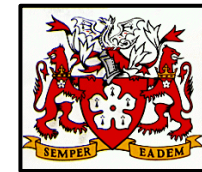




Alderman Elizabeth Rowley Frisby MBE JP 1877-1946



Elizabeth was born and raised in Leicester. She was educated at Wyggeston Girls School and then worked as a district visitor in one of the poorest areas of the city. Elizabeth later studied at the London School of Economics. She joined the WSPU in 1910, became a suffragette and soon volunteered for danger-duty. She was arrested without charge at Westminster on 'Black Friday' in November 1910 after clashing with police outside Parliament. However in November 1911 she was sentenced to five days in Holloway for obstructing the police. She funded/hosted WSPU meetings locally and was a friend of the Pankhurst's. Her militancy in support of women's suffrage was also manifest in Leicester. She was involved in the vandalism on the 15th green at Evington golf course in February 1913 when she dug up the turf with the words 'No Vote, No Golf'. Her father was chairman of the golf club at the time. It is a widely held view that she also set fire to Blaby railway station in July 1914 causing £500 worth of damage. At the outbreak of WWI all militant activity was suspended in support of the war effort. Elizabeth set up a clothing depot in Leicester for poor families of soldiers serving overseas. She and her family also funded and equipped a YMCA hut in Seaford, Sussex at the army training camp. Elizabeth and her sister worked tirelessly at the camp providing refreshments for the troops who would be leaving for the front. She received an MBE for her voluntary work during WWI. After the war her commitment to civic duty and her interest in politics continued to grow. She became a Life Governor at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and at University College, Leicester. She also supported the Leicester Guild of Cripples and the Boy Scouts. She joined the Knighton Conservative Association in 1921 and became a Conservative Councillor in 1927. It was in 1927 that *poacher became game-keeper* - she was appointed as a JP in Leicester. In 1941 she served as the first female Lord Mayor of Leicester. During WWII she opened up her home at Stackley House, Great Glen, to evacuees. She was a company director at her father's business - Joseph Frisby Ltd. Footwear Stores.



Elizabeth Frisby in the 1901 Census living at 'Stoneleigh', Knighton Park Road. Her father owns a footwear business – they have four servants.

201	- do	1				Joseph Frisby	Head	M	53	Boot & Shoe Factor	Employer	Leics: Frisby
	("Stoneleigh")					Harriett do	Wife	M	49			Leics: Frisby
						Elizabeth R do	Daughter	S	24			Leicester
						Joseph R do	Son	S	21	Boot & Shoe Factor	Worker	do
						Edith do	Daughter	S	19	Serv		do
						Jessie do	Daughter	S	16	Schoolgirl		do
						Elizabeth Kendrick	Serv	S	29	Cook - Domestic		London: Kensington
						Maud Beer	Serv	S	23	Housemaid - Domestic		Scotland
						Sarah Taylor	Serv	S	25	Housemaid - Domestic		Leics: Kirby Muxton
						Annie Keasey	Serv	S	21	Kitchen Maid - Domestic		Leics: Milsandine