

For further reading, visit the Women Make History pages at the website address below. For more insight into women's history contact Glasgow Women's Library to find out when our two hour guided walks take place. You can also download our maps and audio tours from our website.

About Glasgow Women's Library

Glasgow Women's Library is no ordinary library. It is the only Accredited Museum dedicated to women's history in the UK, and also a designated Recognised Collection of National Significance. A place for browsing, borrowing and being inspired, GWL is welcoming, free and open to all, with programmes of events and activities that offer something for everyone: from film screenings to literacy support; from talks to supported volunteering opportunities; and from exhibitions to workshops.

About Women Make History

Women Make History is GWL's women's history project. Volunteers research and deliver pioneering women's heritage walking tours in Glasgow and produce related maps and audio tours. Other activities include talks, workshops, recording the histories of living heroines, exhibition curation, tour guiding, training and ongoing women's history detective work. For more details contact GWL.

How to get involved

Glasgow's women's history is still largely hidden from the general public. There are many ways to get involved to address this. Why not join our women's history detective or tour guide teams? You may have information you think could be added to this tour or suggestions of how it could be improved. If so, we want to hear from you. You can also support GWL by becoming a Friend. This is an invaluable way of ensuring that our work is sustainable for future generations. Visit friends.womenslibrary.org.uk to become a Friend.

Contact us

To find out more about GWL, Women Make History, our guided tour dates and maps and audio tours of other routes please visit our website: www.womenslibrary.org.uk, or email us at info@womenslibrary.org.uk

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GLASGOW
WOMEN'S
LIBRARY



THE ENTIRE MUSEUM COLLECTION OF
GLASGOW WOMEN'S LIBRARY IS



RECOGNISED AS A
NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION

AWARDED BY MUSEUMS GALLERIES SCOTLAND
ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT



GLASGOW
WOMEN'S
LIBRARY

SUFFRAGETTE
CITY EAST

In Glasgow, observed Sylvia Pankhurst, the socialist and suffrage movements were "closely intermingled". Moderate suffragists, militant suffragettes and male allies sought to mobilise a broad base of support in the East, addressing crowds at street corners and factory gates.



Suffragettes protesting outside Duke Street Prison, c. 1914, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection

Start at Drygate Brewery. Cross John Knox St then enter Ladywell housing scheme on Drygate, built on the site of Duke Street Prison (1). A wall remains, dated 1871.

From 1882 to its closure in 1955, the prison held women inmates. Members of the **Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU)** were imprisoned for acts ranging from "malicious mischief" to rioting. Upon admission, they typically resisted photography and fingerprinting before going on hunger strike. The so-called **Cat and Mouse Act (1913)** released strikers at point of death, only to re-imprison them once their health improved. In 1914, forcible feeding was used in Scotland for the first time at Edinburgh's Calton Jail, on **Ethel Moorhead**. The practice was never employed in Duke Street, but the official responsible, Scottish Prisons Medical Officer James Devon, was whipped by suffragette **Jean Lambie** as he entered the gates.

Go left downhill to descend steps to Duke St, then turn right. (To avoid steps, detour via John Knox St). Turn left down High St then, at Glasgow Cross, left into Gallowgate to Chrystal Bell's pub.

Author **Marion Kirkland Reid (1815–1902)** was born at **28 Gallowgate** (opposite), now occupied by the Mercat Building (2). Her father was a tobacco merchant, his trade perhaps sparking his daughter's interest in social justice. In 1840, some believe she attended London's **World Anti-Slavery Convention**, where female delegates were denied full participation and confined to a spectators' gallery. In her bestselling ***A Plea for Woman* (1843)**, Marion challenged the prevailing notion that women should limit themselves to the domestic sphere, arguing that only with full political representation could they defend their interests. Her pioneering work was the first to prioritise civil and political rights for women, influencing the early American suffragists.

Return to Glasgow Cross. Go left down Saltmarket, then left into St Andrew's St. Turn right into Turnbull St.

Militant acts of sabotage such as window-smashing were tried at the former **Central Police Court (3)**. On arrest, WSPU members gave aliases and their home address as the WSPU office on Sauchiehall St. On 9 March



SUFFRAGETTES
MAY BREAK WINDOWS, BUT I AM THE
WEB BOY CAN PUT THEM IN.

<p>Insurance Replacements, Roofs and Conservatories Repairs and Paints, Windows Cleaned by Prac- tical Men. Embossed and Stained Glass, Send P.C., or 'Phone, Gorbals, 445. Established 1886.</p>	<p>Lead Work for Screens and Church Windows. Shop and House Mirrors, Glass Shades and Stands for Ornaments. Memorial Wreath Showrooms Glass Out to Sizes and Sent.</p>
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JAMES CALDWELL,
GLAZIER AND GLASS MERCHANT,
169 EGLINTON STREET.

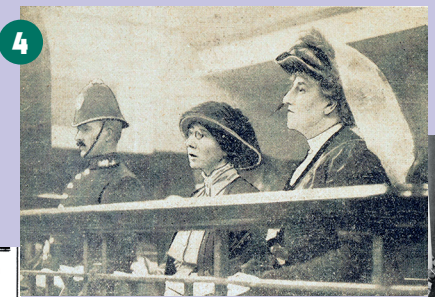
1914, thousands gathered outside the Court when the WSPU's founder **Emmeline Pankhurst**, was held here following her arrest amid riotous scenes at St Andrew's Halls, Charing Cross. That heavy-handed police response to what became known as the 'Battle of Glasgow' provoked calls for a public enquiry and swelled WSPU membership in the following weeks.

At the end of Turnbull St, turn right into Greendyke St. Facing Glasgow Green on Saltmarket is the old portico entrance of the High Court of Justiciary (4).

WSPU members **Dorothea Chalmers Smith** and **Ethel Moorhead** were tried here in 1913 for attempted arson at 6 Park Gardens. They defended themselves, saying that lawyers usually "made a muddle of it". When they were sentenced to eight months, mayhem ensued as "well-dressed ladies" in the gallery lobbed apples and other missiles. The prisoners went on hunger strike at Duke Street before escaping during release on licence.

Cross Saltmarket to Jocelyn Square, passing the court's modern entrance. Turn left into Bridgegate then cross right into Howard St.

To counteract hostile and patronising coverage from mainstream newspapers, each wing of the movement published its own paper. Law-abiding campaigners, the **National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS)**, published *The Common Cause*; the militant WSPU published *Votes for Women* and *The Suffragette*; and the non-violent **Women's Freedom League (WFL)**, who advocated civil disobedience, published



Anti-Slavery Society Convention, 1840 by Benjamin Robert Haydon, 1841. National Portrait Gallery, London, NPG599. Glazier's advertisement, *Forward*, 1912. ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection. Ethel Moorhead and Dorothy Chalmers Smith, High Court, 1913, Evening News, 16 October 1913.

The Vote. In the block where Remnant Kings now stands, Tom Johnston, a staunch ally of women's suffrage, edited ***Forward* (5)**, a "weekly journal of socialism, trades unionism and democratic thought", from 1906. *Forward* provided a weekly forum for suffragettes to reach beyond the converted and debate those socialists who viewed women's emancipation as marginal. The *Woman's Point of View* column was edited at various times by WSPU members **Teresa Billington-Greig, Janie Allan, Mary Phillips, Helen Crawford**, and, under the pseudonym Lily Bell, **Isabella Bream Pearce**.

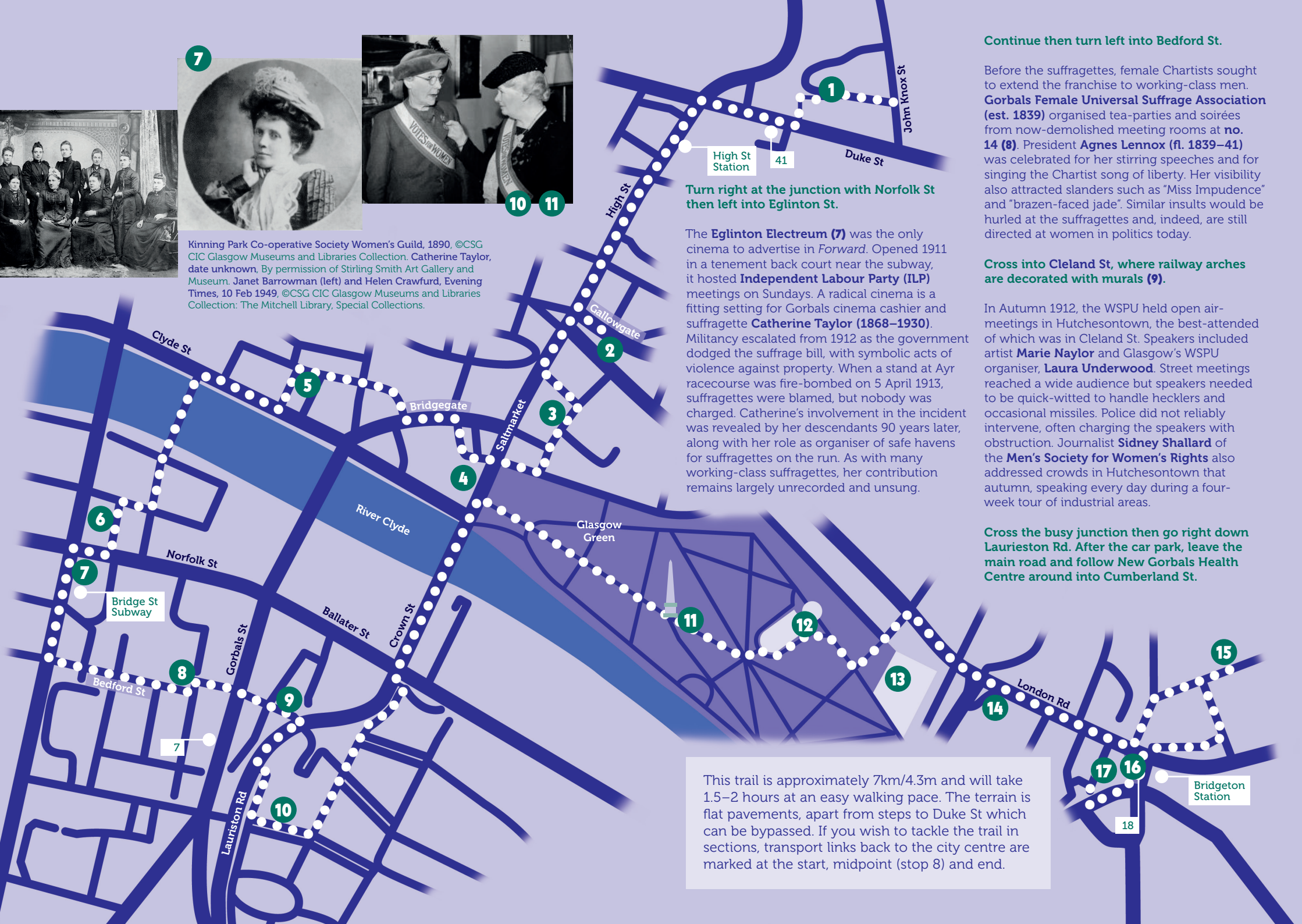
Turn left down Dunlop St. Cross Clyde St, then go right, staying on the pavement which leads to a ramp. Cross the pedestrian bridge and continue south into Gorbals. Turn right at Oxford St then left into Coburg St.

On the right stands a 20thC warehouse belonging to the **Co-operative Society, Kinning Park Branch (6)**. The activities of the Co-op's **Scottish Women's Guild** reveal working-class women's support for the franchise. The Kinning Park Branch was founded in 1890, the first of the Women's Guilds which soon covered Scotland. Initially they offered classes in domestic skills. Housewives brought sewing to the occasional lectures, unable to conceive of listening with idle hands. The Guild gradually developed into a "feminine university" where members debated the issues of the day, and in 1893, they petitioned Parliament for women's suffrage. The Kinning Park branch members included **Mary Barbour (1875–1958)**, who went on to organise the WW1 rent strikes.





Kinning Park Co-operative Society Women's Guild, 1890, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection. Catherine Taylor, date unknown, By permission of Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum. Janet Barrowman (left) and Helen Crawford, Evening Times, 10 Feb 1949, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection: The Mitchell Library, Special Collections.



Continue then turn left into Bedford St.

Before the suffragettes, female Chartists sought to extend the franchise to working-class men. **Gorbals Female Universal Suffrage Association** (est. 1839) organised tea-parties and soirées from now-demolished meeting rooms at no. 14 (8). President **Agnes Lennox** (fl. 1839–41) was celebrated for her stirring speeches and for singing the Chartist song of liberty. Her visibility also attracted slanders such as "Miss Impudence" and "brazen-faced jade". Similar insults would be hurled at the suffragettes and, indeed, are still directed at women in politics today.

Cross into Cleland St, where railway arches are decorated with murals (9).

In Autumn 1912, the WSPU held open air-meetings in Hutchesontown, the best-attended of which was in Cleland St. Speakers included artist **Marie Naylor** and Glasgow's WSPU organiser, **Laura Underwood**. Street meetings reached a wide audience but speakers needed to be quick-witted to handle hecklers and occasional missiles. Police did not reliably intervene, often charging the speakers with obstruction. Journalist **Sidney Shallard** of the **Men's Society for Women's Rights** also addressed crowds in Hutchesontown that autumn, speaking every day during a four-week tour of industrial areas.

Cross the busy junction then go right down Laurieston Rd. After the car park, leave the main road and follow New Gorbals Health Centre around into Cumberland St.

Turn right at the junction with Norfolk St then left into Eglinton St.

The **Eglinton Electreum** (7) was the only cinema to advertise in *Forward*. Opened 1911 in a tenement back court near the subway, it hosted **Independent Labour Party (ILP)** meetings on Sundays. A radical cinema is a fitting setting for Gorbals cinema cashier and suffragette **Catherine Taylor** (1868–1930). Militancy escalated from 1912 as the government dodged the suffrage bill, with symbolic acts of violence against property. When a stand at Ayr racecourse was fire-bombed on 5 April 1913, suffragettes were blamed, but nobody was charged. Catherine's involvement in the incident was revealed by her descendants 90 years later, along with her role as organiser of safe havens for suffragettes on the run. As with many working-class suffragettes, her contribution remains largely unrecorded and unsung.

This trail is approximately 7km/4.3m and will take 1.5–2 hours at an easy walking pace. The terrain is flat pavements, apart from steps to Duke St which can be bypassed. If you wish to tackle the trail in sections, transport links back to the city centre are marked at the start, midpoint (stop 8) and end.

Bridgeton Station

Helen Crawford (1877–1954) was born at now-demolished **no. 175 (10)**. As a child she served strikers in a soup kitchen established by her father; witnessing the squalid conditions of Glasgow's working poor, she questioned the system that caused such inequality. As a minister's wife she joined the WSPU, reasoning, "If Christ could be a militant, so could I". Once one of **Emmeline Pankhurst's** trusted "Scotch bodyguard", she broke from the WSPU at the outbreak of WW1 to co-found the **Women's Peace Crusade**. Post-war, she joined the Communist Party of Great Britain and in "retirement" served as Dunoon's first female councillor. She was "just as at home addressing a meeting of thousands as (...) in conversation with the working class housewife".

Turn left into Crown St. At the top of St Ninian's Terrace, rejoin the main road. Cross the river. Turn right under McLennan Arch into Glasgow Green and Nelson's Monument.

Glasgow Green (11), with its long history of mass gatherings and protest, was a natural rallying point for the movement. An early suffragist speaker here was **Jessie Craigen (c.1835–1899)**, who addressed a crowd of working-class men in April 1872. A "strange erratic genius", "roughly attired and uncouth in her ways", she riveted her audience with a voice "like a mighty melodious bell". In the early 20thC, the WSPU and WFL conducted rallies from horse-drawn caravans. The scope of the campaign broadened during WW1 as socialist and pacifist suffragettes joined forces with other groups. Under the auspices of the **Workers' Suffrage Federation**, **Sylvia Pankhurst**, **Helen Crawford** and ILP activists shared platforms on the Green in 1916, calling for peace and "human

suffrage"; while thousands marched in the **Women's Peace Crusades** of 1916–18, many of them housewives who had lost husbands and sons in the war.

Follow the glasshouse round to the People's Palace (11).

Suffragettes without private incomes could ill-afford jail sentences and the accompanying notoriety. Following the death of her father, **Janet Barrowman (1879–1955)** gained employment as a book-keeper with Watson & Sons Soap Factory. Her fiery sister joined the WSPU first, but it was mild-mannered Janet who ventured to London in 1912 to smash windows, armed with a Scottish stone in a sock. After two months' hard labour in Holloway, she returned to find she had lost both job and fiancé. In 1949, Janet bequeathed her collection of suffragette memorabilia to the People's Palace, where her prison badge and embroidery can be seen.

Head right to former Templeton's Carpet Factory (12).

In 1889, 29 women died when this colourful facade collapsed while under construction onto a weaving shed. Safety standards had not much improved in 1907, when suffragette and artist **Sylvia Pankhurst (1882–1960)** toured Britain painting women workers, her final stop an unidentified cotton mill in Bridgeton. She fainted from heat and lack of ventilation in the area where women operated mule-spinning machines, and could not endure the room where "little half-timers" (children) worked. Sylvia conceived of women's suffrage as part of a broader class struggle and this, together with her pacifism, led to a split with mother



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Sylvia Pankhurst in studio, date unknown, By permission of Women's Library collection, LSE Library. Banner of Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage Glasgow c. 1913, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection: People's Palace. Eunice Murray, *The Baillie*, 5 June 1918, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection: The Mitchell Library, Special Collections. *Suffragette and Panko board games*, © Glasgow Women's Library.

Emmeline and sister Christabel as her politics became ever more revolutionary.

Exit the Green then turn right along London Rd. Cross Arcadia St.

At **46 Canning St (14)**, now part of London Rd, demolished **Bridgeton Mechanics Institution and Library (est. 1833)** provided working-class men with lectures on art and science. On 27 October 1913, the **Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage**, formed by middle-class male supporters after the death of **Emily Wilding Davison** in June, met here. Helen Crawford saluted the Federation that evening as "a new order of chivalry", come to "fight for the oppressed and for the sweated woman worker".

At Bridgeton Cross, cross into Orr St then go right into Broad St.

In the December 1910 General Election, engineer **Julius Mirrlees** stood as an independent for women's suffrage in Camlachie. **NUWSS** members canvassed from dawn until dusk, "generally in pouring rain". Hundreds of "breakfast hour" and factory-gate meetings were held, with working men "even willing to stand and listen (...) when they came tired from their day's work at 6pm". One of the largest assemblies was at **no. 41 (15)**, former **Mavor and Coulson's Engineering Works**. Though Mirrlees gained only 35 votes, NUWSS organiser **Wilhelmina Lamond** predicted that "we shall see the seed yet bringing forth an hundredfold".

Backtrack then turn left down Summer St. Go right, along cobbled Olympia St or flat-surfaced London Rd, then cross to the bandstand at Bridgeton Cross (16).

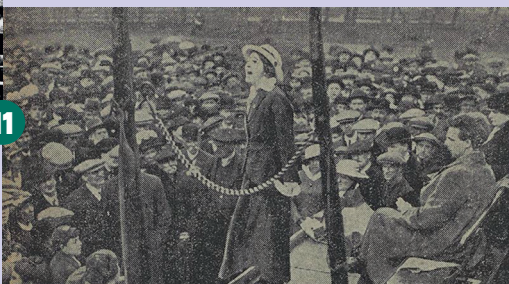
President of the WFL's Scottish Council, **Eunice Murray (1878–1960)**, wryly observed, "It is interesting to compare what men said and wrote and thought about woman prior to the war and what they say now. To hear them you would think a new discovery had been made: women." The tide had turned. In 1918, suffrage was granted to women over 30 meeting property qualifications; they were also permitted to stand for parliament. Eunice was first to stand in Scotland in the 1918 General Election, as an independent in Bridgeton. An eloquent speaker, she addressed 62 meetings here, focusing on equal pay and rights for women. Though unsuccessful, she was elected as a councillor in Dunbartonshire the following year. Women over 21 finally achieved electoral equality with men in 1928 with the passing of the **Equal Franchise Act**.

Trains depart from Bridgeton Cross for Glasgow Central. Before you leave, why not visit **Glasgow Women's Library (17)** to see our umbrella stand reputedly painted by suffragettes in Duke Street Prison. Our extensive suffrage collection may be viewed by prior arrangement, and includes card games, postcards, jewellery and newspapers.



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Women's Freedom League demonstration at Glasgow Green, 1914, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection. Sylvia Pankhurst addressing Worker's Suffrage Federation meeting at Glasgow Green, *Bulletin*, 26 June 1916, ©CSG CIC Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collection: The Mitchell Library, Special Collections. *In a Glasgow Cotton Mill: Minding a Pair of Fine Frames* by Sylvia Pankhurst (1907), ©Tate, London 2018.



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