

Outreach

The newsletter of the Friends of The National Archives

Vol 5: No 1, February 2018

The Suffrage Tales project

Tony Wakeford outlines the premier screening of the Suffrage Tales project.

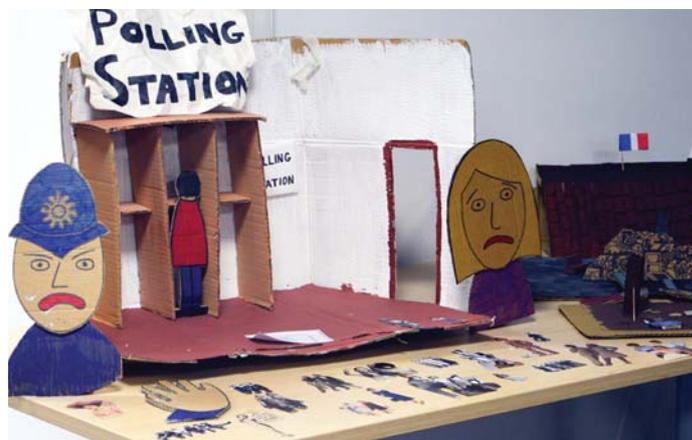
On 13 February 2018, The National Archives showed the premier screening of the Suffrage Tales video. This project, funded by the Friends, is part of those events taking place to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Representation of the People Act 1918. The video was created by 14 Key Stage 5 (16-19 years), A Level students, drawn from various colleges, who worked with professional film-maker, Nigel Kellaway. The video traces the history of women's fight for the vote and uses documentation from The National Archives to inform the students' interpretation of that narrative. The students created the stage scenes (some of which are shown here), devised the commentary from TNA documents, filmed the animated sequences and recorded the commentary themselves.



The audience was also treated to a very good performance of a play written by Kimberley Turford, *A Presentment of Ordinary Women: A Suffragette play for*

the twenty-first century, performed by students of the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

The full video runs for 15 minutes and is available to view on YouTube at the link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETP-J5X-hJE>



Photographs: Top right - the YouTube video, and various pictures of the sets used in the making of the film.

Volunteers needed for Kew Desk - please see page 4 and
<https://do-it.org/organisations/friends-of-the-national-archives>

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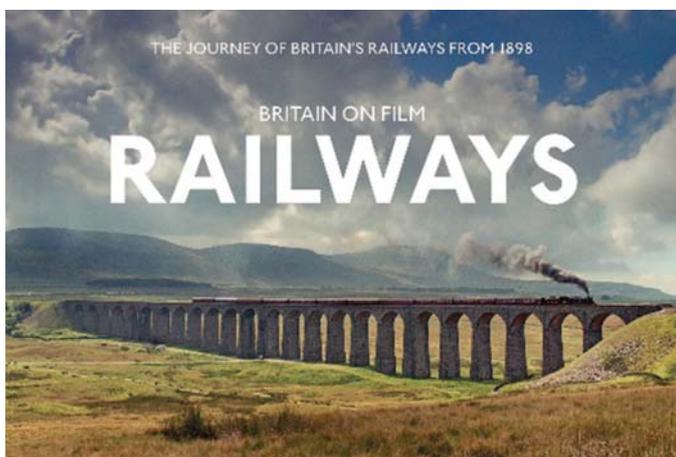
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Dates for the Diary: Britain on Film series

The Friends are delighted to announce an arrangement with the Independent Cinema Office (ICO) to screen selected films from their *Britain on Film* series. This arrangement forms part of the 30th anniversary celebrations marking the Friends' foundation in 1988. The ICO, working with the British Film Institute, have restored rarely seen films to offer a unique insight into Britain's past, dating back to the late 1890s.

From Wednesday 2 May four films from the series will be screened at two week intervals at 2pm. Each screening will be accompanied by a document display and short introduction to highlight and showcase the related records held by The National Archives.

Wednesday 2 May:
Britain on Film: Railways.



This film brings together an evocative collection of films to highlight the expansion and change in our railways through the 20th century. Estimated running time is 83 minutes.

Wednesday 16 May:
Britain on Film: Black Britain.



This film provides viewers with the opportunity to explore stories of migration, community and the struggle for equality, as well as a vivid insight to black British life and culture on screen from the early 1900s through to the 1980s. Estimated running time is 91 minutes.

Wednesday 30 May:
Britain on Film: Coast and Sea.



This film combines a nostalgic mix of coastal life at favoured holiday resorts with films about the work of lifeboats at the RNLI and reconstruction following the Second World War. Estimated running time is 93 minutes.

Wednesday 13 June:
Britain on Film: LGBT Britain.



This film provides viewers with a moving and fascinating collection of films which tackle the collective fight for equality as well as showcasing moving personal experiences through to the 1980s and 1990s. Estimated running time is 85 minutes.

Booking details will appear in The National Archives *What's On* brochure and online, via Eventbrite in due course.

Please see the link to the Chairman's latest blog for members:
<https://ftna.org.uk/2018/02/20/musings-from-the-riverbank-5/>

The chairman and trustees would like to extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of our member, Monique Addinall, who has sadly passed away.

Submarine Museum, Gosport

Following his visit in December to the Science Museum Store at Blythe House, our chairman Tony Wakeford continued his research for the Decca Record Company by recently visiting the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport. He met George Malcolmson, curator at the National Museum of the Royal Navy, to view a collection of 78rpm gramophone and acetate records.



HMS Alliance.

Recording and identifying sounds is an important part of submarine warfare and the museum's collection of records includes a wide variety of mechanical and animal sounds in water. The records were used for training purposes, and there are related files held at Kew for some of the museum's collection.

Tony was also joined by our publications editor for a meeting with

representatives from the Museum's Friends organisation. There was an interesting and helpful discussion about ways in which a link could be created between the two organisations. We hope to report more on this in the coming months. The visit finished with a conducted tour of the museum and HMS Alliance.

Important information about our website and emails

A message from the Editor regarding changes to the website and email addresses.

Website - we have changed the secure website domain name to ftna.org.uk. This is to provide easier access to the site by using this abbreviation (no www is required). Please would members update their bookmarks and favourites.

Emails - we are now using shorter email addresses with the suffix [@ftna.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ftna.org.uk), so e.g. enquiries@ftna.org.uk. Please would members update their address book contacts.

For members - please always see the Home page of the website for **urgent or update messages in red** at <https://ftna.org.uk>.

Additional information - members can also find information on the Home page and Members' tabs of our website. This includes help with changing passwords for logging in, forms to download for the Standing Order payment option and Gift Aid



Declaration, members' new 2018 Bookshop code for their online discount with the TNA Bookshop, and a link to the Friends' Updates page.

For members and authors of *Magna* articles - please see the Editorial page

at <https://ftna.org.uk/editorial/>. This provides details of the next issues of *Magna* magazine and information for authors contributing articles in future editions.

On Government Service: Best paw forward

Tony Wakeford puts out a call for volunteers to help support the Education Team for a family event in August 2018.

Over the last four years or so the Friends have developed a very good working relationship with TNA's Education Team. The Friends have funded several projects including the history of the Thames, the human body, bugs (when we introduced Archives Archie), a special needs programme, the Somme, the Reformation and Suffragettes. Activities have ranged from lessons and workshops to film-making and artwork.

We are now looking to develop our support further by assisting with research to identify suitable material that the team can then work on to produce a family event about animals, due to take place on 9 August.

We are seeking volunteers to help search through the collections to identify records relating to the role of animals involved in some 'official' capacity, whether it be chief mouser at the Post Office or the official Home Office cat. However, it is not just about cats and there will be many examples of animals on the pay roll, or who have an expenses account.

This may not necessarily be new research as some may already know of



Archives Archie the Bug

examples and can identify relevant records from past research. If you are interested and can help then please get in touch with me. The Education Team are looking for five good examples that can be used for the event.

What we will need is the catalogue reference and a date and/or folio number so that material can be easily traced, and with a brief summary of the circumstances. The deadline to complete the research and have suggestions ready for the Education Team is 27 April 2018. For more information please contact Tony at chairman@ftna.org.uk

Bookshop – online discount Code for Members of the Friends

Friends receive a discount of 20 percent on most items bought in the bookshop. Please remember your membership card for purchases at Kew. You can also

receive a discount for online purchases using a special code. This changes each January and can be found in the Members' area of our website.

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

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 £1996 with grateful thanks to the 60 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 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).