



# The Great Fire of London



## History: Key Events and Facts

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<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.
<b>How and when was the fire put out?</b>	By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down. This meant that people were able to put out the flames.

**Key People**

Samuel Pepys      Thomas Farriner      King Charles II

### Samuel Pepys

Samuel lived in London during the time of the Great Fire of London. He wrote a diary that has helped us learn all about the events of the fire.



### Thomas Farriner

Thomas was a baker in 17th century London. His bakery in Pudding Lane was the source point for the Great Fire of London on 2 September 1666.



### King Charles II (1630-1685)

King Charles was the king of England in 1666. He helped to stop the fire.



## Timeline of events

**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.



**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**

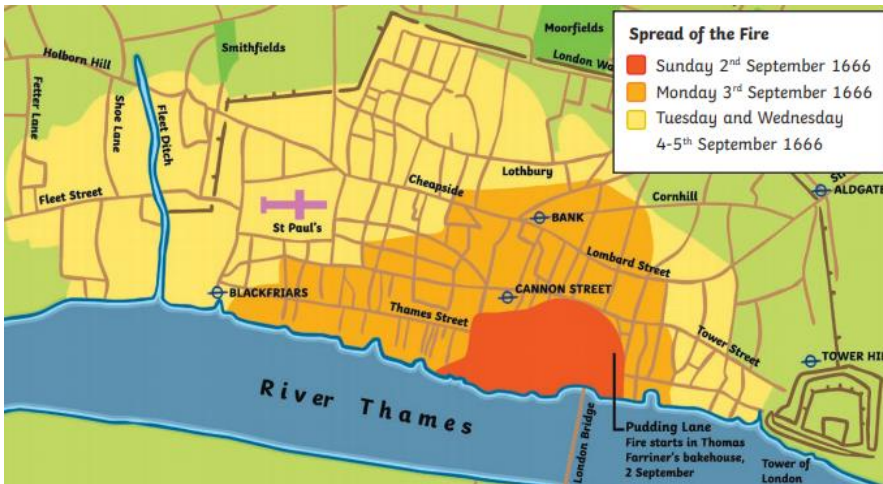
The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

**Thursday 6th September 1666**

The fire is finally put out.

Thousands of people are left homeless.

# The spread of the fire



## Enquiry questions:

How do we know about the Great Fire of London?

What caused the Great Fire of London to spread?

Who had the most influence in stopping the fire Charles II or the Mayor of London?

## Key Vocabulary

<b>Bakery</b>	A place that makes bread, cakes, etc.
<b>St Paul's Cathedral</b>	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
<b>Diary</b>	A book that people write about their lives in.
<b>Firebreak</b>	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
<b>Moorfields</b>	A piece of open land in the centre of London where people fled to for safety.
<b>Seething Lane</b>	The street that Samuel Pepys lived on.