

## **British Pathé needs local history enthusiasts to help on all things Nottinghamshire!**

Dear all,

You should have received this email because you're either the leader of a local history group related to a place in Nottinghamshire or a prominent member in a Nottinghamshire organisation.

I am in the process of organising British Pathé's colossal film archive, now that it is completely open to the public for free online, and whilst some areas like Devon and Cornwall are very well documented, other counties like Nottinghamshire need the attention of knowledgeable locals.

I have sent a link to a Nottinghamshire workspace that I have built. So far it has 75 videos in it from across the 20<sup>th</sup> century, which you can watch online.

As our knowledge of the area is limited we have only been able to search place names as keywords, but many villages and smaller towns wouldn't have been written down in the canister notes by the cameramen at the time, which is another reason why we need local sets of eyes! You may know of specific landmarks, establishments, notable figures from bygone eras or special events that can help us to identify more videos in the archive that belong to Nottinghamshire.

Some videos of occurrences such as marathons, fetes or military exercises include a variety of locations. So even if a particular village name doesn't show up in an archive search, it could quite easily appear somewhere in the archive, offering a brilliant and fun historical insight on that place.

The information that we currently have is an amalgamation of canister notes (written in some cases over one hundred years ago) and visual descriptions written by young interns in the 1980s which are often a bit vague (perhaps understandably so given the times!)

If you spot a spelling error, a historical inaccuracy or have more information on a particular event then please do let us know and in time we will get round to updating these canister notes for the benefit of future generations.

You are more than welcome to take the Nottinghamshire link attached and add it to your website, or you might like to use links to specific videos relevant to your group, e.g. Mansfield, World War II, Tennis or Lace Factories. Please do forward the link on to your friends too.

It may be that some of members of your group are experts in other fields too, for example steam engines, crochet or swimming. Please do have a rummage through the general archive of 90,000 old reels on [www.britishpathe.com](http://www.britishpathe.com) as well as using the special Nottinghamshire link.

I hope that you fall in love with the archive like we have and can hopefully lend your help and expertise so that everyone can make the most of this fantastic online resource.

Yours Sincerely,

Jack Cullen