

Title: Carless, Mervyn_Interview_Complete_2
Creators: Rick & Julia Goldsmith
Project: Herefordshire Life Through A Lens
Tagline: Films, stories and exhibitions inspired
by the photographic archive of the Derek
Evans Studio 1950s-80s
Subject: Autobiography, Hop Farming and Hop
Picking in Herefordshire, Heritage
Publisher: Catcher Media Social CIC
Tags: Hops, Derek Evans, oral history,
heritage, PV, participatory film-making,
community film, Herefordshire, Hop
picking, agriculture, craft brewing, hop
wire contractor, wire-work

Identifier: Carless, Mervyn_Interview_Complete_2
Interview Date: September_01__2017
Location: Brook House Farm, Avenbury,
Herefordshire, UK
Source: Catcher Media Social CIC
Interviewee: Mervyn Carless (speaker, male)
Interviewer: Julia Goldsmith (speaker, female)
Camera & Sound: Richard Goldsmith (male)
Producer: Julia Goldsmith
Language: English

Type: Video
Video Format: MPEG-4
Bit rate: 30.2 mbits/s
Frame rate: 25 FPS
Aspect ratio: 16:9
Width: 1920 pixels
Height: 1080 pixels
Scan type: Progressive
Audio Format: AAC
Audio Sampling rate: 48000 Hz
Audio Bit rate: 192 kb/s
Stereo/Mono: Mono
File Size: 3.52 GB
Duration: 16 min 42 seconds

Type: Audio
Audio Format: MP3 audio
Audio Sampling rate: 44.100 kHz
Audio Bit rate: 258 kb/s
Stereo/Mono: Stereo
File Size: 30.8 MB

Duration:

16 min 42 seconds

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Records Centre

Abstract:

[00.00.00] In recent years everything's gone down to dwarf hops - people in conventional hops are happy to expand now - because of craft brewing english hops are in vogue again [00.00.40] followed father into the business - been in wire work for 40 odd years - people capable of putting up wire-work have dwindled as hops have dwindled - don't have infrastructure er used to have - rely heavily on foreign labour - building the wire-work is a bit more technical - the only full time wire-work contractor left [00.02.00] ups and downs - always had 2 or 3 people working for him [00.02.20] started in the early 70s - son organises festivals - thoughts about training the next generation [00.03.30] retiring age this year - apprentices are expensive, compared to older employees who are already trained [00.04.35] more technical than most people realise [00.05.00] considerations when putting up wire-work - technical information - structure [00.08.10] stringing is done in the Spring - March/ April [00.09.00] mother and father heavily involved in hop picking - early memory of hanging off a bagger to press the hops at 4 or 5 years old [00.09.40] probably worked on 10 or 15 farms in the county hop picking and now go round and take samples to show to the buyers - done all of the jobs [00.10.50] favourite bit was hop drying 24 hours a day with lots of Brummies, Welsh people and Gypsies helping - Bishops Frome would grow to the size of Hereford during Hop picking - it was a lot of fun [00.11.35] there would be a lot of fighting - drink was involved - horse trading [00.12.00] hop picking machine meant fewer people were needed - then after the war the industry got smaller - using hops for Khaki dye during the war - it was a green crop then - nowadays most hops are pelleted - nowadays hops aren't wasted as long as they are refrigerated [00.13.45] More detailed explanation of the use of hops for dying army uniforms khaki during the war - between the wars hop industry trebled -links to mining in Wales and Steelworks in Birmingham [00.15.00] world shortages causing peaks and troughs - about every 7 or 8 years - [00.15.50] more alpha grown on less acreage [00.16.00] Fuggles and Goldings the two original hops in this county but now there are more varieties - bringing out new varieties all the time - craft brewers all looking for a different taste.