

SATURDAY 30 DECEMBER 2023

SAT 19:00 The Sound of Music (b007bfg8)

Classic film version of the Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical. Irrepressible Maria begins to doubt her vocation and leaves her convent to become governess to the seven children of Captain von Trapp, a widower and retired naval officer. She soon turns the captain's orderly life upside down and instils a love of music in the children. Then the Third Reich annexes Austria...

SAT 21:45 Murder on the Orient Express (m0004gm0)

Returning to England from Istanbul on the Orient Express, Hercule Poirot is asked to investigate a murder.

SAT 23:50 Evil Under the Sun (b013rlr3)

Investigating the theft of a diamond, Hercule Poirot finds himself in an exclusive Mediterranean island resort, surrounded by rich socialites. When a guest is found murdered on the beach, it falls to the eccentric Poirot to apply his methods and find the killer.

SAT 01:40 Yes, Minister (b0074qsm)

Series 3

Party Games

Sitcom about a British government minister and the advisers who surround him. The seasonal festivities at the Department of Administrative Affairs are overshadowed by rumours of a cabinet reshuffle. But a leadership election and the Eurosaurus affair could lead to great things for Jim Hacker.

SAT 02:40 Earth's Tropical Islands (m000cs1p)

Series 1

Hawaii

This is a journey across Hawaii's varied islands, discovering how they were made and the incredible wildlife that thrives there.

Hawaii is the most remote island chain on earth, and its tropical shores are hard to reach. But for the hardy creatures that can make it here, like the waterfall-climbing fish, carnivorous caterpillar and Laysan albatross, a land of opportunity awaits. From newly formed lava fields to lush jungles and vibrant coral reefs, these diverse and beautiful islands have it all.

Packed with surprising stories, the hidden gems of this tropical paradise are uncovered using stunning photography. Dramatic footage of the humpback whale heat run – the biggest courtship battle in the world – and intimate views of the world's oldest known bird feeding its chick are just some of the highlights of what Hawaii has to offer.

The islands are so isolated that it used to be that one new species arrived every 100,000 years, but the arrival of people has radically changed the face of Hawaii. Now it gains around 20 new species every year. The remarkable Jackson's chameleon is one of the animals recently introduced. Showing off its voracious appetite, the programme reveals how it is eating its way through the native animals and contributing to wiping them out entirely.

But this is a place where people are looking to the future and attempting to bring wildlife back from the brink of extinction. White terns, once extinct on the main islands of Hawaii, have gone from a single pair to over 2,000 birds in the last 60 years. It is a huge challenge, but people are seeking progressive new ways to live alongside nature to allow Hawaii's wildlife to continue to thrive.

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER 2023

SUN 19:00 What's Your Thing? (p0ghfm89)

Series 1

Dog Show

How does a dog become top dog? Journalist Adam Clarkson attempts to find out as pets compete at the North East Dog Festival.

SUN 19:10 Larry Grayson's Generation Game (m001tvcq)

New Year's Eve Special 1979

Larry Grayson hosts a special New Year's Eve edition of the classic game show with Isla St Clair and surprise guests. Orchestra conducted by Ronnie Hazlehurst.

SUN 20:00 Monarch of the Glen (p00xg8fk)

Series 5

Hogmanay Special

As the family prepare for hogmanay, Paul discovers a strange link to his past, and Duncan helps out a pair of amateur ghost hunters.

SUN 21:00 Still Game (b00794nf)

The Party

Festive special of the sitcom about Scottish pensioners. Jack and Victor find themselves holed up in the Osprey Heights Hoist at Hogmanay. Trapped in a lift, Winston recalls the daddy of all New Years, in the dim and distant past when Craiglang knew how to throw a party.

SUN 21:30 Scotch and Wry (m001tvd4)

Hogmanay Special 1986

Hogmanay comedy from Rikki Fulton and his team - Gregor Fisher, Juliet Cadzow, Tony Roper, Annette Staines and Barbara Dickson.

SUN 22:20 Absolutely Fabulous (p00db2wc)

Series 3

Happy New Year

It's New Year's Eve and Edina and Patsy are awaiting the arrival of Patsy's long-lost sister, Jackie, so that they can go clubbing. But their plans are thwarted and Saffy's quiet night in with Dad, Gran and Sarah is ruined. Kate O'Mara guest-stars.

SUN 22:50 The Producers (m000x93g)

A struggling producer and timid accountant scheme to make money by putting on a Broadway show they know will flop, so none of the numerous investors will expect their cash back. A tasteless glorification of Hitler and the Nazis looks guaranteed to fail.

SUN 00:20 And Now for Something Completely Different (b00n7s75)

The first film version of classic sketches and memorable moments from the Monty Python gang's long-running television series, including Nudge Nudge, Hell's Grannies, Killer Cars, Dead Parrot, Lumberjack Song, Blackmail and Upper Class Twit of the Year.

SUN 01:45 Monarch of the Glen (p00xg8fk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

SUN 02:45 Larry Grayson's Generation Game (m001tvcq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:10 today]

MONDAY 01 JANUARY 2024

MON 19:00 New Year's Day Concert (m001tvcq)

2024

Petroc Trelawny presents highlights from the Vienna Philharmonic's annual New Year's Day Concert, which takes place at the Golden Hall of the Musikverein in Vienna. The orchestra is directed by guest conductor Christian Thielemann, principal conductor of the Staatskapelle Dresden, in an array of polkas, waltzes and gallops by the Strauss family and their contemporaries. As always, the concert will end with the ever-popular By the Beautiful Blue Danube and the foot-stamping Radetzky March.

MON 21:00 Peaky Blinders: How We Made Them Dance (m001tvcq)

Peaky Blinders writer and creator Steven Knight and choreographer Benoit Swan Pouffer of the celebrated Rambert Dance Company discuss the collaboration that resulted in one of the most unexpected and tantalising stage productions of recent years: Peaky Blinders: The Redemption of Thomas Shelby.

With a mesmerising performance in the lead role by Guillaume Queau, this dance extravaganza doesn't shy away from the shocking violence of the drama that has won fans across the world, telling the story of Thomas during World War I, before he transformed himself into the notorious crime boss of the TV series.

Steven and Benoit share their insights into the making of the show, the challenges they faced along the way, and how this

unlikely idea became a remarkable reality.

MON 21:20 Peaky Blinders: Rambert's The Redemption of Thomas Shelby (m001tvcq)

Rambert's thrilling stage adaptation The Redemption of Thomas Shelby, written by Peaky Blinders creator Steven Knight, with direction and choreography by Rambert's artistic director Benoit Swan Pouffer.

Opening in the trenches of Flanders, a personal story unfolds in postwar industrial Birmingham as the Shelby family navigate the decisions that determine their fate, and Tommy is intoxicated by mysterious newcomer Grace. While Tommy is building his empire, Grace is operating as an undercover agent for Special Branch on a mission to get close to the heart of Tommy's gang. As the story unfolds, hearts are broken, and revenge is sought.

A live onstage band accompanies the drama with specially commissioned music by Roman GianArthur and iconic Peaky tracks from Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds, Radiohead, Anna Calvi, The Last Shadow Puppets, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes and Black Rebel Motorcycle Club.

Key points of the story are illuminated by narrator Benjamin Zephaniah (Jeremiah in the TV series).

MON 23:10 Darcy Bussell on The Magic of Dance (m001tvcw)

Renowned ballet dancer Dame Darcy Bussell introduces us to a gem from the BBC's dance archives, The Magic of Dance, which was first transmitted in 1979 to great acclaim and is presented by celebrated ballet dancer, the unforgettable Margot Fonteyn.

Darcy describes her favourite moments of the series, including a tap masterclass with the ever-cool Sammy Davis Jr, a beautiful routine by celebrated Latvian dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov and a glimpse of pioneer of modern dance Isadora Duncan.

MON 23:20 The Magic of Dance (p0gwdj52)

Series 1

The Scene Changes

Margot Fonteyn discusses the role of the male in dance. Her story is illustrated by some of the world's greatest dancers performing some of the era's most enduring dances.

MON 00:20 Darcy Bussell: My Life on the BBC (b086kfk8)

Darcy Bussell, for twenty years Britain's premier dancer with the Royal Ballet, was documented at regular intervals throughout her ballet career by BBC cameras and also appeared on many of the corporation's biggest entertainment shows. Darcy tells her own story through a carefully woven choice of archive from her debut appearance on Blue Peter as a 16-year-old in the early 80s to jiving on Strictly Come Dancing following her retirement from the Royal Ballet in 2007.

Packed with historic archive performances from the stage of the Royal Opera House and beyond, combined with candid documentary interviews from behind the dressing room door filmed at intervals during her stellar career, this is a celebration and a history of the ballet dancer who grew up in public and conquered television on the way.

MON 01:20 Bob Monkhouse: The Last Stand (b086tw3q)

Summer 2003: Bob Monkhouse entertains a room full of comedians with stand-up, chat and a comedy masterclass. The night became the stuff of legend among comedians but was not transmitted until much later.

MON 02:20 Talking Comedy (b05qt2b7)

Bob Monkhouse

A laughter-filled look back at gag-master Bob Monkhouse's appearances over the years on a selection of the BBC's best-loved talk shows.

MON 02:50 Arena (b0074lx2)

My Way

An investigation of the appeal and power of the popular song My Way, which was written by Paul Anka and was recorded by many artists, including Frank Sinatra, Shirley Bassey, Elvis Presley and Sid Vicious. Contributors include Paul Anka, George Brown, Barry John and Dorothy Squires.

TUESDAY 02 JANUARY 2024

TUE 19:00 Blue Planet II (p04thm7)

Series 1

One Ocean

In recent years, our knowledge of life beneath the waves has been transformed. Using cutting-edge technology, One Ocean takes us on a journey from the intense heat of the tropics to our planet's frozen poles to reveal new worlds and extraordinary never-before-seen animal behaviours.

Starting in the tropical coral reefs - the most diverse ocean habitat - a baby dolphin is taught the secrets of a coral reef, as its family rubs against a particular gorgonian which may have medicinal properties. On another reef, a tusk fish demonstrates a surprising level of ingenuity - tool use - as it uses corals as an anvil to break open clams. In the Seychelles, half a million terns nest on an island. Fledglings must eventually take to the wing, but danger lurks beneath the waves - metre-long giant trevally fish leap clear out of the water to snatch the birds.

The tropical oceans drive our planet's weather. Sun heats the sea, creating rain, winds and huge storms that drive up towards higher latitudes. Here, unlike the tropics, the seas change with the seasons. In spring thousands of mobula rays gather in Mexico's Sea of Cortez. At night, in a previously unseen event, tiny organisms that light up when disturbed react to their wingbeats, creating an enchanting bioluminescent firework display.

Phytoplankton produce as much oxygen as all the plants on land and lie at the base of marine food chains everywhere. Where the plankton thrive, fish thrive too, and ocean travellers will migrate thousands of miles to take advantage of these productive seas. Predatory false killer whales off the coast of New Zealand are in search of dolphins. But when they find them, the whales team up with the dolphins to form super-pods - a formidable army to take advantage of the bounty of these seasonal seas.

In temperate seas around the globe, spring brings greening oceans. In Japan, a kelp-covered shipwreck is home to the Asian sheephead wrasse, or Kobudai. At the start of summer a male mates with the females. But when a female reaches both a critical body size and age, it can undergo an extraordinary metamorphosis. Females change gender, and a new male challenges an older male to a face-off.

Toward our planet's poles, the ocean's surface is locked in ice. But in the Arctic, a warm current from the south keeps some Norwegian fjords ice-free all year round. Here, in winter, pods of orcas use dramatic tail slaps to stun herring, and humpback whales follow the noises to find the feast.

Ocean currents move heat around our planet and maintain a climate favourable for life. But our ocean system, in relative equilibrium for millennia, is changing at a worrying rate. Deep in the polar north, we meet walrus mothers and their newborn calves, searching for an ice floe to rest on. But with rising temperatures, summer sea ice is retreating - their battles to survive are becoming ever harder. As we begin to understand the true complexity of the lives of our ocean creatures, so do we recognise the fragility of their home.

TUE 20:00 Penelope Keith Remembers... To the Manor Born (m001tvdd)

Penelope Keith casts an affectionate eye back on the much-loved sitcom *To the Manor Born* and her role as upper-class Audrey Forbes-Hamilton, who finds herself down on her luck and forced to change her circumstances and home after the death of her husband.

Penelope tells the story behind how the comedy came into being, what it was like working with fellow cast members Angela Thorne and Peter Bowles, and the challenges she faced taking on a new role after the huge success she'd enjoyed playing Margo in *The Good Life*.

TUE 20:15 To the Manor Born (b00785w5)

Series 1

Grantleigh

When her inheritance is eaten up by her late husband's creditors, Audrey Forbes-Hamilton prepares to bid farewell to her beloved manor house, until a mysterious millionaire enters her life.

TUE 20:40 Yes, Prime Minister (b03bx1vh)

Series 1

The Grand Design

Classic political sitcom. Jim Hacker considers cancelling the Trident programme after discovering some interesting facts about the UK's defence system.

TUE 21:10 The Latest Secrets of Hieroglyphs (m001f72n)

The great history of Egypt is inscribed on its monuments, temples and tombs, but hieroglyphs - the written language of the ancient Egyptians - fell silent until 1822 when a young French scholar, Jean-François Champollion, became the first person to decipher their texts for over a thousand years. Champollion's insights and the work of other scholars helped bring an entire civilisation back to life.

Today, researchers are increasingly interested in the authors who created these hieroglyphic works. Near Luxor, The Latest Secrets of Hieroglyphs follows a new generation of Egyptologists as they unlock the texts inscribed inside a richly adorned tomb, revealing the beliefs and lives of the priests, scribes, painters, engravers and builders who created this grand funerary monument.

TUE 22:10 For a Few Dollars More (m0005hnk)

Classic spaghetti western. When two bounty hunters find themselves after the same notorious bandit, they make an uneasy alliance to collect the \$10,000 reward.

TUE 00:20 The Magical World of Moss (m001hqth)

Mosses have colonised almost every corner of the earth's surface. Evolving from oceanic algae that emerged onto the land 450 million years ago, these very first terrestrial plants became one of the main sources of oxygen for our evolving planet, helping to transform it from an arid rock into a lush world.

This documentary travels to some of the most beautiful moss-covered landscapes in the world, including Japan, Iceland, France and Denmark, to meet the experts investigating its astonishing properties and potential.

Science is only beginning to understand the secrets and possibilities of these remarkable plants.

TUE 01:10 Scotch and Wry (m0011vd4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:30 on Sunday]

TUE 02:00 The Latest Secrets of Hieroglyphs (m001f72n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:10 today]

TUE 03:00 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures (m001tv7s)

2023: Professor Mike Wooldridge - The Truth about AI

How to Build an Intelligent Machine

Professor Mike Wooldridge asks: what is artificial intelligence? He compares how AI works and learns with how the human brain functions.

Exploring the roots of AI, Mike reveals how Alan Turing devised the Imitation Game - a test of whether a machine answering a series of questions could pass as a human. The audience in the lecture theatre play a real-life version of the game to find out if AI can pass this test today.

In this lecture, Mike examines real-life neurons in action and explains how artificial neural networks are inspired by neural structures in the brain. To demonstrate how AI learns, we watch drones as they are trained to recognise and fly through structures in the lecture theatre autonomously.

AI exploded into the public consciousness in 2022 with the release of ChatGPT and boasts around 100 million monthly users. Mike unravels the mystery of how large language models like ChatGPT work, and he finds out if one day this technology - along with a whole suite of different AI tools - will allow us to understand the animals we share this planet with.

The Christmas Lectures are the most prestigious event in the Royal Institution calendar, dating from 1825, when Michael Faraday founded the series. They are the world's longest running science television series and always promise to inspire and amaze each year through explosive demonstrations and interactive experiments with the live theatre audience.

WEDNESDAY 03 JANUARY 2024**WED 19:00 Blue Planet II (b09f8vth)**

Series 1

The Deep

The deep is perhaps the most hostile environment on Earth, at least to us - a world of crushing pressure, brutal cold and utter darkness. We have barely begun to explore it, and yet it is the largest living space on the planet. Scientists already think that there is more life in the deep than anywhere else on Earth.

This episode takes us on an epic journey into the unknown, a realm that feels almost like science fiction. We discover alien worlds, bizarre creatures and extraordinary new behaviours never seen before. We encounter savage hordes of Humboldt squid hunting lanternfish in the depths and coral gardens flourishing in absolute darkness, with more species of coral to be found in the deep than on shallow tropical reefs.

On the desert wastes of the abyss, a whale carcass generates a frenzy as slow-moving sharks as big as great whites fight for what may be their first meal in a year. Food is hard to come by and finding a mate is even harder, but life adapts in ingenious ways. There are fish that walk instead of swim, worms that feed exclusively on bones and shrimps that spend almost their entire lives imprisoned with their mate in a cage of crystal sponge.

The deeper you go, the more extreme conditions become. The sheer weight of water above creates almost unendurable pressures. Yet even eight kilometres down, where the basic chemistry of life was once thought impossible, we find strange species swimming through the darkness. From here we journey on down to the deepest place on earth - the Mariana Trench - almost 11 kilometres from the surface, a vast chasm that ruptures the deep sea floor. Only three human beings have ever reached here, and yet there is still life to be found in these deep sea trenches.

The deep can be a violent place. Tectonic plates rip apart or collide in mighty clashes. And at these volcanic hotspots, extraordinary micro-worlds blossom into life, completely divorced from the energy of the sun. Hair-covered crabs feed on gushing plumes of otherwise toxic hydrogen sulphide. Shrimps hover on the fringes of billowing clouds of volcanic chemicals, so hot they could melt lead. We discover new species every time we visit these strange new worlds.

One of these geysers might even hold the secret to all life on earth. At a hydrothermal vent system in the middle of the Atlantic, seawater and rock react under extreme pressures and temperatures to produce complex hydrocarbons - the building blocks of life itself. Scientists have named this strange place the Lost City, and many believe that it was at a place just like this that life on earth first began, four billion years ago.

WED 20:00 Sahara with Michael Palin (b0078zpm)

A Line in the Sand

Series in which Michael Palin explores nine fascinating countries and their cultures during a trek across the Sahara Desert.

It is the size of the United States with the population of Norfolk, but first Michael has to get there. Gibraltar is the launching pad, and with a 21-gun salute in honour of the Queen's birthday ringing in his ears, he crosses the Straits to Tangier in Morocco.

It is only after pausing in Fez and Marrakech, and scaling the High Atlas, that Michael enters real desert. This is hard, hot country, controlled by the Polisario Front who have been in confrontation with the Moroccans for over 25 years. But this inhospitable land is softened by the warmth shown by the Sahawari people, who guide Michael south to the Mauritanian border. Here he climbs aboard the 'longest train in the world', breaking his journey at Chinguetti.

There is just time for Michael to defeat the local champion at a game of desert draughts, played with stalks and camel droppings, before he gets literally taken over by the 24th Paris-Dakar Rally and its sole surviving British entrant, Dave Hammond from Cirencester.

WED 21:00 Jane Austen: Behind Closed Doors (b08sqxk1)

Lucy Worsley explores the different houses in which Jane Austen lived and stayed, to discover just how much they shaped Jane's life and novels.

On a journey that takes her across England, Lucy visits properties that still exist, from grand stately homes to seaside holiday apartments, and brings to life those that have disappeared. The result is a revealing insight into one of the world's best-loved authors.

WED 22:00 Andrew Davies Remembers... Pride and Prejudice (m001tvcy)

A truth universally acknowledged is that screenwriter Andrew Davies is one of television's great 'adapters', and here he discusses one of his most successful literary challenges and how he turned Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* into the costume drama series that had a whole nation of viewers gripped.

Andrew looks back on how he first approached the novel, describes his processes and explains how he came to make Colin Firth's Mr Darcy take a swim in a lake without taking his shirt off, thereby creating one of television's most iconic scenes.

WED 22:15 Pride and Prejudice (b0074r75)

Episode 1

Colin Firth stars as Mr Darcy in this iconic BBC adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* by writer Andrew Davies. The arrival of the wealthy Mr Bingley causes great excitement within the Bennet family. One of her five daughters, Mrs Bennet feels, is sure to capture the heart of the wealthy young aristocrat. Meanwhile the wilful and opinionated Elizabeth Bennet matches wits with haughty Mr Darcy.

WED 23:10 Pride and Prejudice (b0074rn9)

Episode 2

Mr Bennet's estranged cousin, Mr Collins, writes to announce his imminent visit to Longbourn, the house he will inherit on Mr Bennet's death. Mrs Bennet has high hopes that he will propose to one of her daughters and expects also that Jane will soon be engaged to Mr Bingley.

WED 00:05 Pride and Prejudice (b0074rn3)

Episode 3

Elizabeth receives an astounding piece of news and Jane's sweet nature is put to the test when she hears that Bingley and his sisters have left Netherfield Park. All Mrs Bennet's hopes seem dashed. Elizabeth is forced to visit her cousin, Mr Collins, and his new wife in Kent, where she is finally introduced to the formidable Lady Catherine de Bourgh.

WED 01:00 Jane Austen: Behind Closed Doors (b08sqxk1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

WED 02:00 Blue Planet II (b09f8vb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

WED 03:00 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures (m001tv98)

2023: Professor Mike Wooldridge - The Truth about AI

My AI Life

Professor Mike Wooldridge reveals the huge role AI already plays in our daily lives – sometimes without us even realising its role.

Mike investigates how games like chess and Go have become a training ground for AI, helping to bring about key advances we are now seeing in the field, and he reveals how simple methods of learning, like rewarding success, have been used to train AI in spectacular ways. We also feature some of the revolutionary innovations that AI has brought about in healthcare, from the use of AI tools in planning cancer treatment, to monitoring Parkinson's.

Mike is joined by members of DeepMind's AlphaFold team, who use AI to predict the structures of large numbers of proteins, which will revolutionise the creation of new drugs across the world.

We also reveal the huge impact AI has had on our creative lives – as it is able to write songs and create artworks in seconds. With the help of artist Eric Drass (aka shardcore), the audience creates a collaborative artwork and discovers how image generation works. Mike explores the thorny question of who the creator is – the AI itself, the human who set it to work, or the creators of the art that AI has learned from?

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THURSDAY 04 JANUARY 2024**THU 19:00 Blue Planet II (b09g4d98)**

Series 1

Coral Reefs

Corals build themselves homes of limestone in the warm, clear, shallow seas of the tropics. Their reefs occupy less than one tenth of one per cent of the ocean floor, yet they are home to a quarter of all known marine species. They are complex, infinitely varied structures providing all kinds of homes for their many residents. There is fierce rivalry for space, for food and for a partner, but the reef is also a place full of opportunity. For those that manage to establish themselves, there can be great rewards.

The broadclub cuttlefish has found its place by using a hypnotic display that apparently mesmerises its prey, causing it to let down its defences. On the Great Barrier Reef a remarkable grouper uses sign language, dubbed the headstand signal, to reach out to an entirely different creature, a reef octopus, to flush small fish out of their hiding holes and into the groupers waiting mouth.

While they might appear to be nothing more than rocky substrate, each coral is in fact made up of hundreds to thousands of tiny, living coral creatures called polyps. Filmed with super macro time-lapse, we bring them to life and reveal their hidden worlds. As these polyps grow and die they lay the limestone foundation for civilisations and superstructures so large that they can be seen from space.

Coral reef cities never sleep, they are constantly noisy worlds where a chorus of submarine song rings out from their many inhabitants. At dawn, one of the reef's most charismatic inhabitants, the green turtle, heads off to be cleaned at a special health spa. As she approaches the station, she is joined by more of her fellow turtles and is pushed out by the queue-jumping males. She must wait for her opportunity to sneak back in.

Some animals come to reefs for rest and relaxation. In the desert sands of Egypt, coral reefs thrive in the shallows of the Red Sea, providing bottlenose dolphins with a place to rest. For the youngsters, the reef is their playground. These dolphins play by balancing corals and sponges on their nose and in doing so build important life skills.

Every reef has a sharply defined boundary. On the outer side, facing the open ocean, is the drop-off. These ramparts protect the city from the ocean waves, but twice a day the walls are covered by the incoming tide. In the Bahamas, the rush of the water creates a truly strange phenomenon - a whirlpool. In the Maldives, on the biggest tides, one particular coral lagoon becomes so flooded with plankton that it attracts hundreds of manta rays.

On the sheltered side of the reef there are sand flats which provide rich feeding grounds. However, away from the protective structures of the reef there is nowhere to hide. This makes it a dangerous place, especially at night when predators patrol in search of prey caught in the open. The bobbit, a giant carnivorous worm, buries deep in the sand in order to ambush unsuspecting prey. But there is safe accommodation for some out here in these sandy suburbs. An extraordinary species of clownfish has made a home in an anemone away from the reef. But it is up to the big male to find a way for the female to lay her eggs.

Reef creatures go to great lengths to give their young a head start in life and nowhere more so than on the remotest reefs in the world. In French Polynesia, thousands of grouper risk death when faced with hundreds of grey reef sharks in order to reproduce.

Despite their longevity and resilience, increasing ocean temperatures have put coral reefs under unprecedented pressure. The most devastating bleaching event known in recorded history wreaks havoc on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. Without the three-dimensional structure of a coral reef, all reef dwellers are affected. The programme unfolds with one of the greatest mass-spawning events in the oceans - corals, fish and invertebrates all releasing a snowstorm of eggs. By sending their young away from the reef, there is hope that they will regenerate new reefs and secure their future for generations to come.

THU 20:00 Concorde: A Supersonic Story (b097vt3)

The life of the most glamorous plane ever built, told by the people whose lives she touched. We uncover rare footage telling the forgotten row between the French and British governments over the name of Concorde that threatened to derail the whole project. On the eve of the opening of Bristol's multi-million-pound aerospace museum, a cast of engineers, flight technicians and frequent fliers tell the supersonic story aided by Lord Heseltine and Dame Joan Collins - and we meet the passenger who shared an intimate moment with The Rolling Stones.

Narrated by Sophie Okonedo.

THU 21:00 The Graduate (m000zpbp)

Benjamin Braddock is a shy, aimless college graduate. His well-to-do parents and their friends welcome him home with great fanfare but he feels listless, lacks ambition and can't share their enthusiasm. When his parents' friend Mrs Robinson takes an interest in him it kickstarts an unusual summer.

THU 22:40 Talking Pictures (m001tvd3)

Dustin Hoffman

When Dustin Hoffman first told his family he wanted to act, the response was: 'You can't, you're not good-looking enough.' Despite that initial response, Hoffman went on to become one

of Hollywood's biggest stars, and here we look back on a career that started with the huge 1967 hit *The Graduate* and saw him winning Oscars for *Kramer vs Kramer* and *Rain Man*.

Moments from interviews conducted on a range of BBC shows over the years help to tell the story of Dustin Hoffman and his films and to build a picture of the man who a director once described as 'one of a kind and he's not one character. There is no Dustin Hoffman. He is many, many people'.

THU 23:20 Rain Man (m0003w52)

Hustler Charlie Babbitt feels cheated when he is disinherited in favour of Raymond, the autistic older brother he never knew. After spiriting Raymond away from the mental institution he has lived in for years, Charlie demands a fair share of his late father's fortune from his brother's trustees. However, as they head for California, the brothers begin to grow closer together.

THU 01:30 Blue Planet II (b09g4d98)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

THU 02:30 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures (m001tv91)

2023: Professor Mike Wooldridge - The Truth about AI

The Future of AI: Dream or a Nightmare?

Professor Mike Wooldridge grapples with the future of AI in the third and final Christmas lecture.

Mike takes a ride in a driverless car. Autonomous vehicles, once a science fiction dream, are now a reality. Many AI researchers believe removing human drivers will eventually make our streets much safer. Mike explores how the car 'sees' and perceives the world – and how with the help of AI, it gets better the more it drives.

Although AI will create many exciting opportunities, advances in AI have raised fears – some justified, others not. With the help of expert guests, Mike talks us through some of the risks AI poses. He unpacks the very real danger of bias in AI, asking how we avoid creating AI that favours those who resemble its creators, and he explores the dangers of 'fake news' and how AI algorithms can lead to dangerous online 'echo chambers', helping to foment extreme views. Mike also demonstrates deepfake technology and asks if AI means we simply can't trust our eyes any more?

The prospect of super-intelligent AI means that in the future we may be able to mobilise AI to uncover radical large-scale solutions to the biggest problems facing humanity, such as climate change. But we need to think carefully about what we want to let AI control. Could AI in charge of weapons accidentally begin wars – and present a risk to our survival?

And, as AI gets ever more intelligent, how should we treat it? How does our audience feel about kicking an AI robot dog? This lecture addresses the big question of AI: can it ever truly be like us, or are humans unique? As AI advances, it seems these ethical questions are destined to get ever more complex...

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FRIDAY 05 JANUARY 2024**FRI 19:00 Top of the Pops (b00zwrn5)**

1964 to 1975 - Big Hits

1964 saw the birth of a very British institution. Spanning over four decades, *Top of the Pops* has produced many classic moments in pop culture.

Digging deep within the darkest depths of the BBC's archive, this compilation offers some memorable performances from 1964 through to 1975 from the likes of The Rolling Stones, Tom Jones, Status Quo, Procol Harum, Stevie Wonder, Queen and The Kinks, and opens the vintage vaults to rare performances from Stealers Wheel, Julie Driscoll, Peter Sarsted and The Seekers.

So sit back and witness once again where music met television.

FRI 20:30 Top of the Pops (b0bcv131)

A look back at the year's TOTP, introduced by Tony Blackburn, first shown on 27 December 1971. Featuring T. Rex, The Tams, Slade, The Rolling Stones, and Rod Stewart and The Faces.

FRI 21:00 Top of the Pops (b01nbtlz)

Kenny Everett looks at the weekly pop chart from 1973 and introduces the Electric Light Orchestra, Elton John, Michael Ward, Status Quo, Pan's People, Engelbert Humperdinck, Slade and Limmie & the Family Cookin'.

FRI 21:30 Top of the Pops (b018zv8d)

1977 - Big Hits

The celebration of Top of the Pops 1977 continues with a selection of outstanding complete archive performances from Britain's silver jubilee year. 1977 was dominated by funk and punk, with Heatwave's Boogie Nights and The Stranglers' No More Heroes in the top ten. Classic top of the charts hits included Baccara's Yes Sir, I Can Boogie and Angelo by Brotherhood of Man. Some of the enduring heroes to take to the stage that year were David Bowie, Rod Stewart, Queen and Elvis Costello, with rare studio performances from The Jacksons and Bob Marley & The Wailers.

FRI 22:30 Top of the Pops (b01pmbdy)

1978 - Big Hits

A pick 'n' mix of Top of the Pops classics from 1978, when in-er-face punk and new wave rebellion co-existed with MOR suburban pop, disco fever, soul balladry, reggae and prog rock, and when two mega-successful movie soundtracks in the shape of Grease and Saturday Night Fever squared up on the dancefloor. Featuring shouty Sham 69, the cool rebellion of Ian Dury, Elvis Costello and Blondie, the media-savvy clowning of The Boomtown Rats, Kate Bush's debut with Wuthering Heights, alongside Brotherhood of Man's perky Figaro, Dan Hill's sentimental Sometimes When We Touch and the high camp of Boney M's Rasputin. Bob Marley shares chart space with 10cc's Dreadlock Holiday, and ELO and Manfred Mann's Earth Band keep on rockin'.

FRI 23:30 Top of the Pops (b03mppy)

1979 - Big Hits

1979 Top of the Pops collection, offering 60 minutes of the year's greatest, cheesiest and oddest performances. 1979 was the year music went portable with the launch of the Sony walkman and another year Top of the Pops, the BBC's flagship music show, managed to still draw over 15 million viewers every Thursday night.

The mod revival and 2 Tone was in full stomp, featured here with the Jam, the Specials, Madness and the Selecter. If new wave was your bag there is Elvis Costello, Squeeze and Gary Numan. In 1979 there was little chance of seeing a show on TV featuring Dame Edna's performance of Waltzing Matilda alongside the Ruts with Babylon's Burning, but the British public's eclectic taste predicted the chart and thus saw them together on TOTP in June.

With singles sales at their peak, it was a regular occurrence for groups like Racey and The Nolans to sell over a million copies and their performances may tell us why, or maybe not! Plus new wave pop from Lene Lovich, disco from Chic and a peek at the nation's favourite, Chas & Dave, singing Gertcha.

FRI 00:30 Top of the Pops (b00zwrn7)

The Story of 1976

The nation grew up with Top of the Pops and it was always a talking point, but 35 years ago a particular kind of Top of the Pops programme and tone held sway. This documentary explores Top of the Pops in 1976 - as a barometer of the state of pop and light entertainment TV.

It celebrates the power of the programme and observes British society of the mid 70s, British TV and the British pop scene. In 1976, glam was over and nothing had replaced it - the charts belonged to Showaddywaddy, Brotherhood of Man and the Wurzels, all to be found on Top of the Pops hosted by the Radio 1 DJs. If you wanted rock you looked to the Old Grey Whistle Test, while outside the charts a new scene was rumbling.

Contributors include Tony Blackburn, David 'Diddy' Hamilton, Paul Morley, Toyah Willcox, Showaddywaddy, Brotherhood of Man, the Wurzels and Dave Haslam.

FRI 01:15 Top of the Pops (b01932g9)

The Story of 1977

Following BBC Four's Top of the Pops 1976, the next stop is 1977 - in some ways a year zero for Britain's most iconic music programme. As the country veered between strikes and street parties, pop bastion Top of the Pops was stormed by punk and new wave acts such as the Stranglers and the Jam. Yet Top of the Pops at first seemed unaware of the changes afoot and the way in which the show is made was beset by working practices

that are perhaps symptoms of the way in which Britain could be said 'not to be working'.

Jeans were getting tighter, hair shorter and the tunes louder, but it was an incredibly diverse year. Disco was also a dominant force with Donna Summer's I Feel Love, alongside the reggae of Bob Marley and the Wailers, the pub rock of Eddie and the Hot Rods and the plastic pop of Boney M. British pop that year was in a state of flux - unpredictable and exciting.

Appearing on Top of the Pops in 1977 is explored in the documentary by artists such as the Adverts, John Otway, members of Darts, JJ Burnel from the Stranglers and Paul Cook from the Sex Pistols, with insights from the Top of the Pops production team, Nicky Wire from the Manics and journalists Alexis Petridis and Pete Paphides.

FRI 02:00 Top of the Pops (b01pkjy6)

The Story of 1978

In 1978, Top of the Pops began to turn the credibility corner. As the only major pop show on television, Top of the Pops had enjoyed a unique position in the nation's hearts since the 1960s - the nation's teenagers who were now fed up with the show's predominantly light entertainment blend still tuned in every week in the hope of seeing one of the new young outfits thrown up by punk, new wave and disco. In 1978 it seemed the kids' time had come again for the first time since glam rock. Yet the biggest-selling singles of 1978 were by the likes of Boney M, John Travolta & Olivia Newton John, Rod Stewart, The Bee Gees and Abba.

Punk never quite fitted in with the mainstream - it had been treated with disdain by Top of the Pops and largely ignored by the show. Britain's teenagers had to endure the all-round family entertainment on offer when all they wanted was teenage kicks. Along came a generation of young post-punk and new wave bands armed with guitar and bass, ready to storm the Top of the Pops stage - from The Undertones, The Buzzcocks, Siouxsie and the Banshees, The Skids and Ian Dury and the Blockheads to The Boomtown Rats, Elvis Costello, The Jam and Squeeze - some weeks teenagers would get to see one of their bands, very rarely they got two, but there they were on primetime TV.

With contributions from The Boomtown Rats, Squeeze, Boney M, Sham 69, Brian & Michael, The Barron Knights, Mike Read, Kid Jensen, Kathryn Flett, Richard Jobson, Ian Gittins and Legs & Co.

FRI 02:45 Top of the Pops (b03mpphw)

The Story of 1979

1979 was a unique year for Top of the Pops, which saw the show record its highest audience of 19 million viewers and in which physical format singles sales hit an all-time high of 79 million. 1979 is maybe the most diverse year ever for acts on Top of the Pops with disco at its peak, new wave, 2 Tone, reggae, rock, folk and electro records all making the top five.

Original interviews with Gary Numan, Nile Rodgers, Woody from Madness, Jah Wobble, Chas and Dave, Janet Kay, Linda Nolan, Jim Dooley, Secret Affair, the Ruts, Legs and Co and many others tell the story of an exceptional year.

In the year that the 'winter of discontent' saw continuing strikes black out ITV and TOTP reduced during a technicians strike to a narrator introducing videos, the show also found itself the site of conflict backstage. TOTP's old guard of 70s MOR acts had their feathers continually ruffled by new wave bands, as the Skids spat at the Nolan Sisters backstage and Generation X urinated off the roof onto the Dooleys.

Elsewhere in the corridors of TV Centre, in preparation for playing their single Death Disco, Public Image Ltd demanded their teeth be blacked out in make-up to appear ugly, while Gary Numan remembers the overbearing union presence which prevented TOTP artists moving their own microphones without a union technician and the Musicians Union trying to ban him from the show for his use of synthesizers.

The most popular musical styles of 1979 were 2 Tone, reggae and disco. The latter saw Nile Rodgers, the man of the year, score four hits with Chic as well as writing and producing a further four hits with Sister Sledge, Sheila B Devotion and Sugarhill Gang, who appeared with what would prove to be the first ever rap hit.

Jamaican and UK reggae artists scored continual hits through the year and then watched as the Police notched up three hits with white reggae and the label 2 Tone revived the 60s reggae style known as ska. In November, in what is remembered as the 2 Tone edition, all three of the label's new acts - Madness, Specials and Selecter - appeared on one historic night and took the show by storm, with Madness capping off their performance of One Step Beyond by leading a 'nutty train' conga through the studio.