

**SATURDAY 02 DECEMBER 2023****SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m001svbc)**

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**SAT 00:30 Wasteland by Oliver Franklin-Wallis (m001sv26)**

Precious

It all seems rather hopeless, but Oliver Franklin-Wallis has some ideas about how we can realistically tackle the waste crisis.

Looking at the very real physical legacy we are leaving behind, he finds reasons to be hopeful.

Written by Oliver Franklin-Wallis

Read by Russ Bain

Abridged by Robin Brooks

Produced by Naomi Walmsley

**SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001svbg)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m001svbl)**

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**SAT 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001svbg)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SAT 05:30 News Briefing (m001svbv)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m001svbx)**

A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**SAT 05:45 New Storytellers (m001p6s3)**

Harassment Architecture

The homeless community is targeted by features in the cityscape that are invisible to many of us.

Many argue that anti-homeless architecture enforces a certain type of 'acceptable' use of public space. Benches, bus stops and back alleys have been redesigned - leading some to say that homeless people are harassed into living in evermore hidden and dangerous places. A culture of resistance on the streets is fighting back.

In Harassment Architecture, Charlston draws from his first-hand experience of being homeless and disabled to reflect on how he and others like him are instructed, and often forced, to navigate urban environments. He questions the purpose and value of hostile design through recalling his own testimonies, and the hardship he has encountered. He now uses architecture as a tool in campaigning for radical solutions.

New Storytellers presents the work of new radio and audio producers, and this series features the winners of this year's Charles Parker Prize 2023 for the Best Student Radio Feature. Harassment Architecture was made by Goldsmiths MA student George Ruskin, and the judges commented, "What is excellent about this piece is the perspective. It makes the listener see the world from one - singular - point of view, with wonderful stereo illustrations to bring the words to life."

Producer: George Ruskin

A Soundscape production for BBC Radio 4

**SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m001t2sg)**

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

**SAT 06:07 Open Country (m001svms)**

Wildler London

Dan O'Neill is a wildlife expert and biologist. He's also the first openly gay wildlife presenter. In this Open Country he's in London to discover what 'rewilding' means for the capital.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, launched the 'Rewild London Fund' to help make London a leader in urban rewilding, from restoring rivers to reintroducing species currently absent from the capital. One of them is the beaver and at Paradise Fields in Ealing, just down the road from the busy Greenford tube station, a family of five beavers have just been introduced

to their new home by conservationist and vet Dr Sean McCormack. Together they will transform a gritty urban wasteland into a wildlife haven with ecosystem benefits for residents' wellbeing and flood defences.

The beavers are just one example of the huge growth in biodiversity in the city. As Dan travels from Ealing in the West to the east of the city at The Paddocks in Tottenham Hale, he discovers that there is also growing diversity in the conservation community. He meets LGQBT conservationist Izzy Knight who shares his passion for everything wild and celebrates the 'Queer Nature' festival at Kew, before heading back to Ealing to see whether he can spot those elusive beavers in their new home.

Produced by Helen Lennard

**SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m001t2sj)**

02/12/23 - Rural housing, Landscape Recovery schemes and DEFRA food attaches

Acute and overlooked - that's how the rural charity, the CPRE, describes the shortage of affordable housing in the English countryside in a report out this week. It says rural homelessness has risen by 40% in the last five years, driven by record house prices, long waiting lists for social housing and a proliferation of second and holiday homes.

34 new Landscape Recovery projects have been announced this week. This is part of the Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS) which are replacing the EU's Common Agriculture Policy in England. Landscape Recovery, as the name suggests, is work on a grand scale, giving farmers and land managers the opportunity to co-design a plan to provide environmental and climate benefits across a whole landscape. These latest projects will involve more than 700 farmers and landowners working over 200,000 hectares and have been given £25 million between them. This is the second round of projects - 22 pilot projects were given the go-ahead to develop plans last year. We visit three of them to find out how they're coming along.

And we speak to 2 of the UK's Food and Drink Attaches. A job selling British food and drink round the world sounds rather glamorous - in fact its more about tackling trade barriers than wine and dining. The UK's has 11 Agri-Food Attaches based in embassies and consulates around the world - 5 more will be added next year.

Presented by Charlotte Smith

Produced for BBC Audio in Bristol by Heather Simons

**SAT 06:57 Weather (m001t2sl)**

The latest weather reports and forecast

**SAT 07:00 Today (m001t2sn)**

Including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (m001t2sq)**

Katherine Rundell, Atinuke, Steve Greenwood, Romesh Ranganathan

Author Katherine Rundell, winner of Waterstones' Book of the Year 2023 for her fantastical and mythical 'Impossible Creatures', had a childhood filled with travel; from Kent, to Zimbabwe and Belgium - to an adult life filled with playfulness.

Steve Greenwood, one of the directors of Planet Earth III, has spent his life tracking-down impossible creatures and even discovered a new species of rat. Trekking through jungles, racing through deserts, being chased by Rhinos, the natural history producer explains how he tells animal stories with pictures.

And children's author and traditional oral storyteller Atinuke reveals how she shares her heritage and stories from the Africa...especially her homeland, Nigeria.

Plus...the Inheritance Tracks of yarn-spinning, punchline-dropping, hip-hop-loving comedian Romesh Ranganathan.

Presenters: Nikki Bedi and Jon Kay

Producer: Ben Mitchell

**SAT 10:00 Your Place or Mine with Shaun Keaveny (m001t2ss)**

Dom Joly: Fogo Island, Newfoundland, Canada

Dom wants to take Shaun to the remote island that some flat earthers believe to be the end of the world. But will they both fall off the edge into the whale-filled Atlantic Ocean? Resident geographer, historian and comedian Iszi Lawrence warns them of the moose-related hazards they may also face on this quest.

Your Place Or Mine is the travel series that isn't going

anywhere. Join Shaun as his guests try to convince him that it's worth getting up off the sofa and seeing the world, giving us a personal guide to their favourite place on the planet.

Dom Joly image: Spencer McPherson

Producers: Beth O'Dea and Sarah Goodman

Your Place or Mine is a BBC Audio production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds.

**SAT 10:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m001t2sv)**

Series 42

Sheffield

Jay Rayner and his panel of culinary whizzes are answering questions from Sheffield in this week's episode.

Joining Jay are food writers Melek Erdal and Melissa Thompson, food historian Dr Annie Gray, and chef Rob Owen Brown.

The panel discusses a variety of culinary conundrums, from tips on perfecting julienne vegetables, to fool proof rice cooking advice. The panellists also discuss which food items they'd turn up with on Christmas Day, and the all important question - how to incorporate Sheffield's beloved Henderson's relish into a Christmas feast.

Also, Dr Annie Gray gives a run down on the history of staff canteens and cooking for the masses.

Senior Producer: Dom Tyerman

Assistant Producer: Rahnee Prescod

Executive Producer: Hannah Newton

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

**SAT 11:00 The Week in Westminster (m001t2sx)**

The Observer's Sonia Sodha and guests look back on the political week. Conservative MP Danny Kruger and executive co-chair of the National Care Association Nadra Ahmed discuss migration and social care. Labour MP and former culture secretary Ben Bradshaw and Conservative MP and chair of the British Museum APPG Tim Loughton talk about the row over the Parthenon sculptures. PMQs is dissected by Ayesha Hazarika, former political adviser to Ed Miliband and Harriet Harman, and Sir Craig Oliver, former director of communications at No 10 under David Cameron. And the late Alistair Darling is remembered by Catherine MacLeod and Torsten Bell, who were both his former advisers.

**SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m001t2sz)**

The UAE's Air Pollution Problem

Kate Adie presents stories from the UAE, Iran, Ireland, Finland and Cambodia

As the world's seventh largest oil producer, the UAE may seem an odd choice to host the world's annual climate summit, but the Emiratis have been keen to showcase their green credentials. But the UAE's desired image is falling short of the reality, says Owen Pinnell, as he reveals the devastating impact of gas-flaring.

In Iran, the enforcement of the mandatory hijab rule was once again in the spotlight after the death of 16-year-old Armita Geravand, following an alleged altercation with morality police in Tehran. While the mass protests seen last year may have faded, Faranak Amidi reflects on her own childhood in Tehran and the will of Iranian women to continue taking a stand.

The Irish government has promised better resources for police and stronger hate crime laws after rioting in Dublin city centre just over a week ago. Our correspondent Chris Page says a combination of disinformation, growing anti-immigrant sentiment, and changing social dynamics is presenting new challenges in Ireland.

Finland this week announced the temporary closure of all crossings on its border with Russia amid claims that Moscow has been deliberately channeling asylum seekers into the country. After Finland's decision to join NATO, relations with Russia have soured considerably. Richard Dove was in Helsinki

A new Chinese-funded airport has opened in Cambodia's north-east, serving as the main gateway to the Angkor Wat temple complex. China's influence on the Cambodian economy is everywhere with numerous projects funded by Chinese loans. But this foreign influence is nothing new, says Sara Wheeler

Series Producer: Serena Tarling

Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

Production Coordinator: Gemma Ashman

**SAT 12:00 News Summary (m0012vy)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**SAT 12:04 Money Box (m0012t3)**

Cyber-Attack Hits Home Sales and Charity Bank Accounts

Property buyers have said their home completions are being left in limbo after a company providing IT services to law firms was hit by a cyber incident. Money Box has found some of the UK's largest lenders have begun extending mortgage offers for those affected.

A national debt charity is calling on lenders to improve the way they identify customers who're getting into problem debt. StepChange says its recent research shows almost half of people with credit debt are experiencing difficulty with household bills and 1 in 6 adults are using credit to make ends meet. UK Finance which represents banks and credit card companies says lenders are committed to lending responsibly.

Charities are facing weeks or even months unable to access their own money thanks to the unexpected closures of their bank accounts. We've been getting emails about accounts being closed without people being given any reason or warning. UK Finance says banks will only take a decision to close an account after an extensive review and analysis.

Presenter: Paul Lewis  
Reporter: Dan Whitworth  
Researchers: Sandra Hardial and Jo Krasner  
Editor: Jess Quayle

(First broadcast 12pm Saturday 2nd December 2023)

**SAT 12:30 The Now Show (m001sv8y)**

Series 63

Episode 5

Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis present the week via topical stand-up and sketches. They're joined by David Eagle unpacking the Advent, Jessica Fostekew looking into the repeal of the New Zealand smoking ban, and an original song from Archie Henderson, performed with Becky CJ.

The show was written by the cast with additional material from Alex Garrick-Wright, Jade Gebbie, Rhiannon Shaw, Miranda Holms and Cody Dahler.

Voice Actors: Jason Forbes and Lola-Rose Maxwell.

Producer: Rajiv Karia  
Production Coordinator: Katie Baum

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4

**SAT 12:57 Weather (m0012t5)**

The latest weather forecast

**SAT 13:00 News and Weather (m0012t7)**

The latest national and international news and weather reports from BBC Radio 4

**SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m001sv9h)**

John Caudwell, Jess Phillips MP, Graham Stuart MP, Jeanette Winterson

Alex Forsyth presents political discussion from Lichfield Cathedral, Staffordshire with the entrepreneur and founder of Phones4U John Caudwell, Labour MP Jess Phillips, Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero Graham Stuart MP and the writer Jeanette Winterson.

Producer: Camellia Sinclair  
Lead broadcast engineer: Chris Hardman

**SAT 14:00 Any Answers? (m0012t9)**

Call Any Answers? to have your say on the big issues in the news this week

**SAT 14:45 The Planet Earth Podcast (m0012tc)**

6. Calls Of The Wild

What would Planet Earth be without the incredible sounds – both real and designed – that help bring the natural world to life? From vultures feasting on bones to the wonderful voice of Sir David. Mike Gunton talks to sound recordist Chris Watson about the techniques used to capture sounds on location, while dubbing mixer Graham Wild shares some of the more surprising ingredients that go into creating the sounds of an elephant giving birth. Composers Jacob Shea and Sara Barone describe how they came up with the theme of Planet Earth III, while Sir David Attenborough remembers his own time

recording sounds for his earliest programmes.

**SAT 15:00 Turning Point (m0012tf)**

Mae West

In 1926 Mae West wrote, directed, produced and starred in the smash hit *Sex on Broadway*. When she was arrested on stage the following year for "corrupting the morals of youth", the subsequent court case led to a choice between apologising and paying a fine or going to jail for ten days. #

Mae chose the latter and it secured her legend.

While she was serving her time at Welfare Island she was invited to dinner with the Warden. This drama, based on those real events, imagines that dinner and celebrates the fabulous Mae West and her subsequent glittering career - writing her own lines in her movies, acting with casting approval over all her male co-stars, becoming the number one box office draw and the second richest person in America by 1935. All on her own terms.

She was a trailblazer, a warrior. A woman of power and property. A woman who refused to be silenced or let age diminish her importance. And yet her extraordinary achievements often seem to have been forgotten, despite the icons that followed in her footsteps – Marilyn and Madonna and young Miley naked on her wrecking ball.

Written by Tracy-Ann Oberman with David Spicer

Mae West - Tracy-Ann Oberman  
Warden Schleth - Stuart Milligan,  
Adolph Zukor - Alistair McGowan  
Matron - Lorelei King,  
Prosecutor - Matt Addis  
Tallulah - Pepter Lunkuse  
Kathleen - Jessica Dennis  
Lainie - Anoushka Cowan

Producer: Liz Anstee  
A CPL production for BBC Radio 4

**SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (m0012th)**

Weekend Woman's Hour: Emily Blunt, Stammering, Long-distance friendships, Maria Callas' legacy

Research by the charity Stamma shows that 8% of children will start stuttering at some point. Our listener Geri, a mother who's son has a stammer, got in touch with Woman's Hour and asked us to discuss the topic. Kirsten Howells from Stamma, Tiktok influencer Jessie Yendle and Geri join Claire McDonnell to share their own experiences and advice.

Actor Emily Blunt found fame as the scene-stealing assistant in *The Devil Wears Prada*, and has since starred in many films including *Mary Poppins Returns* and *A Quiet Place* with her real-life husband John Krasinski. She is also in one of this year's biggest cinematic hits, *Oppenheimer*. As Christopher Nolan's blockbuster about the father of the atomic bomb is released on ultra-HD DVD and Blu-ray, Emily Blunt talks to Clare McDonnell about her role as Kitty Oppenheimer, Robert's wife.

How do you keep long-distance friendships going? Clare talks to filmmaker Shannon Haly, who lives in New York and wrote a viral poem about missing her best friend. They are joined by the journalist Rose Stokes who, after having an 18-year long-distance friendship decided to move to live in the same city as her friend.

What do women look for in a bra after breast cancer surgery? Clare is joined by Katy Marks, an architect by trade, who discovered after her single mastectomy that there was no bra on the market that was flat on one side. She didn't want to use a prosthetic and so designed her own, called Uno, which launched on Monday. She'll be joined on the programme by Asmaa Al-allak who won this year's Great British Sewing Bee and is a consultant breast surgeon who has made post-surgery lingerie for her patients.

Today marks 100 years since the birth of one of opera's most renowned and influential singers of the 20th century: the iconic heroine, Maria Callas. But what is it about her talent that has transcended the decades? Two sopranos – Alison Langer and Nadine Benjamin – join Anita to describe Maria Callas' enduring star quality.

Presenter: Anita Rani  
Producer: Hanna Ward  
Studio Manager: Tim Heffer

**SAT 17:00 PM (m0012tk)**

Full coverage of the day's news

**SAT 17:30 Sliced Bread (m001svkh)**

Christmas Trees

Which Christmas tree is better for the environment - real or fake?

Everyone loves the smell of a freshly cut pine or spruce but the vast majority of them go to landfill. So would a plastic tree be better?

Listener Eleanor wants to have a more sustainable Christmas and has some great questions. Is there a better way to dispose of your real tree? How about a pot-grown tree you could use again the next year? And she's even heard about the possibility of renting a Christmas tree - the same one, year after year! Is that a thing?

In this frankly festive episode I attempt to get to the root of the problem (sorry!) by speaking to an ecological expert and a journalist who's attempted to rent the whole of Christmas.

Presenter: Greg Foot  
Producer: Simon Hoban

**SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m0012tm)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SAT 17:57 Weather (m0012tp)**

The latest weather forecast

**SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m0012tr)**

Israel has bombarded southern Gaza, after pulling out of ceasefire talks with Hamas. And, more than 110 countries at COP 28 agree to triple renewable energy production by 2030.

**SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m0012tv)**

Max Boyce, AJ and Curtis Pritchard, Caryl Lewis, Non Evans, Angharad Jenkins & Huw Warren, Aisha Kigs, Kiri Pritchard-McLean

Clive Anderson and Kiri Pritchard-McLean are joined by Max Boyce, Non Evans, AJ and Curtis Pritchard and Caryl Lewis for an eclectic mix of conversation, music and comedy. With music from Angharad Jenkins & Huw Warren and Aisha Kigs, recorded at Swansea Grand Theatre.

**SAT 19:00 Profile (m0012tz)**

Sam Altman, CEO, OpenAI

It is only a year since the controversial AI chatbot, ChatGPT was launched by Open AI, the company founded by this week's profilee, Sam Altman. For him the past year may have felt like a roller coaster but surely nothing compares with the last two weeks. Over the course of a week, he lost his job at Open AI and was immediately offered a job by Microsoft who'd invested heavily in the business. Next, Open AI employees threatened to resign in solidarity with their founder if he was not reinstated. The board had no choice but to take him back.

Sam Altman is now back as CEO of Open AI, and those who ousted him are no longer on the board. But who is this relatively young tech entrepreneur who founded an AI company with Elon Musk and ran one of the most successful tech incubators in Silicon Valley? Timandra Harkness finds out.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Andy Abbott, Head of School, John Burroughs School, St. Louis, Missouri

Elizabeth Weil, journalist, New York magazine

Mike Isaacs, Tech reporter, New York Times

Madhumita Murgia, AI journalist, Financial Times

Kate Bevan, Writer and Broadcaster, Technology

Archive

ABC World Tonight  
CBS News  
Open AI Development Day Nov 2023  
CSPAN - 16th May 2023

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Presenter: Timandra Harkness  
Producers: Julie Ball, Diane Richardson  
Editor: Bridget Harney  
Sound: Neil Churchill  
Production Co-ordinators: Maria Ogundele and Sabine Schreck

**SAT 19:15 The Infinite Monkey Cage (p0gr7m49)**

Series 28

The Scale of Life (or were dinosaurs just too big?)

Brian and Robin are joined by palaeontologist Dr Susie Maidment, evolutionary biologist Dr Tori Herridge and comedian Dave Gorman to pitch giant creatures against tiny creatures in their bid to avoid extinction. They explore the scale of life and ask why some organisms are large and some small and what the optimum size for successful survival is. From the prokaryotic cell to the grandest dinosaur, how does the modern synthesis explain the huge variation in scale, form and function? What are the advantages and disadvantages to being huge like the dinosaurs, or was it their size that really did them in, in the end?

New episodes released Wednesdays. If you're in the UK, listen to the newest episodes of *The Infinite Monkey Cage* first on BBC Sounds: [bbc.in/3K3JzyF](https://www.bbc.com/sounds/play/3K3JzyF)

Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem

**SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m001t2v5)**

La Divina

To mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Maria Callas, singer Lesley Garrett and forensic psychiatrist Dr John Crichton cast their professional ears over the archive to look for fresh clues about the legendary soprano and her remarkable yet tragic life.

Born in Manhattan to Greek immigrant parents on 2nd December 1923, Maria was put on the stage to sing at the age of 5. She said that she hated it. Her mother took her to live in occupied Greece and Maria was enrolled at the local music conservatoire to begin her vocal training at the age of just 13.

She was trained in the old bel canto technique which Callas described as being like wearing a strait jacket. She worked tirelessly and her exceptional voice, combined with her superb dramatic talents, led to her soon being hailed as La Divina ("the Divine one").

Success on the opera stage led to fame and Callas was soon a superstar. Making headline news wherever she went, she became a style icon with a huge following. But the Press also picked up on stories of her being temperamental with a tendency to be extremely difficult to work with. Every move she made was scrutinised and brutally chewed over by newspaper men.

In 1957, while still married, Callas was introduced to Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. They were invited to a cruise on his yacht – along with Winston Churchill. By the end of the cruise, Callas had fallen for Onassis. She divorced her husband and began a tempestuous affair with the world's wealthiest man. Around this time, she stopped singing regularly. After nine years, and allegedly with no warning to Callas, Onassis married Jackie Kennedy. Callas attempted to make a singing comeback, but her voice was too long neglected. She retreated to her flat in Paris where she lived a largely reclusive life. She died in 1977 aged just 53.

Archive voices include: Maria Callas, Lord Harewood, Edward Downes, Simon Callow, Alan Sievwright, Carlo Maria Giulini, Dame Joan Sutherland, Rev Richard Coles, David Holmes.

Music featured:

O mio babbino caro from Gianni Schicchi by Puccini  
Un bel dì, vedremo from *Madama Butterfly* by Puccini  
Casta Diva from *Norma* by Bellini  
In separato carcere from Anna Bolena by Donizetti  
O mio babbino caro from Gianni Schicchi by Puccini  
Ecco l'orrido campo ove s'accoppia from *Un Ballo in Maschera* by Verdi

Producer: Rosie Boulton  
A Must Try Softer Production

**SAT 21:00 GF Newman's The Corrupted (m000w5j3)**

Series 6

Episode 8

The final episode of GF Newman's family crime saga. It's now 2008 and Brian Oldman is still in jail for a crime he didn't commit.

He found a man in jail able to prove his innocence - but that man was soon discovered dead in his cell. He suspects that Joseph Oldman, now Lord Olinska, organised the killing.

In this final series, taking us to 2008, Joseph Olinska gets ever more involved in New Labour, while Brian Oldman becomes a vegan and studies law in jail in a bid to win justice for himself.

Tony Wednesday continues to work behind the scenes for Sir Joseph at the same time as moving ever further up the ranks of the police force.

GF Newman's *The Corrupted* weaves fiction with real characters from history, following the fortunes of the Oldman/Olinska family - from small-time business and opportunistic petty crime, through gang rivalries, to their entanglement in the highest echelons of society. It's the tale of a nexus of crime, business and politics that's woven through the fabric of 20th and 21st century greed, as even those with hitherto good intentions are sucked into a web of corruption.

Whose fortunes will prosper? Who will get their just deserts?

Joey Oldman, an uneducated Jewish child immigrant from Russia, has a natural instinct for business and a love of money - coupled with a knack for acquiring it. His first wife Cath is as ruthless in both the pursuit of money and the protection of her son, Brian. Joey built his empire with the help of a corrupt bank manager in the 1950s, starting with small greengrocer shops before moving into tertiary banking and property development, dealing with many corrupt policemen on the way - and befriending Lord Goodman, Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair. Joseph now helps New Labour with their finances, while continuing to invest heavily in Russia, the US and a pharmaceutical company specialising in cancer drugs.

The characters are based on GF Newman's novels.

Cast

Lord Olinska - Toby Jones  
Brian - Joe Armstrong  
Tony Wednesday - Alec Newman  
Sonia Hope - Sarah Lambie  
Catherine - Isabella Urbanowicz  
Margaret - Flora Montgomery  
Anatoly Popov / Clive Bunter / Justice Deed - Matthew Marsh  
PO Rogers / Paul Linthwaite / Menachem Hyak / Robin Bleecher - Paul Kemp  
Julian Tyrwhitt - Jonathan Tafler  
DCS Redvers - Arty Froushan  
EXO Avedlund - Nigel Privaro  
Mrs Jinks / Marcia Hoffman - Suzan Sylvester  
FBI Agent Pyke - Will Meredith  
Chuck Haley - Matt Rippy  
Tim Listfield - Charles Davies  
DAC Henderson - Nicholas Murchie

Produced and directed by Clive Brill  
A Brill production for BBC Radio 4

**SAT 21:45 The Skewer (m001sv1x)**

Series 10

Episode 8

Fresh from winning Gold for Best Comedy at the British Podcast Awards (and Highly Commended as Podcast of the Year), Jon Holmes's comedy current affairs concept album returns for its 10th series to remix the news into satirical shapes.

This week: Oily Fools and Horses, Cleverly's Sh\*thole, Where The Wilders things Are, and King Charles sees dead people (and takes their money).

Creator / Producer: Jon Holmes

An unusual production for BBC Radio 4

**SAT 22:00 News (m001t2v9)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SAT 22:15 Add to Playlist (m001sv9b)**

Natalie Duncan and Martin Phipps unpick a children's festive favourite

Pianist, singer and songwriter Natalie Duncan and Martin Phipps, composer of TV's *The Crown* and Ridley Scott's new film *Napoleon*, join Cerys Matthews and Jeffrey Boakye as they travel from Senegal to a massive Cher hit from 1998.

Producer Jerome Weatherald  
Presented, with music direction, by Cerys Matthews and Jeffrey Boakye

The five tracks in this week's playlist:

El hadji n'fa djigui Diabaté by Salimata Diabaté  
Mute Heart by Matt Calvert  
Jingle Bells by Dean Shostak  
Il Dolce Suono by Gaetano Donizetti  
Believe by Cher

Other music in this episode:

Insomnia 2021 by Faithless (Maceo Plex Epic Remix)  
Sabre Dances by Aram Khachaturian  
Wild Signals from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* by John Williams  
So Doggone Lonesome by Ernest Tubbs  
Adagio in C for Glass Harmonica, K356 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**SAT 23:00 Brain of Britain (m001styk)**

Semi-Final 4, 2023

(16/17)

Would you know who's depicted on the twenty-pound banknote, what number corresponds to neutral on the pH scale, or who's been on the cover of the *Radio Times* more often than anyone else? The competitors in *Brain of Britain* will have to dredge these facts from the recesses of their minds if they're to progress to the Final, in today's contest between returning winners from the heats stage.

Today's semi-finalists are:

Matt Barr from Bolton  
Sue Brooks from Kent  
Brian Leddy from Glasgow  
George Scratcherd from Essex

A listener also stands a chance of winning a prize, if questions they have devised succeed in defeating the combined brain-power of the contestants.

Assistant Producer: Stephen Garner  
Producer: Paul Bajoria

**SAT 23:30 Uncanny (m001t2vf)**

Series 3

S3. Case 6: Good Evening

1989, and Anne moves to a new house in a new town with her husband and baby. Life seems unremarkable, until one day she's prodded in the back and hears a refined voice in her ear... but there's no-one there.

It happens again, and then again. Is Anne's imagination getting the better of her? Or does something want her attention?

Written and presented by Danny Robins  
Editing and sound design: Charlie Brandon-King  
Music: Evelyn Sykes  
Script editor: Dale Shaw  
Theme music by Lanterns on the Lake  
Produced by Danny Robins and Simon Barnard

A Bafflegab and Uncanny Media production for BBC Radio 4

**SUNDAY 03 DECEMBER 2023****SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m001t2vk)**

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**SUN 00:15 Poetry Please (m001st1s)**

Benjamin Zephaniah

Roger McGough is joined in the studio by Benjamin Zephaniah, who shares a selection of favourite poems from listener requests.

These include classics by John Clare, Percy Bysshe Shelley and Spike Milligan; as well as a poem new to Roger, by the Chinese scholar Zhimo Xu written about Cambridge, newer works by Mary Jean Chan and Joelle Taylor, and one of Benjamin's own about his love of hedgehogs.

Benjamin Zephaniah is a dub poet and author who's written for children, teenagers and adults. His first poetry collection, *Pen Rhythm*, was published in 1980. Recent books include two volumes autobiography, *Benjamin Zephaniah: My Story* and *The Life and Rhymes of Benjamin Zephaniah*.

Produced by Eliza Lomas for BBC Audio.

**SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001t2vm)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m001t2vp)**

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**SUN 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001t2vr)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SUN 05:30 News Briefing (m001t2vt)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m001t2vw)**

The parish church of St Mary the Virgin in Bures, Suffolk.

Bells on Sunday, comes from the parish church of St Mary the Virgin in Bures Suffolk. It is known that by 1840 there were six bells in the tower with the oldest bell dating from 1658. In 1951 they were augmented to eight bells by the Gillett and Johnston foundry of Croydon but retained an older 18th century oak bell frame in which the bells are hung in an anti-clockwise sequence. The Tenor weighs twenty one hundredweight and is tuned to the note of E. We hear them ringing Plain Bob Major

**SUN 05:45 Profile (m001t2z)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

**SUN 06:00 News Summary (m001t32)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SUN 06:05 Something Understood (m0002y9v)**

Keeping a Mind Open

Mark Tully debates the pros and cons of an open mind - in life, in politics, in philosophy.

Keeping an open mind lies at the heart of Something Understood - or so Mark suggests. There may, however, be advantages to having a closed mind from time to time - to maintaining unwavering resolution and decisiveness, to wearing metaphorical blinkers to maintain a necessary focus.

Mark Tully examines the cases for and against keeping a mind open at all times with readings from the work of philosophers Eric Hoffer and Bertrand Russell, verse from 13th century mystic Rumi, and music by Arvo Part and Bengali singer Paban Das Baul.

The readers are Jasper Britton, Adjoa Andoh and Francis Cadder.

Presenter: Mark Tully  
Producer: Frank Stirling

A 7digital production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m001t394)**

The Grass Route: A different way of raising beef

What does an American oil man do in retirement? Richard Baynes finds the answer isn't always cruises, Florida and golf. He meets Phil Close, who has turned to the hard graft of raising beef cattle on the hills above the South Ayrshire coast. Phil and his daughter Heather are doing it differently - raising smaller, all-grass-fed animals that stay in the fields all winter, even as storms howl in off the Irish sea. Their nature-based system avoids medication and produces great-tasting meat, but can they make it pay?

Produced and presented by Richard Baynes

**SUN 06:57 Weather (m001t396)**

The latest weather reports and forecast

**SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m001t398)**

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

**SUN 07:10 Sunday (m001t39b)**

Power of religion at Cop28; Shane McGowan's Catholicism; Near-death experiences

Faith is front and centre at Cop28 this weekend. The Pope may have missed the climate summit because of health problems but for the first time at the gathering, a Faith Pavilion has been erected. Edward looks at the role religions can play in mobilising support for action on climate change.

Hear about the near death experience involving bright lights and angelic figures that turned a manual labourer into an artist and composer

Edward talks to priest Eugene O'Hagan about the faith of Shane McGowan who died this week at the age of 65. The Pogues's singer described himself as a 'religious fanatic' and a 'free-thinking Catholic'. We'll hear how important his religion was to life and his work.

A World Health Organization team in Gaza has described scenes in the hospitals there as "like a horror movie", even before the bombing started again this week. Dr Ghassan Abu Sittah, a British-Palestinian surgeon who operated on patients at the Anglican-run al-Ahli hospital in Gaza, has now returned to the UK and tells Edward Stourton about his experiences.

Edward hears from Rachel Goldberg, whose son Hersh was badly wounded when he was taken hostage by Hamas

**SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001t338)**

The Vicar's Christmas Appeal for the work of St Martin-in-the-Fields

The Reverend Dr Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, makes the Radio 4 Christmas Appeal for the work of St Martin-in-the-Fields with people experiencing homelessness.

To Give:

- Freephone 0800 082 82 84.  
- Send a cheque to FREEPOST St Martin's Christmas Appeal. That's the whole address. Please do not write anything else on the front of the envelope. Cheques should be made payable to St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas Appeal.  
- Or donate online via the Radio 4 Christmas Appeal website.

Registered Charity Number: 1156305

**SUN 07:57 Weather (m001t39d)**

The latest weather forecast

**SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m001t39g)**

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

**SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m001t39j)**

God's Justice: towards the earth

Marking the 1st Sunday of Advent live from the chapel of St Catharine's College in Cambridge. Through this season, Sunday Worship will explore what God's justice means in differing contexts. Dean of Chapel, the Revd Ally Barrett leads a service exploring God's justice towards the earth, with seasonal music from the St Catherine's College Girls' Choir and congregation. Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes), People look East (arr. Piers Maxim), Psalm 19. Longing for a hope filled morning (words: Barrett, tune: Picardy), Romans 8:18-25, Rorate Caeli (Byrd), The Lord will come and not be slow (St Stephen), God Be in My Head (Walford Davies), Hills of the North rejoice (Little Cornard).

Director of College Music: Dr Edward Wickham, Organ Scholars: June Rippon and John Zhang. Producer: James Mountford.

**SUN 08:48 A Point of View (m001sv9m)**

On the Curiosity of Children

Rebecca Stott grew up in a creationist, fundamentalist community, where her childhood creativity and curiosity were severely restricted.

Now, helping her neighbour's young son to read, Rebecca reflects on the importance of nurturing the curiosity of children and encouraging them to extend their horizons.

Producer: Adele Armstrong

Sound: Peter Boshier

Production coordinator: Gemma Ashman

Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

**SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (b03dvwvx5)**

Barnacle Goose

Tweet of the Day is a series of fascinating stories about our British birds inspired by their calls and songs.

Martin Hughes-Games presents the barnacle goose. Yapping like terriers, skeins of barnacle geese leave their roosts on mud-flats and fly inland at dawn to feed in grassy fields.

**SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m001t39l)**

The Sunday morning news magazine programme. Presented by Paddy O'Connell.

**SUN 09:45 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001tbmv)**

Making a Difference

Hugh Dennis reports on how your donations from last year's Radio 4 Christmas Appeal with St Martin-in-the-Fields have been spent on changing the lives of homeless people or those at risk of homelessness. Like Jo, who this time last year was living

in her car but now, thanks to a grant from the Vicar's Relief Fund, is in her own flat. We hear from Michael who, thanks to help he's had from The Connection in London, will spend Christmas this year off the streets and in temporary accommodation. And the story of Evie, who has been supported by Project Z at Caring in Bristol, one of six organisations across the UK that's funded through the St Martin's Frontline Fund. The appeal is now in its 97th year.

To Give:

- Freephone 0800 082 82 84.  
- Send a cheque to FREEPOST St Martin's Christmas Appeal. Cheques should be made payable to St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas Appeal.  
- Or donate online via the Radio 4 Christmas Appeal website.

Registered Charity Number: 1156305

**SUN 10:00 The Archers Omnibus (m001t39n)**

WRITER: Daniel Thurman

DIRECTOR: Julie Beckett & Kim Greengrass

Helen Archer... Louiza Patikas  
Natalasha Archer... Mali Harries  
Tom Archer .... William Troughton  
Lilian Bellamy .... Sunny Ormonde  
Harrison Burns .... James Cartwright  
Alice Carter .... Hollie Chapman  
Harry Chilcott... Jack Ashton  
Ian Craig .... Stephen Kennedy  
Justin Elliot... Simon Williams  
Alan Franks .... John Telfer  
Emma Grundy .... Emerald O'Hanrahan  
Jakob Hakansson .... Paul Venables  
Fallon Rogers .... Joanna Van Kampen  
Adil Shah... Ronny Jhutti  
Lynda Snell MBE ... Carole Boyd  
Oliver Sterling .... Michael Cochrane  
Syksey .... Jasper Carrott

**SUN 11:15 Desert Island Discs (m001t2y4)**

Marina Abramović, performance artist

Marina Abramović is an artist renowned for performances and feats of endurance, in which her body is pushed to its limits. She has moved, scandalised and delighted audiences for half a century, and is now celebrated by world-leading galleries and institutions.

Marina was born in Belgrade in 1946. Her parents were honoured as war heroes for their work for the Partisan resistance movement, and both took up senior roles in the post-war Yugoslav government. Marina became interested in painting during her childhood, and went on to study art.

She first made her name as a performance artist in her 20s, creating events which often shocked viewers – and were equally traumatic for her. In 1974 she placed 72 objects, including sharp tools, a whip and a loaded pistol, on a table and invited gallery goers to use them on her, however they wished. She was attacked and left scarred, and part of her hair went white. For many years she led a nomadic existence, creating works with her partner, the German artist Ulay. In 1997, in response to the war in Bosnia, she created a prize-winning work for the Venice Biennale, in which for four days she attempted to scrub the blood from a vast pile of cow bones.

In 2010 her exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York attracted almost a million people, many queuing for hours for a chance to sit opposite her in silence as part of her marathon performance The Artist is Present. More recently her work has been celebrated in a major retrospective exhibition at the Royal Academy in London, along with performances at English National Opera, marking the centenary of Maria Callas.

DISC ONE: Aria from The Goldberg Variations. Composed by Johann Sebastian Bach

German composer and musician, performed by Igor Levit  
DISC TWO: Norma, Act 1: 'Casta diva'. Composed by Vincenzo Bellini, performed by Maria Callas (soprano) and Coro del Teatro alla Scala di Milano

DISC THREE: 4 Degrees - Anohni

DISC FOUR: Paloma Negra - Chavela Vargas

DISC FIVE: Private Dancer - Tina Turner

DISC SIX: Sherab Nyingpo Mantra (The Heart Sutra) - Tashi Lhumpo Monks

DISC SEVEN: Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major, K. 467 - 2. Andante. Composed by Mozart and performed by Mitsuko Uchida (piano), with the English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Jeffrey Tate

DISC EIGHT: Rum And Coca-Cola - The Andrews Sisters

BOOK CHOICE: In Search of the Miraculous by Peter D Ouspensky

LUXURY ITEM: A cashmere blanket

CASTAWAY'S FAVOURITE: Sherab Nyingpo Mantra (The Heart Sutra) - Tashi Lhumpo Monks

Presenter Lauren Laverne  
Producer Sarah Taylor

**SUN 12:00 News Summary (m001t3fc)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**SUN 12:04 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m001stz6)**

Series 80

Episode 3

The nation's favourite wireless entertainment pays a visit to the De Montfort Hall in Leicester. Tony Hawks and Pippa Evans take on Andy Hamilton and the Reverend Richard Coles with Jack Dee in the chair. Colin Sell provides piano accompaniment.

Producer - Jon Naismith.

It is a BBC Studios production for Radio 4.

**SUN 12:32 The Food Programme (m001t31d)**

The food books of 2023

Over a coffee in community arts space The Place in Newport, south Wales, The Food Programme presenters Sheila Dillon, Leyla Kazim and Dan Saladino choose two books each from the year: one that has made them cook, and one that has made them think. Sheila also meets George Harris, creative director of Tin Shed Theatre Company, to hear why food has become part of their work, and leaf through a very special cookbook that has been passed down through George's family.

Wondering what the next generation makes of food books, Sheila visits a group of young food activists from the organisation Bite Back 2030, to debate one of the top food books of this year - Henry Dimbleby's Ravenous. Meeting at Bite Back HQ, in north London, they also discuss whether TikTok spells the end of an era for recipe books and share their own recommended reads.

Dropping in on cookbook buyer at Topping books in Bath, Kathleen Smith, we find out what's been selling this year and how trends vary according to region. Plus, scattered throughout, we hear the personal book recommendations from best-selling food writers and chefs including Rukmini Iyer, Poppy O'Toole and other familiar faces, picking their own favourite new releases from 2023.

Presented by Sheila Dillon and produced by Nina Pullman for BBC Audio in Bristol.

**SUN 12:57 Weather (m001t39t)**

The latest weather forecast

**SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m001t39w)**

Radio 4's look at the week's big stories from both home and around the world

**SUN 13:30 Behind the Crime (m001t39y)**

Fran

This is the story of a young woman who got herself into difficulties by signing a lease on a commercial unit for a bakery business she was setting up without thinking through the implications. In order to cover the bills, she sought investment – but that investment was built on lies she told. Fran was imprisoned for fraud.

When we dig back into Fran's formative experiences, we start to see the patterns that led to this catastrophic chain of events. Is it possible to prevent crime by understanding the root causes of offending behaviour?

Sally Tilt and Dr Kerensa Hocken are forensic psychologists who work in prisons.

They help people in prison to look at the harm they've caused to other people, understand why it happened and work out how to make changes to prevent further harm after they've been released.

In Behind the Crime, they take the time to understand the life of someone whose crimes have led to harm and, in some cases, imprisonment.

The job of the forensic psychologists is to dig deep into Fran's story, to understand the sequence of events that got Fran to the point where she committed a crime. For details of organisations that can provide help and support, visit [bbc.co.uk/actionline](http://bbc.co.uk/actionline)

Producer: Andrew Wilkie  
Editor: Clare Fordham

Behind the Crime is a co-production between BBC Long Form Audio and the Prison Radio Association.

**SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m001sv7r)**

Postbag: Cambridge University Botanic Garden

How do I make my cactus healthier? Which 1930's style plants could I grow indoors? How do I prune mistletoe?

Peter Gibbs and his panel of horticultural experts are at Cambridge University Botanic Gardens for this week's postbag episode of Gardeners' Question Time. Joining Peter on a tour of the gardens are Head Gardener of Horatio's Garden Ashley Edwards, ethnobotanist James Wong, and garden designer Bunny Guinness.

Alongside the questions, the Head of Horticulture at Cambridge University Botanic Gardens, Sally Pettit, gives the pane a tour of the greenhouses and gardens on the historic site.

Producer: Dominic Tyerman  
Assistant Producer: Dulcie Whadcock

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4.

**SUN 14:45 Opening Lines (m001t3b0)**

A Many-Splendoured Thing - Episode 2

A Many-Splendoured Thin', by the Eurasian author and doctor Han Suyin, was an instant hit in Britain and the States on its publication in 1952. Set in Hong Kong between 1949 and 1950, it's a lightly fictionalised account of the author's own passionate and transformative love affair.

The protagonist mirrors Han Suyin, herself – a Eurasian doctor originally from mainland China, born to a Chinese father and a Belgian mother. In real life, Han Suyin fell in love with an Australian war correspondent who, in the novel, becomes an Englishman, Mark Elliott.

In the second of two episodes, John explores Han's other love affair, with China itself. He explains that A Many-Splendoured Thing is no longer in print and that this can be seen in the light of Han Suyin having been, for a long time, a passionate advocate of communism in China, which she saw as an improvement on the brutalities she had witnessed in feudal China. This resulted in her and her books falling out of favour as the horrors of the Cultural Revolution became fully apparent.

However, John believes it's well worth tracking down a copy, as the novel tackles both the complexities of a cross cultural affair in 1949, and offers us a personal and nuanced portrait of a period of extreme political upheaval.

John Yorke has worked in television and radio for nearly 30 years, and he shares his experience with Radio 4 listeners as he unpacks the themes and impact of the books, plays and stories that are being dramatised on BBC Radio 4. From EastEnders to The Archers, Life on Mars to Shameless, he has been obsessed with telling big popular stories. He has spent years analysing not just how stories work but why they resonate with audiences around the globe, and has brought together his experience in his bestselling book Into the Woods. As former Head of Channel Four Drama, Controller of BBC Drama Production and MD of Company Pictures, John has tested his theories during an extensive production career working on some of the world's most lucrative, widely viewed and critically acclaimed TV drama. As founder of the hugely successful BBC Writers Academy, John has trained a generation of screenwriters.

Credits:  
A Many-Splendoured Thing by Han Suyin, published by Jonathan Cape, 1952 (currently out of print)

Contributors:  
Ming Ho, writer, who adapted the book for BBC Radio 4  
Alex Tickell, Professor of Global literatures in English at the Open University

Reader: Chipo Chung

Producer: Penny Boreham  
Executive Producer: Sara Davies  
Researcher: Nina Semple  
Production Manager: Sarah Wright  
Sound Engineer: Iain Hunter

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 15:00 Love Stories (m001t3b2)**

A Many-Splendoured Thing, Part 2

Part Two of Ming Ho's new dramatisation of Han Suyin's landmark semi-autobiographical novel.

The story follows Suyin, a doctor and writer, living and working in late 1940s Hong Kong. When Suyin meets British war reporter Mark, she embarks on a secret love affair that tests her relationship to her own Eurasian identity and divided loyalties. As the People's Republic is established in China, tensions in Hong Kong intensify, and Suyin is treated with increasing suspicion by the colonial elites. With the lines between West and East ever starker, are Mark and Suyin delaying the inevitable? And can Suyin reclaim the narrative of history?

Originally published in 1952, this is a story of two societies on the cusp of change - colonial Hong Kong and feudal, revolutionary China – in a fresh adaptation for BBC Radio 4.

CAST

Suyin ..... Chipo Chung  
Mark ..... Billy Howle  
Adeline Palmer-Jones/Mrs Cheng ..... Sarah Lam  
Humphrey Palmer Jones ..... Paul Courtenay Hyu  
Robert Hung/William Monk ..... Daniel York Loh  
Nora Hung ..... Jennifer Lim  
Suzanne/ Martha Monk ..... Elizabeth Chan  
Sen/Ah Sun ..... Jon Chew  
Fiona Manton ..... Ruth Everett  
James Manton ..... Dickon Farmar  
Mei..... Ivy Wong

Dramatised by Ming Ho  
Directed by Anne Isger  
Sound by Andy Garrett and Pete Ringrose  
Production Co-ordination by Ben Hollands  
A BBC Audio Production

**SUN 16:00 Bookclub (m001t33j)**

Donal Ryan: The Spinning Heart

Donal Ryan discusses his book The Spinning Heart with a group of readers. It's a powerful, moving novel told through twenty one individual voices. Set in Ireland in the immediate aftermath of the Celtic Tiger 'boom' years, each character reveals how the sudden and dramatic 'bust' affected their lives. At the centre is Bobby Mahon, once a respected and reliable foreman for a building company who suddenly loses his job when the firm's owner disappears overnight.

Presenter: James Naughtie  
Producer: Nicola Holloway

Upcoming recordings:

13 December at 1830 at BBC Broadcasting House, London - Elly Griffiths is our guide to The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins

24 January 2024 at 1830 at BBC Broadcasting House, London - Graeme Macrae Burnet discusses His Bloody Project

Email [bookclub@bbc.co.uk](mailto:bookclub@bbc.co.uk) to take part.

**SUN 16:30 Poetry Please (m001t3b4)**

Jackie Kay

Roger McGough is joined in the studio by Jackie Kay, who rifles through listener requests to pick out some of her favourite poems.

They include well-loved classics, such as The Lake Isle of Innisfree by W. B. Yeats, alongside oft-requested poems by Roger Robinson and Norman MacCaig and poets new to Roger, such as Ntozake Shange.

Jackie Kay is the former Scottish Makar, and as well as being a poet is also a novelist, playwright and librettist. Her collections include Bantam, Adoption Papers, Trumpet, Other Lovers and her recent memoir, Red Dust Road.

Produced by Eliza Lomas for BBC Audio

**SUN 17:00 File on 4 (m001sv93)**

Artificial Intelligence: The Criminal Threat

Artificial intelligence, or AI, makes it possible for machines to learn – and in the future it will perform many tasks now done by humans. But are criminals and bad actors ahead of the curve? AI is already being used to commit fraud and other crimes by generating fake videos and audio; fast emerging threats that form just part of a potential new crime wave. File on 4 investigates.

Reporter: Paul Connolly  
Producer: Fergus Hewison  
Editor: Carl Johnston

**SUN 17:40 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001tbmv)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

**SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m00133b6)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SUN 17:57 Weather (m00133b8)**

The latest weather forecast

**SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00133bb)**

The UN warns of a displacement crisis in Gaza, as Israel intensifies bombardments.

**SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m00133bj)**

Geoff Bird

Step right up, as Tom Waits once sang...everyone's a winner in this week's edition of Pick of the Week. There are bargains galore - including Tom himself chatting with his old Coffee and Cigarettes pal Iggy Pop, a smattering of Finnish mythology, a far flung shipping forecast, a hymn to Homer's influence on libraries and a tribute to the great Shane MacGowan. So don't settle for less, as Tom Waits for no man...

Presenter: Geoff Bird

Producer: Elizabeth Foster

Production Co-ordinator: Lydia Depledge-Miller

**SUN 19:00 The Archers (m001330m)**

Tony tells Emma about Tom and Natasha's plan to bid for the Grange Farm land. When Tony notices that Tom and Natasha are taking food without paying, Emma tells him not to worry as she's keeping a tab and Fallon will be billing them later. Later Tony suggests that maybe Tom and Natasha are taking on too much by bidding for the land. Tom feels it will be ok once Johnny gets back to help with milking. Later Tony tells them both that Johnny will be away for at least a month longer as he's been offered another passage on a yacht. Tom reckons Pat won't like Tony being the regular milker in the depths of winter.

Brian discusses with Kate his plans to bid for Oliver's land - he might use it for experimental planting to improve soil health. He mentions that Borchester Land will also be bidding and proposes to build an eco-mansion. When Kate tries to encourage Brian to perform at the 'Gagriculture' comedy night, Brian makes it clear it's not for him. Tom arrives with news from Christine that Peggy's planning to move to The Laurels. Shocked Kate storms off. When Kate returns from talking to Peggy, she's furious that she hasn't been thought of. Brian thinks Kate's being selfish and goes to find out more from Peggy. When he returns he reveals that Peggy's moving because she wants to prevent Kate from becoming a carer. Kate thinks Peggy should stay in her own home, and she'll do whatever it takes to make that happen.

**SUN 19:15 The 13 Million Club (m0017tn8)**

More than 13 million people in this country can be classed as disabled, often in ways we don't think or talk about - sometimes in ways which even they are not fully conscious of. The spectrum of mental and physical disability is far wider than most of us have ever thought about. It's an elephant in the room - we can all see it (unless we're visually impaired) but none of us talk about it (unless we have Tourette Syndrome).

If you're uncomfortable with these jokes, don't worry, this show isn't always going to be comfortable. But it will be subversive, celebratory, and absolutely unlike anything else you've ever heard on the radio - or, very likely, anywhere else.

Under the stewardship of Briony May Williams, The Thirteen Million Club brings together a remarkable range of talents and a collection of fresh perspectives in a smorgasbord of stand-up, spiky consumer pieces, interviews and panel-game style battles of wits.

From the impatient deaf comic Steve Day to the bipolar depression tales of Harriet Dyer (don't worry, she's been making it funny for a long time), via dyspraxia, sight loss, ADHD, and quite a lot more besides, we laugh with and at our spectacular cast as they laugh with and at themselves. And also at the attitudes of others, and the madness of a world which is still struggling to catch up with let alone accommodate them.

Produced by Simon Minty and Lianne Coop.  
An Impatient production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 19:45 Love on the Main Line (m00133bn)**

Episode 1 - London Victoria

Jess Searle's life is mapped out like a timetable. A successful data analyst, she's created her own dating app to find your perfect match. It worked for her! She found devilishly handsome Jean-Baptiste and they will be married at the start of the new year. Everything is running to schedule. Until she meets cynic and sceptic Kev Warmley - a stand up comedian who believes love cannot be determined by an algorithm but by the

rhythm of your heart. And the odd fart joke. Is Jess's life about to be completely derailed? Or will she find Love On The Main Line...?

Written by Colin Bytheway

Read by Rasmus Hardiker and Tigger Blaize

Directed by Celia de Wolff  
Studio Manager - Matt Bainbridge  
Sound Design by Lucinda Mason Brown  
Production Manager - Sarah Wright

A Pier Production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 20:00 Feedback (m001sv8c)**

BBC International Editor Jeremy Bowen responds to listener Feedback

Feedback this week has a distinctly Middle Eastern feel.

The BBC's International editor, Jeremy Bowen, talks to Andrea Catherwood about the challenges of accuracy and impartiality on the frontline of the Israel/Hamas War.

Also, was The Food Programme right to devote an episode to "Food Under Siege in Gaza"? The programme presenter Sheila Dillon responds to listener comments.

And Bloodlines is a new 7-part podcast from the BBC Asian Network. Reporter Poonam Taneja travels to the detention camps of northern Syria where thousands of woman and children who lived under Islamic State are still being held. She describes the reality of being in the region searching for Sulmann, the young grandson of a British man who is desperate for answers.

Presenter: Andrea Catherwood

Producer: Gerry Cassidy

A Whistledown Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 20:30 Last Word (m001sv85)**

Henry Kissinger, Terry Venables, Paul Watson, Rachel Heller

Matthew Bannister on

Henry Kissinger, a towering figure in international diplomacy, who won the Nobel Peace Prize but was condemned by some as a war criminal.

Also, Terry Venables, the colourful manager who took the England Football team to the semi-finals of Euro 96.

Paul Watson, the pioneer of reality TV whose "fly on the wall" techniques caused controversy. Sir Peter Bazalgette pays tribute.

And Rachel Heller the artist who was born with Down's Syndrome and whose work was collected by fellow artists including David Hockney, Sir Peter Blake and Maggi Hambling.

Producer: Ed Prendeville

**SUN 21:00 Money Box (m00112t3)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]

**SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001t338)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]

**SUN 21:30 Loose Ends (m00112tv)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

**SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m00113bx)**

Leila Nathoo discusses the latest on the government's Rwanda plan and previews Boris Johnson's appearance at the Covid inquiry with her guests: the former Justice Secretary, Sir Robert Buckland; Labour peer, Jenny Chapman; and Jill Rutter from the Institute for Government. Hugo Gye - political editor of the "i" newspaper - brings expert analysis, and the programme also includes an interview with Labour MP Dame Diana Johnson, about the next stage in her campaign to secure full compensation for the victims of the NHS infected blood scandal.

**SUN 23:00 The Reith Lectures (m0011sty4)**

Ben Ansell: Our Democratic Future

1. The Future of Democracy

This year's BBC Reith Lecturer is Ben Ansell, Professor of Comparative Democratic Institutions at Nuffield College,

Oxford University. He will deliver four lectures called "Our Democratic Future," asking how we can build a politics that works for all of us with systems which are robust to the challenges of the twenty first century, from climate change to artificial intelligence.

In this first lecture, recorded at New Broadcasting House in London in front of an audience, Professor Ansell asks whether we are in a 'democratic recession', where longstanding democracies are at risk of breakdown and authoritarianism is resurgent. And he examines how resilient democracies are to the challenges of artificial intelligence, social media and if they can effectively address core challenges from climate change to inequality.

The Reith Lectures are presented by Anita Anand and produced by Jim Frank.

The Editor is China Collins.

Reith Co-ordinator is Brenda Brown.

The series is mixed by Rod Farquhar and Neil Churchill.

**MONDAY 04 DECEMBER 2023****MON 00:00 Midnight News (m00113bz)**

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**MON 00:15 Sideways (m0011stzp)**

55. Perfectly Mediocre

Cornell University is known for its elite a cappella scene. It was even the inspiration for the hit film Pitch Perfect.

But in 2018 a new group arrived on the scene - Mediocre Melodies. This is the story of how one small group of average singers made a huge impact, as Matthew Syed explores the potential benefits of embracing mediocrity and getting comfortable with being average.

Featuring Andrew Greene & Maggie Meister of Mediocre Melodies. With Dr Thomas Curran and Dr Leonaura Rhodes.

Presenter: Matthew Syed

Producer: Leigh Meyer

Series Editor: Katherine Godfrey

Mix and sound design: Naomi Clarke

Theme tune by Ioana Selaru

A Novel production for BBC Radio 4.

**MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m00112vw)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

**MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001t3c2)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m001t3c8)**

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**MON 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001t3cd)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**MON 05:30 News Briefing (m001t3cj)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m001t3cn)**

A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**MON 05:45 Farming Today (m00113cx)**

04/12/23 COP28 food and farming, pollcock, wet crops

Farming and food is on the official COP agenda for the first time. It's taken 28 years but there is now a declaration from COP on the future of food, the Emirates Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action. All this week we'll be looking at what that means for agriculture and at some of the action being taken on farms here in the UK to reduce farming's environmental and climate impact. The COP declaration was signed by 134 world leaders and means they have promised to consider greenhouse gas emissions from food and agriculture in their national plans to combat climate change. There are no targets and no mention of how countries will tackle the emissions related to food production.

Christmas may be just around the corner but there's little seasonal cheer in the fishing community. It seems likely that the

government will very soon announce a complete ban on fishing for pollock, one of the key species on which fishing livelihoods in the South West of England are based. In a very strongly-worded letter to the Fishing Minister, the Cornish Fish Producers Organisation says the move would be catastrophic and swiftly lead to people going out of business.

'The worst year we have ever known', that's what many farmers are saying about 2023, and while this year is drawing to a close the impact of failed or ruined crop will of course have an impact of next year.

Presented by Charlotte Smith and produced by Beatrice Fenton.

**MON 05:56 Weather (m00113d6)**

The latest weather forecast for farmers.

**MON 05:58 Tweet of the Day (b0410t02)**

Oilbird

Michael Palin presents the oilbird, from a Venezuelan cavern. Demonic screeching's and the rush of unseen wings mixed with a volley of strange clicks are the sound backdrop to oilbirds.

Oilbirds are known in Spanish as guacharos..."the wailing ones". These bizarre-looking brown birds with huge mouths, long broad wings and long tails were seen in 1799 by the explorer Alexander von Humboldt in 1817 who described their sounds as "ear-splitting". They're similar to nightjars, their closest relatives, but unlike them, oilbirds feed on fruit; ..... they're the world's only nocturnal flying fruit-eating bird.

In their dark breeding caves, they navigate using echolocation like bats. Young oilbirds grow fat on a diet of fruit brought in by their parents and can weigh half as much as again as the adults. These plump chicks were once harvested by local people and settlers for oil which was used in cooking and, ironically for a bird which spends its life in darkness, for lighting lamps.

Producer : Andrew Dawes

**MON 06:00 Today (m00112xl)**

News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**MON 09:00 Start the Week (m00112xq)**

Playing games

It's play time on Start the Week. The mathematician Marcus Du Sautoy looks at the numbers behind the games we play, from Monopoly to rock paper scissors. In Around The World in 80 Games he shows how understanding maths can give you the edge, and why games are integral to human psychology and culture.

The historian Anthony Bale looks at game-playing in the medieval world. In A Travel Guide to the Middle Ages, he finds travellers passing the time with dice and tric trac, as well as collecting pilgrim badges along the way.

Many of today's most popular video games immerse players in historical settings, and the practice of collecting items along the way is nothing new to gamers. The co-director of the Games and Gaming Lab at the University of Glasgow, Jane Draycott, researches the historical authenticity of these online worlds, and especially the depiction of women.

And the mathematician G.T. Karber has taken his love of classic detective fiction and puzzles to create the murder-mystery riddle Murdle. A combination of Cluedo and Sudoku, what started as an online game is now a series of bestselling books. The latest is Murdle: More Killer Puzzles.

Producer: Katy Hickman

**MON 09:45 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m00112xw)**

Episode 1

Considered by many to be the iconic French memoirist's defining work, *The Years* is a narrative of the period 1941 to 2006 told through the lens of memory, impressions past and present, cultural habits, language, photos, books, songs, radio, television, advertising and news headlines.

Annie Ernaux invents a form that is subjective and impersonal, private and collective, and a new genre – the collective autobiography – in order to capture the passing of time.

At the confluence of autofiction and sociology, *The Years* is 'a Remembrance of Things Past for our age of media domination and consumerism' (New York Times), a monumental account of twentieth-century French history as refracted through the life of one woman.

'One of the best books you'll ever read.'

— Deborah Levy, author of *Hot Milk*

'The author of one of the most important oeuvres in French literature, Annie Ernaux's work is as powerful as it is devastating, as subtle as it is seething.'

— Edouard Louis, author of *The End of Eddy*

'Ravishing and almost oracular with insight, Ernaux's prose performs an extraordinary dance between collective and intimate, "big" history and private experience. *The Years* is a philosophical meditation paced as a rollercoaster ride through the decades. How we spend ourselves too quickly, how we reach for meaning but evade it, how to live, how to remember – these are Ernaux's themes. I am desperate for more.'

— Kapka Kassabova, author of *Border*

Born in 1940, Annie Ernaux grew up in Normandy, studied at Rouen University, and later taught at secondary school. From 1977 to 2000, she was a professor at the Centre National d'Enseignement par Correspondance. In 2017, she was awarded the Marguerite Yourcenar Prize for her life's work. In 2022, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Alison L. Strayer is a Canadian writer and translator. Her translation of *The Years* was awarded the 2018 French-American Translation Prize in the non-fiction category. She lives in Paris.

Written by Annie Ernaux  
Translated by Alison L Strayer  
Read by Sian Thomas  
Abridged by Jill Waters with Mark Kilfoyle  
Produced by Jill Waters  
A Waters Company production for BBC Radio 4

**MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00112y6)**

Stella Creasy MP, Living with one breast, City Girl in Nature

A man has been convicted in court of harassing the Labour MP Stella Creasy. This harassment included reporting her to social services as an 'unfit mother'. A safeguarding review quickly cleared Stella Creasy – but the complaint cannot be removed from her records. Today, she is tabling an amendment to the Victims and Prisoners Bill, to allow councils to delete baseless complaints. Stella Creasy speaks to Krupa Padhy about her fight for justice under a law she herself drafted. She also pays tribute to fellow Labour politician Glenys Kinnock, who died on Sunday.

Last week on the programme we heard from Katy Marks, an architect by trade, who discovered after her single mastectomy that there was no bra on the market that was flat on one side. She didn't want to use a prosthetic and so designed her own. Lots of you got in touch following that item to talk about your own experiences of living with one breast. Krupa is joined by two listeners, Diane Devlin and Laura Homer.

Born and raised in Deptford, south east London, Kwesia didn't grow up with a lot of nature around her. That's until she went on a life-changing trip to the Amazon. She's since created her YouTube channel, City Girl in Nature, to guide other city dwellers into the great outdoors. She speaks to Krupa about her platform, nature activism work, and winning Best New Voice at the Audio Production Awards for her podcast Get Birding.

Some studies have found that women are more vulnerable to negative health impacts of single-use plastics, and women also form a larger majority of plastic consumers. With COP28 now underway in Dubai, Krupa is joined by Christina Dixon from Environmental Investigation Agency - an NGO which uncovers environmental crime and abuse. She would like to see plastic pollution being given a higher profile in climate talks.

What do our shoe choices say about us? A new exhibition at the Arc in Winchester in Hampshire called SHOES: INSIDE OUT looks at our relationship with our footwear. From the functional and practical to the fashionable and extravagant, what can shoes tell us about our social history, modern lives and our aspirations? Krupa is joined by Claire Isbester, co-curator of the exhibition.

**MON 11:00 Fed with Chris van Tulleken (m00112yj)**

Series 1: Planet Chicken

**6. The Fast Food Trap**

Chris has learned how to make better chicken choices, and what those choices really mean.

So why is he STILL eating CRAP?

Like many of us, Chris is always trying to eat better food: healthy, high welfare, good for the environment. This kind of consumer demand is making the chicken industry better, in tiny increments. So why do so many of us give ourselves a pass when it comes to the food we KNOW we shouldn't be eating,

yet we do in absolutely vast amounts... fast food?

Chicken is at the very heart of this industry. As a cheap meat that doesn't have a strong taste, can easily take on other flavours and doesn't have any religious restrictions, it's the ideal takeaway ingredient; from nuggets to chow mein to tikka masala.

And although we might be careful about chicken choices when buying it raw to prepare at home, somehow we don't seem to mind turning a blind eye to the origins and nutritional content of our fast food favourites, especially if we're hungry...

Chris discovers just how bad this food can be for both us and the planet, and why we're powerless to resist it.

Produced by Emily Knight and Lucy Taylor

**MON 11:30 Analysis (m00117rj)**

How can we grow the UK economy?

The cost of living crisis followed a decade in which people's wages and incomes barely grew. The idea that each generation does at least as well as the one before, has for the moment ended. We'll only start getting better off again if we can get the economy growing – as it used to in the decades preceding the financial crisis. So, what levers can governments pull to get growth back into the system? Why don't governments do the things that nearly every expert thinks might work? Should we be looking to governments at all? Paul Johnson of the Institute for Fiscal Studies explores the challenges facing the UK economy and asks: how can any government get the UK economy growing?

Presenter: Paul Johnson  
Producer: Farhana Haider  
Editor: Claire Fordham

Contributors:

Diane Coyle, Bennett Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge.  
Jagjit Chadha, Director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research  
Stephen Evans, Chief Executive of the Learning and Work Institute  
Richard Davies, Director of the Economics Observatory  
Louise Hellem, Chief economist at the CBI.  
Nicholas Macpherson, former Permanent Secretary at the Treasury.  
Rowan Crozier, CEO C. Brandauer & Co Ltd  
Sam Bowan, Editor of Works in Progress

**MON 12:00 News Summary (m00112yw)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**MON 12:04 You and Yours (m00112z6)**

Rent Trap: Fake Banking App Scam; Theatre Behaviour

We hear the story of a woman stuck in a three year tenancy agreement with her abusive ex-partner. She's left the property but is trapped in the contract and paying rent. We also talk to Judith Vickress from Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse explains about why this is a wider issue and what people should be aware of when signing tenancy agreements.

There's a new kind of scam involving very convincing fake bank apps. After a listener got in touch about how they almost fell for the scam at a cash point at a motorway service station Shari Vahl reports on how the scam works and what to look out for.

And after another outbreak of unruly behaviour at a Manchester theatre - there have been others at theatres across the UK this year - we look into what's changed in audience behaviour and the theatre going experience.

PRESENTER - WINIFRED ROBINSON  
PRODUCER - CATHERINE EARLAM

**MON 12:57 Weather (m00112zk)**

The latest weather forecast

**MON 13:00 World at One (m00112zx)**

Forty-five minutes of news, analysis and comment.

**MON 13:45 Empire of Tea (m0011307)**

Cosy with a Kick

Exciting and enterprising, bloody and brutal. Sathnam Sanghera tells the story of our national drink and its imperial past. Punjabi cha, served from a saucepan to the whole family every morning, is the drink of Sathnam's childhood.

But he's also noticed that tea is a Forrest Gump-type figure, appearing at all sorts of key moments in global history. Tea arrived in Britain as an exotic product for the elite. How and why did it then become a drink for the masses? Empire of Tea tells the story of how Britain's national drink and its imperial background helped shape the modern world.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

**MON 14:00 The Archers (m001t30m)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

**MON 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m001t30x)**

Series 4

Hope

By Roy Williams. We have followed the lives of Caribbean-born Hope and Faith (Eunice) and British-born Gloria since 1946. It's now 1978, and Hope is struggling with life in a society in which she feels unwelcome and also at home now all her children have flown the nest. Her family are worried and frustrated. Not even the planning for her first grandson's christening interests her. Can a voice from her distant past jolt the usually ebullient Hope out of her despair?

Hope .... Danielle Vitalis  
Rodney .... Lloyd Thomas  
Faith .... Shiloh Coke  
Sheila .... Keziah Joseph  
Jimmy .... Michael Ajao  
Jean ..... Cecilia Appiah  
Gabriel ..... Darren Hart  
Errol ..... Joshua-Alexander Williams  
Boy ..... Tyler Cameron

Produced and directed by Pat Cumper

A BBC Audio Production for BBC Radio 4

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Faith Hope and Glory returns to Radio 4. We began following the lives of Hope, Faith (Eunice) and Gloria in the UK in 1946; three generations of three families bound together by the fate of one baby lost and found on Tilbury Dock. They are now firmly established in their lives in late 1970s Britain.

This series is set in 1978. Although racial tensions continue to simmer, black Britons are taking practical measures to help themselves. Some are standing for election as councillors. Saturday schools are springing up all over the country to support black students suffering discrimination in the education system.

Hope still works at the hospital as a Sister but feels increasingly unwelcome in the UK. Her children have all left home - Sheila is now a teacher, Jean is studying fashion design and Jimmy has just become a father. Despite her strong marriage to second husband Rodney, Hope is struggling and her family have no idea how to help her. It doesn't help that memories of the loss of her first child have become stronger with the passing of the years.

**MON 15:00 Brain of Britain (m001t314)**

The Final, 2023

(17/17)

After four months of heats and semi-finals, the cream of this year's quizzers join Russell Davies at the Radio Theatre in London for the 2023 Final. One of them will take away the silver trophy as the 70th official BBC Brain of Britain.

The Finalists are

Dan Adler from Surrey  
Eleanor Ayres from Cambridge  
Colin Kidd from Hertfordshire  
George Scratcherd from Essex.

They have all proved impressive and consistent on their climb to the final rung and a tight contest is guaranteed. Might it even come down to a tiebreak, as two of this year's semi-finals did?

Assistant Producer: Stephen Garner

Producer: Paul Bajoria

**MON 15:30 The Food Programme (m001t31d)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:32 on Sunday]

**MON 16:00 The Infinite Monkey Cage (p0gr7m49)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:15 on Saturday]

**MON 16:30 Across the Divide (m001t31r)**

Inside Israel 148

Israeli and Palestinian societies are divided by history, conflict and trauma. But they are also inexorably connected. In Across The Divide Zak Brophy speaks with Israelis and Palestinians with different backgrounds and beliefs to learn about their family histories and the reality of their day to day lives. To hear their hopes, fears, dreams and concerns. Could the testimony of a handful of the millions who are caught up in the conflict reveal some of the nuance and complexity that is so often lost in times of war? In this episode we hear from two close friends. Both are Israeli citizens but their family histories cross the divides of history.

The Across The Divide series is presented and produced by Zak Brophy.

**MON 17:00 PM (m001t320)**

Afternoon news and current affairs programme, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

**MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m001t326)**

The Home Secretary says they will lead to the biggest drop on record in legal migration

**MON 18:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m001t32d)**

Series 80

Episode 4

The antidote to panel games pays a return visit to the De Montfort Hall in Leicester. Tony Hawks and Pippa Evans take on Andy Hamilton and the Reverend Richard Coles with Jack Dee in the chair. Colin Sell attempts piano accompaniment.

Producer - Jon Naismith.

It is a BBC Studios production for Radio 4.

**MON 19:00 The Archers (m001t32m)**

Will and George's plan to sabotage the land sale upsets Clarrie. Later Eddie finds her crying about how tired she is and how sick she is of always living hand to mouth. Clarrie feels it's like living on a cliff edge all the time, and you never know when the sea's going to wash it away. Eddie is shocked to see her so upset. He tells Clarrie that she is their rock. Clarrie says not anymore; this rock is beginning to crumble. After strong words from Eddie, both boys apologise to Clarrie and agree to drop any plans of sabotage.

Alice talks to Lillian about Harry, explaining that she's happy but doesn't want anyone to know yet as it is still early days. Lillian envies the heady thrill of early romance that Alice is experiencing. Justin appears and they all discuss Peggy's decision to move to The Laurels.

Whilst rubbing down Aziz, Alice accidentally lets slip to Justin about Lillian's idea, that if the bid's successful, she wants to use the land for an outdoor international arena. Alice tells Justin that she was on board when it was a Horse Spa because it felt like an extension of what they were already doing. She's not sure about Lillian's new plan, but tells Justin that it's not her call. Justin says her opinion is most valuable. Sometime later, Justin rings Shula and asks if she had any idea about Lillian's plans for The Stables. Shula tells Justin it's the first she's heard about it.

**MON 19:15 Front Row (m001t32y)**

Julia Roberts on Leave the World Behind, guitarist MILOŠ, The Peasants

Julia Roberts, and the director of her latest project, Sam Esmail, discuss their new film, Leave The World Behind - a psychological thriller which explores what happens when all the things that make modern life possible stop working.

With their last film, the much-garlanded 'Loving Vincent', an exploration of the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh, the co-directors and co-writers Dorota and Hugh Welchman created what has been described as the world's first oil-painted feature film. Hugh joins Front Row to discuss how they've used their ground-breaking technique for their new film, The Peasants, a tale of 19th century life in rural Poland.

Guitarist MILOŠ has been in the forefront of the classical guitar revival. He talks to Nick about feeling like a time traveller with his new album, Baroque, where he explores music of the baroque period.

Presenter: Nick Ahad  
Producer: Eliane Glaser

**MON 20:00 South Africa: The Children of Paradise (m001t33b)**

Things must change

Three decades after the momentous transition from Apartheid to a democratic South Africa, Fergal Keane returns to see what happened to the hopes and promises of a better nation. In a famous speech thirty years ago, as he collected the Nobel Peace Prize, Nelson Mandela spoke of a "common humanity" in which all South Africans would live "like the children of paradise."

As the BBC's South Africa correspondent at the time, Fergal Keane, along with his colleague and friend Milton Nkosi, lived through some of the country's most desperate times. It was a period of extreme violence and loss, but also of great hope. Now Fergal and Milton travel through the country, re-visiting some of the places and people they encountered in the lead up to the end of Apartheid. Through this series they will explore how and why paradise was lost.

In this first episode they return to Tembisa, a township on the edges of Johannesburg, searching for Cynthia who they first met one winter's morning in 1993, huddling with her children under plastic sheeting.

Presenter: Fergal Keane  
Producer: John Murphy

**MON 20:30 Crossing Continents (m001svhn)**

Poland's Forest Frontier

Crossing Continents reports from Poland's eastern frontier, where the Polish government has built a steel border wall - 186 kilometres long and five metres high, it's meant to stop global migrants from Asia and Africa trying to cross from the Belarusian side. But the wall cuts straight through the Bialowieza forest - the largest remaining stretch of primeval forest in Europe, which is also a UNESCO world heritage site.

Grzegorz Sokol meets environmental scientists, activists and local villagers each with their point of view. Women like Kasia Mazurkiewicz-Bylok who treks into the forest with a rucksack of supplies to try to help migrants lost in the dense, trackless forest. Or Kat Nowak, a biologist trying to log the precise effects of the wall - from the plant species brought in with the gravel for the foundation, to the possible effects on wolf behaviour.

The deep and dark forest of Bialowieza seems to have lain undamaged by humans since it began to grow more than 12,000 years ago. But this remote part of Poland is in reality no stranger to upheaval. Caught in the fault lines of wars and revolution throughout the 20th century, the forest's villages have been razed more than once. Villagers have been murdered, forced to flee and become refugees themselves. As Grzegorz explores the forest, these hidden histories feel ever more present.

Producer Monica Whitlock  
Editor Penny Murphy  
Production Coordinator Gemma Ashman

**MON 21:00 Seven Deadly Psychologies (m001sv5c)**

Greed

Becky Ripley and Sophie Ward take a cold hard look at the psychology behind each of the seven deadly sins, in the order established by Pope Gregory the Great: pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath, and lazy old sloth. Why have we evolved these ugly emotions? What's going on in the brain and the body when we feel them? And how best can we live alongside them - in ourselves and with others?

Greed is in the spotlight today. And we're not talking food. (That's gluttony, we come to that later in the series.) We're talking greed for money, for land, for material things - and ultimately for control, status, dominance, power. The kind of greed that separates the "haves" from the "have nots".

On one hand, greed is a great motivator, driving us all forward in our pursuit to get more of whatever it is we want. But at its ugliest, greed can come at a huge cost to other people, and to the planet. When does self-interested behaviour become selfish? And can we be greedy for the good?

To guide us through this mess is evolutionary anthropologist Dr Anna Machin from the Department of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford, psychologist and social scientist Professor Paul Piff from the Department of Psychological Science at the University of California, Executive Director of the New Economy Organisers Network, Ayeisha Thomas-Smith, and a few wise words from Sir David Attenborough.

Producer: Becky Ripley

**MON 21:30 Start the Week (m001t2xq)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]



**MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m001133z)**

New stricter visa rules for workers and families

Government loses vote on contaminated blood compensation

Israel's offensive in the south of Gaza

US Supreme Court examines bankruptcy protections for the Sackler family

**MON 22:45 Miss Buncl's Book by DE Stevenson (m001134c)**

Episode 6

As ripples from the Great Depression reach a cosy English village, Barbara Buncl finds an inventive way to supplement her meagre income. Life in Silverstream will never be the same once her thinly fictionalised novel has laid bare the life, loves and eccentricities of her neighbours.

'Disturber of the Peace' lives up to its name as the residents of Silverstream find themselves provoked into action – beginning with the book's author.

Read by Madeleine Worrall  
Written by D.E. Stevenson  
Abridged by Clara Glynn  
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

Scottish author D.E. Stevenson was a prolific name in the light romantic fiction genre, topping best seller lists from the 1930s to the 1960s. MISS BUNCL'S BOOK, her best-known publication, is a delight; funny, engaging and well worth rediscovering 50 years after the author's death.

**MON 23:00 Don't Log Off (m001134r)**

Series 15

Global Village

Alan Dein scours the internet to find the extraordinary lives of ordinary people. In this edition he logs on to find people who have swapped their back yard for somewhere completely different – including Lisa who moved from Perth Australia to Christmas Island, Yury who has switched Russia for Switzerland and he also catches up with Marion from Uganda who has left her home, husband and job in the city for an idyllic life on a farmstead in the country.

Produced by Emma Betteridge

**MON 23:30 Today in Parliament (m0011354)**

News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament

**TUESDAY 05 DECEMBER 2023****TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m001135k)**

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**TUE 00:30 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m00112xw)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Monday]

**TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001135y)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m001136b)**

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**TUE 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001136s)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**TUE 05:30 News Briefing (m0011373)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m001137c)**

A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m001137r)**

05/12/23 COP28 and agriculture; Vertical farming; Migrant worker wages; Farmers snowed under.

All week we're discussing the issues raised around food production at the COP28 summit in Dubai. It's the first time

farming and food production have been included in the summit's remit. The food system as a whole, including agriculture, accounts for nearly 30% of greenhouse gases globally. We speak to The Global Alliance for the Future of Food - a group of philanthropic institutions which has been campaigning to bring food production into the debate on climate change, for many years.

We also visit a vertical farm which says it can increase food production while limiting the impact on the environment. Fischer Farms grows layers of crops indoors under LED lighting at its £37 million plant in Norfolk. They say that on a four-acre footprint, they can produce the same quantity of rocket, watercress and basil as on 1000 acres out in the field.

The Home Secretary has announced the salary needed to qualify for a skilled worker visa is being raised by a third, to £38,700. The decision will affect manager level agriculture-related jobs. There will be a review of 'shortage lists' - that's the list of jobs where there is a shortage of workers, which includes vets. The Migration Advisory Committee has been asked to review the occupations on the shortage list and a new immigration salary list will be created with a reduced number of occupations. The changes do not affect seasonal workers.

Farmers and rural communities have been rallying round to help people stuck in snow in the Lake District. We speak to one farmer who's helped to clear roads and move fallen trees and another who walked for hours to check on her cattle after diesel froze in her all-terrain vehicle.

Presenter = Anna Hill  
Producer = Rebecca Rooney

**TUE 05:58 Tweet of the Day (b09tcnlz)**

Chris Baines on the Bullfinch

The striking-looking bullfinch is the subject of today's episode with naturalist and environmentalist Chris Baines. It is one of the birds he hears and encourages into his 'wildlife-friendly' garden. In the past, bullfinches were persecuted for their fondness for fruit tree buds but as far as Chris is concerned, this is a small price to pay to have a pair of these beautiful birds visit his garden.

Producer: Sarah Blunt

**TUE 06:00 Today (m00113ct)**

News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**TUE 09:00 The Life Scientific (m00113d4)**

Sir Harry Bhadeshia on the choreography of metals

The Life Scientific zooms in to explore the intricate atomic make-up of metal alloys, with complex crystalline arrangements that can literally make or break structures integral to our everyday lives.

Professor Sir Harry Bhadeshia is Professor of Metallurgy at Queen Mary University of London and Emeritus Tata Steel Professor of Metallurgy at the University of Cambridge. He's been described as a 'steel innovator' – developing multiple new alloys with a host of real-world applications, from rail tracks to military armour.

Harry's prolific work in the field has earned him widespread recognition and a Knighthood; but it's not always been an easy ride...

From his childhood in Kenya and an enforced move to the UK as a teenager, to the years standing up to those seeking to discredit the new path he was forging in steel research - Jim Al-Khalili discovers that Harry's achievements have required significant determination, as well as hard work.

Produced by Lucy Taylor.

**TUE 09:30 One to One (m00113d9)**

Nathan Filer talks to Justin Hancock

Nathan Filer wants to know how to talk to his children about pornography, and in a frank discussion, consults Justin Hancock, a sex and relationships educator.

Produced in Bristol by Sally Heaven

**TUE 09:45 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m00113dg)**

Episode 2

Considered by many to be the iconic French memoirist's defining work, The Years is a narrative of the period 1941 to 2006 told through the lens of memory, impressions past and present, cultural habits, language, photos, books, songs, radio, television, advertising and news headlines.

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— Deborah Levy, author of Hot Milk

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— Edouard Louis, author of The End of Eddy

'Ravishing and almost oracular with insight, Ernaux's prose performs an extraordinary dance between collective and intimate, "big" history and private experience. The Years is a philosophical meditation paced as a rollercoaster ride through the decades. How we spend ourselves too quickly, how we reach for meaning but evade it, how to live, how to remember – these are Ernaux's themes. I am desperate for more.'  
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Born in 1940, Annie Ernaux grew up in Normandy, studied at Rouen University, and later taught at secondary school. From 1977 to 2000, she was a professor at the Centre National d'Enseignement par Correspondance. In 2017, she was awarded the Marguerite Yourcenar Prize for her life's work. In 2022, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Alison L. Strayer is a Canadian writer and translator. Her translation of The Years was awarded the 2018 French-American Translation Prize in the non-fiction category. She lives in Paris.

Written by Annie Ernaux  
Translated by Alison L Strayer  
Read by Sian Thomas  
Abridged by Jill Waters with Mark Kilfoyle  
Produced by Jill Waters  
A Waters Company production for BBC Radio 4

**TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00113dn)**

Women's Football, Head of Ofcom, The politics of Christmas presents

There are big changes afoot for women's football. Former England Lioness Karen Carney published a review into the women's domestic game over the summer and the Government has just announced that it will back all the findings from her report. That includes making the top two tiers professional and giving the sport a dedicated broadcast slot. Baroness Sue Campbell, director of women's football at the Football Association, discusses their decision.

The head of Ofcom, Dame Melanie Dawes, talks about her plans to make tech companies stop children accessing online pornography in her first broadcast interview on the subject. Under the new Online Safety Act, which came into effect last month, the regulator has been tasked with coming up with age verification measures. Latest research shows that the average age at which children first see online pornography is 13 - although nearly a quarter come across it by age 11 and one in 10 as young as nine. By 18, 79% have encountered violent pornography depicting coercive, degrading or pain-inducing sex acts.

A report out today details for the first time the views of the bereaved families of women killed by men. A woman is killed by a man on average every three days in the UK and the charity Killed Women is campaigning to end this and improve the experiences for families forced to deal with it. The director of Killed Women, Anna Ryder, joins Krupa Padhy to discuss the report's findings ahead of a planned protest outside Parliament.

Now it's only 20 sleeps until Christmas, and for many of you that might mean running around the shops buying all your Christmas presents. But one woman who is bucking this trend is the writer and journalist Nell Frizzell, who says that her family Christmases have improved since they stopped buying one another gifts. Nell and Ellie Gibson, comedian and one half of the Scummy Mummies who IS a big fan of gifting every festive season discuss.

Presenter: Krupa Padhy  
Producer: Kirsty Starkey

**TUE 11:00 Seven Deadly Psychologies (m00113dt)**

Lust

Becky Ripley and Sophie Ward take a cold hard look at the psychology behind each of the seven deadly sins, in the order established by Pope Gregory the Great: pride, greed, lust, envy,

gluttony, wrath, and lazy old sloth. Why have we evolved these ugly emotions? What's going on in the brain and the body when we feel them? And how best can we live alongside them - in ourselves and with others?

Lust is today's hot topic. It's crucial to the continuation of our species, but it's also a form of neurochemical madness that can lead us astray. We all have wildly different brains, bodies, and cultural references, so everyone's relationship to lust is highly personal. Is it true that men want it more than women? When was the "lustiest" time in history? And, back in today's world, how can we navigate our drives alongside cultural expectations and the issue of consent? And how can we feel desire without shame?

To guide us through this mess is evolutionary anthropologist Dr Anna Machin from the Department of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford, sexologist with a speciality in men's health and sexual function, Dr Anand Patel, and sex historian Dr Kate Lister, lecturer at Leeds Trinity University and author of 'A Curious History of Sex'.

Producer: Becky Ripley

**TUE 11:30 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics (m001t3f0)**  
Series 9

Demeter

Natalie tells the powerful and painful story of Demeter's fight to get justice for her daughter Persephone.

Hades conspires with his siblings Zeus and Gaia to abduct Persephone and force her to live with him in the underworld as his wife. Many versions of this story are sanitized for children but the original is not. It is clear that Persephone is tricked and trafficked, that she hates and fears Hades and never becomes accustomed to life among the dead. And that her mother Demeter is furious and grief-stricken.

The light is gone from Demeter's life and consequently from the world: crops fail and the people starve. It's only now that Zeus takes note of her pleas to get Persephone back. He doesn't really care about the people but he misses their gifts and praise.

In a tour de force solo performance recorded at the Hay festival, Natalie reclaims the goddess' story for our times. A story of a mother's love and fury that speaks painfully to us across millennia.

Producer...Mary Ward-Lowery

**TUE 12:00 News Summary (m001t3f6)**  
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m001t3fg)**  
Call You and Yours: Smart Meters

Today we're talking about smart meters for energy - how are you getting on with yours? Call us on 03 700 100 444.

Smart meters are great when they work - you can see what you're using, so can your supplier, so no more estimated bills.

The problem is more than two and a half million are not working properly - is yours one of them?

Call us on 03700 100 444 or email us - youandyours@bbc.co.uk

PRODUCER: KEVIN MOUSLEY

PRESENTER: WINIFFED ROBINSON

**TUE 12:57 Weather (m001t3fn)**  
The latest weather forecast

**TUE 13:00 World at One (m001t3ft)**  
Forty-five minutes of news, analysis and comment.

**TUE 13:45 Empire of Tea (m001t3fy)**  
Tea at Work

During the industrial revolution workers were powered by very sugary tea. Historian Lizzie Collingham tells Sathnam Sanghera about the economic forces that led people to the drink, and what that meant for their health. Then, moving into the 20th Century, Sathnam discusses the rise of the tea break with help from staff in the break room at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital. And Peter Turnbull of Bristol University analyses how the right to a tea break sometimes became a source of tension in industrial relations.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

**TUE 14:00 The Archers (m001t3zm)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

**TUE 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m001t3g2)**  
Series 4

Gloria

By Rex Obano

We began following the lives of Caribbean-born Hope and Faith (Eunice), and British-born Gloria in 1946. It is 1978 and Gloria de Soto, now a respected headmistress, decides to step up and challenge an unfair education system. She gets a visit from her daughter, Joy, who brings news that threatens to jeopardise their relationship and her plans to become a councillor.

Gloria ..... Jaye Griffiths  
Mabel ..... Dorothea Myer-Bennett  
Joy ..... Sapphire Joy  
Hopeton ..... Solomon Israel  
Hope ..... Danielle Vitalis  
Faith ..... Shiloh Coke  
Blessings Ojarikre ..... Jocelyn Jee Esien  
Enner Bennes ..... John Lightbody  
Other parts played by Tyler Cameron

Produced by Pat Cumper  
Directed by Don Gilét

A BBC Audio Production for BBC Radio 4

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Faith Hope and Glory began following the lives of Hope, Faith (Eunice) and Gloria in the UK in 1946. Three generations of three families bound together by the fate of one baby lost and found on Tilbury Dock. All three are now settled in their lives in late 1970s Britain.

We are now in 1978. Although racial tensions continue to simmer, black Britons are taking practical measures to help themselves. Some are standing for election as local councillors. Saturday schools are springing up all over the country to support black students suffering discrimination in the education system.

Gloria has lived for many years in what was euphemistically called 'a lavender marriage' with her husband, Clement. Their decision to snatch a baby they thought had been abandoned outside a pub in the 1940s as a way to deflect suspicion, was the catalyst for the whole series. Now divorced and living with her partner, Mabel, Gloria has come into her own as a headteacher and advocate for black children's rights.

**TUE 15:00 The Kitchen Cabinet (m001t2sv)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Saturday]

**TUE 15:30 Doctor, Doctor (m001t3g6)**  
President of the Royal College of GPs, Dame Clare Gerada

Dame Clare Gerada is President of the Royal College of General Practitioners, an inner London GP and specialist in addiction.

Doctor Doctor reveals the stress, excitement and challenges facing a 21st century medic. These are life-affirming stories of highs and lows, of commitment, bravery, skill, heartache and love.

Dr Phil Hammond dissects the medical lives of professionals at all levels of the health service - surgeons, intensive care nurses, NHS executives, junior doctors, psychiatrists - fascinating jobs, the titles of which we know very well, but our understanding of which may be lacking.

Dr Phil's guests range from the recently qualified to the recently retired, from well-known medical grandees to unknown regional heroes, covering all specialties in hospital and community.

Producer: David Morley

A Perfectly Normal production for BBC Radio 4

**TUE 16:00 The Green Backlash (m001t3rv)**  
As the individual costs of the EU's Green Deal are becoming clearer, many people across Europe say they are unwilling or unable to pay the price associated with it. Anna Holligan explores the increasing popularity of anti-green political parties across the continent. She talks to dairy farmers in the Netherlands, who fear government green targets would

endanger a sector which makes the country the world's second biggest exporter of food. She also travels to Bremen in Germany where concern over the phasing out of new gas and oil boilers for houses, dubbed the "heating hammer" by the nation's tabloids, has led to the government slowing down the pace of change. In the meantime, the city's Green Party vote fell by almost half in recent local elections while Citizens in Rage, which is highly sceptical about how green deal policies are being implemented, came from almost nowhere to capture close to ten per cent of the vote.

The experiences in both countries suggests that the political consensus that seemed to exist only four years ago when the EU announced its Green Deal targets seems to have broken down. What might the possible repercussions be on Europe's politics and its approach to tackling climate change?

Produced by Bob Howard.

**TUE 16:30 Great Lives (m001t30n)**  
Mohammad Mossadegh, PM of Iran ousted in a coup

Walter Murch picks Mohammad Mossadegh, prime minister following the nationalisation of the Anglo-Iranian oil company in 1951. Mossadegh was ousted in a coup in 1953.

Murch became fascinated in Mossadegh's life while working on a Sam Mendes film about the first Iraq War. Walter Murch is an editor best known for Apocalypse Now, The Godfather and The Constant Gardener. He also worked on a documentary called Coup 53. This is the first in a new series of Great Lives and includes archive of Kermit Roosevelt, a CIA operative. The British were also heavily involved in the coup. The expert is Professor Ali Ansari of St Andrews University, presenter on Radio 4 of Through Persian Eyes.

The producer in Bristol is Miles Warde

Future programme subjects include singer Eartha Kitt, author JG Ballard, and pioneering British aviator Diana Barnato-Walker who delivered Spitfires in World War Two.

**TUE 17:00 PM (m001t3gb)**  
Afternoon news and current affairs programme, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

**TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m001t3gg)**  
It's an attempt to revive plans to send some asylum seekers to the country

**TUE 18:30 Best Medicine (m001t3gl)**  
Series 1

9. Autopsies, Light, Escapism, Henrietta Lacks

Joining Kiri this week is a druid, a drag queen and a mortician...it's one man, Kristoffer Hughes, who puts forward the autopsy as the best medicine. Professor Olivette Otele tells us the tale of Henrietta Lacks, an extraordinary woman whose so called 'immortal cells' have saved countless lives, movie reviewer Ali Plumb talks about the importance of escapism and shares his own story of recovery through movies, TV, art and culture, and Professor Anil Seth sheds a light on...light.

Best Medicine is your weekly dose of laughter, hope and incredible medicine. Award-winning comedian Kiri Pritchard-McLean is joined by funny and fascinating comedians, doctors, scientists and historians to celebrate medicine's inspiring past, present and future.

Each week, Kiri challenges her guests to make a case for what they think is 'the best medicine', and each of them champions anything from world-changing science to an obscure invention, an everyday treatment, an uplifting worldview, an unsung hero or a futuristic cure.

Whether it's micro-robotic surgery, virtual reality syringes, Victorian clockwork surgical saws, more than a few ingenious cures for cancer, world-first lifesaving heart operations, epidurals, therapy, dancing, faith or laughter - it's always something worth celebrating.

Hosted by Kiri Pritchard-McLean

Featuring: Kristoffer Hughes, Professor Olivette Otele, Ali Plumb and Professor Anil Seth

Written by Edward Easton, Charlie George, Rajiv Karia, Kiri Pritchard-McLean, Nicky Roberts and Ben Rowse

Producer: Ben Worsfield

Assistant Producer: Tashi Radha

Executive Producer: Simon Nicholls

Theme tune composed by Andrew Jones

A Large Time production for BBC Radio 4

**TUE 19:00 The Archers (m0013dz)**

Eddie confides in Oliver about his and Clarrie's worries over their future, even though Eddie knows it doesn't excuse their behaviour. Oliver says he's a farmer at heart and no farmer likes to sell land. When Eddie wants to know if Oliver will have to sell any more land, Oliver explains he hasn't any plans, but he can't predict the future. Later Oliver tells Eddie he's been thinking about their situation. He knows rents are prohibitive and suggests looking into Almshouses as a future option for Clarrie and Eddie.

Shula arrives at The Stables. Lilian's surprised to see her, but Shula tells her she had to change her plans when she found out that Lilian had been deliberately misleading her. Shula could just about countenance investing in a Horse Spa, but an international outdoor arena is madness. Lilian says she would have discussed the plans with Shula next week when she came back. Shula responds that would only be after the land had been bought and it was a done deal. Shula's lost trust in Lilian and is vetoing the plans for the arena and the purchase of the land. Shula also wonders if she should pull out of her arrangement with Lilian and Justin at The Stables, as they clearly have different ideas about the business. Later Alice seeks out Lilian who accuses her of telling Shula. Alice says the only people who knew were Lilian and Justin. She would never talk to anyone outside of the business. Lilian says that Justin has gone too far this time.

**TUE 19:15 Front Row (m0013gr)**

Shane Meadows on the British film industry, Children's books round-up, the Turner Prize

Shane Meadows talks about his unconventional journey into the British film industry and his vision for more diversity in film, as he prepares to give the David Lean lecture at BAFTA.

The founders of independent publishers Oneworld, Juliet Mabey and Novin Doostdar, discuss their Booker Prize hat trick as Paul Lynch becomes the third of their authors to win the prestigious literary prize.

Which books will be a hit with the children in your life this Christmas? Children's broadcaster Bex Lindsay has a run down of the outstanding titles she'd recommend.

And Front Row goes live to the Turner Prize ceremony at the Towner Eastbourne to find out who has won this year's prestigious prize.

Presenter: Tom Sutcliffe  
Producer: Olivia Skinner

Bex Lindsay's recommendations:

The Ice Children by MG Leonard  
Foxlight by Katya Balen  
Sunshine Simpson Cooks Up a Storm by GM Linton  
The Football Encyclopaedia by Alex Bellos and Ben Lyttleton  
Luna Loves Christmas by Joseph Coelho  
Geoffrey Gets the Jitters by Nadia Shireen  
The Wonder Brothers by Frank Cottrell-Boyce

**TUE 20:00 File on 4 (m0013gz)**

Whistling in the Wind: The NHS doctors sacked after raising concerns

Lucy Letby was allowed to continue working with new-born babies despite her colleagues raising concerns about her for months. Her conviction highlighted how NHS executives put the reputation of the Countess of Chester NHS Trust ahead of patient safety. But what happened in Cheshire was far from a one-off. File on 4 hears from doctors with unblemished medical careers who were sacked after raising patient safety concerns. The programme follows one medic through an Employment Tribunal as he attempts to save his career, and hears the emotional, brutal toll the process takes on him. For the first time, a top doctor who won record damages talks about the extraordinary steps her managers took to undermine her. Their tactics included relocating her to an empty office with a broken chair and telling colleagues that she agreed with their assessment she was incompetent. And a former NHS executive tells the programme that trusts are more interested in "flying LGBT flags" than tackling concerns about patient safety. With widespread calls for NHS managers to be regulated, File on 4 asks who should take on the role, given the willingness of the NHS to redeploy managers found to have ignored patient safety concerns, or even punished those who dared to raise them.

Reporter: Michael Buchanan  
Producer: Katie Langton  
Editor: Carl Johnston

**TUE 20:40 In Touch (m0013h4)**

Look UK's Mentoring Project

When you have a visual impairment, it can be very valuable for your own wellbeing to connect with other visually impaired people and share tips and advice on life. And when you are a young person with a visual impairment, there can be a lot to think about in regard to your future. Well, sight loss charity Look UK is aiming to bridge the gap for young visually impaired people with a mentoring programme. With the help from some of the scheme's current mentees and mentors, we discuss how it works and the potential benefits it can offer.

Look UK are currently seeking new mentors. To apply, visit: <https://www.look-uk.org/mentoring/>. Or email [info@look-uk.org](mailto:info@look-uk.org) (include your full name, age, and a contact phone number).

Presenter: Peter White  
Producer: Beth Hemmings  
Production Coordinator: Liz Poole  
Website image description: Peter White sits smiling in the centre of the image and he is wearing a dark green jumper. Above Peter's head is the BBC logo (three separate white squares house each of the three letters). Bottom centre and overlaying the image are the words "In Touch" and the Radio 4 logo (the word Radio in a bold white font, with the number 4 inside a white circle). The background is a bright mid-blue with two rectangles angled diagonally to the right. Both are behind Peter, one is a darker blue and the other is a lighter blue.

**TUE 21:00 All in the Mind (m0013fm)**

Rowing the Atlantic in the name of science, psychologists tackling poverty, and the scent of fear makes us more observant.

Have you ever considered rowing across the Atlantic? How about making it even more challenging by doing it whilst wearing an ECG monitor and filling in psychological questionnaires? Claudia Hammond speaks to the first Austrian woman to row the Atlantic, Ciara Burns, who collected data throughout her 42 day crossing. And to the professor who studied the data, Eugenijus Kaniasas from the Vienna University of Technology, about the three big dips in mood along the way. Ciara talks about the emotional highs and lows of rowing to America, about the night skies, meeting whales, and how it feels when the Atlantic comes crashing down on you.

Sports psychologist Peter Olusoga from Sheffield Hallam University, discusses mental preparation for an adventure like Ciara's and how being in the middle of the Atlantic, with the astronauts on the international space station as your nearest other humans, can provide a lasting perspective change.

Peter also describes a new piece of research showing that smelling other people's sweat, collected whilst they watched scary films, can help us to be more observant and overcome a well-established psychological effect known as inattention blindness.

And Claudia talks to Tiago Pereira, a Portuguese psychologist who is calling for psychologists to put a full stop to poverty. He says that psychologists are uniquely placed to communicate the causes and consequences of poverty, and to use that information to demand governmental policy changes.

Presenter: Claudia Hammond

Producer: Lorna Stewart

Studio Manager: Donald MacDonald

Production Co-ordination: Siobhan Maguire

Editor: Holly Squire

**TUE 21:30 The Life Scientific (m0013bd)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

**TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m0013h9)**

New asylum treaty between UK and Rwanda

Questions for Boris Johnson ahead of his evidence to the Covid inquiry

Encountering the world's largest iceberg, three times the size of New York City

Sweden's gang violence

**TUE 22:45 Miss Buncle's Book by DE Stevenson (m0013hf)**

Episode 7

As ripples from the Great Depression reach a cosy English village, Barbara Buncle finds an inventive way to supplement her meagre income. Life in Silverstream will never be the same once her thinly fictionalised novel has laid bare the life, loves and eccentricities of her neighbours.

Attendance is compulsory as Mrs Featherstone-Hogg hosts a meeting of Silverstream worthies, determined to root out the troublesome author in their midst.

Read by Madeleine Worrall  
Written by D.E. Stevenson  
Abridged by Clara Glynn  
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

Scottish author D.E. Stevenson was a prolific name in the light romantic fiction genre, topping best seller lists from the 1930s to the 1960s. MISS BUNCLE'S BOOK, her best-known publication, is a delight; funny, engaging and well worth rediscovering 50 years after the author's death.

**TUE 23:00 Now You're Asking with Marian Keyes and Tara Flynn (m0013hk)**

The Good Cup of Tea Program

Is my son gay? What does it even mean when you're told to "be kind to yourself"? Should I have a baby because I am lonely? All this and possibly our most controversial response to date when a listener confesses to losing the knack of brewing a good cup of tea.

Marian and Tara sit up straight and set to tackling their in-tray of Asks.

Marian Keyes is a multi-award-winning writer, with a total of over 30 million of her books sold to date in 33 languages. Her close friend Tara Flynn is an actress, comedian and writer. Together, these two friends have been through a lot, and now want to use their considerable life experience to help solve your biggest - and smallest - of the things that keep us awake at night.

Previous series were welcomed by listeners and critics: "Both are warm and kind enough to not only be funny but also offer genuinely thoughtful, if left-field, advice." (Miranda Sawyer, The Observer) "Keyes and Flynn are my new favourite double-act." (Jane Anderson - Radio Times) "I found their compassion endlessly soothing." (Rachel Cunliffe - The New Statesman)

Recorded in Dublin with emails received from listeners around the world, the hosts invite you to pull up a chair at their virtual kitchen table as they read and digest their inbox.

Got a problem you want Marian and Tara to solve? Email: [marianandtara@bbc.co.uk](mailto:marianandtara@bbc.co.uk).

Producer: Steve Doherty.

A Giddy Goat production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds

**TUE 23:30 Today in Parliament (m0013hp)**

The Defence Secretary says he'll move 'heaven and earth' to secure the release of British hostages held by Hamas in Gaza.

**WEDNESDAY 06 DECEMBER 2023**

**WED 00:00 Midnight News (m0013ht)**

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**WED 00:30 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m0013dg)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Tuesday]

**WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m0013j1)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m0013jb)**

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**WED 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m0013jl)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**WED 05:30 News Briefing (m0013jt)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m0013kd)**

A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**WED 05:45 Farming Today (m001t3kb)**

06/12/23 Cost of food and climate change; Police off-road motorbikes.

All week we're taking the temperature of the COP 28 climate summit in Dubai. While there's been criticism of attendance by oil, coal and gas industries, for the first time food production and distribution have also been on the agenda. Farmers around the world have experienced the impact of extreme weather on their production - it's just one of the reasons why food prices across the globe have risen. A report by the think-tank The Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit, shows climate change, coupled with the energy crisis, has pushed up the UK's food bill by £17 billion since 2021. We report from a farm in Surrey where a change in climate has made food production more costly and speak to a professor of agriculture and food systems at the University of Edinburgh who's just back from the COP28 summit

Police in the Thames Valley have bought off-road motorbikes to help them chase criminals across fields and green lanes, and other places where cars can't go. The force has invested £120,000 in three bikes and other equipment that can be used in hard-to-reach hotspots.

Presenter = Anna Hill  
Producer = Rebecca Rooney

**WED 05:58 Tweet of the Day (b09r7h4v)**

Penny Anderson on the Mandarin Duck

Mandarin Ducks are flamboyant, brightly coloured ducks which originally hail from the Middle East. A feral population established here in the last century here and a pair regularly visit the garden of ecologist Penny Anderson where they waddle across the lawn, roost on her ponds and perch in her trees.

Producer: Sarah Blunt

**WED 06:00 Today (m001t3c3)**

News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**WED 09:00 The Reith Lectures (m001t3cf)**

Ben Ansell: Our Democratic Future

## 2. The Future of Security

This year's BBC Reith Lecturer is Ben Ansell, Professor of Comparative Democratic Institutions at Nuffield College, Oxford University. He will deliver four lectures called "Our Democratic Future."

In his series Professor Ansell asks how we can build a politics that works for all of us with systems which are robust to the challenges of the twenty first century, from climate change to artificial intelligence. The lectures build on his recent book *Why Politics Fails*, which identifies a series of traps that prevent us from attaining our collective goals and presents solutions to help us overcome those traps.

In this second lecture called 'The Future of Security', recorded in Berlin in front of an audience, he asks whether citizens of wealthy countries have been lulled into a false sense of security about threats from abroad and at home. It examines how we can control the security technologies of tomorrow, from facial recognition to autonomous weapons. And Ansell suggests how we can develop technologies powerful enough to protect us without exploiting us.

The Reith Lectures are chaired by Anita Anand and produced by Jim Frank.

The Editor is China Collins, and the coordinator is Brenda Brown.

The series is mixed by Rod Farquhar and Neil Churchill.

**WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m001t3cr)**

Julianne Moore, Dame Mary Berry, Prevalence of forced sterilisation

Academy Award-winning actor Julianne Moore plays Gracie Atherton-Yoo in Todd Haynes' newest film, *May December*. The film tells the story of a married couple who were at the centre of a notorious tabloid relationship, and the actress doing research on them for a film about their past. Julianne joins Krupa to talk about the controversies within the film, and how it's already been tipped for the Oscars.

Lina Mookerjee had been married to her husband Richard for more than 15 years when he lost both his sight and hearing. Lina is now as much a carer to Richard as she is a wife. Lina and Richard join Krupa to share their story and discuss what they describe as the 'invisible' work of carers.

Dame Mary Berry joins Krupa to discuss her one-off TV special 'Mary Berry's Highland Christmas.' She tells us how her Scottish roots have inspired her latest festive recipes and gives us some tips for entertaining this Christmas.

The New York Times has just published an investigation into the prevalence of forced sterilisation of disabled women in Europe, even when the procedure is not medically necessary and despite it being banned under multiple international treaties. New York Times reporter Sarah Hurtes met with families who have chosen to sterilise their daughters and women who have undergone sterilisation procedures. She joins Krupa to talk about what she found and we also speak to German politician Katrin Langensiepen who is one of the few visibly disabled members of the European Parliament. She's pushing for a strict Europe-wide outright ban on non-consensual sterilisation.

Presented by Krupa Padhy  
Producer: Louise Corley

**WED 11:00 South Africa: The Children of Paradise (m001t33b)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Monday]

**WED 11:30 Being Roman with Mary Beard (p0gr2r5w)**

5: Battling Bureaucrats

What does it take to run an Empire? Armies and slaves, of course, but also bureaucrats. At its height the Roman Empire employed thousands of men charged with keeping Rome and its provinces fed, watered and content. This was no easy job. A remarkable set of papyrus scrolls reveals the life of Roman Egypt's very own David Brent, preparing for a visit from the fearsome Emperor Diocletian.

Infuriated by hopeless staff and venal local politicians and continuously harassed by his superiors, Apolinarius of Panopolis becomes increasingly desperate as Diocletian approaches and the tension cranks up. Mary Beard follows Apolinarius's story to reveal the messy realities of Roman administration.

Producer: Alasdair Cross

Expert Contributors: Colin Adams, Liverpool University and Margaret Mountford

Cast: Apolinarius played by Josh Bryant-Jones

Special thanks to Jill Unkell and the Chester Beatty collection, Dublin

**WED 12:00 News Summary (m001t3dq)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**WED 12:04 You and Yours (m001t3db)**

Ofgem, Student Accommodation and Gaming

Millions of us will see energy bills rise from New Year's Day when Ofgem's new price cap come into effect. Fixed deals are few and far between, and none offer any big savings. Meanwhile, three million smart meters don't work, and one think tank estimates that at its current pace, the Great British Insulation Scheme will take 146 years to meet its target of upgrading 300,000 homes. We put these points to one of Ofgem's director generals, Tim Jarvis to find out what he's doing about them.

Student digs have rarely been luxurious, but at least used to be plentiful. Now, data from the rental listings website *StuRents* suggests that those at university are facing higher rent increases than other tenants and there is now an acute shortage of places to live next September. We meet two students at the sharp end to find out how they're affected.

We spend more money on video games than we do on streaming subscriptions or going to the cinema. While it's still possible to play classics from the 80s and 90s, 9 out of 10 games bought today are digital only products that can be withdrawn at any time. We visit the National Videogame museum in Sheffield to find out what this means for the team there trying to preserve games for future generations.

Finally, a recent survey in the US found that nearly half of people aged between 18 and 29 plan to do at least some of their Christmas shopping on TikTok and Instagram. To what extent is that true here? We meet two people who sell gifts on social media to find out who's buying what on these apps and why.

Presenter: Winifred Robinson  
Producer: Julian Paszkiewicz

**WED 12:57 Weather (m001t3dh)**

The latest weather forecast

**WED 13:00 World at One (m001t3dp)**

Forty-five minutes of news, analysis and comment.

**WED 13:45 Empire of Tea (m001t3dw)**

The Tea in Boston Harbour

The crates dumped in the harbour at the Boston Tea Party in 1773 contained East India Company tea. The historian William Dalrymple tells Sathnam Sanghera that taxation wasn't the only issue motivating Boston's revolutionaries. Fear and suspicion of the EIC and its tea were a factor as well. And soon, tea would forever change British relations with China too.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

**WED 14:00 The Archers (m001t3dz)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

**WED 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m001t3f5)**

Series 4

Faith

By Carol Russell

We began following the lives of Caribbean-born Hope and Faith (Eunice), and British-born Gloria in 1946. It's 1978, and Faith, now widowed, and her son Winston are living in London while her political activist daughter Serena-Hope is at university in Leeds. She has never given up her quest to find Hope's daughter, the baby she lost on Tilbury Docks more than thirty years ago. But will anything erase Hope's years of pain and distress after so long?

Faith ..... Shiloh Coke  
Hope ..... Danielle Vitalis  
Gloria ..... Jaye Griffiths  
Merlene ..... Sharon Duncan-Brewster  
Mabel ..... Dorothea Myer-Bennett  
Serena-Hope ..... Bethan Mary-James

Produced and directed by Pat Cumper

A BBC Audio Production for BBC Radio 4

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Faith Hope and Glory began following the lives of Hope, Faith (Eunice) and Gloria in the UK in 1946. Three generations of three families bound together by the fate of one baby lost and found on Tilbury Dock. All three are now settled in their lives in late 1970s Britain.

We are now in 1978. Although racial tensions continue to simmer, black Britons are taking practical measures to help themselves. Some are standing for election as local councillors. Saturday schools are springing up all over the country to support black students suffering discrimination in the education system.

After the death of her beloved husband Trevor, Faith has moved to London with her son, Winston, and is living with her close friend and confidante, Merlene. Faith's daughter, Serena-Hope, is now a political activist and student at Leeds University. Faith has never forgotten her promise to Hope to reunite her with the daughter that was snatched from outside a pub while in her care. When she discovers that the woman who took Hope's baby is speaking at a local council election meeting, she is determined to bring the two women together. But after thirty two years, can anything heal their pain and anger or would it be better if some secrets and lies remain hidden?

**WED 15:00 Money Box (m001t3ff)**

Money Box Live: Banking

This is a transformative time for banking. The last decade has seen an incredibly fast-paced increase in the use of technology and also a rapid decrease in the use of cash. High Street banks, where most of us have our money, have adapted. From branch closures to online accounts, we'll discuss how banking is changing.

We look back at the history of banking with Cambridge University Economic Historian Dr Victoria Batemen.

We'll also speak to Dave Fishwick whose life story became a movie after he set up his own bank in his community.

And Felicity Hannah is joined by independent banking analyst Frances Coppola and Cat Farrow, Chief Operating Officer at Cash Access UK

Presenter: Felicity Hannah  
Producers: Sarah Rogers and Kath Paddison  
Reporter: Eimear Devlin  
Editor: Jess Quayle

(This programme was first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday the 6th of December at 3pm)

**WED 15:30 All in the Mind (m00113fm)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Tuesday]

**WED 16:00 Sideways (m00113fs)**  
56. A Cinderella Story

On a summer's day in 1974, Norwegian actor Knut Risan steps up to the mic for a voiceover job. It's for a Cinderella movie that's just been acquired by the Norwegian broadcaster NRK, from the country known at the time as Czechoslovakia.

NRK want him to dub the film into Norwegian. Knut's just having fun. He's doing all the voices, even the young Cinderella. But he's about to become Norway's "Voice of Christmas" when NRK decides to put the film out as part of its festive line up.

Tři ořechy pro Popelku or, as it's often translated, Three (Haze)nuts for Cinderella, remains an essential part of many Europeans' seasonal viewing to this day. Not least in Norway, where it is shown at 11am on Christmas Eve every year.

Knut's son, Olav, used to feel a little embarrassed around this time of year - everyone knew he was the son of the most famous voice on TV. He'd get strange looks in supermarkets. But today, and in this episode of Sideways, he reflects on the special place his father's voice occupies in Norway's Christmas and in his own family.

Through the story of a film that straddles the line between fairy tale fun and the realities of the Iron Curtain, Matthew Syed explores the origins, meaning and persistence of this cross-cultural tradition and celebrates the role of Christmas films in many families' celebrations, including his own.

Featuring musician Olav Risan and author Kathrin Miebach of the Drei Haselnüsse für Aschenbrödel website. With fairy tale expert Professor Claudia Schwabe of Utah State University and Michal Bregant, Director of Národního Filmového Archivu.

Including clips from Tři ořechy pro Popelku (Czech language version) and Tre nøtter til Askepott (Norwegian language version), featuring the voice of Knut Risan).  
Tři ořechy pro Popelku directed by Václav Vorlíček and starring Libuse Safránková and Pavel Trávníček. Written by Božena Němcová (story) and František Pavlíček (screenplay), produced by Jiří Krejčík and with a score by Karel Svoboda. Distributed by Ústřední půjčovna filmů.

Presenter: Matthew Syed  
Producer: Amalie Sortland  
Series editor: Katherine Godfrey  
Sound design and mix: Naomi Clarke  
Theme tune by Ioana Selaru  
A Novel production for BBC Radio 4

**WED 16:30 The Media Show (m00113fz)**  
Investigating Lockerbie, 35 Years On

How Christina Lamb pieced together for The Sunday Times reports of acts of sexual violence by Hamas during the 7 October attacks. What a new documentary about the 1988 Lockerbie bombing tells us about how journalists would now cover a major tragedy. And a new chair for the BBC is proposed by the government.

Guests: Christina Lamb, chief foreign correspondent, The Sunday Times; Daniel Thomas, global media editor, The Financial Times; John Dower, director, Lockerbie; Frank O'Donnell, former editor of The Scotsman; Eleni Courea, deputy editor, Politico London Playbook

Presenter: Katie Razzall

Producer: Simon Richardson

**WED 17:00 PM (m00113g3)**  
Afternoon news and current affairs programme, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

**WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00113g7)**  
The former prime minister also offered an apology at the hearing in London

**WED 18:30 Glenn Moore's Almanac (m00113gc)**  
Millennium

Comedian Glenn Moore looks in his almanac at world events and what he was doing at the time – and as the new millennium dawns, Glenn has the most catastrophic New Year's Eve ever.

Perhaps best-known for his outrageously brilliant one-liners on Mock The Week, Glenn delivers a tale of comic mishaps and extraordinary scenes interwoven with a big event in history – and looks back through his almanac to find out other strange connections to the day as well.

Written by Glenn with additional material by Katie Storey (Have I Got News For You, Mock The Week, The Last Leg) and produced and directed by David Tyler (Cabin Pressure, Armando Iannucci's Charm Offensive, and many more).

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4

**WED 19:00 The Archers (m0011327)**

Kate chats to Jakob about Peggy's wish to live at The Laurels. She thinks that if The Lodge could be made more accessible, and they re-employed Emma as a cleaner, it would mean Peggy could stay there. When Jakob suggests that Peggy may want to be cared for by professionals, Kate thinks Peggy would regret moving to The Laurels. Later when Jakob questions Kate's response to Peggy's move, Kate explains that she's not worried about where she'll live - but since her mum Jennifer died, Peggy has become even more important to her. Jakob tells her Peggy's happiness is paramount and that Kate needs to let go.

Lilian explains to Justin that she thinks they shouldn't buy the Grange Farm land at all. She says he had put the points so well and she is capable of weighing up all options. Justin is happy and tells her he can't wait for Christmas and to relax.

Later on Justin arrives home to see that Lilian has packed his bags. Lilian is angry that Justin told Shula about her plans for the stables. Justin feels he was only having a conversation with a business associate. Lilian counters, that business associate is now thinking about pulling out of the arrangement. She tells Justin she feels betrayed and tells him to leave. When Justin reminds her that he owns the Dower House, Lilian refuses to leave. Justin says that he will voluntarily absent himself for a short while and will come back when Lilian is ready to apologise.

**WED 19:15 Front Row (m00113gh)**

Paul King on directing Wonka, Best non-fiction books of 2023, British pop art artist Pauline Boty

Paddington director Paul King returns with Wonka starring Timothée Chalamet in the title role. He talks with Samira about exploring the backstory of Willy Wonka and Roald Dahl's surprising vision for fiction's greatest confectioner.

Front Row rounds up the best non-fiction books of 2023 with Caroline Sanderson - non-fiction books editor for The Bookseller and chair of judges for the Baillie Gifford Prize in 2022, Stephanie Merritt - critic and novelist, and John Mitchinson - cofounder of Unbound, the independent crowdfunding publisher and co-presenter of literary podcast, Backlisted.

The extraordinary work of the artist Pauline Boty (1938 – 1966) is explored by the curator of a new exhibition, Mila Askarova, and the art historian Lynda Nead.

Presenter Samira Ahmed  
Producer: Paula McGrath

Front Row non-fiction recommendations for 2023

Toy Fights: A Boyhood by Don Patterson published by Faber and Faber  
Thunderclap: A Memoir of Art, Life and Sudden Death by Laura Cumming published by Chatto & Windus  
How To Say Babylon: A Jamaican Memoir by Safiya Sinclair published by Fourth Estate  
Twelve Words for Moss by Elizabeth-Jane Burnett published by Allen Lane  
The British Year in 72 Seasons by Kiera Chapman, Rowan James, Lulah Ellgenger and Rebecca Warren published by Granta  
Rural: The Lives of the Working Class Countryside by Rebecca Smith published by William Collins  
High Caucasus: A Mountain Quest in Russia's Haunted Hinterland by Tom Parfitt published by Headline  
Eve: How The Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution by Cat Bohannon published by Hutchinson Heinemann  
Shakespeare's Book: The Intertwined Lives Behind the First Folio by Chris Laoutaris published by Williams Collins

**WED 20:00 AntiSocial (m001sv4t)**  
Is reality TV stereotyping black women?

Nella Rose, a black woman on the reality TV show 'I'm a

Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!' has divided opinion online - some accuse her of being rude and aggressive in the Australian jungle, while others say she's the victim of racism and misogyny. We explore some of the comments made about her and examine the history, meaning and potential real-world symptoms of 'misogynoir' - a theory about a combination of racism and sexism faced by black women. Plus, are the casting directors and editors of reality TV shows guilty of stereotyping black women as rude and aggressive, and what evidence is there of racism amongst the viewing and voting public?

**WED 20:45 From Fact to Fiction (m001sv7z)**  
The Bag

A new story inspired by recent headlines, written and read by Kieran Hodgson.

Four-time Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee is an acclaimed actor, writer and comedian. He plays Gordon in the smash hit BBC One sitcom Two Doors Down. Kieran's send-up of The Crown went viral in late 2020, garnering 4 million views. The multi-hyphenate actor-comedian-playwright followed that up with more 'Bad TV Impressions' including Line of Duty, Succession and Ted Lasso. His live show 'Big in Scotland' opened at the Edinburgh Fringe and is currently touring the UK.

**WED 21:00 When It Hits the Fan (m00113gp)**  
Omid Scobie Part 2, COP PR and Wilko

David Yelland and Simon Lewis return to the continuing fallout from Omid Scobie's book Endgame, which has provoked a highly unusual change of PR strategy from Buckingham Palace.

They also discuss the flock of PR people who have descended on the COP summit in Dubai and ask what they're up to.

And, every CEO's worst nightmare - the Wilko select committee. How do you prepare for going in front of a firing squad of MPs?

Producer: Eve Streeter  
Editor: Sarah Teasdale  
Executive Producer: William Miller  
Researcher: Sophie Smith  
Music by Eclectic Sounds  
A Raconteur production for BBC Radio 4

**WED 21:30 The Media Show (m00113fz)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 today]

**WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m00113gw)**  
Immigration minister resigns over new Rwanda bill

The battles over free speech on American campuses

Boris Johnson's evidence to the Covid inquiry

Ukrainian reaction as US Senate blocks a key package funding military aid

**WED 22:45 Miss Buncl's Book by DE Stevenson (m00113h3)**  
Episode 8

As ripples from the Great Depression reach a cosy English village, Barbara Buncl finds an inventive way to supplement her meagre income. Life in Silverstream will never be the same once her thinly fictionalised novel has laid bare the life, loves and eccentricities of her neighbours.

With the village abuzz over the identity of troublesome author 'John Smith', Miss Buncl struggles to hide her secret. Meanwhile Sally next door is about to meddle in the Vicar's love life.

Read by Madeleine Worrall  
Written by D.E. Stevenson  
Abridged by Clara Glynn  
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

Scottish author D.E. Stevenson was a prolific name in the light romantic fiction genre, topping best seller lists from the 1930s to the 1960s. MISS BUNCL'S BOOK, her best-known publication, is a delight; funny, engaging and well worth rediscovering 50 years after the author's death.

**WED 23:00 Big Little Questions (m00113h8)**  
Ivy Asks...

Comedians Chris Cantrill and Amy Gledhill, aka The Delightful Sausage, tackle big questions from the curious minds of little kids.

Question asker-er Ivy poses a reyt Royal conundrum that sends Amy, Chris and Nirmal on the least enviable 'business' trip ever. Warning: you may want to put your cocoa to one side for the duration of this episode.

Cast  
Chris Cantrill  
Amy Gledhill  
Sunil Patel  
Richard David-Caine

Written by Chris Cantrill and Amy Gledhill  
Researcher - Tashi Radha  
Original Music - Joe da Costa  
Sound Design - Alisdair McGregor  
Produced by Hannah Moulder

A Various Artists Ltd production for BBC Radio 4

**WED 23:15 Jokes (m001t3hd)**  
Nora Meadows' Week of Wellness

1. Deep Inside Brian

In this weeks show, apart from helping her clients with her patented (patent pending) therapy techniques, Nora also gives tips for de-stressing, getting to sleep and a patented (patent pending) psychometric careers test. Finally, after a busy week, Nora tries to unwind with a trip to an acupuncturist...

Nora Meadows ..... Katy Wix  
Chris and JP van der Voss ..... David Elms  
Claire ..... Emily Lloyd-Saini  
Brian ..... Sunil Patel  
Gwen ..... Shivani Thussu  
Saz ..... Lorna Rose Trean

Written and directed by Will Farrell and Ben Rowse, with additional material from the cast.

Sound design: Marcus Rice  
Original music: Marcus Rice and Charlie Pelling  
Producer: Nick Coupe

A HatTrick production for BBC Radio 4.

**WED 23:30 Today in Parliament (m001t3hl)**  
Alicia McCarthy reports on a dramatic day of events in Westminster.

#### THURSDAY 07 DECEMBER 2023

**THU 00:00 Midnight News (m001t3hq)**  
The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

**THU 00:30 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m001t3dj)**  
Episode 3

Considered by many to be the iconic French memoirist's defining work, *The Years* is a narrative of the period 1941 to 2006 told through the lens of memory, impressions past and present, cultural habits, language, photos, books, songs, radio, television, advertising and news headlines.

Annie Ernaux invents a form that is subjective and impersonal, private and collective, and a new genre – the collective autobiography – in order to capture the passing of time.

At the confluence of autofiction and sociology, *The Years* is 'a Remembrance of Things Past for our age of media domination and consumerism' (New York Times), a monumental account of twentieth-century French history as refracted through the life of one woman.

'One of the best books you'll ever read.'  
— Deborah Levy, author of *Hot Milk*

'The author of one of the most important oeuvres in French literature, Annie Ernaux's work is as powerful as it is devastating, as subtle as it is seething.'  
— Edouard Louis, author of *The End of Eddy*

'Ravishing and almost oracular with insight, Ernaux's prose performs an extraordinary dance between collective and intimate, "big" history and private experience. *The Years* is a philosophical meditation paced as a rollercoaster ride through the decades. How we spend ourselves too quickly, how we reach for meaning but evade it, how to live, how to remember – these are Ernaux's themes. I am desperate for more.'  
— Kapka Kassabova, author of *Border*

Born in 1940, Annie Ernaux grew up in Normandy, studied at Rouen University, and later taught at secondary school. From 1977 to 2000, she was a professor at the Centre National

d'Enseignement par Correspondance. In 2017, she was awarded the Marguerite Yourcenar Prize for her life's work. In 2022, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Alison L. Strayer is a Canadian writer and translator. Her translation of *The Years* was awarded the 2018 French-American Translation Prize in the non-fiction category. She lives in Paris.

Written by Annie Ernaux  
Translated by Alison L Strayer  
Read by Sian Thomas  
Abridged by Jill Waters with Mark Kilfoyle  
Produced by Jill Waters  
A Waters Company production for BBC Radio 4

**THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001t3hv)**  
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m001t3j3)**  
World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**THU 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001t3jd)**  
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**THU 05:30 News Briefing (m001t3jn)**  
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m001t3jx)**  
A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**THU 05:45 Farming Today (m001t3k5)**  
07/12/23 Funding for African crops at COP28; Bluetongue virus in cattle; Care farm.

\$50 million of new investment to 'accelerate agriculture and food innovations' has been announced at COP28. This is part of AIM, the Agriculture Innovation Mission for climate, a global coalition set up at COP26 and led by the USA and the UAE. It aims to get more money into climate smart ag and new technologies to adapt to and mitigate climate change. The AIM for Climate Innovation Sprint launched in Africa earlier this year has been expanded and we speak to the special envoy for global food security at the US State Department.

North East Kent is under restrictions after cases of bluetongue have been confirmed. The last outbreak in the UK was in 2007, but a temporary control zone which was introduced at the end of last month, has now been extended after more cases were found. Bluetongue is a notifiable disease which is spread by biting midges - it affects cattle, sheep and goats - and while their milk and meat is safe for humans to eat, the disease can have a significant impact on the animals.

A community in Pembrokeshire is rallying round to buy a farm. Locals are being invited to buy shares in Clynyw Care Farm which helps people with learning disabilities and mental health issues. Its goal is to become a community asset and sell shares to locals, but five hundred and fifty thousand pounds is needed to secure its future.

Presenter = Charlotte Smith  
Producer - Rebecca Rooney

**THU 05:58 Tweet of the Day (b04dw6z4)**  
Red-headed Woodpecker

Tweet of the Day is the voice of birds and our relationship with them, from around the world.

Sir David Attenborough presents the red-headed woodpecker found in North America. With its inky black wings, snow white body and crimson hood, the red-headed woodpecker is one of the most striking members of its family, a real 'flying checker-board'. This striking Woodpecker has an ancient past, fossil records go back 2 million years and the Cherokee Indians used this species as a war symbol. More recently and nestled amongst Longfellow's epic poem *The Song of Hiawatha*, the grateful Hiawatha gave the red headed woodpecker its red head in thanks for its service to him.

Producer : Andrew Dawes

**THU 06:00 Today (m001t2z2)**  
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**THU 09:00 In Our Time (m001t2zf)**

Karl Barth

Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss one of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century, Karl Barth (1886 - 1968) rejected the liberal theology of his time which, he argued, used the Bible and religion to help humans understand themselves rather than prepare them to open themselves to divine revelation. Barth's aim was to put God and especially Christ at the centre of Christianity. He was alarmed by what he saw as the dangers in a natural theology where God might be found in a rainbow or an opera by Wagner; for if you were open to finding God in German culture, you could also be open to accepting Hitler as God's gift as many Germans did. Barth openly refused to accept Hitler's role in the Church in the 1930s on these theological grounds as well as moral, for which he was forced to leave Germany for his native Switzerland.

With

Stephen Plant  
Dean and Runcie Fellow at Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge

Christiane Tietz  
Professor for Systematic Theology at the University of Zurich

And

Tom Greggs  
Marischal Professor of Divinity at the University of Aberdeen

Producer: Simon Tillotson

Reading list:

Karl Barth, *God Here and Now* (Routledge, 2003)

Karl Barth (trans. G. T. Thomson), *Dogmatics in Outline* (SCM Press, 1966)

Eberhard Busch (trans. John Bowden), *Karl Barth: His Life from Letters and Autobiographical Texts* (Grand Rapids, 1994)

George Hunsinger, *How to Read Karl Barth: The Shape of His Theology* (Oxford University Press, 1993)

Joseph L. Mangina, *Karl Barth: Theologian of Christian Witness* (Routledge, 2004)

Paul T. Nimmo, *Karl Barth: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Bloomsbury, 2013)

Christiane Tietz, *Karl Barth: A Life in Conflict* (Oxford University Press, 2021)

John Webster, *Karl Barth: Outstanding Christian Thinkers* (Continuum, 2004)

**THU 09:45 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m001t2zs)**  
Episode 4

Considered by many to be the iconic French memoirist's defining work, *The Years* is a narrative of the period 1941 to 2006 told through the lens of memory, impressions past and present, cultural habits, language, photos, books, songs, radio, television, advertising and news headlines.

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Translated by Alison L Strayer  
Read by Sian Thomas  
Abridged by Jill Waters with Mark Kilfoyle  
Produced by Jill Waters  
A Waters Company production for BBC Radio 4

#### THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m001t303)

Conductor Marin Alsop, actor Diana Quick and a campaign to protect domestic abuse victims

Marin Alsop is one of the most famous conductors in the world. Ten years ago, she became the first woman to conduct the Last Night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. Now she is giving the European premiere of *Too Hot To Handel: The Gospel Messiah!*, a reimagining of Handel's *Messiah*. Marin tells Hayley Hassell why she wanted to rework the piece, and looks back over her illustrious career as a conductor.

The actor Diana Quick joins Hayley to discuss her role as Mrs Wentworth in a new series *The Famous Five* – and describe how the classic adventures have been brought to life with a new, fresh, modern reimagining of Enid Blyton's iconic stories.

The Centre for Women's Justice is campaigning to prevent unjust criminalisation of victims and survivors of domestic abuse. Hayley is joined by director of the CWJ, Harriet Wistrich, and former director of Southall Black Sisters, Pragna Patel.

What can we tell about medieval women's lives from studying their skeletons? Dr Sarah Inskip from Leicester University has been part of a team excavating Cambridge graveyards for a new research project called *After the Plague*. She has found evidence that some medieval women did very strenuous work that changed the shape of their upper bodies; others were trading and travelling across Europe, and many would have existed in chronic pain.

Producer: Hannah Sander  
Presenter: Hayley Hassell

#### THU 11:00 Crossing Continents (m001t30d)

Cyprus: The battle over songbird slaughter

Cyprus is one of the main resting stops for songbirds as they migrate between Europe, Africa and the Middle East. For centuries, Cypriots trapped and ate a small number of migrating songbirds, as part of a subsistence diet. But over recent decades, the consumption of songbirds became a lucrative commercial business and the level of slaughter reached industrial levels. Millions of birds were killed each year as trappers employed new technologies to attract and capture birds. The methods used by the trappers are illegal under both Cypriot and EU law. In the last few years, both the Cypriot authorities and environmental groups have been fighting back, dramatically reducing the number of birds being trapped. But it remains a multi-million dollar illegal business which has increasingly drawn in organised criminal gangs. For *Crossing Continents*, Antonia Bolingbroke-Kent sees the trappers in action, and meets those determined to stop the mass killing of birds.

Presenter: Antonia Bolingbroke Kent  
Producer: Alex Last  
Sound mix: Rod Farquhar  
Production Coordinator: Gemma Ashman  
Series Editor: Penny Murphy

#### THU 11:30 Great Lives (m001t30n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Tuesday]

#### THU 12:00 News Summary (m001t30v)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

#### THU 12:04 You and Yours (m001t315)

Gap Finders: Amber Probyn and Hazel McShane from Peequal

Today's Gap Finders guests are Amber Probyn and Hazel McShane, the founders of Peequal, the first female urinal for big events and music festivals.

Amber and Hazel met while studying their Masters at the University of Bristol and came up with the idea after working at music festivals flipping burgers. During their breaks they'd have to choose between getting something to eat or joining the

massive queue for the toilet.

They both thought there must be a better solution for women at festivals to stop the massive snaking queues, compared to men who could use urinals with no waits.

They designed Peequal for 6 women to go at once, and to be flatpacked and transported as sustainably as possible. They rent the urinals out to events like the London Marathon and Glastonbury.

But not all women were convinced by the design at first because although you're covered below, you can see your top half.

Amber and Hazel talk to Shari about their innovative idea, the business model and what its like to run a business with a friend.

PRESENTER: SHARI VAHL  
PRODUCER: LYDIA THOMAS

#### THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m001t31c)

Bedding

Can changing your sheets be good for you - and the environment?

We've had loads of requests to look at the best way to make your bed - specifically, how all the different options for sheets and pillowcases compare. Cotton seems to be king when it comes to popularity, but is it justified? Listener Rosemary is a linen fan, but wants to know whether eucalyptus bedding lives up to the hype. How do its eco credentials stack up - and what does it feel like? Speaking of feel - silk pillow cases have a reputation for luxury, but listener Cathy wants to know whether sleeping on one will - as the marketing promises - also help your skin and your hair. Could it really help with acne? We'll hear from a dermatologist and a fabrics expert - and there are some surprising answers to this one!

If you've seen a claim you'd like investigating, you can email the team on [sliced.bread@bbc.co.uk](mailto:sliced.bread@bbc.co.uk) or send us a WhatsApp voice note on 07543 306807.

PRESENTER: GREG FOOT  
PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY

#### THU 12:57 Weather (m001t31i)

The latest weather forecast

#### THU 13:00 World at One (m001t31v)

Forty-five minutes of news, analysis and comment.

#### THU 13:45 Empire of Tea (m001t321)

The Tea Wars

As Britain's demand for tea soared in the late 18th century, an economic problem was emerging. Britain wanted to buy lots of tea from China, but China wasn't interested in the commodities Britain had to sell. That meant silver was draining out of Britain and into China.

Eventually a solution was found: opium. It was an imperial product Britain could grow in India and sell to China. But the Chinese leadership didn't want the narcotic, and Britain's desire to offset its tea habit by selling an addictive, hard drug that harmed Chinese people, led to war.

Professor of Chinese history Yangwen Zheng explains how the situation escalated, and the long shadow the conflict casts upon the modern world.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

#### THU 14:00 The Archers (m001t327)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

#### THU 14:15 Broken Colours (m001t32g)

Series 3

Episode 2

by Matthew Broughton.

Jess and Dan are hiding deep in the woods with Selina. The Queen of Spiders. Something grim surfaces in the dock. And then they have a real stroke of luck.

Jess.....Hollie Dempsey  
Dan.....Josef Altin  
Selena.....Brid Brennan  
Melissa.....Kezrena James  
Blue Rider.....Olivia Vinnal  
Producer/ Man 1.....Don Gilet  
Newsreader/ Man 2.....Tyler Cameron

Production Co-ordinator.... Eleri McAuliffe

Sound Design.....Catherine Robinson and Nigel Lewis

Director.....John Norton

Producer...John Norton and Emma Harding

A BBC Audio Drama Wales Production

#### THU 15:00 Open Country (m001t32t)

Unearthing the past at Vindolanda

At the major Roman site of Vindolanda, just south of Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland, excavations have unearthed artefacts from nearly two thousand years ago. In this programme, archaeologist Rose Ferraby visits the site and asks what we can learn about the people who lived here and the kind of lives they led. She hears about the five thousand pairs of shoes which were left behind by the departing Romans, from marching boots to baby's booties, with another 30-40,000 more pairs believed to still lie buried on the site - along with several tonnes of pottery, ceramics and animal bones.

At Vindolanda's sister site, Magna, archaeological work is being directly affected by climate change. The peat bog on which it sits is drying out, exposing ancient structures to the air. It's a race against time to find out as much as possible and to preserve the past in the face of the changing climate.

Produced by Ruth Sanderson

#### THU 15:27 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001t338)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]

#### THU 15:30 Bookclub (m001t33j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

#### THU 16:00 Legend (m001t33v)

The Joni Mitchell Story

6. Both Sides Now

Legend is a new music biography series from BBC Radio 4 exploring the extraordinary life stories of pioneering artists who changed music forever.

In the final episode, we hear how Joni comes full circle. She reunites with the daughter she gave up for adoption, retires then returns to music, suffers from and then recovers from a near-fatal brain aneurysm, all those years after contracting and surviving polio. With the love and support of a community of musicians, Joni once again returns to the stage, celebrating all that she's created over 80 years.

"I've always been a creature of change" – Joni Mitchell

Through archive, fresh interviews, narration, immersive sound design and an original score, we trace the story of an extraordinary life and explore what makes Joni Mitchell a singular artist: the genius of her lyrics; her incredible talent as guitarist, painter and producer; and her restless drive for innovation.

We follow Joni from her 'flatlander' childhood on the Canadian prairies, through the folk clubs of Toronto and Detroit, to a redwood cottage in L.A.'s Laurel Canyon, to a cave in Crete, to a deserted desert highway, to recording studios and stages around the world. From her earliest home recordings to masterpieces like *Blue*, *Court and Spark*, and *Hejira*, we explore some of the stories behind her best-loved songs and celebrate her remarkable return to live performance in the past year: "like seeing, in the wild, a rare bird long feared extinct".

Our guide through the series is the California-born, Manchester-based musician, Jessa Hoop. We hear tributes from musicians who have played alongside Joni and from those who have been inspired and influenced by her music. We hear from friends, including Larry Klein and Graham Nash; and from music critics and biographers, including Ann Powers, David Yaffe, Lindsay Zoladz, Kate Mossman, Barney Hoskyns, Miles Grier and Jenn Pelly.

The Joni Mitchell Story comes from the production team behind BBC Radio 4's award-winning podcast *Soul Music* – "... the gold standard for music podcasts..." (Esquire).

Producers: Mair Bosworth and Eliza Lomas  
Production Coordinator: Andrew Lewis  
Editor: Chris Ledgard  
Story Editor: Emma Harding  
Story Consultant: John Yorke  
Sound Design and Original Music: Hannis Brown  
Studio Engineers: Ilse Lademann and Michael Harrison

#### THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m001t345)

Vagrant Birds

Vagrant birds are those that appear in locations where they are not usually found. They might have been blown off course by a storm or have been affected by changing weather patterns due to climate change. Although a treat for birders, these visitors can also have a big impact on their new environments as Victoria Gill finds out when she heads to Burton Mere Wetlands on the Dee Estuary with Dr Alexander Lees, reader in biodiversity at Manchester Metropolitan University.

As former Prime Minister Boris Johnson gives his testimony, we hear the latest from the UK Covid-19 Public Inquiry with BBC Health Reporter Jim Reed.

A new study reveals that, contrary to a commonly-held view, the brain does not have the ability to rewire itself to compensate for the loss of, for example sight, an amputation or stroke. This is despite what most scientists believe and teach. Moreover, the assumption that it has this ability has led to all manner of erroneous treatments for amputees, stroke victims and other conditions, the study suggests.

We're joined by the study's authors, Professor John Krakauer from Johns Hopkins University and Professor Tamar Making of the University of Cambridge. We'll also hear from one of Tamar's key case studies, Kirsty Mason, an amputee from the age of 18 who advanced the scientists' experiments exponentially.

Presenter: Victoria Gill  
Producers: Hannah Robins and Louise Orchard  
Editor: Richard Collings  
Production Co-ordinator: Jana Bennett-Holesworth

BBC Inside Science is produced in collaboration with the Open University.

#### THU 17:00 PM (m001t34l)

Afternoon news and current affairs programme, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

#### THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m001t35d)

The Prime Minister described the new legislation as the "only approach"

#### THU 18:30 It's a Fair Cop (m000wdgk)

Series 6

#### 5. Exposure

This week Alfie and his team of audience cops investigate a case of exposure. When a repeat offender is discovered in the community, Alfie takes the audience through all the policing options to try and catch the perpetrator.

Written and presented by Alfie Moore  
Script editor: Will Ing  
Production co-ordinator: Beverly Tagg  
Producer: Richard Morris

A BBC Studios Production

First broadcast in May 2021

#### THU 19:00 The Archers (m001t316)

Tony and Tom discuss how to cover Bridge Farm work without Johnny. They agree to ask George to cover Johnny's work. Tony asks whether Tom and Natasha bidding for the Grange Farm land is a good idea, as they are both looking exhausted and barely able to cover the work they already have. Tony also mentions that he is going to help Peggy with an Estate Agent who is coming to value The Lodge, musing that he was hoping that his children would have got the benefits of that. Later Tom confides to Tony that he's worried about the idea of building a house on the land but doesn't know how to tell Natasha. Tony suggests just being honest. Later Natasha and Tom agree that now isn't the right time for the land project.

Clarrie and Eddie clear out the old barn. Clarrie finds her old pram and becomes emotional telling Eddie all of her memories are at Grange Farm. She wonders what they'll do when Oliver eventually sells. Eddie tells her about the Almshouses he's been researching and asks her to keep an open mind until she has read more. Later after reading the information Clarrie and Eddie feel much more hopeful about the future and Clarrie congratulates Eddie on finding something official rather than one of his half-baked schemes. Later on they both wonder who will buy the land and hope its Brian who at least is a farmer and with whom they already have a good relationship.

#### THU 19:15 Front Row (m001t35t)

Benjamin Zephaniah, Wim Wenders' Anselm, The Famous Five, Xmas Ads

Fred D'Aguiar discusses the life and poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah, whose death was announced today.

Tom Sutcliffe reviews Wim Wenders' film about the artist Anselm Kiefer and the BBC's adaptation of Enid Blyton's The Famous Five, with film critic Leila Latif and children's author Candy Gourlay.

Which is the standout Christmas TV advert this year? Tom discusses the art of selling Christmas with Matt Gay, creative director of several high-profile John Lewis ads and media journalist Liz Gornly.

Presenter: Tom Sutcliffe  
Producer: Ciaran Bermingham

#### THU 20:00 The Briefing Room (m001t2z4)

Ukraine: what's the counter-offensive latest?

The start of Ukraine's counter-offensive against occupying Russian forces was hailed as the breakthrough moment of the war so far. Now six months on, we ask what happened?

The Secretary General of NATO has said we should be 'prepared for bad news' and the White House has warned that the US is running out of time and money to fund the war.

In this week's Briefing Room with David Aaronovitch we find out why things haven't progressed as hoped and how much Ukraine's key backers still support the war.

Joining David to discuss are:  
Shashank Joshi - Defence Editor at The Economist  
Michael Clarke - Professor of Defence studies and Specialist Advisor to the Joint Committee on the National Security Strategy  
Karin Von Hippel - Director General, Royal United Services Institute  
Prof. Dr. Daniela Schwarzer - Executive Board member of the Bertelsmann Stiftung, a German foreign policy think tank based in Berlin

Production: Kirsteen Knight and Alex Lewis  
Production Co-ordinators: Jacqui Johnson and Sophie Hill  
Sound: Neil Churchill  
Editor: Richard Vadon

#### THU 20:30 Intrigue (m001t3nk)

Million Dollar Lover – Ep 3: The Fight

Carolyn is facing mounting opposition to her relationship with Dave, who is 23 years younger than her and a world away in terms of wealth and lifestyle. She is being forced to make the most difficult choice possible: between her daughters and her new lover. The situation becomes so heated that it finally erupts into violence.

Opposition to Dave seems to be leading Carolyn to side with him more and they appear determined to stay together. Dave is all for Carolyn taking back control of her finances from her daughters and they fear she is showing signs of mental incapacity. They want her to agree to be tested, but Carolyn is digging her heels in and is adamant that she can make her own decisions

The situation is escalating really quickly, with her daughters are increasingly on the side-lines – powerless to act. They have huge concerns about Dave, who has a long criminal record and was homeless and addicted to the drug, Crystal Meth. They cannot get their Mum to listen and as long as she says she is happy, there appears to be nothing that they can do.

Million Dollar Lover is an unlikely love story, recorded over a year as the relationship unfolds between Carolyn, who is 80 and has a valuable property portfolio, and Dave, 57, who arrives in the idyllic Californian resort of Cayucos by chance and quickly decides to make it his home

Is Dave really a tender carer who will cherish Carolyn to the end as he promises, or is he a dangerous interloper who will fleece Carolyn – breaking her heart and her family?

Million Dollar Lover is produced at BBC Audio by the team behind The Boy in the Woods and is presented by Sue Mitchell.

The series is scripted by Winifred Robinson; the producers are Sue Mitchell and Joel Moors; the dramaturg is Flo Dessau and sound design is by Tom Brignell. The editor is Philip Sellars.

#### THU 21:00 BBC Inside Science (m001t345)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 today]

#### THU 21:30 In Our Time (m001t2zf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

#### THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m001t36v)

Ofsted inspection 'contributed' to head teacher's death, coroner finds

Also in the programme: the rift between Venezuela and Guyana over oil-rich territory; and a documentary reveals new information on why 43 Mexican students disappeared a decade ago

#### THU 22:45 Miss Buncle's Book by DE Stevenson (m001t374)

Episode 9

As ripples from the Great Depression reach a cosy English village, Barbara Buncle finds an inventive way to supplement her meagre income. Life in Silverstream will never be the same once her thinly fictionalised novel has laid bare the life, loves and eccentricities of her neighbours.

Although doctor's wife Sarah Walker has denied being the secret scribe behind 'Disturber of the Peace', busybody Mrs Featherstone-Hogg remains unconvinced.

Read by Madeleine Worrall  
Written by D.E. Stevenson  
Abridged by Clara Glynn  
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

Scottish author D.E. Stevenson was a prolific name in the light romantic fiction genre, topping best seller lists from the 1930s to the 1960s. MISS BUNCLE'S BOOK, her best-known publication, is a delight; funny, engaging and well worth rediscovering 50 years after the author's death.

#### THU 23:00 The Today Podcast (m001t37f)

Sunk! Is Sunak's Tory Party over?

It's been a bruising 24 hours for Rishi Sunak including a ministerial resignation, emergency prime ministerial press conference and a former home secretary now firmly on manoeuvres.

Amol and Nick discuss the Today programme's exclusive interview with that former home secretary, Suella Braverman, and analyse how much trouble Sunak is now in. Will there be a leadership challenge?

As he's shoring up his leadership the former prime minister Boris Johnson is trying to secure his legacy at the Covid Inquiry. What will history's verdict on him be? Sir Simon Schama provides his perspective on how Johnson's time in No10 will be remembered, long into the future.

Episodes of The Today Podcast land every Thursday and watch out for bonus episodes. Subscribe on BBC Sounds to get Amol and Nick's take on the biggest stories of the week, with insights from behind the scenes at the UK's most influential radio news programme.

If you would like a question answering, get in touch by sending us a message or voice note via WhatsApp to +44 330 123 4346 or email us Today@bbc.co.uk

The Today Podcast is hosted by Amol Rajan and Nick Robinson, both presenters of BBC Radio 4's Today programme, the UK's most influential radio news programme. Amol was the BBC's media editor for six years and is the former editor of the Independent, he's also the current presenter of University Challenge. Nick has presented the Today programme since 2015, he was the BBC's political editor for ten years before that and also previously worked as ITV's political editor.

The senior producer is Tom Smithard, the producer is Rufus Gray. The editors are Jonathan Aspinwall and Louisa Lewis. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths. Studio direction from Jack Graysmark.

#### THU 23:30 Today in Parliament (m001t37q)

Sean Curran reports as MPs ponder the next steps for the government's asylum policy. A minister warns that Russian agents have tried to meddle in British politics.

#### FRIDAY 08 DECEMBER 2023

#### FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m001t37y)

The latest news and weather forecast from BBC Radio 4.

#### FRI 00:30 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m001t2zs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Thursday]

#### FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m001t384)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping



**FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes**

(m001138c)

World Service

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

**FRI 05:20 Shipping Forecast (m001138f)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**FRI 05:30 News Briefing (m001138h)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m001138k)**

A reflection and prayer to start the day with the Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

**FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m001138m)**

08/12/23 Food security report; Bluefin tuna; Young farmers at COP28

Food Security is a public good and the government should use England's post-Brexit environmental payment system to incentivise it - so say MPs on the Environmental Audit Committee in a new report. Food was excluded when the new system of public money for public goods was introduced - the argument being that the market rewards farmers for growing food and public money should be used to reward them for other services, like improving soil or planting trees. This report though, says the Environmental Land Management Schemes or ELMs, should be used to encourage a shift 'towards a resilient food system while also balancing environmental change'. The MP who chairs the committee says the government shouldn't take food security for granted.

Fishermen in the south west of England have been catching and selling bluefin tuna as part of a new pilot fishery. Seven licences have been issued in Cornwall, two in Devon and one in Scotland. The fish weigh around 250 kilograms and can sell for several thousand pounds. The trial has been extended until the end of the year because of bad weather, but some conservationists are concerned.

COP28 has for the first time this year, had more emphasis on food and farming - and so more farmers are there to put forward their views. From US ranchers to European farmers and smallholders from Milawi. We've been speaking to two young famers from the World Farmers' Organisation who have been at COP to put forward the youth voice in agriculture - an organic apple grower from Italy and a poultry farmer from Zimbabwe.

Presenter = Charlotte Smith

Producer = Rebecca Rooney

**FRI 05:58 Tweet of the Day (b03bkfvm)**

Brambling

Tweet of the Day is a series of fascinating stories about the British birds inspired by their calls and songs.

Wildlife Sound Recordist, Chris Watson, presents the Brambling. Bramblings are the northern equivalent of the chaffinch and breed across huge areas of Scandinavia and Russia. In autumn they migrate south in search of seeds and are particularly fond of beech-mast. The largest recorded gathering of any living bird species in the world is of a flock of over 70 million bramblings at a roost in Switzerland in the winter of 1951.

**FRI 06:00 Today (m00112xx)**

News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (m00112y4)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 on Sunday]

**FRI 09:45 The Years by Annie Ernaux (m00112yd)**

Episode 5

Considered by many to be the iconic French memoirist's defining work, *The Years* is a narrative of the period 1941 to 2006 told through the lens of memory, impressions past and present, cultural habits, language, photos, books, songs, radio, television, advertising and news headlines.

Annie Ernaux invents a form that is subjective and impersonal, private and collective, and a new genre – the collective autobiography – in order to capture the passing of time.

At the confluence of autofiction and sociology, *The Years* is 'a Remembrance of Things Past for our age of media domination

and consumerism' (New York Times), a monumental account of twentieth-century French history as refracted through the life of one woman.

'One of the best books you'll ever read.'

— Deborah Levy, author of *Hot Milk*

'The author of one of the most important oeuvres in French literature, Annie Ernaux's work is as powerful as it is devastating, as subtle as it is seething.'

— Edouard Louis, author of *The End of Eddy*

'Ravishing and almost oracular with insight, Ernaux's prose performs an extraordinary dance between collective and intimate, "big" history and private experience. The *Years* is a philosophical meditation paced as a rollercoaster ride through the decades. How we spend ourselves too quickly, how we reach for meaning but evade it, how to live, how to remember – these are Ernaux's themes. I am desperate for more.'

— Kapka Kassabova, author of *Border*

Born in 1940, Annie Ernaux grew up in Normandy, studied at Rouen University, and later taught at secondary school. From 1977 to 2000, she was a professor at the Centre National d'Enseignement par Correspondance. In 2017, she was awarded the Marguerite Yourcenar Prize for her life's work. In 2022, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Alison L. Strayer is a Canadian writer and translator. Her translation of *The Years* was awarded the 2018 French-American Translation Prize in the non-fiction category. She lives in Paris.

Written by Annie Ernaux

Translated by Alison L Strayer

Read by Sian Thomas

Abridged by Jill Waters with Mark Kilfoyle

Produced by Jill Waters

A Waters Company production for BBC Radio 4

**FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00112ys)**

Ruth Perry's sister Julia Waters, America Ferrera, 'Stuffed'

An Ofsted inspection "contributed" to the death of headteacher Ruth Perry. That's the conclusion of senior coroner Heidi Connor. This is the first time Ofsted has been listed as a contributing factor in the death of a head teacher. Ofsted are yet to comment on the verdict. Ruth Perry had been head of Caversham Primary School in Berkshire for 13 years when she took her own life in January, ahead of an inspection report being made public which had downgraded the school from Outstanding to Inadequate, based on safeguarding concerns. The school was regraded this summer to Good. Her death ignited a national debate about the mental health of school leaders and the pressure they are under in terms of inspections. Anita is joined by Ruth Perry's sister, Professor Julia Waters.

America Ferrera is an award-winning actress, a director, producer and activist. She shot to stardom with her roles in *Ugly Betty* and *The Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants*, but you'll most recently have seen her playing Gloria, an assistant to the chief executive of Mattel, in the blockbuster *Barbie* film, who delivers a powerful monologue on the double standards of being a woman. America joins Anita to talk about how she didn't "set out to be a role model, or to break barriers, or to have a career about defying the norm."

Food has revolved around women for centuries. History of food can provide us with a lens through which we can discover untold stories of women: their joys, struggles and ever-changing roles in society. Pen Vogler, author of "Stuffed," explores such themes in her new book and examines the history and culture of British food through political, social and global upheavals.

Presenter: Anita Rani

Producer: Rebecca Myatt

Studio manager: Duncan Hannant

**FRI 11:00 The Briefing Room (m00112z4)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Thursday]

**FRI 11:30 Disordered (m00112zg)**

Series 1

Episode 1 - Free-Fall. Free Food

A comedy drama, written by Magnus Mackintosh, and starring Jamie Sives as Hector, an optimistic but struggling 42-year-old single father, with long-term mental health issues, who lives in Edinburgh with his unusually bright 10-year-old son William. He is aided by kindly friend and neighbour Susan and hindered by acerbic ex-partner Amanda.

In episode one, Free-Fall, Free Food, Hector has trouble with an unsympathetic job advisor and his callous landlady, and ends up having to resort to using the food bank, where a fiery encounter

with an aggressive customer leaves Hector battered and bruised, literally and metaphorically. When acid tongued ex-partner Amanda pours oil on the flames by threatening to take custody of William, Hector is left in a fragile state. Thankfully caring, thoughtful neighbour Susan is there to help keep Hector's head above water.

The writer, Magnus Mackintosh, has personally struggled with mental health issues over 27 years. He openly discusses his own mental health issues on social media in the hope he can help others and raise awareness.

Created and Written by Magnus Mackintosh

Cast

Hector- Jamie Sives

Susan- Rosalind Sydney

Amanda- Gail Watson

William- Raffi Phillips

Thresher- Steven McNicoll

Cleaver- Anita Vettesse

Man- Gordon Kennedy

Studio Engineer and Editor- Lee McPhail

Production Manager- Tayler Norris

Title Music- Just Breathe by Police Dog Hogan

Produced and Directed by Moray Hunter and Gordon Kennedy

Recorded at Castlesound Studios, Pencaitland, East Lothian

An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4

**FRI 12:00 News Summary (m00112zt)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**FRI 12:04 AntiSocial (m0011304)**

Trans kids and schools

What should teachers do if a pupil wants to use a name, uniform, toilet or changing room of the opposite sex because they feel it better represents who they are? It's known as 'social transitioning'. It's in the news because the former Prime Minister Liz Truss has proposed a new law that would ban it in schools - re-charging a debate that's been going on from a while.

Social transitioning isn't the same as having surgery or taking drugs. So what is it? Schools have been crying out for some guidance from the government. We'll hear what teachers have been doing in the meantime. There are laws that protect pupils and laws that protect teachers. We'll find out where they sometimes clash.

**FRI 12:57 Weather (m001130f)**

The latest weather forecast

**FRI 13:00 World at One (m001130p)**

Forty-five minutes of news, analysis and comment.

**FRI 13:45 Empire of Tea (m001130y)**

Innovation, Espionage and Propaganda

Until 1833 the tea drunk in Britain had come from China, imported by the East India Company. But then the company lost its monopoly on Chinese tea. Its response was to attempt to grow its own in British India. The only snag was it didn't know how to. So the botanist Robert Fortune was sent on an undercover mission to China.

His work, combined with some surprising discoveries of tea closer to home, and mass marketing and propaganda, helped develop India's huge tea industry in places like Assam and Darjeeling.

At Kew Gardens, Mark Nesbitt and Aurora Prehn tell Sathnam Sanghera about how this shift from China to India changed the international tea trade forever.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

**FRI 14:00 The Archers (m0011316)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

**FRI 14:15 Limelight (m001131f)**

English Rose - Series 2

English Rose - 2: Beware of the Dog

By Helen Cross.

Rose is beginning to regret her part in Maya's transformation, and she's suspicious about Maya's plans for a 'rejuvenation' spa in the California Hills. She can see that Maya is already deeply in love with the night. But Rose's first task is to check on baby Gully. Is he behind the telepathic messages she keeps getting?

Stylish and surprising fantasy horror with a comic twist, starring Alexandra Mardell (Coronation Street) and Demetri Goritsas (Ten Percent).  
With music by Dana Margolin and Sam Yardley of Mercury-nominated band, Porridge Radio.

Helen Cross wrote 'My Summer of Love' which won a Betty Trask award and was made into a Bafta-winning film with Emily Blunt (recently rated her best film in The Guardian top ten Emily Blunt films). Mary Ward-Lowery won Best Director in 2020 Audio Drama Awards.

Rose ... Alexandra Mardell  
Maya ... Miranda Braun  
Austin ... Demetri Goritsas  
Siobhan ... Deirdre Mullins  
Delphine ... Yasemin Ozdemir  
Mam ... Jane Thornton  
Jack ... Tyler Cameron  
Gym owner ... Don Gilet  
Dakota ... Rhiannon Neads  
Alina ... Kitty O'Sullivan  
Englishman ... Martin Bonger  
Angry Man ... Douglas Hodgson  
Gully ... Bruce Casswell

Original music written and performed by Dana Margolin and Sam Yardley of Porridge Radio.

Sound design by Ilse Lademann and Mary Ward-Lowery  
Assistant Producer ... Alison Crawford  
Director ... Mary Ward-Lowery

**FRI 14:45 Multitrack (m001t31n)**  
Nameless Mothers

Women share their honest, raw feelings about the taboo subject of regretting motherhood.

It's an experience rarely talked about. But here, under the protection of anonymity, three mothers open up about their feelings of loneliness, failure, and shame, and the pressure they faced to have children.

Some pursued motherhood because they believed it's the natural path, while others succumbed to societal expectations. They discuss the sacrifices they have made, including their own happiness and well-being. They've had some positive experiences too, but they are worried about how their feelings will impact their children. Was the price they paid for motherhood worth it?

Producer: Riham Moussa  
Executive Producer: Eve Streeter

A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4, commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio Producers Fellowship

**FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m001t31w)**  
Bearwood

What's the best way to stop woodlice from hiding under my pots? How can I encourage my hibiscus plant to flower abundantly? What can I do to get my gardening mojo back?

Joining Kathy Clugston to answer these questions and more in front of a live audience in Bearwood are Head of Oxford Botanical Gardens Dr Chris Thorogood, houseplant expert Anne Swithinbank, and landscape designer Matthew Wilson.

Also on the programme, Matthew Biggs meets up with author of the first ever Bats in the Garden book, Shirley Thompson MBE, to debunk common misconceptions about bats and shares how they can benefit our gardens.

Producer: Dan Cocker  
Assistant Producer: Dulcie Whadcock  
Executive Producer: Hannah Newton

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

**FRI 15:45 Radio 4 Christmas Appeal (m001tbmv)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 on Sunday]

**FRI 16:00 Last Word (m001t322)**

Shane MacGowan, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Lord Darling, Joan Jara

Matthew Bannister on

Shane MacGowan the lead singer of The Pogues who was famous for his song writing but also his abuse of drugs and alcohol. His sister joins us to discuss the roots of his talent and his excesses.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman to be appointed to the US Supreme Court.

Lord Darling, the Labour politician who was Chancellor during the financial crash of 2008.

Joan Jara, whose husband, the singer Victor Jara was killed by the Pinochet regime in Chile. She campaigned for justice on behalf of thousands whose relatives died or disappeared.

Interviewee: Siobhan MacGowan  
Interviewee: James Fearnley  
Interviewee: Justice Ruth McGregor  
Interviewee: Alan Day  
Interviewee: Catherine MacLeod  
Interviewee: Almudena Bernabeu

Producer: Gareth Nelson-Davies

Archive used:  
Shane MacGowan interview, BBC Two, Crock of Gold: A Few Rounds with Shane MacGowan, BBC iPlayer, First broadcast 16/03/2021; Sandra Day O'Connor, 60 Minutes, YouTube uploaded, 01/12/2023; Sandra Day O'Connor nomination to the Supreme Court by President Reagan, CBS, 19/08/1981; Sandra Day O'Connor interview, PBS Newshour, 04/04/2013. Supreme Court Ruling Bush v Gore, BBC Newsnight, 08/12/2000; Alistair Darling interview, 10 Years After the Financial Crash with Alistair Darling, RBS Events, YouTube uploaded, 25/09/2017; Chile News report, The World at One, BBC Radio 4, 19/09/1973; Joan Jara interview, Woman's Hour, BBC Radio 4, 04/09/1988; Joan Jara interview, Weekend Woman's Hour, BBC Radio 4, 20/09/2003; Sandra Day O'Connor Retires, BBC News, BBC Radio 4, 01/07/2005;

**FRI 16:30 Feedback (m001t328)**

Great thinkers, Gangsters, and Love and Money

Great thinkers, Gangsters, and Love and Money - it's all on this week's Feedback.

Andrea Catherwood talks themes and locations of The Reith Lectures 2023 with this year's Lecturer Professor Ben Ansell and BBC Radio 4 Commissioning editor Hugh Levinson.

We delve into the murky depths of love and inheritance with the presenter of the podcast series Intrigue: Million Dollar Lover.

And listener Jay Smith from Birmingham is in the Vox Box to unpick a Radio 5 Live series exploring gangland violence in the city - Gangster: Burger Bar Boys.

And this is your last chance to nominate your Feedback Interview of the Year - your choice for the stand out interview from 2023 from anywhere on BBC Radio or Sounds.

A Whistledown Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

**FRI 17:00 PM (m001t32j)**

Afternoon news and current affairs programme, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

**FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m001t32v)**

Aid workers have warned society in the territory is on the verge of collapse

**FRI 18:30 The Now Show (m001t336)**

Series 63

Episode 6

Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis present the week via topical stand-up and sketches. Featuring Geoff Norcott looking at the proposal of a Minister for Men, Harriet Kemsley on Kim Jong Un's pleas to North Korea, and an original song from Peter Rugman.

The show was written by the cast with additional material from Adrian Gray, Miranda Holms, Rajiv Karia, Cameron Loxdale and Laura Major.

Voice Actors: Daniel Barker and Chiara Goldsmith.

Producer: Rajiv Karia  
Production Coordinator: Katie Baum

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4

**FRI 19:00 The Archers (m001t33k)**

WRITER: Keri Davies  
DIRECTOR: Pip Swallow

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood

Natasha Archer .... Mali Harries  
Tom Archer .... William Troughton  
Tony Archer ..... David Troughton  
Lilian Bellamy .... Sunny Ormonde  
Justin Elliott .... Simon Williams  
Clarrie Grundy .... Heather Bell  
Eddie Grundy .... Trevor Harrison  
Emma Grundy .... Emerald O'Hanrahan  
Will Grundy .... Philip Molloy  
Jakob Hakansson.... Paul Venables  
Kate Madikane .... Perdita Avery  
Oliver Sterling .... Michael Cochrane  
Graham .... Malcolm McKee

**FRI 19:15 Add to Playlist (m001t33x)**

Neil Brand and Anna Phoebe round off the latest series

Composer, silent film music specialist and musician, Neil Brand, and violinist and composer Anna Phoebe, join Cerys Matthews and Jeffrey Boakye for the final episode of the current series.

From Ma Rainey's loud and proud blues to a singalong classic from 1981, via an 8'25" digitally-manipulated track that could split the room, the current musical journey is making its last stop.

Add to Playlist returns on 9th Feb 2024

Producer Jerome Weatherald  
Presented, with music direction, by Cerys Matthews and Jeffrey Boakye

The five tracks in this week's playlist:

Prove It On Me Blues by Ma Rainey  
O Superman by Laurie Anderson  
Yo Soy Cubano by The Chakachas  
Finale from The Firebird by Igor Stravinsky  
Lay All Your Love On Me by ABBA

Other music in this episode:

Peter Gunn Theme from The Blues Brothers, written by Henry Mancini  
Believe by Cher  
Backseat Freestyle by Kendrick Lamar  
Crazy Frog by Axel F  
Magic Carpet Ride '07 by Mighty Dub Katz  
Theme from Stingray by Barry Gray

**FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m001t349)**

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Esther McVey MP, Lisa Nandy MP, Richard Tice

Alex Forsyth presents political discussion from St Matthew's Church in Burnley with the journalist Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Minister for the Cabinet Office Esther McVey MP, Shadow Minister for International Development Lisa Nandy MP and the leader of Reform UK Richard Tice.  
Producer: Camellia Sinclair  
Lead broadcast engineer: Liam Juniper

**FRI 20:50 A Point of View (m001t34q)**

The Usefulness of Pessimism

John Gray argues that the power of the imagination fuels the worst kind of politics.

'Nobody', he argues, 'is in overall charge of events. There are patterns in history, but particular human events are mostly random. We prefer an illusion of order to the brute fact of chaos.'

But, he says, pessimism may be the key to changing our fate.

Producer: Adele Armstrong  
Sound: Peter Boshier  
Production coordinator: Gemma Ashman  
Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

**FRI 21:00 Empire of Tea (m001t35j)**

Omnibus: episodes 1-5

Tea arrived in Britain as an exotic product for the elite. How and why did it then become a drink for the masses? Empire of Tea tells the story of how Britain's national drink was pushed by imperialists and helped shape the modern world.

Produced by Paul Martin for BBC Audio Wales

**FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m001t35j)**

In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

**FRI 22:45 Miss Buncle's Book by DE Stevenson (m001t35v)**  
Episode 10

As ripples from the Great Depression reach a cosy English village, Barbara Buncle finds an inventive way to supplement her meagre income. Life in Silverstream will never be the same once her thinly fictionalised novel has laid bare the life, loves and eccentricities of her neighbours.

With her dramatic confession roundly ignored, Barbara Buncle has little choice but to pick up her pen and write about Silverstream once more. After the scandalous success of her first book, publisher Arthur Abbott for one is delighted.

Read by Madeleine Worrall  
Written by D.E. Stevenson  
Abridged by Clara Glynn  
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

Scottish author D.E. Stevenson was a prolific name in the light romantic fiction genre, topping best seller lists from the 1930s to the 1960s. MISS BUNCLE'S BOOK, her best-known publication, is a delight; funny, engaging and well worth rediscovering 50 years after the author's death.

**FRI 23:00 Americast (m001t366)**  
Donald Trump: Dictator in Chief?

The shadow looming over the fourth Republican debate was the party's most recent president, Donald Trump.

But while the other candidates traded blows at one another, Trump was conspicuously absent, instead taking part in a town hall event on Tuesday evening.

He raised eyebrows when saying he would only be a dictator on 'day one' if elected president.

The Americast team chew over Trump's comments – and the Republican debate – before speaking to GOP candidate Asa Hutchinson, the former governor of Arkansas who's still in the race for the White House.

And, a clip of American university leaders has gone viral after they failed to say explicitly to Congress that calling for the genocide of Jewish people violated their schools code of conduct. The team assesses how we've reached this point.

**HOSTS:**

- Justin Webb, Radio 4 presenter
- Marianna Spring, disinformation and social media correspondent
- Anthony Zurcher, North America correspondent

**GUEST:**

- Asa Hutchinson, Republican presidential candidate

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- Send us a message or voice note via WhatsApp to +44 330 123 9480
- Email [Americast@bbc.co.uk](mailto:Americast@bbc.co.uk)
- Or use #Americast Find out more about our award-winning "undercover voters" here: [bbc.in/3lFddSF](https://bbc.in/3lFddSF).

This episode was made by George Dabby with Alix Pickles, Catherine Fusillo, Claire Betzer and Maia Davies. The technical producer was Mike Regaard. The series producer is George Dabby. The senior news editor is Sam Bonham.

**FRI 23:30 Today in Parliament (m001t36m)**

Susan Hulme reports as a Home Office Minister faces questions over the government's Rwanda policy. Also, the Archbishop of Canterbury leads a Lords debate on families.