

Code: 04 as at 25/01/96

SHREWSBURY PIE FESTIVAL

4/1 EXT STREET DAY

SCENE - THE PIE MAN, A MAN IN TIGHTS WITH A LONG BEARD AND A BIG ANCIENT WOODEN BIN ON WHEELS, IS DANCING DOWN AN OLDE WORLDE CITY STREET IN HIS BUCKLED SHOES AND WHITE CLOTHES. HE IS A GAP TOOTHED MONKEY FACED RED NOSED FOOLE. THE PIE MAN STOPS AND RAPS SHARPLY ON A DOOR WITH HIS PIE STICK. HE HAS AN OLD TRADITIONAL HUNTING HORN WHICH HE BLOWS QUITE INEXPERTY AFTER EACH LINE OF HIS CHANT

THE PIE MAN:

(BELLOWING)

Bring out your pie! (HORN) REPEAT

THIS CONTINUES UNDER. SMALL CHILDREN LAUGHING AT HIM. PARENTS TELLING THEM OFF. OLD MEN DOFFING THEIR CAPS IN REVERENCE AND BOWING THEIR HEADS.

(i.e. Extra's in street react accordingly)

VOICE OVER

It is the second Wednesday in February and the traditional Shrewsbury Pie Pie Festival Week is underway. The ancient feastday has enlivened the

cobbled streets of the town since 1481. But this year's celebrations are under threat. For the moment though preparations are unaffected.

HE STOPS OUTSIDE HOUSE. TAKES PIE STICK

4/2 EXT HOUSE DAY

PIE MAN

(SHOUTING AGGRESSIVELY THROUGH DOOR) Bring out your pie!

HE RAPS THE DOOR THREE TIMES WITH HIS STICK. AN OLD WOMAN OPENS IT. BEHIND HER IS GLASSY EYED OLD MAN. THEY HAVE A BIN FULL OF OLD BITS OF PIE ETC. (WITH FLIES AROUND IT?) THE PIE MAN TAKES THE BIN, LIFTS IT AND POURS ITS CONTENTS INTO HIS CASKET WHICH ALREADY IS HALF-FILLED WITH ROTTEN PIE, CRUST, FRUIT, MEAT, TREACLE, ROTTEN FOOD OF ALL KINDS. WHILST THIS IS GOING ON WE HEAR THE OLD WOMAN IN V/O PERHAPS CUTTING BACK TO HER ACTUALLY SAYING IT TO CAMERA OCCASIONALLY.

OLD WOMAN V/O OR TO CAMERA

During the twelvemonth we all put any leftover bits of any pies that we didn't finish eating in special pie bins out back of our houses. And then at this time every year the pie man do come for to collect the pie and take it away for his purpose.

OLD SHOUTING MAN

All kinds of pie, mind! Meat! Fruit! vegetable! Treacle! He has no favourite pie over another!

OLD WOMAN

And no one will stop it! No-one! For so it has been in Shrewsbury these five hundred year and ever more shall be.

OLD SHOUTING MAN

Amen.

4/3 EXT STREET DAY

THE PIEMAN CONTINUES DOWN THE STREET. PEOPLE RUNNING UP THROWING BITS OF PIE IN. MOTHERS ENCOURAGING THEIR KIDS. STOPPING TO EMPTY MORE BINS. AS THIS IS GOING ON THE PIEMAN TALKS TO CAMERA

PIEMAN

I bin the pieman these laft fifteen yearf here, an my father waf a pieman before me, an hif father before him and fo on right back to 1481. It if my solemn duty to collect every laft bit of pie in Fhrewfbury and then take it with the majefty if defervef to the pie-mafter.

4/4 EXT STREET DAY

SCENE - CUT TO PIEMAN WHEELING BIN TOWARDS A CURLY HAired MAN IN SWIMMING TRUNKS AND A CEREMONIAL HAT AND GLASSES OUTSIDE BARN. HE IS CALLED ANDREW MACKAY. ANDREW MACKAY MIGHT BE A GOOD CHOICE OF ACTOR FOR THIS PART.

ANDREW (TO CAMERA)

I am Andrew Mackay. I have been voted pie-master this year. I love pie. And so does everyone in Shrewsbury. It will be terrible if the pie festival is forced to end by ignorant people who just do not understand the pleasure that pie brings.

PIEMAN ARRIVES WITH BIN WHICH IS TAKEN TOWARDS SOME PAINT COVERED STEPLADDERS LEANING UP AGAINST A LARGE PIE DISH IN CENTRE.

PIEMAN

We put all the collected leftover pie into thif giant pie fhell which if the biggeft pie that haf ever been made anywhere in the world,ever.

ANDREW MACKAY STARTS TO CLIMB, TALKING TO CAMERA. THERE IS A FOUL PIE MIXTURE INSIDE A HUGE PASTRY SURROUND IN THE TIN.

HE JUMPS INTO THE PIE AND STARTS WALLOWING AROUND IN IT USING ARMS AND LEGS TO STIR. HE GOES COMPLETELY UNDER. THE PIEMAN IS BLOWING HIS HORN AS THIS HAPPENS.

ANDREW

Then I, the pie master, whisk up the ingredients! And when the world famous Shrewsbury pie pie is cooked it shall be eaten by every man jack, woman and child in the town, on the feast day of St Ian, the patron Saint of pies. That is as long as the spoilsports in Brussels don't get their way.

PIEMAN

They mufn't!

4/5 EXT EURO OFFICE DAY

SCENE - KIND FACED EUROWOMAN IN OFFICE. CAPTION - SYLVIE UDERZO, EEC EURO-TRADITIONS OFFICER

SYLVIE UDERZO

(REASONABLE) Of course we enjoy the colourful customs of our member states, but the Shros-burry pie pie tradition is a cause of concern to us. Every year the whole of Shros-burry eats a pie made of decomposing rotten food, some of it has been in unrefrigerated storage for a year. Then, not surprisingly, the town is hit with a major food poisoning epidemic. Last year alone, six old people died after eating the pie pie and several thousand were seriously ill. Including tiny children and babies. The European Parliament simply can not allow such a dangerous practice to continue.

4/6 EXT STREET DAY

CUT BACK TO ANDY IN PIE DISH, WITH PIE ON HIS GLASSES.

ANDREW

We're not averse to change for health reasons, anyway. The old Pie Masters used to do this job completely naked and I agree that would be unsavoury so I wear these swimming trunks. The pie isn't dangerous. I'm swimming around it and I haven't felt that ill. I haven't been sick in here. No.

4/7 INT EURO OFFICE DAY

SYLVIE AT DESK WITH FACE MASK ON. SOME BLACK STUFF IN TEST TUBES WITH LABELS 'PORK PIE (6 MONTHS)', 'CHICKEN (REHEATED X 3)'.

SYLVIE

The Pie Pie is the tip of the iceberg. Another of the Shrewsbury traditions is that at the end of every decade they make a Pie Pie Pie, that is a pie made out of all the leftover pieces of the last 10 years' Pie Pies and the previous decades Pie Pie Pie as well - it's a terrifying thought but there may be food particles in the annual ten year Pie Pie Pie that are over 500 years old. This has to be stopped.

4/8 EXT STREET DAY

CUT TO PIE WITH UNCOOKED PASTRY CRUST ATOP IT. ANDREW WITH DRIED PIE ALL OVER HIM THEN TURNING ON TWO FAN HEATERS AND SHUTTING THE DOORS OF THE BARN. HE DESCRIBES WHAT HE'S DOING

ANDREW

I am all too well aware of the importance of making sure that the pie pie is cooked properly, so what I do is turn on two domestic electric heaters, right up to setting three, ...and then shut the doors of the barn very tightly. Now that pie is in there for two days.

Anyone who says that isn't cooked is an ass. A jackass.

PIEMAN

Banning Fhrewfbury pie pie is the kind of thing Nazi Germany wanted to achieve. Fylvie Uderzo if the new Hitler.

BACK TO SYLVIE

4/9 INT EURO OFFICE DAY

SYLVIE

Ha ha. No, I am not like Hitler. We do not want to stop individuals member states maintaining traditions. But we have to be responsible. All we require is for Shros-burry to either make the pie out of fresh ingredients, in hygenic conditions, OR they can make their pie as usual for display, but eat fresh pie they have made especially for the occasion

4/10 EXT STREET DAY

SCENE - THE MAIN STREET. LOADS OF PEOPLE. A MAN DRESSED AS A TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLE TRYING TO ENTERTAIN TWO SMALL CHILDREN WITH KUNG-FU KICKS. HE FAILS. A HUGE PIE IS BEING CARRIED BY PEOPLE COUGHING IN ANCIENT CLOTHES THROUGH THE STREETS. THE PIE MAN IS IN FRONT OF IT, DANCING ALONG. HE IS FOLLOWED BY A PROCESSION OF PEOPLE (SILVER BAND,

MORRIS DANCERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS ETC.) ANDREW MACKAY, WHO IS DRESSED IN MAYOR-LIKE CEREMONIAL CLOTHES AND HIS PIE HAT. THERE ARE STILL BITS OF PIE IN HIS HAIR.

V/O

And so Friday has ended, and pie day has begun.

PIEMAN TO CAMERA

(ORDINARY VOICE) I love being the pieman. During the rest of the year I'm the deputy manager of the Abbey National on the High Street. It's quite boring, I suppose, ha. So it's nice once a year to dress up, go a bit bonkers and behave in a thoroughly medieval fashion ... oh ... (STUPID VOICE) Let the feftivitief begin!

BOYS (singing)

Pie! Pie! The Shrewsbury Pie!
A Pie of wondrous shape and size.
“Waste ye not!” Saint Ian cries!
Eat it! Eat it! Eat the pie!

VOX POPS OF PEOPLE LINING THE STREETS

JOLLY FAT WOMAN

The Brussels Eurocrats are wrong again as usual. We've been eating Pie Pie in Shrewsbury for 500 years now and if we want to eat pastry coated rotten food that is our business and nothing to do with Mon-sure Dago. It's healthier than spaghetti!

VERY OLD MAN (RICH)

If old Manuel Frog thinks the pie is unhealthy now well, when I was a lad, what with the poor medical care and sanitation back then 3 in 5 people would be dead by end of month. We didn't care. It was exciting, like the National Lottery... except you had a chance of winning.

POSH FAMILY IN BARBOUR JACKETS

POSH MOTHER

It is a wonderful tradition, a throwback to more quaint and innocent times.

POSH FATHER

I wonder if the EEC will be banning German sausages which are doubtless full of all kinds of rubbish. No, I think not.

POSH MOTHER

We don't eat it ourselves of course.

POSH FATHER

God no.

HIPPY WOMAN

Let's just say we're ready for them...and if we want to eat a giant pie made of dangerous rotten food that may kill us, then we will, and no-one in Europe can do anything about it.

SYLVIE IS STANDING SOME WAY FROM THE CELEBRATIONS.

SYLVIE

I simply cannot allow this to go ahead. It shall be stopped. Whatever the Shros-bury people say. It shall be stopped.

THE PIE ARRIVES AT ITS PLACE IN THE STREET, BUNTING. A SMALL FETE AND IS PLACED IN PRIDE OF PLACE IN THE MIDDLE. THE PIEMAN BLOWS HIS HORN

PIEMAN

The Fhrefbury Pie Pie if in place where it belongf. Fo it hath been in Fhrefbury thefe pafit five hundred yearf and fo it muft be fhall. For alway.

APPLAUSE

PIEMAN (TO CAMERA)

To be honest, this whole Euro thing makes me hopping mad. There is nothing wrong with the pie pie at all. Look, this is my own son Samuel. I have prepared for him a special pie pie of his own, which he will now eat.

YOUNG CHILD. HE HAS "I LIKE PIE PIE" WRITTEN ON HIS FACE. AND "GET YOUR FRENCH FINGERS OUT OF OUR ENGLISH PIE" T-SHIRT. MACKAY HOLDS UP A PIECE OF RANCID PIE, FULL OF MAGGOTS AND STUFFS IT TOWARDS SAMUEL'S FACE. SAMUEL IS NOT HAPPY. PIEMAN INSISTS.

PIEMAN

Go on.

FINALLY THE PIE ENDS UP IN THE CHILD'S MOUTH.

CHILDREN

Pie man, cut your pie pie!

And come the hour your horn dost cry

We all shall eat St Ian's treat

Come fill our belly, aye

THE PIE MAN STARTS TO CUT THE LID OFF
THE PIE PIE WITH BIG ELECTRIC CHAIN
SAW.

BITS FROM INSIDE THE PIE ARE
DISTRIBUTED. EVERYONE HAS A PIECE.
THEY WAIT FOR THE PIEMAN'S HORN TO
SOUND. SUDDENLY, AT ONE END OF THE
STREET A EURO FORCE APPEARS. MEN IN
WHITE CHEMICAL WARFARE SUITS AND
GAS MASKS COVERING THEIR FACES AND
BLUE HELMETS. SYLVIE IS IN A TANK OR
VAN LIKE MRS THATCHER WITH
MEGAPHONE.

SYLVIE MEGAPHONE

Do not eat the pie! Surrender your traditional pie to
the EEC Food Standards Task Force and no-one
will be hurt. Walk towards us slowly and keep the
pie pie away from your faces. We will use force.

THE ENGLISH PEOPLE BLOW RASPERRIES
AND GIVE HAND SIGNS ETC

OLD MAN

We don't care! We will eat the pies. We will eat
them!

THE PIEMAN BLOWS HIS HORN. THE
ENGLISH ALL BITE THEIR PIES.

SYLVIE

You English swine! Attack.

THE TASK FORCE RUN IN WITH TEAR GAS
AND HUGE BATONS. THEY CHARGE THE
ENGLISH TO THE GROUND, STAMPING ON
THE PIE. PULLING PIE OUT OF THE MOUTHS
OF OLD MEN. HITTING OLD WOMEN WITH
BATONS, KNOCKING OVER THE TABLES
AND KICKING DOWN THE BUNTING,
SETTING FIRE TO THE PIE. THE ONLY
RETALIATION OF THE ENGLISH IS TO FLING
THEIR PIE. ONE OF THE STORMTROOPERS IS
HIT IN THE FACE AND FALLS STRUGGLING
TO GET IT OFF HIS MASK AS IF IT WAS THE
ALIEN. ALL THE TIME WE CUT BACK TO
SYVLIE IN THE TANK, LAUGHING, MAKING
NAZI-STYLE SALUTES AND ANTI-ENGLISH
STATEMENTS

SYLVIE

You stinking English with your pie and chips and
bowler hats! Now you see the might of Europe. Ha
ha ha ha ha aha!

PIEMAN

Ftop it! Ftop it you fafcists. The pie-festival is about fun, not fighting.

A STORMTROOPER KNOCKS HIS INSTRUMENTS OF OFFICE FROM HIS HANDS AND SMASHES THEM TO BITS. HE SEES RED, GRABS HIS CHAINSAW AND WE SEE HIM LUNGE INTO THE CROWD. PIE HITS THE CAMERA. FADE TO BLACK. THE SOUND FADES DOWN SO WE ONLY HEAR SYLVIE'S LAUGH.

4/11 INT HOSPITAL DAY

HOSPITAL. WOUNDED SHREWSBURY TOWN FOLK. IN BEDS. THE PIEMAN HAS HIS ARM IN A SLING. HIS PIE CLOTHES ARE RIPPED.

PIEMAN

The carnage was terrible. Two Shrewsbury residents received severe bruising of the limb or head. And that's on top of the six people who died from eating pie, as usual. And the four thousand or so cases of serious food poisoning.

PEOPLE IN BED BEING SICK

PIEMAN

My own son, Samuel was amongst the fatalities. He was the only one who got more than a mouthful of course. The pie was particularly festering this year I think. But I'm proud. He's a hero. His name will live on in Shrewsbury forever and next year's pie pie will be in the shape of his laughing face. Those Europeans will never defeat us. They could bomb Shrewsbury with a nuclear bomb but the ragbag of surviving atomic mutants would still be back the next year, our proud cheeks bulging defiantly with our pie. We will never surrender. (HE IS SICK ON THE FLOOR) Excuse me