

Recording of the week: Lilian Baylis (1874-1937)

This week's selection comes from Steve Cleary, Lead Curator of Literary and Creative Recordings. This week we feature the voice of Lilian Baylis, talking about the Old Vic and Sadler's Wells theatres, which she famously managed. The Old Vic company nurtured the careers of Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud, Peggy Ashcroft...

Recording of the week: Gbamu gbamu jigi jigi! Happy times in WordBank

This week's selection comes from Dr Amy Evans Bauer, a former British Library volunteer. The repertoire of contemporary celebratory exclamations is one of the most joy-filled parts of the Evolving English WordBank. This recording was contributed by a man born in 1965, who defined his accent as Nigerian and spoke...

Bicentenary of Queen Victoria – is this her voice?

Queen Victoria in 1882 by Alexander Bassano By Jonathan Summers, Curator of Classical Music Queen Victoria was born two hundred years ago on 24th May 1819. The most famous and, until recently, the most long reigning of British monarchs, Victoria represented a whole century of development and achievement where Britons...

One of the very first MEPs: Joyce

Quin, Baroness Quin, remembers the early days of the European Parliament

Joyce Quin remembers her election as part of the first cohort of UK MEPs.

Recording of the week: Last of the Giants

This week's selection comes from Jowan Collier, Acquisitions Support Officer. This week the last episode of Game of Thrones is broadcast to the world, in what is sure to be a bloody, spectacular, nail biting finale to the fantasy programme. To celebrate this, and not give away any crucial spoilers,...