



Joan Adeney Easdale aka Sophie Curley 1913- 1998

Poet

Joan was known in Nottingham in 1990's as Sophie Curley an eccentric bag lady who preached free love in the marketplace and drank in Yates and other city bars but she had once been a published poet. Born in Manchester she wrote from an early age and Hogarth published her first volume 'A Collection of Poems' in 1931. She was a friend of Virginia and Leonard Woolf and other members of the Bloomsbury group. She also wrote plays for the BBC.

Her last publication was 'Amber Innocent' a long poem which she worked on for many years. In 1938 she married and went on to have 3 children and they lived for some time in Australia. She returned to England in 1953 and from 1964-61 she was treated for paranoid schizophrenia and one day she discharged herself and began living rough and by the late 1960's she had come to Nottingham and became a familiar sight around the city.

Her daughter and granddaughter never completely lost touch and Celia Robertson – granddaughter published '**Who was Sophie**' about her life in 2008. She is buried in Wilford Hill cemetery.