A PROJECT TO MARK WORLD VOICE DAY

We all value our memories. Many of us capture special memories in photos and video, sharing these with our friends and family. But, how many of us record the voices of those who are special to us? Anyone who has listened to archive recordings and oral history recordings will appreciate the power of the recorded voice to summon up an era and to trigger other memories.

To mark World Voice Day on April 16th why not create a personalised “audio album” to capture the voices of your friends and family – and yourself?

- SEND YOURSELF A MESSAGE
- RECORD A FAVOURITE POEM, SONG OR SAYING READ BY YOUR ‘VALUED VOICE’
- PRESERVE THOSE FAMILY STORIES YOU’VE HEARD SO MANY TIMES
- RECORD A CONVERSATION WITH SOMEONE SPECIAL

Find out more about recording techniques overleaf...
Most phones now come with good quality voice recorders and you can upload your audio files to a laptop or tablet device to store the recording – just like you do with your photos. Choose an environment without too much background noise – and do more than one ‘take’ if appropriate, in case you press the wrong buttons the first time!

Dictaphones are relatively cheap and of reasonable quality, especially ‘digital’ models. They can also be connected to a computer to store the data. Your friends and family are usually happy to do this for you if you do not have a computer.

If you are not a computer user, you can still (just) record onto audiotape and play back on an old-fashioned tape recorder! There are clever people who can digitize audio tape recordings – for a fee – if you do move into the computer age.

Remember that you need consent from the person whose voice you are recording – and you need to specify the uses to which you will put the recording and how it will be stored, if you have any use in mind other than personal recollection.

Find out more about the British Voice Association at:
www.britishvoiceassociation.org.uk

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