

Richard Cooke

Showrunner

October 2022

Areas of specialty: Observational character driven documentary, Sport, Fixed Rig, Travel, Anthropology, Driving, Mental Health, HNWI. Working with public, established presenters & celebs, character development, presenter-led programmes, soft format docs, pre-scripted and non-scripted formats, remote locations, hostile environments, extreme weather, young people, animals.

US & worldwide co-productions. Highly experienced in taking newly commissioned projects through to delivery.

CREDITS

Wear the Rose: An England Rugby Dream

ITV1

Immersive observational documentary series following the England women's rugby team as they prepared for the World Cup in New Zealand. With a small, embedded location team, I directed all filming whilst developing sensitive access. Running and managing both location and edit teams. Crewing production, establishing and overseeing complex story arcs, continuing to maintain close relationships with the players, coaches and support staff. With a large cast of contributors, guiding story team to find engaging beats whilst overseeing detailed logistics. Making all key editorial decisions, responsible for overall look and style of the series with flair and ambition. Management of all post production; running story edits initially before opening episode cutting rooms. Working closely with the Line Producer and HoP to manage a very tight budget and ensure highest on screen production values possible. Seeing production through to delivery.

Execs: Niall Sloane, Phil Heslop (ITV), Simon Baker (TCO).

2 x 44' TCO London.

March 2022 – Present

Super Greed: The Fight for Football

Sky Documentaries

Feature length documentary investigating one of the biggest and most controversial sporting stories in modern times; the birth and (very quick) death of the European Super League. Or is it? Working closely with the film director to determine the timeline and an engaging narrative negotiate and secure access to the key players in this sensitive, multi-billion pound project.

Commissioners: Jamie Morris, Poppy Dixon. Exec: Leo Pearlman.

1 x 90' Fulwell 73 Productions. May 2021 – February 2022

All or Nothing: Juventus

Amazon Prime

Character driven documentary series produced over two years and during the pandemic and during a season of transition and turmoil for the football club. With incredibly sensitive access and a large number of stakeholders, I ran and managed a large Italian location team and UK post production team. Working to develop and maintain close relationships in a sensitive environment with the highest possible profile talent.

Commissioning Team: CJ Yu, Uri Fleming (Amazon US), Nicole Morganti (Amazon Italia).

Exec: Leo Pearlman (Fulwell73).

8 x 45' Fulwell 73 Productions. November 2019 – September 2021

Sunderland 'Til I Die (Series 2)

Netflix

Running and managing both location and edit teams. Crewing production, establishing and overseeing complex story arcs, continuing to develop and maintain close relationships with the club; owners, management, players and staff. With a large cast of contributors, guiding story team to find engaging beats whilst overseeing detailed logistics. Making all key editorial decisions, responsible for overall look and style of the series with flair and ambition. With filming over nine months, ensuring that location team shot in a structured and efficient manner to avoid over shooting. Management of all post production; running story edits initially before opening episode cutting rooms. Working closely with the Line Producer and HoP to manage budget and ensure highest on screen production values possible. Seeing production through to delivery, over six weeks of online and QC.

Commissioner: Nathaniel Grouille. Exec: Leo Pearlman.

6 x 35-60' Fulwell 73 Productions. September 2018 – December 2019

Sunderland 'Til I Die (Series 1)

Netflix

A hugely ambitious project following a season in the life of Sunderland AFC. Filmed over eleven months, my role was to oversee a large team on location and primarily in the edit, processing 3,500 hours of challenging 4K material to build a compelling and unfolding narrative. As each episode had numerous editors and edit producers working on them, I had to carefully manage the teams to maintain a high level of morale, especially when deadlines became tight, having to be incredibly resourceful to find workable and inventive solutions. I ran eight episodes over a six-month period, devising all graphics and the title sequence, dealing with a large amount of archive, supervising a composer based in LA and working closely with the Netflix commissioning team, also on the west coast. I also managed the entire online process and saw the series through to delivery. I also found the title music and devised the title sequence with our GFX company, taking four months to build and complete. It became a country-wide hit, reaching No3 in the download charts.

Commissioner: Nathaniel Grouille. Exec: Leo Pearlman.

8 x 30-48' Fulwell 73 Productions. March – September 2018

London based

richardcookemedia@yahoo.co.uk 0780 303 1960

SELECTED CREDITS

Never Teach Your Wife to Drive (TX Pilot) <i>Commissioners: Greg Barnett, Ben Frow.</i> 1 x 46' Channel 5 Productions	Executive Producer	Channel 5
Never Teach Your Wife to Drive (Series 1) <i>Commissioners: Greg Barnett, Ben Frow.</i> 3 x 46' Channel 5 Productions	Showrunner	Channel 5
Extreme OCD Camp <i>Commissioner: Sam Bickley. Exec: Mark Rubens (Warner Bros).</i> 2 x 57' Shed Media (Warner Bros)	Series Producer/Director	BBC3
Homestead Rescue (Series 2) <i>Commissioner: Matt Vafiadis Execs: Sam Maynard, Mike Griffiths.</i> 2 x 43' Raw TV	Location Series Producer	Discovery / DNI
Beyond the Boundary (Series 1) <i>Commissioner: Frank le Mair. Exec: Danny Tipping.</i> 6 x 48' Sky Vision	Showrunner	Insight TV
Eamonn & Ruth: How the other half Lives (S1) Series Director <i>Commissioners: Guy Davies, Ben Frow. Exec: Gill Tierney.</i> 6 x 46' Spun Gold Television		Channel 5
The Millionaire's Gift Guide <i>Commissioners: Aaqil Ahmed, Martin Davidson, Exec: David Upshal.</i> 1 x 59' BBC	Producer/Director	BBC2
Last Man Standing (Series 1) : Mexico <i>Commissioner: Danny Cohen, Execs: Gary Hunter, Cameron Balbirnie.</i> 1 x 52' BBC	Producer/Director	BBC2/BBC3/DNI
Last Man Standing (Series 1): PNG <i>Commissioner: Danny Cohen, Execs: Gary Hunter, Cameron Balbirnie</i> 1 x 52' BBC	Location Director	BBC2/BBC3/DNI
So You Think You Can Drive? <i>Commissioner: Charlotte Moore. Execs: Tom Edwards (BBC) Bridget Boseley, Helen Veale (Outline).</i> 1 x 57' Outline Productions	Producer/Director	BBC1
Nightmare Neighbour Next Door (Series 1) <i>Commissioners: Ben Frow, Jason Wells. Execs: Michele Carlisle, Matt Gordon.</i> 6 x 47' Flame TV	Producer/Director	Channel 5
Barely Legal Drivers (Series 2) <i>Commissioner: Sam Bickley. Execs: Harry Lansdown, Maureen Goldthorpe (Renegade).</i> 1 x 57' Shed Media (Renegade Pics)	Producer/Director	BBC3
Barely Legal Drivers (Series 1) <i>Commissioner: Sam Bickley. Execs Harry Lansdown, Maureen Goldthorpe (Renegade).</i> 1 x 57' Shed Media (Renegade Pics)	Producer/Director	BBC3
World's Toughest Trucker <i>Commissioners: David Pritikin (Discovery), Steve Gowans Execs: Ian Dunkley (C5). Execs Sanjay Singhal, Maria Baltazzi (Dragonfly).</i> 8 x 52' Dragonfly Film & TV	Producer	Channel 5/Discovery
Lonely Planet / Globe Trekker (Series 8 – 12) Western Canada, South Africa, Lebanon, Los Angeles, Australia, Guyana, France & England. <i>Exec: Ian Cross</i> 8 x 43' Pilot Productions	Producer	Travel Channel / PBS

London based

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AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

Rose d'Or	: Best Reality/Factual Entertainment*
RTS (NE)	: Broadcast Factual Production (Highly Commended)
Critics Choice Awards (USA)	: Best Sports Series*
The Format Awards (USA)	: Best Brand Driven Format*
National Reality TV Awards	: Best Documentary Series*
British Sports Journalism Awards	: Best Television Factual Production*
'Sunderland 'Til I Die' (Series 1)	
CTC Canadian Film & TV Awards	: Best Television Broadcast
'Globe Trekker – Western Canada'	

*Nominated

TRAINING / SKILLS / INDUSTRY MEMBERSHIPS / OTHER

Remote Trauma Travel safety awareness certificate	Advanced Level Skier
Full European & International Driving Licence (clean)	BBC Risk Management in Production I & II
CIEH Conflict, Resolution & Personal Safety (QCA Qualified)	BBC Health & Safety I & II
Hostile Environment Training	BBC Safeguarding Trust Modules
IMDB Link: imdb.com/name/nm2732214/	Directors UK & RTS Member

QUALIFICATIONS

2:1 BA (Hons) Media Production - University of Lincolnshire
(Specialism: Journalism & Documentary)

REFEREE(S)

Available upon request.

ONLINE PROFILES

The Talent Manager	: www.thetalentmanager.co.uk/people/3098/richard-cooke
Directors UK	: www.directors.uk.com/users/richard-cooke
LinkedIn	: www.linkedin.com/pub/richard-cooke/13/109/3b3
Media Parents	: www.mediaparents.co.uk/freelancers/812/richard-cooke

PROGRAMME LINKS

Super Greed: The Fight for Football (Sky)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=9YmL9GF_fak
All or Nothing: Juventus (Amazon)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4u95HW27jM
Sunderland 'Til I Die S2 (Netflix)	: www.netflix.com/gb/title/80207046
Sunderland 'Til I Die S1 (Netflix)	: www.netflix.com/gb/title/80207046
Homestead Rescue (Discovery)	: www.tvguide.com/tvshows/homestead-rescue/episodes/933367/
Beyond the Boundary (Insight TV)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=P13_KLih1w
The Millionaire's Gift Guide (BBC2)	: www.dailymotion.com/video/x3tujqd
How the Other Half Lives (C5)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfGhd1i9Ohs
Never Teach Your Wife to Drive Ep1 (C5)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9PdP5bopwE
Barely Legal Drivers S2 Ep2 (BBC3)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceUTD_olcCM
Extreme OCD Camp Ep1 (BBC3)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAXjq28Wpyk
Extreme OCD Camp Ep2 (BBC3)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywMsMjGF_nw
Barely Legal Drivers Ep1 (BBC3)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwgTHhp0w1w
Leader of the Pack (Nat Geo)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL0Ooure12Y
World's Toughest Trucker (C5)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=428HUShtgo
Last Man Standing: Mexico (BBC2)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHP9TxUKM9Q
Last Man Standing: PNG (BBC2)	: www.youtube.com/watch?v=l65VBKQ2poY

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