

THE	
NATIONAL	
ARCHIVES	



# Widening access to archives through a multisensory approach

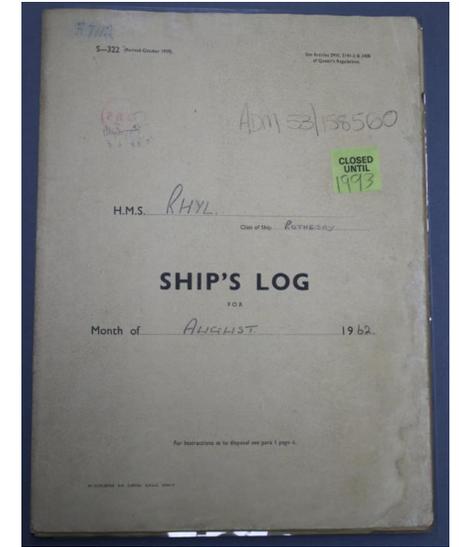
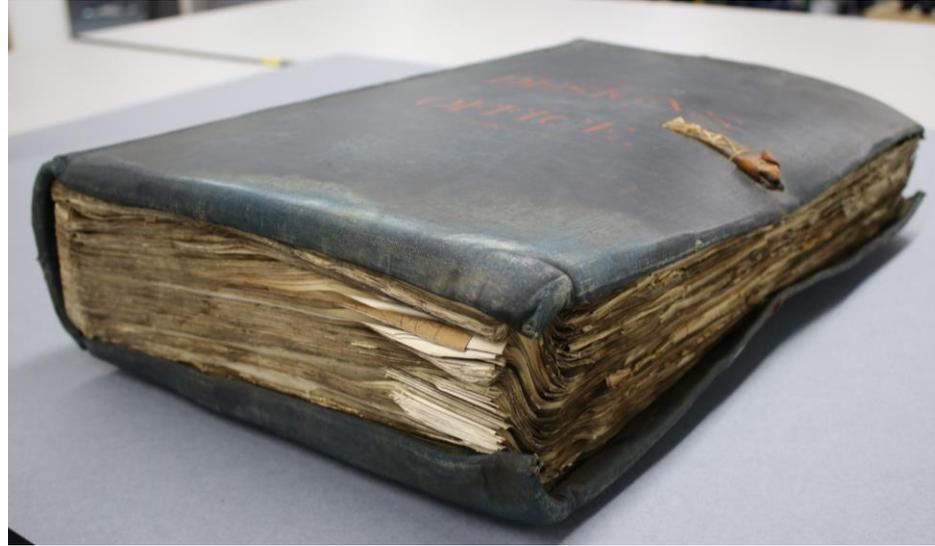
Ajay Choksi, purpleSTARS co-researcher and Technical Assistant at Rix Inclusive Research Institute

Sarah Petter, Senior Engagement Manager - Collection Care, The National Archives

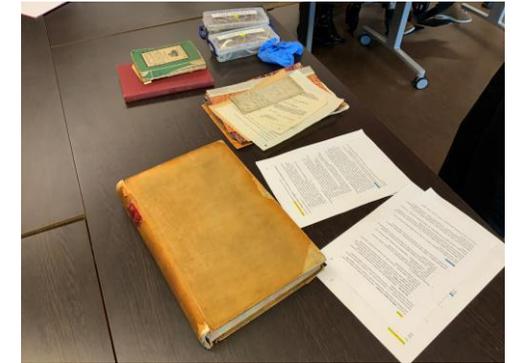


# Multisensory characteristics of archival documents

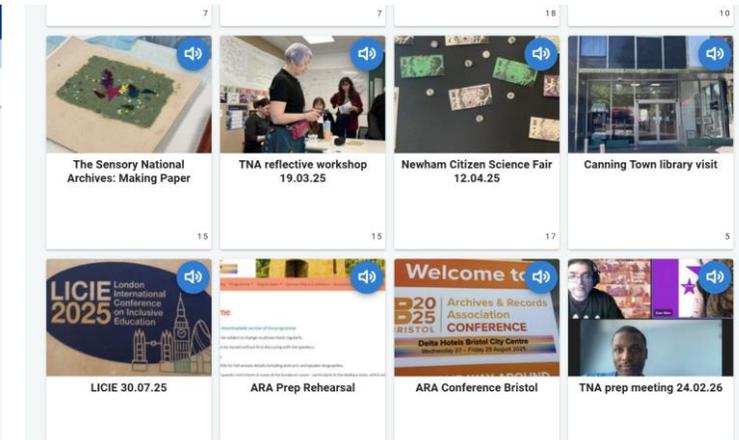
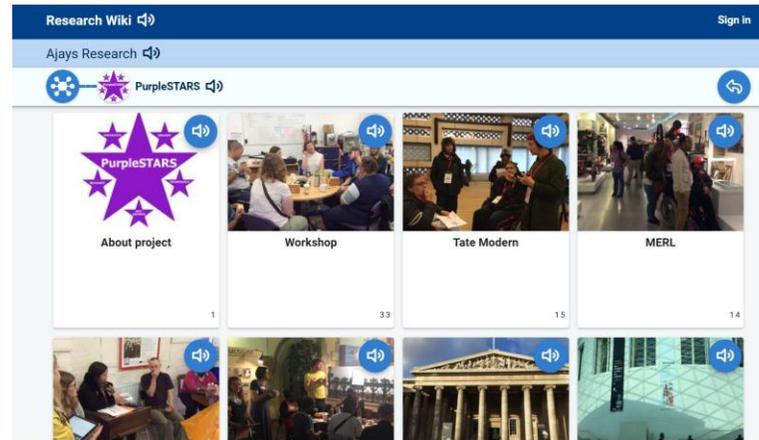
- The sensory qualities of a document or object can tell us about its:
  - materiality
  - production
  - condition
  - degradation
  - quality



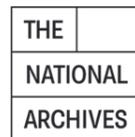
# First purpleSTARS sensory expedition to The National Archives



# Ajay's Research Wiki



<https://rixwiki.org/7953/>





# Developing an inclusive papermaking workshop



**Victoria Stevens**  
Subject Leader – Books  
and Library Materials,  
West Dean College

- Aim: explore creative practice and sensory approaches as inclusive research and engagement.
- Embedding inclusivity and accessibility in workshop design.
- Follow the historical process using inclusive methods and alternate and accessible equipment.



# Making paper



# Adding smells & Iron gall ink to paper



# Ajay's Hieroglyphics Papyrus





“My paper is a symbol of our friendship. All the colours represent each of you and all the teamwork to make it.”



“You can do this. It doesn't matter what disability.”

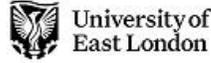
“I did that. It's amazing. I can't believe I made that.”



A World Cloud presenting the feelings, reactions and emotions from purpleSTARS during the workshop, captured from direct quotes and observations.



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# Thank you

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