

ANDY TWADDLE

Producer / Director

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I'm an award-winning factual P/D with all the extensive experience you'd expect from delivering 30+ films across a wide slate of programming. I've made powerful single docs and episodes within established series. I've worked both with and without presenters.

I'm an unashamed all-rounder. I've worked in areas such as history, personal journeys, culture, religion, drama-doc, social issues and politics. My work combines great visuals with lucid, well-written scripts.

- CAA licensed drone op. Can self-shoot. Avid and DaVinci Resolve trained.
- Fluent French Speaker (ex-resident). Survival Spanish. Beginner's Arabic.
- 15+ years with BBC Factual ('05-'21). Made 3 of the BBC's Great War centenary films.
- Current US I-Visa. Hostile Environments trained.
- I live in Scotland but can base myself in London.

Time and again I've proven my ability to write clear, accurate and creative scripts that steer the viewer through every element of the story. On location, I can deliver fascinating colour, eye catching sequences, absorbing encounters, powerful, revelatory interviews and poignant, unscripted moments of reflection. A brief showreel and longer clips from some of my films are on my website.

Jan 2022–Sept 2024: “Untitled Middle East series” (14x60, OR Media, NDA)

P/D on a blue-chip series on Middle Eastern politics. Intended for international release in 2025. Initially hired for one film, the company asked me to produce four, from initial structure through to edit. I planned complex international shoots in turbulent areas, directed fascinating ‘real-world’ colour sequences and conducted meticulously researched interviews with senior political figures.

Apr 2021–Sept 2021: “Scotland from the Sky season 3” (3x60, BBC Studios for BBC2)

Returned as a freelancer to the popular history series I had helped develop as a staffer in BBC Factual. Again, using spectacular helicopter and drone filming to uncover forgotten elements of history. PD on one ep of this season, and a BBC debut for my own drone filming. *RTS Scotland nominated.*

Jul 2020 – Nov 2020: “A Very Country Christmas” (3x60, Tern TV for BBC1 Religion)

P/D on two of the three eps, as Angellica Bell and Ellie Harrison examined the pagan origins of British Christmas traditions. Shot during the worst of the lockdowns, I was responsible for planning, scripting and directing the presenters' colourful journey across the UK.

2020 “Timex – the Rise and Fall” (1x60, BBC Studios for BBC2)

Casting a dozen or so mostly female former factory-workers to tell the blow-by-blow account of an epic strike. All with minimal comm. Delivering a sparky tale of an industry that collapsed in a bitter feud between Thatcherite managers and Marxist unions. *“Excellent” –Andrew Male, Sunday Times.*

2019 “Blood of the Clans” (3x60, BBC Studios for BBC4)

A second season of this popular BBC4 drama-doc, I was PD on one of the three episodes. I was also responsible for documentary content across the entire series.

2019 “Scotland from the Sky Season 2” (3 x60, BBC Studios for BBC2)

I produced two of the three episodes, one with an edit producer. Included a toe-curling descent to the ancient monastery on the island of Canna and a winter air-to-air sequence over the mountains of Torridon.

2018 “Mackintosh: Glasgow’s neglected Genius” (1x60, BBC Studios for BBC4)

Definitive and controversial BBC4 centenary biopic of the great artist, the architect of Glasgow's awe-inspiring school of art. The film weaved Mackintosh's life-story through his continually evolving art and architecture. Most poignantly, the film highlighted the shameful treatment of his buildings in his native city. *Celtic Media Festival Nominated.*

[2017 “The Hector” \(UK\)/ “Canada’s Mayflower” \(USA/Canada\) \(1x60, BBC Worldwide\)](#)

A story that began with the fading manifest of a ramshackle 18th century migrant ship. Presenter Neil Oliver traced the descendants of those early settlers and uncovered how their origin story was mythologised to the detriment of Canada’s First Nation communities.

[2017 “Scotland from the Sky Season 1” \(3 x60, BBC Studios for BBC2\)](#)

Hit popular history strand, twice recommissioned. Involved in initial development and in shaping the series style with writer James Crawford, a first-time presenter. I produced and directed the launch episode which established the series premise, uncovering history combined with glorious landscapes and presenter derring-do. We charted the first adventures in aerial photography on board a century-old fighter-plane.

[2016 “Growing up in Scotland” \(3x 60, BBC Studios for BBC Scotland\)](#)

My debut as a somewhat reluctant series producer, learning how to support and steer PDs through production, aiming to continually sharpen their films. I was myself PD on one particularly sensitive episode which dealt with impoverished orphan children who had been deported to Australia. We filmed with others who had suffered physical and sexual abuse.

[2015 “The War at Sea” \(2x60, BBC4\)](#)

With no battlefields to visit, no surviving participants and very limited archive, these films were a storytelling challenge. We built colour sequences around captured flags, plush hotel saloons and a massive American dreadnought. *RTS Scotland - Best history film.*

[2015 “The Stuarts in Exile \(2x60, BBC4\)](#)

Follow-up to BBC4’s successful strand “The Stuarts”. Old-school Kings and Queens history with a modern flourish. Told through towering Hanoverian fountains, a David Niven B-movie, Parisian caricaturists and Roman nunneries. Britain’s exiled Royal dynasty plot their return. PD on the final episode.

[2014 “Pipers of the Trenches” \(1x 60, BBC2\)](#)

Returning to Great War battlefields with the descendants of regimental pipers. In Gallipoli and in France they met military historians who explained the amazing, death-defying role played by their ancestors. Men who had gone “over the top”, completely unarmed, to urge their comrades forward into battle.

[2014 “The Machine Gun” \(1x60, BBC2\)](#)

A project I developed then made, interweaving the science of a gun firing a devilish 666 rounds per minute with a tragic human story. A company of raw young volunteers, all from the same village, who stand shoulder to shoulder as they face that same gun. *“The film succeeds, compellingly and horribly by reducing the carnage to a comprehensible scale” - Guardian review, July 2014.*

Notable films pre-dating the above include: [Henry VIII: Patron or Plunderer](#) (PD 1ep 2 x 60 BBC4), [Rory Bremner and the Fighting Scots](#) (1x60 BBC4), [Rome’s Final Frontier](#) (1x60 BBC Scotland, currently on PBS), [The Man who shot the Civil War](#) (1x60 BBC Scotland) and [Castle Commando](#) (1x60 BBC2).

Prior to my time in BBC Factual (beginning in 2005), I had worked across the industry as an AP and story producer in news, sports and current affairs programming. I was part of a team that won a 1999 RTS for a series of films on drug taking in sport.

Education and Personal Life:

I’m a graduate of Glasgow University with a 2:1 MA Honours Degree in English Lang & Lit. I’m also fluent in French, having lived and taught in La Rochelle as part of my degree.

I live in an old smithy in the Angus countryside, so part of my free time is taken up with ongoing repairs and maintenance to that. I’d confess to being a history nerd, I consume shed loads of books and podcasts. I also take photographs, fly drones and cycle round the nearby villages. Finally, a previous employer had provided me an Arabic tutor and I’ve struggled on with that, hoping to carry on to a qualification of some sort.

GDPR Statement:

I hereby give consent for my personal data to be processed, stored and distributed for recruitment purposes.