

NB – the numbers shown next to section titles are the numbers on our maps and the numbers used on the Acoustiguide wands.

Acoustiguide Programme for Primary Schools

Introduction : 0

Narrator: Hello. Before you go into the museum find a place to stand at one side of the reception desk and I'll help you to get the hang of the Acoustiguide hand set.

Short music bridge held under next section

The hand set is very simple to work - it's a bit like a mobile phone, only it doesn't ring.....

Ring

Well it's not supposed to ring...Hello...Oh..I see..yes. Er the Milestones Trail Team wants a word.....

The Trail Team shout "hello"

Noisy bunch aren't they! That's the trail team and you'll be hearing from them from time to time. As we look round the museum they are going to help us to search for clues and give us a few ideas of their own. Here's a few thoughts on the museum now....

Two impressions of the museum from team members that give some insight into the ideas behind the museum.

And the best bits...

Three enthusiastic responses to the best bits of the museum...

And the BIG bits...

Three Amazing Facts and Figures about the size of the building...

Narrator: Right so that's the Trail Team..and where was I...oh yes, how to work the handset. You can pause the sound of my voice any time you like by pressing the square yellow 'Pause' button. To start again, just press the large green Play button. I might ask you to press the pause button from time to time so that you have time to stop and think about something. Try it now...

Pause and Play

You can make my voice LOUDER or quieter with the volume control...and if you want to stop the recording, or if you make a mistake, just press the round red button marked with a C for cancel.

As you walk through Milestones, you'll be stopping at certain places to listen to me. The adult with you will tell you what number to press. Just key in the number, and press Play. And at the end of every keypad number you will hear this sound.

Stop sound

So now you are ready to go.

Home Life

Kingdons the Ironmongers : 70

On the corner of Jubilee Street is a Victorian Ironmongers, and the best place to see it is to stand in front of the shop window. *Press pause while you find it and play when you are ready.*

This is TM Kingdons, a Victorian ironmongers shop. It was known as an ironmongers as many of the things it sold were made of metal, including iron. Visiting the ironmongers in Victorian times was like visiting a DIY superstore today, as you could find hundreds of different things to use in the home, all crammed in together - pots and pans, oil lamps, tools, brushes and watering cans. Can you imagine the smell of soap, wax candles and polish inside?

The objects in the window may look quite old to you, but actually the Victorians were very keen on inventing new gadgets and machines to make life in the home a bit easier. As the nineteenth century progressed they made all sorts of devices to help with everyday tasks.

Look closely at some of the objects in the window and see if you can find any that would have helped in the kitchen with food storage and preparation. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

On the middle shelf just above the large blue and white jug there is a gadget with a large handle. What do you think it's for? Maybe the Trail Team can help?

Trail Team

It is a mincer, and you would have stuffed some meat - maybe the leftovers from the Sunday joint with all the bits of gristle, fat and skin - into the hole at the top. By turning the handle, the meat was squeezed through a series of small holes, until it came out in stringy mincemeat pieces. Can anyone spot the jelly mould...or another gadget a bit like the mincer for peeling apples? It's over to the far left of the mincer...and another clue - there's a metal spike at the back to stick the apple on. See if you can puzzle out how it works. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

If you were part of a wealthy Victorian family, in what ways do you think your kitchen would have differed from that of a poor Victorian family? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

Have you thought about the *size* of your kitchen, and the sort of food you could afford to cook. And most importantly have you thought about who would be working in your kitchen? Many wealthy Victorians didn't have to do any kitchen work at all as they had servants - cooks, maids and housekeepers - to do the work for them.

What food would you miss the most if you lived in Victorian times? I'm sure the Trail Team have some ideas!

Trail Team

The Pantehnicon - Furniture : 71

The Pantehnicon is the Victorian equivalent of a removals lorry, and the best place to see this Pantehnicon is to stand at the back where you will find two workmen. Listen to their conversation to find out what they are doing. *Press pause while you do and play when you are ready.*

What did you work out from their conversation?

They are unloading the furniture of a Mr. and Mrs. Charles Murray who have just moved into this cottage in Anna Valley Place. Mr Murray is an engineer and he has moved here from London to work for a Hampshire based company called Taskers. Taskers make steam engines and as the removal men said, Taskers want to build 'the biggest and the best' of the new steam engines. This was the period of the industrial revolution and there was a great deal of change - people were moving into the towns and cities to find work. Skilled engineers like Mr. Murray were very important to companies like Taskers.

Look at the furniture the two removal men are unloading - what can you see? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Piano playing hymns.

Mrs. Murray is a Sunday School teacher and she uses the piano to play hymns for her Sunday School. Why do you think Mrs Murray has candles on the front of the piano? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

Mrs. Murray would have needed to light the candles on the piano in the evenings so that she could see the sheets of music and the piano keys properly - gas and then electric light came much later in the Victorian era.

Take another look at the Murrays' furniture and imagine their day-to-day lives. Think about whether you can tell from the furniture whether they were rich or poor.

11 Jubilee Street - Living Room : 72

Look through the front window of No. 11 Jubilee Street. It is only a very small window so if you are in a large group take it in turns to see what's inside.

Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.

The room is tiny, isn't it? This is the living room of a workman's cottage and Mr. and Mrs. Biddle lived in this cottage at the end of Queen Victoria's reign. Think about the differences between your own living room and this room. What are the clues that help tell you that it is a Victorian home? *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

Let's ask the trail team what they can spot.

Trail Team response to the Biddles' cottage

Well there's certainly no sofa...and no TV or electric light. How do you think the room was lit? Have you spotted the oil lamp on the table? What about heating? There are no radiators are there?..but the dog might give you a clue. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The Biddles would have lit the coal fire every night especially during the winter months. . One member of the Trail Team/One or two members of the Trail Team didn't seem to think it would be much fun spending an evening with Mr. and Mrs. Biddle.

Trail Team

Oh dear! But life for Victorian children was very different. They wouldn't have been allowed the luxury of 'feeling bored' as Victorian families were quite strict, and they would have had to help with household chores, or read instructional books*and* were probably sent to bed very early.

Now look at the pictures on the wall and the photographs on the mantelpiece. How are they different from your own pictures and photos? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The Biddles' photographs are quite serious and formal, aren't they, ... the women are dressed in hats and long skirts. The photos are also black and white. Most family photographs were taken in a studio and you had to sit very still - the age of the action packed, instant photo had not yet arrived.

...cont.

You can see through to the kitchen from this window. Just beside this window on your left, is a passageway that leads round to the kitchen and the backyard.

11 Jubilee Street - Kitchen and Backyard : 73

It's very cramped in the Biddles backyard, so don't forget that there may be other visitors wanting to see this part of the museum too. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

Right in front of you are two wooden doors. The one on the right is a place to store coal for the Biddles' fire. The one on the left is the outside toilet. You can open the door and have a look if you want..as long as no-one's using it. *Press Pause while you look.*

Mr. Biddle: *Hey...what do you think you're doing? Can't a man get a bit of peace in his own privy? I was just reading my newspaper!*

That was a bit of a shock wasn't it? The Trail Team discovered Mr. Biddle too.

Trail Team

Mr. Biddle's toilet is not plumbed-in like modern ones - it uses earth rather than water. So instead of *flushing* the toilet when you've finished, you throw a bit of earth into it. The toilet bucket was cleared away once a week in what was known as a 'violet cart.'

..And it smelt horrible. I wouldn't have done that job for all the world....phhhwoa...the men don't seem too bothered by it though. I've seen them eat their sandwiches while they worked. (Adapted from Within Living Memory for Mr. Biddle's voice p56)

And Mr. Biddle also uses torn up pieces of newspaper on a loop of string instead of toilet roll! Very scratchy.. and VERY cold out here on a dark, wet and wintry night!

Mr. Biddle: *You have to be quick I can tell you .No dawdling about in wintertime..otherwise Jack Frost bites.*

Turn round now and have a look through the kitchen window. Can you see the big round tub with a wooden lid? This is Mrs. Biddle's washing tub or 'copper'. Doing the washing was not just a matter of loading a machine and pressing a button....it would have taken Mrs. Biddle most of the day.....

She would have to light the range over on the left to heat the water - to wash, scrub and rinse each item by hand - and then squeeze it through a mangle to wring it dry. The mangle is right beside you in the backyard. See if you can puzzle out how it works. Here's Mrs. Biddle herself.

That mangle is so heavy I have to use both hands to wind the handle. It doesn't half make my arms ache. But the worst thing is if the weather's bad and I can't hang the clothes out... it's disastrous - as I have to light the fire in the sitting room and hang the clothes all round the room to dry. Mr. Biddle doesn't like that...he doesn't like that at all. Adapted for Mrs. Biddle's voice from Within Living Memory extract p64

To the left as you look through the window is Mrs. Biddle's cooking range. It was a horrible job to scrub it clean everyday and make sure that the fire didn't go out. Think how much time it would have taken Mrs. Biddle to do the washing and the cooking and how this compares with cooking and cleaning our homes today. She would have had no machines such as hoovers, washing machines and microwaves to help her.

Houses and Homes

The Pantehnicon : 74

The best way to see how the Pantehnicon van actually worked is to stand alongside it so that the yellow lettering is in front of you. *Press pause while you find it and play when you are ready.*

In the Victorian era one of the ways to move house was to use a Pantehnicon. The two workmen are unloading furniture for a family that has moved all the way from London. This Pantehnicon is more than a hundred years old. Can you find any historical evidence that tells you it is from the nineteenth century? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The paint on the yellow lettering is quite faded and cracked, isn't it, and the metalwork is very rusty. And if you look closely at the brake pad on the big wheel, it has tiny holes from woodworm. This is deliberate as rather than restore it, the museum left it with its original paintwork and wear and tear for you to see.

Take a close look too at the telephone number painted on the side. Can you see where it says phone 5485? What is different about that phone number and phone numbers today? It's very short, isn't it? Today if you were calling London you would need a code and then an eight figure number at least. The Victorian telephone network was much smaller than it is today with far fewer numbers.

This Pantehnicon would have made the journey from London by road and rail. If you walk round it you can see how the pantehnicon is roughly the same size and shape as a railway wagon. Horses would pull the Pantehnicon to and from the railway station and the whole Pantehnicon would then be loaded onto a flat wagon and pulled by a steam train. In the Victorian era thousands of miles of railway track were being laid, so it made sense for long distance removals to use the railway. And you would only have to pack and unpack once.

The Gypsy Caravan : 75

The best way to see the Gypsy Caravan is to stand at the bottom of the steps so that you can see through the door. *Press pause while you find it and play when you are ready.*

This brightly painted caravan was not for summer holidays - it was a family home and they would have lived in it all year round. Their horse would have pulled the caravan from between wooden shafts. You can see them lying on the ground behind the stairs.

Gypsy people lived in caravans like this because they were nomadic and always on the move looking for seasonal work on local farms, helping the farmers to pick fruit and hops, or at agricultural shows like the one next to the caravan. What evidence can you find that tells you this family was nomadic, and had to live on the move?

Trail Team

How would the family have cooked and kept themselves warm do you think? Well there's the cooking pot or cauldron over the fire outside the caravan, as the Trail Team mentioned, but there's also a small stove inside the caravan that would help the family to keep warm in winter. Have you noticed that there is a chimney for the stove on top of the caravan? *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

Can you imagine your family living in such a tiny space? Parents, brothers, sisters, pets and lots of clutter!

Trail Team

The caravan is beautifully decorated, isn't it? Perhaps this is because it was a family home and so it was very important to the family that it was kept in perfect condition.

Gypsy families were often very poor families and they had to live off the land. Can you see the two rabbits hanging at the back of the caravan? They were probably intended for the cooking pot. There's a milkchurn too beside the homemade tent that would have been filled with milk from the local farm. This was a special type of tent called a bender. What else might they have found to eat?

The Firestation : 76

A good place to see the Fire Station is to stand in front of the two large double doors. *Press Pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

In the late Victorian period - in 1900 - this would have been a village Fire Station. The men who worked here were volunteer firemen, and would all have had other jobs in the village - such as the grocer, or the blacksmith. Even the horses that pulled the fire engines were borrowed from local villagers. If the coalman was on his rounds, someone might have to chase after him on a bicycle in order to borrow his horse.

Sound of bell

When a fire broke out someone would ring the bell on the roof of the Fire Station and the team of local firemen would come running and put on the uniforms hanging up on the wall. Look closely at the larger of the two fire engines. With the horses at full gallop, the firemen would have stood on the running boards along the side and hung onto the ropes. Can you see the pieces of rope? *Press Pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

The best source of water to put out a fire was from the village stream or pond. Now look closely at both the fire engines in the Fire Station. The larger one has a steam pump at the back, but the smaller one is older and the water had to be pumped manually. See if you can work out how each fire engine would have pumped water through the fire hose onto the flames? *Press Pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

On the smaller engine two teams of men would have stood either side holding the long wooden poles. They would have raised and lowered the poles in a see-saw action and sucked the water through the hose as they did so - hard work though!

The larger fire engine is a newer model and had the benefit of steam power. Have you spotted the long white hose coiled around the front and the sides? The firemen would have put the copper end of the hose into the stream or pond, and the steam pump at the back of the fire engine would have pumped the water up through the hose and onto the flames.

Before you move on you might like to think about why fires in Victorian times happened so often? One clue might be to consider how Victorians kept their houses warm and what they used for lighting...those steam trains caused a few sparks too!

The Georgian Cottages - 11 and 12 Jubilee Street : 77

The best way to see 11 and 12 Jubilee Street is to stand just to the right of the pub by the green lamppost. *Press pause while you find it and play when you are ready.*

These cottages were built over a hundred years ago, and they would have been part of a row of terraced cottages or workman's cottages. During the Victorian era Mr. and Mrs. Biddle lived at number 11. The name Biddle is marked on the brass door knocker. What historical evidence can you find that tell you these houses are old? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Lots of houses built over 100 years ago are still standing today - you might actually live in one, perhaps with a brass knocker like the Biddles - or sash windows that slide up and down to open. Or you might live in a house that is modern and was built recently. Let's ask the Trail Team how their houses compare with these.

Trail Team

In response to Trail Team. That's quite right. Victorian chimneys would have been working chimneys. The Victorians needed fires to keep their houses warm. Nowadays we like to have open fires, but most houses have central heating.

Trail Team

In response to Trail Team. Can you see the 'fancy endings' - up there at either end of the roof? Now see if you can spot two signs on the front of each cottage. On number 11 there is the sign of an angel, and on number 12 there is the sign of the sun. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

These signs were called firemarks because if your house caught fire during the Victorian era, the firemen would look for a firemark when they arrived to put out the flames. This was because the firemarks were a sign to say that your house was insured by an insurance company. If the firemen couldn't see one they might leave the house to burn!

Before you go...there is another family who lives in these houses. Here's a clue.

Sound of squeaking mice running about everywhere

Take a closer look at Number 12 and see if you can spot one!

The Milliner's : 78

Half way down Cuckoo Lane is a milliner's shop - a milliner is a hatmaker. The best place to stand is by the shop window looking at the display of hats. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

If you stand back a little can you see the name Rhodes and Ryde above the door? Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde were the milliners or hatmakers that owned this shop. During Queen Victoria's reign everyone had to wear a hat, so they were kept quite busy.

They lived above the shop and if you look up, you will be able to see their window. Close your eyes for a moment and imagine Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde sitting up there in the evenings after the shop has closed.

Miss Rhodes: *I have almost finished a letter to my sister. Could you tell me, Miss Ryde, whether the Post Office is still open?*

Miss Ryde: *Yes, yes I think it is. Someone has just gone inside. Oh, and she's wearing a truly dreadful hat - it looks absurd, like a large pink meringue!*

Miss Rhodes: *I wonder where she bought it! My dear, should we not light the oil lamp? The light from this window has grown awfully dim. You can barely see the ribbon you are stitching.*

Miss Ryde: *I know, it's getting late and my fingers are becoming stiff and cold. I should light the fire and- yes indeed - the lamp too. I must confess that I slept very little last night. The fire engine was called out to a fire at a blacksmith's...and once I had woken from the sound of the clanging bell and the firemen's cries I could not sleep again.*

Miss Rhodes: *It woke me too. I won't be long - I'll just take my letter to the Post Office. Oh my dear, there appears to be a gaggle of children hanging around our door - they look a bit untidy and loud, so perhaps I shall wait until they have moved on.*

Do you think she means us? Time to go I think. . . .but when you walk back onto the main street, look up at the windows above Fyffes the fruit shop, Willis' the jewellers and Kingdon's the ironmongers. Like Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde those shopworkers probably lived over the shop too.

People

The Match Boy : 79

The Match Boy is standing beside the door of the Post Office. *Press pause while you find him and play when you are ready.*

During the Victorian era you would have often seen matchboys standing on street corners much like this one. Can you see how he is holding out a box of matches hoping to catch the eye of a passer-by, perhaps on their way to the ironmonger's, the Co-op or the Post Office?

Matchboy

Lights, lights, get yer lights. You want a match?...All weathers, you'll find me here. I bin up and down that mountain before I had me breakfast.

Tobacco was very popular amongst Victorian men in particular - they regularly smoked pipes, cigars and cigarettes and they might buy their matches or 'lights' from a Match Boy like this. There is a tobacconist's shop a little further down this street. Take a closer look at the Match Boy? How is he dressed? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Have you noticed his thin, worn clothes and bare feet? And can you see the mud on his face? He says that he has to stand here in 'all weathers'. Imagine standing on a cold, wet street corner perhaps for twelve hours a day. The Match Boy is probably about eight years old. Why do think he isn't at school? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

It wasn't until the Education Act of 1870 that schools were made available for all children. Before that, if you were from a wealthy family you might be sent

away to school or taught at home, but children from poorer families, like this Match Boy, had to work to try to help their family earn some money. Some might sell matches like this boy, but others had to work in factories, sometimes for long hours. Listen to this girl who works in a factory where the matches are made.

Matchgirl

We start work at half-six in the morning and we finish at six in the evening. We take the matches out of the frame and we puts them in boxes. We get a ha-penny for each frame. I get four bob a week, but my sister, she's quick, she gets near nine shillings on a good week. We eats mostly bread and butter and tea. Once a month we get a real meal, with coffee and jam.

This girl had to work for twelve hours a day and the only food she got was bread, butter and tea.

In Britain today young children are not allowed to work in a factory or selling matches on street corners as they are protected by law, but think about how children are still treated in other parts of the world.

The Saw Mill : 80

The best place to look at the people in the Saw Mill is to stand in front of the figures by the circular saw. *Press pause while you find it and play when you are ready.*

This is a sawmill where logs of wood were cut into planks for timber to make houses, furniture, carts and boats. Look at the two men in front of you, and in particular, look at the clothes they are wearing. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The man behind is wearing a grey wool suit, with a waistcoat and tie...and the man in front who is bent over the saw is wearing rough trousers, an apron and a shirt. Who do you think is the manager and who is the worker? Maybe the Trail Team have an idea?

Trail Team

That's right. The man at the back can wear a suit because he doesn't have to do any of the hard work. He is the owner and manager of the sawmill. The man bent over the saw is likely to get quite dusty with the wood chippings and sawdust as he is one of the workmen cutting the wood all day.

What do you think it would be like to work in this saw mill? Quite noisy and dangerous. Can you see the round saw cutting its way through the log of wood? This saw mill is powered by steam.

The owner has introduced the steam powered saw because it's much quicker than the old hand saws. Can you see a couple of the old handsaws hanging

against the back wall? The steam powered saw makes it easier for the men to cut the wood, but the saw is very sharp and would have spun round very fast. Can you see how close the workman's bare hand is to the saw?

In a sawmill today, the owner would have to make sure that his workers were protected - for Health and Safety regulations. How many workmen can you see? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

There's one by the saw (the man we have already talked about), there's one working the pulley that draws the log across the saw, there's a third man sweeping the floor. I bet you haven't spotted the fourth ... or have you? He's right up in the loft behind you, hoisting up the sacks of sawdust.

Man shouting 'Timber!'

Before you go, have you noticed that like many Victorian men, all the figures in the Saw Mill have moustaches!

Showground and Traction Engines : 81

Go to the back of the Gypsy Caravan and you will find two figures. On the left is a salesman and on the right is a country squire or rich farmer. *Press pause while you look for them and play when you are ready.*

The salesman is dressed quite smartly as he is keen to sell the squire something and he often calls him 'Sir'. Can you work out what the salesman is trying to sell the country squire? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

If you look behind you at the vehicles on the showground you will see what the salesman hopes to sell. A show ground like this was the best way of selling machinery and equipment for farms and the salesman is hoping that the squire will buy a traction engine. The traction engines are very powerful and they are able to pull very heavy loads or drive other machines - like the circular saw in the Sawmill.

The squire owns a lot of land including a farm and the salesman is trying to persuade the squire that the new steam powered traction engines is very powerful and will help his workers on the farm. Listen to their conversation and see if you can work out why the squire is so resistant to change. *Press pause while you listen and play when you are ready.*

The squire is uncertain as it is a new and different way of working. He is used to working with horses to help him plough his land and bring in the crops. The salesman has told him that the traction engine will cost him four hundred guineas, which was a huge amount of money in the Victorian era. The squire is having to think very carefully whether or not he will buy one. The coming of the machine age was very exciting for some Victorians and quite a shock for others.

The Station Mannequins : 82

Walk round the Governess cart outside the station. Look closely at the family who have just arrived and listen to their conversation. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The mother is travelling to Bombay in India where her husband is an officer in the Indian Army. She is taking her baby and the nanny with her, and the nanny is helping her to climb out of the Governess cart. They are travelling by steam train to London and then by steam ship to India, and the journey will take several weeks. Her son Richard, who is holding the reins of the pony, has asked if he can go with her part of the way, but he is a pupil at a boarding school so he must stay behind. Can you work out more about the mother's lifestyle and her social position, from the way she is dressed and from the conversation with her son Richard? *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

Maybe the Trail Team can help?

Trail Team

The family *is* a well off, middle class family. The mother is about to embark on a long and expensive journey to India, but she can afford to have a nanny to help her with the baby, and she can also afford high-quality clothes. Look at her hat and green cloak. The railway porter is helping them with their luggage. Not all families could afford to educate their children in the Victorian era as it would have been expensive to send a boy to boarding school.

Now turn round and look more closely at the two coalmen unloading coal from a wagon in the station yard. Listen to their conversation. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The coalmen have an important job as they are delivering the coal that drives the steam engines. They know all about the railways. But how do they compare to the family arriving in the Governess cart? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

Trail Team

These men *would* have been part of the Victorian working classes. Their clothes are covered in coal dust and they would have spent much of their time lifting and carrying the heavy coal sacks

Unlike the mother in the Governess Cart, they have not done very much travelling. One of the men has only ever been on a train once - for a day trip to Bournemouth.

The Garage : 83

Stand in the doorway of Maurice Liming's garage and look closely at the two men in the back. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The man on the right is Mr. Liming and he owns the garage. He is repairing the car for the man on the left. Before Mr. Liming became a motor mechanic, he was a blacksmith and this was a blacksmith's shop - you can see the old forge in the middle behind the two figures where Mr. Liming made tools and horse shoes. Why do you think Mr. Liming has changed from working with horses to running a garage to repair motor cars? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

This was the very end of the Victorian era. Queen Victoria had died and the twentieth century had begun. The motor car was still very expensive and few people could afford to own one, but Mr. Liming, the owner of the garage realised that there was a lot of business potential in repairing motor cars. He could see they were the future.

Early motor cars were very extravagant items as they were very costly to own and run. Very few people could afford one, and showing off was all part of the extravagance. The man on the left is a country vicar - and in Victorian times, country vicars were often quite wealthy. Look closely at him and listen to what he is saying. How can you tell that he is the owner of the motorcar?

Transport

The Governess Cart and the Railway Station : 84

The best place to stand to look at this exhibit is beside the man in the blue uniform and hat. *Press pause while you find him and play when you are ready.*

Can you work out what this building is? Look at the sign hanging over the door - what does it say? And have you spotted the leather bag and tin trunk next to the door....and here's another clue.

Sound of the steam train.

That high pitched whistle is the sound of an engine letting off steam. You've probably guessed that this is a railway station. The building is a replica of Chesil Street Station in Winchester, and the three red letters stitched onto the guard's hat..... **GWR**..... stand for Great Western Railways. The family outside the station are arriving to catch a train. How have they got here though?

The family have arrived by horse and cart. Walk round the cart and look at how it works. How do you think the driver of the cart controls the horse? Can you find the whip to make the horse go faster and the brake to slow the cart down? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

In the middle of Queen Victoria's reign many people still travelled by horse and cart, and the new railways meant there were more horse drawn vehicles driving to and from the stations to bring people and goods to meet the trains.

Think about the differences between travelling by a horse-drawn cart and by steam train. Let's see what The Trail Team thinks.

Trail Team

*Sound of guard shouting out names on the Winchester Chesil Street line.
plus sound of train*

During the Victorian era the building of the railways was one of the biggest new developments. Think how the landscape changed as railway lines and stations cut across fields and woods, towns and cities. Some Victorian people complained about the building of the railways in the same way that people today complain about the building of new roads. But the development of the trains meant that many more people had the chance to visit other parts of the country...for days out and holidays.

From all that you have heard, can you name three forms of travel in Victorian times? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.* Well there's horse-drawn vehicles, the new railways of course, trams, steam ships...bicycles...traction engines...and your feet. I hope nobody said jumbo jet!

The Tram : 85

The best place to see the tram is by the black railings opposite the gypsy caravan. *Press pause while you find it and play when you there.*

Clanging tram bell

This is a double-decker tram. Double-decker means that there are two layers like a double decker bus, and passengers could choose to sit inside the tram looking out of the window or climb the stairs to sit up at the top. Like buses today, trams were a form of public transport that carried you around the towns and cities. This tram could carry up to 46 passengers.

Clap of thunder

If it was bad weather you might get very wet sitting up on the top deck as there is no roof. This tram was built in 1884 towards the end of Queen Victoria's reign, and like a train it runs on tracks - or tram lines laid into the roads. Can you see the tramlines? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The trams were originally pulled by horses...but later, *electric* trams like this one, replaced the horse-drawn trams. See if you can work how this tram might have been driven by electricity. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Can you see how the pole from the top of the tram would have stood straight up in the air to connect with electric cables hanging overhead. The electric

cables would have powered an electric motor that drives the tram wheels along the tramlines. This is a No. 8 tram and it was painted red and cream because it belonged to the city of Portsmouth.....as you can see if you look along the side. The tram ran backwards and forwards along the same stretch of tramline, but it never had to turn round. See if you can work out how the driver always faced in the right direction. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Have you spotted that there are actually two driver's platforms - one at each end? Can you see the two brass control handles? The driver would reach the end of the line, and walk down from one end of the tram to the other..and back he would go.

On the busy Victorian streets people were occasionally knocked down by trams like this one, but if you look under one end can you see a wooden gate that drops down just below the driver's platform? *Pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

This is the life preserver and was supposed to stop you being dragged under the wheels, as you would roll onto the gate instead. Wonder if it would save that cat by the letterbox....but then they have nine lives, don't they!

Miaow

On Foot : 86

Now walk to the lamppost in front of the watchmaker and jewellers' shop Willis and Son. *Press pause while you find it and play when you there.*

As you walked here, what did you notice about the surface of the road? It's not very even, is it? It's made of cobblestones, which are quite rough underfoot. Now look around and listen to the sounds of street for a moment. *Pause built into guide.* Imagine a street full of horses, carts....bicycles, puddles....and all that horse dung....oh and mind the tram! Victorian traffic was pretty busy too!

Not everyone was rich enough to own a horse and cart and in Victorian times there were no cars of course, so your feet were the next best thing for getting about. Think about what this might mean for getting to school or going to work.

*I had to walk three miles just to get to my school...and three miles back at the end of the day..that's six miles every day, whether it was wet or dry. (Adapted from **Within Living Memory**)*

Six miles every day! Wouldn't your legs ache if you had to walk that far...and Victorian children certainly didn't wear trainers.

If you want to see what they did wear, cross the road and have a look through the window of the shoe shop on the other side. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Pick a pair of boots and count the number of buttons or lace holes you would have to do up before you went out. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

It's a lot more fiddly than velcro fasteners isn't it? And they look so narrow and tight-fitting. These are mainly 'dress' shoes and would have been worn by wealthy people. And they would probably have been handmade. It wasn't until late on in the Victorian era that items were mass produced.

But can you see a pair of black boots on the bottom shelf with holes in them? Many poor people couldn't afford more than one pair of boots each, and some people couldn't afford shoes at all. Look out for the match boy in the museum and see what he is wearing.

The Bicycle : 87

Take a close look at the size and shape of this bicycle. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

Towards the end of the Victorian era cycling was becoming very popular. There were numerous cycle clubs and for many people it was an important hobby. Long before the motor car became a part of everyday life, it gave people the chance to ride out into the countryside and travel around England.

Cycle bell

The first bicycle was invented by Kirkpatrick Macmillan in 1839, but the early cycles were expensive and quite heavy and dangerous to ride. You have probably seen a penny farthing with its huge front wheel and high saddle. Penny farthings were very popular both for riding and racing - but were only suitable for young men to ride - as the saddle was set so high up. It was a dangerous and awkward business just climbing onto the bicycle. The usual advice to riders was 'when the bicycle runs away with you downhill, place your legs over the handlebars and steer for the nearest hedge.!' Small boys also made a sport of pushing sticks into the front wheels. Cyclists began to want bicycles that were a bit less hazardous.

This bicycle was invented in 1876 and is a replica of a Lawson's Safety Bicycle. It was a lot safer than the penny farthing and a lot easier to climb on to!

Look carefully at how this bicycle works and compare it to a modern day bike - perhaps you own one yourself. Look at the saddle and the size and shape of the wheels. Can you see what the tyres are made of? *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

The tyres *are* rubber, but *solid* rubber and much less comfortable to ride than the pneumatic air-filled wheels we have on bikes today.

Now see if you can work out how the Lawson's Safety Bicycle would have moved along? You have probably already spotted that there isn't a bicycle chain. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

It's actually worked by a series of rods. Can you see how the rods connect the pedals to the back wheel. As the pedals are worked, the rod powers the larger back wheel, and it's actually the back wheel and *not* the front, that drives the bicycle along.

Finally...and very important.... see if you can puzzle out how the brake works? *Press pause again if you need more time.*

Without touching the bicycle, follow with your eye the string that runs down from the handle bars, along the cross bar to the brake pad on the back wheel. To work the brake, you simply twisted the handle-bars which would wind up the string and pull the brake pad onto the back tyre.

The Thornycroft Car 1903 : 88

To look at this exhibit you should be standing in the doorway of Limings Garage. This is the oldest surviving production car in Hampshire. Look at it very closely and think about the differences between this car and cars today. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

There are lots of differences, aren't there? For instance, this car has no roof, there's no windscreen, and no safety belts. See if you can spot any more. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Because there was no windscreen, drivers often wore hats and goggles to keep the dust and wind out of their eyes. You had to tie your hat on very tight to stop it blowing off. Have you spotted a pair of boots underneath the car? They belong to Mr. Liming's mechanic. He is taking a look at the springs.

The first car was invented at the very end of the Victorian period and this car - the Thornycroft car - was built shortly after Queen Victoria had died. It marked a very important change in transport - the change from vehicles that were horse drawn to those that relied on an engine and petrol.

Early cars were really luxury items and so very few people owned one. You would be very lucky to see one out on the roads at all a hundred years ago. Even by the Second World War, when many more people could afford to own a car, it was still very exciting to see one like this drive by.

I can remember when it was quite an event for a motor car to pass through the village of Overton. In fact, when the bang and splutter of the car could be heard descending Overton Hill, a group of people would quickly gather to watch and cheer it on its way. It usually broke down further on, on Rotten Hill.

(adapted from Within Living Memory p44)

Think how many cars you might see in just one afternoon nowadays!

Cacophony of car horns and 21st century traffic

Streets

Jubilee Street : 89

Find the bench beside the pub and stand in front of it - from here you can look up and down Jubilee Street. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

Listen to the sounds of the street and look around you. What are the clues that tell you this is a Victorian street? *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

You may have spotted the cobblestones, the coal holes and the tramlines and heard the sound of horses' hooves. The letterbox on the corner by the firestation is a different design to the modern postbox. Have you noticed the green street lamps? These would have been lit in the evenings just after sunset by a lamplighter and would have had a much dimmer glow than the electric streetlights we have today.

But this street is the museum's version of a Victorian street. It's a view of history that Milestones has created for people to visit. What is missing from this street that the Victorians would have experienced? Maybe the Trail Team can help.

Trail Team

...That's right, the paperman on his stool, the sound of people's voices, smoke from the chimneys, the smell of cooking, dirt and horse manure...but did anyone think about the fact that there would be sky overhead and not a giant roof!

The museum can present an interpretation of history for modern day visitors, but it cannot be exactly as the Victorians would have experienced it. Why do you think this street is called Jubilee street?

Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.

In 1887 Queen Victoria had been Queen for fifty years, so Hampshire celebrated her Golden Jubilee with picnics in the parks and parties in the local town halls. The same celebrations happened ten years later when she had been Queen for sixty years for her Diamond Jubilee and children were given a Jubilee Mug. This street was named Jubilee Street as a mark of these celebrations.

The Co-op : 90

The best way to see the Co-op is first to stand outside the window on the left looking at the display of food. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

There's a lot of things look at aren't there? Can you see how the boxes and packets are brightly coloured and piled on top of one another to look exciting and to catch your eye?

The idea of mass packaging food in boxes and tins with colourful labels was new to the Victorians. In Victorian times, not everyone went to school, so many people wouldn't have been able to read what was written on the packets. Towards the end of Queen Victoria's reign many more food items were mass produced - packets of tea and cake mix, tins of custard and boxes of jelly powder. What can you spot in the window? *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

The mass produced packets and boxes also stopped some *unscrupulous* shopkeepers cheating their customers. Before the sealed packets arrived, they would tamper with the products they sold - watering down milk, adding brick dust to pepper and plaster dust to flour to make more money. Imagine mixing up a cake with plaster dust in it! It would set like concrete.

In some ways, the Co-op was the forerunner to the supermarket and the hypermarket - with big glass windows to display the goods. In Victorian times, the Co-op was the place where you knew that you could buy good food at a reasonable price. The new railways would deliver food supplies from all over the country.

Now go inside the shop and turn to your left. You will see a display of tins against the far wall. *Press pause while you look and play when you are ready.*

These tins and boxes were for such things as biscuits, toffee, cakes and custard powder. See if you can find a tin with a picture of Queen Victoria on the front. There are one or two that you might spot on the shelves.

The Saddlers' : 91

The best place to see the Saddlers' shop is to stand in front of the window and look inside. *Press Pause while you look and Play when you are there.*

One glance will tell you what this shop is for - saddles, stirrups, bridles - everything you can think of to do with horses. You can even smell the leather from the bridles hanging outside the shop, can't you!

Have you noticed the bar outside the shop where visitors to the Saddlers could tie up their horse? Why do you think saddlers' shops were so important in Victorian times? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

Nowadays we mainly ride horses for pleasure, but for the Victorians horses also had to work and they were essential for everyday life. There were horse-

drawn trams and buses, horses to help the farmers to plough the fields and cut the hay, and horses to pull heavy loads of coal and goods to the railway stations in a cart.

At the end of the nineteenth century in Hampshire there were literally thousands of horses working on the farms or pulling carts, trams, buses and carriages. They were needed more than ever when the railways were built to carry people to and from the station. It was only just before the Second World War that people began to switch to driving a motor car and the farmers began to replace their horses with tractors.

Now have a closer look through the window. Can you see in the middle of the window there is a saddle with two strange horns sticking out from the side? This was a side-saddle that a Victorian lady might use to ride. She would ride sideways on, dressed in a long skirt, with her legs hooked around those two horns. Imagine trying to jump over a ditch or a hedge!

At the bottom of the window there is a sort of brown string hat with pockets for the horse's ears. Can you see it? *Press pause if you need more time.* What do you suppose it was used for?

Buzzing of flies

It was used to protect the horse from those annoying summer flies!

Mr. Willis' shop : 92

Stand in front of the jewellers shop and look carefully at the display in the window. *Press pause while you find the right place and play when you are ready.*

The jeweller's shop seems to be much grander than the greengrocer's shop next door doesn't it? Look at how polished and shiny some of the silver dishes and clocks are in the window. The owner Mr. Willis has carefully arranged his jewellery and silverware in the hope that it might catch your eye as you walk past.

Now stand back and look at the shop itself. It is also quite polished and shiny like the contents. Look at the doorbell...and the two lamps hanging over the shop window? Can you read what is written on the lamps. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

These are gas lamps and would have lit up the shop window. Can you imagine the light reflecting off the metal surfaces, and how it might attract your attention on a dark, foggy day. But why do you think the lamps are hanging outside the shop window and not inside? There is a reason. See if you can work out what it is. *Press pause if you need more time and play when you are ready.*

The lamps had to hang outside the shop window rather than inside, as they were gas lamps and the fumes from the gas would have polluted the silver inside and made it look faded and dull.

Look at the name written over the window and the elaborate gold pattern across the top. The wooden name plate is original and is over a hundred years old. It belonged to a shop in Basingstoke and was rescued for Milestones when the shop was demolished. The museum has carefully restored it to look as it would have done in the Victorian era.

The Milliners' of Cuckoo Lane : 93

Half way down Cuckoo Lane is a milliner's shop - a milliner is a hatmaker. The best place to stand is by the shop window looking at the display of hats. *Press pause while you find the right place and play when you are ready.*

If you step back a bit, can you see the name Rhodes and Ryde above the shop window? Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde were the milliners or hatmakers who owned this shop. During the Victorian period no-one would have considered going out without wearing a hat - men, women or children - so this shop would have been quite busy. There would be hats for every occasion - weddings, going to church, riding, or just walking along the High Street. Look through the window and imagine yourself wearing one of these hats.

Can you see some of the hat decoration that Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde might have stitched onto the hats - those white flowers and the blue bird feathers? If you were wealthy you might have spent a good deal of money on a hat - so it needed to look lavish and flamboyant. It was a way of saying 'look at me!' Some women chose to wear very large hats in sumptuous colours and fabrics. Can you see the hat that has been worked with gold thread? There's a sign just below the hat asking for a 'Young Shop Assistant'. Would you apply?

Miss Rhodes and Miss Ryde live above the shop. Look up and you will be able to see their window. What sort of street sounds do you think they might have heard? *Press pause while you think and play when you are ready.*

Well, there's the sound of horses hooves and carts in Jubilee Street and people walking up and down on their way to the pub or the saddlers'. People might be hurrying in and out of the Post Office across the road with their letters....and have you noticed that the Fire Station is next door?

Fire Station bell

