

Thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, FAST has now been able to restore and digitise nearly 300 films from our historic archive. Most of these films document the trials and testing, and remarkable research and development, that took place at the Royal Aircraft Establishment. They were among the thousands of artefacts that were salvaged in the very early days of FAST, and have since been entrusted to our care. This funding now makes it possible to share this important heritage with the wider public.

The year-long HLF Project, which began in June 2023, has seen a wave of activity from many of our dedicated volunteers working along with various suppliers and consultants funded by the grant. A significant part of the project has been the collaboration with Farnborough College of Technology, which included various activities with Media, Aero Engineering and History students linked with their curriculum. Students were able to interact with the archive films while also learning about Farnborough's rich aviation heritage.

Media students produced a series of aviation related documentaries, all of which include FAST archive footage, and can now be viewed on The FAST Aviation Archive YouTube Channel. One of these programmes tells the story of the archive and the HLF Project. Click on the link below to view:

[The Story of FAST Film Archive](#)

The grant also provided for the installation of five new audio-visual units in the museum, which all feature content from the archive. Some of these short programmes include interviews with Trustees Sir Donald Spiers, Sue Adcock, and Dr Graham Rood, which were filmed and edited by Media students. Interviews with Reg Milne and Capt. Eric `Winkle` Brown are also featured.

Statement from Josh Sparkes, Programme Manager for Media at FCOT: *"I am pleased to highlight the exceptional collaboration between Farnborough College of Technology's Media department and Farnborough Air Sciences Trust, which has resulted in an enriching and impactful extracurricular experience for our media learners. FAST has provided a diverse array of opportunities, trips, and projects aimed at preserving Farnborough's aeronautical history while engaging students in hands-on media production."*

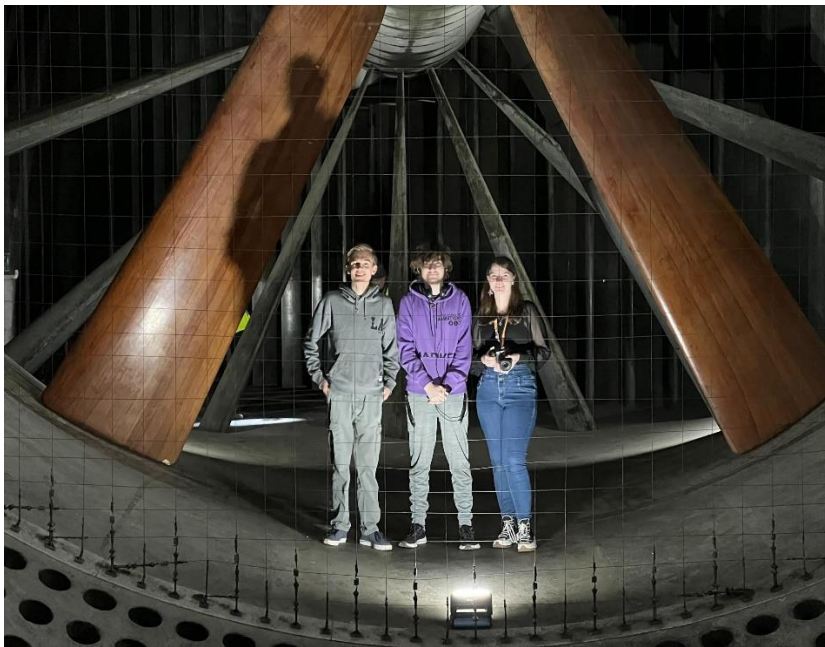
Additionally, we were able to engage with a group of service users from Parkside Aldershot, who visited the museum for a special tour, which included the opportunity to view archive films in the new AV displays.

Thank you to National Lottery Players for making this funding possible!





Students editing interview for museum AV installation.



Students while filming at the 24ft Wind Tunnel.



Film Premiere event at FCOT, 'A Celebration of British Aviation' showcasing the aviation documentaries produced by Year 2, Level 3 media students.



Public event at FAST showcasing archive content, student productions, and thanking National Lottery Players. The event was attended by Mayor of Rushmoor, Cllr Clive Grattan.



Students visiting The Ark Post Production facility in London where the films were cleaned, restored and digitised.



Museum visitor viewing new audio-visual installation.