

THOMAS TALLIS

TALES TRAIL



NAME:

Tallis Tales Trail - Visit 1: St Alfege's Church

What can we learn about the **life of Thomas Tallis** from these artefacts? How many of the **8 different** habits/characteristics can you use in your answers?

Artefact 1

Stained Glass Window



This artefact suggests that Thomas Tallis was (habit/character)
because ...

Artefact 2

Tudor organ



This artefact suggests that Thomas Tallis was (habit/character)
because ...

Artefact 3

Plaques 1 and 2



This artefact suggests that Thomas Tallis was (habit/character)
because ...

Artefact 4

The Crypt



This artefact suggests that Thomas Tallis was (habit/character)
because ...



INQUISITIVE



COLLABORATIVE



PERSISTENT



DISCIPLINED



IMAGINATIVE

Tallis Tales Trail - Visit 2: Old Royal Naval College Visitors Centre

What can be learnt from the resource about the **Tudor Greenwich Palace** where Thomas Tallis worked?

Model of Greenwich Palace



This resource suggests that the people who lived and/or worked in the palace were (habit/character) because ...

Poster of the Monarchs at Greenwich Palace



This resource suggests that the people who lived and/or worked in the palace were (habit/character) because ...

Image of Chapel Royal



This resource suggests that the people who lived and/or worked in the palace were (habit/character) because ...

Bee Boles



This resource suggests that the people who lived and/or worked in the palace were (habit/character) because ...



Tallis at 50 Memorial Design - Exercising your Imagination and Persistence!

Using ideas from your visits on the Thomas Tallis Tales Trail and the walk through Greenwich Park, submit a design for your own **Tallis at 50 memorial**. Successful designs will be shared with our community. Your proposal could be anything from a sculpture, a sound installation, a performance or media 'product'. Send your completed design to jnicholls@thomastalls.org.uk, with 'Tallis at 50 memorial' as the subject, no later than **Friday 15th July**.

Thomas Tallis School Logo



Thomas Tallis Stained Glass Window



Henry Moore Sculpture, Greenwich Park



James Wolfe Statue, Greenwich Park



Ideas/words/sketches to prepare for my design...

Teachers Notes 1 - Arrangements

1. Day investigating and exploring Tudor Greenwich in paired/peer group Teams. Meet students in the school canteen at 9 and register giving a copy to reception. Confirm arrangements and expectations for the day and collect any packed lunches for FSM students.
2. Leave school at 9:15 and walk to Greenwich over Blackheath and through Greenwich Park passing the Henry Moore sculpting, and arriving at the bottom of Greenwich Park by 10:40. The two groups split into two and set off to arrive at Visit 1 St Alfege's Church and Visit 2 ORNC Visitors Center by 10:50.
3. Students consider the artefacts about Thomas Tallis in St Alfege's Church and the resources in ORNC Visitors Center about the Tudor Greenwich Palace in which Thomas Tallis worked 11am-1pm, changing venues at 11:50. This is an opportunity to reinforce habits and character in the students' own conduct and in their learning about Thomas Tallis and the place he worked.
4. At 1pm Teachers take their students to either Greenwich Market if wet or Greenwich Park if dry. Students take a packed lunch from 1:10- 1:45.
5. Students begin their walk back to school at 1:45 by walking up the hill in the center of Greenwich Park stopping to observe the James Wolfe statue and the spectacular view.
6. Students begin to consider how Thomas Tallis might be memorialised in Thomas Tallis School for the competition at 2:00pm. Students and staff discuss this on the remainder of their walk back to school.
7. Arrive back at school at 2:45 and go to the school canteen in preparation for pm registration at 3:05pm. Students are reminded of how to submit their designs for the Competition.

Itinerary for the day

<p>St Alfege Visit 1 - Group 1 11:00 Arrive and settle - 2 groups of 15 11:05 Group Leader sets the scene 11:10 St Alfege staff welcome brief History 11:15-11:25 Learning Experience 1 11:25-11:35 Learning Experience 2 11:35 - 11:45 Organ recital 11:50 - Move on</p>	<p>ORNC Visit 1 - Group 2 11:00 Arrive and settle 11:05 Group Leader sets the scene 11:10 ORNC staff welcome brief History 11:15-11:30 Learning Experience 1 - Visitors Center 11:30-11:50 Learning Experience 2 - Bee Boles in the Greenwich Palace foundations 11:50 - Move on</p>
<p>St Alfege Visit 2 - Group 2 12:00 Arrive and settle - 2 groups of 15 12:05- 12:15 Organ recital 12:15- 12:20 Group Leader sets the scene 12:20-12:25 St Alfege staff welcome brief History 12:25-12:35 Learning Experience 1 11:35-12:45 Learning Experience 2 12:50 - Move on</p>	<p>ORNC Visit 2 - Group 1 12:00 Arrive and settle 11:05 Group Leader sets the scene 11:10 ORNC staff welcome brief History 11:15-11:30 Learning Experience 1 - Visitors Center 11:30-11:50 Learning Experience 2 - Bee Boles in the Greenwich Palace foundations 11:50 - Move on</p>

Teachers Notes 2 - Information

1. Henry Moore sculpting Greenwich Park - What would Thomas Tallis memorial look like?

Standing Figure: Knife Edge is a [bronze](#) sculpture by the English artist [Henry Moore](#). It was cast in two full-size versions: Standing Figure: Knife Edge (LH 482) in 1961, and a larger Large Standing Figure: Knife Edge (LH 482a) in 1976. The sculpture also is sometimes known as Standing Figure (Bone) or Winged Figure.

Moore first conceived the work in 1961. It is based on a fragment of a bird's [breastbone](#), to which a base and a head were added with [plasticine](#). A rounded protrusion forms the head, and the figure has a diagonal line at its waist. The resulting composition resembles a human torso, similar to the [Winged Victory of Samothrace](#). It had been described as the end point of Moore's investigation of upright figures, which started with Standing Figure (1950) (LH 290). He used a similar process, starting with bone fragments, for his 1962 work, [Knife Edge Two Piece](#).

2. St Alfege Church - the life of Thomas Tallis

Very little is known about the life of Thomas Tallis. The year of his birth is suggested as 1505, and he was a chorister at Waltham Abbey and Canterbury Cathedral before joining the Chapel Royal in 1543 or 1544. The Chapel Royal comprised a number of different chapels. One was the royal chapel at Greenwich Palace, uncovered by archaeologists in 2006. A better preserved example is the beautiful chapel at Hampton Court Palace.

Tallis stayed with the Chapel Royal until his death in 1585. He is believed to have played the organ at St Alfege Church, where his fingers may have played the well-worn keys of the 'Tallis keyboard'. He is said to have lived near St Alfege in Stockwell Street and was buried in the church. The bones of Tallis and his wife, Joan, lie somewhere beneath the chancel. The death of the great musician is marked every year in the church by the singing of the moving lament by his pupil, William Byrd.

According to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the place where Tallis was buried was marked by a brass plaque in the chancel "set up after the death of his wife, Joan, but before the death of [Queen Elizabeth](#)". The text of a poem on the plaque was recorded in the early 18th century by clergyman and historian John Strype. It recalled that Tallis served in the chapel "with grete prayse" a total of "fower sovereygnes" - Henry VIII, Edward VI, Queen Mary and Elizabeth I - "a thing not often scene".

In the right-hand corner of the church as you come in from the west door, between the Tallis keyboard and the stained glass window showing Tallis standing in front of an organ, there are two brass plaques on the wall. The bottom one has the full text of the poem in memory of Thomas Tallis. The top one, dated 1876 and in an elegant arts-and-crafts style, is a testimony to the Victorian revival of interest in the "father of English church music".

3. Tudor Greenwich Palace - the workplace of Thomas Tallis

Henry VII, the first Tudor king, made the palace at Greenwich even larger. He covered the whole palace with a new facing of red brick. It became a favourite palace of the Tudors, partly because it was close to the royal shipyards on the River Thames. Henry VII's son, the future Henry VIII, was born at the palace on 28 June 1491.

As well as being born at the Tudor palace of Placentia, Greenwich, Henry VIII spent a lot of time there. It was one of his favourite palaces. He married two of his wives there and it was where his daughters Elizabeth and Mary were born. Henry VIII was particularly fond of ships and the navy, and Greenwich was well sited for visiting the new shipyards at nearby Deptford and Woolwich.

Henry made the palace at Greenwich much larger. He built stables, forges, a new banqueting hall, and armouries to make suits of mail for soldiers. He also had a great tiltyard (a courtyard for jousting) made in the grounds so that he and his men could practice jousting and hold tournaments.

A fortune was spent on these tournaments so that people would be impressed as men fought each other on foot and on horseback. During one tournament at Greenwich in January 1536, King Henry was thrown from his horse. He lay unconscious for two hours and never jousted again.

Elizabeth I, who was born at Greenwich, was baptised in the church of the Observant Friars, which was next to the palace. When she became queen, she liked to spend time at Greenwich, especially in the summer. There is a famous story about Sir Walter Raleigh putting his cloak down in the mud for Queen Elizabeth to walk over. Some people have suggested that this happened at the place where the royal family crossed the road to go into the park.

During the Civil War the Palace of Placentia fell into disrepair. Although Charles II planned for it to be rebuilt, it was never used as a royal residence and was eventually demolished. A new palace was partly built, only to be converted into the new Naval Hospital. However, the fall of the Tudor palace coincided with the rise of the Queen's House, built in stark contrast to the old red-brick Tudor palace.

4. General Wolfe statue Greenwich Park - What would Thomas Tallis memorial look like?

Built in 1930 to commemorate General James Wolfe (1727-1759), this Grade II listed structure was designed by Dr. Tait Mackenzie and a gift from the Canadians. The statue commemorates Wolfe's victory against the French at Quebec which secured Canada for the British. Wolfe, whose parents lived in Macartney House on the edge of the park, died in the battle. The monument was unveiled by the Marquis de Montcalm, a descendant of the Commander-in-Chief of French forces who also died at the Battle of Quebec. Wolfe lived in Greenwich and is buried in a local church.