

Great Fire Diary

Sunday 2nd September 1666

Dear Diary,

Today has been an awful day. I was awoken in the early hours of the morning by shouting in the street. I went to my window to look and saw in the distance, the glow of a fire. We get lots of fires in London, so I wasn't really worried and I went back to bed. When I woke up later, I saw that the fire was still burning. I went out into the street to find out what was going on. A man told me that a fire had broken out in Pudding Lane and that it was spreading to the nearby houses. The fire buckets weren't helping to put the fire out and the strong wind was carrying it quickly from house to house. People are worried that this could be a very big fire. I hope it doesn't come near to my street.



Great Fire Diary

Monday 3rd September 1666

Dear Diary,

Well, the fire is still raging. It burned all through yesterday and continued into the night. It is getting closer and closer to my house. I'm getting very worried that I might have to leave my home. Where will I take my important belongings? What will happen if the fire burns my house down? I struggled to sleep last night because I was so worried. I have spent today helping people to move their belongings to boats on the river and helping with the firefighting as much as I can. The King has ordered that houses in the path of the fire must be destroyed to try to stop the flames from spreading. I don't know what I will do if I lose my house!



Great Fire Diary

Tuesday 4th September 1666

Dear Diary,

Today, I had to move my most valued belongings out of my house. The fire is now only one street away and it doesn't look like it will be put out soon. The wind is still very strong and there has been no rain for weeks.

I was lucky, I was able to move my stuff on to my friend's boat, but some people don't have anywhere to take their things. I have had to leave my house tonight because my street might be on fire by morning. I hope that somehow, my house is spared. St Paul's Cathedral burnt down today. A big, grand, special building completely destroyed. It was such a sad sight.



Great Fire Diary

Wednesday 5th September 1666

Dear Diary,

The wind has dropped! The fire is still burning, but the firebreaks and the water buckets are now starting to work. I have no idea if my house is still standing. We can't get near enough to the burning buildings around it because the fire is so hot. I know some of my street is still there. I just have to hope that my house is OK. I stayed on the boat again last night, but I didn't sleep much. It's been terrifying, waiting to see if the fire would continue down to the river. I have spent the day helping where I can. I have fetched water and helped people to safety. Let's hope tomorrow brings good news.



Great Fire Diary

Thursday 6th September 1666

