

Paparazzi invade West Berkshire

Paparazzi invaded West Berkshire this month in an attempt to catch a few snap shots of celebrities starring in the new movie *Easy Virtue* which is being filmed at Englefield House by Ealing Studios.

Originally a play by Noel Coward, the new film is set to star actors Colin Firth, Kristin Scott Thomas, Jessica Biel and Ben Barnes.

Australian Stephan Elliott directs this romantic comedy set in the 1920s which focuses on an American divorcee (Biel) who weds a wealthy Englishman (Barnes) while visiting the south of France. With disapproving parents (Firth and Scott Thomas) added to the mix for good measure.

The family home of local MP Richard Benyon, Englefield House, will be used as the residence of the uptight Whittaker family in the film which is no stranger to the screen itself after being used in Woody Allen's 2006 hit *Match Point*.

Post Office worker, Andrew Allen, stated that some of the locals had seen Colin Firth in the village and Stephan Elliott had called in on the local tea room for a bite to eat.

Mr Allen also said that nuisance paparazzi were causing trouble in his garden while attempting to snap pictures of Justin Timberlake.

He stated: "Personally I haven't seen any celebrities but we're a bit stupid here in the post office so I don't think we would have recognised them if we had."

He then added: "The village has been a bit busier than usual and we've had more lorries going through - but other than that there have been no problems."

Easy Virtue is due to be released in 2009.



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