November 2012

MACE, the Screen Archive for the Midlands, release rare films of Worcester on DVD

Worcestershire on Film:
Documentary: DVD
Duration: 1hr 20min.
Written, Produced and Edited by: Andy McKay
Additional Music: Ronnie Fowler
Commissioned by the Media Archive for Central England
Financed by UK Film Council Digital Archive Heritage Fund.
A Lincoln School of Media - MACE Co-Production
Distributed by: MACE www.macearchive.org, ITV Global

Worcestershire on Film, produced and edited by filmmaker Andy McKay, pieces together rarely seen and newly restored 20th century films of the county that are preserved at the Media Archive for Central England (MACE). Worcestershire is a county steeped in history and between its rolling countryside and Rivers Avon and Severn sit towns, villages and communities rich in manufacturing, crop growing and cultural heritage, from market gardening in the Vale of Evesham to carpet making in Kidderminster.

Amongst the films are a variety of reports from the regional news programme ATV Today which ran from 1964 to 1981, including: village reaction to the possible sale of Bredon church spire to America in 1968; the 1969 demolition of the house on Rainbow Hill where Sir Edward Elgar died; apple picking and asparagus farming in the 1960s and 1970s and reports from the 1960s to 1980s on flooding in the county when the River Severn burst its banks. There is also a focus on industry including a 1925 film illustrating carpet making in Kidderminster and a look at needle making in Redditch in 1968. A variety of films captured with skill by amateur filmmakers can also be seen, including shots of Winston Churchill’s visit to Worcester on 20th May 1950. This section includes a glimpse of the newly discovered letters between Churchill and the city’s mayor, encouraging Churchill to make this visit after he was granted the freedom of the city in 1945. These hidden gems have been arranged into seven themes so you can choose how you want to make your exploration of twentieth century Worcestershire.
The Themes
WINSTON CHURCHILL & INTRODUCTION
CHARACTERS & STORIES
CULTURAL CONNECTIONS
CRAFTS & INDUSTRY
CROP PICKERS
A STORY OF ASPARAGUS
WATER & REFLECTIONS ON THE RIVER SEVERN

Press & Events

Worcestershire on Film at The Hive Worcester

Special Events

The Hive offers a varied events programme for everyone to enjoy, from music, drama and art to learning opportunities, workshops, book clubs and lectures.

Worcestershire On Film - Thu, 22 November 2012

Come and see the preview premiere showing of Worcestershire on Film on Thursday 22nd November at one of the three showings (2pm, 3pm and 4pm), showcasing historic footage from the county’s fascinating past. The film will be introduced by Andy McKay, writer, producer and editor of the DVD who will preview a selection of his favourite clips from the DVD.

The film created by Media Archive for Central England in partnership with Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service at The Hive will give residents of Worcestershire a blast back to the past on the big screen in The Hive's Studio theatre. The film footage includes Winston Churchill's visit to Worcester in May 1950, clips of
the floods over the years, the asparagus growing industry, the carpet industry and the scythe making in Belbroughton. Selected scenes from the 70 minutes film will be shown with the full DVD available to purchase from The Hive at the end of November.

No booking required, please feel free to just drop in. The Worcestershire on Film DVD will be available to purchase from the Explore The Past desk on level two of The Hive at the end of November.