

FILM AND FEATURES

Film and TV shot mainly in Calderdale, or with significant scenes filmed here.



FANNY AND ELVIS (1999)

Starring Kerry Fox and Ray Winston.

Kate, a writer, wants to get pregnant before it's too late, but her husband has left her. Dave, a car-dealer, has nowhere to live, and Kate has a room to rent. The problem is, they can't stand each other. Filmed in and around Hebden Bridge, this feel-good film is great for location spotting. Look out for St George's Square (43), Birchcliffe Road and Mount Skip (3) amongst other places.

Ray Winston on visiting the Pennine moors "I was sitting there on my own, and it was if I was that big in the universe, and listening to the silence, and it was one of the most beautiful places I've ever been to in my life."



A BOY, A GIRL AND A BIKE (1949)

Starring Honor Blackman and John McCallum.

A local cycling club invite new members to join them, little realizing that trouble would ensue. Before long they are involved with illegal bookmakers, deserting soldiers, stolen bikes and a love triangle. Filmed in the Upper Calder Valley and the Yorkshire Dales in the summer of 1948, this film gives an opportunity to see the area as it was in the post war years. Many local people were recruited as extras, and local girl Margaret Avery played the juvenile lead, Ginger.



NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (2002)

Starring Charlie Hunnam, Christopher Plummer, Jim Broadbent, Anne Hathaway and Jamie Bell.

Gibson Mill (15) in Hardcastle Craggs (1) was used as the school in this BBC adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel. When Nicholas's father dies the family is separated, and Nicholas is sent to Dotheboys Hall, ruled by the cruel headteacher, Wackford Squeers. Some of his fellow pupils were played by local school children.



HELEN OF FOUR GATES (1920)

Starring Alma Taylor.

This silent screen classic was possibly the first production to bring film crews to the area. Made by the legendary director Cecil Hepworth, the film was thought to be lost for 80 years, until a copy was found in Canada in 2007, and a new print made by film maker, Nick Wilding. Based on a novel by former mill worker Ethel Carnie Holdsworth, the film tells the story of Helen, a woman forced into an abusive marriage, and is filmed in Hebden Bridge.

Nick Wilding says "it is fascinating how unaltered our local landscape seems – it is dreamy and luscious in Hepworth's hands" The Guardian 31/5/10



MY SUMMER OF LOVE (2004)

Starring Natalie Press, Emily Blunt and Michael Considine.

Mona is a feisty girl from a working class background and Tamsin is well-educated, privileged, cynical. Vary of each other to begin with, their fascination with each other grows as summer deepens in the Yorkshire countryside. Mostly located in and around in Todmorden, this film, directed by Pawel Pawlikowski, also has scenes in Halifax and the Venue 73, Brighouse (41).



INHERITANCE (1967)

Starring John Thaw and James Bolam.

Inheritance was a Granada TV ten-part series dramatizing the books by Halifax writer, Phyllis Bentley. Filmed in and around Sowerby Bridge, as well as Huddersfield, the series followed the fortunes of the Oldroyds, a Yorkshire mill owning family. Early episodes featured the Luddite riots and mill burnings, and the series turned 'there's trouble at t'mill' into a catchphrase.



RITA, SUE AND BOB TOO (1987)

Starring Siobhan Finneran, Michelle Holmes and George Costigan.

With a strapline "Thatcher's Britain with her knickers down", this British comedy-drama has become a cult film. The film tells the story of two school girls who have a fling with a married man, and is remarkable for its portrayal of the lives of ordinary working class people. It was filmed in Halifax, Bradford, Baildon and Haworth, and includes scenes shot in the Piece Hall (16).

Available for loan from Calderdale Libraries.

HEBDEN BRIDGE AND SURROUNDING AREAS



Famous for its small, independent shops and cafés, the Hebden Bridge area is a centre for outdoor activities as well as a cultural hub. The Wednesday and Thursday market has won the Best Small Outdoor Market Award, and there is a farmers' market every other weekend. The Hebden Bridge Arts Festival is in June/ July each year. The town and surrounding area have been featured in episodes of Countryfile as well as various TV antiques shows and an episode of Great Canal Journeys with Timothy West. It has a theatre and a cinema and is home to the award winning Trades Club. Below are just some of the films and TV filmed here.

Foxy Lady 1982 starring Diane Keen.

TV series set in the 1960s about young reporter, Daisy Jackson, encountering sexism from her colleagues.

Mr Wroe's Virgins 1993 starring Jonathan Pryce, Kathy Burke, and Minnie Driver, some scenes were shot in Heptonstall (2).

Seaforth 1994 starring Lia Williams, Linus Roache and Raymond Pickard. Period drama beginning in World War II, spanning three generations, set in the fictional West Yorkshire town of Seaforth.

Sharpe 1997 starring Sean Bean.

In the episode Sharpe's Justice, the Peterloo Massacre of 1819, is moved to Yorkshire, 1814. Filmed at Hardcastle Craggs (1), Hebden Bridge and East Riddlesden Hall.

Gemma Factor 2009 starring Anna Gilthorpe, Claire King and Gwyneth Powell.

TV comedy about Gemma Collinge who wants to be famous by the time she turns 21. Filmed in Halifax, Heptonstall (2), Hardcastle Craggs (1) and Hebden Bridge.

Death Comes To Pemberley 2013 starring Matthew Rhys, Anna Maxwell Martin, Matthew Goode and Jenna Coleman.

Parts of this adaptation of PD James's homage to Pride and Prejudice were filmed in Hardcastle Craggs (1).

Jericho 2016 starring Hans Matheson, Clarke Peters and Jessica Raine.

TV series set in the 1870s about a Yorkshire community living in the shadow of a viaduct. Some scenes were filmed in Heptonstall (2).

Swallows and Amazons 2016 starring Andrew Scott, Rafe Spall, Kelly Macdonald, Gwendoline Christie, Jessica Hynes and Harry Enfield.

This film adaptation of the Arthur Ransome classic was partly filmed in Heptonstall (2).

Locally made films:

Small Fry 1952

A short film made by the Hebden Bridge Cinema Section in which a gamekeeper takes a small boy for a walk around Hardcastle Craggs (1). The film won a commendation for Amateur Cine World.

Shed Your Tears and Walk Away 2009

Real-life drama, made by Jez Lewis, about a town with a dark underbelly, and one character's attempt to lift himself out of a cycle of self-destruction.

TODMORDEN



At the western end of Calderdale, Todmorden stands on the border between Yorkshire and Lancashire, surrounded by steep sided hills. Steeped in the history of the industrial revolution, the town has many shops, cafés and restaurants and was the original home of the Incredible Edible project promoting locally grown food available for all. The following were either filmed or part filmed in Todmorden.

Juliet Bravo 1981-5 starring Stephanie Turner and Anna Carteret.

TV series about two female police inspectors in the small fictional town of Hartley, Lancashire.

Oranges are not the only fruit 1989 starring Cathryn Bradshaw, Emily Aston, Pam Ferris.

TV drama about Jess, growing up in a fanatically religious, 1960s, working-class family, and her struggle to become who she is.

Life and Times of Henry Pratt 1992 starring Dinah Stabb, Maggie O'Neill, Brian McGrath.

The story of a young man growing up in the 1930s and 1940s, this mini series was filmed in Kilnhurst

All Quiet on the Preston Front 1994 starring Caroline Catz, Kate Gartside, Alistair McGowan.

TV comedy series about a group of friends, most of whom belong to their local unit of the Territorial Army.



HALIFAX

Halifax has provided atmospheric backdrops for a number of film and TV productions. Of particular interest are the iconic Piece Hall (16), originally built as a sales centre for textiles, and Dean Clough (31) which was once one of the largest textile factories in the world, is now home to Northern Broadsides Theatre Company. Shibden Hall (17) which once belonged to the famous diarist Anne Lister, is now a museum in the middle of the lovely Shibden Park. Other places of interest include Wainhouse Tower (19) and Bankfield Museum (18). The town has many shops and restaurants.

Room at the Top 1959 starring Laurence Harvey, Simone Signoret and Heather Sears.

The film version of John Braine's novel had some scenes filmed in Halifax at places such as Lister lane (32) All Souls' Church (33) and Halifax Town Hall (36)

This Sporting Life 1963 * starring Richard Harris.

This film about rugby league in a northern town follows the fortunes of Frank Machin, a rising star of the field. Some scenes were shot at Thrum Hall, the home of Halifax RFLC before their move to the Shay Stadium (37), their current home.

In Loving Memory 1979-86 starring Thora Hird, Christopher Beeny and Colin Farrell.

A popular TV sitcom about an undertaker's business. Filmed in Bramham near Leeds and Luddenden (5).

Brassed Off 1996 starring Ewan MacGregor, Pete Postlethwaite, Tara Fitzgerald, Stephen Tompkinson.

The story of a northern brass band and their fight for survival, the brass band competition heats were filmed at the Piece Hall, Halifax (16).

Mrs Ratcliffe's Revolution 2006 starring Catherine Tate and Iain Glen.

Set in 1968 this feel-good film follows the Ratcliffe family from West Yorkshire to East Germany and back again, film



locations included Halifax High School, Elmfield Terrace (21), Savile Park (21), People's Park (22) and North Bridge Leisure Centre (35).

Red Riding 2008

This TV crime series is set in Yorkshire at the time of the Ripper murders. Some scenes were filmed in Halifax.

A piece of history

We of the West Riding 1945

A 20-minute black and white film in which a young boy describes his family's life and the woollen mills of the West Riding.

Written by Halifax writer, Phyllis Bentley. Available to watch at <http://film.britishcouncil.org/we-of-the-west-riding>

Other films and TV with scenes shot in Halifax include:

No Love for Johnnie 1961 Film starring Peter Finch, Stanley Holloway and Mary Peach.

Yanks 1979 Film starring Richard Gere, Vanessa Redgrave.

The Dresser 1983 Film starring Albert Finney & Tom Courtenay.

Wuthering Heights 1991 starring Ralph Fiennes and Juliet Binoche. Scenes at Shibden Hall (17).

BRIGHOUSE

Restaurants, canal walks, Yorkshire's largest climbing gym, shops and the Artisan Street Markets are just some of what Brighouse has to offer. It is also host to a number of annual events such as the 1940s weekend and the Brighouse Arts Festival.

Last of the Summer Wine

1973 - 2010 starring Peter Sallis, Jane Freeman, Kathy Staff et al.

Parts of Calderdale have been used in this long-running TV comedy series which is set in nearby Holmfirth – notably Cromwell Bottom (26) and Brighouse Canal Basin (25). The 2006 Christmas Special was filmed in Park Street (46) and Thornton Square (45), Brighouse.

ELLAND

Home to the Rex Cinema, Elland is a small town with family run shops, cafes and restaurants. Joseph Dobson & Sons (40), makers of the Yorkshire Mixture, have been making traditional confectionery in Elland for over a century.

History Boys 2006 starring Richard Griffiths, Frances de la Tour, Clive Merrison.

This film about unruly, gifted schoolboys and their eccentric teachers was written by Alan Bennett.

How We Used To Live 1990 starring Redvers Kyle, Diana Davies, James Tomlinson.

This educational drama tracing the lives and fortunes of fictional Yorkshire families from Victorian times, used the 17th and 19th century buildings in the factory yard at Joseph Dobson's Sweet Factory (40) to represent a Victorian slum.

Jealous God 2005 starring Jason Merrells, Denise Welch and Mairead Carty.

Based on John Braine's novel, this film was made on location in Calderdale, including at The Rex, Elland where the film was premiered in September 2005.

SOWERBY BRIDGE

The meeting of the Rochdale Canal (24) and the Calder and Hebble Navigation at Sowerby Bridge Wharf (23) has attracted many filmmakers and visitors to the town centre. Sowerby Bridge is well known for its great restaurants, shops, cafés, and market.

DCI Banks 2010 onwards starring Stephen Tompkinson.

The pilot for this TV detective series was filmed in Sowerby Bridge in 2010. Filming

for the second series took place in Elland and Cromwell Bottom (26), and part of series three was filmed in Ogden (11).

Hindle Wakes 1976

Directed by Sir Laurence Olivier this film included outdoor scenes filmed in Sowerby Bridge.

Stay Lucky 1989 TV series starring Dennis Waterman and Kay Francis, filmed at Sowerby Bridge Canal Basin (23).



CALDERDALE FILM TRAIL

PLACES MENTIONED IN THE LEAFLET

VILLAGES AND LOCATIONS IN CALDERDALE

1. Hardcastle Craggs
2. Heptonstall
3. Mount Skip
4. Mytholmroyd
5. Luddenden
6. Ripponden
7. Warley
8. Wainstalls
9. Beacon Hill
10. Mixenden
11. Ogden
12. Rishworth
13. Blackstone Edge
14. Ainley Top

PLACES TO VISIT

15. Gibson Mill
16. The Piece Hall
17. Shibden Hall and Park
18. Bankfield Museum
19. Wainhouse Tower

PARKS AND CANALS

20. West View Park, Warley
21. Savile Park and Elmfield Terrace
22. The People's Park
23. Sowerby Bridge Wharf
24. Rochdale Canal
25. Brighouse Canal Basin
26. Cromwell Bottom, Elland

OTHER PLACES

27. Silly Billy's Toyshop
28. Sowerby Bridge police station
29. Halifax
30. Holdsworth House
31. Dean Clough and Northern Broadsides
32. Lister Lane, Halifax
33. All Souls Church, Halifax
34. Calderdale Royal Hospital
35. North Bridge Leisure Centre
36. Halifax Town Hall
37. The Shay Stadium
38. Parkwood Crematorium, Elland
39. Blackley Baptist Church, Elland
40. Joseph Dobsons Sweet Factory
41. Venue 73, Brighouse
42. Hippodrome Theatre, Todmorden
43. St George's Square, Hebden Bridge
44. Saddleworth Road
45. Thornton Square, Brighouse
46. Park Street, Brighouse
47. Hollas Lane, Sowerby Bridge
48. The Fleece Inn, Elland
49. Green Lane and Paddock Road, Northowram

INTRODUCTION

There are many things you might spot on a visit to Calderdale, including cyclists, wildlife, nightlife – and film crews. Since the area of the silent movie the area has drawn those who want to catch it on film, to use it as a backdrop and a catalyst for stories of the human condition. For a small place it packs a lot in. Its steep folded hills and valleys provide pockets for busy towns and thriving communities, whilst the moors or woodland just a mile or two up the road can seem remote and wild.

The scenery is stunning – millstone grit, moorland, crags, wooded valleys and rushing water. But if you look, the signs of man are everywhere. Not just in the towns – in the countryside there are reservoirs, wind farms, pylons, even the ubiquitous drystone walls. People are very firmly at the centre of the landscape despite its seeming wildness, and their stories are embedded into it.

The traditional and modern sit next to each other in Calderdale. The old mill buildings of the nineteenth century now house the latest technology. Walkers and cyclists have always been here, but these days they sport the latest high-tech gear. With its contrasts of old and new, light and shadow, valley bottom and the tops, Calderdale becomes more than a backdrop, it enters the very fabric of the tales that people tell.

As well as The Vue multiscreen cinema in Halifax, Calderdale has two small independent cinemas.



THE REX, ELLAND

One of the oldest purpose built cinemas in the country, the Rex opened in 1912. It shows a wide range of films and has a loyal audience, with regulars travelling from Leeds and Manchester. Concerts on the Conn 651 organ are held on the third Sunday of each month and the organ is also played on Saturday evenings before the film and during the interval.

HEBDEN BRIDGE PICTURE HOUSE

Opened in 1921, the Picture House, which is run by Hebden Royd Town Council, has a full programme of films each month, catering for all tastes from mainstream to arthouse, including the popular Thursday morning Elevenses show with tea and biscuits. It also hosts live music and comedy shows.

VENUE 73

First opened as a cinema in 1937, the Venue 73 (41) has been through many incarnations. In 1979 it was fitted with a maple sprung dance floor, and opened as a ballroom in 1981. It hosts many dance and live music events and has been voted the best Northern Soul venue in the north. As well as the feature film, my Summer of Love, A Touch of Frost 2003 and Heartbeat 1992 have had scenes shot there.

SALLY WAINWRIGHT

Sally Wainwright went to school in Sowerby Bridge. When she grew up she left for the bright lights of London, but gradually she has come to realise that her muse is the Calder Valley. A prolific writer for TV, most of her scripts at least touch base with the area, whilst some are deeply embedded in the landscape and local communities. The cheek by jowl nature of busy towns and windswept countryside lends itself to Sally's close examination

of how people behave in relationships, but also what happens when they are pushed to the edge.

For those who know the area, watching Sally's productions is a delight. As well as her dramatic plotlines and engaging characters, there is the added interest of place spotting.

"West Yorkshire has become increasingly important to me as I've got older. There's a real depth to the landscape – it's so dramatic and awe-inspiring. Now I see Calderdale – Halifax, Hebden Bridge, Ripponden, Sowerby Bridge and Elland – as really beautiful. That's the area I think of as Happy Valley territory."

Sally Wainwright, The Guardian 17/7/15



LAST TANGO IN HALIFAX



Last Tango in Halifax 2012 onwards, starring Derek Jacobi, Anne Reid and Sarah Lancashire.

Alan and Celia, now in their seventies, were once childhood sweethearts. They are reunited via social media sixty years after their last meeting. The series follows their romance and the lives of Celia's daughter Caroline and Alan's daughter Gillian. Many scenes throughout the series are filmed in the Calder Valley.

THE WEDDING

After various misunderstandings Alan and Celia finally get married at the beginning of the second series.

We get aerial shots of the wedding party driving along the Calderdale Way (A629) from Ainley Top (14) on the way to the 'registry office' in Halifax, filmed at Princess Buildings. The real life registry office is at Spring Hall in Halifax.



Alan and Celia's wedding was filmed at Holdsworth House (30).

Other locations used in Last Tango in Halifax include:

- The Moorings, Canal Basin, Sowerby Bridge (23)
- Blackley Baptist Chapel, Elland (39)
- Monte Carlo Café, Crossley Street, Halifax

HAPPY VALLEY

Happy Valley 2014 onwards starring Sarah Lancashire and James Norton.

Catherine Cawood is a strong-willed police sergeant in West Yorkshire. Catherine is struggling to cope with her daughter's death and just as she seems to be getting her life back together she spots Tommy Lee Royce, the man she believes responsible for her daughter's suicide. She becomes obsessed with finding Royce, unaware that he is involved in a kidnapping, where things slide quickly out of control. Filmed on location in the historic mill towns, villages and hills of the Calder Valley.

Locations used in series one

- Tommy Lee Royce is first sighted at a Chinese takeaway, Tuel Lane, Sowerby Bridge.
- When on the run, Tommy hides out in Hebden Bridge with scenes filmed in the town and by the Rochdale Canal (24)

- Ashley Cowgill's farm is above Ripponden (6).
- The police station scenes were filmed at Sowerby Bridge police station (28) and North Light Film Studios, Huddersfield.
- Catherine visits her daughter Rebecca's grave in Heptonstall Cemetery (2).
- The kidnapping of Ann Gallagher takes place on Saddleworth Road, Halifax (44)
- An arrest by an ice cream van was filmed in Todmorden.
- A councillor is caught with controlled substances in King Cross Street, Halifax.
- Police Officer, Kirsten McAskill, is attacked on Heath Hill Road between Warley (7) and Wainstalls (8).

- Ashley Cowgill dies in a drive by shooting in Hollas Lane, Sowerby Bridge (47).
- Ann's mother makes a confession at Jubilee Refreshment Rooms, Sowerby Bridge Railway Station.
- Catherine's birthday party takes place at Organic House, Market Street Hebden Bridge.

Some of the locations used in series two:

- St George's Square, Hebden Bridge (43)
- Silly Billy's Toyshop, Hebden Bridge (27)
- West View Park, Warley, Halifax (20)
- Parkwood Crematorium, Elland (38)
- Nelson's Wine Bar, Hebden Bridge



GENTLEMAN JACK

2019 onwards starring Suranne Jones and Sophie Rundle.

Anne Lister (1791 - 1840) of Shibden Hall, near Halifax, was a remarkable woman: a landowner, business woman, diarist, mountaineer, traveller and lesbian. Anne kept diaries chronicling her daily life, running to around five million words – three times the length of Samuel Pepys'.

Approximately one sixth of Anne's diaries are written in code, self-invented and referred to as her 'crypt hand'. The coded entries describe Anne's deepest emotions, private affairs and her relationships with a number of women.

Anne chose to always dress in black, wore stout boots and a hat, rather than a feminine bonnet. Presenting an unusual sight around Halifax, how she dressed and conducted herself led to her pejorative nickname 'Gentleman Jack'.

Anne romantically pursued a wealthy young heiress living on a nearby estate: Ann Walker. Their friendship developed, the two became lovers and went on to be secretly married, living together openly at Shibden Hall.

Anne Lister did extraordinary things and wrote about them in extraordinary detail. The story told in her diaries is brought to our screens in the BBC/HBO drama 'Gentleman Jack', written and directed by Sally Wainwright.

If visiting Shibden Hall the bus routes between Halifax Town Centre and the Hall provide a good frequency with 10 buses per hour Monday – Saturday daytime and 6 on Sundays.



Locations used in series one

- Shibden Hall & Park and Cunneory Wood, Halifax (17)
- The Lord Nelson Inn at Luddenden (5) and The Fleece Inn at Elland (48)
- The opening sequence overlooking Halifax was filmed by Wainhouse Tower, King Cross, Halifax (19)
- Ripponden (6) was used for scenes set in Scotland.
- Green Lane & Paddock Lane, Northowram (49) were used for various exterior shots.
- The set for Anne Lister's colliery was built at Sowerby Bridge and scenes were filmed in the interior of St. Peter's Church in the town.

OTHER TV AND FILM PRODUCTIONS WRITTEN BY SALLY WAINWRIGHT



Sparkhouse

SPARKHOUSE 2002

Starring Sarah Smart, Joe McFadden, Alun Armstrong.

The story of a tumultuous relationship between childhood sweethearts is a modern interpretation of Wuthering Heights. A TV mini series filmed in and around Hebden Bridge and Todmorden.

DEAD CLEVER: THE LIFE AND CRIMES OF JULIE BOTTOMLEY 2007

Starring Suranne Jones, Helen Baxendale and Dean Lennox Kelly. Sarah and Julie went to school together in Sowerby Bridge. Years later their lives intertwine again, but now lives are at stake. Filmed partly in Sowerby Bridge and Ripponden (6).

UNFORGIVEN 2009

Starring Suranne Jones and Peter Davison.

As a teenager Ruth was found guilty of murdering two police officers. Now she has been released from prison and is determined to see her sister who was adopted. TV mini series filmed in Halifax.



Scott and Bailey

SCOTT AND BAILEY 2011

Starring Suranne Jones and Lesley Sharp.

TV detective series about two female detectives, with contrasting personalities, which makes for conflict in their professional and private lives. Some scenes were filmed at Blackstone Edge (13).

LAST WITCH 2013

Starring Anne Reid and Katherine Kelly.

This film begins when a homeless woman arrives on Miranda's doorstep seeking shelter – but all is not as it seems. A supernatural thriller set in Halifax, including scenes shot at Shibden Hall (17) and the Woolshops.



Unforgiven