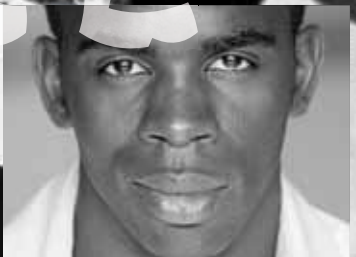


Prospectus

Prospectus



## WHAT is ALRA?

ALRA is a drama school that has a reputation for producing down-to-earth committed actors, stage managers and technicians, ready to work and full of character and drive.

## HOW do you choose a drama school?

Look at the graduates. Are they doing the kind of work you see yourself doing?

Go to the school and talk to the students. They know what it's like; they live it every day.

## WHY train at drama school?

The overwhelming majority of actors, stage managers and technicians working in the business trained at a CDS drama school.

You'll get approximately 33 hours of class time every week (36 if you come to ALRA) with professional tutors and directors.

You'll get a Showcase in the West End (two if you come to ALRA as we showcase in London and Manchester)

You'll work with industry directors, designers, agents and casting directors.

We know drama school training is expensive; see our fees page for information on how we can help you.



# Content:



1. Who are ALRA?
2. Who trained at ALRA?
7. What is ALRA North?
9. What is ALRA South?  
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WELCOME.

# “Who are ALRA?”

Directors  
Clive Duncan  
Adrian Hall

Board of Trustees  
Jimmy Akingbola  
Joe Collins  
Harry Cowd [Chair]  
Peter Elborn  
Richard Gill  
Jane Morton [Vice-Chair]  
Vayu Naidu  
Kathryn Wolfe

Biographies of staff members can be found on our website:

[www.alra.co.uk](http://www.alra.co.uk)

# “Who trained at ALRA?”

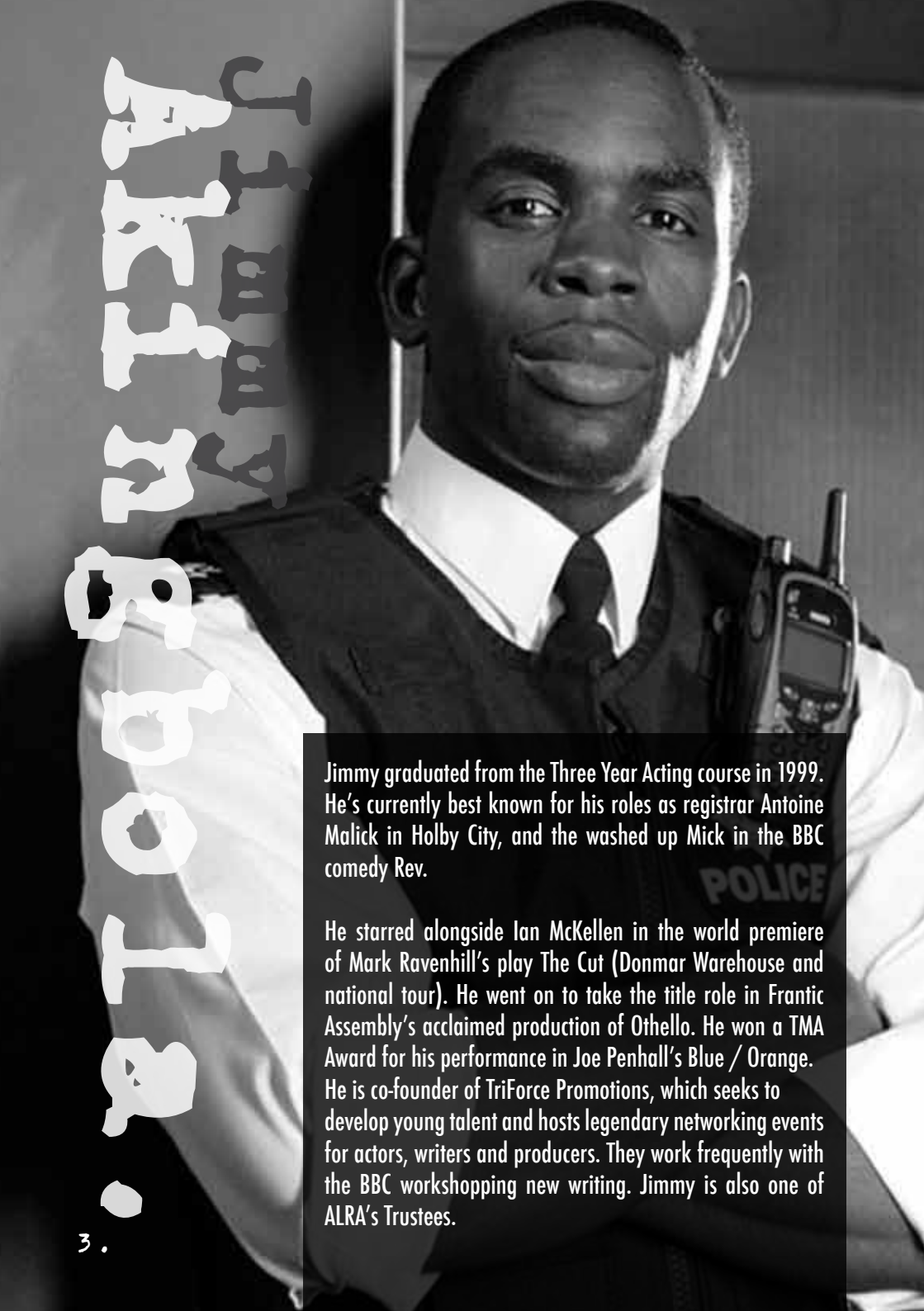
## Miranda Hart.

Miranda studied on the Postgraduate course at ALRA and since has become one of the most recognisable names in British comedy. She earned her reputation as a stand-up comedian at The Edinburgh Festival and on the London stand-up circuit. She first came to prominence with her Radio 4 show *Miranda Hart's House Party*, and the BBC comedy *Not Going Out*.

Miranda's most recent sitcom *Miranda*, on BBC2, earned her two BAFTA Nominations, three British Comedy Awards and an RTS Award.



# ALRA's Reporter.



Jimmy graduated from the Three Year Acting course in 1999. He's currently best known for his roles as registrar Antoine Malick in *Holby City*, and the washed up Mick in the BBC comedy *Rev*.

He starred alongside Ian McKellen in the world premiere of Mark Ravenhill's play *The Cut* (Donmar Warehouse and national tour). He went on to take the title role in Frantic Assembly's acclaimed production of *Othello*. He won a TMA Award for his performance in Joe Penhall's *Blue / Orange*. He is co-founder of TriForce Promotions, which seeks to develop young talent and hosts legendary networking events for actors, writers and producers. They work frequently with the BBC workshopping new writing. Jimmy is also one of ALRA's Trustees.



# Sarah Parish.

Sarah trained on the Three Year Acting course. Sarah is well-known for her gutsy female roles, including Dawn Rudge in *Peak Practice* and Allie Henshall in *Cutting It*. In 2006, she starred alongside Jude Law and Cameron Diaz in *The Holiday*.

She's also taken lead roles in *Doctor Who* and the TV film *Sex, the City and Me*. Most recently Sarah has returned to her starring role as GP Katie Roden in *Mistresses*.



# Lucy Liemann.

Lucy graduated from ALRA in 2003. She's perhaps best known for her role as Jasmine in the remake of Reggie Perrin, starring alongside Martin Clunes. She also appeared in *The Bourne Ultimatum* with Matt Damon.

Her list of TV credits is impressive – her most recent roles include Rev (along with fellow ALRA graduate Jimmy Akingbola), *New Tricks* and *Hotel Babylon*. She's also worked with the BBC Radio 4 on several productions.



Others Include - Tom Craig:  
Coronation Street, Soldier Soldier,  
I.D. & Casualty.



Vincent Regan: 300, Troy  
& Bonded by Blood.



Tanya Franks: Pulling, Eastenders  
& Skins.



Recent Graduates - Fiston Barek:  
National Theatre, Oval House  
Theatre & Doctors.



Stephen Lloyd: Rock and Chips,  
Silent Witness & Come Dancing.



Michael Lyle: History Boys, Unicorn  
Theatre & The Globe.



academy of live and recorded arts www.alra.co.uk

alra

North:

## What is ALRA North?

ALRA - the first and only drama school to offer London and regional training with a home in London and a home in Wigan.

## Why did we open a North West campus?

Because of work, agents and casting directors based in the North. Some of the most exciting theatre in the UK is produced in the North – at Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse, the Royal Exchange Manchester, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Bolton Octagon and Northern Broadsides. The BBC also have a big presence in the North.

In Wigan, running costs are less expensive so we offer reduced fees. The cost of living is also cheaper in the North.

Information on our Wigan home is here:  
[www.alra.co.uk/North](http://www.alra.co.uk/North)



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South:

## What is ALRA South?

ALRA South is based at the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, a magnificent Grade II listed Victorian Gothic building on the edge of Wandsworth Common, South West London. This is where ALRA has been based for the last 30 years.

The building is shared with artists and artisans, small businesses and private residents. It's a unique community – there's even a wine bar on site. ALRA South is just a short walk away from Clapham Junction, so there is excellent access to the city centre.

Information on our London home is here:  
[www.alra.co.uk/South](http://www.alra.co.uk/South)



# Three Year Acting course

## Professional actor training

Programme content:

Building Performance: Working from a variety of texts from Shakespeare to Contemporary  
Acting Studies: Acting Technique, Acting for Camera, Acting for Radio, Improvisation  
Voice Studies: Voicing Text, Technical Voice, Articulation and RP, Choral  
Movement Studies: Creative Movement, Period Movement, Combat  
Contextual Studies: Contextualising Voice, Movement and Acting. Musicianship, Professional Practice and Industry Knowledge.

Third Year Acting students perform in three plays in the ALRA theatre, tour, make short films, a TV Presentation DVD and perform in Showcases in London and in Manchester.

Qualifications

BA (Hons) Acting

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Acting [Trinity]

# Courses:



# Postgraduate Acting course

## 15 months professional actor training

Programme content:

**Acting and Performance Studies:** Working from texts which include Contemporary, Greek, Shakespeare, 19th Century Realism. Acting Technique, Acting for Camera, Acting for Radio, Improvisation, Approach

**Voice Studies:** Voicing Text, Technical Voice, Articulation and RP, Choral

**Movement Studies:** Creative Movement, Period Movement, Combat

**Contextual Studies:** Adaptation, Character Research, Musicianship, Professional practice, Practical Research Project

Postgraduate students perform in one play in the ALRA theatre, tour a separate production, make short films and perform in Showcases in London and in Manchester.

Qualifications

MA Professional Acting

Level 5 Diploma in Professional Acting [Trinity]

# Foundation Acting

One year - 8 hours weekly

Suitable for those considering going on to full time actor training. The part-time hours can be fitted around work, childcare or other education commitments.

Programme content:

Acting: Basic acting approaches, Audition preparation

Voice: Introduction to vocal techniques

Movement: Introduction to movement techniques

Students perform in a Showcase of work in the ALRA theatre.

Qualifications

ALRA Foundation Acting Certificate

# Courses:





# Stage Management

## Foundation Degree in Stage Management & Technical Theatre

Programme content:  
Stage Management: Hands on experience of ASM and DSM roles.  
Lighting and Sound: Working alongside industry professionals to design, rig and operate both lighting and sound.  
Production Management: Budgeting, Prop Sourcing & Scheduling on all ALRA public productions.  
Set Design: Scale Drawing, Carpentry and Scenic Art  
Work Placement: Four weeks industry work experience in the Second Year.

Available at ALRA South.

### UCAS Codes

University of Greenwich Institution code: G70  
Stage Management & Technical Theatre course code: W450

### Qualifications

Stage Management & Technical Theatre  
Foundation Degree [UoG]

# Technical Production

## One Year Technical Production for Live and Recorded Arts

This is a highly intensive, highly vocational training in all technical aspects of Film, TV and recorded media.

### Qualification

ALRA Certificate in Technical Production.

### Teaching

Teaching is supported by a host of freelance professionals currently working in the industry. There are workshops with Orbital and in-house workshops with Rosco and Flints.

All Technical students are First Aid trained in their first term at ALRA.

### Public Productions

Technical Theatre students work on each public production ALRA North produces, including Film, TV & Radio. You take a different role on each production, and learn on the job.

### Work Placements

Technical students at ALRA North will forge relationships with TV, Film and Radio producers across the North West, including BBC, Granada and independent film makers.

Available at ALRA North.

“WHAT  
help  
will I get?”

ALRA will  
support you  
with:

- **Study skills support** for students who need extra help; a high proportion of our students are dyslexic or dyspraxic.
- **Counselling** at both centres as required. Sessions are free and confidential.
- A **Hardship fund** for students in urgent financial need.
- **Accommodation days** at both centres to put you in touch with agents, landlords and vacant student accommodation.
- **Induction week** at the start of First Year to help you settle in.
- Enrichment activities including **workshops** with external practitioners.
- Social events like the **Christmas Cabaret** and **Stand-up night**.

# How much will it cost?

Course fees:	Course	with DADA	paying Privately	paying Privately with Student Loan
	Three Year Acting North [inc £350 University fee]	£1,625	£8,650 <sup>1</sup>	£2,650 <sup>1</sup>
	Three Year Acting South [inc £350 University fee]	£1,625	£11,995 <sup>1</sup>	£5,995 <sup>1</sup>
	Postgraduate Acting North [inc £350 University fee]	£1,625	£9,845 <sup>1</sup>	n/a
	Postgraduate Acting South [inc £350 University fee]	£1,625	£13,750 <sup>1</sup>	n/a
	Foundation Acting North	n/a	£1,895 <sup>1</sup>	n/a
	Foundation Acting South	n/a	£1,895 <sup>1</sup>	n/a
	Stage Management Foundation Degree South EU Student [International Student]	n/a	tbc [£9,375]	tbc
	Technical Production North	n/a	£4,500	n/a

- ALRA offers monthly, termly, and annual payment options, for private fee paying students on the Three Year Acting course and Postgraduate Acting course, with discounts available for termly and annual payments.

- Students at ALRA South will receive a £500 fee discount for annual payment in full, or a £250 fee discount for termly payments.

- Students at ALRA North will receive a £300 fee discount for annual payment in full, or a £150 fee discount for termly payments.

- Students on the Foundation Acting course at ALRA South and ALRA North will receive a £100 fee discount for annual payment in full, or a £50 fee discount for termly payments.

<sup>1</sup> Figures quoted demonstrate the full fee discount available for annual payment.

N.B. All fees may be subject to small annual increase. Some fee rates are externally imposed, and may fluctuate.

## Further Funding Info:

Dance and Drama Awards: -  
[www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama](http://www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama)

Student Loans: -  
[www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance)

# “Where can I get help with fees?”

ALRA is a private school, working with partners in Further and Higher Education. Depending on personal circumstances and the course undertaken, students can access funding from a variety of sources.

The Three Year Acting course and the Postgraduate Acting course are part-funded by Dance and Drama Awards (see below).

On the Stage Management & Technical Theatre Foundation Degree, Home/EU Students are eligible for a Tuition Fee Loan through the Student Loans Company (SLC) to match the level of tuition fees payable.

Students on the Three Year Acting course who are not offered Dance and Drama Awards are entitled to apply for a Student Loan to assist them with the cost of tuition. In 2012, it is expected that the maximum tuition fee loan available for this course will be £6,000. This will leave a balance of tuition fees to be payable (see table, left) from private means. The amounts vary at ALRA North and ALRA South.

All students who are eligible to receive Student Loan funding, whether on the Three Year Acting course or Stage Management & Technical Theatre Foundation Degree, are eligible to apply for a Maintenance Loan to help with living expenses. The amount you are entitled to depends on your income (or that of your parents), and where you are living while studying, but can be as much as £7,675 at ALRA South, and £5,500 at ALRA North. Students living at home can apply for a maximum of £4,375.

Dance and Drama Awards (DaDAs) are scholarships funded by the Young People’s Learning Agency. They are awarded by schools to the students who display the most potential to succeed in the profession. Applicants are considered for awards as part of their audition, and notified if they have been successful at a later date.

Please note, Dance and Drama Awards and Student Loans have eligibility criteria which must be met in order to receive funding. Please visit the respective websites [bottom previous page] for full details.

Professional and Career Development Loans are commercial bank loans that can be used to help pay for work related learning. You can borrow between £300 and £10,000 to help support the cost of up to two years of learning (or three years if it includes one year’s relevant unpaid practical work). The Government will pay the interest on the loan while you are learning and for one month afterwards. You will then need to start repaying the loan as you would any other commercial loans product. The loan can be used to pay course fees or other costs such as travel and living expenses. You can also use the loan to supplement other forms of support such as grants or bursaries.

As the Professional and Career Development Loan is a commercial loan product, you should make sure you have investigated all the funding options that may be open to you to ensure you take an informed decision about whether the Loan is right for you. For further information on financial assistance to support your learning, visit: [www.direct.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.direct.gov.uk/adultlearning) or contact Next Step on 0800 100 900. Our learning provider registration number is: 1026.

There is no funding support available for students on the Foundation Acting course.

# The ALRA Outreach Programme.

As part of ALRA's commitment to widening participation and access for all we run an extensive outreach programme which covers schools, colleges and universities.

“ I think the fact that ALRA came to our college to audition us was brilliant. We all felt so comfortable as we were in an environment that we were used to. Of course it was still nerve-racking but I really enjoyed it; it was a fabulous experience and lots of fun.

”  
I'm so glad that I got the place in the end.

Hannah Gaskell, Winstanley College



# Who else do you work with?

## **Company of Angels**

[[www.companyofangels.co.uk](http://www.companyofangels.co.uk)]: Co-produced the public productions Sandholm (2011), Iphigenia and This Child (2010).

## **Tara Arts**

[[www.tara-arts.com](http://www.tara-arts.com)]: We brought public productions Skellig and Junk to the Tara Studio in 2011, and Loveplay, Iphigenia, and This Child in 2010. Tara also collaborate on the Postgraduate schools tour each year.

## **London College of Communication**

[[www.lcc.arts.ac.uk](http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk)]: Students on the LCC film-making courses work with our Second Year students to produce short films in the Summer Term each year.

## **Bursteardrum Films**

[[www.bursteardrum.net](http://www.bursteardrum.net)]: Collaborate with ALRA regularly, most recently shooting short films with us (2011), running an 'Acting for Camera' course for Deaf/BSL actors (2010), and using ALRA Acting students in a documentary about the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building (2009).

## **Yellow Earth Theatre**

[[www.yellowearth.org](http://www.yellowearth.org)]: ALRA and Yellow Earth work together to produce a summer school for British East Asian actors called 'Yellow Academy'.



“HOW do  
I get a  
place at  
ALRA?”



# Acting:

- Apply online
- Learn two speeches
- Come and audition
- We guarantee to see every applicant
- We like to be different at ALRA
- We like you to be different at ALRA

We won't make a decision about your work in five minutes; we will see you for two to three hours before we make a decision.

We'll see you work individually and as part of a team. First, make sure you read the Audition Guidelines and related information on our website.

# Technical:

Stage Management & Technical Theatre students should check the latest details about applying at:

[www.alra.co.uk/apply](http://www.alra.co.uk/apply)

Bring yourself, bring some examples and photos of your work and be ready to talk.

This is your opportunity; show us how you communicate.



“What else  
does ALRA  
do?”

## **Inset Course: 'Preparing Your Students for Drama School Auditions'**

Inset at ALRA is different, with no presentations and no handouts. We put you through the audition workshops. Then we add you to the audition panels and for the whole audition day you will be able to take part in the discussions and see how decisions are made. Feedback from previous days has been fantastic and we hope the experience goes straight back to your students.

## **Audition Technique**

**Course Leader:** John Wild

A one day workshop aimed at those applying to drama schools or actors who wish to further their audition technique. Various Saturdays through Autumn and Spring.

Email John at [johnroyhart@gmail.com](mailto:johnroyhart@gmail.com) for details and to book.

## **Get started on a teaching career with our 'Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector' course**

This course leads to the City and Guilds Level 3 qualification 7303: Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector. It is ideal if you have just started your career in adult education as a teacher or trainer or if you wish to gain employment in this field.

## **HSE First Aid**

**Appointed Person [1 day] &**

**Paediatric First Aid [2 day]**

**First Aid at Work [3 day]**

**Course Leader:** Adrian Hall

ALRA is now to be able to offer HSE certified First Aid Training.

# Widening Participation.

ALRA has a total commitment to widening participation. Check the website for the latest details.

## Yellow Academy

Course Leaders: Clive Duncan and Kumiko Mendl

Yellow Academy is a summer school run jointly by ALRA and Yellow Earth Theatre for British East Asians interested in acting. British East Asians from across the UK audition for a place on the course, and gather for a week of drama school training in late July.

## Theatre Interpreting Course for BSL

### Interpreters

Registered with ASLI

Course Leader: Sula Gleeson

The Theatre Interpreting Course has been developed by ALRA to provide training for BSL Interpreters seeking to interpret live theatrical performances for Deaf BSL users. Participants must have studied BSL to NVQ Level 4.



## Acting for Camera for Deaf/BSL Users

Course Leader: Samuel Dore

Acting for Camera is a fortnight long summer course for Deaf/BSL users. Samuel Dore directs participants in two short films, performed entirely in British Sign Language. One of our films, 3 for 1, won the Youth Award at Deaffest 2011.

# ALRA North

Turner Street  
Wigan  
WN1 3SU

Train Stations: Wigan Wallgate and Wigan North Western

Buses: 320, 362, 620, 352, 360, 375, 385.

By Train

Wigan Wallgate and Wigan North Western are a 15 minute walk away.

Access

ALRA North has excellent access for people with disabilities, and we welcome applications from those with access needs.

# ALRA South

Studio 24  
The Royal Victoria Patriotic Building  
John Archer Way  
London  
SW18 3SX

Train Stations: Clapham Junction and Wandsworth Common

Buses: 77, 37, 219, 319, 337, 670.

By Train

Clapham Junction is a 20 minute walk away.

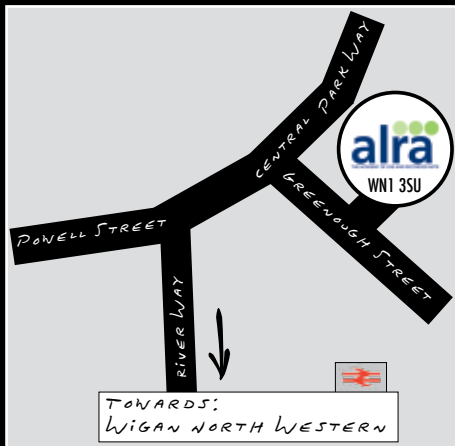
Access

Please call us on 020 8870 6475 to discuss your needs before setting off on your journey.

For more detailed travel and access information visit:

[www.alra.co.uk](http://www.alra.co.uk)

“HOW do I find YOU?”



# Partners & Sponsors:



For more information please contact:

020 8870 6475

info@alra.co.uk

www.alra.co.uk

ALRA Head Office:

Studio 24, Royal Victoria Patriotic Building,

John Archer Way,

London,

SW18 3SX

Company Number: 4306353.

Charity Number: 1090724.

Registered in England.

Registered Office as above.

Production Photography by:

Samuel Dore

Yi Chen

Dan Rowson

www.alra.co.uk

