



FACTUAL

SPRING/SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS 2004



LONDON

London is the story of England's capital city as seen through the eyes of artists, writers, visionaries and the man on the street.

Presented by Peter Ackroyd and based on his acclaimed book, *London — The Biography*, the series mixes folklore, mythology and vivid local detail to create a journey through history, geography and the imagination, bringing to life the stories and characters associated with each alley, courtyard, street and tunnel.

Influential writers whose visions have shaped the spirit of London include William Blake, Samuel Pepys, William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens and Virginia Woolf. Their writings and observations are dramatised in reconstructions featuring a cast led by Derek Jacobi and Corin Redgrave.

BRITAIN GOES WILD WITH BILL ODDIE

Viewers are invited to join in a celebration of great British wildlife as, from a picture-postcard farm in Devon, Bill Oddie and Kate Humble introduce a host of unforgettable animal characters live on air.

The intimate dramas of these creatures unfold throughout the series. Blue tits, robins, badgers, nuthatches, barn owls, flycatchers, and swallows are all residents to be observed in their rural habitat.

Complementing Bill and Kate's cast of characters is an assortment of creatures introduced live by Simon King. Travelling the length of Britain, Simon reveals the wonderful world of British wildlife, from the mighty Bass rock in the Firth of Forth, down to a secret location in central London.



RESTORATION

Restoration returns to throw a lifeline to one of Britain's endangered historic buildings.

Viewers again hold the fate of a building in their hands as they choose from 21 of the UK's threatened architectural gems.

In a resounding endorsement of the public's passion for Britain's heritage, last year's Restoration received more than 2.2 million votes and raised £3.5m towards the restoration of The Victoria Baths in Manchester.

This summer, BBC Two and BBC Four viewers have another chance to make their mark on history.

The programmes are each devoted to an area of the UK and focus on three properties at risk. As with last year's series, presented by Griff Rhys Jones with Ptolemy Dean and Marianne Suhr, every style is featured, from country houses to Gothic castles, from follies to factories.

At the end of each programme, viewers can vote for one of the three buildings featured. The series climaxes with a magnificent live event and viewers decide which of the finalists is most worthy of restoration.

JIMMY'S FARM

Jimmy Doherty is a 28-year-old Essex boy with a dream. The dream is to live the good life by turning a deserted old dairy farm into a thriving business. Jimmy hopes by returning to traditional methods of farming he will be able to produce the best pork for the food market and make his farm pay.

Until recently, Jimmy was immersed in academic life studying insects but he has no qualifications for pig farming. Even though eleven farmers go to the wall every week, Jimmy's undaunted. By rearing several breeds of rare pigs, including what he hopes will be his flagship brand, the almost extinct Essex pig, Jimmy will produce sausages and bacon in his own butchery and sell direct to the public. This is his plan to turn his farm into a profitable business.

Jimmy's Farm follows Jimmy's efforts in his first year to prevent, against the odds, his dream from turning into a nightmare.





DIARMUID'S BIG ADVENTURE

At last Mays Chelsea Flower Show, Diarmuid Gavin made a surprise announcement — next year, he was going to build a garden at Chelsea. For Diarmuid, it was the ultimate challenge: to win a gold at the world's most prestigious gardening show.

His design is ambitious and controversial. Chelsea will never have seen anything like it. However, this time, has Diarmuid bitten off more than he can chew? BBC cameras have been following him every step of the way — and he's even been filming himself with his own personal Diarmuid cam. With unique access to his private life, this

THE FOUR MINUTE MILE

To mark the 50th anniversary of one of the greatest sporting achievements of all time, The Four Minute Mile explores Roger Bannister's extraordinary athletic feat.

This is the story of a legendary day — 6 May 1954 — when a young medical student at Oxford University ran his way into history in just three minutes and 59.4 seconds. Bannister's is also a story of human achievement born of self-sacrifice and youthful idealism, of the triumph of the amateur spirit in an age of austerity.

The build-up to the event is related by Roger Bannister and by friends, rivals, journalists and eye-witnesses. Archive footage and dramatic reconstruction evoke the atmosphere of post-war Britain finding a new hero.



D-DAY TO BERLIN

D-Day is over and the Allied troops have carved a fragile foothold in Normandy — but this is no time for celebration. As occupied Europe waits expectantly, the Allies still face the very real threat of annihilation.

D-Day To Berlin is a powerful new series recounting the Allies' remarkable progress from the beaches of Normandy to their ultimate victory in Germany, just 11 months later. Powerful and fast-moving, the series tells the story of the greatest ever combined military operation, through the moving testimonies of those who took part.

The series, produced by Andrew Williams, of the award-winning Battle Of The Atlantic, looks at the tensions between Montgomery and Eisenhower and asks whether the western Allies could have reached Berlin even earlier and changed the shape of post-war Europe.

BATTLEFIELD BRITAIN

Britain is a country that has been forged by centuries of warfare. Using amazing graphics to recreate the epic scale of war, father-and-son team Peter and Dan Snow tell the story of battles that have shaped the country in which we live. From Boudica's uprising against the Romans to the Battle of Britain, the series journeys through 2,000 years of invasion, civil war and rebellion.

Peter reveals how the strategies of the best and worst commanders determined the fate of the British Isles, while Dan gives the soldiers' perspective of what it must have been like to ride, march, fly and sail into battle.





MAKE ME HONEST

In this groundbreaking new series, five ordinary members of the public are given six months to help five criminals go straight by acting as their mentors.

TRADING AGES

Is growing old merely a state of mind, or do people think, feel and act differently in old age? Trading Ages explores people's attitudes old age, giving two individuals the

