

4.5

Work

London heritage fact: three women at work

A



Female bus conductor. © Museum of London.

1

The Fish Stall: 19th century

The Fish Stall. In this painting we see a fish stall run by a young woman. The stall is a wooden table with a lead cover where many different types of fish are displayed. Hanging on the wall are smoked sprats and salt fish.

B



A London bus conductress. Etching by George Studdy © Museum of London

2

Female bus conductor
photographed in March 1975.

The first females to have jobs as 'clippies' or bus conductors did so as early as 1916. It was not until the Second World War, however, that they became a regular sight and it was not until 1974 that the first female bus driver was employed by London Underground.

C



The Fish Stall c. 1830 by William Kidd © Museum of London

3

A London Bus Conductress 1916

This drawing by George Studdy shows a London bus conductress. During the First World War, women were recruited to fill the shortage created in the workforce when large numbers of men went to fight overseas.

Match the image to the description.

A _____

B _____

C _____

Underline the correct answer.

B is a bus conductor from

Manchester

Leicester

London

C is

a fishmonger

a bus conductor

a clippie

True or False.

Bus conductors were known as clippies.

True

False

The first female bus driver was employed in 1974.

True

False

Discuss with a partner.

Which job would you prefer, bus conductor or fish seller?

What is the best job you have had?

What is the worst job you have had?

Can you think of any nicknames for other workers? For example carpenters are called 'chippies'.