

Lonely... Peter and Ann,  
played by Timothy Spall  
and Anne Reid

NEW

# Duped and deceived

Timothy Spall and Anne Reid play the victims of a cruel killer...

## THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

Mon & Tue, 9pm, BBC1 Drama (box set, BBC iPlayer)

The high-profile and chilling case of a murderer who preyed on two much-loved neighbours is brought to life in a four-part drama starring Timothy Spall and Anne Reid.

Peter Farquhar and Ann Moore-Martin, both from Maids Moreton, Buckinghamshire, were duped into relationships by killer Ben Field, who was plotting to get his hands on their inheritances.

'Peter and Ann were two deeply intelligent and religious people who were hoodwinked by

someone who seemed genuine,' says Timothy, who plays Peter.

Based on a true-life case, the story begins with Peter, a newly retired teacher from Stowe School, taking up a guest lecturer role at University of Buckingham, where he met student Field.

'The two of them began a relationship and Field offered Peter, who had been repressing his sexuality, a kind of intimacy,' explains Timothy.

When Peter died suddenly in 2015, it was initially believed the cause was alcohol intoxication. In fact, Field had murdered Peter,

suffocating him after poisoning him.

## Next victim

Churchwarden Field then focused his attention on Ann...

'He feigned a religious belief to gain Ann's confidence and lavished attention on her,' says Anne.

The drama, which stars Éanna Hardwicke as Field – who was jailed for 36 years in 2019 – and Sheila Hancock as Liz Zetti, a friend of Peter's, was made with the full backing of the victims' families.

'This drama is a tribute to him and Ann,' says Timothy, 'and to the bravery of their families, who were determined to find justice.'



Utterior motive... Ben Field (Éanna Hardwicke) with Ann (above) and Peter



Neighbour... Sheila Hancock as Liz