

Biographical Notes

All Creatures Great and Small, Season 2



Anna Madeley
Mrs. Hall, *All Creatures Great and Small*

Anna has worked extensively in television, film and theatre. Most recently, Anna starred in *Sitting in Limbo* for BBC and *Unprecedented: Real Time Theatre from a State of Isolation* on BBC, a series of shorts made during lockdown. She also starred in Channel 4's *Deadwater Fell* alongside David Tennant, and the sensationally received *Patrick Melrose* for Sky/Showtime, opposite Benedict Cumberbatch. Her television credits also include *A Child in Time*, *The Crown*, *Virtuoso*, *Crossing Lines* and *Affinity* for which she won the Best Actress Golden Nymph award. On film she has appeared in *The Nutcracker & the Four Realms* for Walt Disney Pictures playing Mackenzie Foy's mother, *The Little Stranger*, *The Mercy*, *Strawberry Fields*, *Brideshead Revisited*, *In Bruges* and *Stoned*. Anna also has a successful and varied career in theatre, most recently starring in *Les Blancs* at the National Theatre (Dir. Yael Farber), *The Height of the Storm* with Eileen Atkins and Jonathan Pryce (Dir. Jonathan Kent), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Young Vic (Dir. Joe Hill-Gibbins), *The Crucible* at the Old Vic (Dir. Yael Farber) for which she was nominated for the Best Supporting Actress What's On Stage Award in 2015, *Private Lives* in Toronto and New York (Dir. Richard Eyre), *Becky Shaw* at the Almeida Theatre (Dir. Peter du Bois) and *Earthquakes in London* at the National Theatre (Dir. Rupert Goold). After the highly successful first season of *All Creatures Great and Small*, Anna is currently filming season 2 reprising her role of Mrs Hall. She can also be seen in the BBC series *Time* alongside Stephen Graham and *Anatomy of a Scandal*, due out on Netflix this year.



Nicholas Ralph
James Herriot, *All Creatures Great and Small*

Nicholas Ralph trained at the prestigious Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and has since performed in various roles on screen and stage. In 2019 he secured the leading role of James Herriot in *All Creatures Great and Small*. His portrayal of the British veterinary surgeon marked his debut television role. In 2020 Ralph starred in Lionsgate's supernatural thriller, *Devil's Light* which is due to be released in 2022. Other film credits include *A Most Reluctant Convert – The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis* for 2B Films, and *The Wife* directed by Bjorn Runge. Ralph's past theatre credits include playing Logan in *Interference*, a 2019 futuristic trio of plays directed by Cora Bissett at the National Theatre of Scotland, and *Captain Amazing*, a one man show directed by Tess Munro-Summerville at Glasgow's Citizens Theatre.



Rachel Shenton
Helen Alderson, *All Creatures Great and Small*

Fluent in British Sign Language, Rachel won an Oscar® for the live action short she wrote and stars in, *The Silent Child*. She currently appears as regular role Helen in Channel 5 and MASTERPIECE's revival of the classic *All Creatures Great and Small*. Rachel starred in *A Very British Christmas* for Showtime in 2019 and appeared in the lead cast for the second series of the BBC's *White Gold*, as well as Jeff Pope's acclaimed ITV drama *A Confession* - based on the highly publicised murder of Sian O'Callaghan. Rachel was originally best known for portraying the regular role of Mitzeee in *Hollyoaks* for Channel 4, a character she played for 3 years, before temporarily relocating to LA to star as a regular in U.S. series *Switched at Birth*.



Samuel West
Siegfried Farnon, *All Creatures Great and Small*

Samuel West has dozens of credits to his name across TV, film, theatre and audio. He stars as Siegfried Farnon in the TV adaptation of *All Creatures Great and Small*. Recent screen work includes the art historian and spy Anthony Blunt in Season Three of *The Crown*, Mr. Hill in Steve McQueen's *Small Axe - Mangrove* and Lord Pressfield in Guy Ritchie's *The Gentlemen*. In 2017 West appeared as Churchill's right-hand man Anthony Eden in *Darkest Hour* directed by Joe Wright, and the British drama *On Chesil Beach*, directed by Dominic Cooke. Other films include *Van Helsing*, *Hyde Park on Hudson*, Zeffirelli's *Jane Eyre* and *Howards End*, for which he was nominated for a BAFTA award. Among his many television credits are Frank Edwards in four seasons of *Mr. Selfridge* for ITV and MASTERPIECE, Anthony Blunt (again) in *Cambridge Spies*, Sir Walter Pole in *Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell* and Richard Cartwright in the BBC's *W1A*. West is also busy on stage, most recently appearing in *The Writer* by Ella Hickson at the Almeida. He played Hamlet and Richard II for the Royal Shakespeare Company, Valentine in the first production of Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* at the National Theatre and in 2010 was nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for his performance as Jeffrey Skilling in *Enron* in the West End. He has directed thirteen plays and two operas; his most recent production was *The Watsons* by his partner Laura Wade, which was due to transfer from the Chichester Festival Theatre to London's Harold Pinter theatre when COVID hit. West is an Associate Artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company and Chair of the National Campaign for the Arts. In his spare time he grows chilies and goes birdwatching.



Callum Woodhouse
Tristan Farnon, *All Creatures Great and Small*

Callum Woodhouse is a young exciting actor originally from Durham. He played the role of Leslie Durrell in ITV and MASTERPIECE's much-loved series *The Durrells in Corfu*. In the feel-good series loved by fans and critics alike, Callum played the second eldest son of the Durrell family, opposite Keeley Hawes (*Bodyguard*) and Josh O'Connor (*The Crown*). Callum also starred in seasons 6 and 8 of ITV's much-loved British comedy-drama *Cold Feet* as Josh Marsden alongside James Nesbitt, Fay Ripley, Robert Bathurst, Hermione Norris and John Thomson. The series, on screens since 1997, follows the lives of three couples as they navigate love and life in Manchester. On stage, Callum appeared at the Hampstead Theatre in *Filthy Business* by Ryan Craig and directed by Edward Hall in 2017. The play opened to rave reviews with Callum's performance highlighted as "sharply defined" (*The Guardian*), "glinting promise" (*The Telegraph*) and "a fine performance" (*The Financial Times*). Callum trained at the London Academy of Music and Drama Art (LAMDA).

**Ben Vanstone****Writer and Executive Producer, *All Creatures Great and Small***

Ben received stellar reviews for his adaptation of Laurie Lee's classic novel *Cider with Rosie* for the BBC, starring Samantha Morton and Timothy Spall. He adapted *The Borrowers* for NBC and the BBC, directed by Tom Harper and also wrote *The Last Kingdom* for BBC2 and Netflix. He was on staff of the BBC's hit drama *Merlin* which was also broadcast in the US on NBC. Prior to *All Creatures Great and Small*, Ben wrote and was Co-Executive Producer on *The English Game*, for Netflix.

**Sir Colin Callender CBE****Executive Producer, *All Creatures Great and Small***

Sir Colin Callender, CBE is an Emmy®, BAFTA, Golden Globe®, Tony® and Olivier award-winning television, film and theatre producer who founded Playground in 2012. Playground has produced over 90 hours of scripted television, including the Golden Globe®, BAFTA and Peabody award-winning miniseries adaptation of Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall*, starring Mark Rylance, Damian Lewis and Claire Foy for BBC and MASTERPIECE; Richard Eyre's Emmy®-nominated adaptation of *King Lear*, starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson for BBC and Amazon; the Golden Globe® and BAFTA-nominated adaptation of Ronald Harwood's *The Dresser* for BBC and Starz; Academy Award®-winner Kenneth Lonergan's adaptation of EM Forster's *Howards End* for BBC and Starz; Heidi Thomas's

adaptation of *Little Women* for BBC and MASTERPIECE; and the hit adaptation of James Herriot's *All Creatures Great and Small* for Channel 5 and MASTERPIECE. Upcoming productions include *The Undeclared War* for Channel 4 and Peacock and *Dangerous Liaisons* for Starz. On stage, Callender produced Nora Ephron's *Lucky Guy*, starring Tom Hanks in his stage debut; *Macbeth*, directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh at the Park Avenue Armory; *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, winner of the Tony® Award for Best Musical Revival; and *Dear Evan Hansen*, winner of the Tony® Award for Best Musical. Callender, along with Sonia Friedman Productions, is the producer of the critically acclaimed mega-hit *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* in the West End, Broadway, Melbourne, Hamburg and San Francisco. The play won a record breaking nine Olivier Awards and six Tony® Awards. Callender received a CBE in 2003 and Knighthood in 2016 for services to British film, theatre and television in the US.

**Susanne Simpson****Executive Producer, MASTERPIECE**

Named Executive Producer of MASTERPIECE in 2019, Susanne Simpson is a two-time Academy Award® nominee and two-time Emmy® winner for her documentary and dramatic films for television and theaters. Since joining MASTERPIECE in 2007, Simpson has been responsible for such programs as *All Creatures Great and Small*, *Downton Abbey*, *Sherlock*, and *Wolf Hall*. She oversaw all aspects of the U.S. broadcast of *Downton Abbey*, the most watched drama in PBS history and recipient of 59 Emmy® nominations and 12 wins. She is also the Executive Producer of MASTERPIECE Studio, a podcast with more than 15 million downloads since 2016. Simpson created the MASTERPIECE

Trust, a fund to ensure the future of the series. Prior to MASTERPIECE, she was a Senior Supervising Producer for the science series NOVA, and the executive producer of IMAX productions such as the award-winning *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure* and *Special Effects* with George Lucas's company, Industrial Light & Magic. Simpson is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, and Lifetime Member of the Writers Guild.

pbs.org/masterpiece

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About MASTERPIECE

Winner of 83 Primetime Emmys® and 18 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans since 1971. Susanne Simpson is the executive producer and Rebecca Eaton is the executive producer-at-large for the series. Funding for MASTERPIECE is provided by Viking and Raymond James with additional support from public television viewers and contributors to The MASTERPIECE Trust. Produced for PBS by GBH Boston, MASTERPIECE is known for hits such as *All Creatures Great and Small*, *Sherlock*, *Downton Abbey* and *Victoria*, and beloved classics such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect*, *The Forsyte Saga* and *Poldark*.