



Press Release
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Mayor Traces His Roots in The National Archives

The Mayor of Richmond, Douglas Orchard, has made a trip to The National Archives and discovered some of his own family history. Documents contained in The National Archives traced the army career of the Mayor's grandfather, who served the First World War and was killed in action.

The Mayor was delighted to be presented with copies of documents relating to his grandfather and was given a tour of the reading rooms as well as going *behind the scenes* in the archives where millions of historic documents are stored.

He commented after his visit; "I thoroughly recommend that anyone with an interest in historical research visits The National Archives. The facilities there are marvellous."

The National Archives, Kew holds a wealth of records relating to both the First and Second World Wars, which are viewed by over a hundred thousand readers every year. Last year, TNA celebrated the completion of the Burnt Documents Project, which involved microfilming the records of over two million soldiers and non-commissioned officers who served in the First World War. These documents are a very important genealogical resource and are free to be viewed by the public six days a week.

Notes for Editors

- The National Archives was created on the 2nd April 2003 when the Public Record Office, the national archive of England, Wales and the United Kingdom and the Historic Manuscripts Commission came together to form one organisation. The National Archives are open to the public to carry out research 6 days a week. They hold over 1000 years of documents including sources for family history research.
- The National Archives is open Monday 9.00am-5.00pm, Tuesday 10.00am –7.00pm, Wednesday 9.00am-5.00pm, Thursday 9.00am-7.00pm, Friday 9.00am-5.00pm, Saturday 9.30am-5.00pm
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