

Make your own Communication Device



RAF Fighter Command was formed in 1936 and the RAF were the Mansion House's longest residents. In the **Abercorn Room** at the **Museum** you can learn about the history of the **Royal Air Force at Bentley Priory** and explore how the equipment they used to **communicate** changed over time.

Communications during the Battle of Britain

The *Dowding System* was dependent on a communication system to marry up all the information from radar stations and Observer Corps posts, so that pilots could be directed towards the enemy and kept informed by controllers on the ground throughout the engagement. Therefore, reliable, speedy communication devices including radio and telephones (often with open lines) were very important during the Battle of Britain.



Make a String Phone

You can make a REAL communication device using just the items below.

You will need:

- 2 paper cups
- String or yarn
- A pencil or skewer
- Scissors

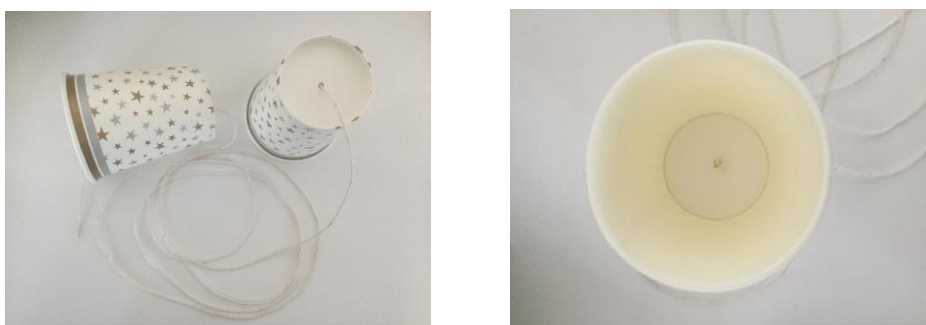


How to:

1. Take the two cups and poke a small hole in the bottom of each cup.



2. Cut a long piece of string – around 2 metres, or longer if you want to use in a large room or at a distance outside.
3. Thread the string through each cup.
4. Tie a knot on the thread at each end (inside each cup) so that it stays securely in place.



To use:

- Each person takes one cup.
- Walk away from one another until the string becomes tight.
- Make sure nothing touches the string.
- One person talks into one cup and while the other person holds it to their ear and listens.

**Scramble's Health and Safety barks: Be careful using scissors or any sharp tools.*