



## **Charlotte Marsh 1887-1961**

### **Suffragette**

Charlotte or Charlie as she preferred to be known, was born and educated in Newcastle, she joined the WSPU in 1907 while training to be a sanitary inspector. Appalled by what she saw about women's lives she gave up a promising career and became active in the WSPU to give women a voice. She was first arrested in June 1908 but was arrested and went on hunger strike several times.

She took over from Nellie Crocker as organiser in Nottingham in 1912 and was interviewed on February 1912 for the Nottingham Daily Express. She lived at 30 Bridlesmith Gate. Various militant activities continued while she was organiser; in 1912 -13 pillar boxes attacked, MP and other key meetings interrupted. She was the standard bearer at Emily Wilding Davison's funeral procession in 1913. She attempted to protest at the trial of Eileen Casey 24.06.14 (NEP) at the Guildhall but was prevented from getting inside by the Police who later detained her. When WW1 broke the WSPU agreed to support the war effort and Charlotte first became a motor mechanic, then chauffeured for Lloyd George. She also worked for the Land Army in Surrey. She became increasingly critical of how the Pankhursts acted during WW1 and so in March 1917 she set up the Independent WSPU. After the war she worked for the International League for Peace and Freedom. By 1934 she was working in London for the County Council with the public assistance department. She became vice president of the Suffragette Fellowship. She died in Wimbledon in 1961.