



Previous winners of the ARA Record Keeping Service of the Year Award

This award recognises achievements by an archive, conservation or records management service or operation within the last eighteen months. A service must employ staff with appropriate qualifications in order to be eligible, but can be nominated from any one of the three professional sectors.

Information below taken from press releases of the year of the award.

Recordkeeping Service of the Year 2023

Jersey Archives.

The nominees for Record keeping service of the year 2023 were:

- Edge Hill University Archive and Special Collections
- Jersey Archives
- Wolverhampton [City Archives](#)

The winner with 52 per cent of the vote was **Jersey Archives.**

Linda Romeril, Jersey Heritage's Director of Archives & Collections, said:

"We are over the moon to have won this national award, especially as it is voted for by the public and shows their support for the service we provide at Jersey Archive. We always strive to do our very best for anyone who contacts or visits the Archive. I am very proud of my team and feel the award to testament to their knowledge and commitment to both the preservation and provision of access to the unique records that we care for. It is also a fantastic way to mark this year's 30th anniversary of the Archive service being established."

[Read Jersey Archives' full nomination here.](#)

Recordkeeping Service of the Year 2022

Barnsley Archives and Local Studies

The nominees for Record keeping service of the year 2022 were: Barnsley Archives and Local Studies, University of Nottingham, Manuscripts & Special Collections, The Manuscripts for Medieval Studies Team, the Library of Trinity College Dublin, Transport for London Corporate Archives, Doncaster Archives & Heritage Doncaster

The winner with 54 per cent of the vote was Barnsley Archives and Local Studies.

In order to properly celebrate this award the presentation was made in Barnsley with staff and volunteers in autumn 2022.

Paul Stebbing, Archives and Local Studies Manager at Barnsley Council, said of Barnsley Archives and Local Studies' award of Record Keeping Service of the Year:

"We are absolutely delighted to receive this excellence award following a period of much growth and activity for the service. Being a public vote, it really highlights to us just how much we are valued by our customers, stakeholders and supporters. They threw their unwavering support behind our nomination. The award will be a great motivator for the whole team. We want to continue to grow, to evolve and to encourage more people to use and enjoy our unique archive collections which cover 850 years of Barnsley's rich history."

No award was made in 2021 and 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recordkeeping Service of the Year 2018

In a very strong competition, the **Central Bank of Ireland Archives** emerged as the 2018 winner of Recordkeeping Service of the Year.

The Central Bank of Ireland Archive Service has been a leader in promoting and innovating access and facilities, notably its recent decision to open 14,000 documents in the bank's historical archives to the public and its move to new purpose-built premises in 2017. The Bank's four-person Records and Archives team, part of the Facilities Management Division, led this game-changing approach, which involved major innovations in policy, technological (online) platforms and physical infrastructure. The outcome is a revitalised outreach strategy and increased media coverage of the Bank as well as (crucially) increased awareness among the Bank's general staff and management about the brand, compliance and reputation benefits that an in-house archive offers.

John Chambers, ARA's Chief Executive Officer, said:

"Many congratulations to the Central Bank of Ireland Archives for winning this year's recordkeeping service award, the first Irish organisation to do so. I am very much looking forward to seeing first-hand the service and storage advances made at the North Wall Quay premises and learning about the increase in school visits, cultural events and other engagement that the re-energised service has been achieving. As Ireland continues on with its Decade of Centenaries, I hope this award will inspire others in the records sector and remind the general public of the rich heritage on their doorstep. I also pay tribute to the runners-up: Archives + is an outstanding 'ideas factory' and would have been a deserved winner in its own right."

Record-keeping Service of the Year 2017

In a very strong field of four exceptional short-listed archives and records candidates, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service – part of Worcestershire County Council – emerged as winners this year.

Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service was formed in January 2012, with the merging of the old Worcestershire Record Office and Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service. At the same time, it relocated to The Hive, Worcester, alongside Worcester City Library, University of Worcester Library Services and The Worcestershire Hub in a shared multi-service Private Finance Initiative (PFI) building. The Hive has achieved high recognition from organisations representing all the constituent services for innovate

service delivery, including The National Archives (UK). The Service also obtained Archive Service Accreditation in 2013, one of the first three local authority services to do so, and has received wide praise for maintaining a quality service despite significant pressures on the local authority budget, in part through innovative new collaborations.

John Chambers, ARA's Chief Executive Officer, said:

“Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service was the clear winner of this year's Record-keeping Service of the Year award. It is not alone, of course, in having committed, professional staff in the local government sector that are determined to maintain a quality service to the wider community in the county despite acute financial pressures. But its range and depth of activities and success in placing itself at the heart of the culture life of Worcestershire are just two reasons that make the Service special. I also pay tribute to the runners-up: Suffolk Record Office, Aviva plc Archives, and Bishopsgate Institute Special Collections and Archives, all of whom would have been deserved winners in their own right.”

Record-Keeping Service of the Year 2016

The **South West Heritage Trust** is an independent charity committed to protecting and celebrating Somerset and Devon's rich heritage. As well as the widely-praised Museum of Somerset and the current redevelopment of the Rural Life Museum, in Glastonbury, the Trust manages state-of-the-art facilities in Taunton and Exeter to care for the extraordinary archive collections of the two counties. The Trust also provides essential advice about the historic environment and manages historic sites.

No award was made in this category in 2019.