

Ben Harris

Documentary Camera Operator

☎ +44 7974 603 568

@ benjaminharris612@outlook.com

🌐 www.thatbharris.com

📍 Bristol, U.K.

Production Experience

2024

Drone Op - Oceans Ep, Asia | BBC

Director: Stefan Hunt | Camera: James Lounden/Steven McGee-Callander | Location: Palau

- Drone op. Landing and taking off from a boat in the open ocean.
- Assisting James Lounden in rigging a bespoke pole cam and lighting rig to a boat.

2023

Camera Op - Humans Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Emma Hatherly | Camera: Ollie Richards | Location: Indonesia

- Primary long lens op.
- Assisting Ollie Richards in rigging the GSS 516 and crane to a boat.
- Back-up GSS op. 10-15 hours operating time across GVs and Nat Hist.
- Troubleshooting several technical issues with the cable dolly.

Camera Op - Jungles Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Patrick Evans | Location: Iraq

- 4x shoots across two years to rig camera traps and film actuality Making Of.
- Primary sync camera and drone op.
- Rigging and troubleshooting cognisys camera traps.

Camera Op - Mountains Ep, Asia | BBC

Director: Joe Russell | Camera: Alex Vail | Location: Thailand

- Long lens Phantom filming of birds in flight.
- Low light long lens and slider work.
- Drone op.

Drone Op - Deserts Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Nick Green | Camera: Howard Bourne | Location: Mongolia

- Winter shoot, filming Nat Hist and high speed GVs on Inspire and Mavic 3 in temps of down to -40 Celcius.
- Black arm car rigging and troubleshooting GSS 512.

Camera Assistant - Oceans Ep, Asia | BBC

Director: Stefan Hunt | Camera: Graham McFarlane | Location: Japan

- Tank shoot for a night sequence. Involved lighting the subject in a natural way.

Drone Op - Humas Ep, Planet Earth III | BBC

Producer: Fredi Devas | Camera: Tim Shepherd | Location: U.K. | ONE DAY SHOOT

Second Camera - Attenborough and the Sea Dragon | BBC

Director: Stefan Hunt | Camera: Graham McFarlane | Location: Japan

Long Lens/Drone - Springwatch VT | BBC

Director: Rebecca Skidmore | Camera: Stefan Otto | Location: U.K.

2022

Principal Camera Op - Mountains Ep, Asia | BBC

Director: Stefan Hunt | Location: Nepal

- Long lens and drone. Extensive chats about the bringing a stylised look to the sequence through both camera work and kit selection.
- Physical shoot involving hiking up to two hours of steep terrain with long lens rig at 4,000m



Bio

I spent my time in 2022 and 2023 working on BBC Asia as their Junior Camera Operator (JCO). The shoot experience between these years reflects my work on the series.

Award winning filmmaker, photographer and drone pilot with a zoology background and experience working both solo and in crews in some of the worlds most hostile and remote environments.

Comfortable using a range of kit including Sony, RED, MoVi/Ronin gimbles, GSS, DJI drones, camera traps and DSLRs for timelapse.

Skills

Cameras and tech

Sony FS7	DJI Drones	Jib Swinging
MoVi Pro	Timelapse	Mo-Co Sliders
Handheld Gimbal	GSS 512/516	
DSLR Stills & Video	Camera Traps	
Canon CN20	RED DSMC2 8k	
Defy Cadance Dolly		

Qualifications

UK PFCO	Full UK Driving License
HEFAT	PADI Open Water
First Aid In Remote Locations	
GSS Assembly/Operation - Films@59	

Education

📅 Sep 17 - Sep 18

University of Manchester

MSc Science Communication | Distinction

📅 Sep 11 - June 14

University of Exeter

BSc Zoology | 2:1

Production Experience

2022

Drone Op - Deserts Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Nick Green | Camera: John Aitchinson & Luke Barnett | Location: Mongolia

- Nat Hist behavioural drone.
- Assisting John Aitchinson and covering long lens when John was not available.

Second Camera/Drone - Jungles Ep, Asia | BBC

Director: Ed Anderson | Camera: Will Foster-Grundy | Location: Malaysian Borneo

- Nat Hist behavioural drone and long lens.
- On foot and up close with giant megafauna.

Sync Camera - Humans Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Emma Hatherly | Camera: Simon de Glanville | Location: India

- Sync camera for Making Of.
- Lighting for night scenes.

Second Camera - Oceans Ep, Asia | BBC

Producer: Mark Wheeler | Camera: Bjorn Vaughn | Location: Indonesia

- Timestudies and timelapse.

2021

Shooting Researcher - Predators | BBC NHU & Discovery

Series Producer: Tom Jarvis | Producer: Hannah Ward | Location: Bristol/Worldwide

- Researching international bluechip natural history sequences.
- Working closely with the DOP to plan and research new tech for innovative storytelling shots and sequences.
- Maintaining, acquiring and fixing a wide range of kit.

Shoot Experience on Predators

ICELAND	GABON	CAMBODIA
Director: Mairead Maclean Camera: Sue Gibson	Director: Steve Gooder Camera: Piers Leigh	Director: Aneesa Magson Camera: Charlie Stoddart
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long lens natural history.• Drone of animal behaviour and landscape establishers.• Day and night timelapse.• BTS and Production stills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rigged and operated a complex remote camera system in the remote jungle.• Drone establishing shots of jungle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long lens cross shooting captive animal behaviour.• Macro work with native reptiles and invertebrates.• Jimmy jib operation and hothead filming on crane.

2020

Wire Cam Assistant - Uncharted | Figure Nine

Lead: Ollie Laker | Location: Barcelona, Spain

- Rigged and assisted in operating wirecam on the Barcelona shoot on "Uncharted", a Hollywood feature starring Tom Holland and Mark Wahlberg.
- Running Defy Cadence dolly with Ronin 2, Arri Mini LF and Zeiss Prime payload.

DOP - Queen of Birds | Wilderland

Producer: Dan O'Neill (client of Jo Sarsby) | Location: Philippines

2019

Second Camera/Drone - Bears About the House | BBC NHU

Producer: Tom Jarvis | Location: Laos

Camera Assistant - Tiger | Wildstar Films | DisneyNature

Producers: Mark Linfield, Vanessa Berlowitz & Rob Sullivan | Location: India

References

Contact details available upon request.

Other/Awards

- "Bears About The House" Nominated for an Impact Panda Award at Wildscreen.
- Winner of British Wildlife Photographer of the Year "Highly Commended" Video Award

Public Speaking

I have broad experience with public speaking across a wide range of audiences.

- Designed and lead a 2-day filmmaking masterclass at the University of Manchester for the Science Communication MSc.
- Lectured on the importance of visual media in science communication to undergraduates at the University of Exeter.
- A number of improvised and planned speeches across various summer camp settings.

Stills

My interest in visual communication began with film and stills in tandem. I keep a hobbyist interest in stills photography to this day, and occasionally contribute photostories to select outdoors/lifestyle based publications. Examples of these can be found on my website.

Goals and Interests

Ultimately I want to become a documentary DOP and help tell stories that have an impact on the health of the planet and its inhabitants.

The most exciting things in life for me come from the process of helping tell stories about the world. Whether it's in the field, or merging new technology and kit with innovative story-telling to create new and exciting sequences.