



## Our start is at Clapham Common tube station. Ready? Let's get cracking...

1. Do you know which well-known children's author was born in Clapham? (Clue: her most famous book is called after a traditional game and is soon to be a BBC TV series).
2. Stand with a 1906 clock behind you, look past Byron and above something icy to a plaque with a Lord. What is his name?
3. Now, head for the Common past the fountain (can you see something mentioning cattle on your left?). Pass the four lions guarding six paths to reach a building as old as the *US Declaration of Independence*. Find the plaque in its porch – whom does it describe and what did he do?
4. Go along the edge of Clapham Common, past Trinity Hospice towards Clapham Junction. Do you know a bestselling book series set in a magical world beneath London? Who wrote it?
5. Britain's most famous diary-writer retired to Clapham and died there in 1703. His long-demolished house once stood on the road on your right called the Chase. Who was he?
6. At the traffic lights, cross Cedars Road. Which famous children's author lived in Turnchapel Mews at the other end of this road and wrote two of his best-loved books while living there? (Clue: his book titles include witches, giants, chocolate and peaches).



7. Continue along Clapham Common along Clapham Common Northside to No 113. The founder of *'The Thunderer'*, nickname for one of our best known national newspapers, lived here – find his plaque. What is the name of his paper and whose mini statues stand back to back on his house?
8. Have you ever visited Debenhams in Clapham Junction? An English children's writer was inspired to write her bestselling thriller about a theft from a London department store. Do you know her name and what her book is called?
9. Before you turn back home, do you know which author started writing in Clapham before moving to Scotland? (Clue: she invented the game of Quidditch).
10. Return to the Common (imagine sheep grazing here as recently as 1910!) and aim for *The Windmill*. As you pass the pond, can you recognise this scene? It's by a famous British painter – can you guess who?



11. Look to your right. Do you recognise the building in the painting below? Jane Austen mentioned 'changing horses in Clapham' in *Pride & Prejudice* – maybe it was here!



12. Finally, cross the road to No 50 Clapham Common Southside. There's no plaque but can you guess which famous British 20<sup>th</sup> century playwright and songwriter lived here as a teenager with his family? (Clue: His plays include *Private Lives* and *Blithe Spirit* and his most famous songs were *Mad Dogs & Englishmen*, *I'll See You Again* and *Mrs Worthington*).

**Congratulations - you've reached the end of our Clapham trail! We hope you enjoyed it. To return home, turn back to Clapham Common Underground station.**

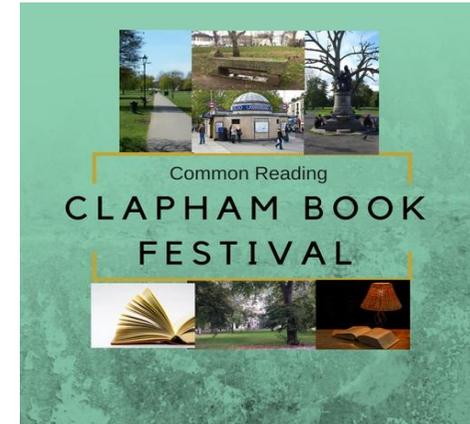


### ~ ANSWERS ~

1. **Malorie Blackman OBE** was born in Clapham in 1962. She writes literature and TV plays for children and young adults and used science fiction to explore important issues in her best known book series, [\*Noughts and Crosses\*](#). She was Children's Laureate from 2013-2015
2. **Thomas Babington Macaulay**, later Lord Macaulay (1800-1859) lived at 5 The Pavement, and is best known for his *History of England* and *Lays of Ancient Rome*
3. **William Wilberforce** (1759-1833) was a member of the religious group nicknamed the Clapham Sect, and led the campaign in Parliament to outlaw slavery, eventually passed in 1807. A founder of the Church Mission Society, he also wrote *A Practical View of Christianity*
4. The series is *The Uncommoners* by **Jennifer Bell**, an author who lives in south London. Her inspiration came from imagining what extraordinary things might be possible with everyday objects – what if candles could make you invisible? Or buttons could treat illnesses? What if yoyos could generate tornados?
5. He is **Samuel Pepys** (1633-1703), the naval administrator and MP who died aged 70 in Clapham. He wrote the *Diary of Samuel Pepys* from 1660-1669
6. It was of course **Roald Dahl** (1916-1990), who wrote *The Witches* and *Matilda* while living in Clapham!

7. **John Walter** (1738-1812) founded *The Times*; the statuettes on either side of the first floor bay window are of playwright Shakespeare (on left) and poet Milton (on right)
8. She is **Katherine Woodfine** (1983-) and her book, published in 2015, is *The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow*. It tells the story of heroine Sophie as she hunts down the thieves of a priceless clockwork bird...
9. **J K Rowling** was born in 1965 and lived in Clapham Junction before she moved to Scotland. She actually started writing about Harry Potter in Clapham!
10. This [View on Clapham Common](#) was painted c1800-1805 by **Joseph Mallord Turner** (1775-1851) and is in the Tate (Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND 3.0 (Unported)). Born in Covent Garden, Turner exhibited watercolours at the Royal Academy until 1796 when he sent them his first oil, *Fishermen at Sea*. He was soon recognised as an outstanding painter.
11. This picture is the [Painting of the Windmill Inn in 1836](#) by **James Pollard** (1792–1867), now in a private collection in the USA. Pollard exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1821-1839. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Colonel Forster tracks eloping Lydia Bennett and George Wickham to Clapham
12. Playwright **Noel Coward** (1899-1973) lived at 50 Clapham Common Southside as a teenager. He wrote more than 50 plays, including *Hay Fever* and *Blithe Spirit*

# CLAPHAM CHILDREN'S TRAIL



Local arts charity **Clapham Writers** has created this trail around Clapham Common for you to do with a suitable grownup! For many clues, the answer can be found on a plaque you can see from the street, but if you get stuck, the answers are on the back of this leaflet. The whole trail takes around 60 minutes, starting and ending at **Clapham Common Underground** station (Northern line).

Do you love books and reading? Find out more about Clapham authors for all ages at the **Clapham Book Festival** held each year - see [claphambookfestival.com](http://claphambookfestival.com) for more information.