



'It's about time'

In this terms edition of the newsletter, we bring you information about a project with Erpingham School, and news of a new exciting new online resource.

Norfolk Record Office Working Group

The Norfolk Record Office has just finished working on a project with the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library to catalogue records relating to the United States Army Air Force held in The Archive Centre. As part of this project, we have funding to produce an online school resource about the American Air Force in East Anglia during the Second World War.

The resource is to be released in 2012, to coincide with an exhibition to be held at The Archive Centre, celebrating Norfolk's links with America, and the publication of a 'Norfolk American Trail' visitor information leaflet. 2012 is also the 70th anniversary of the 'Friendly Invasion' when the US Army Air Force arrived in Norfolk in November 1942.



We have arranged a meeting with our working group on Thursday, 15 September 2011, at 4.30 p.m. to consult on images and activities to go in the resource. We are also keen for other teachers to get involved. Representatives from the Memorial Library will be at the meeting, and there will be a chance for you to see some of their artefacts along with the archive material. Tea and coffee will be served from 4.00 p.m. onwards.

If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact the Education and Outreach Officer on 01603 222677, or e-mail norrec@norfolk.gov.uk



8. Don't murder the King's English- ----
Slang and profanity are likely to enter into your use of words.
Guard against this!

Cartoon from *You Are An Officer: Are You a Gentleman?*, an illustrated guide to etiquette for officers. NRO, MC 371/574, USF 12/6.

Please see future editions of *It's about time*, for information on when the pack will be available.

Family Learning Programme

In the Autumn 2010 edition of *It's about time*, we asked to hear from schools who were interested in running a programme of family learning sessions, looking into tracing your family tree. These sessions were run by Adult Education Service's Family Learning Programme, and included three workshops led by Norfolk Record Office staff.

Since that newsletter, we have worked with 16 families from Coltishall Primary School in Spring 2011, and Firside Primary School in Summer 2011. Feedback from the group was very positive, with participants saying, 'I enjoyed the fun way you have helped us to learn', 'We have had a great experience and will continue our search during the holidays!' and 'I enjoyed working as a team with Lewis [her son]'.



Families looking objects and insects found inside documents

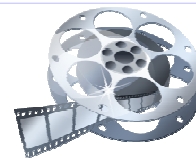
Adult Education have agreed to run more of the sessions, and are currently looking for to schools interested in running sessions in Spring and Summer 2012. If your school is interested please contact us.



Families looking at parish registers on microfilm

Erpingham Archival Film

We have been working with Erpingham Primary School and Aylsham Heritage Centre, to enable pupils to discover the history of the school, using documents and interviews with past teachers and pupils.



In June 2011, the pupils visited the Record Office for an introduction to archives. They looked at different types of documents before visiting our strongrooms. Our senior conservator showed the pupils some of the bugs, spiders and half-eaten paper that his team has to deal with. Next, the pupils unearthed information about two of the teachers at the school, using the 1871 and 1901 census returns. They used key dates in the history of the school that they found in log books held at the school, and letters, trade directories and plans held at the Record Office, to start creating a timeline. This included the foundation of the school and a fire which took place in 1930. After completing their research, they used the information to compile a list of questions to ask past pupils and teachers. Questions include 'What were the toilets like?' and 'How many pupils were at the school?'.

Back in the classroom, pupils wrote letters inviting people to be interviewed in September. Next, the pupils will incorporate all of the information from the documents and interviews into an archive film, which will be showcased at The Archive Centre in November, as part of the BBC's Reel History project.



Pupils using the census to find out about past teachers

Reel History

During September, the BBC will be showing a series entitled *Reel History of Britain*, using archive footage, to find out about the history of Britain in the twentieth century. The series ties in well with our Second World War workshop, which includes archive film to show what life was like for evacuees in this region.

The children follow the story of pupils from a Norwich school which was bombed during the war. Pupils look at artefacts from the war, before finding out about evacuation, using the film, along with photographs and a letter from one of the evacuees. Older pupils also get the chance to become a billeting officer, and have to find suitable housing for a list



Pupils looking at the letter by an evacuee

of evacuees in their area.

Work of an archivist workshop

Do your pupils know what an archivist does? If not, the following workshop may help.

The pupils begin by playing the indenture game, in which they have to pair up questions and answers to find out about the Record Office. Next, they learn about the roles both of archivists and conservators, before looking at examples of documents held at the Record Office. Finally, they get the chance to find out about the history of their area, using documents held at The Archive Centre.

In the last three years, Year Six pupils at Kinsale Junior School, in Hellesdon, have enjoyed the workshop, and now we are offering it to all schools.

If you would like to book a workshop for your pupils please contact us.



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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