

The extension of suffrage

A virtual museum by
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Welcome to

In this museum you can learn about the story of suffrage. The Story begins in 1819 and ends 100 years later in 1919

Peterloo Massacre



The Peterloo Massacre happened on the 16th August 1819. 60,000 men, women and children met to campaign for voting rights. The Meeting was meant to be peaceful but it became a massacre when. Some of Manchester's elites and wealthy inhabitants thought it would turn into a rebellion. The Manchester magistrates were in charge of public order, they did not want a repeat of the French revolution in 1789. They were strong supporters of Lord Liverpool's tory government and they believed that democracy was bad. The magistrates requested the help of soldiers and 15 people died.

Henry 'Orator' Hunt



Henry 'Orator' was known as the champion of the people. He was born on the 6th November 1773 and died on the 15th February 1835 age 52. He was a British radical speaker and agitator remembered as a pioneer of working-class radicalism and an important influence on the later Chartist movement. He wanted all men and women to be allowed to vote. He was the main attraction to the peaceful protest at Peterloo. It was meant to be peaceful. But it became a massacre when the magistrates order the army to break up the protest. During the protest Henry was arrested. And went to prison for 2 years.

Peterloo through the eyes of the Protesters



Around 60,000 men, women and children met for the Peterloo massacre. The protesters wanted more people to be allowed to vote. They did not know that the magistrates were watching them and they were surprised and when the yeomanry killed 15 and injured around 600.

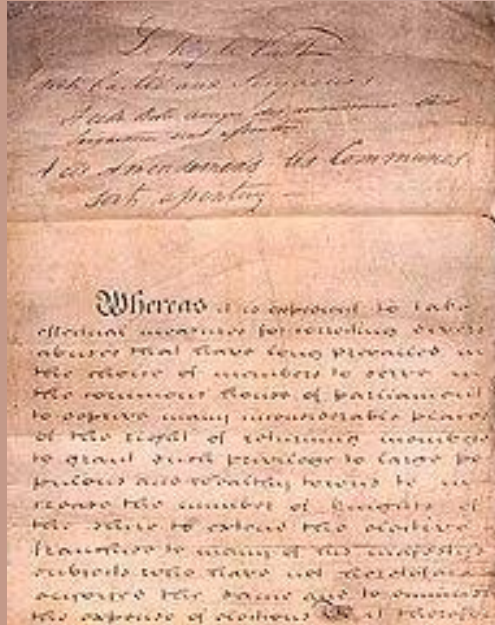
Suffrage during the 19th and 20th Century

After Peterloo



The protest at St. Peter Field's had not worked. The government had said that the soldiers were cleared of all charges for any wrongdoing. Instead the government, clamped down on laws to stop similar protests taking place. Despite the Large crowds who gathered at St. Peter's Field, hoping for reform the government did not listen to the demands.

After Peterloo - Great Reform Act 1832



The Great Reform act was a step forward suffrage campaigners. The amount of people extended to some middle class men, such as Bankers. The reform Act gave the vote to men who owned homes worth more than £10 a year.

However there was not enough change as only 1 in 7 men could vote . This meant that 8% of men the population could vote.

The Chartist Movement



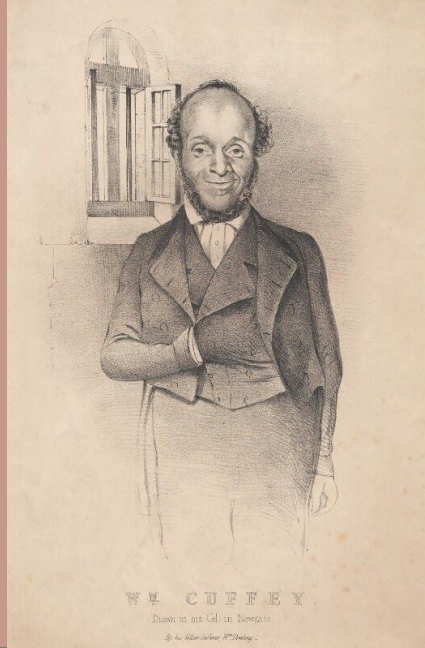
Most of the Chartist worked at looms, they used to be really respected as they would have to use muscle power to work the looms, but when the looms became powered by steam and water. These new looms did the same amount of work as 4 workers. The Great Reform Act of 1832 blocked democracy to those Lower Class. By giving the vote to property owners the Government thought that it would help stop the lower class getting the right to vote.

The Chartist Movement



The Chartists were working class movement which emerged in 1836. The aim of the Chartists was to gain political rights. They got people to sign petition for the Great Charter. (The Magna carta was signed in 1215 and means Great Charter in English). They also held riots to try and get there Charter passed through parliament. There were Police spies inside the Chartist Movement and they would stop the riots before they even started

William Cuffay

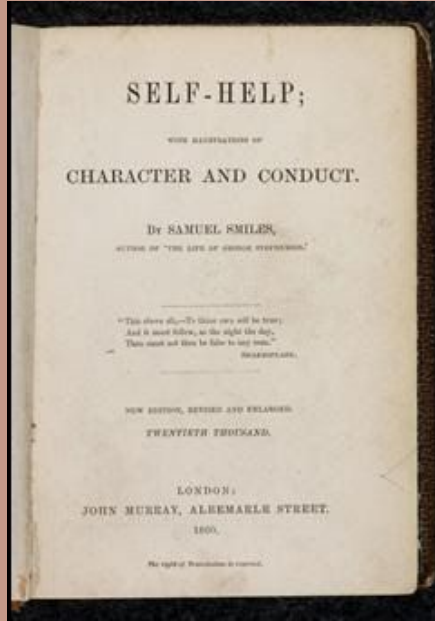


William Cuffay was a leading campaigner for the Chartist movement. His mother was English born but his father had been born a slave in the Caribbean. His father was granted his freedom.

Cuffay was a tailor but was fired after complaining about long hours.

He joined the movement in 1848 and was elected as a leader and was a prominent figure in the movement. He helped plan the rally at Kennington Common in 1848. It was said he planned more violent protests and was arrested and was deported to Tasmania. He chose to stay there when he was released. His wife decided to join him in Tasmania.

The Extension of Male Suffrage



The Great Reform Act of 1832 had the biggest step as it meant that $\frac{2}{3}$ of men could vote. Daily trains bought newspapers to towns so that people could keep with the news. Therefore people started to express their views.

The First Campaigns for Women's Suffrage

Women at Peterloo

Votes for Women were not included in the demands for the reformers' at Peterloo. Nevertheless 1 in 8 of the protesters were female.

Women were present at the Peterloo protesters because, they wanted their husbands to be able to vote. At least 3 out of the 15 killed were women.

Who were the first campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?

The first women campaigning for votes for women wanted all women who paid taxes to be able to vote. They said that women should have equality in all areas, this could not happen unless they got the vote. For their campaigns they got people to sign petition and then they sent them to parliament. They were unsuccessful to begin with as their first petition was laughed out parliament. The Langham Place Group was founded in 1857 and it was aimed to help get the vote for women.

The Later Campaigns for Women's Suffrage

What were the women campaigning for ?



Women were seen as less rational and more emotional. They were only seen as housewives once married. They were told that men could not vote on behalf of his wife. They were also told that the vote and parliament would confuse the women's brain. To campaign they chained themselves to Buckingham Palace and parliament, they staged mass rallies in Trafalgar Square, they smashed windows in Downing Street.

The Later Campaigns for Women's Suffrage

What were the women campaigning for ?



When the suffragettes were in prison they went on hunger strike and they demanded to be treated as political prisoners. Therefore the Prime Ministers authorised force feeding. They put some people off joining there movement as it was seen as unladylike.

Women or Adult Suffrage?



Some people thought that they should campaign for women's suffrage. This meant that men and women would be able to vote on the same terms. Others supported adult suffrage this meant that all men and women should have the vote even if they did not own a property.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?

Millicent Fawcett and the NUWSS



She became involved in the Personal Rights Association it helped protect vulnerable women. Later she became president of the NUWSS. They campaigned for women's suffrage. They wanted to improve the lives of women. They used peaceful protest and persuasion to try and get the vote. They might not of been successful as they did not have support from the working class. This was because they wanted women to vote on the same terms as men this meant they had to own property to be able to vote.



Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?

Radical Suffragists

They wanted adult suffrage, this is because most of them were working class and wouldn't have owned any property. They wanted the vote as part of a symbol of equality but they also wanted to improve the working conditions for other women like themselves.



Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Selina Cooper

She wanted women's suffrage and had joined a local branch of the NUWSS. She believed by women having the vote it was the best way for women's lives to improve. She got people to sign petitions and then they took them to parliament. By giving empowering speeches it could of got more people to join there movement and help campaign for women's suffrage.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?

Eva Gore-Booth and Esther Roper



They wanted to help improve the lives of workers and were strong supporters of women's suffrage. They said that women needed the vote in order to empower them in the workplace. The might of got more support if the campaigned for adult suffrage. Because even though the wanted to help improve the lives of workers, the workers would not be able to vote as lots of them wouldn't of owned homes.

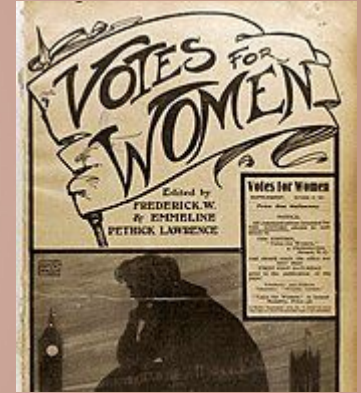


Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?

WSPU



The WSPU was formed in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters. They campaigned for women's suffrage. They were radical campaigners. And used violence to try and get their point across. To begin with their campaigns did not work as many people feared them because of how radical they were. Emmeline and her daughters were prepared to use a lot of violence to get their vote.

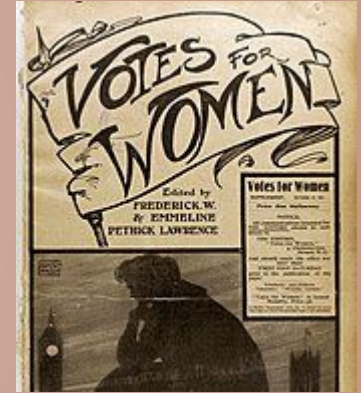


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WSPU



As well as using violence they also used clear imagery to get their point across. Emmeline's husband worked as a lawyer for the WSPU but could not be a member as it was only for women. He left due to the amount of violence they used. They might not have been successful as some men might have wanted to join but could not as it was an all-women organisation.



Individual Campaigners

- **What did they want?**
- **Why did they want the vote?**
- **What methods did they use in their campaigns?**
- **Why were they unsuccessful?**
- **Did they do anything that might have helped future campaigns?**

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Kitty Marion

She was German actress and campaigned for women's suffrage. She threw bricks into windows and post offices. She played a key roles in arson and bombing campaigns. People could of been afraid to join her as she was not afraid to start fire and use bombs to get votes for women.

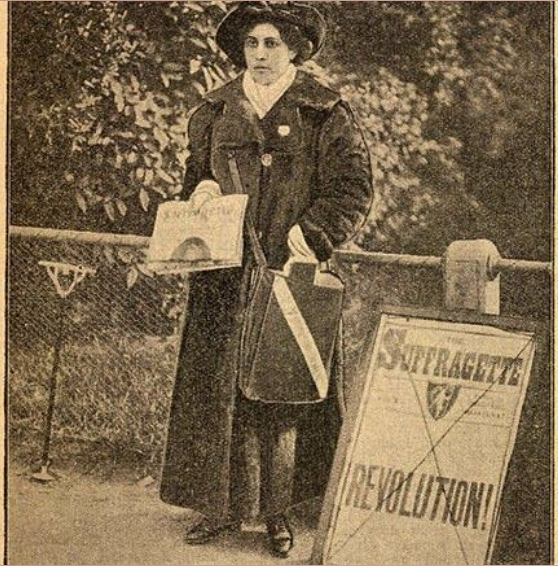
Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Annie Kenney

She tried to get gain support for people in the working class. She supported adult suffrage and wanted anyone to be able to vote even if they did not own property.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Sophia Duleep-Singh

Princess Sophia Duleep-Singh was one of the several Indians who played an important part in women's suffrage. She helped Emmeline Pankhurst lead a demonstration at Parliament. When a clash broke up between the protesters and the police 150 women were physically assaulted.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Emily Wilding Davison

Emily was a militant suffragette. She was one of the first suffragette to use arson. She was imprisoned many times when she was in prison went on hunger strike. She was sadly killed but was remembered as an inspiration to women.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Mary Richardson

Mary Richardson was also an important militant suffragette. She was also involved in arson attacks, and was also one of the first to be forced feed in prison. She is best known for slashing the a painting in the National Gallery.

Who were the later campaigners for women's suffrage and what did they want?



Christabel and Sylvia Pankhurst

They helped her mother start up the Suffragettes. They sisters were both involved in violent campaigns. Sylvia wanted the campaign to be for all women and not just middle class. She wanted to campaign for adult suffrage and not women suffrage. As her sister and mother disagreed she was removed from the organisation. She started her own movement the Federation of Suffragettes.

Outcomes

The situation by 1914

Success By 1914

- Many more women joined the movement
- They started using peaceful protests

Failures By 1914

- The Home office had begun a major crack-down to try and deal with the suffragette violence
- The government did not give in to the suffragettes and the campaign continued

Outcomes

The First World War



The Pankhursts and the WSPU worked together to try and get women involved in war effort. In 1915 women demanded the right to serve. This contributed to the decision to create the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1917.

Outcomes

Representation of the People Act, 1918

The government gave the women the vote because of their service during the first world war. Lots of people said they deserved the vote due to their help during the war

Outcomes

1928: the Equal Franchise Act

In 1928 the government passed a law saying that all men and women over the age of 21 could vote even if they did not own property. This is adult suffrage. I do not think that the suffragettes had achieved everything as you become an adult at 18 and you had to wait until you were 21 to vote.

The Timeline of Voting History for Men in England

In the early 19th century barely anyone had the right to vote. A survey conducted in 1780 showed that 8% of people had the right to vote. During the late 18th century and early 19th century pressure for parliamentary reform grew rapidly. Some of it came from wealthy businessmen who already had the right to vote.

Influenced by works such as Thomas Paine's Rights for Men between 1791-2. Radical reformers demanded that all men had the right to vote. The London Corresponding Society (founded in 1791) were committed to universal 'manhood' suffrage.

The Timeline of Voting History for Men in England

Two decades later the radical speaker Henry Hunt spoke at numerous political meetings on the same themes. During one such speaking at in St.Peter's Field the yemonary killed 15 people.

The Timeline of Votes History for Men in England

The Reform Acts

The three parliamentary reform Acts introduced in 19th-century Britain (in 1832, 1867 and 1884 respectively) satisfied moderate reformers rather than radicals. The Prime Minister, Lord Grey, supported reform to 'prevent the necessity of revolution' and was responsible for the first (or 'Great') Reform Act of 1832. However, the Act gave the vote in towns only to men who occupied property with an annual value of £10, which excluded six adult males out of seven from the voting process.