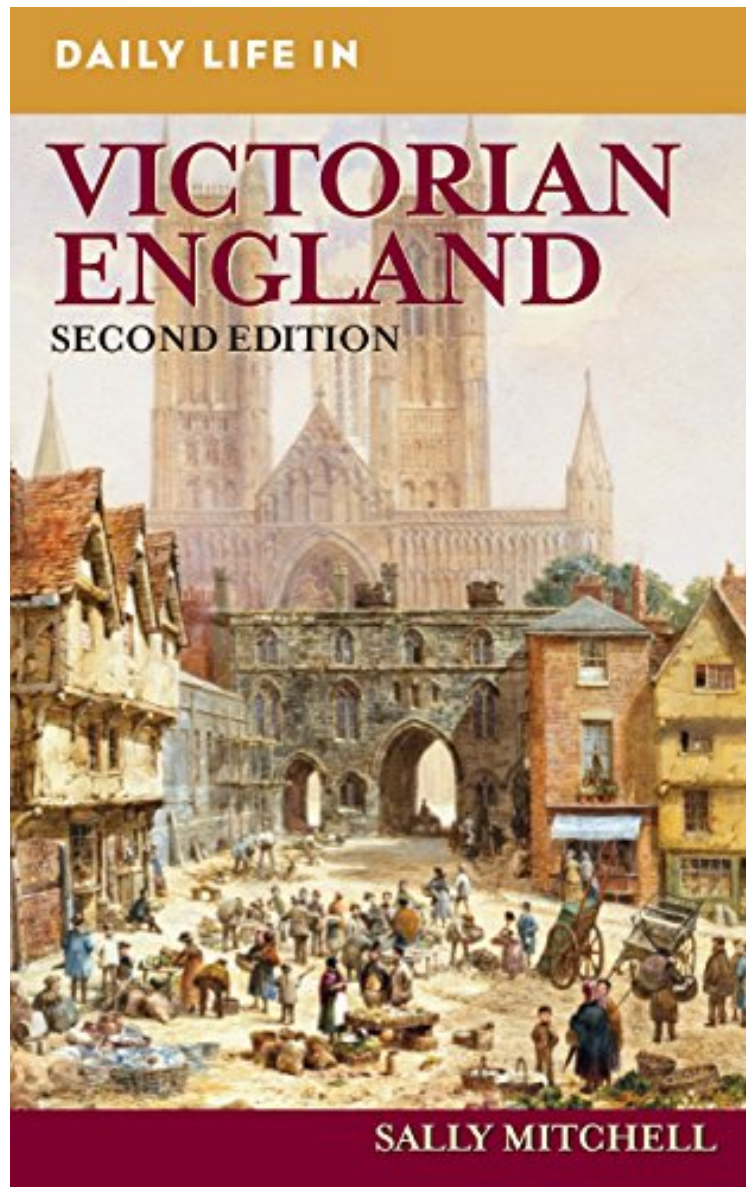


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Daily Life in Victorian England (Daily Life Through History)

Sally Mitchell

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Sally Mitchell : Daily Life in Victorian England (Daily Life Through History) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Daily Life in Victorian England (Daily Life Through History):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Thorough and easy to read, but too informal for researchers By Customer As a historical novelist, I have found 'Daily Life in Victorian England' very helpful for understanding period

details. Mitchell covers a wide variety of walks of life during the nineteenth century, from the aristocrats we see in movies to the impoverished laborers, with a special emphasis on the rise of the middle class. It is written for American students unfamiliar with the history, politics, and lexicon of England, so she takes extra care to explain things that many other authors assume are common knowledge (like the way degree programs at Oxford and Cambridge are structured, the difference between solicitors and barristers, etc.). However, the book is not ideal for reference. You need to sit down and read it from beginning to end. While there are useful subject headers to the side of the text, the classes and decades are all mixed together. There are also no citations of primary sources--only a short bibliography for "further reading" at the end. So if the author mentions "one household manual" that suggests ideal family budgets by income, and you'd like to see the original for specifics, you're on your own. As such, I can't recommend the book for anything more than a broad introduction and overview; graduate students, librarians, and other researchers like me will find the lack of references aggravating. One final note: the cost of this book is just ridiculous. I don't know why Greenwood believes a three-hundred page eBook is worth \$45.10. Make sure you expand the hardcover options to find used library copies for \$12 after shipping. I very much doubt that research into Victorian England made such leaps and bounds between 1996 and 2008 that it warrants a five-fold price increase.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully Done By mensagrrrII have made a very thorough (though amateur) study of the Victorian period, and as such, I have read many reference texts, but I often come back to Dr. Mitchell's book for fun and for its completeness. The way she easily sums up concepts and creates a real picture is engaging and informative. This book is especially good for first timers, but she doesn't stick exclusively to explaining novels, the way some do. Above all, there is a real expression of the hardship of the forgotten working class; their perilous but proud existence, their very "cheap" lives, their "go it alone" attitude. This population made up 3/4th of the country and is antithetical to the nobles and squires often celebrated in Victorian novels. I highly recommend this book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Resource on Victorian England By hooked on genealogy This book is great if you want to learn about life in Victorian England. It covers in depth many topics such as religion (Church of England and Nonconformists), the kinds of jobs and working conditions, education, food, housing, etc. It gives good snapshot of the time period. I found the entire book to be most interesting. I am researching my genealogy and I bought this to know what life was like for my ancestors during this time period. It was a great resource. I highly recommend this book if you are interested in reading about Victorian life.

What was life really like in Victorian England during its transition from provincial society into modern urban power? Discover the effects of increased women's rights, technological advances, and Charles Darwin's discoveries on everyday life. This volume offers a fascinating glimpse into Victorian daily living, including women's roles; Victorian Morality; leisure; health and medicine; and life in all settings, from workhouses to country estates. This edition features an extensive guide to contemporary primary source material and further research, including information about finding authoritative sources easily on the Web. Illustrations, interactive sidebars, a chronology and glossary further illuminate the details of Victorian culture. This volume is an ideal source for students and teachers alike. Discover the effects of increased women's rights, technological advances, and Charles Darwin's discoveries on everyday life. Engaging narrative chapters explore all aspects of the Victorian experience, including: fashion, morality, courtship and mourning rituals, crime and punishment, public school requirements, legal status (marriage, divorce, inheritance, guardians, and bankruptcy), sports like croquet and foxhunting, and the importance of religion.

"The meat of the book remains excellent. Mitchell is comprehensive, providing a tremendous amount of information that will be useful to historians and readers of nineteenth-century literature alike." - Catholic Library World

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About the Author SALLY MITCHELL is Professor Emerita of English and Women's Studies at Temple University. She has published extensively on Great Britain, the Victorian era, and women's issues, including *Victorian Britain: An Encyclopedia* (1988), which was named an ALA Outstanding Reference Work. Her most recent work, *Frances Power Cobbe: Victorian Feminist, Journalist, Reformer*, was published in 2004.