

The Great Fire of London

Text Map

On Sunday 2nd September 1666 a fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane. The baker was called Thomas Farriner. Thomas and his family woke up to the smell of smoke. He forgot to put out the embers in the oven. They had to escape out of a window and across the rooftops. By 7:00am the fire had got worse and they were struggling to put it out. The houses were built close together and there was a strong wind which was helping the fire to spread. People were escaping from their homes and took to the river with their precious belongings. Samuel Pepys wrote about the fire in his diary. On day 3 houses were pulled down and gun powder was used to blow them up to try and stop it. The fire continued to spread for 5 days and people used buckets of water from the River Thames to try and put it out. 13,200 houses were destroyed in the fire and King Charles II said that no more houses are to be made out of wood.