

Viewing Guide

Gabriel Tate

DIY SOS: Children in Need Special

BBC One, 8pm

Top pick With unpleasant behaviour infiltrating even the *Great British Bake Off* tent, is nothing on television

sacred? Perhaps only *DIY SOS* provides that sort of emotional boost and hard-earned sentimentality; tonight's *Big Build* is a case in point, addressing the young homeless. Nick Knowles and the gang decamp to Blackburn, where 40 to 50 young people are sleeping rough every night. Their goal is to convert

a church hall into accommodation for six people on behalf of Nightsafe, a local charity. The project hits obstacles — mainly a shortage of tradesmen — but their commitment is unquestionable, the multifaceted aspect of the work admirable and the stories of people who have slept rough make the significance of their

work clear. Deadlines are missed and tempers lost, although time is found for the regulars to fulfil their quota of

clowning around. In the end the community rallies round, the final reveal as affecting as ever. Of course, charities can only do so much, and just because a six-bedroom house is a drop in the ocean, that shouldn't negate its

importance. The underlying issues are left alone, and perhaps the impact of slashed youth services, mental health provision and social services are arguments for another day. But if this show puts them front and centre of the election campaign, then it is another job well done for Knowles and co.

Guilt

BBC Two, 9pm

A touch of *Shallow Grave*'s black humour and a smattering of *Fargo*-esque eccentricity continue to elevate this fine thriller, harking back to the mid-Eighties glory days of BBC Scotland. Perhaps the only thing that could have improved it is an

appearance from Bill Paterson, and here he is as a shady businessman whose connection to the story gradually comes into view. Meanwhile, Jake's

(Jamie Sives) erratic behaviour puts him and his brother Max (Mark Bonnar) in danger and a climactic reveal throws everything up in the air beautifully for the finale next week.

Doc Martin

ITV, 9pm

The 135th series of the soporific Cornish drama comes to a close with Morwenna (Jessica Ransom) poised to marry Al (Joe Absolom), while the titular GP (Martin Clunes) is assessed by Tom Conti's conceited surgeon with clay feet when he has to tackle

his haemophobia head-on during an operation. In between the gorgeous scenery, cute dogs and a scene-stealing Eileen Atkins, everything unravels exactly as expected, but then not every ITV drama needs to be, well, *A Confession*. That said, thank goodness they aren't all *Doc Martin* either.

Britain's Child Drug Runners

Channel 4, 10pm

The "county lines" phenomenon is nothing new. What has transformed its impact, however, is mobile technology and how it has opened up children to exploitation as drug



mules. This bleak *Dispatches* follows the cases of four at-risk

children and virtually defines “hard-hitting”. The desperation among police, parents and social workers is palpable, as grooming becomes more sophisticated, cuckooing (when drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person) proliferates and under-resourcing abounds. The result is that lives are lost.

Why Dad Killed Mum: My Family's Secret

BBC One, 10.45pm

BBC Three does this sort of personal-journey-cum-true-crime show well, and this three-part documentary is no different. It tells the desperately sad story of Tasnim Lowe, whose father carried her out

of her mum's home in Telford when she was a baby, then set it on fire, killing her mother, grandmother and aunt. Now 19, Tasnim is reckoning with the impact of the event as her father comes up for parole; her search for answers opens up the story of child abuse across the town. Harrowing, but ultimately inspiring.

Film *Europa Report*

Film4, 7.15pm

Part dramatised documentary, part found-footage sci-fi horror, *Europa Report* is a decent stab at showing us what a manned mission to one of Jupiter's moons would look like. A modern sci-fi B-movie with brains. (12, 2013)

