



'It's about time'

Happy Easter everyone! This is a special edition of It's About Time to give you the latest news of our move. Exciting things are happening at the Norfolk Record Office (NRO) this summer. The Archive Centre will be opening in late summer, hopefully in time for the start of the autumn term. The new building is on the County Hall site in Norwich, just beside the ring road. It will offer many new features for school groups, and will include a major new exhibition area. We hope that teachers and their pupils from schools throughout the county will visit the new Archives Centre in the September term and benefit from its facilities.



The Archive Centre



The public searchroom at the NRO closes on 17 April. Over 12 million documents then have to be moved from Gildengate House into our new strongrooms - a mammoth task, expected to take at least 80 working days! This means that we will not be able to take any bookings for school or group visits to the Record Office in the Summer Term, nor will we be able to undertake any visits to schools in this term.

EAFA

We are joining forces in the new building with the East Anglian Film Archive, which was formerly based at the University of East Anglia. Combining moving film with documentary evidence is going to add enormously to the range of educational services that we will be able to provide. The future is looking bright!



Emma Mottram

Emma Mottram, Education and Outreach Officer for the NRO, began her maternity leave in March. We wish her and the new baby all the best and look forward to seeing her after her leave is completed. Frank Meeres, Senior Archivist at the NRO, is running the Education and Outreach department on a temporary basis, with the capable support of Sophie Cockburn. Please contact Frank if you have any questions about the new building and its facilities, or any suggestions as to how the Record Office can help your work as a teacher.

An exciting new venture at the NRO is the establishment of a Norfolk Sound Archive. This has been set up to collect and preserve sounds in Norfolk and make them available to everyone interested in listening to them. The sounds may be spoken word, music, natural or artificial noises. It may well be that children will be able to listen to the experiences of older members of the community, whether recalling great events like the World Wars, or the everyday details of living in the past. Children may well want to record the memories of their elder relatives too! The Sound Archive will be able to offer advice on techniques of oral history and may be able to lend equipment with which recordings can be made. We hope that teachers who have an interest in sound recordings will contact us when we re-open for the September term.

Homes

The new pack for Key Stage One is on 'Homes' and features a wide variety of images showing different types and classes of homes over the last one hundred years, from Victorian mansions to high-rise flats, and including both exteriors and furnishings. This pack will be available from the start of the summer term, why not order yours now?

Don't forget our previous packs for Key Stages 1 and 2, all still available:

Toys (Key Stage 1)

Seaside Holidays (Key Stage 1)

The Second World War (Key Stage 2)

The Tudors (Key Stage 2)

Houses on George Borrow Road, Norwich, 1930s.
Ref. BR35/4/41

Our Local History packs have proved enormously popular, with over a hundred schools ordering them. We will not be able to produce any more of these packs during the summer term, because of the move, but will start producing them once more in the autumn term, focusing at first on schools within Norwich.

Towards the end of the summer term we will be issuing our next edition of *It's about time*. This will contain full information about opening dates for the new Archive Centre.



If you would like '*It's about time*' in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language, please contact the County Archivist on telephone 01603 761349, fax 01603 761885, or e-mail <norfrec.nro@norfolk.gov.uk>

Norfolk Record Office
Gildengate House, Anglia Square
Upper Green Lane, Norwich NR3 1AX

Tel: (01603) 761349
Fax: (01603) 761885

E-mail: norfrec.nro@norfolk.gov.uk