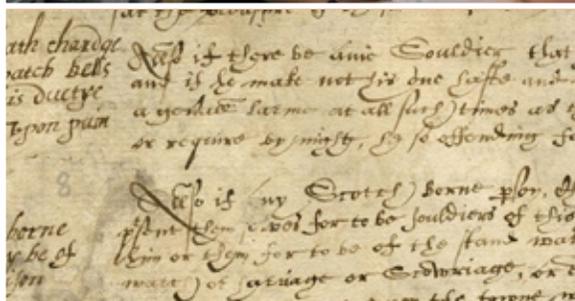


ARCHIVES REVEALED

[2018 REPORT]



THE IMPORTANCE OF ARCHIVES

The 2600 archive collections across the UK fulfil many vital roles including:

Being rich and **trusted** sources about all aspects of our society in the past and today

Combatting loneliness through **volunteering**

Helping minority and disconnected communities develop a sense of **belonging** in their area

Being crucial to academic **research**, family history and art

Transforming people's views of their own **personal** histories

Providing routes back into **employment** and supporting life-long learning

Provoking wonder, stimulating discussion and inspiring **creativity**



THE IMPORTANCE OF CATALOGUING

All of this groundbreaking work can only take place if the archival material on which it relies is open for use.

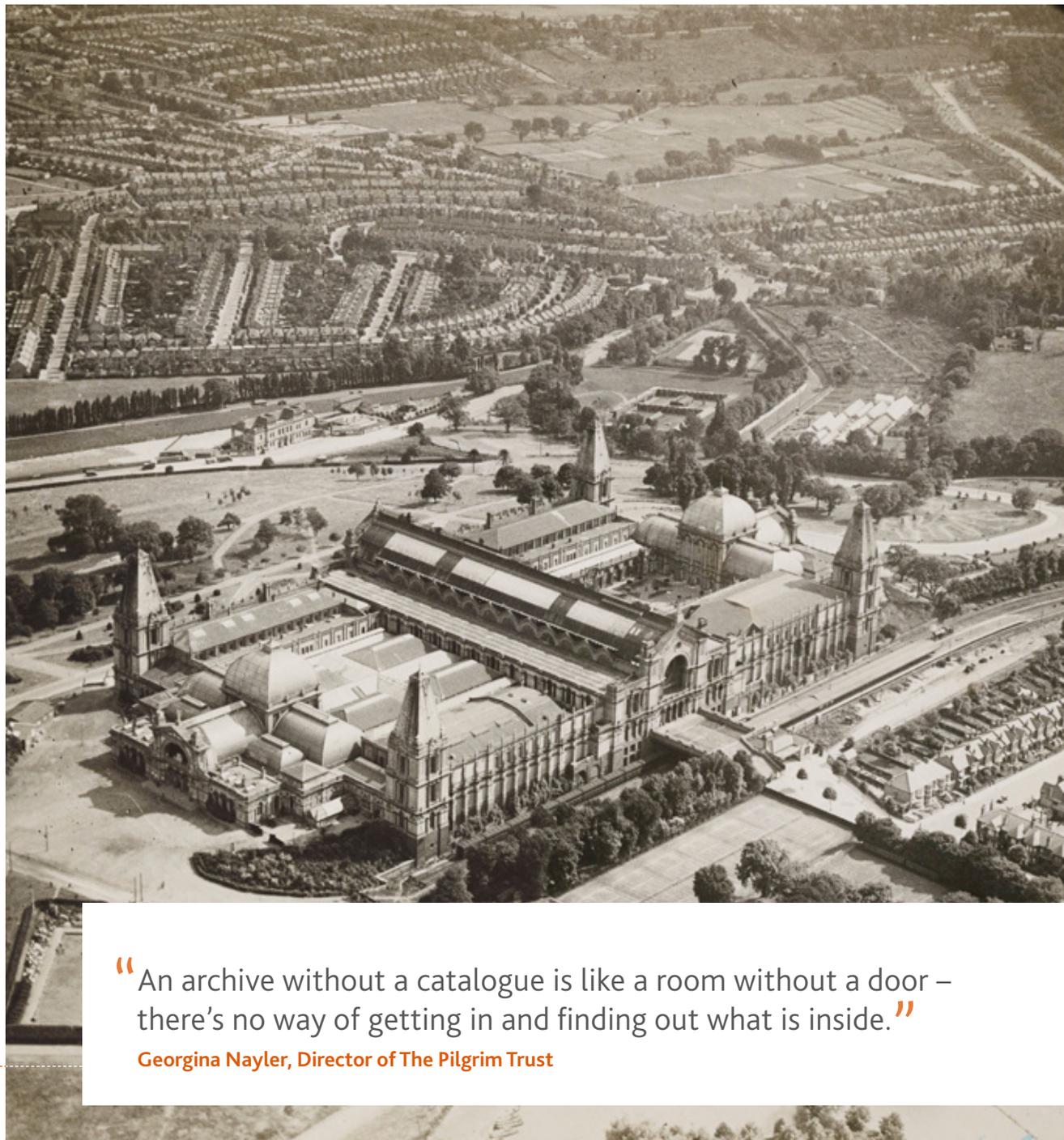
Cataloguing is the essential first step towards making this material available.

However, there is currently a significant wealth of uncatalogued collections (as high as 50% in some repositories) that remain unknown and inaccessible.

Without Archives Revealed funding, much of the vital work of archives - from original research to community projects - would be put at risk.

“An archive without a catalogue is like a room without a door – there’s no way of getting in and finding out what is inside.”

Georgina Nayler, Director of The Pilgrim Trust



THE PROGRAMME

Archives Revealed is dedicated to enabling the cataloguing of these important collections.

This gives the programme a unique role as a heritage funder and a unique relationship with the archive sector.

Archives Revealed aims to

1. enable archives to identify, catalogue and explore significant collections
2. open up a wide range of archive collections to researchers and the public
3. help archives to build fundraising skills and confidence through the application process

The funding programmes

The Archives Revealed funding scheme consists of two funding programmes:

Cataloguing Grants (up to £40k)

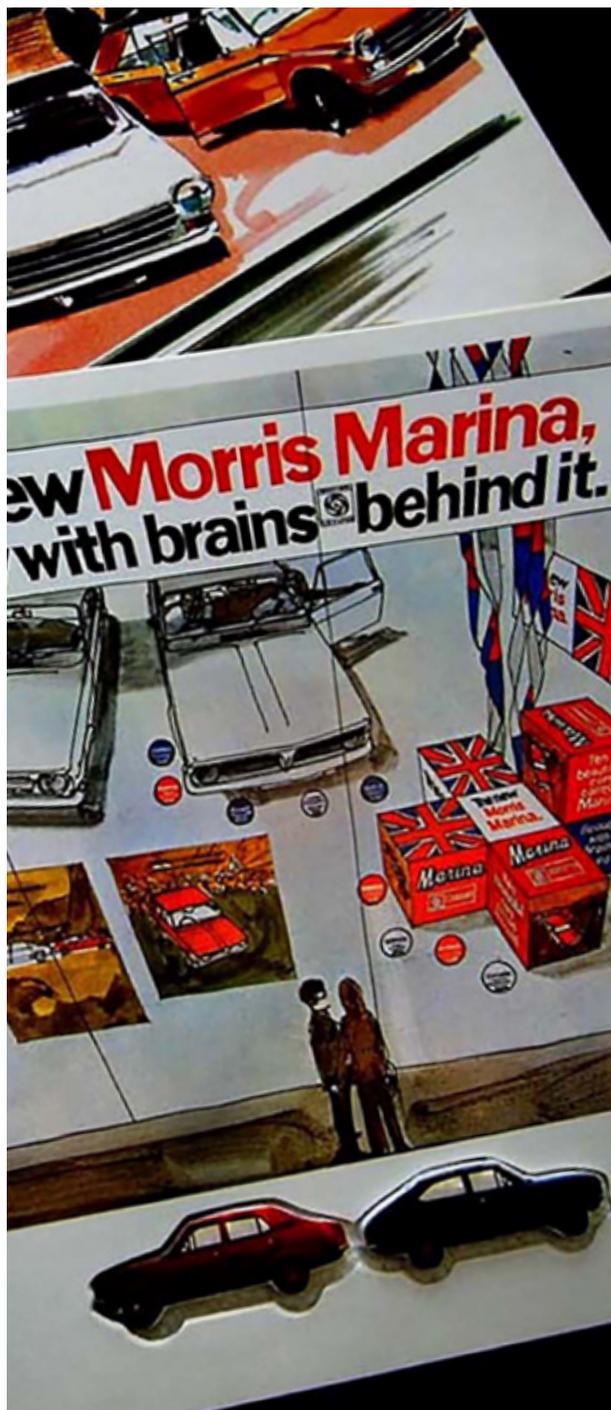
These grants fund the cataloguing of exceptional, significant collections which are in high demand.

Scoping Grants (£3k)

These micro-grants allow organisations not in a position to secure other funding to understand the significance of their archive and take the first steps towards making it accessible to researchers.

“We have strengthened our impact and access elements, fostering new relationships as a result with a local museum and local tour guides and are now planning outreach projects with our collection.”

Archives Revealed Applicant – Archives Revealed Research Report 2018



FUNDING

2017-18 Funders

The National Archives – £100k

The National Archives is the official archive and publisher for the UK government. Since 2012, The National Archives has held the role of archives sector leader.

The Wolfson Foundation – £75k

The Wolfson Foundation is an independent charity that awards grants to support and promote excellence in the fields of science, health, education, the arts and humanities.

The Pilgrim Trust – £100k

The Pilgrim Trust is a grant-giving charity that funds history and preservation projects as well as early-action projects to support women and girls with multiple and complex needs.

The Foyle Foundation – £50k

The Foyle Foundation is an independent grant-making trust that distributes grants to UK charities whose core work is in the areas of Arts and Learning.

Of the total £325k funding in 2017-18, £45k was allocated to scoping grants with the remainder allocated to cataloguing grants.



Image credit: Derbyshire Record Office, D3311/69/3

LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

In a sector that is so under-resourced, the additional support for projects that has been unlocked by Archives Revealed has been one of the most successful aspects of the programme.

In total, an estimated £251,884 of additional support for the Cataloguing Grant projects (against the Archives Revealed funding of £281,258) has been unlocked, either through direct funding or in kind contributions.

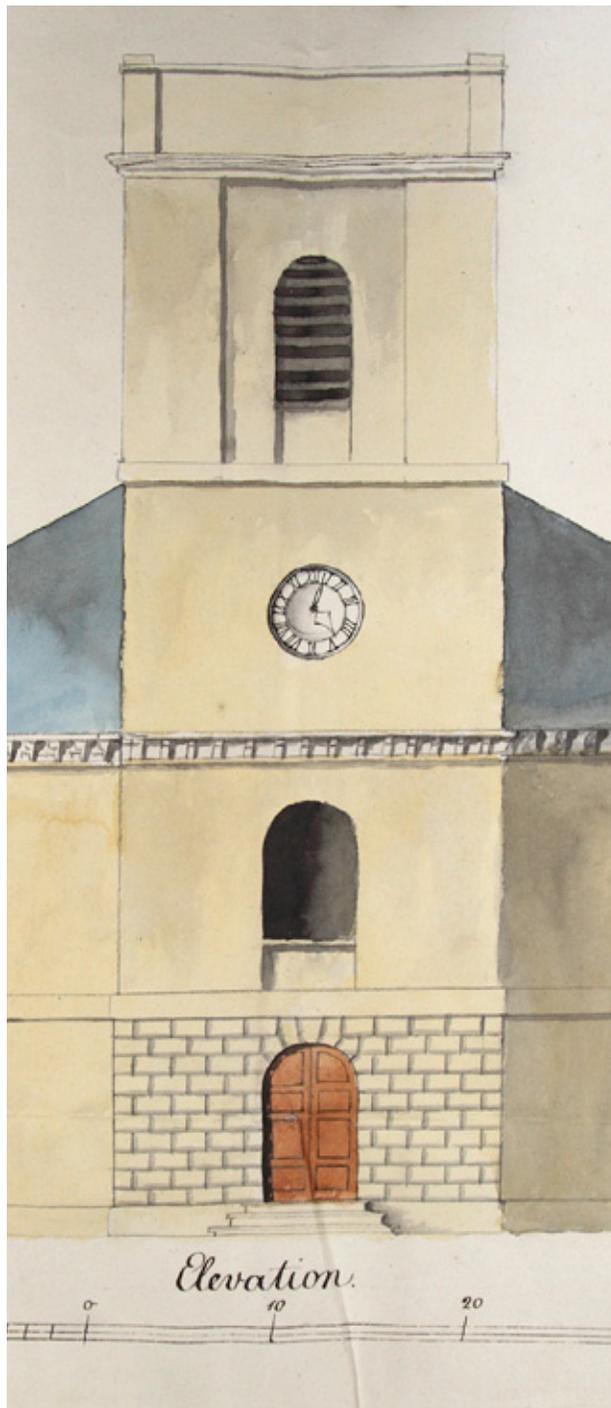
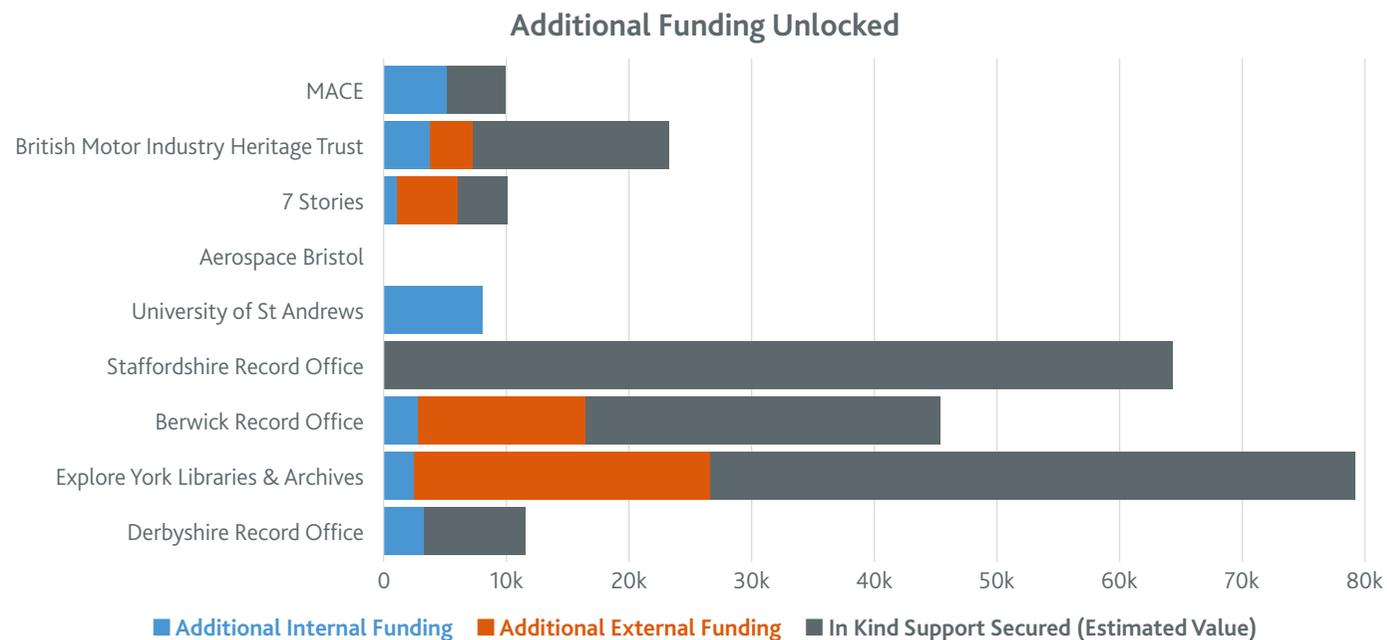


Image credit: Staffordshire Record Office



BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE

Archives Revealed was launched in 2018 following an in-depth evaluation of the National Cataloguing Grants Programme for Archives.

This evaluation showed where the new programme could be strengthened and the need for more support for applicants.

Through the commitment of our funders, our National Cataloguing Grants Programme awarded a total of £3.9million over 12 years in order to catalogue 132 collections. These collections were from archives throughout Great Britain, on subjects ranging from the collection of an important regional mosque to medieval court records.



“If you are picking funding, Archives Revealed are a great funder to go with due to the feedback and guidance.”

Archives Revealed Research Findings: Culture First November 2018

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Archives Revealed has two major strengths in its management that set it apart:

1. No fees or costs are taken so all funding goes into grants for successful applicants

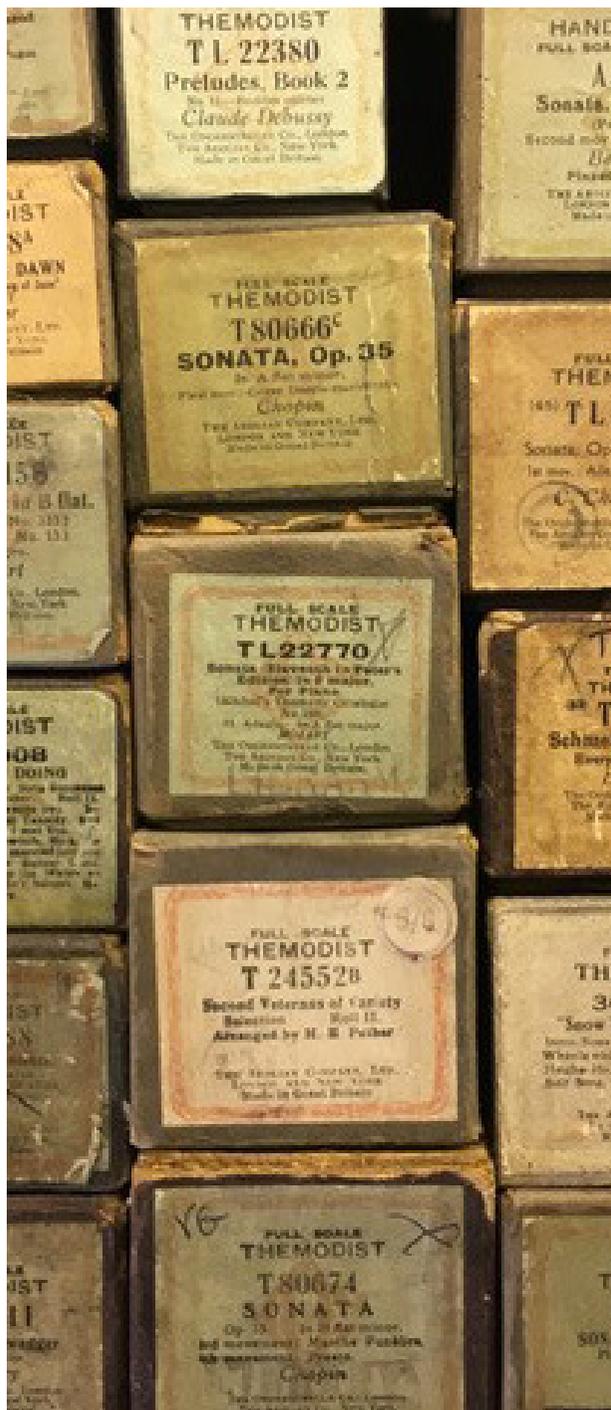
2. Grant recipients receive free support, expertise and fundraising skills alongside their funding

Archives Revealed is able to channel all funding into grants thanks to The Pilgrim Trust (charity number 206602), which has acted as banker since the programme's inception.

The Pilgrim Trust has a dedicated bank account for the programme, holding all the funding from the 11 partners since 2006. All the funding is paid out from this account as grants to the successful recipients without taking any fee to cover the trust's administration costs.

Archives Revealed is managed by a full-time position (funded by The National Archives) that also brings expertise and guidance to applicants. This means we are able to develop fundraising skills in the sector both through pre-application support and through high-quality, targeted feedback.

This support is already driving up the quality of applications and enabling the scheme to reach out to organisations who have a strong need for funding but who are lacking experience and expertise in raising money.



ADDING VALUE TO FUNDING

81% or 68 applicants accepted a telephone appointment to receive specific feedback on their application

Research undertaken indicates that helping applicants to understand why their applications have not been successful has been beneficial both in terms of developing a bid that is more likely to succeed and helping already stretched archivists to allocate their resources effectively.

“Although our grant application was unsuccessful, the clear, supportive follow-up was a crucial extension and distinction from other funders. This gives substance to our strategic direction and helps heads of service allocate resource elsewhere.”

Ian Johnson, Head of Archives and Special Collections, Newcastle University

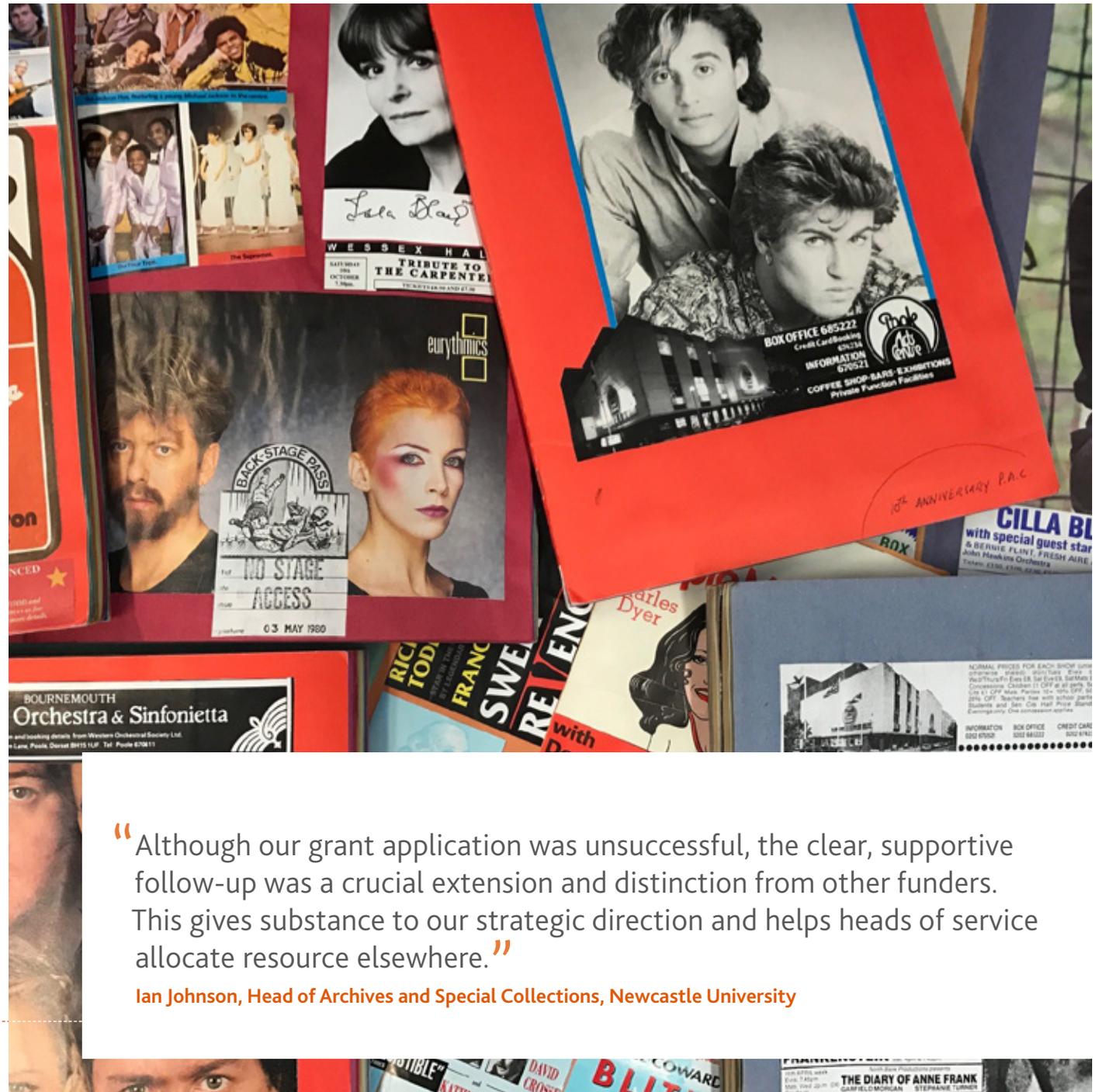


Image credit: Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts

CATALOGUING GRANTS

The first round of the Archives Revealed Cataloguing Grants programme opened in October 2017.

84 applications were received to the phase 1 process:

With the exception of Northern Ireland, we are pleased with the geographic spread of applicants as it fairly reflects the distribution of archives throughout the UK. We will ensure the communications plan for round 2 encourages applications from Northern Ireland.

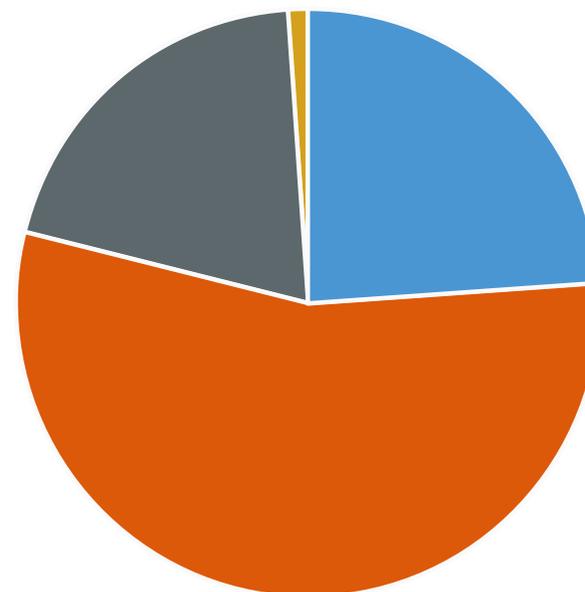
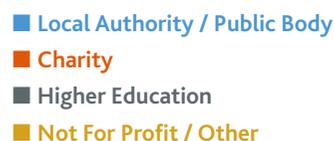
Assessment Panel

Archives Revealed Cataloguing Grant applications are assessed by an independent panel, which is chaired by Georgina Nayler, Director of The Pilgrim Trust.

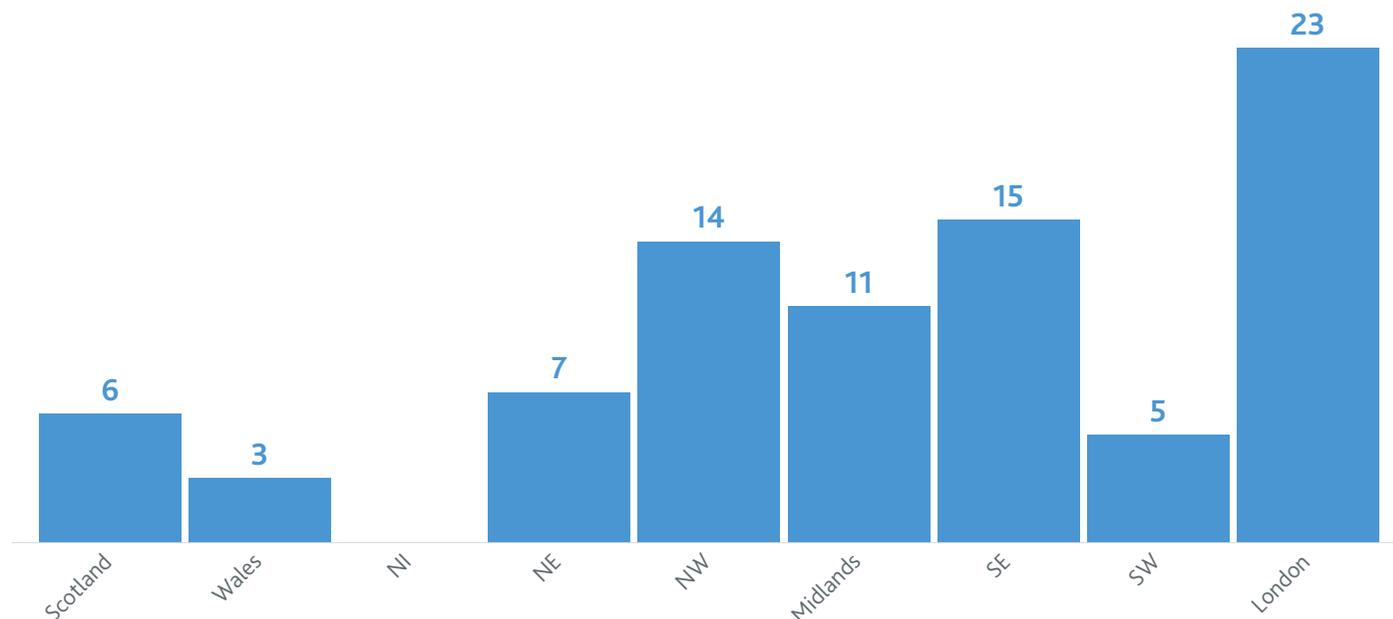
The panel consists of 9 experts who currently practise within the archive sector. Further details can be found at:

nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-revealed

Phase 1: Type of Organisation



Phase 1: Geographic Spread of Applicants



CATALOGUING GRANTS AWARDED

Derbyshire Records Office

*Discovering Franklin: The Sir John
Franklin Papers* – awarded £25,000

Explore York

*City of York Engineers and Architects Drawings:
On the Drawing Board* – awarded £37,746

Berwick Record Office

*Twixt Thistle and Rose: Unlocking Berwick
Borough's Archives* – awarded £31,000

Staffordshire Record Office

*The Bawdy Courts of Lichfield: Scandal
laid bare, strife uncovered and beautiful
buildings revealed* – awarded £34,326

University of St Andrews

*Hidden Burgh: Restoring Cupar's place at
the heart of Fife* – awarded £34,289

Aerospace Bristol

*Out of the Aircraft Hold: The History of
Bristol's Aerospace Companies* – awarded £29,432

Seven Stories

*Notes in the margins: Opening up the
papers of children's literary editors
and agents* – awarded £36,360

British Motor Industry Heritage Trust

*British Leyland Collection: The Art
of Selling* – awarded £29,463

Media Archive for Central England (MACE)

*Rewind – Playback: Revealing the
Midlands Community Video Movement
(1970s-2000s)* – awarded £23,642





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The core objective for Archives Revealed is to open up public access to significant archive collections.

Therefore, before grants were awarded, all applicants were asked to submit a project engagement plan detailing:

- target audiences
- planned promotional activities or events
- the anticipated effect on engagement with the collection
- the anticipated impact on the archive service itself

All funded projects submitted high-scoring engagement plans, with a variety of activities planned to engage communities and attract new audiences with the newly accessible archive material.

Impact

Archives Revealed Cataloguing Grantees have been asked to report baseline data on engagement with the collection and public demand for the material throughout the grant period and also every 6 months for 36 months after the cataloguing funding period has finished.

An impact measurement toolkit is being developed for this purpose, which will enable us to build a body of evidence of the impact that cataloguing collections and making them accessible has on researchers and the wider community.

This data will be used to develop real understanding of usage patterns and demand for archive material and to refine the decision-making process for future funding rounds.

We look forward to reporting further on this work as the evidence becomes available.

SCOPING GRANTS

The Scoping Grant programme is a rolling programme with assessments taking place on a quarterly basis.

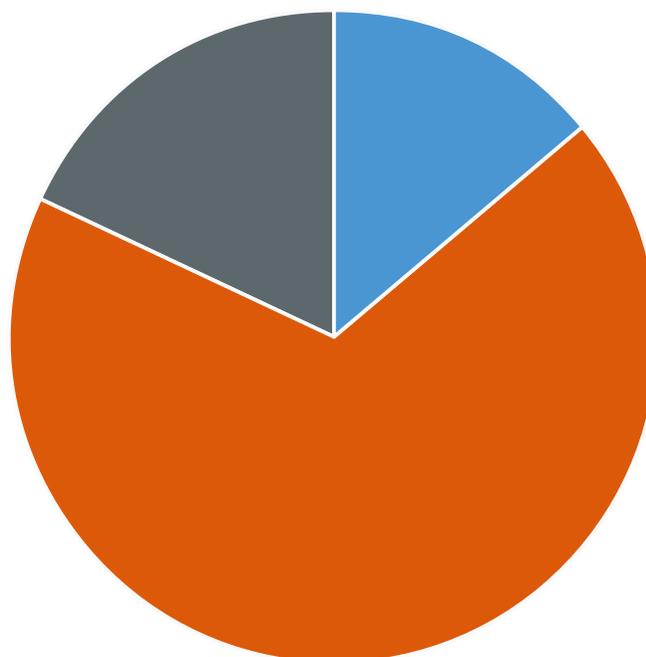
All applications verified as eligible by the programme's administrators are passed to the assessment panel for scoring. The assessment panel then meet to moderate scores and agree the funding decisions.

A total of 22 Scoping Grant applications have been received and assessed to date, reflecting the communications plan to launch the programme relatively quietly. This was to avoid oversubscription in the first round since the year's funding for scoping grants (£45k) has been allocated equally throughout quarters 1 – 4.

However, the number of enquiries and in-progress applications indicate that the number of applications we will receive in quarter 3 will be higher than in quarters 1 and 2.

As with the cataloguing grants, the spectrum of applications represented the diversity and geographical spread of the archive sector well.

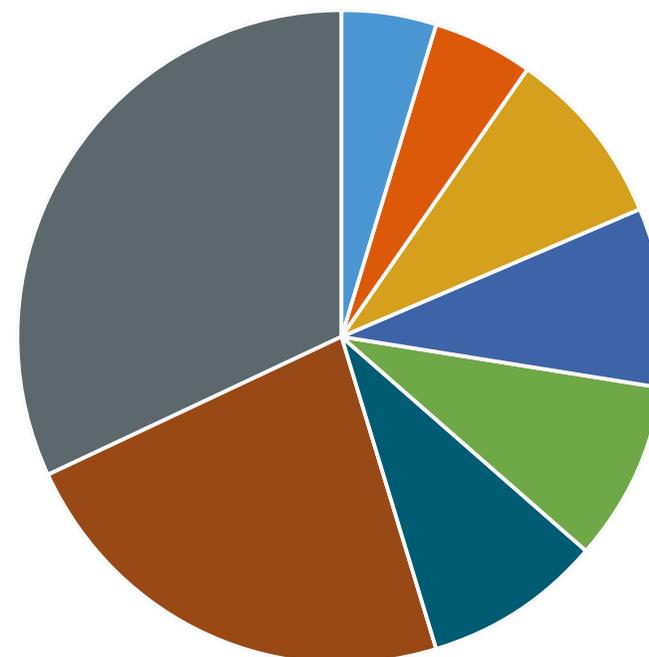
Applicants by Organisation Type



■ Local Authority / Public Body ■ Registered Charity ■ Not for Profit

However, as with cataloguing grants, no applications were received from Northern Ireland and this will be a priority area for us to target in the coming months:

Geographic Spread of Applicants



■ Scotland ■ Wales ■ Northern Ireland ■ NE ■ NW ■ Midlands ■ SE ■ SW ■ London

SCOPING GRANTS AWARDED

In 2017-18, 9 scoping grants were awarded to:

The Musical Museum: Music Carriers Collection

Archives of the Association of Ukrainian Women in Great Britain

Richard Burton Archives: Vale (Europe) Ltd, Clydach Nickel Refinery Records

The Cheltenham Literature Festivals Archive

Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust

Society of Antiquaries of London

Morrab Library

Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

Leonard Cheshire



IMPACT OF THE GRANTS

Each scoping grant funds 6 days of consultant time to assess the collection – including its management and development – and to write an assessment report. The programme has recruited and briefed a wide pool of consultants to ensure the relevant expertise can be matched to each grantee.

Grantees are asked to report once the grant has been received and 12 months later.

We look forward to updating funders on the progress of the grantees in the next report.

“Our consultant was knowledgeable and professional, advocated for our service and provided many new ideas which we are excited to implement.”

Lisa di Tommaso, Morrab Library



Please send any enquiries regarding this report to: archivesrevealed@nationalarchives.gov.uk

This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence



Credit for front cover images not also featured inside:

Rules of Berwick Garrison Document - Northumberland Archives, BA-B7-8

Painting of King George VI's visit - Coventry Cathedral Archive

Cassettes - Cheltenham Literature Festival Archivex