

## MELBOURNE EXPLORERS TOUR

Melbourne Explorers tour: URL: <http://melbournewalks.com.au/explorers-school-excursion/>  
 Website: [www.melbournewalks.com](http://www.melbournewalks.com) Email: [melbwalks@gmail.com](mailto:melbwalks@gmail.com) Copyright Melbourne Walks ©



### **John Batman, Explorer and founder of Colonial Melbourne** (1801 –1839)

I was a Tasmania sheep farmer when I led an expedition to sign a ‘treaty’ with Aboriginal ‘chiefs’ in 1835 to found the settlement of Melbourne and the colony of Victoria. I captured bushranger Mathew Brady and married a runaway convict Eliza Callaghan. We had seven children in all. At Melbourne’s first land sale in 1837. I bought the Young and Jackson Hotel site opposite Flinders Street Station and built a home for my children.!



### **Benjamin Baxter, Pioneer** (1819 –1906)

I arrived with wife Martha only two years after settlement. We had had nine children in all. St Kilda Road was once called Baxter’s Track after me. My first job was a convict supervisor. Later Martha and I ran the first **Melbourne Post Office** before becoming graziers. We lived to a great age and explored and founded the town of Baxter, south of Melbourne. Not a bad effort, eh?



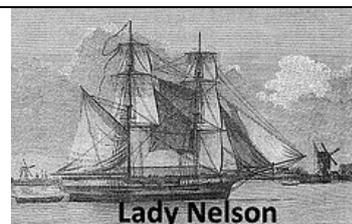
### **Captain John Lancey, founder of the site of Melbourne**

I was the captain of John Fawkner's schooner *Enterprise*, and in 1835 I chose the site on the Yarra that became the City of Melbourne. Yes I was the true founder of Melbourne, not that scrawny jumped-up little Johnny Fawkner.



### **John Murray, discoverer of Port Phillip Bay** (c.1775–c.1807)

I discovered and was the first European ever to enter Port Phillip Bay, the bay on which the cities of Melbourne and Geelong are situated. It was on 14 February 1802 on my ship *Lady Nelson*, I remember it like it was yesterday!



### **Captain James Cook, (1728–1779), European who claimed Australia**

I was a British explorer and navigator who made the first known European contact with the eastern Australia and the Hawaiian Islands, and the first known circumnavigation of New Zealand. Yes I claimed Australia for Britain but I forgot to ask permission from the people who were already there.



**Captain Matthew Flinders 1774-1814 and Bungaree - explorers**

Naming our continent 'Australia' was my idea. I was a navigator who explored lots of Australia in a tiny whaleboat called the Tom Thumb. George Bass and I first proved Tasmania was an island. In 1802 I entered Port Phillip Bay where Melbourne was founded. With my Aboriginal friend Bungaree I sailed all around Australia to also prove it was an island. Eventually I ran into bad luck. The crazy French locked me up for six years as a spy! Now I am a pigeon perch at **St Pauls Cathedral**.

**Bungaree, circumnavigator of Australia 1775 - 1830**

I was the Aboriginal person who accompanied Captain Matthew Flinders as the first two men to circumnavigate Australia in the Investigator on 1801-3. In other word I was the first Australian born person to go around Australia.

**George Bass (1771 –1803), Bass Strait explorer**

Matthew Flinders and I were the last of the great ocean explorers of the Australia. We helped to map out the shape of the Australian continent and the island of Tasmania. We explored a lot of the coastline in a tiny rowing boat less than three metres long that I named Tom Thumb. In February 1803 my ship Venus, sailed out of Sydney Harbour and was never seen or heard from again. My disappearance is still a mystery. Where am I?

**Charles Grimes (1772 –1858), discoverer of the Yarra River**

I was an English surveyor who on 2 February 1803 aboard the *Cumberland*, as Surveyor General of New South Wales, discovered and explored the Yarra River on the site of Melbourne. I said it was unsuitable for settlement. How did I know there was later going to be a city of 4 million? I was also the first European to meet Aboriginal people in Melbourne - at Gardiners Creek.

**John King, Burke and Wills expedition**

I with Charles Gary, Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills (Burke and Wills) were the first European explorers to cross Australia from south to north in 1860 at the expense of seven lives. King was the only survivor from the four who reached the Gulf.

**Charles Gray, explorer Burke and Wills**

I and John King, Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills (Burke and Wills) were the first European explorers to cross Australia from south to north in 1860 at the expense of seven lives. I reached the Gulf but died on the return journey.



**Robert Hoddle, creator of Melbourne's grid or the 'Golden Mile'**  
1794 -1881

I explored and laid out the original streets of Melbourne in 1837 known as the '**Hoddle Grid**' and 'the Golden Mile'. I liked very wide streets but hated narrow lanes. Unfortunately I put Elizabeth Street in a rain gully and several people drowned. Hey that's life! Perhaps I shouldn't have rushed the plan in time for lunch. I also laid out Williamstown, Geelong and lots of other suburbs and towns. It's great that they named Hoddle Street after me so people can curse my name during traffic jams.



**Friedrich Wilhelm Ludwig Leichhardt, lost explorer, 1813 - c.1848**

I was known as one of the most successful explorers of northern Australia. However in 1848 I set out to cross Australia from east to west with west to east with four Europeans, two Aboriginal guides, seven horses, 20 mules and 50 bullocks. None of us has ever been seen again despite many searches.



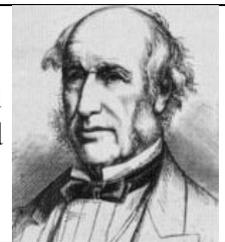
**Harold Lasseter, gold claimer (1880-1931)**

I claimed to have discovered and then lost the location of a fabulous gold reef in remote central Australia. I died on an expedition trying to find it in 1930. People have been trying to find Lasseter's reef ever since without success. But I tell you it is there!



**William Hovell (1797-1872).**

With Hamilton Hume I set out in 1824 to successfully discover a route to Victoria and got to Geelong which we thought was Westernport which caused a bit of confusion to later arrivals. Hume and I argued the whole way there and back. He was hopeless, I did all the work.



**Major Thomas Livingstone Mitchell, 1792-1855, explorer Sydney to Melbourne**

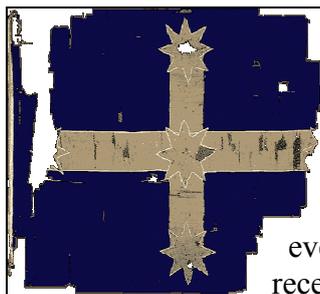
I led four expeditions in Eastern Australia including finding the route overland from NSW to Victoria in 1836. Many people followed my wagon tracks to settle in Victoria after 1835.



**Nicolas-Thomas Baudin (1754 - 1803) French explorer and scientist of Australia**

In October 1801, I led an expedition to map the coast of Australia (New Holland) with two ships *Géographe* and *Naturaliste* being the first to explore and map the western coast, and a part of the southern coast of the continent. We discovered more than 2500 new species! We met and treated the Aboriginal Peoples with great respect.





**Peter Lalor, Gold miner and rebel (1827-1889)**

As gold diggers we explored new country everywhere and many of us died of exposure and accident. As Eureka stockade leader in December 1854 I took the oath of the rebel miners: I lost my arm in that battle yet later became the only outlaw ever elected to parliament! On 24 Nov 1857 all men received the right to vote. Our **Southern Cross** flag is now the Australian flag. Down with tyranny!



**John Wills, Expedition second –in-charge**

I was chosen in 1860 to support the great Melbourne expedition to cross Australia from south to north with Robert O'Hara Burke. My job was navigation. They say my measurements are still pretty perfect 150 years later! Unfortunately seven men died including me. Perhaps I shouldn't have trusted Burke so much - he shot at the Aboriginal people who tried to feed us. Nice of them to put my statue in the **City Square** but Burke and I didn't actually wear Roman togas!



**Robert O'Hara Burke, Expedition Leader (1821-1861)**

I was chosen in 1860 to lead the great Melbourne expedition to cross Australia from south to north. Pretty good I reckon for a guy with no experience at all and no sense of direction! So just in case, I took a bathtub, a Chinese gong and a boat with me. Unfortunately seven men died including myself. Perhaps I shouldn't have shot at the Aboriginal people who tried to feed me. Nobody's perfect! Nice of them to put my statue in the City Square but Wills and I didn't actually wear Roman togas!



**Fawcner, John Pascoe (1792–1869), founder of a City**

I may have been the son of a convict but in 1835 I chartered the Enterprize ship to settle at Melbourne near today's Immigration Museum. I don't care what people say, I was 'numero uno' to settle Melbourne! Don't let that drunken oaf John Batman, take the credit! I also opened the first hotel and newspaper and became a member of Parliament' to look after the little bloke and stop the 'squattocracy'. Beware - you don't want to make an enemy of me! My dear plain wife Eliza Cobb was with me for 50 years.



**John Wedge, surveyor and explorer who got the Yarra wrong (1793-1872),**

I was the Surveyor and explorer who surveyed the area around Melbourne and named Melbourne's river the '**Yarra Yarra River**' by mistake. The Aborigines were actually talking about the waterfall at Williams Street. ('*yarra yarra* = *falling water*'). The actual name was the Birrarung. Because of me, people have been calling the river by the wrong name for over 170 years! Nobody's perfect!



**Derrimut, Indigenous leader 1810c - 1864**

I was an elder and leader of the Boon wurrung clan of Melbourne. I saved the settlers from attack on the settlement in 1838 by telling John Fawkner of a planned assault by another tribe. The settlers still took my land from even though I complained about the injustice. I am buried in **Carlton Cemetery** with a tombstone acknowledging that I once saved the settlement.

**Joseph Gellibrand (1792–1837), lost explorer**

As a lawyer, I drew up the **Melbourne Treaty** used to ‘purchase’ Melbourne from the Aboriginal people by John Batman. 600,000 acres for beads, blankets and axes – a pretty good deal! I vanished near Geelong on an expedition to explore Port Phillip in 1837. One day they may solve my mysterious disappearance!

**William Thomas Aboriginal Protector (1793–1867)**

I was the assistant protector and guardian of Aboriginals from 1837 in Melbourne. I travelled all the territories around Melbourne with the Kulin people exploring all their homelands and camping places and recording them in my diaries. I tried my very best to protect the Melbourne Aboriginal people and camped with them for years on the Yarra River and elsewhere but never received enough support from the government.

**Baron Von Mueller, German explorer and scientist (1825 –1896))**

I was born in Germany but came here for my health and was famous for the long scarf I always wore. They buried me with it. I loved getting medals and honours. I broke off my engagement to scary Euphemia Henderson and had to pay her and apologise in the press. I collected plants from thousands of kilometres of Victoria, collected untold plants, published books and helped to found the Herbarium, the Royal Society and the Melbourne Botanical Gardens where I had a zoo! Losing that job broke my heart! Our Bourke and Wills expedition was a stuff-up – I never liked Bourke.

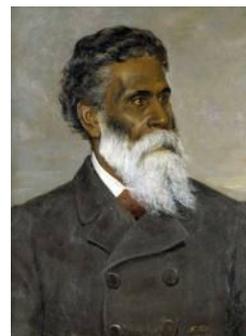
**William Buckley Escaped English convict (1780-1856)**

They nicknamed me ‘the wild white man’, after I escaped as a convict from Sorrento in 1803 and lived with the Aboriginals in Victoria for 32 years before the settlement was founded at Melbourne. I was the first to walk the coast line of Port Phillip Bay and explore large areas west of Geelong. Being six foot and seven inches tall I think I gave them a scare when I walked out of the bush to meet the new settlers in 1835. John Batman gave me a job as a translator and I built the chimney of his first house near **Spencer Street Station**.



**William Barak, Wurundjeri Leader**

I was just a boy when I attended the signing of the Melbourne Treaty with John Batman in 1835. Later I and my cousin Simon Wonga walked across the Black Spur in Healesville to found the famous Corranderrk Mission. I led many protest marches to Melbourne to seek justice for my people. Many of the paintings I have done are in the National Gallery at Federation Square. They tell me a giant image of me 30 storeys high is being engraved on a building in Swanston Street in my memory. Nice of them to go to the trouble but I would prefer if they hadn't kicked us out of Corranderrk.

**Hamilton Hume (1797-1872).**

With William Hovell I set out in 1824 to successfully discover a route to Victoria and got to Geelong which we thought was Westernport which caused a bit of confusion to later arrivals. Hovell and I argued the whole way there and back. He was hopeless, I did all the work.

**Caroline Liardet, founder Port Melbourne**

In 1821 I married my cousin Wilbraham and we sailed for Melbourne in the *William Metcalfe* where we landed and lived first on Port Melbourne beach in a tent with our eleven (yes eleven children, count them). We built hotels, wharfs, roads, and lots of other business and founded Port Melbourne – ever heard of it?

**Trugerninni, Freedom Fighter 1812–1876**

When the settlers arrived in Tasmania, my family was massacred so I went to war against them. I survived and eventually came to Melbourne assisting the new Aboriginal Protector George Robinson. Here I joined a rebel band in 1840 again to fight against white occupation south of Melbourne but we were captured. I was tried at the Magistrates Court in Russell Street. They expelled me and my two women fellow fighters - Fanny and Matilda - back to Tasmania. I had a very adventurous life but I survived!

**Matilda, Freedom Fighter 1812–1876**

When the settlers arrived in Tasmania, my family was massacred so I went to war against them. I survived and eventually came to Melbourne assisting the Aboriginal Protector George Robinson to travel around the Bass Strait Islands to rescue kidnapped Aboriginal women. I joined a rebel band in 1840 again to fight against white occupation south of Melbourne but we were captured. They expelled me and my two women fellow fighters - Fanny and Trugerninni - back to Tasmania. I had a very adventurous life but I survived! There is monument to me at RMIT.

**Anastasia Withers 1819-1889, Convict and British Eureka rebel**

I came across the sea to Australia in 1844 as a convict for theft of five shawls to become one of the first women to arrive on the Victorian goldfields. I ran orchards, drove horses and sewed clothes. I had arrived in. I was '5 foot-2 inches, 20, fresh complexion, small chin, brown hair, blue eyes, and Roman Catholic'. The miners asked me to hide their bags of gold nuggets under my petticoat. My mates Anne Duke, Anastasia Hayes and I began sewing the Southern Cross 'Eureka Flag', as a symbol of the battle for people's rights. I wasn't alone - 5000 people protested for the miners at St Pauls Cathedral on 7 December 1854. Up with democracy! One man one vote! Down with tyrants!

**Anastasia Hayes –Pioneer and Irish Eureka rebel (1818 - 1892)**

After a hellish trip on a ship, in October 1852, I arrived at the Ballarat Diggings. Ever tried to raise 6 children in a tent? I began teaching children (90 of them!) in another tent at Bakery Hill. They say I was blue-eyed, red-haired, good looking, fiery temper and politically active. They were right! I sewed the giant Eureka flag with Anastasia Withers and Anne Duke. When Peter Lalor was shot at Eureka, I helped to amputate his left arm and then threw it down a mineshaft. When my husband was arrested I told those damned troopers: 'If I had been a man, I wouldn't have been taken by the likes of you.'

**Eliza Cobb, Founding Pioneer 1800-1879**

For 51 years I was the devoted partner of John Fawkner. We were founding settler of European Melbourne from Tasmania. We built our house on the corner of **Flinders Lane** and Williams Street. I was sentenced to 7 years transportation to Tasmania in 1818 for kidnapping a baby. Men rushed to my ship to choose a wife. My husband said he chose the plainest woman on board because someone stole his first choice. However when he finally died I became a wealthy woman, plain or not!

**Eliza Callaghan, English Convict and City founder 1802-1852**

In 1820 I was caught using counterfeit money and was sentenced to Australia for 14 years. My jail report describes me simply as 'Bad'. Rubbish! I escaped into the bush in 1823 and met John Batman who hid me. Together we helped found the City of Melbourne. We had six daughters and one boy who tragically drowned in the Yarra. We built a house for our children where today Young and Jacksons pub stands opposite Flinders Street Station

**Marion Sargood, Founder of Ripponlea 1838-1878**

My husband and I were the owners of Ripponlea Mansion after which Ripponlea suburb is named and also our great hardware store at **Ross House 251 Flinders Lane**. I died in 1878 on my 40th birthday while giving birth to our twelfth child Frederick. It was a risky business in those days. The National Trust has bought my home. Please visit my house, gardens and lake in Elsternwick that I was so passionate about.



**Mary Gilbert, first European Woman 1817-1878**

When I arrived on the schooner 'Enterprize' on the **Yarra River** on 30 August 1835, I was just 18, pregnant and the only European woman in Melbourne. A month later I gave birth to James, the first white child. My boss John Fawkner gave me Melbourne's first cat for company! The Lady Mayoress unveiled a statue of me in **Fitzroy Gardens** in 1975.

**Eliza Callaghan, Convict and City founder 1802-1852**

In 1820 I was caught using counterfeit money and was sentenced to Australia for 14 years. My jail report describes me simply as 'Bad'. Rubbish! I escaped into the bush in 1823 and met John Batman who hid me. Together we helped found the City of Melbourne. We had six daughters and one boy who tragically drowned in the Yarra. We built a house for our children where today **Young and Jacksons** pub stands opposite Flinders Street Station

**Martha Baxter, Founder of Baxter Town 1812 - 1906**

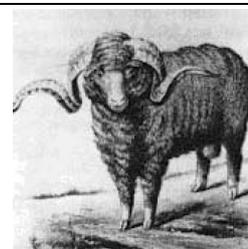
I was the first postmistress of Melbourne and ran the first **Melbourne Post Office**. **St Kilda Road** was once called Baxters Track because it led to our cattle run at St Kilda. My husband Benjamin and I had nine children and founded the town of **Baxter** on the Mornington Peninsula. After a lifetime of hard work I lived to the age of 94. Not bad achievements, eh?

**Georgiana McCrae, pioneer and writer 1804 -1890**

I was a writer and painter of early Melbourne. My diary '*Georgiana's Journal*' by my grandson Hugh is still a popular book. My husband and I founded the town of **McCrae**, south of Melbourne. I often accompanied Governor La Trobe to functions as his wife Sophie was often sick. My fortunes varied but I believe you should always meet obstacles with wit, humour and most of all grace and culture. I used to accompany Governor La Trobe to functions. He lived near **Federation Square**.

**Janet Templeton (1785-1857), Overlander**

When my husband Andrew Templeton died 1829 I bought Saxon Merino sheep 9best in the world, then chartered a ship called *Czar* and travelled to Australia with my nine young children in 1830. I bought farms and overlanded from NSW to Melbourne, farming with my sons until 1857. P.S. Always buy Merinos!



**Marianne North (1830 -1890), artist explorer**

In 1871 I travelled to Canada, the US and Jamaica and then Brazil, painting out of a jungle hut. In 1875 I went to the Canary Islands then India, California, Japan, Borneo and Java, then Australia in 1880. My flora and fauna paintings are so scientifically accurate that several plant species are named in my honor. I pursued art over cliffs, weather, swamp or jungle - nothing got in my way!

**Annie Smith Peck (1850-1935), pioneer educator and mountain explorer**

I was one of the first female professors in North America. In my mid-forties I took up mountain climbing and became the third woman to scale the Matterhorn. I climb well into my 60's, including the first ascent of one of the peaks of Mount Coropuna in Peru at the top of which I famously placed a vote for women banner!

**Gertrude Bell (1868-1926), traveller and spy**

I was first woman to receive a first class degree in History from Oxford and write a paper for the British government. I became a British spy with my Middle Eastern contacts and language skills during WWI. I travelled around the world and decided to live in the Middle East, studying archaeology, Arabic and Farsi.

**Harriet Chalmers Adams (1875-1937), Explorer**

Best known for my explorations and travel writing on Latin America, I spent three years in South America, crossed Haiti in horseback and retraced Columbus' trail. I served as a war correspondent during WWI and was the only woman to visit the trenches in France. When the National Geographical Society refused to accept us women as members, I founded our own Society of Woman Geographers in 1925 and was president until 1933.

**Isabella Bird (1831 - 1904)**

I was the first woman in the Royal Geographical Society in 1892, my adventures took me to Persia, Tibet, Japan, Korea and Morocco. In 1872 I went to Australia then to wild Colorado. I rode elephants in Malaysian jungle, visited Kurdistan, explored China's Yangtze Valley and travelled with Berbers in Morocco, riding a black stallion given to me by the Sultan. In I visited Buddhist monasteries king but had to flee invasion to China.



**St Joan of Arc, French Military leader 1412 – 1431**

I was the national heroine of France known as the Maid of Orleans. I was just a teenager when I was inspired by God to lead the French army to heroic victories over the English. Unfortunately I was captured and burned at the stake when I was only 19 years old. However the Pope later pronounced me a Saint of France - so all is good. My statue is at the the **State Library**, corner Lonsdale and Swanston Streets. Go girl!



<b>Nancy Bird-Walton</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Australian aviation pioneer</b>
<b>Jessica Watson</b>	<b>1993</b>		<b>Youngest person to sail non-stop and unassisted around the world</b>
<b>Annie "Londonderry" Kopchovsky</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>1947</b>	<b>First woman to bicycle around the world</b>
<b>Annie Edson Taylor</b>	<b>1838</b>	<b>1921</b>	<b>First person to survive a trip over the Niagara Falls in a barrel</b>
<b>Jean Batten</b>	<b>1909</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>First person to fly between England and New Zealand solo - broke other records</b>
<b>Valentina Tereshkova</b>	<b>1937</b>		<b>First woman in space</b>
<b>Amelia Earhart</b>	<b>1897</b>	<b>1937</b>	<b>First woman to fly solo across Atlantic</b>
<b>Harriet Chalmers Adams</b>	<b>1875</b>	<b>1937</b>	<b>Explored and photographed South America, Asia, South Pacific</b>

<b>Ann Bancroft</b>	<b>1955</b>		<b>First woman to travel over the ice cap to the North and South Poles</b>
<b>Jeanne Baré</b>	<b>1740</b>	<b>1807</b>	<b>First woman to circumnavigate the world</b>
<b>Gertrude Bell</b>	<b>1868</b>	<b>1926</b>	<b>Explored and mapped Greater Syria, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, Arabia</b>
<b>Isabella Bird</b>	<b>1831</b>	<b>1904</b>	<b>Explorer, writer and naturalist who travelled by herself through North America, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, China, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, India, Persia, Kurdistan, Turkey, and Morocco.</b>
<b>Nellie Bly</b>	<b>1864</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>Pioneering journalist who travelled around the world in 72 days, the first person to do so.</b>
<b>Renata Chlumska</b>	<b>1973</b>		<b>Climbed Mount Everest, kayaked and bicycled around lower 48 states of USA</b>
<b>Kay Cottee</b>	<b>1954</b>		<b>First woman to sail solo, non-stop around the world</b>
<b>Octavie Coudreau</b>	<b>c.1870</b>	<b>c.1910</b>	<b>Early explorer and geographer of the Amazon region in Brazil and French</b>

## Guiana

<b>Alexandra David-Néel</b>	<b>1868</b>	<b>1969</b>	<b>Travelled to Tibet while closed to foreigners</b>
<b>Lady Hay Drummond-Hay</b>	<b>1895</b>	<b>1946</b>	<b>First woman to circumnavigate the world by air (by Zeppelin)</b>
<b>Isabelle Eberhardt</b>	<b>1877</b>	<b>1904</b>	<b>Swiss explorer and writer in Algeria, who converted to Islam and travelled disguised as a man</b>
<b>Gertrude Ederle</b>	<b>1905</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>First woman to swim English Channel</b>
<b>Amy Johnson</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>1941</b>	<b>Pioneering aviator who set long-distance flying records</b>
<b>Osa Johnson</b>	<b>1894</b>	<b>1953</b>	<b>Made films of and wrote books about travels in Africa, South Pacific, Borneo</b>
<b>Gerlinde Kaltenbrunner</b>	<b>1970</b>		<b>First woman to climb all fourteen eight-thousander mountains without supplementary oxygen</b>
<b>Ida Pfeiffer</b>	<b>1797</b>	<b>1858</b>	<b>Travelled alone around the world in 1847, published books of her numerous travels</b>
<b>Wanda Rutkiewicz</b>	<b>1943</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>Polish mountain climber, the first woman to successfully summit K2</b>
<b>Annemarie Schwarzenbach</b>	<b>1908</b>	<b>1942</b>	<b>Journalist and photographer, travelled to</b>

**Iran, Afghanistan, Africa**

<b>Hester Stanhope</b>	<b>1776</b>	<b>1839</b>	<b>Conducted first modern archaeology in Holy Land;</b>
<b>Rosie Swale-Pope</b>	<b>1946</b>		<b>Has run, walked and sailed around the world</b>
<b>Fanny Bullock Workman</b>	<b>1859</b>	<b>1925</b>	<b>American cartographer, explored glaciers in Himalayas</b>