

Title: Smith, Chris\_ Interview\_ Complete  
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, Roma Gypsy Culture

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Identifier: Smith, Chris\_ Interview\_ Complete  
Interview Date: October\_27\_2017  
Location: Wye Valley Brewery, Stoke Lacy,  
Herefordshire, UK  
Source: Catcher Media Social CIC  
Interviewee: Chris Smith (speaker, male)  
Interviewer: Marsha O'Mahony (speaker, female)  
Camera & Sound: Richard Goldsmith (male)  
Producer: Julia Goldsmith  
Language: English

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Type: Video  
Video Format: MPEG-4  
Bit rate: 30.19 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: 5.61 GB  
Duration: 26 min 35 seconds

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Type: Audio  
Audio Format: MP3 audio  
Audio Sampling rate: 44.100 kHz  
Audio Bit rate: 256 kb/s  
Stereo/Mono: Mono  
File Size: 49.5 MB  
Duration: 26 min 35 seconds

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Records Centre

Interview description:

01.00.02

Chris Smith is a Romany gypsy, lives in Hereford. The broken language. His mother, Elizabeth Smith, travelling to Evesham for fruit picking, settled with hop picking, stringing, tying 60s/ 70s.

05.41

Gypsies were the work force and stay on. Romany Gypsies relied on farms. Good growing up. Chris's brother was a hop drier. Mechanisation in the 80s. hop picking, machines which was quicker. And cut human workers. Segregation in some pubs.

13.30

2014 Act brought in for travellers. Not recognition of Romany gypsies. 60 percent of RG live in houses. Prejudices for RG and Irish traveller is the same. Mid 1980s was great change because of mechanisation and cheap labour from abroad. Chris father cut the bines in front. Also, man in crow's nest to cut bines at the top. Laid in trailer. Behind picked up sprays, Chris mum, ??? through air and hit his mother o the head with handle.

20.36

Michael Aldridge Smith worked at Claston Farm. Peter Davies. 1940s/50s. Mr and Mrs Smith lived in a barrel top, changed to square top van. Some slept underneath. Mordiford woman. Pickers. A devil. Fire people sitting round the fire telling stories.

26.51

Legislation. Gone from being valued. 2014 you can only be a traveller if you travel. Travellers have an oral history a no written history. Chris' family photos on village green. The Waltons shot at Yarkhill. Chris and his mum in hop yard. Hop tying. Chris' mum and sister. Chris's uncle Gerald in crow's nest at Weston Beggard. Kettle and fire.

Watch the video interviews on the project website:  
[www.herefordshirelifethroughalens.org.uk](http://www.herefordshirelifethroughalens.org.uk)