

Little Kinse lifts the lid on the nation's first-ever sex survey



Donald McGill was a British institution whose saucy postcards became an integral part of the British seaside holiday, and at the height of his popularity were selling up to 16 million copies a year. The bawdy humour came straight out of the music hall and it's a British tradition that led on to the *Pinetop* films, Benny Hill and Les Dawson.

McGill's humour was thought to be so representative of the British character that it was championed by George Orwell in a famous essay and Dennis Potter named him the 'Picasso of the Pier'.

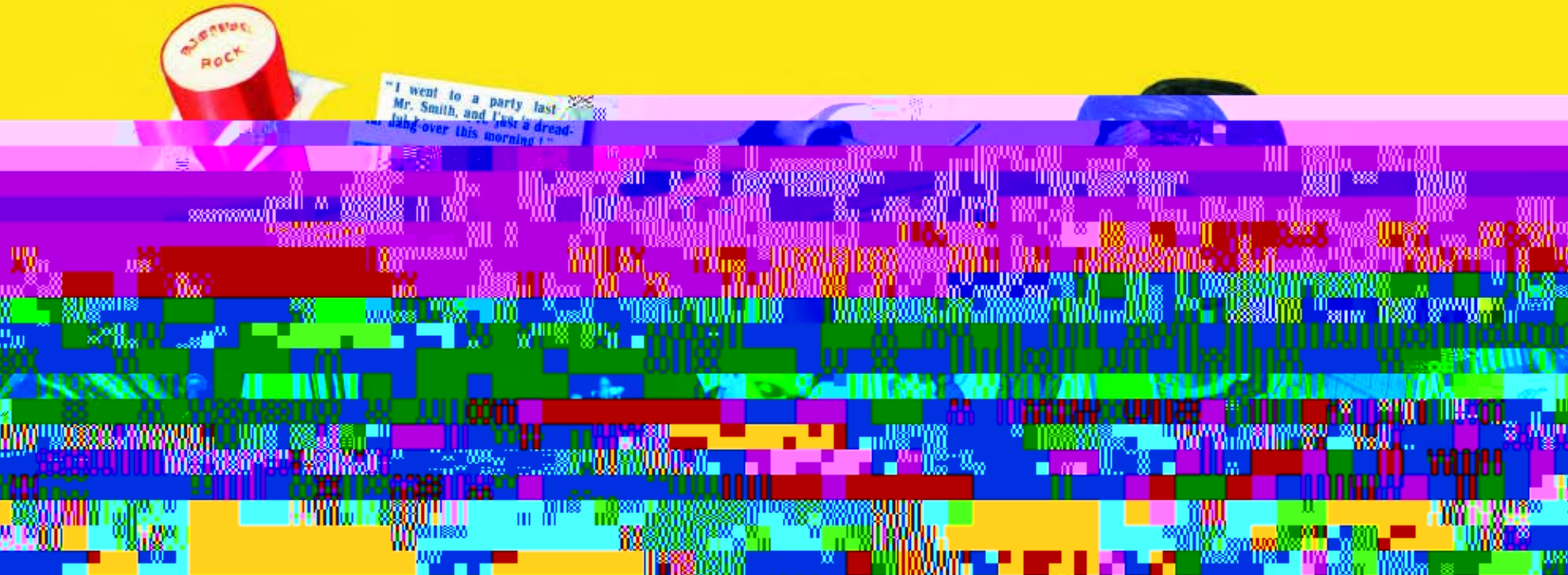
Much of London was quiet and subdued after the war. Soho, in contrast, was a vibrant, buzzing magnet for artists, writers, poets, prostitutes, philosophers, crooks and misfits – an oasis of colour and energy in a drab and war-torn city.

Soho life followed no pattern, the only governance being the opening hours of the pubs, clubs and cafés, some of which – such as The Colony Rooms and The French House – still exist today. The 'cast', which included Dylan Thomas, Francis Bacon, Quentin Crisp and Jeffrey Bernard, had the freedom to behave as they saw fit. Bad behaviour was

almost expected; people shared what they had, and weren't judged for drunken or promiscuous behaviour.

SoHo brings to life this moment in Soho's glorious history with testimonies from those who socialised there and rarely seen archive footage, audio clips and photographs.

A BBC production



Professor David Reynolds takes a fresh look at the dramatic achievements and failures of Clement Attlee's post-war Labour Government.

The Second World War had bankrupted Britain yet Attlee and his colleagues were not deterred. They took a huge gamble and pressed on with one of the most far-reaching reform programmes in British history which included creating a National Health Service and nationalising major industries, but they were unable to lift rationing and stumbled from one economic crisis to another.

At the heart of this remarkable story was a man caught between socialism, patriotism and Cabinet colleagues who craved his job. Labour's unlikely leader was terse and uncharismatic but very effective – the improbable Mr Attlee.

A Blakeway production

The humble banana stars in a story of false dawns, crude government control, spies, rebellion and law-abiding citizens turned criminal.

After a five-year absence, during which the banana achieved an almost mythical status, the first shipment of bananas arrived in Britain in December 1945. It was the ideal government propaganda tool, a convenient token of a brighter future.

With bananas restricted to children and pregnant women, the nation, oppressed under the controls of the State and desperate to taste that forbidden fruit, was all too willing to break the law.

As the Ministry fought hard to retain control with increasingly absurd measures, those flouting the law became more determined. Housewives took to the streets and a cycle of oppression and rebellion ensued, threatening to tip over into popular revolt.

At the heart of *en it in ent n n s* is a comical fruit that perfectly captures the spirit of a post-war nation.

A Firefly production



The Second World War didn't only devastate the lives and homes of the British people – it was also a culinary disaster for Britain.

There was strict rationing and the government limited people to spending up to five shillings per meal. The

As London looks forward to hosting the 2012 Olympics,



John Wyndham hated the term 'science fiction', yet the author of *The Day After Tomorrow* and *Chrysalis* remains one of Britain's most influential sci-fi writers. In the Fifties his books dominated the bestseller lists and, decades later, they are all still in print and still seem just as relevant. This dramatised documentary, starring Chris Langham, explores the science behind his fiction and uncovers for the first time the strange private life of this unique writer.

Drawing on the painstaking research of Wyndham's biographer, Dr. David Ketterer, it includes interviews with personal friends including sci-fi writers Brian Aldiss and Sam Youd, and scientists Steve Jones and Armand Le Roi. Wyndham's private photo album, and the only television interview he ever gave, feature alongside clips from the movie and TV adaptations of *The Day After Tomorrow*.

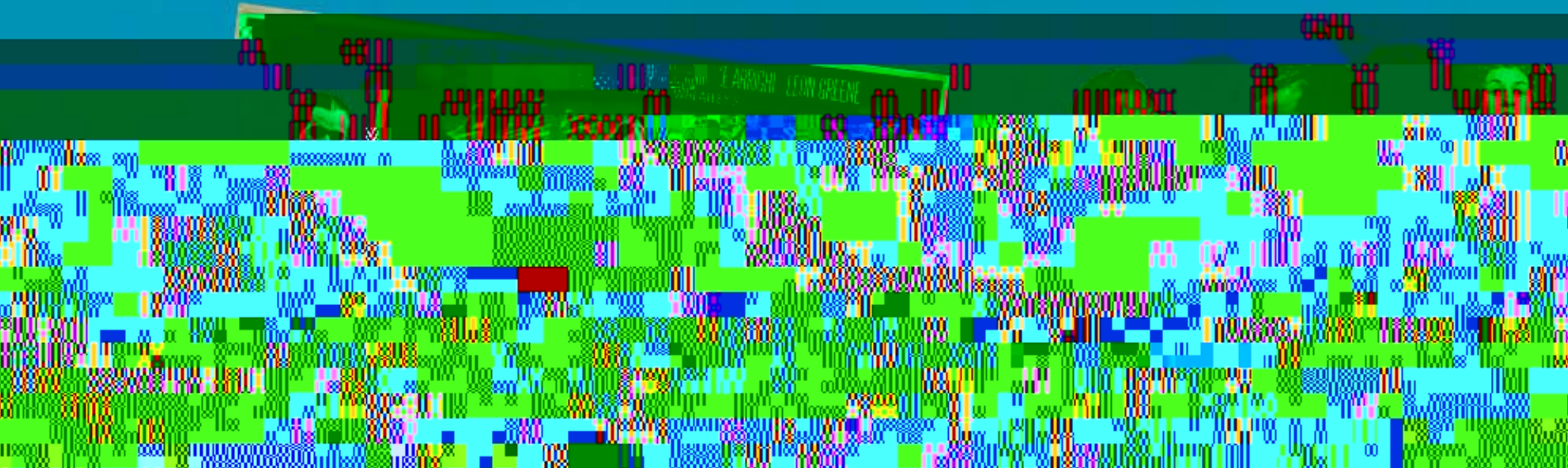
A BBC production

Dennis Wheatley wrote over 70 books, selling an incredible 50 million copies. Labelled the 'Prince of Thriller Writers' by critics, he served his country with distinction in both wars and sold fine wines to the crowned heads of Europe, but he counted a con-man and a murderer among his closest friends and was a keen student of the occult and black arts.

Less than 30 years since his death, this once hugely popular writer is now rather forgotten. Here, he is summoned back to life and his legacy re-examined. With previously unseen archive footage, the documentary features interviews with his friends, including actor Christopher Lee, and experts including his biographer Phil Baker and leading authority on British popular fiction, Clive Bloom.

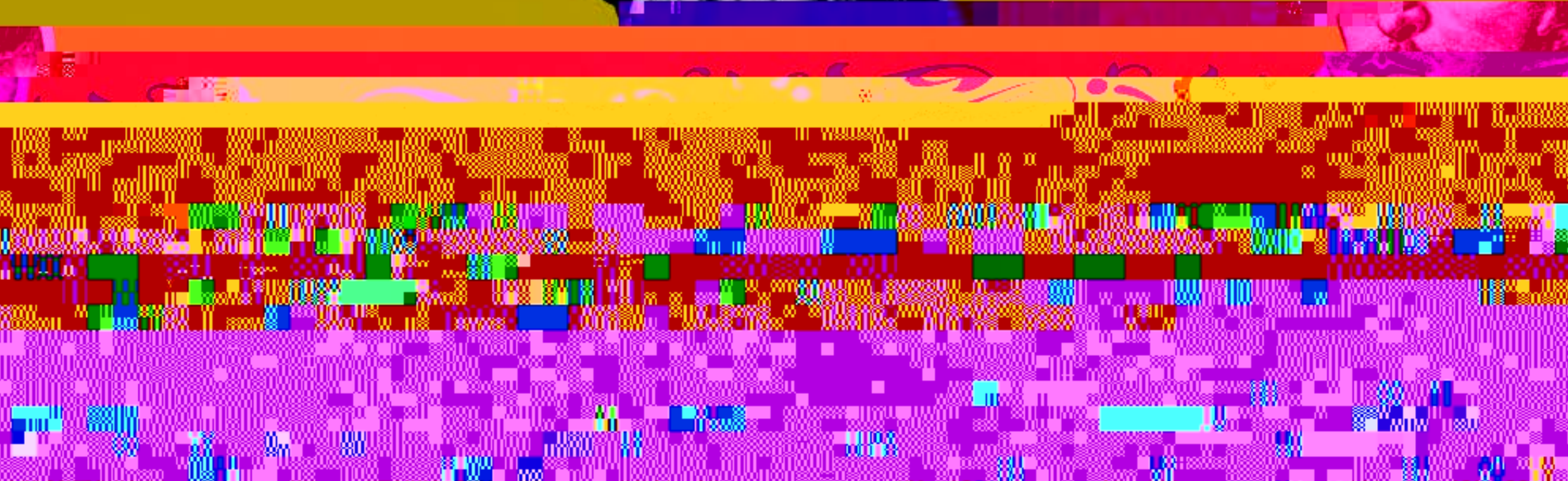
Unearthing the contents of an extraordinary letter addressed to 'Posterity', written by Wheatley in 1947 and buried in a subsequently recovered time capsule, the film reveals his fears for the future and his contempt for the present. It seeks to discover just how representative Wheatley was of a slice of British society which found post-war austerity and Labour government reforms almost as bad as the war itself; and what he would make of the world today if he really were to return.

A Lion TV (Scotland) pr



This comic genealogy of rewritten Shakespeare is penned, presented and performed by Patrick Barlow, who stars as Professor Simon Starkman: academic, amateur thespian and novice documentary presenter.

e n liet, sen nt il enste n e e and est i e t are just some of the many classic reworkings of Shakespearean text, paying due homage to his work, the apotheosis of the art of the dramaturge. Barlow embarks on a whistle-stop tour of some of the



The caustic comedy from the award-winning Armando Iannucci makes an eagerly-awaited return for a second series on BBC Four.

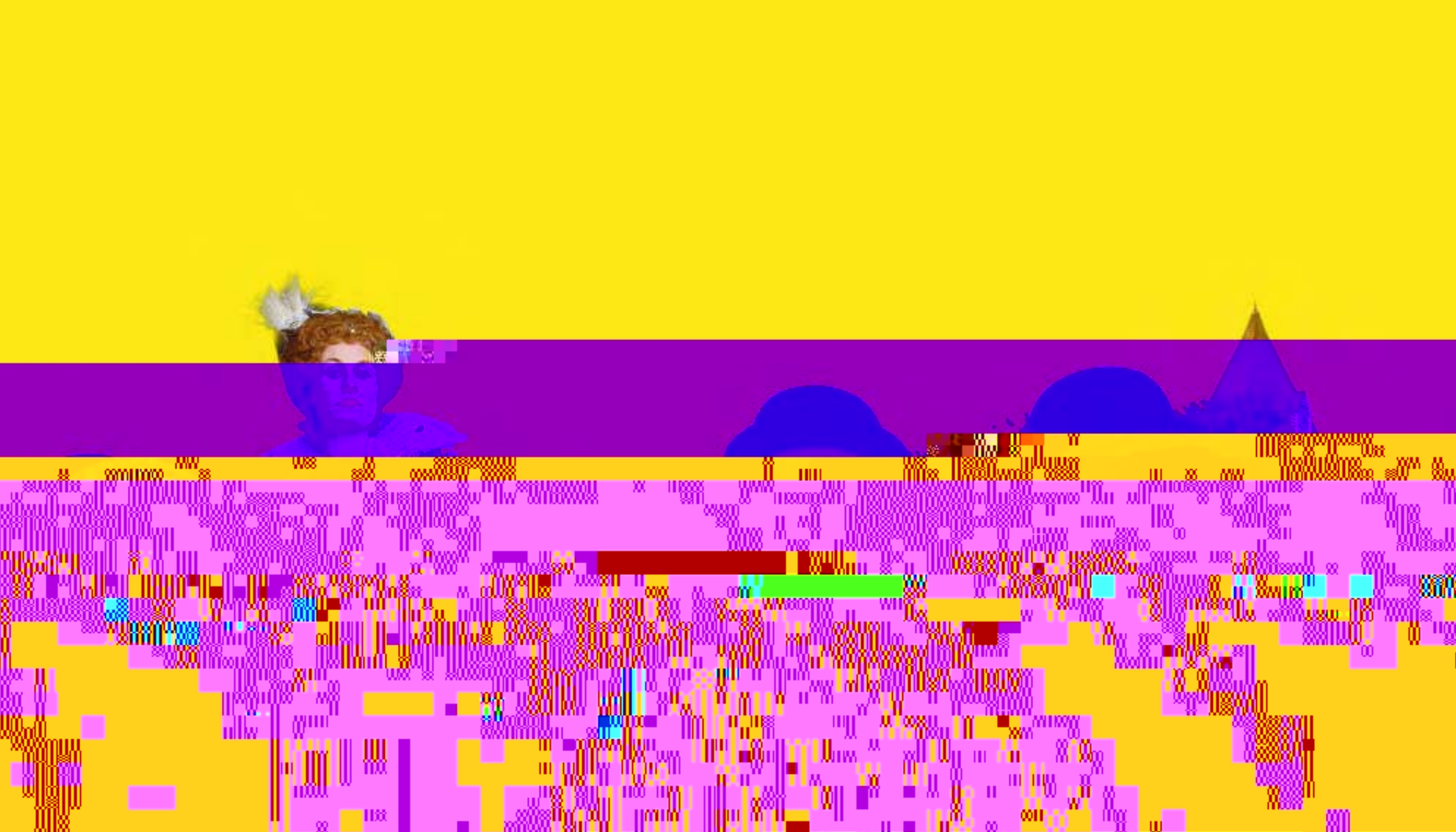
Peter Capaldi reprises his role as the bullying, foul-mouthed No 10 Chief Political Advisor (Malcolm Tucker) alongside Chris Langham as his unfortunate Minister of Social Affairs (Hugh Abbot) in this sharp satire of the world of British politics.

The new series sees the team adding more paranoia, backstabbing and power games to the day to day running of the department, while trying to deal with a ministerial visit to a factory that goes horribly wrong, a Prime Minister's blue-skies thinker who's gone out of control, an abusive email

that shouldn't have been sent and a minister caught lying to a Parliamentary Select Committee – all this and a cabinet reshuffle just around the corner.

The series also stars James Smith as Glenn Cullen, the Senior Special Advisor; Chris Addison as Oliver Reeder, the Junior Policy Advisor; Jo Scanlan as Terri Coverley, the Press





ASYLUM

'Scroungers' and 'layabouts' are words often used to describe asylum-seekers.

For three years *Asylum* has followed the fortunes of three newly arrived families from Algeria, Somalia and Afghanistan as they struggle to build new lives for themselves and their children.

The emotional journey they make is a rollercoaster of contrasting moods, affected by their feelings of isolation, homesickness and hopes for the future.

This multi-layered documentary uses news and observational footage, telling personal and developing stories that are as much about us as a nation as they are about the families.

A BBC production

QUITTERS

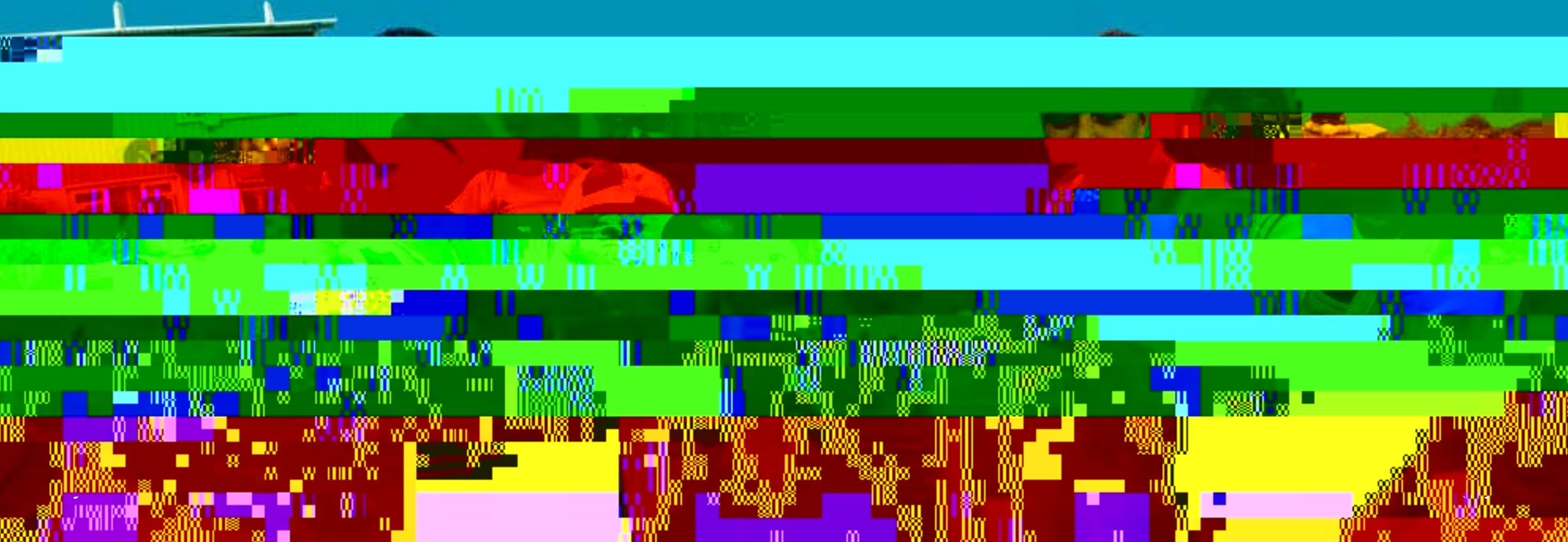
Should serially offending drug addicts be locked up or given the chance to change? By significantly increasing funding over the next three years the government has given a clear signal it believes rehabilitation is the answer.

Phoenix House treatment centres offer addicts the chance to change their lives through a six-month residential programme. Some arrive voluntarily, destitute and at the end of their tether; others have been sent by the courts and face lengthy prison sentences should they fail the programme.

With unique and intimate access to the therapeutic process, this moving, observational film follows a number of residents on an intensely personal journey that could literally save their lives.

Quitters has been made by the same team behind the acclaimed *Phoenix* documentary shown on BBC Four last year.

A Century Films production



Four years after the collapse of the Taliban regime, life is changing in Kabul. Women walk the streets in western clothes, men talk on mobile phones and children cram into ice-cream parlours to watch the latest pop videos. And thanks to the first ever 'Ladies and Gentlemen's Driving Course' in Kabul, women are now also learning to drive.

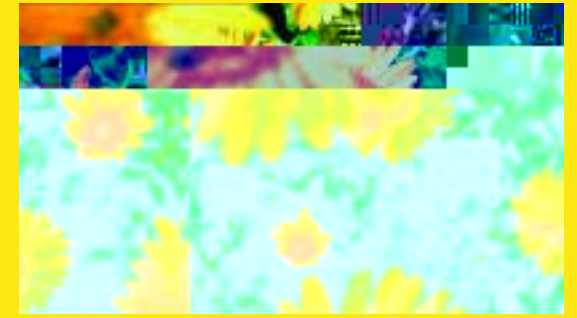
Sean Langan, journalist and documentary maker, returns to Afghanistan to witness the changes taking place following the end of the Taliban's power.

The female learners are from all walks of life – from students and mothers, to politicians and doctors. As they climb in behind the wheel they tell their stories of life under Taliban rule. Whilst some managed to flee to Pakistan, those who remained were often beaten for minor infractions of the strict laws. But despite this, all have hopes and dreams for the new Afghanistan.

Their instructors are male, ex-Taliban fighters and aren't happy with women drivers but in spite of this the school has over 200 female graduates. Most admit that whilst the state may now allow female drivers they wouldn't allow their wives or daughters to learn to drive. And some of the families of the female students feel ashamed and refuse to let their daughters appear on television.

Meanwhile, tension is mounting with the approach of the elections.

Sean Langan's previous work includes the celebrated film for BBC Four



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