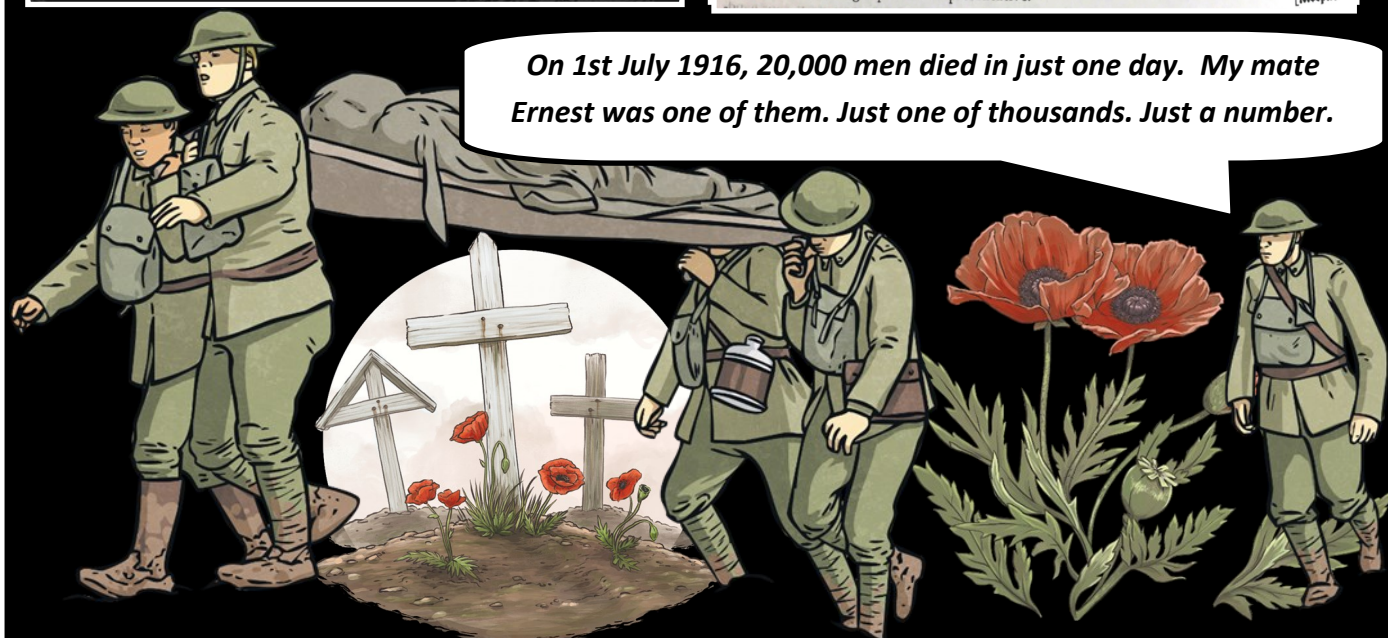
10. We regret to report that Dustman E. R. Boots, 2nd King's Royal Rifles, was killed in action on the 1st July. He contributed £7 1s. 8d. to the Pension Fund.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Council of the 22nd December, 1914, a letter signed by the Mayor and the Town Clerk is being sent to the relatives of the deceased employee, expressing the condolence of the Council with them in their bereavement.

WE RECOMMEND—That the contributions made by Boots to the Pension Fund be returned to his legal personal representative.

(Adopted)

On 1st July 1916, 20,000 men died in just one day. My mate Ernest was one of them. Just one of thousands. Just a number.



GOODBYE-EE LONDON

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number **W1046678**

REGISTRATION DISTRICT **Wandsworth**
1916 BIRTH in the Sub-district of **Battersea** in the **Surrey**

Column:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration

17	Second December 1916 165 Stewart Rd Battersea	Ivy Maud	Girl	Ernest Richard Boots (deceased)	Sarah Ann Boots formerly Day	Westminster Council Road sweeper	Sarah Boots Mother 165 Stewart Road Battersea	January 4th 1917	Lester Delaney Registrar	
----	---	----------	------	------------------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------------	--	------------------	-----------------------------	--



We found that Ivy Boots was conceived whilst Ernest was on leave, before going to France. By the time she was born, he had been dead for five months. It was a family tragedy that none of us knew about. It must have been so bad, they couldn't talk about it.



DECLARATION.

I hereby declare that the above is a true and complete Statement of all the Relatives of the late Soldier now living in the degrees enquired for.

Relationship to the Soldier Widow Signature of the Declarant. Sarah Boots

Address in full 6 Barendse Terrace Bicester

I hereby certify that the above Statement and Declaration made by Wm Sarah Boots

and signed in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Bicester this 10 day of April 1920

Signature of Minister or Magistrate. W. J. Healy Qualification Clerk in Holy Orders

Address Vicarage Bicester

5527. Wt. W 5514 121414. 1,000,000. 2.19. H.O. P. 113.



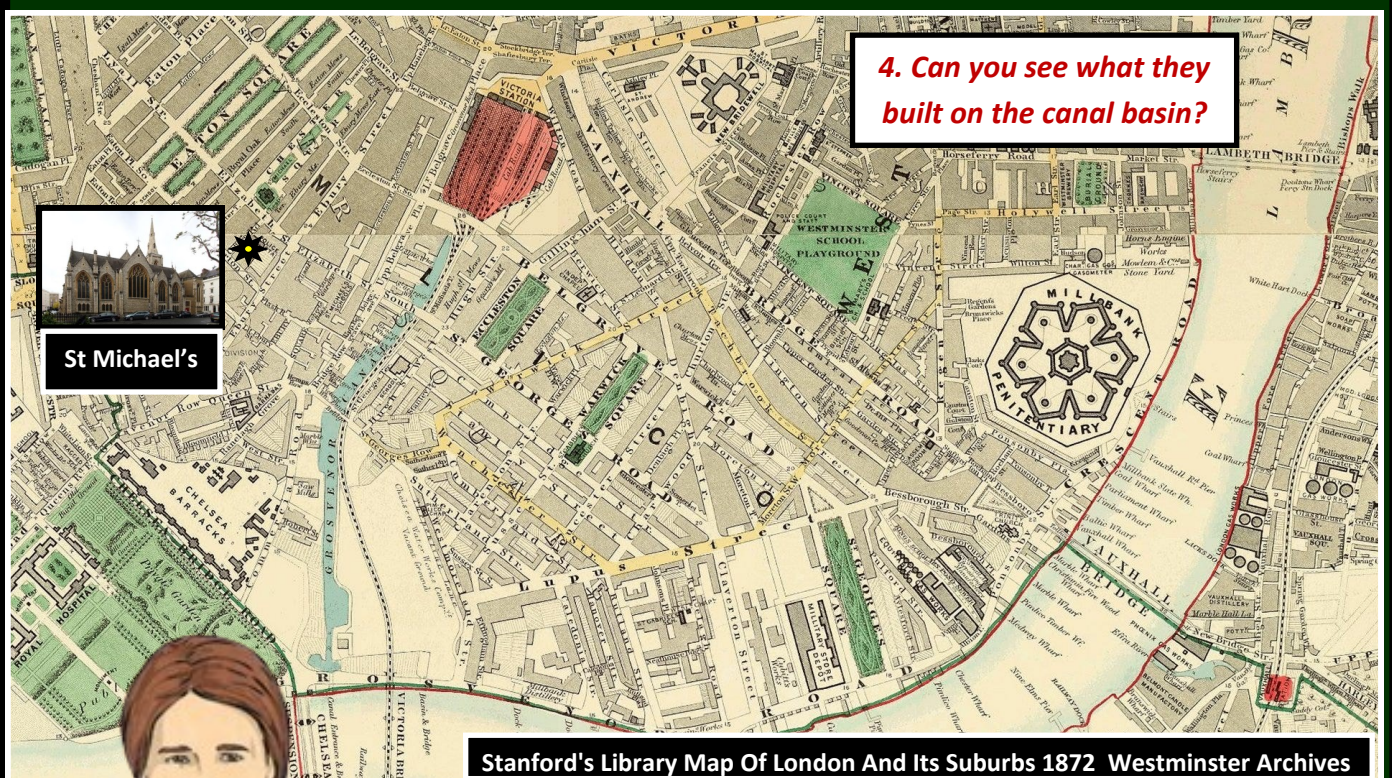
After my sister Ivy was born, my Mum could not survive on her widow's pension. She had been born in Faringdon Berkshire, so we left London and moved to Bicester to be near to her family.

ERNEST BOOTS II

THE GROSVENOR CANAL



Grosvenor canal entrance with dust-rubbish leaving for brick making by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives



Stanford's Library Map Of London And Its Suburbs 1872 Westminster Archives

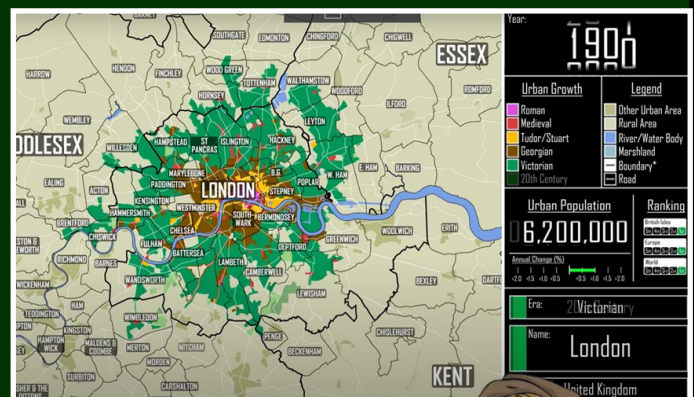
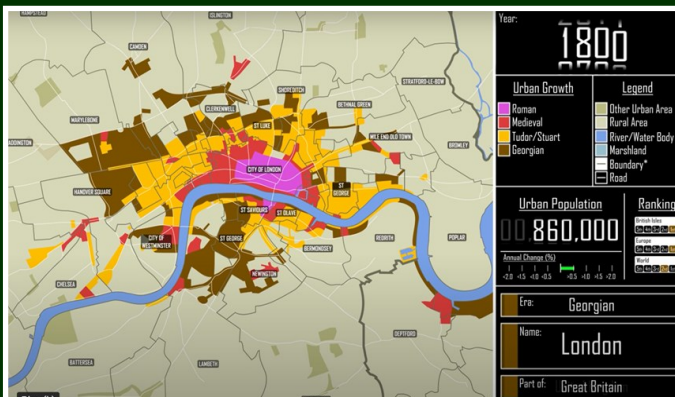
Ernie and I had been childhood sweethearts. We had both lived in Ebury Square and went to the local school St Michael's. The Grosvenor Canal had been our playground since we were nippers, but Ernest would never see that canal again and neither would we. My baby Ivy would never know her father, or her home-town, as we were forced to leave London.

SARAH BOOTS

1881 CENSUS GREGORY ST

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the										[Page 3]
City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Ecclesiastical Parish or District of				
St George Hanbury	Westminster	Knightsbridge	Westminster	Westminster	5	St Barabas				
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	(1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic	
19	9 Gregory St.	1	Isiah Fleet	Head	Mar	46	Carman	Puckinghamshire Wiltshire	2	
			Hannah do	Wife	Mar	41		Middlesex St George East		
			Clara do	Daughter		10	Scholar	Middlesex Westminster		
			Charles R. do	Son		6	Scholar	Middlesex Westminster		
			Herbert do	Son		1		Middlesex St George		
20			William Boots	Head	Mar	34	Carman	Wiltshire Swindon		
			Sarah J. do	Wife	Mar	34		Berkshire Wootton		
			Sarah A. do	Daughter		10	Scholar	Middlesex Pimlico		
			William J. do	Son		4	Scholar	Middlesex Pimlico		
			Albert E. do	Son		2		Middlesex Pimlico		
			David H. do	Son		2		Middlesex Pimlico		

Road	Name	Relation	Age	Profession	Where born
9 Gregory Street	William Boots	Head	34	Carman	Inglehope Wiltshire
Pimlico	<u>Sarah J Boots</u>	Wife	34	-	Leterworth Berkshire
	Sarah A <u>Boots</u>	Daughter	10	Scholar	London Pimlico
	William I <u>Boots</u>	Son	7	Scholar	London Pimlico
	Albert E Boots	Son	2		London Pimlico
	David H <u>Boots</u>	Son	2 mon		London Pimlico



My grandad Billy Boots and his wife Sarah left the countryside to move to Pimlico in the 1870s. He became a carman (a deliveryman) so settled down to live by the Grosvenor Canal. Now nearly 50 years later, Dad's death meant we were going back the other way.

5. Why do you think so many First World War widows were forced into such poverty?

6. Would women be in this position today? Explain why.



ERNEST BOOTS II

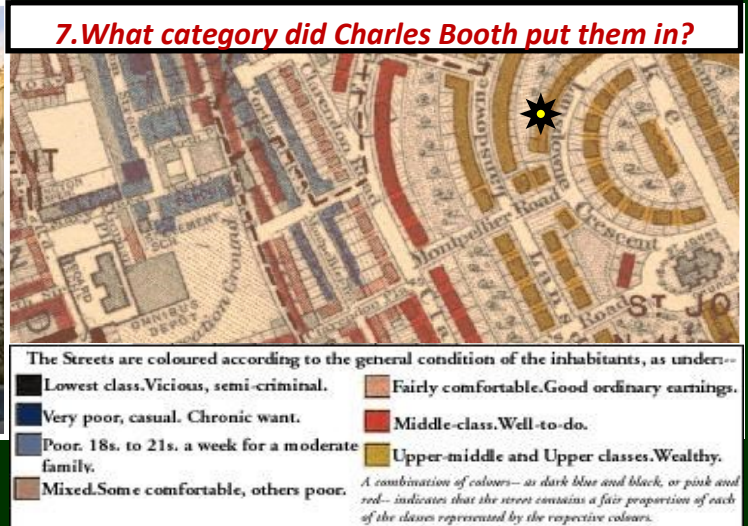
1871 CENSUS NOTTING HILL

Page 52]		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the									
* Civil Parish (or Township) of		City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town of	Village or Hamlet, &c., of	Local Board, or (Improvement Commissioners) District of	Ecclesiastical District of			
Kensington			St John's St James	Chelsea			Kensington	St John			
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES No. of Inhabited A or Building etc.	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION	AGE of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN		1. Deaf 2. Blind 3. Lame	
57	St John's St	1	John Randall	Head	Mar	38	Carpenter	St John's	Mary		
			Mary do	Wife	do	31	Shorthand Merchant	St John's	St James		
			Harriet do	Son	do	14		do	Kensington		
			Mary M do	Daughter	do	3		do	do		
			Harriet B do	Son	do	10		do	do		
			Edward Barnett	Servant	Mar	18	Barber	St John's	St James		
			William David	Servant	Mar	18	Nurse	St John's	St James		
			Elizabeth Box	do	Mar	18	do	St John's	St James		
			Rebecca Gales	do	do	18	do	St John's	St James		
			Ann Mares	do	do	18	do	St John's	St James		

Road	Name	Relation	Age	Profession	Where born
4 Landsdowne Crescent	John Rendall	Head	34	Ship store merchant	Langley Bucks
Notting Hill	Mary Rendall	Wife	34	-	St James Middx
	Ralph Rendall	Son	4		Kensington Middx
	Mary M Rendall	Son	3	Scholar	Kensington Middx
	Hugh B Rendall	Son	21 weeks		Kensington Middx
	Edward Barnett	Son	78	Gentleman	Northumberland
	Katherine Lovett	Servant	28	Housemaid domestic	Huntington
	Eleanor Box	Servant	27	Housemaid domestic	Maidenhead Berks
	Rebecca Hales	Servant	22	Housemaid domestic	Madeley Salop
	Ann Morris	Servant	51	Cook	Ireland



4 LANDSDOWNE CRESCENT

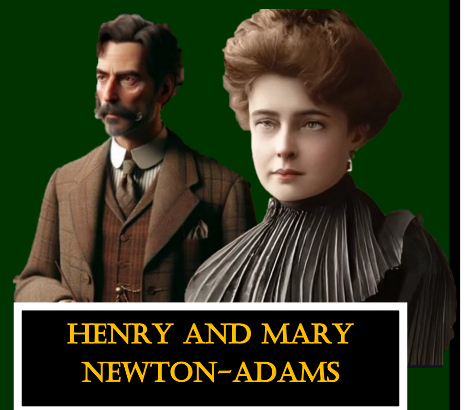


7. What category did Charles Booth put them in?



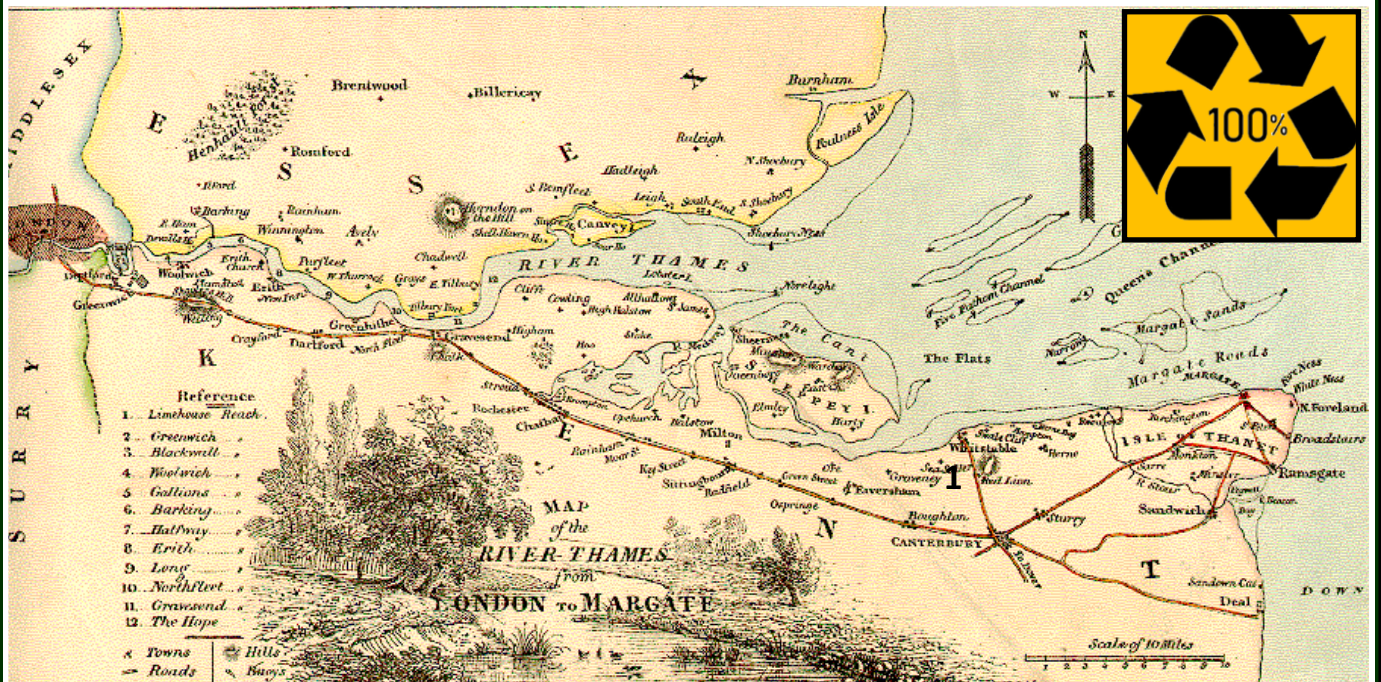
SARAH BOOTS

When I mentioned the Grosvenor Canal a posh lady sitting in the corner of the pub with her husband suddenly spoke. Her name was Mary Newton-Adams. She told me her father used to supply materials for the ships that used the canal where Ernie took the rubbish.



**HENRY AND MARY
NEWTON-ADAMS**

THE GROSVENOR CANAL



(1) London rubbish left via the Grosvenor canal from the Gatliff Road transfer depot.



(2) Sailing barges took rubbish to be sorted by women known as bunters (3). They separated ash and breeze (brickmaking) rags (paper making) and bones (glue making)



Brickies mixed cinder dust with the clay bricks(4) and baked them in the kilns (5)



These London stock bricks built London(8)



The finished bricks (6) were loaded on the same barges that had held rubbish (7)



My father was one of many rich men who benefited from this circular trade in rubbish and bricks moved by Thames barges.



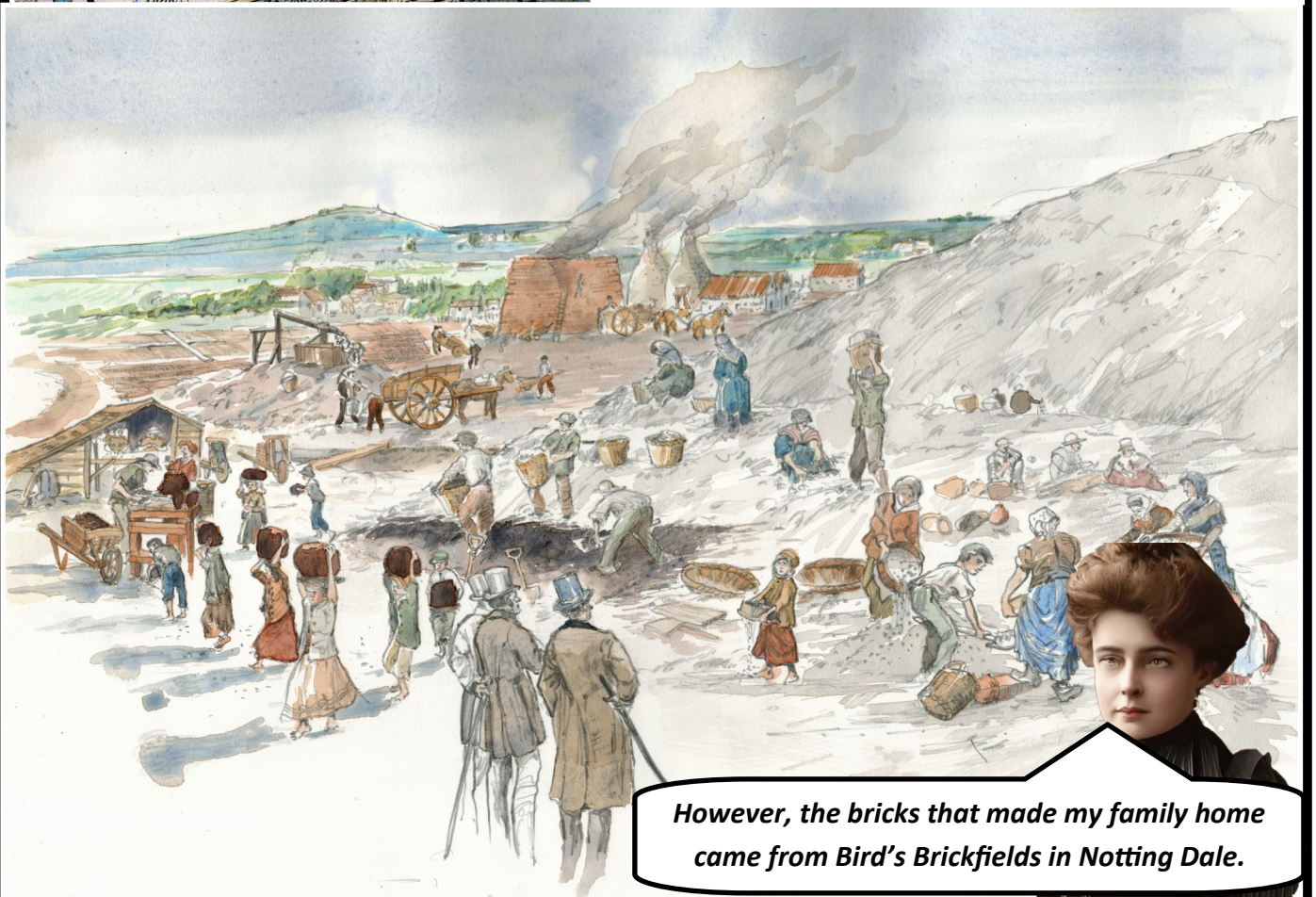
MARY NEWTON-ADAMS

NOTTING DALE AVERNUS

The Hippodrome Racecourse, Notting Hill 1841 Kensington and Chelsea Local Studies and Archives

1841

LADBROKE GROVE BUILDING BEGINS



However, the bricks that made my family home came from Bird's Brickfields in Notting Dale.

Bird's Brickfields, Notting Dale by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

NOTTING DALE AVERNUS

The growth of Notting Hill led to terrible exploitation at Bird's brickfields in the Notting Dale Potteries.



8. What did Cruikshank think was under attack and from what?

LONDON going out of Town. — or — The March of Bricks & Mortar! —

London Going out of Town or 'The March of Bricks and Mortar', 1829 by George Cruikshank Westminster Archives



"In a neighbourhood studded thickly with elegant villas and mansions—namely Bayswater and Notting Hill in the parish of Kensington—is a plague spot, scarcely equalled for its insalubrity by any other in London: it is called the Potteries."

Dickens's Household Words Vol 1 page 463

CHARLES DICKENS

BIRD'S ROOKERIES

In 1861, of the 1,000 inhabitants of Jennings' Buildings, 800 were Irish. They lived in housing meant for 200, with only 49 toilets for all inhabitants. Consequently, life expectancy was just 17 years.



Jennings' Buildings, Kensington, c. 1865 Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Archives

An image of an Irish eviction by police

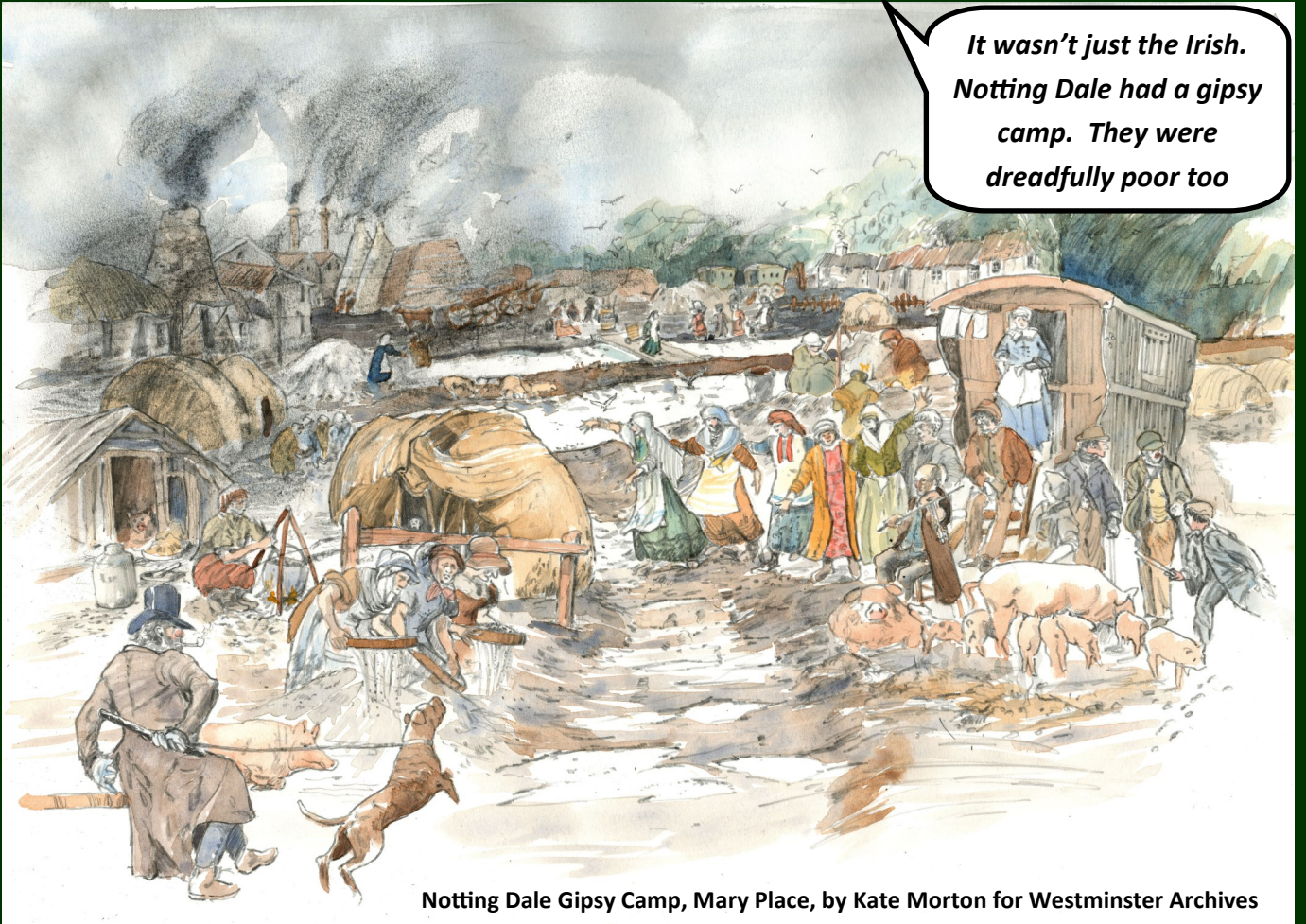


Many of those exploited by Stephen Bird at his brickfields at Notting Dale were Irish.

**STEPHEN
BIRD**

MARINE STORE DEALER

It wasn't just the Irish. Notting Dale had a gipsy camp. They were dreadfully poor too



Notting Dale Gipsy Camp, Mary Place, by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

Some called Notting Dale the 'Potteries,' but I made it the 'Piggeries.' To make bricks involved large excavations, which in Notting Dale soon filled with stagnant water. Nobody wanted to live there, so I brought pig-keeping to the area and fed them on the refuse and offal from central London. Irish and Gipsies, mainly women and kids, sorted the rubbish for the brickmakers and pig keepers. Anything valuable they found they sold onto the Marine Store dealers. This was known as 'totting.'



SAMUEL LAKE

In the Notting-hill portion of Kensington parish there still exist that slough of abominations known as "the Potteries;" things are worse now than in 1848-49, when loud complaints were made by all the respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood of the horrible condition of the locality, and when the medical officer of the district proved that the ratio of mortality among the residents exceeded that of almost any part of England. No one who has visited the spot where swine and human beings are suffered to remain immersed together in filth, can wonder at such a result.

London Daily News-Thursday 20th Oct 1853

MARINE STORE DEALER

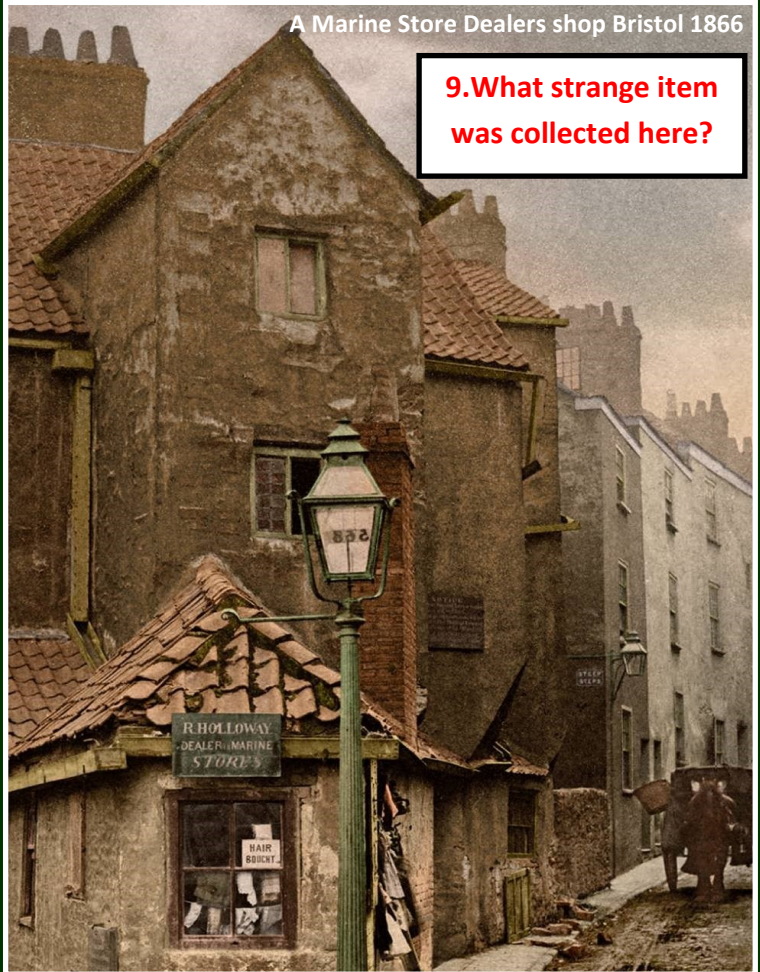
Marine Store Dealers originally sold equipment to mariners i.e. sails, ropes, ironwork, but soon became scrap dealers -work often linked with gypsies. They were a life line to London's scavengers

Totting at the Marine Store Dealer kept the poor from starvation



A Marine Store Dealers shop Bristol 1866

9. What strange item was collected here?



BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *St. John the Baptist* in the County of *Middlesex* in the Year 18*52*

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1852 Feb 29	Robert	Robert	Daniel	Rochester	Mariner	J.W. McIlwraith
No. 916		Harriet				

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the										[Page 21]
Civil Parish (or Township) of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Religious District of			
<i>Margate</i>	<i>Rochester</i>	<i>St. Margaret</i>	<i>Rochester</i>		<i>Rochester</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>St. John</i>			
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, Lane, and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES No. of Tenements or Cottages (or other buildings)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN		
	<i>98 Delce Rd</i>		<i>Frank, Robert</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>16</i>	<i>Mariner</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Rochester</i>	
<i>122</i>	<i>83 St</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Robert, Daniel</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Widow</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>Marine Store Dealer</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Derbyshire</i>	
			<i>Maryann, Thackelton</i>	<i>Widow</i>		<i>66</i>		<i>St</i>	<i>Kent</i>	

33 Delce Road

Robert Daniel

Head

67

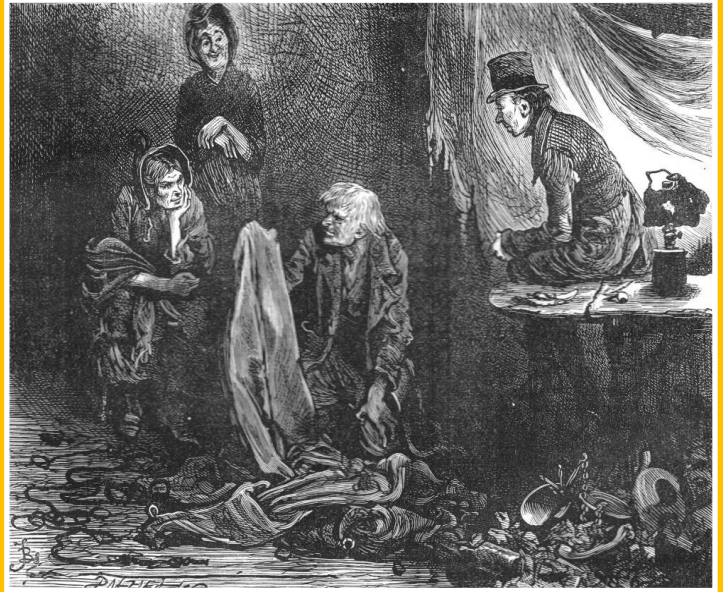
Marine Store dealer

Frindsbury, Kent

ANY OLD IRON



Marine Store Dealer's House from Charles Dicken's *Bleak House* (1895)
Library of Congress



In Dickens's "*A Christmas Carol*" Scrooge is taken by the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come to see his possessions being taken to be sold to Joe, a marine store dealer and receiver of stolen goods.



**SAMUEL
LAKE**

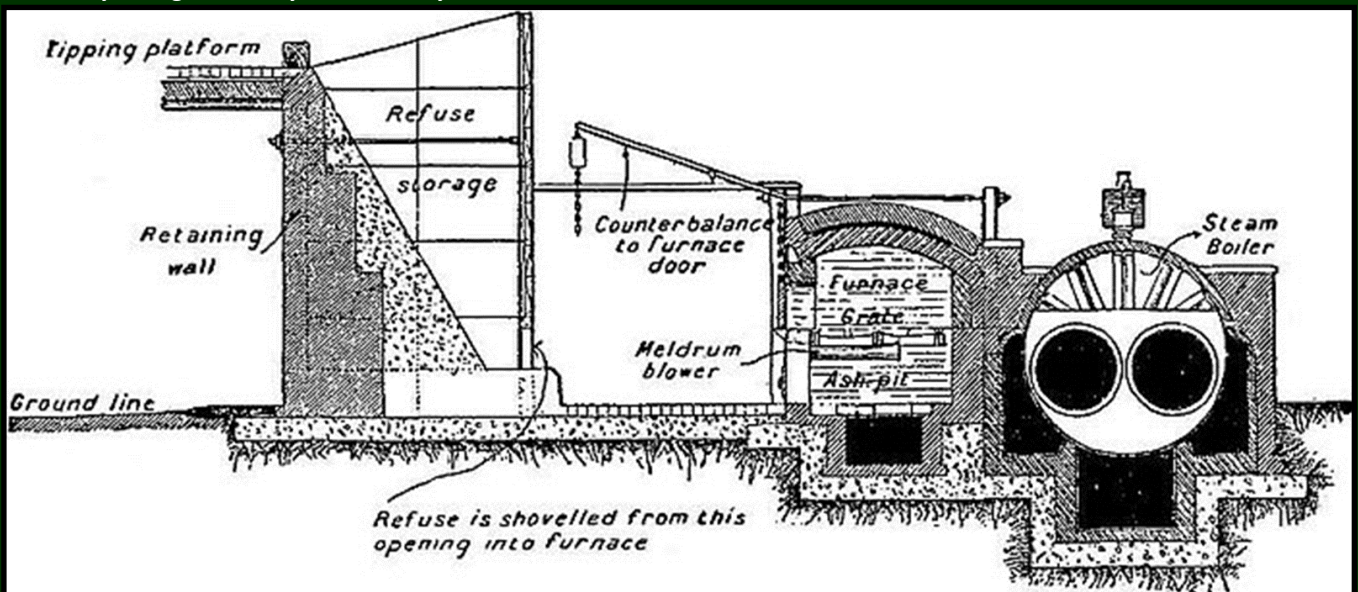
Any old iron? Any old iron?
Any, any, any old iron?
You look neat.
Talk about a treat!
You look so dapper from
your napper to your feet.
Dressed in style,
brand-new tile,
And your father's old
green tie on.
But I wouldn't give
you tuppence
for your old watch
and chain,
Old iron! Old iron!"

NOTTING DALE DUST DESTROYER

11. Why would all the laundry-women lose their jobs?



Laundry in England, early 20th century. Wiki Commons



Plan of 19th century dust destructor

In 1885, just before I met my husband Henry, the congregation at St John's Church, Notting Hill, were involved in a campaign against Kensington Vestry's dust destructor. That is how I learnt the history of Notting Dale. Many of the poor Irish and gipsy girls, whose families had once worked in the brickfields, now worked in the laundries of Latimer Road. The Vestry's plans to burn Kensington's rubbish in the area meant that they would all lose their jobs.



MARY NEWTON-ADAMS

THE DUST DESTROYER

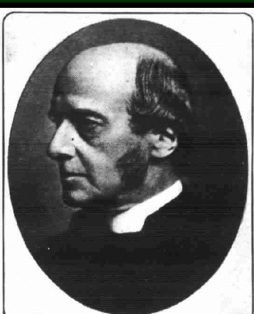
12. Who was St George and what was the dragon?



The protest meeting at St George and Dragon Hall, Notting Dale 1888 by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

Read Letter from Mr. B. Colley stating that a Deputation will wait upon the Vestry this evening about 8 o'clock to protest against the proposed erection of a Dust and Refuse Destructor at Notting Dale.

Kensington Vestry Minutes 1885 *Kensington and Chelsea Local Studies and Archives*



THE LATE VEN. ROBINSON THORNTON, D.D.
Formerly Archdeacon of Middlesex.

As we rich were frightfully worried about how the smell would blight our homes, the vicar of St John's, The Rev Thornton, organised for us to join together as a community to protest. In 1888 we marched behind a band from St George and Dragon Hall, Mary Place, to Kensington Town Hall.



MARY NEWTON-ADAMS

AVONDALE PARK



The opening of Avondale Park, Notting Dale, 2nd June 1892 by Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

A RECREATION GROUND FOR NOTTING HILL.
THE RESIDENTS ASSERT THEIR RIGHTS
AND THEIR DETERMINATION.
 BANDS, BANNERS AND A DEUTATION. — MEN,
 WOMEN, AND CHILDREN TO APPROACH THE
 VESTRY.

Kensington News Sat 3rd November 1888

Dr Daniell had a public bathhouse built for the poor



This victory meant that when our son Ralph was born in 1895, he had somewhere for his nanny to take him to play.

The community led by our own St Georges, the Rev Thornton and our local vestryman, Dr Richard Daniell, won our battle against the vestry's polluting dragon— the dust destructor. Instead they built us Avondale Park in 1892.



**RALPH
 NEWTON-ADAMS**



**MARY
 NEWTON-
 ADAMS**

JAMES BRILL'S STORY

As the Newton-Adams finished their story, it seemed to stir another lady to join our conversation.

SARAH BOOTS



I'm sorry to interrupt, but your story reminded me of my late husband Jim. He didn't live in Notting Hill, but he once told me that as a kid, he relied on scavenging. He needed the pennies he earned from the Marine Store Dealer to keep him and his brother out of the Chelsea Workhouse.

I'm Florence, Florence Brill and I met Jim when I was 16. I was a servant girl in a house in Tite Street, Chelsea. I met him one Sunday upon the Embankment, and he told me about all the scrapes he got into growing up by the river. Swept me off my feet he did, and made me laugh with his stories of his days as a scavenger.



FLORENCE BRILL

JAMES BRILL'S STORY



I was named James after me old man, but that did me no favours, as he was a wrong un. Growing up I barely saw 'im.

County of Middlesex 17th June 1878 Westminster

Returned General Session held at Westminster

the nature of their Offences, and the result of the Proceedings.

No.	NAMES	Offences of which these (and were) Guilty or Acquitted, and of which those discharged without Trial were charged on Indictment or Conviction	Convicted and Sentenced				Acquitted and Discharged
			Death	Penal Servitude	Imprisonment, a stated or fixed Whipped or Fined	Term of Police Supervision	
1	John Jennings	Larceny and Receiving		✓ 10 months			
2	James Holden	Larceny and Receiving after previous conviction		✓ 18 months	5 years		
3	James Brown	Larceny and Receiving		✓ 12 months			
4	Joseph Dickinson	Larceny in dwellinghouse and Receiving		✓ 3 weeks and 4 years at a Reformatory			
5	James Brill	Larceny and Receiving after previous conviction	✓ 7 years		5 years		

JIMMY BRILL

James Brill

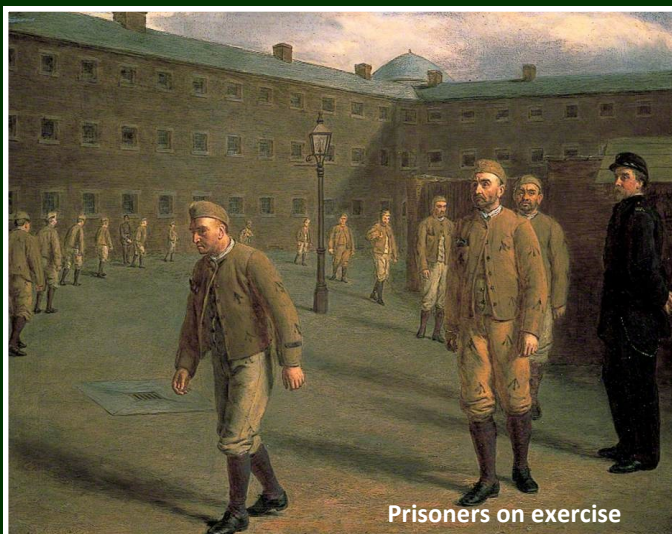
Larceny and receiving after previous conviction

7 years

5 years



Pentonville treadmill

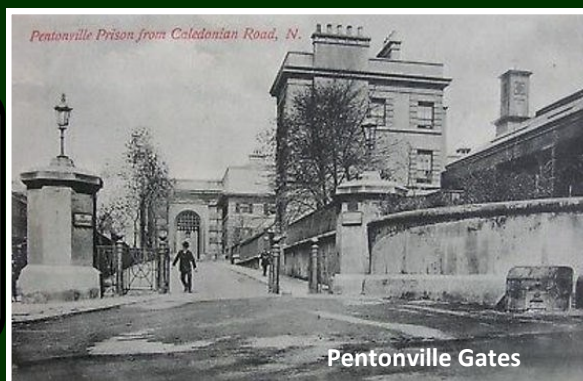


Prisoners on exercise



I'm Harry (Henry) Brill, Jim's brother. The two of us were the ones to suffer when they banged Dad up inside Pentonville for larceny in 1900.

13. What crime do you think larceny is?



Pentonville Gates

LIST of all PERSONS who SLEPT or ABODE in this INSTITUTION on the NIGHT of SUNDAY, MARCH 31st, 1901.									
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	
NAME and SURNAME.	RELATION to Head of Family, or Position in the Institution.	CONDITION as to Marriage.	AGE last Birthday.	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION.	Employer, Worker, or Own Account.	If Working at Home.	WHERE BORN.		
1. James Stuart	Prisoner	Married	45	Housewife	Own	At home	Leamington	Northampton	
2. William Morris	do	do	50	Police Officer	Police	At home	Middle	Southgate	
3. Thomas Roberts	do	do	40	Wine Merchant	Own	At home	London	Northampton	
4. Louis Phylis	do	do	28	General Labourer	Police	At home	do	do	
5. Samuel Lawrence	do	do	40	Traveller	do	do	do	do	
6. Edward Martin	do	do	40	Pastry Cook	do	do	do	do	
7. Osborne Hopkins	do	do	40	Painter	do	do	do	do	
8. James Dean	do	do	40	Wine Merchant	do	do	do	do	
9. George Michael	do	do	40	Wine Merchant	Own	At home	London	Northampton	
10. James Frederick Brill	do	do	45	General Labourer	Police	At home	do	do	

HARRY BRILL

10	James Frederick Brill	Prisoner	Married	45	General Labourer	Worker	—	London
----	-----------------------	----------	---------	----	------------------	--------	---	--------

ST LUKE'S WORKHOUSE

PARISH OF ST. LUKE, CHELSEA.

13th Week of the Quarter ending Michaelmas 1907.

ADMISSION AND

							ADMITTED.													
Day of the Month.	Day of Week	Next Meal after Admission.	NAME.	Calling (if any).	Religious Persuasion.	When Born.	CLASS FOR DIET.											By whose Order Admitted.	If Born in the House, Name of Parent or Occupation.	Name and Address of nearest Relative or Friend.
							1	2	3	4	4a	5	6	7	8	8a	9			
				Brd' forward.		114 43 ^s	1	2	3	13 ^s 29'	14	5"		12 00."						
Sept 26 ^a	Mon.	D.	Blackman George.	Cook	P.B.	1845	1								From Infirmary	Sister - Mrs Jany 1 Spence Rd Durham.				
		S.	Beaver Robert	Painter	L.S.	1865	1								Rt. Hugles.	Mother - Mr Beaver 76 Westminster Avenue?				
			Hill Henry George.		L.S.	1890		1							Branch School.					
			James A.		L.S.	1893			1						"	"				



The West London Free School in Hammersmith is now on the site of the Chelsea Board School LBHF Archives

When Dad went inside, poor Mum couldn't cope. I know she didn't want to do it, but she had to take us to St Luke's Workhouse at 250 King's Road. They sent us on down to the Chelsea Board School in Hammersmith. I was only— and Henry was—. What a terrible way to start the 20th century!

14.Can you find out how old we were when we were sent to the Board School?



Former Poor Law Guardians' Offices, 250, King's Road, Chelsea, London SW3



JIMMY & HARRY BRILL

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD



Oliver Twist asking the master of the workhouse for more gruel, the shocked mistress of the workhouse behind, a trestle table and benches with poor boys beyond .



JIMMY & HARRY BRILL

**Is it worth the waiting for, if we get to eighty-four?
All we ever get is gru-el!
Every day we say a prayer, will they change the bill of fare?
Still we get the same old gru-el!
There's not a crust, not a crumb can we find
Can we beg can we borrow or cadge
But there's nothing to stop us from getting a thrill
When we all close our eyes and imagine...**

**Food, glorious food! Hot sausage and mustard
While we're in the mood, cold jelly and custard
Pease pudding and saveloys, what next is the question?
Rich gentlemen have it boys – in-di-gestion!
Food glorious food! We're anxious to try it
Three banquets a day, our favourite diet
Just picture a great big steak, fried, roasted or stewed
Oh food, wonderful food, marvellous food Glorious food!**

CHELSEA SCAVENGERS 1901



JIMMY & HARRY

Mum had five mouths to feed and couldn't cope. She took in washing from some of the big houses near Sloane Square.

We all need to help out to make ends meet.



ANNIE BRILL

Administrative County		LONDON		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the		Page 15	
Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District		Parliamentary Borough or Township	
Chelsea (part of)		St Luke Chelsea		Chelsea (part of)		Chelsea (part of)	
ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Uninhabited	Names and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	WHERE BORN
119 1 Selah Pl	1	Annie Brill	Head	40	Ironer Washer	Washer	Chatham Kent
		Amy Brill	Daughter	19	Ironer Washer	Washer	Middlesex Chelsea
		William Brill	Son	17	Scavenger	Washer	ditto ditto
		Gertrude Brill	Daughter	12			ditto ditto
		Henry Brill	Son	10			ditto ditto
		James Brill	Son	8			ditto ditto
		Arthur Brill	Son	9 months			ditto ditto
		Ellie Tilby	Aunt	45	Ironer Washer	Washer	ditto ditto

Name	Relation	Married/Single	Age	Profession	Born
Annie Brill	Head	Widow	40	Ironer Washer	Chatham Kent
Amy Brill	Daughter		19	Ironer Washer	Middlesex Chelsea
William Brill	Son		17	Scavenger	ditto ditto
Gertrude Brill	Daughter		12		ditto ditto
Henry Brill	Son		10		ditto ditto
James Brill	Son		8		ditto ditto
Arthur Brill	Son		9 months		ditto ditto
Ellie Tilby	Aunt	Widow	45	Ironer Washer	ditto ditto

15. Why do you think were there so few opportunities for women like Annie Brill to earn a living as a single parent?



We lived at Selah Place.

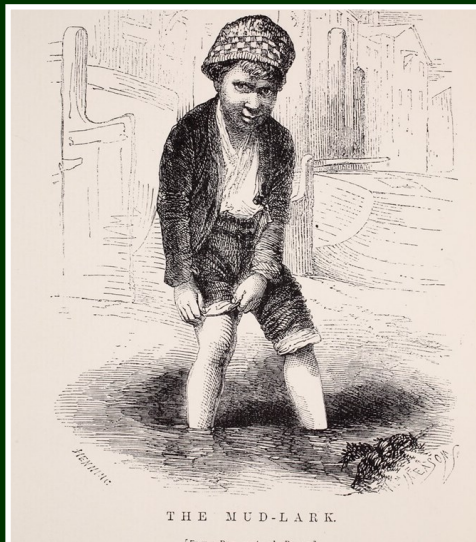
16. Can you see what category Charles Booth put our home?

The Streets are coloured according to the general condition of the inhabitants, as under:-

- Lowest class. Vicious, semi-criminal.
- Fairly comfortable. Good ordinary earnings.
- Very poor, casual. Chronic want.
- Middle-class. Well-to-do.
- Poor. 18s. to 21s. a week for a moderate family.
- Upper-middle and Upper classes. Wealthy.
- Mixed. Some comfortable, others poor.

A combination of colours-- as dark blue and black, or pink and red-- indicates that the street contains a fair proportion of each of the classes represented by the respective colours.

CHELSEA MUD LARKERS



'WASTE ALWAYS GOES TO THE MARGINS AND IMPACTS THE MARGINALISED.'

"The mudlarks generally consist of boys and girls, varying in age from eight to fourteen or fifteen. For the most part they are ragged, and in a very filthy state, and are a peculiar class, confined to the river. As soon as the tide is out they make their appearance, and remain till it comes in. These mudlarks are generally strong and healthy, though their clothes are in rags. Their fathers are robust men. By going too often to the public house they keep their families in destitution, and the mothers of the poor children are glad to get a few pence in whatever way they can."



HENRY MAYHEW

"London Labour & London Poor," 1861. Henry Mayhew

MAYHEW'S LONDON'S SCAVENGERS

1



THE JEW OLD-CLOTHES MAN.
Cio', Cio', Cio'.
[From a Daguerotype by BRADBURY.]

**OLD
CLOTHES MAN**

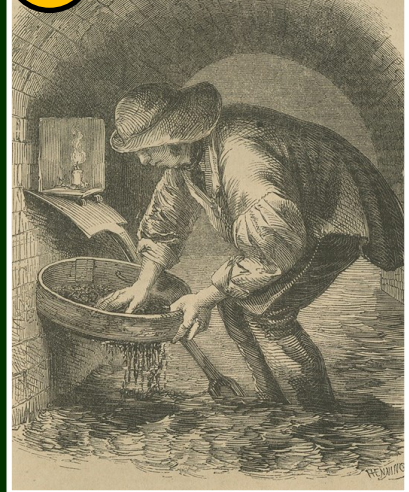
2



THE BONE-GRUBBER.
[From a Daguerotype by BRADBURY.]

**BONE
GRUBBER**

3



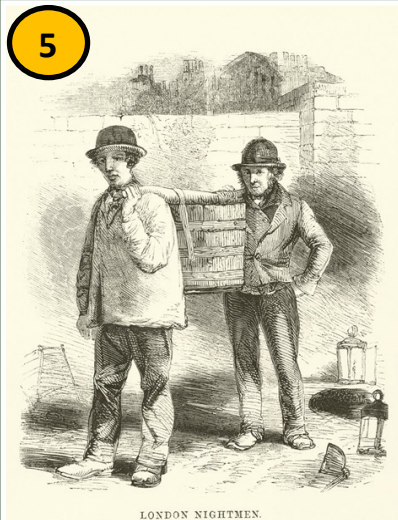
TOSHER

4



**CROSSING
SWEEP**

5



LONDON NIGHTMEN.

NIGHT SOIL MEN

6



PURE FINDERS

And I thought mudlarking
was bad!

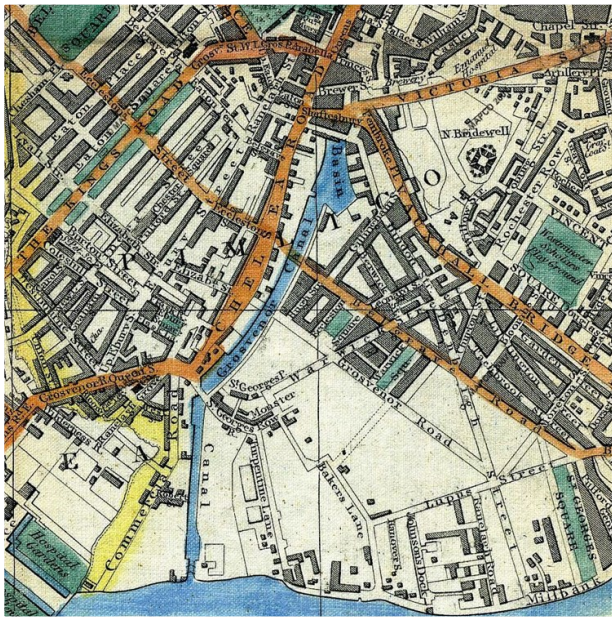
18. Can you match the
scavenger with his job?



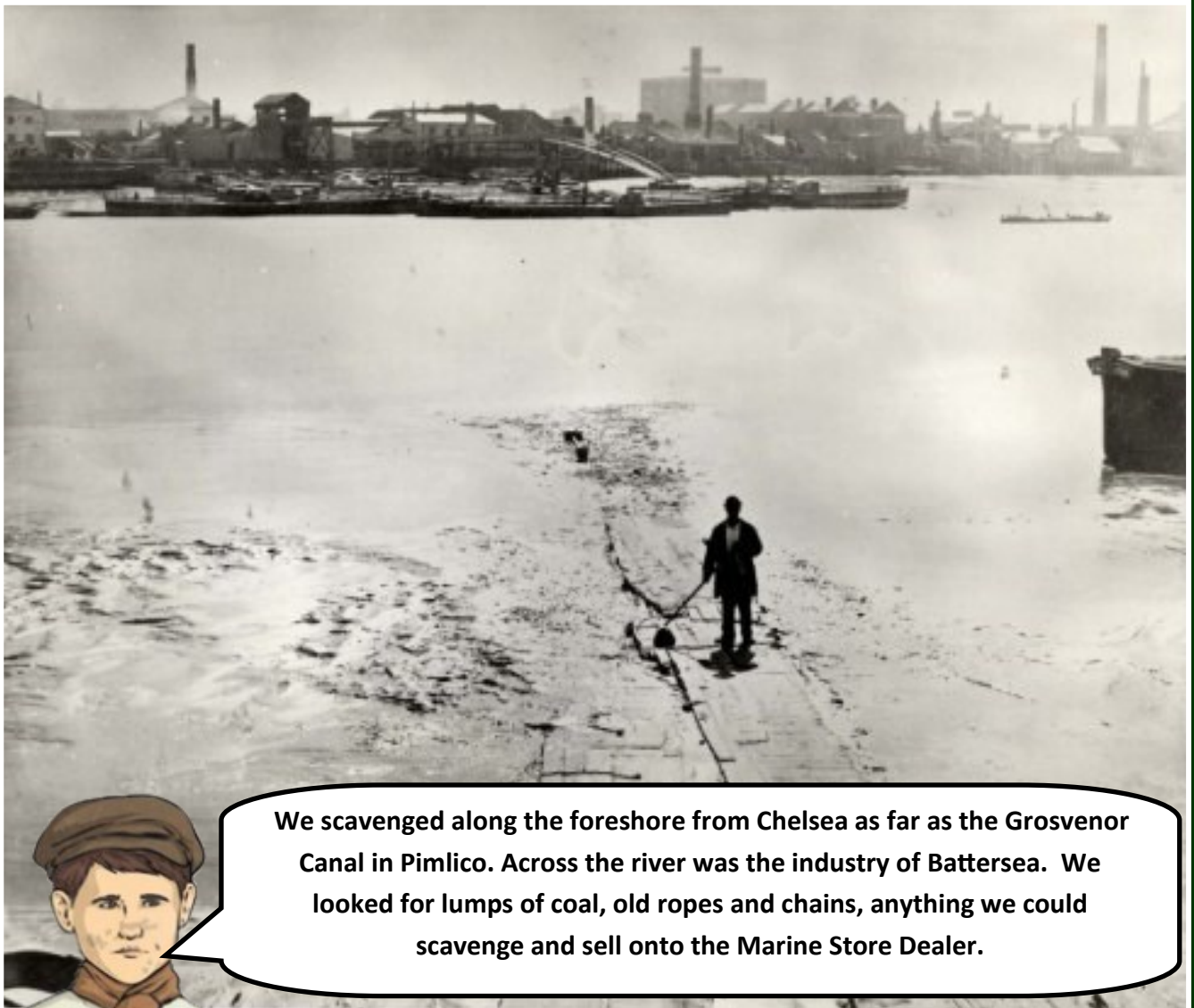
JIMMY BRILL

A	Searched sewers for valuable things to sell
B	Cleared horse manure from the road for rich pedestrians
C	Collected dog's muck for use in leather tanning
D	Emptied cess pits of human waste and sold it to farmers
E	Collected a vital ingredient for the making of glue
F	Sold second hand clothes and boots

THE GROSVENOR CANAL



Cross's London Street Directory 1851 shows the full extent of the Grosvenor Canal. Only the canal gates remain today



We scavenged along the foreshore from Chelsea as far as the Grosvenor Canal in Pimlico. Across the river was the industry of Battersea. We looked for lumps of coal, old ropes and chains, anything we could scavenge and sell onto the Marine Store Dealer.



JIMMY BRILL

Chelsea foreshore looking towards the industrial landscape of Battersea at the time the Brill's went mudlarking in the early 20th century. RBKC Local Studies and Archives.

BRILL FAMILY 1911 CENSUS

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards				BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	II
<p>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included.</p> <p>(For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)</p>													
1 Annie Brill	Head	54	Married	50	8	8	Machinist	290	Chatham Kent	090 XX	Kent		
2 Eleanor Brill	Daughter	28	Single				Machinist		Chelsea London				
3 James Brill	Son	18	Single				House Painter	240	Chelsea London				
4 David Brill	Son	10											
5 Esra Garden	Boarder	35	Single				Journalist	451	British subject by birth				

Name	Relation	Age	Married/Single	Profession	Born
Annie Brill	Head	54	Married	Machinist	Chatham Kent
Eleanor Brill	Daughter	28	Single	Machinist	Chelsea London
James Brill	Son	18	Single	House Painter	Chelsea London
David Brill	Son	10			
Esra Garden	Boarder	35	Single	Journalist	British subject by birth

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<p>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included.</p> <p>(For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)</p>													
1 Mary Ann Brock	Head	50	Widow	27	non				London, Chelsea				
2 James Brill	Cousin	55	Married	33			House Painter	240	London, Chelsea				



Name	Age	Status	Occupation	Birth Place	Address
Mary Ann Brock	50	Widow		London, Chelsea	8 Carroun Road, South Lambeth S
James F. Brill	55	Married	HOUSE PAINTER	London, Chelsea	8 Carroun Road, South Lambeth

When Dad got out of prison Mum wouldn't let him back home. She said he would get Billy, Harry, and I into trouble with the Peelers.

19. Can you see why Mum wasn't very happy with me in 1911?

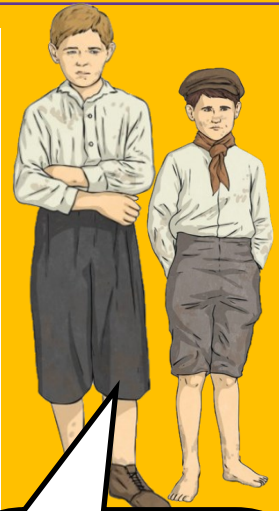
JIMMY BRILL

YOU'VE GOT TO PICK-A-POCKET OR TWO



JAMES FREDERICK
BRILL

Forget that mudlarking. Come
out decorating with me and
we'll earn a few bob!



What did our old
man have in mind
for us?

[JAMES FREDERICK BRILL (SPOKEN)]

You see, Jimmy Junior..

*[sung] In this life, one thing counts
In the bank, large amounts
I'm afraid these don't grow on trees,
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two, boys,
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two.
Large amounts don't grow on trees.
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two.*

[JAMES FREDERICK (SPOKEN)]

Let's show you how it's done, young Jim?

(James Frederick Brill sung)

*When I see someone rich,
Both my thumbs start to itch
Only to find some peace of mind
We have to pick-a-pocket or two.
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two, boys
You've got to pick-a-pocket or two.*

ARTHUR SEABY



The saloon bar at the Elephant and Castle Great Peter Street 1925

P.Daniel

It was when I went up to buy a round of drinks that the bar-maid told me that another couple would like to join us. Their names were Arthur and Norah Seaby and they came from Fulham. Arthur knew the pub because he used to work for the Gas Light and Coke company and was meeting some of his old friends who worked over the road.



SARAH BOOTS



**Would you mind if we join you.
We over heard your
conversation and it brought back
so many memories for us.**

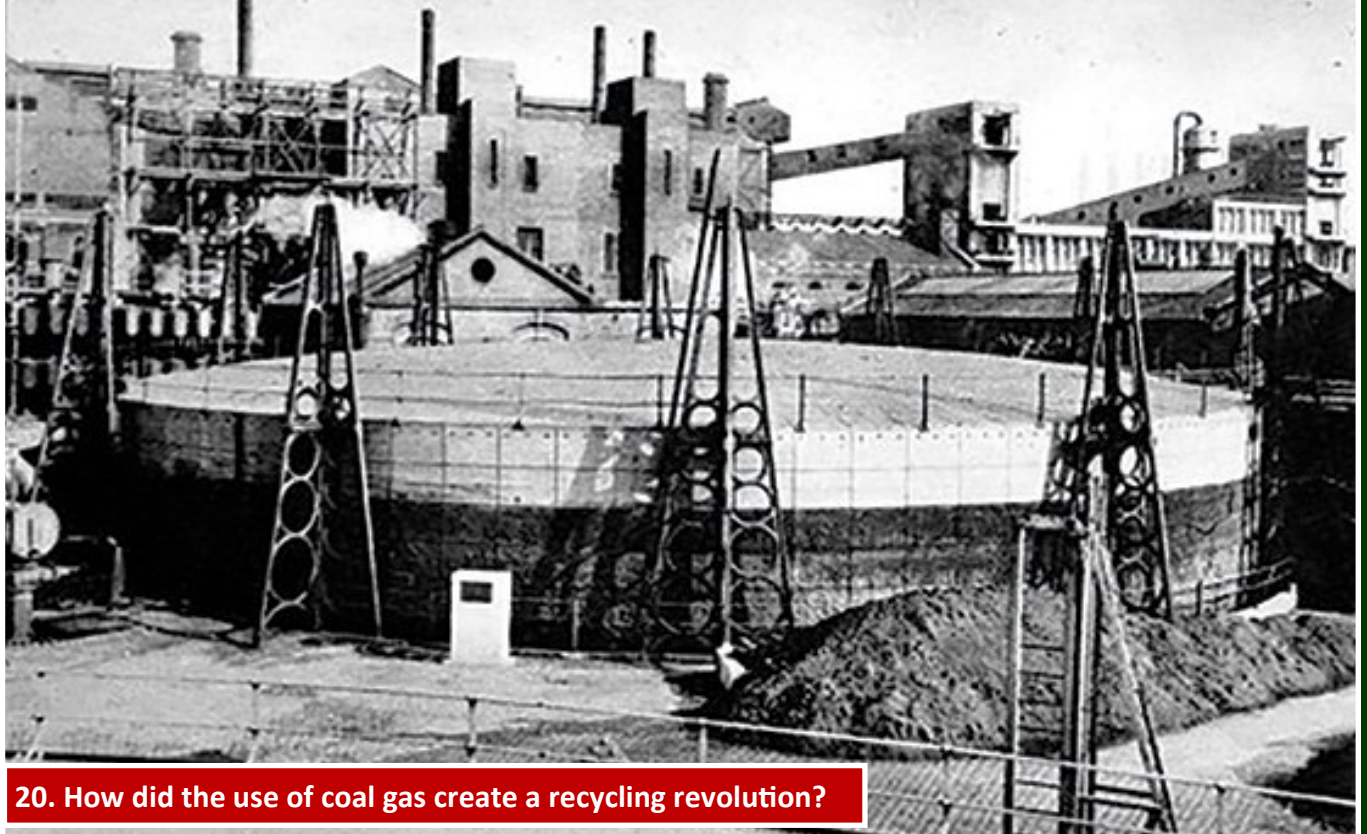
**ARTHUR AND
NORA SEABY**

Arthur and Norah Seaby on their Wedding Day 1918

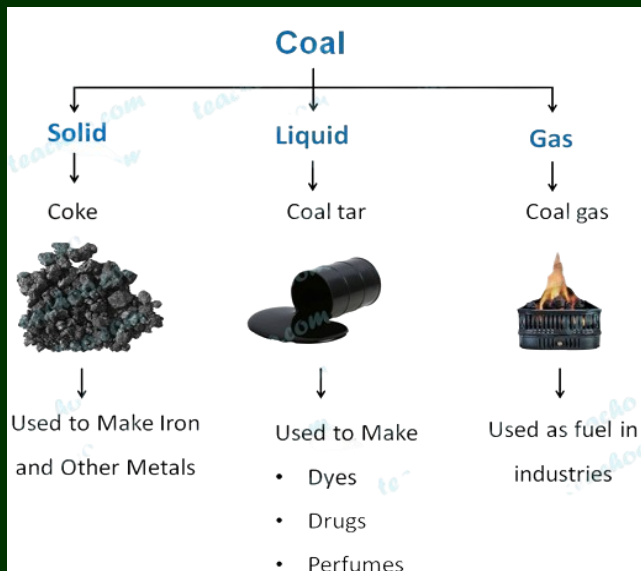
P.Daniel

ARTHUR SEABY

Fulham's Sand's End gasholder dating from 1830 is the oldest known gasholder in the world



20. How did the use of coal gas create a recycling revolution?

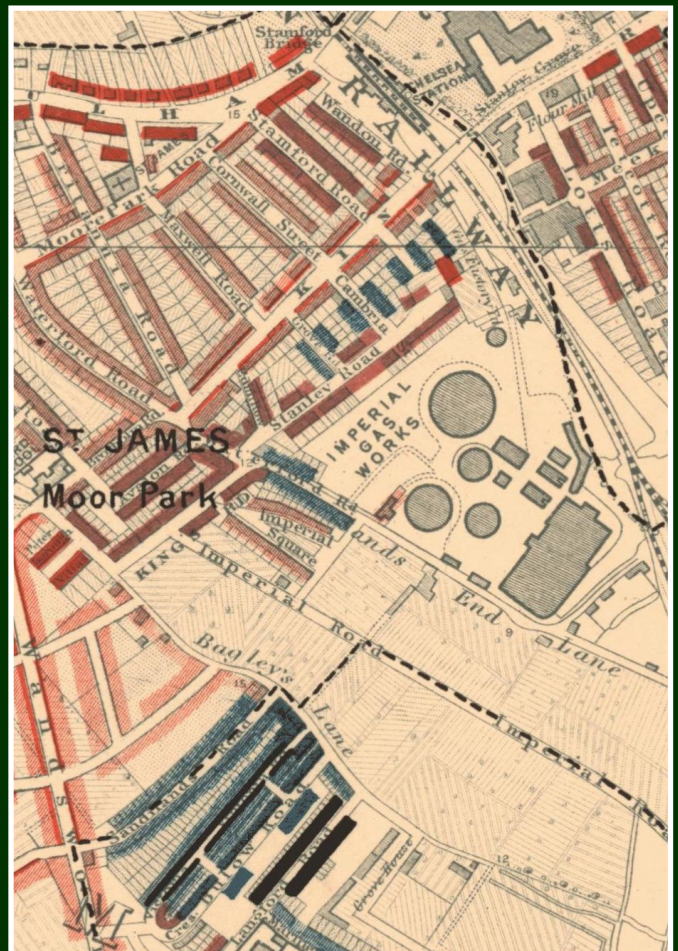


The waste from coal gas created many recycled chemicals



ARTHUR SEABY

I was a stoker at the Gas Light and Coke Company in Fulham. Terrible job. Don't know why I did it.



Charles Booth Poverty Map 1886 Westminster Archives

CROSSING SWEEPS



Scarpa! It's the Peelers!



It's a fair cop guv!



Spare a penny for your crossing sweep lady

A YOUNG "WHEELER'S" MOTHER CENSURED.—A boy named Arthur Seaby, charged with begging in the High Road, Chiswick, near to Kew Bridge, and also with creating a nuisance and an obstruction by turning somersaults, was again brought up at the Brentford Police Court on Saturday.—The mother of the lad said she did her best to keep her son out of mischief; she sent him to school, but he frequently ran away.—The prisoner when asked to read showed that his education had been much neglected.—The magistrates severely censured the mother, telling her they believed she sent the boy out to beg, and received a portion of his earnings. They decided to send the boy to Feltham Industrial School, and stated they would make his parents pay as much as possible towards his maintenance in that establishment.

West London Observer Saturday 30th August 1884



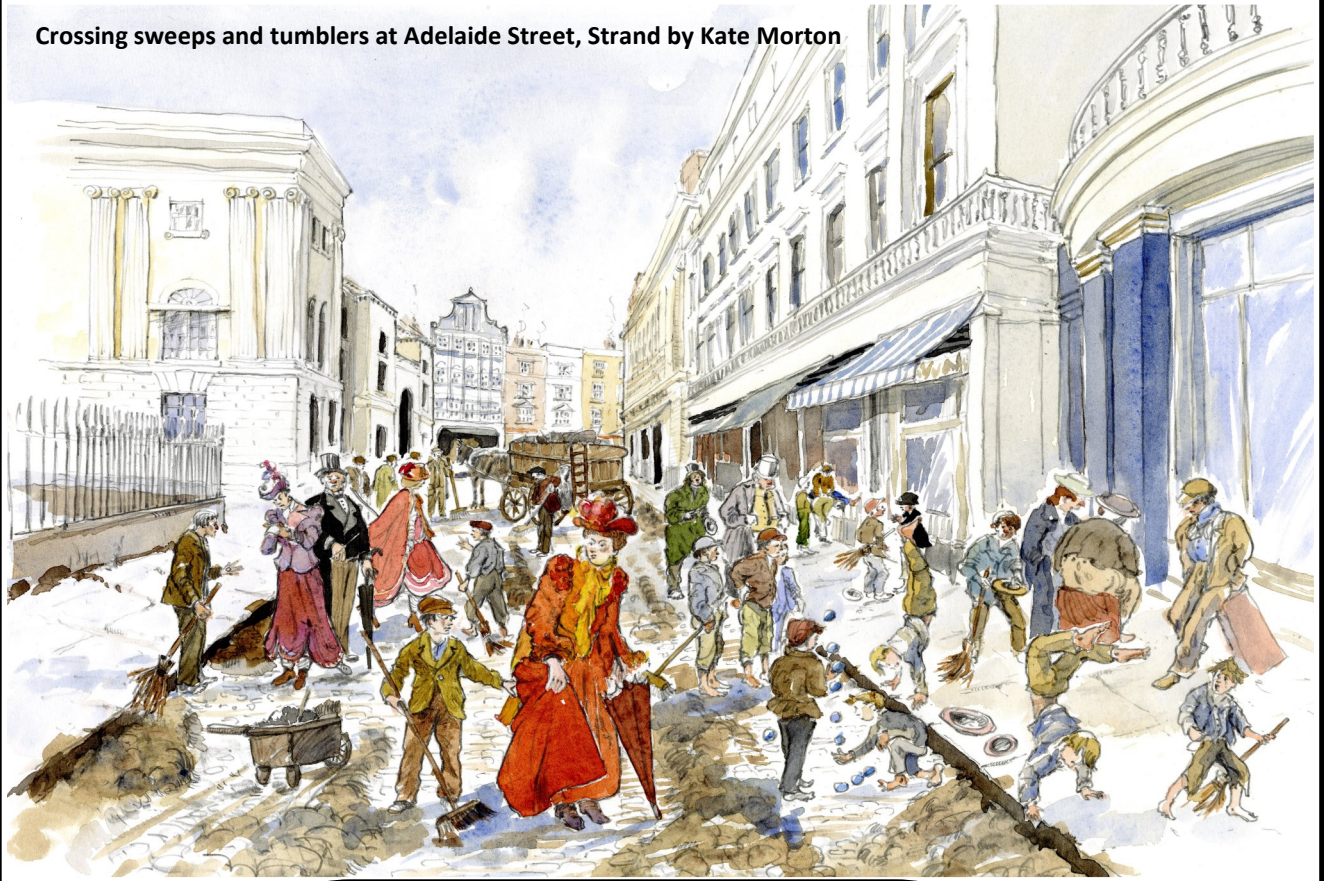
ARTHUR SEABY

Well to be fair, I've done worse jobs than work in the gasworks. As a nipper, I worked as a crossing sweep. That must be close to the 'bottommost rung.' When I did that I was always in trouble with the Old Bill. They accused me of begging, when I was just trying to entertain my public.

CROSSING SWEEPS

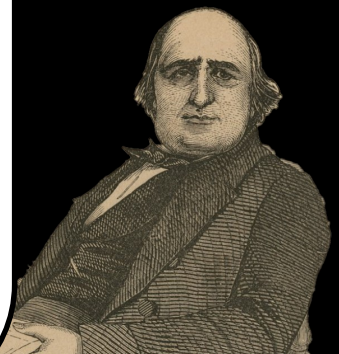
"I found the lad who first gave me an insight into the proceedings of the associated crossing-sweepers crouched on the stone steps of a door in Adelaide-street, Strand; and when I spoke to him he was preparing to settle down in a corner and go to sleep—his legs and body being curled round almost as closely as those of a cat on a hearth. The moment he heard my voice he was upon his feet, asking me to "give a halfpenny to poor little Jack." **Henry Mayhew London Labour and the London Poor 1851**

Crossing sweeps and tumblers at Adelaide Street, Strand by Kate Morton



'There's a party of six of us, and we have the crossings from St. Martin's Church as far as Pall Mall. I always go along with them as lodges in the same place as I do. In the daytime, if it's dry, we do anythink what we can—open cabs, or anythink; but if it's wet, we separate, and I and another gets a crossing—those who gets on it first, keeps it, —and we stand on each side and take our chance. We do it in this way:—if I was to see two gentlemen coming, I should cry out, 'Two toffs!' and then they are mine; and whether they give me anythink or not they are mine, and my mate is bound not to follow them; for if he did he would get a hiding from the whole lot of us. If we both cry out together, then we share. If it's a lady and gentleman, then we cries, 'A toff and a doll!' .

**LONDON
LABOUR AND
THE LONDON
POOR
HENRY
MAYHEW
1851**



HENRY MAYHEW



CHIM CHIM CHER-EE

On the Sunday we all have a clean shirt put on before we go out, and then we go and tumble after the omnibuses. I have run after a Cremorne bus, when they've thrown us money, as far as from Charing-Cross right up to Piccadilly.

At night-time we tumblers—that is, if the policemen ain't nigh. We sends on one of us ahead, as a looker-out, to look for the policeman, and then we follows. When they've (a gentleman) got a young lady on their arm they laugh at us tumbling; some will give us a penny, others threepence, sometimes a sixpence or a shilling, and sometimes a halfpenny. We either do the cat'unwheel, or else we keep before the gentleman and lady, turning head-over-heels, putting our broom on the ground and then turning over it.

Henry Mayhew London Labour and the London Poor 1851

**Chim chiminey, chim chiminey, chim chim cher-ee
No sweep is as lucky as Arthur Seaby
Chim chiminey, chim chiminey, chim chim cher-oo
Good luck will rub off when I shakes 'ands with you
Or blow me a kiss and that's lucky too**

**Now as the ladder of life as been strung
You may think a sweep's on the bottommost rung
Though I've been arrested and now am dead broke
In this 'ole wide world there's no 'appier bloke**

**Chim chiminey, chim chiminey, chim chim cher-ee
No sweep is as lucky as Arthur Seaby
Chim chiminey, chim chiminey, chim chim cher-oo
Good luck will rub off when I shakes 'ands with you**

1901 CENSUS WALHAM YARD FULHAM


National Archives

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the

Page 58

National Archives		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the		Page 58	
of London		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District of Fulham		Ward of Municipal Borough or Urban District of Walham	
of Fulham		of Fulham		of Fulham	
House No.	Road, Street, No. or Name of	Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION
363	"	Chas. Thurlow	Head	50	General labourer
		Jane	Wife	47	Charwoman
		John	Son	14	
		Maud	Dau	12	
		Chas.	Son	10	
		Wm.	Son	7	
		Rebecca	Dau	6	
364	"	Arthur Seaby	Head	30	
		Ann	Wife	29	
		Nellie	Dau	9	
		Arthur	Son	7	
		Geo.	Son	5	
		Richard	Son	3	
		Sarah	Dau	1	
365	"	Geo. Withers	Head	56	General labourer
		Elizabeth	Wife	56	

Road	Name	Relation	Age	Profession	Where born
3 Walham Avenue Fulham	Charles Thurlow	Head	50	General labourer	Pimlico Middx
	Jane Thurlow	Wife	47	Charwoman	Bermondsey
	John Thurlow	Son	14		Chelsea Middx
	Maud Thurlow	Daughter	12		Fulham Middx
	Charles Thurlow	Son	10		Fulham Middx
	William Thurlow	Son	7		Fulham Middlesex
	Rebecca Thurlow	Daughter	6		Fulham Middx
3 Walham Avenue Fulham	Arthur Seaby	Head	30		Turnham Green Middx
	Ann Norah) Seaby	Wife	29		Fulham Middx
	Nellie Seaby	Daughter	9		Fulham Middx
	Arthur Seaby	Son	7		Fulham Middx
	George Seaby	Son	5		Fulham Middx
	Richard Seaby	Son	3		Fulham Middx
	Sarah Seaby	Daughter	1		Fulham Middx
3 Walham Avenue Fulham	George Withers	Head	56		Chelsea Middx
	Elizabeth Withers	Wife	56		Chelsea Middx




ARTHUR SEABY

When times are hard you'll take any job to make ends meet.

We weren't the only strugglers when we lived at Walham Yard.

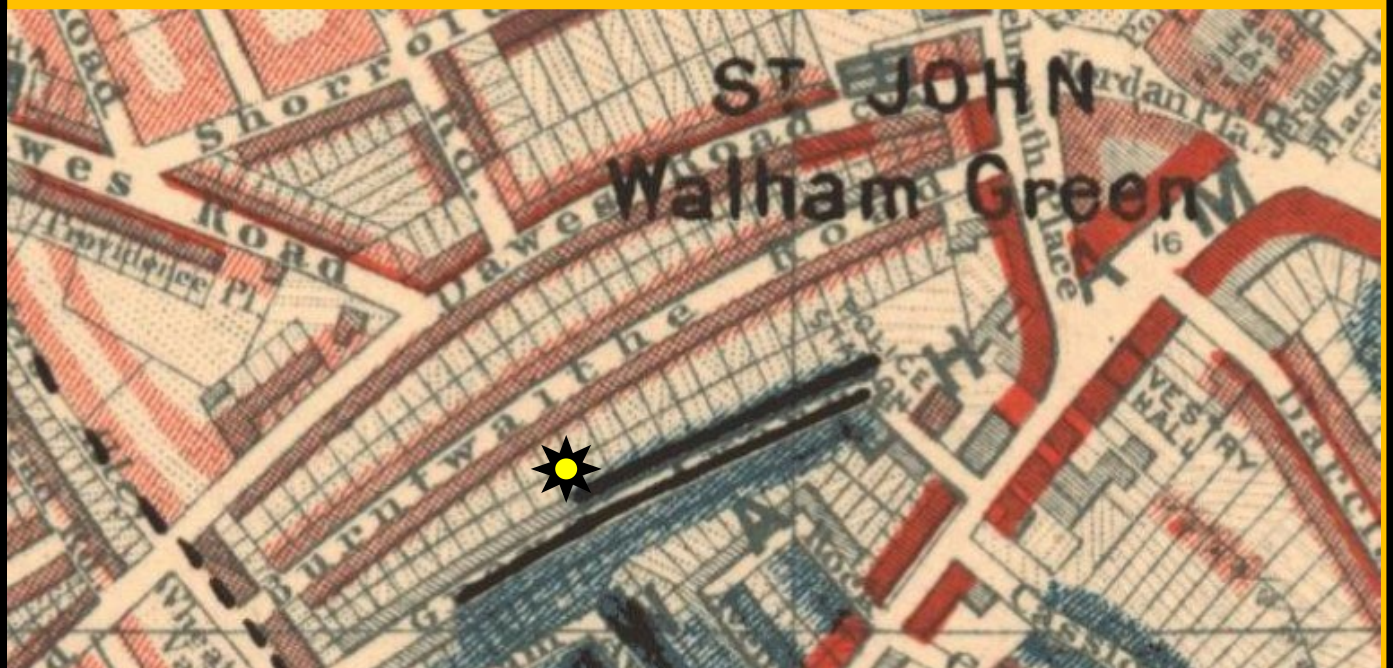
21. How many other families shared our Walham Avenue home?



NORAH SEABY

MY OLD MAN SAID FOLLER THE VAN

*Names of Electors in full, Surname being first.	Description of Rooms occupied and whether Furnished or not.	Street, Lane, or other Place, and number (if any) of House in which Lodgings are situate.	Amount of Rent paid.	Name and Address of Landlord or other person to whom Rent is paid.
13413 Hamilton, Albert	One room first floor unfurnished	VANSTON PLACE (continued.) 35 Vanston place	4s. 6d. per week	William Maggs, 35 Vanston place
13414 Sleaby, Arthur	Two rooms first floor unfurnished	WALHAM AVENUE. 3 Walham avenue	5s. per week	George Withers, 3 Walham avenue



22. How do we know the Seaby family were amongst the poorest of the poor?

The Streets are coloured according to the general condition of the inhabitants, as under:-

-  Lowest class. Vicious, semi-criminal.
-  Very poor, casual. Chronic want.
-  Poor. 18s. to 21s. a week for a moderate family.
-  Mixed. Some comfortable, others poor.
-  Fairly comfortable. Good ordinary earnings.
-  Middle-class. Well-to-do.
-  Upper-middle and Upper classes. Wealthy.

A combination of colours— as dark blue and black, or pink and red— indicates that the street contains a fair proportion of each of the classes represented by the respective colours.



ARTHUR SEABY

We really struggled to feed the kids and pay the rent

Sometimes we had to move away cos the rent we couldn't pay. They called it a 'Moonlit Flit' when we disappeared.



NORAH SEABY

MY OLD MAN SAID FOLLER THE VAN



A "MOVE" IN SLUMOPOLIS.

*When our old man said
we had to do a runner
it was often in the
middle of the night*



**ARTHUR
JUNIOR**

**NELLIE
SEABY**

*They even left me behind
once. When we left Grove
Avenue for Walham Yard
they sent me back for our
cock linnet .*

We had to move away, 'cos the rent we couldn't pay,
The moving van came round just after dark;
There was me and my old man, shoving things inside the van,
Which we'd often done before let me remark.
We packed all that could be packed in the van and that's a fact;
And we got inside all we could get inside,
Then we packed all we could pack on the tailboard at the back,
Till there wasn't any room for me to ride.

My old man said: "Foller the van,
And don't dilly-dally on the way".
Off went the van wiv me 'ome packed in it.
I walked be'ind wiv me old cock linnet.
But I dillied and dallied, Dallied and dillied;
Lost me way and don't know where to roam.
And you can't trust a "Special" Like the old-time copper
When you can't find your way home.

THE COSTER'S MANSION

THE COSTER'S MANSION
OR,
YO'UVE ONLY GOT TO STOP
JUST WHERE YOU IS!

Written by WILL FIELDHOUSE,



CHORUS.
If yer wants to see me dining-room or step into me parlour,
Or me arifice where I contacts all my biz,
If yer wants to see me bedroom, or the place we calls the larder,
Why, you've only got to stop just where you is.

Composed by
GEORGE LE BRUNN,
Sung by
GUS ELEN

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Copyright, MCMXXIII, in the United States of America by Francis Day & Hunter, 17, St. James St.

The Coster's Mansion by Gus Elen 1899

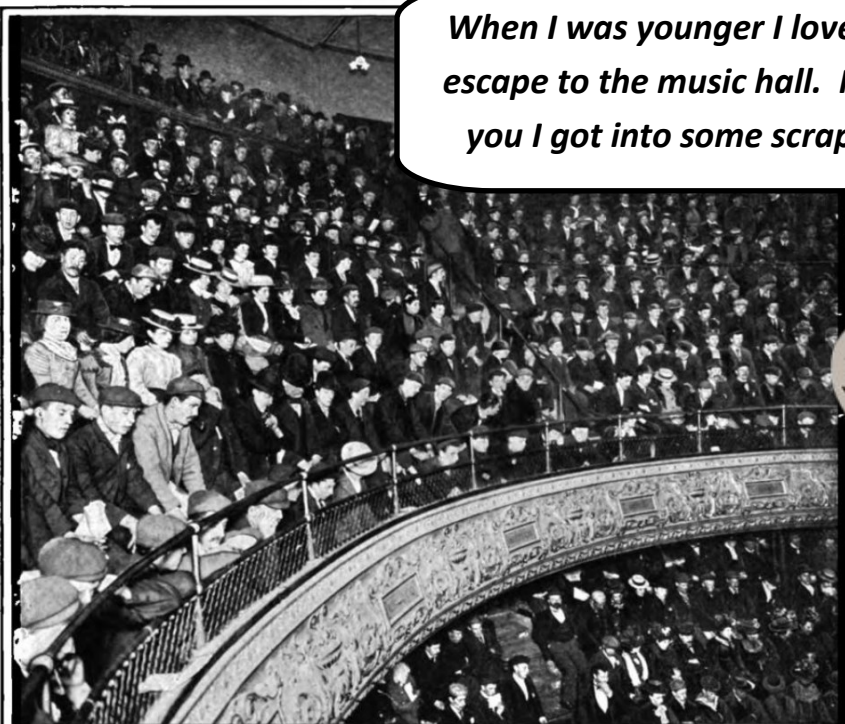
Tuesday.—Before Mr. LANE, Q.C.

A DISAGREEABLE RECEPTION.—Norah Seaby, 22, living at 29, Grove Avenue, Fulham, was charged with assaulting Ann McCarthy, a flower seller, of 23, Grove Avenue.—The complainant said on her return home from the Aquarium on Monday night the prisoner abused her, and then attacked her. She retaliated, and thereupon she was knocked down by the prisoner's husband and brother, both of whom kicked her. She went indoors, and later on the prisoner called, and struck her on the head with a poker.—The prisoner also complained of having been assaulted, and a witness stated that the two women fought together.—Mr. Lane said it was desirable that other witnesses should be called, and for this purpose ordered a remand.

West London Observer Friday 14th May 1897



The Aquarium, Storey's Gate, Westminster SW1



A MUSIC HALL GALLERY.

Costers at the Music Hall Living London 1906 by George Sims

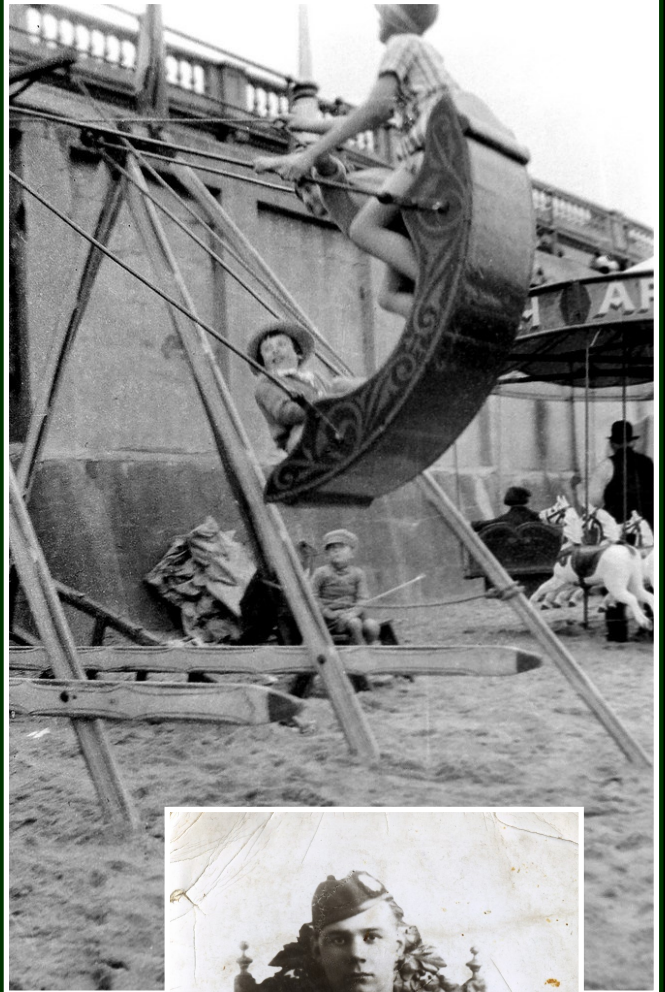
When I was younger I loved to escape to the music hall. Mind you I got into some scrapes.



I loved a sing-song and a drink too!

NORAH SEABY

COCKNEY RHYMING SLANG



GEORGIE SEABY

AT THE FULHAM FAIR.

BOY'S NOSE FLATTENED BY A SWING.

A small boy named George Seaby, of 3, Waltham Avenue, Fulham, who recently had his nose smashed flat to his face by a boat swing at the Lillie Road Fair Grounds, sought, before Sir William Seife and a jury, at the Brompton County Court on Wednesday, to recover damages in respect of his lost beauty and for pain and suffering. Mr. J. Manders, owner of the fair grounds, was the defendant.

West London Observer Fri 21st Dec 1906



ARTHUR SEABY

*My Norah often found herself in court.
Personally when I went before the beaks* I
wanted to be on a nice little earner. Like the
time my Georgie got a boat in his boat.***

*"Beak" is an 19th century slang term for a judge, magistrate. It originated as thieves' jargon.

** Cockney rhyming slang for face is Boat Race, Georgie got a boat swing in his face

MARKET PIONEER

THE EARLY DAYS

Born in Fulham, not more than a stone's throw from the market, Mrs. Seaby had lived in the borough all her life. She and her late husband, Mr. Arthur Seaby, were among the select few who first traded at North End Road. When she was a street trader, the market was sited along King's Road, towards Stanley Bridge, and she often recalled the memorable day when street traders were first allowed in North End Road.

For over 60 years Mrs. Seaby stood at her stall in the market, and she remembered the days when trading continued until after dark, with flares illuminating the barrows as the shoppers thronged the pavements.

Old world shops

She often spoke of the old world shops in North End Road, most of which had steps leading up to their doorways. She also recalled exciting times in the market when street traders were establishing their claim to trade there.

On one occasion the council installed water carts at one end of the road to prevent the traders putting their stalls there, but someone set light to the carts and they beat a retreat.

Her late husband—he died in 1943—was a chairman of the old Fulham Costermongers' Association, which was formed in 1906, and which was the forerunner of the present Fulham Street Traders' Association.



'On one occasion the council installed water carts at one end of (North End) Road to prevent traders putting their stalls there.'



'but someone set light to the carts and they beat a retreat'

Fulham Chronicle Fri 24th Aug 1956



ARTHUR SEABY

I've been a gas stoker, and a road-sweeper, but they were all dreadful jobs.



NORAH SEABY

Just admit it Arthur. All your life you've wanted to be a barrow boy. I think there's a song about that!

BARROW BOY

**Up the Apple and Pears
Cross the Rory O'more
Up to see the dear old trouble and Strife
(That's the Wife) On the Cain and Able
You will always see
A pair of Jack the Rippers
And a cup of Rosy Lee
What could be better than this a
Nice old cuddle and kiss
Underneath the pale moon light
A little Tommy Tucker and up to Uncle Ned
Oh what a lovely night tonight.**

**All me life I wanted to be a barrow boy
A barrow boy is all I wanted to be
When I push me Barrow, It fills me up with pride
I'm a Coster! a Coster! from over the other side
I turns me back upon the high society
Take me where the ripe bananas grow
I sells 'em a dozen a shilling
that's how I makes me livin'
I should've been a barrow boy years ago
Get off me barrow, (barrah!)
I should've been a barrow boy years ago!**

COVENT GARDEN COSTER

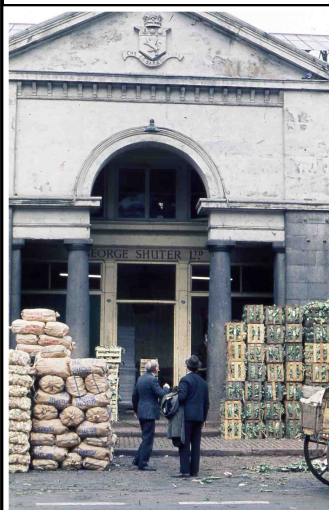
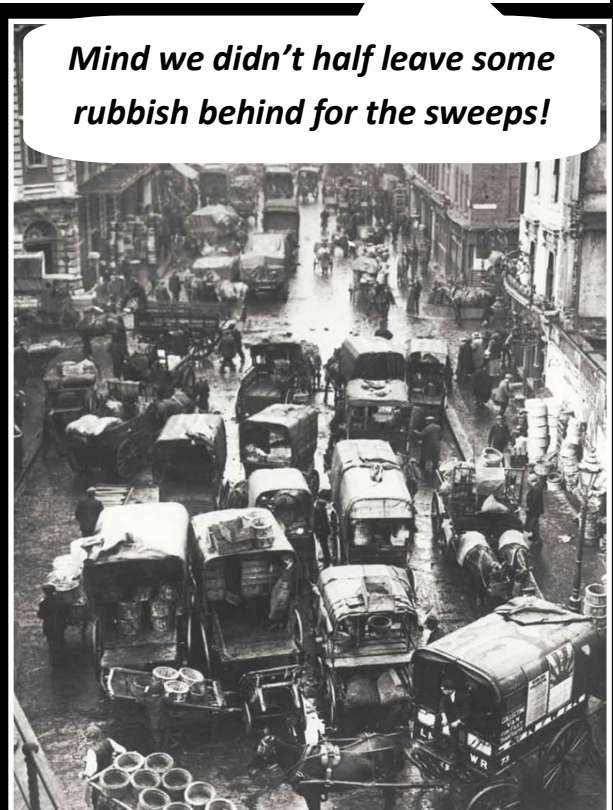


*My old man Arthur was right.
Being a coster in Covent Garden
is the best job in the world.
Come on everyone! Let's go
down the Strand*

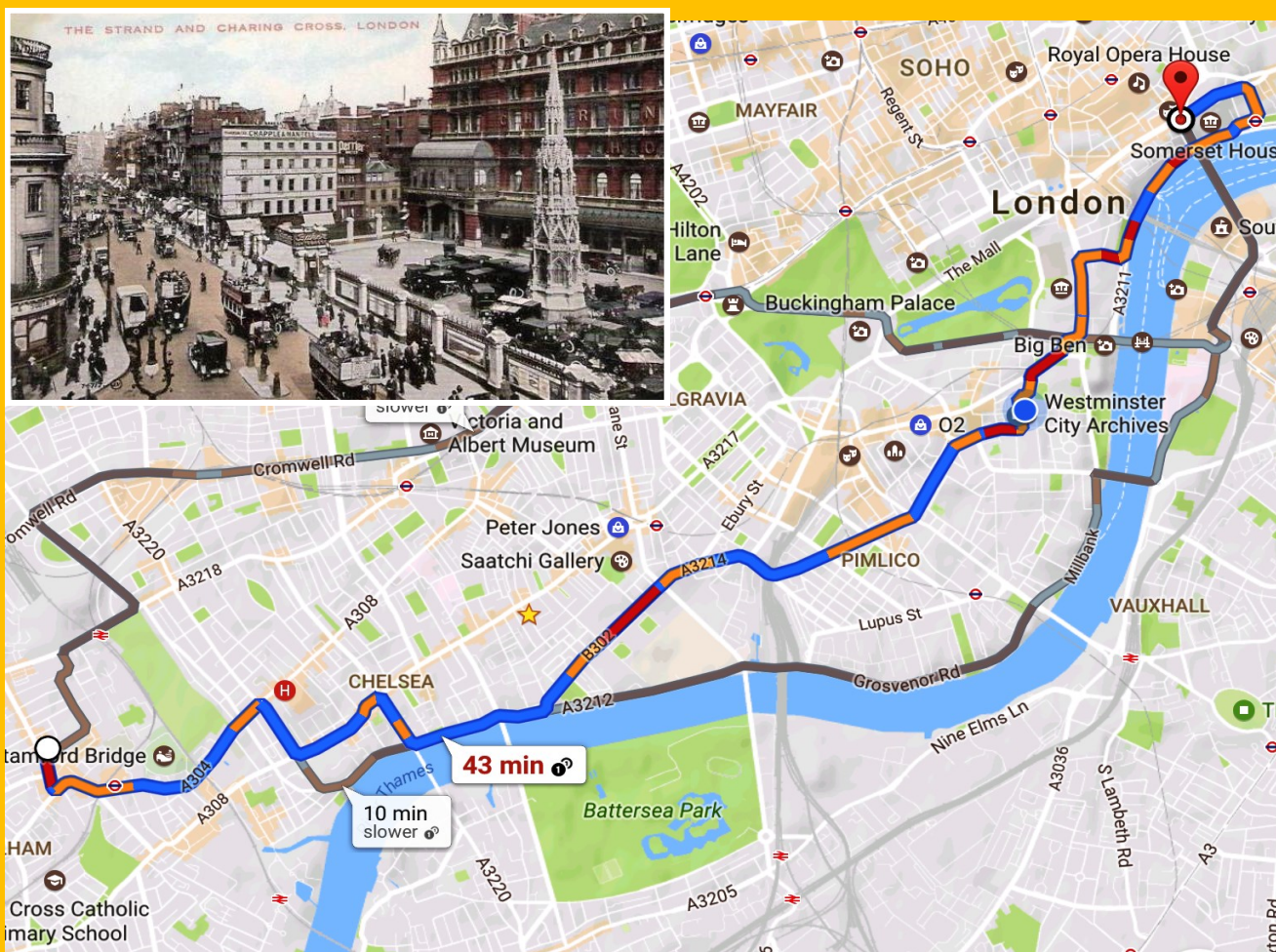
**ARTHUR
JUNIOR**



*Mind we didn't half leave some
rubbish behind for the sweeps!*



LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND



Picture Kate Morton



Let's all go down the Strand — Have a banana!

Let's all go down the Strand!

I'll be the leader, you can march behind.

Come with me and see what we can find!

Let's all go down the Strand — Have a banana!

Oh! What a happy land.

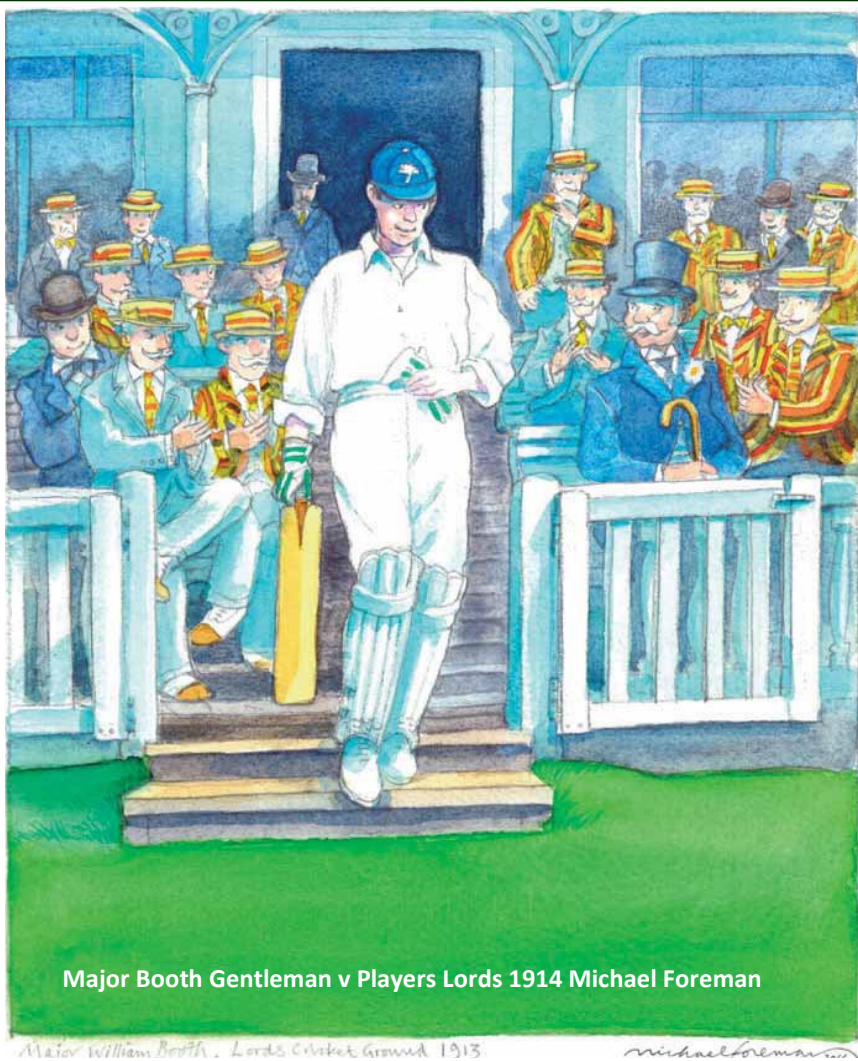
That's the place for fun and noise,

All among the girls and boys.

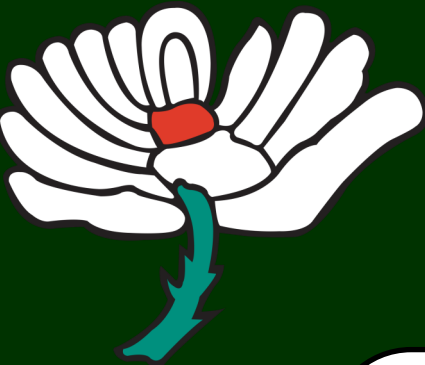
So let's all go down the Strand.

C.W.Murphy and Harry Castling

MAJOR BOOTH



Major Booth Gentleman v Players Lords 1914 Michael Foreman



Strand Palace Hotel



Our Major loved Covent Garden. I remember meeting him at the Strand Palace Hotel for tea in 1913. He loved that hotel.. 'Reet *grand*' he called it. I was so proud of him. He played cricket for Yorkshire, and it was whilst we were in London that he found he'd been picked to tour South Africa with MCC.

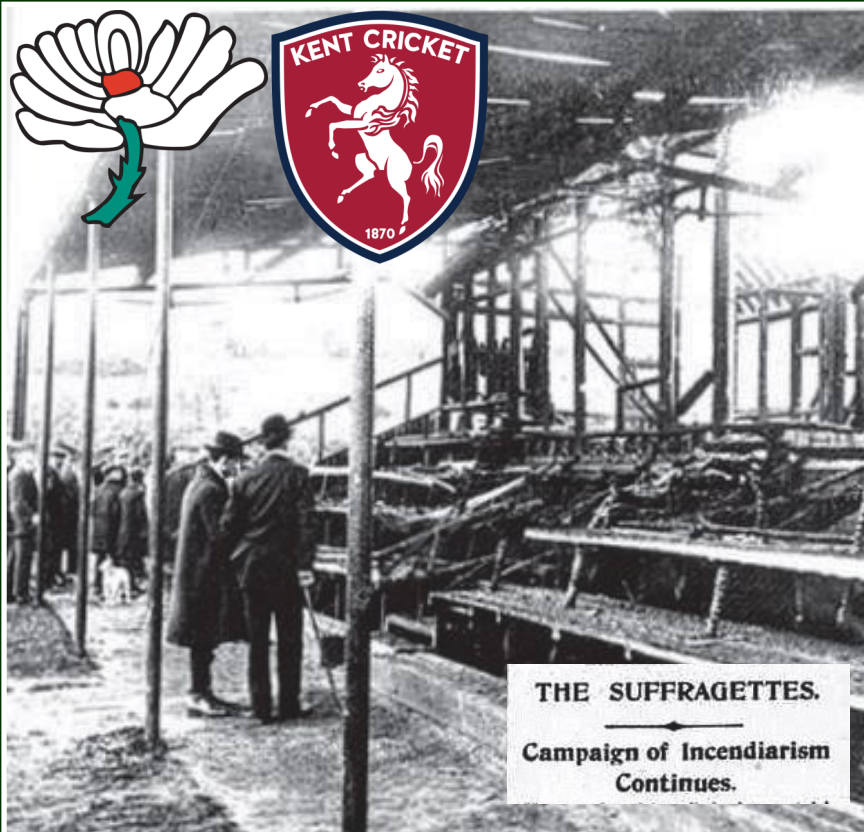
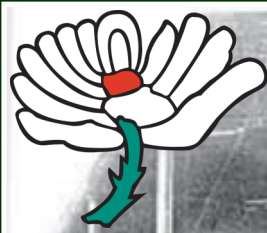
ANNIE BOOTH



SARAH BOOTS

By this time everybody in the Elephant and Castle must have been listening to our conversation. As soon as Covent Garden was mentioned a lady in a long maroon dress, who had been sitting on her own, spoke up. She had a strong northern accent.

MAJOR BOOTH



THE SUFFRAGETTES.
Campaign of Incendiarism
Continues.

JULY 21. 1913.

YORKSHIRE V. KENT.

THE MATCH ABANDONED.

Further disappointment was experienced by the cricket public at Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, and by the members of the Kent and Yorkshire elevens. After a fine night and favourable morning, the weather broke again at ten o'clock, and a drizzling rain quickly developed into a heavy downpour, which did not cease until after mid-day. The wicket on the Nevill ground was found to be so hopelessly waterlogged that the impossibility of continuing the match was at once realised, and at half-past eleven it was decided to abandon it. Kent, therefore, gained the modified but acceptable advantage of a win on the first innings. The full score and analysis of the play in that innings is as follows:—

YORKSHIRE—First Innings.		Kent—First Innings.	
Rhodes, c Seymour b Woolley	21	Mr. A. F. Day, b Drake	0
Wilson, c Hinch b Fairweather	19	Mr. W. A. Fowler, b Hirst	3
Doolan, c Powell b Hylke	10	Hinch, b Rhodes	10
Kilner, hit wkt. b Woolley	27	Fairweather, b Rhodes	3
Hirst, c Doolan b Hylke	0	Woolley, c Wilson b Rhodes	13
Drake, c Doolan b Hylke	0	Hylke, not out	0
South, c Seymour b Hylke	13	Mr. E. W. Doolan, c Doolan b	6
Burton, b Hylke	8	Drake	8
Total	100	Total	135

BOWLING ANALYSIS—Yorkshire—First Innings.		Kent—First Innings.	
Hylke	24.3 10 20 5	Fairweather	11 3 29 1
Woolley	27 10 40 4	Woolley	10 4 29 1
Woolley bowled one no-ball.			
Hirst	14 4 20 2	Hinch	5 0 18 0
Drake	11 5 25 3	Kilner	2 0 11 0
Rhodes	12.4 3 42 5	South	2 0 4 0
Hirst bowled one no-ball and Drake two.			
Umpires—Richardson and Parry.			

In April 1913 suffragettes burned down the Nevill cricket pavilion in Tunbridge Wells Tunbridge Wells Mu. & Art Gallery

NATIONAL UNION OF
Women's Suffrage Societies
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
NON-PARTY. NON-MILITANT.

The Tunbridge and Tunbridge Wells Branches
in association with the

**WOMEN'S PILGRIMAGE
TO LONDON,**
Will hold a Meeting
on July 21st,
1913
VICTORIA HALL, SOUTHBOROUGH,
At 3.30 p.m.

Chair - - MADAME SARAH GRAND
President Tunbridge Wells Branch.

SPEAKERS:
MISS AMELIA SCOTT, P.L.O.
MR. MALCOLM MITCHELL
(Mary League for Women's Suffrage)

ADMISSION FREE. COLLECTION.



I was a Suffragette and had come down from Yorkshire for the gathering of women in Hyde Park, who were campaigning for 'Votes for Women.' It was the reason I met up with Major, as his match against Kent had been called off, because of a Suffragette demonstration.



ANNIE BOOTH

SUFFRAGISTS & SUFFRAGETTES

**MILLICENT
FAWCETT**



1897



Peaceful protest

SUFFRAGISTS



**EMMELINE
PANKHURST**



1903



*Deeds not
Words'*

SUFFRAGETTES



It was a little awkward for me being a Suffragette as Major wasn't too happy that his game had been called off. Things were really stepping up in 1913 and I came down to London often to be part of the action. You see I believed in our motto: 'Deeds not words!'



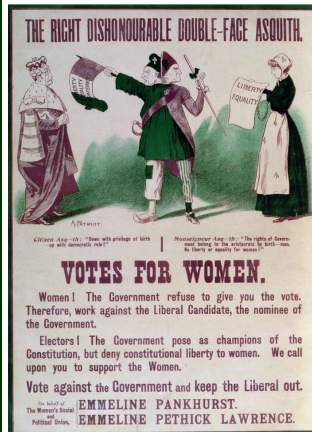
ANNIE BOOTH

23. How were the NUWSS Suffragists different to WSPU Suffragettes?

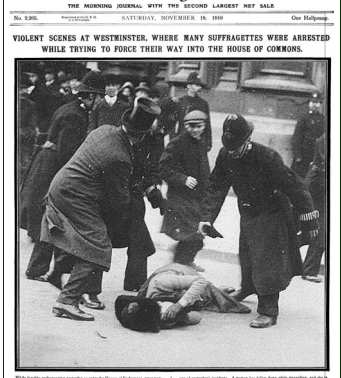
SUFFRAGETTE CAMPAIGN 1910-13

1910

After Asquith broke his 'Votes for Women' promise to Emmeline Pankhurst, the WSPU organised a **Women's Parliament at Caxton Hall**, Westminster and a march on Parliament on **18th Nov 1910-Black Friday**.



The Daily Mirror



NO
VOTES
FOR
WOMEN

NO
CENSUS

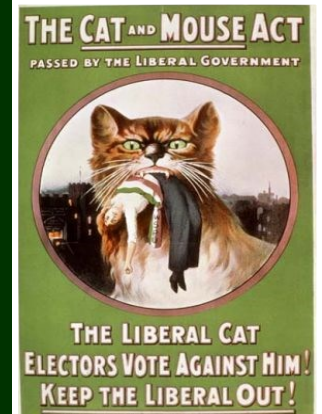
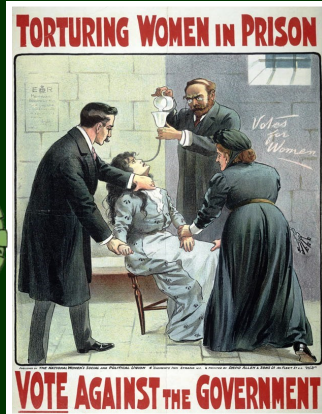
Name of Head of Family or Separate Occupier. } Miss E. L. Davidson
Sound hiding in
Postal Address } 18th Nov 1910
Westminster Hall
WESTMINSTER
Since Sunday

1911

In 1911, Suffragists boycotted the census as a form of civil disobedience and protest against the refusal to grant women the right to vote. Emily Davidson hid in the Houses of Parliament to make her point.

1912

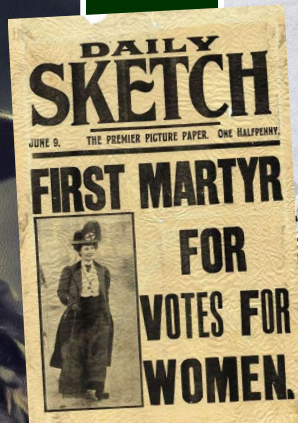
In March 1912, a window smashing campaign took place across London's West End. The women imprisoned went on hunger strike, so the Government passed the **Cat and Mouse Act** (1913) to avoid making martyrs.



1913



EMILY WILDING DAVISON



On **4 June 1913**, suffragette **Emily Wilding Davison** stepped in front of King George V's horse running in the **Epsom Derby**, sustaining injuries that resulted in her death four days later. She became the first Suffragette martyr to the cause of votes for women. Events in Covent Garden followed this sequence of events.

OPERA HOUSE SUFFRAGETTES



ARREST OF MRS.
PANKHURST.
—
CHARGED AT BOW-STREET.
—
RE-COMMITTED TO HOLLOWAY
PRISON.

Emmeline Pankhurst pictured leaving prison with her daughter, Christabel, in 1908

WOMEN INSULT KING AND QUEEN DURING PERFORMANCE AT COVENT GARDEN, AND ARE PROMPTLY TOLD TO LEAVE THEATRE.

The visit of the King and Queen to Covent Garden on Saturday night, on the occasion of the concluding performance of Mr Raymond Rozes' season, was marked by a Suffragette disturbance.

Three well-dressed women in one of the boxes opposite the Royal box, rising at the close of the first act of "Joan of Arc," and displaying a banner which bore the words, "Women are being tortured in Your Majesty's prisons," addressed the King and Queen.

The Suffragettes said they felt very strongly about the rearrest of Mrs Pankhurst before her license had expired, and they protested against the torture of women in prisons, who were fighting for principles.

The women appealed earnestly to their Majesties to put an end to this intolerable state of affairs by exercising their influence to obtain the vote for women.

The King and Queen, however, could have heard little of what was said, inasmuch as loud protests came from all directions, and the women were unable to make their voices carry across the great building.

The offenders were promptly requested to leave the theatre, and did so without offering resistance.

No arrests were made.

Dundee Courier - Monday 15 Dec 1913



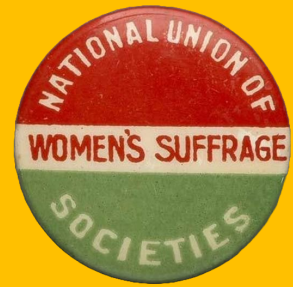
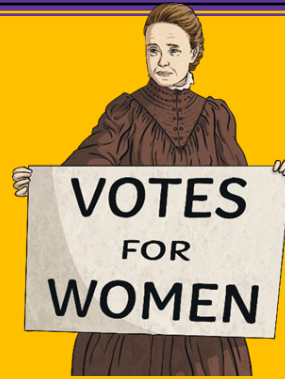
It was just before Christmas 1913, and I was in Covent Garden to join the Suffragette protests against the arrest of the Pankhursts and their imprisonment at Holloway jail.

The protest was aimed at getting maximum publicity, so King George V and Queen Mary were targeted, at the Covent Garden Opera House. Afterwards, we marched through the streets singing Suffragette songs.



ANNIE BOOTH

RISE UP WOMEN!

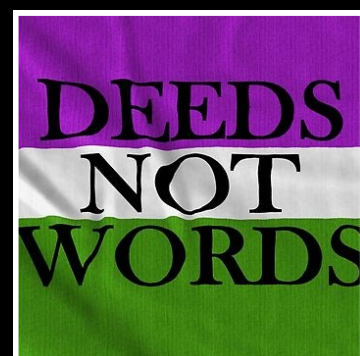


Rise up, women, for the fight is hard and long
Rise up thousands singing loud a battle song.
Right is might, and in strength we shall be strong
And the cause goes marching on!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
The cause goes marching on! on! on!

We stormed through Covent Garden
with our little band so true,
Like we frightened all the cricket folk
who'd trembled through and through,
They clapped us into prison
and we gladly went for you
And the cause goes marching on!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
The cause goes marching on! on! on!



COVENT GARDEN SUFFRAGETTES



Suffragette protest in Covent Garden Christmas 1913 Picture Kate Morton for Westminster Archives

Christmas 1913 was an emotional time. My brother had just been involved in an accident in South Africa and my father had had a stroke. It didn't stop me protesting though. 'Deeds Not Words' that's what mattered.



ANNIE BOOTH

Ernest used to sweep there, after the market closed. Messiest streets in the city,' he said. I'm sure he would have seen the Suffragettes that day.



SARAH BOOTS

My Jim knew that area well. There was a Marine Store Dealer there, he used to take scrap to when he was a lad.



FLORENCE BRILL

I was often at the Opera House with Henry and my son Ralph.



MARY NEWTON-ADAMS

Xmas 1913. That was the last Christmas I was to spend with all my boys at Covent Garden. My son Arthur wasn't to see another.



ARTHUR SEABY

I WANT TO GO HOME

Mention of Xmas 1913 seemed to upset Arthur Seaby. I asked him why his son didn't see Xmas 1914.



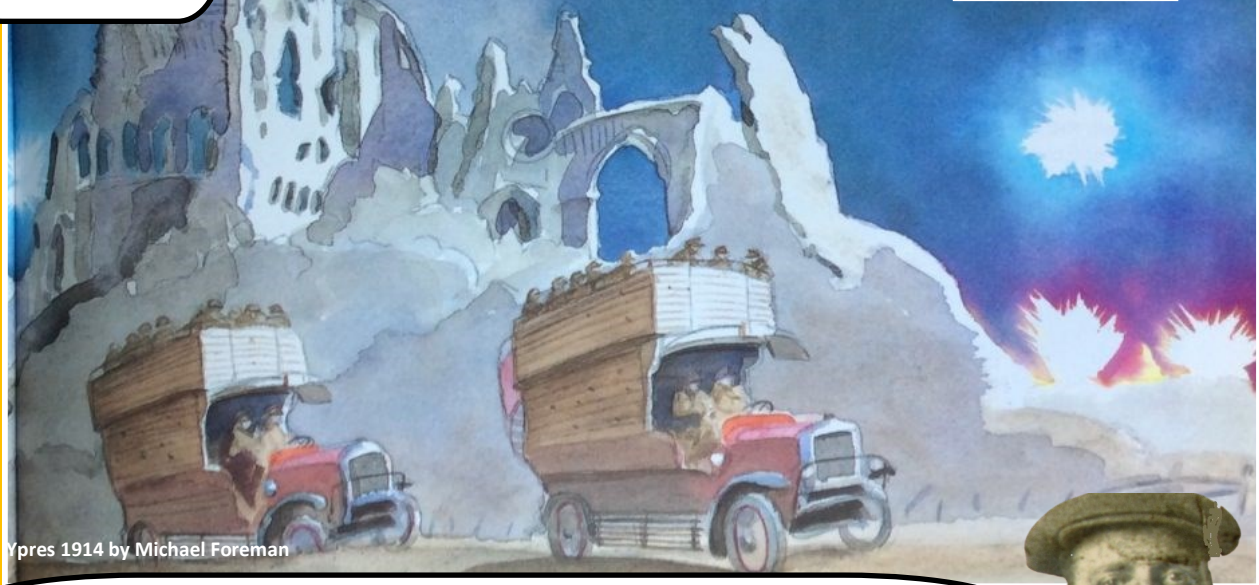
GEORGIE



DICKY



ARTHUR



Ypres 1914 by Michael Foreman

My eldest son Arthur was in the cavalry, The Queen's Bays, but he didn't die on a horse. He died on his feet at Halloween 1914. By then he'd swapped his horse for a trench. His last letter home showed he was desperate to come back for Xmas to dear old Covent Garden.



ARTHUR SEABY

**I want to go home, I want to go home.
I don't want to go in the trenches no more,
Where whizzbangs and shrapnel they whistle and roar.
Take me over the see,
where the Alleyman can't get at me.
Oh my, I don't want to die, I want to go home.

Take me over the see,
where the Alleyman can't get at me.
Oh my, I don't want to die, I want to go home**

BOMBED LAST NIGHT



My Ernîe never really wanted to go to war either. He went out to France for what they called 'The Big Push' in 1916, with the King's Royal Rifles. He was only out there a week. I know he was terrified of those whizzbangs too and the poison gas. His last letter home told me how it helped, when they sang about the things they were scared of, so he didn't feel alone when he was scared.



SARAH BOOTS

**Bombed last night, and bombed the night before
Going to get bombed tonight
If we never get bombed any more
When we're bombed, we're scared as we can be
Can't stop the bombing sent from higher Germany.**

**They're over us, they're over us,
One shell hole for just the four of us,
Thank your lucky stars there are no more of us,
'Cause one of us can fill it all alone.**

**Gassed last night, and gassed the night before
Going to get gassed tonight;
If we never get gassed anymore.
When we're gassed, were sick as we can be
For Phosgene and Mustard Gas is much too much for me.**

**They're warning us, they're warning us,
One respirator for the four of us
Thank your lucky stars that three of us can run,
So one of us can use it all alone.**

BATTLE OF THE SOMME 1916



Soldiers feared going over the top

I always wonder how he felt waiting to go over the top the day he died, the 1st July 1916. I guess I'll never know.



SARAH BOOTS

That's the same day Major died. He was at Serre and led the attack. I often think of him counting down the seconds to go over the top.



ANNIE BOOTH

My Jim must have been terrified when he went over the top at Gallipoli. It was in 1915 and they had to run up a steep hill to take the Turkish guns.



FLORENCE BRILL

My Arthur died at Messines near Ypres. It was 1914, so he was one of the first soldiers to experience that fear of going over the top.



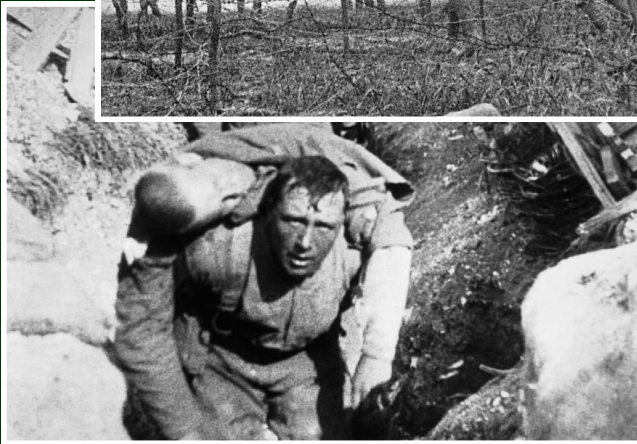
ARTHUR SEABY

My son Ralph was a pilot. He saw them go over the top on 1st July from the air. He won an MC, but was killed there 3 months later



MARY NEWTON-ADAMS

BATTLE OF THE SOMME 1916



Stills from the Battle of the Somme film screened in September 1916

ALL THIS WEEK OFFICIAL WAR FILM **The Battle of The Somme**

FIVE REELS

"If the exhibition of this Picture
all over the world does not end
War, God help civilisation!"—

Mr. Lloyd George

In 1916 the Battle of the Somme film was screened in British cinemas—the world's first war documentary. Annie Booth may have seen it.

**FAMOUS YORKSHIRE COUNTY
CRICKETER FALLS.**

The death of Major Booth on the Somme 1st July 1916 by Michael Foreman or Westminster Archives



**Major died of his wounds on 1st July 1916. At least he was with
a friend, another Yorkshire cricketer, called Abe Waddington.
However, they didn't find his body until a year later.**

ANNIE BOOTH

Major William Booth. His final innings: Battle of the Somme, 1916

EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE



**PTE JAMES
BRILL**

Pte James Brill is buried at Chatby
Military Cemetery Alexandria, Egypt



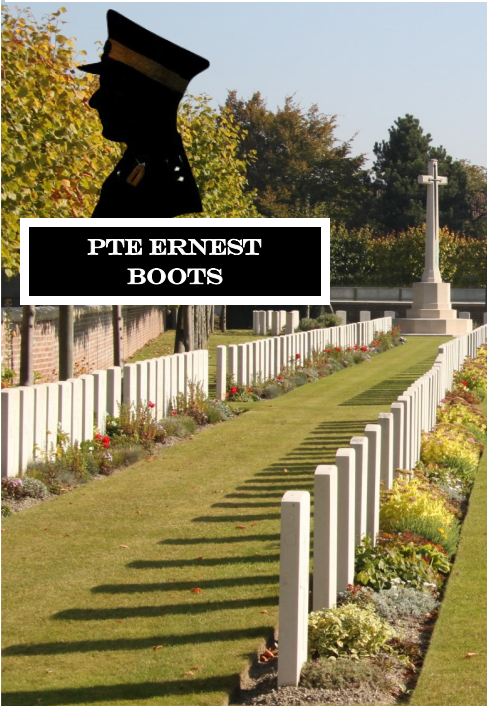
*We could never afford
to visit their graves*



**FLORENCE
BRILL**



**SARAH
BOOTS**



**PTE ERNEST
BOOTS**



Ernest Boots is buried at Maroc
British Cemetery near Loos, France



24. Look at the war graves. How do they symbolise the UK people wanted to see after WW1?

BATTLE OF THE SOMME 1916



Major Booth is buried at Serre Military Cemetery on the Somme close to where his body was found in 1917

War Office Telegram of regret 6.7.16
National Archives

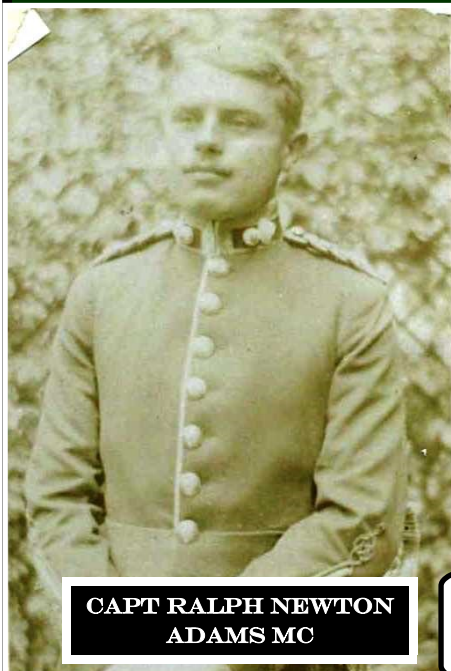
POST OFFICE (Inland Official)		TELEGRAPHS. (Telegrams only.)		No. of Telegram: <u>67145</u>
Prefix: <u>Ao</u> Code: <u>6/7/16</u>	Office of Origin and Service Instructions: <u>O. H. M. S. M. S. 3.</u> <u>C. A. S.</u>	Words: _____ Sent: _____ At: _____ M. To: _____ By: _____	I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the <u>W. O.</u> (Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>)	
Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof				Dated Stamp: _____
TO: <u>Booth Townend House, Pudsey</u>				
Deeply REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT <u>2nd Lieut. M. W. Booth</u> <u>15th West Yorkshire Regt</u> was killed in action <u>July 1st</u> . The Army Council <u>Sympathetic</u> Please inform <u>War Office</u> <u>M. S. 3</u> Casualties next of Kin of other officers				
FROM: <u>SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE.</u>				

Despite receiving a telegram to say Major was dead and being told he has a grave in France, I have never accepted that he has gone. Every night, I light a candle and leave it in the window of our home in Pudsey to guide him back home to Yorkshire.



ANNIE BOOTH

ARRAS MEMORIAL FRANCE



**CAPT RALPH NEWTON
ADAMS MC**



Arras Memorial to the Missing, France

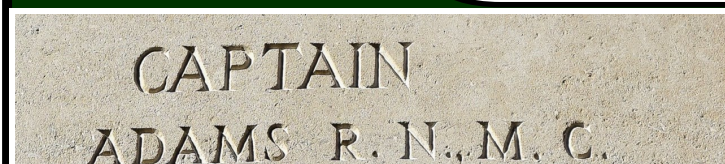
*My son's name is on
the Arras Memorial*



A new voice then spoke

*My brother Walter's
name is at Arras too.*

**2ND LT
WALTER TULL**



CAPTAIN
ADAMS R.N.M.C.

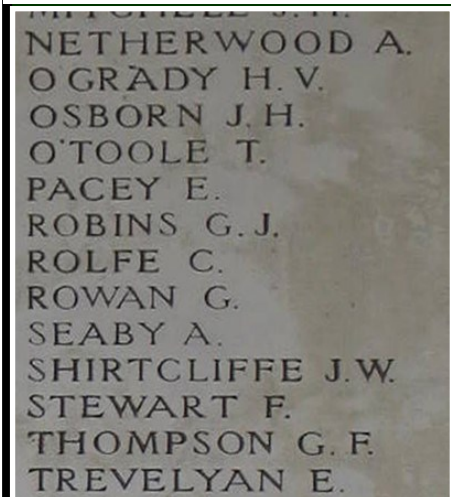


TOWGOOD A.C.
TULL W.D.J.



Pte Arthur Seaby is remembered on the Menin Gate at Ypres

*Arthur's name is on the
Menin Gate Memorial*



NETHERWOOD A.
O'GRADY H.V.
OSBORN J.H.
O'TOOLE T.
PACEY E.
ROBINS G.J.
ROLFE C.
ROWAN G.
SEABY A.
SHIRTCLIFFE J.W.
STEWART F.
THOMPSON G.F.
TREVELYAN E.



**PTE ARTHUR
SEABY**



**ARTHUR
SEABY**



**MARY
NEWTON-
ADAMS**

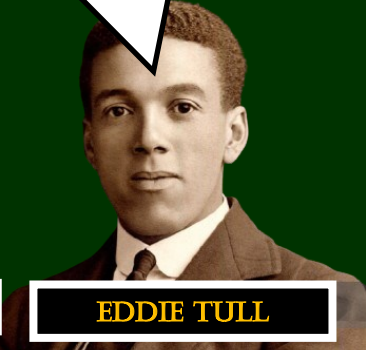
*We had no grave to
visit for our sons*

*Just as Arthur
and Mary spoke
a man stood up
to share his own
grief*

*Sorry to interrupt. I'm
Eddie Tull. My brother
Walter has no grave
too. Can I join you?*



SARAH BOOTS



EDDIE TULL

MEMORIAL TABLET



SARAH BOOTS

*Another man I'd seen in
Tufton Street had been
sitting in a corner of the
bar on his own. We had
all fallen silent in our
grief and his words broke
the silence, as we walked
to the door of the pub.*

Squire nagged and bullied till I went to fight,
(Under Lord Derby's Scheme). I died in hell—
(They called it Passchendaele). My wound was slight,
And I was hobbling back; and then a shell
Burst slick upon the duck-boards: so I fell
Into the bottomless mud, and lost the light.

At sermon-time, while Squire is in his pew,
He gives my gilded name a thoughtful stare:
For, though low down upon the list, I'm there;
'In proud and glorious memory'... that's my due.
Two bleeding years I fought in France, for Squire:
I suffered anguish that he's never guessed.
Once I came home on leave: and then went west...
What greater glory could a man desire?

SIEGFRIED SASSOON NOVEMBER 1918



I am sorry to hear that your Ernest was
nagged and bullied to join up. He wasn't
alone. I wrote a poem about those who
were bullied into joining up. It's called
'Memorial Tablet.'

SIEGFRIED SASSOON

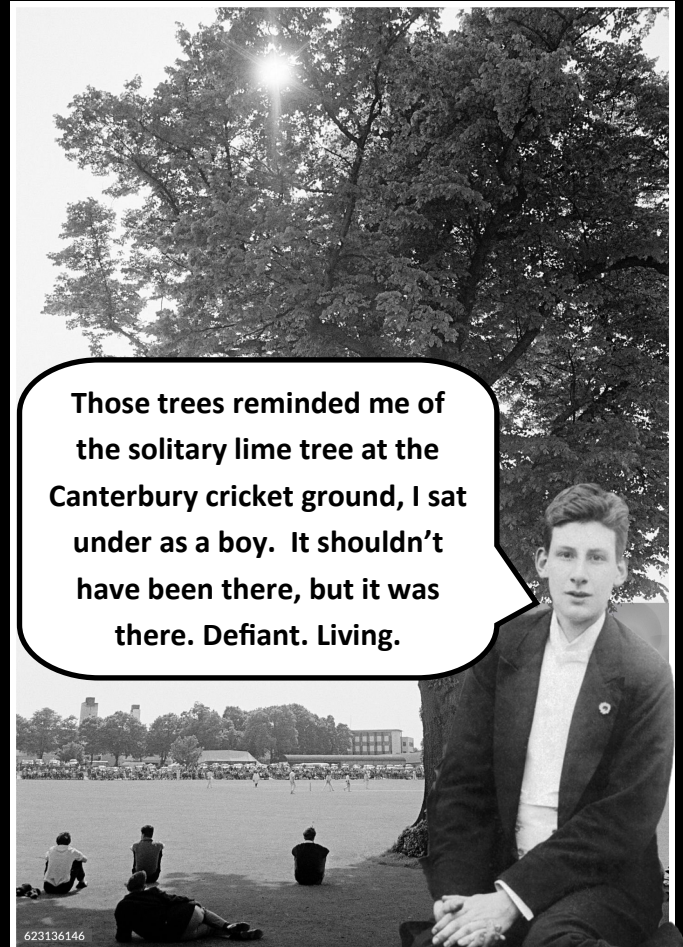
TREE OF LIFE



Ernest would never have felt alone. You see we grew like brothers. We savoured signs of life amongst the destruction, such as a tree standing defiant in No-Man's-Land.

CAPTAIN SASSOON

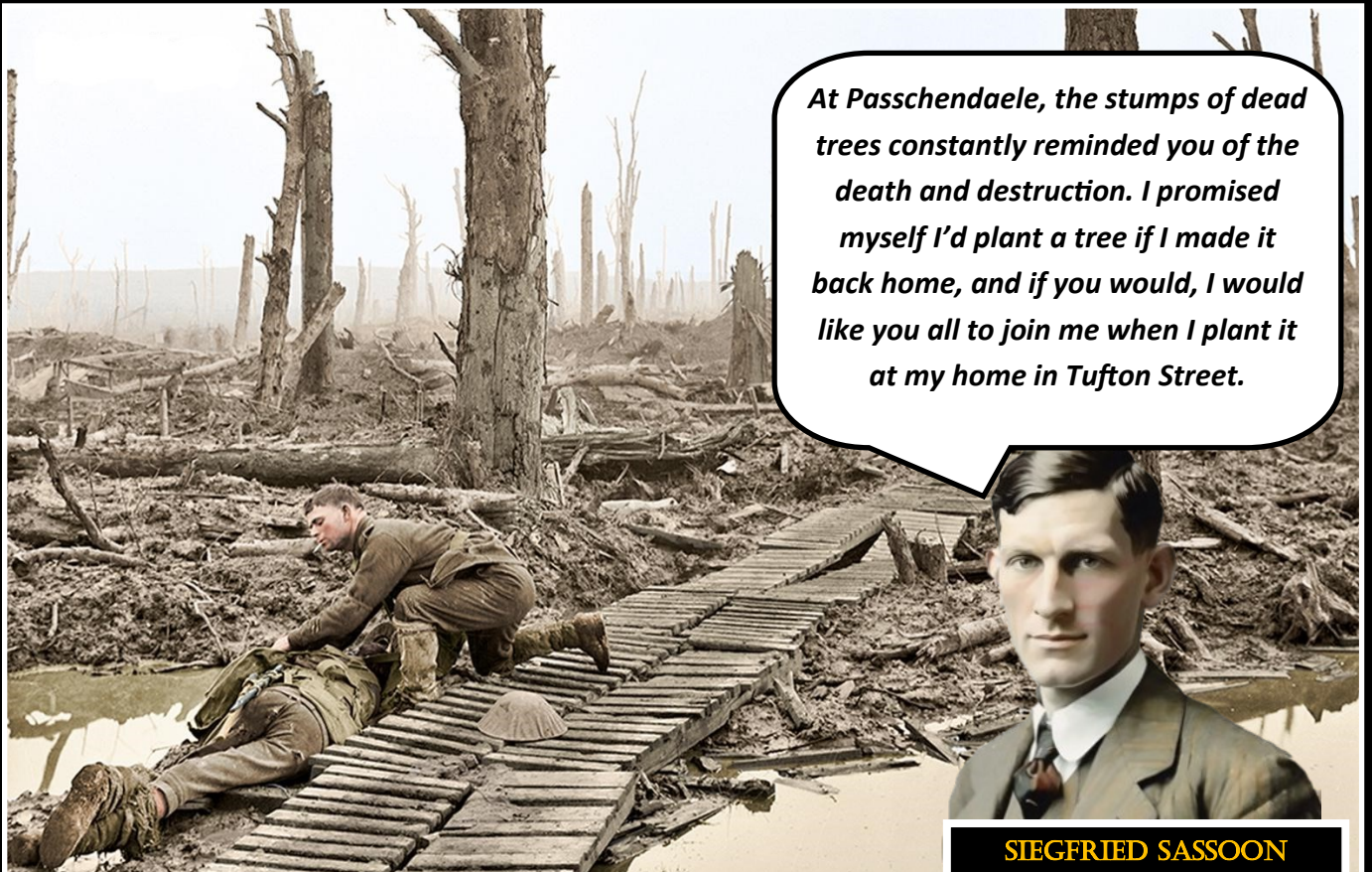
Captain Siegfried Sassoon MC served at Passchendaele



Those trees reminded me of the solitary lime tree at the Canterbury cricket ground, I sat under as a boy. It shouldn't have been there, but it was there. Defiant. Living.

623136146

The lime tree at St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury and a young Siegfried



At Passchendaele, the stumps of dead trees constantly reminded you of the death and destruction. I promised myself I'd plant a tree if I made it back home, and if you would, I would like you all to join me when I plant it at my home in Tufton Street.

SIEGFRIED SASSOON

'I died in Hell they called it Passchendaele.' The duckboard paths of Passchendaele 1917 IWM

THE SASSOON TREE

*The man's name was
Siegfried Sassoon,
Everyone followed him to
his back garden in Tufton
Street to see him plant his
memorial tree.*

*'Have you forgotten yet?...
Look down, and swear by the slain of the War
that you'll never forget.'*

SIEGFRIED SASSOON TUFTON STREET 1919

Ralph Newton-Adams

James Brill

Major Booth



Arthur Seaby

Richard Seaby

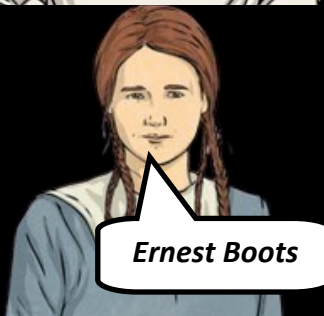
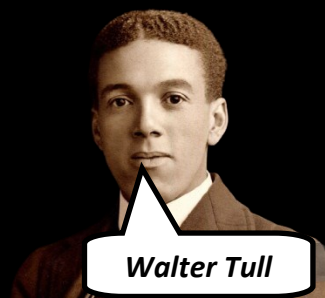


*Someone once told me that
you die twice. Once when you
stop breathing and once when
your name is spoken for the
very last time. Ladies and
gentleman, as we plant this
tree, say your loved one's
name and bring them
back to life.*

Walter Tull

Ernest Boots

Colonel D'Arcy Hall



ABIDE WITH ME



ABIDE WITH ME

1 Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with
5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom
and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks
and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.



X THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS X
X FOREVER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS X
BENEATH THIS STONE RESTS THE BODY
OF A BRITISH WARRIOR
UNKNOWN BY NAME OR RANK
BROUGHT FROM FRANCE TO LIE AMONG
THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS OF THE LAND
AND BURIED HERE ON ARMISTICE DAY
11 NOV: 1920. IN THE PRESENCE OF
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V
HIS MINISTERS OF STATE
THE CHIEFS OF HIS FORCES
AND A VAST CONCOURSE OF THE NATION
THUS ARE COMMEMORATED THE MANY
MULTITUDES WHO DURING THE GREAT
WAR OF 1914-1918 GAVE THE MOST THAT
MAN CAN GIVE LIFE ITSELF
FOR GOD
FOR KING AND COUNTRY
FOR LOVED ONES HOME AND EMPIRE
FOR THE SACRED CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND
THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD
THEY BURIED HIM AMONG THE KINGS BECAUSE HE
HAD DONE GOOD TOWARD GOD AND TOWARD
HIS HOUSE
X

The Grave of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey

PETER DANIEL

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
**KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA**

2024



City of Westminster