Paul Shields BFE

Scripted Editor

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Avid editor with over 25 years experience

I love to mine as much emotion, character and humour as I can from every script and performance while preserving a clear and involving narrative. I have a natural instinct for drama, comedy and music and enjoy being at the centre of the collaborative process of post - realising the vision of everyone in production and offering creative solutions to problems. I take ownership of every project I work on, overseeing the programme's journey from assembly to final cut.

I am instinctive, passionate and fast with strong editorial skills. I have worked in offline and online, scripted and unscripted but am now focusing on scripted offline.

I am used to working to a deadline and have cut material featuring performers of all ages and experience. I am highly skilled in Avid effects and can quickly come up with solutions to continuity problems where a clever split screen can often save the day. I love working with music and pride myself on my attention to detail.

I live within easy reach of MediaCity and central Manchester but also have very fast internet connection for remote working. I can log into your system or use my own Avid setup to download rushes, edit and upload viewing copies quickly. And I have a car so can easily be located wherever you are!

Member of the British Film Editors association

TESTIMONIALS

“I thoroughly enjoyed working with Paul on a block of Hollyoaks. Paul’s attention to detail in his delivery of episodes for our fine cut was exceptional. Making choices that were always story driven with passion and care.”
Paul Riordan, Director “Hollyoaks”

“Paul is an editor who really understands story, rhythm and pacing. He's very easy to work with and never afraid to give insightful thoughts and suggest creative solutions. He'll also strive to craft the very best performances from an actor which for me is paramount. I've worked with him on both Hollyoaks for Channel 4 and Hope Street for the BBC and will definitely be working with him on future shows. I would highly recommend him as a great asset to any show.”
Sean Glynn, Director “Hope Street”, “Hollyoaks”

“Paul brought a very positive energy to the project and was determined to deliver the final product to the highest level. I’d highly recommend working with him.”
James Campayne, Director “Hollyoaks”

“It is a pleasure to work with Paul. He is a creative, hard working and thorough editor, who knows instinctively how to tell a good story from the material he is given to work with. It is a joy to sit in an edit suite with him as he is charming, collaborative and cares passionately about the episodes he has worked on. The executive was very happy with the end results and I would happily work with him again.”
Neil J Wilkinson, Director “Hollyoaks”

“He has a fantastic editorial instinct and is a natural storyteller. He communicates really well, works collaboratively, and adapts to his director’s needs, whilst understanding the balance of the producers’ needs. His personality is warm and enthusiastic, a joy to work with and really safe pair of hands.”
Sarah Kendell, Director “Hollyoaks”

“It was a joy to work with Paul in edit. He has brilliant instincts when it comes to telling a story and his attention to detail second to none! He throws himself into the story and is a pleasure to work with. I look forward to working with him again!”
David Crowley, Director “Hollyoaks”

“I worked with Paul on Hollyoaks and I can honestly say we wouldn’t have got through without Paul’s methodical and pro-active diligence. We had an extremely tight window for our edit due to illness when filming. When it came to my time to fine cut with Paul the episodes were in a fantastic place, giving us time to finesse with remarkable comfort. Paul will be a great asset to any production lucky enough to snap him up.”
Seán Healy, Director “Hollyoaks”

“Paul is a very instinctive and diligent editor, and that combined with his cheery disposition makes him a joy to work with. I also had the fewest notes back from viewings on the episodes he did for me. I really enjoyed working with Paul and wouldn't hesitate to work with him on other projects. He is an asset to the team.”
Chantelle Kayll, Director “Hollyoaks”

“I would highly recommend Paul. He was a joy to work with. He has a strong sense of story and structure but also has the technical ability to push the boundaries in the offline. He is passionate about his work and takes complete ownership of his episodes but is always happy to adapt. We had several very happy months working as a team – sometimes hard to stay ahead of him as he’s also very fast!”
Dirk Campbell, Director “Biff & Chip”

Recently Completed Projects

"Odd Squad" Series 6 (2027) eps 1-12 BBC Studios/ Sinking Ship Entertainment For CBBC, PBS & CBC Director Dominic Stephenson Series Producer Lauren Huggins Exec Producer Trevor Klein	12x12' of the internationally loved show that mixes comedy, sci-fi and maths. A predominantly young cast lead this fun show. My skills making temp VFX came to the fore with this show. I quickly integrated them into the scenes allowing the intention and pacing of each moment to be locked in offline while also being approved by the VFX team in Canada who would create the final shots. Lasers, traps and teleports not a problem.
"Hollyoaks" 17-21 April, 3-9 Nov & 15-21 Dec 2023 25 April-1 May, 2-4 Dec 2024 21-23 April, 13-15 Oct, 17-19 Nov 2025 11-13 May 2026 + 2027 Lime Pictures for Channel 4 Dirs: Paul Riordan, James Campayne, Neil Wilkinson, Sarah Kendell, David Crowley, Tim Courtney, Seán Healy, Chantelle Kayll, Sean Glynn	10 blocks covering 38 eps of the top soap on 4. Running the full gamut from intense emotional drama to hilarious comedy I make sure every beat of the story lands through creative, nuanced editing and careful use of music. A continuing drama means continuing fluidity in the schedule but my speed and organisational skills mean this isn't an issue. I keep the director up to date with what has been cut, work with them to fine cut the episodes and then take ownership of the block as it makes its way through viewings, compliance etc. In 2026 I cut the emotional climactic week of episodes ending the RTS Award nominated storyline of much loved character Diane's death from ovarian cancer.
"Hope Street" Series 3 (2023) eps 1+3 Series 4 (2024) eps 1+7 Series 5 (2025) eps 1+6 Long Story TV for BBC Northern Ireland Directors Sean Glynn, Audrey Cooke, Emma Lindley Executive Producer Paul Marquess	6x45' of the popular Northern Ireland set cozy crime drama. Beautiful settings, great characters and strong, human stories. Shot multicamera on location I cut the eps on my home Avid setup, sourcing spot effects and music and organising viewing copies before delivering a sequence ready for online to the finishing facility. I cut the launch episodes of all three series.
"Biff & Chip" Series 1-3, 2021-23 BBC Kids & Family Director Dirk Campbell Executive Producer Sue Nott	38x11' episodes over 3 series of live action drama adapting the ubiquitous children's reading books. Fast paced, funny but grounded the series joins the Robinsons, friends and neighbours in their big hearted, imaginative and chaotic family lives. I brought the best out of the whole cast, young and old.

A Selection Of Other Work

"I Spy, You Spy"
Tiny House Productions for CBeebies
Nominee: RTS North West Best Pre-school Children's Programme 2026
Producer Vix Harrison
Executive Producer Emma Hyman

"Dodge's Pup School"
Brilliant Trees Media for CBeebies
Winner: RTS North West Best Pre-school Children's Programme 2025
Producer Holly Shepherd
Executive Producer Susanna Boccaccio

"Grace's Amazing Machines"
CBeebies
Winner: RTS North West Best Pre-school Children's Programme 2022
Series Producer Johnny Perks

"CBeebies' Thumbelina"
"CBeebies' The Snow Queen"
"CBeebies' The Nutcracker"
CBeebies/BBC 1
Producers Phil Cooper, Jon Hancock

"The Baby Club", "The Toddler Club"
Three Arrows for CBeebies
Series Producers Tom O'Connell & Simon Hall

"YolanDa's Band Jam"
CBeebies
Winner: RTS North West Best Pre-school Children's Programme 2019
Series Producer Phil Cooper

"Swashbuckle"
CBeebies
Series Producer Phil Cooper

"Treasure Champs"
Three Arrows for CBeebies
Series Producer Tom O'Connell

Education:

BA Hons English Literature, Kings College London, 2:1
4 A Levels: English Literature (A), Mathematics (A), Latin (B), General Studies (A)
9 GCSEs (8 A grades & 1 B damn it!)

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