

THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT...ARCHIVES

1. Kent Archives have the earliest known drawing of the French trapeze artist Monsieur Jules Leotard, wearing his leotard- 1861. www.kent.gov.uk, online catalogue www.kentarchives.org.uk
2. Kent Archives have a will with the only known signature of the Elizabethan poet & playwright, Christopher Marlowe, (he signs "Marley").
3. The British Postal Museum & Archive is the only place in the world where you can see sheets of Penny Blacks (to feature in an upcoming BPMA exhibition next year called 'Treasures of the Archive'). www.postalheritage.org.uk
4. The British Postal Museum & Archive is the only place where you can see unadopted stamp artwork, such as of Scotland winning the World Cup in football in 1978 (these were for obvious reasons never produced). www.postalheritage.org.uk
5. The British Postal Museum & Archive houses Telegrams from the Titanic. www.postalheritage.org.uk
6. The British Postal Museum & Archive has original evidence and items relating to the Great Train Robbery. www.postalheritage.org.uk
7. The British Postal and Museum Archive have a first edition of Ulysses, intercepted in the post. www.postalheritage.org.uk
8. Bristol Record Office has a volume bound in human skin. www.bristol.gov.uk
9. Durham County Record Office holds archives documenting the liberation of Belsen Concentration Camp. Not what you would expect in a CRO, but they hold them because the 113th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment The Royal Artillery (formerly the 5th Battalion The Durham Light Infantry) were involved in the liberation and they hold the DLI archives. www.durham.gov.uk
10. Found amongst the Prime Minister's papers in the Harewood Family and Estate collection at the West Yorkshire Archive Service, Leeds - the blood-spattered book, as verified by George Canning, that the adventuring French diplomat the Count d'Antraigues had under his arm when he was murdered in 1812. Previously unlisted but brought to light by the National Cataloguing Grants Programme funded project. www.archives.wyjs.org.uk
11. The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Archives has a 'spirit' photograph of Michael Faraday. <http://www.theiet.org/archives>
12. Ghosts, hairy hands, hobby horses and black dogs – Exeter University Special Collections hold the archives of Theo Brown, folklorist and member of the Psychical Research Society.

13. The Aviva (insurance) archive holds the oldest existing Chinese ceremonial parasol in the world. www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage
14. The Devon Record Office has one of only two surviving copies of the first map of New South Wales, including 'the new Discovered Country to the West of the Blue Mountains'. The map marks the moment when the colony was at last able to break out from the narrow coastal plains and expand into the interior. www.devon.gov.uk/record_office.htm
15. The Devon Record Office- between 1673 and 1688 these records give evidence of over 76 people being taken by pirates. Many more would have gone undocumented. They include a request, dated 1683, to the court for forty pounds, in payment of a ransom; the petition of Catherine, wife of seafarer John Molle. He was taken by pirates from the ship The Sally and would be freed if Catherine could raise the ransom money. In the meantime he remained in 'cruel and barbarous slavery and ready to eat his own flesh'. www.devon.gov.uk/record_office.htm
16. Like today, tattoos were popular in the 19th Century. Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums hold information/register on Mary Costello, a Newcastle prostitute, who had quite a collection noted on her entry in the Newcastle Goal register of 1873. (Photograph available-none of the tats are visible). www.twmuseums.org.uk/greatnorthmuseum/bepartofit


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REPORTED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, May 3 1873
1874

PARTICULARS of a Person convicted of a Crime specified in the 20th Section of
the Prevention of Crimes Act, 1871.

Name and alias } Mary Costello
Luin

PHOTOGRAPH OF PRISONER



Description when liberated.

Age (on discharge)..... 27
Height..... 5. 1 1/2
Hair..... Black
Eyes..... Brown
Complexion..... Dark
Where born..... Shelley Bridge
Married or single..... Married
Trade or occupation..... Domestic
Any other distinguishing mark..... Left Breast, Anthony Right Arm, Archer, Heart, N.C. 22. J.M. John Mc Kee R. 9. S.M. S.M. E.P.P. Anthony Mc Kee, Left Arm, Ellen Hutton. Left Breast, Green

Address at time of Apprehension..... Newcastle on Tyne

Whether summarily disposed of, or
tried by jury..... } Jury

Place and date of conviction..... Newcastle on Tyne, Assizes, July 24th 1872.

Offence for which convicted..... Stealing Money &c. person

Sentence..... 15 Cal Months H.L.

If subject to supervision of police, when
liberated, and for what period..... } —

If liberated on license, date when sen-
tence will expire..... } —

Date when liberated..... May 23rd 1873.

Intended residence after liberation..... Newcastle on Tyne

