

## Epworth History Trail

Here are some questions about Epworth history. Follow our trail and see if you can answer them all!

We are starting our trail on the High Street opposite the Wesley Memorial Methodist Church.



- 1 This building is built using a Dutch style of architecture. This is because when Vermuyden the Dutch engineer came to the Isle of Axholme to drain it he brought many workers with him from the Netherlands. Many of the workers settled in the local villages once the draining was completed and we can still see their influence today. Can you find this building on the High Street? What is it used for today?



- 2 Chestnut House is now used as a fish and chip shop. It used to be home to a well-known Victorian photographer. Search the exterior of the building to find his name.

- 3 The Epworth Bells was a local newspaper which started printing in 1872. It ended publication in 2019 but the old printing office building still stands on the corner of the High Street and Church Street. What is it used for today?



- 4 Continue to walk up Church Street to the Car Park. This was the former site of the Kings Head Hotel and Croft. The hotel stood on this site from 1769 to 1975 when it was purchased by Epworth Parish Council who demolished it. What did they do with the Croft?

- 5 Gargoyles are sometimes used on churches to funnel the water from the roof away from the walls and foundations of the building. This helps to prevent water damage to the stonework. Can you find this Gargoyle on St. Andrews Church? What animal do you think it is?



- 6 Samuel Wesley's grave is in the grounds of St. Andrews Church. He was the Rector in Epworth for 59 years and father to John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. He died on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1735. How old was he when he died?

- 7 Near to the church you will find a blue plaque showing the former site of the 12<sup>th</sup> Century Vinegarth Manor House. It belonged to William De Mowbray. The Mowbray family were very wealthy and owned land across the Isle of Axholme. William de Mowbray was one of the Barons trusted with enforcing the terms of the Magna Carta. In total how many Barons were trusted with this work?

- 8 Begin to walk to the Marketplace. As you pass Fountains Court you will see another blue plaque showing the location of one of the most violent political riots in British history. Three politicians held their political rallies in Epworth on the same day as they campaigned to win the North Lincolnshire seat in Parliament. Supporters of the Conservative candidates clashed with those of the Liberal candidate. The fighting lasted several hours with many people sustaining injuries. What year did this riot take place?



- 9 The Market Cross still stands today. Which famous Epworth local would stand at this point to preach his sermons about the Methodist religion?

- 10 Behind the Market Cross you will see the Manor Court House. Although it is now a library and offices it was originally built in 1803 for Alexander Johnson who was Lord of the Manor in Epworth. It has been used by the Epworth Mechanics Institute since 1837 when William Reed formed their library here. This building also used to be the location of the village fire engine. What year was the building bought by the Epworth Mechanics Institute?

- 11 Walking up along Albion Hill you will see a statue to a famous Epworth resident. This statue of John Wesley was erected in 2003 to mark the tercentenary of his birth (he was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1703). Which religious sect is John Wesley most associated with?

- 12 The Old Rectory in Epworth was rebuilt in 1709 following a fire which destroyed the previous thatched roof building. It was home to Susanna and Samuel Wesley who had 19 children, 10 of whom survived to adulthood. Susanna was a well-educated woman and was keen for her children to be the same. She home schooled them from the ages of 5 and expected them to learn the alphabet on their first day. They would go on to learn Greek and Latin too. Samuel Wesley was the Rector at the local parish church. What is the name of this church?



