

Outreach

The newsletter of the Friends of The National Archives

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A busy year so far

Eileen Wicks, Vice Chairman, brings us up-to-date with some of the current Friends' support for projects and activities at Kew.

We are pleased to say that so far 2018 has been a very busy and positive year with the Friends participation in funding TNA projects. The Archives' staff have approached us with all manner of varied requests needing support, some of which we would like to tell you about.

The Big Ideas Seminars are a successful series of lectures that have been running since 2014. Their aim is to introduce TNA staff to research projects, new theories and innovative methods that may be of interest to them or can be incorporated in their work. As this is now a Friends' supported series members are more than welcome to attend the lectures held in the TNA Event Space 1pm - 2pm on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 8 May: Dr Jean-Luc Cochard** - 'Is linked data an appropriate technology for implementing an archive's catalogue?'
- **Thursday 17 May: Assistant Professor Seamus Lawless** - 'Entity Disambiguation in Digital Cultural Heritage'

TNA's Research and Academic Engagement Teams are working to improve the Archives' engagement with the academic community in an effort to create a more vibrant and renowned research culture here at Kew. In collaboration with TNA, the Friends have agreed to financially support a six-month Post Graduate Research Fellowship. The post is currently being advertised. By employing a Fellow it is hoped that this will not only be a way for the Friends to widen access to the TNA collections, but that it will also contribute to the heart of the TNA research and create an enduring legacy. Plans for the 2018 Fellowship should see the programme completed by

ftna.org.uk

the end of this year so we will keep members informed as things develop.

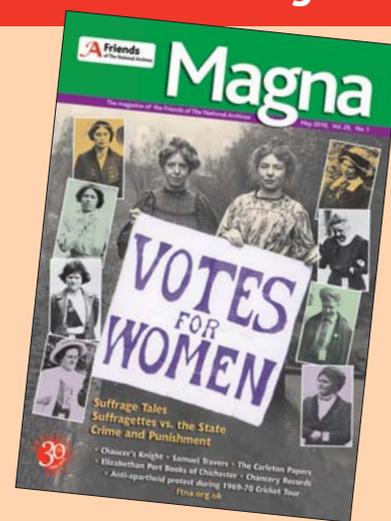
The Friends are continuing their support for TNA's Education Department in the development and growth of their programming for young people through creative projects. In 2016 and 2017 the Friends funded two successful and award-winning projects for students who attended week-long August workshops here at Kew and for 2018 we have once again agreed to contribute towards the funding of the Holding History film-making project. With the professional film-maker Nigel Kellaway, students will select documents from the archives to highlight some of the key events from 1000 years of the nation's history, drawing on some of the lesser known stories and hidden histories held in TNA's collections. We look forward to seeing the finished results in October but in the meantime the 2016 *Somme Tales* and 2017 *Suffrage Tales* can be viewed online:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war/somme-tales/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETP-J5X-hJE>

On Tuesday 8 May 2018 the Keeper's Gallery will re-open after an extensive re-fit. And for those of you who are long standing members you will be aware that this is the first time in 10 years. The Gallery will be transformed into a single, open exhibition space with the aim of raising the profile of TNA to existing and new visitors. The first exhibition is *The Suffragettes vs. The State* and will look in-depth at suffrage issues by showcasing some of TNA's world renowned collection of suffrage records. The refit of the gallery will include new audio/visual technology to provide a more engaging

Coming soon – new edition of *Magna*



visitor experience. The Friends have agreed to fund an AV touch screen, and we look forward to its arrival in time for the exhibition.

Lastly, on Saturday 21 July the Friends are sponsoring the Early Tudor Family Day. TNA is aiming to bring the colours, smells and liveliness of the court of the young Henry VIII to life for a family audience with a full day of activities suitable for all ages. This will include professional live combat displays, a falconry display with live birds in Pocket Park, a bookbinding and seal making display, a series of lectures given by academics and record specialists, Tudor education sessions for the younger audience, document displays and much more. It sounds an amazing day for all and we hope that you will be able to attend. Further details will be available in the July/September issue of *What's On* and tickets will be sold through Eventbrite.

MEMBERSHIP COUNTER

1127

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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 can be found in TNA's *What's On* brochure or online at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/visit-us/whats-on/>

Please note that the Railways and LGBT Britain films contain a sequence of flashing lights that might affect viewers who are susceptible to photosensitive epilepsy.

POCKET PARK PATROL

The variable weather has been deceiving but Spring is in the air. We look forward to the new season of arrivals. The ducks, geese and swans go about their business as the heron waits patiently.



News snippets from The National Archives

Late night opening

During May and June TNA will remain open until 9pm on Thursday evenings. Full details can be found at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/news/late-night-opening-thursdays-may-june-2018/>

Car parking

The arrangements for parking charges will now be introduced on 14 May. Full details can be found at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/news/changes-to-car-parking-at-the-national-archives-site-kew/>

Bookshop – online discount code for members of the Friends

Friends receive a discount of 20 per cent 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.

Date for the diary

The AGM and 30th anniversary celebration will take place on Tuesday 19 June at 5pm in the event space on the first floor at The National Archives. There will be refreshments and also a document display to showcase some of the work completed by the Friends over the last thirty years.

Papers will be circulated in early May with the new edition of *Magna*, and will also be available online in the members area of the website.

Kew 40



Hoping for a piece of cake: (l-r) Julie, Tony, Eileen, Cathy and Sara.

In February the chairman and some of the Friends' trustees joined current and former members of staff and guests to celebrate the 40th

anniversary of the Public Record Office / The National Archives at Kew. The Friends donated a splendid sponge cake for the occasion.

Archie

Archie has recently been visited by Sue Walters, his maker, to do some running repairs and upgrade his antenna to 4G. Emily Morris from the Education Team reports that: 'Archie has been used in primary school and SEND workshops as part of the introduction to TNA. As part of this he is passed around as an example of a "special item", and when the students are holding him they offer their ideas about what the archive holds. Archie is proving very popular with staff and students!'



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 £2016 with grateful thanks to the 59 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).