



## **Norwich Film Festival confirms Gasway as headline sponsors for 2021 event**

The BAFTA and BIFA qualifying Norwich Film Festival (NFF) has today announced the addition of Gasway, East Anglia's largest heating company to its line-up of festival sponsors for the 2021 edition of the festival.

Joining BFI Film Audience Network, Norwich Business Improvement District and Norwich City Council, who will each return as headline sponsors for the event. Gasway which has been providing heating services since 1982, will also be premiering its third instalment of its Winter TV advert "Warm stories" during the event.

**Gasway's Managing Director, Nick Bartram said:** *'As part of Flagship Group, we have a strong social purpose and have always supported the communities we serve. Our adverts and short films focus on the warmth that our communities give and their importance in our daily lives, which this year feels even more important than ever. I am really looking forward to seeing this year's warm stories on the big screen too.'*

Gasway's sponsorship of the event will help to allow the festival to continue nurturing filmmaking talent and to provide a vast array of screenings, panels, and workshops for visitors during the event.

**Gasway's Marketing Manager, David Metcalf said:** *'We're delighted to be a headline sponsor for Norwich film festival and to have our 2021 "Warm Stories" advert premier at the launch event before it hits Sky TV. We have worked closely with Trett Films to produce our "Warm Stories" advert each year and we're very excited to be part of this year's film festival. It is important to us that we support local events in our communities and the filmmakers of Norwich who have helped us visualise that warmth really matters.'*

The 2021 edition of the festival will run from 12<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November 2021, with a launch event also set for 9<sup>th</sup> November. Following the event's successful temporary shift online during last year's COVID-19 lockdown, this year's festival is set to take place both online and in venues, allowing local, national, and international audiences to attend. Full details of films, events and special guests will be confirmed in the coming months.

**John Gordon-Saker (Chairman of Norwich Film Festival) said:** *'We're delighted to welcome Gasway as a headline sponsor as we move towards our next festival this November. We share a passion for supporting and celebrating the local community, and we're very proud to continue with their support for this year's event.'*

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#### NOTES FOR EDITORS

- A selection of related images for press use can be found [here](#).
- In 2009 Kellen Playford founded Norwich Film Festival after hearing about the difficulties a friend was having trying to organise a local screening of a short film.
- The Festival was re-launched in 2012 as an annual event and has since screened hundreds of fantastic short films in Norwich, while helping to promote and support filmmakers and is supported by Norwich BID, Norwich City Council and the BFI.
- Norwich Film Festival became a charity in 2017 (Registered Charity Number: 1173950) and now has a Board of Trustees chaired by John Gordon-Saker (Owner, JGSNorwich), Alex Saunders (Leathes Prior Solicitors), Tilly Crumpton-Taylor (Management Accountant, Brown & Co), Keith M Johnston (Professor of Film and Television, UEA), Lucy Ward (Owner, Wavelength Films), Fiona Ryder (Owner, TCD Media) and Penny Bartram (Marketing Manager, Norwich/Cambridge Tech Corridor).
- As a BAFTA and BIFA accredited short film festival, any British short film screened at Norwich Film Festival can be submitted to both organisations for consideration.
- Norwich Film Festival hosts six competitive categories including; British Short, International Short, Animated Short, Documentary Short, Student Short and East Anglian Short, with prizes being awarded for each. There is also an out-of-competition One Minute Film category.
- In 2020 the festival temporarily moved to an online format due to COVID-19, with over 150 short films available to watch online throughout the four-week festival.
- Short film submissions for the 2021 festival are currently open, with the main deadline coming up on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Information about submitting to the festival can be found at <https://www.norwichfilmfestival.co.uk/submit/>.