

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2009

SAT 00:00 Midnight News (b00jvh72)

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

SAT 00:30 Book of the Week (b00k2lzh)

RA Scotti - The Lost Mona Lisa

Episode 5

Vincenzo Peruggia is arrested and the painting is returned to France. End of story? Not exactly. Concluded by Nickolas Grace.

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jvh78)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jvh7b)

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

SAT 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jvh7h)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 05:30 News Briefing (b00jvh7m)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jvh7t)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

SAT 05:45 The Estuary (b008klk)

Episode 3

Peter France narrates an extraordinary story of life on the Wash as the tides and the seasons change, set against a backdrop of sounds recorded on location by Chris Watson.

The birds have been pushed across the mud flats by the advancing tide. They soon run out of space and are forced into the air in one of Britain's greatest natural spectacles.

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (b00jwp86)

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

SAT 06:04 Weather (b00jwp88)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 06:07 Open Country (b00jwp8b)

Skye Scavengers

Matt Baker joins an archaeological dig to find out just how idyllic life was for Mesolithic man on the Isle of Skye. When the ice sheets finally released their grip on Britain, the Isle of Skye was one of the most attractive options for the new human settlers.

Until now, evidence of these mesolithic islanders was sparse, rotted by the wet climate and the acidic peat soil. Matt joins a dig which is gradually revealing the lifestyle of these early residents.

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (b00jwp8d)

Farming Today This Week

Charlotte Smith visits a grain storage facility in Staffordshire to find out how much pest damage and control costs farmers, from deer down to weevils.

SAT 06:57 Weather (b00jwp8g)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 07:00 Today (b00jwp8j)

Presented by Sarah Montague and John Humphrys.

Jim Muir reports on the visit of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to Iraq.

Andrew Walker reports on whether the world economy shows 'some signs of stabilisation'.

Stephen Gibbs explains what is being done to contain an outbreak of swine flu in Mexico.

Journalist Tommy McKearney, a former member of the IRA,

says the threat on the life of Martin McGuinness must be taken seriously.

Education spokesman Michael Gove discusses how he believes schools can become genuinely accountable to parents. Tim Montgomerie, of ConservativeHome, discusses a poll on the future of grammar schools.

Author Michael Hutchinson meets Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and looks around the boat on which he sailed around the world.

Thought for the day with the novelist and columnist Anne Atkins.

Journalist Jason Burke and expert Farzana Shaikh discuss accusations from US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that Pakistan is 'abdicating to the Taleban'.

Member of the protest group Plane Stupid Matilda Gifford, and John O'Connor, a former commander of Scotland Yard's flying squad, discuss if the police have 'a responsibility to gather intelligence'.

Reporter Nicola Stanbridge talks to Juldeh Camara about his skills as a Griot - or traditional story teller - and master of the Ritti - the African forerunner to the violin.

Open University is celebrating its 40th birthday. The university's Pro Vice Chancellor David Vincent and graduate Vera Baird MP discuss the success of the world's first real 'distance learning' university.

Peter Kellner, of the polling organisation YouGov, Geoff Mulgan, of the Young Foundation and former Chancellor Lord Lamont discuss if public spending should be cut.

Sam Lesser, a veteran of the International Brigade in the Spanish Civil War, makes a visit to the Imperial War Museum in London with Today presenter Sarah Montague.

Influenza expert Professor John Watson, of the Health Protection Agency Centre, discusses how - or if - the outbreak of swine flu in Mexico can be contained.

Expensive running shoes are a waste of money, the journalist and runner Christopher McDougall says. He discusses his controversial statement with David Newman, general manager of Runners Need.

SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (b00jwpd4)

Real life stories in which listeners talk about the issues that matter to them. Fi Glover is joined by performance artist Bobby Baker, with poetry from Kate Fox.

SAT 10:00 Excess Baggage (b00jwpd6)

Sandi Toksvig hears from two regular visitors to the Hungarian capital, Budapest. Nicholas Clapton, visiting professor at the Liszt Music University, fell in love with the city, particularly its musical life, which ranges from the high classical culture of the concert halls to the folk music of the cafes. Chris Maslanka is a writer who loves the different way of thinking there and the fact that in a cafe you are as likely to find a challenge to a game of chess as a gypsy band. But is it a way of life that is changing as Hungary becomes increasingly westernised?

And has the way of life changed on the Isle of Wight? Roger George Clark went there regularly during the 1960s to photograph an England that hadn't quite modernised. Sandi hears how the island has changed - or not - after Roger recently went there again for the first time in 25 years.

SAT 10:30 Reasons to be Cheerful (b00jwq6f)

Series 1

Episode 2

Series which seeks to challenge the prevailing atmosphere of doom and gloom and dare to be optimistic.

Actress Diana Quick attempts to challenge the culture of nostalgia which threatens to overtake us. She is cheerful about the fact that women have more opportunities than they did in the 1960s and that we live longer, healthier lives. She takes on actress Annette Crosbie who thinks that there is nothing to be said for getting older and that the world really is going to hell in a handcart.

A Loftus Audio production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 11:00 The Week in Westminster (b00jwphy)

This week Jackie Ashley looks at the fall-out from the budget. Ruth Kelly, former Treasury minister and Michael Fallon, Conservative member of the Treasury select committee consider its political implications while John Gummer, Conservative MP and environmentalist joins Lord Digby Jones,

former government adviser to discuss how far it advances the green agenda.

The Prime Minister himself no less has entered the fray over MPs expenses with a set of proposals to reform the system. But is a fair case being made for MPs who need to have two homes in order to serve both parliament and their constituents? Andrew Dismore, Labour and Liberal Democrat Nick Harvey, both members of the committee on standards and privileges, discuss the new proposals.

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith has had a rough ride recently with criticisms ranging from her expenses claims to her handling of a number of policing issues. Two former Home Secretaries Charles Clarke (Labour) and Michael Howard (Conservative) look at her record so far.

This week Lord Mandelson compared himself to fellow peer and former president of the Board of Trade Michael Heseltine. What does Lord Heseltine make of the comparison?

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (b00jwpwx)

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

SAT 12:00 Money Box (b00jwpwx)

Paul Lewis with the latest news from the world of personal finance. A look at how banks could be fined for poor service when they come under FSA regulation in November. Money Box examines the detail in the 2009 Budget to find out how you will be affected. Reporter Bob Howard looks at the difficulty of deciding when vulnerable customers are capable of making financial decisions.

SAT 12:30 The Now Show (b00jvfg6)

Series 27

Episode 8

Comedy sketches and satirical comments from Steve Punt, Hugh Dennis and the team including Mitch Benn, Laura Shavin, Jon Holmes and Lloyd Langford.

SAT 12:57 Weather (b00jwpx1)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 13:00 News (b00jwq3b)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (b00jvfk)

Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate from Cookham, Berkshire. Panelists are the Poet Laureate Andrew Motion, cabinet office minister Liam Byrne, Conservative shadow minister Justine Greening and Liberal Democrat spokesman David Laws.

SAT 14:00 Any Answers? (b00jwq3d)

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

SAT 14:30 Saturday Drama (b00jwq3g)

Frank Marcus - The Killing of Sister George

John Tydeman's adaptation of the stage play by Frank Marcus. The audience ratings for the popular daily serial Applehurst are on the slide. Will the leading character have to be sacrificed to save the show?

June Buckridge (Sister George) Sarah Badel

Alice 'Childie' McNaught Lucy Whybrow

Mrs Mercy Croft Anna Massey

Madme Xenia Frances Jeater

Bill Tom Bevan

Fred Keith Drinkel

Directed by John Tydeman.

SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (b00jwqhf)

Weekend Woman's Hour

With Jane Garvey. Including:

Coping with the death of a pet. Why are people who don't have pets sometimes unsympathetic to those who do, and why do people grieve for them so deeply when they die? What is the best way of explaining the death of a pet to children?

Hear from Lydia Cacho, the Mexican journalist set on exposing those involved in the trafficking of women.

The one-time child prodigy Sarah Chang talks about how she has got people to accept that, at the age of 28, she is now an adult star violinist.

Also looking at women and public speaking; the issue of foetal alcohol syndrome (when women drink too much during pregnancy); the delights of growing lettuce; one woman's victory over age discrimination in the work place; and Sinead O'Connor on her life and music.

SAT 17:00 PM (b00jwqhh)

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

SAT 17:30 1PM (b00jwqhk)

The weekly interactive current affairs magazine featuring online conversation and debate.

SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (b00jwqhm)

The latest shipping forecast.

SAT 17:57 Weather (b00jwqkh)

The latest weather forecast.

SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwqkk)

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

SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (b00jwqkm)

Clive Anderson presents an eclectic mix of conversation, comedy and music.

Clive is joined by Elvis Costello, Nicholas Coleridge and Fay Ripley, and Jo Bunting talks to Elaine C Smith.

With music from Joe Gideon and the Shark and Elvis Costello.

SAT 19:00 Profile (b00jwqkp)

Phillip Blond

Chris Bowlby profiles Philip Blond, the theologian who has become an unexpected new influence on Conservative Party policy.

He has moved from teaching theology in Cumbria to telling the Tories to abandon free market idolatry and do more for the poor. Chris hears how the man who calls himself a 'Red Tory' hopes to change political debate.

SAT 19:15 Saturday Review (b00jwqkr)

In The Kitchen by Monica Ali, and State of Play gets a Hollywood makeover

Tom Sutcliffe is joined by columnist David Aaronovitch, director of the ICA Ekow Eshun and anthropologist Kit Davis to discuss the cultural highlights of the week - featuring conspiracy in Washington DC, an unexpected sex change, 160 years of Afghan history and a chef losing the plot.

State of Play - originally a critically acclaimed British TV series - gets a Hollywood makeover. Russell Crowe plays a grizzled, old-school newspaper reporter who starts joining the dots between a couple of murders in Washington DC and finds a sinister conspiracy lurking in the background. Scratch the surface and it's also a eulogy to good, old-fashioned print journalism.

Suspicious death also features in Monica Ali's third novel In The Kitchen. Set in the cosmopolitan kitchen of a hotel restaurant, head chef Gabriel is confronted by the changing nature of Britain and Britishness as his world unravels. Ali presents a deregulated world in which old certainties have gone and abuses are rife.

The Great Game was a phrase coined for the conflict between the British and Russian empires in central Asia. It is also the title of an ambitious series of 12 short plays by various writers which explore the history of Afghanistan from the mid-19th century to the present day. Commissioned by the Tricycle Theatre because 'Afghanistan felt like an untold story that was going terribly wrong'.

The ever-popular device of the body swap is revived in the TV comedy Boy Meets Girl, starring Martin Freeman and Rachel Stirling. Danny gets struck by lightning and finds himself in the body of glamorous Veronica. Inevitable problems with high heels ensue.

SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (b00jwqlg)

Working for Margaret

Matthew Parris, who worked for Margaret Thatcher before becoming a political journalist, delves into the Brook Lapping archive to hear from some of her former staff, ministers, civil servants, speechwriters and advisors about what she was like to work for.

Was she any gentler with her staff than she was with her Cabinet colleagues? Matthew finds out about the Margaret Thatcher that only her closest circle saw.

A Brook Lapping production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 21:00 Classic Serial (b00jqz5x)

Therese Raquin

Episode 2

Dramatisation by Diana Griffiths of the novel by Emile Zola, set in mid-19th century Paris.

Therese and Laurent have murdered Camille and are free to marry. Their wedding night is not joyous - it is a night of terror, and each night is the same as they feel the ghost of Camille infiltrate their every thought and action.

Therese Charlotte Riley
Laurent Andrew Buchan
Camille Toby Hadoke
Mme Raquin Pauline Jefferson
Michaud Rob Pickavance
Suzanne Deborah McAndrew
Pierre/Beggar Drew Carter Cain

Music consultancy: Philip Tagney

Directed by Pauline Harris.

SAT 22:00 News and Weather (b00jwqnm)

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

SAT 22:15 Bringing Up Britain (b00jsxxr)

Series 2

Episode 3

Mariella Frostrup hosts a debate about parenting with families, experts and policy-makers.

Exploring step-parenting and 'blended families' from the point of view of parents, children and society.

By the age of 16, one in eight children has been through parental separation and is living with a 'new' parent. For some children such changes can be problematic, while others thrive in stepfamilies. How can parents help their children to adapt and what do we know about the impact of blended families on children?

Featuring the story of Darren, who has two teenage children, as does his partner. However, the children do not get on and Darren is worried that the situation is putting strain on all involved.

With guests Christine Tufnell of Care for the Family, Penny Mansfield from the relationship charity One Plus One, Nick Woodall from the Centre for Separated Families, and Elly Farmer, a clinical psychologist who also speaks for the Centre for Social Justice on family issues.

SAT 22:55 Budget Statement: Scottish National Party (b00jwqnp)

The Scottish National Party respond to the Budget.

SAT 23:00 Counterpoint (b00jrnw6)

Series 23

2009 Heat 7

Paul Gambaccini chairs the general knowledge music quiz.

The questions cover every aspect of music - from the classical repertoire to world music, show tunes, film scores, jazz, rock and pop.

Three contestants battle it out:

David Dean from London
Gillian Hensley-Gray from Croydon
Peter Whitehead from Bromley, Kent

Producer: Paul Bajoria

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2009.

SAT 23:30 Blood, Sweat, Tears and Poetry (b00dsk23)

Patience Agbabi and some of her fellow poets explore the relationship between poetry and the workplace. 2008's National Poetry Day theme was 'Work', and Patience talks to poets and the people who welcomed them into the workplace to find out what the experience meant to both parties.

SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2009

SUN 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwqv2)

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

SUN 00:30 Afternoon Reading (b0084s11)

The Big Chill

The Sofa

Specially commissioned stories exploring the darker side of life.

When Nathan inherits an old Chesterfield sofa from his mother, his first thought is to throw it out. But his friend points out that 'you can't discard your history - however grim'.

By Salley Vickers, read by Paul Rhys.

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwrr8)

The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwrrb)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

SUN 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwrrf)

The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwrrh)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (b00jwrrk)

The sound of bells from St Nicholas' Church, Durweston in Dorset.

SUN 05:45 Profile (b00jwqkp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 06:00 News Headlines (b00jwrrm)

The latest national and international news.

SUN 06:05 Something Understood (b00jwrrp)

The Currency Exchange

As the global financial crisis bites deeper, Canadian radio producer Chris Brookes explores the nature of exchange in our day-to-day lives, comparing the value of two currencies that we deal in - money and kindness. Featuring extracts from Benjamin Zephaniah's What If and the Jewish Lamed-Vavniks.

SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (b00jwrrr)

Alex James visits Oxfordshire to see how pheasants are reared for the game shooting industry. The increase in popularity of the pursuit means shoots are demanding huge numbers of the birds and farms are now rearing them in the same way as intensive chicken producers. Alex meets one farmer who is determined to stick to the traditional methods.

SUN 06:57 Weather (b00jwrrt)

The latest weather forecast.

SUN 07:00 News and Papers (b00jwrrw)

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

SUN 07:10 Sunday (b00jwrry)

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

SUN 07:55 Radio 4 Appeal (b00jwrs0)

RedR

Mike Wooldridge appeals on behalf of RedR. Donations: Freepost BBC Radio 4 Appeal. Credit cards: Freephone 0800 404 8144.

While you will rarely hear RedR mentioned in the headlines, the charity plays a vital role in ensuring that there are skilled people, trained in anything from shelter to health, ready to respond whenever there is a disaster.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please provide RedR with your full name and address so they can claim the Gift Aid on your donation worth another 25 per cent per cent. The online and phone donation facilities are not currently available to listeners without a UK postcode.

Registered Charity No: 1079752.

SUN 07:58 Weather (b00jwrs2)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 08:00 News and Papers (b00jwrs4)
The latest news headlines. Including a look at the papers.

SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (b00jwrs6)
A service from Holy Trinity Church, Cookham, on the banks of the Thames, celebrating the spirituality of painter Stanley Spencer, who died in 1959.

Preacher: Canon David Winter; leader: Father Michael Smith; organist and director of music: Sara Wood.

SUN 08:50 A Point of View (b00jvfm)
Britain has Talent

Clive James wonders what the reaction to Susan Boyle's performance on a television talent show has to tell us about the progress of feminism, and how far appearance still matters – even in the world of serious singing.

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (b00jwrs8)
John Watson of the Health Protection Agency advises on swine flu. A look to the future with a special edition of This Sceptred Isle and an interview with Francis Fukuyama. Andrew Motion gives the parting thoughts of a Poet Laureate and Kevin Connolly tells how we should judge President Obama's first 100 days.

The newspapers are reviewed by Andy Parsons, Jonathan Powell and Katie Derham.

SUN 10:00 The Archers Omnibus (b00jwrsb)
The week's events in Ambridge.

SUN 11:15 The Reunion (b00jwrsd)
Sue MacGregor brings together a group of people to tell the story of the 1960s 'wonder drug' Thalidomide, which caused so much damage and distress.

A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 12:00 The Unbelievable Truth (b00jrpq2)
Series 3

Episode 5

David Mitchell hosts the game show in which panellists are encouraged to tell lies and compete to see how many items of truth they are able to smuggle past their opponents.

With Sean Lock, Arthur Smith, Sue Perkins and Miranda Hart.

A Random Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 12:32 The Food Programme (b00jwxm3)
Slow Fish

Sheila Dillon follows two Cornish oyster fisherman, Rob Searle and Tim Vinnicombe, as they travel to the 'Slow Fish' gathering in Genoa - the world's largest gathering of fishermen and women from around the world, organised by the Slow Food movement.

Rob and Tim are part of a team attempting to save the tradition of gathering native oysters from the Fal Estuary. The oysters are fished in 200-year-old sailing boats as no mechanical power is permitted on the fishery. By taking their catch to Genoa, they hope to raise the profile of the native oyster and create a market that will help ensure the survival of a traditional and sustainable form of fishing.

SUN 12:57 Weather (b00jwxm5)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (b00jwxm7)
A look at events around the world.

SUN 13:30 Gershwin's Horns (b00bc2r4)
Rainer Hersch explores the musical significance of unusual instruments, including cannons, car horns, anvils, typewriters and salad bowls. All have featured in concert performances over the past 200 years, but who plays them?

With the help of two leading British percussion players, Mick Doran and Neil Percy, Rainer explores the soundscape that can be conjured up by bowing a cymbal, rubbing a plastic cup on a gong or hitting a car suspension spring with a hammer.

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (b00jvdhg)
Peter Gibbs chairs the popular horticultural forum.

Pippa Greenwood, Bob Flowerdew and Matthew Biggs answer questions sent in by post and email.

Including the Gardeners' Question Time gardening weather forecast.

A Taylor Made production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 14:45 Lights, Camera, Landmark (b00fg9zv)
Battersea Power Station

Matthew Sweet visits parts of the man-made landscape which have been used in films over the years.

Matthew discovers how cinema has used the cavernous interior and decaying brickwork of Battersea Power Station as a symbol of post-industrial decline in films including RocknRolla and The Dark Knight.

SUN 15:00 Classic Serial (b00jwxv2)
Geoffrey Chaucer - Troilus and Criseyde

Episode 1

Dramatisation of Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde.

One of the great works of English literature, this powerful, compelling story explores love from its first tentative beginnings through to passionate sensuality and eventual tragic disillusionment. Lavinia Greenlaw's new version for radio brings Chaucer's language up-to-date for a modern audience while remaining true to his original poetic intention.

After seeing the beautiful widow Criseyde at the temple in Troy, Troilus falls instantly in love with her. Inexperienced in love, he is unable to act on his feelings and locks himself in his room to compose love songs. Pandarus, worried for his friend, eventually persuades Troilus to tell him why he is so miserable and is delighted to hear that the cause is Troilus' love for his niece Criseyde.

Worried about her reputation, Criseyde is at first reluctant to enter into a relationship with Troilus. After much cajoling and manipulation, she reluctantly comes around to the idea. Pandarus is frustrated that the relationship is moving too slowly and engineers a complex plan to get Criseyde and Troilus in bed together.

Troilus Tom Ferguson
Criseyde Maxine Peake
Pandarus Malcolm Raeburn
Servant/Friend Kathryn Hunt
Calchas/Servant Kevin Doyle
Priam/Servant Terence Mann
Hector/Diomedes Declan Wilson

With music composed by Gary Yershon and performed by Ehsan Emam, Tim Williams and Mike Dale.

Directed by Susan Roberts.

SUN 16:00 Open Book (b00jwxvq)
Hilary Mantel, Brian Chikwava, Will Self and fictional dentists

British author Hilary Mantel explains why Thomas Cromwell, the hero in her new historic novel Wolf Hall - far from being Henry VIII's Machiavellian advisor - just had an image problem.

Zimbabwean writer Brian Chikwava's debut novel Harare North inspires a discussion about recurrent themes visited by expatriated African writers.

Will Self's Reader's Guide to the late JG Ballard is revisited.

And Professor John Sutherland takes a look at fictional dentists in this week's Reading Clinic.

SUN 16:30 Baghdad of the Mind (b00jwxvs)

An impressionistic portrait of the fantastical city of Baghdad, a metropolis at the heart of an empire that for more than a thousand years has captured the imagination of Western and Arab worlds alike.

Using the logic of a dream interspersed with music and poetry, the broadcast summons up a dusty but glittering mosaic of real, dreamt, nostalgic, oriental and orientalist poems and melodies inspired by and from Baghdad.

Long before the city was synonymous with tyranny, occupation and oppression, Baghdad was a place of learning and culture that attracted hundreds of poets. In the labyrinthine city of the Arabian Nights, the real and the romanced are confused in the iconic figure of the Caliph Harun al-Rashid. According to the tales, he would disguise himself to go among his people and meet fabulous adventures. We re-create this poetic city through a night of chance encounters on the radio.

In conversation and poetry, contemporary Iraqi poets in exile Salah Niazi, Fawzi Karim and Nabeel Yasin reflect on the city they left and describe how the City of Peace still exerts a powerful pull on their work. The picture they paint is fresh and unexpected: a weekly pilgrimage to the book market to buy Sartre or Hemingway, poets bar-hopping their way across the city and small boys spending blissful, endless days swimming in the Tigris.

With additional contributions from Robert Irwin and Professor Geert Jan van Gelder.

Featured poems:

Salah Niazi
The Abode

Fawzi Karim
At The Gardenia's Entrance
two excerpts from The Plague Lands
(forthcoming Carcanet Press)

Nabeel Yasin
New York Baghdad

Abu Nuwas - Untitled
trans. Eric Ormsby from Questions For Stones: On Classical Arabic Poetry reproduced in Abu Nuwas - A Genius For Poetry by Philip F Kennedy, Oneworld 2005.

A Just Radio production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 17:00 Twin Sisters, Two Faiths (b00jsw51)

Identical twins, Elizabeth and Caroline, talk to Anna Scott-Brown about their choices to follow two very different faiths - Islam and Christianity. They discuss their strongly-held but separate beliefs, and how this affects their relationship within the family. As their own lives unfold, they also have to confront their mother's terminal illness and come to terms with what her death will mean to them.

SUN 17:40 Profile (b00jwqkp)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (b00jwxw5)
The latest shipping forecast.

SUN 17:57 Weather (b00jwxw7)
The latest weather forecast.

SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwxw9)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (b00jwxwk)
A selection of highlights from the past week on BBC radio.

SUN 19:00 The Archers (b00jwxwm)
Pip's revising hard but is worrying about her exams. David doesn't want her to overdo it and assures her they just want her to do her best. He suggests Pip takes a break so they can look at the owl nest box. To Pip's delight there are five eggs.

It's the day of the marathon and Usha's feeling nervous. Alan encourages her but wishes he hadn't joked about Usha beating Annabelle. Ruth's sure Usha won't take any risks.

Once Usha's registered, her excitement grows. Annabelle's in the same starting group and is taking it very seriously.

With the marathon under way, Annabelle soon gets herself ahead of Usha. But with six miles to go, Usha catches up and Annabelle is clearly in pain with her knee. Usha wonders if she should carry on but Annabelle can't let everyone down. Usha understands this and, to Annabelle's surprise, insists on finishing with her.

Alan waits anxiously by the finish line with Ruth. They see Usha and realise that without her help Annabelle wouldn't have crossed the line. Annabelle's really gratefully and admits she doesn't know if she'd have done the same. Usha insists she would but, whatever, they did it.

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

SUN 19:15 Go4it (b00jwxwp)

Kirsten O'Brien discovers the truth about Henry VIII and explores the treasures of the Mary Rose, which sank in the Solent in 1545.

SUN 19:45 Afternoon Reading (b00cm7qz)

Stories with Latitude

Episode 1

Readings recorded on stage at the Latitude Festival in Suffolk. Milton Jones' story reveals the trials and tribulations of a comedian on the road.

SUN 20:00 More or Less (b00jvdhb)

Tim Harford examines how the arithmetic behind sustainable energy adds up, asks whether putting in 100 per cent effort is enough and declares a dictatorship in an attempt to explain the national debt.

SUN 20:30 Last Word (b00jvfg2)

Matthew Bannister talks to Bea Ballard, David Cronenberg and Brian Aldiss about the life of writer JG Ballard

Mick and Jack Jones, Lord Morris and Rodney Bickerstaffe on the trade union leader Jack Jones

Actor Leslie Phillips on Carry On film producer Peter Rogers.

The Right Hon Ken Clarke and Howard Davies on the former governor of the Bank of England, Lord George

Plus the music of trumpet player Zeke Zarchey.

SUN 21:00 Money Box (b00jwpwz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:00 on Saturday]

SUN 21:26 Radio 4 Appeal (b00jwrs0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:55 today]

SUN 21:30 In Business (b00jv9n0)

Grand Design

Designers are getting tired of being pigeon-holed into the role of making products look better and work better. Peter Day argues that it is high time that designers are given a far larger role in all sorts of organisations. He hears from some influential people who are convinced that something called Design Thinking can help companies cope with a wide variety of great big business uncertainties, not just the shape of the box they come in.

SUN 21:58 Weather (b00jwxw0)

The latest weather forecast.

SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (b00jwxw2)

Reports from behind the scenes at Westminster. Including Petitioning the Modern Way.

SUN 22:55 Budget Response (b00jwxw4)

By Elyn Llwyd MP, of Plaid Cymru.

SUN 23:00 The Film Programme (b00jvfg4)

Francine Stock presents a special edition about the recent renaissance in British cinema. After Slumdog Millionaire swept the Oscars, the green shoots of recovery are evident in low-budget, critically-acclaimed films like Hunger, Shifty, Helen, Unrelated and The Escapist. Francine asks why the industry is doing so well and wonders if it can last.

SUN 23:30 Something Understood (b00jwrrp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:05 today]

MONDAY 27 APRIL 2009

MON 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwxw8)

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

MON 00:15 Thinking Allowed (b00jsxxp)

History of Murder - Scottish Conservatives

Laurie Taylor explores the latest research into how society works.

Laurie discusses the history of murder, from duelling to drive-by killings, with Pieter Spierenburg, author of *A History of Murder: Personal Violence in Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present* and Joanna Bourke, author of *An Intimate History of Killing*. Why was the murder rate higher in the Middle Ages than it is now? What factors have pushed the practice of killing men down the social order and should we worry about the first increase in the murder rate for over 200 years?

Laurie also hears of the surprise of Antje Bednarek, a German sociologist pursuing an ethnography of Young Scottish Conservatives. She had not realised that tracking them down would be such a tricky business.

MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (b00jwrrk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwxwxx)

The latest shipping forecast.

MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwxwxx)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

MON 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwxy1)

The latest shipping forecast.

MON 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwxy3)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jwxy5)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

MON 05:45 Farming Today (b00jwxy7)

Charlotte Smith launches the Farming Today beehive, with a chance for listeners to join in. Over the next 12 months the programme will be tracking its progress.

MON 05:57 Weather (b00jwxy9)

The latest weather forecast for farmers.

MON 06:00 Today (b00jwxye)

Presented by James Naughtie and Sarah Montague.

Stephen Gibbs reports from Mexico City where 103 people are believed to have died from swine flu.

Professor Danny Dorling and Dr Peter Marsh discuss the government's Equality Bill.

Sir Al Aynsley-Green, the children's commissioner, has called for an end to the arrest and detention of the children of failed asylum seekers. He explains what the problems are.

The RSPCA has reported an upsurge in the number of pets being abandoned, which they attribute to the economic downturn. Matt Wass, of the RSPCA, describes the scale of the problem.

Family lawyer Andrew Greensmith says he believes a family court inspectorate should be set up.

Professor Sir David King says 'there are no models that can predict' the economic impact of climate change.

Gavin Martin, music critic for the Daily Mirror and Gideon Coe, BBC 6music presenter, discuss Bob Dylan's enduring appeal.

Thought for the day with John Bell of the Iona community.

Minister for Equality Harriet Harman explains how legislation

aimed at reducing inequality will work.

Professor Hugh Pennington and Dr John McCauley discuss whether swine flu could develop into a pandemic.

Political correspondent Norman Smith analyses the chances of the row over MPs' expenses being resolved.

James Blackshaw is being hailed by critics as the new master of the twelve-string guitar. Nicola Stanbridge reports.

Family courts in England and Wales are to be made more accessible to the media. Justice Secretary Jack Straw discusses the purpose of these changes.

India is to vote in the third round of its general election. Chris Morris reports from the city of Ahmedabad.

Conservationists have expressed relief as the polecat population seems to be growing once more. Environment correspondent Sarah Mukherjee reports.

Reporter Sanchia Berg talks to Alan South, an unemployed former city worker as he visits one of the 'welfare to work' offices which has offered to help him find a job.

Professor Kathy Sykes argues that scientists should stop criticising each other's attempts to communicate science to the masses. She discusses her comments with Ben Goldacre, who writes a science column for the Guardian.

MON 09:00 Start the Week (b00jwxwz0)

Financial journalist Gillian Tett explains how she predicted the economic downturn from her background in social anthropology. Fool's Gold: How Unrestrained Greed Corrupted a Dream, Shattered Global Markets and Unleashed a Catastrophe is published by Little, Brown.

Historian Tristram Hunt believes that it is time to re-evaluate the writings of Friedrich Engels, 20 years after the Berlin Wall came down. He argues that the diversity of Engels's writing has perhaps more relevance today than his colleague Karl Marx. The Frock-Coated Communist: The Revolutionary Life of Friedrich Engels is published by Allen Lane.

Director of The Queen, Stephen Frears's latest film is Chéri. An adaptation of Colette's novel, it addresses the power of strong women and how to age with elegance.

The Marshall Plan aimed to rebuild Europe after WWII, which was partly achieved through educational films. Sandra Schulberg has rediscovered these films and suggests that they tell us much about that time and now. Banned in the USA! Rediscovering the Lost Films of the Marshall Plan, 1948-1953 is at the Barbican, organised by Sandra Schulberg and curated with Ed Carter of the Academy Film Archive.

MON 09:45 Book of the Week (b00jwxwz2)

For All the Tea in China

Episode 1

By Sarah Rose. In 1848, the East India Company engages a Scottish plant hunter to infiltrate deep into the interior of China to steal the lucrative secrets of tea. Read by Maureen Beattie.

MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00jwxwz4)

Yvonne Howard; Alain de Botton

Soprano Yvonne Howard on Norma. Plus, Alain de Botton on following your dreams; narrowing the gender pay gap; and the impressionist Jan Ravens.

MON 11:00 A Tale of Two Emirates (b00jwxwz6)

Episode 1

Jenny Clayton visits Dubai and Abu Dhabi to see how these two emirates are coping with the credit crisis.

The shiny towers of Dubai sprouted from the sand at an alarming rate, turning it into the world's fastest-growing tourist destination and biggest building site. Now the credit crisis has hit, and the future looks increasingly precarious. Jenny speaks to nervous expats and locals to find out how the boomtown in the desert is coping.

MON 11:30 Rudy's Rare Records (b00nsfzp)

Series 1

Take Me Home, Country Roads

Three generations of men and their musical tastes collide in this

family sitcom set in a Birmingham record shop. Starring Lenny Henry.

Written by Danny Robins and Dan Tetsell from an original idea by Lenny Henry.

Rudy Sharpe owns an old record store in Birmingham - the last bastion of black music in Handsworth. When he suffers a 'heart attack', his neurotic, middle-aged, middle-class, divorcee son Adam and 17 year old grandson Richie come up from London to look after him.

Crammed together, living in the tiny flat above the shop, the three men are set to clash on a daily basis. Whilst Rudy and Richie share a love of reggae and soul music, Adam is the odd one out - thanks to his tastes in classical music.

Adam Sharpe Lenny Henry
 Richie Sharp Joe Jacobs
 Rudy Sharpe Larrington Walker
 Doreen Claire Benedict
 Tasha Natasha Godfrey
 Clifton Jeffery Kissoon
 Alison Tracy-Ann Oberman
 Customers Colin Hout/Doc Brown

Producer: Lucy Armitage.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2008.

MON 12:00 You and Yours (b00jwzj)

Consumer news and issues with Julian Worricker.

Including:

How the swine flu outbreak is affecting people already in, and those thinking of travelling to Mexico.

We interview a woman who lost half a million pounds to "boiler room" gangs who persuaded her to invest and re-invest in fake and worthless shares.

Ian MacMillan on what makes us special.

Jane O'Brien reports on call s for a tax on plastic bags in the United States.

MON 12:57 Weather (b00jwxzl)

The latest weather forecast.

MON 13:00 World at One (b00jwxzv)

National and international news with Shaun Ley.

The outbreak of swine flu has reached Europe. Officials in Madrid say a Spanish man contracted the virus on a trip to Mexico. EU officials have warned travellers to postpone non-essential travel to infected areas in the USA and Mexico. Interviews with Professor Nigel Dimmock of Warwick University, former Head of the Civil Contingencies Secretariat in the Cabinet Office Mike Grannatt and Chief Medical Officer for England, Professor Sir Liam Donaldson.

Gordon Brown, who is visiting Afghanistan and Pakistan, has described the region as a 'crucible of terrorism'.

Interviews with Professor Malcolm Chalmers from the Royal United Services Institute, Matt Waldman of Oxfam and International Development Secretary Douglas Alexander.

MON 13:30 Counterpoint (b00jwxzx)

Series 23

2009 Heat 8

Paul Gambaccini chairs the general knowledge music quiz.

The questions cover every aspect of music - from the classical repertoire to world music, show tunes, film scores, jazz, rock and pop.

Three contestants battle it out:

Producer: Paul Bajoria

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2009.

MON 14:00 The Archers (b00jwxwm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

MON 14:15 Drama (b00jxyrh)

Two Pipe Problems

Episode 1

By Michael Chaplin

We return to The Old Beeches, a retirement home for elderly thespians, in the company of William and Sandy; two actors who still nurse a certain affectionate animosity towards one another since they starred as Holmes and Watson in a 1960s television series. Our two elderly thespian residents of the Old Beeches home for retired members of the Acting profession become embroiled in making sure the course of true love DOES run smooth.

It all begins with a proposal, leading swiftly to a wedding, involving two residents - a Shakespearian knight called Sir Trelawney Hope and an ex-nightclub chanteuse called Dolores Sweet, with William as Trelawney's best man and Sandy giving Dolores away. But as the old couple stand there, Trelawney drops a bombshell - he no longer wishes to go through with it. There's uproar, Trelawney strides away, refusing to say any more. Our two heroes are once again pressed into service to solve a mystery; just why does the bridegroom suddenly call the wedding off?

Cast:

Sandy Boyle Stanley Baxter
 William Parnes Richard Briers
 Dolores Sweet Julia McKenzie
 Sir Trelawney Hope John Rowe
 Godfrey Joseph Mydell
 Mary Winter Jillie Meers
 Isadora Klein Susan Woodbridge
 Hugo Stephen Critchlow

Saxophonist Julie Hodge

Producer/Director: Marilyn Imrie
 A Catherine Bailey production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 15:00 Archive on 4 (b00jwqlg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Saturday]

MON 15:45 Picturing Britain (b00jwy0t)

Series 1

UK Instantaneous

In spring 2009, fashion photographer Rankin invited people across the UK to take part in his most ambitious project to date: Rankin Live! It was open to anyone aged 13 and over, with a distinctive style and sense of British ethnicity and enthusiasm. Using cutting-edge technology he shot and instantly printed the portraits of 1,000 Brits which went on display at an ever-changing exhibition last summer. The process took only 15 minutes, from the click of the shutter to the hanging. Adil Ray went along to the shoot to talk to the man and his array of subjects as they prepared to capture the look that defines our time. Rankin's portfolio of celebrity subjects have included Britney Spears, Kate Moss and the Queen, and he was co-founder in 1991 of Dazed and Confused magazine.

Producer: Mohini Patel.

MON 16:00 The Food Programme (b00jwxm3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:32 on Sunday]

MON 16:30 Traveller's Tree (b00jwy0y)

Series 5

Homestay/Homeswap

Katie Derham presents the programme which examines our holiday and travel trends.

Staying with local people or swapping your house or flat for theirs is an economical solution that can deliver a prize holiday. The programme follows the Gordon family as they swap with the Coppolas in Italy, veteran swapper Sara Wheeler discusses her experiences and a listener report from Morocco where Rose and Mick Hart have booked in with a local Berber family in the foothills of the Atlas mountains.

A Just Radio/Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 17:00 PM (b00jwy12)

Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Including Shadow Health Secretary Andrew Lansley on the potential flu pandemic; Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg on MPs' expenses; and the Mayor of Wallingord on efforts to 'untwin' the town with French counterpart Luxeuil les Bains. Plus Weather.

MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwy1b)

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

MON 18:30 The Unbelievable Truth (b00jwy1d)

Series 3

Episode 6

David Mitchell hosts the game show in which panellists are encouraged to tell lies and compete to see how many items of truth they are able to smuggle past their opponents.

With Jeremy Hardy, Fred MacAulay, Jack Dee and Will Self.

A Random Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 19:00 The Archers (b00jwy1g)

Jennifer sees Annette trying to hitch a lift into Felpersham. She has an interview with a job agency and she's missed her bus. Jennifer offers her a lift. En route the brakes fail and they nearly crash.

Matt's eager to go out but Lillian's feeling apprehensive about Chalkman. Matt persuades her to ring Jennifer and invite her over. When Jennifer tells her about the accident, Lillian is convinced it's Chalkman; he's after her family now. Jennifer tries to assure her that the mechanical failure was her fault. She'd missed a service and the brake fluid had been leaking.

Helen's eager to find out about Annette's interview. It didn't go well. Annette blames the accident for her late arrival. Annette's disappointed that Tom's not coming over for dinner. She tells Helen she needs a walk, and turns up at Tom's. He tries to offer her some brotherly words of advice but Annette misreads the situation and starts getting a little too close for comfort. Tom tries to let her down gently; he's not looking for a relationship. A rather embarrassed Annette leaves.

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

MON 19:15 Front Row (b00jwy1n)

An interview with the children's author KM Peyton, whose books include the Flambards series. Born in 1929, KM Peyton published her first book aged 15 and has since produced almost a book a year. Her recent series for younger readers, about a girl who works in a Roman fort, are called No Turning Back, Minna's Quest and Far From Home.

In 1982, Chris Strompolos and Eric Zala decided to make their own version of Raiders of the Lost Ark. Both were only 12 at the time, and the project took seven years to complete. The resulting film came to the attention of Steven Spielberg, and is now being given a red-carpet charity premiere. Chris and Eric explain how they succeeded against the odds

Mark Lawson meets Kitty McGeever, the first blind actress to be cast in a British soap. Kitty joins the cast of Emmerdale as Lizzie Lakely, who is on community service after a petty crime offence. Lizzie's arrival causes uproar among the locals, due to her remorseless bad behaviour and mischievous antics.

MON 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00jwy1q)

ME Braddon - Lady Audley's Secret

Episode 6

Dramatisation of the classic Victorian thriller by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

Robert Audley gets closer to the truth in his quest to uncover Lady Audley's secret. Everything begins to fall into place as he questions Lucy Audley's first employers and, at last, he uncovers a vital clue.

Mary Braddon Hattie Morahan
 Robert Audley Alex Wyndham
 Mr Dawson Paul Rider
 Mrs Vincent Charlotte West-Oram
 Tonks Deborah McAndrew
 Phoebe Marks Lizzy Watts
 Luke Marks Benjamin Askew

Directed by Julie Beckett and Fiona Kelcher.

MON 20:00 The Wonder Cure? (b00jwy34)

Matthew Hill investigates the drug Champix, available on prescription in the UK to smokers who want to kick the habit. Since approving the drug in 2006, the US Food and Drug Administration has issued a safety warning about prescribing Champix to people with a history of psychiatric illness.

To explore fears that the drug is linked to depression and even suicidal tendencies, Hill travels to the United States. He meets critics of Champix, asks why the clinical trials did not include people with a history of mental illness and questions the manufacturer Pfizer about the drug's safety.

MON 20:30 Crossing Continents (b00jz7c9)

Thailand

Violent clashes in Bangkok have revealed a deep political divide in Thailand. As the Red Shirts prepared to descend on the capital, Lucy Ash joined them in their heartland in the north east of the country.

She watched the build up to the massive protest in Bangkok and discovered who the Red Shirts are, how they organise themselves and why poor villagers and rice farmers are now demanding to be heard.

MON 21:00 Costing the Earth (b00jrpvs)

Obama's Green Dream

Tom Heap asks whether political and vested interests will shatter President Obama's dream of leading the United States and the world towards a greener future.

Obama campaigned for a low-carbon economy and as soon as he came to power he set about laying the foundations for one. He wants to create green jobs in traditional industries like car making - electric cars of course - and construction, making American homes and offices more energy efficient. His biggest challenge will be to wean the country off its dependence on fossil fuels and make 'clean' energy profitable. For that he needs to bring in a system called carbon cap and trade and needs the support of senators and members of congress to do so. However, even members of his own party are reluctant to back what they see as a vote-losing policy and energy companies with investments in coal, gas and oil are lobbying hard against it. Can the President prevail?

MON 21:30 Start the Week (b00jwxz0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 21:58 Weather (b00jwy3n)

The latest weather forecast.

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (b00jwy3q)

National and international news and analysis.

Including reports on what we know and need to know about swine flu, why record numbers of girls are joining the scouts and the relations between the UK and Pakistan, as Gordon Brown visits the country. Plus, the US car industry slashes jobs, the humanitarian situation in Sri Lanka's war zone, and is there to be a government u-turn on MPs expenses?

MON 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00jwy3s)

The House of Special Purpose

Episode 1

David Warner reads John Boyne's haunting novel which travels to the heart of the Russian empire where young imperial family bodyguard Georgy Jachmenev is privy to the secrets of Tsar Nicholas and his circle.

As Georgy visits his wife Zoya in hospital he remembers their life together and his early life in Russia. At the age of 16, Georgy steps out in front of a bullet intended for a member of the Russian Imperial family, an event which changes the course of his life forever.

MON 23:00 Word of Mouth (b00js9fz)

Michael Rosen explores the teenage use and abuse of the word 'like', finds out why latin lessons are making a comeback and listens in as a school teaches literacy by giving pupils the chance to run their own radio station.

MON 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00jwy3x)

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

TUESDAY 28 APRIL 2009**TUE 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwy4m)**

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

TUE 00:30 Book of the Week (b00jwxz2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Monday]

TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy58)

The latest shipping forecast.

TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwy5x)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

TUE 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy6r)

The latest shipping forecast.

TUE 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwy7g)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jwy83)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

TUE 05:45 Farming Today (b00jwy8m)

Anna Hill hears reassurances about the implications of swine flu for food safety and British farmers. Also, the Farming Today beekeepers take delivery of their new hive. Plus the government's decision to fast track Australian and New Zealand sheep shearers through immigration.

TUE 06:00 Today (b00jx9xc)

Presented by Sarah Montague and Edward Stourton.

The Honorary Secretary of the Royal College of GPs, Dr Maureen Baker, discusses the outbreak of the deadly swine flu virus first detected in Mexico.

Catrin Nye reports on an Asian jewellery store in Glasgow which says it has been forced to turn away people wearing Muslim veils because of a robbery.

Health correspondent Jane Dreaper visits the Design Council in Central London to discover how designers are counteracting the MRSa bug.

Norman Smith reports on why Gordon Brown's plan to reform rules on MPs' expenses failed to win support.

Reporter Andy Moore gives details of the seventh violent death of a teenager in London this year.

Inventor Fiona Fairhurst discusses her design for a swimsuit based on a shark skin.

Thought for the day with Dr Indarjit Singh, director of the Network of Sikh Organisations.

Lawyer Sarah Harman discusses how the new rules on family courts will work in practice.

Professor Neil Ferguson, of the WHO, and science writer Vivienne Parry discuss if the swine flu outbreak can be contained.

Authors Michael Morpurgo and Anne Fine discuss their favourite books.

Labour MPs Stuart Bell and Mark Fisher discuss the damage done to Gordon Brown by attempted MPs' expenses reform.

Mike Hulme, of the University of East Anglia, discusses why experts still disagree about how the challenge of global warming should be met.

International development minister Mike Foster discusses if artillery and jet bomber attacks are continuing in north-east Sri Lanka.

Professor Douglas Kell discusses why he believes 100 million pounds should be spent on research into how farmers can produce more food.

Columnist Zoe Williams and blogger Morgan Gallagher, who describes herself as a 'lactivist', discuss if mothers face too much pressure to breastfeed.

TUE 09:00 Salman Rushdie and The Wizard of Oz (b00g3xq8)

Salman Rushdie celebrates the seventieth anniversary of the classic film The Wizard of Oz and examines its enduring appeal. Featuring contributions from John Lahr, theatre critic for The New Yorker and the son of Burt Lahr who played the Cowardly Lion, and historian David Powell, who remembers seeing the film when it was released during WWII.

TUE 09:30 Head to Head (b00jxb04)

Series 1

Episode 2

Edward Stourton presents a series celebrating great debates, combining archive of rare discussions between key figures with

analysis by a panel of experts.

The 1976 battle between Milton Friedman and Lord Balogh on the relative merits of free-market economics at a time when Britain was in financial crisis.

A Blakeway production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 09:45 Book of the Week (b00k35lp)

For All the Tea in China

Episode 2

By Sarah Rose.

Scottish plant hunter Robert Fortune disguises himself as a mandarin and sets sail on a junk for the famed green tea district of northern China. Read by Maureen Beattie.

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00k2rgt)

Family courts; Baby-led weaning; Women at the football

How has opening up the family courts to the media affected children? Plus, the pros and cons of baby-led weaning; three female Arsenal fans; and how to grow carrots.

TUE 11:00 Nature (b00k3x9n)

Series 2

Access For All?

Paul Evans visits Dorset to find out why heathland birds don't welcome hordes of visitors.

Some wildlife organisations advocate the importance of 're-connecting' with the natural world, which means encouraging people onto nature reserves and other places rich in wildlife to experience it first hand. But whether people go as naturalists, horse-riders, dog-walkers or mountain-bikers, they all have an impact on the places they visit.

Paul tramps the heaths to find out why nightjars and woodlarks are averse to hordes of visitors.

TUE 11:30 There's More Here Than I Thought (b00jxc77)

Writer Kate Mosse explores the extraordinary life of Winifred Gill. She was an artist, craftswoman, puppeteer and social reformer, and a friend and supporter of painters such as LS Lowry, Duncan Grant, Roger Fry, Vanessa Bell and poet Walter de la Mare, as well as being a tireless letter writer.

Gill died in 1981 and her name has been little known. But thanks to the hard work and persistence of her niece Margaret Bennett and Margaret's cousin Chrystine Bennett, that is about to change. Gill's papers are now in the Bodleian Library in Oxford and, in June 2009, the Courtauld Gallery in London devotes a whole room to her work.

TUE 12:00 You and Yours (b00jxc79)

Call You and Yours

Consumer news and issues with Julian Worricker.

How do you think we should reward our MPs?

Political parties can't seem to agree - perhaps you can offer them the solution. What changes would you make to the current system of a salary and expenses for a second home near Parliament?

TUE 12:57 Weather (b00jxc7c)

The latest weather forecast.

TUE 13:00 World at One (b00jwy96)

National and international news Martha Kearney.

The UK's Health Protection Agency and the World Health Organisation detail the measures they are taking to combat the spread of swine flu.

Former harbour home secretary Charles Clarke says that the prime minister's handling of the MPs' expenses issue has been 'very damaging'.

TUE 13:30 The Music Group (b00jxc7f)

Series 3

Episode 3

Comedian, broadcaster and GP Dr Phil Hammond asks each of three guests to play the track of their choice for the delight or disdain of the others.

His guests are BBC economics editor Stephanie Flanders, whose musical heritage is bound up with the lyrics made famous by her father, 'mud, mud, glorious mud' and 'I'm a gnu', historian Dominic Sandbrook, author of *White Heat: A History of Britain in the Swinging Sixties*, and comic broadcaster and author Karl Pilkington.

A Testbed production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 14:00 The Archers (b00jwy1g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

TUE 14:15 Drama (b00jxfq1)

Two Pipe Problems

Have You Come Far?

We return to The Old Beeches, a retirement home for elderly thespians, in the company of William and Sandy; two actors who still nurse a certain affectionate animosity towards one another since they starred as Holmes and Watson in a 1960s television series.

Sandy appears in the honours list but a trip to Buckingham Palace to collect his award provides another mystery for the veteran sleuths to solve.

Cast:

Sandy Boyle Stanley Baxter
William Parnes Richard Briers
Karen Tracy Wiles
Postman David Shaw-Parker
Charles, Equerry to HRH Julian Rhind-Tutt
Doctor Mortimer Geoffrey Whitehead
Marvin Stephen Critchlow
Elsie Linda Broughton

Producer/Director: Marilyn Imrie

A Catherine Bailey production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 15:00 Making History (b00jxfqn)

Vanessa Collingridge explores ordinary people's links with the past. Professor Mark Stoyke goes in search of the Civil War dead from the bitter siege of Lyme Regis.

TUE 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00jxh0z)

Red Herrings

Mangia, Mangia, Ti Fa Bene!

Short story by acclaimed crime writer Donna Leon.

Read by Greta Scacchi.

A dark tale that warns against over-indulgence... An attentive Italian housewife prepares a mouth-watering meal to beguile her taciturn husband. The title translates as "Eat! Eat! It's Good for You".

Produced by Kirsteen Cameron.

TUE 15:45 Picturing Britain (b00k2dwr)

Series 1

Street View

Street photographer Nick Turpin is worried about recent changes in the anti-terror laws. According to him, you can now be arrested simply for taking pictures on the streets. He himself has been stopped and searched many times by the police and has had several legal warnings. It comes with the territory he says. Adil joins him at work on the streets of central London as he reflects on the impact of this new legislation on his life.

Producer: Paula McGinley.

TUE 16:00 Word of Mouth (b00jxhdb)

Michael Rosen takes another journey into the world of words, language and the way we speak.

TUE 16:30 Great Lives (b00jxhdd)

Series 18

Carl Gustav Jung

Matthew Parris presents the biographical series in which his guests choose someone who has inspired their lives.

Ruby Wax discusses the life and work of Carl Gustav Jung, who has been called 'the father of analytical psychology'. Along with author and Jungian analyst Professor Andrew Samuels, Ruby discusses Jung's theories of personality and psychological types, and reveals how his work has affected her own life.

TUE 17:00 PM (b00jwy9z)

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

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwybm)

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

TUE 18:30 Heresy (b00jyc77)

Series 6

Episode 3

Victoria Coren hosts the show that thinks the unthinkable. With comedians Frank Skinner and Arthur Smith, and journalist Lucy Mangan. From April 2009.

TUE 19:00 The Archers (b00jwycq)

Brenda tells Roy that Mike's gone back to bed. He didn't get back from Vicky's until the early hours of the morning. Brenda's upset but Roy tells her they've got to let Mike move on. It's not that, though. Brenda saw Annette coming out of Tom's house last night. It looks like Tom's moved on too.

Tom tells Helen that Annette tried to make a move on him. Helen thinks Annette must have misread the situation; she's just not used to receiving attention from people.

Sheepish Annette finally emerges from her room, needing a chocolate fix from the shop. Annette offers to help Susan with the delivery and the two of them get chatting. Susan lets her in on some of the village's juicier gossip. Annette's surprised to discover that Ambridge isn't quite the sleepy village she first thought.

Tom asks Roy if Brenda is serious about leaving Ambridge. Roy says at least it would clear the way for Tom's new romance. Brenda saw Annette leaving his place last night. Tom's adamant - there's nothing going on between him and Annette, nor will there ever be.

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

TUE 19:15 Front Row (b00jwycz)

Times newspaper art critic Rachel Campbell-Johnston discusses this year's contenders for the Turner Prize: Enrico David, Roger Hiorns, Lucy Skaer, Richard Wright.

John Wilson talks to David Barrie, Director of the Art Fund (which has surveyed museums to chart the impact of the recession), to Chair of the Arts Council Liz Forgan, and to Chief Executive of Arts and Business Colin Tweedy about whether businesses are turning their back on funding and partnering arts organisations.

Antonia Quirk reviews two extremes of a film critic's lot: Hannah Montana The Movie, and an art-house film about teenage identity, Helen.

Cellist Natalie Clein has commissioned Fyfe Dangerfield, lead singer of Mercury Prize nominees the Guillemots, to write a piece for her. They talk to John Wilson about fusing their classical and pop music backgrounds and show him how they worked together.

TUE 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00jyjk0)

ME Braddon - Lady Audley's Secret

Episode 7

Dramatisation of the classic Victorian thriller by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

Robert is determined to find a link between George Talboys's dead wife Helen and his beautiful aunt Lady Audley. His search takes him across the country, where he finds an extremely helpful witness.

Mary Braddon Hattie Morahan
Robert Audley Alex Wyndham
Landlord Paul Rider
Lieutenant Maldon Jonathan Tafler

Directed by Julie Beckett and Fiona Kelcher.

TUE 20:00 Hacked to Pieces (b00jyy10)

Jolyon Jenkins investigates whether we have lost the war on cybercrime and looks at a new criminal economy which has grown to feed the demand for our most private details.

Jolyon finds that the security details of ordinary members of the public - their bank details, passwords, and secret security questions are being openly traded in cybercrime forums. He hands over his own laptop computer to an 'ethical hacker' and finds that it takes two minutes for its password to be cracked. Within a few more minutes, the hacker has installed a key-logging Trojan that secretly passes all his computer activity - passwords, emails and all - back to the hacker's own computer.

He finds that we are all vulnerable to criminals who trade on our human weaknesses: our magpie-like obsession with gaudiness and trivia, and our willingness to click the OK button without thinking through the consequences.

Ever since the internet became mainstream, we have been hearing warnings about hackers, spammers and other renegades of the online world. The internet security business now threatens to overtake the Chinese army as the largest employer on earth. But what has this army of consultants achieved, apart from spending billions of dollars? Every year the situation gets steadily worse.

The threat comes not from lone hackers, but from networks of criminals who have developed an astonishingly complex and mature organisational infrastructure that the authorities seem virtually powerless to deal with.

Entire internet relay chat rooms are controlled by the criminal underground economy and the turnover of cybercrime is possibly as big as that of the global illegal drugs trade. And as many as one billion computers - 12 per cent of the world's total internet-connected machines - could be hiding malware of one type or another. Some experts think it's only a matter of time before every PC in the world is infected.

The anti-hacking world is almost entirely privatised - its growth mirroring the rise of the opposition. Frequently, criminal networks have been closed down not by law enforcement authorities but thanks to investigations carried out by dedicated volunteers.

TUE 20:40 In Touch (b00jyy12)

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

Actress Kitty McGeever tells Peter White what it is like to join the cast of Emmerdale, playing the part of an ex-convict who uses her disability to abuse people's trust.

Plus, if you have one of the rare forms of macular disease then the drug Lucentis will not be licensed for its treatment. Why is this, and what can be done about it? Tom Bremridge from the Macular Disease Society explains.

TUE 21:00 Case Notes (b00jyy14)

Swine Flu

The new strain of so-called swine flu has arrived in Britain from Mexico - with two confirmed cases in Scotland.

If - and it is still a very big if - swine flu turns into a pandemic, it won't be the first time an outbreak of flu has caused mayhem across the world. The 1918 Spanish flu pandemic infected around a third of the world's population, killing at least 50 million people. At the outset, few realised quite how lethal the so-called Spanish Lady would prove. It wiped out whole families, including many men who'd survived the dangers of the First World War trenches.

Dr Colin Russell, who's Head of Epidemiology at the Centre of Pathogen Evolution at the University of Cambridge explains how pandemics normally evolve from a virus which uses animal-to-human transmission - whereas "normal" seasonal 'flu is spread from person-to-person - and only affects a small proportion of the population every year - estimated to be around 10%. Seasonal 'flu infects many millions of people - and kills up to half a million people every year. Because humans aren't normally exposed to the "animal" versions (mostly from birds or pigs) they don't have any of the natural immunity which they do have to the solely-human strains. This is why pandemics can cause so many deaths.

Dr Brian McCloskey, who's the Director of the London region of the Health Protection Agency explains how the alert status in the UK has risen from 3 to 4. A full-scale, confirmed pandemic would take us to level 6. He explains about the stocks of antiviral treatments would be distributed if there was a pandemic. He explains how good hygiene is essential in stopping the spread of 'flu - disposing carefully of used tissues, washing hands and surfaces and staying at home instead of going to work can all help reduce the spread of 'flu. There is no vaccine for the Mexican strain - but the scientists hope that the regular 'flu vaccine may provide some protection if people are

infected with this new strain.

The Habditch family, who live in Gloucestershire, fell ill after a cruise along the Mexican coast. Once they got home and read the headlines about the deaths in Mexico from swineflu, they rang their GP as 15 year old Grace had symptoms of 'flu - including a sore throat and neck. The doctor visited their house - wearing a mask and protective clothing - and took swabs. The next day the tests came back clear and their quarantine was lifted.

At the moment the tests to identify 'flu strains have to be carried out in special laboratories. But Dr Alan McNally, who's a senior lecturer at Nottingham Trent University, is part of a European team working on portable testing equipment that can identify the virus in just 25 minutes. This test could be carried out in the patient's home and Dr McNally says his team have redoubled their efforts to make the test available, given the current situation.

TUE 21:30 Beyond Belief (b00hhthx)

Ernie Rea explores the place of faith in today's world, teasing out the hidden and often contradictory truths behind the experiences, values and traditions of our lives.

TUE 21:58 Weather (b00jwydh)

The latest weather forecast.

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (b00jyyl6)

National and international news and analysis with Ritula Shah. The UN looks for the cause of the swine flu outbreak, a Tourette's sufferer gives his first public concert performance in 15 years and three men are cleared of helping to plan the July 7 bomb attacks in London.

TUE 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00k2ydk)

The House of Special Purpose

Episode 2

David Warner reads John Boyne's haunting novel which travels to the heart of the Russian empire where young imperial family bodyguard Georgy Jachmenev is privy to the secrets of Tsar Nicholas and his circle.

Georgy relates his arrival in St Petersburg to take up his position as companion to the Tsar's son, Alexei.

TUE 23:00 The Secret World (b011kqsj)

Series 1

Episode 3

From Jools Holland to Ross Kemp, Jon Culshaw explores the bizarre private lives of famous folk. From April 2009.

TUE 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00jyylb)

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with Rachel Byrne.

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2009

WED 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwy4c)

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

WED 00:30 Book of the Week (b00k35lp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Tuesday]

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy50)

The latest shipping forecast.

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwy5n)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

WED 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy6h)

The latest shipping forecast.

WED 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwy76)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jwy7v)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

WED 05:45 Farming Today (b00jwy8f)

Anna Hill reports on the team of veterinary experts sent to Mexico by the United Nations to investigate whether swine flu is directly linked to pigs. So far, there is no evidence the new virus has come from pigs, or is circulating on farms in Mexico. But there are claims the first known case of the disease was found in a Mexican village where residents had been protesting against pollution from a pig farm.

WED 06:00 Today (b00jyylj)

Presented by Edward Stourton and John Humphrys.

Reporter Matthew Price visits Oaxaca in Mexico where the first fatal case of the disease is believed to have been contracted.

Rory Stewart, of Harvard University, discusses if the UK policy to Afghanistan is likely to echo the new American approach.

America editor Justin Webb examines the success of Barack Obama's first 100 days as US president.

Christopher Graham, director general of the ASA, discusses what caused the increase in complaints over the last year.

Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg and actress Joanna Lumley discuss government decisions about Gurkha veterans.

Hugh Sykes, who first went to Basra six years ago, returns to the city to reflect on the years of conflict.

Thought for the day with the Right Reverend James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool.

Virologist Professor John Oxford discusses how dangerous the swine flu virus could be.

Former US adviser Philip Bobbitt and Lord Ashdown discuss a revised government strategy for the war in Afghanistan.

Classical composers David Stubbs and Gabriel Prokofiev discuss if avant-garde music lacks popular appeal.

Kevin Barron MP, of the Standards and Privileges Committee, discusses the committee's request that no decision should be made on MPs' expenses until Sir Christopher Kelly's report is published.

In an alternate view to either Darwinism or Creationism, Professor Ken Miller, of Brown University, explains the theory of intelligent design.

Science correspondent Tom Feilden considers research which suggests genetics plays a key role in autism.

Something must be done to stop the BBC becoming the only supplier of local news, the head of the media regulator Ofcom says. Chief executive Ed Richards explains why he believes a new way of delivering regional news needs to be established.

Food campaigner Miranda Watson, of Which?, and nutritionist Dr Clare Leonard discuss sugary breakfast cereals.

Flu experts Dr Alan Hay and Dr Richard Coker discuss the risk of a swine flu pandemic.

WED 09:00 Midweek (b00jyyn)

RICHARD MAWBHEY

Richard Mawbey is a wigmaker. He is the owner and Managing Director of Wig Specialities in London, which is responsible for a wide range of work for theatre, television, film and private wear. He started out working with the legendary Danny La Rue and then moved into the world of theatre and film, creating the wig for the late Richard Harris's portrayal of Dumbledore in the Harry Potter films and more recently making wigs for theatre productions such as Hairspray and La Cage Aux Folles.

BENJAMIN TAYLOR

Ben Taylor is a musician and singer. He follows in a rich family tradition - his parents are Carly Simon and James Taylor. His latest album, The Legend of King Folk, Pt 1- the Killing Bite, is his fourth album, the title of which refers to his love of kung fu movies and his own long-term practice of martial arts. The Legend of King Folk, Pt 1- the Killing Bite is available on Iris Records.

XIAOMEI MARTELL

Xiaomei Martell was born in Inner Mongolia, one of China's most remote regions, and spent her formative years there during the Cultural Revolution. In her book Lion's Head, Four Happiness she tells of her life during the Cultural Revolution and the food that inspired her family and friends. Lion's Head, Four Happiness - A Little Sister's Story of Growing up in China is published by Random House.

LEE DURRELL

Lee Durrell is the widow of the conservationist Gerald Durrell. On his death in 1995, she succeeded him as the Honorary

Director of the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. To coincide with this, five Gerald Durrell titles have been reissued (by Summersdale) including Menagerie Manor which tells the story of how Gerald set up The Jersey Zoo (later named the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust).

WED 09:45 Book of the Week (b00k35lr)

For All the Tea in China

Episode 3

By Sarah Rose.

Robert Fortune reaches the gates of a green tea factory in the Wu Yi Shan Mountains and is the first westerner to see the secret process that turns the leaves into delicate brews.

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00jz0xg)

30 years on from Thatcher; Poet Alice Oswald

Women in politics thirty years after Margaret Thatcher. Plus, poetry from Alice Oswald; and Andrew Flanagan, Chief Executive of the NSPCC on England's care system.

WED 11:00 Losing the Habit (b00jz57x)

British nuns tell the story of the dramatic Vatican reforms 40 years ago that forced them to abandon a life of seclusion and adapt to the modern world.

The Second Vatican Council's Decree on the Renewal of Religious Life in October 1965 may not have dominated the world's news agenda at the time, but it resulted in a revolution. Instead of a flight from the world, women's religious orders found themselves pressured into experimenting with new freedoms in the way they lived and worked. The end result was a 'new religious woman' in a cultural age when women were claiming their voice. But for many, it was a bruising journey: 'I've felt like a chameleon for the past 40 years,' says Sister Dorothy Bell.

We hear the testimonies of four women: Sister Dorothy Bell, June Raymond, Gemma Simmons and Sister Christine Charlesworth talk to Moyra Tourlamin about their initial decisions on entering the church and the subsequent upheaval when the Vatican reassessed its place and image in 20th-century society.

For some, the new encouragement towards freedom and individual decision making was empowering and refreshed their vocation; for others, it felt almost like betrayal. The results are still difficult to gauge. Numbers have dropped significantly, but that was already a trend in the 1960s.

WED 11:30 A Charles Paris Mystery (b00wh69p)

Murder Unprompted

Episode 1

Simon Brett's thespian sleuth is set to open in a West End play - but the real drama happens backstage. Stars Bill Nighy.

WED 12:00 You and Yours (b00jyzj1)

Consumer news and issues with Julian Worricker.

Including:

The government has stocked up on enough anti-viral drugs to cover half our entire population, but that's not prevented people from seeking their own supplies, hoping to protect families and colleagues in the event of a pandemic.

WED 12:57 Weather (b00jyzj3)

The latest weather forecast.

WED 13:00 World at One (b00jyzjc)

National and international news Martha Kearney.

WED 13:30 The Media Show (b00jyzjk)

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

In the wake of news that an NHS nurse has been struck off after filming her patients covertly for a Panorama television programme, Steve is joined by the series editor to discuss the ethics of undercover reporting. He speaks to Lord Chris Smith, chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority, about the most complained about ads, considers Twitter's take on the swine flu epidemic and asks what future there is for

commercial radio after one industry executive suggests that a sixth of stations might close in the coming year.

WED 14:00 The Archers (b00jwycq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

WED 14:15 Drama (b007znb5)
Suing Mr Spargo

By Christopher William Hill.

When a student gets abysmal A-level results, her parents attempt to sue her school. But who is really to blame?

Mike Spargo Geoffrey Hutchings
Connie Young Penelope Wilton
Harry Kitto Philip Jackson
Gwen Kitto Sylvestra Le Touzel
Harriet Kitto Joannah Tincey
Kevin Childs Sam Pamphilon
Colin Barnes Simon Treves.

WED 15:00 Money Box Live (b00jz0xl)
Paul Lewis takes listeners' questions on credit reports. He is joined by a panel of experts: Owen Roberts, head of Callcredit Check, Neil Munroe, director of external affairs at Equifax Plc and Beccy Boden-Wilks, debt adviser at National Debtline.

WED 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00jzwnp)
Red Herrings

The Difference

Chilling short story by master crime writer, Reginald Hill.

A winter funeral prompts an elderly lawyer to reflect upon a troubling case from his past.

Read by David Ryall.

Producer Kirsteen Cameron.

WED 15:45 Picturing Britain (b00k2dwt)
Series 1

Less is More

There are today a number of companies which specialise in wedding portraits with a difference - artfully lit shots of brides-to-be in posh knickers and veils and the odd football shirt: wedding day gifts for startled grooms. Visiting one of them as the prospective semi-naked wives-to-be prepare for the camera, Adil Ray listens in to the women's conversations about their past, and their hopes and fears about the future.

Producer: Mohini Patel.

WED 16:00 Thinking Allowed (b00jz10v)
Suicide - The Midriff

Laurie Taylor talks to Caroline Simone about her new study of the families of suicide victims, and hears how retelling stories of the experience can help people enormously.

Also, how the 'mid-riff' has become a professional term in the advertising industry to signal a post-feminist generation who see no contradiction between sexiness and equality. The 'midriffers' get their name from the late 1980s Madonna-influenced style for exposed abdomens and pierced belly buttons. Laurie talks to Rosalind Gill about her study of the depiction of women in advertising, and asks whether the ad industry has rejected or merely repackaged its old sexism.

WED 16:30 Case Notes (b00jyy14)
[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Tuesday]

WED 17:00 PM (b00jwy9q)
Full coverage and analysis of the day's news with Eddie Mair. Plus Weather.

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwybc)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4, followed by Weather.

WED 18:30 Elvenquest (b010j3zz)
Series 1

Episode 1

Comedy set in lower Earth where fantasy writer Sam has been coerced into joining a band of intrepid heroes as they battle the dread forces of evil in search of the legendary sword of Asnagar!

Fantasy sitcom written by Anil Gupta and Richard Pinto.

Elf Lord, Vidar Darren Boyd
Dean The Dwarf Kevin Eldon
Amis, The Chosen One Dave Lamb
Sam Stephen Mangon
Lord Darkness Alistair McGowan
Amazon Princess, Penthisleia Sophie Winkleman

Producers: Anil Gupta & Paul Schlesinger

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2009.

WED 19:00 The Archers (b00jwyc2)
Phil's enjoying a leisurely breakfast but Jill seems eager to get rid of him. Lynda's coming round later for a trial run at producing a loaf in an hour for the Gormley project.

The first attempt is a disaster. It's taken nearly twenty minutes just to grind the flour. They're just going to have to hand-grind a few grains and add them to ready-ground local flour.

The second attempt is a success. Phil's impressed. Now all they have to do is reproduce the results on the plinth. Jill hopes they're not going to suggest she practise on the roof of the village hall. Lynda thinks Phil has a point. They need to experiment outside, so the next attempt will have to be on a camping stove in the garden!

Brian tries to warn Matt not to expect too much support from the Borchester Land board but Matt's not about to make things easier for them by falling on his sword. Annabelle tells Matt that if he doesn't resign they'll simply have to move to a vote of no confidence; BL's been tainted with Matt as Chair. Matt agrees to give up the chairmanship but he's staying on the board - they can't get rid of him that easily.

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

WED 19:15 Front Row (b00jwyc5)
Poet Wendy Cope, composer Roxanna Panufnik and musician David Waterman invite Mark Lawson into rehearsals for their collaboration of poetry and classical music, The Audience, which receives its world premiere at the Norfolk and Norwich Festival in May 2009. Set to music by Panufnik, Wendy Cope's word-portraits of concert-goers - the cougher, the student and the latecomer among them - are performed live by the poet herself.

As the curtain rises on the new Hull Truck Theatre, novelist and poet Joolz Denby reviews the venue's inaugural production, Funny Turns. Written and directed by the theatre's artistic director, John Godber, the play focuses on family rifts, economic troubles and rock 'n' roll.

What is the continuing appeal of Jacobean drama for modern writers? Compulsion, a one-off ITV drama starring Ray Winstone and Parminder Nagra, tells the violent story of obsession and lust between a rich young woman and a despised older man in a loose update of Thomas Middleton and William Rowley's Jacobean tragedy The Changeling. Its screenwriter, Joshua St Johnston, joins crime writer Paul Johnston to discuss the enduring influence of early seventeenth century drama.

Cricketer Michael Vaughan talks about changing his focus from sport to art and discusses the method he has used for a new exhibition of work: 'Artballing', or hitting paint-daubed balls at a blank canvas that's fixed to the wall.

WED 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00jz1kv)
ME Braddon - Lady Audley's Secret

Episode 8

Dramatisation of the classic Victorian thriller by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

Cornered by her cousin Robert's accusations, Lucy, Lady Audley, fights back. She is willing to dare anything to preserve the security and wealth that her marriage to Sir Michael has brought.

Mary Braddon Hattie Morahan
Lucy, Lady Audley Charlotte Emmerson
Robert Audley Alex Wyndham
Sir Michael Audley Sam Dale
Alicia Audley Perdita Weeks

Directed by Julie Beckett and Fiona Kelcher.

WED 20:00 Bringing Up Britain (b00jz1lt)
Series 2

Episode 4

Mariella Frostrup hosts a debate about parenting with families, experts and policy-makers.

Dealing with children who don't fit in easily can be challenging for parents and teachers, but if we seek to modify behaviour and attitude too much, do we risk homogenising children?

Featuring a mother who feels that her inattentive and quirky son is a problem at home and school. She worries that she is failing him by trying to mould him to be more like her other children, but also feels strongly that he needs to fit in to get on in life.

Mariella's guests are writer and journalist Fiona Millar, youth worker Shaun Bailey, Dr Jackie Ravet of Aberdeen University and law lecturer Daniel Monk.

WED 20:45 Petitioning the Modern Way (b00jz2jr)
Episode 1

Journalist and author Jon Ronson examines Number 10's e-petitioning system, which allows the public to submit petitions directly to the Prime Minister.

Jon wonders whether the petitions really make an impact.

WED 21:00 Nature (b00k3x9n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 on Tuesday]

WED 21:30 Midweek (b00jy1ln)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

WED 21:58 Weather (b00jwyd9)
The latest weather forecast.

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (b00jz57z)
National and international news and analysis with Robin Lustig. Including reports on the government's defeat in the House of Commons over Gurkhas' rights, the first death in the USA from 'swine' flu and British troops preparing to say goodbye to Basra.

WED 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00k2ydn)
The House of Special Purpose

Episode 3

David Warner reads John Boyne's haunting novel which travels to the heart of the Russian empire where young imperial family bodyguard Georgy Jachmenev is privy to the secrets of Tsar Nicholas and his circle.

A newcomer to the royal household, Georgy finds himself accompanying the Tsarevich on a train journey to the Russian army headquarters.

WED 23:00 My Teenage Diary (b00jz581)
Series 1

Josie Long

Rufus Hound invites comedians to revisit their formative years by dusting off their teenage diaries and reading them out in public for the very first time. With Josie Long.

WED 23:15 Peacefully in their Sleeps (b007v124)
Rene Fortesque-Spencer-French

Spoof obituary series by Chris Chantler and Howard Read.

Legendary broadcaster Roydon Postlethwaite looks back at the life of a quintessentially British celebrity chef.

Roydon Postlethwaite Geoff McGivern
Rene Fortesque-Spencer-French Elizabeth Spriggs
Brian French Marcus Brigstocke
Mrs Hough Chris Chantler
Felicity Butcher Liz Fraser
Cruikshank Richard Glover
Nurse Josie Long
Gary Whatever Howard Read
Jenny Beardsmore Laura Solon.

WED 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00jz59s)
News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament with Robert Orchard.

THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2009

THU 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwy4f)

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

THU 00:30 Book of the Week (b00k35lr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Wednesday]

THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy52)

The latest shipping forecast.

THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwy5q)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

THU 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy6k)

The latest shipping forecast.

THU 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwy78)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jwy7x)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

THU 05:45 Farming Today (b00jwy8h)

Charlotte Smith explores threats to the survival of bees.

One in three mouthfuls of food comes from insect, principally bee, pollinated crops. Yet last year a third of British bee colonies collapsed.

One controversial theory is that bees are being weakened by exposure to a type of pesticide called neonicotinoids. These are derived from nicotine and are used to kill insects like aphids. They've been banned for use on some crops in France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia, but the UK government insists there's no case for doing so in this country.

THU 06:00 Today (b00jz5ln)

Presented by James Naughtie and Edward Stourton.

World Health Organization spokesperson Dick Thompson and correspondent Fergus Walsh explain why the WHO is calling for action to help combat the threat of swine flu in the UK.

Kim Catcheside visits a school in Reading to discover how they teach children to communicate.

Caroline Sheppard, of the Traffic Penalty Tribunal, discusses some of the excuses given in failed appeals.

Justin Webb reports on the message Barack Obama gave on his 100th day in office.

Hugh Sykes reports on the situation in Iraq. Business secretary Lord Mandelson discusses if UK firms should invest in the country.

Reporter Nicola Stanbridge discovers how music can make an early horror film even scarier.

Thought for the day with the Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner, from Alyth Gardens Synagogue.

Zimbabwe's finance minister Tendai Biti explains how he has tackled hyper-inflation in the country.

Political editor Nick Robinson says Gordon Brown has lost some of his authority over the MPs' expenses row.

Former head of Ofsted Sir Jim Rose says the current school curriculum is too 'fat' and should be slimmed.

Correspondent Chris Morris speaks to a female banker in Mumbai who is running in the Indian general election.

Caroline Wyatt reports on the ceremony which remembers the 179 British servicemen and women who have lost their lives in Southern Iraq.

Chairman of the National Pig Association Stewart Houston and author Steven Poole debate whether swine are being hard done by with the current 'swine flu' definition.

Journalists Matthew D'Ancona and Steve Richards discuss how bad things are for the government.

Education experts Trevor Avere-Beeson and Peter Tymms discuss how vocabulary in schools can be taught.

THU 09:00 In Our Time (b00jz513)

The Vacuum of Space

Melvyn Bragg and guests Frank Close, Jocelyn Bell Burnell and Ruth Gregory discuss the Vacuum of Space. The idea that there is a nothingness at the heart of nature has exercised philosophers and scientists for millennia, from Thales's belief that all matter was water to Newton's concept of the Ether and Einstein's idea of Space-Time. Recently, physicists have realised that the vacuum is not as empty as we thought and that the various vacuums of nature vibrate with forces and energies, waves and particles and the mysterious phenomena of the Higgs field and dark energy.

THU 09:45 Book of the Week (b00k35lt)

For All the Tea in China

Episode 4

By Sarah Rose.

Having procured tea seeds and young plants from the fabled Wu Yi Shan Mountains, Robert Fortune has to transport them to India in order to kickstart a new industry in the Himalayan mountains. Read by Maureen Beattie.

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00jz7c7)

The life of Eglantyne Jebb; Diet pills

The life of Eglantyne Jebb, founder of Save the Children. Plus, choreographer Shobana Jeyasingh; oceanographer Karen Heywood; and do fat-busting pills work?

THU 11:00 Crossing Continents (b00jts6m)

Hard Times in Middletown, USA

Stephen Smith finds out how the city of Muncie in Indiana reflects the impact of the economic crisis on the American middle class.

In 1929, the Rockefeller Institute published Middletown: A Study in Modern American Culture, a scientific study of a 'typical American city' which examined church, school, family and work in Muncie. The book was an instant hit and is still in print. It launched Muncie's reputation as the most widely studied small town in the world.

Today it is a rust-belt city grappling with de-industrialisation and deepening recession.

A co-production with American RadioWorks for BBC Radio 4.

THU 11:30 The Balancing Bluebottle (b00jz7cc)

The natural history film is a hundred years old. Percy Smith was its greatest pioneer, making dozens of short but brilliant films on subjects like flies and slime mould. In his principal studio, the back garden of his home in north London, he developed innovative microscope- and time-lapse photography in the 1920s that still makes viewers gasp and filmmakers jealous.

Talking to historians and to Sir David Attenborough and eavesdropping on flickering reels of film, Tim Boon of the Science Museum tells how the balancing bluebottle came to be.

Producer: Tim Dee.

THU 12:00 You and Yours (b00jz7cf)

Consumer news and issues with Peter White.

THU 12:57 Weather (b00jz7ch)

The latest weather forecast.

THU 13:00 World at One (b00jwy90)

National and international news Martha Kearney.

THU 13:30 Costing the Earth (b00jrpvs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Monday]

THU 14:00 The Archers (b00jwyc2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

THU 14:15 Drama (b00k3xld)

Mark Burgess - A King's Speech

By Mark Burgess.

The action of A King's Speech takes place on Coronation Day,

12th May 1937, and deals with King George VI's preparations for his evening BBC Radio broadcast to the Nation - a terrifying prospect for perhaps the most notable Briton to have suffered from a stammer.

The Coronation Ceremony in Westminster Abbey completed, the new King must face a further challenge - the dreaded royal broadcast, to be delivered under the watchful gaze of the BBC's first Director General, Sir John Reith himself. As the tension mounts, speech therapist, Lionel Logue (played by Trevor Littledale) must work hard to calm the King's nerves and to prepare him for his ordeal at the microphone. No easy task. As the King says himself, exploding in fury:

"Dammit!! I can't say 'crowned', can't say 'King!' What use is that? The whole speech is a minefield of 'Commonwealths', 'Queens' and 'Kings'! Five hundred and seventy-two words in total, and most of them impossible for me to say!"

The central scenes of the play feature Logue and his pupil. Comfortable in each other's company, they discuss the speech the King must make in a few hours' time. Logue's working methods are revealed: the tongue-twisters, breathing exercises, Shakespearean quotations - all designed to relax the speaker. The King's dependence on, and great friendship with Logue becomes apparent. Their conversation is wide-ranging, dealing with, among other things, the Abdication Crisis; George VI's childhood - when being both left-handed and a stammerer was frowned on; the King's envy of his elder brother; and his uneasy relationship with his father, King George V.

This is Mark Burgess's sixth play for BBC Radio 4, all of which have dealt with prominent people at pivotal moments in their lives.

Producer/Director: David Blount
A Pier production for BBC Radio 4.

THU 15:02 Open Country (b00jwp8b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:07 on Saturday]

THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (b00jwrs0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:55 on Sunday]

THU 15:30 Afternoon Reading (b00jzwn5)

Red Herrings

The Soothmothers

By Ann Cleeves.

The tensions and rivalries between three travellers on a business trip to Shetland spark a local woman's curiosity. By dawn the next day, Detective Inspector Jimmy Perez is on the scene, investigating a violent crime.

Read by Marnie Baxter.

Producer Kirsteen Cameron.

THU 15:45 Picturing Britain (b00k2dww)

Series 1

Animal Magic

Adil joins photographer Tim Flach as he attempts to shoot two contrasting worlds of domestic animals. At one end of the scale, there's the pedigree society of prize-winning Chinese Crested show dogs; at the other, the lost world of Staffordshire Bull Terriers, the most popular urban dog of our times and the most prominent breed to be found at Battersea Dogs Home in London. As they struggle to pose the dogs, Adil Ray talks to the owners and carers about their contrasting lives.

Producer: Sarah Bowen.

THU 16:00 Open Book (b00jwxvq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

THU 16:30 Material World (b00jzww6)

Quentin Cooper looks at the science behind the potential flu epidemic emanating from the 'swine' flu outbreak in Mexico.

Analysts at the World Influenza Centre in Mill Hill, Hertfordshire, describe how the molecular details of flu samples from across the globe will help them pin down the origin of the outbreak, and foresee its progress. And from Toronto how the SARS outbreak of 2003 led to a complete rethink of how to handle flu pandemics.

Climate scientists have published further evidence that maintaining current levels of CO2 emissions will lead to serious global warming. Even the international target of a 2

degree celsius rise in temperature will be hopelessly exceeded if levels are not reduced quickly and drastically.

Professor Nial Tanvir describes observations of the most distant object ever seen. Gamma rays from a star exploding very soon after the beginning of the universe completed their 13 billion year journey when they reached NASA's Swift telescope.

THU 17:00 PM (b00jwy9s)

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

THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwybf)

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

THU 18:30 4 Stands Up (b00jzww8)

Series 3

Episode 5

Chris Addison welcomes three more purveyors of fine comedy - John Gorrillo, Francesca Martinez and Andrew Lawrence. From April 2009.

THU 19:00 The Archers (b00jwyc4)

Eddie carries out some research to see if the coins he found whilst digging the soil for the new patio at the vicarage are worth anything. One of them is a George III sixpence, it could be worth a fortune! Clarrie foils his plans. If it's valuable he'll have to return it to Alan. It could help fund the repairs to the church roof.

Alan tells Eddie about his uncle who was able to buy a property following a successful find with a metal detector. But the coin's not valuable after all, Alan tells Eddie to give it to George, the king's namesake.

Kenton leaves Frank in charge of Jaxx while he takes a ten minute break. But an hour later he hasn't returned and the café's packed with disgruntled customers. Naomi's gone home after her shift and Frank can't cook and serve at the same time. David offers to help.

When Kenton returns, he's less than gracious about David's assistance. What if the environmental health people had turned up? Who knows where David's hands have been! Angry David leaves, telling Kenton he needs to get his act together. Naomi won't let him take advantage of her like Emma did.

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

THU 19:15 Front Row (b00jwycv)

Graham Coxon discusses the influence of English folk musicians such as Bert Jansch, John Martyn and Nick Drake on his new solo album *The Spinning Top* and, as he reunites with Damon Albarn to rehearse for the Blur reunion concerts, Graham shares his hope that the band will record a new album.

Mike Figgis talks about his series of short films which focus on conversations with the people of Liverpool about works of art in the Tate Collection. Figgis has taken four works from the Tate's Collection into unusual locations around the city, including a hardware shop, where he has filmed the reactions of the public. Works featured in the project include Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* and Carl Andre's *144 Magnesium Square*. Filmed throughout 2009, Figgis' short films will be displayed alongside the works in the display at Tate Liverpool and screened on Channel Four as part of the 3 Minute Wonder series.

Critic David Benedict reviews *Rookery Nook* at the Menier Chocolate Factory. Directed by Terry Johnson, who directed the Olivier award winning *La Cage Aux Folles*, this eighty year-old farce by Ben Travers tells the story of newly married playboy Gerald Popkiss who finds himself in a compromising situation.

The UK currently has eighteen arenas for live music concerts, and Leeds wants to bring that number up to nineteen by building its own. But neighbouring city Sheffield isn't happy about the idea. How has a plan for a new arena caused a dispute between these two Yorkshire cities?

Following the news that a judge quoted from Philip Larkin's poem, *This Be The Verse*, when summing up a divorce case, poet Paul Farley offers suggestions for other members of the judiciary who wish to add appropriate poetic touches to their legal judgments.

THU 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00jzwwb)

ME Braddon - Lady Audley's Secret

Episode 9

Dramatisation of the classic Victorian thriller by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

Phoebe Marks visits Lady Audley late at night, demanding money. In desperation, Lady Audley sets out across the country lanes at midnight to face up to her tormentors.

Mary Braddon Hattie Morahan
Lucy, Lady Audley Charlotte Emmerson
Robert Audley Alex Wyndham
Phoebe Marks Lizzy Watts
Luke Marks Benjamin Askew

Directed by Julie Beckett and Fiona Kelcher.

THU 20:00 The Report (b00jzx30)

Cyber Attacks

Cyber-attacks on international networks have targeted the computers used by the Dalai Lama's followers and the US power grid.

Reporter and web expert Ben Hammersley assesses how serious these threats really are, how well protected the UK is against foreign cyber war and asks whether we should be developing our own aggressive military 'botnet' for use in future conflicts.

THU 20:30 In Business (b00jzx33)

Network News

What happens to leading-edge high technology companies when their customers are plunged into recession? Peter Day puts the question to two top business leaders on both sides of the Atlantic: John Chambers, chairman of the networking giant Cisco Systems, and Mike Lynch, the founder of Britain's biggest software company, Autonomy.

THU 21:00 The New Galileos (b00jzx36)

The James Webb Space Telescope

Meet the scientists behind the James Webb Space Telescope, the gigantic successor to the Hubble Telescope. In the first of two programmes on modern day telescope builders and astronomers, Andrew Luck-Baker talks to some of the 2,000 strong team constructing a telescope unlike any that has been sent into space before.

When launched in 2014, JWST will have by far the largest mirror on a space telescope - 6.5 metres across. It also needs to sit behind a giant sunshield so that it can chill to the temperature of deep space. The sun shade covers the area of a tennis court.

One chief goal is to see deeper into the cosmos than even Hubble has allowed. The further astronomers see, the further back through the Universe's history they voyage. With JWST, NASA scientists hope to see the very first stars to light up after the Big Bang, almost 14 billion years ago. Before these primordial stars, the Universe was just a void of cool, gaseous darkness. JWST should reveal how and when these stars transformed the infant Universe into a place where planets and people were possible.
Producer: Andrew Luck-Baker.

THU 21:30 In Our Time (b00jz5t3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

THU 21:58 Weather (b00jwydc)

The latest weather forecast.

THU 22:00 The World Tonight (b00jzx38)

Robin Lustig looks at the legacy for Iraq as British troops pull out of Basra. Plus swine flu - when being prepared can lead to panic; the plight of Britain's hill farmers; and the nature of friendship.

THU 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00k2ydq)

The House of Special Purpose

Episode 4

David Warner reads John Boyne's haunting novel which travels to the heart of the Russian empire where young imperial family bodyguard Georgy Jachmenev is privy to the secrets of Tsar Nicholas and his circle.

Painful memories flood Georgy's mind as he remembers a betrayal by Zoya and a terrifying accident which befell Alexei while in his care.

THU 23:00 Down the Line (b0125djt)

Series 3

Liberal Agenda of Media

Spoof phone-in show starring Rhys Thomas as Gary Bellamy. With Amelia Bullmore, Simon Day, Felix Dexter, Charlie Higson, Lucy Montgomery and Paul Whitehouse.

With special guests Julia Davis and Lee Mack.

A Down The Line production for BBC Radio 4.

THU 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00jzx3b)

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

FRIDAY 01 MAY 2009

FRI 00:00 Midnight News (b00jwy4h)

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

FRI 00:30 Book of the Week (b00k35It)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Thursday]

FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy54)

The latest shipping forecast.

FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (b00jwy5s)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

FRI 05:20 Shipping Forecast (b00jwy6m)

The latest shipping forecast.

FRI 05:30 News Briefing (b00jwy7b)

The latest news from BBC Radio 4.

FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (b00jwy7z)

Daily prayer and reflection with Cathy Le Feuvre.

FRI 05:45 Farming Today (b00jwy8k)

News and issues in rural Britain with Charlotte Smith. How scientists at Sussex University are hoping to solve the mystery of Britain's disappearing bees by videoing them 'waggle dance'. A report suggests upland communities feel overlooked by government. And what's behind tumbling farm milk prices?

FRI 06:00 Today (b00jzxxl)

With James Naughtie and Evan Davis. Including Sports Desk, Yesterday in Parliament, Weather, Thought for the Day.

FRI 09:00 The Reunion (b00jwrsd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 on Sunday]

FRI 09:45 Book of the Week (b00k35Iw)

For All the Tea in China

Episode 5

By Sarah Rose.

Robert Fortune travels 250 miles by junk and sedan into the interior of China to discover what he can of the secrets of black tea. Read by Maureen Beattie.

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (b00jzxxn)

Carol Ann Duffy; Madame de la Fayette

Poet Carol Ann Duffy's first interview as Poet Laureate. Plus, Alan and Irene Brogan on their institutionalised childhood; and the enduring appeal of Madame de la Fayette.

FRI 11:00 Calling Time on the Binge Drinkers (b00jzy2s)

Frenchman, former Millennium Dome supremo and giant of the UK leisure industry PY Gerbeau examines our cultural obsession with drinking to excess and tries to find solutions to the problem.

The French businessman first came to prominence in 2000 when PY was brought in by the government to run the troubled Millennium Dome. A huge fan of Britain then and now, he is

still puzzled by one national trait - the habit of binge drinking.

PY remembers the shock of his first encounter with the British weakness for excessive boozing. Shortly after arriving in London he came across a group of teenagers reeling about in the street surrounded by dozens of empty bottles. He soon discovered that drinking to excess is commonplace in towns and cities across the UK. It came as a double shock for Gerbeau because, despite his Gallic roots, PY himself rarely drinks, preferring to limit his own alcohol consumption to the occasional glass of dessert wine or champagne.

But now the issue of binge drinking is very much on PY's own doorstep. The Frenchman heads X-Leisure, the largest leisure owner in the UK. Every Friday and Saturday night, thousands of people visit bars and restaurants at operators inside his entertainment complexes. His team has worked closely with tenants to limit alcohol promotions, trying to achieve a best code of practice, but PY admits they have had limited success.

He now has broader concerns about the regulation of alcohol use and says: 'It's time for a prise de conscience - an awakening. The government has proved the case for tobacco, but the same needs to be done for binge drinking'.

FRI 11:30 Chain Reaction (b00m9p30)
Series 3

Clive Anderson Interviews John Lloyd

Series in which public figures choose others to interview. The previous week's guest Clive Anderson grabs the microphone to interview his selected guest, John Lloyd, the man responsible for programmes such as Not the Nine O'Clock News, Blackadder, Spitting Image and QI. Clive asks John about co-writing and falling out with Douglas Adams and the key to creating great comedy.

FRI 12:00 You and Yours (b00jzxxg)

You and Yours hears how the restoration of Manchester's Victoria Baths is going. Plus, is the party over for summer festivals?

FRI 12:57 Weather (b00k00tn)

The latest weather forecast.

FRI 13:00 World at One (b00jwy92)

National and international news with Shaun Ley.

FRI 13:30 More or Less (b00k00tq)

Tim Harford presents the magazine which looks at numbers everywhere, in the news, in politics and in life.

An Open University co production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 14:00 The Archers (b00jwyc4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

FRI 14:15 Drama (b00k010w)

On the Field - Endgame

A sequel to the comic drama On the Field about British troops in Iraq, by Annie Caulfield.

Life on the army base in Basra is closing down - they would all rather be in Afghanistan. Terry has got no money, the CO wants him to sing in a talent contest to boost morale and he has got woman trouble. But he is just about to get his lucky break.

Mahmoud Paul Chahidi
Terry Ricardo Coke-Thomas
Padre Stephen Critchlow
Conor Rasmus Hardiker
Angie Helen Longworth
Jocelyn Endy McKay
Sgt Billy Paul Mundell
CO Paul Rider

Directed by Mary Ward-Lowery.

FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (b00k01gc)

Peter Gibbs chairs the popular horticultural forum. Pippa Greenwood, Bob Flowerdew and Matthew Biggs are guests of Tunstall Gardeners' Society in Sittingbourne. They also answer questions sent in by post and email.

Plus news of a trial to see if it is possible to grow a crop of olives in the UK.

Including Gardening weather forecast.

A Taylor Made production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 15:45 Picturing Britain (b00k2dwy)

Series 1

Brand Britannia

If you open any glossy magazine the cool eye of photographer Richard Foster will most likely be behind the high heeled boots, the glitzy watches and sleek sunglasses. But Richard is immobile from the chest down. He was driving with his teenage boys along dirt roads in Australia, surf boards strapped to the roof, when he turned the car over and broke his neck. Adil Ray meets Richard as he trains his lens on swirling sheets of chocolate to find out how he has recovered and how a luxury brand photographer faces up to the recession.

Producer: Sarah Bowen.

FRI 16:00 Last Word (b00k01nw)

Matthew Bannister talks to Elizabeth Sandie about the life of poet UA Fanthorpe; Lord Ashdown and Archie Tuta talk about Lieutenant-General Sir Martin Garrod; Nobby Clark, Eddie Tobin and Caroline Sullivan on the former manager of The Bay City Rollers, Tam Paton; Asjad Nazir on Bollywood actor and director Feroz Khan; Brian Miners and Ann Jenkin on the life of former Grand Bard of the Gorsedd of Cornwall, Hugh Miners.

FRI 16:30 The Film Programme (b00k01ny)

Francine Stock talks to Michael Caine, who reveals the reason why his wife banned their daughter from seeing his new film, *Is Anybody There?* The star of *Get Carter*, Alfie and *The Italian Job* also admits that he partly based his character on an old friend.

British director Terence Davies waxes lyrical about the Alistair Sim comedy, *The Happiest Days Of Your Life*.

FRI 17:00 PM (b00jwy9v)

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

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (b00jwybh)

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

FRI 18:30 The News Quiz (b00k0b4f)

Series 68

Episode 1

Sandi Toksvig chairs the topical comedy quiz. Panellists include Andy Hamilton, Fred MacAulay and Jeremy Hardy.

FRI 19:00 The Archers (b00jwyc6)

Joe looks over Ed's tenancy agreement, which is all in order and ready to sign. Ed is pleased he could share this special moment with Joe. Ed asks about Mildred's funeral. They reflect fondly on their memories of her, a great lady. Ed has a surprise for Joe. He's taken a photo from his phone of Joe and Mildred and had it framed. Joe's touched by the gesture.

Annette's got some good news for Helen. Susan's offered her a job working in the shop. Realising it's very part time, Helen wonders if Annette should be setting her sights higher but Annette's excited by the opportunity. She could come down first thing to mark up the morning papers so Susan won't have to come in so early. Helen decides not to dampen Annette's spirits and they celebrate with a bottle of wine.

Matt's still angry about how the Borchester Land members have treated him. Lillian tells him he can't go on brooding about it. He's just got to prove they've made a mistake. Russell rings to tell them that Chalkman's turned himself in. Lillian's relieved, they won't have to be constantly looking over their shoulders any more. But cautious Matt wonders what Chalkman has said to the SFO?

Episode written by Joanna Toye.

FRI 19:15 Front Row (b00jwycx)

Actor Jim Broadbent talks to Mark Lawson about his career, which has included playing real life characters Lord Longford, composer WS Gilbert, writer John Bayley and Derby County chairman Sam Longson, and about making up his own eccentric dance moves for the film *Moulin Rouge!*

Andrew Logan, founder of the Alternative Miss World competition, talks about this year's pageant, themed around the Elements.

Why is it not socially acceptable to clap between movements of a symphony? Ian Hislop, conductor John Eliot Gardiner and Margaret Faultless, one of the leaders of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, discuss concert hall etiquette.

FRI 19:45 15 Minute Drama (b00k0jcx)

ME Braddon - Lady Audley's Secret

Episode 10

Dramatisation of the classic Victorian thriller by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

In a thrilling climax, Robert Audley uncovers the truth and confronts the beautiful Lucy, determined to avenge the crime against his friend.

Mary Braddon Hattie Morahan
Lucy, Lady Audley Charlotte Emmerson
Robert Audley Alex Wyndham
Sir Michael Audley Sam Dale
George Talboys Joseph Kloska
Luke Marks Benjamin Askew

Directed by Julie Beckett and Fiona Kelcher.

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (b00k1wsq)

Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate in Surrey. The panellists are neuroscientist and head of the Royal Institution Baroness Susan Greenfield, human rights lawyer and Labour life peer Baroness Helena Kennedy, shadow secretary of state for environment, food and rural affairs Nick Herbert and Chris Huhne, the Liberal Democrats' spokesman on home affairs.

FRI 20:50 A Point of View (b00k1wsv)

London Underground

Loft extensions are for ordinary citizens. When the property market gets tough, the wealthy dig down to create the ultimate den, says Clive James – but he thinks it's a worrying sign that rich people living in London are developing a bunker mentality.

FRI 21:00 Friday Drama (b00k1wsw)

Des Res

Black comedy by Ed Jones. Scriptwriter Luke loses his TV job and has to downsize from a bohemian terrace in a leafy Manchester suburb to the dark heart of Salford. The house is a bargain and he's lived in worse; and he can handle those scallies that use his front doorstep as a youth club, can't he?

Luke Ian Puleston-Davies
Toto Szilvi Naray-Davey
Kenny Luke Broughton
Adele Michelle Tate
Ryan Warren Brown
Lotta Fiona Clarke
Script Editor Natasha Byrne
Policeman Greg Wood

Directed by Gary Brown.

FRI 21:58 Weather (b00jwydf)

The latest weather forecast.

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (b00k1wsz)

National and international news and analysis with Robin Lustig. Including a report from Mexico City, which has been shut down to prevent the spread of flu, and a radical solution to Kenya's problems. Plus, is there evidence of green shoots of recovery in the economy?

FRI 22:45 Book at Bedtime (b00k2yds)

The House of Special Purpose

Episode 5

David Warner reads John Boyne's haunting novel which travels to the heart of the Russian empire where young imperial family bodyguard Georgy Jachmenev is privy to the secrets of Tsar Nicholas and his circle.

In wartime London, Georgy finds himself recruited by an intelligence agency to translate Russian documents.

FRI 23:00 Great Lives (b00jxhdd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Tuesday]

FRI 23:30 Today in Parliament (b00k1wsl)

In a special report ahead of the European Parliament elections,

Chris Mason explores what it is that MEPs actually do.