

The Tailor of Gloucester Mouse Trail



Can you find 9 mice and a cat hidden in Westgate Street?

1. Our first mouse is sitting on something... what is it?

.....

2. What number is on the plaque with the well-dressed lady mouse holding a mirror?

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3. How many mice are there on plaque no. III?

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4. What is the mouse on plaque no. IV doing?

.....

5. How many mouse ears can you see on plaque no. V?

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6. What is the lady mouse on plaque no. VI wearing around her neck?

.....

7. Which plaque shows two mice stitching buttonholes by candlelight?

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8. On plaque no. VIII, what is the mouse at the back holding?

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9. A gentleman mouse is taking a bow on one of our plaques. What is he standing in front of?

.....

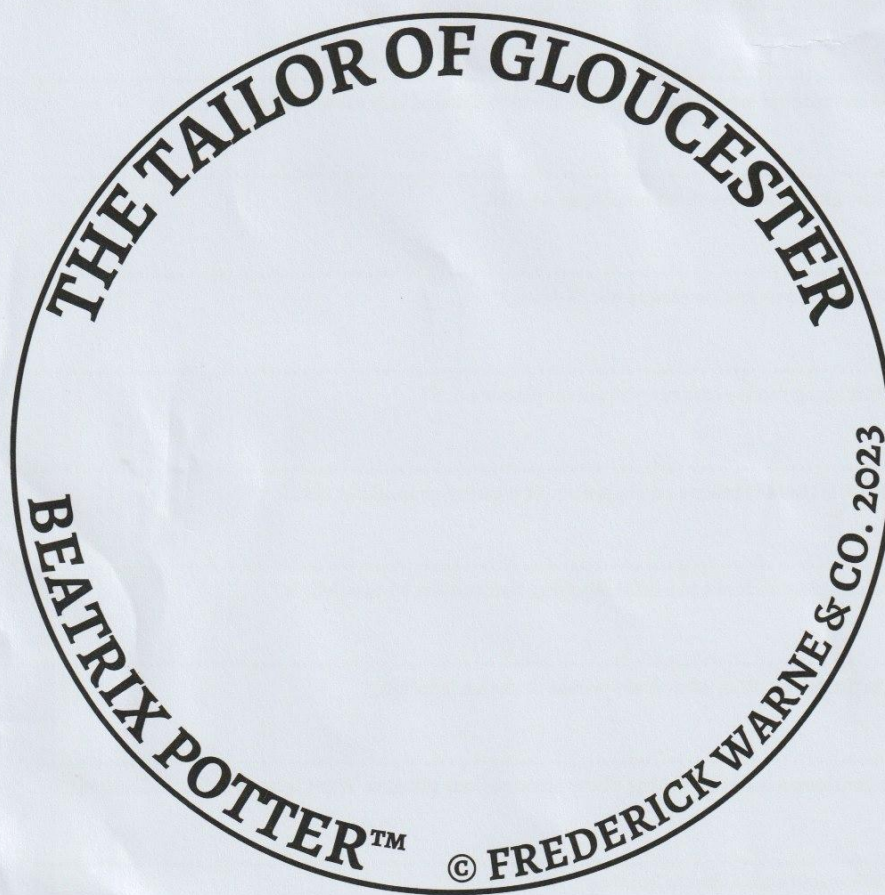
10. What is Simpkin the cat holding?

.....


Well done you are finished! We hope you enjoyed finding all of our little mice... and Simpkin of course!



Draw your own mouse in the roundel below!




By:




1903

"The little brown mice run in and out without any keys through all the old houses in Gloucester!"

2023





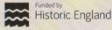



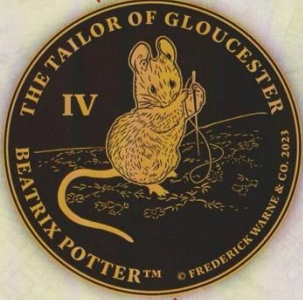
Can you find nine mice and a cat hidden in Westgate Street?

There are ten brass plaques to find, recreating the little brown mice and Simpkin the Cat from Beatrix Potter's beloved story *The Tailor of Gloucester*.

This trail has been produced by the Cathedral Quarter partnership to celebrate 120 years since the publication of *The Tailor of Gloucester*.

This is the first in a series of public realm improvements undertaken as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone funded by Historic England.

Mouse Trail


WESTGATE GLOUCESTER

The True Story of the Tailor of Gloucester

While visiting her cousin near Gloucester in 1894 Beatrix Potter heard the curious story of **John Pritchard**, a Gloucester tailor. Pritchard had returned to his shop one Monday morning to find an unfinished waistcoat all sewn up except for one buttonhole with a note reading **'no more twist!'**

The enterprising tailor set about advertising his shop as where the waistcoats are **'made at night by the fairies.'** Only later did it emerge that Pritchard's waistcoat had been finished by his apprentices waiting out a hangover in the shop after a night on the town.

However, Beatrix Potter had by then already swapped the fairies for **little brown mice** and reinvented Pritchard's marketing gimmick as her beloved fairy-tale ***The Tailor of Gloucester***. The story was published in October 1903 and has been a firm family favourite the world over ever since.



Follow the Mouse Trail

To celebrate 120 years of *The Tailor of Gloucester*, the Cathedral Quarter partnership has installed a series of brass plaques around Westgate Street. Each features the little brown mice or Simpkin the Cat, adapted from Beatrix Potter's original illustrations by Gloucestershire-based artist **Ella Daniel-Lowe** (@lunalotusuk).

Follow the trail and find the mice, stopping to admire the beautiful historic buildings of Westgate as Beatrix Potter herself did when she visited Gloucester in 1894.



There are ten brass plaques hidden along Westgate Street between the Cross and Shire Hall. Can you find them all?

Beatrix Potter sketched and painted some of the old buildings of Westgate to illustrate *The Tailor of Gloucester* when she visited John Pritchard. Pritchard's shop was then at 43 Westgate Street – now part of the Sword Inn. The picturesque house she chose as the setting for her story was in College Court, a narrow lane leading through the medieval Saint Michael's Gate to Gloucester Cathedral.

The House of the Tailor of Gloucester

Many of the old buildings Potter painted can still be found in Gloucester's historic streets. Number 9 College Court has been home to the **House of the Tailor of Gloucester** as a visitor attraction since 1978.

The House of the Tailor of Gloucester



The Sword Inn, where the real Tailor of Gloucester worked

Beatrix Potter described *The Tailor of Gloucester* as her **'favourite book.'** We couldn't agree more, and hope you too have enjoyed discovering the beautiful old buildings of Gloucester that inspired her through our Mouse Trail.

