

## History: The Great Fire of London

*What happened to London during the fire of 1666?*

Year 2: Autumn Term 2



Key Vocabulary	Definition
extinguish	Destroy; put an end to; put out
fire hook	A large rod with a hooked end used to pull down damaged houses or to remove houses to try and stop the fire spreading
monarchy/monarch	A country that has a king or queen. The monarch is the king/queen.
overcrowding	Too many people in one place at a time
Restoration	The return of the monarch (king or queen) to the throne
rule	To have control and power over a country
source	A person, book, etc, that gives information
Stuart	The royal house that ruled England between 1603 - 1714
timber frame	Houses made of wood
viewpoint	A way of looking at or thinking about something

## Key Information

### Samuel Pepys

Samuel Pepys is famous for keeping a diary for most of the 1660s, so he wrote a lot about the Great Fire in 1666. He also played an important part in helping to fight the fire by warning King Charles II that more needed to be done on the day the fire broke out.



### King Charles II (1630 - 1685)

King Charles II **ruled** from 1660-1685 and was **monarch** during the Great Fire of London in **Stuart** times. He showed his bravery when the fire broke out by getting involved in helping to tackle the fire himself, putting his own life at risk and helped people who were hungry and homeless after the fire was over.



### London in the 1600s

About 350,000 people lived in London in the 1660s, making it one of the largest cities in Europe. Living conditions were sometimes very dirty and there wasn't any way to wash up properly as the river Thames was dirty too, yet people still bathed and washed their clothes there. **Overcrowding** was a huge problem in London – when people got sick diseases spread very quickly, and thousands of people died during the Great Plague in 1665-1666.

### Houses in the 1600s

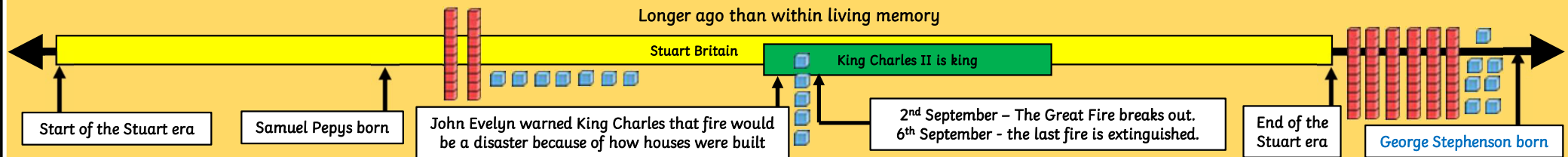
Most of London burned down in the Great Fire in 1666 because there were so many houses, too close together, and all made from wood so the fire was able to move around quickly and easily. People whose homes had burned down lived in tents in the fields around London while buildings were rebuilt. When houses were rebuilt, a lot of them were made in bricks instead of wooden timber frames and thatched roofs, and they weren't built so close together. The new streets were also designed to be wider, and sewers were installed so the city was cleaner.



When the houses and shops that had been destroyed in the fire were being rebuilt, people thought it would also be a good idea to build a monument to remember the Great Fire of London. It was designed by **Sir Christopher Wren** and took six years to build – it is 61 metres high, which is also the same distance between where it stands and the site in Pudding Lane where the fire began. It has a bronze sculpture on the top to look like flames.

## Timeline

Longer ago than within living memory



## History: Sir Christopher Wren and Sir George Gilbert Scott

*How did everyday life change during Scott and Wren's lifetimes?*

Year 2: Spring Term 1



Key Vocabulary	Definition
architect	A person who designs buildings
British Empire	All the places around the world that were once ruled by Britain
civil war	A war between people of the same country
Gothic	A style of architecture that uses pointed arches, thin and tall walls, and large windows
industry	Making products by using machinery and factories
kingdom	A country whose ruler is a king or queen
parliament	The group of people who are responsible for making the laws
poverty	Being poor
Victorians	People who lived during the Victorian period
workhouse	A place for poor people to live that is paid for by the taxes, donations, etc, of other people. People did jobs in the workhouse

## Key Information

### Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723)

#### National Achievements



- He designed 52 of the churches in London following the Great Fire of London, including St Paul's Cathedral.
- He was elected as a Member of Parliament four times.
- He designed the south front of Hampton Court Palace.
- In 1698 he became the Surveyor of Westminster Abbey.
- He was knighted on 14 November 1673.

#### The Stuart Period

Wren lived during the Stuart period and the English **Civil War**, which eventually led to the Restoration (King Charles II taking the throne back and ruling England.)

There was lots of upset during the Stuart period from The Gunpowder Plot, the civil war, the Plague outbreak, the Great Fire of London and the beheading of King Charles I.

Most people were poor and lived in **poverty** and the Poor Laws were introduced. Most people's aim was to find enough food for their next meal and they relied heavily on the harvest. Most people lived in villages and had jobs such as milking cows and collecting eggs from chickens, while those living in towns had jobs such as shoemakers, smithies and chimney sweeps. Women had to obey men at all times.

### Sir George Gilbert Scott (1811 – 1878)

#### National Achievements



- Scott became the **architect** to Westminster Abbey in 1849.
- In 1861 he designed the Foreign Office in London.
- Designed the Albert Memorial, commissioned by Queen **Victoria**. (1864 – 1876)
- He designed the re-building of Croydon Minster in 1867 following fire damage.
- He designed St Peter's Church in South Croydon.
- Knighted on the 8<sup>th</sup> August 1872

#### The Victorian Period

Gilbert Scott lived during the **Victorian** period. Major advancements to way of life during the **Victorian** era included machines in factories (the **Industrial** Revolution), invention of the steam train, use of electricity, better sanitation (cleanliness) and school becoming free for all children.

Meanwhile, Britain was getting bigger and grew hugely in the **Victorian** era. The **British Empire** was the term used to describe all of the places that were under British rule.

In 1834, an Act of **Parliament** was passed called The New Poor Law, (changing how society looked after those who were in **poverty**) and led to help only being given to people in **workhouses**, where the conditions were purposely unpleasant.

## Timeline

