

# TOPTIPS

## PICTURES AND VIDEO ONLINE: USING YOU TUBE & FLICKR

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Putting pictures and video online can be a great way to spread news about your church and the gospel message. Here our technology expert, Ian Britton, explains how to use the popular video and photography websites YouTube and Flickr.

### YOU TUBE - <http://www.youtube.com>

YouTube is the leader in online video, sharing original videos worldwide through the internet. They allow people to easily upload and share video clips across the Internet through websites, mobile devices, blogs, and email.

YouTube accepts video files from most digital cameras and camcorders, and mobile phones in the .AVI, .MOV, .WMV, and .MPG file formats. Your edited video needs to be less than 10 minutes, smaller than 1GB in size, and in an acceptable format.

To give you an idea of how you could use YouTube take a look at <http://uk.youtube.com/THENBA>  
The most popular video at present is the hymn Be Thou my Vision which has been watched 31,941 times.

Once you have found a video you enjoy watching the next step is to download it so you can show it at church or in your house group etc. I use some software by Moyea Software called FLV Downloader. This will let you record any flash video file (FLV) from the Internet to your computer and then convert it to a format so you can then play it back on your computer.

If you have DVD quality video files you wish to share, you could also use a service like blip.tv. Go to <http://freefoto.blip.tv> to see examples of high quality video files which you can also download.

Finally you could also open an account in parallel on GodTube <http://www.godtube.com/>

### FLICKR - <http://www.flickr.com>

Sharing pictures of church events is now much easier thanks to image sharing sites like Flickr and Google's Picasa Web Albums.

Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing application in the world. As of November 2008, it claims to host more than 3 billion images. Accounts are free to set up with an option to upgrade to a pro account for a small yearly fee. Uploading tools are free to download and you can then upload from your desktop, send by email, or use your cameraphone.

I use Flickr to share picture of a number of Christian events in the North East including Prom Praise North East, Just 10 and a small picture library for the Northern Baptist Association.

You can see how I use Flickr to share images at [www.flickr.com/photos/freefoto/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/freefoto/)

The free Picasa software from Google will also help you organise, edit and print your images: <http://picasa.google.com/>