

TALKING HISTORY

Adult Learners Edition - No 5

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Leicester's

history on-line

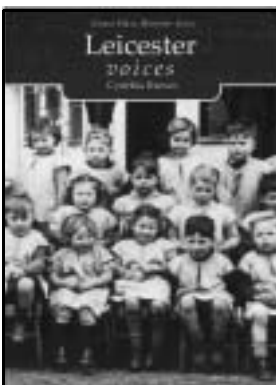
The East Midlands Oral History Archive offers lots of resources for adult learners and tutors on its website (<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha>). By clicking on the "community" section of the website you will be able to access on-line exhibitions and guides to the history of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Click on the "training" button to take you to a series of information pages that cover every aspect of setting up and running an oral history project.

A recent addition to the on-line history of Leicestershire is Colin Hyde's new online historical trails, which can be seen at the Archive's *Leicester—Sound and Vision* website (<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha/leicester/>). This site offers the largest collection of photos of Leicester

available anywhere on the web, such as the photos above, and uses oral testimony to bring the images to life.

The Goddard Trail focuses on the works of the Goddard family, which spanned six generations of architects. The Goddards designed some of the most well known buildings in Leicester, many of which can be seen on the site. The trail also includes a brief explanation of some architectural styles.

The second trail looks at the work of Arthur Wakerley, who developed the suburb of North Evington, and designed affordable council housing after the First World War. Wakerley was one of Leicester's most influential citizens, and the trail shows his impact on the city.



Leicester Voices, by Cynthia Brown

Extracts from recordings in the East Midlands feature in a new book, *Leicester Voices*, edited by EMOHA Project Manager, Cynthia Brown. The book, part of the *Tempus Oral History Series*, is illustrated with a wide range of archive photographs and covers topics such as health and housing, childhood, play and pastimes, shopping, local political campaigns, and migration to Leicester. It is available from local bookshops, price £11.99, or from the East Midlands Oral History Archive. Send a cheque payable to the "University of Leicester" for £11.99 + £1.25 postage (£13.24 total) to EMOHA, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester.

Oral History Collections Now Available On Loan

Oral history offers a unique insight into the everyday lives of 'ordinary' people, and is a valuable resource that enables students to learn about the past through the first hand accounts of the people who actually experienced it. It is now possible to borrow a range of oral history recordings from the East Midlands Oral History Archive to use as resources in adult education courses.

Oral testimony can allow adult learners to discover what it was like for local people to live through the Second World War or the depression. These recordings can also be used as an aid for reminiscence groups,

for example, to remind people about the mischief that they got up to when they were children or to recall what school life was like in the past.

The East Midlands Oral History Archive's new loan collection is for use by adult learners and will initially comprise a selection of themed recordings from the Leicester Oral History Archive Compilation Series. Titles include:

- ⇒ The Three R's
- ⇒ World War Two
- ⇒ World War Two Evacuee
- ⇒ Holidays
- ⇒ Public Health
- ⇒ Entertainment

The recordings will be loaned for 4 weeks, and may be copied and used for educational purposes. To find out more about borrowing these interviews, contact Sarah Ferrier, Education Officer, at:

EMOHA
Centre for Urban History
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH

(0116) 252 5065
sjf17@le.ac.uk
<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha>



New Collections In The Archive

The East Midlands Oral History Archive's online catalogue currently includes details of 300 recordings, with the recent addition of the Westfields Collection and the Leicester City Museums Collection.

The Westfield Collection comprises interviews of people living in the Hinckley area of Leicestershire, including Barwell, Burbage and Earl Shilton. Special events and people and places during the twentieth century are recalled, including memories of the bombing of Coventry during the Second World War, local entertainment, the growth of Hinckley, and work in the boot, shoe and hosiery industries.

The Leicester City Museums Collection gives an insight into the different jobs of museum workers in Leicester, the views of visitors to the museums, the people who have contributed to the collections, and memories

collected for the 150th Anniversary Celebrations of New Walk Museum.

Other recent additions to the Archive include some unpublished manuscripts by local historian Edna Smith. As well as recording her early life during the 1920's and 1930's, and her work as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (nursing service) during the Second World War, she has written a detailed account of the experiences of World War Two Italian and German Prisoners of War in the county.

More entries are being added to the catalogue all the time, covering a wide range of

topics. To view the catalogue, visit the EMOHA website on www.le.ac.uk/emoha/catalogue.html and search for the various collections we have in our archive. The EMOHA website also contains dedicated teachers' pages, online exhibitions, downloadable information sheets and bulletins. These resources can all be accessed from www.le.ac.uk/emoha/schools.html.

Adult Learners' Week – the annual celebration of adult learning

This year's Adult Learners' Week runs from Saturday 10th May to Friday 16th May, and is an excellent opportunity for adults to get involved in learning, and to find out what is the right kind of learning for them. This year's themes are Learning and Health; Financial Literacy, Culture, Leisure, Arts and Sport; and Breaking the Barriers (equal opportunities). For more information, contact **NIACE** at:

Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West, Leicester, LE1 6TP, tel (0116) 204 4200 or 204 4201, email enquiries@niace.org.uk, web <http://www.niace.org.uk/alw>.