

MASTERPIECE®

Mr Bates vs The Post Office

Sundays, April 7 – 28, 2024 on MASTERPIECE on PBS

Series

Following one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in British legal history, *Mr Bates vs The Post Office* was created with direct input from the innocent – and indomitable – people caught up in it. When money started to seemingly disappear from its local branches, the government-owned Post Office wrongly blamed their own managers for its apparent loss. For more than a decade, hundreds were accused of theft and fraud, and many were even sent to prison - leaving lives, marriages, and reputations in ruins. But the issue was actually caused by errors in the Post Office's own computer system - something it denied for years. Revealing a shocking David vs. Goliath fight for justice, this is the story of the decent ordinary people who were relentlessly pursued, coerced and controlled by a powerful corporation, and their ongoing battle, against seemingly insurmountable odds, to right so many horrific wrongs.

Episode One

Sunday, April 7, 2024 at 9/8c on PBS

Mysterious financial losses lead the Post Office to fire and prosecute village Subpostmasters, who have no way to prove their innocence.

Episode Two

Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 9/8c on PBS

Alan Bates and the Subpostmasters begin their fight for the truth and justice with new allies in Parliament, but first they must convince an independent investigator of their honesty.

Episode Three

Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 9/8c on PBS

Alan allies with the Post Office in the hope his friends can get justice at last, but can he trust the people who have let them down so badly?

Episode Four

Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 9/8c on PBS

Alan and his friends finally get the chance to embark on the epic challenge of battling the Post Office in court.

Funding for MASTERPIECE provided by



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Mr Bates vs The Post Office is an ITV Studios and Little Gem production for ITV and ITVX commissioned for UK audiences by ITV's Head of Drama Polly Hill. It is distributed internationally by ITV Studios. The writer is Gwyneth Hughes. The director is James Strong. The executive producers are Patrick Spence, Gwyneth Hughes, James Strong, Joe Williams, Natasha Bondy and Ben Gale. The producer is Chris Clough.

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About MASTERPIECE

Winner of 83 Primetime Emmys® and 18 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans for over 50 years. Susanne Simpson is the Executive Producer. Series funding for MASTERPIECE is provided by Viking Cruises, Raymond James, The MASTERPIECE Trust, and public television viewers. Produced for PBS by GBH Boston, MASTERPIECE is known for hits such as *All Creatures Great and Small*, *Sherlock*, *Downton Abbey* and *Wolf Hall*, and beloved classics such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect*, *The Forsyte Saga* and *Poldark*. For more information, please visit pbs.org/masterpiece and follow us on social media @masterpiecepbs.