

Big Up Films

ANNUAL REPORT

1 October 2008 - 30 September 2009



Contents	page
Chairperson's statement	3
Big Up Projects Update	4
Future Projects	8
Annual Accounts	9
Committee and staff	10
Acknowledgements	10

Chairpersons Statement

Big Up Films is a community run video workshop group and was started by Sheena Callender and Peggy Shimmin in September 2005. Big Up Films works with excluded and marginalised groups in the community and participants are actively involved in the filmmaking process

Big Up workshops give participants an opportunity to have their voice heard over issues that affect them as well as enjoying the experience of making films. The participants are involved in the whole filmmaking process from script to screen. They develop ideas, write scripts, film and record the videos, perform in them and are involved in the editing. We also have a screening at the end of each production when family and friends are invited to see the films on the big screen.

Big Up Films workshops are free and are funded by grants from charities, trusts and foundations. Big Up also actively seeks funding through fundraising events. This year two fundraising events were held at the Arch bar in Clapham where singers and rappers performed for free. The second fundraiser was hosted by the well known DJ Ace from BBC's 1Extra.

Since its inception in 2005, Big Up Films as a community organisation has gone from strength to strength. This year Big Up Films took on bigger projects with bigger budgets expanding their work to North London. The recession has also effected Big Up Films and it has been difficult to raise the funds to run the workshops and to keep Big Up as a sustainable company. Nevertheless, Big Up Films will continue to apply for funding as well as looking at other areas of income such as sponsorship, Big Up also wants to develop the commissioning side of the organisation where the services are for hire.

This year Big Up has worked with a diverse mix of people including working with senior Citizens in North London, an intergenerational project in Clapham and with young people in Catford and Kennington..

Amanda Symonds
Chairperson

Project Updates

'We are the Lambeth Kids' at O.L.I.V.E school

Inspired by the black and white 1950's documentary film 'We are the Lambeth Boys' which was shot in the same area as O.L.I.V.E school in Kennington, Year 11 made their own version of teenage life today. The project was funded by Jack Petchey Foundation and the O.L.I.V.E school. The school provides education for young people who are outside the education system; young people who are school phobic, excluded or have arrived in the capital as refugees.

The young people learned about documentary filmmaking, interview techniques, camera and sound and they edited the film. Screening was held at the school when families, friends and local people from the community were invited.

"it was good to see the kids taking part in such positive activities. They have a lot of talent and creativity" local resident

"I enjoyed doing the workshop and learning about filmmaking. I particularly like doing the editing because you could put it in your own style" student



Receiving the cheque from Jack Petchey Foundation



Filming an Advert



Editing 'We Are the Lambeth Kids'



The team

'Emily's Wish'

Big Up Films was commissioned by St Laurence Youth Project in Catford to run a filmmaking workshop with local teenagers. The result was poignant film 'Emily's Wish' written, performed by, filmed and edited by the young people. 'Emily's Wish' is the story of a boy who strikes up an unusual friendship with a girl from the past. There was a packed screening at St Laurence's church to view the film.



Emily's Wish
The Tale Of How A Loving Heart Was Restored

When Charlie's parents split up he has to move house leaving his friends and old life behind. Then he meets Emily and she has an unusual request for him. This is the story of how two friends help each other to say goodbye to the past and to find peace in the future.

Emily's Wish was produced by the young people of St Laurence's Youth Centre in a 8 day film workshop

Emily's Wish (c)
LOTTERY FUNDED

You can contact Big Up Films at
www.bigupfilms.co.uk

Big Up Films Present

Emily's Wish
The tale of how a loving heart was restored

Emily's Wish



Portraits

Big Up Films ran a 6 month project at Aisen Day Centre in Islington. The senior citizens who use the day centre learnt filmmaking skills and made a film about their lives past and present. Participants came from the four corners of the globe so there were stories about life in Cyprus, Jamaica and Ireland. Archive footage was used to illustrate tales from the past. The project was funded by the City Bridge Trust and Age Concern. A screening was held at Islington Town Hall for family and friends of the participants and was also attended by the staff from Aisen, the deputy Lord Mayor, the leader of the council and council staff. The workshop was featured in the local newspaper Islington tribune.



Participants from Aisen crewing up for the interviews

Living history: Four feel right at home

AS AND A2 EXAM RESULTS WITH GCSE
EXAM RESULTS WITH GCSE
 science, Maths and English
 r subjects covering most
 knowledge examination
 and study skills
 s run over one, two or
 12
 0315 604 2555

AS AND A2 EXAM RESULTS WITH GCSE
 science, Maths and English
 r subjects covering most
 knowledge examination
 and study skills
 s run over one, two or
 12
 0315 604 2555



Islington tribune reports on the workshop

Screening at Islington Town Hall

Common Voices - Past and Present

Our biggest project to date, Big Up ran an intergenerational project working with children from Bonneville School in Clapham. The children learnt interview techniques and interviewed older people who had lived around Clapham after the second world war. The interviewees brought in items such as photos, toys and ration books to share with the children and told their stories from the past. The project also involved art and crafts and the children made illustrations of the interviewees lives as well as participating in the making of a map of Clapham Common. The map and illustrations were featured in exhibitions and the film had a grand premiere at Clapham Picture House which was attended by the Lord Mayor. The DVD and accompanying map has been reproduced and distributed to libraries and primary schools in Clapham as a learning resource for future generations.

Explore
Clapham's Post-War History
at the Project Launch of:

Common Voices
Past and Present

Thursday 21st May 4-5 pm
at Bonneville Primary School,
Bonneville Gardens, SW9 9LN

Come and find ways you can
get involved in the project:

- Share your memories and bring along old photos and mementoes of growing up in Clapham 1948-1960.
- Volunteers needed to assist with heritage activities and interviews.

Free oral history training and research skills provided

For more information, please contact:
Tricia Holland
Tel: 020 7720 0695
E: tricholland@talktalk.net



Big-Up Films presents:

Common Voices-
Past and Present

A FREE film and
exhibition on growing up
around Clapham Common
from 1948 and in 2009.



Clapham Picture House, Venn Street, SW4 0AT.
Thursday 16th July '09. 11.30 am.

(Please call in advance to book: 0871 704 2055- places limited).

A production created with Bonneville School Year 6 children
and local interviewees.
Supported by the Clapham Society and Lambeth Archives.



The most successful part of the project was the warmth of the interaction between children and elders. Even the most challenging children were enthusiastic, unfailingly polite and respectful during and after interviews and genuinely interested in the living history they were learning'

At the Clapham Picture House screening each group of interviewers crowded around their interviewee. [One of the interviewees] commented, "It felt as though they were my friends"

Big Up Films Future Projects

In February 2010 Big Up will be running at workshop at Charlie Chaplin Adventure Playground in Kennington, working with disabled kids. The funding was secured from Help A London Child. We have also put in an application for another Heritage project based on memories of the Second World War ‘Young Voices’. This project will include interviews, reconstructions, songs, illustrations and an installation of an air raid shelter. We are also hoping to run another project at Alsen as users want to make a drama and they are already working on the script. We are also seeking funding to work with senior citizens at St John Church in Clapham on a reminiscence project titled The History of Our Lives in 10 Objects (inspired by the BBC’s History of the world in 100 objects). More projects include working with year 7 at Broadwater school in Tooting on moving on to Secondary school, working with a homeless unit of alcohol dependant adults and working with Slough council on a youth project about responsible dog ownership.

Check out our website www.bigupfilms.co.uk. We have a blog so your comments can be added.



‘Common Voices’ workshop and screening



‘Portraits’ screening



Fundraiser event with Ace and producer Janine from BBC 1Extra

Big Up Films Income and Expenditure for Year Ending 30 September 2009							
Income							
St Laurences YP (Awards for All)			8,300				
Jack Petchy			3,500				
OLIVE SCHOOL			2,850				
Bridge Trust			10,000				
Age Concern			500				
Heritage			34,200				
Fundraising			682				
Total Income			60,032				
Less Expenditure							
Film Tutors			25,700				
Film Editing			2,750				
Other Project Expenditure			7,482				
Project Workers			9,488				
Website Development			294				
Insurance			702				
Screening & distribution			112				
Training			1,993				
Printing, Postage, Stationery			1,645				
Office Equipment			201				
Telecommunications			195				
Camera			3,927				
Computer & Software Expenses			200				
Travel Expenses			571				
Total Expenditure			55,260				
Surplus			4,772				
Surplus 30/09/09			4,772				
Balance B/F 1/10/08			5,004				
Balance C/F 30/09/09			9,776				

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Amanda Symonds
Secretary	Clare Cohen
Treasurer	Srdjan Djordjevic

COMMITTEE

Peter Searles	Pat Ellerby
Donna Travis	Sara Stockbridge
Jenny Bolt	Victoria White
Sandra Buchanan	Sadie Shimmin
Dewey Bruce Konuah	

STAFF (Sessional workers)

Sheena Callender	Workshop Producer
Peggy Shimmin	Workshop Producer
Tricia Holland	Project co-ordinator (Heritage)
Suzanne Woods	Artist
Judith Lawton	Artist
Janet Rich	Artist
Rib Davies	Oral History

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Committee members, volunteers, friends and funders:

Jack Petchey Foundation
City Bridge Trust
Age Concern
Heritage Lottery

Memberships

Arts & Business
MITA (Moving Image Training Alliance)
Lonsas (London Schools Art Service)
LVAC Lambeth Voluntary Action Council
The Clapham Society

Big Up Films
43 Atherfold Road
London SW9 9LN
020 7733 8402
sheena@bigupfilms.co.uk



bigupfilms.co.uk