

The Anglophile

June 2020



England By The Book
English Literary Locations Explored

Entry to the
Cottage is every
5 Minutes.
Please Wait
here, a guide will
greet you shortly.



EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear all,

Welcome to this the June 2020 issue of The Anglophile magazine.

This month we have a Literature theme.

Our first feature is on some of the many English places associated with authors and/or their work.

And our English Literature quiz follows that theme. Make sure you read the rest of the magazine closely as that will help you answer some of the questions.

Our second features is on one of the places mentioned in the first feature: Bath. It's closely connected to Jane Austen, a former resident, but is also a fantastic place to visit.

It's one of the most beautiful towns in England and we've shown off some of its many charms in our Gallery of Bath.

And finally, something that will be a regular feature: our new 'In This Month' column. This will feature important historical anniversaries for the month...

Anyway, I hope you'll enjoy the magazine as much as I enjoyed putting it together...

Until next time,

Chris Young

Editor

ENGLAND BY THE BOOK

ENGLISH LITERARY LOCATIONS EXPLORED

COVER STORY

Follow in the footsteps of some of Britain's greatest authors when you visit these five sites connected to them and their literary works.

HAWORTH (WEST YORKSHIRE)

A visit to the Village of Haworth and its environs immerses you in the world of the renowned Brontë sisters. Fans of the Brontës will recognize the moors and manor houses that set the stage for classics such as *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*.

The best place for a Brontë buff to start exploring Haworth is at the Brontë Parsonage Museum in the former family home.

A few short kilometers away is the Brontë Waterfall, a local landmark that Charlotte described in her journal as “fine indeed, a perfect torrent racing over the rocks, white and beautiful.”

Other sites of interest include the family vault at the Haworth Parish Church, the ruins of a farmhouse on Top Withens that is said to be the inspiration for *Wuthering Heights*, and Moor Lodge, which bears a striking resemblance to Charlotte's description of Ferndean Manor in *Jane Eyre*.



Brontë Parsonage



Bath

BATH

Every autumn, the city of Bath hosts the Jane Austen Festival, an all-out tribute to its famous former resident.

If you can't make it to this annual event, there's still plenty for Austen addicts to see and do during the rest of the year. Stop by the Jane Austen Centre for a look at her life in Bath during the early 19th century and the unmistakable influence it had on her final two novels.

After enjoying Austen-themed afternoon tea at the Regency Tea Room on the top floor and browsing through the gift shop on your way out, try try Visit Bath's free audio walking tour, "In the Footsteps of Jane Austen".

The tour's fifteen stops include locations that readers will recognize from *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* as well as sites frequented by Jane herself while she lived in Bath.

(Our second feature this month is a more comprehensive tour of Bath).

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Stratford-upon-Avon is Shakespeare territory. Born in this medieval market town in the 16th century, Shakespeare went on to write some of England's greatest literary works.

Visitors to Stratford-upon-Avon can stop by his family home on Henley Street, tour King Edward VI School where he studied the English language, and pay your respects at his final resting place, Holy Trinity Church.

To see one of Shakespeare's iconic plays during your visit, reserve tickets to performances at one of three venues in Stratford-upon-Avon operated by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

For post-performance drinks, belly up to the bar at the Windmill. Given that the Windmill is just down the street from Shakespeare's final residence, New Place, it's a good bet that you'll be throwing back a pint in the same pub where the Bard supposedly quenched his thirst after putting pen to paper.



Shakespeare's
Birthplace, Stratford

OXFORD

During his time in Oxford, J.R.R. Tolkien is rumored to have been marking papers in his role as a professor at Pembroke College when he jotted down the line “In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit” that introduced the world to the creature which starred in much of his best work.

His writing was critiqued by fellow authors (including C.S. Lewis) at meetings of the Inklings, an informal literary society. The Inklings met regularly at the Eagle and Child, a historic pub on St Giles boulevard.

Local sites that served as inspiration for his fantasy fiction include the University of Oxford’s Radcliffe Camera building and the Oxford Botanic Garden & Arboretum. Radcliffe Camera was reinvented as Sauron’s temple to Morgoth and a black pine tree at the arboretum inspired the Ents in Middle-earth.

Fans can also visit Tolkien’s home on Northmoor Road and his final resting place at Wolvercote Cemetery.



Dickens House, Broadstairs

BROADSTAIRS

The Dickens House museum in Broadstairs is a great place to begin your exploration of this quaint coastal town.

A frequent visitor to the cottage that houses the museum, Dickens used it as inspiration for Betsey Trotwood’s home in David Copperfield.

During the summer holidays, he stayed nearby at Fort House where he spent his time working on many of his early novels.

The property is rumored to be the model for Bleak House and has been renamed to reflect its alleged connection to the novel of the same name.

Before settling on Fort House as his preferred summer retreat, the author stayed at several other properties in town, including the Royal Albion Hotel.

The town hosts the Broadstairs Dickens Festival every June to celebrate its connection to the author and his novels.

DARTMOOR

Dartmoor - quite literally a moor from which River Dart rises - is a forbidding place in central Devon in the South West of England.

Famous for its wild ponies and its prison built in Napoleonic times, it has featured as the backdrop to many authors' works.

In particular crime writers have found its brooding moors, bogs and Tors (the local name for hills) the perfect place to stage a murder mystery.

Agatha Christie and, most famously, Arthur Conan Doyle have both set books here.

The latter's most famous work, the Hound Of The Baskervilles, has Sherlock Holmes tracing a gruesome killer on the moors and makes use of the misty of the place brilliantly.

Don't let all this murder and spookiness put you off - Dartmoor is a fantastic place to visit - particularly if you are into walking.

The moor is criss-crossed with public footpaths linking pretty market towns and villages such as Buckfast and Chagford, which are also a great place to stay in.

Just watch out for that Hound at night...



Dartmoor At Night



QUIZ: ENGLISH LITERATURE

Find out how much you know about the places that influenced England's long history of literary endeavour. Some of the answers are mentioned elsewhere in this issue - let's see just how closely you were paying attention!

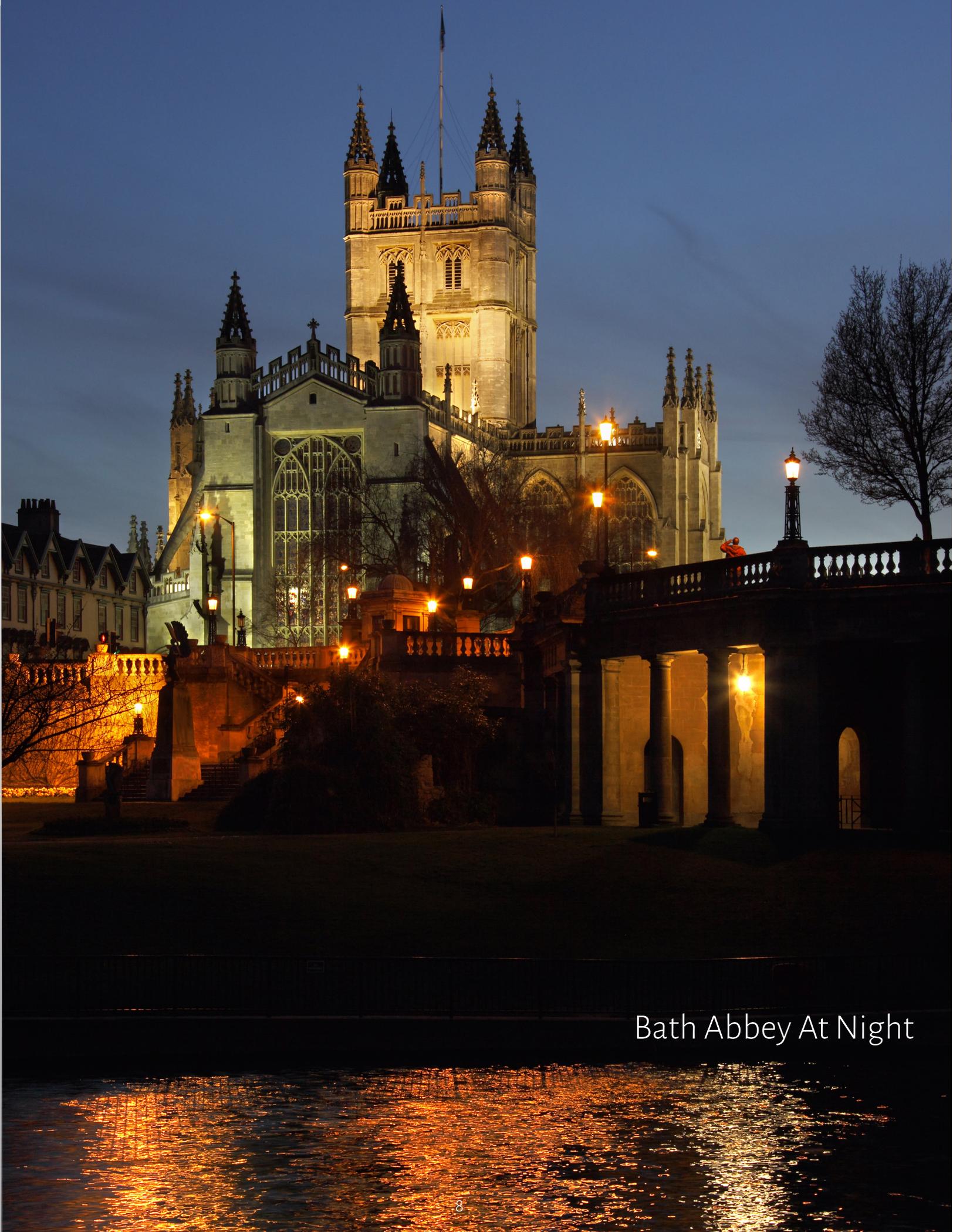
(Answers on Page 14)

1. In which London mainline train station would you find Platform 9¾, featured in the Harry Potter books?
2. With which English county is the novelist Thomas Hardy most closely associated?
3. Which English national park was at one time home to the poet William Wordsworth and the children's writer Beatrix Potter?
4. Who wrote the 2016 novel "The Essex Serpent"?
5. Charles Dickens wrote "A Tale of Two Cities" about Paris and which other city?
6. The Eagle and Child pub in Oxford hosted meetings of a literary group known as the Inklings. Can you name either of its two most famous members?
7. In which Yorkshire village would you find the Brontë Parsonage Museum, a museum focused on the life and work of Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë?
8. Winston Graham's Poldark series is set in which English county?
9. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective Sherlock Holmes could be found at 221B Baker Street. To reach Baker Street by Tube, can you name one of the five London Underground lines that serve the station?
10. Where in London would you have found Elizabeth Beresford's Wombles?
11. The man who wrote The Jungle Book – and many other famous works – lived for much of his life in Burwash, East Sussex. What's his name?
12. The Brown family found Michael Bond's loveable bear at which London station?
13. Featured in her 19th century classic North and South, Elizabeth Gaskell modelled the fictitious Milton on which northern industrial city?
14. In which Devon town on the English Riviera, the birthplace of the writer dubbed the Queen of Crime, would you find the Agatha Christie Literary Trail?
15. Where was Shakespeare born?
16. Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales is a collection of 24 stories he wrote in the 14th century. In which present-day county is Canterbury?
17. Hundred Acre Wood was the playground of Winnie-the-Pooh, Tigger, Piglet and Eeyore. Creator A. A. Milne based it on Ashdown Forest, a woodland near his home where his own son, Christopher Robin played as a child. Is it in Surrey or Sussex?
18. Jane Austen moved to Chawton in 1809 and it was there that she wrote Mansfield Park and Emma. In which English county is the village of Chawton?
19. The pub that inspired Daphne du Maurier's novel Jamaica Inn can be found on top of which West Country moor?
20. Colin Dexter's curmudgeonly Inspector Morse and his sidekick Sergeant Lewis worked in which English city, famous for its university?

GALLERY:BATH



Bridge Over The River Avon



Bath Abbey At Night

Path In Central Bath





Typical Bath Georgian House



A LITERARY LOVER'S GUIDE TO BATH

THE ROMANS, JANE AUSTEN & MORE

Nestled in a valley and surrounded by lush country, the city of Bath is one of England's most alluring cities. Though its rich limestone architecture, famed history and wealth of culture draws crowds of visitors, the city's fame comes from its water.

You may have heard of the Roman Baths, the city's remarkably well-preserved ancient spa – Romans once bathed here, soaking up the benefits of the mineral-rich water. Fast forward to more recent history and it became much more fashionable to drink the water than to bathe in it, in hopes of curing all ills.

During the Georgian period, the legendary water of Bath called to Britain's high society, who flocked to the city. It was during this time that Jane Austen called the city home, from 1801 to 1806. Though she lived here for only a few years, the impact Bath had on the author and her writing is renowned.

Jane had a love/hate relationship with Bath, a relationship that plays out in two of her novels, *Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey*. Both books offer a fascinating insight into Bath in the Regency era and the social games of the city's high society.

Over two hundred years since Jane left, Bath is as popular a destination as ever. With its perfectly placed streets of Georgian architecture, limestone buildings and its backdrop of sumptuous countryside, any visit to Bath is an intriguing adventure.

But what better way to explore the city than by tracing the steps of Jane Austen herself?



Roman Baths

THE JANE AUSTEN CENTRE

The first stop for any Austen lover is a visit to The Jane Austen Centre. The centre is set within a Grade II listed Georgian townhouse along the sloping Gay Street, a street Jane once called home.

It's a homage to the author's life, but also to the city itself during the Regency era. Journey back to the early 1800's as you step through the centre's front door.

Alongside the costumed guides, wander the exhibits that tell the stories of Jane's time living in Bath and how it inspired her writing.

You can even come face to face with Jane herself as you admire her perfectly created waxwork figure.

Upstairs, the Regency Tea Room awaits – here, you can experience tea the way they did in Jane's time, with a range of hot drinks, cakes and sandwiches served by wait staff in full Regency costume.

THE ROYAL CRESCENT

A short walk from The Jane Austen Centre is The Royal Crescent.

This striking Georgian masterpiece consists of 30 terrace townhouses that sweep around a perfect semi-circle lawn and look out over Royal Victoria Park.

Jane was known to walk by The Royal Crescent, home to the rich elite. And, of course, the crescent featured in Jane's work. Austen fans may recognise this beloved landmark from the film adaptation of *Persuasion*.

Today, many of the houses along the crescent are private still, but there are a few places where you can explore inside.

The crescent is now home to the luxurious Royal Crescent Hotel & Spa and also to No. 1 Royal Crescent, a living museum that's set up and adorned just how it would have been during the Regency era.



THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS

Built in 1761-71, the Assembly Rooms were designed by the English architect, John Wood the Younger. They were made for music and dancing and that was exactly their use during Jane's time in Bath – and it still is today.

As elegant as ever, the Assembly Rooms are made up of the Great Octagon, Tea Room, Ballroom, Card Room, and a small formal garden.

They served as the backdrop for fashionable Georgian society to gather, to dance, enjoy music, drink tea and play cards.

Today, you can still imagine this as the place that featured in two of Jane Austen novels; a place where young ladies attended evening balls in the hope to meet an eligible gentleman.



THE PUMP ROOM

Set above the infamous Roman Baths, the Pump Room was at the heart of Bath's social scene in Jane's time.

The city's high society all flocked here to indulge in afternoon tea and to drink the mineral water pumped from the spa water fountain.

It was a favourite spot of Jane's and she wrote that 'every creature in Bath was to be seen in the room at different periods of the fashionable hours.'

It's now home to the Pump Room Restaurant, but much of the building's grandeur remains untouched.

With its impressive chandelier and classical music played live every day, it's not hard to imagine you're mingling with Bath's historical elite as you enjoy delicate finger sandwiches and a hot cup of tea.

(Quiz Answers: 1. Kings Cross; 2. Dorset; 3. Lake District National Park; 4. Sarah Perry; 5. London; 6. C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien; 7. Haworth; 8. Cornwall; 9. Circle, Metropolitan, Jubilee, Hammersmith & City and Bakerloo; 10. Wimbledon Common; 11. Rudyard Kipling; 12. Paddington; 13. Manchester; 14. Torquay; 15. Stratford-Upon-Avon; 16. Kent; 17. Sussex; 18. Hampshire; 19. Bodmin Moor, Cornwall; 20. Oxford)

IN THIS MONTH

ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE 2020

This month we start a new series on historic events having an anniversary in the month - in this case anniversaries for June 2020...

50 YEARS AGO(19 JUNE 1970).

CONSERVATIVES LED BY EDWARD HEATH WIN BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

The Tories (the nickname of the Conservatives) beat then PM Harold Wilson's Labour Party with a majority of 31.

This was a surprise victory (opinion polls had Labour well in the lead beforehand.)

Heath was Prime Minister for four years, taking the UK into what became the European Union in 1973.

The UK recently left the EU – the so called 'Brexit'.

Having lost the 1974 election, he was replaced as Conservative Party leader by a certain Margaret Thatcher, Heath's former Secretary State For Education.

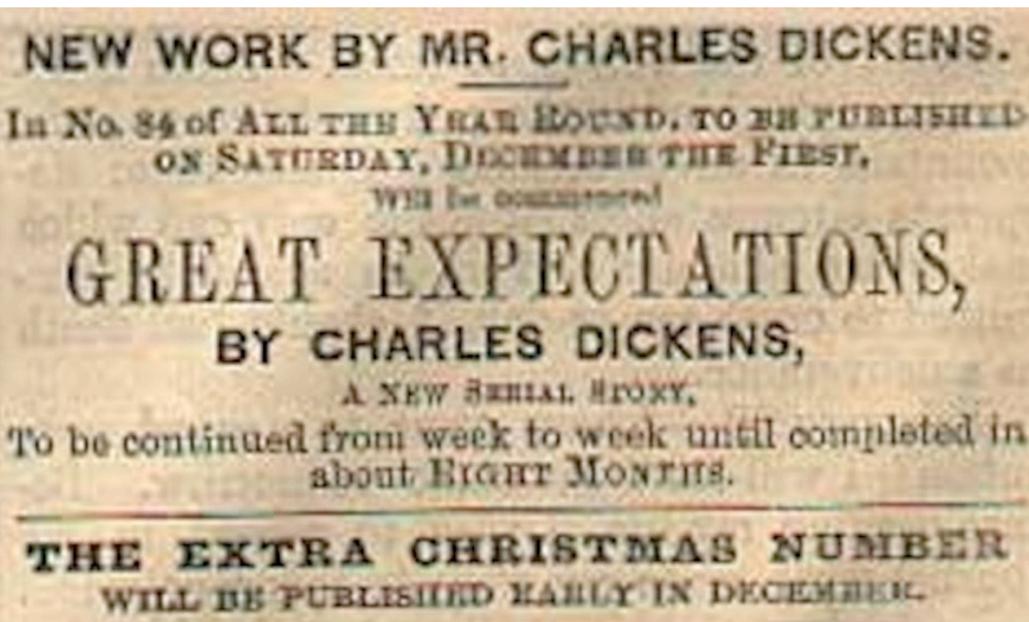
She would lead the Tory Party to victory in 1979 and would stay as PM through the whole of the 1980s.



Edward Heath

150 YEARS AGO(19 JUNE 1970).

CHARLES DICKENS, THE AUTHOR, DIES OF A STROKE (9 JUNE 1870)



Dickens was probably the greatest Victorian novelist writing such masterpieces as A Christmas Carol and Great Expectations.

He was particularly concerned about the plight of the poor in the cities of the Victorian era and, in fact, slum like conditions are often referred to as Dickensian even now.

He is buried in Poets Corner in Westminster Abbey with Chaucer, Hardy, Handel, Tennyson and others.

250 YEARS AGO(19 JUNE 1970).

CAPTAIN COOK RUNS AGROUND ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

James Cook commanded the HMS Endeavour on a joint Royal Navy and Royal Society scientific voyage from 1768 to 1771, one of three such trips he would undertake.

On 11 June 1770 he was nearly shipwrecked on the Great Barrier Reef North East of what is now Australia.

The ship ran aground on a shoal which causing extensive damage and Cook was delayed for 7 weeks.

Whilst there the word 'kangaroo' entered the English language, from local Guugu Yimidjirr people's word for the animal, gangurru.



James Cook



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