# How it all started

Getting the vote

## "The Peterloo Massacre"

On the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1819, 60,000 people gathered in an open space which is now known as St Peters Field, Manchester, to protest for the right to vote. Henry Hunt was a champion leader within the role for universal suffrage. He was the leader of this protest and was standing up to get men and women the right to vote.

The protest was supposed to be peaceful but

then turned into a **MODY** massacre, around 15 people were killed and 600 were injured. People feared that it would turn into a rebellion, just like the French revolution that happened few years before, it ended very badly and a lot of people were killed.



# The Six Acts

The six acts were laws that were put in place to stop protests so that they didn't end in a fearful rebellion.

#### <u>Here are the six acts:</u>

- the Training Prevention Act
- the Seizure of Arms Act
- the Seditious Meetings Act
- the Blasphemous and Seditious Libels Act
- the Misdemeanours Act
- the Newspaper Stamp Duties Act





# Finally Justice

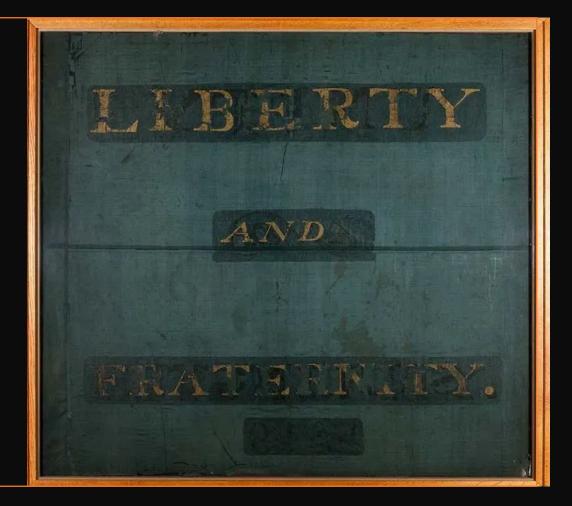
Hunt as well as a lot of the other reform leaders were jailed for two years. People turned against Lord Liverpool's government as he was ruling the country in a way that people didn't like. Most of Manchester's workers joined the reform for the first time, they then stated their opinions in the Manchester Guardian (a newspaper).

Parliament were persuaded to grant voting rights for large group of men in 1831.

Every year after the protest at Peterloo on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1819 people read the names of those who had lost there lives that day.

#### The Peterloo Banner

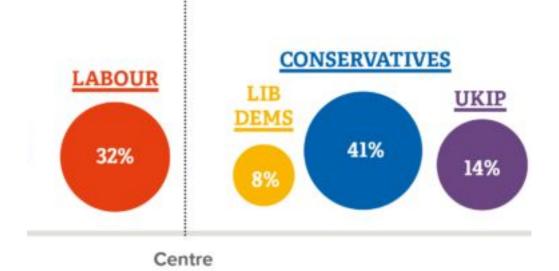
The Peterloo Banner was made from blue silk. On one side it says, "Liberty and Fraternity" and on the other side it says, "Unity and Strength". "Liberty and Fraternity" means freedom and brotherhood it was used as slogan in the French revolution.



### Electing MP's

There were a lot of problems with how MP's were elected, here are some examples with what was wrong with it:

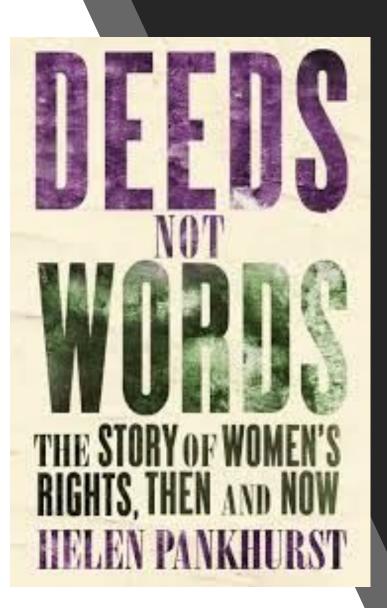
- It was unrepresentative (there were only 2 MP's in Manchester)
- It was outdated
- And it was unfair





#### Who could vote?

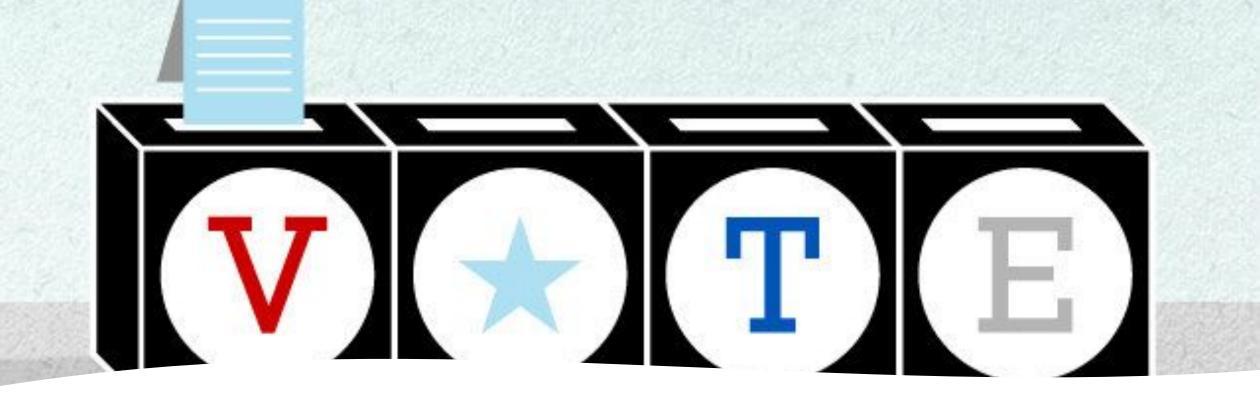
In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the right to vote depended on the value of your property. Less than 2% of the population had the right to vote as they were wealthy and could afford property, women and the working class weren't allowed to vote.



# The Suffragettes



The suffragettes were a group of women that wanted the right to vote. They were started by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. They organised protests, they were put in jail and went on hunger strike. When WWI came around they stopped their protests but after women had taken on men's jobs they thought why can't we have the right to vote we have just proved that we can do anything that men can do but the government didn't listen. They carried on with protests after the war and sadly as Emmeline Pankhurst was in the middle of doing a protest she was accidently hit by the Kings' horse and tragically died. Unfortunately she didn't get to see women finally get the vote.



How it all ended

- In 1918 men over the age of 21 and women over the age of 30 with property were allowed to vote.
- In 1928 everyone over the age of 21 was allowed to vote.
- And in 1969 everyone over 18 could vote and still can now.

Unfortunately, in other countries some people still can't vote, which isn't very fair everyone should have the right to choose who makes the decisions for their country.



I love the suffragettes and I actually went to the Emmeline Pankhurst statue with my school. They did amazing things for our country.