



Our entry for the IoA Soundscape Competition 2021

by

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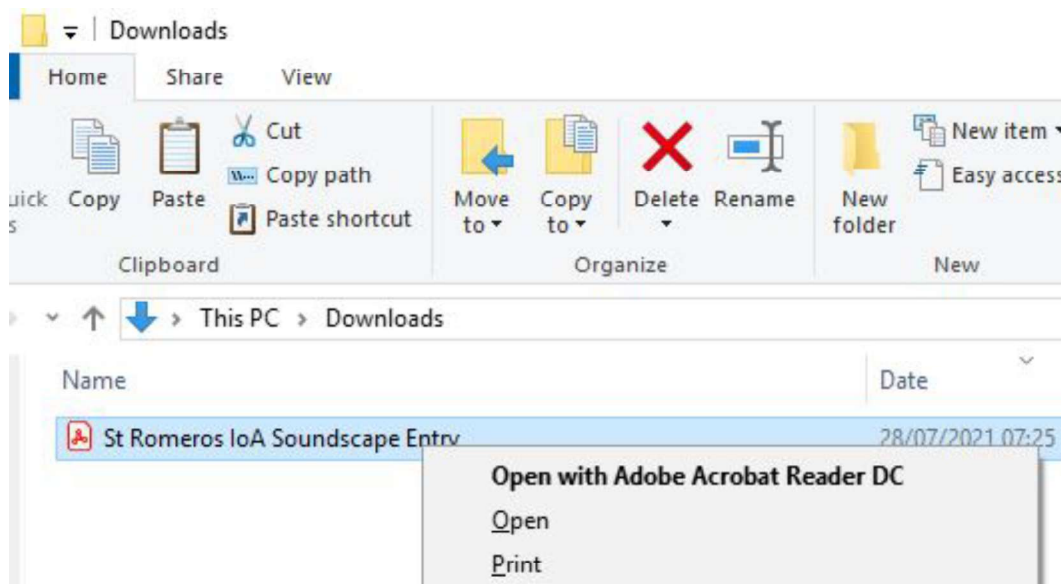
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Viewing instructions

Please **DO NOT** view this pdf in a browser. To ensure you can see the interactive elements:

1. Download the file
2. Go to your Downloads folder
3. Right-click the file, then Open with Adobe Acrobat Reader



Once opened in Acrobat, for each sound...

Hover mouse over an image to see a larger image pop-up.
This shows where the sound was recorded.

Barrier alert



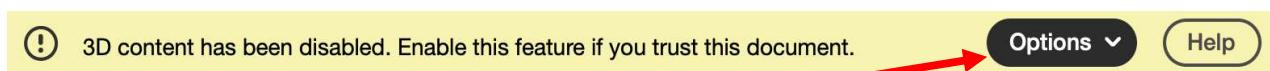

The warning sound, alerting pedestrians that the barrier will be dropping

Click the wave logo to listen to the sound recorded at that location.
A floating window will appear, displaying the wave form as the sound plays.

A brief description of the sounds observed and recorded at the location.

Note:

The first time you click on a sound file / wave icon, you will see the following message:



Click on the Options button.
Select: "Trust this document always"

You should then be able to click on all the sound files in the pdf without needing to enable this feature again.

You may need to wait a couple of seconds between each interactive element.

Introduction



We are Y9 students at St Oscar Romero Catholic School in Worthing, West Sussex. This is our Soundscape Competition entry. This competition inspired us to discover many of the everyday sounds around us which we often take for granted.

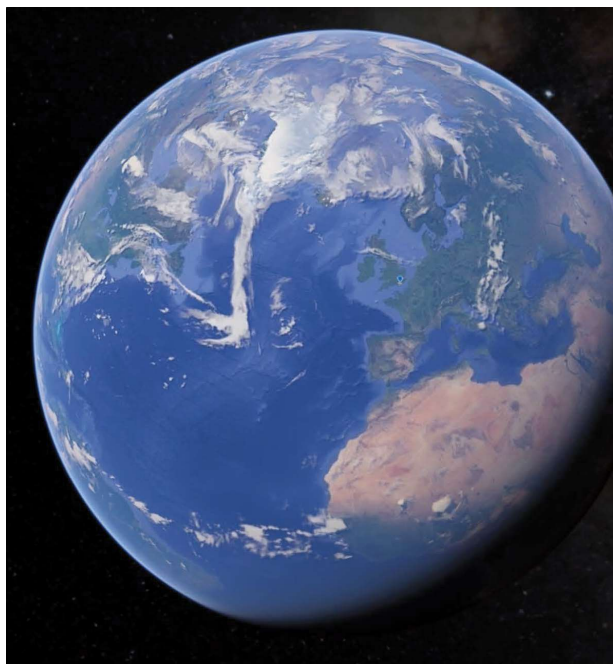
Our 2km Soundscape walk took us around the school, past a train station, along busy roads, through woodland and finally to the local beach. Along the way we encountered many man-made sounds, as well as sounds produced by local wildlife and the natural surroundings.

We have listed the sounds at each location, and we invite you to click on the links on the following pages to listen to the sounds we recorded on our soundscape walk, and to view the images which show where the sounds were recorded.

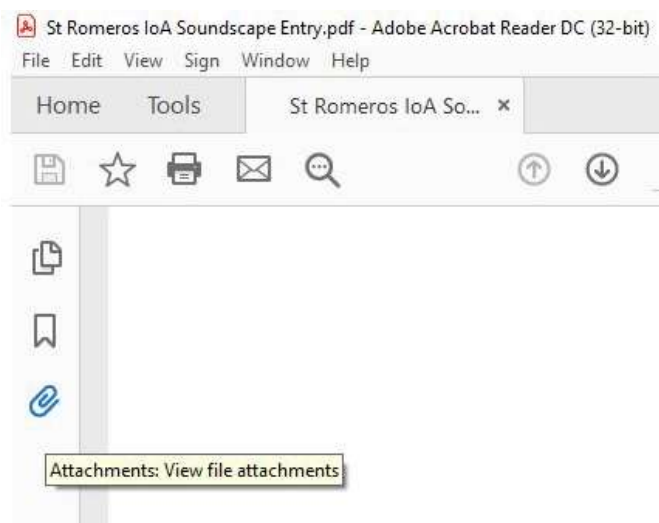
We really enjoyed exploring the sounds in our local environment. We hope you enjoy navigating through our soundscape and experiencing those same sounds!

Luke Bartram
William Clarke
Dominic Winton

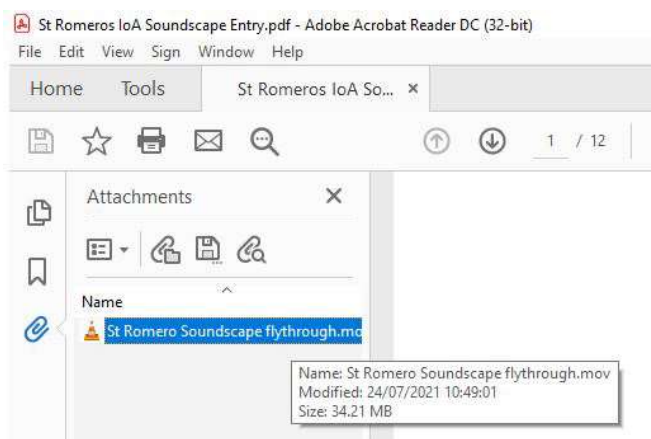
Fly-through of our Soundscape route (click image to activate)



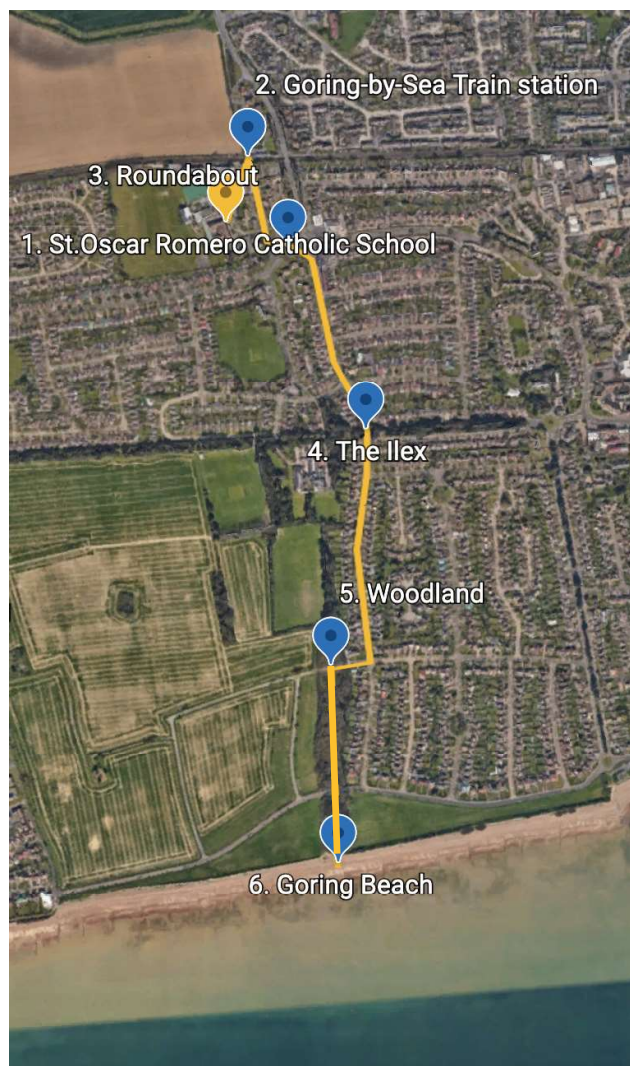
If the video above doesn't load, please open the attachment by clicking on the paperclip icon on the left



Then double-click on the movie file:



Overview of our Soundscape route



Location 1

St Oscar Romero Catholic School



Y7 choir practice



Large classroom, piano and several voices.

High heels in corridor



A single pair of high heels echoing down the corridor.

Lunchtime bell



Outside main entrance, bell and student chatter.

Corridor and bell



A lesson bell turns a quiet corridor into a busy corridor.

Sports field



A quiet space is interrupted by the sound of seagulls.

PE lesson - tennis



Outdoor courts, muffled voices, ball strikes.

Breaktime on the field



Students playing on the field at breaktime, distant voices.

Drama lesson in gym



In this large space, students' voices fill the room.

The chapel



The sound of 'stillness', the quietest place in school.

Location 2

Goring-by-Sea Train Station



Barrier alert



The warning sound, alerting pedestrians that the barrier will be dropping.

Train departing



Much quieter than we imagined, the train slowly leaves the station.

Barrier goes up



No siren, but we can still hear the quiet whirring noise of the barrier as it rises, followed by the barrier slats falling into place.

Footsteps on bridge







We don't normally tune in to sounds like these, but they do still make their own unique noises.



Location 3

Goring Way / A259 Roundabout



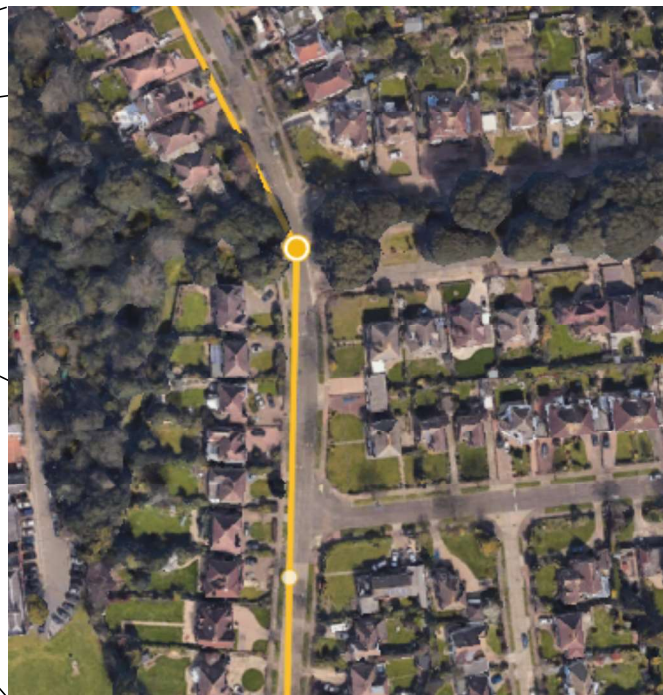
Traffic at roundabout	
	
We noticed that different cars make very different sounds. Accelerating, braking, different types and sizes of engines etc.	

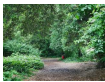

Pedestrian crossing	
	
Piercing sound of the pedestrian crossing, allowing visually-impaired walkers to cross the road safely. A van can be heard waiting.	



Parked car	
	
Common noises on any busy street – a car door being opened and closed, and the ignition being started.	



Location 4

The Ilex / Aldsworth Avenue



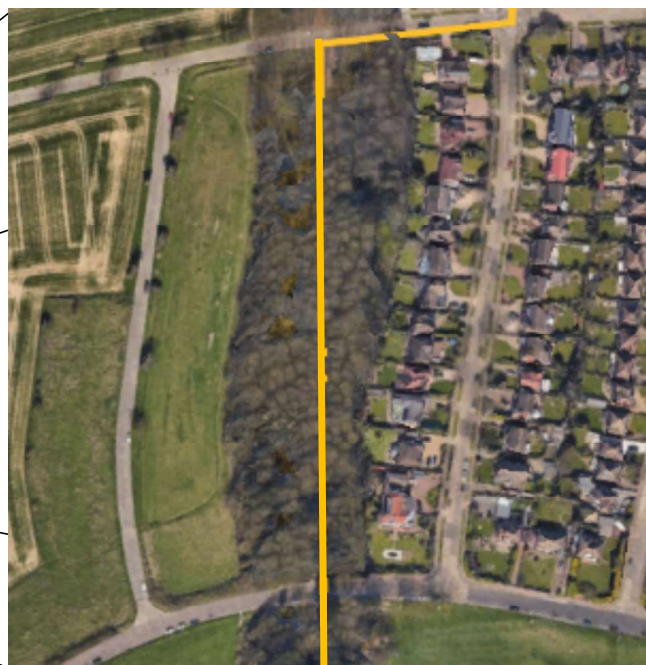
Birdsong	
	
Just by the side of the road, but without the noise of passing traffic the birds can be clearly heard.	



Walking through leaves	
	
This may sound very different in Autumn, but walking through leaves in the Summertime still makes a recognisable sound. A nearby car can be heard in the background.	



Car goes over speed bump	
	
One car passes, then another slows down as it goes over one of the 19 speed bumps on Aldsworth Avenue. Just near the end of the clip, you can hear the car's suspension as it goes over the speed bump.	



Location 5



Woodland, off Aldsworth Avenue





Woodland sounds 1	
	
<p>The sounds of nature are all around in this section of woodland. Several different bird sounds can be heard.</p>	

Woodland sounds 2	
	
<p>Some volunteers can be heard in the background, chatting as they work between the trees.</p>	

Airplane overhead	
	
<p>Birds can still be heard, but the main sound here is the noise of a passing airplane.</p>	

Rainfall on leaves	
	
<p>When amplified, the sound of rainfall can be heard on the leaves of the plants beneath the trees.</p>	

Car	
	
<p>A very slow-moving car drives through the walkway in the trees.</p>	

Location 6

Beach / Goring Greensward



Walking on beach



An easily recognisable sound: footsteps on pebbles.

Waves on beach



A calm day, the waves were gently lapping on the shore.

Splash!



Stones splashing into the sea make a distinctive sound!

Childrens' beach party



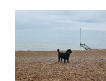
We hadn't expected to hear sounds like this on the beach.

Waves hitting jetty



More gentle than the waves on the shore, we got up close to record this.

Dog on beach



Many of the dogs we saw did not make much noise. This was the only barker!

Café generator



A continuous humming noise from the generator powering the mobile café.

Birds



Not far from the beach, one particular bush was hiding a bird making these sounds.

Distant traffic



Near the beach, there was a continuous low-level noise from a nearby road.

Reflections

We originally thought about recording video at each location, but because this project is all about the sounds, we thought that video would be too distracting. The photographs we took are enough to give an idea of what the location looked like, but it is the sound recordings that are most important. Closing our eyes at each location helped us to really think about just the sounds we could hear. We took it in turns recording the sounds at the various locations. It was surprising just how many sounds there are around us, many of which we take for granted or consider as background noise.

Apart from producing this competition entry, this project has really opened our ears to the variety of sounds we hear every day. The recordings made around the school were mostly man-made: the echoey drama lesson in the gym, the school bell, the muffled voices on the tennis court, the screams and shouts of students on the field at breaktime, and of course the choir rehearsal. Removing these, we still hear the sounds of nature – the seagulls on the field.

It was the opposite when we went out into the local environments of the woodland and the beach – the main sounds were natural (waves on the beach, birdsong in the woods), but our man-made sounds could still be heard (walking on pebbles, children singing near the beach, and also the sounds of distant traffic). The quietest place on the whole of our 2 km soundscape walk was in the school chapel. Even there, we were surprised to listen back to the recording and hear the 'hiss' of silence!

This competition has given us a new appreciation of the sounds all around us. There was lots of variety in the sounds around the school, but our favourite parts of the soundscape were:



Luke:
"train station"



William:
"woodland"



Dominic:
"beach"

Thank you for viewing our soundscape entry.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to:

Mr Ramasami – for lending us the microphone

Mr Byrne (Headteacher) – for allowing us out of school to make the recordings

Mr Clarke – for helping us put all the sound clips and photos together