

Recording of the week: Norman Beaton recalls Liverpool in the 60s

Our last Recording of the Week for 2018 comes from Stephen Cleary, Lead Curator of Literary & Creative Recordings. Actor, singer and writer Norman Beaton (1934-1994) recalls his early career steps in Liverpool, and how the production of his first play, the musical Jack of Spades, came about through a...

The Christmas robin

Cheryl Tipp, Curator of Wildlife & Environmental Sounds writes: There's no mistaking it; the festive season is well and truly upon us. Christmas trees, laden with baubles and twinkling lights, can be seen popping up in windows all over the country and it won't be long before we start coming...

Recording of the week: a whole nother

This week's selection comes from Dr Amy Evans, a recent volunteer for Unlocking our Sound Heritage. Whether this phrase amuses or maddens you, it is interesting to consider its provenance. I'm in the former category, and find this a delicious curiosity of non-standard spoken English! The expression was submitted...

The unseen work of the oral history summariser

Oral History Curator Mary Stewart reflects on the contributions of volunteers to the oral history collections, particularly remembering the sterling work of Audrie Mundy.

Concert cylinders and the first recording of the Queen's Hall Orchestra

By Jonathan Summers, Curator of Classical Music It was exciting to receive an Edison concert cylinder as a donation recently, but much more so to discover that it is probably the first recording by members of the Queen's Hall Orchestra. Cylinder box labels and the cylinders housed within often do...