

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER 2008**SAT 00:00 Midnight News (b00dx41z)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

SAT 00:30 Book of the Week (b00dy1jp)

The Age of Wonder

Episode 5

Douglas Hodge reads Richard Holmes's account of the scientific ferment that swept through Britain in the late 18th century.

By the turn of the 19th century, the developments made in the fields of physics and chemistry had led to a growing debate about the role of science and the question of what to call those who practised it.

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dx44k)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dx44m)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service. BBC Radio 4 resumes at 5.20am.

SAT 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dx44p)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 05:30 News Briefing (b00dx44r)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dx44t)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

SAT 05:45 IPM (b00dy0pz)

Eddie Mair presents the weekly interactive current affairs magazine featuring online conversation and debate.

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (b00dy5c5)

The latest news headlines. Including a look at the papers.

SAT 06:04 Weather (b00dy5c7)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 06:07 Open Country (b00dy5gh)

Countryside magazine. Matt Baker goes to Bournemouth to investigate Europe's first artificial surfing reef.

SAT 06:35 Farming Today This Week (b00dy5gk)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Charlotte Smith.

SAT 06:57 Weather (b00dy5gm)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 07:00 Today (b00dy5gp)

Presented by Edward Stourton and John Humphrys.

Ross Hawkins reports on immigration minister Phil Woolas's comments about the need to curb the number of migrants coming into the UK.

Jonah Fisher reports on whether talks to save the power-sharing deal in Zimbabwe can be salvaged.

Justin Webb and David Frum, a former speechwriter for President Bush, discuss the US presidential elections, as campaigning focuses on the key southern states.

Yesterday in Parliament with Mark D'Arcy.

Richard Lambert, Director-General of the CBI, discusses the week that moved the financial crisis from the banks into the family home.

Nicola Stanbridge reports on the teaching of music in prisons.

Thought for the Day with Rev Roy Jenkins, Baptist minister in Cardiff.

Scottish MSP Margo MacDonald says the legal position of assisted suicide 'must be tidied up'.

Keith Best, chief executive of the Immigration Advisory

Service, and Labour MP Frank Field discuss immigration in a time of economic downturn.

Alex Vines of the think-tank Chatham House, says that the failure of the Zimbabwe power-sharing negotiations shows how ineffective the former South African president Thabo Mbeki is.

Author Ian Rankin and Professor Anthony Busuttil of the University of Edinburgh discuss the importance of scientific reality in writing.

John Humphrys discusses the credit crunch with a panel of consumers from Watford.

Tariq Azam Khan, former Information Minister and now a Senator in the Pakistani parliament, discusses how the Pakistani government can deal with the Taleban.

Neil Herron of the Metric Martyrs Defence Fund says that common sense is prevailing over metric legislation.

SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (b00dy517)

Real life stories in which listeners talk about the issues that matter to them. Presenter Clare Balding is joined by Abbot Christopher Jamison. With poetry from Matt Harvey.

SAT 10:00 Excess Baggage (b00dy519)

Sustainable Travel

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

John McCarthy is joined by Justin Francis, managing director of Responsible Travel and television presenter and traveller, Kate Humble to discuss what sustainable travel really means. Is it possible to travel fairly, sensibly and even creatively?

Photographer Amit Pasricha shares his travel experiences around northern India.

SAT 10:30 Honouring the Office: Playing the White House (b00f25q2)

Paul Gambaccini explores the role of the White House as a cultural centre. He hears from politicians and artists about about the experience of attending an event there, and how the cultural life of the White House is supported by the First Lady and the President's office.

SAT 11:00 The Week in Westminster (b00dy5n3)

A look behind the scenes at Westminster with Elinor Goodman.

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (b00dy5nj)

BBC foreign correspondents with the stories behind the world's headlines. Introduced by Kate Adie.

SAT 12:00 Money Box (b00dy74b)

Paul Lewis with the latest news from the world of personal finance.

SAT 12:30 The News Quiz (b00dx2mz)

Series 66

Episode 4

Sandi Toksvig chairs the topical comedy quiz, recorded at the Cheltenham Literature Festival. The panellists are Jeremy Hardy, Phill Jupitus, Fred MacAulay and Sue Perkins.

SAT 12:57 Weather (b00dy74d)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 13:00 News Headlines (b00dy74g)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (b00dx2n1)

Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate from Accrington, Lancashire. Panellists include Justice Secretary Jack Straw, artistic director of the Southbank Centre Jude Kelly, physicist Professor Brian Cox and Shadow Housing Minister Grant Shapps.

SAT 14:00 Any Answers? (b00dy74j)

Jonathan Dimbleby takes listeners' calls and emails in response to this week's edition of Any Questions?

SAT 14:30 Saturday Drama (b0076ywc)

The Haverstock Hill Murder

By George R Sims, dramatised by Roger Danes.

Renowned Victorian lady detective Dorcas Dene is commissioned by a desperate mother to save her son from the gallows after he is accused of the brutal murder of his wife. The problem is that the victim named her husband as the assailant with her dying breath.

Paul Dene Greg Powrie
Dorcas Dene Lucy Paterson
Mrs. Hannaford Edith Macarthur
Inspector Swanage Finlay McLean
PC Hargreaves Mark McDonnell
Charles Hannaford Nick Farr
Flash George Terry Wale
Martha Drayson Noreen Leighton

Produced by Patrick Rayner.

Directed by David Ian Neville.

SAT 15:30 Soul Music (b00dvtpn)

Series 7

What a Wonderful World

Louis Armstrong recorded the classic 'What a Wonderful World' in 1967 amidst civil rights demonstrations and protests against the Vietnam War.

It was a song written for him. Was it naive or a powerful anthem for peace?

Featuring:

Prof Peter Ling
Laurence Bergreen
Simon Weston
Katie Melua
Troy Andrews
Milan Bertosa

Series exploring famous pieces of music and their emotional appeal.

Producer: Sara Conkey

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2008.

SAT 16:00 Weekend Woman's Hour (b00dy74l)

Highlights of this week's Woman's Hour programmes with Janes Garvey.

Including Jackie Collins on her new book; compulsive hoarding; the impact of recession on women used to flexible work; drummer Crissy Lee; Elizabeth Jane Howard on her first novel in nine years; how abortion is affecting the US elections. Plus a dirty hands survey which will have you running for the soap.

SAT 17:00 PM (b00dy74n)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news, plus the sports headlines. With Carolyn Quinn.

SAT 17:30 The Bottom Line (b00dy74q)

Evan Davis talks with entrepreneurs and business leaders about the issues that matter.

If you pay taxes, you're now well on your way to owning a big chunk of the British banking industry.

Unfortunately that's unlikely to make most of us feel any richer – quite the opposite in fact. In light of high inflation and rising unemployment, we discuss how businesses can withstand an expected downturn in consumer spending.

We also chat about unexpected outcomes.

Our guests this week:

David Brennan, Chief executive, AstraZeneca

John McLaren, Chairman, Barchester Group

Tim Richards, Chief executive, Vue Entertainment

SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (b00dy74s)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 17:57 Weather (b00dy7nh)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dy7nk)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (b00dy7nm)

Clive Anderson presents an eclectic mix of conversation, comedy and music and is joined by Suggs, Denis Norden and Matthew Parris, with comedy from Chris McCausland, Nitin Sawhney and Noah and the Whale perform in the studio. Jon Holmes talks historical re-enactments with Tim Moore.

SAT 19:00 From Fact to Fiction (b00dy7qh)

Series 5

Ozymandias

In a week that has seen global economic recession move even closer, Mark Burton's Ozymandias takes a comic look at how the volatile stockmarket at home and in Russia has caused problems even for the oligarchs. With Ewan Bailey and Annabelle Dowler.

SAT 19:15 Saturday Review (b00dy7yq)

Tom Sutcliffe and guests review the cultural highlights of the week.

SAT 20:00 The Archive Hour (b00dtqh2)

How Radio Comedy Changed a Nation

Nicholas Parsons explores how radio comedy has developed and how it reveals much about the way the British live. Through rarely-heard archive material and interviews with writers, performers and comedians, he investigates the impact that radio comedy has had upon the nation.

Including contributions from Paul Merton, Barry Cryer, Ray Galton and Alan Simpson and Sanjeev Bhaskar.

SAT 21:00 Classic Serial (b00dtx91)

The Experiences of an Irish RM

Episode 2

The Experiences of an Irish RM

Christopher Fitz-Simon's two-part adaptation of the comic novels of Somerville and Ross, set in late 19th-century Ireland.

Now a resident magistrate for ten years in west Cork, Major Sinclair Yeates has grown accustomed to the eccentricity of his position and of those around him, except for his nemesis Mr Flurry Knox.

Major Yeates Alex Jennings
 Philippa Yeates Rebecca Saire
 Anthony Yeates Robbie Gilmore
 Flurry Knox Mark Lambert
 Sally Knox Ali White
 Lieutenant Larpent Anthony Glennon
 Peter Cadogan Miche Doherty
 Mrs Cadogan Marion O'Dwyer
 Dr Frazer Ingrid Craigie
 Miss Longmuir Cathy Belton
 Mr Cantillon Kevin Flood
 Dr Fahy John Hewitt

Directed by Eoin O'Callaghan.

SAT 22:00 News and Weather (b00dy7ys)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

SAT 22:15 Moral Maze (b00dw808)

Michael Buerk chairs a debate on the moral questions behind the week's news. Claire Fox, Kenan Malik, Clifford Longley and Melanie Phillips cross-examine witnesses.

SAT 23:00 Brain of Britain (b00dv562)

Robert Robinson introduces the perennial general knowledge quiz from the BBC Radio Theatre in London.

SAT 23:30 Poetry Please (b00dtxcn)

October's Party by George Cooper
 From: The Book of a Thousand Poems
 Publ: Collins Educational

Plums by Gillian Clarke
 From: Collected Poems
 Publ: Carcanet

This is Just to Say by William Carlos Williams
 From: The Oxford Book of American Poetry

To Don Asterio Alarcón, Clocksmith of Valparaíso by Pablo Neruda, translated by Alastair Reid

From: Fully Empowered
 Publ: Condor/Souvenir Press

Hermitage by Wislawa Szymborska, translated by Stanislaw Barańczak and Clare Cavanagh
 From: Poems, New and Collected 1957-1997
 Publ: faber

La Poesia/Poetry by Pablo Neruda, translated by Alastair Reid
 From: Isla Negra
 Publ: Condor/Souvenir Press

The O-Filler by Alastair Reid
 From: Book of Post War Poetry
 Publ: Hutchinson

Milk for the Cat by Harold Monro
 From: The Book of a Thousand Poems
 Publ: Collins Educational

Sleeping in the Country by Susan Fromberg Schaeffer
 From: Granite Lady
 Publ: Macmillan

Not to Sleep by Robert Graves
 From: Collected Poems
 Publ: Cassell

Annabel Lee by Edgar Allan Poe
 From: Poe – Poems and Prose
 Publ: Everyman

Rich by RS Thomas
 From: Selected Poems 1988-2000
 Publ: Bloodaxe

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2008**SUN 00:00 Midnight News (b00dy80z)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

SUN 00:30 The Late Story (b007b5q8)

Francis Coppola Presents

Naturally

Stories from the magazine Zoetrope: All-Story, founded by the great film director.

An unwitting ghost surprisingly finds the love that escaped him in life. By Daniel Handler.

SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dy811)

The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dy813)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

SUN 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dy815)

The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 05:30 News Briefing (b00dy817)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (b00dy9y1)

The sound of bells from Sheffield Cathedral.

SUN 05:45 The Other Heartlands (b00dymrm)

Episode 2

How history and landscape have shaped political allegiances in some of Britain's most remote constituencies.

Susan Hulme visits Caernarfon and sees how Welsh language and culture are at the core of local people's sense of identity, and how this has made Plaid Cymru the party of the establishment.

SUN 06:00 News Headlines (b00dy9y3)

The latest national and international news.

SUN 06:05 Something Understood (b00dy9y5)

Tradition and Reform

Mark Tully considers how tensions between traditionalists and reformers are played out in all the main faith traditions. He

talks to Rabbi Miriam Berger about a new, gender-inclusive, Jewish prayer book and hears how she hopes that the new prayers will allow people to reconsider their concept of God.

SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (b00dyb1b)

Topical farming magazine. Alex James with the first of three visits to the finalists in this year's BBC Food and Farming Awards Farmer of the Year title. He visits Mary Mead of Blagdon in Somerset, who founded the Yeo Valley dairy business.

SUN 06:57 Weather (b00dyb1d)

The latest weather forecast.

SUN 07:00 News and Papers (b00dyb1g)

The latest news headlines. Including a look at the papers.

SUN 07:10 Sunday (b00dybb8)

Roger Bolton with the religious and ethical news of the week. Moral arguments and perspectives on stories, both familiar and unfamiliar.

SUN 07:55 Radio 4 Appeal (b00dybbb)

Children in Crisis

Joanna Lumley appeals on behalf of Children in Crisis. Donations: Freepost BBC Radio 4 Appeal. Credit cards: Freephone 0800 404 8144.

SUN 07:58 Weather (b00dybbd)

The latest weather forecast.

SUN 08:00 News and Papers (b00dybbg)

The latest news headlines. Including a look at the papers.

SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (b00dybbj)

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir joins staff and residents of the St Monica Trust care home in Westbury-on-Trym near Bristol to reflect on the spirituality of ageing and the positive choices that enable older people to enjoy the abundant life promised by Jesus. The service is led by Lyn Horscroft. Organist: Daniel Moulton.

SUN 08:50 A Point of View (b00dx3wx)

Lisa Jardine considers why this year's winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature is particularly relevant.

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (b00dybpn)

News and conversation about the big stories of the week with Paddy O'Connell.

SUN 10:00 The Archers Omnibus (b00dybpbq)

The week's events in Ambridge.

SUN 11:15 Desert Island Discs (b00dybpb)

Randy Newman

Kirsty Young's castaway this week is the American composer, singer and song-writer Randy Newman. Colleagues say he stands shoulder-to-shoulder with musical legends Cole Porter and George Gershwin. He first made his name by writing mordant and often satirical pop songs - including A Few Words in Defence of Our Country, Political Science and Short People. For the past 25 years he has been better known for his Hollywood film music - including writing the scores for the first four Disney/Pixar films. He held the unique distinction for being Oscar-nominated 15 times without winning until 2002, when he picked up the award for Best Original Song for If I Didn't Have You from Monsters Inc. His songs are often written from the point of view of unlikeable characters - from slave masters to stalkers - it was a style, he acknowledges, that wasn't universally liked, but he adds: "I wouldn't have it any differently".

[Taken from the original programme material for this archive edition of Desert Island Discs]

Favourite track: The 3rd movement of String Quartet No.16 in F Major by Ludwig van Beethoven
 Book: The Divine Comedy (with translation) by Dante Alighieri
 Luxury: A piano.

SUN 12:00 The Write Stuff (b00dvnqt)

Series 8

Seamus Heaney

James Walton takes the chair for the game of literary correctness, flanked by captains Sebastian Faulks and John Walsh with guests Sue Limb and Andrew Motion. The author of the week and subject for pastiche is Seamus Heaney and the reader is Beth Chalmers.

SUN 12:32 The Food Programme (b00dybvp)
Fife

For the past year, hundreds of people in Fife in Scotland have been living only on food that has been locally produced. The programme sees how they have fared and whether the rest of us should be following their example.

SUN 12:57 Weather (b00dybpx)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (b00dybpbz)
A look at events around the world with Brian Hanrahan.

SUN 13:30 Free Cinema (b00c197l)
Simon Hoggart recalls Free Cinema, a series of six short documentary films shown at the National Film Theatre between 1956 and 1959. Their informal style, energy and focus on the real lives of working-class people paved the way for the emergence of British New Wave cinema and the many great realist films that have followed.

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (b00dybq1)
Peter Gibbs chairs the popular horticultural forum.

Anne Swithinbank, Chris Beardshaw and Tracy Wilson are guests of Penwith Organic Gardeners and Growers in St Ives. Tony Russell, one of Europe's leading tree experts, explains the fundamentals of growing evergreen trees.

Includes the Gardeners' Question Time gardening weather forecast.

SUN 14:45 The Enigma I Will Not Explain (b007771m)
Episode 1

Ruth Padel presents a series exploring the music of Elgar's Enigma Variations and analysing what the composition tells us about Elgar himself.

1/4. This programme examines the female influences in Elgar's life, from the guiding spirit of his wife Alice to his friendship with Dorabella and a mystery of three asterisks.

SUN 15:00 Classic Serial (b00dybq3)
Robinson Crusoe and his Farther Adventures

Episode 1

Adaptation of Daniel Defoe's less famous sequel to the classic adventure Robinson Crusoe.

After returning to England from his island home, Robinson Crusoe sets sail once more in search of adventure.

Robinson Crusoe Tim McInnerny
Merchant Jonathan Taffler
Prince Adrian Grove
Barnes Stephen Critchlow
Father David Timson
Mary Alison Pettitt
Friday/Wells Ben Onwukwe

Directed by Peter Leslie Wild.

Dramatised by Andy Barratt.

SUN 16:00 Open Book (b00dybq5)
Thomas Keneally, Reading the Oxford English Dictionary and Alexander Linklater on Eric Linklater

Searching for Schindler
Thomas Keneally won the 1982 Booker Prize for his novel Schindler's Ark, a fictional retelling of the story of the German industrialist who saved more than a thousand of his Jewish workers from the death camps. Now he's written a memoir which recalls the writing of the book, and in particular his friendship with Leopold Pfefferberg, one of the Schindler Jews. He talks to Mariella about the meeting which led to the book, and reveals the crisis writing it caused him.

Reading the Oxford English Dictionary
Mariella meets the man who spent a year reading the Oxford English Dictionary - all twenty volumes and 21,730 pages of it. Ammon Shea explains why he did it, and what he learned; and

another dictionary enthusiast, Simon Winchester, explains the beauty of the OED.

Linklater on Linklater
Alexander Linklater, the deputy editor of Prospect magazine, joins Mariella to discuss the work of his grandfather, the novelist Eric Linklater. On the eve of the Wall Street Crash in 1929, Linklater arrived in America on a travel scholarship. Two years later he published his response to living through the early years of the Depression and the spectre of Prohibition, the novel Juan in America. Alexander Linklater explains the book's appeal.

SUN 16:30 Poetry Please (b00dybq7)
The Orange by Wendy Cope
From: Serious Concerns
Publ: faber

A Brief Guide to Rhyming – or How Be the Little Busy Doth by Ogden Nash
From: You Can't Get There From Here
Publ: JM Dent and Sons

Yours Sincerely by John Lucas
From: The Long and the Short of it
Publ: Redbeck Press

An Ordinary Poetry Reading by Roger McGough
From: Collected Poems
Publ: Viking

Welcome, Major Poet! by Sean O'Brien
From: Cousin Coat
Publ: Picador

Another Reason Why I Don't Keep a Gun in the House by Billy Collins
From: Taking Off Emily Dickinson's Clothes
Publ: Picador

Arithmetic by Carl Sandburg
From: Complete Poems
Publ: Harcourt

Macavity: The Mystery Cat by TS Eliot
From: The Rattle Bag
Publ: faber

The Mafia Cats by Roger McGough
From: Bad Bad Cats
Publ: Viking

The Galloping Cat by Stevie Smith
From: Bread and Roses: An Anthology of Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Poetry By Women Writers
Publ: Virago

The Book of My Enemy Has Been Remandered by Clive James
From: Other Passports
Publ: Jonathan Cape

Domestic Asides – or Truth in Parenthesis by Thomas Hood
From: Hood Winked
Publ: Chatto and Windus

SUN 17:00 File on 4 (b00dvwx9)
Michael Robinson investigates the hundreds of lawsuits that are being filed in the US by banks and financial institutions arguing over who is to blame for the crisis in the global financial markets. He reveals what those legal documents tell us about the banking system and the effectiveness of regulators.

SUN 17:40 From Fact to Fiction (b00dy7qh)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (b00dybs7)
The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 17:57 Weather (b00dybs9)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dybse)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (b00dybsf)
Liz Barclay introduces her selection of highlights from the past week on BBC radio.

SUN 19:00 The Archers (b00dyd4)

Pip's still not talking to Izzy, and David and Ruth are fed up with Pip moping around. David proves he's still a big kid when he admits that Kenton's roped him in to help organise this year's fireworks display.

Jack's still confused and can't even remember that Peggy's in hospital after having a stroke. Lillian's got Jack ready to meet Diane from The Willows care home and Jack seems to take an instant shine to her. Jennifer can't be there to meet Diane but is happy to go along with Lillian and Tony's decision. Diane tells them about The Willows. Satisfied, they make their minds up that Jack will go there on Tuesday for two weeks.

As Tony leaves the Dower House, Matt gives him a final offer on Bridge Farm. Borchester Land are prepared to accept 825,000 pounds. It's 50,000 less than they wanted but 50,000 more than Tony and Pat can really afford. Tony insists he needs to think about it but Matt's running out of patience. He tells Tony the deal is off if he takes too long. It's time to put up or, or shut up.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

SUN 19:15 Go4it (b00dybvn)
Children's magazine presented by Kirsten O'Brien. She and the team get an old-fashioned makeover at the Museum of Childhood's Top to Toe children's clothing exhibition, and illustrators Mimi Grey and Niamh Sharkey discuss how they dressed their heroes of their new picture books.

SUN 19:45 A Welsh Anthology (b007qg4q)
Series 1

Collecting Firewood

Stories by Welsh writers.

By Tessa Hadley.

The Davies sisters are passionate collectors of modern art. On a hot summer's day in 1912, their art dealer Hugh Blaker brings them a new painting from Paris.

Read by Richard Mitchley.

SUN 20:00 Feedback (b00dx251)
Roger Bolton airs listeners' views on BBC radio programmes and policy.

SUN 20:30 Last Word (b00dx29m)
John Wilson presents the obituary series, analysing and celebrating the life stories of people who have recently died. The programme reflects on people of distinction and interest from many walks of life, some famous and some less well known.

SUN 21:00 Money Box (b00dy74b)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:00 on Saturday]

SUN 21:26 Radio 4 Appeal (b00dybbb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:55 today]

SUN 21:30 In Business (b00dwjkl)
Whistling in the Dark

Peter Day finds out what happens when co-workers blow the whistle on what appear to be dirty dealings by companies and organisations, and whether they ought to be rewarded for their activities.

SUN 21:58 Weather (b00dybsz)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (b00dyby1)
Reports from behind the scenes at Westminster. Including Classrooms to Power.

SUN 23:00 The Learning Curve (b00dvngw)
Libby Purves presents a guide to the world of learning, with practical advice, features and listeners' views.

SUN 23:30 Something Understood (b00dy9y5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:05 today]

MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2008

MON 00:00 Midnight News (b00dywpt)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

MON 00:15 Thinking Allowed (b00dw7wd)

Predicting the Financial Crisis - Work/Life Balance

PREDICTING THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

Laurie Taylor is joined by Richard Dale, Emeritus Professor of International Banking at Southampton University, one of the very few professional economists who predicted the present crisis. They discuss his recipe for crisis.

WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Dr Ben Fincham, Lecturer in the School of Social Science at the University of Brighton claims to have found a group – cycle couriers – for whom a clear distinction between work and leisure is virtually meaningless. Dr Ben Fincham and Richard Reeves, author of Happy Mondays: Putting the Pleasure back into Work debate the meaning of the 'work life balance'.

MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (b00dy9y1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dywpw)

The latest shipping forecast.

MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dywpy)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

MON 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dywq0)

The latest shipping forecast.

MON 05:30 News Briefing (b00dywq2)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dywq4)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

MON 05:45 Farming Today (b00dz7s1)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Mark Holdstock.

MON 05:57 Weather (b00dz7s3)

The latest weather forecast for farmers.

MON 06:00 Today (b00dz7s5)

Presented by James Naughtie and Edward Stourton.

Nick Hood of corporate rescue specialist Begbies Traynor claims that the UK economy is already in recession.

Matt Mills, a scout leader from Essex, discusses The Scout Association's new sex education fact sheet.

Biologist and author Professor Brian Ford explains his belief that there is intelligence in single cells.

Transport minister Paul Clark and Liz Sayce of Radar discuss the misuse of disabled parking badges.

Steve Kingstone reports on a Spanish judge's investigation into what he says were 'crimes against humanity' during the Spanish Civil War.

Alex Bushill finds out why eviction rates in the south west of England are double the national average.

Thought for the Day with Canon Dr Alan Billings, an Anglican priest.

Emily Walker of Republicans Abroad comments on Colin Powell's endorsement of Barack Obama.

David Cameron is to call for a one pence cut in National Insurance to help small businesses. He says it would help to reduce unemployment by reducing the costs of employing people.

Evan Davis reports on how the art world is coping with the current economic turmoil.

Anaesthetist Sir Peter Simpson discusses the problem with diagnosing death.

The government is promising to try to reduce the number of house repossessions. Chief Secretary to the Treasury Yvette Cooper says that banks should do more to help homeowners.

Duncan Kennedy reports on the exhibition marking the first anniversary of the death of Luciano Pavarotti.

Historian Eric Hobsbawm discusses the current economic crisis and the problems with a free market economy.

Professor David Jones of St Mary's University College, Twickenham says he wants to see further rights for disabled foetuses.

MON 09:00 Start the Week (b00dz7s7)

Journalist and essayist William Hazlitt was at the centre of Romanticism, knowing every major writer, politician and artist of his time. Moreover, in revolutionising every genre in which he worked, he interpreted the times for his contemporaries and for us. In a new biography, DUNCAN WU argues that to fully understand Hazlitt and the Romantics is to fully understand ourselves and where we have come from. William Hazlitt: The First Modern Man is published by Oxford University Press.

The award-winning theatre director RUPERT GOOLD talks about his productions and his approaches to adapting works. His diverse portfolio currently includes directing plays by Pinter and Pirandello in the West End, Pete Postlethwaite as King Lear and at Christmas a production of Oliver! in which the part of Nancy was cast through the BBC's talent contest I'd Do Anything. Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author is on at the Gielgud Theatre until 8 November, Pinter's No Man's Land is at the Duke of York's Theatre until 3 January, Pete Postlethwaite as King Lear runs from 30 October-29 November at Liverpool Everyman and 29 January-28 March at The Young Vic and Oliver! runs from 12 December-14 January at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane.

JACKIE WULLSCHLAGER is chief arts editor of the Financial Times. She explores the life of the painter Chagall, arguing that his role in the Modernist movement has long been underestimated. She describes how his life in exile from his native Russia affected his painting. Her biography Chagall: Love and Exile is published by Allen Lane and it is Book of the Week on BBC Radio 4 from Monday 27 October.

The poet JANE HOLLAND is editor of the recently launched online arts magazine Horizon Review. She argues that there's a need for arts criticism that goes beyond the star ratings style of some newspapers but is more accessible than print journals with their more academic approach. She also suggests that the internet is transforming the nature of criticism itself.

MON 09:45 Book of the Week (b00dyw9)

Thomas Keneally - Searching for Schindler: A Memoir

Episode 1

Thomas Keneally's account of his discovery of the story of Oskar Schindler, which became the basis for his Booker Prize-winning novel Schindler's Ark and the Oscar-winning film Schindler's List.

MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00dywx7)

John Sergeant; Miles Kington remembered

Political journalist John Sergeant on coming to terms with being a modern-day sex symbol. Plus, Caroline Kington on the humour of her late husband, the columnist Miles Kington.

MON 11:00 The Crash: A Walk Through The City (b00f67kf)

City veteran John McLaren visits the Square Mile to meet bankers and headhunters, shopowners and cab drivers, to find out how they are coping with the current economic turmoil and what the future may hold.

MON 11:30 Ed Reardon's Week (b00dz8ls)

Series 5

Anger Management

Comedy series by Christopher Douglas and Andrew Nickolds.

After a run-in with the Head of Stakeholder Communications Engagement at a local council meeting, Ed finds himself in anger management classes. Could he turn over a new leaf and become a gentler person?

Ed Reardon Christopher Douglas
Sue Fishpool Rachel Atkins
Olive Stephanie Cole
Felix John Fortune
Pearl Rita May
Ping Barunka O'Shaughnessy
Steve Williams Tom Price
Stan Geoffrey Whitehead.

MON 12:00 You and Yours (b00dyxz3)

Presented by Julian Worricker.

Charities warn of an impending repossession crisis.

Can energy saving tips really make a difference to your power bill?

Caz Graham investigates whether or not the High Street is already in recession.

Thousands of people are being warned that they may not receive the concert tickets that they have bought from paperticket.co.uk, which has been shut down by the police on suspicion of fraud.

The inside story of a bankrupt business.

A discussion of how the jobs market is reacting to economic crisis.

MON 12:57 Weather (b00dy28)

The latest weather forecast.

MON 13:00 World at One (b00dy7w)

National and international news with Martha Kearney.

MON 13:30 Brain of Britain (b00dz8bl)

Robert Robinson introduces the fourth heat of the perennial general knowledge quiz.

MON 14:00 The Archers (b00dy2d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

MON 14:15 Drama (b00f3x93)

A Killing

A story about the excitement of making money in industrial quantities - a gladiatorial world in which only the fittest survive.

Ewen, Meredith, Tim and Harry are four, sassy, thirty-something traders who, tired of making money for others, combine to launch an aggressive new Hedge Fund.

Hopes are high for the group's philosophy is to play it straight, with minimal risk, and to remain realistic in ambition.

But impatience and a sense that others are stealing a march on them encourages two of the four, Ewen and Meredith, to break ranks and take a very big and very stupid risk.

They quickly make a massive and very noticeable profit - a fact not lost on the Regulator, nor on Tim and Harry, the other partners who are aggrieved that the entire enterprise has been compromised by their greed and arrogance.

But Ewen's obsession with Meredith, and her determination to succeed, have upset some very major players in the City. They may ride out this particular storm but there is more trouble ahead. And as an indicator of just how bad things might get, Ewen gets himself arrested.

In 'A Killing' by Mike Walker

Ewen was played by James MacPherson

Tim was Benedict Wong

Meredith Laurel Lefkow

Harry Nicholas Boulton

Carmody Richard Howard

Angela Jillardo

Directed by Eoin O'Callaghan.

MON 15:00 Money Box Live (b00dz8mq)

Paul Lewis and guests answer calls on financial issues.

MON 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00dz7kw)

Wayfarers All: A Hundred Years of The Wind in the Willows

Rat

Stories inspired by the main characters in The Wind in the Willows. A doctor on a geriatric ward is surprised to come face to face with a figure from his past. By Candida McWilliam.

MON 15:45 America, Empire of Liberty (b00dyyyf)

The Arsenic of Mexico

Series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds. America and Mexico fight over territory in Texas, New Mexico and California.

MON 16:00 The Food Programme (b00dybpv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:32 on Sunday]

MON 16:30 Traveller's Tree (b00dzbms)
Series 4

Backwater USA

Katie Derham presents the holiday magazine with insider tips from listeners and travel experts.

With more flights being allowed to regional hub airports in North America this year, tourism to the United States is expanding beyond the usual destinations. Katie finds out about the hidden delights of small-town America and hears how an extinct Arizona volcano is being transformed into the world's first celestial visitor experience.

MON 17:00 PM (b00dyz1n)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dyz3j)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

MON 18:30 The Write Stuff (b00dzbmj)

Series 8

Episode 3

James Walton takes the chair for the game of literary correctness, flanked by captains Sebastian Faulks and John Walsh with guests Harry Ritchie and Simon Brett. The author of the week and subject for pastiche is Philip Roth and the reader is Beth Chalmers.

MON 19:00 The Archers (b00dybv2)

Eddie's roped in Fat Paul and Kenton to play parts in the ghost walk, promising it'll be worth their while. Eddie's pleased Will's coming to Borchester tomorrow to see George, and hopes he might even come home for Christmas.

The bad summer has at least produced excellent cider apples. Neil and Tony help Joe and Eddie with the pressing. Neil moans about the messy workmen at Mike's place; he and Christopher clean up thoroughly whenever they work on the flat, which is shaping up nicely. The bell simulator is fixed up and they're seeking new ringers.

Brian's pleased with Tom's bacon production costs but is surprised Tom hasn't researched the market. Brian agrees Tom should drop the less profitable Gourmet Grills events. Brian also approves of Tom's proposal to take on an assistant - but isn't sure what Tom actually knows about the guy he's considering. But that's not Brian's concern, as he won't be responsible for Gary's wages. Tom's not really thought about that.

Tom's annoyed that Tony hasn't mentioned the latest offer for the farm, and won't accept that it's looking out of reach. Tony tells Tom not to get his hopes up, or he and Helen are going to be horribly disappointed.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

MON 19:15 Front Row (b00dyz3v)

Presented by Mark Lawson.

Hollywood veteran Tony Curtis talks about his journey from being Bernie Schwartz from the Bronx to the Hollywood star of *Some Like It Hot* and *Spartacus*, and what it was like dating Marilyn Monroe and being friends with Frank Sinatra.

In his autobiography, *American Prince*, Tony Curtis discusses his work with Monroe, Kubrick and Sinatra but also relates bleak experiences about growing up during the Great Depression when his family was so poor that he and his brother were placed in a state orphanage.

MON 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00dyz5z)

How Shall I Tell the Dog?

Episode 1

Miles Kington died of cancer in January 2008. Given little time to live by his doctors, he decided to make his cancer 'pay its way' by suggesting increasingly amusing and absurd ideas for a book to his agent Gill.

Things to do before you die and literary rivalry with his oncologist.

Miles Michael Palin
Gill Anna Massey
Man Nicholas Murchie.

MON 20:00 Your Country Needs You (b00dhymg)

Dominic Arkwright looks at the condition of British farming in a time of global food shortages and rising prices. He hears from two farmers who are struggling and one who is prospering, and discusses the significance of farming with green advisor Zac Goldsmith.

MON 20:30 The Learning Curve (b00dzbdw)

Libby Purves presents a guide to the world of learning, with practical advice, features and listeners' views.

MON 21:00 Frontiers (b00dzbwg)

Nanofoods

Sue Broom talks to the food industry and academics who are making use of the quirky physical laws of the extremely small to create 'nano foods'.

Scientists are able to manipulate particles at the nano scale, changing the way that food tastes and feels, and even improving its nutritional content. Sue examines whether or not nanoparticles are safe to eat, and considers what impact, if any, they might have on the environment.

MON 21:30 Start the Week (b00dz757)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 21:58 Weather (b00dyzdw)

The latest weather forecast.

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (b00dyzj1)

With Ritulah Shah. Reports on early voting in the US Presidential election and why Iraq's politicians are wary of a deal with coalition forces.

MON 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00dyzlb)

Sentimental Education

Episode 11

Alex Jennings reads from Flaubert's novel, set amid the turbulence and glamour of mid-19th century Parisian high society.

As the 1848 revolution gathers strength, Frederic and his friend HUSSONET find themselves caught up in the melee, and Frederic begins to harbour political ambitions.

MON 23:00 Freedom Pass (b00dzc2h)

Episode 2

Another chance to hear classic episodes of the series in which the late Alan Coren and Christopher Matthew use their newly acquired freedom passes, which allow free travel for the over-60s. They hop onto a bus and see where it takes them - geographically, historically and conversationally.

MON 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00dyzpc)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with David Wilby.

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2008

TUE 00:00 Midnight News (b00dyv49)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

TUE 00:30 Book of the Week (b00dywr9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Monday]

TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dyw9y)

The latest shipping forecast.

TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dywb0)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

TUE 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dywb2)

The latest shipping forecast.

TUE 05:30 News Briefing (b00dywb4)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dywb6)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

TUE 05:45 Farming Today (b00dywq6)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Anna Hill.

TUE 06:00 Today (b00dywq8)

Presented by Sarah Montague and John Humphrys.

Mark Pearson of the OECD discusses the narrowing gap between rich and poor.

Jason Burke of the Observer discusses the Taleban's role in the murder of the aid worker Gayle Williams.

Sarah Veale of the TUC discusses plans to alter flexible working legislation.

Brooks Newmark MP says that the real level of UK debt is three times the figure that has been reported.

Chairman of the Arcadia Group Sir Philip Green discusses whether there is an immediate prospect of him buying assets owned by Baugur, the Icelandic owner of a number of high street chains.

Professor David Eastwood talks about the significant increases in science students.

Thought for the Day with Akhandadhi Das, a Vaishnav Hindu teacher and theologian.

Secretary for Innovation, Universities and Skills John Denham discusses his plans to make sure that small enterprises survive and prosper in the current economic downturn.

Robert Peston and Nick Robinson report on accusations of discussions between a Russian oligarch and UK political parties.

Dr David Halpern of Cambridge University discusses how inequality is being tackled in the UK.

Larry Charles, a writer on Seinfeld and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, joins former London Editor of Time Magazine Jeff McAlister to discuss political satire.

Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg discusses future economic policy.

India and Pakistan are allowing some trade across their border in Kashmir for the first time in more than 60 years. Chris Morris reports from Srinagar.

Author Robert Harris describes the life of Pat Kavanagh, one of the world's foremost literary agents.

How will the prospect of a recession affect what we watch on television? TV critic Andrew Billen and Peter Bazalgette discuss.

TUE 09:00 PC RIP? (b00dvhr)

Episode 1

Clive Anderson traces the story of political correctness, and considers our attitudes towards it today.

Originating amidst the storm of US identity politics and college campuses, it made its way across the Atlantic and was met with derision, ridicule and perhaps even some relief in Britain.

TUE 09:30 Phill Jupitus' Strips (b00dzk92)

Episode 3

Phill Jupitus meets the creators of some of the comic strips that he has loved to read since childhood.

Phill meets Charles Peattie and Russell Taylor, the men behind *The Daily Telegraph's* Alex.

When they started out 20 years ago they were the young whippersnappers of the cartoon world. Today they find that that is still the case, as there are so few up-and-coming artists in the UK following them.

TUE 09:45 Book of the Week (b00dz9v0)

Thomas Keneally - Searching for Schindler: A Memoir

Episode 2

Thomas Keneally's account of his discovery of the story of

Oscar Schindler, which became the basis for his Booker Prize-winning novel *Schindler's Ark* and the Oscar-winning film *Schindler's List*.

Poldek and Thomas set out to meet the Australian and American Schindlerjuden, the Jews saved by Oskar.

TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00dywwq)

Artist Emma Sergeant; Dame Karlene Davis

Artist Emma Sergeant on her career and work. Plus, Britain's first female, black union leader Dame Karlene Davis on midwifery, and a look at women prisoners abroad.

TUE 11:00 World On The Move: Great Animal Migrations (b00dzk94)

Philippa Forrester and Brett Westwood present the series following the movement and migration of animals across the planet, from the European eel to the African white-eared kob antelope. A team of wildlife specialists are joined by zoologists and conservationists around the world to present regular reports.

TUE 11:30 Art for Schools (b00dzk96)

Children's writer and illustrator Jackie Morris tells the story of how, in the late 1940s, one woman persuaded artists such as Picasso, Matisse and Lowry to donate prints to be distributed around British schools.

Determined to help widen access to art, Brenda Rawnsley established the School Prints scheme, at first commissioning British artists such as Lowry and Henry Moore, and then taking a portable printing press to France to persuade some of the most well-known artists in the world to take part. Jackie Morris tells the story of the scheme and the woman behind it, and considers how art education has been viewed in Britain since.

A White Pebble Media production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 12:00 You and Yours (b00dyxx5)

Call You and Yours

Julian Worricker presents a discussion about how the economic downturn is affecting employment.

The programme considers which industries and geographical areas are suffering most and what support is available for those who do find themselves out of work.

With guests Andrew Taylor, employment correspondent for the Financial Times, Nigel Meager of the Institute for Employment Studies in Brighton and Ian Black from the Citizens Advice Bureau.

TUE 12:57 Weather (b00dyxz5)

The latest weather forecast.

TUE 13:00 World at One (b00dy2b)

National and international news with Martha Kearney.

TUE 13:30 Stage to Screen (b00dzk7)

Series 3

Oh! What a Lovely War

Paul Gambaccini explores how stage works have been adapted for the cinema.

Richard Attenborough's first film as director was adapted from the Theatre Workshop production by Joan Littlewood. Contributors include original cast member Victor Spinetti, Eleanor Farzan, the film's choreographer, and the film historian Ian Christie.

TUE 14:00 The Archers (b00dybv2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

TUE 14:15 Drama (b00dzkls)

Number 10 - Series 2

Episode 4

Series of plays by Jonathan Myerson depicting life inside Downing Street.

The prime minister's chief of staff has been attacked and seriously injured during a routine walkabout. When it emerges that the attacker was recently released early from jail under a government initiative the prime minister is forced to consider whether he should resign.

Adam Antony Sher
Polly Deborah Findlay
Steve Julian Rhind-Tutt
Hannah Kelly Hunter
Monica Sasha Behar

Directed by Clive Brill.

TUE 15:00 Making History (b00dzkw9)

Bricks

Bricks

Iona Burbidge and her 5 year old daughter Marianne are fanatical about archaeology. Everywhere they go they pick things up. Marianne has even started digging trenches in the garden of their mid-Victorian cottage in Shearsby south of Leicester. The house is made out of brick and it's these that inspired their question to Making History. Some have finger marks on them and there are stories in the village about 'Shearsby bricks', i.e. bricks made in Shearsby. But, how to find a long-gone brickworks?

TUE 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00f243z)

Wayfarers All: A Hundred Years of The Wind in the Willows

Mole

Five short stories inspired by the main characters in *The Wind in the Willows*. A couple employ a handyman to poison the moles in their garden. But their daughter has other ideas.

TUE 15:45 America, Empire of Liberty (b00dyyn8)

Gold, God and the Little Giant

Series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds. *Gold, God and the Little Giant*. The gold rush and a compromise on the issue of slavery.

TUE 16:00 Law in Action (b00dzkwc)

Clive Coleman takes his weekly look at legal issues.

TUE 16:30 A Good Read (b00dzkwf)

Patricia Routledge and Alexander Waugh

Sue MacGregor and her guests - actress Patricia Routledge and writer Alexander Waugh - discuss books by Rose Tremain, Adam Macqueen and Franz Kafka.

The Road Home by Rose Tremain

Publisher: Vintage

The King of Sunlight: How William Lever Cleaned Up The World by Adam Macqueen

Publisher: Corgi

Alexander Waugh: Letter to my Father by Franz Kafka

Publisher: Lulu

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2008.

TUE 17:00 PM (b00dyyyh)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dyz1q)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

TUE 18:30 The Party Line (b00dzl17)

Series 3

Episode 3

Topical sitcom by Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis, following the weekend trials of Duncan Stonebridge MP as he reluctantly leaves civilized Westminster to face the dog-eat-dog world of a small-town constituency. With James Fleet, Geoff McGovern, Simon Greenall, Geraldine McNulty.

TUE 19:00 The Archers (b00dybv4)

Will and Nic meet in Borchester. Will's grateful she made contact, and tells Nic all about his fight with Ed. Nic sympathises but the atmosphere is strained. Will's off swimming with George, and they part awkwardly, neither quite knowing what to say. Will later rings and offers to take her children swimming sometime; Nic could come to watch if she wanted. Nic's not sure. It would be good for Mia and Jake but she doesn't want to get involved again. Will assures her that's not his intention.

Lilian questions their decision to move Jack to The Willows without consulting Peggy. Matt believes it's the best solution to an impossible situation. They can tell Peggy once Jack's settled. Lilian thinks Matt's been marvellous; not just with Jack but with such a generous offer to Pat and Tony too - whatever his reason behind it. Jack's very confused at The Willows but Diane, the manager, soon takes control of the situation.

Back home, Lilian worries about Jack. Matt assures her that he's being cared for by professionals now, and she couldn't have done any better for Jack. Lilian just hopes Peggy will feel the same way when she tells her tomorrow.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

TUE 19:15 Front Row (b00dyz31)

Presented by Mark Lawson.

Historical novelist Tom Holland reviews the new exhibition, *Byzantium*, at the Royal Academy in London, the first show of Byzantine art in the UK for 50 years.

BBC wildlife presenter Simon King discusses how far new technology can bring us images of the natural world that have never before been imagined.

In a new film, *Ghost Town*, Ricky Gervais plays the objectionable Dr Bertrum Pincus, who comes back from the dead to discover that he is not the only one to have had that experience. The Arts Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, Sarah Crompton, gives her response to the film and Gervais's performance.

The American writer, comedian and author David Sedaris meets Mark to discuss *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*, his latest collection of essays.

TUE 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00f2w19)

How Shall I Tell the Dog?

Episode 2

Miles Kington died of cancer in January 2008. Given little time to live by his doctors, he decided to make his cancer 'pay its way' by suggesting increasingly amusing and absurd ideas for a book to his agent Gill.

Things to learn before you die without leaving home; the cancer diet book; Eleanor Bron's punctures.

TUE 20:00 File on 4 (b00dzl87)

As millions of families struggle to pay rocketing gas and electricity bills, Julian O'Halloran investigates claims that our bills may be hundreds of pounds too high because of weak regulation, bad planning and the fact that the market is dominated by just six big companies.

TUE 20:40 In Touch (b00dzl89)

Peter White with news and information for the blind and partially sighted.

TUE 21:00 Am I Normal? (b00dzl8c)

Series 5

Working Memory

Vivienne Parry continues her quest to find out what is normal. She investigates a new test to be used in schools to screen infant children for 'working memory impairment', and asks if this is helpful or just another label to single out children as not 'normal'.

TUE 21:30 PC RIP? (b00dvhmr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

TUE 21:58 Weather (b00dyz8f)

The latest weather forecast.

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (b00dyzdy)

National and international news and analysis with Robin Lustig. We hear the story of George Osborne, Peter Mandelson and the Russian billionaire's yacht, there's a look at the lessons British politicians are learning from the US elections, and could 'gravitational waves' tell us more about the origins of the universe?

TUE 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00dyzld)

Sentimental Education

Episode 12

Alex Jennings reads from Flaubert's novel, set amid the turbulence and glamour of mid-19th century Parisian high society.

Frederic briefly escapes Paris with Rosanette, but news that Dussadier has been wounded draws him back, where he is surprised to find Louise waiting for him.

TUE 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00dyzp3)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with Sean Curran.

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2008

WED 00:00 Midnight News (b00dyv4c)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

WED 00:30 Book of the Week (b00dz9v0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Tuesday]

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dywb8)

The latest shipping forecast.

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dywbb)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

WED 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dywbd)

The latest shipping forecast.

WED 05:30 News Briefing (b00dywbg)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dywbj)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

WED 05:45 Farming Today (b00dywqd)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Anna Hill.

WED 06:00 Today (b00dywqg)

Presented by John Humphrys and Sarah Montague.

Tom Feilden reports on trouble with the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill.

Steve Allen of the Metropolitan Police discusses how the police deal with 'honour crime' victims.

Angus Crawford reports on one man's journey from army to prisoner and then back into civilian life.

Scientist Barry Kellett talks about the British-made instrument that is on board India's first moon mission.

Martin Wolf and Nils Blythe discuss Mervyn King's prediction that the UK is likely to slip into recession in 2009.

John Andrew reports on the attempts to halt the decline in the provision of public conveniences.

Thought for the Day with Oliver McTernan, director of the NGO Forward Thinking.

Baroness Deech and Ann Furedi discuss whether abortion should be addressed in the Embryology Bill.

Labour Peer Lord Desai and Sushil Wadhvani, formerly of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England, discuss the impending recession.

Nick Robinson reports on a witness who has accused Shadow Chancellor George Osborne of soliciting a donation from a Russian billionaire.

The National Theatre's Tom Morris and playwright Alistair Beaton discuss the future of the Arts Council.

Plaid Cymru MP Elfyn Llwyd and Professor Simon Wessely discuss whether men leaving the armed forces are being let down.

Professor John Beddington discusses how to enhance 'mental capital and wellbeing'.

Mark Simpson reports on the future of devolution in Northern Ireland.

Bill Emmett, former editor of The Economist, discusses how the three major powers in Asia will shape the next decade.

Socialite Carole Stone and author Charles Mosley discuss George Osborne's etiquette at private parties.

WED 09:00 Midweek (b00dzlc5)

Lively and diverse conversation with Libby Purves and guests.

WED 09:45 Book of the Week (b00dz9v3)

Thomas Keneally - Searching for Schindler: A Memoir

Episode 3

Thomas Keneally's account of his discovery of the story of Oscar Schindler, which became the basis for his Booker Prize-winning novel Schindler's Ark and the Oscar-winning film Schindler's List.

Poldek takes Thomas to Poland to witness 'the intimacy of horror' in the Krakow ghetto.

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00dywvs)

Stargazing; Teaching children about finance

Emily Winterburn, formerly Curator of Astronomy at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich gives tips on how to read the night sky. Plus, teaching children about personal finance.

WED 11:00 Byzantium Unearthed (b00dzlc7)

Episode 3

Historian Bettany Hughes presents a series that uses the latest archaeological evidence to learn more about the empire of Byzantium and the people who ruled it.

Bettany ventures to the eastern edge of the empire, where the new religion of Islam first gained a foothold.

For nearly a thousand years the empire made war and peace with the Muslim countries to its south and east. However, the fatal blow to Byzantium came not, as is widely thought from the Ottoman Turks in 1453, but from the Christian West 250 years earlier.

WED 11:30 Inspector Steine (b00dzlsw)

The Anniversary

Comedy drama series by Lynne Truss, set in 1950s Brighton.

It's the five-year anniversary of the Middle Street Massacre. While Steine ponders on how to celebrate, Mrs Groyne's deranged nephew, Brian the Brain, breaks out of Broadmoor with revenge on his lips.

Inspector Steine Michael Fenton Stevens

Mrs Groyne's Jan Ravens

Brunswick John Ramm

Twitten Matt Green

Brian the Brain Ewain Bailey

Warder Kim Hall

Chaplain David Holt

Music by Anthony May.

Directed by Karen Rose.

WED 12:00 You and Yours (b00dyxx7)

Presented by Julian Worricker.

The programme examines the public sector pensions black hole and ask how much the taxpayer is going to have to pay to fill the gap.

The social care watchdog claims that social care eligibility criteria are 'flawed' and in need of 'immediate change'. Peter White reports from the annual conference of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Care.

Consumer Focus is the new all-in-one consumer organisation which has swallowed up Energywatch, Postwatch and the National Consumer Council. We ask chief executive Ed Mayo if it will be able to deliver a better service.

We look at ITV's plan to cash in on Coronation Street merchandise.

Owat, the water industry watchdog, has published a report on water companies' customer service.

In the second feature looking at the consequences of a small business going bust, we talk to creditors about the impact it has on their businesses.

WED 12:57 Weather (b00dyxz7)

The latest weather forecast.

WED 13:00 World at One (b00dyz2d)

National and international news with Martha Kearney.

WED 13:30 The Media Show (b00dzm7s)

Steve Hewlett presents a new topical programme about the fast-changing media world.

WED 14:00 The Archers (b00dybv4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

WED 14:15 Drama (b00dzmcf)

Mandrake

Irene, an old woman threatens her new neighbour with a scythe when he suggests cutting down a tree which is on his land.

Irene claims that her husband is buried under the tree- "to cut the branches would be to cut his limbs." But the tree is around a hundred years old.

Ruth, a social worker is called in to assess Irene's mental health and ability to look after herself. But as she gets to know Irene she is drawn into a strange and magical tale that will change her life forever.

Written and directed by Anita Sullivan

Music by Sara Harrison

Producer: Karen Rose

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (b00dybq1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Sunday]

WED 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00f243c)

Wayfarers All: A Hundred Years of The Wind in the Willows

Weasel

Five short stories inspired by the main characters in The Wind in the Willows. A Victorian pawn broker gets more than he bargained for when a mysterious woman visits his shop.

WED 15:45 America, Empire of Liberty (b00dyynd)

Paddies, Papists and Demon Drink

Series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds. Irish immigrants flock to America, where they are not always welcome.

WED 16:00 Thinking Allowed (b00dznr0)

Urban Crime and Disorder - Demography of Death

URBAN CRIME AND DISORDER

Laurie Taylor is joined by Robert J. Sampson, Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University who last night at the LSE delivered a lecture entitled: Disparity and Diversity in the Contemporary City. Social Disorder Revisited. They discuss urban environment and crime; what makes an urban area disorderly and dangerous? How does it acquire such a reputation? Can it ever be dispelled?

DEMOGRAPHY OF DEATH

Dr Leigh Shaw-Taylor Deputy Director of the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure will be giving a talk at the Cambridge Festival of Ideas Called entitled A Short History of Death; Allan Kellehear, Professor of Sociology at the University of Bath is the author of A Social History of Dying. They address the history of human lifespan in Britain, and how the causes of death have changed overtime.

WED 16:30 Am I Normal? (b00dzl8c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Tuesday]

WED 17:00 PM (b00dyyyk)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dyz1s)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

WED 18:30 The Castle (b00809z8)

Series 1

Episode 5

Sitcom by Kim Fuller, set in a medieval castle with some remarkably modern trappings.

The village pub acquires two new mysterious barmaids as Anne and Charlotte plot to ensnare Sam Tree. De Warenne gets in touch with his feminine side whilst Duncan gets in touch with his masculine one.

Sir John Woodstock James Fleet
Sir William De Warenne Neil Dudgeon
Lady Anne Woodstock Susan Earl
Cardinal Duncan Jonathan Kydd
Lady Charlotte Ingrid Oliver
Master Henry Woodstock Steven Kynman
Sam Tree Toby Ross-Bryant.

WED 19:00 The Archers (b00dybv6)

Tom interviews the potential pig man that Jazzer recommended, but realises that Jazzer only knows of Gary through his mother, from the milk round. Gary convinces Tom that he knows about pigs and he's certainly keen. He can start immediately and is grateful when Tom offers him a month trial. Gary makes slow progress with the work but assures Tom it's because he's thorough. Tom's a bit concerned that he can't contact David Sidebottom, Gary's referee, but he'll keep trying.

Peggy starts to worry as soon as Lilian mentions difficulties with Jack, but is absolutely furious to learn he's in a care home, and that Tony and Jennifer are in on this too. She trusted Lilian and can't believe she's let her down so badly. Peggy promised herself this would never happen to Jack. If her children won't look after him, Peggy has no choice but to get better quickly so she can take Jack home where he belongs.

Lilian worries that Peggy will make herself ill again but there's no calming her. As Lilian tries to hug her, Peggy tells her to go away. If Lilian really doesn't want to upset Peggy, she should leave her in peace.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

WED 19:15 Front Row (b00dyz3n)

Presented by Mark Lawson.

TV documentary maker Jane Treays discusses her film which focuses on Kate, a successful interior designer and mother, and her troubled relationship with her 20-year-old daughter Hannah, who is addicted to heroin.

Critic Jenny McCartney gives her verdict on the new Italian film Quiet Chaos, in which the Italian actor and director Nanni Moretti plays a business executive whose wife dies suddenly and leaves him to raise his daughter on his own.

Mark talks to Gary Lightbody, the lead singer of Snow Patrol, the rock band that started out as Polar Bear at Dundee University 14 years ago and produced the best selling album Eyes Open in 2006.

With the impending release of the fourth sequel to the original horror film Saw, David Quantick reflects on the films that proved to be a sequel too far, and ponders why so many classic films have so far proved to be sequel-proof.

WED 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00f2w13)

How Shall I Tell the Dog?

Episode 3

Miles Kington died of cancer in January 2008. Given little time to live by his doctors, he decided to make his cancer 'pay its way' by suggesting increasingly amusing and absurd ideas for a book to his agent Gill.

Cancer - the infrequently asked questions; cancer and astrology; how to break the news to Berry, his dog.

WED 20:00 The Divine Spark of Music (b00dzny0)

Composer James MacMillan delivers the Sandford St Martin Lecture in front of an invited audience. He talks about how religion has an important place in public life, particularly in its ability to inspire people through classical music. The debate is chaired by Joan Bakewell.

WED 20:45 Classrooms to Power (b00ds8nc)

Episode 1

Michael Dobbs examines the schooldays of leading prime ministers. He discovers how far Churchill's headmaster foresaw the future politician in the boy from Blenheim Palace.

WED 21:00 World On The Move: Great Animal Migrations (b00dzk94)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 on Tuesday]

WED 21:30 Midweek (b00dzlc5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

WED 21:58 Weather (b00dyz8h)

The latest weather forecast.

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (b00dyzfo)

National and international news and analysis with Robin Lustig.

WED 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00dyzlg)

Sentimental Education

Episode 13

Alex Jennings reads from Flaubert's novel, set amid the turbulence and glamour of mid-19th century Parisian high society.

Despite his efforts to forget Mme Arnoux, Frederic cannot help but fall in love with her again. Meanwhile, Rosanette has some dramatic news.

WED 23:00 Tina C Goes Down Under: The Aborogynal Monologues (b00dzny2)

Canberra

Country singer and US presidential hopeful Tina C, the comic creation of Christopher Green, looks at the Australian obsession with country music.

Tina performs for the state opening of Parliament. However, problems arise when she finds out seconds before the gig that Waltzing Matilda is not the national anthem.

WED 23:15 The Exterminating Angels (b0079pn1)

Episode 3

Sitcom by Martin Shea, Eamonn O'Neill and James O'Neill, set in a pest control agency where the pests answer back.

The urbanised pest controllers tackle a troublesome pigeon.

With Karl Theobald, Dan Antopolski, Astrid Azurdia, Gabriel Quigley.

WED 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00dyzyp5)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with Robert Orchard.

THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2008**THU 00:00 Midnight News (b00dyv4f)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

THU 00:30 Book of the Week (b00dz9v3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Wednesday]

THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dywbl)

The latest shipping forecast.

THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dywbn)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

THU 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dywbq)

The latest shipping forecast.

THU 05:30 News Briefing (b00dywbs)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dywby)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

THU 05:45 Farming Today (b00dywql)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Charlotte Smith.

THU 06:00 Today (b00dywqn)

Presented by John Humphrys and Sarah Montague.

Tom Feilden reports on approaches to sex education in the UK and Holland.

Credit analyst Gavin Nolan discusses whether the massive injection of money from the taxpayer into the economy is showing any signs of working.

Dr Lee Dunster, head of research at the MS Society, discusses whether lost brain function can be restored.

Professor Dean Baker of the Centre for Economic and Policy Research in Washington says that credit rating agencies failed on competence.

Peter Biles reports on the humanitarian situation in Zimbabwe.

Councillor Peter Greenhalgh explains Swindon Borough Council's decision to stop funding the town's speed cameras.

Nicola Stanbridge meets the archivists looking after a bizarre collection of material charting over 100 years of world music history.

Thought for the Day with Rev Rosemary Lain-Priestley.

Sarah Mukherjee reports on the latest findings of the Royal Agricultural Society into the state of England's soil.

Headmaster Kevin Ward and Norman Wells of the Family Education Trust discuss whether more information given about sex can lead to fewer unplanned teenage pregnancies.

Robert Peston explains why entire countries are in financial trouble.

Novelist Jonathan Franzen discusses why the Peanuts comic strip has not aged.

Computing consultant Robin Hamman and Guardian writer and blogger Kate Bevan discuss whether shorter forms of communication, such as Twitter, are overtaking blogs.

Jim Muir reports on the steps that need to be taken to ensure a stable future for Iraq.

Authors Matthew Bishop and Michael Edwards describe the new-found fascination with 'philanthrocapitalism'.

THU 09:00 In Our Time (b00f05zj)

Dante's Inferno

Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss Dante's 'Inferno' - a medieval journey through the nine circles of Hell. "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here". This famous phrase is written above the gate of Hell in a 14th century poem by the Italian poet Dante Alighieri. The poem is called the 'Divine Comedy' and Hell is known as 'Dante's Inferno'. It is a lurid vision of the afterlife complete with severed heads, cruel and unusual punishments and devils in frozen lakes. But the inferno is much more than a trip into the macabre - it is a map of medieval spirituality, a treasure house of early renaissance learning, a portrait of 14th century Florence, and an acute study of human psychology. It is also one of the greatest poems ever written. With, Margaret Kean, University Lecturer in English and College Fellow at St Hilda's College, University of Oxford; John Took, Professor of Dante Studies at University College London and Claire Honess, Senior Lecturer in Italian at the University of Leeds and Co-Director of the Leeds Centre for Dante Studies.

THU 09:45 Book of the Week (b00dz9v5)

Thomas Keneally - Searching for Schindler: A Memoir

Episode 4

Thomas Keneally's account of his discovery of the story of Oscar Schindler, which became the basis for his Booker Prize-winning novel Schindler's Ark and the Oscar-winning film Schindler's List.

The journey ends in Israel and Thomas goes home to write his book.

THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00dywvw)

Kelly Brook; Swinging

Model Kelly Brook on bodies, bikinis and boyfriends. Plus the impact of swinging on a relationship, and the Elizabethan garden at Kenilworth Castle.

THU 11:00 The Crash: Alvin Hall's Wall Street Walk (b00f5991)

Alvin Hall, who has worked on Wall Street for over 30 years, meets the local community of the area - its businessmen, their

workers and families - and asks if they can survive the credit crunch.

THU 11:30 Misfits in France (b00f24f8)

Wilde About Dieppe

Series in which Julian Barnes and Hermione Lee explore the connections between a group of Victorian writers and artists who crossed the English Channel for different reasons.

Examining the differing fortunes of Oscar Wilde and the painter Walter Sickert, who both flouted Victorian moral conventions, during their time in the French town of Dieppe.

At 4am on May 20th 1897, Sebastian Melmoth, better known as Oscar Wilde, arrived at Dieppe Docks seeking refuge following his release from Reading Gaol, but he quickly moved out of town.

Walter Sickert is known as a Camden Town painter but his painter friend Jaques Emile Blanche called him 'the Canaletto of Dieppe'. His long association with the resort began with childhood holidays and included an affair with one of the local fishwives.

Oscar Wilde Simon Russell Beale
Walter Sickert Stephen Critchlow
Arthur Symons Jonathan Tafler.

THU 12:00 You and Yours (b00dyxx9)

Presented by Winifred Robinson.

Stephen Alambritas of the Federation of Small Businesses talks about the impact of the economic downturn.

Investigating the government's initiative to help elderly and vulnerable people to cut their energy bills.

With more places now out of bounds for the smoker, the writer and comedian Steve Punt considers the potential for the development of 'smoking tourism' as a niche market.

Increasing numbers of people are being made redundant, and unemployment now stands at 1.8 million. We speak to an expectant mother who, until recently, was a mortgage broker.

Peter White talks to Phil Hope MP about his new role as care minister.

The programme examines what people should expect from their employer and the government if they are laid off, what their legal entitlements are and what financial support they should be given.

THU 12:57 Weather (b00dyxz9)

The latest weather forecast.

THU 13:00 World at One (b00dy2g)

National and international news with Martha Kearney.

THU 13:30 Open Country (b00dy5gh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:07 on Saturday]

THU 14:00 The Archers (b00dybv6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

THU 14:15 Drama (b00f06bw)

The Greater Good

By Justin Hopper.

It is 1915 and the celebrated German chemist Fritz Haber turns to developing poison gas as a weapon for the German military. His wife and former colleague Clara is appalled and sets about trying to stop him.

THU 15:00 Questions, Questions (b00f06by)

Stewart Henderson answers those niggling questions from everyday life.

THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (b00dybbb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:55 on Sunday]

THU 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00f243g)

Wayfarers All: A Hundred Years of The Wind in the Willows

Badger

Five short stories inspired by the main characters in The Wind

in the Willows. In a deteriorating Scottish community, an examiner tries to steer his nephew away from sectarianism.

THU 15:45 America, Empire of Liberty (b00dyynj)

Slaves, Masters and the Slave Power

Series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds. Northerners fear the dominance of the slave-owning south.

THU 16:00 Open Book (b00dybq5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

THU 16:30 Material World (b00f06jt)

Biomimetic Optics - Invasive Tree Pests

Biomimetic Optics
Marine plankton that live in tiny, intricate silica castles could make new biosensors and sun cream. White beetles that owe their whiteness to nanotechnology could lead to better paper. A fossil fly's eye could boost the efficiency of solar cells. Secrets of a butterfly's wing could make colourless colours in new cosmetics. And the hairs on a sea mouse could self-assemble the optical computers of the future.

All these are examples of microscopic nanostructures in nature that are so small that they interact with the wavelength of light, presumably to convey advantages to the creatures that make them, and perhaps that could be harnessed for human technology. Quentin Cooper hears how bio-mimetics – learning technological lessons from nature – is seeing the light and pointing the way to new, efficient optical material and devices.

Professor Pete Vukusic of Exeter University is a physicist with an interest in beetles and tiny marine diatoms; Professor Andrew Parker, a zoologist at the Natural History Museum in London, studies how living things produce colour without pigment and how natural structures process light.

Invasive Tree Pests

Autumn appeared to come early this year for horse-chestnut trees across the UK. While other tree species are even now holding on to their remaining leaves, horse chestnut trees are being besieged by an invasive pest - a caterpillar called the Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner.

Will the horse chestnut follow the doomed fate of the Dutch elm? Experts are concerned about the number of alien pests and diseases that are appearing in the UK, threatening the plants in our gardens, parks and across the countryside, as a result of being inadvertently imported into the UK.

Climate change is also likely to increase this risk. Is the very survival of our conker trees under threat? And what about other iconic tree species such as the Oak or Beech?

Quentin Cooper is joined by Dr Glynn Percival, Plant Physiologist at Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory and Dr Joan Webber, Principal Pathologist at the Forestry Commission, Farnham.

THU 17:00 PM (b00dyym)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dyzlv)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

THU 18:30 I've Never Seen Star Wars (b00f06vr)

Series 1

Esther Rantzen

Marcus Brigstocke invites Esther Rantzen to try new experiences.

THU 19:00 The Archers (b00dybv8)

Jack's quite content but Peggy still believes they've all abandoned him and she's determined to get discharged from hospital quickly. Jennifer and Pat agree it would be unthinkable for Peggy to care for Jack at The Lodge but they don't know what to do.

Shula's helping with costumes for this years pantomime: Jack and The Beanstalk. She cautiously tells Alistair that she's sort of agreed he might like to be in charge of set-building. Alistair's actually quite enthusiastic and suggests getting Daniel involved. The auditions on 4 November clash with a Gamblers Anonymous meeting which Alistair wants to attend - mainly to find out how Ryan's doing - but Shula's happy to take Daniel to the auditions.

Tom's devastated to learn that Pat and Tony won't accept Matt's offer of 825,000 pounds. Tom's convinced they could achieve that amount if Pat cashed in her pension and they sold various assets. This isn't just a business opportunity - it's Tom and Helen's future, and the farm will provide all the security Pat and Tony need. There's finally a chance to take charge of the family's future and Tom wants them to have the guts to do something about it.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

THU 19:15 Front Row (b00dyz3q)

Presented by Kirsty Lang.

Writer Andrew Davies talks to Kirsty about his adaptation of Charles Dickens' Little Dorrit and how the tricks of the trade vary between TV and cinema screen.

After a series of high profile comedians have left their audiences fuming as opposed to laughing, comedy critic Bruce Dessau explains why the stand-up comedy bubble has burst.

Filmclub is an after-school club giving children free weekly access to classic and popular films from across the world. Kirsty discusses this initiative with film director Gaylene Gould and the pupils and teacher of a London school, and director Mark Herman explains why he became involved.

Art Historian Vicki Whitfield reviews a new exhibition of William Holman Hunt's work at Manchester Art Gallery and assesses whether it casts fresh light on familiar images.

THU 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00f2wnk)

How Shall I Tell the Dog?

Episode 4

Miles Kington died of cancer in January 2008. Given little time to live by his doctors, he decided to make his cancer 'pay its way' by suggesting increasingly amusing and absurd ideas for a book to his agent Gill.

The perfect funeral service; the perfect gravestone; how Michael Palin gets all the best jobs; 'parlez-vous cancer'.

THU 20:00 Britain's Teenage Suicides (b00dgjw1)

Episode 2

Penny Marshall investigates the extraordinary suicide rate among young people in the Bridgend area of South Wales.

She asks why the mental health needs of Britain's youth are often ignored. Such disorders are often difficult to identify in teenagers and in some parts of the country, such as South Wales, mental health services are very limited.

THU 20:30 Analysis (b00f07g5)

The Dollar and Dominance

As the US economy is tested so dramatically, economist Ngaire Woods investigates the role of the dollar as the world's leading currency and what it tells us about profound changes in global power. She explores why the dollar matters in global power, how far currency power may be shifting and who stands to lose and benefit most.

THU 21:00 Leading Edge (b00f07g7)

Lusi Eruption and Selective memory

Lusi Eruption

What caused the devastating mud volcano in East Java, in October 2006? Geoff speaks to geologists Adriano Mazzini and Richard Davies at the Geological Society in London.

Selective Memory

All of us have some memories we'd prefer to wipe out. And now, it seems, we have the first evidence that this may be a realistic hope. Brain scientist Dr Joe Tsien tells Geoff demonstrates that the selective erasure of specific memories is possible.

Phoenix Mars Lander

Oxford University astronomer Chris Lintott reflects on the high and lows, the satisfactions and frustrations of interplanetary exploration by remote control.

Fossil Forest

Researchers have recently been studying some spectacular ancient forests found in the coal mines of Illinois. Professor Scott Elrick of Illinois State Geological Survey took our reporter Andrew Luck-Baker to see what has remained hidden for millions of years.

Defining Sweet Music

Geoff visits Cambridge University, where musician and researcher Claudia Fritz is trying to define what makes one violin sound different to another.

THU 21:30 In Our Time (b00f05zj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

THU 21:58 Weather (b00dyz8k)
The latest weather forecast.

THU 22:00 The World Tonight (b00dyzf2)
National and international news and analysis.

THU 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00dyzlj)
Sentimental Education

Episode 14

Alex Jennings reads from Flaubert's novel, set amid the turbulence and glamour of mid-19th century Parisian high society.

Frederic is torn between the demands of two women but is still prepared to sacrifice everything for a third, Mme Arnoux.

THU 23:00 Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency: The Long Dark Teatime of the Soul (b00f07g9)
Episode 4

Douglas Adams's comic fantasy, dramatised by Dirk Maggs and John Langdon.

Thor drops a Clanger in Sharp's Flat.

Dirk Gently Harry Enfield
Kate Laurel Lefkow
Simon Draycott Peter Davison
Cynthia Draycott Jan Ravens
Janice Pearce Olivia Colman
Thor Rupert Degas
Richard MacDuff Billy Boyd
Elena Sally Grace
Neil Sharp Philip Pope
Toe Rag Michael Roberts
Odin Stephen Moore
Vagrant Phillip Jackson
Nobby Mike Fenton-Stevens
Announcer John Marsh

Music by Philip Pope.

Directed by Dirk Maggs.

THU 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00dyzp7)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with David Wilby.

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER 2008

FRI 00:00 Midnight News (b00dyv4h)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by weather.

FRI 00:30 Book of the Week (b00dz9v5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Thursday]

FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00dywbx)

The latest shipping forecast.

FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00dywbz)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

FRI 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00dywc1)

The latest shipping forecast.

FRI 05:30 News Briefing (b00dywc3)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00dywc5)

Daily prayer and reflection with Rev Peter Baker.

FRI 05:45 Farming Today (b00dywqs)

News and issues in rural Britain, presented by Charlotte Smith.

FRI 06:00 Today (b00dywqv)

Presented by Evan Davis and Edward Stourton.

Kenneth Rogoff, Professor of Economics at Harvard, discusses the latest crisis in the ongoing financial downturn.

Andy Hibbert, Director of the Parent Organisation, and John O'Farrell, author and parent governor, discuss whether parents should be resorting to legal advice over school entry.

Ros Altman of the Pensions Action Group analyses the changes to the state pension.

Zubeida Malik reports on the projects in Birmingham that have been receiving part of the government's counter-terrorism fund.

Simon Calder, the travel editor of the Independent, discusses the end of regional long-haul flights by BA.

Thought for the Day with The Right Rev Lord Harries.

Immigration minister Phil Woolas discusses the future of immigration policy.

Dr Paul Woolley, who set up the Centre for the Study of Capital Market Dysfunctionality, discusses whether a crisis of confidence now hitting hedge funds.

Author and playwright Alan Bennett discusses his decision to donate his literary archive to the Bodleian Library in Oxford.

Communities Secretary Hazel Blears discusses government funding to fight violent extremism among Muslims.

Mick Brookes, General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, raises his concerns over bonuses for civil servants at the National Assessment Agency.

Oliver Stone is in London for the European premiere of his new film about George W Bush. Nicola Stanbridge met him to discuss what he really thought of his new leading man.

Mike Thomson reports on the continuing aid crisis in Haiti.

Benedicte Pavoit Stryker Maguire discuss a new poll which suggests that the UK is less preoccupied with the US election than our European neighbours.

FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (b00dybps)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 on Sunday]

FRI 09:45 Book of the Week (b00dz9v8)

Thomas Keneally - Searching for Schindler: A Memoir

Episode 5

Thomas Keneally's account of his discovery of the story of Oscar Schindler, which became the basis for his Booker Prize-winning novel Schindler's Ark and the Oscar-winning film Schindler's List.

Thomas has finished writing Schindler's Ark and Steven Spielberg is interested in making it into a film.

FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00dywvx)

Leonard Bernstein remembered; Children phoning home

How often should grown-up children call their parents? Plus Nina Bernstein on her father, the composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein, and what stops women donating their eggs?

FRI 11:00 Women in Uniform (b00f07h5)

Episode 2

Former BBC correspondent Martin Bell travels to Afghanistan to investigate the growing numbers of women in the British military and how their jobs are increasingly taking them into the front line.

FRI 11:30 Agatha Christie (b008x10q)

Crooked House

Episode 2

Joy Wilkinson's adaptation of Agatha Christie's novel.

Elderly wealthy businessman Aristides Leonides has been murdered. Until the killer is caught, others are in danger, particularly young Josephine, who decides to play detective.

Charles Rory Kinnear
Sophia Anna Maxwell Martin
Taverner Phil Davis
Josephine Grianne Dromgoole

Aunt Edith Judy Parfitt
Philip/Passerby Ben Crowe
Magda Anna Chancellor
Roger/Consul General Simon Treves
Clemency Rachel Sanders
Brenda Margaret Cabourn-Smith
Laurence/Lamb Colin Hout
Gaitskill Peter Marinker

Directed by Sam Hoyle.

FRI 12:00 You and Yours (b00dyxxc)

Presented by Winifred Robinson.

This summer the government published an Olympics Legacy Action Plan proposing free swimming for older people and under-16s. But 54 of 354 councils have opted not to offer free swimming for these age groups.

Examining projects which aim to get more children interested in music and to take it as a GCSE subject.

Travel and karaoke entrepreneur Martha Lane Fox reveals what she gets up to at the weekend.

Winifred talks to Toby Buckland, the new presenter of BBC television's Gardeners' World, about the tiny Aphalara itadori.

The country's leading manufacturer of folding bikes is sending most of its goods abroad to countries where cycling to and from stations is being encouraged.

Carrie and David Grant, the former Fame Academy mentors, talk about their musical background.

FRI 12:57 Weather (b00dyxxc)

The latest weather forecast.

FRI 13:00 World at One (b00dy2j)

National and international news with Shaun Ley.

FRI 13:30 Feedback (b00f08c1)

Roger Bolton airs listeners' views on BBC radio programmes and policy.

FRI 14:00 The Archers (b00dybv8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

FRI 14:15 Drama (b00f08c3)

Away Day

At a regional airport somewhere in England, the ground services team are in disarray: baggage is disappearing, half the staff haven't turned up for work and the state-of-the-art display boards only show information in Ukrainian. So the boss decides it is time for a make-or-break away day, where the team's future is to be decided.

Lionel Tim McMullan
Rhiannon/Woman Sara Lloyd
Mike Nik Howden
Dara Marianne March
Ronson/Prof Keiron Self.

FRI 15:00 Ramblings (b00f0q0s)

Lowsonford, Warwickshire

Blind walker David Carrington-Porter and his guide Sheila Wooley discuss their unique relationship as they ramble around Lowsonford in Warwickshire.

FRI 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00f243j)

Wayfarers All: A Hundred Years of The Wind in the Willows

Toad

Five short stories inspired by the main characters in The Wind in the Willows. A poor family in the American south is visited by an academic collecting old folk songs.

FRI 15:45 America, Empire of Liberty (b00dyynn)

A House Divided

Series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds. The anguished debate about the place of slavery in the 'land of liberty' reaches a critical point.

FRI 16:00 Last Word (b00f0r9r)

Matthew Bannister presents the obituary series, analysing and

celebrating the life stories of people who have recently died. The programme reflects on people of distinction and interest from many walks of life, some famous and some less well known.

FRI 16:30 The Film Programme (b00f0r9t)

Mike Figgis talks about Leaving Las Vegas, the movie that transformed the career of its leading man, Nicolas Cage.

Ricky Gervais, the writer and star of The Office discusses his first leading role in a Hollywood movie and sets the record straight about reports that he said there was no good British movie since 1950.

Peter Bradshaw reviews the award-winning French drama Couscous, about the opening of a Mediterranean restaurant.

FRI 17:00 PM (b00dyyp)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00dyz1x)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

FRI 18:30 The News Quiz (b00f0r9w)

Series 66

Episode 5

Sandi Toksvig chairs the topical comedy quiz. The panellists include Fred MacAulay and Jeremy Hardy.

FRI 19:00 The Archers (b00dybvb)

After a disappointing ploughing match, David advised Bert to seek guidance from Alistair. Now, on Alistair's instruction, Bert's humming an inspirational tune. David finds it most irritating but it's giving Bert real hope.

Pip's also irritated. People are calling her parents losers now that Ambridge Heat and Power has collapsed. Pip's easily riled at the moment. She's not even interested in getting the new grazing regime set up for next spring. Ruth assumes she and Izzy are still not speaking, but actually Izzy's off school and Pip doesn't know why. Ruth suggests Pip rings her, but Pip's had no reply to texts.

Matt's delighted when Tony and Pat accept his offer. They've started to arrange funding to buy the farm.

Peggy's still off-hand with Jennifer. Peggy insists she's well enough to go home, but her sight's still not good and Jennifer knows it's going to be difficult. Jennifer wants Peggy to compromise by staying at Home Farm until she's better. Peggy eventually accepts this, on condition that the moment she feels well enough, she's taking Jack out of the care home. Jennifer tries to sound agreeable. If Peggy comes to stay, they can make things work from there.

Episode written by Adrian Flynn.

FRI 19:15 Front Row (b00dyz3s)

Presented by John Wilson.

The centrepiece of the new exhibition at the White Cube Gallery in London by the British artist Sam Taylor-Wood is an installation entitled Sigh. It consists of eight large screens in a darkened room, onto which is projected footage of members of the BBC Concert Orchestra miming to a new work by the composer Anne Dudley. Sam Taylor-Wood discusses the exhibition, and Sigh in particular, and her reaction to seeing the idea in its finished form for the first time.

For many years, leading financial companies have made generous donations in the form of sponsorship to the UK's arts institutions. But as banks find themselves stretched for cash, John considers the implications for galleries, theatres, architects, orchestras and other arts institutions.

30 years since the Bee Gees topped the charts in the UK with their soundtrack album to the film Saturday Night Fever, Bee Gee Robin Gibb discusses its success why he has never actually seen the film all the way through.

FRI 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00f2x04)

How Shall I Tell the Dog?

Episode 5

Miles Kington died of cancer in January 2008. Given little time to live by his doctors, he decided to make his cancer 'pay its way' by suggesting increasingly amusing and absurd ideas for a

book to his agent Gill.

How to test your own will to live; the history of the tie-in book; how to help your oncologist find an agent; how to write a funny book about cancer.

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (b00f0r9y)

Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate in Ilford, Essex. The guests are the author Lionel Shriver, former government minister Lord Digby Jones, transport minister Lord Adonis and Conservative peer Lord Fowler.

FRI 20:50 A Point of View (b00f0rb0)

Lisa Jardine ponders the effect of recession on the lingerie industry.

FRI 21:00 America, Empire of Liberty Omnibus (b00f0ske)

Slave or Free

Omnibus edition of the series charting the history of America, written and presented by David Reynolds.

As more states are admitted to the Union, the anguished debate over whether slavery should be allowed to continue reaches a critical point.

FRI 21:58 Weather (b00dyz8n)

The latest weather forecast.

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (b00dyzf4)

National and international news and analysis with Ritula Shah. Including reports on how some countries are avoiding the global downturn, politics in Italy and real crime in a virtual world.

FRI 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00dyzll)

Sentimental Education

Episode 15

Alex Jennings reads from Flaubert's novel, set amid the turbulence and glamour of mid-nineteenth century Parisian high society.

Frederic sees his amorous ambitions fall apart, but there is one more significant meeting to come.

FRI 23:00 A Good Read (b00dzkwf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Tuesday]

FRI 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00dyzp9)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with Mark D'Arcy.