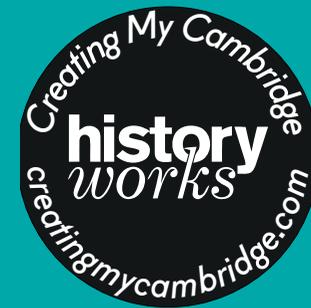


# WALKING HISTORY TRAIL OF RIVERSIDE - FROM ABBEY MEADOWS TO MARKET SQUARE



**history**  
*works*



## ABOUT CREATING MY CAMBRIDGE

'Creating My Cambridge' is a public art project led by Professor Helen Weinstein to share historical sources about Cambridge's people and places, past and present. It uses histories to inspire creativity and cultures of belonging. The aim is to give voice to school pupils, singers, musicians, poets, rappers, storytellers, filmmakers and composers. Historyworks is working with top poets like Michael Rosen & witty lyricists like CBBC's Horrible Histories song writer, Dave Cohen. Historyworks organizes workshops and events for people to get creative. Do use these resources and contribute subjects and creative pieces. We will be tagging artworks to the topics in the trails. To find further trails, please go to:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/trails/>

## ABOUT HISTORYWORKS

Historyworks delivers top quality media products for museums, galleries, archives, libraries, community groups, academics, schools, colleges, universities, radio and television companies.

Historyworks supports the practice and theory of Public History and Public Art in the UK by promoting education programmes and partnerships. Historyworks bridges the gap between knowledge and public engagement with creativity and impact.

Historyworks produces made-to-measure documentary films, radio programmes, podcasts, vodcasts, stills, sound installations, websites, apps, radio and tv tasters and show reels. To get in touch with our team email us at [historyworkstv@gmail.com](mailto:historyworkstv@gmail.com)

## G Marshall Company



Marshall of Cambridge is well known today for the aerodrome and runways at their business located at the top of Newmarket Road. However, the original site of Marshall was closeby the River Cam, when the company was established in 1909 by David Gregory Marshall as a car vehicle business, and their garage was in Brunswick Gardens. Importantly, their first opportunity to get involved in aviation came in 1912 when a British Army airship made an emergency landing on Jesus Green closeby their garage. Their mechanics helped repair the engine of the Airship called a Beta II.

## H Magdalene Bridge



Magdalene Bridge used to be known as "Great Bridge" and marks the site of an important Roman era river crossing. During Roman times the River Cam could be navigated from the Wash, all the way to Cambridge and all routes met at this crossing point, for trade during peaceful times and also armies and supplies in times of war such as the English Civil War, when the town was divided between supporters of the King and supporters of Parliament. The river continued to be an important trade route, until the opening of the railway in 1845, which then became the dominant route.

## I Guildhall and Market Square



The Market was an important place for the Jewish Community who had a synagogue on the site where the Guildhall was later built. The Coat of Arms of Cambridge shows Seahorses, the Great Bridge, the River Cam with boats and is set above the Guildhall door.

In Tudor times Thomas Hobson made an important improvement to the market. He helped fund a conduit to bring fresh water to a fountain in the middle of Market square, for drinking water. The remains of the fountain can be seen today in the centre of the market square and look like a giant flower pot!

This walking trail will lead you from the Abbey area along Riverside into the Market place in the heart of Cambridge, exploring the important stories along the way including the prehistoric flying lizards of Coldham's Common, the 800 year old Leper Chapel, the stinkiest place at the Victorian sewage pumping station, and give you insights into the Cambridge Coat of Arms, the story of football, and much more!

Michael Rosen has composed poems about Cambridge people and places pinned to the history trail which Historyworks has recorded with some new songs performed by local primary children to entertain you on your journey. The trail lasts approximately 90 minutes. To find further trails and an electronic copy of this leaflet please go to:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/trails/>

## Michael Rosen Audio Trail

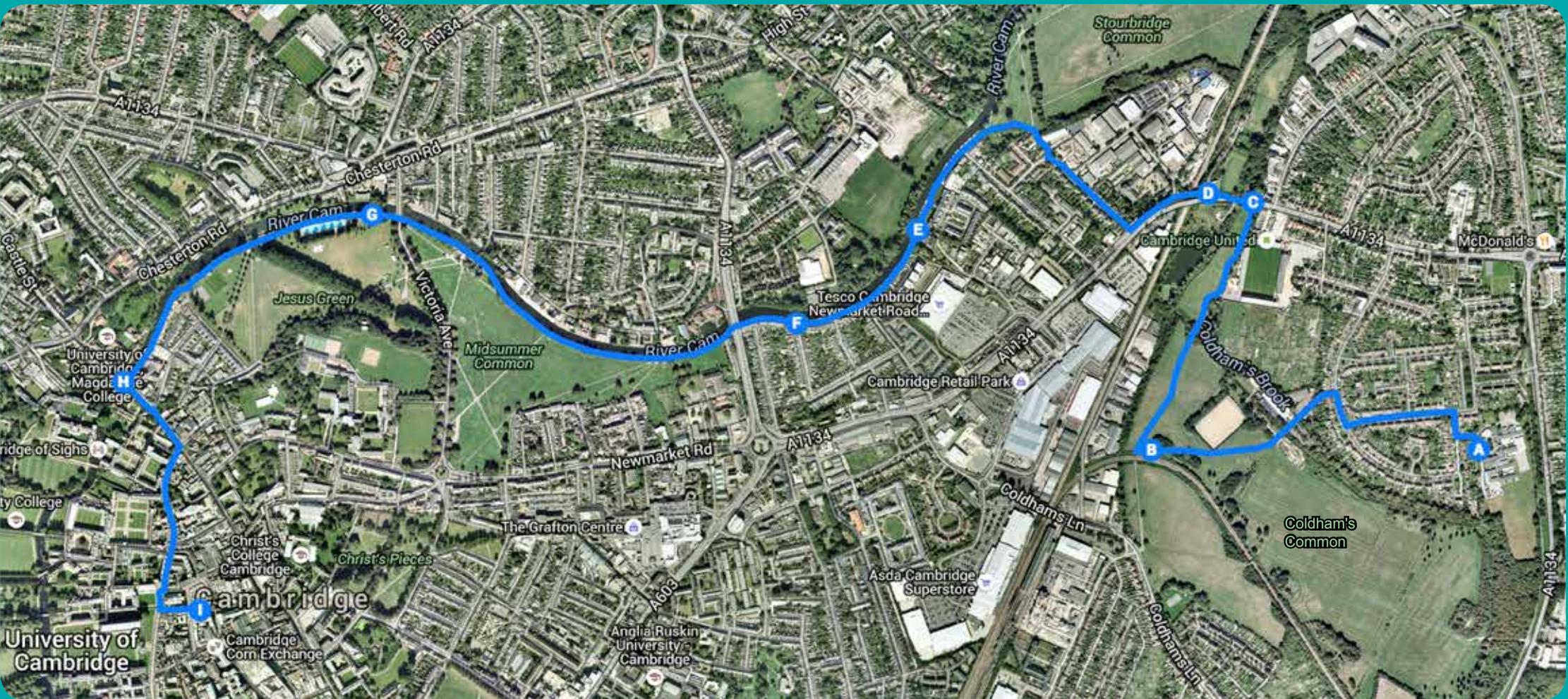
Narration of the trails by Michael Rosen. Michael Rosen is a poet, novelist, broadcaster, famous for his poems like 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Chocolate Cake', and for this project his poems include 'The Fitzwilliam Lions' and 'Coldham's Common'.

Audio Trail downloadable in MP3 format available on the web at: [www.audioboom.fm/historyworks](http://www.audioboom.fm/historyworks)

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This trail & accompanying audio have been devised and produced by Helen Weinstein, to whom all suggestions for revisions should be directed ([historyworkstv@gmail.com](mailto:historyworkstv@gmail.com)).





### D The Leper Chapel

The Leper Chapel was built over 800 years ago and is one of the oldest remaining buildings in Cambridge (even older than King's College Chapel!) It formed part of the Leper Hospital in the Middle Ages, where victims of leprosy lived in isolation. The chapel was given permission from King John (of Magna Carta fame) to earn income from the annual Stourbridge Fair, held on Stourbridge Common. The fair became extremely popular and meant the chapel became immensely wealthy. The leper colony closed at the end of the 13th Century and the chapel was handed to Cambridge town.



### E Cambridge Museum of Technology

As the Cambridge population grew, so did the problems of sewage and smells in the River Cam! Not only did it make it unpleasant to breathe, it also led to disease spreading. The terrible state of the river was noticed by Queen Victoria on a visit to the city in 1843. She was shocked by the filth floating in the Cam. However following campaigns to improve hygiene and living conditions, the pumping station was opened in 1894, pumping sewage out to Milton village, powered by steam pressure. The area also had gas, brick and tile works to build more houses and businesses in the Victorian Era.



### A Abbey Meadows Estate & School

Cambridge is growing! There are already over 125,000 people living in Cambridge, with nearly 30,000 more expected by 2020. Therefore new houses and flats are being built all around the city! But this isn't the first time this has happened. In 1801 there were just 252 people living in Abbey Ward, but by 1851 there were almost 12,000! In the 19th Century new homes were needed for railway workers, craftsmen and shopkeepers. In the 20th Century an estate in east Cambridge was newly built, including Abbey Meadows School, with many working at nearby Marshall's Aerospace and Pye Electronics.



### B Coldham's Common

Today cows still graze on Coldham's Common, as they did when peasants worked on the land in the Middle Ages. In 1594 people fought to keep the land public as a Common for everyone to use. But did you know that millions of years ago pterosaurs and ichthyosaurs used to live where the common is now? This amazing discovery happened in the mid 19th Century, when coprolite (fossilised poo) was discovered! The coprolite was used as fertiliser to help crops grow and the industry was revived during the World War One food shortages. Michael Rosen has written some poems for us about the Common and Pterosaur Poo which can be found on our website.



### C Cambridge United

The team was established in 1912 and originally named "Abbey United" after the Abbey area. The team settled in Abbey Stadium and became professional in 1949, after years of playing in local amateur leagues. Cambridge United then joined the football league in 1970. Cambridge has been playing football for centuries, going back to Roman times when they played harpastum, an early form of football. In 1848 football teams met to agree on one set of rules to prevent disagreements. The rules were fixed to the trees on Parker's Piece and then adopted by the Football Association when it was founded in 1863.



### F Barnwell Priory

Barnwell Priory was founded in 1092 and is the Abbey that Abbey ward is named after! It hosted numerous medieval Kings and even a Parliament. However it was not always popular, as back in 1381 it survived a revolt of angry locals and 150 years later was shut by Henry VIII, leading to most of the Abbey being dismantled. Only the Exchequer (storehouse for coins, fish and grain) now remains, which can be seen on Beche Road. However the Abbey is memorialised by the naming of Abbey Meadows School and street names in Abbey Ward named after previous Priors, like Peverel.