

PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION D

D. William Booth – the Founder of The Salvation Army

TEACHERS' NOTES – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following information gives the teacher an insight into the life of the founder of The Salvation Army and a background into how The Salvation Army started.

William Booth was born in Nottingham on April 10th, 1829. His father, Samuel Booth, was a poor man without education who had one ambition in life – to gain lots of money! However, this ambition was not realised as he made and lost his fortune even before the birth of William, his son. William's mother, Mary, was a quiet, reserved woman, who, like her husband Samuel, was very proud. Even though Samuel Booth had little money, he was still determined to send his son to a good school. Unfortunately when William turned thirteen years of age, his father could no longer afford to pay for his schooling and so William's education ended and he was sent to work.

Due to Samuel Booth's passion for money, he decided to choose a career for his son, William, which would earn him good money. He apprenticed him for six years to a pawnbroker. This was in Nottingham in 1842 and here William saw what poverty was really like. He saw people pawn their belongings and then spend money getting drunk to try and forget their misery. Employers, in Victorian times, gave very low wages and the only place for people to go was the pub, which used to stay open most of the day and night.

At the age of only 15, Booth decided to do something about what he saw around him. He tried to bring some of his friends to realise that drink solved no problems and that poverty could be fought by Christian actions. The ordinary people in the churches did not like their church being filled with riff-raff from the streets and so Booth already experienced his first opposition.

William Booth went to London and became a minister for the Methodist New Connexion Church. However, feeling restricted he left in 1861 to preach directly to the people on the streets. He began the Christian Mission in 1865 in the Mile End Road in East London. These people had never seen a preacher like Booth – he stood in the street, telling them that Jesus cared for them and without loving Him their lives had no purpose.

Usually he was pelted with rotten eggs and mud but Booth never wavered. In 1878 he reorganised the Mission into The Salvation Army, with uniforms, bands and a flag. He changed many people's lives through his love in action and gradually, as the Army expanded, the poor slum-dwellers realised that he was opening hostels for the homeless, feeding the hungry with soup-kitchens and giving them a sense of purpose.

Pub owners and brewers hated William Booth because of his preaching about the evils of alcohol. They hired thugs to break up meetings and attack Salvation Army 'Citadels' or barracks (as the Army buildings were called). Some gangs formed themselves into 'The Skeleton Army' with skeleton flags and yellow ribands as their uniform. They were determined to break up The Salvation Army. In 1884 4000 of them invaded Worthing Citadel and the police had to be called in to restore order.

Gradually the Army won through and became an everyday sight throughout the country. When General Booth's wife died in 1890 his book 'In Darkest England and the Way Out' was published. This set out a social reform programme that included plans to tackle some of the social problems of the day such as unemployment and alcoholism.

General Booth had now become a famous and respected person, touring the world to inspect The Salvation Army overseas and being received by Kings and Queens. William Booth died in 1912 aged 83. The Salvation Army announced, 'The General has laid down his sword'.

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CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The following ideas are suggestions on how to use the photographs in the classroom to generate discussion and allow the children to observe, first-hand, a snap shot of the lives of the people they see. At the end of the Activity Resource Sheets you will see a **History Skills Grid** and **RE Curriculum Grid** that outline all the National Curriculum skills that will be covered for each activity.

ACTIVITY 1

Prior to giving the children any background information about these photographs, allow them to work in pairs to generate questions they would ask about what they can see. Use **Resource Sheet 1D** to record their questions. Recording these questions is useful for the children to refer back to when they have gained a better knowledge and understanding of the Victorian times and the work of The Salvation Army.

Encourage the children to be as specific as they can in their questioning. Guide them to spot details in their observations of the photographs.

For example:

- What is the man reading in photograph A?
- What does the crest on his jumper say in photograph B?
- Why are the children in photograph C watching the man?
- Why is the man in photograph C wearing a uniform?

ACTIVITY 2

As in activity 1 it is helpful if the children have no background about the photograph yet. There are many questions that the children will ask about the photographs but there may be some questions that you may want to use to guide the children and broaden their thinking. Allow the children to work in pairs or small groups to answer the questions on **Resource Sheet 2D**. Once they have discussed their ideas in these small group settings feed back as a class. It is at this point that you may wish to use the **Teachers' Notes** to answer some of your pupils' questions and to explain to them what the person in the photograph was actually doing and who he was.

ACTIVITY 3

Prior to this activity the class need to read the '**Getting to know...William Booth' identification card** which outlines the main events in William Booth's life as well as an insight into his family background and hobbies. Discuss, with the children, the style in which it has been written. It is quite chatty and informal and in first person. Following this, read the

information sheet about Catherine Booth, William's wife, who was very influential in the work of The Salvation Army. This information can be found on **Resource Sheet 3D**.

The children will then use this information to write their own Identification Card based on the life of Catherine Booth. They will need to sift through the important information and decide carefully what they will want to include. The less able may find it easier to use the **writing template** on **Resource Booklet 4D**. This gives them the main subtitles that they will need to complete their identification card and a space for them to add their own drawing (in place of a Passport Photo.) The more able will probably prefer to devise their own subtitles and lay-out as well as an eye-catching front cover. The children may want to refer back to William Booth's identification card to remind themselves of the style in which it has been written.

ACTIVITY 4

This activity will help the children to understand the chronology of events in William Booth's life and how they related to political and social events that were happening in the Victorian era. The children will need to carefully read through the selection of dates and events on **Resource Sheet 5D** and then decide where they will need to be placed on the historic timelines on **Resource Sheet 6D**.

ACTIVITY 5

The activity found on **Resource Sheet 7D** takes the reader through a day in the life of a Victorian plumber called Pete. The character of Pete the Plumber is based on a real-life man who was changed when he came into contact with The Salvation Army. The children will need to read through what Pete would usually do in one day and then decide how his life might change once he had met William Booth and turned his life around to follow Jesus. It might be helpful for the children to brainstorm their ideas in pairs first before feeding back as a class. They will need to think about how Pete's daily routines would have changed having given his life to God. Brainstorm areas such as his attitude towards his children, his relationship with his wife and the reaction from his plumbing friends. This will generate ideas for them to complete 'A day in the life of Pete the Plumber' after meeting William Booth.

ACTIVITY 6

This activity focuses on the Social and Emergency Work that William Booth put into place. It allows the children to decide what they would have done in his situation to alleviate some of the problems of the day. **Resource Sheet 8D** gives the children a template that they could fill in to complete their own programmes to help the poor and needy. They may want to devise their own lay-out for their programme. It is then useful to compare their own ideas to those of William Booth to see the similarities and differences in ideas. William Booth's social plans can be seen on **Resource Sheet 9D**.

ACTIVITY 7

This activity gives the children a greater understanding of how the preaching and social work of William and Catherine Booth evolved into what we now know as The Salvation Army. Catherine Booth, William's wife, designed the first Salvation Army flag, the first of which she proudly presented in Coventry, England in September 1878.

This activity gives the children the opportunity to design their own flags, using symbols that reflect aspects of their lives. They may want to choose a symbol that reflects a part of their school life, favourite hobby, family life etc. It will be helpful if the children have already done their own research into other flags and symbols prior to making their own designs. They will then need to devise a striking way of amalgamating the symbols to create an eye-catching image. The design can then be made into a flag using paper taped or stapled to 1cm² wood or dowling.

Resource Sheet 10D gives a little background information about The Salvation Army flag and **Resource Sheet 11D** can be used for the children to create their first plan ideas for their designs. **Resource Sheet 12D** enables the children to create their final flag design.

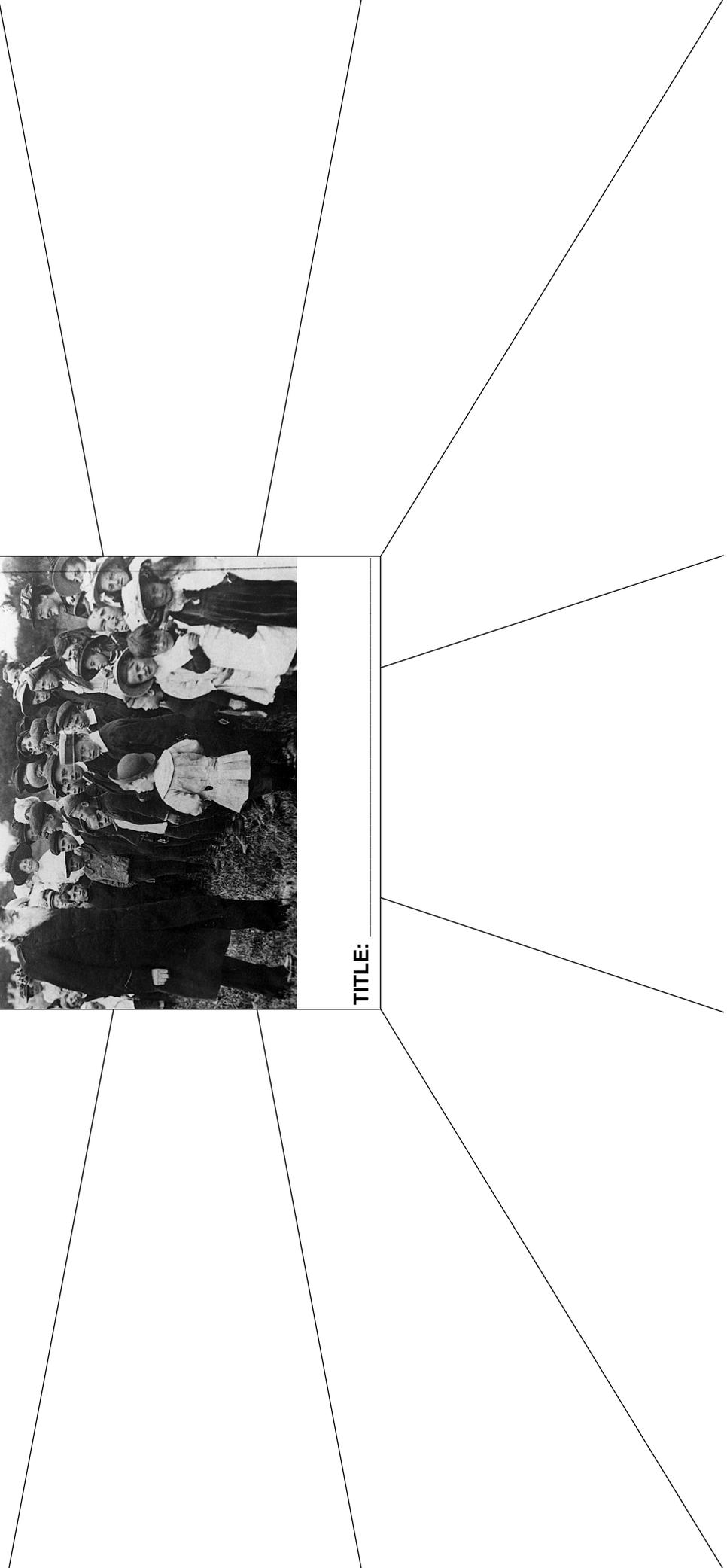
RESOURCE SHEET 1D

? ? ?
? QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS ?
? ? ?

- 1 Give the photograph a title.
- 2 Now fill each section with a question about this photograph.



TITLE: _____



LEARNING FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

What do you think the photograph is about?

Why was the photograph taken?

Where do you think the photograph was taken?

When do you think the photograph was taken?

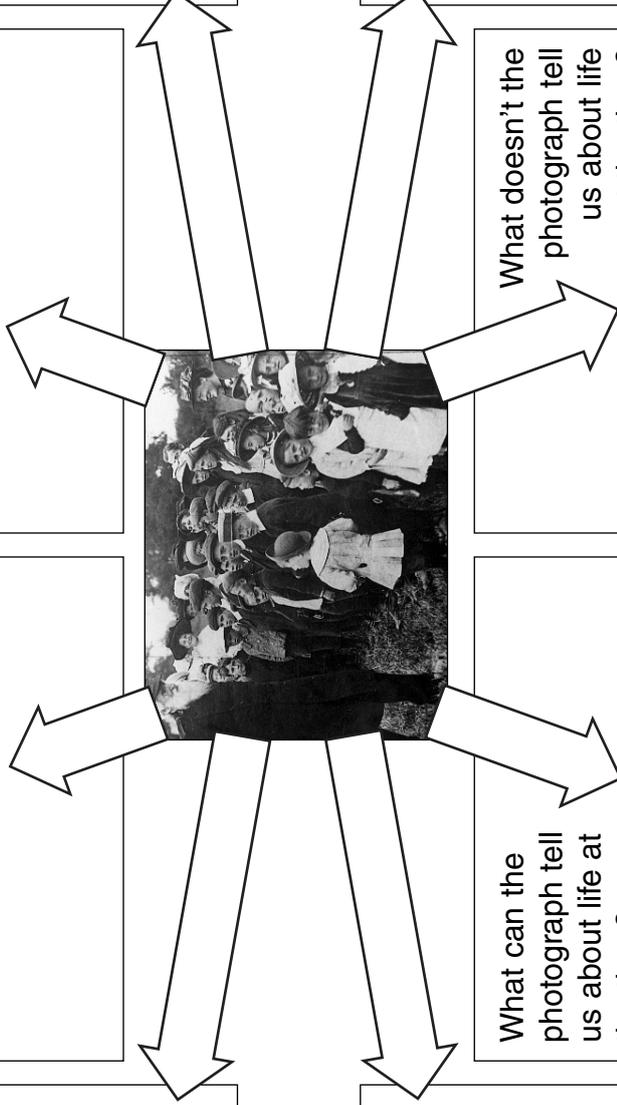
List everything you can see in the photograph.

What can the photograph tell us about life at the time?

What doesn't the photograph tell us about life at the time?

What is similar or different to life today?

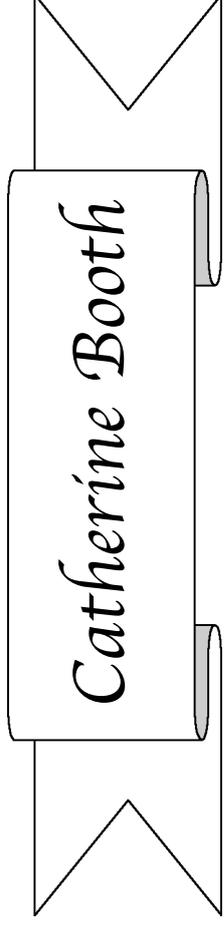
Is there anything odd or unusual that stands out?



CATHERINE BOOTH THE FACTS

- 17 January 1829 **Catherine Mumford** was born in Ashbourne, Derbyshire. She was the only daughter in a family of five.
Mother – devout Christian and devoted to Catherine.
Father – occasional lay preacher and carriage maker
- 1841 – 1843 Catherine spent only two years of her life at school as her mother preferred to educate her at home. **Mrs. Mumford** was worried about the influence badly behaved children would have on her daughter. Catherine could spell out simple words when she was only three years old and as she grew older she read widely. Before she was twelve she had read the Bible through eight times.
- 1843 Catherine became the secretary of the children's **Temperance Society** in Boston where her family now lived. While still in her teens and when her father had moved to Brixton Catherine was the leader of a Bible class of girls aged 12 – 19.
- 1843 Catherine's school days were brought to an abrupt close by a severe spinal attack that forced her to spend most of her time resting. She used this time to sew, knit and read books. She spent much time in reading and studying her Bible too.
- 1844 Family moves to South London
- 1846 It was at this time that Catherine came to realise that she had not committed her life personally to God and that her knowledge of God was all in her head and not her heart. For six weeks she prayed that Jesus Christ would become her Saviour. Early one morning she came to know God in the special way she had been praying about. She knew she had been **converted** (had given her life over to God) and made the decision to spend her life doing what he wanted her to do.
- 1851 Catherine meets **William Booth**. It was during a meeting that Catherine attended, in her local church in Brixton, that she first saw William Booth. As she listened to his sermon she knew that she needed to meet this great preacher. A mutual friend, **Mr Edward Rabbitts**, brought the couple together by inviting them both to his house for tea. At this gathering he persuaded William to recite a poem about the evils of alcohol. Catherine was taken aback by this man who thought the same as she did.
- 16 June 1855 Catherine marries William in **Stockwell New Chapel**, South London. It was a small wedding attended by Catherine's father and one of William's sisters. The Rev. Dr. Thomas married them.
- 1859 Published '**Female Ministry**' – this writing outlined Catherine's strong feelings about women being able to preach as well as men.
- Whit Sunday 1860 William was just finishing his sermon in **Gateshead** and saw something that alarmed him. Walking towards him, with her four year old son **Bramwell**, came Catherine. Up to that moment she had been sitting quietly in the pew. The congregation grew silent. Catherine came to the pulpit and began to address the crowd. This was the start of her life as a preacher.
- 1865 William and Catherine formed **The Christian Mission**. This later became **The Salvation Army**. Mrs Booth received invitations to preach in many places. She was also looking after her eight children.
- 1870s As The Salvation Army developed Catherine designed the bonnet that **Salvationist** women wore. At that time they needed the **bonnets** (hats) to protect themselves from missiles that were so often hurled at **Salvationists** in those days. Catherine also toured England preaching and presenting The Salvation Army **flag** to worshippers. Catherine had designed this flag as well.
- 4 October 1890 Catherine Booth's life was cut short when she lost her long term battle with cancer. Catherine's funeral was the largest Victorian funeral London had seen with 27,000 people who viewed her body before it was removed to Olympia. By now, the world had come to know her as the **Army Mother**.

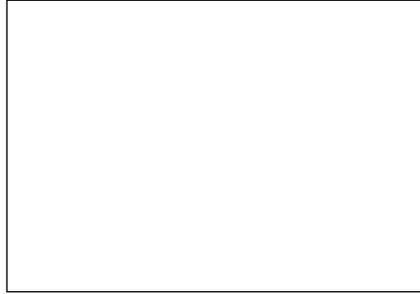
GETTING TO KNOW...



IDENTIFICATION CARD

CAREER HISTORY:

NAME:



AGE:

ADDRESS:

ORIGIN:

D.O.B:

OCCUPATION:

HOBBIES:

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN LIFE:

FAMILY BACKGROUND:

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE:



WHAT'S THE TIME?



This activity will help you to understand what historical events were occurring that affected the everyday lives of Victorian people as well as William and Catherine Booth.

- 1) Sort these events into Salvation Army events or general Victorian events.
- 2) Place your sorted events on the appropriate place on the Historic Timelines.

1865 – The Salvation Army begins in East London

1828 – Duke of Wellington is Prime Minister

1855 – William Booth and Catherine Mumford marry on 16 June

1837 – Victoria becomes Queen

1840 – Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert; penny postage begins in Britain

1861 – William Booth leaves the Methodist Church.

1901 – Queen Victoria dies; Edward VII begins reign

1829 – William Booth born on 10 April in Nottingham.

1912 – William Booth dies on 20 August ; succeeded as Salvation Army General by son Bramwell

1849 – William Booth moves from Nottingham to the East End of London to work as assistant pawnbroker

1878 – Electric street lights introduced in London

1844 – William Booth becomes a Christian at Broad Street Wesleyan Chapel

1912 – Titanic sinks

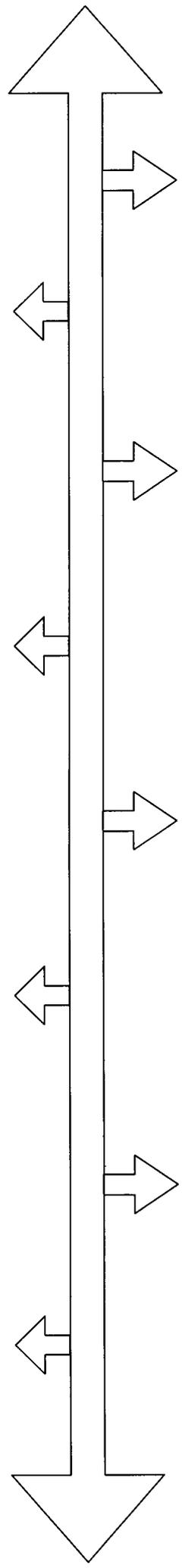
1851 – William meets Catherine Mumford

1914 – World War I begins

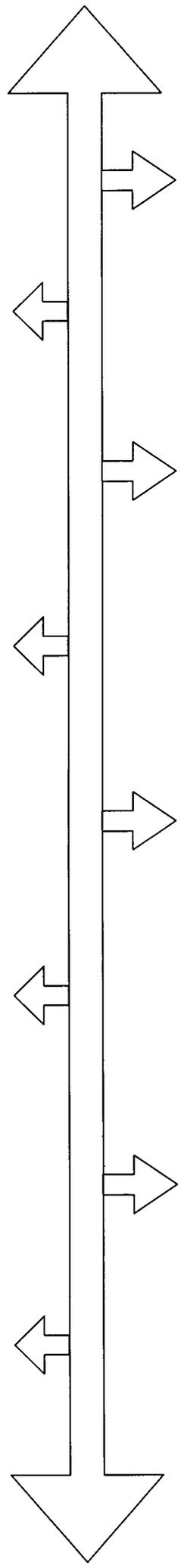
1888 – London Girls' Match Strike; Jack the Ripper

HISTORIC TIMELINES

**VICTORIAN
TIMELINE**



**WILLIAM BOOTH
TIMELINE**



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF PETE THE PLUMBER

William Booth's idea of following Jesus was to get men and women to change their whole way of life. Many hardened criminals and drunkards were 'converted', to a better life following Jesus, by the love shown to them by The Salvation Army. Here is a day in the life of Pete the Plumber before he was converted. You can fill in the part for after he was converted telling how he might help around the house now and treat his children better. Of course, you will have many more ideas of your own as well.

<p>DAY IN THE LIFE OF PETE THE PLUMBER BEFORE HE MET WILLIAM BOOTH</p>	<p>DAY IN THE LIFE OF PETE THE PLUMBER AFTER HE MET WILLIAM BOOTH</p>
<p>9:00am Needed a bit of a stiff drink just to get me started this morning. The wife and kids were winding me up about having no bread and milk for breakfast. Said it was all my fault for drinking the wages away. I had no choice but to show them the buckle-end of me belt. A kick or two here and there never did anyone any harm. Least of all them, the miserable lot! Took some tools and some of the kids clothing to the pawnbrokers this morning. Need the cash as it's getting near the end of the week and I'm gonna need me drinking money for the weekend.</p> <p>11:30am Felt quite drunk this morning and it didn't help that I had to climb a 90 rung ladder which wasn't tied to the roof of the house I was working on. Later I had to cross some iron girders that stretched across 80 feet of nothingness, in me hob-nailed boots. Being on the bottle doesn't help when you're up high. Ha, ha!</p> <p>2:30pm After me liquid lunch me and a mate had to go over to a toff's house to sort out a gas leak in his house. The escape of gas was a nightmare to find as it was behind the wainscot but while we were looking we found a large box of Havana cigars. We took 'em and guess what? The toff gave us a shilling for our good work. What a joke!</p> <p>7:00pm Needed another drink before I left work to give me the courage to steal some sheet lead or 'bluey' as we usually call it. I'll sell it later to get me some money for the night's beer. I hid the lead inside me trousers hanging from a belt round me middle. Even though they sent foremen and detectives to watch out for suspicious men with heavy looking trousers I got away with it!</p> <p>9:00pm Collected me 'rhubarb' from the pub tonight – that's an advance on me wages. I love 'rhubarb' day – means I can get really drunk tonight.</p> <p>11:50pm Had a terrific time in The Dockers Arms tonight – spent evening cracking jokes and singing songs. Got a bit nasty when someone spilt their drink on me but I soon knocked them into the middle of next week. Left at closing time but found me wife and children waiting for me outside. Looked like beggars, they did! They were complaining cos they said I'd drunk their food money away and they was starving. Nothing I can do if a man's got a thirst-on. They need to butt out and stop nagging all the time. I'll take my fist to them, I will.</p>	

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In the 1880's William Booth and his family worked very hard to improve conditions for men, women and children who were poor and destitute. He wrote a book in 1891 called 'In Darkest England and the Way Out'. Here, he put forward a detailed plan for ending unemployment and overcoming poverty.

How would you cope with the problems of hunger, homelessness and severe illness? What plans would you put into action to help the poor and needy in Victorian times?

Devise your own plan of action to solve the social problems that were occurring in Victorian times. You can lay-out your action plan as you wish or use the table below to help you.

SOCIAL ACTION PLAN

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
<p>1) Alcohol abuse – public houses welcome the cold and lonely. They provide warmth, light and company as well as drink – the means by which many were able to escape from the daily cycle of long hours at work.</p> <p>2) Match girls face real hardship in the workplace – long hours, very low pay and poor conditions make life difficult for employees.</p> <p>3) Homelessness – William and his son, Bramwell, see many people living on the streets in all weather conditions with no food or shelter.</p> <p>4) Children are arriving at school without breakfast and so ill prepared for the day ahead.</p> <p>5) With so much unemployment, many people had little hope for the future and no purpose in life.</p>	

Once you have completed your own plans, compare them to those of William Booth.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Now you have completed your own social programme and have attempted to solve many of the problems of the Victorian era, compare them to William Booth's proposals.

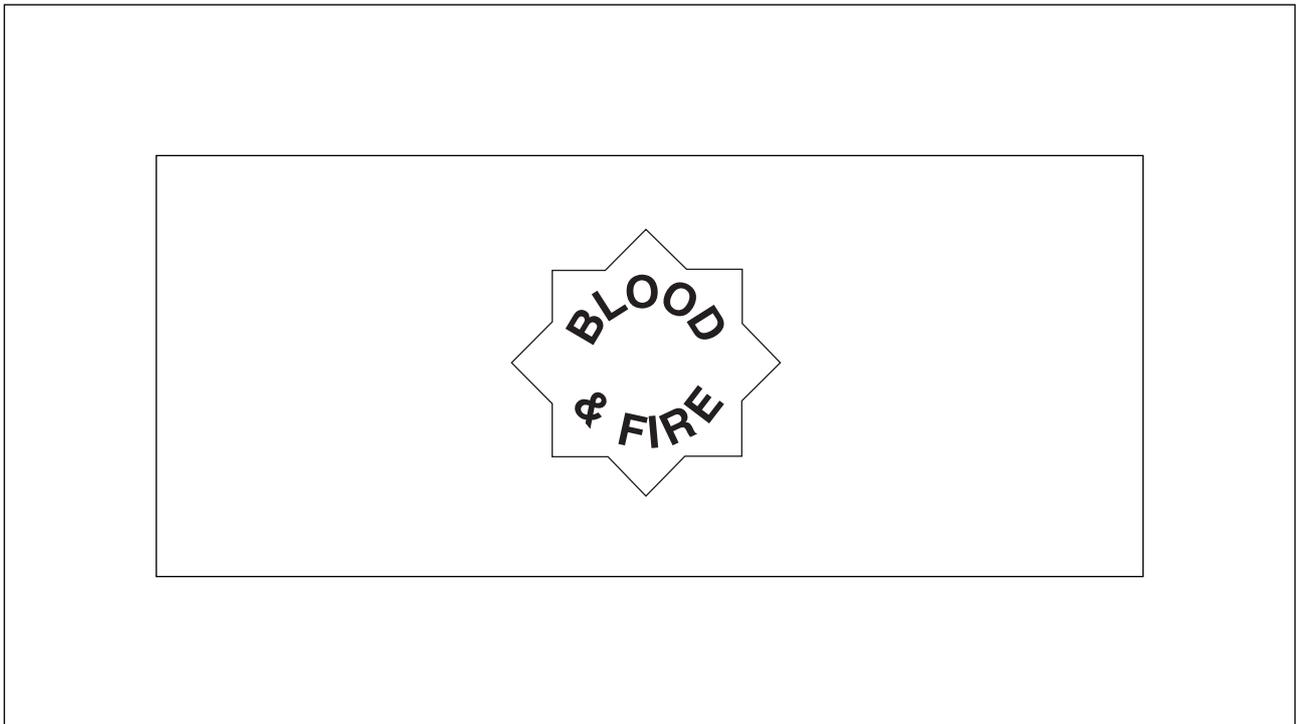
SOCIAL ACTION PLAN

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
1) Alcohol abuse	1) William Booth held strong views against the misuse of alcohol. Booth realised that the people who drank in pubs would not come to church so he went to them and would preach outside the pubs in the East End. Obviously not everyone was happy about this and he faced fierce opposition from pub owners and brewers.
2) Match girls face real hardship.	2) In 1891, The Salvation Army opened a clean, airy, well-lit factory where harmless red phosphorus was used in the match-making process. Booth called the matches 'Lights in Darkest England'. Tea making facilities were made available and the 100 workers received decent wages – more than one third above the rate in other factories.
3) Homelessness	3) In London, the first food and shelter depot opened at Limehouse. In 1889, the Army served low-priced meals to 10,000 starving dockers on strike. Shelters were opened with dining rooms, dormitory beds and washroom facilities for rock-bottom prices.
4) Children with no breakfast	4) In February 1868, the Christian Mission opened a new meeting hall with a gathering room for 250 and 6 meeting rooms for small groups. It included a temporary refuge for poor families and 'penniless girls' and served 1,000 breakfasts on Sunday morning. 'Farthing breakfasts' were introduced for children in the winter of 1891.
5) Unemployment	5) Booth put forward a three-step solution to urban unemployment: ● Step 1 – City workshops – the first step from poverty to supporting oneself ● Step 2 – A 'back to the land' community – the poor learn basic skills in preparation for the final step. ● Step 3 – Emigration, of England's unemployed, to settlements in Canada and Australasia.

DESIGNING THE SALVATION ARMY

Catherine Booth, William's wife, made many contributions to the early development of **The Salvation Army**. She designed and presented the first Army flag to the corps in Coventry, England, in September 1878. For many months after that, she travelled throughout Britain, with William, presenting flags to the corps wherever they went.

THE SALVATION ARMY FLAG



Complete this flag with the appropriate colours.

Until 1882 the central shape of the flag was a sun but when a plan to open the Army's work in India was put into action it was found that the Parsees, an Indian religious sect, regarded the sun as sacred and so it was changed to a star.

So, what does the flag represent?

RED BACKGROUND: the blood of Jesus Christ

BLUE BORDER: Holiness or purity of God

THE YELLOW STAR: The fire of the Holy Spirit

The motto '**Blood and Fire**' is written on the star. The flag is carried at the head of marches of witness and is given a prominent place in Salvation Army halls. It is also held aloft at special ceremonies such as the dedication of babies.

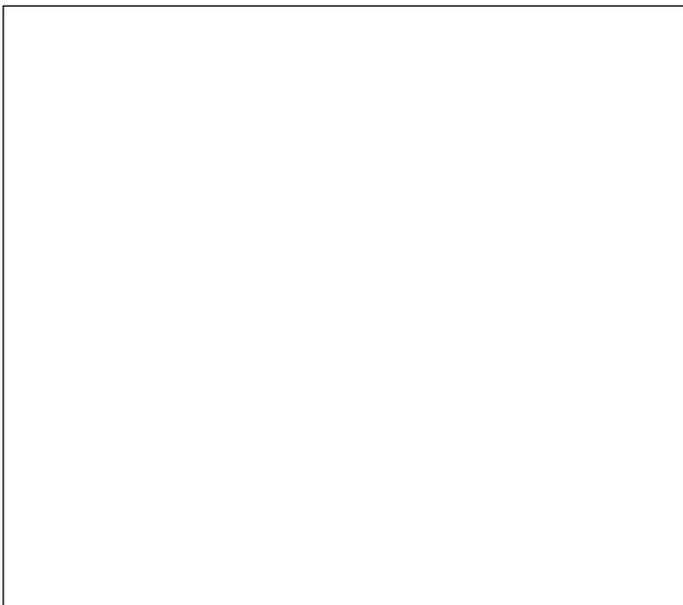
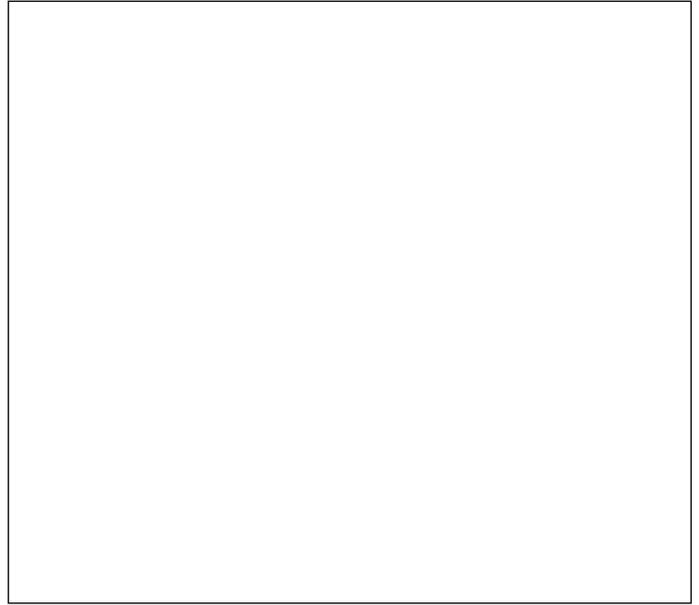
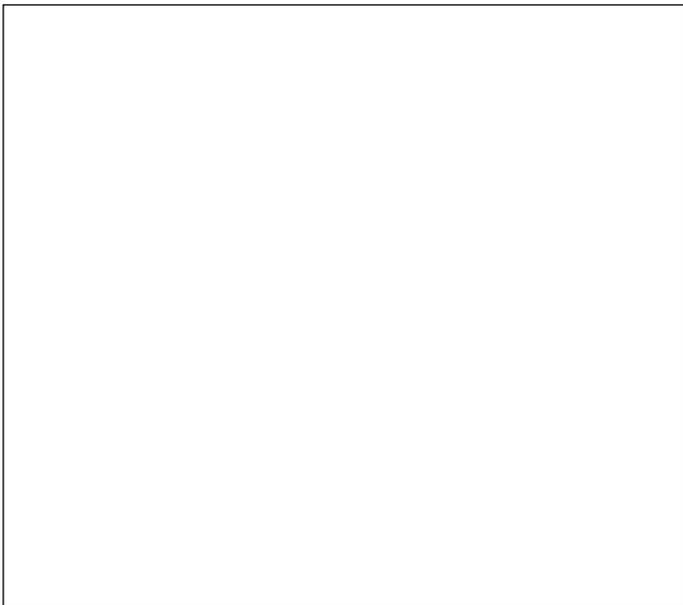
The **Red Shield** is a simpler design that is widely used for identification. It is often used on vehicles used for Red Shield work with servicemen and emergency services.

DESIGN A FLAG

Now is your chance to design your own flag. Think very carefully about symbols you would use to reflect different aspects of your life. You might want to think about your hobbies, family or school life.

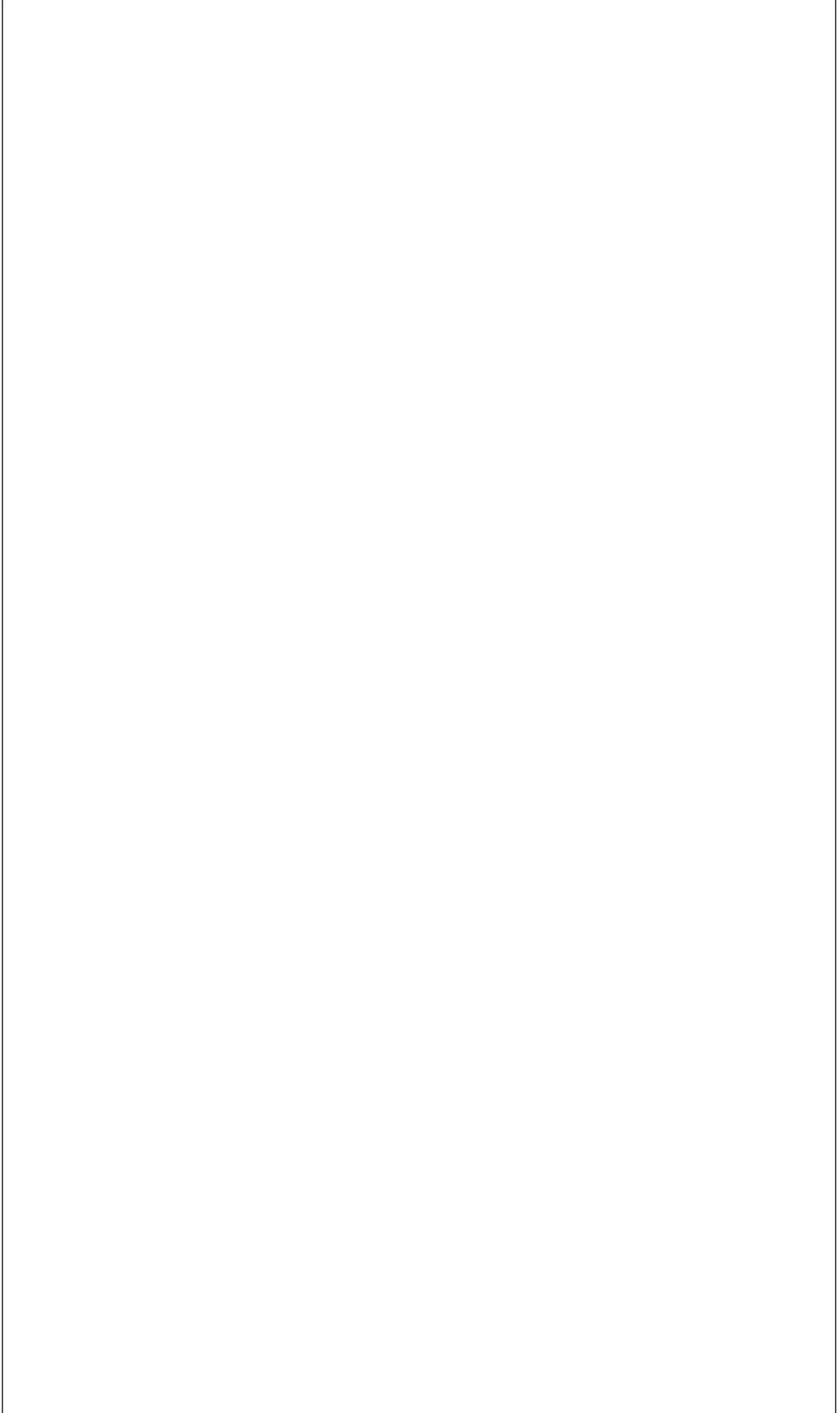
In the boxes below decide what symbols you might use to reflect your life. You don't have to use all of them in your final design but they will help you to decide what your flag will eventually look like. Don't forget to think carefully about the colours you choose. Remember the colours used in **The Salvation Army** flag were all important and represented something to do with the beliefs of a **Salvationist**. Maybe your colours will represent your beliefs or feelings about the symbols you use.

DESIGN IDEAS



FINAL DESIGN

Now use your 'Design Ideas' to create your final flag design.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw their final flag design based on their previous work.

