

BLETCHLEY PARK

PRESS RELEASE

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BLETCHLEY PARK TO OPEN NEW D-DAY VISITOR EXPERIENCE IN 2019, THANKS TO BT PARTNERSHIP

New immersive exhibition to open for 75th anniversary of D-Day



Artist's impression of the restored Teleprinter Building at Bletchley Park

D-DAY: Interception, Intelligence, Invasion

Sole Partner BT

Opens spring 2019

Bletchley Park today announces it will open an exciting new exhibition featuring an immersive film and display to visitors in Spring 2019 to mark the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings. This exciting audio-visual experience, *D-Day: Interception, Intelligence, Invasion* will be located in the newly restored Teleprinter Building located at the historic World War Two site. We are delighted to have BT as the exclusive and sole corporate partner of the restoration of Teleprinter Building and the exclusive and sole partner of the exhibition.

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Presenting the vital role Bletchley Park played in informing the D-Day invasion, the exhibition will introduce the people involved and showing how different kinds of intelligence were used by the Allies to enable the invasion of Normandy on 6 June 1944 with precise detail. Iain Standen, CEO of the Bletchley Park Trust, said: "This exhibition allows our visitors to learn about the crucial role Bletchley Park played in the preparations for the D-Day invasion, and to understand the importance of the *ULTRA* intelligence produced here."

The codebreaking operations at Bletchley Park depended on secure communications and new technologies. Alongside the Codebreakers worked the General Post Office (now BT) engineers, who managed Bletchley Park's secure communications network and delivered innovative information technology such as Colossus, the world's first electronic digital computer. The GPO also provided personnel and equipment for the Radio Security Service (RSS) which intercepted messages from the German intelligence service (*Abwehr*) throughout the war, and passed them to Bletchley Park. A display in Bletchley Park's Visitor Centre is unveiled today, outlining the breadth and importance of the unique shared heritage between BT and Bletchley Park.

Sir John Scarlett, Chairman of Bletchley Park Trust, said: "We are delighted to have BT as our partner in delivering this stimulating and innovative new addition to our visitor experience. We believe it provides the ideal opportunity for both organisations to build on, and to demonstrate, a remarkable shared heritage which goes back to the very earliest days of Government Code & Cypher School."

Howard Watson, BT Group Chief Technology and Information Officer, said: "Bletchley Park is the origin of modern computing in Britain. Our own scientists and engineers, including the great Tommy Flowers, played a pivotal role in Bletchley's history, and we're proud to be able to support the creation of this exciting new visitor experience that will hopefully inspire a new generation of brilliant thinkers."

The Teleprinter Building at Bletchley Park was a key wartime communications hub. The latest phase of restoration has revealed new insights into the buildings constructed at Bletchley Park during World War Two. As well as the wooden huts used to house people and the industrial blocks built in the latter part of the war, a third family of buildings has now been identified - the 'Machine Buildings' of Teleprinter Building, and Huts 11 and 11A. These were predominantly windowless,

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reinforced concrete buildings with a flat roof, specifically designed to house important machinery.

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

For further information, hi-res imagery or to register your interest contact Sarah Armond, Head of Communications, Bletchley Park 01908 272655, sarmond@bletchleypark.org.uk

- Exhibition opens spring 2019.
- Entrance to the new exhibition will be included in the general admission ticket price.
- For visitor information, contact 01908 640404, info@bletchleypark.org.uk, or go to www.bletchleypark.org.uk
- BT are the exclusive and sole corporate partner of the restoration of Teleprinter Building and the exclusive and sole partner of the exhibition.
- The Teleprinter Building restoration project has had additional kind support from The Linbury Trust, The Gosling Foundation, The Hobson Charity and the Wolfson Foundation.
- The Wolfson Foundation (www.wolfson.org.uk) is an independent charity that supports and promotes excellence in the fields of science, health, education and the arts and humanities. Since it was established in 1955, over £900 million (£1.9 billion in real terms) has been awarded to more than 11,000 projects throughout the UK, all on the basis of expert review.

About Bletchley Park

Bletchley Park is a place of exceptional historical importance, open to visitors throughout the year. It is the home of British codebreaking and a birthplace of modern information technology. It played a major role in World War Two, producing secret intelligence which had a direct and profound influence on the outcome of the conflict. Over the past twenty-five years Bletchley Park has become an internationally renowned site, visited by people from around the world. It is an accredited museum dedicated to telling the story of BP, its achievements and the people who worked there during World War Two. By presenting and explaining these

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achievements in the very place where they occurred, Bletchley Park brings together the dramatic history of the twentieth century with the challenges we face in the twenty first.

About BT's Heritage

BT is the world's oldest and most established communications company. Its roots extend back to the UK's Electric Telegraph Company, incorporated in 1846 as the world's first national telecommunications provider. Few companies in the world have a heritage as rich as BT www.bt.com/history . BT's Archives have been recognised by [UNESCO](#) and [Arts Council England](#) as having unique significance to the UK's cultural heritage. In July 2016 BT was awarded Archives Accreditation by The National Archives.

BT has always acknowledged that they have a duty of care to safeguard this unique legacy on behalf of the nation. BT is the only UK plc to give a firm and clear heritage commitment with a published Heritage Policy www.bt.com/heritage

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