

Review of 'Etta Lemon: the woman who saved the birds', By Tessa Boase (in hardback this book is entitled 'Mrs Pankhurst's Purple Feather')

*At the end of the 19th and start of the 20th centuries fashion demanded that women's hats should feature feathers, bird parts or even whole birds. It was so widespread that some species were brought to the brink of extinction. This book is the story of Etta Lemon, one of the women founders of the RSPB, Mrs Pankhurst, who insisted that her suffragettes be dressed fashionably and the thousands of women and children whose eyesight and health were wrecked while working for a pittance preparing the feathers for use in the fashion industry. We all found it fascinating and recommend it to you.*