

A Story of Women's Suffrage

Lorna Robinson

Illustrated by

Soham De

VOTES FOR WOMEN





My name is Annie Kenney. I was born on the thirteenth of September, 1879. I started working in the cotton mill when I was only ten years old – probably younger than you are now. At first, I only worked part time, and still went to school, but by the time I was thirteen I worked there all the time, from six in the morning. They were long days. My job was to assist the weavers by fitting the bobbins, and checking when the fleece broke. I don't know if you've ever seen a bobbin when it's spinning – they spin really fast! One time, my finger got ripped clean off when I was trying to attend to the broken bit of fleece.

We had a tough life, but I believed that working girls and boys, women and men should be educated, and I campaigned for literature education for millworkers like me. But it's not that story I am here to tell you.

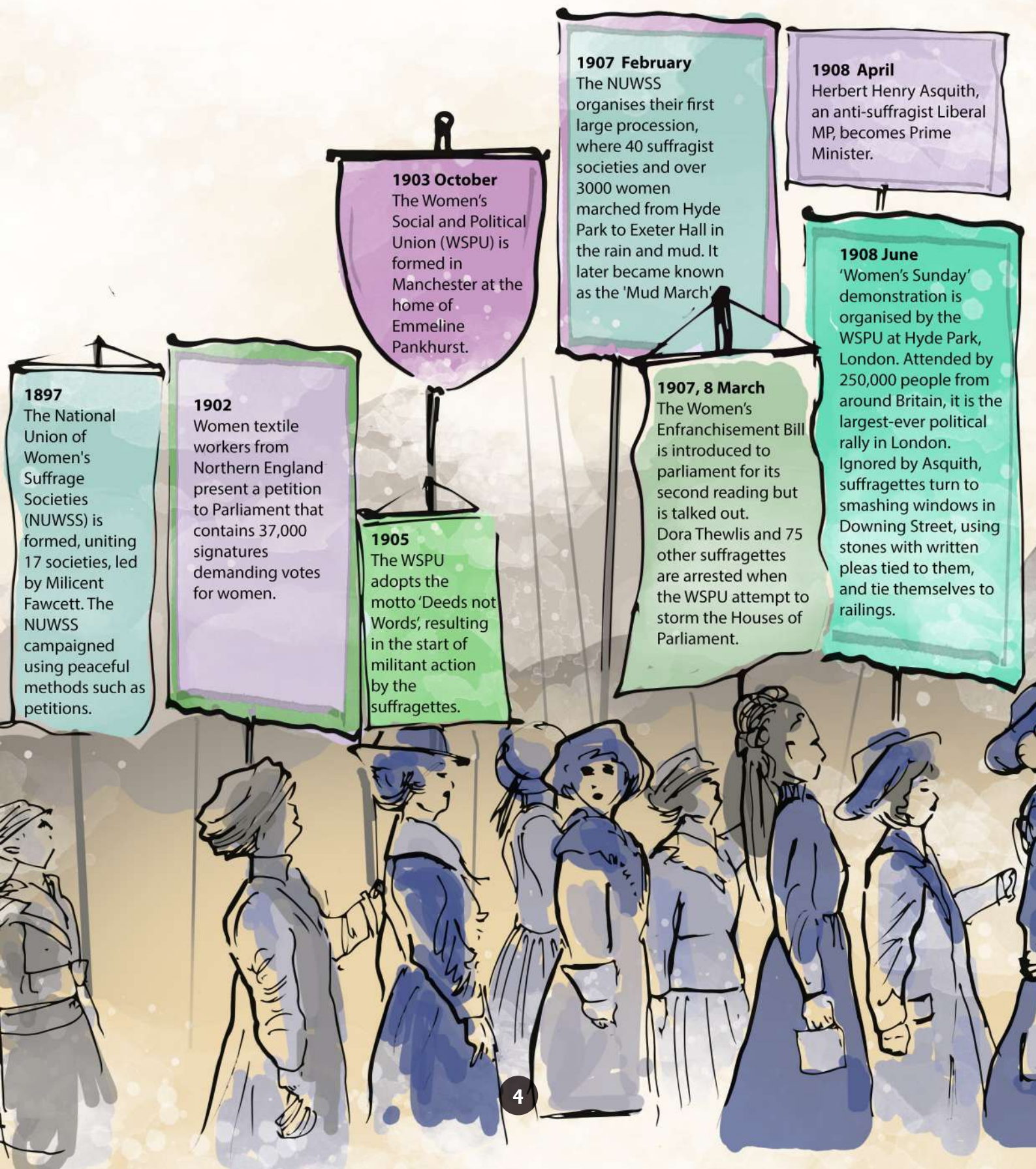
I'm here to tell you the story of a movement that changed the face of Britain, and I'm proud that I was a part of it. It was the fight for women to have the right to vote. That's what "suffrage" means – the right to vote, and when I was a young woman, women were not entitled to vote, for the simple reason that they were born female.

I died a long time ago, but through artefacts from my time – written records, photographs and objects of all kinds – people are able to find out about our fight for justice.

Each section of this story is built around an object in the Rumble Museum's collection. I hope you will enjoy this journey into my past...



Women's Suffrage Timeline



1908 July

The Women's National Anti-Suffrage League (WASL) is formed by Mrs Humphrey Ward.

1913 April

The 'Cat and Mouse' Act is introduced (officially titled Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill Health) Act). It allows authorities to temporarily release suffragettes on hunger strike, and then re-arrest them once they have recuperated.

1914 June

Emily Wilding Davison is killed after she steps out in front of the King's horse at Epsom Derby. Thousands attend her funeral.

1914 July

The outbreak of World War One brings a suspension to the WSPU's and NUWSS's campaigns. Women are urged to support the war effort, and they do, as during this period nearly 5 million women remain or enter into employment.

1918 February

The Representation of the People Bill is passed, allowing women over the age of 30 and men over the age of 21 to vote. Women have to be married to or a member of the Local Government Register.

1918

December 14th

Women vote in a general election for the first time.

1928 July

The Representation of the People Act entitles everyone over the age of 21 to vote.

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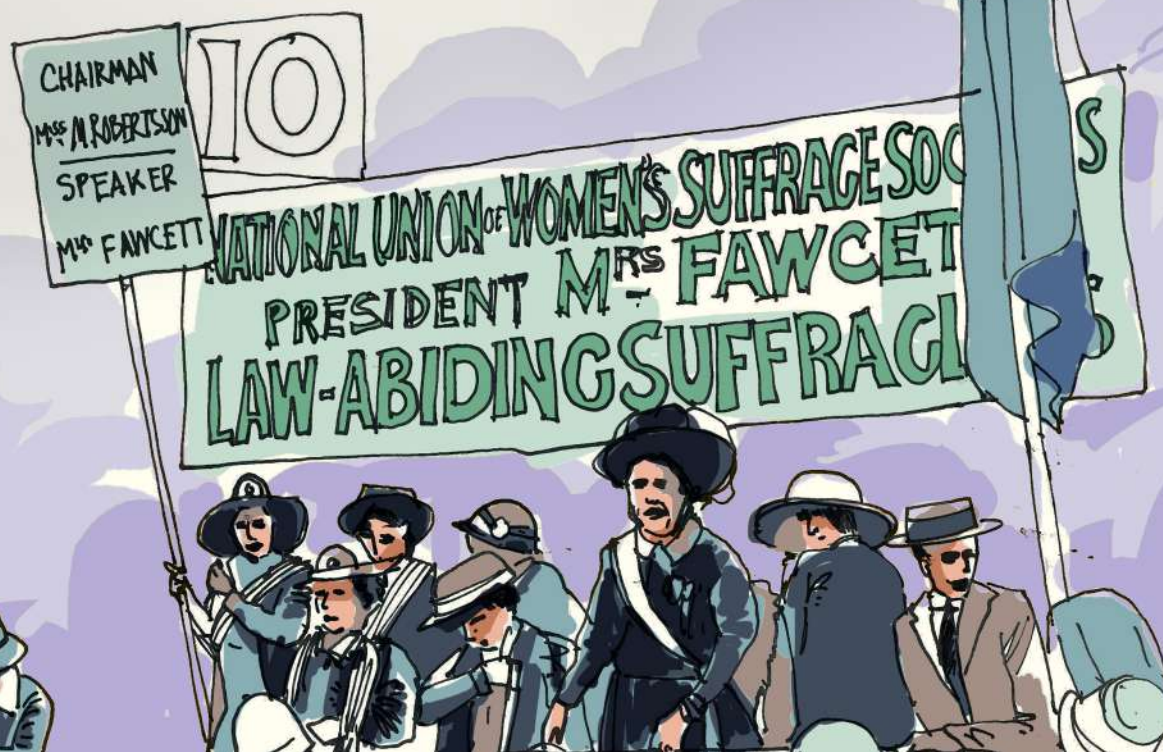
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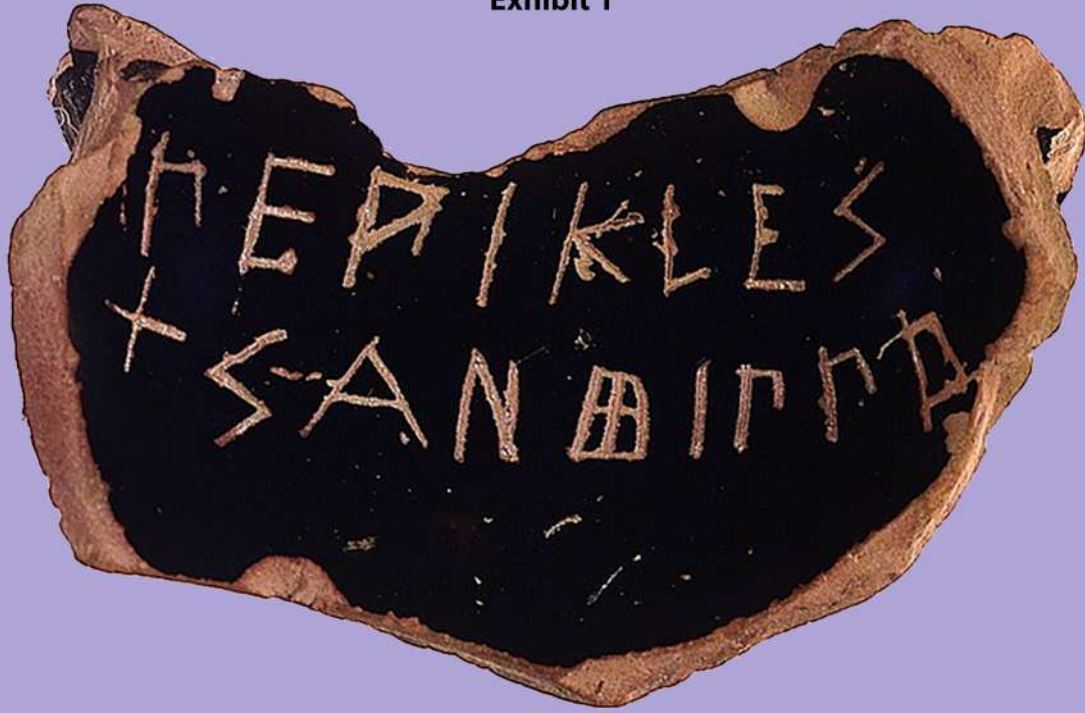
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The First Voters

Exhibit 1



More than two thousand years before my time, in a city called Athens, in Greece, the people who lived there came upon a brilliant idea for running a society which, as far as we know, no one had ever come up with before. They invented something called "democracy". This word comes from two words which the Ancient Greeks used:

δημος κράτος

Using the Greek key at the back of the book, can you work out how to pronounce these words, and guess at what they mean?

Democracy was a revolutionary idea that was a first and very big step in making society more equal. In Ancient Athens, ordinary people were able to vote on how their city was run. In the past, these decisions were taken by rich and powerful kings but now many more people had a say. Not everyone could vote, though. Slaves were not able to vote, nor were people who were not born in Athens (known by the Athenians as "metics"). And, finally, women were not able to vote at all!



The object you saw overleaf was called an "ostrakon", which means "a piece of broken pottery". Archaeologists have found lots of these sorts of pieces, and they usually have letters on them. Here are other examples of ostraca (this is the plural of "ostrakon"). Can you work out what the letters inscribed on them say?



Ostracism

One of the most interesting aspects of Athenian democracy was a practice called "ostracism".

Every year the Athenians had the opportunity to hold an ostracism, where a citizen could be voted to be banished from the city. These pieces of pottery (ostraka) were used to record the names. At least 6000 votes were needed to banish a citizen.

Why do you think the Athenians had this process?



Activity

Create your own "ostrakon". You can make it out of card, paper or clay. If you are using clay, you will need to shape it into a fragment of pottery large enough to write on. Wait for it to dry. You can then paint it. Once the paint has dried, you can inscribe capital letters in Greek of the name of the politician you want to ostracise! I can think of a few politicians I would have gladly ostracised in my time...



Chapter Two:

The Suffragists

Exhibit 2



Moving forward over 2000 years, to my own time, in the late nineteenth century, an awful lot had changed. For a start, women all wore hats! Women were also no longer confined to domestic roles, but many took on jobs and earned their own salaries. I worked from the age of ten in a cotton mill in Yorkshire. By the time I was thirteen I was working twelve hour shifts which started at six in the morning!

Here is an illustration of women mill workers from my time.





Despite these changes, though, one very important thing had not changed in all those years since the Ancient Athenians first introduced democracy. Women were still not able to vote!

Although we earned our own money, paid taxes to the government, we were not allowed to have a say in what the government did with that money. As a young girl growing up and working hard, I felt that was very unfair.

I wasn't the only one. Before I tell you more about women and the vote, though, I want to tell you about some events that took place a number of years before I was born. Here is an illustration of one of these events. What do you think is happening in this illustration?



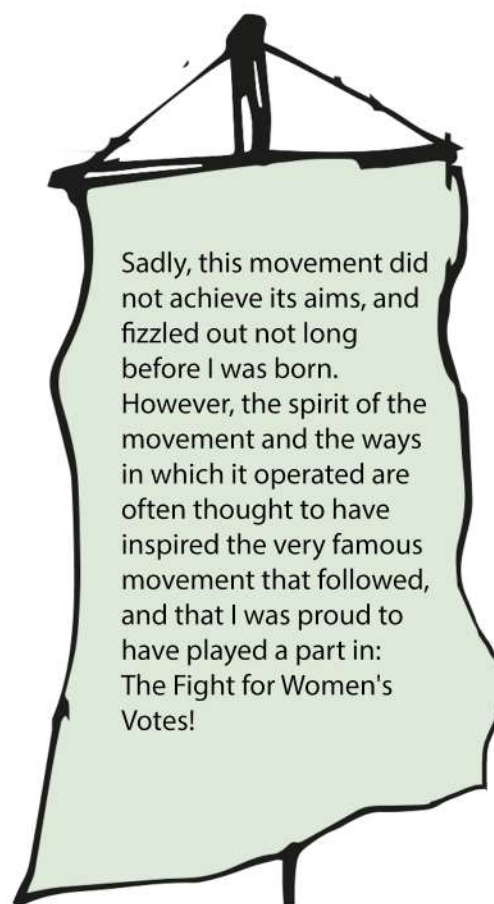
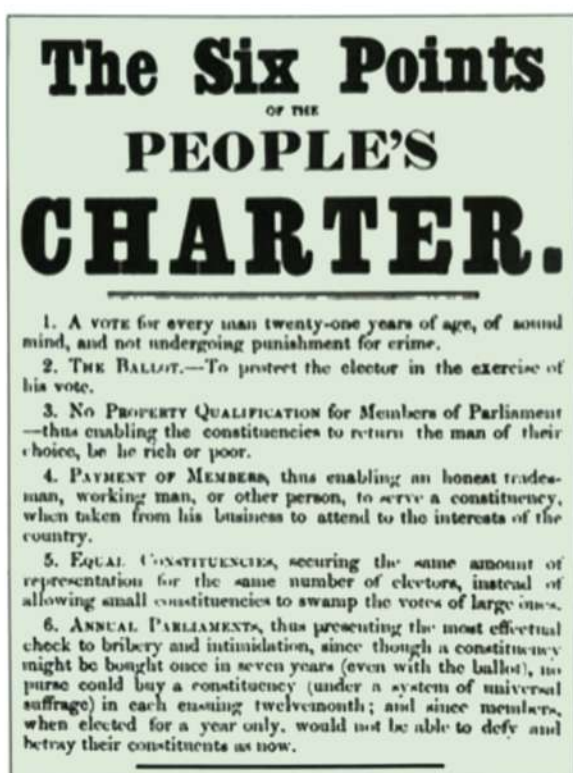


This is an illustration of The Great Charter Procession at Blackfriars in London in 1848. As you can see, all the men in my time wore hats too! It was a procession of men who wanted working class men to have the right to vote.

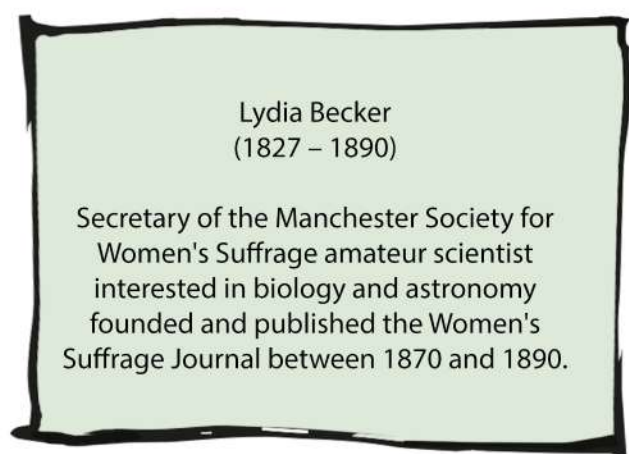
In 1832, men with property were granted the right to vote, but not men from different social classes. When I talk about working class men and women, I mean ordinary people like me who worked in factories and other, similar jobs to make a living, and who did not have family money and property to fall back on.

They organised a movement called the Chartist Movement. Here are two documents from the Movement. What do they tell you about the nature and the aims of the movement?





In the mid to late nineteenth century, amidst all that hat wearing, Victorian women were beginning to be stirred by a spirit of change. Groups of women started to form societies – there was the first Ladies Discussion Group, the Manchester Society for Women's Suffrage, the Edinburgh Society for Women's Suffrage, and all sorts of other political organisations began to spring up like shoots. These organisations were led by brave women who believed that things could be different. You can see some of these women recorded on the banners on these pages.



Exhibits 3 & 4:

In our Rumble Museum Collection, there is a flier advertising a meeting from a local suffrage society, and a membership card. What information can you find on these two artefacts and what does it tell you about the society's aims and ideals?



It was not until 1897 that these many different groups and societies run by women across Britain finally merged into one big union, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, which was led by a very impressive person whom you may even have heard of, called Millicent Fawcett.

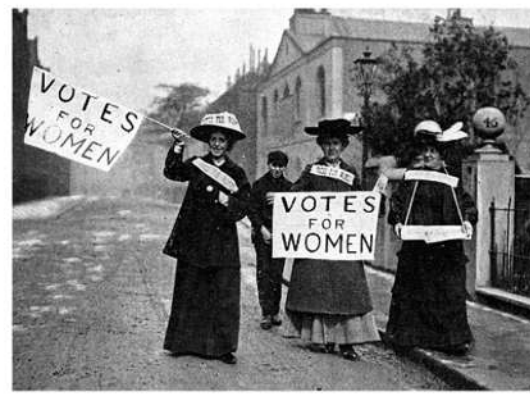
Here is a the statue of Millicent Fawcett which was unveiled in February 2018 in Trafalgar Square in London. What do you think about it?

Activity:

What can you find out about the life of Millicent Fawcett? Create your own biography of Millicent's life.



The NUWSS continued to campaign in the ways the smaller groups had done. A mixture of petitions, letters to politicians, and peaceful demonstrations. Millicent Fawcett organised a huge demonstration in 1907 where over 3000 women marched from Hyde Park to a place called Exeter Hall carrying all sorts of banners. Here are some images of the march, which became known as the "Mud March" since the weather was so awful. It would take a lot more than weather to stop women marching for their rights...



Activities:

Design and make your own suffrage banner! You can make a simple banner using wooden sticks, sellotape, card and felt-tips. What will your banner say? How will you decorate it? If you feel more ambitious, you can try making it out of fabric and embroider your slogan.

Choose a suffrage campaigner and make a museum display board about her or him. What information will you pick out, and how will you lay it out in a way that is accessible and interesting to a museum visitor?



The Suffragettes

Exhibit 5:

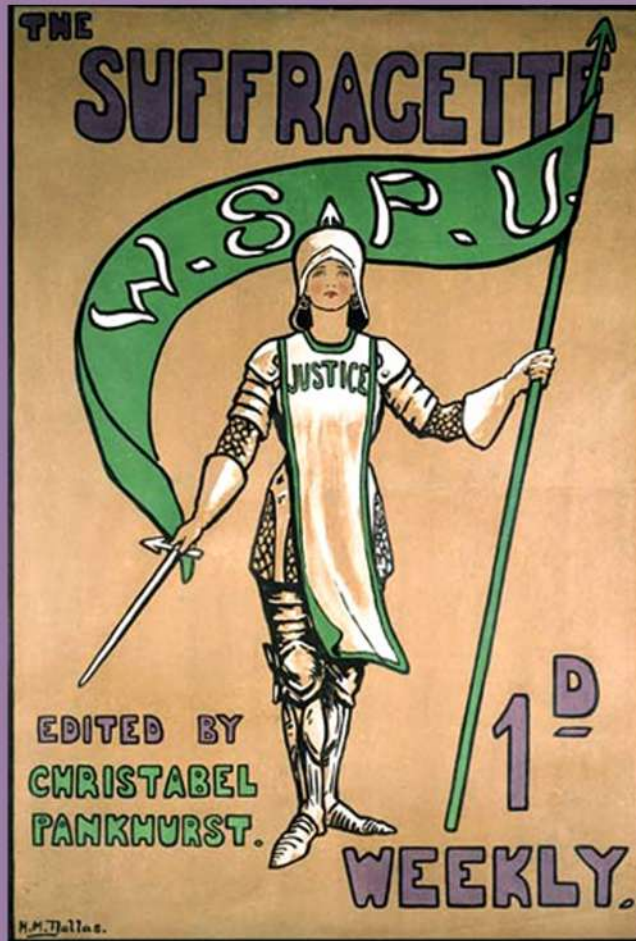


The suffragists had been campaigning hard for many years to achieve their aims, but despite all the marches and letters, petitions and meetings, nothing seemed to have happened at all. Many of us felt that the government were not listening, because it was not in their interests to do so. Women voters, after all, may benefit the other party, so why take the risk?



In 1903, a group of women split away from the NUWSS and formed their own group, which was called "The Women's Social and Political Union" or the WSPU.

Below you can see a publicity image created by the WSPU. What does it tell you about how they saw themselves and how they wanted others to see them?



You'll notice that it mentions Christabel Pankhurst. Christabel was the daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst. Emmeline is probably the most famous women of the suffrage movement. She and two of her daughters, Christabel and Sylvia, created the WSPU. I remember in 1905 that my sister Jessie and I went to hear Christabel speak about women's rights at a Labour Party meeting. She was so inspiring!

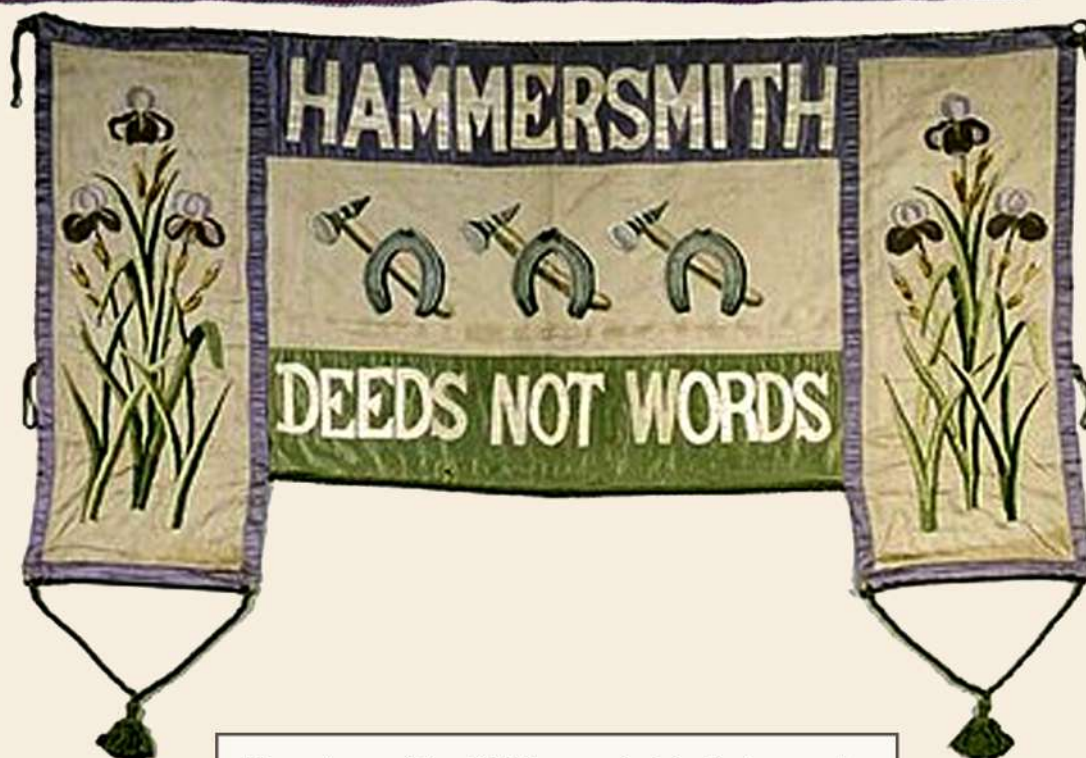
I joined the WSPU not long afterwards.

Emmeline Pankhurst

1858 – 1928

Political activist and leader of the WSPU, she worked as a Poor Law Guardian was shocked at the conditions of the workhouses.

Have a look at some of these banners from the WSPU. What do you notice about them?



The colours of the WSPU were decided to be purple, white and green – purple to represent dignity, white for purity and green for hope.



Emmeline came up with the phrase "Deeds Not Words" for our motto, and this was to show that the old ways, of peaceful, polite petitions were not working, so something more proactive needed to be done. I'm proud to say that it was myself and Christabel who really took the WSPU campaign to the next level.

It was 15th October, 1905. Christabel and I had gone to a meeting in London to hear Sir Edward Grey, a minister for the Liberal government. We were feeling emboldened and kept calling out "Will the Liberal Government give votes to women?". Some policemen tried to throw us out, and there was a bit of a scuffle. We were arrested for violence and told we had to pay five shillings. Of course, we refused to pay, and that meant that we were sent to prison. It was the first time that women had used any sort of aggression in the battle for the vote. Our society had much more fixed ideas of what it meant to be a woman than yours does, and so for women to use any sort of violence was seen as especially shocking.



Being in prison for that first time was strange and frightening. I barely ate or drank, but sat there in my prison outfit feeling numb and out-of-place. Little did we know then that this one act changed the face of the movement. The women of the WSPU started to use new tactics to spread the word. These images show some of the things we did:





We also did things like pouring ink into post boxes. I am sure this all sounds dreadful to you, but you must remember that we felt we had no choice, and that there was no other way to be listened to.

Lots of newspapers started reported on what we were doing and one journalist came up with a new word for women like me: he called us "suffragettes". It was meant to undermine us, as adding -ette on the end of words is something called a "diminutive", which emphasises that something is small and feminine. We claimed the label as our own, though and we proudly called ourselves the Suffragettes!



We even named our own newspaper after it. Here is the edition in the Rumble Museum's collection:
Exhibit 6:



Activity

What other examples of activities can you find of suffragette action? Do you think our action was justified? You could have a debate with your class and write speeches before and against.



Chapter Four:

Cat and Mouse

Exhibit 7:



This is one of the badges we WSPU members (or suffragettes as we were now mostly called) used to represent our cause. What do you notice about it?

It won't be a surprise to you that there were hundreds of suffragette arrests during those years. Some of us were arrested many times. Here are some pictures of suffragettes being arrested or in prison:



In this one, suffragettes are still bravely waving their banners from the windows!



We had to be brave, because being in prison was so awful. There were lots of reports of mistreatment. We were treated as criminals rather than as political prisoners, which caused a lot of anger. Here are some extracts from prison diaries to give you an idea of what it was like:



Katherine Gatty:

"It was ghastly! The lavatory accommodation was absolutely inadequate. The whole block was infested with mice & co. – there was no heating apparatus at all".

Kathleen Emerson

"THE WOMEN IN PRISON"

Oh, Holloway, grim Holloway,
With grey, forbidding towers! Stern are they walls, but sterner still
Is woman's free, unconquered will. And though to-day and yesterday Brought long
and lonely hours, Those hours spent in captivity Are stepping-stones to liberty."

Mary Nesbitt:

"I was deeply impressed by the wonderful spirit of loyalty and love for the cause and for our leaders – all, irrespective of class, creed or age, were unwavering".

Katherine Gatty:

"One day we had – that was rather pretty & very clever – a Fancy Dress Ball. The girl who put on a brown paper hat & folded her arms like Napoleon, was most clever ... Another day we had a contested general election, using our slates as sandwich men. The candidates (four girls) were "chained" – the aged electors ... we carried to the poll. The ... speeches, the election addresses, the canvassing & (I regret to say) the bribery & corruption were all realistic!"



What do these diary entries tell you about what life was like in prison for us suffragettes?

We had a strong sense of pride and hope, as well as a feeling that we were part of a family. When we came out of prison, we would have a special meal at a beautiful venue – something women like me just weren't used to – and we were given medals like the one below to show that we had served our time.

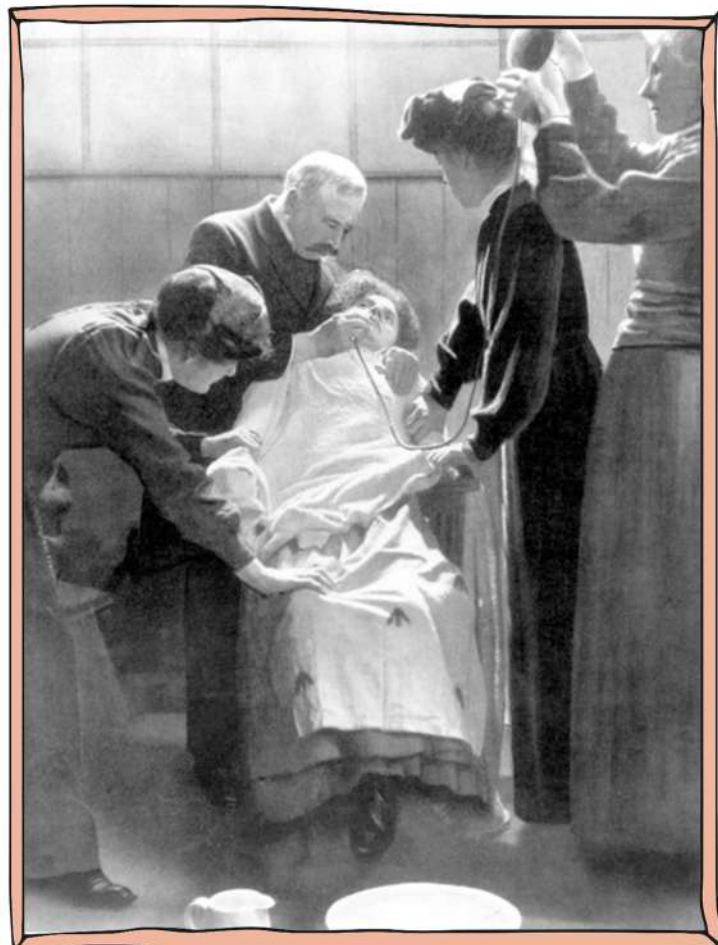
Why do you think the WSPU gave out medals to the suffragettes who had been in prison?



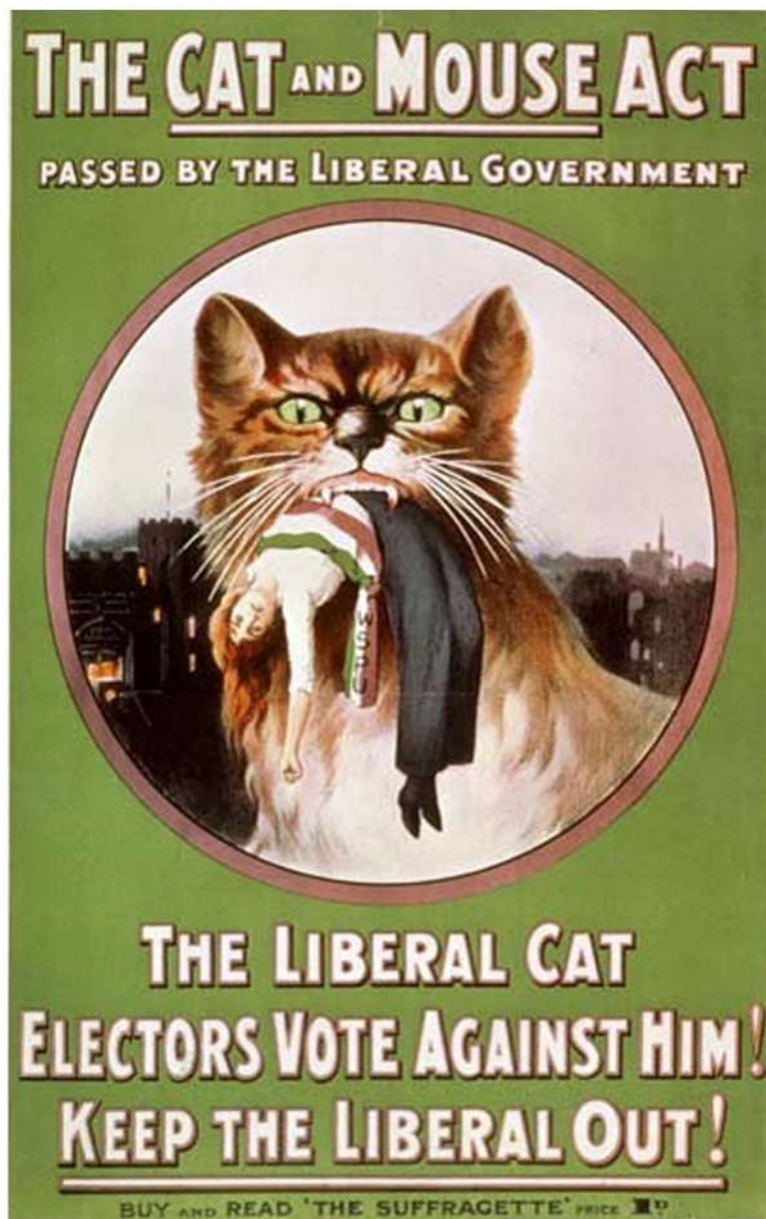
As you can see, the medal had a round metal circle at the end with "hunger strike" engraved onto its surface. A number of suffragettes like myself started refusing to eat while in prison as a protest. This worried the authorities a lot. The last thing they wanted was for one of us to die in prison, so they started force-feeding us, which was a very grim process. Here is how one suffragette described it:

May Billinghurst:

"[They] forced a tube up my nostril; it was frightful agony, as my nostril is small. I coughed it up so that it didn't go down my throat. They then were going to try the other nostril, which, I believe is a little deformed. They forced my mouth open with an iron instrument, and poured some food into my mouth. They pinched my nose and throat to make me swallow."



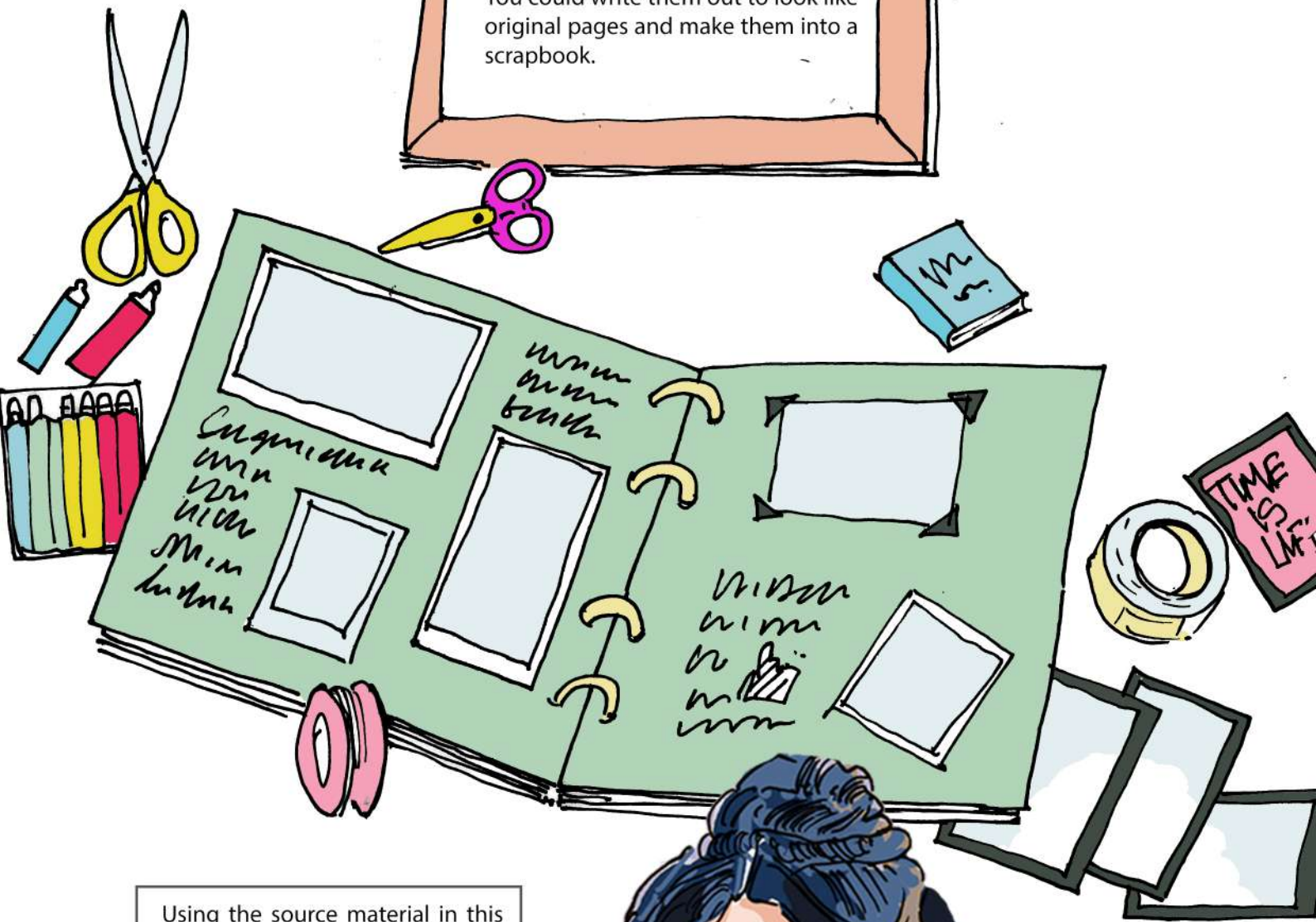
Force-feeding, often several times a day, was dangerous in itself, and eventually the government became so afraid of one of us dying in prison and becoming a martyr to the causes that they passed something which became known as the Cat and Mouse Act. Its official name was the "1913 Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-Health) Act". This meant that prisoners who were on hunger strike and were weakened could be released until they got better, and then taken back to serve the rest of their sentence. Here is a poster we made in protest against this act



Can you explain the images used and what they represent?

Activities

There are lots of extracts from suffragette prison diaries. I've only had time to include a few here, but perhaps you can do your own investigations to find other extracts. You could write them out to look like original pages and make them into a scrapbook.



Using the source material in this chapter, as well as any other source material you have researched, you could write your own imagined diary of a suffragette in prison, carefully basing your ideas on what has been written in historical diaries.



Chapter Five:

The King's Horse

Exhibit 5:



One of the most committed and independent-spirited of our group of suffragettes was a woman called Emily Wilding Davison. She joined the WSPU in 1906. Before that, she had enrolled at St Hugh's College, Oxford where she studied English and got a "first" in her exams, but was not able to get a degree, since women weren't able to get degrees in our time. She also went to Royal Holloway, before becoming a teacher. She became a steward during marches, but it wasn't long before she made a name for herself for daring tactics. These initially included things like smashing windows, and she even hid in the Palace of Westminster overnight when there was a census, so she could be recorded by the census as having been there!

She also came up with the idea of setting fire to post boxes.



A census is a way of getting information about people and governments frequently organise them to collect all sorts of information, including where you stayed on a particular night.

She was arrested nine times, and force-fed forty-nine times. There were few of us who could keep up with her! At one point while in prison, she tried to take her own life by jumping from a balcony in Holloway Prison. She didn't die then but injured herself badly and was in pain for the rest of her life as a result. She said about it at the time:



"I did it deliberately and with all my power, because I felt that by nothing but the sacrifice of human life would the nation be brought to realise the horrible torture our women face!"



One June day in 1913, Emily did something completely unexpected. You may have seen the photograph below, which captures the moment in time.



What does it look like has happened?

You may already know as it has become such a famous story in your time. It was the day of the Epsom Derby, 4th June. This was a very important horse race, where all the important people in society attended, including the Royal Family. The King had entered a horse for the race, called Anmer, ridden by a jockey called Herbert Jones.



As the King's horse was galloping round the corner, Emily appeared to run in front of the horse. The horse ploughed straight into her, fell over and threw its jockey onto the ground. You can watch the newsreel footage of the event.



Both Emily and the Jockey were taken to hospital. People were very unsure what to think. Some people believed that she had thought all the horses had gone past and was simply trying to cross the track. Others thought that they had heard someone shouting out "Votes for Women" just before it happened, and that she had intentionally thrown herself in front of the horse to sacrifice her life for the cause.



I think that in your time they have used special technology to examine the footage, and that it now appears that she clearly stops and tries to touch the horse's reins. The jockey also recalled this when he was recovering in hospital. The jockey recovered fully, and was back racing within a fortnight, but I'm sad to say that Emily never regained consciousness and she died from her injuries four days later.



SENSATIONAL DERBY.

SUFFRAGIST'S MAD ACT.

KING'S HORSE BROUGHT DOWN.

WOMAN AND JOCKEY INJURED.

An extraordinary incident marked the race for the Derby yesterday afternoon. As the horses were making for Tattenham Corner a woman rushed out on the course in front of the King's horse Anmer, and put her hands above her head. The horse knocked her down, and then turned a complete somersault on its jockey, Herbert Jones. When the animal recovered itself Jones was dragged a few yards. He is suffering from concussion, and the woman, who had a Suffragist flag wrapped round her waist, and whose name is Emily Wilding Davison, is in a very serious condition in Epsom Cottage Hospital. The King made immediate inquiries regarding his jockey, who has no bones broken.

Here are two newspaper articles about the event.



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s (just as it is to-day
k nurses). The guild
account of mistresses
control over bad ones
uniforms from their
would break down if
because society would
ust as it would if the
to be a badge of skill
him reasonable limits
ttained. The idea is,
he sense that only a
onality, a Florence
a Miss Beale, could
the service of sick-
ago was scarcely less
actory than domestic
the changes in it asso-
ction of a uniformed
rmously improved two
ality of the nursing

A Horrible Responsibility.

THE death of Miss Davison, the suffragist who threw herself in front of a horse in the Derby, is hideous in its tragic futility. No one, at any rate no one who has ever let a runaway horse pass him in the street, can dare to say that her act was not one of high courage and resolution. But all this moral force and physical daring was not merely poured out to waste. It was spent on the immediate baseness of endangering the life of a stranger, a fellow-creature inoffensively going about the work of his own trade. And it was spent, too, on sinking into odium and disrepute the very cause which this unhappy lady had wished to serve. Had she spent the hour within which the Derby was run in making a suffrage speech at a street corner in a London slum she would have been alive now and

transcontinental trace

Lord Rendel's Ins,

A correspondent who suggested to the late Rendel's first address: Montgomeryshire was Methodist ministers ce was untrue. But the Rendel had contrived nationalism unaided. Lord Rendel's sympat Welsh mind and char to his friendship with Humphreys-Owen, t squire, who succeeded They became insepar through Mr. Humph through any other me gained that inner ac Welsh point of view speeches and writings. had retired Lord Ren gestion a short accoun and when it was abou he was leaving for a



What indications do these newspaper articles tell you about the public mood?

Despite this sort of public reaction, Emily's funeral was watched by 50 000 people who lined the route from Epsom to London. Thousands of women and hundreds of men joined the procession.

Here is a photograph of the event:



Her body was then taken to Morpeth in Northumberland, where it was buried.

Even in your time, there is still much debate about Emily's death. Some think that she intended to martyr herself. Others thought that she intended to put a suffrage flag around the neck of the king's horse. One important piece of evidence is this ticket, found in her pocket:

This return ticket, plus the lack of a note, and evidence of arrangements she had made to see people in the following weeks, all suggest that she might not have intended to die.



Activity:

Write your own newspaper account of Emily Wilding Davison's funeral. Which details will you pick out? What tone and angle will your article have?



Chapter Six:

Men & Women Against the Vote

Exhibit 8:



What do you think about this postcard? What message do you think it is trying to convey? Who do you think made it and why?

There were many politicians of my time who were fervently against the vote for a variety of different reasons.

Here are some of the arguments taken from Houses of Parliament records in 1917.



Sir James Grant, MP for Whitehaven

"Men have the vote and the power at the present moment; I say for Heaven's sake let us keep it.

"We are controlled and worried enough by women at the present time, and I have heard no reason why we should alter the present state of affairs."

Rowland Hunt, MP for Ludlow

"There are obvious disadvantages about having women in Parliament. I do not know what is going to be done about their hats.

"How is a poor little man to get on with a couple of women wearing enormous hats in front of him?"

Frederick Banbury, MP for City of London

"Women are likely to be affected by gusts and waves of sentiment.

"Their emotional temperament makes them so liable to it. But those are not the people best fitted in this practical world either to sit in this House... or to be entrusted with the immense power which this bill gives them."

Sir Charles Hobhouse, MP for Bristol East and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

"You have at the present moment certain statistics which show that both the birth and marriage rate are decreasing.

"Can you adopt at this time a policy which might mean an immense destruction of the population of the country which it is essential should not only be retained, but increased."

What do you think to these? I know what I thought. It made me very angry.

It may not have surprised you that some powerful men were against the idea of women voting. What may surprise you is that there were many women who were fiercely opposed to women getting the vote too!



In July 1908, an organisation called the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League was set up as a response to the campaign for Votes for Women. Many of the women involved were very educated women. Here is one of their posters:



What information does it tell us about their view on the suffrage movement?
Why might women not want other women to vote?

What followed was a propaganda campaign, and below you can see some of the many posters produced by the anti-suffrage movement to persuade the public that women should not get the vote.

2WNA/0/05

Women do **NOT** want Votes.

10,000 Women and Girls are said to have joined in the Procession. The adult female population of Great Britain is 11,000,000.

In 50 years of work and an enormous expenditure of money, the Suffragists have never presented to Parliament any great Petition. The Anti-Suffrage League Petition numbered : : :

337,018

women's names collected in ten months.

Women's National Anti-Suffrage League, Caxton House.
Men's League for opposing Woman Suffrage, Palace Chambers, Bridge Street, S.W.
Printed and Published by DAVID ALLEN & SONS, Ltd., Walsby, Widdowson, Widdowson.



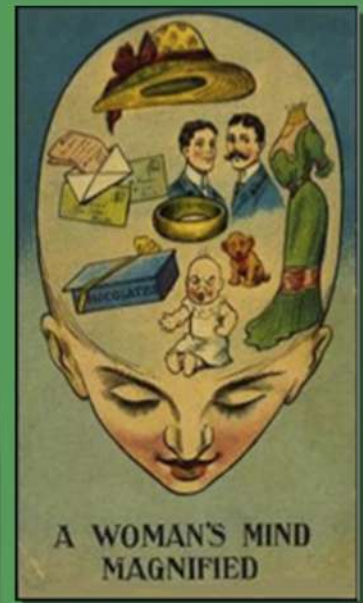
Mary Augusta Ward CBE (née Arnold; 11 June 1851 – 24 March 1920) was a British novelist who wrote under her married name as Mrs Humphry Ward.

She worked to improve education for the poor and she became the founding President of the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League.

What followed was a propaganda campaign, and below you can see some of the many posters produced by the anti-suffrage movement to persuade the public that women should not get the vote.



Anti-suffrage posters



What does these images show? Why do you think these particular images have been used? Can you group them into types of argument?

What was interesting about this is that the suffrage movement responded to this propaganda by producing their own:



What does these images show?

Why do you think they have been chosen by the suffrage movement?

As you can see, the suffrage movement picked up on the messages in the anti-suffrage movement and responded by using those same arguments to defend the right of women to vote. So when the anti-suffrage movement pointed out that a woman's place was in the home, the suffrage movement said that this was all the more reason why women should vote – so that women could represent the needs of home life!



Activity:
Design a postcard
advocating women's right
to vote!



Chapter Seven:

World War One & Victory

Exhibit 9:

You may recognise this object as a shell, used as a weapon in World War One.



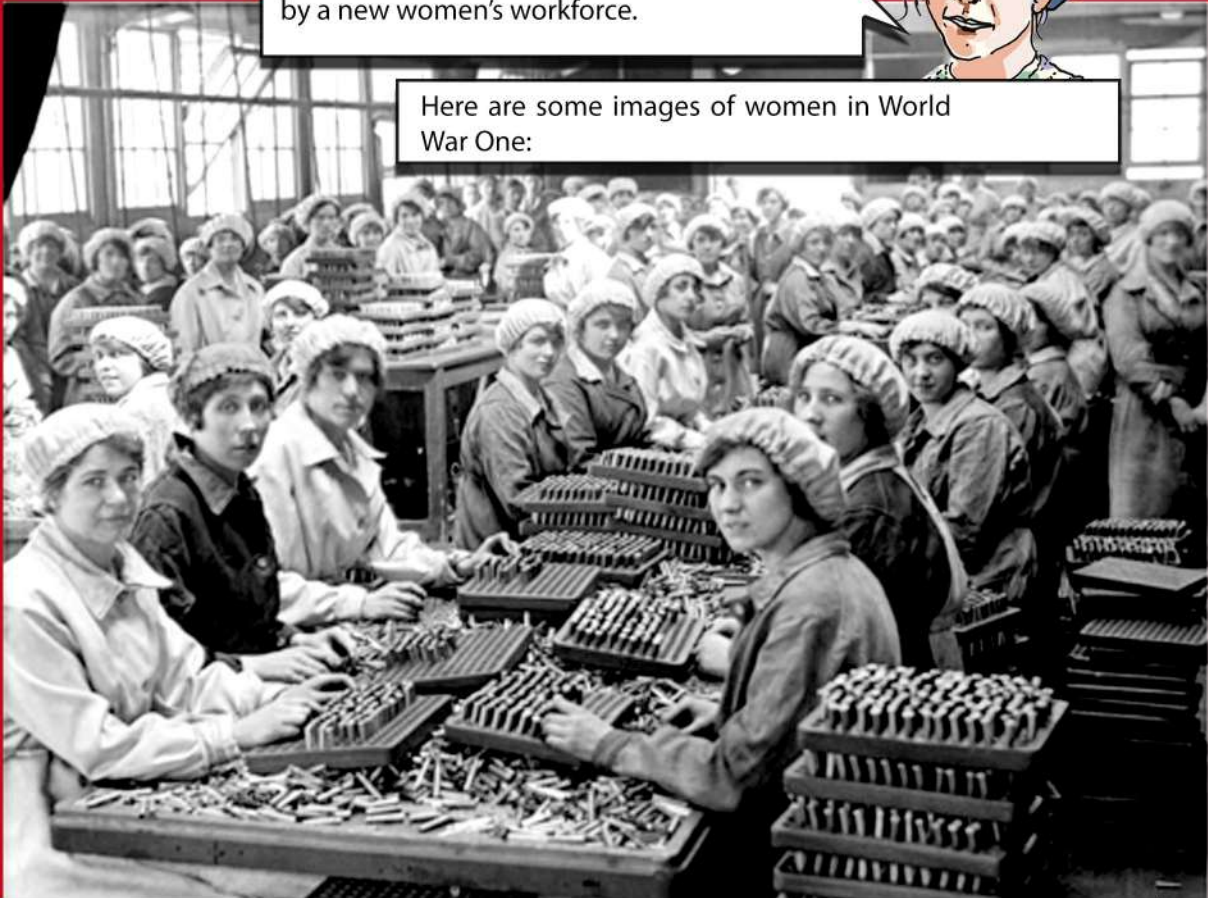
In 1918, World War One changed everything. Emmeline Pankhurst immediately called a halt to all campaigning in order to support the war effort, and even changed the name of the Suffragette newspaper to "Britannia". This was a highly patriotic publication – here are some pages from one of its editions:



Suddenly, thousands of men were signing up to fight, and this meant that a lot of the jobs traditionally taken up by men had to be filled by a new women's workforce.



Here are some images of women in World War One:

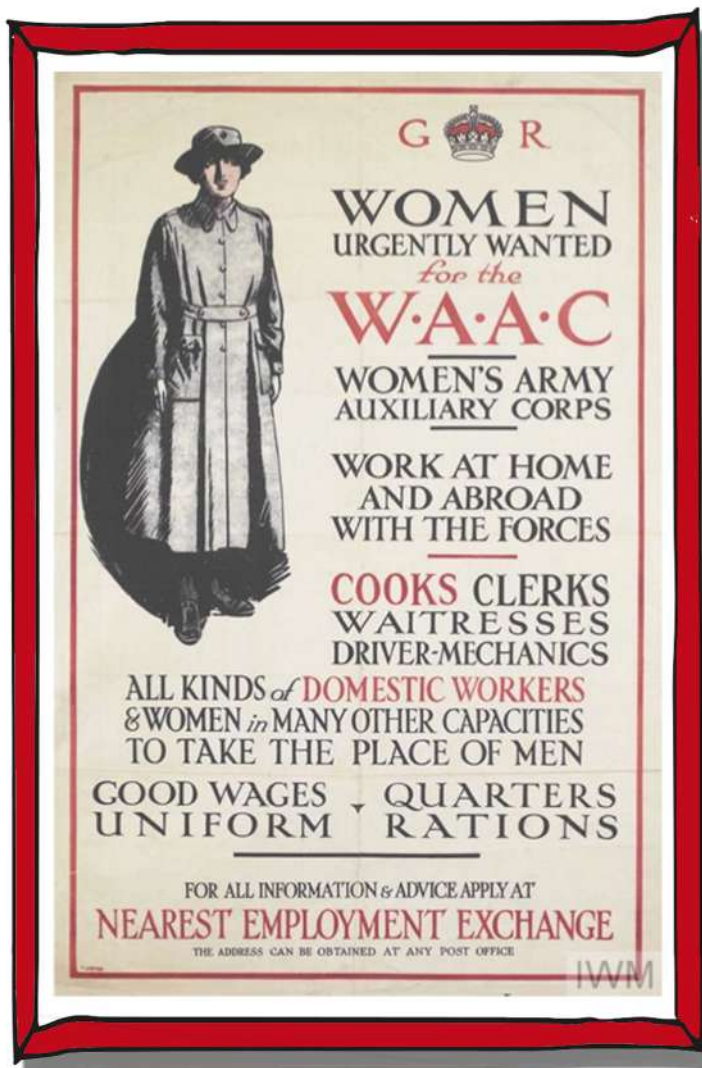


Of course it wasn't the first time women had taken on working roles. I myself worked as a millworker, as you know. But women took up jobs not taken by women before, and many more women took jobs too. What sort of jobs are these women doing?



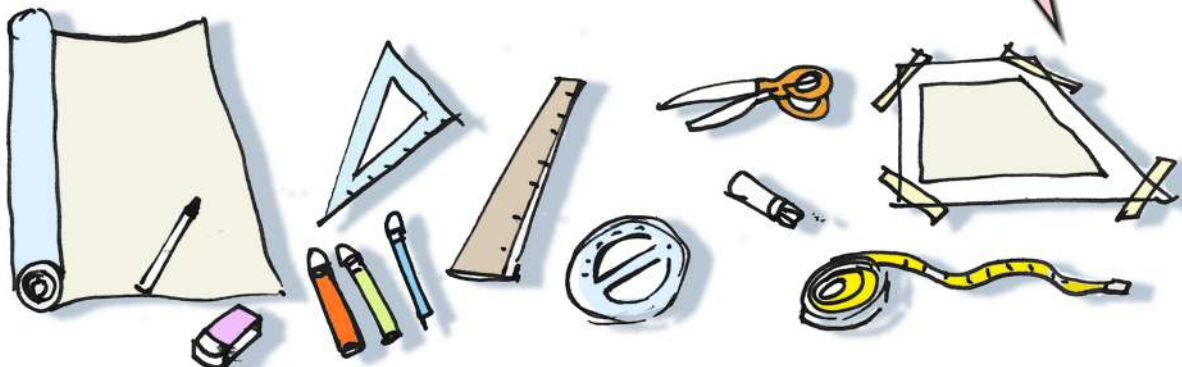
What impact do you think this might have had on people's attitudes about women's roles?

Women also wanted to join the armed forces, and there was great need for them to do so. Have a look at this poster:



Activity:

Design your own poster advertising for women to take on jobs traditionally done by men. How would you persuade women to take part?



By the time World War One ended in 1918, a lot of attitudes to women's roles had been shifted. Women had been seen to support the war effort and to be capable of taking on a whole range of roles which had been traditionally thought of as men's.

As well as this, thousands of working class men had sacrificed their lives for the country, and yet working class men did not have the vote either.



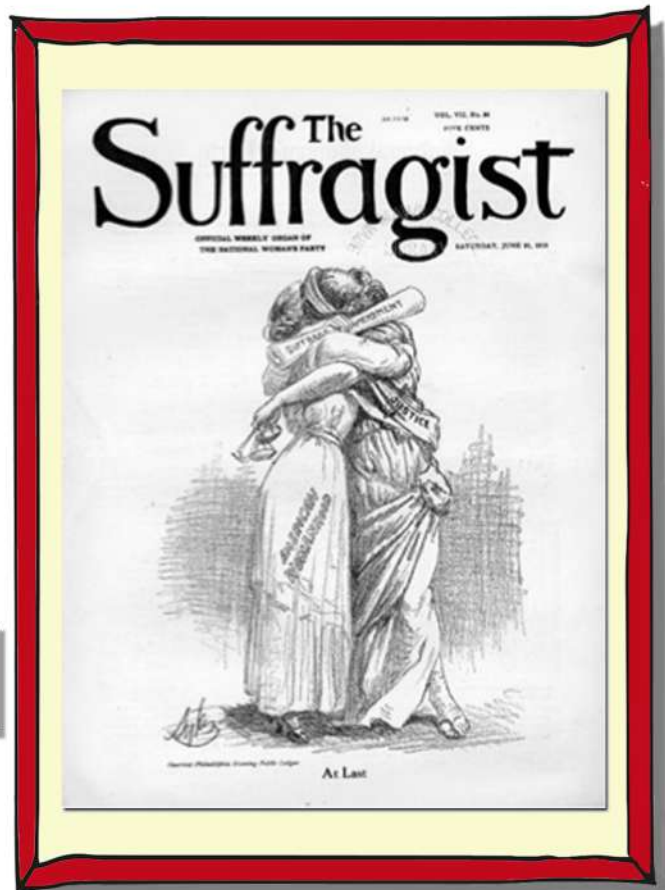
In 1918, The Representation of the People Act 1918 was passed. This made the following changes:

All men over 21 could now vote. Women over 30 could vote if they owned property valued at more than £5 or were married to someone who did, or were graduates voting in a University

This led to 8.4 million women and 5.6 million men being added to the voting population – the largest addition in terms of Reform Acts.

It was such an exciting moment in history and I am proud to have witnessed it and played a part in achieving it!

Here is a suffrage publication's celebratory cover:



On 14th December, 1918, some women were able to vote in a general election for the first time in Britain. What an amazing day!

It wasn't until 1928, though, that all women were granted the right to vote. Here are the dates when women in other countries gained the right to vote, often after similar campaigns to the ones I was involved in:



Activity

How would you have celebrated?
Plan a celebratory event – what will happen at it? How will it be themed? Who will speak or what entertainment will there be? How will you advertise it?

France.....1945

Iceland.....1915

New Zealand.....1893

USA.....1920*

Switzerland.....1971

Brazil.....1932

Norway.....1913

Uganda.....1962

Saudi Arabia.....2015

Libya.....1964

India.....1947

Portugal.....1968

*Some US states had already granted women's suffrage, but in 1920 it became an amendment to the federal constitution

I will leave you with two questions.

The first question puzzles and divides historians in your own time as it did commentators in mine. What was the most important factor in women gaining the right to vote? Did militancy help or hinder? Was it the war that was the most important aspect?

The second question puzzles and divides everyone in your own time too! Is the battle for equality for women over in Britain? What about in other countries? What do you think you might do about it if you think the answer is no?



