

Tyne and Wear Archives

User Guide: Sound Recordings

All of our catalogued sound recordings are available as digital files. Digital files can only be accessed on computers in the public searchroom at Tyne and Wear Archives.

To see more details of individual recordings within these collections you can search our catalogue: <https://www.northeastmuseums.org.uk/archives/collection/catalogue>

If you would like to visit us to view these records, please see our website to plan your visit: <https://www.northeastmuseums.org.uk/archives/visit-us/planning-your-visit>

1. Oral Histories	Page 1
2. Tyne and Wear Life	Page 3
3. Radio Recordings	Page 5
4. Other Sound Recordings	Page 8

1. Oral Histories / Biographies

Radio Newcastle Broadcast on Thomas Haswell: school master, 1807 - 1889

From the Ralph Gardner High School Collection

Ref No: E.NS1/3/10-1

1 audio file (digital)

BBC Radio Newcastle programme, May 1983, on the theme of Thomas Haswell (1807–1889), a Tynemouth born school master, headmaster, songwriter and composer.

The Deputy, A Biography of William Davidson, 1881 - 2003

From the Deputy Police Fire Superintendent William Davidson Collection

Ref No: DX1197/1-1

1 audio file (digital)

The Deputy', a biography of Deputy Police Fire Superintendent William James Davidson, read by his son, Norman. The biography covers Davidson's birth and early life in Appleby,

Westmoreland in 1881; early employment as a groom and as a chauffeur; work as a probationary constable in Newcastle, followed by transfer to the fire brigade which was then part of the police service; career progression through the fire service; incidents attended by the fire brigade; accommodation and equipment for the fire brigade and living quarters for officers' families; visit by film actor, Tom Nix; retirement and outbreak of Second World War. An additional story dated 2003 is appended to the end of the first part of the recording. The second part of the recording offers further detail of an attempted armed robbery of Lloyds Bank, Scotswood Road, Newcastle in 1933, which was prevented by the actions of members of the Fire Brigade. Date of recording: 2005.

Reminiscences of George Gray of South Shields (b. 1896), 1896 - 1982

From the George Gray of South Shields Collection

Ref No: DX813/1-1

8 audio files (digital)

This audio recording features reminiscences of George Gray of South Shields (1896 - 1982). The structure of the reminiscences is largely chronological, recorded over a period of approximately two months, although not all segments are dated. From internal evidence, the reminiscences were recorded by the family, particularly 'Our Tom', George Gray's son. There is evidence of self-editing through breaks and over-recording, for example at one part of the recording when an additional remark is recorded over a longer piece of speech.

Interview with William Leech, 1914 - 1918

From the J.H. Holmes Electrical Engineering Company Collection

Ref No: DX31/1-1

1 audio file (digital)

This audio recording features an interview with William Leech regarding his apprenticeship at John Henry Holmes Electrics during the First World War. He discusses: hiring practices; the structure of the company; his working day; moving between departments; working materials; working conditions and wages' release from his apprenticeship in order to join up. Reminiscence relates to the dates 1914 – 1918. Date of recording: 1989.

Harry Dawson, Tales from the orphanage, 1920-1929

From the Harry Dawson of Fenham, Reminiscences Collection

Ref No: DX1352/1-1

1 audio file (digital)

This audio recording features Harry Dawson's reminiscences of his upbringing in a Jesmond orphanage. Harry's reminiscences cover the approximate date of 1920s. The date of the recording is unknown, but approximately 1990s - early 2000s.

2. Tyne and Wear Life

Sound Recordings - Around Jarrow, 1952-1954, 1952-1954

From the John Rippington, Local Historian Collection

Ref No: DF.RIP/24

3 audio files (mp3)

Three audio programmes, recorded by John Rippington between 1952-1954, all relating to the town of Jarrow and featuring live in-situ sound recordings from the town with narration by John Rippington.

Audio-visual material, Fenwick Ltd., 1962-1990

From the Fenwick Ltd, Department Store Collection

Ref No: DT.FEN/5/4

69 audio files (digital)

A number of audio recordings, including: Radio adverts; Christmas Window Display soundtracks; a Radio Newcastle interview for the opening of the 1996 Christmas window; and a recording of the Riceman's Store opening 1962.

Wallsend sports fortnight (Audio Recording), 1989

From the Swan Hunter and Wigham Richardson Ltd, Shipbuilders Collection

Ref No: DS.SWH/5/1/2/3/2

1 audio file (digital)

Segment from a BBC Radio Newcastle radio programme, reporting on a sports activity fortnight taking place in Wallsend for children from North Tyneside. Reporter, Tony Johnson, interviews the organiser of the event, Geoff Wilson, and participating children in situ.

Recording of The Gospel Show, 1991

From the Albion Road Memorial Methodist Church Collection

Ref No: C.NS2/1

1 audio file (digital)

An edition of the Gospel Show focussing on the history of the Wesleyan Methodist Memorial Church in North Shields, Tyne and Wear. The programme is presented by Frank Wappat on the centenary of the building of the church; the 30 year anniversary of the foundation of the Byker Mission; and the 10 year anniversary of the acquisition of the church building by the Byker Mission.

Sound recordings relating to the opening of the Civic Centre, Newcastle, 1967 - 1968

From the Newcastle City Council Collection

Ref No: MD.NC/LB/5

4 audio files (digital)

4 sound recordings relating to the opening of the Civic Centre, Newcastle. 3 from the opening ceremony 14 November 1968, and 1 of the first ringing of the carillon in the tower of Newcastle Civic Centre 1 December 1967.

Audio Recordings of Official Hospital Openings, 1969 - 1975

From the South Tyneside District Hospital formerly South Shields General Hospital and South Shields Maternity Hospital Collection

Ref No: HO.ST/A/2

3 audio files (digital)

The collection comprises of 2 audio files relating to the opening ceremony of the Diagnostic Centre, South Shields General Hospital, 25 May 1969, and 1 audio file relating to the opening ceremony of the Maternity Unit, South Shields General Hospital 18 July 1975.

'Open Doors', Introduction to the Project, Audio Recording, 1984-1985

From the Open Doors Project, Benwell Collection

Ref No: DX942/3-1

2 audio files (digital)

Case study of the Open Doors project in Benwell, showcasing the involvement of Community Service Volunteers, describing the project and its methodology, and evaluating its impact and benefits. The overview provided by an unidentified female narrator is intercut with short clips of the volunteers, older people, teachers and pupils involved in the project.

3. Radio Broadcasts

Radio interview by John Guilfoyle with Laurence Deans of the Newcastle and District Countrywide Holidays Association and Holiday Fellowship Rambling Club, 1972.

From the Newcastle and District Co-operative Holiday Association and Holiday Fellowship Rambling Club Collection

Ref No: SX35/9/1

1 audio file (digital)

A radio interview with Laurence Deans conducted by John Guilfoyle as part of a recurring segment on outdoor holidays for The Hills programme for BBC Radio Newcastle. Deans talks about the history and activities of three related organisations: the Countrywide Holidays Association, originally established as the Co-operative Holidays Association; the Holiday

Fellowship; and the Newcastle and District Countrywide Holidays Association and Holiday Fellowship Rambling Club.

Durham Miners' Gala, 1976

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/2

1 audio file (digital)

A BBC Radio Newcastle programme consisting of oral history testimonies from miners and their families from the Durham coalfield, presented against a background of brass band music. The programme includes: an eye-witness account of the Stanley Pit disaster of 1909; an extract from the Durham miners gala, an annual gathering associated with coal-mining heritage and trade unionism; a speech addressing Durham miners following the Wilberforce Enquiry into the coal mining dispute of 1972; and personal reminiscences of illness and deaths relating to coal-mining. Recording Location: Tyne and Wear, England, UK. Recording Duration: 14 min. 07 sec.

Hungary '56, 1976

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/3

1 audio file (digital)

A BBC Radio Newcastle programme about the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, written and presented by Mike Jones, lecturer in politics at Sunderland Polytechnic (now University). The programme includes spoken contributions from a BBC monitor, a Hungarian national living in the North East of England, and a Hungarian refugee in London. Recording Location: Tyne and Wear, England, UK. Recording Duration: 15 min. 48 sec.

1st Midsummer Bat Watch 24 June 1988

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/4

1 audio file (digital)

A BBC Radio Newcastle programme structured around a live bat watch and count, presented from the studio by John Lavis with studio guest, Noel Jackson of Durham Bat Group, interspersed with live outside broadcasts from across Durham, Cleveland and

Northumberland. The studio segments include recorded music tracks as well as conversation, telephone callers, and short segments from a character, Bert Bat. The outside broadcasts include interviews with bat experts and local people, as well as wildlife sounds. Recording Location: England, UK. Recording Duration: 2 hr. 30 min. 43 sec. The lead-in to the programme is from Radio 2, but the broadcast was produced by BBC Radio Newcastle and BBC Radio Cleveland, and consists of live segments from their reporters.

2nd Midsummer Bat Watch 22 June 1990

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/5

1 audio file (digital)

A radio programme structured around a live bat watch and count, presented from the studio by Martin Kelnor, interspersed with live outside broadcasts from across Humberside, Yorkshire, Northumberland and County Durham. The studio segments include radio news and recorded music tracks as well as conversation with studio guests, Noel Jackson of the Durham Bat Group, and Bob Stebbings, the co-ordinator of National Bat Week. The outside broadcasts include interviews with bat experts and local people, as well as wildlife sounds. Recording Location: England, UK. Recording Duration: 2 hr. 59 min. 56 sec.

Political Pop, 1975-1979

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/1

10 audio files (digital)

Ten part series by Mike Jones, Senior Lecturer in Politics at Sunderland Polytechnic (now Sunderland University), looking at political events, movements and protests through the medium of popular music in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

BBC Radio Newcastle News Reports, 1988-1993

From the BBC Radio Newcastle Audio Recordings Collection

Ref No: DT.BRN/6

820 audio files (digital)

A large collection of 820 local news reports, broadcast by BBC Radio Newcastle between 1988-1993.

4. Other Sound Recordings

Keynote Lectures - Royal Television Society Awards 2001-2002

From the Royal Television Society Collection

Ref No: S.RTS/1

2 audio files (digital)

Two recordings from the Royal Television Society Awards, 2001 and 2002. Recording 1: 7 November 2001, Regional Royal Television Society lecture from Patricia Hodgson on changes in technology, marketplace and legislation in television, preceded by an introduction, and followed by questions and answers. Recording Location: The Mining Institute, Newcastle upon Tyne. Recording 2: 5 November 2002, Regional Royal Television Society lecture from Dr Kim Howells on proposals for the regulation of the communications industry, preceded by an introduction, and followed by questions and answers. Recording Location: Tyne and Wear.

Audio recordings of musical pieces, 1960-1990

From the Royal Northern Sinfonia Collection

Ref No: S.RNS/6/1

16 audio files (digital)

A variety of recordings, most dating from the 1960s-1970s. Not all are performed by the Royal Northern Sinfonia, and some of these may have been submitted by composers hoping to encourage the orchestra to perform their works.

McKenzie Media Audio Recordings, 1975-1994

From the McKenzie Media, media production company Collection

Ref No: DT.MCK/1

35 audio files (digital)

Audio recordings, produced by McKenzie Media for various clients. The collection includes a series of road safety campaign features, radio advertisements, Joicey Museum exhibition interviews and features, and a 'Music Hall Medley'.