

PRESS RELEASE

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Date: 6th June 2007

CRAFTA WEBB COMMUNITY FILM STARTS SHOOTING!

After 12 months dedication and hard work the **Crafta Webb** community film will finally begin shooting on the **10th June for eight solid days!** Over 100 people aged 7 to 75 from **Bredwardine, Staunton** and **Letton** have taken part in the **Rural Media** project since it began last year and the film production will be one of the major highlights of the project.

The project has involved dozens of workshops, meetings and rehearsals, with residents taking part in everything from archaeology to digital filmmaking, which they are now putting to the test by also creating their own mini documentaries about the project. But the main focus of the project has been the development of the half hour screenplay with the help of writer Lou Osborn.

The definitive history of **Crafta Webb** still remains a mystery, although it now seems likely that there may have been a settlement dating back to Saxon times. What became apparent was this “lost settlement” and its inhabitants who migrated here, had a very interesting modern day parallel to life in Herefordshire in the 21st century! The screenplay went through nine drafts before the final version was produced and agreed, it tells the story of young Lithuanian girls arrival in a rural village, the friend she finds in an elderly lady and the discovery of **Crafta Webb** that gives her a sense of home in a new country.

The production will be entirely performed by local residents under the professional direction of Adrian Lambert from The Rural Media Company with a camera and sound crew shooting on the latest High Definition cameras. 11-year old Robyn Collins takes the part of Anna and the part of her mother Maja by Lithuanian resident Raimonda Cioga de alemieda.

The film shoots for 8 days in locations in and around Bredwardine, including the **Victorian picnic** on the **10th June at Brobury House** and in the **Crafta Webb field** itself on the **17th June**. The 17th June will also involve up to 70+ local extras, who will re-create a fleeting glimpse of **Crafta Webb’s** Victorian past and will involve a 30 foot “Jimmy Jib” crane to create the panoramic shots that are required for the movie.

The film will premiere in the Autumn.



This project was part-financed by the European Union (EAGGF) and DEFRA through the Herefordshire Rivers LEADER+ programme

Release ends

Note to Editors

- **Picture:** *Robyn Collins and Jean Dubberley get to grips with their scripts in Bredwardine Village Hall*
- Home to dozens of families **Crafta Webb** sprang up overnight, when, it is said, an erect chimney-stack with smoke meant you could claim land rights. The settlement had its own grocer, tailor and shoemaker and Kilvert reports visiting it in his diaries to hold cottage lectures. Nothing now remains on the hill and county records refer only to a "shrunk village" although the name **Crafta Webb** still appears on Ordnance Survey maps today! No one knows what happened to the people who once resided there, how they lived and what it was that eventually made them leave.
- Based in Herefordshire and established in 1992 **The Rural Media Company** uses media and communications - film, video, photography, journalism, graphic design and the Internet - to produce high-impact moving image and new media work. We are a key client of the regional screen agency Screen West Midlands and have won numerous awards nationally and internationally and are renowned for our expertise in this field of work.
- **The Rural Media Company** is a registered charity.