

# Unlocking our Sound Heritage: IIF AV at the British Library

Andy Irving



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## Save our Sounds Programme

### Projects

Sound  
Heritage

Universal  
Player

Radio  
Archive

Digital  
Audio  
Collection

Unlocking  
Our Sound  
Heritage

Access and Engagement

Comms and Stakeholder Engagement

# Aims of Unlocking Our Sound Heritage

1. Transform access to and preserve the UK's most vulnerable and at-risk audio heritage
2. Raise awareness of the importance and value of the nation's sound heritage
3. Create sustainable centres of excellence in digital audio preservation around the UK
4. Involve new audiences in engaging with their audio heritage in innovative ways

# Hub Partners



# High level numbers

Digitisation 160,000 items and c.470,000 recordings

Discoverability c.470,000 catalogue records

Access 100,000 recordings online with the aim of making 40% downloadable

Onsite access to 346,000 to 460,000 recordings at the BL and 27,000 to 460,000 at the hubs collectively

# Five Year Timetable

Year one 2017/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started on 1st July 2017</li> <li>• Recruitment and setting up at the British Library</li> </ul>
Year two 2018/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hub funding starts.</li> <li>• Recruit hub staff, set up studios &amp; train hub teams</li> </ul>
Year three 2019/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New web space ready for public launch in October 2019</li> </ul>
Year four 2020/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hub funding ends</li> <li>• Celebrate the launch of the national network</li> <li>• Series of conferences on using audio archives</li> </ul>
Year five 2021/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pop up archive touring</li> <li>• By the end of the project, approx. 470,000 recordings will have been preserved &amp; at least 100,000 available online</li> </ul>

# Budget

**The total project budget is £19 million**

- £9.5 million from the HLF
- £5.6 million from British Library's grant in aid
- £1.5 million from other grants (£500,000 from Garfield Weston and £250,000 from Foyle)
- £1.8 million volunteering
- £0.5 million British Library's commitment to managing and maintaining the outputs of the project for five years after the end of the HLF funding

# Highlights so far

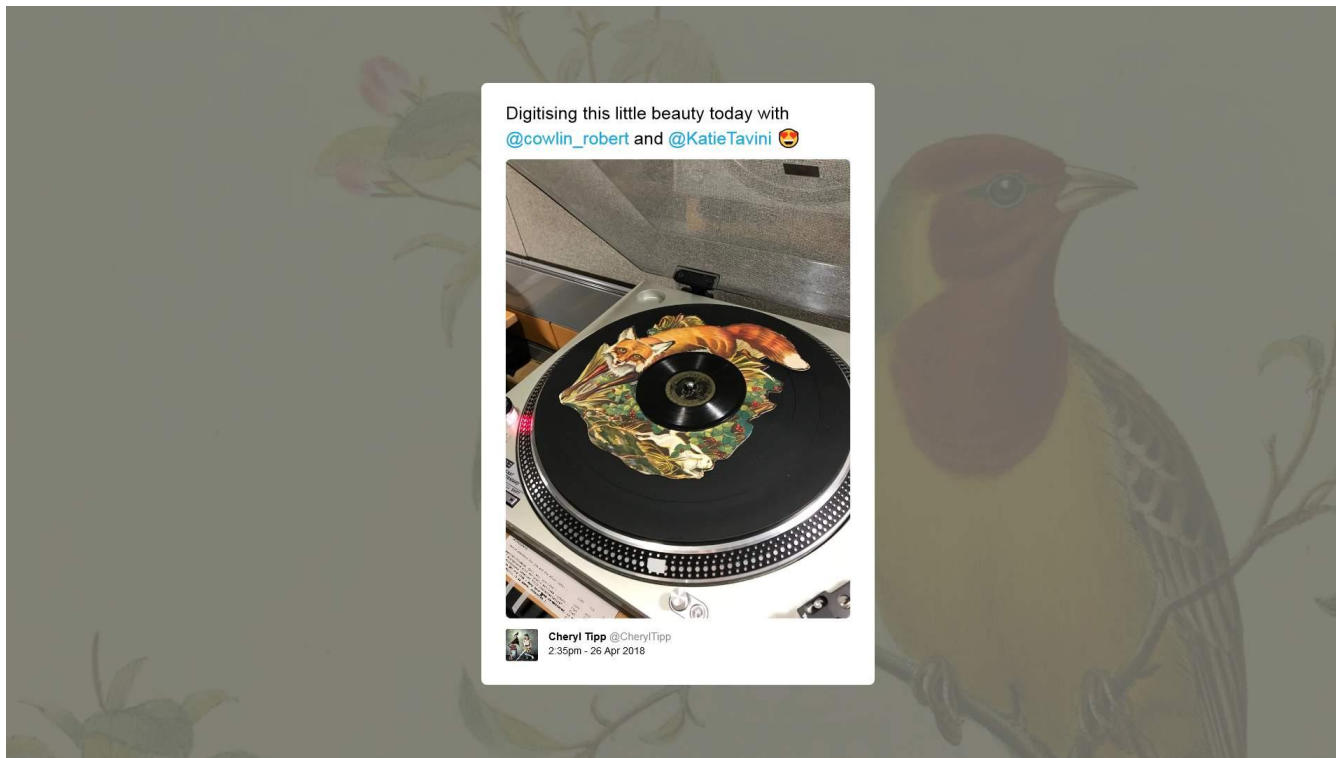
- A fawn-breasted bowerbird in Papua New Guinea mimicking the sound of construction works
- Kylie Minogue's first UK concert performance at the Hammersmith Palais, London in the late 1980s
- David Bowie press conference which ends with him giving a solo performance of 'Space Oddity'
- 1979 interview with Frank Zappa, who shares his disappointment over a bad peach melba
- A 1996 Cambridge Union debate involving Theresa May and Alan Titchmarsh



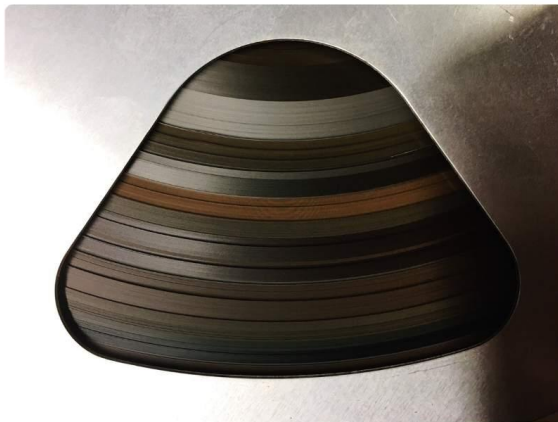
# Real Timetable

2014/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning &amp; data modelling</li> </ul>
2015/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start engaging with IIF community around AV</li> </ul>
2016/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin digitisation at BL</li> <li>• Start of Mellon grant to help progress IIF AV</li> </ul>
2017/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal Viewer AV development</li> <li>• Start publishing manifests</li> </ul>
2018/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch new sounds.bl.uk website</li> </ul>

# Mass Digitisation



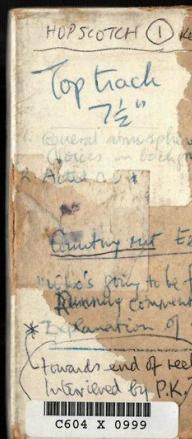
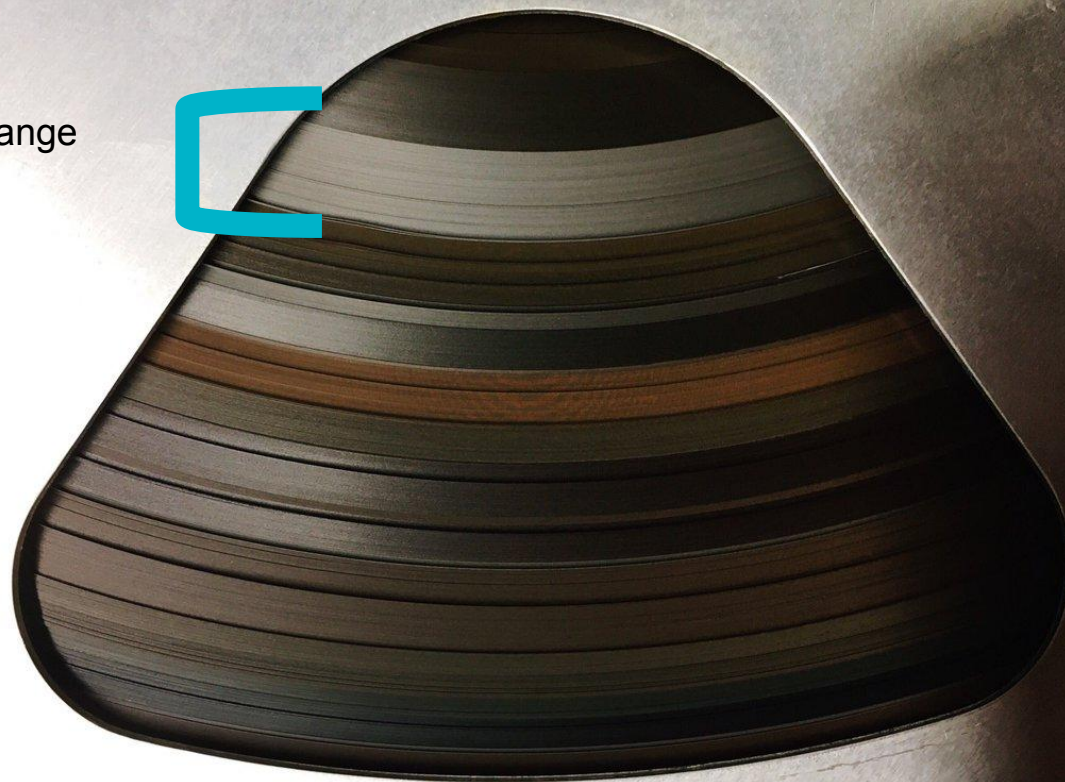
Tape of the day! [@DigitalScape\\_Ir](#) found  
this lovely reel made up of a mixture of tape  
😍 [@BLSoundHeritage](#)



**Katie Tavini** @KatieTavini  
2:15pm - 11 May 2018

Range

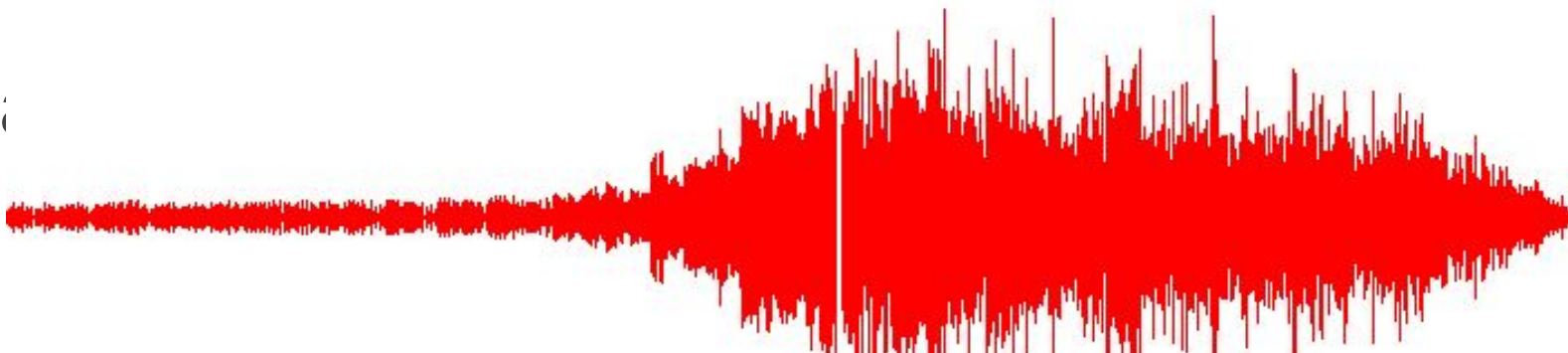
Canvas



5s 6s 7s 8s 9s 10s 11s 12s 13s

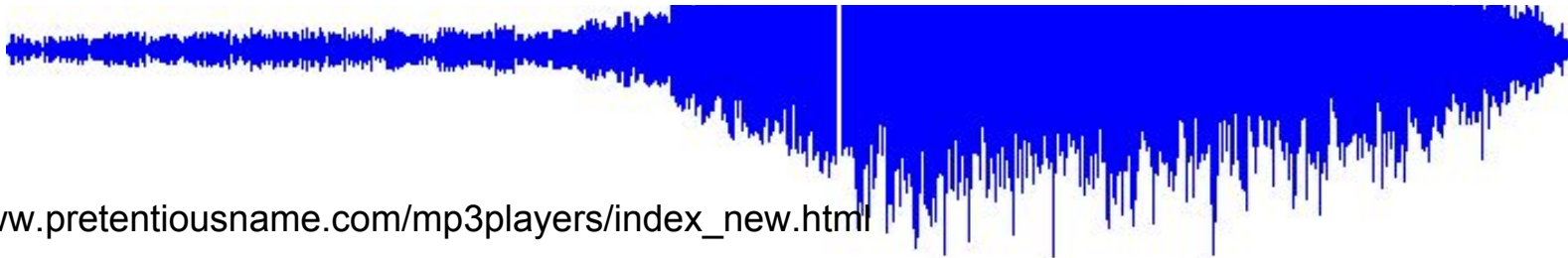
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[https://www.pretentiousname.com/mp3players/index\\_new.html](https://www.pretentiousname.com/mp3players/index_new.html)

# User Experience

How useful is a scrub bar in an Oral History recording over 100 hours long?

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[Index](#)[Thumbnails](#)

Loose ends 17/7/99

Loose ends

There's a touch

[Song of dreams](#)

[News May 2001]

Saturday review

My dear Jim - Letters to a friend [2]

[News May 2001]

The archive hour: Humph at 80

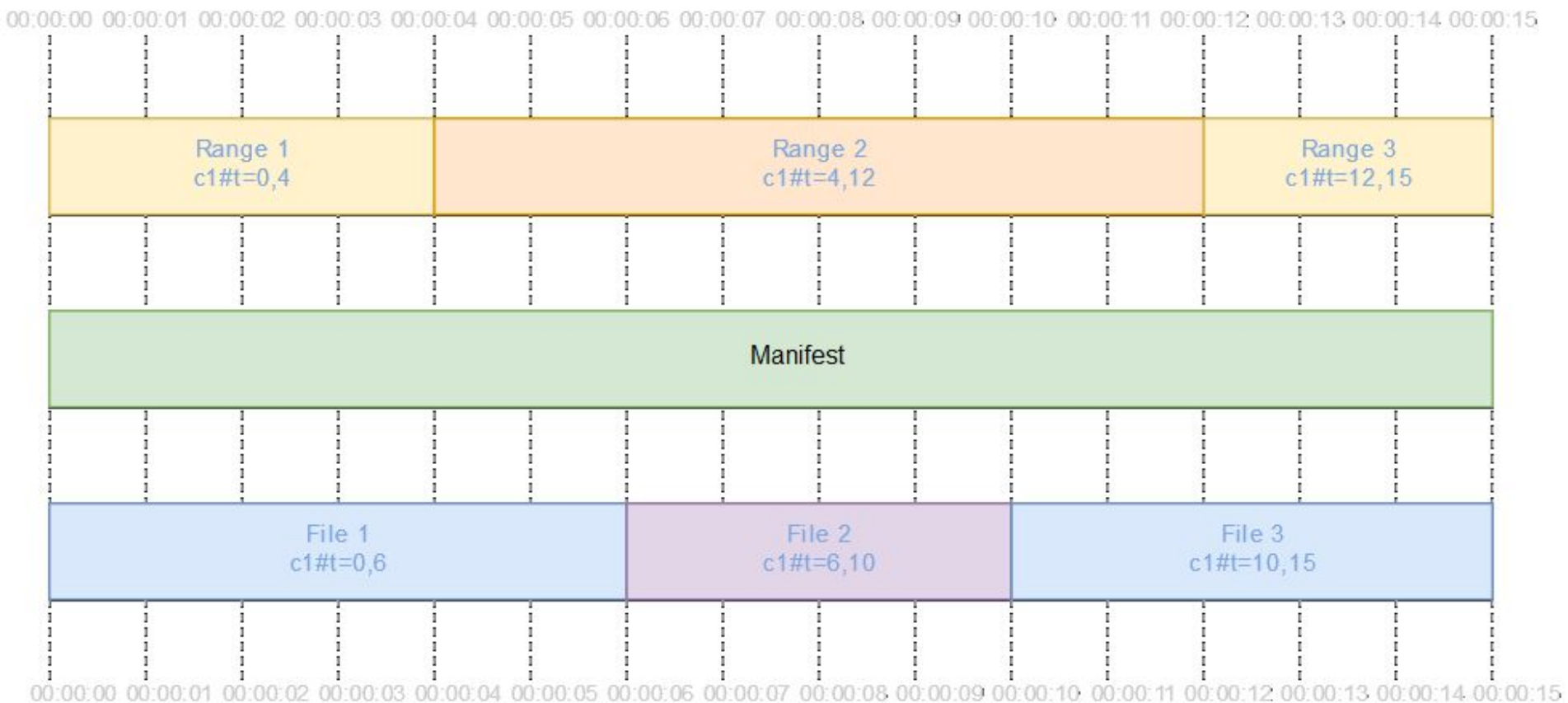


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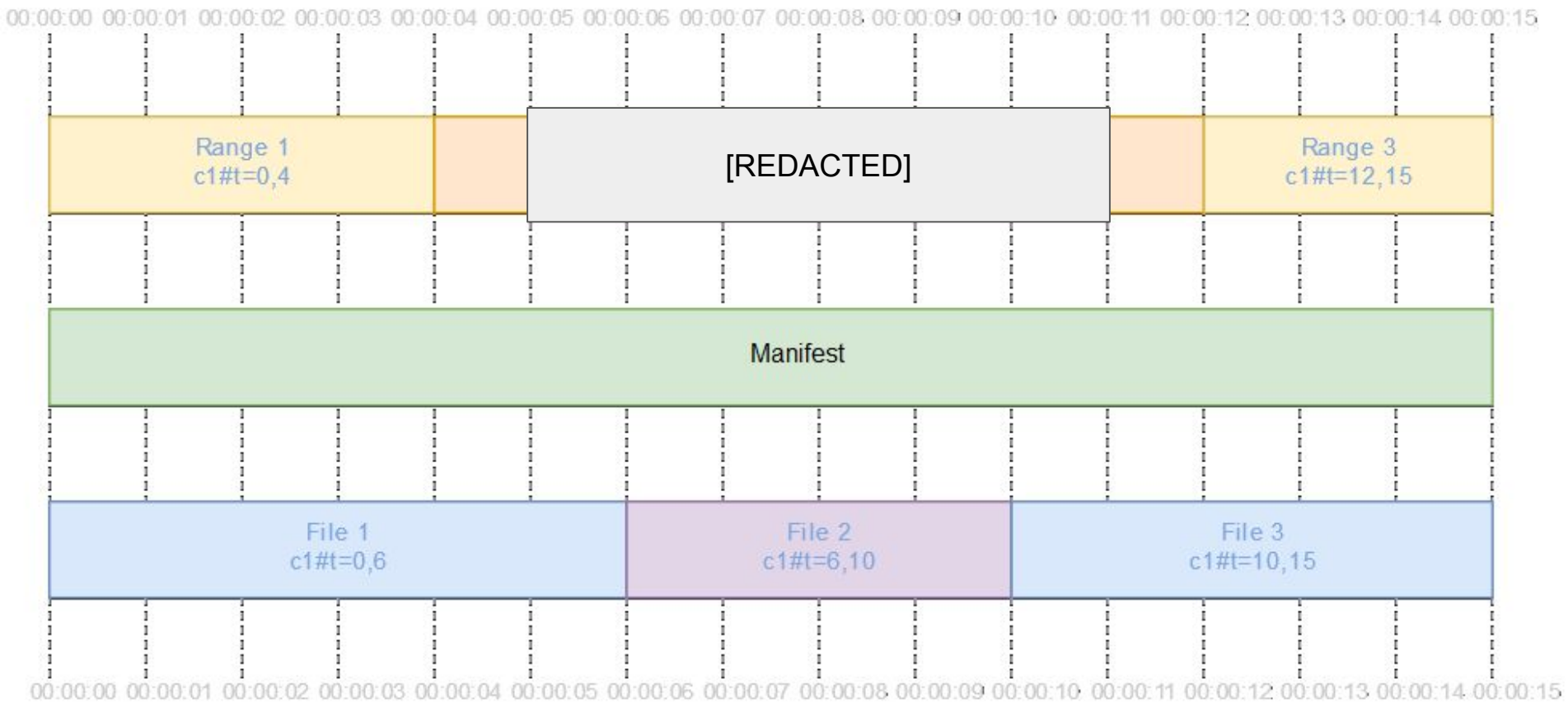


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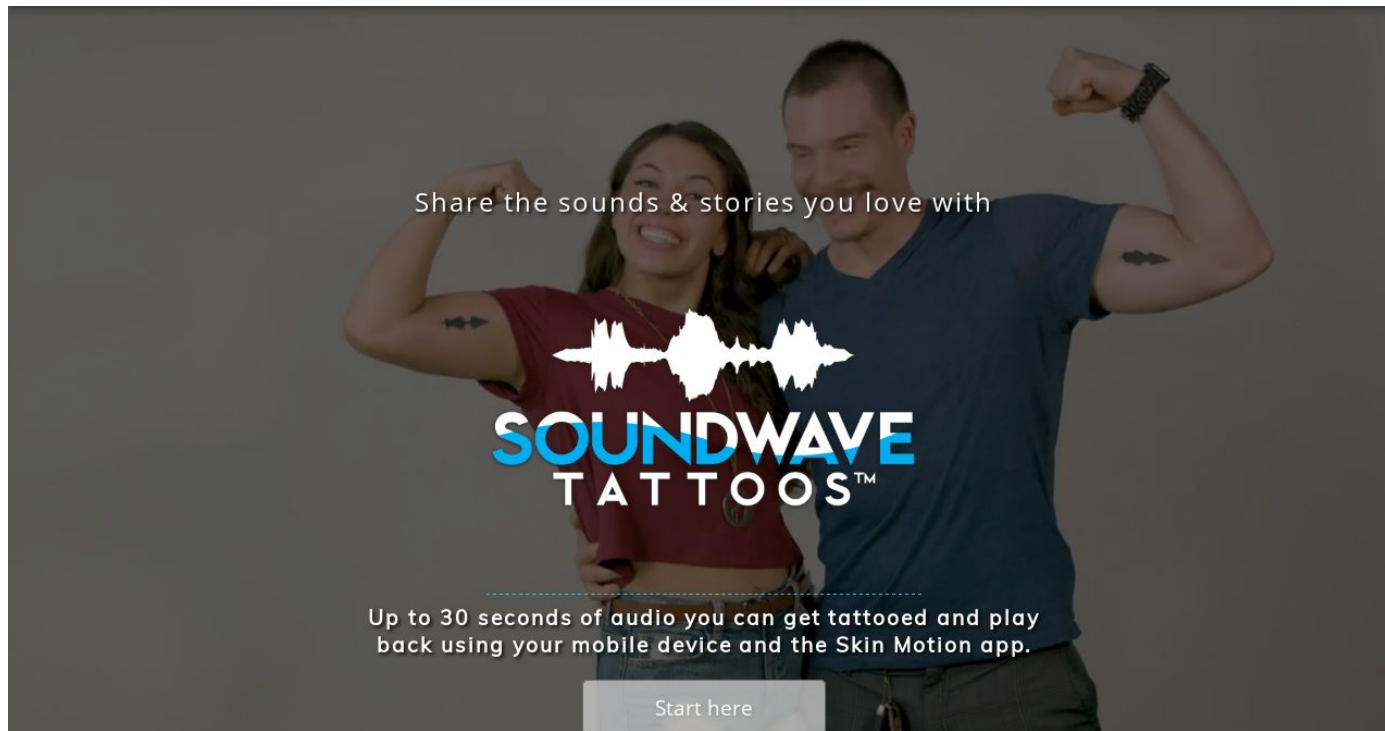








# Redaction - waveforms



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Start here

Photo credits :  
(follow my amazing colleagues on twitter):

@KatieTavini  
@Sound\_Archivist  
@CherylTipp

Project links:  
<https://www.bl.uk/projects/save-our-sounds>  
@BLSoundHeritage

And thank *you*

Andy Irving

[Andrew.Irving@bl.uk](mailto:Andrew.Irving@bl.uk)

