Recording of the week: 'Kuli milimo', there is work in the house of the Lord

This week's selection comes from Edoardo Marcarini, Audio Project Cataloguer for Unlocking our Sound Heritage. Inspired by the festive atmosphere, I bring you not one but two recordings this week. These are meant to be appreciated together just like the turkey and gravy some people will have indulged themselves with...

Ian Rawes and the London Sound Survey

By Steve Cleary, Lead Curator, Literary and Creative Recordings. In October this year many of us at the British Library were distressed to hear of the death of Ian Rawes. Best known to the wider world for his field recording project London Sound Survey, Ian once worked at the Library....

BL Sports Word of the Year 2021

Jonnie Robinson, Lead Curator of Spoken English, writes: It's perhaps not surprising that vax and its more conventional older sibling, vaccine, were designated 2021 Word Of The Year by dictionaries in the UK and USA respectively. This weekend also sees the annual BBC Sports Personality of the Year (SPOTY) awards...

<u>A Mengelberg discovery - Mengelberg in</u> London

Mengelberg in 1919 by Jacob Merkelbach By Jonathan Summers Curator, Classical Music Willem Mengelberg (1871-1951) was one of the greatest conductors of the first half of the twentieth century. A friend of Gustav Mahler and Richard Strauss, Mengelberg championed their works with his expertly disciplined orchestra, the Concertgebouw, in Amsterdam....

Recording of the week: Recollections from a political activist

This week's selection comes from Georgia Dack, Web Content Developer for Unlocking our Sound Heritage. The British Library recently launched its new website Speaking Out, an online learning resource exploring the power of public speaking, protest and debate through its sound archive. Featured in Speaking Out, is an interview with...