

Number 33



**THE
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
FILM ARCHIVE
TRUST**

Registered Charity No. 298527

Newsletter

April 2017 to September 2017

NEWS FRAMES

Welcome to 2017's April to September edition of the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust newsletter.

It has been a busy time for the volunteers with a number of various presentations along with all the other work that goes on behind the scenes – this includes: routine maintenance work and cleaning the equipment; arranging viewing schedules for people who have family film to donate to the Trust but who would like to see what is on it first as they often have no idea about the actual content; compiling the programme of films for presentations either at the museum or in the wider community. Until everything is fully catalogued, although we know the number of reels in our collection we still do not have the full details about each film. This means that before a programme is finalised we have had to draw up a short list of potential films and then physically run through them to assess whether they 'fit the bill' and can be included in any one presentation.

As always, without naming names, we would like to thank all those who have contributed in any way to help us continue our work.

DONATIONS:

We have recently been given some more equipment, and whilst we have limited storage space, these additional items, which includes both a 16mm and a Standard 8 projector in excellent condition, will ensure we have suitable apparatus to screen films at our presentations at the museum.

We have also received family films taken in and around Northamptonshire continuing our objectives of collecting and preserving the moving image for posterity.

FILM SHOWS:

We continue to present films at our home at The Wellingborough Museum but audience numbers never reach the same proportion as those at most other venues. A recent show at the Central Museum in Northampton attracted 60 people and more than 50 people attended a presentation at Hope Methodist Church, Higham Ferrers. If anyone has any suggestions how to increase audience numbers in Wellingborough, please let me know.

Please see the back page of this newsletter for dates of upcoming film evenings at Wellingborough Museum between now and September along with the scheduled and 'to be confirmed' dates at other venues and events.

PUBLICITY:

Our first article in the Neighbour community magazine, distributed across the north of Wellingborough, was well received. We submitted a second article as we were asked to contribute to subsequent issues, but despite several emails to the editor, have received no reply. As no-one at present has seen any further issues it would appear that this magazine has ceased publication. Contact has now been made with Village Connect, a bi-monthly and hand delivered free of charge to more than 20,000 homes and businesses in 71 selected Northamptonshire villages, and we will be promoting the NFAT in the next edition.

A CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE (Barry Moulang)

I have been asked to put some words together for our Newsletter and, although I have been in my role for about six months, this is the first time I have done so. Most Chairmen spend some time on 'probation' – often from the birth of the organisation they chair: not so for me so the time so far has been spent on the slopes of a bit of a sharp learning curve.

My personal links with the Northamptonshire Film Archive came through meeting Cliff Morris and John Earl and go back more than twenty years; that led to involvement on a technical level – providing some suitable electronics for a sound system on one of the projectors for example. My activity had therefore been quite limited until last year when I was able to be present at Monday night meetings. At one of these I broke my 'never volunteer' rule – stepping in when Colin Bailey resigned.

Being a 'new kid on the block' in this way can sometimes be an advantage – if you don't mind the odd false step. On the plus side you can ask a lot of questions and not feel too silly! There has been a lot to take in but I can see that the Archive has a lot to be proud of and we are lucky to be situated in the Museum where our collections have a good chance of being appreciated.

There is a lot for us to do: consideration of our resources shows that we have much undiscovered film to assess and catalogue and we have a very comprehensive range of projectors and ancillary equipment to check and maintain. We are now able to ensure that we have a full set of projectors for the presentation nights - thanks to the projection team - and we are continuing to make our film database more comprehensive and accessible.

One area where we are constrained is that we have limited available man hours; this is further complicated by the lack of working space in the projection room and poor access to the film storage; factors which need to be addressed in the longer term.

Our finances are sufficient for current purposes although we could do more especially if external funds could be obtained to begin a real study of our film archive, perhaps through the Heritage Lottery Fund; previously explored and now being seriously reconsidered.

We are also depleted in membership in comparison to earlier years although this seems to be true of many organisations in today's social climate; those members we have, I'm pleased to say, are quite loyal and supportive.

If you are interested, or know anybody who might be - please join us and help to support the value and preservation of our collection.

INTO THE FRAME:

The DVD 'In the Frame' - a brief history of the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust, is now available to order. Please see order form enclosed with this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBS:

Please note, subs are due on April 1. If you cannot attend the meetings but would like to support the Trust why not become a FRIEND of The Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust for £10 and receive advance details of any additional presentations? In either case please complete and return the enclosed form or email: nfat@outlook.com for details.

Dates for your Diary - Meetings

April 10

May 8 **A.G.M.**

June 12

July 10

August 14

September 11

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are held on MONDAYS at Wellingborough Museum, Castle Way, between Castle Road and Castle Way.

(Limited parking in Castle Lane, easy parking on Castle Road, the multi-storey car park or the council car park adjacent to The Castle Theatre)



Forthcoming Events at Wellingborough Museum



May 16 Around the World

September 19 A Focus on Food

7.30pm start - Admission: £5


In the community

April 26 Brigstock History Society
June 16 Alfred East Gallery, Kettering
August 26 - 28 Earls Barton Steam Fayre

To be confirmed

May Bank Holiday weekend Rushden Cavalcade
June 27 Hemmingwell Skills Centre



For further information please contact:
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Find us on  Northamptonshirefilmarchivetrust
Web: thenorthamptonshirefilmarchivetrust.co.uk

Would you like to become a Friend of The Northamptonshire Film Trust? Even if you are unable to attend our monthly meetings when we screen some of the films that may not be appear in any of our public shows you can still support our organisation by becoming a Friend for just £10 per year. Please send your details and remittance to the address on the form below.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FILM ARCHIVE TRUST

Please note that the annual subscription from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 membership to the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust is now due.

We would like to thank you for your support over the last twelve months and hope that this will continue throughout this coming year. We have retained our subscription fee at £10.00 for which you will receive our bi-annual newsletter and any other relevant information. Thank you.

I enclose cheque/P.O. for £10 made payable to The Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust.

Signed: Name:

Address:

Email:

Return to: P. Austin, 5, Lancaster Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants, NN10 8HY

IN THE FRAME DVD

Copies of In the Frame, a short documentary about how the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust started, featuring interviews with the founder, John Earl, is now available to order.

The 20 minute film, made by NFAT members, Craig and Pete Austin costs £5 – free delivery to addresses within a ten-mile radius of Wellingborough, for all other areas please add £2.50 to cover p&p. To order, please return the completed form to The Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust, 5 Lancaster Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants, NN10 8HY

I would like to order ____ copy(ies) of In the Frame and enclose a cheque for £_____ made payable to The Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____