

## Willerby Carr Lane Primary School - History

**Topic: Amy Johnson**

**Year: 2**

**Strand: Significant individuals/  
beyond living memory**

### What should I already know?

- Hull is in England, Europe, and Australia is on the other side of the world in Australasia.

### What will I know by the end of the unit?

What do you know about Amy Johnson's life?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy Johnson was born in 1903 in Hull.</li> <li>She was the first woman to fly solo to Australia. She flew there in 19 days.</li> <li>On 5th January 1941 her airplane crashed into the Thames Estuary. Her body was never recovered.</li> </ul>
What do you think Amy's most significant achievement was?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy Johnson was in the Air Transport Auxiliary during WW2. They would transport planes across the country for the RAF.</li> <li>Amy was a female pilot (aviatrix) and a female engineer</li> <li>Amy flew from London to Australia in 19 days.</li> <li>Amy set a world record for a solo flight from London to South Africa.</li> <li>Amy and her husband set a flight time record for flying from the UK to Australia.</li> </ul>

### Vocabulary

aerodrome	a place where planes fly from. They might be commercial, cargo or military.
Air Transport Auxiliary	The Air Transport Auxiliary were a group of people who helped to transport aircraft for the RAF during WW2.
aviatrix	a female pilot
C.B.E.	British order of chivalry, rewarding contributions to the arts and sciences, work with charitable and welfare organisations, and public service outside the civil service.
Harmon Trophy	awarded annually to the world's outstanding aviator, aviatrix, and aeronaut
license	a license allows you to do something. A driving license permits you to drive; a pilots license permits you to fly a plane; a ground engineers license permits you to fix planes.
solo flight	to fly somewhere on your own. You are the pilot. There are no passengers.
Thames estuary	where the River Thames, London, meets the North Sea.
viscount	a British nobleman (above a Baron but below an Earl). UK etymology links to the AngloSaxon 'shire reeve' meaning Sheriff.
WW2	short for "World War Two".

### Key Dates / Timeline

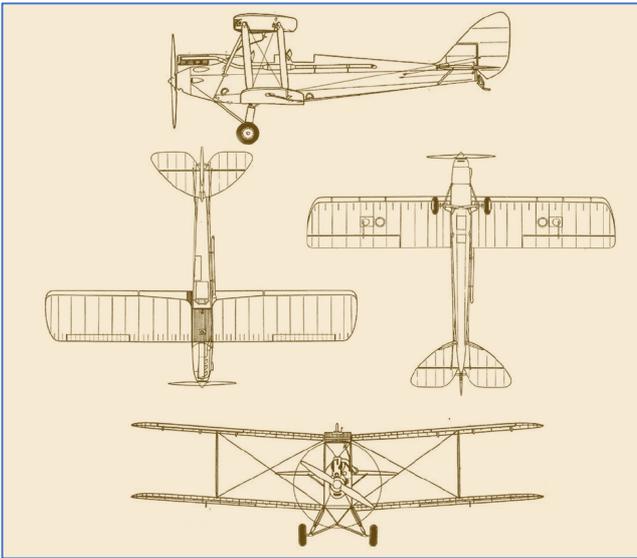
Date	Event	Description
1 <sup>st</sup> July 1903	Amy was born	Amy Johnson was born in Hull. Her father was called John and her mother was called Amy. She had two younger sisters: Irene and Mollie.
July 1929	Amy becomes a pilot.	Amy obtained a pilot's 'A' license.
December 1929	Amy learns to fix planes	Amy gained her ground engineers license. She was one of the first women in Britain to do so.
1930	Amy buys a plane.	Lord Wakefield agreed to support Amy in her attempt to break the world record for a flight from London to Australia (15 days)
5 <sup>th</sup> May 1930	Amy leaves for Australia	Amy took off from Croydon Aerodrome, South London in her

		plane, 'Jason'. She had bought it 2 weeks before her flight for £600.
24 <sup>th</sup> May 1930	Amy lands in Australia	Amy landed in Darwin, Australia. It took her 19 days. She didn't break the world record (15 days) due to mechanical problems, strong headwinds and monsoon season. She was, however, the first <i>woman</i> to fly solo from the U.K. to Australia.  Amy received a CBE and the Harmon Trophy for her flight from the UK to Australia.
1932	Amy flies to South Africa	She set a world record for a solo flight from London to Cape Town, South Africa.
1934	Amy flies to India	Amy and her husband set a flight time record for flying from London to India
1940	Amy joins the war	Amy joined the Air Transport Auxiliary. She rose to the rank of First Officer (RAF equivalent – Flight Lieutenant)
5 <sup>th</sup> January 1941	Amy passes away	Amy left Blackpool in a plane that she was supposed to deliver to the RAF in Oxford. A seaman on a convoy of ships spotted an airplane and then a parachute floating down in the sky in the snow.  Lieutenant Commander Walter Fletcher dived into the icy water but unfortunately, they were unable to help Amy.

Important figures	Image
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy Johnson (1903-1941) The first woman to fly solo from the United Kingdom to Australia.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lord Charles Cheers Wakefield. (1859-1941) 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount of Wakefield. Businessman and Lord Mayor of London. Lord Wakefield provided Amy with fuel and supplies for her journey to Australia. He also paid for half of her plane, Jason. (Her father paid for the other half.)  <i>(For the adults he founded the Castrol Company: manufacturers of oils, greases and lubricants for cars, motorbikes and planes)</i></li> </ul>	

Further Links

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsNAiKRvtrU>



						
1903	1929	1930	1932	1934	1940	1941
Amy Johnson was born in Hull.	Amy got her pilots and ground engineers licenses	Amy flew solo to Australia	Amy set a world record for a solo flight to South Africa.	Amy and her husband set a flight time record to India.	Amy joined the ATA in WW2	Amy's plane crashed into the Thames estuary