

For Immediate Release 10 April 2024

## Brent Woods stepping down as Director of Yorkshire and North East Film Archives

Today, the Yorkshire and North East Film Archives announced the forthcoming departure of its Archive Director, Brent Woods, on 30 April.

Over the course of his leadership, Woods has overseen the Archive's re-emergence from the Covid period, with strengthened footage sales and the securing of a three-year funding programme from the British Film Institute's Screen Heritage Resilience Fund, as well as the delivery of a successful two year National Heritage Lottery Funded Project 'Nature Matters.'

During his tenure, the Archive won two prestigious FOCAL International Awards for Footage Company of the Year and the short film 'Cost of Living'.

Clare Morrow, Chair of the Archive said, "Brent has guided the Archive through the difficult post Covid period, helping to secure vital funding as well as modernising its ways of working. We are grateful for his commitment and hard work and wish him well on his next venture."

Reflecting on his time with the Archives, Woods commented, "Leading the Yorkshire and North East Film Archives has been both an honour and a privilege. The accomplishments achieved during my directorship were the result of a collaborative effort, and I am exceptionally proud of our collective achievements. From 'Nature Matters' to 'Cost of Living' and receiving recognition as the Footage Company of the Year, these milestones mirror the talent, dedication, and enthusiasm of our team. As I move on, I do so with confidence in the Archive's trajectory and its enduring role in safeguarding our shared heritage."

- End -



## Notes to editors

Image use: please credit Vox Multimedia when using attached still.

For more information, please contact Ruth Patman on 01904 876550 or via email <a href="mailto:r.patman@yorksj.ac.uk">r.patman@yorksj.ac.uk</a>.

## About the Yorkshire and North East Film Archives

The Yorkshire Film Archive was formed as a registered charity (and company limited by guarantee) in 1988, to preserve the rich film heritage of our region. In 2012, the YFA constitution was changed to incorporate responsibility for the North East Film Archive, extending the remit to 'find, preserve and provide public access

to moving images made in, or about Yorkshire and the North East of England'. Together the collections now total in excess of 70,000 items, covering an area stretching from South Yorkshire to Berwick-upon-Tweed.

The archives have grown from a small collection of films discovered through local community programmes to one of the UK's leading regional film archives, respected nationally and internationally for their commitment to finding, preserving and creating access to its collections for the widest range of audiences.

The collections largely comprise non-fiction material, on film and various videotape formats, though contemporary material is increasingly acquired on a range of digital formats. Collections range from regional television news and programmes, through to advertising collections, the output of local cine clubs, community and amateur filmmakers, and astonishing home movie collections revealing a rich social history of everyday life over each decade of the 20th century.

In June 2022, the Yorkshire and North East Film Archives were recognised for their work by FOCAL International, winning the 'Company of the Year' Award.