

Crowning achievement

Olivia Colman will be taking on the role of Queen Elizabeth II in the third and fourth seasons of the royal period drama series The Crown. Netflix has confirmed.

Broadchurch star Colman, 43, who was born in Norwich, will take over the reins from the programme's current leading star Claire Foy, who has played the Queen in the first season and is to return in the forthcoming second season.

There is no official air date as yet for the third season starring Colman, and no other casting details have been announced.

Foy has won a Golden Globe and TV Bafta for her turn as the monarch, whom she has portrayed during the early years of her reign.

She returns to Buckingham Palace in season two, which is due for release in December.

The lavish biographical drama series, created by Peter Morgan and which also stars Matt Smith as Prince Philip, John Lithgow as Winston Churchill, Vanessa Kirby as Princess Margaret and Victoria Hamilton as the Queen Mother, debuted last year.