

JOHN'S
best
LIFE

'I fancy Jamie Redknapp!'

Actor, writer and all-round entertainer John Barrowman talks about his *Desperate Housewives* dream role, the new *Doctor Who* and the time he stalked a famous footballer...

John's been busy wreaking havoc in *Wisteria Lane*



In terms of hotness, who's the best World Cup footballer?

If I had to pick between Frank Lampard and Ashley Cole for England, it would be Frank for me. Ashley Cole is too slight. He's not butch enough for my taste. My favourite, though, is Jamie Redknapp. I love him, he's fit. I saw him in Harrods one day. We recognised each other and said hi, but I then proceeded to follow him. I rang my boyfriend Scott to tell him I was hovering about in the men's department. I said, "He's got the greatest looking butt!"

What are your best memories of the *Desperate Housewives*?

I liked sitting next to Felicity Huffman in make-up. Her character is my favourite, but I couldn't tell her that! I just let her get on with doing her tax return on her laptop. Drea's sense of humour was most like mine. I wouldn't call it filthy, but certainly saucy. I can't tell you any big *Desperate Housewives* secret,

FEATURE: PAUL SIMPER, PHOTOS: BBC, GETTY

though – I'm not the kind of guy who kisses and tells!

Who's the best *Doctor Who* – David Tennant or Matt Smith?

(Laughs) You think I'll answer that? David's brilliant and so is Matt! I've only seen the first half of the first episode, but I'm having a *Doctor Who* marathon on Sunday on my day off. And I'm over the moon *Torchwood* will be back, here

and in America, with me, Eve Myles and an international cast.

What's the best thing about your sister Carole helping you write your autobiography?

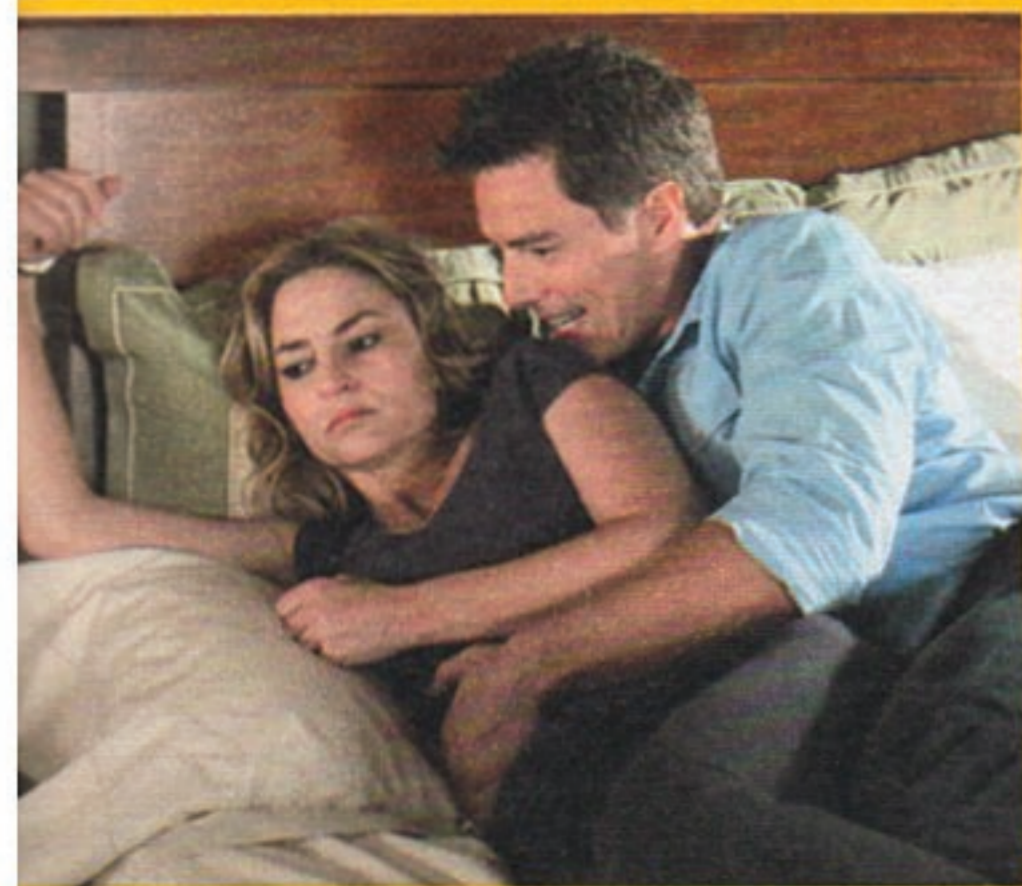
It's brought us closer. We've now been commissioned to do a fiction book, so how good is that? Carole and I are very alike. People say she's like me, but in a skirt!

What's the best thing about working with Andrew Lloyd Webber?

Andrew's been wonderful to work with, but doing my BBC TV shows *Torchwood* and *Tonight's The Night* makes it strange for me to do an Andrew Lloyd Webber show on ITV1, if he changes channels. I didn't do *Over The Rainbow* as the company got back to me too late, but maybe they did that deliberately.

What would be the best role you could get if you were cast in *Glee*?

I've actually already had a meeting with the *Glee* people. I'd love to be in the show and they were fans of my work, too. If I could choose a role, then it would be as Rachel's gay dad, though I also like the idea of being Sue Sylvester's secret husband. I'd give her a run for her money!



What's your best bit of villainy as *Desperate Housewives*' eco-terrorist Patrick?

There's a funny scene between me, Drea de Matteo (who plays my ex-wife) and Eva Longoria, which is based around lasagne – that's all I'll say! But I didn't have any problem with terrorising the women of *Wisteria Lane* – it's only TV!



★ *I Am What I Am*, by John Barrowman with Carole E Barrowman, is published by Michael O'Mara Books, £8.99.

★ *Desperate Housewives* is on Channel 4, Wednesdays, 10pm.

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