

The Events of the Great Fire



The famous 'Great Fire of London' started on Sunday the 2nd September 1666 in a baker's shop on Pudding Lane. The baker was called Thomas Farriner.



Thomas had forgotten to put out a fire he made to bake some bread. The fire soon began to spread throughout London. The Great Fire had begun!



Samuel Pepys started to record the unfolding events in his diary.



Fire services never used to exist so everyone had to use buckets of water to try and put the fire out! It destroyed many buildings, which were later rebuilt from brick instead of wood.



Buildings were very close together so the fire spread very quickly, especially with the added help of the wind! People had to carry their belongings to safety using boats on the River Thames.



Carts were banned from going near the fire.



The fire spread very close to the Tower of London.



St. Paul's Cathedral was destroyed in the fire.



The fire started to burn more slowly as the wind died down.



Because the wind had died down and many houses were pulled down to stop the fire spreading, the fire stopped. Luckily, only six people died but thousands of people were left homeless, lost their business or lost many of their possessions.