

Clap

6 x 30 minute returning comedy drama

Well-meaning Health Advisor Georgie Stokes takes innocent Joseph Elliot under her wing when he starts his new role as Apprentice Administrator at the Camford Centre for Sexual Health, but how will her unwitting helpful hand be construed by a naïve hormone driven teenager while her Army boyfriend Ollie is serving overseas?



Clap is a comedy drama set in a Clinic for Sexual Health which follows the antics of Georgie and her colleagues – where sometimes even the most informed fall foul of the temptations they are presented with (when they of all people should know better!) resulting in devastating consequences.

Why now?

In 2021 there were 311,604 new diagnoses of STI's in England - numbers continue to rocket since coming out of the COVID lockdown. People love sex. Everybody's at it! Often with funny post-coitus tales to tell. Yet, with a little knowledge and care, many would avoid the daunting trip to the 'Clap Clinic'. **Clap** seeks to inform, but with fun along the way – a sort of social service with a smile, a spoonful of sugar that will not only help the medicine go down but could remove the need for any medicine in the first place. Think of it as 'Casualty with Chlamydia'!

My work has involved delivering many varied Theatre-in-Education Roadshows in schools across the length and breadth of the UK, on social issues that affect Young People in the world today, both as a performer and a writer.

Highlighting societal issues is at the heart of the work I write... for people of all ages! Holding up a mirror, raising awareness, and prompting discussion.

Understanding the 'taboo' attitudes and ignorance there is around STI's and Sexual Health Clinics, with humour, **Clap** seeks to be a catalyst to prompt discussions, just as 'Sex Education' did around attitudes towards sex by Young People.

Character Biographies

Georgie Stokes



Georgie (27) was brought up by adoptive parents. She was, and is, very much loved by them, but this hasn't stopped Georgie struggling with issues of abandonment and commitment. To cope with these wide-ranging feelings, she presents herself as a feisty independent woman who doesn't need anyone, out for a good time, and in control of her life and relationships.

At school she had a string of boys wanting to go out with her.

Georgie fell into Health Care following in the footsteps of her adoptive mother. Her zest for life and the titillation of the subject matter stirred her interest to work in sexual health. She has proven to be very competent and has a connection with the patients that pass through the department.

She's been involved with infantry soldier Ollie (30) for nearly 3 years. For the most part the relationship has fulfilled her different needs. He gives her the stability of a relationship that she craves, but the job takes him away which allows her to overcome her commitment difficulties.

Joseph Elliot

Naïve Joseph (16) starts his new post as an Apprentice Administrator at the Centre. A tall, almost gangly, young man. His body has yet to catch up with itself, but one day he will blossom and his underlying good looks will shine through.

At school he was very much in the background – almost invisible, focusing his energies on his studies. He had no friends to speak of, save a couple of acquaintances he'd 'hang around' with during breaks, and the enigma of the female species most certainly passed him by.



With no father figure in his life, Judith, his mother, has been a dominant force to contend with, using Joseph as a substitute for all that is missing in her life. She struggles to accept his growing independence. With all his insecurities, Jacob struggled, at first, to settle into a professional workplace.

Vanessa Jones



Dr Vanessa Jones (40), the Lead Clinician at the clinic, started her training in the 90's. Shy and introverted at the time, this is when she met Jeff - the love of her life, losing their virginity to each other.

On a path of certainty, her life mapped out before her, she was devastated to learn of Jeff's serial infidelity.

Some years later, Vanessa married a compassionate man. Once again her life was mapped out... until she learnt that she was unable to have children.

Unbeknownst, she had contracted Chlamydia from Jeff. Left untreated she became infertile. Her husband left her.

Since then Vanessa never felt able to commit to a long term relationship and turned to dating websites for no strings attached companionship (albeit unfulfilled), but even that is losing its appeal with the unexpectedly early onset of the perimenopause. She now channels her energies into championing the cause of sexual health. She can't stop herself when she feels there is a need for intervention and education.

Zoe Clarke

Zoe (45) has always been focused on her goals – even at school. A model student, Head Girl, a beacon of all that is good and proper. This resolve held her in good stead throughout her life.

Zoe became Clinic Manager at the Camford Centre for Sexual Health 5 years ago having worked steadfastly up the career ladder. To all intents and purposes, she is a highly respected and reputed Healthcare Professional. A steady tiller. A mother to all her staff and the patients – fair, but very firm.



She married Cameron 15 years ago. She appears to be the model of success – perfect marriage, perfect home, perfect career.

But... beneath the veneer lies someone who is overwhelmed by increasing work burdens thrust upon her, brought about by chronic underfunding, burgeoning administration, and staff shortages. And with Cameron distracted by his new company, spending more and more time with his business partner Des (perhaps too much time), Zoe feels isolated and unsupported which manifests itself by making more and more demands on Cameron for intimacy.

Matthew Kaye



Matthew (29) is very committed to his faith - brought up in a Christian home, heavily involved in church life, he has always been a key member of the congregation.

From an early age he believed his calling was to make a difference in the world. Horrified by the bombardment of sexualised imagery that surrounded him, and having witnessed the fall-out of his peers through their promiscuity, he went into Sexual Health.

It was difficult for Matthew to find a like-minded chaste Christian girlfriend, but his faithfulness was rewarded. He met Jennifer at the Christian Keswick Convention 3 years ago and now they are to be married.

Through his work he feels able to make a difference - not only with his patients, but with his colleagues too. However, he struggles with the conflict brought about by his work and his Christian values. As a consequence of having treated so many severe cases of STI's, his perception of sex has been affected. How will this affect his impending wedding night??

Episode Breakdowns

Episode 1 – Not Now Darling

GEORGIE STOKES (27) dances seductively with ‘fit bit’ BEN (28) at a nightclub. Passions are high as they seek out a secluded spot down a back alley. Things are building up to fourth base when Georgie stops the action and takes out a condom. Ben protests proclaiming that he doesn’t use them... he doesn’t like the way they feel. Georgie brings a halt to the proceedings resulting in Ben smearing Georgie’s character as he leaves.

Work the next day. Georgie catches up with Dr VANESSA JONES (40) as they make their way down the tired corridors of the Camford Centre for Sexual Health on their way to ‘morning prayers’. Vanessa quizzes Georgie on her antics from the night before affectionately chastising her on her behaviour suggesting that one day she will get caught out and compromise her relationship with her Army boyfriend, OLLIE (30).

Clinic Manager ZOE CLARKE (45) attempts to titivate the clinic reception area while she waits for the staff to arrive. She is interrupted as the Clinic Team make their way in. She addresses the staff, informing them that a new apprentice will be joining them, instructing them to make him feel welcome. Specialist Practitioner MATTHEW KAYE (29) bursts in, running late. Zoe hands over to Matthew with an admonishing look and he allocates jobs for the day.

Georgie and Matthew chat as they make their way back down the corridor. Matthew’s mobile rings – it’s JENNIFER (27), his fiancé. He lets it ring out and explains to Georgie that Jennifer is shopping for their wedding. He is leaving all the preparation to her – it’s better that way. Georgie convinces him that perhaps he should call her back – it might have been important. He relents and heads off to make the call.

Outside, JOSEPH ELLIOT (16) arrives, driven by his mum JUDITH (41). She pulls up across from the clinic. She fusses over Joseph causing embarrassment for him as he nervously makes his way into the clinic.

Once inside he is saved by Zoe from an awkward exchange with the receptionist about it being his first visit to the clinic. Zoe leads him along the corridors to her office past open doors to consultation rooms – the posters and anatomical models causing naïve Joseph to flush. As they pass the Nurses Station, Joseph’s eye is drawn to a preoccupied Georgie.

Vanessa carries out a consultation with heavily pregnant BETH DRURY (24). Beth anxiously explains to Vanessa that her partner has lost all interest in sex as her belly expanded. Vanessa tells Beth that this is quite common, but it is a difficult conversation that needs to take place between the two of them. Becoming overwhelmed, Beth then explains that in a moment of weakness she succumbed to the charms of a work colleague and had sex with him and he recently sent her a text with the revelation that he has the Clap.

Zoe leads Joseph into the Admin Office and introduces him to loquacious JANET (40’s) and timid ELEANOR (40’s), leaving him to their care. Once Zoe is out of earshot, Janet relishes the prospect of ‘fresh meat’.

Vanessa carries out an examination on Beth to check for gonorrhoea. Beth reflects on the consequences of her actions.

As Eleanor shows Joseph around the computer admin for the Clinic, Janet taunts him. Georgie comes in to drop off some files – she makes the connection that Joseph’s mum works in her local corner shop, senses that he is being made to feel uncomfortable by Janet, and whisks him away to make a brew.

Beth processes the news that she does indeed have gonorrhoea. Vanessa firmly, but reassuringly talks through the next steps.

As Georgie makes the coffee, she shares comforting words and advice on how to survive the workplace and the attention of Janet.

As Vanessa carries out Beth’s treatment, she outlines the potential dangers to her baby and stresses the importance that Beth follows her instructions.

Beth makes her way out of the clinic and bumps into Ben as he is making his way in. Ben makes a jibe and Beth punches him on the nose which bleeds profusely.

Georgie sorts out paperwork at the Nurses Station as a distracted Vanessa joins her holding Beth’s notes. Georgie quizzes her but as they are about to converse, a nurse leads Ben down the corridor. He holds his head back while using tissues to stop the blood dripping from his nose onto the floor. Joseph approaches from the opposite direction carrying his lunchbox. He spots Georgie and starts heading toward her, but she leaps into action grabbing tissues from the Nurses Station and rushes over to assist, unaware of who it is. As Ben tilts his head forward, Georgie recognises him from their encounter last night. She struggles to disguise her shock, then panic. Ben registers her reaction but looks confused as he doesn’t make the association. Vanessa notices the exchange, not knowing who Ben is, but intervenes to save Georgie, leading him off as realisation dawns on him. Joseph hesitates then thinks better of approaching Georgie and he heads to the staff room.

Joseph enters the staff room to see Matthew sat praying. Joseph takes a seat himself and once Matthew has finished, he opens his eyes and introduces himself to Joseph, explaining that he was giving thanks for the food he is about to eat. He welcomes Joseph to the team and explains what his job as a Specialist Practitioner involves causing Joseph to lose his appetite. The conversation is interrupted as a flustered Georgie enters. She spots Joseph and they both suddenly feel brighter. She shares banter with Matthew about his faith.

Ben sits in front of Vanessa in a consultation room and describes what happened outside the Clinic. Realisation dawns on Vanessa that Ben is the perpetrator of Beth’s gonorrhoea. He’s here today to test for the ‘all clear’. Inwardly incensed at his arrogant self-entitlement Vanessa can’t stop herself from extracting some sort of payback for his recklessness. She tells him to drop his trousers so she can take a swab. Ben thought all he’d have to do is pee in a cup – he’s been holding on, but Vanessa explains that she likes to be thorough.

Matthew, Georgie and Jacob continue talking in the staffroom. Matthew shares his reasons for doing the job he does and how he rationalises it against his Christian faith. Georgie reveals to Joseph that Matthew is getting married and that he has been holding out for his wedding night. Their conversation is interrupted by a nurse informing Matthew that Jennifer is in reception, and she looks upset. He leaps up from his chair and heads out of the staffroom. Joseph's mobile rings out – it's Judith. He makes his excuses and leaves the room as he answers his phone leaving Georgie alone and feeling abandoned!

Vanessa proceeds to carry out the examination causing Ben a lot of discomfort, but as she finishes and Ben relaxes, he can't control himself and starts to urinate. He waddles to sink with his trousers around his ankles just as Joseph opens the door seeking somewhere to take his call. The sight before him shocks him.

Matthew has taken Jennifer to a coffee shop. She shares with him how controlling her mother has been about the wedding arrangements, and in particular the flowers. Matthew tries to calm Jennifer down by reassuring her it's 'just flowers' and the important thing is they get to share their vows and declare their love to the world. This exasperates Jennifer so Matthew assures her that they will talk it over with her parents at dinner tonight.

Zoe sits at her desk overwhelmed at the amount of work she has to do. She spots Joseph through the open doorway and calls him in for an update on how his day is going. She suggests taking a break from computer work and doing a bit of research on STI's so that he has an understanding of what they treat at the clinic.

Vanessa escorts Ben through reception. He leaves the clinic trying to cover up his wet trousers. Georgie witnesses the exchange from behind the reception counter taking care not to be seen. Once he's gone Vanessa checks with Georgie whether there is a possibility that she may have cause for concern. Georgie assures her nothing happened but is relieved at her narrow escape.

Joseph sits at his desk studying books and pamphlets about STI's – the images horrify him. This doesn't go by unnoticed by Janet who once again taunts him. It's all too much for Joseph to take in. He makes his excuses and leaves the room.

He finds a stairwell to sit in while he regains his composure. Georgie makes her way down the stairs and takes a moment to offer some comfort and reassurance that all will be okay - what he is experiencing is typical for anyone on their first day. She offers him a lift home at the end of the day – an offer that he snaps up. Joseph is starting to get smitten with Georgie.

As Joseph makes his way back to the office, Zoe catches him and asks him to go with her to review his day.

Once in Zoe's office she offers up words of reassurance, raises the matter of his day release to college, and outlines her expectations there.

Vanessa and Georgie are at the Nurses Station. Vanessa tries to instil in Georgie the risks she's taking with her dalliances, and the effect it could have on her relationship with Ollie.

Joining the dots, Georgie makes the connection between Beth and Ben. Matthew joins them giving Georgie the perfect foil to change the subject. She asks Matthew about Jennifer. He takes his leave sharing with them that he is going to smooth the troubled waters between her and her mum. Joseph approaches. Georgie asks how it went with Zoe. He says it went well. Georgie puts a consoling arm around him and suggests he should tell his face.

As they leave the clinic Georgie shares the tales of the day with other clinic staff. She and Joseph break away to head to her car causing him to feel brighter now that he has Georgie to himself, but his uplifted mood is soon blighted by the shrill voice of Judith calling out.

Judith drives Joseph home talking incessantly, not stopping for breath, asking questions but not giving any space for Joseph to answer.

Matthew pulls up outside Jennifer's home. She greets him and they brace themselves for the conversation ahead with Jennifer's parents before heading in.

Joseph arrives home and sulkily heads up to his bedroom. Once the door is closed a wry smile crosses his face as he reaches for his hidden well-thumbed copy of '50 Shades of Grey' and starts to unbuckle his trousers.

Zoe pulls up on the drive of her home as her husband CAMERON (43) and his business partner DES (38) are saying goodbye. Zoe leads Cameron in and up to the bedroom with wine and nibbles. Des observes from his car as Cameron draws the curtains – they hold eye contact for a moment, then Cameron finishes closing them.

Matthew and Jennifer eat at the dinner table with Jennifer's mum, SARAH (50's), and dad, MICHAEL (50's). The matter of the wedding flowers is broached causing tension. Matthew holds ground putting forward Jennifer's point of view. Sarah takes umbrage and excuses herself, heading to the kitchen. Michael assures Jennifer and Matthew that everything will be fine.

Georgie flicks through channels on her TV. Her phone lights up with an incoming video call – it's Ollie calling from his overseas tour in Iraq. Joseph scrolls through Instagram in his bedroom searching for Georgie's profile. Ollie tries coaxing Georgie into a little bit of cyber-foreplay, but Georgie isn't in the mood. She brings the call to a premature end and ponders for a moment as her phone pings with an Instagram notification that Joseph is following her. A beat, a smile, and then she follows back...

Episode 2 – Toys are for sharing...

Story of the week

ANGEL MILTON (20) learns that she has trichomoniasis, which she has contracted by sharing her bisexual partners sex toys.

Also...

- Zoe discovers a swelling of the lymph glands in her neck which she tries to dismiss.
- Georgie continues looking out for Joseph. He starts actively seeking her out. On a lift home she shares tales of experiences she's come across working at the clinic, oblivious to the effect this is having on impressionable Joseph.
- Matthew confides anxieties he has over his wedding night to Vanessa.
- Zoe arrives home to find Des in a bathrobe, having, he says, used the shower. Cameron joins them and explains they have to attend an unexpected business meeting. He suggests Zoe doesn't wait up.
- Against her better judgement, Vanessa takes a step into dating once again which turns out to be a disaster. She vows never to go on another date.

Episode 3 – Whose the man?

Story of the week

PETE LAWSON (23) learns he has herpes. He struggles to tell his partner who reacts badly, but they find a way through it and work out how to adjust their lives to live with the virus.

Also...

- After an irrational outburst directed at Joseph, Zoe confides in Vanessa that she fears she has an STI. She agrees to be tested. At home she learns that Cameron is out again with Des.
- Boundaries in the conversations between Joseph and Georgie become blurred and a sexual tension develops between them. Georgie reprimands herself and calls Ollie to realign herself.
- Matthew gives a Dominatrix a clean bill of health.
- Matthew and Jen chat about what married life will be like. It becomes apparent that they have different expectations of what will happen in the bedroom.

Episode 4 – Graduation day

Story of the week

On a consultation with Vanessa, CHERYL (19) eventually reveals that she is a pre-op transsexual prostitute who has been raped.

Also...

- Zoe learns she has syphilis. She arrives home to broach the matter with Cameron. He is working with Des. Zoe wallows in her distress.
- Georgie battles with feelings for Joseph. She drives him to a remote location to impress upon him that their friendship is just that. He impulsively kisses her. Georgie takes his virginity.
- Matthew invites his colleagues to his stag do.

Episode 5 – I want it, and I want it now!

Story of the week

PAUL (35) learns that he has genital warts. Partner MARK (33) accuses him of infidelity. Vanessa allays their fears, explaining that the warts can take years to develop after infection.

Also...

- Georgie takes a pregnancy test. It's positive.
- Zoe confronts Cameron. He denies any wrong-doing.
- Matthew attends his stag night. Once his clinic colleagues have left the sedate affair, his 'friends' spike his drinks and set him up with a Dominatrix. She recognises him as the Doctor who regularly screens her at the clinic and sneaks him out the back door to avoid any embarrassment for him.

Episode 6 – For better, for worse

Wedding day for Matthew and Jen. A perfect ceremony.

At the wedding breakfast:

- Having taken advantage of the free bar, inhibitions out the window, Vanessa starts handing out condoms and advice on sexual health to all the young couples.
- A palpable tension hangs between Zoe and Cameron. He receives a text and excuses himself to make a call. After a while Zoe follows and sees Cameron and Des in conversation. They head into the men's toilet. She waits a moment, then charges in to find them together in a cubicle in a compromising position.
- Matthew and Jen leave the wedding party. In their honeymoon suite, they nervously and self-consciously undress. After controlling his urges for so long, he struggles to perform. It falls to Jennifer to take matters in hand – lights out, and the fun begins.
- The evening draws to an end. Georgie and Joseph talk in earnest. He wants her to keep the baby. In the middle of the dancefloor, he drops to one knee and proposes as Ollie walks in to surprise Georgie.