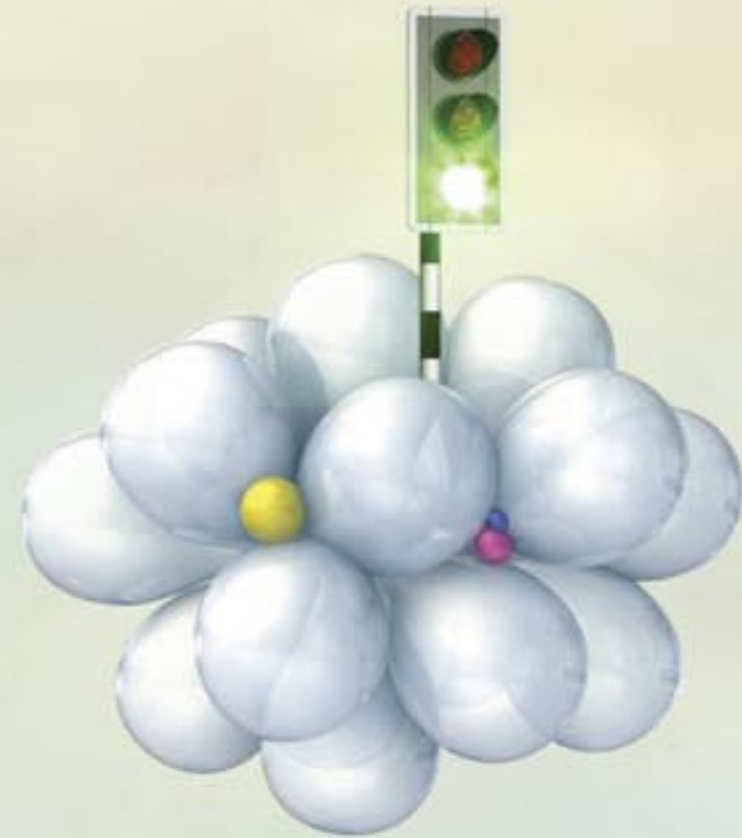


BBC
three



Winter
Spring
2008





Introduction

I'm delighted to unveil not only BBC Three's exciting new programmes for the Winter/Spring season but what I believe to be a fresh and innovative approach to television for young audiences.

It's time for the channel to change. We're changing the way we look – yes, the Blobs are going – and it's also time to take some big and risky steps into the future.

Let me explain what that means. The channel should be obsessed with all things new – new talent, new programmes and a new relationship between television and the internet.

So, in February, BBC Three will be transformed – and I hope will become known for being Britain's most ambitious attempt to combine television and the web.

I want all of BBC Three's content to live across TV and online and there are a number of innovative ways in which we will do this – starting with becoming the first non-news BBC channel to simulcast our programmes on the web.

We will also commit ourselves to placing innovative, interactive ideas at the heart of our programmes. Take Lily Allen And Friends, for instance – a programme I'm delighted to have on the channel. It's a show that has online social networking at its very heart. In the same vein, coming later in the year, is The Wall – a live and interactive comedy-entertainment show. This is a dynamic new space for emerging talent to hone their craft and develop a reputation. I really hope this show helps to create some of tomorrow's biggest stars.

BBC Three's new approach to television for younger audiences also means that online content is produced with the passion and production values normally associated with television. Upstaged, for example, is a new eight-week live event that mixes talent show, stamina and social networking. For the first five weeks it lives solely

on the web and then becomes a joined-up TV and web adventure for its final three weeks. It's a risky endeavour that we hope sends the message that BBC Three wants to kick-start the next generation of new-media projects.

I'm also handing over some of the channel's airtime to our young audiences – user-generated content will be at the heart of the peak-time schedule. Don't be surprised to see our viewers on screen introducing BBC Three's programmes. The brand-new BBC Three website makes this possible, allowing them to upload their own programme introductions, the best of which we will use on air.

All of this, of course, needs to be in the service of high-quality, innovative public service content for young audiences. We're taking the opportunity of this multi-platform rebirth to launch a colourful range of fresh programmes – with a focus on new talent and homegrown production.

The upcoming Drama Pilots are part of an increased commitment to imaginative and youthful Drama on BBC Three. There's bold new Entertainment to sit alongside the channel's ongoing dedication to developing the next generation of British comedy talent. And there's a new, spikier feel to our Current Affairs and Documentary output, as well as a re-vamped plan for News.

There are more details of these programmes on the pages that follow. I hope you find many things to enjoy on BBC Three this season. With the likes of Lily Allen, Noel Fielding, Julian Barratt, George Lamb, Jaime Winstone, Eddie Shin, James Corden, Ruth Jones, Sharon Horgan and Scott Mills involved with major projects on the channel, I think 2008 is shaping up to be an exciting year!

Best wishes,
Danny Cohen
Controller, BBC Three
bbc.co.uk/bbcthree

Drama

DRAMA PILOT SEASON

A combination of hot new talent and established names has produced six diverse one-off dramas. The films – a set of maverick tales from the present and the future – are the first of a new generation of youthful, fresh dramas on BBC Three.

PHOO ACTION

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the wonderfully warped world of Phoo Action. The year is 2012 and London is in the grip of mutant criminals. Only Terry Phoo, a hapless Buddhist kung-fu cop, and Whitey Action, an unruly teenage heroine, can save the nation. They form an unlikely but effective crime-fighting team who bring together chaos and comedy with mischief and mayhem to become heroes for a future generation.

This action drama is based on characters created by Jamie Hewlett (Gorillaz, Tank Girl) for the comic strip Get The Freebies, which first appeared in The Face magazine. Jaime Winstone (Kidulthood) stars as teenage anarchist Whitey Action, with Eddie Shin (ER) as martial arts sweetheart Terry Phoo. Rocky legend Carl Weathers is Benjamin Benson, Chief of Police and long-suffering father to the rebellious Whitey.

Phoo Action is written by Matthew Enriquez Wakeham, Peter Martin and Jessica Hynes.

BEING HUMAN

This is the story of a house share with a difference; a tale of three twenty-somethings, each of them outsiders with unusual afflictions: one is a vampire, one a werewolf and one a ghost.

Mitchell is a hospital cleaner. He's good-looking, laid-back and a hit with the ladies, but also something of a blood-sucker. George works in the same hospital as a porter. He's an awkward but loveable geek who, every full moon, sprouts a snout and grows a very hairy back.

Having had enough of sleeping in hostels and temporary accommodation, Mitchell and George decide to get a house together. They just want to have a go at being normal; being human. But, as soon as they move in, they discover an unwanted lodger – Annie – a ghost with a distinct lack of self-esteem.

Mitchell is played by Guy Flanagan (Totally Frank), George by Russell Tovey (The History Boys) and Annie by Andrea Riseborough (Margaret Thatcher: The Long Walk To Finchley). Being Human is written by Toby Whitthouse.

THE THINGS I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU

Everyone has secrets – the things they don't want anyone else to know...

Aisling Hunter is ordinary. Not beautiful, not special – just another girl in the crowd who wishes she was anyone else, anywhere else. Geri West is the opposite – glamorous, confident, popular and a malicious bitch. So, when the two strike up a friendship, it's a mystery to everyone.

But blackmail can be very bonding and, if Aisling is to keep Geri's secret, she wants something in return. Geri might just have the key to Aisling's own mystery – the whereabouts of her missing mum.

Just as it looks like she might be close to the truth, however, Aisling is run over in a bizarre car crash. A stolen car, a mysterious stranger and an unlit road – was it deliberate or accidental?

The Things I Haven't Told You is written by young writer Lisa McGee and stars newcomer Elizabeth Day as Aisling, Nathalie Lunghi (Layer Cake) as Geri and Andrew Lincoln (This Life, Teachers) as DC Rae.

WEST 10 LDN

Starring Noel Clarke and Ashley Walters, West 10 LDN is a vibrant new drama that delves into the intense and passionate lives of the teenagers who live on West London's Greenside estate. Love, danger, drugs, families, violence and tenderness power a story that opens the door into a world only ever seen on TV when a shooting makes the news.

Eighteen-year-old Elisha arrives at Greenside and runs straight into trouble. When her belongings are stolen, she risks everything to get them back because she has a secret to hide.

Youth-club worker Lacey and aspiring writer Michael are legends in their own neighbourhood, whereas Orin finds himself in more danger than he's ever known...

Elisha is played by Ashley Madekwe (Drop Dead Gorgeous), Lacey by Ashley Walters (Hustle), Michael by Noel Clarke (Doctor Who) and Orin by Duane Henry (Jericho). West 10 LDN is directed by Menhaj Huda and written by Noel Clarke, the team behind Kidulthood.



DIS/CONNECTED

Sharp, pacey and acutely observed, this new drama follows the complicated lives of a group of disconnected teenagers from very different backgrounds who are thrown together after the suicide of a mutual friend, Jenny Summers. This life-changing experience bonds them all and forces them to examine who they really are.

The teenagers are: Sophie, who dropped Jenny when she got in with the in-crowd; Anthony, the kid from the wrong side of the tracks who called the ambulance that fateful night; Ben, Jenny's ex who cheated on her, twice; Emily, who was too busy partying to bother with Jenny and her moods; Paula, the mysterious beauty with something to hide; and Josh, a geek who has his own personal tragedy to deal with.

A stylish and aspirational exploration of what it's like to be a teenager in 21st-century Britain, *Dis/Connected* is a drama in which lives connect and unique friendships form. It's written by Howard Overman (*Hotel Babylon*), and features a host of new and upcoming talent both on and off screen including Aml Ameen (*Kidulthood*) as Anthony. It is directed by Tom Harper, winner of the BBC Three New Filmmaker Award 2006.

MRS IN-BETWEENY

Co-created by Paul Abbott (*Shameless*, *State Of Play*) and Caleb Ranson (*The Outsiders*), *Mrs In-Betweeny* takes a darkly comic look at modern British family life in all its guises.

The Winslow kids think life sucks. Their parents are dead, but still manage to embarrass them – how could they have parked in the exact spot where a lump of frozen urine would land from a passing plane? Then there's Uncle Neil, who's just plain hopeless – too knackered from meeting his sex-mad girlfriend's demands and keeping their grandmother away from her newly developed passion for erotic toys and vodka.

Then their saviour, Uncle Brendan, arrives to make it all better – but now he's "Aunt" Emma and has more attitude than they could ever imagine. Now, that really is embarrassing...

Written by Caleb Ranson, *Mrs In-Betweeny* stars Amelia Bullmore as Aunt Emma.

GREEK

Welcome to college life at the fictitious Cyprus-Rhodes University in the USA, and the social minefield that is the Greek system of fraternities and sororities.

Rusty (Jacob Zachar) is determined to make his college experience more exciting than his high-school years, which he spent with his head buried in books. The solution: no more geek, he's going Greek.

But Rusty faces one small obstacle – his sister, Casey (Spencer Grammer). Casey has already established herself as a college siren and is not keen on having her younger brother invade her world. She is a high achiever and already at the top of her sorority game. Next in line to become the president of Zeta Beta Zeta, she's seen around campus with fraternity hottie Evan – they're the perfect couple. The last thing Casey needs is her nerdy younger brother messing it all up, but isn't that what younger brothers are for?

Greek is about young people looking for freedom, love, sex and friendship, whilst dealing with cheating boyfriends, nerdy younger brothers and girls obsessed with beauty and popularity.

So, are you ready to go Greek?



HEROES

With a first chance to view on BBC Three, the second series explores the heroes' lives four months after the explosive events of the first season's finale. While the various heroes are forced to find a new direction, The Company seeks to control the new stage in evolution. As new characters emerge, the previous generation of heroes are being murdered.

Maya and her twin, Alejandro, are introduced; Maya has the ability to cry a deadly disease while her brother is the cure. They attempt to make a dangerous trip to America in search of help. Monica, another young woman with new-found special abilities, would give up everything to help the people around her. Their ultimate destiny is nothing less than saving the world...

Heroes stars Sendhil Ramamurthy as Mohinder Suresh, Masi Oka as Hiro Nakamura, Milo Ventimiglia as Peter Petrelli, Adrian Pasdar as Nathan Petrelli, Hayden Panettiere as Claire Bennet, Jack Coleman as Mr Bennet, Greg Grunberg as Matt Parkman, James Kyson Lee as Ando Masahashi, Ali Larter as Niki Sanders, Noah Gray-Cabey as Micah Sanders, Dania Ramirez as Maya, Shalim Ortiz as Alejandro, Dana Davis as Monica and Zachary Quinto as Sylar.



Entertainment



LILY ALLEN AND FRIENDS

Lily Allen hosts her own show, based on the social-networking phenomenon that helped to launch her career. Viewers are invited to become Lily's virtual friends and shape the show by contributing to topical discussions, putting questions to guests and even featuring in parts of the programme.

The audience consists entirely of Lily's online friends, who have signed up at bbc.co.uk/lilyallen. The website also hosts exclusive video content from Lily, which the audience can add to their own social-network profiles and websites.

Guests include the hottest celebrities, topical guests from the online world, chart-topping bands and lesser-known acts chosen by Lily and members of her network. Lily Allen And Friends also follows the progress of the new music acts showcased on the programme.

UPSTAGED

Presented by Scott Mills, *Upstaged* is a new, unique and innovative interactive entertainment show open to anyone in the UK who thinks they're worth watching. It begins life as an exclusive online event before the simultaneous TV series commences.

Members of the public audition online for a chance to perform on stages located inside two specially built glass boxes on display in Bristol's Millennium Square. The online community votes for who entertains them the most, and the least popular of the two acts is replaced every day throughout the run.

For the first five weeks *Upstaged* is streamed exclusively on the web, whilst the last three weeks are accompanied by the TV show.

Using social networking, *Upstaged* lets the online community determine who they want to watch and who they don't. All the key decisions – who takes to the stage, what's considered to be entertaining and who earns the right to stay each day – are totally in the hands of the public.

THE WALL

Jam-packed with brand-new comedy acts alongside established performers, cutting-edge music and the hottest celebrity guests, *The Wall* is the ultimate destination for all-round entertainment.

The weekly action, broadcast live from BBC Television Centre, revolves around a vast video wall which acts as a gateway for viewers to get involved with the hosts, guests and performers from the comfort of their own homes.

At the click of a button, viewers can interact with the show whilst it's on air, submitting comments on the action and questions for guests as well as their own comedy clips and punchlines. The best contributions become part of the show and feature on the all-important video wall.



Factual



MAKING THE CLOTHES I WEAR

Six High Street fashion fans embark on an ambitious journey to discover how the clothes they wear are really made. In this compelling new series, the group travels to a developing country to work in clothing factories, live in workers' homes and try to survive on their wages, providing a genuine insight into a side of life most Westerners never encounter.

In addition, the fashion lovers are set challenges to see if they can meet the kind of targets that the local workers meet on a daily basis to fulfil the increasing demand for cut-price fashion.

From large factories with endless production lines, the group move on to cramped backstreet cabins – where they are paid for each piece they make, and sleep on the floor next to their machines. They also explore rural life and the back-breaking job of picking raw cotton.

Making The Clothes I Wear follows the six participants' lives back in the UK, too, and explores their current shopping habits. As events unfold, viewers see if the fashionistas eventually choose to re-evaluate their lives and attitudes towards clothes.

PRAMFACE MANSION

From the makers of the acclaimed *Baby Borrowers* comes this radical new social experiment. The series follows 10 single mums and their children, who are given the opportunity to live together for one month so they can try and change their lives for the better.

Whether they want to find a job, sort out their relationship or get back into education, during their time living together the mums are responsible for creating a home and building a mutually supportive environment for themselves so they can make positive changes to their lives.

There are certain to be highs and lows – as well as a few laughs – as the mums endeavour to make this unique environment a workable reality for the month ahead and, hopefully, a beneficial experience for the future.

JACK'S STORY

When award-winning reporter Ben Anderson spent two months with a unit of Grenadier Guards in the Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan, he met some extraordinary men. One of them was Lance Corporal Jack Mizon, an unbelievably brave 23-year-old who has seen and experienced more than most men of his age.

Over three weeks, Jack lost one of his friends in a roadside-bomb attack, then a suicide bomber hit the convoy he was travelling in, killing another of his friends. After narrowly avoiding being killed in an accidental explosion in a building, Jack was sent to a psychiatrist to make sure he was alright. The only way forward for him, though, was to stop thinking about the incidents and keep going.

Back in the UK, Jack is in The Queen's Company of the Grenadier Guards, guarding Buckingham Palace in his red coat and bearskin hat. Ben catches up with him at home where he meets his family and friends, and discovers some of Jack's preferred places and activities.

FILTHY GORGEOUS

Filthy Gorgeous is the world's first "make-under" show. Each week, a number of over-styled and over-the-top girls and boys are scrubbed down to discover what's underneath – their fabulous natural beauty.

The selected candidates are scrutinised by a straight-talking computer that analyses their look and asks the public to comment on their appearance.

The computer then strips the participants of their fake hair, mahogany tans and inappropriate clothes and instructs them to make more natural and flattering fashion choices via hi-tech, touch-screen graphics. After a complete beauty reboot, the contributor's new look is revealed and the public comment once more on the make-under transformation.

THE REAL HUSTLE – LAS VEGAS

In this new series, filmed exclusively in Las Vegas, the three Real Hustlers – confidence trickster Alexis Conran, scam artist Paul Wilson and sexy swindler Jessica Clement – pull off some of the biggest and most outrageous scams ever. They are all carried out on unsuspecting members of the American public and captured with hidden cameras, so the viewers know what to look out for and learn how to avoid being scammed themselves.

The lure of Las Vegas is obvious. It's one of the world's leading tourist destinations and possibly its cheating capital. It's a city built on gambling and, wherever there are fortunes to be won on the turn of a card, there will always be hustlers. They've been caught working in every area of Vegas – from casinos and businesses to street vendors and tourist attractions. Las Vegas attracts thousands of opportunists and conmen looking to exploit its vulnerabilities. It's the ideal place to demonstrate the tricks of the scam artists and show viewers how to avoid them.

DAWN GETS...

There's no such thing as a taboo subject when journalist Dawn Porter gets on the case. In a series of four films, Dawn tackles the questions viewers were afraid to ask on "all things female".

To investigate society's attitude to the female body, she gets her kit off to host a naked flashmob in central London and models at a life-drawing class. Dawn explores her lesbian side for a month, moving into a lesbian flatshare and pledging to undertake a "man ban". But how far will she go? Then, she faces up to the business end of giving birth as she finds out if those who are "too push to push" have got the right idea. Dawn also delves into the world of 21st-century dating to see if the perfect relationship really does exist.

GET NAKED WITH ME

DR IN THE HOUSE

Young boozers, bingers and party animals get a wake-up call before it's too late in Dr In The House, presented by George Lamb.

Each week, the over-the-top lifestyle of a contributor is examined: what damage are their excesses doing to their insides? A "living autopsy" is performed using state-of-the-art technology, revealing the real impact that bad food, drink, drugs and cigarettes are having on their organs.

But can the damage be reversed? A hand-picked medic spends several weeks with each contributor to help them try to suppress their addiction to excess.

Will the young ravers be able to cut out their toxic vices and curb a lifetime of harmful habits? All will be revealed when they return for the internal tune up – because the autopsy table doesn't lie...

60SECONDS

The channel's innovative 60-second news bulletin re-launches with a fresh look, new presenters and special editions on subjects that best reflect young viewers' interests.

Whilst continuing to deliver instant hits of information throughout the night, 60seconds launches a nightly World News bulletin, with global events seen through the eyes of news stations around the world.

And, in line with the audience's interest in the world around them, there is also a weekly commitment to environmental news along with special bulletins on everything from technology to entertainment and weekend sport.



FIND ME THE FACE

Model scouting hits the High Street as two top model scouts go head to head to discover the UK's hidden modelling talent. Revealing what it takes to be a scout, two of the hottest bookers in the business put their reputations on the line by trying to find a brand-new face in just one month, and offer them a life-changing contract with a top agency. Ditching the size-zero stereotype and going for a different look every week, they want to find real people who can succeed in the ferociously competitive world of modelling.

The scouts are Becky Southwick, who works for Donald Trump's high-profile model agency in New York, and Jody Furlong, who specialises in picking faces from obscurity. Each week, they scour the UK to find a potential model who may never have realised they had a look that could take them to the top. Once Becky and Jody have worked their magic and signed their finds with an agency, will the rookie catwalk stars be able to get any work?

BABY BORROWERS ON HOLIDAY

Baby Borrowers returns and this time they're off on holiday.

For most teenagers holidays are fun, but the Baby Borrowers' holiday won't involve lazing around and topping up tans.

Five teenage couples – all craving independence – will live with their partners. But, over four weeks, they are fast tracked through adult life from pregnancy to parenting babies, toddlers, pre-teens and teens to caring for the elderly. Melting ice cream, collapsing tents and muddy pets are thrown in for good measure.

How will they cope with childcare and, more importantly, each other? Will they take to parenthood and the reality of adult life like a duck to water or run home to mum?



LOST INNOCENCE SEASON

Are young people in Britain today growing up faster than ever before? Are they more exposed to adult life and faced with increased pressures and expectations sooner? Have they lost the chance to have carefree teenage years?

BBC Three dedicates a season to the loss of teenage innocence with three films examining diverse subjects that affect young people today. The films are seen through the eyes of the generation and are frequently shocking and harrowing but, in turn, funny and heart-warming.

MY BODY FOR BUCKS

It's easy to think that the world of sex work is populated by drug users and society's dispossessed, but financial pressures have pushed increasing numbers of students to sell their bodies.

Young, educated and ambitious students are plying their trade as escorts, strippers and actors in adult films to pay off their student tuition fees and debts. With unique access, this film unravels the chain of events that could cause young students to make that choice.

Nineteen-year-old undergraduate and single mum Amy says with such high demands on her time, and her money, her only choice is to work as a lap dancer, but she's desperate to quit. She says she sometimes feels too young for this sort of work, and men often don't want her to dance for them as she has such an innocent look. The programme follows her as she makes a difficult choice as to how she will make ends meet.

BRITAIN'S YOUNGEST GRANNIES

With the highest teenage pregnancy rates in Europe, it's not just British mums that are getting younger – our grannies are, too. More interested in having their highlights done and going clubbing than joining the blue-rinse brigade and going bowling, this film meets the women who were teen mums and whose children have become teen parents as well.

Britain's Youngest Grannies is a new angle on teen pregnancy, and poses a serious social question: is teen pregnancy a never-ending cycle?

PAGE 3 TEENS

Seventeen-year-old Chelsea White started modelling when she was just six. She soon developed a love for the camera, became a successful child model and achieved her ambition to be on the cover of her favourite teen magazine, Mizz. At 16, she set her sights on a different goal – to become a Page 3 model.

The programme follows Chelsea two months before her 18th birthday as she prepares to enter the glamour circuit, and covers the build-up to the big day when she can do her first topless photo shoot. Along the way, Chelsea reveals what motivates her to be a glamour model and why so many other young girls share her dream.

Come edy

GAVIN & STACEY

The critically acclaimed comedy makes a welcome return after triple success at the British Comedy Awards.

The honeymoon's over for newlyweds Gavin and Stacey, and their married life begins in earnest at the Shipman family home in Essex. But, as the reality of living so far away sinks in, Stacey starts missing her home in Barry Island along with her mum and her Uncle Bryn. Meanwhile, Gavin and Stacey's best friends, Smithy and Nessa, are coming to terms with their own stark reality: they're not even friends and yet they're having a baby together.

Gavin & Stacey stars Mathew Horne as Gavin, Joanna Page as Stacey, James Corden as Smithy and Ruth Jones as Nessa, with Alison Steadman, Rob Brydon, Larry Lamb and Melanie Walters. Julia Davis (Nighty Night) and Sheridan Smith (Grownups, Two Pints Of Lager) guest star, and the series is written by Ruth Jones and James Corden.

BBC

THE WRONG DOOR

This is a daring new sketch show set in a parallel universe; a fantastic world governed by the laws of comedy – not nature – and where special effects seen in the movies and on TV are part of everyday life.

In this parallel universe, herds of space hoppers and shopping trolleys roam the countryside; robots play tennis; mini-bars come with a helpful mini-barman; magazines come with a free, blow-up boyfriend; and mp3 players generate 3-D popstar holograms and monsters under the bed.

In this world, viewers can meet the Booze Fairies, the Wizard of Oswestry, the World's Most Annoying Creature and a love-struck dinosaur called Phillip. Here, superheroes, wizards, dinosaurs and monsters casually go about their business amongst the daily irritations of explosions, disasters, battles, chases and driving lessons.

With its genre-busting mix of celebrity cameos, unimaginable locations and impossible visual effects, The Wrong Door heralds a brave new world of comic possibility.



COMING OF AGE

This brand-new sitcom, written by 19-year-old Tim Dawson, takes viewers into the outrageous and scatological world of a group of sixth-form students living in Abingdon.

Jas, Ollie, Matt, Chloe and DK are regular teenagers – their lives revolve around college, their bedrooms and, because they are always getting thrown out of the local pub, Ollie's garden shed.

Coming Of Age shows life from a teenage perspective. It talks about being young openly, honestly and truthfully – loving for the first time, fancying your history teacher and dealing with those pesky, unwanted erections-in-public-places.

The series is a celebration of youth and, as well as being written by a teenager, stars five of the UK's top up-and-coming young comedy actors.

Some buzzwords: college, parents, love, drink, music, teachers, drugs, woks, sex, teddy bears, sheds, swimming pools and... er... mud.

SCALLYWAGGA

Welcome to Scallywagga – a spanking-new sketch show straight out of the north of England. It's fast paced and innovatively immature enough to appeal to the subversive adolescent in everyone.

Its cast of characters include Asbo PIN, who has an uncanny knack of predicting people's PIN numbers; pastry-obsessed Gregs Girl; and Adrian, whose parents resort to increasingly bizarre measures to disown him. Plus, there's always a party on the go and plenty of trips to Scallywagga High.

The series features rising young comedy stars Carl Rice, Jessica Hall, Luke Gell, Joanna Higson, Stefan Gumbs, Lena Kaur, Scott Taylor and Curtis Cole. They are aided and abetted by the slightly more grown-up Sally Lindsay (Coronation Street), Steve Edge (The Visit) and Neil Fitzmaurice (Phoenix Nights).

PULLING

The Bafta-nominated and acutely observed comedy about the loneliness of having fun is back. Pulling follows the lives and loves of three friends as they endure the exhilarating highs – and devastating lows – of being young(ish), free and single.

Featuring a cast of talented British comedy actors and a sparkling script, it takes a long, hard look at sex, love and friendship – not to mention what you do when you don't recognise the person you've woken up with.

The series has again been co-written by Sharon Horgan (Monkey Dust, Rob Brydon's Annually Retentive) – who also returns as Donna – and the playwright Dennis Kelly. The cast includes Tanya Franks (EastEnders) as Karen, Rebekah Staton (Jane Eyre, State Of Play) as Louise, Cavan Clerkin (Smack The Pony) as Karl, and Paul Kaye (Match Point, Dennis Pennis) who guest stars as Karen's boyfriend, Danny.



TREXX AND FLIPSIDE

Introducing new writers and actors, hip hop and urban poetry come together in the form of Trexx And Flipside, a fresh, multi-platform sit-com.

Trexx and Flipside are wannabe hip-hop stars but their music label – Wu Hah Records – is run by Mr Brilliance who is more in tune with crooning than rap.

Fortunately, his so-called assistant, Ollie, knows what she is doing and loves the boys' work. But even she worries that their enthusiasm is doing more harm than good – when they crashed the British Rap Awards (Bras) in a borrowed strip limo shared with a hen party, for instance.

And, when it comes to using a little muscle, the hip-hop world is inhabited by the uninhibited, and gangsta rapper B-Ice has sworn to keep the boys exactly where he put them – in the gutter.

Pitted against their rap rivals and backed by a no-hoper of a manager, will Trexx and Flipside ever make it?

MARC WOOTTON EXPOSED

Marc Wootton presents a gallery of delusional characters in this new comedy series.

Using the power of monologue and the motif of a photographer's studio, Marc Wootton Exposed takes the viewer behind the moment of a posed portrait and into the lives of the characters behind the façade.

Among the many new characters are Paul, the loner documenting his mistaken belief that he's transforming into a vampire; Prudence, the housewife who's in denial about her husband's overt affair with their Mexican houseguest; and Ian, the psychotic schoolboy who is every bully's worst nightmare...

The series is written by Marc Wootton and Liam Woodman, with Jeremy Dyson (The League Of Gentlemen) as script editor.

TWO PINTS OF LAGER AND A PACKET OF CRISPS

The seventh series of the popular comedy has returned and opened with a bang – a live first episode.

In the series, Janet (Sheridan Smith) and her mates – Donna (Natalie Casey), Gaz (Will Mellor) and Louise (Kathryn Drysdale) – cope with a series of personal challenges before facing the biggest shock of their lives: Jonny (Ralf Little) is dead.

How will Janet, and her baby, Corinthian, survive without her hapless husband? How will newly engaged Donna and Gaz react when Donna gets her dream job? What will pretentious Louise do when she discovers that she's pregnant?

The series also features the arrival of hilarious new talent Luke Gell as pub manager Tim and the mysterious return of cult character Munch (Lee Oakes)...

Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps is written by creator Susan Nickson (Grownups) alongside a team of the UK's freshest young comedy writers, including BBC Talent winner Jon Brown and Kate Wincup, recipient of a BBC writer-in-residence bursary.

FAMILY GUY

The Emmy-nominated, animated series continues to follow the twisted trials and tribulations of Peter Griffin and his not-quite-so-average family of middle-class New Englanders.

Lois is Peter's loving wife, who struggles to maintain a modicum of normality in their home life. Then there are their kids: angst-ridden, 16-year-old Meg, who only really wants to get noticed; 13-year-old Chris, a sweet-natured slacker; and one-year-old Stewie, a diabolically clever baby who's already bent on world domination. Rounding out the Griffin household is Brian, the family dog, who has a penchant for dry Martinis and classic jazz.

The opening episode features a Star Wars homage, typically receiving the full Family Guy treatment, and, during the season, there are guest vocal appearances from Carrie Fisher, Hugh Hefner, Rob Lowe, Chevy Chase and Simon Cowell.

Seth MacFarlane is Peter Griffin, Stewie and Brian; Alex Borstein is Lois; Mila Kunis is Meg; and Seth Green is Chris.



MUSIC

GLASTONBURY 08

The Glastonbury Festival – the largest greenfield music and performing arts festival in the world – takes place from 27-29 June at Worthy Farm in Somerset.

The BBC's comprehensive coverage includes the best from the Pyramid, Other, John Peel and Jazz/World stages, special acoustic performances and reports from the wider and wilder parts of the site, capturing the Festival's spirit for armchair revellers. Highlights can be caught on television, radio and online.

Glastonbury 07's line up included Arctic Monkeys, Dame Shirley Bassey, The Killers and Björk. BBC Three's Glastonbury coverage last year helped push the channel to its best weekly audience share and reach, with 15.2 million viewers tuning in between 18-24 June.

SPORT

AFRICAN CUP OF NATIONS

The African Cup of Nations is the definitive competition in African football, a festival that captures the imagination of the continent and millions of people around the world.

This year, BBC Three follows the 26th cup as Ghana, the hosts and seven-time finalists, and the other 15 qualifying teams look to wrest the title from Egypt, the current holders.

Presenters Jake Humphrey, in London, and Marcel Desailly, in Ghana, bring viewers colourful and imaginative features about the teams, locations and competing countries. And, with many of the teams fielding a host of British-based stars, there'll be no shortage of team line-ups and stories fans in the UK will recognise.

The event runs from 20 January to 10 February, with match locations in Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi and Tamale. The final takes place at the Ohene Djan Stadium, in Accra.



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