

Introduction to Wildlife Film-making

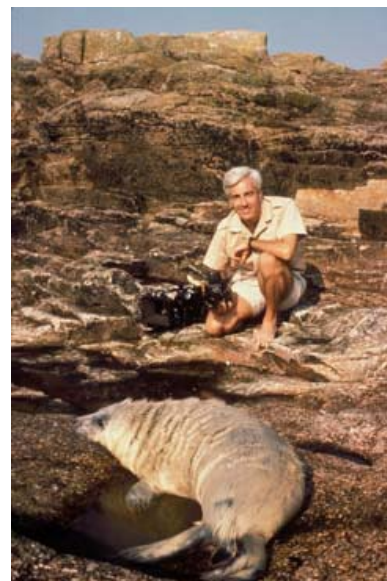
This course provides a unique introduction to working in the wildlife television industry with a leading BBC wildlife film-maker. The sessions cover all aspects of wildlife film-making with opportunities for filming real wildlife and learning first hand about the business. The course is situated in the heart of the Devon countryside, yet within easy reach by car, train or bus.



Andrew Cooper is one of the country's top BBC wildlife television producers with over 40 major productions and over 100 other programmes to his name. A biologist and anthropologist by training, his award winning television career spans over 25 years as a presenter, producer, director, script writer, cameraman and sound recordist. Many of his films rank among the highest rating BBC Natural History Unit programmes. He is the author of several best selling BBC books, a trustee of some

of the regions leading educational wildlife charities and actively involved in wildlife conservation and education. He is also a popular and sought after speaker with a wide range of experiences filming all over the world, employing some of the top names in the business.

This introductory course is run on Andrew Cooper's own farm and 40 acre private nature reserve. It is situated in the picturesque and historic valley of Haccombe, near Newton Abbot in South Devon. The course is designed to be a fun, informative and valuable experience, mixing with other people excited and enthused by wildlife films and the subjects that feature in them.



Teas, coffees and snack lunches will be provided each day. Accommodation can be found nearby in bed and breakfasts if necessary. No experience or equipment is

required, but most people bring their own camcorders and tripods. Standard BBC NHU camera equipment and some of the latest time lapse, miniature cameras and recorders will also be available.

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Saturday

9am Pre-production

Introductions and format for the day. How the wildlife film industry works, who does what, the role of the producer and other members of the team, purpose of the film, know your audience, media selection, subject selection, research, scientific advisors, style and end format selection, location reconnaissance and schedule planning.

10am Story and sequence - the recipes for success

Devising a story line, structure, writing a proposal, budgeting, creating a shooting script, story boarding.

11am Coffee break and chance to ask more questions

11-30am Production

Introduction to imaging, choice of cameras (both Super 16mm film and Digital Video, also the new miniature camera technology), television formats, choice of lenses, lens shading, camera support, camera skills and field craft.

1pm – lunch.

2pm Filming techniques

How to become an award winning film maker, essential elements to making a broadcast quality film, direction, continuity, lighting, composition and pace. The use of time lapse and high speed filming.

3pm Opportunity to put some techniques into practise

Camera skills – making your production look like a million pound movie.

4pm - tea-break and chance to ask more questions.

4-30pm Sound – the unseen element, another dimension

Choice of sound recorder, recording techniques, care and insurance of cameras and recording equipment.

5.30pm - First day session ends.

Sunday

9am Post-production – science and art

Technical facility choice, logging footage, picture editing, music and effects.

10am Putting techniques into practice

Cameras, sound and field craft.

11am – Coffee and more opportunities to ask questions

11.30am Putting techniques into practise

Cameras, sound and field craft.

1pm - lunch

2pm Script writing – the art of story

Writing for narration, cutting script, recording narration, laying sound tracks, final dubbing, titles and credits.

3pm

How to get started in the business, careers advice, conservation, introduction to ethics in wildlife film-making, the future of the industry, festivals, final questions and answers.

4pm - course ends

Booking Information

Cost: £185 per person inclusive of VAT

This includes teas, coffees and snack lunches

Dates

Please check our website www.wildlink.org for current dates

Booking: Initial contact please email info@wildlink.org to check if any places are available on the date of your choice.

You will be required to pay a deposit of £50 to confirm your booking. Places are limited to 10 people and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis - so you are advised to book early. Balance of fees must be paid at least two week before the start of the course.