

Felicity Kendal

and

Pam Ferris

star in

ROSEMARY & THYME

**ITV1'S TOP-RATING NEW DRAMA RETURNS
WITH A 90-MINUTE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
FOLLOWED BY 7 HOUR-LONG EPISODES**

A Carnival Films production for ITV1

TRANSMISSION: Christmas ITV1, and then Winter 2006 ITV1 x 7 hours

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ROSEMARY & THYME

Introduction	Page 1
Characters	Page 2

Production Notes

Producer – Brian Eastman	Page 3
Carnival Films	Page 5

Christmas Special: The Cup of Silence	Page 6
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Interviews with the Cast

Felicity Kendal plays Rosemary Boxer	Page 7
Pam Ferris plays Laura Thyme	Page 9

Guest stars

Michael Maloney plays Custos (Episode 1)	Page 11
Kim Thomson plays Andrea (Episode 1)	Page 12
Charles Lawson plays Bingham (Episode 1)	Page 13
Kate Alderton plays DC Hailwood (Episode 1)	Page 13
Margaret Tyzack plays Audrey Pargeter (Episode 2)	Page 14
Tracy Brabin plays Nicola Spicer (Episode 3)	Page 15
Tim Woodward plays Ollie (Episode 4)	Page 16
Daisy Dunlop plays Helena Thyme (Episode 4)	Page 17
Beatie Edney plays Penelope Braxton (Episode 5)	Page 18
Amanda Royle plays Lydia Sims (Episode 5)	Page 18
Rebecca Sarker plays Blanca Parfitt (Episode 6)	Page 19
Marsha Fitzalan plays Geraldine (Episode 7)	Page 20
Anne Lambton plays Queenie Allardyce (Episode 7)	Page 21

Episodic Synopses and Cast Lists	Page 23
Production Credits	Page 28

ROSEMARY & THYME

Felicity Kendal and **Pam Ferris** return as the gardening enthusiasts who get caught up in mysteries involving death – and horticulture – in a new series of ITV1's hit drama **ROSEMARY & THYME**, made by Carnival Films.

The new films begin in festive mood with a 90-minute Christmas Special, followed by seven one-hour episodes in the New Year.

Exotic gardens around Malaga and Andalucia in Southern Spain complement beautiful backdrops in the UK as Rosemary Boxer (Felicity Kendal) and Laura Thyme (Pam Ferris) take on a new array of gardening commissions at home and abroad.

Despite the girls' best intentions to concentrate on solving the puzzles of nature, suspicious deaths and strange-goings-on have a habit of following them around.

Rosemary and Laura discover turmoil and dissent behind the picturesque settings, and thanks to their unobtrusive presence in the gardens, the girls are able to eavesdrop on the communities where they work. And when they unearth tension, secrets and the occasional dead body, they cannot resist the urge to dig deeper...

In **The Cup of Silence**, screened at Christmas, Rosemary and Laura have to solve a horticultural crisis when weeds are choking the crop of grapes at a renowned English vineyard. Events turn sinister when a visiting wine critic dies in mysterious circumstances. Can the gardeners unmask the killer and save this year's vintage?

Storylines for the one-hour films include murder at a cathedral where the gardeners are helping to prepare for a Royal visit, a mystery involving 80 year old seeds belonging to a famous botanist and the killing of a top psychiatrist as Laura and Rosemary work in Regent's Park.

Rosemary's maternal side is brought out when she and Laura find an abandoned baby under a gooseberry bush, while Laura has to take to the stage after the shooting of an actor at an open air theatre.

In Spain, Rosemary and Laura are reconstructing an old Moorish garden when a local resident is found dead. The episode is shot in Malaga city, the Montes de Malaga and Ojen. The other Spanish story, shot in Mijas and Fuengirola, finds the girls working on a presentation garden at a tennis club when a player falls from a balcony after an evening of drinking.

Guest stars in the new series include **William Armstrong, Tracy Brabin, Beatie Edney, Marsha Fitzalan, Charles Lawson, Michael Maloney, Kim Thomson, Margaret Tyzack** and **Tim Woodward**, with **Daisy Dunlop** and **Ryan Philpott** as Laura's children, Helena and Matthew.

ROSEMARY & THYME is produced by Carnival Films, makers of *Hotel Babylon* for the BBC. *The Tenth Kingdom* for Sky, the feature film *Shadowlands* and the mini-series *Traffik*.

Producer Brian Eastman says: “We’re delighted that ITV asked us to make a Christmas Special to kick off the new series of ROSEMARY & THYME. We’re only in our third year but already we are a favourite with ITV audiences and that’s what Christmas is all about. Because we shoot during the summer and specialise in lovely locations and as much sunshine as we can get, the drama is ideal viewing on long winter nights.”

The gardening consultant is Pippa Greenwood, the story consultant is Peter Lovesey, and ROSEMARY & THYME is written by David Joss Buckley, Clive Exton, Stephen Gallagher and Peter Spence.

The theme music is composed by Christopher Gunning and performed by John Williams. The incidental music is composed by Christopher Gunning, John Scott and Anne Dudley. The directors are Brian Farnham (*Poirot, Bugs*) and Simon Langton (*Pride and Prejudice, Mother Love*). A Carnival Films production for ITV1.

More information about the series, the featured gardens and gardening issues is available at www.rosemaryandthyme.tv.

Characters

Rosemary Boxer – Felicity Kendal

Rosemary Boxer is smart, practical and happily single. An expert in plant biology, the loss of her post as a university lecturer and a chance meeting with Laura Thyme led to the new friends setting up a freelance gardening business. Although her roots are in academia, Rosemary has a natural curiosity and her instincts don’t usually let her down. She drives a beloved old Land Rover and thinks nothing of tinkering in the engine when it goes wrong.

Laura Thyme – Pam Ferris

Former WPC Laura Thyme dedicated herself to her family for years, but she’s now enjoying newfound independence following her separation from her husband. A farmer’s daughter, Laura is an enthusiastic gardener, and setting up Rosemary & Thyme has given her a new career doing something she loves. Laura is close to her son Matthew, himself a policeman, and has made amends with her daughter Helena, a sculptress. Laura’s police training makes her naturally inquisitive.

Production Notes

Producer – Brian Eastman

Gardening and murder have proved to be perfect partners for a successful TV drama, according to ROSEMARY & THYME producer Brian Eastman.

“We’ve always felt that the mix of gardening, finding bodies and detecting, along with characterful humour is a very good formula. It invites the audience to be enticed and gripped by the story but allows them to smile at the same time – and enjoy some fantastic gardens,” says Brian. “The result is that ROSEMARY & THYME has won its timeslot whenever it’s been broadcast.”

In the new series, Rosemary (Felicity Kendal) and Laura (Pam Ferris) win commissions ranging from restoring a cathedral herb garden and designing an Arabic garden in southern Spain to recreating Victorian planting in Regent’s Park and creating a luscious setting for an open air theatre production.

Says Brian: “It’s a very rich vein. There seems to be an abundance of stories. I think the key to it is that the girls are very itinerant. They live life on the road so they can go anywhere. That gives you terrific flexibility from a story point of view – Europe is their oyster!”

The episodes kick off with a Christmas Special which sees the gardeners caught up in a murder-mystery at a vineyard as they investigate why weeds are choking the crop. As well as appealing to audiences, Brian hopes the 90-minute film will fly the flag for the British wine industry.

“Like lots of people, I’d rarely drunk British wine so I was absolutely amazed when we discovered there were 40 or so vineyards within an hour’s drive of central London. The one where we ended up filming was Denby’s near Dorking, which I understand is the biggest independent makers of wine in Europe. They have acres and acres of vines and the wine is very, very nice. If we can turn people on to the odd bottle of British wine for Christmas, that would be a nice thing.”

The success of the series means that some of the loveliest locations in the country welcome Brian and his team.

“It’s lovely to approach someone and find they are big fans of the show. These things take a while to infiltrate into the social conscience but I feel we are there now and we’ve been lucky enough to go wherever we’ve wanted to.

“We were allowed to make a whole episode in Regent’s Park; we’ve been to Kew Gardens, Chichester Cathedral and to Gertrude Jekyll’s house, Munstead Wood, in Surrey, which is privately owned. It’s a fantastic opportunity to get under the skin of the English gardening tradition.”

The series also features two episodes shot in Spain.

Producer – Brian Eastman (cont)

“We have been very lucky with the British weather, but we go abroad each year at the beginning or end of the schedule to get another month of sunshine. This time was April in southern Spain. There’s a big filming community in the Malaga area and we hired quite a lot of people who’d gone there 10 or 15 years ago to make commercials, fallen in love with the place, and stayed there ever since.

“For our Arabic garden, we had to travel 45 minutes up into the hills every day into a remote area. It was jolly hard work because they’d had a freak storm in January with below freezing temperatures and a lot of the plants were killed. There are some shots in the episode where the trees have beautiful colours but in fact they’re all dying. So we benefited a little from their misfortune.”

Creating Rosemary and Thyme’s gardening projects is a team effort.

Explains Brian: “Pippa Greenwood our consultant helps us get gardening into the stories, then it’s down to the production designer to plan and the art director on the day. He gets a lot of support from our greenery company Living Props and of course Felicity and Pam do their bit too as we film.

“It’s a rare example of audiences seeing an art department at work in the hands of the stars. Mostly when Rosemary and Laura arrive the place is a mess and when they leave it’s perfect, and you see it take place as the girls discuss the murders. That’s the trick of the show.”

Brian is full of praise for his two stars. “It’s really wonderful how much Pam and Felicity bring to the show. We try and give them as much material in the script as possible but they’re always adding little touches, so they double the effect that we’re ever able to achieve in the script alone. If your stars are really committed and believe in the roles they’re playing, you stand a chance. We’ve also been ever so lucky with guest stars – there’s such a fantastic pool of acting talent in this country.”

One piece of casting was a bit more of a challenge however – a three-legged dog.

“We had a story set in the Avenue Garden of Regent’s Park which is a lovely venue. I wasn’t completely satisfied with the story so I went to the park one Sunday afternoon to think about how I could expand on it when a three-legged dog walked past me. It was a fantastic image and it kept preying on my mind so we decided to include it.

“A few weeks later the three-legged dog was the star of the script, but foolishly I hadn’t thought to approach the dog’s owner. I went back to Regent’s Park on several occasions but never saw him, so we had to advertise. About 70 people responded! We finally settled on a Jack Russell called Holly who runs a pub near Oxford and is a great little character. She was a big success and everyone loved her.”

Carnival Films

Carnival is one of the UK's leading independent drama production companies, with work encompassing the cinema, television and the theatre.

Founded by Brian Eastman, Carnival's first major drama commission came with *Blott on the Landscape* for BBC One. Among its output since are some of the most familiar and highly acclaimed British drama productions, including *Jeeves and Wooster*, *Forever Green* and *Agatha Christie's Poirot*.

Other drama series include *Bugs* for BBC One, *Lucy Sullivan is Getting Married* and *Oktober* for ITV, and *The Big Battalions*, *The Fragile Heart* and *As If* for Channel 4. Carnival has also enjoyed award-winning success for its various mini series, such as *Porterhouse Blue* and *Traffik*, which was awarded an International Emmy for Outstanding Drama and four BAFTAs.

Carnival's success internationally extends to *The Tenth Kingdom* for NBC, which was the first UK-produced drama made for a US network in over 12 years. Another American mini series made by Carnival was *The Grid*, starring Jemma Redgrave and Bernard Hill. It was shown on TNT last year and on BBC Two.

This year Carnival's output has expanded under the direction of its new Managing Director Gareth Neame. *Hotel Babylon* is a new eight-part series currently shooting, due to be aired on BBC One in early 2006.

The company is also a successful producer of feature films, its most famous being the multi-award-winning *Shadowlands*, written by William Nicholson, directed by Richard Attenborough and starring Anthony Hopkins and the Oscar-winning Debra Winger. Other films include *Up on the Roof*, *The Mill on the Floss*, *Firelight*, *The Infiltrator*, *Wilt* and *Under Suspicion*.

Many of these evolved from Carnival's involvement in the theatre, where its productions include *Shadowlands*, *Juno and the Peacock*, *Misery*, *Murder is Easy*, *Up on the Roof* and *What A Performance*.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - THE CUP OF SILENCE**Synopsis**

English vineyards are growing in reputation in the global wine market, so Laura and Rosemary are excited to be invited to the Crickle Valley vineyard. But weeds are choking this year's crop, and our gardeners are stumped for a horticultural solution to this massive problem.

Events turn sinister when a visiting wine columnist staying at the winery's hotel dies in mysterious circumstances. Brothers Ben and Stuart, who run the vineyard and hotel respectively, are at odds over the future of the property – a rivalry made worse by the murder of Ben's girlfriend, and Stuart's employee, Daisy.

Can cunning detective work by Rosemary and Laura not only unmask the killer, but ensure that this year's vintage of Crickle Valley wines will finally make it to the bottles?

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Stuart Blackton	Robert Portal
Ben Blackton.....	Dorian Macdonald
Angus Fairley.....	Clive Francis
Elsbeth Tate	Helen Grace
Lawson.....	Philip Brook
Lydecker	Brian Shelley
Granddad.....	Robin Parkinson
Daisy	Niky Wardley
Mrs Lawson	Francine Morgan
Mrs Lydecker.....	Eluned Jones
Dan.....	Grant Ibbs
Bride's father	Joe Dunlop
Horace.....	Dick Brannick
Chef.....	Rod Culbertson
CID Man	Peter Vollebregt
Librarian.....	Laura Checkley
Charity Worker	Joanna Dunn

Interviews with the Cast

Felicity Kendal plays Rosemary Boxer

Working with a three-legged dog was one of the high spots of filming ROSEMARY & THYME for actress Felicity Kendal.

“Rosemary and Laura find a three-legged dog. It was a gorgeous little dog and I wanted to keep it, everyone did. The episode was written first and then the producers had to cast the role. They had auditions and found Holly, a little Jack Russell, but then they only had four weeks to train her. Luckily, she’s a genius.

“Her own story is really quite sad. She had a car accident when she was just about six months old. The vet told her owners she could be saved but she would need an expensive operation. The family said they wanted to put her down instead. But in the vets was another couple who stepped in and paid for the operation and became the new owners. So I hope somewhere out there, somebody is feeling pretty guilty.”

The arrival of the dog brings out a different side to Felicity’s character, academic turned gardener extraordinaire Rosemary Boxer.

“Rosemary has always been a bit of an enigma. You see a slightly softer side when she wants to keep the dog and also when the girls find a baby under a gooseberry bush and she wants to keep it too. She’s also reunited with an old flame in Spain. But on the whole she doesn’t reveal a lot about her past.

“I think when you meet people that’s often the case. She doesn’t bare her soul and she’s not interested in talking about herself. Others tell you everything there is to know. Like Laura, who is very family-orientated, very loving and very open about her emotions.”

Felicity enjoyed the experience of filming in Spain.

“We had four weeks in Spain without a single day of rain. It was unbelievable. We started in Malaga and went up to the hills. I’ve been to Spain quite a lot and know the area well, and I like it very much indeed.

“In England, you’re picked up to go on location early and just drive through traffic for an hour, so you close your eyes and go to sleep. There, we were driving up the hills above Malaga at six o’clock watching the sun come across the mountains. It does give you an extra bit of joy at being alive when you’re in places like that.

“All in all, it was lovely to be back. It’s an exceptionally close knit crew and cast and it’s like going back to family. And Pam is my close buddy now and I miss her when she’s not there.”

Felicity continues to be thrilled by the response to ROSEMARY & THYME.

Felicity Kendal plays Rosemary Boxer (cont)

“People like it, which is great. It’s a bit unusual to have a drama about two women who have decided to be bachelors. One has had a family and one is already a bachelor. They have their own business but they don’t have any other needs at this point in their lives.”

Adds Felicity: “I think the storylines are better than ever and very different from each other. Some are dark, and others are lighter. I think it’s going to be a good series.”

Filming outside, with plenty of action, is another of the attractions. “Every location we go to is glorious by definition. We’re outside most of the time which to me is great. Not a courtroom, or a prison or a hospital, where so many dramas are set. We get our hands dirty and the gardening sets are amazing.”

“We do a lot of stunts ourselves, certainly the driving and the running. You have to be incredibly fit for the running, and the difficulty with the driving is the cars they give us. The Land Rover is something you have to get used to every time and the little car in Spain had dodgy brakes and no seatbelts. It was fun, but a bit lethal! I also drive a scooter, although I gave some of the very hairy stuff to the stunt guys.”

Filming the series inspired Felicity to buy a second home in the Hampshire countryside – together with a new puppy, cocker spaniel George.

“The only downside of ROSEMARY & THYME is that we film in the spring and summer so my garden in Hampshire is exactly as it was before, which is really sad. Now I’m back in London because my son is doing his A levels so it will have to wait. I’ll probably go and plant some bulbs but that’s it.

“George is superb, though. He’s grown into a bit of a mascot on set. He comes with me every day and he loves it. As soon as the car drives up in the morning he knows, and he can’t wait to get to work. I’m really happy to have him, and it’s a reason to go out walking every day which in itself is a good thing.”

Felicity – who has an orange pink rose and a deep cerise sweet pea named in her honour after her success in self-sufficiency comedy *The Good Life* - grew up touring India and the Far East with her parents’ Shakespearean travelling theatre company. She returned to England in the 1960s to make her debut on the London stage.

Her extensive theatre credits include the successful play *Fallen Angels* at the Apollo Theatre, directed by her partner Michael Rudman, and the Royal National Theatre’s production of *Humble Boy*.

Other TV credits include *Edward The King*, *Clouds of Glory*, *Twelfth Night*, *Boy Meets Girl*, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, *Solo*, *The Mistress* and *The Camomile Lawn*, in which she appeared with her *Good Life* co-star, the late Paul Eddington.

She has two sons, Charlie and Jacob, and was created a CBE in 1995.

Pam Ferris plays Laura Thyme

Pam Ferris had a particularly hairy moment filming a stunt scene in the new series of ROSEMARY & THYME.

“We had a lot of fun in Spain driving around in a Mahari, which is a bit like a Mini Moke. We were shooting around the hills in a car which seemed to be made of plastic, with very low seats and no seatbelts. The roads were very steep and I found myself getting a bit scared.

“The first time I drove it, I didn’t have time to practice. I was supposed to drive down a cobbled lane and stop in front of the camera. When you do that, you normally have sandbanks on the road as a precaution. I didn’t know the brakes weren’t great so I went right over the sandbanks and stopped only a couple of inches from the camera crew on the other side. New underwear was required after that!

“Rosemary and Thyme’s Land Rover is also a monster to drive. It’s temperamental and nobody can drive the darn thing. Felicity is better at it than me, and it pains me to say so, because I pride myself on being a good driver. I think there’s something personal going on between me and it.”

Despite her experiences behind the wheel, Pam was delighted to return to the role of Laura Thyme.

“It was lovely to be back. I’d missed Felicity and I’d missed the crew. We really are a family after three years, it’s a lovely feeling.

“We started in Spain and we hit the road running. We flew in and were filming that afternoon. I hadn’t stayed around that area before and it was a revelation to me. The hills behind Malaga are amazing, so wild, and then we went to a little white painted village called Mijas near Fueringirola. It was miles from anywhere, and there was a beautiful farmhouse that an English couple had been working on for 30 years. They had a terrace garden which we turned into a Moorish garden.

“I was deeply impressed by Spain, probably most of all by the people. I think they’ve forgiven us for what we’ve done to their coastline, which is disgraceful. We had a half-Spanish, half-English crew and they would do anything for you.”

Pam and her husband, actor Roger Frost, played a part in creating the new series.

“My husband and I were chatting ages ago and we thought it might be fun if, instead of a body, Rosemary and Thyme found a baby. We wrote a story and suggested it to the producer Brian Eastman. He thought it was an interesting idea and asked us to develop it. So we do in fact find a baby in one episode.

“It was an interesting piece of shooting for Felicity and I. She’s got children and I haven’t, but the characters are the other way around. I’m the one with child experience and she isn’t.”

Pam Ferris plays Laura Thyme (cont)

Pam also enjoyed working with the three-legged dog, Holly.

“I adore dogs but as Laura I had to pretend not to like it. I cuddled her at the end of the day to make up for it. I’ve got no problems about working with children or animals myself. My whole career has been about it and I’m surviving!”

The new series sees some changes to Laura’s look, as she moves on from a painful separation from her husband.

“I think Laura’s sense of freedom is reflected in her clothes this year. For the first couple of series she was still a bit of a wife doing gardening. Now she’s lost that wifely image and she’s gone hippy. That’s probably what would happen. You start living a gypsy-like life travelling from job to job and you find ways of dressing that feel right for you.

“I’m really thrilled with what the designer has done. Laura’s clothes are decorated with bits of braid, and she has headscarves and interesting hats. She’s heading more towards the eccentric which is fine by me.”

Adds Pam: “We also learn she has a history in amateur dramatics and she pulls out those talents in one of the episodes, which is fun. We think we know all there is to know about our characters, but occasionally the writers surprise us!”

Back in England, the girls get caught up in a mystery at a vineyard.

“I was amazed by the size of the British vineyards and the standard of the wine. Apparently it’s one of the few good things about global warming – the south of England has become good for growing grapes. I can tell you, it’s fantastic – not that I was allowed to sample it when I was filming, of course!

“I’ve even got a vine growing at my home in London. But while I was filming at the vineyards I picked up a book about grapes and discovered that my variety, the Brant, is very prolific but apparently rotten for making wine. So I won’t be doing that.”

The first episode, “The Cup of Silence” will be screened at Christmas. “I’ve got a mother in law in a home so at Christmas we’ll definitely be visiting her. Apparently the home is into karaoke at Christmas, so I’m looking forward to that tremendously,” jokes Pam.

In between series, Pam visited her sister in New Zealand, and filmed a role in Miss Marple drama *The 4:50 From Paddington*.

Her other credits include *The Darling Buds of May*, *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Sweet Revenge*, *Linda Green*, *Pollyanna* and *Clocking Off*, and the films *Matilda*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Piccadilly Jim*.

Guest Stars
Episode One ‘In A Monastery Garden’

Michael Maloney plays Custos

Michael Maloney made the most of his time as a cleric in ROSEMARY & THYME.

“I play Custos who is the accountant for Wellminster Cathedral. I wore black robes and a white dog collar and when I attended service I had a white surplice and high church robes. I got a great mark of respect from everyone and when I was getting a cup of coffee in the high street I got lots of approving looks. So I blessed everyone and forgave myself, which was very useful!”

In the first episode in the New Year, the Custos asks Rosemary (Felicity Kendal) and Laura (Pam Ferris) to restore the old monastery herb garden to mark the cathedral’s Millennium ahead of a Royal visit. But they soon find themselves in danger.

“Custos is a fairly unpopular figure who gets shunted around by head office to look into the books of religious institutions. So if people in the gift shop for example were on the fiddle, he would have the unpopular task of finding out who is responsible – and working out how to move them on.

“He is financially extremely straightforward, and this makes him harsh and spills over into his marriage, where his wife thinks he is somewhat heartless. He is unrelenting in certain areas and has become over-responsible.”

Michael enjoyed the opportunity of working around Chichester Cathedral, where the episode was filmed.

“I think I’d only spent 24 hours in Chichester before so I was privy to the machinations of a beautiful and beautifully-run cathedral. I have great respect for the people so dedicated to their vocation. I was also able to see friends in the Chichester Festival and was very impressed at how the artistic director has lifted the whole event. And I really enjoyed working with Felicity and Pam – they are great hosts.”

In recent months, Michael has also filmed the pilot of *Inspector Morse* spin-off *Lewis* and Richard Eyre’s new film *Notes on a Scandal*, based on the book by Zoë Heller.

“In the film I’m a headmaster and in *Lewis* I play a professor of mathematics, so a lot of cerebral parts. I’ve also recently done *Empire* for American TV, playing a man who conspires to murder Julius Caesar.”

Michael’s other credits include *The Murder Room*, *Messiah III*, *The Jury*, *The Swap*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sex & Chocolate*, *Children of the New Forest* and the films *In The Bleak Midwinter*, *Truly Madly Deeply* and *Henry V*.

Kim Thomson plays Andrea

Kim Thomson enjoyed taking a break from the manicured gardens of Los Angeles to appear in ROSEMARY & THYME.

“I’ve lived in West Hollywood for nearly two years and try and work between there and the UK. When I had a garden in this country I loved it, though I’m by no means an expert. I miss that in LA. Everyone there has their own gardeners and pool people and absolutely nobody does their own garden, however small. It’s so different from English people nurturing their gardens.”

Kim plays Andrea, the tragic wife of Westminster Cathedral’s Custos (Michael Maloney).

“Andrea is a gentle person, very loving and a good mother. Her daughter is murdered and she struggles with her grief. She adored her and has a somewhat troubled relationship with her husband, who is more inflexible. I liked her and the way she tried to bring her family unit together, which we see a little glimpse of before the tragedy.”

Andrea’s way of life is influenced by her husband’s job.

“She has a casual, tailored look because she has to have a certain nod towards her official position as the wife of Custos. The cathedral has a royal visit from the Queen and she can’t go around in jeans or be too opinionated. So she melds in, but she errs on the side of weakness and only at one point does she stand up to her husband.”

Kim recently worked with Julie Andrews in *The Princess Diaries 2*.

“It was such an experience – Julie’s an icon and I couldn’t get past the fact that I was working with Mary Poppins! She was wonderful and charming and the director had made *Pretty Woman* amongst loads of films, so it was just heavenly to do. It was all shot in LA and it seemed a bit of a dream come true to drive up to Universal Studios on a sunny morning.

“I was very lucky to get the film but it is tough out there. It’s very competitive and hard if you don’t have the contacts. There are different attitudes, too - our industry is still based in theatre training, which is not the case in LA. I am either brave or crazy but I’ve treated it as an adventure.

“I love the weather and the lifestyle, there are beautiful mountains and forests nearby and it feels like there is more room to live. There is a lot that I miss about England like the ironic sense of humour, but I could happily miss English winters for the rest of my life.”

Kim recently filmed the lead role of a forensic psychologist in independent movie *Messages* and her other credits include *Baddiel’s Syndrome*, *McCready & Daughter*, *Loved by You*, *The Tenth Kingdom*, *Great Expectations* and *The Tall Guy*.

Charles Lawson plays Bingham

Charles Lawson felt right at home in the gardening setting of ROSEMARY & THYME.

“I used to be a hotel groundsman before I was an actor and I learned my stuff from a very old gentleman gardener. He taught me everything he knew and it has stayed with me to this day. I still love gardening – I grow all my own vegetables in the back garden and I never have to buy one.”

Charles plays Bingham, a stonemason at Wellminster Cathedral where Rosemary (Felicity Kendal) and Laura (Pam Ferris) are working.

“He’s a general builder around the cathedral but I didn’t have to do any stonemasonry. I loved filming at Chichester because I’d been there in 1987 with the RSC and it was very enjoyable. Being back rekindled my fondness for the Anchor pub in Bosham!”

Charles is best known as Jim McDonald in *Coronation Street*, a role he played for 11 years and has returned to regularly since.

“I still get recognised from *The Street*, especially as I still go back every now and again and do a few episodes. I don’t mind because it goes with the territory and I’m glad it’s still such a successful series. People are always asking me ‘have you got out of prison then’ or ‘when are you going back to *The Street*’. You can’t take these things too seriously and they’re always nice comments.”

Charles recently appeared in his first ever musical. “I’m doing *Annie Get Your Gun* in a national tour, playing Buffalo Bill. I can sing but it’s quite daunting doing a musical.”

He also had a long running role as Bill McQueen in *Doctors* and his other credits include *Dalziel and Pascoe*, *The Firm*, *Bread*, *Four Days in July*, *Harry’s Game*, *Holby City*, *In Deep* and the films *Wilt* and *Puckoon*.

Kate Alderton plays DC Hailwood

Filming ROSEMARY & THYME reminded Kate Alderton of her first ever acting job.

“I was in *Father’s Day* when I was 11 and Brian Eastman, the producer of ROSEMARY & THYME, produced it for Carnival Films. He helped me on my road as an actor and it was lovely to meet up with him again.”

Kate plays DC Hailwood who is investigating a murder at Wellminster Cathedral.

Kate Alderton plays DC Hailwood (cont)

“She is a fairly junior copper. She thinks she’s a bit of a Juliet Bravo, but she hasn’t got the experience, although she definitely has the attitude,” explains Kate.

“She gets bossed about by Laura, who keeps asking questions, and Laura and Rosemary totally undermine her. She is trying very hard to keep face, but failing miserably as the episode goes on. You can see they know more than she does.”

Kate is the daughter of actors John Alderton and Pauline Collins.

“My parents are really supportive and will definitely be watching my episode. They have always been great at helping with my work.”

Kate starred in *Noah’s Ark* and her other credits include *Anna Lee*, *The Heart Surgeon*, *He Knew He was Right*, *The Murder Room* and the film *Fierce Creatures*. She combines acting with performance poetry.

“I write poetry but it’s more towards the performance side. It’s something that is emerging quite quickly and I get invited to a lot of festivals and perform on the cabaret circuit. It doesn’t pay well, but I love it and it’s good to have my own creative outlet, independent of anyone else.”

Episode Two ‘Seeds of Time’**Margaret Tyzack plays Audrey Pargeter**

Playing a dementia sufferer in ROSEMARY & THYME struck a chord with Margaret Tyzack.

“I’ve done two roles involving dementia recently and I’ve also been campaigning against a hospital I saw exposed on *Panorama* for the way it neglected and abused people. I forced myself to watch it but it upset me so much.

“I researched into the subject because I played a character diagnosed with dementia in *Doc Martin* recently. You get very involved by doing research and it was useful for ROSEMARY & THYME. There are many forms of dementia and many people who reach great ages do not have it.

“Audrey Pargeter is playing a very dodgy game in ROSEMARY & THYME by claiming she has dementia. It is a very dangerous path to go down.”

Playing a role in a series set around gardening was an interesting challenge for Margaret.

She says: “I loathe gardening with the same passion that I loathe cooking. I admire gardeners and cooks and I would love to love it, but I accept what I am not good at.”

Margaret Tyzack plays Audrey Pargeter (cont)

Margaret is 74 years old but shows little sign of slowing down.

“I keep busy and I’ve just done masses of radio including *The Raj Quartet* and *Vanity Fair* for Radio 4. I have always played women of 84 and 94 but now I seem to be playing younger. You go in for the audition dressed as yourself but young writers don’t have a grasp of how people are at certain ages. I tell them ‘you will be my age one day, if you are lucky!’”

Margaret appears in *Wallis and Edward* at Christmas, playing Queen Mary. Her many credits date back to the 1950s and include *Our Mutual Friend*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Dalziel and Pascoe*, *The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles*, *I Claudius* and *Cousin Bette*. Film work includes *Bright Young Things*, *Prick Up Your Ears*, *2001: A Space Odyssey* and *A Clockwork Orange*.

She won an Olivier Award for her role in the play *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and Broadway’s 1990 Tony Award for best actress in *Lettice and Lovage*.

Episode Three ‘Agua Cadaver’**Tracy Brabin plays Nicola Spicer**

Filming ROSEMARY & THYME in southern Spain was a great experience for Tracy Brabin.

“It was absolutely fabulous to film in Spain. We were way up in the mountains and you could have been in Nepal. At the end of this narrow track that took an hour to get to by 4x4s we went down a rocky path to the set. We had beautiful weather and, although we were working most of the time, I also had a few hours in the markets of the town.”

Former *Coronation Street* star Tracy plays Nicola Spicer, who has left England for a new life in Spain with her husband Neil (Martin Turner) – a former boyfriend of Rosemary (Felicity Kendal).

“She has decided to give her marriage a second chance by going abroad, trying to get back to nature. But she’s an urban woman in the country and she’s bored, finding it hard. And when her husband brings his gardening friend to work there, she realises they were lovers – and maybe that it’s unfinished business.

“It was great fun playing someone evil as it works on so many levels. You know the truth of the character but not to give too much away.”

After returning to England, Tracy got married to her long-term partner Richard Platt, a TV director.

Tracy Brabin plays Nicola Spicer (cont)

“We got married in July at the actors’ church, St Paul’s in Covent Garden. We had been together for 16 years and our daughters are 12 and 8 so we decided to get married. I think being away from home so much made him romantic!”

The wedding was attended by some of the other guest stars from ROSEMARY & THYME. “Our team of guest actors got on very well. I still see Jacinta Mulcahy and Toby Sawyer and a posse of us went to see Nigel Hastings in his play.”

Tracy combines acting with a second career as a scriptwriter.

“I went back to college and did an MA in screenwriting in 2000. I have written for *Family Affairs* for over a year as well as *Heartbeat* and *Tracy Beaker* and I’m doing a romantic comedy for the Film Council. I can combine the two and it has paid off – I was still writing *Family Affairs* on the plane over to Spain for ROSEMARY & THYME.”

Tracy played Tricia Armstrong in *Coronation Street* and her other acting credits include *EastEnders*, *Ghosthunter*, *Riff-Raff*, *A Bit of a Do*, *Peak Practice*, *Holby City*, *Outside Edge*, *Silent Witness* and *Bodies*. She also appears in a forthcoming episode of *Midsomer Murders*.

Episode Four ‘Three Legs Good’**Tim Woodward plays Ollie**

Tim Woodward undergoes a transformation to play a down-and-out in ROSEMARY & THYME.

“I play Ollie who at one point ran a small business, then his wife left him for someone else and he started drinking. He went off with another woman himself, but then she felt guilty and went back to her husband. His wife wouldn’t have him back so he went for a drink instead, became a loner and ended up a down-and-out.

“I had a rather unusual costume as Ollie still wears a tie, albeit rather bedraggled, and well-worn clothes that hadn’t been to a drycleaner for years. He still has some self-respect, so he’s not completely filthy, he’s just a bit damaged really. But I certainly did not want to buy any of the costume!

“He hangs out in Regent’s Park and it was lovely to be outside, in sunshine mostly. Although I didn’t know the series, I liked the idea of it – it has a lovely old-fashioned feel.”

Adds Tim: “I liked playing Ollie – he’s a bit of an idiot but he’s quite a softie really, and there is a sort of happy ending for him.”

Tim Woodward plays Ollie (cont)

The episode meant Tim working alongside a three-legged-dog, Holly.

“My character hates the dog and calls it the yapping tripod. I am a dog lover so it was quite hard to pretend to be mean, but it’s only acting. The little dog was sweet and a good actor.”

Tim’s next role was a complete contrast. “I play the governor of Holloway prison in the film *The Last Hangman* with Timothy Spall. He’s a bit of a tough character.”

The son of actor Edward Woodward, his other credits include *Space Race*, *Murder City*, *Danielle Cable: Eyewitness*, *New Tricks*, *The Second Coming*, *K19: The Widowmaker*, *Vanity Fair*, *Heat of the Sun*, *Holding On* and *Families*. Films include *Some Mother’s Son*, *The Scarlet Letter* and *Personal Services*.

Daisy Dunlop plays Helena Thyme

Daisy Dunlop is delighted to return to ROSEMARY & THYME – although her character keeps getting caught up in crime.

“Helena Thyme is Laura’s daughter and in the last series she was blown apart by her parents’ separation – she was bitter and didn’t know who to believe. This time, she is more sorted and she’s really got it together as a sculptor.

“But she is a very trusting person and doesn’t have her mother’s suspicious nature. Just as in the last series, she ends up harbouring a murderer again. Hopefully for her third appearance, she will have worked a few things out!”

Daisy, the daughter of actress Lesley Dunlop, is now combining work with plans for her wedding next summer to Ben, a musician.

“It’s going to be fairly small and mostly family but I think organising it will be a big project. We’re getting married in church because I like the spirituality of it. My grandmother is pleased and my mother is thrilled to bits. We’ve been talking about my wedding since I was six and she has helped out a lot.”

In the meantime, viewers can see more of Daisy in forthcoming ITV1 drama *Bombshell*.

“I play Karina Fuller who is a new recruit with a dodgy past. She’s very different from Helena, she’s a tart with a heart and she dabbles in the seedier side of glamour pictures. She joins the army to get away from men and then ends up meeting a new one.

“I was nervous because it was the first big thing I’d done but we all went away together on a four-day boot camp which was hilarious. We learned how to use guns and shape our berets and I came away having become close friends with Zoë Lucker.”

Daisy’s other credits include *The Bill* and *Pondlife*.

Episode Five ‘The Gooseberry Bush’

Beatie Edney plays Penelope Braxton

Beatie Edney enjoys appearing in murder-mysteries and thrillers – although she hates the sight of blood.

“I am very squeamish and I find it hard to watch the stuff that I’m in. Despite that, as well as ROSEMARY & THYME, this year I’ve also been in *Messiah!*”

Beatie plays Penelope Braxton, who invites Rosemary (Felicity Kendal) and Laura (Pam Ferris) to create a memorial garden for her remarriage to her ex-husband Tim (Richard Heffer).

But when the gardeners arrive, they discover a hot bed of sibling rivalry and pent-up tension.

Says Beatie: “Penelope is quite eccentric, which made her fun to play. She’s a bit of a character – completely in her own world. Her look is very bohemian and she could have been living in the 1930s. She’s into her herbs and alternative medicine. But she’s completely different from me. We are not alike at all.”

The episode was filmed at the former home of famous landscaper and gardener Gertrude Jekyll – Munstead Wood, near Godalming.

“Filming at the Jekyll house which was designed by Lutyens was an added bonus because it was a beautiful setting. But I don’t really garden myself.”

The daughter of actress Sylvia Sims, Beatie’s other credits include *My Uncle Silas*, *Murder Rooms*, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, *Dressing for Breakfast*, *Prime Suspect 4*, *Hard Times*, *A Touch of Frost* and *In The Name of the Father*.

Amanda Royle plays Lydia Sims

Having a catfight with Beatie Edney was one of the highlights of filming ROSEMARY & THYME for Amanda Royle.

“Lydia Sims and Beatie’s character Penelope Braxton are sisters who share a joint cosmetics business. Lydia is strong-willed and assertive but her sister is the dominant force. They are competitive with each other in life and love.

Amanda Royle plays Lydia Sims (cont)

“In one scene they have a catfight, which was great fun to film. You have to choreograph the moves very carefully, it’s like acting by numbers. You rehearse it thoroughly and suddenly it works. We both enjoyed the punch-up and there were no bruises fortunately – just an irritating headscarf that kept falling off.

“It was a difficult balance to meet, there is comedy in the scene but in order for it to be funny you have to keep completely serious. I hope it will be funny in its viciousness.”

Amanda was able to indulge her love of gardening while filming the episode.

“I only discovered gardening when I was doing ROSEMARY & THYME. I’d just had my garden landscaped so I was designing and landscaping it as we were filming, discovering plants and nicking ideas as we went along.”

Filming the drama was some light relief after a busy, academic year for Amanda.

“I’ve just graduated in Sociology with Psychology and toddled off from university with my rucksack on my back. It was a fantastic experience and quite satisfying being a mature student because you are ready to learn at last. Now I’m hoping to do an MA in Drama Therapy and I’m doing work experience with Turning Point, who work with vulnerable youth.”

Amanda has since returned to the theatre, to appear in *Monkey Nuts*, about the farce writer Georges Feydau, which was written by her playwright partner David Lewis. Her other credits include *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries*, *The Jury*, *Catherine Cookson’s The Wingless Bird*, *Devices and Desires*, *Lady Windermere’s Fan* and, most recently, *A Touch of Frost*.

Episode Six ‘Racquet Espanol’**Rebecca Sarker plays Blanca Parfitt**

Rebecca Sarker was able to draw on her linguistic talents to play feisty Spaniard Blanca Parfitt in ROSEMARY & THYME.

“It was beautiful to be shooting in Spain and it’s one of the best gigs I think I have done. I was home from home because I spent a year in Spain at Cadiz doing my BA in French and Spanish, and, on a day off, one of my university friends came over to say hello.

“I use the language to do a bit of tutoring when I am not working and it was great to be there and practice, as half the crew were Spanish. I was desperately trying to do my best and the crew said I sounded right, as Blanca is from the region of Andalucia.”

Rebecca Sarker plays Blanca Parfitt

The episode is set around a tennis club – but there were no racquets or trainers in sight for Rebecca.

“Blanca doesn’t play tennis, she totters around in summery dresses and high heels instead. They were very impractical and difficult to run around in while we were filming.

“I liked playing her. She’s quite feisty, but she’s diplomatic as well. She tries to be a bit of a mediator, although if someone gets her back up, she can lose it big time. At first you think she’s a gold digger but she loves her man, Ray, and you soon realise she’s in a very strong partnership.

“There is a bit of suspicion cast over her because there appears to be tension between her, Ray and his ex, Bobby. Bobby is very beautiful and it gives her an edge, which Blanca finds difficult.”

Rebecca has enjoyed a busy year with roles in ITV drama *The Golden Hour* opposite Navin Chowdhry, and new BBC comedy *Broken News*. Her other credits include Nita in *Coronation Street*, *Doctors*, *Fallen* and *Holby City*.

Episode Seven ‘Enter Two Gardeners’**Marsha Fitzalan plays Geraldine**

Playing vamp Geraldine in ROSEMARY & THYME was a treat for Marsha Fitzalan.

“Geraldine is an actress and she seems to have had every man in the company. She has the most ridiculous look, sashaying along in tight black skirts and high heeled shoes that keep sinking into the lawn. Not the sort of clothes you would wear to rehearse an open air production – but that was Geraldine.

“We formed a little company within a company, which was good fun, as we were supposed to be a band of terrible actors. It’s also great fun to play someone like Geraldine, having an affair with a young lad.

“The last boy I did a love scene with was Orlando Bloom in *Midsomer Murders*, and then he got *The Lord of the Rings*. So young Christopher Harper who plays Nick was very excited that the same thing might happen to him. Let’s hope I’ve got the magic touch!”

The episode reunited Marsha with a lot of old friends.

Marsha Fitzalan plays Geraldine (cont)

“I knew Terence Harvey through *Henry VIII* and we last met at the Tower of London. Anne Lambton and I did a play called *Hedgehog Wedding* together, and I knew Felicity Kendal and her puppy George socially, because he comes from the village in Oxfordshire where I live and my friends were his ‘parents’.”

“Also, I worked with the director Simon Langton on *The Duchess of Duke Street* and *Anna Karenina*. He lives locally too so we’re all Oxfordites.”

Marsha has a newfound interest in gardening.

“I am getting into it because I live at the back of my mother’s house and she has a huge garden and I have my own little bit. It’s very therapeutic watching my pots grow. When I said I was doing it, my mother and my neighbours were pleased because they all watch the series for the gardening.”

Marsha’s other credits include *Poirot*, *Take a Girl Like You*, *Harnessing Peacocks*, *Under The Hammer*, *The New Statesman*, *Paradise Postponed*, *Alas Smith & Jones*, *Angels* and the films *Being Julia*, *An Ideal Husband* and *A Handful of Dust*.

Anne Lambton plays Queenie Allardyce

Anne Lambton makes a rare appearance on British TV in ROSEMARY & THYME.

“I’ve been working in America, both LA and New York, for the past 10 years and I decided to come back to England. It was a conscious decision to do more telly, as my face hasn’t been seen for years in this country. I had seen ROSEMARY & THYME and thought it was a good series.”

Anne plays Queenie Allardyce, actress and wardrobe mistress for an amateur dramatic group.

“Queenie has both sides of the coin – she is in the play and behind the scenes. She’s an outrageous character and it’s good fun to play someone big and loud who goes around dumping everyone.

“It’s nice to have some hint of sexiness so I thought a cleavage was the answer. Whatever I wear, at any point, the cleavage appears and there’s always a bra strap showing. I used bits of costume designers and wardrobe girls I had worked with in the past including the wardrobe mistress at the Glasgow Citizens Theatre who is very ravishing and a great friend of mine.”

Anne is now busy making a new life in the UK.

Anne Lambton plays Queenie Allardyce (cont)

“I came back with my dog who I found on the streets of LA. She is a rescue dog and I can’t keep going backwards and forwards with her because it’s such a big journey.

“England is lovely to be in and I adore gardening. I had a garden in LA with drought-resistant plants. It’s a desert there and all the water is brought in. You plant a banana leaf and you get bananas growing. I was growing avocados, too, so I do miss that.

“I have a roof terrace here and I am going to make that an LA garden. I long for roses and clematis, too, which are very English. That way, I can flit between the two continents!”

Anne is the sister of photographer Lucinda Lambton and her previous credits include *Trial & Retribution IX*, *Calling The Shots*, *Unnatural Causes*, the films *Howard’s End*, *The Witches*, *Sid and Nancy* and several US productions. She is also editing a book of short stories featuring American and British authors.

Synopses

Episode One: In A Monastery Garden

Wellminster Cathedral is preparing for a Royal visit and the Custos has asked Rosemary and Laura to restore the old monastery ‘physic’ garden, to mark the cathedral’s Millennium. But someone is not happy about the girls working on the herb garden, and when the Custos’ daughter Trish is found murdered there, the girls realise they could be in serious danger.

Rosemary and Laura suspect Ryan, Trish’s boyfriend who knows more than he is telling. And could the mystery surrounding the Dean’s recent hit and run accident be connected to current events? What secrets are this tight-knit community concealing?

As Rosemary and Laura struggle to bring the herb garden back to life in time for the Royal visit, a shocking discovery is made.

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Custos.....	Michael Maloney
Andrea.....	Kim Thomson
The Dean.....	Christopher Good
Bingham.....	Charles Lawson
Elaine Bingham.....	Jan Chappell
Dr. Fairborn.....	William Oxborrow
D.C. Hailwood	Kate Alderton
Ryan	Neil McDermott
Trish	Florence Bell
McKendrick	Callum Williams

Episode Two: Seeds of Time

Caroline Pargeter, the granddaughter of the famous botanist Edwin Pargeter, is selling her house and has asked Rosemary and Laura to tidy up the garden and re-organise the Seed Museum created by Edwin, before Caroline and her ageing Aunt move out.

When a mysterious Southern American man is found dead in the Pargeter’s back garden, it looks as if there is more to Edwin’s seed collection than meets the eye. Rosemary involves her colleague at the Royal Horticultural Society at Kew Gardens, and the girls attempt to identify the mysterious seeds before they fall into the wrong hands.

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Audrey Pargeter	Margaret Tyzack
Caroline Pargeter	Lucy Scott
Petra McKinley	Therese Bradley
Trevor Squires.....	Christopher Benjamin
Ken Hodge	Roderic Culver
Jerome Daniels.....	Sam Spruell
D.I. Matthews.....	Sam Dale
D.S. Curtis.....	Paula O'Grady
Frank Minelli	Duncan Duff
Sophie Minelli.....	Sarah Wateridge
Taxi Driver.....	Darren Kempson

Episode Three: Agua Cadaver

A former boyfriend, Neil Spicer, invites Rosemary, along with Laura, to his home in the hills behind Malaga in Southern Spain, to help create an Arabic garden. But one of the local residents is found dead and their mysterious landowner, Luis Mendes, is the chief suspect.

Neil declares his continuing love for Rosemary, who must contend with Neil's jealous wife. Laura meanwhile discovers clues in the history of the local aquifers. Someone has been blocking the mountainside water channels on which the new garden will rely. Is the precious water the real reason behind the murder?

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Neil Spicer	Martin Turner
Nicola Spicer.....	Tracy Brabin
Luis Mendes.....	Joe Ferrera
Greg Carson	Nigel Hastings
Maria Carson.....	Claudia Coulter
Todd Whiting.....	William Armstrong
Jenny Whiting.....	Jacinta Mulcahy
Billy Duffin.....	Toby Sawyer
Yago.....	Julio Tapia Yaguies

Episode Four: Three Legs Good

Rosemary and Laura are employed by Regent's Park, to help recreate the original Victorian planting in the historic Avenue Garden.

There they meet a variety of characters for whom the central London park plays a regular part in their daily life. But the beauty and peace of the Avenue is shattered when Harley Street psychiatrist Pavel Volkar is found murdered. Rosemary and Laura adopt Mr Volkar's bereaved three legged dog Holly, who seems to have more than a canine understanding of events.

The mystery surrounding the accident in which Holly lost her leg appears to be the key ingredient in solving the murder mystery.

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Helena	Daisy Dunlop
Ollie.....	Tim Woodward
Hibby.....	Gil Brailey
Sherry.....	Sally Leonard
Jarvis Edwards	David Bark-Jones
Becker	Shaun Dooley
Clement Allbright	Brian Hickey
Volkar	Robert Jezek
Grace Oluwu	Ony Uhiara
D.S. Daniels	Kemal Sylvester
Receptionist.....	Matilda Thorpe
Nurse	Emily Norman
Holly the dog.....	Herself

Episode Five: The Gooseberry Bush

Rosemary's maternal side is brought out when she and Laura find an abandoned baby under a gooseberry bush in Penelope Braxton's garden. Penelope is remarrying her ex-husband, Tim, and our heroines are working on a memorial garden, as an intended wedding present from Penelope to Tim.

Rosemary and Laura are forced to care for the baby, as they try to find out who the mother is and why she would abandon him. Events take a dramatic turn when neighbouring artist Sir Carlos Potter is found murdered. How is he connected and will the girls be able to reunite mother and baby? Will Rosemary remain enchanted at the prospect of bringing up a child?

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Penelope.....	Beatie Edney
Lydia	Amanda Royle
Anya.....	Daniella Dessa
Sir Carlos Potter.....	David Gant
Tim Braxton.....	Richard Heffer
Mrs Braxton	Phyllida Hewat
Mrs Westerby.....	Mary Healey
Fleur	Kate Harrell
Eddie	Matthew Thrift
Manageress	Jenny Howe
Sergeant Bremner.....	Will Norris
Priest	Alec Walters

Episode Six: Racquet Espanol

Laura's son, Matthew, and his friends are on their annual tennis holiday at a beautiful tennis camp in Southern Spain, owned by former champion Ray Parfitt. Laura and Rosemary are creating a trophy garden for Ray's Pro-Am tennis tournament.

When one of the players is found dead after a night out, everyone assumes it was a drunken accident, but the girls suspect foul play. In the neighbouring village of Mijas, Rosemary rediscovers the thrill of riding motor scooters, while Laura finds the local bullring a mysterious and threatening place. The value of property proves to be the driving force for evil in this idyllic sun drenched resort.

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Matthew Thyme.....	Ryan Philpott
Lester Walker.....	Charles Daish
Karen Fletcher.....	Karen Drury
Ray Parfitt.....	Philip York
Blanca Parfitt	Rebecca Sarker
John Bryant	John Peters
Eva Bryant	Lisa Hayes
Bobby Cassidy	Miranda Foster
Charlie Gudgeon.....	Edmund Pegge

Episode Seven: Enter Two Gardeners

Rosemary's cousin Charles is performing with an amateur dramatic group, and Rosemary and Laura have been brought along to prepare the garden of the Open Air Theatre in time for opening night.

One of the actors accidentally shoots himself during rehearsal, and everyone is deeply shocked. But when the police discover the gun was loaded with live ammunition not blanks, it becomes apparent that there is a murderer in their midst. Was the bullet intended for Adam or more likely the theatre's philanthropist Victor Channing? Victor's wife Jenny gets stage fright and her role in the play is given to Laura, much to Rosemary's displeasure.

As opening night fast approaches, Rosemary struggles to complete the garden on her own as Laura, delighted with her part, becomes more involved with the production. Will the play go without a hitch or is someone out to sabotage it?

Cast List

Rosemary Boxer	Felicity Kendal
Laura Thyme	Pam Ferris
Adam Dinmont.....	John Sackville
Jenny Channing.....	Rachel Pickup
Frank Illingworth	Chris Matthews
Geraldine Illingworth.....	Marsha Fitzalan
Nick Eldridge	Christopher Harper
Charles Nebley.....	Tam Williams
Victor Channing.....	Terence Harvey
Queenie Allardyce	Anne Lambton
Teddy Baker.....	Roger Barclay
Sharon Baker.....	Ella Kenion
D.I. Gold	Danny Scheinmann

Production Credits

Producer	Brian Eastman
Directors	Brian Farnham Simon Langton
Writers	Clive Exton David Joss Buckley Peter Spence Stephen Gallagher
Associate Producer	Peter Hider
Director of Photography	Paul Englefield
Gardening Consultant	Pippa Greenwood
Story Consultant	Peter Lovesey
Production Designers	Rob Hinds Christine Ruscoe
Costume Designer	Yves Barre
Location Managers	Tim Maw Ben Greenacre
Spanish Liaison	Christabel Albery
Composers	Christopher Gunning John Scott Anne Dudley
Title Music performed by	John Williams

A Carnival Production for ITV1