

# 'It's about time'

In this edition, we recap on a training event for staff working at Great Yarmouth's Heritage Schools and look forward to a workshop looking at social changes during the Second World War.

## Creative and Media Diploma at Reepham High School



Castle Arch— final art work by Hayden Key from the 2011/12 course

For the second year in a row we visited Reepham High School to work with students on the Creative and Media Diploma, studying Unit 4— Record. This year we encouraged the pupils to think about why we keep records. We began by looking at Donnington Castle Estate, a sugar plantation in Jamaica worked by slaves in the 1830s. Pupils considered why this material was stored initially, and what it can tell us today about social attitudes at the time. We also discussed how archives have helped to piece together a much more detailed account of what went wrong on the day of the Hillsborough disaster.

Next, pupils spent time looking at archival film, photographs and other documents relating to sport, leisure, and celebrations in Norfolk in the 1950s. They discussed why the records were created, why they have been preserved and what this tells us about life during this decade. One of these documents was a telegram about the death of George VI. This prompted a discussion about how future generations are going to find out about life in the twenty-first century, when a major part of our communication takes place by text message and e-mail.



Norwich Market- final art work by Abigail Fish from the 2011/12 course

## Teacher training session for Great Yarmouth's Heritage Schools

You may have heard that Great Yarmouth and Gorleston have been chosen as one of the areas in the country for the first cluster of heritage schools. Teachers from these schools are already thinking of ways in which they can bring heritage into their schemes of work. In November 2012, we ran a half-day training session for teachers from all 12 primary and secondary schools. During the morning, the teachers found out how to go about carrying out their own research into the archives, how to use archive material in the classroom and had a look at resources available to them online. The session ended with the teachers having a look at a range of documents on topics of their choice which has given them inspiration in what to include in their revised schemes of work.



Nick Sellwood, Senior Conservator talks about repairing documents

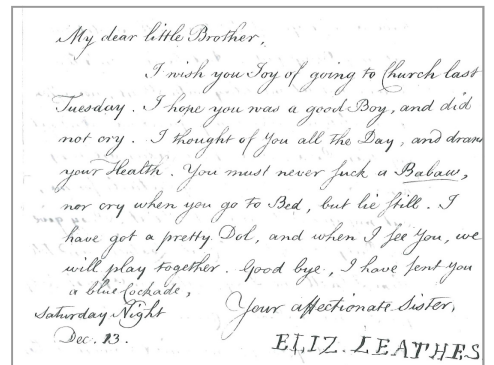
## First World War commemoration events

As you may have noticed, it is not long until the anniversary of the start of the First World War. At The Archive Centre we are planning a major exhibition in our Long Gallery. As part of this exhibition we are hoping to work with a small number of pupils from a school in Norfolk to create a display for one of the panels. Details have yet to be confirmed, but we hope to provide training in handling documents, using archives for research, using our catalogues, and photography and display as part of this project. We anticipate that the project would be ideal for a group of gifted and talented pupils studying the topic. We will be actively recruiting a school in the Summer Term in order to carry out the project in Autumn 2013/Spring 2014. In the meantime, if your school is interested, please do contact us.

### Workshop for pupils from Sir John Leman High School.

In this edition of the newsletter we were planning on reporting on the session for sixth-form students from Sir John Leman High School in Beccles. However, due to changes in the timetable, the pupils will now be visiting The Archive Centre in February. In the meantime, staff at the Record Office and the school have been preparing, the session. One of the archivists at the Record Office has located and copied a number of suitable documents which will demonstrate the formalization of modern punctuation, lack of standardization of spelling and the use of abbreviations.

The teacher from the high school has been using these documents to prepare a number of activities for the pupils to work on while they are here. Documents include a number of letters, a petition and a sermon.



*My dear little Brother,*  
*I wish you Joy of going to Church last Tuesday. I hope you was a good Boy, and did not cry. I thought of You all the Day, and draw your Health. You must never suck a Babaw, nor cry when you go to Bed, but lie still. I have got a pretty Dod, and when I see you, we will play together. Good bye, I have sent you a blue Lockade,*  
*Saturday Night*  
*Dec. 23.*  
*Your affectionate sister,*  
*ELIZ. LEATHES*

Letter from Elizabeth Leathes to her brother, 1778. NRO, BOL 2/93/20, 740X1

### Workshop on Social changes in the Second World War

We have been working on finding material relating to social changes in the Second World War, particularly focusing on women in employment and relationships with American Servicemen. This material will form a document session for a workshop that will take place at the Bridewell Museum, Norwich during the spring term, for a group of GCSE students from Aylsham High School. Documents that are being considered include a photograph and information about Emily Leggett, the first women bus conductor in Great Yarmouth, letters from Marjorie Hayward explaining her decision to join the WRENS, and a letter from Ann Turner describing how she did not like her training for the Women's Land Army.

Memoir and photograph of Ena Howes, a WREN. NRO, MC 2153/1



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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