



GLOBAL TELEVISION EVENT ACROSS FIVE HUGE NIGHTS TUESDAY 7 – SATURDAY 11 JULY at 8:30pm

An ordinary day becomes a world of terror, as every single child in the world stops.

A message is sent to all the governments of Earth: 'We are coming'. But as a trap closes around Captain Jack, sins of the past are returning, as long-forgotten events from 1965 threaten to reveal an awful truth.

Torchwood are forced underground, as the government takes swift and brutal action. With members of the team being hunted down, Britain risks becoming a rogue state, with the mysterious and powerful 456 drawing ever closer.

Captain Jack (John Barrowman), Gwen (Eve Myles) and Ianto (Gareth David Lloyd) are helpless, as events escalate until mankind faces the end of civilisation itself.

Due to the popularity of the series, *Torchwood* has made a swift move from BBC Three to BBC TWO, with the new instalment, ***Torchwood: Children of Earth*** finding itself on BBC ONE.

In one epic story, told over five episodes, the new series promises to be Torchwood's greatest adrenalin-fuelled, high octane adventure to date. As they battle against the odds, do they stand a chance of saving mankind?

Torchwood: Children of Earth is executive produced by Russell T Davies and Julie Gardner. The producer is Peter Bennett.

Torchwood: Children of Earth is written by Russell T Davies, John Fay (*Mobile, Clocking Off, Coronation Street*) and James Moran (*Doctor Who, Torchwood*) and directed by Euros Lyn (best director in BAFTA Cymru TV Awards, *Doctor Who, George Gently*).

Torchwood: Children of Earth is a BBC Wales for BBC Drama production.

Interviews are available with Russell T. Davies, Eve Myles and Gareth David Lloyd on Wed July 1.

To schedule, please contact:

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TORCHWOOD: CHILDREN OF EARTH SYNOPSIS

Day 1 – Tuesday July 7 at 8:30pm

Captain Jack Harkness, Gwen Cooper and Ianto Jones return for a new adventure in *Torchwood: Children Of Earth*, a five-part series for BBC One, fast-tracked to UKTV.

An ordinary day becomes one of terror, as every single child in the world stops. A message is sent to all the governments of Earth: "We are coming." But, as a trap closes around Captain Jack, the sins of the past are returning and long-forgotten events from 1965 threaten to reveal an awful truth.

Torchwood is forced underground as the government takes swift and brutal action. As members of the team are hunted down, Britain risks becoming a rogue state. Meanwhile, the mysterious and powerful 456 draws ever-closer. Captain Jack, Gwen and Ianto are helpless as events escalate to such a degree that mankind faces the end of civilisation itself.

Day 2 – Wednesday July 8 at 8:30pm

As the new Torchwood adventure continues, the team is forced underground when the government takes swift and brutal action. With members of the team being hunted down, only Lois holds the key to Torchwood's salvation. But she is helpless as her superiors make plans for the mysterious Floor 13.

Day 3 – Thursday July 9 at 8:30pm

The eyes of the world turn to Britain, as the 456 announce: "We are here," as the new Torchwood adventure continues. As a pillar of fire descends upon London, the members of Torchwood must battle to protect their own families as the fight gets personal. But will Clem's memories destroy everything?

Day 4 – Friday July 10 at 8:30pm

Torchwood finally learns the truth about the events of 1965, as the adventure continues. But Britain is in danger of becoming a rogue state, and everything now pivots around John Frobisher, as the Ambassador of the 456 destroys its old allegiances and reveals its true intent.

Day 5 – Saturday July 11 at 8:30pm

Torchwood is defenceless and Gwen Cooper stands alone, as the final sanction begins, in the last part of the new Torchwood adventure.

As violence erupts and the world descends into anarchy, an ordinary housing estate becomes a battleground, where the future of the human race will be decided.

CAST AND PRODUCTION TEAM

CAST LIST

TORCHWOOD:

Captain Jack Harkness
Gwen Cooper
Ianto Jones
Rhys Williams

John Barrowman
Eve Myles
Gareth David-Lloyd
Kai Owen

ADDITIONAL CAST:

John Frobisher
Clem
Bridget Spears
Lois Habiba
Johnson
Mr Dekker
Brian Green PM
Alice Carter

Peter Capaldi
Paul Copley
Susan Brown
Cush Jumbo
Liz May Brice
Ian Gelder
Nicholas Farrell
Lucy Cohu

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Lead writer (episode 1, 3&5)

Russell T Davies

Writers: John Fay (episodes 2&4) and James Moran (episode 3)

Directed by Euros Lyn

Produced by Peter Bennett

Executive producers
Russell T Davies & Julie Gardner

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**Creator and lead writer Russell T Davies talks all things
*Torchwood: Children of Earth.***

- How did you come up with the concept for this new series?

“It was a story I’d had in mind for ages - I’m just glad the BBC gave me a canvas big enough to tell the tale! But underneath the sci-fi and the aliens, there’s something very relevant to the world, I hope. The way we sit in the west, and watch footage of atrocities in different countries, and imagine it’s all so far away, and so impossible here. Which is a nice, comfy lie we tell ourselves. That was the heart of it. I wanted to tell a story in which civilisation snaps, in which we turn on ourselves, in which nothing is safe. Plenty of people live like that, on this planet. In this story, it’s Britain’s turn!”

- *Torchwood: Children of Earth* feels very epic. Did you enjoy writing the one storyline over five episodes?

“I loved it, because it was a huge challenge. Lots of thrillers are written by just one writer, but we had three, across five episodes! Which meant a lot of emailing and late-night phonecalls. But we really worked as a team, all locked in one room to thrash out the storyline and create the characters, and that’s my favourite way of working. We also had the Producer and Director inside the Writer’s Room, right from the very start, which is a very unusual way of working in this country, but with huge results - it meant we were all focused, we all knew the tone and the ambition of the piece, and we all aimed in the same direction.”

- The children of Earth are key to this storyline. Do you think using children is scarier than the actual alien?

“They just touch a nerve. A threat to our children gets a primal reaction out of all of us. But beyond that, I think we can be scared of our kids, too. That they can seem unknowable, unreachable - that’s why a gang of young hoodies can seem more unnerving than an adult gang of thugs.”

- Do people need to know the back story to *Torchwood* to be able to enjoy this new series?

“No, not at all - there are fleeting references to the past, but from the moment it starts, we’re telling a brand new story. It’s been deliberately written so that no one will be lost - and at the same time, the faithful viewer will discover so much more about the members of the Torchwood team! There are plenty of rewards for the long-term fan!

- The 456 is Torchwood’s most fierce threat to date. How do you think the team deal with the situation?

“This whole story tears Torchwood down, and then watches them rebuild, but always questioning them, asking what sort of heroes they are, how far will they go? And what’s the difference between a freedom fighter and a terrorist? At the same time, we get to know Jack, Gwen and Ianto more intimately than we ever have before - exploring their families, their history, their hopes and loves. And their failings, too. As the alien threat gets bigger, so Torchwood’s humanity is exposed, and threatened, and celebrated too. And their lives are on the line, none of them is safe!”

- The 456, tell us more about it.

“The size of this story, and the scale of it - spread across more than 40 years of history - means that we needed something bigger, a threat with real intelligence, a race with different protocols and standards. “

- The relationship between Capt Jack and Ianto has developed. Was that something you'd be planning for a while?

“Not planning, as such, it just grew naturally out of the scripts and performances from John and Gareth. And it's such a rich area - the sheer will-they-or-won't-they tension of two men getting closer. But again, you can come to Torchwood as a new viewer and follow their relationship from the start, you won't get lost! And it's honestly a pleasure to write for two such fine actors, they make the whole process a delight.”



JOHN BARROWMAN PLAYS CAPTAIN JACK HARKNESS

As the future of the human race hangs in the balance, Torchwood faces death and destruction and battles to protect the human race. After the potentially apocalyptic encounter, will Torchwood and the human race ever be the same again?

“Anybody who loves science fiction or a good drama will fall in love with *Torchwood*. It's action packed, it's sexy, it's exciting, it's an emotional roller-coaster and you just want to sit back and get ready for the ride of your life,” says John.

Torchwood are a team of people who are fighting for the best interest of humanity; they are no strangers to the daily threat alien forces pose to the safety of the Earth. But this time, they must fight with every ounce of instinct and energy they have to survive.

Of the new format to this year's series, John Barrowman, who plays lead character Captain Jack Harkness says:

“We know what Torchwood is and we know what it's about - it's full of drama and action.

“This storyline is one of the darker *Torchwood* storylines. Every time you turn a corner you don't know what's going to happen. And when you watch episode one you're going to want to see two, and when you've seen two you'll want to see three. You're just going to want more and more and more.

“You'll learn a lot about the characters in ways that you're never known them before.

“If you like relationships then you're going to see the difference in Jack and Ianto's relationship and Gwen and Rhys' - but you're also going to see the similarities.

“The characters have evolved in ways because we're learning new things about them. It makes it really interesting for us to play as actors and for the audience every episode will bring a new revelation.”

The new show format is also something John thinks will prove entertaining to the audience.

“I think the one storyline works perfectly for this series. It’s epic, it is pacy.”

The series will reveal that one of the Torchwood team is hiding a dark secret - a potential catalyst for even more action-packed drama.

“One of the team is hiding a secret that will be a revelation to a lot of people - not only to the viewers watching but to the team itself. It will be very uncomfortable for the characters. And people watching it will question why they did it. Will they be able to understand why they did it?”

“But as in all things with science fiction, as a series, we can touch on subjects that are not touched upon in a number of other dramas.”



EVE MYLES PLAYS GWEN COOPER

Eve Myles landed her dream role in 2006, when she was given the part of feisty Gwen Cooper in *Torchwood*, which Russell T Davies created especially for her.

“I was so excited when I got the scripts. It’s a five hour psychological action-packed thriller. With a movie, you’re looking at maybe 90 minutes of action - but with this new series of *Torchwood*, we’ve got five hours. It’s an event. It’s not just the third series where everybody is used to what *Torchwood* is - this series will actually terrify people,” says Eve.

“The pace increases from the word go. The first episode is an establisher and by the second episode you don’t know what the hell has hit you. The third, the fourth and the fifth go at such a pace.”

For Eve, the new series and the single storyline across all five episodes felt like the right evolution for *Torchwood*.

“We’ve tipped the series on its head and given people a whole new format. It’s a completely different style of *Torchwood*, and is exactly what we should have done. It feels brand new all over again. It’s exciting and it’s positive.

Of Gwen’s role in the team she says:

“Gwen is still the heart and emotion of *Torchwood* but also realises the responsibility she has as a member of the team. Everybody’s got to lose something to gain something, and as harsh as Gwen comes across sometimes, if she wasn’t, people would die.

“She’s got a huge responsibility on her shoulders. A few years ago she was working as a young police woman in Cardiff. A couple of years later here she is saving the world with Captain Jack. One way or another something’s got to give.”

Viewers will see Gwen forge a close relationship with Clem played by Paul Copley - the survivor of a horrific ordeal who is still haunted by his past. The scenes she filmed with him proved to be a major highlight for the actress from Ystradgynlais.

“He’s absolutely fantastic. I was completely overwhelmed - he’s so right for the character. Gwen inevitably becomes his guardian because that’s what Gwen does - she’s Torchwood’s social worker. She’s a social worker that can run and fight and stand in her own corner and win.

“With Clem she has this incredible desire to protect him. She’s his protector and he’s the key to what’s going on.”

In contrast to the tender moments of some of the scenes she filmed, there was still plenty of high octane action for Eve - a self confessed adrenalin junkie. Of the action-packed scenes she says:

“It’s the best part of the job for me. It’s the only job where you can really push yourself.

“We’ve got the most amazing team - you know you’re in safe hands. You go through things a thousand times before it ever happens. In rehearsals you don’t have the pyrotechnics, you don’t have the explosions - so when you actually do the take you get the realness of it – it’s all genuine. It’s real shock, fear - every kind of emotion you can think of that would come if you really were caught up in that. I’m an adrenalin junkie so it’s the perfect job for me.”

But for Eve, the adrenalin fuelled action is on the back burner as she is five months pregnant. Having just completed filming for the new BBC ONE drama *Framed*, in which she stars opposite Trevor Eve, she is now taking time out to concentrate on her pregnancy.

“I’m not working now until the baby is born. I’ve worked continuously recently but now it’s my time to concentrate on the baby.”



GARETH DAVID LLOYD PLAYS IANTO JONES

In *Torchwood: Children of Earth* the quiet coffee maker finds himself out of his comfort zone. But it doesn’t take him long to find his stride and soon is right at the heart of the action.

“I absolutely loved filming this series. There are so many scenes that are memorable. But the one that does come to mind is crawling through the wreckage after a huge explosion. We filmed it in a quarry and used real pyrotechnics. It was really hot and I had to climb up the side of this quarry. It was the first time in my career I felt like a proper action hero.

“It’s one big adrenalin rush after another. I enjoyed it more than ever as I had the chance to be a bigger part of the action,” says Gareth David-Lloyd who plays Ianto.

“I found the five-episode storyline effective. There’s one emotional journey throughout. I think people will be more scared by this new series. There’s a real seriousness to what’s going on.”

Although the format of the series has changed, the impact and effect of *Torchwood* remains the same:

“There’s just as much human drama as there is sci-fi in this series.



"I can't wait to see the entire series. It has this race against time element to it. As each episode goes by the pace increases and it gets faster and faster - like a roller coaster - and it's a real adrenalin ride."

As the series has developed, so has the character of Ianto Jones:

"I think Ianto has changed quite a lot since the series first began because of everything that's happened to him. He lost everything he loved at one point, and then realised that all that was left for him was Torchwood and Jack - they had to replace the hole in his life. He's learnt to be less guarded and be more like himself - a bit more content with himself as a person."

The relationship between Captain Jack and Ianto also undergoes a transformation, with the two growing ever closer.

"It was nice to film those elements of the series. As it panned out across previous series, the relationship between Jack and Ianto has been quite organic. So it was nice that we get to the stage in series three where they are going through all the usual couple difficulties. I think the way it's been done is extremely real."

The alien threat facing the future of humanity, the 456, is nothing the team has ever encountered before. And hidden beneath the reality of the situation is the fact that one of the team is hiding a dark secret.

"I think every character goes through the process of thinking about giving up. We're lucky they don't all think about giving up at the same time!! The good thing about the team is that they've got each other to pull them out of the darkness."

However fierce the alien threat, Torchwood has the additional threat of being targeted themselves - a threat that throws the team into chaos.

"I think Torchwood copes really well under threat and by episode three they're up and running again - proving how resilient they are. I think that's what makes them such a good team. They've been together for so long that they know each other inside out."

KAI OWEN PLAYS RHYS WILLIAMS

In *Torchwood: Children of Earth* Rhys Williams, played by Kai Owen, finds himself well and truly thrown in at the deep end, on the run with wife Gwen, as government hit squads hunt them down.

Rhys is the ordinary guy in the street. He's the normal person's eyes and ears, and says what he thinks about the situations Torchwood finds themselves in, bringing the reality back to them. It makes Torchwood real.

"It's fast moving - it's non-stop, no holds barred from the get go and it gets faster and faster, building to a massive climax.

"It's got a lot of heart, it's sexy, it's classy. And even though it's a bit extraordinary at times it's very real. I think it has something for everybody," he says of *Torchwood*.

"It's very different to the previous series. I loved the story arc. We were very used to there being different stories spread across thirteen episodes - with the only constant being the characters. I was very excited about the scripts for this new series - even more so as Russell had written some of them."

"Every episode gets better and better. The story is so strong that people who watch the first episode will have to watch the other four."

Over the years, Rhys has become fully aware of the dangerous underworld that Torchwood inhabits. But sometimes, as Kai admits, Rhys would probably rather not actually be so involved:

"I think he'd rather not get involved if he had the choice to be honest. He doesn't run away from it - he's seen so many things. He's very brave and fully aware of what Gwen does and what she comes across. He also knows that she's absolutely fantastic at her job. Rhys wants Gwen safe. If he was sitting at home knowing that the government wanted to wipe Torchwood out, then he'd want to be with Gwen.

"I think he's happy to be more involved in this series because he knows he can keep an eye on her. But he wants to go home to his mam really and have a cup of tea."

Being surrounded by so many out of the ordinary events, Rhys has naturally become more aware of what's going on around him. In this new series, his instincts kick in and he starts to put the pieces of the puzzle together at an early stage:

"He's very aware of the weird happenings and what's going on around him. When Gwen phones him he knows something is up with the kids and that this is a job for 'my Gwen'. He's a lot more interested in it now. And he comes up with his own theories about what's going on with the children."

As the new series arrives on screen Kai thinks *Torchwood: Children of Earth* will not disappoint:

"I think the whole concept of the series is its strength - the whole idea and concept of the five episodes, the strength of the story, Russell, Euros - the continuous crew and the guest cast. You've got the fantastic John, Eve and Gareth running the show as the lead team. It's very strong and it's very exciting."

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