



MONARCH OF THE GLEN

New beginnings and happy endings come calling as feel-good drama *Monarch of the Glen* experiences its final Highland fling.

The seventh, and final, series sees the MacDonald family face the ultimate battle – to ensure the Glenbogle estate survives in an ever-changing world. As well as *Monarch* favourites Susan Hampshire, Lloyd Owen, Sandy Morton, Tom Baker, Rae Hendrie and Martin Compston, this series sees the arrival of Kirsty Mitchell as feisty shepherdess Iona MacLean and Kellyanne Farqhar as Amy, the laird’s god-daughter.

Bringing to a close some of the best-loved stories, the final series also sees the return of familiar faces from Glenbogle’s past, including Hamish Clark, Julian Fellowes and a spirited return from Richard Briers as Hector MacDonald.

JW

THE WORST WEEK OF MY LIFE

Having finally made it down the aisle after the worst week of his life, it seems as if things are finally going well for Howard. He and Mel are about to move into a new home together and they are expecting their first child. It seems for once everything is perfect. But seven days in the life of Howard Steel are never simple...

The first series witnessed the week leading up to Howard and Mel’s wedding in which he managed to: lose the wedding ring; knock out the best man; molest his future mother-in-law; hospitalise his fiancée’s grandmother; throw the in-laws’ dog into a cement mixer; and was accused of impregnating an office colleague. Moving house and becoming parents should prove challenging for the Steels...

Following the critically acclaimed first series, *The Worst Week of My Life* stars Ben Miller, Sarah Alexander, Alison Steadman, Geoffrey Whitehead and Janine Duvitski. It is written, produced and directed by Justin Sbresni and Mark Bussell.

KC



MAKING THE DEAD

Emmy award-winning series *Making the Dead* returns for a new series of two-part films.

Trevor Eve, Sue Johnston and Wil Johnson return along with new recruits Esther Hall and Félicité du Jeu.

Following the tragic death of former colleague DS Mel Silver (Claire Goose), Frankie (Holly Aird) has left the team to return to research and Felix (Hall), a bright, strong, somewhat altruistic and objective pathologist, has stepped into her shoes.

The team is finding it extremely hard to come to terms with Mel’s death and finding a replacement is proving to be a heartbreaking challenge.

However, when Stella, a dedicated, ambitious DS, arrives for an interview, it seems she may have what it takes to be member of this close-knit team.

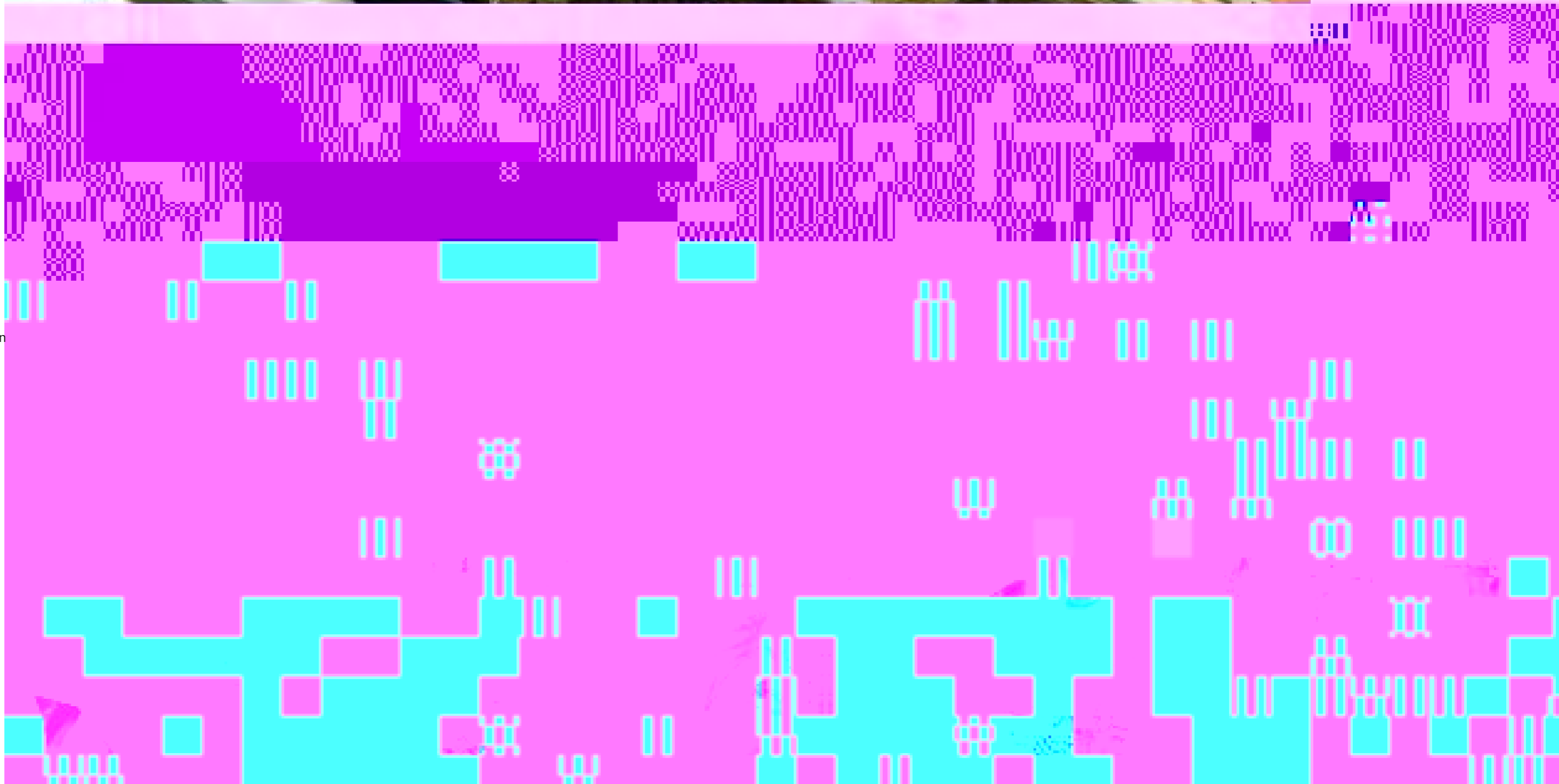
Using advanced techniques in forensic science, the Met’s crack squad of experts gets under the skin of some tough “cold cases” to discover the truth. Boyd’s (Trevor Eve) team of devoted professionals often takes risks in order to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Guest stars include: David Walliams, David Hayman, Nicola Stephenson, Ayesha Dharker, Toby Stephens and Paul Freeman.

CP

LITTLE BRITAIN

With more awards tucked beneath its laydee's petticoats than Bubbles has rolls of fat, the time has come once again





Shakespeare's reputation as a dramatist and poet is unique. Considered by many to be the greatest playwright of all time, Shakespeare's plays have merited translation and performances in cultures far removed from medieval England. The universality of his themes – love, marriage, death, guilt, separation, reunion and reconciliation to name but a few – gives his work a continual freshness and relevance. They also help us to understand what it is to be human.

This autumn, the BBC is celebrating Shakespeare with a variety of programmes and initiatives across its services – television, radio and online – in an attempt to rediscover the Bard, explore his work in original ways and investigate his life story and the mythmaking that surrounds him.

The centrepiece of this celebration will be four modern interpretations by some of Britain's leading television writers for BBC One.

Shirley Henderson plays Kate opposite Rufus Sewell's Petruchio in Sally Wainwright's version of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Vitriolic, aggressive and "shrewish", Kate is an opposition MP who is instructed to find herself a husband to make her more electable. Twiggy Lawson, Stephen Tompkinson, David Mitchell and Jaime Murray also star in the romantic comedy which explores the complexities of relationships against a backdrop of glamorous London circles and politics.

In David Nicholls's *Much Ado About Nothing*, Sarah Parish plays Beatrice, presenter of a popular early evening regional news show whose ex-lover and arch enemy, Benedick, played by Damian Lewis, is hired as her co-anchor. Billie Piper plays weathergirl Hero.

Peter Moffat's *Macbeth* is transposed to the enclosed and heated world

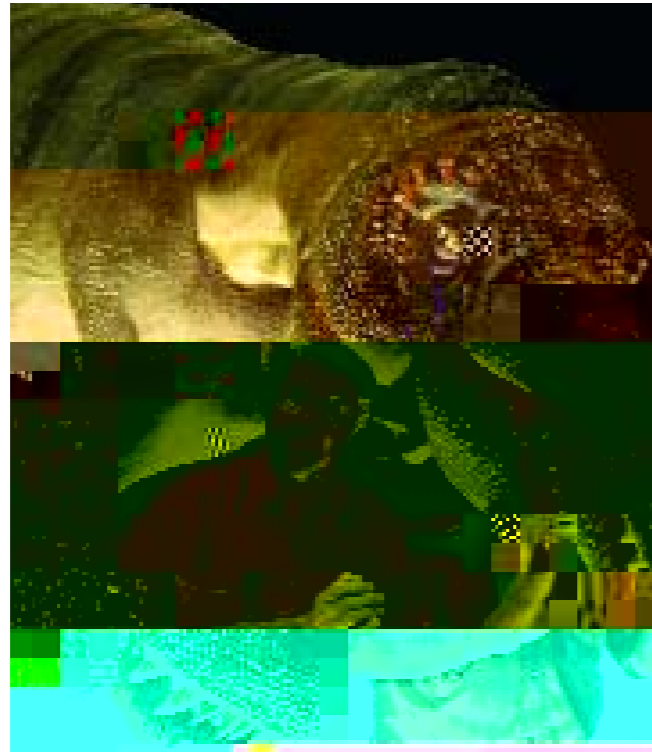
STEP FAMILIES

One in 10 families in the UK is a stepfamily and the figure is rising, with more than two million children in stepfamilies.

A new BBC series gets to the heart of five stepfamilies to explore the problems and the challenges. Suzie Hayman – a Relate-trained counsellor specialising in stepfamilies – has just six weeks to work with each family to see if she can identify their problems and help them tackle any conflict.

Suzi explores issues, which will be familiar to stepfamilies across the country, ranging from coping with exes to merging different family units together.

HM



THE TRUTH ABOUT KILLER DINOSAURS

They have the scariest reputation of all the creatures that have lived on Earth and now, in a series hosted by Bill Oddie, viewers can finally learn the truth about some of the world's greatest beasts and their awesome physical power.

The Truth About Killer Dinosaurs is the ultimate clash of the titans in which the giants of pre-history, recreated and pitched against each other, will engage in mortal combat, using the most accurate and naturalistic CGI "dino-animation" ever seen. The series harnesses new research and gives a fresh perspective on how the most ferocious killers in history really lived and died.

KC

LOVE SOUP

Starring Tamsin Greig, Michael Landes and Trudie Styler, *Love Soup* is a romantic comedy-drama series by the creator of *One Tree Hill*, David Renwick.

Today, statistics show that the UK is a nation of people dragging their feet over settling down. People are getting married later – in 1991 the average age was 25, now it is 30. More people are living alone – 41 per cent of women over 16 are neither married nor cohabiting. And by 2011, the prognosis is that over 50 per cent of all men and women will never marry. So if more and more people are waiting longer and longer to meet their soul mate, what is happening in their love lives in the meantime? And what are their prospective partners getting up to in theirs?

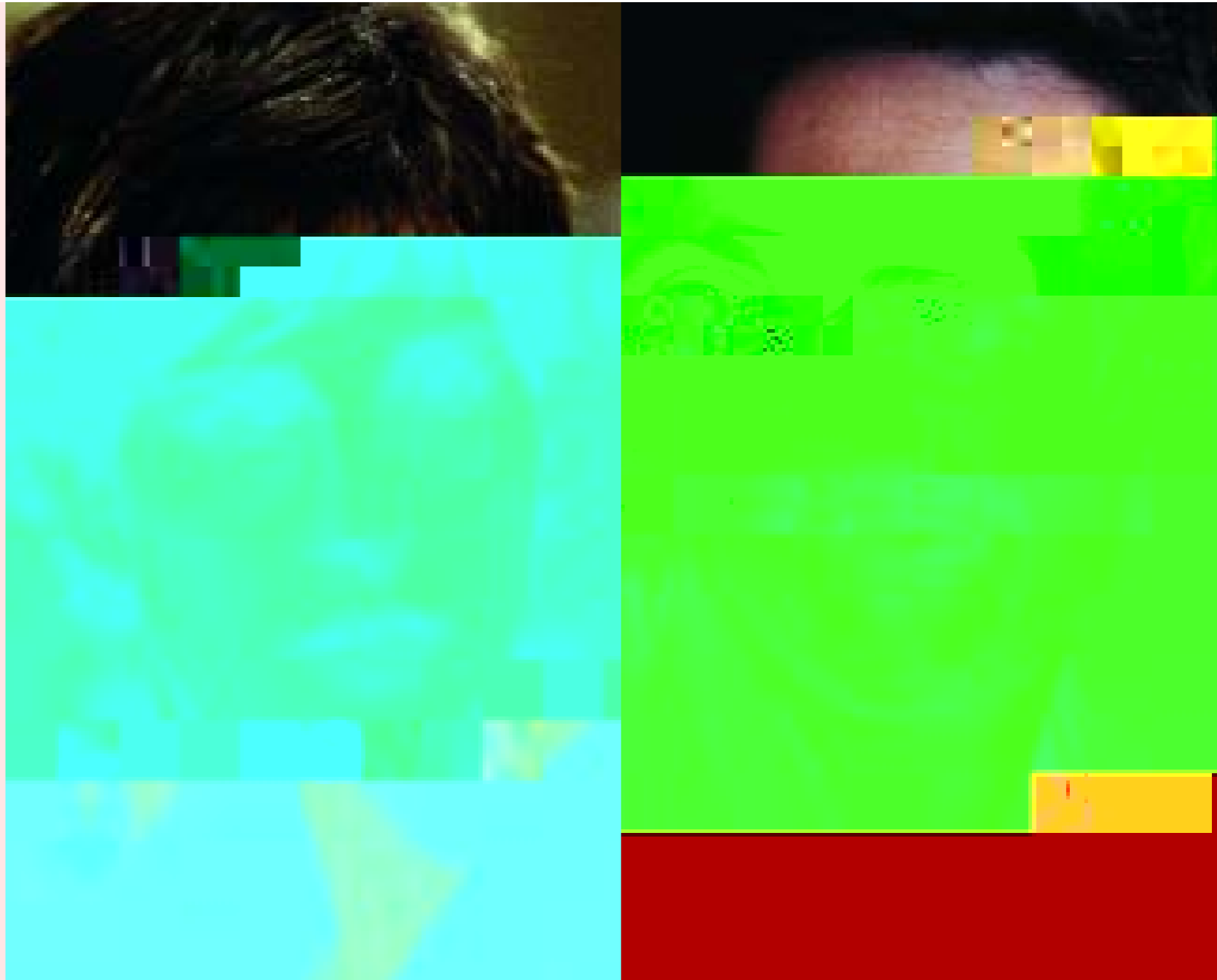
Love Soup looks at what happens when your first love is a distant memory but you haven't yet found "the one". Dealing with the parallel lives of a perfectly matched couple who have yet to meet each other, the comedy-drama follows their hopes, fears and dating disasters as they try to remain sane in a world from which they each feel increasingly excluded.

Tamsin Greig (*Teen King*, *Bac Boo*) plays Alice Chenery, an account manager for a perfume company in a London department store, struggling to maintain a flat in Brighton she cannot afford. Michael Landes (*The One*, *Year*, *The Prince of Bel Air*) plays Gil, a successful American comedy writer who has fled his home country in search of artistic integrity and a lasting relationship.

Each week, *Love Soup* shows their continuing doomed attempts to find the definitive partner who will bring them the happiness they deserve. Will fate ever put them together? Since when has fate ever been kind?

Trudie Styler is Gil's neighbour, Irene, and Sheridan Smith plays Cleo, one of Alice's colleagues and unofficial matchmaker on the perfume counter.

SA/JD



THE LAST TOMMY

The Great War of 1914-18 wiped out millions of young men. Many of those who made it home to Blighty never spoke of the horrors of the trenches. Now, of the five and a half million British and Commonwealth servicemen who fought, just a handful remains. *The Last Tommy* follows the six surviving British veterans, all over 100, and all that's left of the brave band of brothers, as they tell their stories for the last time.

Harry Patch had tried to forget the horrors, including the loss of all but two of his entire platoon of 30, in a war in which witnessing terrible and painful death was

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