

4.—(1) A woman shall be entitled to be registered as a Franchisees parliamentary elector for a constituency (other than a university (women) constituency) if she—

- (a) has attained the age of thirty years; and
- (b) is not subject to any legal incapacity; and
- (c) is entitled to be registered as a local government elector in respect of the occupation in that constituency of land or premises (not being a dwelling-house) of a yearly value of not less than five pounds or of a dwelling-house, or is the wife of a husband entitled to be so registered.

*February will see the start of a series of events marking the **100th anniversary** of the **Representation of the People Act, 1918**, which enabled **ALL men and some women** over the age of **30** to **vote** for the **first time**: women 30+ could vote if they were either a member or married to a member of the Local Government Register, a property owner, or a graduate voting in a University constituency.*

*To celebrate this key moment in British social history the senior school is going to have an **election** to choose **one woman** as a single representative to show the **importance of women to British culture and society**. Each subject area has nominated a person who has been vital in their subject. Have a look at them and **pick the one that impresses you the most**. On **February 6th** the senior school will **vote** for the 'winner'. **Your vote** could make all the difference.*



Religious Education: Edel Quinn

Edel was a young lady from Cork, who attended school in Cheshire and worked as a secretary. At 20, she joined the Legion of Mary. Feeling the stirrings of a vocation, she declined a proposal of marriage from a successful businessman, Pierre Landrin.

Edel's plan to become a Poor Clare nun was ended by a serious case of TB. Despite her poor health, in 1936 she travelled to Africa to work amongst the people there. She worked alone in a state of exhaustion, but founded hundreds of Legion branches, multiple councils and enthused thousands of Africans with love for the faith. Her work extended as far as Mauritius.

Edel died in 1944, when she was only 36, having spent eight years in Africa.

Miraculous occurrences are associated with her: A Dublin friend of hers was a young mother in dire straits. One day, the young mother was crossing O'Connell Bridge, so depressed that she was about to drown herself in the Liffey. Suddenly she saw Edel Quinn ahead. She hurried towards her, forgetting suicide, but could not find Edel. Two days later, the young mother read that, shortly before she spotted her in Dublin, Edel had passed away in Nairobi.

Design & Technology: Eileen Grey

Eileen Grey's major contribution to design was in architecture, furniture and interior design. Her work is both modern and stylish even today, which to say she was born in 1878 seems amazing in itself! It was unusual in her time for a woman to be in this field, and she was one of the first women to be admitted to the Slade school of Art in London.

Established as one of the leading designers of the revolutionary new theories of design and construction, she worked on both major architectural projects and on a huge number of smaller furniture designs throughout her life. Examples of her early furniture design work are in the V&A collection and The Museum of Modern Art in New York. The Royal Society of Arts appointed her a Royal Designer for Industry in 1972. Eileen Grey died in Paris in 1976.





Music: Shirley Bassey

'Phenomenal woman, enchanting artist, magnificent and legendary singer!' A world-famous singer with a big voice and a glamorous reputation, Shirley Bassey has recorded numerous hits, including three James Bond theme songs.

She has wowed audiences for over 60 years, some say she is the greatest singing entertainer to come from the UK. Shirley is simply stunning live, a true power house with fantastic diction and interpretation. She is a superb vocalist, and still has one of the most powerful voices in mainstream music.

Shirley Bassey was born on January 8, 1937, in Cardiff, Wales in relative poverty. A singer since childhood, Bassey's bold voice, along with her perseverance, helped her move beyond her impoverished upbringing. Of mixed-race heritage (with an English mother and a Nigerian father), Bassey reached a level of international acclaim that few other black British performers had seen before her.

PE: Ellen MacArthur

Ellen MacArthur is a yachtswoman who was born in 1976. When she broke the record for the fastest solo circumnavigation of the globe in 2005 she was not just the best woman sailor but THE best. Whilst competing in that Vendée Globe race, the then 28-year-old British yachtswoman, survived an encounter with a whale to complete the 27,000-mile journey more than a day quicker than anyone before her.

Her achievements helped quash prejudices about women's inferiority in sport. She has helped young people with serious illness experience sailing with the Ellen MacArthur Trust.





Food Technology: Elizabeth David

There have been many influential Food and Cookery writers of the last century here are just a few: Marguerite Patten, Mary Berry, Sophie Grigson, Nigella Lawson, and Delia Smith these were preceded by Mrs Beaton's famous book of Household Management from 1861. All have their place in the history of British Cuisine but it is Elizabeth David who was a true pioneer in this the most important of all subjects learnt at school - how to feed yourself and others!

In 2016, Elizabeth was the first cook to receive a blue plaque, with judges hailing her for convincing Britons that "olive oil was good for more than curing ear aches". She is credited with introducing Mediterranean food to the plates of post-war British households. She travelled extensively, living abroad in Paris, Munich, Egypt and Malta, taking in the sights of the world and writing about the food and the countries she lived in. She was the author of: A Book of Mediterranean Food (1950), Italian Food (1954) and French Provincial Cooking (1960).

Psychology: Brenda Milner

British neuropsychologist Brenda Milner is regarded as the “founder of neuropsychology.” Milner has contributed a vast amount of research to the field and continues to work at the age of 95. She is currently a professor at McGill University’s Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery as well as a professor of psychology at the Montreal Neurological Institute.

At present, Milner’s work is partly focused on how the left and right hemispheres of the brain interact as well as the study of neural pathways involved in the learning of language. The many honours she has received for her work include the prestigious Gairdner Award and the Order of Canada.





Maths: Florence Nightingale

Florence is famous for being a nurse who was full of compassion and ideas that made her the founder of modern nursing. What is less well known is that Florence was a pioneering statistician who used her work to dramatically cut death rates.

When Florence convinced the government to send her as a nurse to soldiers injured in the Crimean war she used statistics to show that lots of the soldiers were dying due to the conditions of the hospitals, rather than from fighting. Florence's use of statistics helped to show governments why people were dying. As a result she helped reduce mortality rates in both the army and at home.

In particular Florence developed lots of innovative graphs and charts which made statistics easy to understand for politicians. Before this time it was not common to represent statistics in this way.

MFL: Queen Elizabeth

It is widely reported that Queen Elizabeth had a real passion for languages. It is thought that she spoke fluent French, Italian and Spanish and could also converse remarkably well in Dutch, Cornish and the most important of Britain's languages: Welsh. She was also an avid translator and translated many different texts between the languages just for the fun of it!

She is the perfect example of a busy woman making the time to practise and improve her language skills despite the fact that she could have easily relied on interpreters within her court. Her effort and dedication sets a good example for us all.





Science: Rosalind Franklin

Rosalind was a British biophysicist, physicist, chemist, biologist and X-ray photography who made contributions to the understanding of the structures of DNA, RNA, viruses, coal and graphite. She went to Newnham College, Cambridge and passed her finals in 1941, but was only awarded a degree in name only as women were not entitled to degrees at that time. She received a PhD from Ohio University in 1945.

Franklin is best known for her work on the X-ray images of DNA. Her data was a part of the data used to verbalise Crick and Watson's 1953 hypothesis regarding the structure of DNA. Unpublished drafts of her papers show that she had determined the overall B-form of the DNA helix. Her work supported the theory of Watson and Crick and was published third in the series of three DNA Nature articles. After finishing her DNA work, Franklin led pioneering work on the tobacco mosaic and polio viruses. Franklin died from ovarian cancer four years before Crick, Watson and Wilkins were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962 for their work on DNA. Franklin was unable to receive the prize as Nobel Prizes cannot be awarded posthumously, but she received no mention in the acceptance speeches. Still there remains a sense that her contribution was unjustly overlooked and undervalued. Her contribution was not recognised in many science books until the 1990s.

PSHE: Eleanora Fleury

In 1890 Eleanora was the first female to graduate from the Royal University of Ireland as a Doctor and Surgeon. Not only was she incredibly successful in the field of physical health in medicine but she also trained in Mental Health and went on to design and deliver training courses for Mental Health nurses.

During the nationalist movement in Ireland she was caught using her hospitals to help and house republican fugitives. Eleanora was caught by the authorities and put in prison. Instead of focussing on her own fate Eleanora observed the terrible medical conditions for women in prison.





English: Mary Shelley

Mary Shelley was an English novelist, dramatist, biographer and travel writer. She is most famous for her gothic horror novel “Frankenstein,” which she wrote when she was just 18 years old. The novel was a huge success, however many doubted its authenticity and believed it to have been written by a man as its macabre themes were supposedly beyond the realms of the female imagination!

Shelley, like her mother before her, became an opinionated and driven feminist who fought strongly for the vindication of women’s rights and social emancipation. We have a lot to thank her for!

“Beware, for I am fearless and therefore powerful.”

Business Studies: Alison Brittain

Brittain is one of the UK's leading bankers and is CEO of the Whitbread group - which owns brands such as Costa Coffee and Premier Inns. In January 2016, she became only the sixth female chief executive on the FTSE 100.

Brittain has two school-age children, and has spoken out about combining working in the City with motherhood. In a 2014 interview, she said: "I have a male colleague with kids exactly the same age as mine and no one asks whether he can balance." She's also tackled the wider issues facing women aiming for the top and once complained that colleagues "even now, try to talk over me".





History: Emmeline Pankhurst

As she grew up Emmeline became interested in politics and wanted to create a more equal society for women and men. She wanted women to have the same rights as men, such as the right to an education, the right to have a good job and, perhaps most importantly, the right to vote.

Emmeline formed The Women's Social and Political Union, also called the Suffragettes, in 1903. The Suffragettes fought for women's rights, especially the right to vote. Their newspaper, called Votes for Women, sold 20,000 copies a week. They held demonstrations and protests, often breaking the law by smashing windows or chaining themselves to fences to protest. In 1913, a Suffragette called Emily Davison was killed when she threw herself under the king's horse at a horse race, as a protest because the government refused to give women the right to vote.

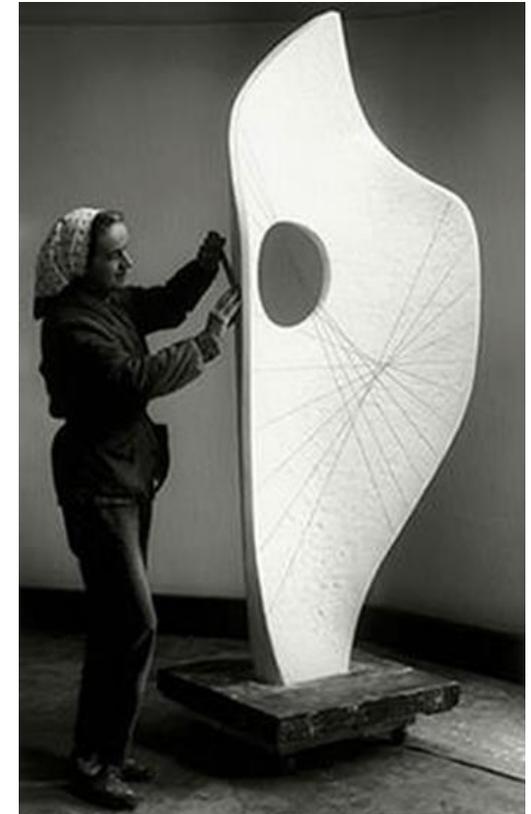
Emmeline was arrested on numerous occasions and went on hunger strike, resulting in violent force-feeding. This period of self-confessed rebellion ended with the outbreak of WWI in 1914, when she turned her energies to supporting the war effort. The war effort of the Suffragettes and many other British women was the recognition of their social importance and the right to vote in 1918. A decade later all British women could vote.

Art: Barbara Hepworth

Barbara Hepworth was a pioneer in the field of modern sculpture. Her most famous masterpieces are her pierced sculptures like Single Form and Pierced Form.

By the early 1930s she had completely moved to abstraction in her sculptures and she soon introduced piercing to abstract sculpture. The use of piercings to find a balance between form and space became a hallmark of Hepworth's work and is considered one of her most important contributions to the art of abstract sculpture.

Hepworth made more than 600 works of sculpture and is credited with leading the path to Modernism in sculpture. In a field that was dominated by males at the time, Hepworth was among the few female artists who were able to carve an international reputation for themselves. She is considered among the greatest sculptors of the twentieth century, whether male or female.





Computer Science: Mary Berners-Lee

Mary was “The grandmother of the Web” as not only did her son Tim invent the World Wide Web, but she played a significant role in the development of British computing and was a champion of women’s rights. Her parents (both teachers) met at a “votes for women” meeting and encouraged her education. She won a bursary to study engineering, but gradually realised that she enjoyed mathematics more.

After the war she spotted an advertisement “Mathematicians wanted to work on a digital computer”, she then spent two days finding out what a digital computer was and then applied for the post. Whilst working at Ferranti it was discovered that male colleagues were being paid more for the same work, and she made the case for equal pay to management. In the 1950’s she programmed simultaneous equations which at the time was unthinkable and were used to work out the stresses in aircraft design.

She was involved in a further inequality battle when a company decreed it was morally improper for young women to work at night alongside men.

This created an unfair advantage and Berners-Lee again rose to the challenge. A truly remarkable woman who paved the way for women in a still male dominated industry.

Geography: Mary Kingsley

Mary was a remarkable woman, who through her voyages in Africa was able to disprove two European stereotypes.

*First, she disproved the commonly held belief that Africans were primitive savages with no culture. She did this by writing about the complexity of their societies in her two works, *Travels in West Africa* and *West African Studies*.*

Second, she challenged ideas of gender. In Victorian England women did not participate in sciences, yet Kingsley outshone her contemporaries in geographical and anthropological studies of West Africa. Despite being a top source on West Africa, in England she was still subject to discrimination based on her gender.

Mary's final trip to Africa was in 1899, during the Boer War She worked as a journalist and a nurse in South Africa. As a nurse, she tended Boer prisoners of war. She died of typhoid fever on June 3, 1900 - she was only 38 years old. Kingsley was buried at sea, as she requested.



*Make sure you look at
BOTH display boards to
see ALL the possible
nominees!*

