

MADE IN SHEFFIELD

Film ID: 1990 **Year:** 1954

This is a film made by Mr Ibberson when he was Master Cutler at Sheffield. It shows aspects of the Master Cutler's Hall and the process of making hand-made cutlery in a small factory.

Title - Made in Sheffield

The film opens with a view over Sheffield Town Hall and the city centre, showing trams and City Hall. In the industrial are of Sheffield, the smoking chimneys of the factories can be seen along the skyline. There is a close-up of an emblem with a figure of an elephants head. Inside the Cutler's Hall, a young woman descends the staircase, knocks on the door of the Master Cutler, and enters. The Master Cutler shows her a book of old records and then a plaque on the wall of previous occupants of the post, going back to 1624 with Robert Sorsby. They look through another old book with records belonging to the previous Master Cutler, showing the 315th Cutler's Feast of 17th April, 1951. There is a signature of 'Elizabeth R' and 'Philip'. They then look at a collection of coins mounted on a wall and a letter of thanks to M Hunter, Master Cutler, signed by 'Palmerston'. The two of them go to the main meeting room.

In the next scene, an elderly man works an old forge. Here he bangs a red hot piece of metal into shape on an anvil. He stokes his furnace and works a bellow. There is a close-up of a pen knife blade. The woman is then shown around by another man, stopping to watch a workman sharpening a blade on a grindstone. They walk through the factory and watch another workman using an implement with a bow and string. He holds this against his chest and, using a parser he makes a slot in a piece of mother and pearl.

The woman then views a selection of finished pen knives. A workman fashions a blade from red hot steel using a mechanical hammer, and another uses a grinder. Then a woman polishes blades in one machine, and another uses a machine which holds many blades at once. In another room, a workman attaches handles to the knives, one at a time. These he then checks to make sure that they are straight. An engraver uses a machine for engraving the maker's name, and 'Made in Sheffield.' This machine engraves several knives simultaneously. Mr Ibberson and the young woman move into a dining room where they are shown different types of cutlery, from the very small to the very large, possibly by Mrs Ibberson. The film closes with a shot of the table laid out with cutlery.

Title - The End

Written and Produced by Arthur Swinson