

REELSTREETS

Autumn 2026 Tour

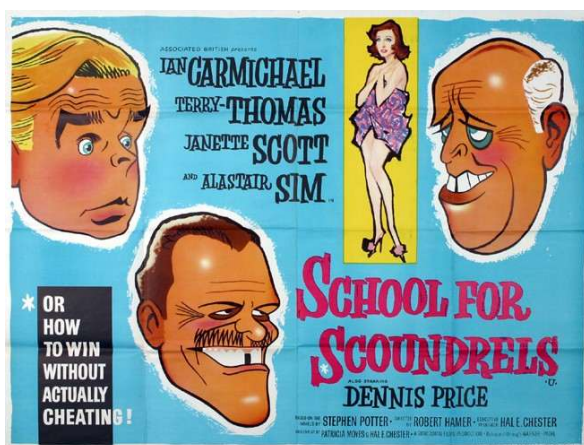
on 30th September

Elstree and Borehamwood

including Elstree & Borehamwood Museum

An Introduction

ReelStreets Tours grew out of the meetings which the site's late Founder John Tunstill used to arrange once or twice a year as a means of socialising with his growing band of researchers and contributors. They were held in a pub on London's Vauxhall Bridge Road which had no connection with any films, that we know of, but was close to Victoria station and the train home. The question was asked "Why don't we meet in a pub that has appeared in a film?", which was deemed a good idea, so a short pub crawl of the hostelries around Maida Vale was arranged. Today's tours are more of a self-guided affair and this sheet is provided to let participants know what films have been shot at the locations indicated. A mobile device is useful if you wish to make comparisons as there's not enough room to show captures from all the productions featured.



The Tour

Meeting outside the entrance of Elstree & Borehamwood station on Station Road at 1100hrs we'll be joined by Simon Gee who will guide us on a walk of around 3 miles. If you're arriving by train, take a moment to look around the platforms where scenes for ***You Made Me Love You*** (1933), ***Let the People Sing*** (1942), ***Girls Will Be Boys*** (1934) and ***Watch It, Sailor!*** (1961) were shot. On Station Road once stood Gate Studios which were known by several names until being acquired by J. Arthur Rank in 1950. From 1954 the site became a manufactory for cinema screens until closure in 2004 with the building being demolished two years later. The town gasworks also stood on what was the southern end of Station Road and can be seen in ***School for Scoundrels*** (1960) and ***Home and Away*** (1956).

Making our way to cross over the railway we pass a former entrance to the station footbridge on Allum Lane which was seen in the 1968 Children's Film Foundation's ***Magnificent Six and ½*** episode ***Kontiki Kids***. Walking into Elstree we head to what is now Grade Close, an approach road on the western side of the station where the long since demolished Station House once stood. The road and building make an appearance in several films including ***Live Now, Pay Later*** (1962), ***The Executioner*** (1970) and ***Return of a Stranger*** (1961). Our foray into Elstree continues onto Deacon's Hill Road where the raft made by the ***Kontiki Kids*** careers down the hill. Turning right we're on The Rise, a road that saw the ***Return of a Stranger*** and ***Confessions of a Pop Performer*** (1975) as well as a ***School for Scoundrels*** before another right turn brings us to suburban looking Bishops Avenue as seen in ***Live Now, Pay Later***.



Station House seen in ***You Made Me Love You***



The Wimpy Bar at 108 Shenley Road from ***Bedazzled***

We now return to the railway bridge by way of Lodge Avenue and Allum Lane to reach Borehamwood's Shenley Road. Passing the corner of Station Road, a location from ***Up the Creek*** (1958), we walk east on the thoroughfare that has been driven along during a ***Mutiny On the Buses*** (1972) and the ***Confessions of a Driving Instructor*** (1976) until finding Furzehill Road. Taking a right at the junction featured in ***Dusty Ermine*** (1936), further to the south-east is

Summerswood School which still stands as it did in *Gideon's Day* (1958). However, we're turning into Whitehouse Avenue, passing through a location from *George and Mildred* (1980) on the way to the junction with Cardinal Avenue which hosted scenes for *Confessions of a Driving Instructor* and *Love Thy Neighbour* (1973). Turning left onto Cardinal Avenue we make our way back to Shenley Road where around the corner on the left at number 108 was the Wimpy Bar from 1967's *Bedazzled*. Crossing the road, we walk into Clarendon Road, make our way past the entrance to the BBC's Elstree studios, and continue on to Malden Road which can be seen in *On the Buses* (1971), *Mutiny on the Buses*, *Love Thy Neighbour* and *Home and Away*. Returning to Shenley Road we now have the opportunity to visit Elstree & Borehamwood Museum and the Ribbon of Dreams exhibition. More detail can be found at <https://www.elstree-museum.org.uk/>



Malden Road in a scene from *On the Buses*



TPTV's Noel Cronin BEM is shown around the museum

Eldon Avenue which saw action in *The Scamp* (1957) as well as *Confessions of a Window Cleaner* released in 1974.

Here, at the junction with Elstree Way we can look back along Shenley Road and recall other films that the road appears in, including *Percy's Progress* (1974), *The Boys in Blue* (1982), *Naked Fury* (1959), *Digby, the Biggest Dog in the World* (1973), *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life* (1983), *The Lamp in Assassin Mews* (1962), *The Tenth Man* (1936), *I Thank a Fool* (1962) and *The Marked One* (1963).

Across the way at the corner of today's Brook Road once stood the Studio 70 cinema. The premises were closed and demolished in December 1981 but can be seen in *The Glitterball* (1977) and *Confessions of a Pop Performer* while



Shenley Road, opposite Cardinal Avenue, featured in *Naked Fury*.



a little way along Brook Road stands St. Theresa's school which is recalled in *The Monster Club* from 1980.

Finally, a short distance along Elstree Way stands the Fire Station. The location can

be seen in *Rentadick* (1972) and *The Shillingbury Blowers* (1980). Now all we have to do is wait for Stan Butler's bus to take us back to the railway station!

Of course, there are many more locations to be seen in and around Borehamwood but time and distance prevent them from being part of this tour. Further details can be found on our site at www.reelstreets.com.

New British films are being released all the time and these are just some of the past productions featured on ReelStreets to have used Elstree and Borehamwood as a location.