Stories to tell about the human and natural worlds

By John Lawrence

Since he was young, Luca Pittalis has wanted to do what Sir David Attenborough does but getting a break in the world of natural history film making is not easy.



Film maker: Luca Pittalis

The self-taught 18-year-old has shown what he can do with a stunning 15-minute travelogue capturing the human life and natural beauty of New Zealand, Australia and Hong Kong from a trip he made to the region this summer to visit relatives.

Using a drone camera for some breathtaking aerial shots, along with GoPro and Canon cameras at ground level, Luca spent a couple of hours each night of his holiday editing his footage. Search 'Luca Pittalis' on YouTube and you will find the end result.

Telling a story

Luca, who lives in Bancroft Avenue, N2, and has just started studying biology at Durham University, says: "I get an urge to make a film when I travel somewhere. It's the story telling that I like. Look at Blue Planet 2, which made people look at the world in a totally different way and started the whole move away from using plastics.

"I want to go into natural history film making so I'll try to tackle something on a larger scale like a full documentary, possibly on something like shark conservation. The hardest thing is to get the funding and get noticed."

High-flying

Luca practised his droneflying skills at low level in East Finchley before taking the device high into the sky in Australia and



Luca says: "This was taken whilst paddling on the Swan River in Perth, Western Australia. It was taken on a GoPro Hero 5, which I used for a lot of the action and personal view shots.

New Zealand. He had to be careful to abide by the rules around where drones can be used but was still able to capture some eyepopping shots, including soaring above the towering skyscrapers of Hong Kong.



cousin Dylan and I had ridden on dirt bikes out to this waterfall. It's a spot that I always go to when I'm out there seeing family and I wanted to incorporate it into the film. I got this one on the drone - I had it follow the course of the river very low down (just a few feet up in the air) and slowly turned the camera to reveal the falls.





Luca says: "This was near the Daintree rainforest, Cairns in Queensland,

Australia. It's a cassowary, the third tallest and second heaviest living bird on the planet and just one example of how biodiverse the regions of north-eastern Australia are. I felt lucky to see one of these in the wild given their endangered

in January and, for the second year running, won the Haringey Boys competition. Congratulations to all concerned.

Winter

bazaar Everyone is welcome to the Nazareth House Winter Bazaar on Saturday 8 December from 2pm to 5pm in the residential care

Coldfall net

Pupils at Coldfall Primary

School in Muswell Hill have

enjoyed an autumn term of

won the Haringey High5 tour-

nament in competition with 17

other schools. Their Under-11

table tennis team qualified for

the London Championships

Their mixed netball team

the wins

sporting success.

There will be music, tea and cakes, a tombola, raffle and stalls selling Christmas decorations, bric-a-brac, good-quality clothes and books. Entry is £1 for adults, children free.

home's main hall at 162

East End Road, N2.

Miles of smiles By Matt Beavan

Children and staff at Holy Trinity School in Eagans Place, N2, are boosting their fitness, mental wellbeing and brainpower by running for 15 minutes every day.

Year 1 teacher Anna Lacle introduced the Daily Mile this term as part of a drive towards a coveted Platinum sports mark. So now, throughout the day, children can be seen doing laps of the school playground. Children can walk for five Cool runnings: Holy Trinity pupils keep moving. steps if they get

tired, but there's no stopping. The exercise is timed to provide a brain break and help increase focus in the classroom. It can also help children eat and sleep better. The teachers are benefiting, too.

Senior Teacher and PE Coordinator Lisa Huegdon said: "It's great to see running shoes in every teacher's cupboard. And we're definitely seeing improvements in the children's focus. They're so enthusiastic about the run."

Just two weeks in, the school had collectively put in 18 hours of running. Just imagine how many miles the children and teachers will have covered by the time of the Tokyo Olympics in 2020.

PARENT & BABY/CHILD ACTIVITIES

- Baby & U baby massage. Contact Ruth at babymassagewithruth@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/babyandubaby-
- EF NCT meet Tuesdays 2.30pm at The Old White Lion. Contact eastfinchleynct@ haringeynct.org
- Musical Tots: 10.45 Tue at The Angel, N6, Weds The Old White Lion and Fridays
- The Five Bells N2. Katemusicaltots on facebook.
- Phoenix Cinema activities, Bringing up baby screenings, Weds, 11am Club, Sat, 12pm; Toddler Time, Tues, 11am. Full details from box office on 020 8444 6789.
- Stay and Play Thurs 9.30-11.15 Green Man Centre, Gary 8359 3640

FUN and MUSIC for BABIES and TODDLERS in N2 on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS at 10am



with LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT ON VIOLIN AND GUITAR at EAST FINCHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH Creighton Avenue



https://www.facebook.com/teddybearsmusicclub https://www.facebook.com/SteppingStonesEastFinchley or text 07836 284538

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Church of England 35a Durham Road, East Finchley, London N2 9DP

Christmas Services

Sunday 23rd December

Get in the mood for Christmas!! 6.30 pm Christmas Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Monday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

3.00 pm Children's Christmas Service with Carols 11.30 pm Sung Midnight Mass

with Blessing of the Crib followed by wine and mince pies Tuesday 25th December

Christmas Day 10.00 am Sung Mass of the Day followed by refreshments

For more details, contact: Fr Christopher Hardy 020 8883 9315 or check our website: www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk