

'It's about time'

In this edition, we bring news about a potential new project looking at Norwich Market Place and a new resource for adult literacy tutors.

Adult Literacy Resource now available online

In July 2011, staff from Association of Colleges in the Eastern Region and the Norfolk Record Office ran a workshop at the RaPAL (Research and Practice in Adult Literacy) conference *Literacies in Time and Place*, at the University of East Anglia. The workshop used a range of documents to explore the issues of 'language and power'.

A new resource is now available using these documents, which include a Field Service Card from the First World War and a letter by a seven-year-old boy during the reign of Queen Victoria. The card contained multiple choice statements forming a 'writing frame' to enable soldiers with low literacy skills to communicate to their families back home. The limited options allowed soldiers to make only brief, positive comments about their welfare in officer class English very different from their own. The letter, by Moses Fosdick, includes spelling difficulties which adult literacy tutors will recognise from working with their own learners. Like many novice writers, Moses was more comfortable with spoken English and was unfamiliar with word 'boundaries'. For example, Moses wrote 'although' as two separate words.

The resource can be used for a variety of topics, such as the development of spelling, changing conventions in grammar and punctuation, morphology, the history of the English language, the use of Standard English, literacy as a set of social practices and handwriting. For each document there is a short set of historical notes followed by a commentary on features of the text that trainers might like to explore with their group.

To access the resource please visit <<http://www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/e-Resources/Teaching-Packs/>> and select Adult Education. Although aimed at adult literacy tutors the resource may be helpful to those studying English at A-level, (see article overleaf).



Field Service Card, 1914.
NRO, MOT 111

Commemorating the life of Edith Cavell

2015 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Edith Cavell. Born in Swardeston, Norfolk, Cavell became famous the world over for her work in helping allied soldiers escape during the First World War.

Here in Norfolk, planning has already begun into events to commemorate this anniversary. At the Record Office we are planning school holiday activities, and an exhibition on nursing during the First World War. We are also working with Norfolk Libraries and Information Service to investigate a resource pack for schools. We are still deciding what format the resource would take and what information should be included. We would love to hear from schools who have suggestions on what they would like included. Please contact us using the details overleaf.



Photograph of Edith Cavell with her mother and sister. NRO, MC 304/12, 699x7

Students from Sir John Leman High School in Beccles to visit the Norfolk Record Office

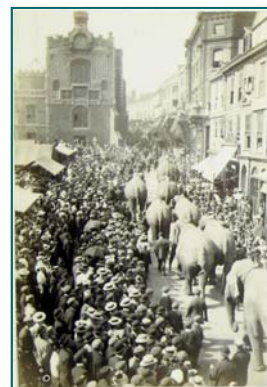
We are currently working with a teacher from Sir John Leman High School in Beccles, to create a session for students studying History of Language for the English Language A-Level module, Language Change and Development. The pupils will visit the Norfolk Record Office in December 2012, to look at original documents, personal letters and official papers in order to see how language has changed over time; how some words have fallen out of use and some have been created, and how grammar has changed over time. We will update you on how the students get on in the next edition of the newsletter.

Market Place Project– will you see the different in your Year 7s?

In July 2012, staff at Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service applied for HLF funding to develop a resource and workshop with ourselves and Integrated Advisory Service, looking at Norwich Market Place.

If successful, the project will establish a new workshop at Bridewell Museum, a resource pack for schools, a trail of the Market Place and a space for pupils to upload their own work to a website, to be used as a case study. We hope to work with year 6 pupils from approximately five primary schools in the spring and summer terms 2013 to trial the resource and upload their own work to a website. We would also be looking to see how this work has benefited pupils during their first term in year 7.

We will find out whether the application was successful in October, and, if so, will keep you posted on the project.



Elephants parade in the Market Place for Barnham's Circus, 1870s. NRO, MC 2678/3

Great Yarmouth College visit The Archive Centre

In July 2012, we worked with adult literacy and numeracy pupils from Great Yarmouth College for their second visit to The Archive Centre. This time, pupils had a look at how civil registration can be used to trace your family tree. Next, they made a start on working on their own family tree, by



Using civil registration certificates

collating information about recent family members, in order find a starting point for their research into previous generations. They also looked at illuminated manuscripts, before having a go at creating their own. We were really pleased that the students wanted to visit again, and hope to welcome them back to The Archive Centre

in the future.



Looking at illuminated manuscripts



If you need *'It's about time'* in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format

or in a different language, please contact the County Archivist on 01603 222599 and we will do our best to help.

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