



stephenbennett
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Curriculum Vitae – Nov 2017

Self-shooting documentary director Stephen Bennett has been working in television for over 20 years, working on international primetime commissions for BBC, Sky, NHK (Japan), Channel 4, Discovery and History (USA). His films are distinguished by strong characters, hard-won access and an intimate, engaging shooting style and consistently make Critics Choice in the tabloids and broadsheets, and provoke strong reactions from audiences.

Amongst other awards and nominations, Stephen has won **three Bafta Scotland awards:**

Best Factual Series (*The Council*, 2017), **Best Documentary** (*Dunblane: Our Story*, 2016) and

Best Current Affairs (*Walking Wounded*, 2011).

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY... a selection

- 'Utterly compelling' (Guardian)
- 'Hair-raising...the lost boys found a voice' (Herald)
- 'Funny, heartbreaking and compellingly violent' (Radio Times)
- 'An outstanding and important piece of television' (Scotsman)
- 'Everything you'd want such a bleakly necessary documentary to be' (Guardian)
- 'There won't be a better documentary series this year. Brilliant' (Daily Record)
- 'A heartbreaking, troubling documentary... A powerful depiction of despair and neglect' (Scotsman)
- 'Stephen Bennett's laudable film...adds profound humanity by offering a voice to those affected' (Telegraph)

Title	Company/ Channel	Date	Role	Dur. / Camera
The Country Council	Firecracker Films/ BBC 1 Scotland	2017	Series Dir / Cam	3x 60' / FS7/ PDW200
	Filmed in Argyll & Bute, including most of its 23 islands + 20% share			
Brian Cox's Russia	Hopscotch Films / BBC Scotland	2016	Prod/ Dir / Cam	2x 60' / C300
	To mark the centenary of the Bolshevik Revolution, actor Brian Cox travels to Russia to discover Scots who have made a massive impact on Russian history. Double displaced Network share.			
The Council	IWC Media/ BBC 1 Scotland	2016	Prod/ Dir / Cam	3x 60' / PDW300
Best Factual Series BAFTA in SCOTLAND 2017	The organisation we love to hate: services from cradle to grave to emptying our bins. + 20% share. #thecouncil 'moving, poignant, upsetting & uplifting at same time'			
Dunblane: Our Story	STV / BBC 2 Network/ BBC1 Scot	2016	Prod/ Dir	1x 60' / F55
Best Single Doc BAFTA in SCOTLAND 2016 CELTIC MEDIA TORC 2017	Landmark documentary to mark the 20th Anniversary film of the Dunblane Tragedy, featuring many who have never talked on camera before. 28.8% audience share. 5 Stars /Pick of Day in most press. Feat. on C4's 'Gogglebox'			
Prison: First & Last 24 Hrs	STV/ Sky 1	2015	Edit Prod	2 x 45' / C300
	Prisoners' experiences as they first begin and end their sentences			
Atomic Espionage	NHK (Japan) / Malachite Films	2015	Wr/ Dir (Recon)	1x 60' / F55
	Doc about the race for the brains behind the Atomic Bomb. For Japan's 70th Anniversary of Hiroshima. Recon budget £112k. NHK's inaugural drama doc.			
Insane Fight Club II	IWC Media / BBC3 / BBC 2 Scot.	2014	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	1x 60' / XF305
	The insanity reigns once again, taking the ICW brand into the heart of England Trending No 1 twitter conversation in the UK			



Commonwealth City	BBC 1 Network / BBC2 Scot	2009/14	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	3x 60'/ PMW500	Following families over 5 yrs in the East End of Glasgow as the City Council prepares for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Trending 9th biggest twitter conversation in the UK (on its Scotland only TX)
Power to the Pcocks A year in the life of a family croft	Timeline Films/ BBC2 Scotland	2012/13	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	1x 60'/ XF305	How do you live in the 21st Century without electricity? One of highest ever ratings for slot - double Network share.
My Perfect Wheelchair	BBC2 Network	2010/12	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	1x 60'/ PDW650	Intimate ob doc shot over 2 yrs about a disabled man creating a F1 styled wheelchair BBC DG Mark Thompson's 'BBC Showcase of the Week' (best of BBC output) Pick of Day: Record, Scotsman, Sunday Herald, SOS and P&J.
Countryside 999 Series 1 & 2	BBC1 Network	2012 - 14	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	15x 30'/ XF305	Showing the challenges faced by emergency services in rural Britain
Warriors: Revisiting The Boys of Ballikinrain	Saltire Films/ BBC1 Scot	2011/12	Dir/ Cam	1 x 60'/ PDW650	5 yrs on, why have most of the Boys of Ballikinrain been to jail? Pick of the Day: Sun, Record and the Herald.
Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge	IWC Media/ Channel 5	2011	Edit Producer	2 x 45/ HD	Extreme Fishing but this time with a competitive 'fish off': Texas & USA East
Cowboy Trap (S3)	Mentorn Media/ BBC1 Network	2011	PD / Edit Prod	20 x 45 /XF305	Cowboy builders have no chance - Clive Holland is back in town...
The Walking Wounded BAFTA in SCOTLAND 2011 Best Current Affairs Celtic Media Fest 2010 Best Documentary	Clarity Prod/ BBC2 Scotland	2009	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	60' / DSR570	'A chilling insight' (Sunday Herald), 'Heartbreaking' (Scotsman) Three young veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder battle with addictions suicide and uncontrolled anger as they adapt to a civvy street. Pick of the Day: Scotsman, Sun, Record, Sunday Herald (front page!) and Sun. Mail
Pride and Privilege	Saltire Films/ BBC2 Scotland	2007/8	Prod/ Dir/ Cam	3 x 60'/ DSR450	Observational series following pupils over one year at Glenalmond College. Pick of the Day: Scotland on Sunday, Sunday Herald etc.
Boys of Ballikinrain	Saltire Films/ BBC2 Scotland	2006/7	Dir/ Cam	3 x 60'/ DSR570	For the first time in the UK cameras film life in a Residential School for abused boys. Pick of the Day: Herald, Scotsman, Scot on Sunday, Radio Times
Ladies that Launch	Tern TV/ Discovery Health	2005	Series Dir/ Cam	15x 30'/ DSR500	15 intimate ob. docs about women launching their own businesses.
Cold War Spies	Lion TV/ BBC 2/ History Channel	2004	Prod/ Director	1x 60'/ Digi Beta	Days that Shook the World series II - The shooting down of Gary Powers (drama doc)
Great Train Robbery/ Black September Assassination of JFK/ Nixon's Last Day	Lion TV/ BBC2/ History Channel	2004	Prod /AP	2x 30'/ Digi Beta	Days that Shook the World series I - Big heists (drama doc)

** credits pre 2004 not shown – please see www.stephenabennett.com **