

Stephen's Blog

As most of you probably know, I'm a big *Dr Who* fan. When I read that BBC television had filmed part of the recent series in Little Woodham, I went there with two friends.

This village in Hampshire, about two hours south of London, is a "living history museum". These types of museums are in historical settings and usually feature "historical interpreters" – actors who dress, speak and behave as people from the time period. In Little Woodham's case, that's the 1600s.

I was disappointed to learn that Little Woodham isn't actually 400 years old. It was built in 1984 to show what vilage life in Hampshire had been like during England's civil war in the 1600s. The war was between those who supported the King's right to rule with absolute power and thought he should have less power. Many of the battles took place in the area.

The village is in the middle of a forest, and from the moment you enter, you feel like you're in another world. You can see cottages with thatched roofs, an alehouse (that's what pubs were called back then), an apothecary (what we call a chemist's today) and other workplaces.

We saw the blacksmith making metal nails, women making clothing and a potter making bowls. We even made something – a pen from a bird's feather. In the apothecary, the chemist explained which medicines were used at the time. On the day we visited, the barber wasn't there himself, but we learned that barbers used to perform operations on people! By the way, the actors themselves were very knowledgeable and were happy to answer our questions.

Of course, we didn't meet Dr Who, but I still felt as if I had travelled back in time to the 17th century. As fascinating as it was, I'm glad I live in the 21st century!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 **Read the blog. Then tick (✓) the sentences T (true), F (false) or DS (doesn't say).**

	T	F	DS
1. Stephen and his friends drove to Little Woodham.	.....	.....	.....
2. Little Woodham dates back about 400 years.	.....	.....	.....
3. The English civil war was about how much power the King should have.	.....	.....	.....
4. The houses in Little Woodham are made of wood.	.....	.....	.....
5. In the past, barbers worked as surgeons, too.	.....	.....	.....

2 **Complete the sentences.**

1. The people working in Little Woodham are called ..... .
2. Little Woodham shows visitors what village life was like ..... .
3. Blacksmiths make things from ..... .
4. The actors are able to answer questions about life in the 1600s because they have a lot of ..... .
5. After his visit, Stephen is happy that he ..... .

3 **Choose the correct answers to complete the text.**

In June 2013, when Australia [1]... to protect an additional 170,000 hectares of forest in a Tasmanian wilderness preserve, Miranda Gibson had a special reason to celebrate.
Eighteen months earlier, on 14th December 2011, she [2]... into a 400-year-old tree in a forest under threat of being destroyed. Although tree-sitting, which [3]... a form of protest since the 1970s, is risky and uncomfortable, Gibson decided to do it [4]... she had spent years trying other ways to prevent the forest's destruction.
For 449 days, Gibson lived on a platform 60 metres above the ground. She was helped by people who [5]... food and water to her. Using a solar-powered computer, she posted videos of [6]... and of logging activity, and the public, media and government [7]... paying attention. A fire in March 2013 [8]... Gibson to leave the tree – but in June, the forest she [9]... to preserve became protected land. Since then, Gibson's story [10]... activists to keep trying.

1.	a. decided	b. has decided	c. have decided
2.	a. did move	b. moved	c. had moved
3.	a. be	b. has been	c. was
4.	a. by the time	b. as soon as	c. after
5.	a. have delivered	b. delivered	c. has delivered
6.	a. themselves	b. itself	c. herself
7.	a. began	b. have begun	c. has begun
8.	a. has forced	b. forced	c. had forced
9.	a. had fought	b. has fought	c. fought
10.	a. inspired	b. had inspired	c. has inspired

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