

# GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

**Monday 3rd September 1666**  
The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

**Tuesday 4th September 1666**  
**St Paul's Cathedral** is destroyed by the fire.

## Timeline of Events

**Sunday 2nd September 1666**  
The fire starts at 1 a.m.  
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

**Wednesday 5th September 1666**  
The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

**Thursday 6th September 1666**  
The fire is finally put out.  
Thousands of people are left homeless.

## Key People



Samuel Pepys

Thomas Farriner

King Charles II

## Key Events and Facts

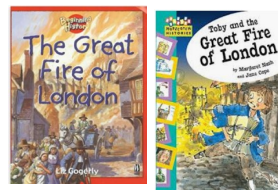
<b>When and where did the fire start?</b>	The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's <b>bakery</b> on Pudding Lane.
<b>Why did the fire start?</b>	The fires used for baking were not put out properly.
<b>Why did the fire spread so quickly?</b>	In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and they were very close together, making it easy for the flames to spread. It had also been a dry summer, so the buildings were dry. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.
<b>How did people try to put the fire out?</b>	People used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out, but these did not work. Later in the week, King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading.

## Key Places and Vocabulary

<b>bakery</b>	A place where bread or cakes are made and sold
<b>London</b>	The capital city of England and the United Kingdom
<b>River Thames</b>	Many people got a boat on the River Thames to escape the fire
<b>diary</b>	A personal record of life's events
<b>eye-witness</b>	A person who has seen something and can give a description of it
<b>embers</b>	Small pieces of glowing coal or wood in a dying fire
<b>fire-hooks</b>	Giant hooks used to pull down houses
<b>fire-break</b>	When buildings are destroyed to make a gap so the fire can't spread
<b>flammable</b>	When something burns easily
<b>St Paul's Cathedral</b>	A Christian building razed to the ground in the fire and rebuilt using designs by Sir Christopher Wren

## Key Knowledge

## Suggested books



## Useful Website

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/mystory>

<https://kids.kiddle.co/Great-Fire-of-London>



Modern Day London Landmarks