



## DRAMA

### **Daphne** 9.00pm BBC2

I always rather dread these biographical dramas because the subjects never seem to come out of them very well and, of course, they're not around to stick up for themselves (think Mrs Beeton, Fanny Cradock, Kenneth Williams).

But *Daphne* is an intriguing film about an enigmatic subject, Daphne du Maurier. It's beautifully shot, in the sumptuous, soft-focus style of a 1940s romantic thriller, à la Alfred Hitchcock's version of her best-known novel, *Rebecca* (showing at 5.15pm on BBC2).

Geraldine Somerville is excellent and immensely sympathetic as a woman trapped by the mores of her time into concealing her bisexuality – she was married and had children, but all the while had great passions for other women: Ellen Doubleday, wife of her American publisher (unrequited) and the actress Gertrude Lawrence (requited). The majestic Janet McTeer is splendid in a series of gorgeous frocks as Lawrence, a woman that *Daphne* makes very clear was the great love of the author's life. **AG**

**It's Scooch to the rescue...**

ced fish and chips and you have  
le Cornish experience here.  
uide is Mr Dadey himself

**DIGITAL / CABLE HIGHLIGHTS**