

Elisabeth Frink

Our project to catalogue the archive of Dame Elisabeth Frink got underway, with £46,000 of external funding.



In November, we held a fundraising event with Dorset Archives Trust. This event raised £7,000 to purchase a case to exhibit Frink sculpture.



Frink, *The Group*, 1980

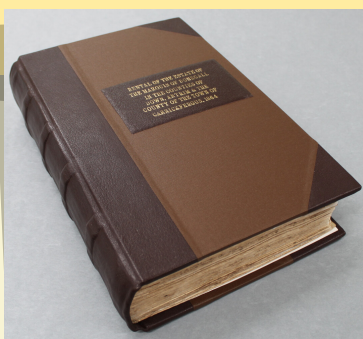


LGBT SpeakOut

We worked with amazing Bournemouth-based volunteers from the LGBT+ community to design and record 25 interviews. Each tells a different story about queer life in Dorset, and are an important addition to our collections.

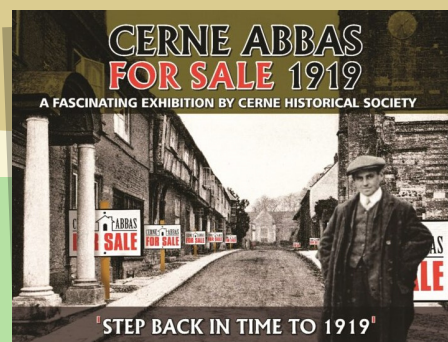
Conservation

Our Conservator carried out work for fourteen external clients including the Tank Museum, Dorset County Museum, the National Trust and Wessex Water. Amongst her work was this volume from the Shaftesbury Estate:



Dorset on Film

Alongside the Windrose Rural Media Trust, we're working to make their collection of film more accessible. Over 191 hours of footage of life in Dorset, and beyond, have been digitised and will be available to view at DHC in 2020.



We supported around 20 community groups with projects involving archives.

Archiving the digital

This year we became the lead partner in a group of eight local authority archives working together to make looking after our digital heritage more affordable. By procuring the Preservica digital preservation system as a consortium we each save 46% of the cost.



Eco archives

Our recent renovation works have significantly reduced our energy use by creating a passive heating and cooling system. We now have dedicated shelving to house our over-sized material.

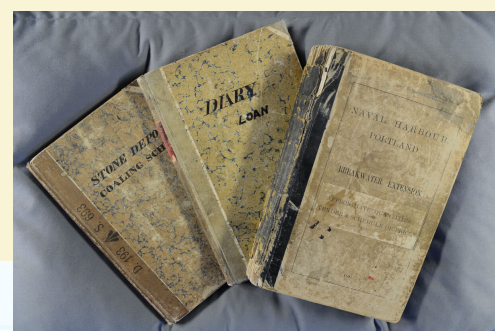
Inspired By Archives

We had a really successful year at our dementia-friendly 'Inspired by Archives' group. We painted, made books and played with clay, fabric, buttons, words, flowers and maps. We also laughed a lot and made new friends!



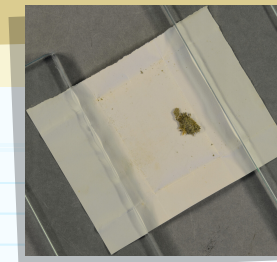
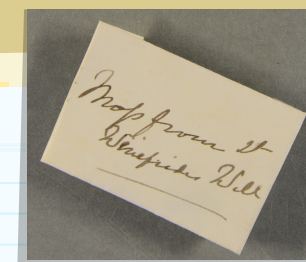
New accessions

Our charitable arm, the Dorset Archive's Trust, has purchased some exciting records this year, including material relating to Portland breakwater; a letter from Thomas Hardy; and WWII ARP records in Poole.



DORSET
ARCHIVES TRUST

The Dorset Archives Trust held a series of successful talks and events in 2019, with topics ranging from Poole Pottery to Cranborne Chase and Dorset's railways.



Not just paper...

We never know what will turn up in the archives from one day to the next. Recently a researcher requested a copy of a letter. When we opened it, we found it contained some moss from St Winefrid's Well in Wales!

Supporting museums

Our museums advisory service supported 31 Dorset museums with professional advice and training this year. We also helped secure over £1 million in external investment for the development of museum exhibitions and facilities, both new and improved.

Herrison Hospital

Our Wellcome Trust-funded Herrison Hospital cataloguing project has opened up this fascinating archive for researchers.



During 2019...



Our newsletter subscriber count almost doubled to over 11,000



Our amazing volunteers contributed over 2,500 hours



We produced more than 15,000 documents to the searchroom



Our online catalogue was viewed a whopping 807,454 times



We had 2.6 million views of our Ancestry-hosted content



DHC received over 350 new accessions of archive material from all over Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole