



Presents

WHAT WE DID ON OUR HOLIDAY

- ★★★★ - "Very impressive and likable stuff" - The Guardian
★★★★ - "Hilarious... British comedy at its best" - Daily Star
"Warm, witty and delightful... a real treat" - BBC5 Live



Opens in cinemas across Australia: **FEBRUARY 12, 2015**

Written and directed by **ANDY HAMILTON & GUY JENKIN** (TVs *Outnumbered*)

STARRING

STARRING: **ROSAMUND PIKE, DAVID TENNANT, BILLY CONNOLLY**

Running time: 95 mins // Classification: PG

PUBLICITY REQUESTS:

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IMAGES

High res images and key art poster available to download via the DOWNLOAD MEDIA tab at:
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Distributed in Australia by Transmission Films

The Cast

David Tennant..... Doug McLeod
Rosamund Pike..... Abi McLeod
Ben Miller..... Gavin McLeod
Amelia Bullmore..... Margaret McLeod
Billy Connolly..... Gordie McLeod
Celia Imrie..... Agnes Chisolm
Emilia Jones..... Lottie McLeod
Bobby Smalldridge..... Mickey McLeod
Harriet Turnbull..... Jess McLeod

The Filmmakers

Directed by..... Andy Hamilton & Guy Jenkin
Screenplay by..... Andy Hamilton & Guy Jenkin
Produced by..... David Thompson, Dan Winch

SYNOPSIS

A hilarious journey through an unforgettable family holiday as a couple attempts to keep their impending divorce secret from their extended family.

Doug (David Tennant) and Abi (Rosamund Pike) and their three children travel to the Scottish Highlands for Doug's father Gordie's (Billy Connolly) birthday party, where it's soon clear that when it comes to keeping their secret under wraps their children are their biggest liability.

From nine year old Lottie's notebook to keep track of the lies so she remembers which ones to tell, to four year old Jess's perverse attachment to a brick named Norman, for their parents a week has never seemed such a long time.

But it's middle child Mickey and his granddad's shared passion for Vikings which gives rise to the most far-reaching and unexpected consequences. When a day at the beach turns to tragedy, the children take matters into their own hands.

From the creators of hit BBC comedy series *Outnumbered* – *What We Did On Our Holiday* is funny, honest and ultimately uplifting.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Back in 2007, the creators of the sitcom *Outnumbered*, Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin, helped push the boundaries of British television comedy. Their series, which aired on BBC One for five seasons before finishing in 2014, earned multiple awards and numerous critical plaudits — many of which focused on the writer-directors' work with the show's child actors.

The adult actors' lines were scripted, but Hamilton and Jenkin adopted a more fluid approach to the children's performances, talking to the young actors about each scene, passing on notes and ideas before allowing them to improvise their dialogue and behaviour, resulting in natural performances and reactions.

The technique proved successful and once Hamilton and Jenkin decided to end *Outnumbered* after the fifth season, the duo began exploring ways in which they could bring a similar approach to feature filmmaking. They were encouraged in their endeavours by producer David M. Thompson.

"I have always loved Andy and Guy's work and always wanted to move forward on a film idea," says Thompson. "*Outnumbered* is one of my favourite TV shows and I wanted to do something that would work in the same style, bringing that freshness and spontaneity to it.

"Andy and Guy are outstanding talents and their approach is very unusual for comedy," he adds, "so it seemed like a wonderful idea to work together on a film."

Thompson's fellow producer, Dan Winch, says that the filmmakers are definitely not making *Outnumbered: The Movie*. "We wanted the guys to use the same sort of techniques and approach as they do with the kids on *Outnumbered*," he says, "but this is an entirely separate entity, with a completely new family and a big, epic story."

Indeed, neither Hamilton nor Jenkin had any desire to transport their sitcom characters from the small screen to the big. "It's the nature of a sitcom that things don't change very much," explains Jenkin. "At the end of every episode, it goes back to how it was at the beginning.

"All the people in a sitcom are trapped in their family life while a film needs a big extraordinary event. It would be wrong for *Outnumbered* to suddenly change into something with extraordinary events. So we thought it better to start with a new family and a new idea, where people can change."

Hamilton agrees. "We didn't think that *Outnumbered* would suit the canvas of a movie," he says. "The things that happen in the show are comparatively small, while we wanted to do a movie that had a bit of sweep to it. Hence, we came up with an idea and David commissioned it."

The idea became *What We Did On Our Holiday*, a story centred around a couple, Doug and Abi, that are experiencing marital difficulties, which are amplified when they take a trip to Scotland for Doug's father's 75th birthday party, with their three children in tow.

Their attempts to conceal their personal difficulties from their extended family over the course of the holiday are inadvertently, and often hilariously, thwarted by the children, in spite of their best efforts to 'help'.

As with *Outnumbered*, Hamilton and Jenkin wrote the screenplay and also direct.

"The work that Guy and Andy do and the humour they explore appeals to such a broad audience," says Thompson. "They had never done a film together and this seemed like such a wonderful opportunity.

"Andy and Guy wrote a very solid script and the improvisation then moves around that. There was a good, strong narrative base to start with, and funny dialogue, and then we embellished it while shooting the film."

Thompson says that for the story to work effectively, the filmmakers required a cast that would be comfortable with Hamilton and Jenkin's techniques. "We needed a cast that could work in their manner but which would have an international appeal as well," he says.

Doug and Abi are played by David Tennant and Rosamund Pike. "We are delighted with our leading actors," Thompson said. "David's range is extraordinary. I've done various TV things with him and he can play anything. He is a profound actor but can also play comedy. He can play the dark and the light, which he has to in this film."

Doug has several issues to deal with across the course of the film, but, says Thompson, "He has to keep things light for the sake of the family and the children. David is really terrific on screen and was very open to the working method and really seemed to enjoy it, too."

The producer had already worked with Rosamund Pike on the feature film *An Education*. "She is a very intelligent actress and has this great comedy side to her," he says.

"She is incredibly warm and has a strong screen star presence, but she has also got fantastic comedy timing. She also understood the directors' working method really well and was great with the children. She has a great luminosity on screen."

The couple are taking their family to see Doug's father, Gordie, played by comedian Billy Connolly. "He is an icon really," says Thompson. "Billy is marvellous in films, from *Mrs Brown* to *Quartet* and he has this warmth and gravity about him and an unassuming humour.

“He is the sort of person everyone would like to have as their grandfather. He is irreverent and doesn’t suffer fools gladly. He is very sympathetic and is a real treasure on screen.”

Gordie lives in the Scottish Highlands with his son (and Doug’s brother) Gavin, who’s brought to life by actor and comedian Ben Miller. “Ben plays him as a wonderfully awkward and self-obsessed character,” Thompson says of Gavin.

“Ben has wonderful comic timing and is also very likeable, though in this film he has to be awkward with rather nerdy qualities. He is a very versatile actor, though, and very subtle.”

Gavin’s wife is the very highly-strung Margaret, who is played by Amelia Bullmore. “She is a very serious actress as well as being a great comedy actress,” the producer says of Bullmore. “She is sympathetic and engaging and has to play this rather neurotic character but it all had to be done in a very restrained and subtle way. She did that really well.”

Producer Dan Winch says the quality of the cast was beyond their wildest dreams. “We had aspirations for Billy Connelly at the time I joined,” Winch recalls, “and then getting someone as perfect for the role as Billy seemed a real coup.

“But then never in our wildest dreams did we imagine that we were also going to get David Tennant, Rosamund Pike, Ben Miller and Amelia Bullmore.

“We even got Celia Imrie,” who plays a Social Services officer called Agnes Chisolm. “We have a fantastic cast and the children are just incredible and hilarious throughout,” Winch adds.

The most challenging part of the entire casting process, the filmmakers agree, was choosing the youngsters to play Doug and Abi’s three children.

“It requires a real skill to not only identify the children’s talent,” says Thompson, “but also to see who can stay the course; you can’t have them wandering off in the middle of the shot. Casting them was always going to be the biggest gamble.”

The eldest of Doug and Abi’s kids is Lottie, 11, a very serious-minded girl who shoulders a lot of responsibility for her two younger siblings. The middle child is Mickey, 6, who is obsessed with Vikings and their chief god, Odin, while the youngest is Jess, 5, who is as cute as a button and a perennial source of silliness.

“We saw loads of fantastic kids during the casting process,” notes Jenkin, “and we gradually narrowed it down. It took a long, long time.”

Hamilton says that the youngest child, Harriet Turnbull, who plays Jess, was a real find. “Harriet has just got something wonderfully comic about her,” he says. “She has an indefinable comic disposition that is just very beguiling.”

Jenkin says that Turnbull is very bright and very confident, “and she is not fazed by anything. If you want her to run into a cold sea, the problem isn’t persuading her to do it, it is stopping her before she reaches the Isle of Skye. She’s very up for stuff.”

The boisterous Mickey is brought to life by Bobby Smalldridge, who is blessed with “very good comedy bones”, according to Hamilton, who says, “The things Bobby chose to do really made us laugh at the audition. He is very funny verbally and also slightly phlegmatic for one so young. He is just very natural.”

Smalldridge enjoyed a particularly strong bond with Connolly. “He was very good with Billy,” says Jenkin, “and very good with the Lottie character. He would just do stuff that made them laugh. That’s fantastic because we get a very natural reaction.”

Hamilton says that Mickey can be “more pensive than Jess”, but also that he is “a very funny portrayal of a little boy who steps between the real world and his own world inside his head.

“There are moments when you sense that he’s choosing to stay in the world inside his head because it is a slightly more comfortable place to be, given what is going on around him!”

Emilia Jones, meanwhile, plays the eldest of the three children, Lottie, who is a worrier, constantly scribbling in her notebook. “We worked in a slightly different way with Emilia because she was 11 years old when we were filming,” explains Jenkin. “It is much more like acting. You can give her very precise notes and she understands.

“She is a really good actress,” he continues. “We wanted someone who looked worried at rest, which she does. She is not at all like that in real life, yet if you look at her on screen it is as though she has the weight of the world on her shoulders.”

Hamilton adds, “Lottie is a real older sister, a head girl, but she makes life a bit difficult for herself sometimes.

“With the other two kids, we are mining their natural qualities as individuals, which are a good match for the characters, but Emilia is very unlike Lottie in real life.”

In many ways, says Jenkin, working with Jones was like dealing with an adult. “We were so surprised by what notes we could give her, what shades of meaning,” he recalls. “We probably got more ambitious with her as time went on when we realized how terrific she was.”

The children are all united by their love for their granddad, Gordie. When he takes Lottie, Mickey and Jess out to the beach for the day ahead of his 75th birthday party, he encourages their wild and silly behaviour, much to their delight.

“Really Gordie is a grumpy old granddad who is not very well,” says Connolly of his character, “but he is trying his best to be cheery. He is pissed off with being sick. There’s no way out of his sickness and he is trying to explain this to his tiny relatives.

“As it happens, one of them bugs him all the time about it and eventually he blurts out what’s wrong with him and I think he is right to do it, because they are very intelligent, like most children.”

It is while the children and Gordie are enjoying their day out that things take an unexpected turn, leading to a series of events that put the family’s future happiness, and togetherness, in peril.

Up until this point, the adults have mostly bickered among themselves, though now, as hordes of reporters congregate outside Gavin’s Highland home, they must find some kind of unity.

“Abi is finding the whole situation very difficult,” explains Rosamund Pike of her character’s predicament. “She and Doug have made this disastrous decision of driving all the way up to the Scottish Highlands together with the children, while the shadow of their solicitors’ disagreement is hanging heavily on their minds.”

Pike notes that *What We Did On Our Holiday* is “a movie where there is a lot of childish behaviour going on — and not all of it from the children.”

She says, “The adults are behaving in a very immature fashion for much of it. Then there is a shift later on in the film, when Abi discovers that her relationship with Doug is very profound, and always will be — by the nature of the fact that they have three children.

“They are not getting back together but he is the father of her children, whatever their personal differences, and she has the grace to eventually admit that he is a very good and loving father.”

The actress says that Abi is deeply protective of her children, turning into a tigress when threatened by Agnes Chisolm from Social Services.

“When this woman, played by Celia Imrie, arrives on the scene and wilfully seems to look for a dark meaning beneath quite innocent facts, Abi finds her incredibly threatening,” Pike says, “and she is pretty rude to her. Her animal side comes up and a tigress comes out.”

Most of Abi’s arguments, however, are with Doug. “And they are furious,” the actress notes. “It is very funny. It is like a dumb-show at times. There are various shots that Andy and Guy composed, one of us in the rain and you can’t really hear what we are saying but just watching the jabbing fists and the gesticulation shows you how absurd we are.”

David Tennant, who plays Doug, agrees. "Doug and Abi have a stab at unity for the sake of Doug's father, who is very fond of Abi, and wants to see her more than most of the people who are invited to his 75th birthday party.

"Because he is unwell, they decide to keep their separation a secret and that puts a bit of a strain on things, to say the least."

Tennant says that Doug, who seems besieged on all sides, was a rewarding character to play. "Now that they are apart, Abi, being the more together of the two, has gone off and got herself a new life and a new boss while Doug is coping less well. He is wallowing a bit in his misery."

Doug and his, somewhat uptight brother, Gavin, played by Ben Miller, have a strong sibling rivalry. While Doug is experiencing a tough time, Gavin's fortunes are going strong. He lives in a beautiful home near Fort William and is busily preparing Gordie's birthday bash, proving far more eager than Gordie himself.

"Doug finds Gavin ludicrous and irritating and the fact that Gavin's fortunes are so in the ascendance is quite difficult for Doug to take," says Tennant. "There's a lot of sibling rivalry going on there."

Miller concurs. "My character is a slightly odd fish," he says, "a little bit over-organized and controlling. He has got his whole house wired up with banks of TV screens and he has software for organizing seating arrangements and things like that.

"Basically, he is a bit of a social climber and he is using his father's birthday party as an excuse to try and impress all his friends and to try and get the captaincy of the golf club!

"Gavin is such a funny character, so controlling, so uptight, so riddled with insecurity and very well written," Miller continues. "He is not written in an over-the-top way and in fact he kind of redeems himself. He goes on a little expedition by becoming even more annoying and then slowly realising and apologising for it."

Margaret, meanwhile, is Gavin's long-suffering wife. "Their marriage is quite solid, funnily enough," says Miller. "Gavin would be quite hard to take for some people, but it happens to work between him and Margaret. Not that they don't have their problems during the film."

While her husband is loud and domineering, Margaret is rather quiet. "Gavin is quite a strong personality so she is his rather meek wife," notes Amelia Bullmore who takes on the role. "I think that over the years as he has got louder, she's probably got quieter and she has bottled things up a lot.

“There are little explosions of frustration and rage that she can’t really control,” adds Bullmore. “She has not been listened to or looked at or talked to for quite a long time, so she has these funny and sad physical outbursts.”

Bullmore says that she hopes audiences will find her character quite sweet, “and then later they will see that there actually is a volcanic interior to Margaret. When she blows she really does explode!”

The couple also have a child of their own, a teenage violin prodigy called Kenneth, who’s played by Lewis Davie. “Kenneth, who is Gavin’s son, has a great story,” says Miller. “He plays the violin and has this whole love story involving Kenneth and a girl he meets at the birthday party. It is a sort of coming-of-age thing for him which is lovely.”

Miller says that for all the squabbling, events do bring the family members together. “That’s what’s most uplifting about the story,” he explains. “Everything is falling apart at the beginning of the film and by the end they have all shifted slightly. They realize they have made mistakes and events do bring us all together.”

Like the rest of the cast, Miller has nothing but praise for the three child actors and for their directors, Hamilton and Jenkin. “Making a film like this is very enjoyable,” he says. “It is very different. I didn’t know what it would be like because normally there are rules, of sorts, to improvisation. When you improvise with actors there’s something to fall back on. It is not quite the same when you improvise with kids.

“And that’s the thing that makes Andy and Guy’s stuff so magical,” he adds, “the very real moments that they find with the children. It is very clever the way they get the kids to do some of the best acting on set. They are completely being their characters, and with no script. It is brilliant.”

Hamilton and Jenkin’s technique is focussed on getting the kids to relax and to understand that nothing that they do is wrong. The only lines they definitely need to deliver are short, succinct moments from the script. Anything else is regarded as a bonus.

“If you took all the improvisation out, you would still have a very funny, well-structured and well-written film,” notes Tennant. “These are extra moments that add verity and also lots of humour. It becomes a USP for the film. Often in the film you see children being children in a very real way, which is funny, refreshing and glorious.”

Hamilton and Jenkin never use make up on the children, so that they’re always ready to go, and rather than light the individual child, they light the whole area in which the child will perform, so that he or she doesn’t have to hit exact marks.

“As a result, it was important that we used the same cinematographer from *Outnumbered* [Martin Hawkins], because not only is he a fantastic lighter but he also understands what is going on and what we’re trying to do,” says Hamilton.

“It was probably even more important here than on *Outnumbered* because of the strong plot. There were more moments when we did need the children to say what the script said, although they could put it in their own words.”

The adult actors were very good with the children, continues Jenkin. “They really encouraged the kids, let them talk and made them relax. I think that probably does give it something different; there are moments in it that aren’t what people usually see in a British comedy. It does feel like children being entirely themselves.”

With the children only ever working relatively short stints, the adult actors often had to shoot their reaction shots with Hamilton and Jenkin standing (or sitting) in for their young charges. The directors wore strips of masking tape on their chests or arms to simulate the children’s eyelines.

“As with *Outnumbered*, when the children had to go off for their 45 minute breaks, we still had the adult actors and Andy and I would impersonate the children,” explains Jenkin. “It shows the skill of Rosamund and David that some of the scenes they appear to have with the children they are actually doing with us!”

Hamilton adds, “Guy and I are actually sitting on boxes or are on our knees talking to the actors. We try and remember what the kids did, or at least the things that the kids did that we might have a chance of using.

“We then re-enact them and the actors respond and then we split the responses. You have to plan for the edit because when you do a section with the kids, you don’t necessarily know what you are going to be able to use in the final cut.”

“The directors really maximise the time that the kids are on set”, says Tennant. “Often you are picking up reactions to the kids when they are no longer there, with Guy or Andy instead,” he says.

“It is almost like building a scene in kit form. There’s improvisation, and in some ways that is very free, but then you have to piece it together. It is a very particular way that Andy and Guy have learned and it is all about getting the kids to be kids.”

The key to the directors approach, says Hamilton, is that they only allow “little pockets” of anarchy. He says, “The script we wrote is two and a half years worth of and writing and rewriting, so the story was locked down and tight — but there are these little places where we know that if the kids do something interesting or comic we can let it out a bit and let something happen.”

They often kept the cameras running after each take. “There are shots in the film when the kids are just being natural, before or after the takes,” says Jenkin.

“Although those little pockets are only a small percentage of the film, it does influence the style of the film because by their nature they have to be rough and ready and hand-held.”

The directors have to use quite a lot of cuts, “because we cut between lots of different takes on the children,” says Jenkin, “and obviously that bleeds into the rest of the film because you can’t shoot the rest of the film on elegant tracking shots. So that method gives the film its style.”

That said, *What We Did On Our Holiday* does enjoy a more epic backdrop and more breath-taking photography than anything seen in *Outnumbered*. Apart from the scenes charting Doug and Abi’s departure from London and subsequent drive to Scotland, the story is set solely in the Highlands, with almost every scene shot on location.

“An important part of the story is that the kids go a long way away from what they are used to,” says Hamilton. “They are let off the leash in what is an extraordinary environment for them, so they couldn’t go to Brighton for the day. It had to be somewhere wild.”

There is also a Viking theme running through the film. “And because of that Viking connection,” notes Thompson, “the story needed to be set in Scotland and it needed to be a very remote place, far away from their normal, urban lives. They needed to get to the end of the world, in a way.

“Also, the beautiful landscape is part of the film,” the producer adds, “and then, of course, there’s Billy Connolly. We really wanted Billy to be in it and so setting it in Scotland just made perfect sense.”

The main location is Gavin’s sweeping Highland home, which was filmed further south at Finnich Malise, an early 19th century Georgian home standing in the shadow of Ben Lomond on the edge of The Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park.

The other prominent outdoor setting is the beach upon which Gordie and the three children spend the afternoon before his 75th birthday party. Here the filmmakers travelled up to the Northwest of Scotland, around Gairloch, where they shot at Red Point and the adjoining beach, looking out toward the Isle of Skye.

“Those locations make the film’s setting very visual,” says Thompson. “We have got big landscape shots; we’re going for a bigger, widescreen feel. But then the dialogue is shot in a very fluid way, so that we’re not forcing the children into corners.

“It is a wonderful blend, and Guy and Andy’s way of working really does translate from the small screen to the big screen. We think and hope the film is going to do really well.”

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

David Tennant

Since graduating from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, David Tennant has gained great critical acclaim for both his work on television and in film. For what is perhaps Tennant's most iconic role, the Tenth Doctor in *Dr Who*, Tennant was awarded the Welsh Television BAFTA for Best Actor in 2007, as well as four National Television Awards in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2010. Tennant has also gained critical recognition for his television roles in *Casanova*, *Recovery* and *Broadchurch* among others. His notable film credits include *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, *Glorious 39*, *St. Trinians II: The Legend of Fritton's Gold*, *How to Train your Dragon*, and *Frightnight*.

Tennant has also gained a reputation as an outstanding stage actor, having appeared in a number of highly anticipated performances with the Royal Shakespeare Company. So many people wanted to see him in the 2009 RSC performance of *Hamlet*, in which he played the title role, that it sold out within three hours of tickets going on sale. He was also nominated for an Olivier Award for Best Actor for his role in *Lobby Hero* in 2003.

Alongside such celebrated actors as John Hurt and Matt Smith, Tennant was last seen reviving his role as the Tenth Doctor in the highly anticipated fiftieth anniversary episode of *Dr Who*, 'The Day of the Doctor'.

Tennant can be seen next in *What We Did On Our Holiday*, which comes from the creators of the acclaimed comedy TV series *Outnumbered*. The heart-warming, uplifting comedy explores the realities of a family under pressure.

Rosamund Pike

Rosamund Pike is regarded as a contemporary and multifaceted actress and has earned international acclaim for both her stage and film roles.

Pike can next be seen in David Fincher's highly anticipated film, *Gone Girl*, in which she stars as Amy Dunne, opposite Ben Affleck. *Gone Girl* was adapted for the screen by the best-selling book's original author, Gillian Flynn. Twentieth Century Fox will release the film on October 3rd, 2014.

She recently wrapped production on several other films, including Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin's part improvised BBC comedy *What We Did on Our Holiday* alongside Billy Connolly and David Tennant. The BBC comedy will be released on September 26th, 2014 in the UK. Pike also stars alongside Simon Pegg, Stellan Skarsgard and Toni Collette in Peter Chelsom's *Hector and the Search for Happiness* which is set to be released on August 15th, 2014 in the UK and September 19th, 2014 in the US.

Pike was most recently seen in *A Long Way Down*, reuniting with the team behind *An Education*, for a small cameo alongside Pierce Brosnan. Prior to that, she starred in Edgar Wright's *The World's End* opposite Simon Pegg, which follows the story of old friends who reunite for an epic pub crawl, only to encounter all is not as it was in their home town. In 2012 she was seen in Christopher McQuarrie's crime drama *Jack Reacher* opposite Tom Cruise. Pike played Helen Rodin, a local defense attorney working with a retired policeman (Cruise) to defend a man arrested for murdering five victims.

This film marked a break from the intense action required for 2012's *Wrath of the Titans*, directed by Jonathan Liebesman. Pike starred as Andromeda opposite Sam Worthington, Bill Nighy, Ralph Fiennes and Liam Neeson. In 2010, Pike played Lisa Hopkins in the dramatic film *Made in Dagenham* WITH Sally Hawkins, Miranda Richardson and Bob Hoskins, based on the 1968 strike at the Ford Dagenham car plant. She was later nominated for a 2011 London Critics' Circle Award for "British Actress in a Supporting Role" for her role in the film. Pike in the same year starred in *Barney's Version* opposite Paul Giamatti. The film, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival, and went on to receive rave reviews at the Toronto International Film Festival, is a love story poignantly captures the life of the politically incorrect, irascible and fearlessly blunt Barney Panofsky (Giamatti) and the women he has loved in his life. Pike's work in the film earned her a 2011 London Critics' Circle Award for "British Actress of the Year" and a Genie Award nomination for best actress.

Pike received critical acclaim for her work as Helen in Lone Scherfig's Academy Award Nominated Film *an Education*, opposite Peter Sarsgaard and Carey Mulligan. Received well at the Sundance Film Festival in 2009, *An Education* continued to garner critical acclaim with Academy Award, Golden Globe, BAFTA, Film Critics nominations, and a win for Best Foreign Film at the Independent Spirit Awards. Pike's past film credits include *Johnny English Reborn*, *The Big Year*, *Women in Love*, *The Libertine*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Fracture*, *Fugitive Pieces*, *Surrogates*, *Burning Palms*, and *Die Another Day*.

Aside from her cinematic roles, Pike has continued to return to her roots in theater on the London stage. She has starred in *Gaslight*, Patrick Hamilton's Victorian thriller, at the Old Vic Theater, The Donmar Warehouse Production of *Madame de Sade* in The West End, opposite Judi Dench, and The Royal Court Theatre production of *Hitchcock Blonde*, directed by Terry Johnson. With its enormous success, the play was moved to the Lyric Theater in London's West End. Most recently, Pike began 2010 by playing the title role in *Hedda Gabler*, a performance for which she received rave reviews.

On television, Pike has been working on the upcoming re-invention of classic kid's series *Thunderbirds Are Go!* She will voice International Rescue agent Lady Penelope opposite original cast member David Graham for the new ITV series.

Billy Connolly

Billy Connolly is a stand-up comedian, actor, musician, TV presenter and artist. After an apprenticeship as a welder in his hometown of Glasgow, he became a professional performer in 1962, forming *The Humblebums* band with Gerry Rafferty, before pursuing a solo career as a comedian.

Aside from starring in numerous films and TV series, Billy has toured worldwide continuously for the last 50 years, performing to an audience of over 10,000,000. Billy was awarded a CBE in 2003, was given the Freedom of the City of Glasgow in 2010, and was named Britain's most influential stand-up comic in 2012.

Perhaps best known for his moving performance as the loyal servant John Brown in the highly acclaimed *Mrs. Brown*, Connolly's other film credits include *Gulliver's Travels*, *The X-Files: I Want To Believe*, *Fido*, *Garfield 2*, *Lemony Snicket: A Series of Unfortunate Events*, *The Last Samurai* and *Timeline*. His previous film credits include Peter Kosminsky's *White Oleander*, Troy Duffys *The Boondock Saints* and the sequel *All Saint's Day*, Stephen Metcalfe's *Beautiful Joe* and Barry Levinson's *An Everlasting Piece*, Stanley Tucci's *The Impostors*, *Crossing the Line* with Liam Neeson, the Muppet movie version of *Treasure Island*, *Gabriel and Me*, *Gentleman's Relish* and *The Man Who Sued God*, and *The Life and Crimes of Deacon Brodie*. His voice is also featured on the animated films *Pocahontas* and *Open Season* and the Disney Pixar animation *Brave*. Most recently he has appeared in *Quartet*, directed by Dustin Hoffman, in the three-part addition of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, directed by Peter Jackson, and will be seen in the upcoming *What We Did On Our Holiday* alongside David Tennant and Rosamund Pike.

On television, Billy featured in *Head of the Class*, which was later spun off into his own series, *Billy*. Connolly has also made various television guest appearances, most notably in the U.S. series *House M.D.* as well as *Columbo*, *Third Rock from the Sun* and *Veronica's Closet*.

He hosted *Billy Connolly's World Tour of Scotland*, a six-part series documenting a tour of his homeland, a theme continued later in his World Tours of New Zealand, Australia and England, Ireland and Wales. Billy has hosted television series *Journey to the Edge of the World* and *Route 66*, as well as other specials such as *Pale Blue Scottish Person*, *A Scot in the Arctic*, *The Bigger Picture* and *An Audience with Billy Connolly*. More recently he has presented the two-part series *Billy Connolly's Big Send Off*.

Billy is now also recognised as an artist, as original artwork by Billy has been displayed in various exhibitions throughout the UK since 2012.

Ben Miller

Ben Miller is an actor, director and comedian, best known for writing and starring in seven series of *The Armstrong and Miller Show*, and his role as Rowan Atkinson's

sidekick, Bough in *Johnny English*. His other notable film credits include *4.3.2.1.*, *Razzle Dazzle*, *The Actors*, *Plunkett and Macleane*, and *The Prince and Me*.

His interest in comedy began while studying for a PhD in physics at Cambridge University. As with many acclaimed British comedy actors, he was a member of the renowned sketch, The Cambridge Footlights. Previous members of the Footlights have included Peter Cook, Graham Chapman and John Cleese.

After Cambridge, he moved to London to also pursue a comedy career, where he was introduced to fellow Cambridge graduate Alexander Armstrong. The pair performed their first full show together at the Edinburgh Fringe in 1998, and were nominated for a Perrier Comedy Award which resulted in the commissioning of the television series, Armstrong and Miller. The television series -- renamed as The Armstrong and Miller Show when it moved to the BBC -- has been nominated for two BAFTA's for Best Comedy Series, winning one in 2010.

Miller was last seen starring in the first two series of the crime comedy-drama *Death in Paradise*. The plot centres on Miller's character, Richard Poole, a straight-laced British policeman, being sent to the fictional Caribbean island of Saint Marie to solve the case of the death of a fellow British policeman. The show has been a big hit worldwide.

What We Did On Our Holiday, Miller's next appearance, sees him return to the big screen. In this heart-warming family comedy, Miller plays Gavin, the social-climbing son of Scottish football legend Gordie (Billy Connolly) in the Scottish Highlands. Gavin is determined to organise a big party for Gordie's seventieth birthday, whether he wants one or not. And as ever when Gordie is concerned, the big day doesn't quite go according to plan...

Amelia Bullmore

Amelia Bullmore is a skilled actress, celebrated both for her serious and comedic roles, as well as an award winning writer. Bullmore has appeared in a diverse range of television roles throughout her career including parts in *Ashes to Ashes*, *I'm Alan Partridge*, *Sherlock* and *Twenty Twelve*. She has also appeared in a number of feature films including *Mrs Dalloway*, alongside Vanessa Redgrave, and *Festival*.

After graduating from the University of Manchester with a degree in Drama, Bullmore was a founding member of the Red Stocking Theatre Company, an all- girl radical comedy group that toured the country performing musical comedies. Her early work was mainly on stage including roles in *Breaking Rank*, *Ladies in the Lift*, *The Threepenny Opera* and *A View from the Bridge*. Bullmore made her television debut in 1990 as Steph Barnes in the popular soap opera *Coronation Street*. Most recently, Bullmore starred in the detective drama series *Scott and Bailey*, which received a BAFTA nomination for Best Drama Series in both 2012 and 2013, and has been renewed for a fourth series.

Bullmore's next role sees her take to the big screen in the heart-warming comedy *What We Did On Our Holiday*, from the creators of the critically acclaimed television comedy *Outnumbered*. She will be starring alongside fellow acclaimed British actors David Tennant, Rosamund Pike and Billy Connolly.

Since 1995, Bullmore has turned her interest to writing as well as acting. She has written episodes for a number of TV series including the BAFTA nominated *Big Train* and is the lead writer on the fourth series of *Scott and Bailey*.

Emilia Jones

Emilia has appeared in Jasmine in *One Day* (Focus Features) and English Girl in *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* (Disney).

Her television credits include an appearance as the Young Sarah in *House of Anubis* (Nickelodeon USA and UK), Alice in *Utopia* (Channel 4) and Merry Gejelh in *Doctor Who*, Series 7 (BBC).

Theatre credits include Young Fiona in the original West End cast of *Shrek the Musical* (Theatre Royal, Drury Lane) and Flora in *The Turn of the Screw* (The Almeida).

Bobby Smallldridge

Bobby is eight years old and lives in Essex. His television credits include Archie Oxley in *Agatha Christie's Marple* for ITV and Jacob Broker in *Casualty* for the BBC.

His previous film work includes Samuel in *Foster*, with Ioan Gruffudd and Toni Collette. Bobby has also appeared on stage in *Billy Elliot* at the Victoria Palace Theatre.

Harriet Turnbull

A member of the Stagecoach Agency - Harriet Turnbull had just turned five years of age when she was chosen to play the part of "Jess" in *What We Did On Our Holiday*. Harriet trains at Stagecoach Chertsey which she has attended since the age of four, and has also taken LAMDA examinations gaining Distinction at Newson Academy in Woking. Harriet loves music too, performing often as singer, pianist and cellist at her school in Hampton Court. Other interests include art, ballet and tap, gymnastics, horse riding, reading, swimming, tennis...and playing Lego with her little brother!

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

Guy Jenkin

Guy was co-producer and co-writer (with Andy Hamilton) of Channel Four's *Drop the Dead Donkey* which has won a BAFTA award, two International Emmys, the RTS award, two Writers' Guild, a British Press Guild, a Radio Times TRIC and four British Comedy awards for best sitcom. Sketch shows he has written for include *Not the Nine O'clock News*, *Three of a Kind*, *Alas Smith and Jones* and *Spitting Image*. He wrote 18 episodes of Thames Television's *Shelley*.

Most recently he has [with Andy Hamilton] written, directed and produced 5 series of *Outnumbered*, shown on BBC1, which has won 3 Comedy Awards, 2 British Press Guild Awards, an RTS and one British Television Award, among others.

Guy has written and directed five films for the BBC all of them contemporary political satires: *A Very Open Prison* (winner of the Writer's Guild Award for best single drama), *The Lord of Misrule*, *Crossing the Floor* (starring Tom Wilkinson, nominated for Best Single Drama BAFTA, winner of the International Emmy for Best Drama), *Mr. White Goes to Westminster*, *Jeffrey Archer: The Truth and Sex n'Death* (nominated for Best Single Drama BAFTA 2000) and *Hacks* for C4 in 2012. His biopic of Samuel Pepys, starring Steve Coogan for the BBC, was transmitted in 2005. He wrote directed and produced *Bike Squad* for ITV in 2007.

He wrote and directed a theatrical feature *The Sleeping Dictionary* for Fine Line Cinema starring Jessica Alba, Bob Hoskins and Brenda Blethyn. He wrote the screenplay for *Rebecca's Daughters* starring Peter O Toole.

He has recently completed *What We Did On Our Holidays*, a film he wrote and directed with Andy Hamilton, starring Billy Connolly, David Tennant, and Rosamund Pike.

Guy Jenkin won the Royal Television Society Writer's Award in 1993 and the Comedy Awards Writer's award in 1995.

Andy Hamilton

Andy's first television work was as one of the original writers of *Not the Nine O'clock News* and he was also a writer and co-producer of C4's first successful comedy series, *Who Dares Wins*.

Amongst his television credits Andy wrote and directed the four part comedy thriller *Underworld* (British Comedy Award) and the TV film *Eleven Men Against Eleven Men* (RTS Award and nominated for International Emmy) as well as three series of the BAFTA nominated *Bedtime*.

Working with Guy Jenkin Andy wrote, directed and produced six series of *Drop the Dead Donkey*, which won two International Emmys, one BAFTA, two Writers' Guild

Awards, three Indie Awards and four British Comedy Awards. Their most recent work together is *Outnumbered*, currently in production with series 4 – earlier series having won two Comedy.co.uk Awards, one RTS Award, two Broadcast Press Guild Awards and three British Comedy Awards.

Andy regularly appears on television shows, such as QI and *Have I Got News for You*, as well as being a regular panelist on radio series such as *New Quiz* and *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*. He voices characters on the children's programmes *Peppa Pig* and *Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom*.

His radio writing includes *The Million Pound Radio Show* (Radio Times and British Press Guild Awards), three series of *Trevor's World of Sport*, four series of *Revolting People* and eight series of *Old Harry's Game* (Sony and British Comedy Awards).

He has recently completed *What We Did on Our Holiday*, a film he wrote and directed with Guy Jenkin, starring Billy Connolly, David Tennant, and Rosamund Pike.

In 1993, Andy and Guy Jenkin received an RTS award for Lifetime Achievement in Television.

David Thompson

David M. Thompson, former head of BBC Films, has been the recipient of multiple awards, including three BAFTAs, two Golden Globes, and three Emmys. He has produced/executive produced over 100 films. His feature film credits include *Billy Elliot*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, *Iris*, *Notes on a Scandal*, *Eastern Promises*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Fish Tank* and *An Education*.

Over his career, David made a special contribution to introducing the work of new directors such as Pawel Pawlikowski, Lynne Ramsay, Andrea Arnold, Saul Dibb, Dominic Savage, Sarah Gavron, Francesca Joseph, Justin Chadwick and Nick Murphy. His TV credits as producer include several Alan Clarke films such as *The Firm* and *Road*, as well as the first *Shadowlands* and numerous award winning television dramas which he executive produced/produced such as *Into the Storm*, *The Storm*, *The Gathering Storm*, *Conspiracy*, *The Lost Prince* and *Einstein & Eddington*.

David left the BBC in 2008 to set up Origin Pictures, producing high quality feature films and television drama. Recent productions include the BAFTA-nominated *The Crimson Petal and The White*, as well as *Death Comes to Pemberley* and *Jamaica Inn*. David's recent feature films include *The Awakening* starring Rebecca Hall and Dominic West and the Nelson Mandela biopic *Long Walk to Freedom*, written by William Nicholson and starring Idris Elba and Naomie Harris. David is currently in production on *Woman in Gold*, starring Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds.

Dan Winch

A graduate of the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Dan began his career in theatre stage management. Over the past 15 years Dan has worked as an Assistant Director in TV & film, building his producing roots at the set end of the production process. His credits as Assistant Director span a broad and eclectic mix of drama and features, including acclaimed award-winning productions - *Boy A*, *Tyrannosaur*, *The Mark of Cain*, *Appropriate Adult*, *The Crimson Petal & The White*, *Birdsong*, *House of Saddam*, Lynne Ramsay's *Swimmer* and *Funland*.

In 2012 Dan Line Produced ITV Studio's Bafta nominated UK/Australian co-production *Mrs Biggs*.

Dan has a passion for helping emerging talent on their careers in the TV & film industry, and inspiring confidence, ambition and high production standards. He has recently mentored two Creative England funded shorts, and is currently producing *Polar Bear* with Diarmid Scrimshaw for Inflammable Films and Film4. *Polar Bear* is the directorial debut of award-winning playwright Sean Buckley.

What We Did on Our Holiday is Dan's first producing collaboration.