Mystery Tour
Beryl Cook, 2004

Gentle jazz music plays

This is Redstart Radio, the station that brings you all the hottest art news and stories by Chard's finest art detectives.

In this episode, agents investigated a book illustration by the British artist Beryl Cook. You'll hear what the agents uncovered very soon. But first, a little about the picture.

The book is called My Granny Was A Frightful Bore and it was written by Nanette Newman in 2004. The artist Beryl Cook painted the illustrations. The picture the agents investigated shows a red double-decker bus full of slightly older people on a daytrip. The Bus has Mystery Tour written on the front. That's why you're listening to it at a bus stop!

Now it's time for you to hear some stories written and performed by the agents who investigated this artwork.

Sound of a bus engine, then angry car horns beeping.

Get off the road!
Aah! Get me out of this bus, I'm feeling sick!
Why are you leaning out the door anyway? That's really unsafe.
I need air. It's way too hot.

Shhh! Stop driving so crazy! I'm trying to sleep!
Oh dear, stop this bus! I don't think the driver is qualified!

More angry car horns beep, and overlapping voices shout

Move it! Get off the road!
Aah! When is the next stop? I don't think I can hold on much longer!
Everybody heave!

Sounds of a police siren approaching and stopping.
The bus engine slows, brakes squeak and the engine ticks over.

Local police here. We saw you were speeding!
We need to see your driver's licence and ID ma'am.
I, um...am 100% qualified. I just, you know, forgot them today.
Uh-huh?
Oh, biscuits!

Sound of a flute playing a quirky comedic phrase, then sounds of the bus engine again.

What are you doing?
I'm hot in this bus. I need some fresh air.
It is dangerous! Get back in!
I'm just too hot.

Sounds of a fast ticking clock.

Later after 46 hours....we are here now!

Sounds of birdsong.

Where are we? We seem to be in the middle of nowhere.

Everyone piled off the bus and stood around looking at each other.
Where are we?

Suddenly leaves started to fall from the trees...

A echoey magical descending phrase.

...opening a giant portal

Sound of a magical ascending whoosh

and straight in front of them was a special care home ready for an adventure.

Magical echoey organ and bell-like music.

Gentle jazz music plays.

You're listening to Redstart Radio. Remember, there's 10 episodes to find, all around Chard. Where will you go next?

If you enjoyed these stories inspired by paintings, why not create a new story yourself? Investigate a painting, fire up your imagination and let the story flow!