

# Outreach

The newsletter of the Friends of The National Archives

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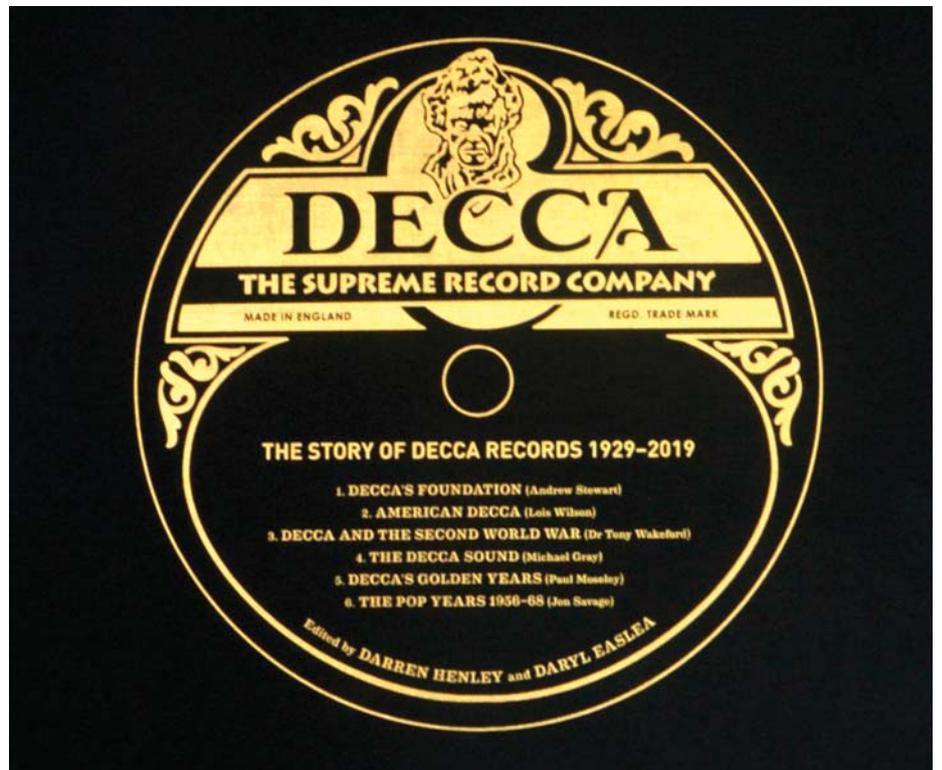
## Decca – The supreme record company goes to war

**Thursday 19 September 2019, 18.00 – 19.30, the Events Space at Kew.**

This year is the 90th anniversary of the Decca Record Company.

To mark the occasion the book 'The Story of Decca Records 1929-2019' has recently been published. Join the Friends' chairman, Dr Tony Wakeford, who researched the history of the Company during World War II for chapter three of the book. Drawing on material held at The National Archives, and other archival sources, he discusses Decca's contribution to the war effort.

Their contribution was significant, providing innovative technical support for a number of operational aspects including the development of navigation which provided a vital, yet little known, contribution to the success of D-Day in 1944. They also assisted the Y Service with the decoding of German radio transmissions and supplied training records for the Anti-Aircraft Command. Their research and development work for the Admiralty and Coastal Command enabled the improvement in recorded sound as part of the anti-submarine war effort. This was to lead to full frequency range recordings (ffrr) and



the basis for the Company's post war commercial and technical successes.

The talk will be interspersed with Decca recordings of the era, showcasing the variety of recorded output during the 1940s. There will also be a display of Decca memorabilia from the period.

**Entrance for members is FREE, and each guest £5.00 + £1.43 booking fee (£5.00 only (not the booking fee) refundable against the cost of the membership subscription if**

**a guest joins the Friends on the night). Members may bring a maximum of two guests.**

**THIS EVENT IS FOR MEMBERS ONLY, WITH THEIR GUESTS, AND FOR STAFF OF TNA AND DECCA.**

To reserve your place with Eventbrite (Friends' members) or obtain tickets (guests), please see the Friends' website for full details:

<https://ftna.org.uk/events-and-visits/>

**MEMBERSHIP COUNTER**

**1110**



*Friends' trustees Cathy Quinn (Membership Secretary), Maggie Deighton (Visits Coordinator) and Tony Reed (Meetings Coordinator) attend the event 'Beyond the Glitter'.*

## 'Beyond the Glitter' event

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In July, Friends' trustees were invited to attend the 'Beyond the Glitter' event laid on to showcase the work that Rachel Hillman and colleagues are undertaking in collaboration with Anstee Bridge. Anstee Bridge is an alternative and creative learning programme run in Kingston Upon Thames, designed for vulnerable young people aged 15-16 years who are experiencing emotional challenges which can often cause them to disengage from education. The project work carried out was themed around health and hospitals, and the event concluded with a powerful and thought provoking performance of the play SCAR by actors from the Bounce



*With boxes creatively designed, the students used these as backdrops for their film sequences.*

Theatre, exploring the relationship between young people waiting outside a hospital A&E and physical and mental health.

Following on from the Education Department's successful and award winning film-making projects of previous years, the Friends were once again proud to be asked to help support and contribute towards the funding of another workshop which took place here at Kew in early August. Entitled 'Mental Health On Record', a group of young people from around the country came together to work on creating a stop-start motion film under the tutelage and guidance of the filmmaker, Nigel Kellaway.

Taking inspiration from documents held in the TNA collection, ten excerpts of history were recreated using models and backdrops made by the students themselves. The finished film will be premiered in February 2020 and we look forward to being able to report the results to you in the future.



*The conference room was converted to accommodate the camera and art equipment required for the students to create their stories.*



*A hive of activity!*



*Film equipment used to take stop-start motion film of each of the students' individual story creations.*

Shown, a selection of photos of the workshop held in a conference room at TNA with Nigel Kellaway, staff from TNA's Education Department and the young people who took part in the event.

## Friends' visit to the Institution of Civil Engineering in London



*One of the beautifully decorated rooms at ICE at One, Great George Street in Westminster, London.*

On 24 July, a group of Friends' members and their guests enjoyed a very successful visit to the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) in Westminster, London. Members were shown many of the elegant

rooms in ICE's magnificent Grade II listed, four-domed, Edwardian building, as well as blueprints, paintings, diaries and other material from their archive.

### CAR PARKING

A reminder that parking charges are now in force.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### Do you enjoy meeting and helping new people?

If so, and you can spare some time (on a regular or occasional basis), you could be just the person we need to be part of our team that supplies volunteers to help with various functions at The National Archives.

These include stewarding at conferences, helping with family days and other TNA and Friends events, **and especially helping staff our recruitment / members enquiry stalls (Kew Desk, or the 'pressgang')**. Which kind of activity you wish to be involved in, and how often, is up to you. To find out more about what the team does and how you might fit in please contact Howard at the email address below:

[recruiting@ftna.org.uk](mailto:recruiting@ftna.org.uk)

or drop by at one of our stalls to have a chat. The dates when the team are available can be found under the **Kew Desk Tab** (via Contact Us) on our website.

### EASYFUNDRAISING

We have raised over £2315.63 with grateful thanks to the 65 members who subscribe to this scheme. Please join us and help to raise even more funds to help support projects and activities at The National Archives.

Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and create an account. Select the Friends as your charity. When you shop online go via easyfundraising who will link you to the online retailer of your choice (there are over 2000 of them!). When you have completed your purchase in the usual way, the retailer will make a donation to easyfundraising (usually between 1 and 6 per cent of the purchase price).