DECEMBER 2024

SHINFIELD STUDIOS

Newsletter from Shinfield Studios to local residents.



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Dear Neighbours,

As our first year draws to a close, we wanted to update you on all the recent news from Shinfield Studios since the Spring.

SHINFIELD CINEMA OPENING EVENT

Shinfield Cinema is open! This new, 80-seat cinema in the School Green Centre, was funded by us for the benefit of our local community.

It was a fantastic official opening on Friday 4th October 2024. The Shinfield Cinema Committee organised the event with a flavour of Hollywood. An Echto-1 (Ghostbusters car) arrived on the red carpet in front of a 25ft Marshmallow Man to mark the first movie to be shown in the new theatre. Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire, which was partly shot at Shinfield Studios.

Andrew Grimes, Shinfield Parish Facilities Chair, and Nick Smith, Joint Managing Director, Shinfield Studios, cut the ribbon to mark the opening in front of guests from the community.

The new Shinfield Cinema has tiered seating, state of the art sound and projection equipment and a screen. The Shinfield Cinema Committee members have put together a programme of films which is now open to the public.

More information and more photos can be found on the website www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/shinfield-cinema

Thank you to - Carl Hopcroft @Ghostbusterscar (Tiktok & Instagram), The Southend-on-Sea Ghostbusters (insta: - s.o.s Ghostbusters / FB southend-on-sea ghostbusters

Darren McQuade – Ghostbuster / Actor: - darrenmcquademagic.com






The Shinfield Cinema Committee

Plus, the University of Reading's Department of Film, Theatre & Television is collaborating with Shinfield Parish Council on a community film programming project starting this year and continuing into next. Students and staff at the department will come together with the local community to undertake research, consultation, and feedback to develop a film programme for the Shinfield Cinema that is informed by the community's interests, concerns, and priorities.

WHAT HAS BEEN FILMED AT SHINFIELD STUDIOS?



The Magic Faraway Tree



You Bet

Over the summer Shinfield Studios was home to **The Magic Faraway Tree** production. Simon Farnaby (Paddington 2 & Wonka) has adapted the script from the Enid Blyton book with Andrew Garfield, Claire Foy starring among many other famous faces. Also **Greenland: Migration**, starring Gerard Butler and **Think of England** starring *Call the Midwife* star Natalie Quarry.
We are all eagerly anticipating the release of these later next year.
Shinfield Studios has also welcomed a couple of TV game show productions including '**You Bet**' and '**Last One Laughing**'.
We have several exciting productions already booked in for 2025 and we look forward to sharing more information on these in due course.

EDUCATIONAL EVENT HELD AT SHINFIELD STUDIOS

We have recently hosted two educational talks with our partners in Screen Berkshire - Resource Productions, inviting one teacher or representative from local schools to Shinfield Studios to learn a bit more about a working film and television studio.

This was designed to give attendees information to share with their students and inspire them when talking about future careers. We also welcomed some representatives from a handful of local clubs, charities and societies. So far more than 60 organisations have attended one of these events.

Shinfield Studios is passionate about sharing knowledge and information about how a working studio operates as well as supporting and encouraging training and career pathways into the creative industry. We receive many requests for group tours but unfortunately, as we are a working studio, we must respect the privacy of our on-site productions.

More info to support education can be found at :
Into Film https://www.intofilm.org
Screen Skills https://www.screenskills.com
Resource Productions https://www.resource-productions.co.uk
Discover Creative Careers https://discovercreative.careers/
Get Into Film https://linktr.ee/get.into.film



CAMERA, LIGHTING AND GRIP BOOTCAMP





In our endeavour to assist in ongoing training, work experience and apprenticeships our partners at Resource Productions who head up all training for **Screen Berkshire**, placed several candidates on a production at Shinfield Studios – these included costume, production and grip trainees and a one-day placement in the Art Department.

Shinfield Studios also hosted Resource Productions' ***Camera, Lighting and Grip Bootcamp*** back in September with MBS Lighting, where students learnt about lighting and grip on set plus, health and safety. If you are based in Berkshire and would like to learn more about upskilling, training, networking, work experience and workshops please register at www.resource-productions.co.uk or visit Screen Skills www.screenskills.com to learn more about jobs, skills and training.

SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT WITH ONSITE PRODUCTIONS DONATING ITEMS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Shinfield Studios is partnering with some of the on-site productions to upcycle and repurpose set items no longer needed after a shoot (anything from excess wood, plants, paint – no props or costumes). We will be sharing more details about this initiative, including how to get involved, on our social media channels in the coming months. Stay tuned!

CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

We're proud to be a part of this community and have been very pleased to employ some local residents to our own team. We also are committed to working with as many local support companies as possible.

Our Community Engagement Administrator, Nikki Sheffield, is the main point of contact for local schools, community groups and other organisations and can be reached via: info@shinfieldstudios.com

SHINFIELD STUDIOS SUPPORTS PERTH TO SYDNEY CHALLENGE, RAISING MONEY FOR LOCAL WOKINGHAM CHARITY









Shinfield Studios are proud sponsors of the **Perth to Sydney** challenge which has been taken on by two local lads, Joshua Smith and Jack Pitcher, who are attempting to break the British record for running across Australia.

They are running to raise as much money as possible for two charities that are close to their hearts. These are: **ARC Counselling**, a Wokingham based charity supporting the local community with free counselling sessions for young people and subsidised counselling for adults and the **SSAFA Armed Forces charity** giving support to serving personnel, veterans, and their families in their time of need.

Follow their journey
www.instagram.com/perthtosydney

If you wish to donate, please follow the link
www.Givestar.io/gs/project-perimeter

Nikki Sheffield our Community Engagement Administrator recently met with Paul Cassidy, Head of Services at ARC's office in Wokingham to learn more about the team and the charity and all the excellent work they are providing for those struggling. The team really do provide a vital role within the community supporting the mental wellbeing of youngsters and adults alike who are going through a challenging time in their lives. In addition to the free counselling services, they offer support for 16 – 25-year-olds through their Youth Access programme which provides information to young people on where and how to access support, from housing, to work and mental health issues.
https://arcweb.org.uk

SHINFIELD STUDIOS SUPPORTS LOCAL 'SHARE SHINFIELD' CHARITY

Shinfield Studios along with our onsite caters, Baxter Story is proud to assist with eliminating food waste and sharing surplus with **Share Shinfield** part of Share Wokingham charity. This local charity is based at the Shinfied Community Church, run by a wonderful group of volunteers, they source and collect surplus food locally. Since 2020 they have saved over 1000 tonnes of food waste from going into landfill.

(Open every Monday from 12.30pm - 1.30pm, they provide fruit, vegetables, bread, bakery, fridge and freezer items for a £1 donation. It is also a lovely social hub.)

Nikki Sheffield our Community Engagement Administrator recently popped along to meet the team and see firsthand all the good work they do. They also run a cafe and offer friendship as well as support and advice. To discover more visit www.sharewokingham.co.uk





We were delighted to be asked to present at Reading's Economy Destination Agency (REDA) networking event this month for the screen sector along with our partners at Resource Productions. It was a chance for those already working in the creative industry and those wanting to learn more about this exciting sector to discover more about the amazing, state of the art facilities at Shinfield Studios, how a working studio operates plus, learn more about training, bootcamps and pathways into the creative industry and the film supply chain. It was also a wonderful opportunity to meet local professionals and connect with business.

Any local filmmakers, crew members, tradespeople, or service providers based within an 8-mile radius of the Greater Reading area who would like to be included in the free Reading Film Services Directory can contact the Events & Partnership Executive at REDA, Yulia Syrovoiskaia, at reda@yuliasky.com.
Although the directory is still under development and will officially launch in 2025, REDA is already accepting expressions of interest.
We promote all these types of events on social media, so please follow us to keep up to date.

Shinfield Studios is delighted to have sponsored several local events and charities recently.

Maybank Shinfield Meadows annual Christmas Lights switch-on. An incredible local community event in aid of two wonderful charities – **The Cowshed** (Showing love and support to those experiencing hardship in Berkshire)based in Wokingham, **(https://www.thecowshed.org)** and **ManUp** (Men's Mental Health charity). (**https://www.manup.how**) This year **Avocado Estate Agents**, are generously offering a chance to win a 2 night trip to Europe with every £10 donated using the QR code adding Dan & Neil in the comments. More information can be found on the **Maybank Shinfield Meadows Facebook page**. In the last six years this fabulous local event has raised £10,000 for local charities.

Spencers Wood, Three Mile Cross & Shinfield charity Christmas Lights Trail in aid of **Sebastian's Action Trust** a charity supporting families with seriously ill children organised by **EK Events UK.** The Trail runs from the **13th – 30 December and covers 27 local house**s - this is a fabulous annual community event with some fantastic raffle prizes donated by all the sponsors to win too.

The Hang Out, Shinfield Parish Council Youth Club are putting up their first Christmas tree at School Green Centre and Shinfield Studios are delighted to sponsor this event. The local children will be making all the decorations, and we can't wait to see the results. **The Hangout**

Rabble Theatre in Reading offers some fantastic community courses for the creative industry and Shinfield Studios are pleased to be able to sponsor some of their sound equipment- much needed to run their courses next year. Learn more and sign up to their events here – **RABBLE Theatre**

Shinfield Community Church this year have organised a Christmas movie night at Alder Grove school to raise money for the building fund so they can continue to carry out all the incredible community events going forward including Share Shinfield and Helping Hands which Shinfield Studios are happy to sponsor. **Discover more Shinfield Community Church**

Link Charity support, Shinfield Studios are also proud to sponsor Link charity to bring some festive cheer to some of our wonderful elderly community who would otherwise be alone this Christmas. Please see all the good work they do here **The Link Visiting Scheme**

Arts4Wokingham Gala Screening Shinfield Studios were delighted to sponsor the Arts4Wokingham recent Gala screening of "See no Evil" which was originally shot entirely in and around Wokingham. The event started with a short analysis of the film by Reading University's Professor, John Gibbs and a surprise video from Paul Nicholas who starred in the film. The screening was attended by around 100 members of the local community with the event raising money to support this wonderful charity which promotes Arts and Culture awareness for public benefit across Wokingham with a focus on enhancing the local community. Proceeds from the event will also contribute to the ARC installation project in Wokingham (THE ARC – Arts4Wokingham) a community-based arts collaboration.



WORKING IN FILM AND TV PRODUCTION





Recruitment

Keep an eye on the Shinfield Studios website or via our social media channels for the latest job vacancies.
We also share studio vacancies with Wokingham Borough Council.
Please follow us on our social media platforms to hear about these opportunities first.
https://linktr.ee/shinfieldstudios

For experienced production crew, Shinfield Studios manages a crew database we pass on to all onsite productions. If you have at least one IMdB credit you can sign up via our website **www.shinfieldstudios.com**.

We have been working on ways to assist local residents and businesses in engaging with the studios and the wider creative industries and exploring how best to promote any opportunities.
Bearing in mind that we don't produce any of the projects that are made here ourselves, but we do encourage all clients using our facilities to tap into the wealth of local talent.

BERKSHIRE FILM OFFICE (BFO)

We work very closely with the BFO. The BFO works with the six councils of Berkshire to facilitate filming and they help productions to hire local crew, find local locations and services. We encourage anyone who contacts the studios to contact the Berkshire Film Office too. Local crew, locations and companies can sign up to be added to their database. https://berkshirefilmoffice.co.uk

KEEP UP WITH OUR NEWS

SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS

If you're interested in staying up-to-date more regularly with our news, do follow us on social media: Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram.

Please follow this link https://linktr.ee/shinfieldstudios

Best Wishes

The Shinfield Studios Team