POTTY MOUTHS
Peter Capaldi (left) and Paul Higgins as spin twins Malcolm Tucker and James McDonald

DAD'S ARMY
BRITISH COMEDY BBC Store; 9 series
There’s a reason why this old soldiers sitcom recruited 18 million viewers in its heyday, and is just about to get the big-screen treatment. Quite simply, the writing was fabulous. Jimmy Perry and David Croft’s Walmingon-on-Sea felt like a fully formed community, its Home Guard peopled by some of our finest character actors. Nearly all episodes are available from BBC Store, and you can select your favourites at £1.99 a pop. Which was the one with the U-boat prisoners again? Don’t tell him, Pike!

75 BITTER LAKE
DOCUMENTARY
BBC iPlayer
In many ways Adam Curtis preceded the way debates are conducted online, and this iPlayer exclusive film represents a homecoming. His method of weaving disparate facts with seemingly random archive footage feels “new media”. Watch many of the conspiracy theory videos you find on the internet and you will see Curtis’s fingerprints. However, it’s hard to argue with his reasoning here – that the issues surrounding Afghanistan and radical Islam are so bewildering, our politicians and media have collapsed into a collective shrug. A potent watch.

74 BLOODLINE
US DRAMA
Netflix; 1 series
Families, eh? This atmospheric thriller from the producers of Damages takes the stresses we’ve all felt, and twists them mercilessly. In Florida, three siblings – including Friday Night Lights star Kyle Chandler – throw a party for their parents (Sissy Spacek and Sam Shepard) in the clan’s waterside home. A hundred accreted grudges and tensions mean everyone’s on edge, but most of all they dread their bitter, black-sheep brother (Emmy-nominated Ben Mendelsohn) turning up. How bad can it be? The tantalising flash-forwards tell you: very bad.

72 DOCTOR WHO (MODERN)
BRITISH SCI-FI DRAMA
Amazon, Netflix; 8 series
Doctor Who is a world-beating success story these days, but back in 2005, Russell T Davies’s plans to revive an old sci-fi series were risky. Would it connect with audiences after such a long absence? And could it be successfully updated for the modern day? As it turned out it would excel on both counts, inspiring new generations of fans to follow the adventures of a face-changing alien flying through the universe in a blue box and become the international smash it is now. Recommended episodes include Rose and The Eleventh Hour.
WHO'S YOUR FAVOURITE?
Jon Pertwee, the third Doctor

51

DOCTOR WHO
(CLASSIC SERIES)

BRITISH SCI-FI DRAMA

BBC Store, Netflix; 26 series
The internet is better than any Tardis. Not only is your smartphone much, much bigger on the inside, it lets you travel back to the very beginning of the Time Lord. The BBC has come a long way from the organisation that once wiped old episodes of Doctor Who to reuse the tapes. Now “classic Who” (as the pre-relaunch years between 1965 and 1996 are known) is one of the jewels in the recently launched BBC Store’s crown. Start at the very beginning with An Unearthly Child – other vintage episodes include Genesis of the Daleks and The Caves of Androzani.

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