

Media Production & Media Culture and Production courses work with Mid Hants Railway

By Rebecca Loescher

Our latest first year students on both *Media Production* and *Media Culture & Production* courses had the opportunity to do some video work with Mid Hants Railway over the past two months. The partnership was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund through Mid Hants Railway's **Canadian Pacific** project.

Organised via the course leaders, the students were split into 14 different groups each with a unique work package tailored to a specific process or function of the heritage railway. This could've been anything from ticket sales, to signalling operations, to the engineering workshops.

For a few of the students it was their first time doing any media production work for a client, as well as putting newly learnt camera, audio and editing skills to the test. They were required to organise an interview about the topic they were allocated, as well as make sure they captured the correct shots of their area to enhance the interviews visually.

After the shooting days, the groups then had to edit the rushes and come up with final videos ready for final delivery. On the final day of the project Mid Hants Railway project workers Dave Deane and Becky Peacock came into the university to watch the rough edits and give feedback before the assessment submission deadline.

We asked various students on their thoughts of the experience.

Q. How was the overall experience working at the Mid Hants Railway?

"It was a fantastic experience as working with a client was something we have to do in the real world and this really helped us see what it will be like in the future for us"

Calum Cashell – Media Production

Q. Did you enjoy learning more about the railway?

"What I liked the most was learning about all the old trains and how they are being rebuilt from virtually nothing. It was also nice to see how many volunteers care so much about the heritage and history behind the trains to keep them running, I really commend their work."

Sam Parker – Media Culture and Production

Q. Do you think the experience has helped you develop your skills?

"Experience defiantly developed my skills as when you are at the place you need to adapt different camera skills according to what shot you want to get and different atmospheres like the weather."

Abbie Godfrey – English and Media

Q. Has working with MHR given you the confidence to go out and do more work like this off your own back?

“Yes, it has, I've actually recently directed and filmed a music video for a local band using the camera techniques I learnt from this unit and dealing with a client's brief.”

Marc Hawkins – Media Culture and Production

Q. If you could say one thing to someone who was about to do the same brief, what would it be?

“I would tell the person to research their given area a lot, so they are fully aware and have a full understanding of what they are filming. I would also tell them to make sure they are prepared for any possible obstacles that can occur, like making sure they have enough memory, and bring more than one camera to get as many shots as possible.”

Reema Shah – Media Production

We want to thank the Mid Hants Railway for letting us work with them. We hope they are as happy with the videos as we all are.



by [Rebecca Loescher](#)
Assistant Social Media Co-ordinator
Media Production