

Kent-East Girl Guiding Centenary Service Canterbury Cathedral

In May 2010 we received a request from the Girl Guides asking us if we were interested in videoing their Centenary Service. Our first reactions were, copyright issues, filming of children and the approval of the cathedral. Our thoughts were sent to the guides. Back came the reply that our concerns had already been addressed.

To film in such a large place a team was needed. This was not going to be a one man and camera job! In the end we had a team of 8 – cameras, sound engineer and editing.

We made several visits to the cathedral to work out camera locations and rehearsals with the Guides. We were also lucky to find that the cathedral has an audio system which is to broadcast standards, so were able to link in a recorder and not use camera sound in the final video.

The Guides gave us a 10 page script of the service. This enabled us to produce a shooting script with timings for the camera people and a guide during editing. The Guides highlighted that the 300 flags / standards are an important part of the service, plus the lighting of 1000 candles.

September 18th was filming day and went well. The cathedral was full and the weather was dry and bright. We had about 20 hours of video to edit down to about 90 minutes. Majority of the film was edited using multi-cam. Once finished, the audio was then added and synchronised. Graphics were produced with the help of the Guides, complete with an insert booklet. The whole package was approved by the Guides before we sent the master away for 1000 copies to be pressed – not burnt!

The final copies were delivered to the Guides at the beginning of December, who then sent them out to Guiders in time for Christmas. Many favourable comments about the video have been received.

This project has been a wonderful opportunity for Medway Film Makers and provided an excellent memento to the Kent-East Girl Guiding.

Peter Hughes
Film Director
December 2010.