

6/2/6/2

7 April 1995

Dear Paul

As you know, the meeting for the Bennachie Video project will take place at 1400hrs at the Shell HQ at Altens on Tuesday 2nd May. The arrangement with Judith Munro is that the Bristow's representative and I report to Phase Five reception and ask for Judith. I phoned Clare and let her know the arrangement. I assume you will make arrangements for her visit.

The Bristow's representative will be Jason Banks. He is a pilot and sounds very keen. His aerial filming experience is with the RAF in the Falklands. The chopper is a 76 which is said to be a good stable filming platform.

He has been told that the project is to be given two hours flying time. Less positioning time of about ten minutes Dyce to Bennachie and ten return, that gives us about one hour and forty minutes aerial filming time. The letter from Tony Jones said '... subject to a limit of 5 flying hours.' You may want to negotiate again. If no more flying time is forthcoming, don't be downhearted. One hundred minutes is a lot of flying time and we'll just have to be very efficient with our planning and scheduling - though we must bear in mind that some of that flying time will be used to ferry people - the father, son and daughter - from A to B so we can film them at various key points on their journey round the hill. The ground based filming we would do the day before or after.

Jason has advised me that Bristow's do not have a camera mounting for their choppers though they do have a plate which bolts to the floor of the aircraft and onto that a camera mounting can be bolted. As you know we have not costed for a camera mount in our budget. It is the preferred way of filming from an aircraft particularly if you want close shots and controlled zooms - without wobble but there are alternatives:

- 1 - Hire of a mounting. We tend to use helicopter companies which have their own mount which comes as a part of the package when hiring their aircraft for filming. I phoned for one quote from a mounting hire company. Cost of mount for one day plus travel time for the mount plus transport and handling costs London base to Heathrow to Aberdeen, and return, plus engineer to fit mount (mandatory) and his travel time, travel expenses, accommodation and subsistence - would be about £1936.00, excluding VAT. I'm sure I could find a cheaper quote but even if I was able to half the above - it's a lot to spend for 100 minutes of filming. I haven't asked PLM if they would be prepared to hire their mount to Bristow's or how much they would charge.



2 - A stabilised zoom lens, the Schwem Giro Zoom Lens, when used on a shoulder held camera is a big improvement over a shoulder held camera with a standard lens. Wobble would be greatly reduced and a measure of controlled zooming can be achieved. It would cost £200.00 per day ex London, plus freight costs, administration, etc.

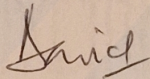
3 - Or we use our standard camera, with standard lens, shoulder held and plan our shots accordingly.

I suggest you have a chat with my colleague Graeme Mowat about this. He is an experienced aerial cameraman and can give you a fuller explanation of the pros and cons from his direct experience.

Over the next few days I'll put together a treatment, or treatments, for the programme which bears in mind the above cost and quality implications.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely



**David Gloag**  
**PRODUCER**

Paul Stallard Esq  
Bailies of Bennachie  
[REDACTED]  
Monymusk  
Inverurie  
ABERDEENSHIRE AB51 [REDACTED]



## A POST CARD FROM BENNACHIE.

- 1) KEEP THE FAMILY.
- 2) 10/11 TH JUNE.
- 3) JULY 15TH COMPLETION.
- 4) FLYING ALL OD ONE DAY.
- 5) ARCHIE / THEO / NORMAN DAVIDSON FOR PERMISSIONS.
- 6) STEADYCAM. OR STABILISED ZOOM LENS.
- 7) AIRCRAFT PRODUCES A '3D MAP'.
- 8) WALK THE ROUTE - MAKE PARTY.
- 9) 3 OR 4 GROUPS OF FAMILIES.
- 10) ALGY & JAMES & MIKE THERE ON THE DAY.
- 11) DICK BALHARRY FOR NARRATION.
- 12) PHOTOGRAPHY IS OK.
- 13) GUIDE / MAPS TO DAVID GLOAG.
- 14) SLEEVE ARTWORK.