



For immediate release

March 2010

SEE AND HEAR LOCAL HISTORY AT EAST RIDING ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE

The East Riding Archives & Local Studies Service is giving the public a fresh perspective on local history with the opening of its 'Film & Sound Archive'.

This new digital resource allows people to access archive film and sound recordings relating to local heritage. It represents a whole new way of finding out about the history of the East Riding.

Previously inaccessible in old fashioned film reels, VHS tapes, and audio cassettes; these films and sounds from the past have been brought up to date through their conversion to digital records that can be played on a standard computer.

Collections Officer, Sam Bartle, said:

“The Film & Sound Archive is part of our answer to the growing challenge of digital preservation. It’s not just about film reels and cassette tapes, but also the records that we produce on our computers. All of these are fragile and in danger of becoming obsolete due to rapid changes in technology, and it’s our job to ensure that they survive these changes.”

Angela Owusu, Archive Awareness Campaign Officer said:

“The digital records that we create today will form the history of tomorrow, and the ‘Film & Sound Archive’ is the first step towards safeguarding the East Riding’s digital heritage for future generations.”

The ‘Film & Sound Archive’ is a free service that allows people to view videos relating to local towns, villages, industries and railways. The public can also listen to interviews with local people, and hear music and church services from the past.

The oldest record in the collection relates to the infamous Howden Airship Crash of 1921. The archive also contains various materials produced in the 21st century, and continues to expand.

The National Council on Archives has given the project an ‘Archive Pace Setter’ award, which is given to archives that provide access to their collections in innovative ways. Currently, only one other service in the country has received this accolade.

- Ends -

Notes to Editors

To book a time for using the ‘Film & Sound Archive’, simply visit the Research Room at the Treasure House (near the library) on Champney Road, Beverley, or call (01482) 392790.

For further information visit: www.eastriding.gov.uk

Postal address

East Riding of Yorkshire Archives Service, County Hall, Beverley, East Riding of Yorkshire, HU17 9BA

Site address

The Treasure House, Champney Road, Beverley
archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk

About the National Council on Archives:

The National Council on Archives was established in 1988 to bring together the major bodies and organisations, including service providers, users, depositors and policy makers, across the UK concerned with archives and their use. It aims to develop consensus on matters of mutual concern and provide an authoritative common voice for the archival community.

Archive Awareness Campaign:

- Archive Awareness is spearheaded by the National Council on Archives (www.ncaonline.org.uk) and funded by The National Archives (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (www.mla.gov.uk).
- Archive Awareness Campaign www.archiveawareness.com is an ongoing celebration of all kinds of fascinating archive treasures. It celebrates and promotes local and national archives. Throughout the year archives across the country open their doors to showcase history, hold open days and present workshops to help the public discover a piece of their own history.

EAST RIDING ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE

FILM & SOUND ARCHIVE

Free to use at
The Treasure House, Beverley.
Ask in the Research Room or ring
(01482) 392790 for details

SEE AND HEAR LOCAL HISTORY

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

archive

01482 392790

The poster features a stylized red camera icon on the left, with the text 'FILM & SOUND ARCHIVE' in large, bold, black letters to its right. Below this, there is a white box containing contact information. To the right of the contact box is a black and white photograph of a man operating a camera. At the bottom, there are logos for 'EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL', 'archive', and '01482 392790'.