

SATURDAY 17 MAY 2025**SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m002c3lh)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:30 The North Road by Rob Cowen (m002b76s)

Episode 5 - Achavanich

The award-winning writer's journey along the Great North Road concludes with an archaeological discovery, and reflections on family and community. Joseph Ayre reads.

In his new book Rob Cowen sets out to explore The Great North Road, the 400 mile highway which has run like a backbone through Britain in one form or another for 2000 years. As Rob walks the route he uncovers stories of those who went before him, from wealthy merchants terrified by murderous highwaymen, to boxers locked in a brutal and bloody fight. In Doncaster, where his great-grandfather Bill Cowen made a living down the mines, he learns about the high price paid by many who worked in the collieries. Lastly, he takes a journey with his mum to the road's end leading to profound reflections on time past and time passing.

Rob Cowen is an award-winning writer. His first book, *Skimming Stones*, won the Roger Deakin Award from the Society of Authors. His best-selling debut book of poetry, *The Heeding*, was published in 2021. Rob has contributed to the *New York Times*, the *Guardian* and the *Independent*.

Abridged by Katrin Williams
Produced by Elizabeth Allard

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002c3lk)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002c3lm)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

SAT 05:30 News Summary (m002c3lp)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002c3lr)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002c3lt)

A Tapestry of Tongues

Good morning.

I'm really looking forward to the end of next month because I am going to Copenhagen to celebrate our son's marriage. Josh is half British, half Maltese and his fiancé, Sasha, is Ukrainian. They live in Germany, go walking in Austria at the weekends and are getting married in Denmark for administrative reasons. They are currently thinking about what languages they will speak at home once their first child is born.

Sasha has brought such blessing to our family. This is mostly because she is a wonderful person! But it's also because she has brought with her a whole new world of Ukrainian culture food and language, not least some really helpful new words. For instance, I gather that Ukrainian has two different words for cherries, depending on whether they are sour or sweet.

I've officiated at and attended lots of weddings, but of course this one will be extra special, largely because it's our own son, but also because of the opportunity to encounter a whole host of cultures and languages. It feels a little like the first Pentecost in the Bible when the holy spirit enabled the first followers of the risen Jesus to speak all kinds of different languages. The world would be a really boring place if we all spoke the same language and ate the same food. Our family's experience has been that cultural diversity has brought richness and colour to our lives.

God of Pentecost,
you made women and men in your image and likeness, and yet not two of us are alike.
This tells us that you are a God of infinite variety and complexity, and that you rejoice in difference.
Help us to see those of other cultures and religions as a blessing to us and not a threat,
In the name of Jesus, who welcomed the outsider,
Amen.

SAT 05:45 Child (m001xl5g)

Series 1

19. Time Warp

We're taking a pause to lose ourselves down the rabbit hole of

time. Because something strange happens to time in those first weeks of a baby's arrival. The rest of the world still seems to, mostly, rise with the sun, and sleep with the dark - but the world of a new parent has turned on its head.

So what would happen if we looked at time in a totally different way?

In this episode, India Rakusen explores the relatively new concept (but ancient experience of) *Maia*logical time with historian Joanna Wolfarth, discusses the impact of the first few months with Perinatal psychiatrist Trudi Seneviratne, and talks to musician and mother Eske Mtungwazi about her experience in the world of neonatal care.

Presented by India Rakusen
Producer: India Rakusen
Series Producer: Ellie Sans
Executive Producer: Suzy Grant
Commissioning Editor: Rhian Roberts
Original music composed and performed by Eska Mtungwazi
Mix and Mastering by Olga Reed

A Listen production for Radio 4 and BBC Sounds

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m002ccds)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 06:07 Open Country (m002c3c8)

Flutterings on the Fleet

Tucked in behind Dorset's famous Chesil Beach is a unique and beautiful place - the Fleet Lagoon. Martha Kearney explores a thousand year history of human guardianship of birds on the lagoon. On the way she gets a close-up view of little tern dating platforms on the Fleet itself, learns why the swans of the ancient Abbotsbury Swannery are much safer now and who they hate the most, and - of course - learns to build a nest.

Contributors include:

Angela Thomas - Assistant Warden, Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve
Chris Goding - RSPB Project Officer & Assistant Warden, Chesil Little Tern Recovery Project
Steve Groves - Swanherd, Abbotsbury Swannery

With thanks to Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Presenter: Martha Kearney
Producer: Beth Sagar-Fenton

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m002ccdV)

17/05/25 - Farming Today This Week: US Agriculture Secretary, chlorine chicken, call for inheritance tax pause, Balmoral Show

The first member of Donald Trump's cabinet to visit the UK is Brooke Rollins, his Agriculture Secretary. Secretary Rollins told journalists the 'historic' trade deal would create billions of dollars in opportunity for U.S. export markets and more choice for British consumers. She also described their notorious 'chlorinated chicken' as a myth. Is it? We look for some clarity.

MPs have written to the Government calling for a year's delay to the inheritance tax changes on farms.

It's agricultural show season. This week we visit the Balmoral Show in Northern Ireland.

Presented by Caz Graham and produced by Beatrice Fenton.

SAT 06:57 Weather (m002ccdx)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 07:00 Today (m002ccdz)

Today (Saturday)

SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (m002ccf1)

Francesca Simon, Jude Kelly, Sophie Pierce and Alex Murdin

Radio 4's Saturday morning show brings you extraordinary stories and remarkable people.

SAT 10:00 Curious Cases (m002c70n)

Series 23

Don't Bite Me!

Ever wondered why some people are mosquito magnets and other people barely get bitten? Hannah and Dara grapple with the question of whether these insects are evil or genius,

discovering how they're experts at finding blood when they're hungry, even using a specially designed syringe to suck it out. But when Professor Leslie Vosshall tells them some people are more than 100 times likely to be attacked than others, the pair start wondering which one of them is more attractive? So they put the science to the test, and reluctantly agree to send their stinky socks to Professor Sarah Reece. She reveals that one of them smells extra special to these annoying little animals, possibly because of their cheesy feet. But can you guess who?

Contributors:
Professor Sarah Reece
Professor Leslie Vosshall
Professor John Pickett

Producer: Marijke Peters
Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem
A BBC Studios Audio Production

SAT 10:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002ccf3)

Series 48

Bridport

Jay Rayner and a panel of chefs, cooks and food writers are at the Bridport Arts Centre in Dorset discussing local favourites- Dorset Knobs and blue vinny cheese. Joining Jay to offer their tips, recipes and techniques are Melissa Thompson, Melek Erdal, Jocky Petrie and Shelina Permaloo.

The panellists share their favourite recipes involving quail and the best ways to use up a large supply of crackers, and discuss the question 'why does tomato ketchup exist?'. We also hear some useful tips for assessing the spiciness of a chilli and whether the panel are for or against minimalist restaurant menus.

Producer: Matt Smith
Assistant Producer: Dulcie Whadcock

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 11:00 The Week in Westminster (m002ccf5)

Radio 4's assessment of developments at Westminster

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002ccf7)

Evacuation from Gaza

Kate Adie presents stories from Gaza, Indian-administered Kashmir, Pakistan, Eswatini and Italy.

Amid a deteriorating situation in Gaza, as Israel continues its bombardment and the blockade of aid, some Palestinian children are being evacuated to Jordan for medical treatment. As Fergal Keane travelled with two young cancer patients, he reflects on a week of haunting images and words.

A recent attack by militants in Indian-administered Kashmir saw direct military action between India and Pakistan for the first time in six years. And although a ceasefire was agreed, nerves have been shattered in the region, as Aamir Peerzada discovered from the Indian-administered side of the Line of Control.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif declared a 'Day of the Battle of Truth' to commemorate the country's self-proclaimed victory in the latest confrontation with India. Azadeh Moshiri reports from Pakistan on the army's efforts to regain public confidence through social media.

The landlocked Kingdom of Eswatini is one of the last remaining absolute monarchies in the world. But critics have accused King Mswati III of repressing political opposition. In 2021, several dozen people were killed during weeks of pro-democracy protests. Tim Hartley went to a football match to gauge the mood among protesters today.

Popular tourist cities around the world are keeping a watchful eye on Venice's experimental access fee – a ticket into the city that's meant to deter day-trippers. But this new initiative is being met with mixed reviews by locals, as Simon Busch discovered.

Series Producer: Serena Tarling
Production Coordinators: Sophie Hill & Katie Morrison
Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

SAT 12:00 News Summary (m002ccf9)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 12:04 Money Box (m002ccfc)

Fraud Crackdown and Is Cash King?

The fight against what is called push payment fraud - when

victims are groomed and manipulated into transferring money to criminals - took a huge step forward in October when new regulations for banks and other finance companies were introduced to make the banks involved liable for the losses. It was the result of years of campaigning which Money Box has reported on from the very beginning. Now the first set of figures since then shows it is working better, but still not perfect. We'll hear from David Geale the Chief Executive of the Payment Systems Regulator.

This week, some of Britain's biggest pension funds have pledged to invest more of the money they look after into UK assets. Seventeen major workplace pension providers have signed the Mansion House Accord, a voluntary initiative which commits them to invest at least 10% of the pension funds into what it calls 'private markets' with half of that invested in the UK. The Treasury says this commitment will drive more investment into infrastructure and businesses, while driving higher returns for savers and reducing risk through diversified asset holdings. We'll speak to the Chief Executive of The People's Pension which is the UK's largest workplace pension fund.

If you get child benefit for a child aged 16 or over it will stop on 31 August unless you tell HMRC to continue paying it. What do you need to know?

And are we becoming too reliant on digital banking when we should all have some cash for emergencies?

Presenter: Paul Lewis
Reporters: Dan Whitworth, Eimear Devlin and Catherine Lund
Researcher: Jo Krasner
Editor: Jess Quayle

(First broadcast **12pm** Saturday 17th May 2025)

SAT 12:30 The News Quiz (m002c3kx)
Series 117

5. An Island of Strangers

Andy Zaltzman is joined by Alasdair Beckett-King, Sara Barron, Daliso Chaponda and ITV Deputy Political Editor Anushka Asthana. Discussion points include this week's immigration White Paper, tighter controls on international students looking for gainful employment, the elusive definition of a 'skilled job', chimpanzees utility in medical emergencies, and the returns policy on a returns hub.

Written by Andy Zaltzman.

With additional material by: Samira Banks, Catherine Brinkworth, and Cody Dahler.
Producer: Rajiv Karia
Executive Producer: Pete Strauss
Production Coordinator: Jodie Charman
Sound Editor: Marc Willcox

A BBC Studios Audio Production for Radio 4

SAT 12:57 Weather (m002ccff)
The latest weather forecast

SAT 13:00 News (m002ccfh)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m002c3l3)
Dame Jackie Baillie MSP, Jim Fairlie MSP, Douglas Ross MSP, Lorna Slater MSP

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from Ardfarn on the Craignish peninsula in Argyll & Bute in the West of Scotland. On the panel: Dame Jackie Baillie, the deputy leader of Scottish Labour; the agriculture and connectivity minister in the Scottish Government, the SNP's Jim Fairlie; the former leader of the Scottish Conservatives Douglas Ross; and Lorna Slater, the co-leader of the Scottish Greens.

Producer: Paul Martin
Lead broadcast engineer: Joanne Willott

SAT 14:05 Any Answers? (m002ccfk)
Topical discussion posing questions to a panel of political and media personalities

SAT 14:45 The Archers (m002c3kz)
Writer: Sarah Hehir
Director: Pip Swallow
Editor: Jeremy Howe

Brian Aldridge..... Charles Collingwood
David Archer..... Timothy Bentinck

Helen Archer..... Louiza Patikas
Henry Archer..... Blakey Darby
Natasha Archer..... Mali Harries
Pip Archer..... Daisy Badger
Tom Archer..... William Troughton
Tony Archer..... David Troughton
Lilian Bellamy..... Sunny Ormonde
Rex Fairbrother..... Nick Barber
Alan Franks..... John Telfer
Usha Franks..... Souad Faress
Joy Horville..... Jackie Lye
Rochelle Horville..... Rosie Stancliffe
Lily Pargetter..... Katie Redford
Lynda Snell..... Carole Boyd

SAT 15:00 Devils (m000s16h)
Part 3

Jonathan Forbes, Charlotte East and Joseph Arkley star in Dostoevsky's unsettling tale of revolution and betrayal. As the young revolutionaries turn their guns on each other, despair and self-destruction takes hold of the hearts and minds of the town's inhabitants and Darya must decide if she can ever forgive Nicholas for the hideous things he has done.

Dramatised by Melissa Murray.

Stepan Gary Lilburn
Mrs Stavrogina Jane Whittenshaw
Nicholai Joseph Arkley
Pyotr Jonathan Forbes
Darya Charlotte East
Shatov Stefan Adegbola
Lisa Cecilia Appiah
Krillov Hasan Dixon
Virginsky Ian Dunnett Jr
Marie Emma Handy

Written by Melissa Murray
Directed by Carl Prekopp
Produced by Marc Beeby and Anne Isger

SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (m002ccfm)
Weekend Woman's Hour: Abandoned babies, Isabel Allende, ADHD and menopause, Teaching 'griot', Anna Lapwood

Police have said they are searching for the parents of three newborn babies, all abandoned in East London between 2017 to 2024. The search is focusing on about 400 nearby houses. Anita Rani spoke to Met Police Detective Superintendent Lewis Basford and clinical psychologist Professor Lorraine Sherr, head of the Health Psychology Unit at UCL.

Nuala McGovern was joined by the best-selling author Isabel Allende about her latest book My Name is Emilia Del Valle. It follows a young female journalist intent on covering the civil war in Chile in 1891 despite having to write under a man's name.

It's thought that around 3 to 4% of people in the UK, that's one in 20, have ADHD - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. But many women remain undiagnosed for decades, with those in their 40s, 50s and 60s only now discovering they have it for the first time. Jo Beazley was diagnosed with ADHD just two years ago at the age of 49, after her symptoms worsened during the menopause. She joined Nuala along with Amanda Kirby, former chair of the ADHD Foundation and a professor in the field of neurodiversity.

Imagine you're preparing to host a party at your house when a lost elderly woman shows up at your door. What would you do? This actually happened to writer and director Nadia Connors. Nadia explained to Nuala why the interaction stuck with her for years and has now inspired her debut feature film, The Uninvited.

How do we teach children to have grit? That's what the Government is suggesting needs to be a new focus in schools, to bolster children's mental health. To discuss how parents can help their children develop resilience, Anita was joined by Sue Atkins, parenting coach and author of Parenting Made Easy and child psychologist Laverne Antrobus.

Anna Lapwood is one of the world's most famous organists and an internet sensation, with over two million social media followers. Hailed as 'classical music's Taylor Swift', she told Anita about co-curating a special BBC Prom, the music she's included in her album Firedove which is out later this month, and what it mean to her to be appointed as the first ever official 'Organist of the Royal Albert Hall.'

Presenter: Anita Rani
Producer: Annette Wells
Editor: Rebecca Myatt

SAT 17:00 PM (m002ccfp)

Full coverage of the day's news

SAT 17:30 Political Thinking with Nick Robinson (m002ccfr)
The Richard Tice One

Reform UK's deputy leader reflects on a year of political success, a privileged upbringing and the cabinet job he's eyeing up

Producer: Daniel Kraemer

SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002ccft)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 17:57 Weather (m002ccfw)
The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002ccfy)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m002ccg0)
Jess Gillam, Stevie Martin, Georgia Ruth, Emma Jane Unsworth, Ben Aitken, Stuart Maconie

The comedian and podcaster Stevie Martin is currently battling it out in the latest series of Channel 4's award winning show Taskmaster - you might have enjoyed her "most snooty possession" which was a portrait of her pet tortoise in military uniform. She'll be here to tell us all about getting "the call" and her favourite games...sorry... tasks. Its also tricky-book-titles week on Loose Ends. The award winning novelist and screenwriter Emma Jane Unsworth likes a one word name for her books - the best selling Adults and Animals, which went on to become a feature film starring Holiday Grainger, and scooped Emma a British Independent Film Award - for the script. Her new book is called Slags, Stuart'll be finding out why. And travel writer Ben Aitken went to twelve of the least popular spots in the UK and Ireland for his book - Sh*tty Breaks. He'll be explaining the joys of travelling in the opposite direction to everybody else and still managing to get a great instagram photo. Music will be from the Jess Gillam Trio and former Welsh Music Prize winner Georgia Ruth.

Presented by Stuart Maconie
Produced by Olive Clancy

SAT 19:00 Profile (m002ccg2)
Marco Rubio

Earlier this month the US Secretary of State Marco Rubio was also made President Trump's National Security Advisor. The last person to undertake both roles simultaneously was Henry Kissinger in the 1970s. The son of Cuban immigrants, Mr Rubio has had a turbo-charged career; rising from junior positions in his home city of Florida, to the US Senate which he reached before he turned 40 and now a Cabinet position where he dominate US foreign policy.

As a boy he dreamed of being President and he made his first attempt in 2016-. The Republican primaries were brutal, with candidates trading deeply personal insults. It was assumed that Mr Rubio's relationship with the eventual winner of that contest - Donald Trump - had been fatally damaged. But they continued their working relationship and today Rubio serves as one of the President's most trusted advisors.

Will Marco Rubio be tempted to run once again for the White House? And what forces have shaped his stellar political career?

Presenter: Mark Coles
Producers: Tom Gillett and Lucy Pawle
Editor: Matt Willis
Sound: David Crackles
Production Coordinator: Katie Morrison

SAT 19:15 This Cultural Life (m002c3bt)
James Rhodes

Pianist James Rhodes was a relative latecomer to a professional music, and was 30 when he performed his first concert. In 2010 he became the first core classical pianist to be signed to the world's biggest rock music label, Warner Brothers. He has recorded nine albums, including his most recent one, Mania, which features work by Bach, Chopin Brahms and other composers. He has also presented television documentaries about classical music and written five books, including his international bestselling memoir, Instrumental. But James Rhodes' adult life story is also one involving mental illness, addiction and suicidal despair in the wake of violent sexual

abuse over several years as a small child.

Talking to John Wilson, James remembers how hearing a recording of Bach's Chaconne from his Partita no. 2 transcribed for piano, was a life-changing experience, offering a sense of hope and wonder at a time when he was suffering terrible abuse. He also chooses his secondary school piano teacher Colin Stone as a major inspiration, although his early musical ambitions were thwarted at the age of 18. After some years working in the City, then suffering breakdowns and periods in psychiatric institutions, he returned to music after a decade away from the piano. He also credits a chance meeting with his future manager as a moment that led to him becoming an internationally acclaimed concert pianist.

Producer: Edwina Pitman

Details of organisations offering information and support with mental health and self-harm, and for victims of child sexual abuse, are available at: www.bbc.co.uk/actionline

SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m0017f1b) A Succession of Repetitive Beats

Political journalist Tom Barton recalls the rave that changed Britain, at Castlemorton Common in West Worcestershire in May 1992.

In the weeks leading up to Castlemorton, New Age Travellers had tried to establish small festivals in Gloucestershire and Somerset - but had been moved on by police at every turn.

Arriving in West Worcestershire, they parked up at Castlemorton with the intention, they claim, of gathering just a few hundred people.

But, to the horror and outrage of local people, between 20,000 and 30,000 people arrived, with many staying at the site for an entire week.

The law that was created in response to the gathering, Part V of the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, makes it a criminal offence to hold an unlicensed gathering playing any music that is "wholly or predominantly characterised by the emission of a succession of repetitive beats."

The festival is now widely regarded as the tipping point in a culture war which saw many aspects of the Traveller lifestyle outlawed in the UK.

Presented, written and produced by Tom Barton
Sound Design: Barney Philbrick and Joel Cox
A Bespoken Media production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 21:00 You Do Not Have to Say Anything (m002ccg4) Omnibus (2)

Defence Barrister Joanna Hardy-Susskind lifts the curtain on the real criminal justice system and the real people working within it - beneath the wigs, behind the uniforms and in the dock.

Presenter: Joanna Hardy-Susskind
Producer: Georgia Catt
Assistant Producer: Danita McIntyre

SAT 22:00 News (m002ccg6) National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 22:15 The Food Programme (m002c3k3) From York to Dubai: The Rise of Chocolate

Leyla Kazim visits York, the UK's 'chocolate city', on the centenary of Joseph Rowntree's death, to find out how the Quaker entrepreneur pioneered both social reform and iconic chocolate brands like Smarties and Kit Kat.

Today, many independent chocolate makers still call York home, as do some of the world's biggest multinational confectionary makers. Leyla Kazim wanders through York Chocolate Festival to trace the city's unique chocolate heritage and find out what changed when global companies got involved.

As the so-called 'Dubai chocolate' drives a frenzy of demand for filled bars and imitations, Leyla meets a Newcastle chocolate maker with a penchant for wacky flavours and who inspired the original sell-out hit.

Leyla also hears how falling global production and high prices of cocoa could be the end of chocolate as we know it.

Produced by Nina Pullman for BBC Audio in Bristol.

SAT 23:00 Call Jonathan Pie (m002ccg8)

Series 2

8. So Long, and Thanks for all the Cash.

In the final episode, as an illustrious career comes to an end, there are new beginnings for all of the team.

Call Jonathan Pie is written and performed by Tom Walker
With additional material from Nick Revell and Daniel Abelson
Jules Lucy Pearman
Sam Aqib Khan
Roger Nick Revell.
Agent Daniel Abelson
The callers: Laura Shavin, Daniel Abelson and Ed Kear
Voiceover - Bob Sinfield
Newsreader - Rob Curling
Original Music - Jason Read

Producers: Alison Vernon-Smith and Julian Mayers
A Yada-Yada Audio production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 23:30 Round Britain Quiz (m002c2jm) Programme 1 - The Midlands vs Northern Ireland

(1/12)

Teams from all over the UK will face Kirsty Lang's cryptic questions across the series, with Kirsty offering support and the odd hint where it might be needed.

The rivalry promises to be fierce as last year's champions Frankie Fanko and Stephen Maddock, representing The Midlands, face Paddy Duffy and Freya McClements for Northern Ireland.

As always, they'll drop points every time they need a clue from the chair to steer them towards the right solution.

You can follow the questions in each edition on the Round Britain Quiz webpages.

Teams:
Frankie Fanko and Stephen Maddock - The Midlands
Paddy Duffy and Freya McClements - Northern Ireland

Host: Kirsty Lang
Recorded by: Phil Booth
Sound Design: Chris Maclean
Production Coordinator: Caroline Barlow
Producer: Carl Cooper

Questions set by:
Lucy Porter, Alan Poulton, and public contributors.

Questions in today's edition:

Q1 (from Ed Porter) What kind of question might occupy you while visiting Ecuador, Mongolia, Pakistan and Croatia - and why would it be absolutely unique?

Q2 On your way here to our Darlington retreat, you'll have passed the junction for the A66 and seen a road sign - only to find yourself craving a warming bowl of lamb and barley soup, a snack invented by Fortnum & Mason in 1738, or even a staple of Caribbean cuisine.
But why might you also be searching for something that doesn't exist?

Q3 Music: why might this trio love Italian food?

Q4 (from Phil Ware) Which selfish author is responsible for this short story:
"A Distracted Boyfriend can't resist Mocking SpongeBob. Pikachu watches in surprise as Roll Safe taps his head with a knowing smile. A little girl gives them all the side eye, clearly unimpressed, as a Dancing Baby, cha-cha's its way into Calista's dreams?"

Q5 Why would a Gabonese president, a leading Rezillo, a Diversity pioneer, 'the man who invented the 80s' and an EGOT-winning actress, all together aboard a mysteriously deserted ship, not be the most harmonious combination?

Q6 Music: while you're listening to these three extracts, have a think about why they might make you angry.

Q7 (from Patrick Hauge) What order would you arrange the following to release the fumata bianca?
-Britain's smelliest cheese
-An 18th-century poet who counselled self-examination
-A small baton for killing fish or game
-An 80s Glaswegian band that might be thought melancholy
-North, South, East, and West on the compass

Q8 (from David Piper) In this Crime Conundrum...
The deuteronagist behind a well mannered Windsor Gardens resident...went off to town on the 8:21...to meet an earthy diamond thief...only to find that a member of Anthony E.

Pratt's original cast had vanished after the first edition.

Can the encyclopedic boy detective narrow down the suspects and solve the mystery? Or can you tell us Whodunit?

SUNDAY 18 MAY 2025

SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m002ccgb)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 00:15 Take Four Books (m002c2jj)
Ben Okri

Booker-prize winning writer and poet Ben Okri talks to Take Four Books, presented by James Crawford, about his new novella - Madame Sosostris & the Festival for the Broken-Hearted - and its three key influences. Ben's new book takes us to a forested chateau in the South of France for a special, one-night-only event - a fevered fancy dress ball attended by anyone, and everyone, who has been wounded by love. His three literary influences for this episode are: The Waste Land by T. S. Eliot from 1922; Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare from 1600; and The Outsider by Albert Camus from 1942. Our rule-breaking bonus book, was Alain-Fournier's Les Grand Meaulnes, known as The Lost Estate in English and originally published in 1913.

The supporting contributor for this episode was the Oxford academic and writer Emma Smith.

Producer: Dominic Howell
Editor: Gillian Wheelan

This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.

SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002ccgd)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002ccgg)
BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

SUN 05:30 News Summary (m002ccgj)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002ccgl)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m002ccgn)
St Mary's church in Dymock, Gloucestershire

Bells on Sunday comes from St Mary's church in Dymock, Gloucestershire. The building is mainly Norman and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The tower dates from the 15th Century and holds six bells all of which were originally cast at the Rudhall foundry of Gloucester. Following the COVID shutdown three bells were found to be un-ringing and in 2024 all six were rehung by Taylors foundry of Loughborough. The Tenor weighs sixteen and a quarter hundredweight and is tuned to the note of E. We hear them ringing April Day Doubles.

SUN 05:45 In Touch (m002c3gp)
Visual Impairment Registration; An Interview with Meta

The Association of Optometrists will be asking MPs to amend what they regard as an outdated administrative task that is delaying thousands of patients getting their certificates of visual impairment. These certificates allow people to get access to essential care services after a diagnosis, but at the moment only ophthalmologists can sign them off. Adam Sampson is the Association's Chief Executive and he tells In Touch about the situation and about how thousands of optometrists across the country could help with this problem.

The Rayban Meta Smart Glasses have been on the market in the UK for a little while now, but for some months, many visually impaired users have been waiting for a particularly helpful AI feature to land in the UK. The roll out of the Look and Tell feature has been happening over the past few weeks, but some visually impaired users had questions about the seemingly random way in which it was rolled out. We ask this, and other listener's questions to Chris Yiu who is Director of Public Policy at Meta.

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 of 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.

SUN 06:00 News Summary (m002ccj8)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 06:05 Heart and Soul (w3ct5tgn)

Kai Höss: My Grandfather - the Commandant of Auschwitz

In a cinema in south-west Germany an audience is gathered to watch an Oscar winning film, Zone of Interest, about the life of Rudolf Höss, Commandant of Auschwitz. Those present comprise Jewish people from around the world, and the special guest is Rudolf's grandson.

The topic was rarely visited during Kai's childhood. It was only after a school history lesson that Kai began to comprehend Rudolf's role as head of the largest mass murder site in history.

Reporter Shiroma Silva travels to his home in Germany to interrogate Kai on his personal struggle. She tracks Kai's outlook today through Christianity, in which he uses his past to look forward and understand the particular place of Jewish people in the Bible. He questions how anti-Semitism thrived in Christian societies and his grandfather's early life in a devout Catholic family.

Awaiting execution at Nuremberg in 1947, Rudolf Höss returned to Catholicism, regretting his unquestioning pursuit of Nazi ideology and crimes against humanity. But little was said about the Jewish prisoners who made up the majority of the dead at Auschwitz.

Today his grandson speaks to Jewish communities globally, and Shiroma Silva talks to Pastor Kai Höss as he seeks to disabuse congregations of the thinking that has all too often blamed Jewish people for all the world's ills, and describes himself as a Gentile who has been saved by Jewish leaders.

Producer/presenter: Shiroma Silva
Executive Producer: Rajeev Gupta
Editor: Chloe Walker
Production co-ordinator: Mica Nepomuceno

(Photo: Kai Uwe Höss attends the Berlin premiere of Der Schatten Des Kommandanten at Delphi Lux, 10 June, 2024, Berlin, Germany. Credit: Gerald Matzka/Getty Images)

This content was edited on 02/04/25

SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m002ccjb)

Top Tatties

A Northumbrian potato farmer walks into a fish and chip shop... It's not the start of a joke, but the start of a business venture. Farmer Mark Robson wanted to know where the shop got their potatoes from - and it turns out they came from Egypt! That led to Mark setting up a new business processing the potatoes he grew himself into chips and other chopped spuds to sell to restaurants in the area.

Now, Mark's two sons are in the process of taking on the farm and the potato processing business. In this programme Caz Graham meets Will and Alastair Robson and learns about the delicate art of growing potatoes, climbs to the top of the potato storehouse, and finds out how a "hydro-cutter" works to produce the perfect chip.

Presented by Caz Graham
Produced by Heather Simons

SUN 06:57 Weather (m002ccjd)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m002ccjg)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 07:10 Sunday (m002ccjj)

A look at the ethical and religious issues of the week

SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Appeal (m002ccjl)

Kidasha

Broadcaster Mary Nightingale makes the Radio 4 Appeal on behalf of Kidasha. The charity helps vulnerable children in Nepal by providing them with individualised support, including school uniform and books, vocational training, counselling or

emergency food or medical care.

To Give:

- Freephone 0800 404 8144
 - Freepost BBC Radio 4 Appeal. (That's the whole address. Please do not write anything else on the front of the envelope).
- Mark the back of the envelope 'Kidasha'.
- Cheques should be made payable to 'Kidasha'.
- You can donate online at bbc.co.uk/appeal/radio4

Registered Charity Number: 1106156. If you'd like to find out more about the charity's work visit [*https://kidasha.org/](https://kidasha.org/)
*The BBC is not responsible for content on external websites

Producer: Katy Takatsuki

SUN 07:57 Weather (m002ccjn)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m002ccjq)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m002ccjs)

Choral Matins from Ipswich Minster

A Service of Choral Matins celebrating the dedication earlier this year of St Mary-le-Tower in Ipswich as Ipswich Minster. The preacher is the Vicar, the Rev Tom Mumford, who reflects on themes of hope and calling. The Choir of Ipswich Minster is directed by Christopher Borrett.

Producer: Andrew Earis

Music

Hymn: Lord you gave the great commission Abbots Leigh)
Responses: Smith
Psalm 148 vv.1-6
Reading: Genesis 22:1-18
Jubilate: Howells Collegium Regale
Anthem: The Call - Randall
Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation

SUN 08:48 Witness History (w3ct5ydp)

Conservative wipe-out in Canada

In Canada's 1993 election, the governing Progressive Conservative Party was routed, ending up with just two seats.

In the 1980s, the party won the largest majority in Canadian history. But by 1993, it was in crisis and the new Prime Minister, Kim Campbell, called an election. But she didn't bank on the emergence of a new populist party called Reform, which stormed Canada's traditionally two-party system, claiming 52 seats. The Progressive Conservatives never recovered.

Ben Henderson speaks to the former Prime Minister, Kim Campbell, and Preston Manning, founder and former leader of Reform.

Eye-witness accounts brought to life by archive. Witness History is for those fascinated by the past. We take you to the events that have shaped our world through the eyes of the people who were there. For nine minutes every day, we take you back in time and all over the world, to examine wars, coups, scientific discoveries, cultural moments and much more.

Recent episodes explore everything from football in Brazil, the history of the 'Indian Titanic' and the invention of air fryers, to Public Enemy's Fight The Power, subway art and the political crisis in Georgia. We look at the lives of some of the most famous leaders, artists, scientists and personalities in history, including: visionary architect Antoni Gaudí and the design of the Sagrada Família; Michael Jordan and his bespoke Nike trainers; Princess Diana at the Taj Mahal; and Görel Hanser, manager of legendary Swedish pop band Abba on the influence they've had on the music industry. You can learn all about fascinating and surprising stories, such as the time an Iraqi journalist hurled his shoes at the President of the United States in protest of America's occupation of Iraq; the creation of the Hollywood commercial that changed advertising forever; and the ascent of the first Aboriginal MP.

(Photo: Preston Manning. Credit: Peter Power/Toronto Star via Getty Images)

SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (m002ccjv)

Mike Dilger on the Bullfinch

The piping contact call of the male bullfinch is a familiar sound to ecologist Mike Dilger, as he often hears it on his daily dog walks through Somerset's Chew Valley. However it's the bullfinch's unusual, wheezing song, only heard briefly in the Spring, that makes it particularly special to him.

Male bullfinches are instantly recognisable thanks to their bright, pink-red breast feathers, white rump, glossy black cap and stubby bill. The females are a duller pinkish-brown rather than the vivid pink of the males. Bullfinches are found across most of the UK in a range of habitats, from woodland and farmland to parks and gardens.

Presented by Mike Dilger and produced by Jo Peacey. Tweet of the Day is a BBC Audio Bristol production.

Bullfinch recordings via Xeno-Canto:

1. Eurasian Bullfinch call - XC704729 - recorded by Dominique Guillerme
2. Eurasian Bullfinch song - XC315469 - recorded by Gerard Olivier

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m002ccjx)

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

SUN 10:00 Desert Island Discs (m002ccjz)

Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, scientist

Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, scientist, shares the eight tracks, book and luxury item she would take with her if cast away to a desert island. With Lauren Laverne.

SUN 11:00 The Archers Omnibus (m002eck1)

Writer: Sarah Hehir
Director: Pip Swallow
Editor: Jeremy Howe

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood
David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck
Helen Archer.... Louiza Patikas
Henry Archer.... Blayne Darby
Natasha Archer.... Mali Harries
Pip Archer.... Daisy Badger
Tom Archer.... William Troughton
Tony Archer.... David Troughton
Lilian Bellamy.... Sunny Ormonde
Rex Fairbrother.... Nick Barber
Alan Franks.... John Telfer
Usha Franks.... Souad Faress
Joy Horville.... Jackie Lye
Rochelle Horville.... Rosie Stancliffe
Lily Pargetter.... Katie Redford
Lynda Snell.... Carole Boyd

SUN 12:15 Profile (m002ccg2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 12:30 The Unbelievable Truth (m002cd9)

Series 31

Episode 5

David Mitchell hosts the panel game in which four comedians are encouraged to tell lies and compete against one another to see how many items of truth they're able to smuggle past their opponents.

Lucy Porter, Ian Smith, Zoe Lyons and Henning Wehn are the panellists obliged to talk with deliberate inaccuracy on subjects as varied as weddings, teeth, shoes and board games.

The show is devised by Graeme Garden and Jon Naismith.

Producer: Jon Naismith

A Random Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 12:57 Weather (m002eck3)

The latest weather forecast

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m002eck5)

A look at the week's big stories and preview of the week to come.

SUN 13:30 Currently (m002eck7)

NHS: Painful Decisions

The latest figures on NHS finances don't make pretty reading. NHS England alone faces a projected deficit of £6.6 billion for this financial year and the situation looks as bleak right across the NHS in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

The NHS has always had to make tough choices about what to prioritise but this deficit is prompting health bosses to make decisions that were previously unthinkable to balance the books.

New research shared exclusively with the BBC by the independent think tank The Kings Fund, surveyed Chief Executive and financial leaders across the NHS in England about the kind of difficult decisions they are having to make because of the huge deficits

But faced with having to make efficiency savings, cutting staff numbers and rolling back on patient services, BBC Health correspondent Dominic Hughes learns how painful these decisions really are, from the people having to make them.

Presenter: Dominic Hughes
Producer: Jay Unger
Editor: Richard McIlroy
Executive Editor: Pete Wilson

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002c3kl)
From the Archives: Foliage Frenzy

Kathy Clugston prunes through the extensive GQT archive, which includes some much needed advice on all things Foliage.

With 77 years of experience in providing ample advice, our various GQT panellists are more than equipped to solve your gardening conundrums. They provide tips on the best plants for a foliage border, banana plants that can withstand the winter, and plants for a bed that never sees any sunshine.

Away from the questions, Matthew Wilson heads over to Sienna Hosta nursery to speak with Chris Potts, who explains how they keep their hostas slug and snail free.

Producer: Daniel Cocker
Assistant Producer: Rahnee Prescod
Executive Producer: Carly Maile

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

Plant List
Questions and timecodes are below. Where applicable, plant names have been provided.

Q - What would be the best plants for a foliage border? (01'07")

Matthew Biggs –
Euonymus fortunei f. radicans 'Silver Queen', spindle 'Silver Queen'
Euonymus fortunei var. radicans, wintercreeper

Anne Swithinbank –
Brunnera macrophylla 'Jack Frost'PBR , Siberia bugloss 'Jack Frost'
Cornus canadensis, dwarf cornel

Matthew Wilson –
Hosta, plantain lily
Hosta sieboldiana, siebold's plantain lily
Hosta 'Big Daddy' (_sieboldiana_ hybrid) (v), plantain lily 'Big Daddy'

Q- Why isn't my Christmas berry 'Red Robin' in here a lovely bright colour, like others? (04'22")

Q- Can banana plants stay outside during the winter? (08'10")

Matthew Pottage –
Musa acuminata 'Dwarf Cavendish', banana 'Dwarf Cavendish'

Q – Why has my 12-year-old smoke bush has turned brown overnight? (11'19")

Feature – Matthew Pottage speaks with Managing Director of Sienna Hosta Nursery Chris Potts about how they nurture their Hosta's to be pest free (17'07")

Q- What type of ferns should I use in my fernery? (22'40")

Matthew Wilson –
Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance', copper shield fern
'Brilliance'
Polystichum setiferum (Divisilobum Group) 'Herrenhausen', soft shield fern 'Herrenhausen'
Matteuccia struthiopteris, shuttlecock fern

Pippa Greenwood –
Primula vulgaris (Pr/Prim), primrose
Wild violets

Q - What could I plant in a bed that never sees any sunshine? (27'51")

Matthew Wilson –
Pulmonaria 'Blue Ensign', lungwort 'Blue Ensign'
Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance', copper shield fern
'Brilliance'
Matteuccia struthiopteris, shuttlecock fern
Deschampsia cespitosa, tufted hair grass

Christine –
Rheum palmatum, Chinese rhubarb
Heuchera, cora bells
Ligularia

Q- How do I properly mow my lawn without ruining the foliage surrounding it? (32'33")

Q - What can I do to take care of my 3ft Poinsettias? (37'35")

SUN 14:45 Opening Lines (m002cck9)
Underfoot in Show Business

The series that examines books, plays and stories and how they work. John Yorke looks at the 1962 theatre memoir Underfoot in Show Business by Helene Hanff. The text is a comic account of Hanff's attempts to break into New York theatre in the early 1940s, which found a new audience after the success of Hanff's later epistolary memoir 84, Charing Cross Road.

Underfoot in Show Business is a dispatch from a golden era in New York theatre, in which Eugene O'Neill, Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams were actively producing plays.

John Yorke has worked in television and radio for 30 years and shares his experience as he unpacks the themes and impact of the books, plays and stories that are being dramatised in BBC Radio 4's Sunday Drama series. As former Head of Channel Four Drama and Controller of BBC Drama Production he has worked on some of the most popular shows in Britain - from EastEnders to The Archers, Life on Mars to Shameless. As creator of the BBC Writers Academy, he's trained a generation of screenwriters - now with over 70 green lights and thousands of hours of television to their names. He is the author of Into the Woods, the bestselling book on narrative, and he writes, teaches and consults on all forms of narrative - including many podcasts for R4.

Contributor:
Howard Sherman, US writer for The Stage

Readings from Underfoot in Show Business by Helene Hanff (Futura Publications, 1980)
Audio from Friday Night, Saturday Morning (BBC Television, 1980) and Desert Island Discs (BBC Radio 4, 1981)

Reader: Madeleine Paulson
Sound: Sean Kerwin
Researcher: Henry Tydeman
Production Hub Coordinator: Nina Semple
Producer: Lucy Hough
Executive Producer: Caroline Raphael

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 15:00 Drama on 4 (m002cckc)
Underfoot in Show Business

Helene Hanff's fascinating and funny memoir about attempting to become a famous Broadway playwright. Hanff is known to many for her best selling book "84 Charing Cross Road " but prior to that success she wrote about her life as a struggling writer on the fringes of show business. From great expectations about her career to the lows of attempting to keep a roof over her head; Helene's story is packed full of witty anecdotes about getting by on no money, the many other jobs she must do to survive plus a parade of fascinating characters she meets as she attempts to get taken seriously as a writer on Broadway

Helene Hanff Rosalie Craig
Maxine Stuart Antonia Bernath
Jacob Wilk/Frank Doel Kerry Shale
Irving Caesar./ Laurence Langner Nigel Lindsay
Theresa Helburn..... Laurel Lefkow
Joe Heidt/Gene Burr/Joey Ian Dunnett Jnr
Lois/Helene's mother Kerry Gooderson

Dramatised by Marcy Kahan
Directed by Sally Avens

A BBC Studios Audio Production

SUN 16:00 Take Four Books (m002cckf)
Ocean Vuong

In this episode of Take Four Books James Crawford is joined by the multi-award winning Vietnamese-American poet and author, Ocean Vuong. Together with the writer and editor Heather Parry, they discuss Ocean's latest novel - 'The Emperor of Gladness' - and three key influences behind its creation.

Set in the fictional town of East Gladness Connecticut in the early years of the 21st century, the 'Emperor of Gladness' is centred on nineteen-year-old Hai, and the unlikely bond he forms with with Grazina, an elderly widow succumbing to

dementia. This vivid, poetic epic explore loss, hope, class and the power of human connection in the post-industrial opioid infused margins of the American Dream.

Ocean's literary influences include, 'The Brothers Karamazov' by Fyodor Dostoevsky, 'The Town and the City' by Jack Kerouac, and 'Class Fictions' by Pamela Fox.

Producer: Elizabeth Ann
Editor: Gillian Wheelan

This was a BBC Audio Scotland production, made in Glasgow.

SUN 16:30 Round Britain Quiz (m002cckh)
Programme 2 - The South of England v Wales

(2/12)

Teams from all over the UK will face Kirsty Lang's cryptic questions across the series, with Kirsty offering support and the odd hint where it might be needed.

In the second match in the series The South of England faces Wales.

Teams:
Paul Sinha and Marcus Berkman - The South of England
Myfanwy Alexander and Cariad Lloyd - Wales

As always, they'll drop points every time they need a clue from the chair to steer them towards the right solution.

You can follow the questions in each edition on the Round Britain Quiz webpages. Each week's questions will be posted on the day of transmission.

Host: Kirsty Lang
Recorded by: Phil Booth
Sound Design: Chris Maclean
Production Coordinator: Caroline Barlow
Producer: Carl Cooper

Questions set by:
Lucy Porter, Alan Poulton, Paul Bajoria and public contributors.

SUN 17:00 Witness History (w3ct4xhd)
Axis Sally: World War II traitor who broadcast for the Nazis

In 1949, Mildred Gillars – otherwise known as Axis Sally – became the first woman in American history to be convicted of treason.

The former Broadway showgirl broadcast antisemitic Nazi propaganda on German State Radio during World War Two.

Her weekly shows were heard by thousands of American servicemen who gave her the nickname Axis Sally.

After her capture, she denied being a traitor, but a jury in Washington convicted her of treason, and she served 12 years in prison. Jane Wilkinson has been looking through the BBC archives to uncover her story.

(Photo: Mildred Gillars. Credit: Bettmann, Getty Images)

SUN 17:10 Indispensable Relations (m002c2cf)
Maturing

Tom Bateman concludes the story of the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

The alliance, going back decades, is one of the most consequential between two single countries on earth – and one of the most contested. The dynamics in the relationship not only amount to a matter of life and death for both societies on the land – Israelis and Palestinians – but form a bedrock of US policy for the entire Middle East.

In this series Tom will go back to 1947, when President Harry Truman had to decide whether to back the Zionist dream for a Jewish state. He'll examine the wars and crises which have gripped the region. But he will also venture well beyond the political, diplomatic and military relationships to examine the religious and cultural connections between the two countries. He'll explain how books, museums, Holy Land tours and newspaper coverage have profoundly affected what Americans think and feel about Israel, in a variety of different ways. As he does, he'll reveal how much the relationship has changed, as well as what has stayed the same.

In this final episode, Tom brings the story right up to the present. He'll take us inside the peace processes, examine the extraordinary impact of 9/11, consider the growing importance of Christian Zionism, and ask how political realignments in both countries have begun to shift the relationship.

| Radio 4 Listings for 17 – 23 May 2025 | | Page 6 of 15 |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Tom is the BBC's State Department Correspondent, covering US foreign policy, and was previously a Middle East Correspondent based in Jerusalem for 7 years.</p> <p>Producer: Giles Edwards.</p> <p>SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002cckl) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SUN 17:57 Weather (m002cckn) The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p>SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cckq) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m002ccks) Jenny Kleeman</p> <p>This week, Jenny hears about the role rats are playing in saving lives in Cambodia, and how they could go on to save more in the near future. Meanwhile, shepherd's pie is causing plenty of outrage on The Kitchen Cabinet, and David Sedaris muses on the importance of imperfect pronunciations. Plus, it's Wellbeing Week on the BBC, and there are in-depth discussions shared on connection and community wherever you have an ear available, with 6 Music's Nemone bringing a psychotherapy touch to her interviews, the Van Tulleken brothers learning about tough conversations, and Jeremy Vine receiving therapy from a professional cuddler.</p> <p>Presenter: Jenny Kleeman Producer: Anthony McKee Production Coordinator: Caroline Peddle</p> <p>A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>SUN 19:00 The Archers (m002cckv) Tom's suspicions are raised, and Henry plays his cards close to his chest.</p> <p>SUN 19:15 Illuminated (m002ccks) Doctor Dolittle and the Exploding Trout</p> <p>It's the glorious summer of 1966 and Hollywood has taken over England's prettiest village. The residents of Castle Combe have made way for the cast and crew of the biggest budget musical of the decade- Doctor Dolittle.</p> <p>Where sheep once grazed there are two-headed llamas, talking macaws, singing chimps and enormous catering trucks. Propping up the bar at the local pub are hot actors Anthony Newley, Richard Attenborough and one of the biggest stars of the day- the man who talks to the animals- Rex Harrison.</p> <p>Locals are divided about the pros and cons of the Hollywood invasion but one thing they're all annoyed about is the destruction of the local trout stream, dammed to create a lake for filming. Native fish and plants are gone, replaced by movie props and trained ducks.</p> <p>Four young chaps decide to make their feelings clear. For three of them that means fireworks and noisy protests but ring leader, Ranulph Fiennes, intends to take things a little further. He's just joined the SAS, the crack Army regiment that gives him access to high explosives- more than enough to blow the dam sky high.</p> <p>Environmental historian and broadcaster, Eleanor Barraclough gathers together the protagonists to publicly share their stories of the Dolittle affair for the first time.</p> <p>Producers: Alasdair Cross of BBC Audio Wales and West and Matt Dyas for Good Productions</p> <p>SUN 19:45 Just One Thing - with Michael Mosley (m001y8fr) Play an Instrument</p> <p>Humans have been making music for thousands of years, but for Michael Mosley and our volunteer Matthew, the musical journey is only just beginning. Playing a musical instrument has been shown to strengthen your memory and lift your mood. It can even reduce chronic inflammation. Dr Sofia Seinfeld from the Open University in Catalonia tells Michael why it's never too late to start making music, and how it can enhance your cognitive abilities by activating regions of the brain associated with motor co-ordination and the processing of emotions. Meanwhile, Matthew gets to grips with the ukulele to see if he can master a tune and boost his wellbeing.</p> <p>Series Producer: Nija Dalal-Small Editor: Zoë Heron A BBC Studios production for BBC Sounds / BBC Radio 4.</p> | <p>SUN 20:00 Word of Mouth (m002c3cb) The End of the Full Stop?</p> <p>The use of punctuation is rapidly changing within the quickfire back-and-forth of instant messaging. Are these changes causing misunderstandings? Presenter Michael Rosen and his guest Dr Christian Ilbury discuss. Is the full stop on the way out? What about capital letters? Exclamation marks and question marks seem to be holding their ground, but what about the rest?</p> <p>Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Becky Ripley, in partnership with The Open University. Subscribe to the Word of Mouth podcast and never miss an episode: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006qtnz</p> <p>SUN 20:30 Last Word (m002c3kq) Sir Tom Farmer, Elaine Wynn, Sue Stapely, Joseph Nye</p> <p>Matthew Bannister on:</p> <p>Sir Tom Farmer, the Edinburgh born businessman who built up the tyre and exhaust company Kwik Fit.</p> <p>Elaine Wynn, who worked with her husband Steve to create a casino empire in Las Vegas.</p> <p>Sue Stapely, who transformed the way the legal profession communicates with the public and the media.</p> <p>Joseph Nye, the American political analyst who came up with the concept of "soft power" in international relations</p> <p>Interviewee: Michael Welch Interviewee: Douglas Fraser Interviewee: David Sanger Interviewee: David McNeill Interviewee: Christina Binkley</p> <p>Producer: Gareth Nelson-Davies</p> <p>Archive used:</p> <p>Tom Farmer interview, Workwise Scotland, BBC Scotland, 03/02/1989; Tom Farmer, The House I Grew Up In, BBC Radio 4, 06/08/2008; Tom Farmer, First Light, BBC One, 22/11/2016; Joseph Nye On Soft Power, Foreign Policy Association, YouTube 22.02.2016; "Soft power" explained by the man who coined it, Council on Foreign Relations, uploaded to YouTube 09/05/2025; Joseph Nye on "The Future of Power", Harvard University, Centre for Public Leadership, uploaded to YouTube 04/02/2011; Doctor Who, Season 6, Episode 6, The Invasion, by Derrick Sherwin, Director: Douglas Camfield, BBC Television, 07/12/1968; An Interview with Sue Stapely, Fantom Films and Alex Moore, YouTube, uploaded 22/09/2021; PM, BBC, Radio 4, 31/03/1998; Coronation Street, Director: Michael Kerrigan, written by Tony Warren, Granada Television, ITV, 1998; The Archers, Omnibus Edition, BBC Radio 4, 21/07/1985; Mirage Resort Opens, 8 News Now, KLAS-TV, YouTube 13/07/2013; Elaine Wynn interview, KTVN Channel 13, YouTube, 03/11/2015; The Mirage Volcano erupts, 8 News Now - Las Vegas, YouTube 17/07/2024; Musings with Elaine Wynn, TheLifeYouCanSave.org, YouTube uploaded 27/09/2023;</p> <p>SUN 21:00 Money Box (m002ccfc) [Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]</p> <p>SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Appeal (m002ccjl) [Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]</p> <p>SUN 21:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002ccf7) [Repeat of broadcast at 11:30 on Saturday]</p> <p>SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m002cckz) Radio 4's Sunday night political discussion programme.</p> <p>SUN 23:00 In Our Time (m002c3bm) Copyright</p> <p>In 1710, the British Parliament passed a piece of legislation entitled An Act for the Encouragement of Learning. It became known as the Statute of Anne, and it was the world's first copyright law.</p> <p>Copyright protects and regulates a piece of work - whether that's a book, a painting, a piece of music or a software programme. It emerged as a way of balancing the interests of authors, artists, publishers, and the public in the context of evolving technologies and the rise of mechanical reproduction.</p> <p>Writers and artists such as Alexander Pope, William Hogarth and Charles Dickens became involved in heated debates about ownership and originality that continue to this day - especially</p> | <p>with the emergence of artificial intelligence.</p> <p>With:</p> <p>Lionel Bently, Herchel Smith Professor of Intellectual Property Law at the University of Cambridge</p> <p>Will Slauter, Professor of History at Sorbonne University, Paris</p> <p>Katie McGettigan, Senior Lecturer in American Literature at Royal Holloway, University of London.</p> <p>Producer: Eliane Glaser</p> <p>Reading list:</p> <p>Isabella Alexander, Copyright Law and the Public Interest in the Nineteenth Century (Hart Publishing, 2010)</p> <p>Isabella Alexander and H. Tomás Gómez-Arostegui (eds), Research Handbook on the History of Copyright Law (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2016)</p> <p>David Bellos and Alexandre Montagu, Who Owns this Sentence? A History of Copyrights and Wrongs (Mountain Leopard Press, 2024)</p> <p>Oren Bracha, Owning Ideas: The Intellectual Origins of American Intellectual Property, 1790-1909 (Cambridge University Press, 2016)</p> <p>Elena Cooper, Art and Modern Copyright: The Contested Image (Cambridge University Press, 2018)</p> <p>Ronan Deazley, On the Origin of the Right to Copy: Charting the Movement of Copyright Law in Eighteenth Century Britain, 1695–1775 (Hart Publishing, 2004)</p> <p>Ronan Deazley, Rethinking Copyright: History, Theory, Language (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2006)</p> <p>Ronan Deazley, Martin Kretschmer and Lionel Bently (eds.), Privilege and Property: Essays on the History of Copyright (Open Book Publishers, 2010)</p> <p>Marie-Stéphanie Delamaire and Will Slauter (eds.), Circulation and Control: Artistic Culture and Intellectual Property in the Nineteenth Century (Open Book Publishers, 2021)</p> <p>Melissa Homestead, American Women Authors and Literary Property, 1822-1869 (Cambridge University Press, 2005)</p> <p>Adrian Johns, Piracy: The Intellectual Property Wars from Gutenberg to Gates (University of Chicago Press, 2009)</p> <p>Meredith L. McGill, American Literature and the Culture of Reprinting, 1834-1853 (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2002)</p> <p>Mark Rose, Authors and Owners: The Invention of Copyright (Harvard University Press, 1993)</p> <p>Mark Rose, Authors in Court: Scenes from the Theater of Copyright (Harvard University Press, 2018)</p> <p>Catherine Seville, Internationalisation of Copyright: Books, Buccaneers and the Black Flag in the Nineteenth Century (Cambridge University Press, 2006)</p> <p>Brad Sherman and Lionel Bently, The Making of Modern Intellectual Property Law (Cambridge University Press, 1999)</p> <p>Will Slauter, Who Owns the News? A History of Copyright (Stanford University Press, 2019)</p> <p>Robert Spoo, Without Copyrights: Piracy, Publishing and the Public Domain (Oxford University Press, 2013)</p> <p>In Our Time is a BBC Studios Audio production</p> <p>SUN 23:45 Short Works (m002c3kn) Flash Annie by Lisa Blower</p> <p>Amy Parker reads a new short story for Radio 4 from the award-winning short story writer, Lisa Blower.</p> <p>A meeting at a supermarket cheese counter sparks memories of loss, grief and friendship - and perhaps an answer to a ghost story that has haunted Stoke-on-Trent's old steelworks for decades.</p> <p>Writer: Lisa Blower is an acclaimed novelist, playwright and prize-winning short story writer from Stoke-on-Trent. Reader: Amy Parker Producer: Justine Willett</p> |
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MONDAY 19 MAY 2025**MON 00:00 Midnight News (m002ccl1)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 00:15 Crossing Continents (m002c3gs)

Syria - Return to Ruins

Thirteen million Syrians - half the population - left their homes during their country's 13-year civil war. Seven million were internally displaced. Six million fled abroad. Bringing them home is perhaps the biggest challenge facing Syria's new rulers. But many can't return, because their homes are in ruins, and jobs and essential services are lacking. Tim Whewell follows a variety of returnees back to Homs, Syria's third city, which saw some of the worst destruction of the war. A private charity organises convoys of families wanting to return from camps in the north of the country. But once returnees like Fatima Hazzoura get back, they're left to cope on their own. Some who came back earlier have managed to repair their homes. But others find their houses are just empty, burnt-out shells. Meanwhile, some in Homs who stayed throughout the war - members of the Alawite minority, whose neighbourhoods remained intact - are thinking of leaving now, fearful that the new government of former Islamist rebels will not protect them. And Homs people who made new lives abroad are hesitant to return permanently while the situation is so unstable, and the economy still crippled by international sanctions. Can the fabric of an ancient and diverse city be rebuilt? Tim finds grief and fear among the ruins - but also laughter, and flashes of Homs's famous humour.

Production: Tim Whewell

Research/field production/translation: Aref al-Krez

Translation: Maria Mohammad

Security/photography: Rolf Andreason

Sound mixing: James Beard

Production Coordinator: Gemma Ashman

Editor: Penny Murphy

MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m002ccgn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002ccl3)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002ccl5)

BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

MON 05:00 News Summary (m002ccl7)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002ccl9)

Alicia McCarthy reports as MPs debate plans to legalise assisted dying in England and Wales

MON 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002cclc)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002cclf)

An unexpected helper

Good morning.

I have a friend who is autistic and has great difficulty coping with social interactions. Because of this, Lisa is often misunderstood. She's found it hard to engage with the authorities which could help her, because she often doesn't understand how to communicate well with them.

However, of late, Lisa's come across a new friend who's been able to help her through all this. Unlike me, this friend is completely unflappable, and never gets upset when Lisa gets irritated at the difficulty of getting her meaning across. The friend has helped Lisa draft a business plan, and has suggested ways that Lisa might be able to deal with her anxiety, and provided her with further medical advice on her mental health diagnosis, while being quite clear that Lisa needs to check this with a professional. The friend is on hand 24 hours a day, but doesn't impose any needs on Lisa.

Now, you might be expecting me to say that the friend is Jesus. But in fact, it's an AI. Lisa has given the AI a name, and it's changed his her life. Pope Leo is of course right to say that AI poses "new challenges for the defence of human dignity, justice and labour", but Lisa's experience has taught me that it can also be a real gift from God.

God of Wisdom,

You have blessed us with extraordinary intelligence that allows

us to create technologies that can shape our lives.

We pray for those responsible for producing AI technology, and those in charge of legislating for its use. Give them wisdom, insight and compassion, so we can all benefit from its blessings while being protected from its dangers.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

MON 05:45 Farming Today (m002cclh)

Sir Keir Starmer welcomes EU leaders to London today for a summit to improve cooperation and "re-set" relations in a post Brexit world. Fishing quotas are being talked about as a possible deal breaker. Leaving the EU has had a huge impact on some UK fishing businesses which is why industry leaders are adamant their interests shouldn't be bartered away as part of a deal. We hear from Cornish fishermen who say the summit comes too late for their businesses.

All week we're talking about bovine TB. Each year more than 40,000 cattle are slaughtered across the UK as part of an effort to eradicate the disease, and the wider bovine TB eradication programmes cost UK taxpayers around £150 million per year, with more costs falling to the cattle industry. The different parts of the UK are taking different approaches to tackling the disease. In England, there has been a decade-long programme of enhanced cattle testing, increased biosecurity and culling badgers - which can also catch and pass on bovine TB. Now, after promising to "end the ineffective badger cull" in their manifesto, the Government says it's "working at pace" on a revised TB eradication strategy for England. We speak to Professor James Wood, a veterinary epidemiologist and government advisor about the overall rates of the disease in cattle and whether they're coming down because of the badger cull.

Presenter = Caz Graham

Producer = Rebecca Rooney

MON 05:57 Weather (m002cclk)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for farmers

MON 06:00 Today (m002cdkz)

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

MON 09:00 Start the Week (m002cd11)

Mathematics, Symbiosis and Japanese art

In his new book, Blueprints, Marcus du Sautoy traces the connections between mathematics and art and the ways in which creatives use numbers to underpin their work - unconsciously or otherwise. From the earliest stone circles to the unique architecture of Zaha Hadid, du Sautoy shows us that there are blueprints everywhere and how logic and aesthetics are intrinsically intermingled.

Sophie Pavelle is also interested in connections and her forthcoming book, To Have or To Hold, explores symbiotic relationships in nature. Focusing on eight key examples, Sophie Pavelle explains how these mutually beneficial connections are crucial for the survival of our natural world and how they play an integral role in regulating ecosystems and strengthening resilience. She asks if we are capable of restoring and nurturing our environment or will we continue to exploit the Earth's resources, till death do us part?

The British Museum's new exhibition illuminates the captivating work of the nineteenth-century Japanese artist, Utagawa Hiroshige (from 1st May to 7th September 2025). He was fascinated by the natural world and many of his pictures take flora and fauna as their subject matter. Hiroshige was one of Japan's most talented, prolific and popular artists and his influence was not only felt in his home country, but spread globally - influencing artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and contemporary artists such as Julian Opie. The curator of the exhibition, Alfred Haft, shines a light on the oeuvre of Hiroshige, his techniques and enduring legacy.

Producer: Natalia Fernandez

MON 09:45 Café Hope (m002cd13)

Lost rings and things

Founder of the National Ring Recovery Service, Morley Howard, tells Rachel Burden how metal detecting turned from his hobby, into a way of helping people find their lost belongings for free. Being a full time carer for his son who has cystic fibrosis, Morley helps raise money for charity by giving away any donations for his work.

Café Hope is our virtual Radio 4 coffee shop, where guests pop in for a brew and a chat to tell us what they're doing to make

things better in big and small ways. Think of us as sitting in your local café, cooking up plans, hearing the gossip, and celebrating the people making the world a better place.

We're all about trying to make change. It might be a transformational project that helps an entire community, or it might be about trying to make one life a little bit easier. And the key here is in the trying. This is real life. Not everything works, and there are struggles along the way. But it's always worth a go.

You can contact us on cafehope@bbc.co.uk

MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002cd16)

The programme that offers a female perspective on the world

MON 11:00 The Patch (m002cd1b)

Bulford

One random postcode, and a story you probably haven't heard before. The series returns with a new set of destinations.

Today, the military town of Bulford, Wiltshire. When producer Polly Weston first arrives, she's a little puzzled about where to begin, in a postcode where everyone is likely to be subject to the Official Secrets Act. But it turns out that this postcode is the home of the Bulford Military Court. It's the service equivalent of the Crown Court, and it's a public court, so she is free to go and visit.

The British Military has its own justice system, which isn't just responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes associated with service, like desertion, but everything up to rape and murder. On her first visit, the court is sentencing an Army Sergeant for rape. Polly starts out by trying to understand why the court exists and how it differs from the civilian system, but soon discovers that it is the tip of a military justice iceberg - and that this postcode is also home to something called the Defence Serious Crime Unit. It's the CID of the military, and it's their job to investigate the most serious crimes. The unit was formed in 2022, for reasons which are fascinating and timely... and this particular random postcode takes us into a world most of us won't even have realised existed.

Produced and presented in Bristol by Polly Weston

Editor: Chris Ledgard

Mixed by Suzy Robins

MON 11:45 Me and the Farmer (m0020qtj)

1. Born to be a Farmer

Comedian and farmer Jim Smith is a proud teuchter. What is a teuchter? Well, Jim will tell you.

Me and the Farmer is a stand up show chronicling Jim's life as a working farmer in rural Perthshire. This isn't an act. By day, Jim works the land and looks after his sheep and by night he performs stand up to sold out venues across Scotland.

In each episode, Jim tells anecdotes about life on his family farm to a live audience in his nearest city of Perth. This is an honest, behind the scenes look at what it takes to be a modern farmer.

Written and Performed by Jim Smith

Produced by Lauren Mackay

Sound by Andy Hay and Barry Jackson

Photo credit: Chris Quilietti

MON 12:00 News Summary (m002cd1f)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

MON 12:04 You and Yours (m002cd1h)

News and discussion of consumer affairs

MON 12:57 Weather (m002cd1k)

The latest weather forecast

MON 13:00 World at One (m002cd1m)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

MON 13:45 Mary Bourke: Who Cares? (m002cd1p)

Episode 1: Being thrown into the system

Five years ago, Mary Bourke's husband had a stroke - and she immediately became his carer. It's a job no one wants - and one that comes with no formal training, and very little support. Guilt, isolation, toilets, and endless, endless admin - welcome to the day-to-day reality of being a carer. There are more than 5 million carers in the UK - but who cares for the carers?

Through a mixture of interviews and stand-up comedy, comedian and carer Mary Bourke investigates, with the help of friends and fellow comedians with caring responsibilities.

In episode one, Mary discovers what it's like to be thrown into the system - with guest Dreenagh Darrell and stand-up from Al Barrie.

An unusual production for BBC Radio 4

MON 14:00 The Archers (m002cckv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

MON 14:15 Conversations from a Long Marriage (m002cdlr)
Series 6

1. Here You Come Again

This week Joanna comes home to Roger. But will she stay?

Joanna Lumley and Roger Allam return as the loving, long-married couple, in the 6th series of Jan Etherington's award-winning comedy.

This week, Joanna returns home, after three months away, still trying to come to terms with the fact that Roger has an adult son, from a brief fling in the 70s. She's cat-sitting for a friend, so can't stay but suggests Roger takes her out to dinner in town. The evening goes well but as they head back to the flat, Roger's phone rings. It's his son...

Conversations from a Long Marriage is written by Jan Etherington and produced by Claire Jones.

Wilfredo Acosta - Sound Engineer
Jon Calver - Sound Designer
Sarah Nicholls - Production Coordinator

An EcoAudio certified production.
A BBC Studios Audio production for Radio 4

MON 14:45 Miss Buncle's Book by DE Stevenson (m001t3h3)
Episode 8

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 the village abuzz over the identity of troublesome author 'John Smith', Miss Buncle 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

An EcoAudio certified production

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 just over 50 years after the author's death.

MON 15:00 Great Lives (m002cdlv)
Tina Turner

Rock Icon Tina Turner proposed by the actress and author Rebecca Humphries.
Tina Turner began life as Anna Mae Bullock in Nutbush, Tennessee, joining Ike Turner's band in St Louis at the age of 17. Her presence, her performances and her voice captivated audiences, but this is really a story of triumph over abuse. After she left Ike Turner with nothing but her name, she built a successful solo career in her 40s and rose to become one of the best-selling artists of all time, filling arena into her 70s. Tina Turner is nominated by Rebecca Humphries.
Presented by Matthew Parris, produced in Bristol for BBC Studios Audio by Ellie Richold

MON 15:30 Curious Cases (m002c70n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]

MON 16:00 Currently (m002cck7)
[Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]

MON 16:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002cfc3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Saturday]

MON 17:00 PM (m002cdlx)
Full coverage of the day's news

MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cdlz)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 18:30 The Unbelievable Truth (m002cdm1)
Series 31

Episode 6

David Mitchell hosts the panel game in which four comedians are encouraged to tell lies and compete against one another to see how many items of truth they're able to smuggle past their opponents.

Angela Barnes, Mark Steel, Ria Lina and Alan Davies are the panellists obliged to talk with deliberate inaccuracy on subjects as varied as wheels, cows, condiments and toys.

The show is devised by Graeme Garden and Jon Naismith.

Producer: Jon Naismith

A Random Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4

MON 19:00 The Archers (m002cdgg)
Helen has a confession to make, and a new face causes consternation.

MON 19:15 Front Row (m002cdm3)
Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature, film, media and music

MON 20:00 The Briefing Room (m002c3cd)
What is Israel's plan for Gaza?

Dire warnings of famine in Gaza, a broken ceasefire and the threat by the Israeli government of a new "intense" offensive which would forcibly displace Palestinians to an area in the south of Gaza and perhaps out of the strip altogether, plus the latest release of a US hostage. This is the war between Israel and Gaza 19 months on from the deadly attack by Hamas which killed 1200 people in Israel and took 251 hostages.

So what chance of peace between Israel and Gaza? Can a new ceasefire be negotiated with US backing or will Israel go it alone and forcibly occupy most of Gaza?

Guests:

Yolande Knell, BBC Middle East Correspondent
Anshel Pfeffer, Israel Correspondent at The Economist,
Yossi Mekelberg, Senior Consulting Fellow, Middle East and North Africa Programme, Chatham House
Shibley Telhami, Professor of Government and Politics at University of Maryland and a non resident senior fellow at Brookings Institution.

Presenter: David Aaronovitch
Producers: Caroline Bayley, Nathan Gower, Kirsteen Knight
Production co-ordinator: Katie Morrison
Sound Engineer: David Crackles
Editor: Richard Vadon

MON 20:30 BBC Inside Science (m002c3cg)
Will the Hole in the Ozone Layer Close?

40 years ago scientists in Antarctica discovered a hole in the Ozone layer. The world acted quickly, phasing out harmful CFCs or chlorofluorocarbons. Evidence suggests the hole has been getting smaller. But in 2025, there are new pollutants threatening to slow progress. Eloise Marais is Professor of Atmospheric Chemistry and Air Quality at University College London and tells Victoria Gill about her work monitoring the impact of space travel on the Ozone layer.

It's the first day of the traditional 'bathing season' when wild swim spots are regularly tested throughout the UK summer. Victoria asks Professor of Environmental Microbiology and Health at Lancaster University, Roger Pickup to break down the science behind our water quality classifications. And May also means wildflowers. Dr Sarah Scott is pollinator ecologist and toxicologist at Cambridge university. She has a warning that planted in the wrong place, wildflowers could be harming bumble bees.

Gareth Mitchell, broadcaster and lecturer in science communication at Imperial College London is in the Inside

Science studio to bring Victoria new scientific findings which will shape our future.

Presenter: Victoria Gill
Producers: Clare Salisbury, Dan Welsh, Jonathan Blackwell
Editor: Martin Smith
Production Co-ordinator: Jana Bennett-Holesworth

MON 21:00 Start the Week (m002cdl1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 21:45 Café Hope (m002cdl3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m002cdm5)
In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

MON 22:45 The Boy from the Sea by Garrett Carr (m002cdm7)
Episode Six

In 1973 on the west coast of Ireland, a baby is found abandoned on the beach. Who is he? Where is he from? What changes will he bring?

Ambrose Bonnar, a local fisherman, is far more interested in who he will become and – with a curious community looking on – takes the baby home and adopts him. But for Declan, the baby's new brother, this arrival is surely bad news . . .

Set over twenty years, Garrett Carr's 'The Boy from the Sea' is about a restless boy trying to find his place in the world, and a town caught in the storm of a rapidly approaching future.

The Author
Garrett Carr was born and brought up in the harbour town of Killybegs, County Donegal where his father was a fisherman. Garrett now teaches Creative Writing at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast. His non-fiction book 'The Rule of the Land: Walking Ireland's Border' was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. 'The Boy from the Sea' is his debut novel.

Reader: Niall Cusack
Author: Garrett Carr
Abridger: Rowan Routh
Producer: Michael Shannon

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland Production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 23:00 Nuremberg (m00100j6)
Statues All Over Germany

The army psychologist assigned to Nuremberg Prison has a never-to-be repeated chance to examine evil, close-up. What made these 22 men capable of such horrific acts? He spends time with them, he runs tests - what will it reveal?

Seen through the eyes of Gustav Gilbert, German-speaking US psychologist assigned to examine and watch over the defendants. In turn, they valued the chance to speak to him. He then wrote up copious notes of his conversations and also reported back to the Prison Commandant. Would he find the mystery of human evil?

And when the Defence case opens, Hermann Goering is first into the witness box but he seems unashamed, proud of what the Nazis achieved. He doesn't pretend to be ignorant of what happened or claim that his signature was faked. He is proud of what the Nazis achieved for Germany and intends to go down in a blaze of Wagnerian martyrdom.

This wrong-foots Jackson during his cross-examination but, when Maxwell-Fyfe steps up, he forces Goering to admit to the shabby, gangsterism of the Nazi machine.

Cast:
Gustav Gilbert - ED STOPPARD
Robert H Jackson - JOSEPH MYDELL
Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe - FORBES MASSON
Sir Geoffrey Lawrence - NICHOLAS WOODESON
Hermann Goering - NIGEL LINDSAY
Alfred Seidl - HARI DHILLON
Julius Streicher - HENRY GOODMAN
Douglas Kelley and other roles - ILAN GOODMAN
Otto Kranzbühler and other roles - MARK EDEL-HUNT
Admiral Nimitz and other roles - NATHAN WILEY
Joachim von Ribbentrop and other roles - JASPER BRITTON
Ernst Kaltenbrunner and other roles - JONATHAN CULLEN
Hans Frank and other roles - ANDREW WOODALL

Sound Designer - ADAM WOODHAMS
Studio Manager - MARK SMITH
Casting Director - GINNY SCHILLER

| Radio 4 Listings for 17 – 23 May 2025 | | Page 9 of 15 |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Original Score - METAPHOR MUSIC Writer and Director - JONATHAN MYERSON Producer - NICHOLAS NEWTON</p> <p>A Promenade Production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds</p> <p>MON 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002cdm9) News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p>TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025</p> <p>TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m002cdmc) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 00:30 Ten Second Showdown (m0020xvn) Allan Wells</p> <p>The explosive drama of a 100m sprint makes it one of those events that seems to transcend sport. Like the world heavyweight boxing championships, the crown of fastest man or woman in the world has an iconic status, drawing people in – captivating even those who might never watch another athletics event in their life.</p> <p>For decades, legendary commentator Mike Costello described these mini blockbusters live on BBC radio. But that 10 seconds only tells part of the story. In this series he also explores what went on behind the races.</p> <p>In episode one, sport and international politics collide with the US leading a boycott of the Moscow 1980 Olympics. Scotland's Allan Wells is under huge pressure from the UK government to stay away. But he refuses - setting up a 10 second showdown in the Central Lenin Stadium with his Cuban rivals.</p> <p>PRESENTER: MIKE COSTELLO PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY</p> <p>TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002cdmf) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002cdmh) BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.</p> <p>TUE 05:00 News Summary (m002cdmk) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002cdmm) News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p>TUE 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002cdmp) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002cdmr) High-resolution</p> <p>Good morning.</p> <p>On this day in 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope sent its first photos from space. It was not the first space telescope, but it is one of the largest and most versatile, and it's still in operation today. Because Hubble operates outside the distortion of the earth's atmosphere, it can capture extremely high-resolution images.</p> <p>The problem of factors that distort our ability to see things clearly is not restricted to space telescopes, however! We all have factors which cloud our vision, preventing us from seeing people and situations clearly, and impairing our judgement. Sometimes these are events in our past which colour the way that we experience things, and sometimes they may be problems in the present. Perhaps the most dangerous factors are those which we are completely unaware of.</p> <p>In John's gospel Jesus gets into trouble for healing a blind man, leading to a debate over what true blindness means. Jesus comments on the spiritual blindness of the religious leaders, whose hearts are preventing them from clearly seeing the wonderful miracle performed before their very eyes. He says to them: "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."</p> <p>God of light,</p> <p>In you there is no darkness at all. But we find it hard to see clearly, and our past pains, our present prejudices and our future fears obscure our vision. Heal our eyes, restore our vision, and help us to see others with</p> | <p>your gaze of love. Where there are things that cloud our vision, remove them with your gentle and skilful hand.</p> <p>In the name of Jesus,</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p>TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m002cdmt) The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.</p> <p>TUE 06:00 Today (m002cdfv) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>TUE 09:00 The Life Scientific (m002cdfx) Claudia de Rham on playing with gravity</p> <p>Claudia de Rham has rather an unusual relationship with gravity.</p> <p>While she has spent her career exploring its fundamental nature, much of her free time has involved trying to defy it - from scuba diving in the Indian Ocean to piloting small aircraft over the Canadian waterfalls. Her ultimate ambition was to escape gravity's clutches altogether and become an astronaut, a dream that was snatched away by an unlikely twist of fate.</p> <p>However, Claudia has no regrets - and says defying gravity for much of her life has helped her to truly understand it.</p> <p>As Professor of theoretical physics at Imperial College London, she now grapples with deep mathematics, where the fields of particle physics, gravity and cosmology intersect, on a quest to understand how the universe really works. She is a pioneer of the theory of massive gravity, a theory which could take us beyond even Einstein's theory of relativity and shed light on why the universe is expanding at an ever-increasing rate.</p> <p>Presented by Jim Al-Khalili Produced by Beth Eastwood</p> <p>TUE 09:30 All in the Mind (m002cdfz) BBC Radio 4's science magazine</p> <p>TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002cdg1) The programme that offers a female perspective on the world</p> <p>TUE 11:00 Screenshot (m002c311) Summer Blockbusters</p> <p>Fifty years ago this summer, Jaws was released in the US. Directed by Steven Spielberg and based on the bestselling novel by Peter Benchley, the film - about a coastal resort town threatened by a great white shark at the busiest time of the year - was a groundbreaking box office phenomenon.</p> <p>Jaws changed the industry overnight - pioneering new marketing and release patterns, and altering the focus and mix of movies that Hollywood made - some say for the worse.</p> <p>From Jaws and Star Wars through to the double whammy of Barbenheimer, summer blockbusters have dominated cinemas. But is this changing? And is there more to the summer blockbuster than big box office and a summer release date? Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode join the queue for popcorn to explore the genre.</p> <p>Mark speaks to critic and author Tim Robey about how Jaws went from potential disaster to record-breaking hit, and about the summer blockbusters that followed. And he also speaks to Jenny He, senior exhibitions curator at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles, about the museum's forthcoming 'Jaws: The Exhibition' and the marketing techniques that helped make the 1975 film such a success.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Ellen talks to pop culture critic Kayleigh Donaldson about box office mega-hits for the modern age - and how the inescapable megolith of Marvel has impacted the summer film landscape.</p> <p>And Ellen also speaks to Canadian filmmaker Nyla Innuksuk about her 2022 film <i>Slash/Back</i> - a Spielberg-influenced summer-blockbuster-in-spirit sci-fi adventure movie set in the remote Arctic fishing town of Pangnirtung.</p> <p>Producer: Jane Long A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 11:45 Me and the Farmer (m0020y3q) 2. Young, Free Range and Single</p> <p>Comedian and farmer Jim Smith always knew he was going to</p> | <p>be a farmer, but his parents insisted he got an education. So, it was off to agricultural college for Jim in the big city of Aberdeen. 4 years of dancing, drinking and Dave Pearce's Dance Anthems mean Jim has a fair few stories to tell.</p> <p>Me and the Farmer is a stand up show chronicling Jim's life as a working farmer in rural Perthshire. This isn't an act. By day, Jim works the land and looks after his sheep and by night he performs stand up to sold out venues across Scotland.</p> <p>In each episode, Jim tells anecdotes about life on his family farm to a live audience in his nearest city of Perth. This is an honest, behind the scenes look at what it takes to be a modern farmer.</p> <p>Written and Performed by Jim Smith Produced by Lauren Mackay Sound by Andy Hay and Barry Jackson Photo credit: Chris Quilietti</p> <p>TUE 12:00 News Summary (m002cdg3) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m002cdg5) News and discussion of consumer affairs</p> <p>TUE 12:57 Weather (m002cdg7) The latest weather forecast</p> <p>TUE 13:00 World at One (m002cdg9) News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 13:45 Mary Bourke: Who Cares? (m002cdge) Episode 2: When the system fails</p> <p>Five years ago, Mary Bourke's husband had a stroke - and she immediately became his carer. It's a job no one wants - and one that comes with no formal training, and very little support. Guilt, isolation, toilets, and endless, endless admin - welcome to the day-to-day reality of being a carer. There are more than 5 million carers in the UK - but who cares for the carers?</p> <p>Through a mixture of interviews and stand-up comedy, comedian and carer Mary Bourke investigates, with the help of friends and fellow comedians with caring responsibilities.</p> <p>In episode two, Mary learns what happens when the system fails - with stand-up from guest Josephine Lacey.</p> <p>An unusual production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 14:00 The Archers (m002cdgg) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]</p> <p>TUE 14:15 Drama on 4 (m000rdl7) Safe from Harm</p> <p>Thought-provoking winning drama by the inaugural Wales Writer in Residence award winner Rhiannon Boyle.</p> <p>Safe From Harm tells the frank and powerful story of Alys, a teacher and mother whose life unravels when a colleague is arrested for possessing indecent images of children. Unable to cope, Alys contacts a celibate paedophile in an attempt to better understand the danger they pose. Her primal urge to forever protect her children becomes so all consuming Alys slowly loses her grip on reality. Sian Reece-Williams (Hidden, Emeraldale) plays Alys.</p> <p>The Wales Writer in Residence is a prestigious scheme, aimed at furthering a writer's career across stage, sound and screen. It is a partnership between BBC Cymru Wales and National Theatre Wales, along with BBC Writersroom Wales, with the intention of supporting new writing talent.</p> <p>Alys Sian Reece-Williams Christian Oliver Ryan Ianto Sion Pritchard Mum Rhian Morgan</p> <p>Tyler Alfie Ford Taya Nerys Stocks Kyden Iolo Reynolds</p> <p>Sound design was by Catherine Robinson</p> <p>Safe From Harm was a BBC Writersroom Wales production Directed by Helen Perry</p> <p>TUE 15:00 Lady Killers with Lucy Worsley (m002cdgj) Lady Swindlers with Lucy Worsley - Series 2</p> |
| Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/ | | |

42. Annie Gordon Baillie - Serial Swindler

Lucy Worsley is back with a brand new series of Lady Swindlers, where true crime meets history - with a twist. Lucy and her team of all female detectives travel back more than a hundred years to revisit the audacious and surprising crimes of swindlers, hustlers and women on the make. Women trying to make it in a world made for men.

Producer: Jane Greenwood
Readers: Clare Corbett and Jonathan Keeble
Sound design: Chris Maclean
Executive producer: Kirsty Hunter

A StoryHunter production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 15:30 Heart and Soul (w3ct6vnm)

Guns, grief and god: Part 2

On 4 September 2024, the town of Winder in the US state of Georgia became the latest scene of a school mass shooting. Two students and two teachers were killed. The suspect was 14 years old. The deadly attack at Apalachee High School left a community torn apart by guns and brought together in grief. In each of the previous four years there have been more than 600 mass shootings in the United States - almost two a day on average.

Edward Stourton has been to Georgia to visit the church community attached to the high school, as they try to make sense of the senseless violence in their hometown. He meets Pastor Frank Burnat and his pastoral team, who are ministering to a community in which both God and guns are a part of everyday life. Where is God in such a tragedy and its aftermath?

Producer: Dan Tierney
Presenter: Edward Stourton
Executive producer: Rajeev Gupta
Editor: Chloe Walker
Production co-ordinator: Mica Nepomuceno

(Photo: From left to right, Edward Stourton, Megan Gomez, Matthew Brown, Frank Burnat. Credit: Dan Tierney)

TUE 16:00 Artworks (m002cdgm)

Three Faces of DH Lawrence

2. Life and Work

Michael Symmons Roberts presents the second part of this new series on DH Lawrence, examining this time the important role that class played in Lawrence's life and work.

Lawrence was born in the Nottinghamshire mining town of Eastwood, his father a collier and his mother a former teacher with aspirations for her son. While he was keen to escape a life down the mine through his writing, when Lawrence's success saw him taken up by the middle and upper classes, he was both attracted by their grandeur and repelled by what their substitution of polite discourse for real feeling. He railed against the establishment - "the snivelling, dribbling, dithering palsied pulse-less lot" - and for many the chief obscenity of Lady Chatterley's Lover was that it saw a gamekeeper win the love of an aristocratic woman married to a Lord.

Actor Robert Lindsay describes the deep connection he feels with Lawrence having grown up near Eastwood and attended the school where Lawrence taught, while Joan Bakewell recognises in her own life the conflict he clearly felt moving between his working class origins and his new life among the intelligentsia and the well-to-do. Meanwhile writer Alison Macleod and Professor Phil Davis consider how seriously we should consider accusations of proto-fascism laid against Lawrence by Bertrand Russell.

Produced by Geoff bird
Readings by Michael Socha
Production Coordinator: Mica Nepomuceno

TUE 16:30 What's Up Docs? (m002cdgp)

Should I worry about microplastics?

Welcome to What's Up Docs?, the podcast where doctors and identical twins Chris and Xand van Tulleken explore every aspect of our health and wellbeing.

In this episode, they delve into the issue of microplastics - minute fragments of plastic material that have been found in every environment on the planet, as well as in our brains and bodies. How did they get there, are they doing us harm and, if they are, what can we do about it? They speak to Environmental Toxicologist Dr Stephanie Wright from Imperial College, London about the evidence behind the dramatic headlines and why trying to measure the impact of microplastic on health is a challenge.

If you want to get in touch, you can email us at whatsupdocs@bbc.co.uk or WhatsApp us on 08000 665 123.

Presenters: Drs Chris and Xand van Tulleken
Guest: Dr Stephanie Wright
Producer: Jo Rowntree
Executive Producer: Rami Tzabar
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Assistant Producers: Maia Miller-Lewis and Mary Holditch
Tech Lead: Reuben Huxtable
Social Media: Leon Gower
Digital Lead: Richard Berry
Composer: Phoebe McFarlane
Sound Design: Melvin Rickarby

At the BBC:
Assistant Commissioner: Greg Smith
Commissioning Editor: Rhian Roberts

A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 17:00 PM (m002cdgr)

Full coverage of the day's news

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cdgt)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

TUE 18:30 Unspeakable (m002cdgw)

Series 2

2. Curiosity should have got a dog

This episode we hear Jessica Knappett's word for undeserved promotions, Rhys James's word for being jilted by his own cat, and Griff Rhys Jones's word for not finishing your...

Ever struggled to find the right word for a feeling or sensation? Unspeakable sees comedian Phil Wang and lexicographer Susie Dent invite celebrity guests to invent new linguistic creations, to solve those all too relatable moments when we're lost for words.

Hosts: Phil Wang and Susie Dent
Guests: Rhys James, Jessica Knappett and Griff Rhys Jones
Created by Joe Varley
Writers: Matt Crosby and Katie Storey
Recorded by Jerry Peal
Producer: Jon Harvey
Executive Producers: Joe Varley and Akash Lockmun

A Brown Bred production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 19:00 The Archers (m002cdgy)

Natasha puts her foot in it, and it's a big day for Zainab.

TUE 19:15 Front Row (m002cdh0)

Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature, film, media and music

TUE 20:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002ckqb)

Missing Billions

File on 4 Investigates: Missing Billions examines the changes to the financial system over the past ten years including bank branch closures and the digitisation of the finance industry which has led to many financial assets being lost, mislaid or forgotten. It examines the scandal of £100 billion belonging to you and me, but kept by Britain's trusted financial institutions.

The documentary solves the mystery of some missing church silver, helps a frustrated Ambulance worker hunt an elusive pension and hears from the valiant individuals leading the charge to make changes to the finance industry.

Featuring contributions from: Steve Webb (Former Pensions Minister), Helen Boyd (Reclaim Fund Ltd), Derek French (Campaign for Community Banking Services), Duncan Stevens (Asset Tracing Service Gretel), Tom Storey (Vaults Group), Les Clarke (Assets Recovered Ltd) plus responses from the NHS, South East Coast Ambulance Service, Santander UK and Lloyds bank.

Presenter, Simon Barnes
Readings, Russell Bentley, Olivia Mace
Research, Bethanie Depreaux
Editor, Ross Burman
Produce, Ashley Golder
Executive Producer, Kris Dyer

A Rakkit production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 20:40 In Touch (m002cdh4)

News, views and information for people who are blind or

partially sighted

TUE 21:00 Crossing Continents (m002cdh6)

Colombia's webcam women

Colombia's second largest city, Medellin, is booming and one of the biggest industries revolves around the city's webcam studios which live stream women performing sex acts. It's estimated there are hundreds of studios in the city employing thousands of women and turning over millions of pounds as men - primarily in the US and Europe - pay to watch the women. The work is legal with studios running glossy websites to attract models and even hosting their own annual trade show. Crossing Continents meets two women who have contrasting experiences working in the industry. Sofia Bettiza asks if their work is exploitation or a pragmatic way to earn a living in a country where wages for women are often low and opportunities limited.

Presented and produced by Sofia Bettiza
Produced by Bob Howard
Production coordinator: Gemma Ashman
Editor: Penny Murphy

TUE 21:30 Stakeknife (m002cdh8)

7. The Beginning of the End

In 1990, a man called Sandy Lynch was tied up, blindfolded and interrogated by Scappaticci. He survived to document his experience. Marks speaks to an IRA man who "guarded" Lynch.

Credits

Reporter: Mark Horgan
Produced and written by: Mark Horgan and Ciarán Cassidy
Co-Producer: Paddy Fee
Editing and Sound Design: Ciarán Cassidy
Composer: Michael Fleming
Sound mixing: Ger McDonnell
Theme tune by Lankum
Artwork by Conor Merriman
Assistant Commissioners for BBC: Lorraine Okuefuna and Sarah Green.
Commissioning Editor for BBC: Dylan Haskins

Stakeknife is a Second Captains & Little Wing production for BBC Sounds.

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m002cdhb)

In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

TUE 22:45 The Boy from the Sea by Garrett Carr**(m002cdhd)**

Episode Seven

In 1973 on the west coast of Ireland, a baby is found abandoned on the beach. Who is he? Where is he from? What changes will he bring?

Ambrose Bonnar, a local fisherman, is far more interested in who he will become and - with a curious community looking on - takes the baby home and adopts him. But for Declan, the baby's new brother, this arrival is surely bad news . . .

Set over twenty years, Garrett Carr's 'The Boy from the Sea' is about a restless boy trying to find his place in the world, and a town caught in the storm of a rapidly approaching future.

The Author
Garrett Carr was born and brought up in the harbour town of Killybegs, County Donegal where his father was a fisherman. Garrett now teaches Creative Writing at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast. His non-fiction book 'The Rule of the Land: Walking Ireland's Border' was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. 'The Boy from the Sea' is his debut novel.

Reader: Niall Cusack
Author: Garrett Carr
Abridger: Rowan Routh
Producer: Michael Shannon

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland Production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 23:00 The Witch Farm (m001fd4w)

Episode 6: The Devil Rides Out

The haunting steps up another terrifying gear as another apparition appears, and Bill and Liz are forced to flee Heol Fanog. Desperate, they turn to a new exorcist - the Reverend David Holmwood, who is convinced that the paranormal activity is caused by something truly evil. Have their prayers finally been answered?

The Witch Farm reinvestigates a real-life haunting - a

paranormal cold case that has been unsolved for nearly 30 years - until now. Set in the beautiful, remote Welsh countryside, this terrifying true story is told through a thrilling blend of drama and documentary.

Written and presented by Danny Robins, creator of The Battersea Poltergeist, Uncanny and West End hit **2:22** – A Ghost Story, The Witch Farm stars Joseph Fiennes (The Handmaid's Tale) and Alexandra Roach (No Offence), with original theme music by Mercury Prize-nominated Gwenno. This 8-part series interweaves a terrifying supernatural thriller set in the wild Welsh countryside with a fascinating modern-day investigation into a real-life mystery.

Cast:

Bill Rich Joseph Fiennes
Liz Rich Alexandra Roach
David Holmwood Guy Henry
Anita Dick Laura Dalgleish
Bethan Morgan Rhian Morgan
Ben Rich Tom Barnard
Becca Rich Isabelle Hall

Written and presented by Danny Robins
Experts: Ciaran O'Keeffe and Evelyn Hollow
Sound design by Charlie Brandon-King and Richard Fox
Music by Evelyn Sykes
Theme Music by Gwenno
Researcher: Nancy Bottomley
Produced by Danny Robins and Simon Barnard
Directed by Simon Barnard

Consultant was Mark Chadbourn, author of the book on the case 'Testimony'

A Bafflegab and Uncanny Media production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002cdhh)
News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament

WEDNESDAY 21 MAY 2025

WED 00:00 Midnight News (m002cdhk)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 00:30 Ten Second Showdown (m0020xs3)
Ben Johnson

When Ben Johnson surged over the finish line in the 100m at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, it seemed that inside a world record-breaking **9.79** seconds he had settled his bitter rivalry with Carl Lewis once and for all. But then it all began to fall apart.

At **4am**, the phone rang in the hotel room of the Colin Hart, who was covering the Olympics for The Sun. "There's a major story about to break", the bleary-eyed Hart was told. Shortly afterwards, BBC host Des Lynam delivered the bombshell news. Johnson had tested positive for Stanozolol, a banned performance-enhancing steroid.

In this episode of Ten Second Showdown, Mike Costello hears from people who were on the front line as one of the biggest drugs scandals of all time unfolded.

This is the dramatic story of the 100m that become known as the dirtiest race in history.

PRESENTER: MIKE COSTELLO
PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002cdhm)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002cdhp)
BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.

WED 05:00 News Summary (m002cdhr)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002cdht)
News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament

WED 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002cdhw)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002cdhy)
'In the twilight of life'

Good morning.

This last month I've been reading with a friend the poetry of the sixteenth century Spanish Roman Catholic priest, Carmelite friar and mystic, whom we call John of the Cross. John is the patron saint of mystics, contemplatives and all Spanish poets. Many listeners will be familiar with him, but, as I know from teaching ministerial students, some Christians can be a bit suspicious of theology written as poetry! And perhaps it's a suspicion which is deepened by John's emphasis on a love between God and our soul which he often describes in romantic and passionate language. And that suspicion is a shame, because rather like Song of Songs, John brings much-needed refreshment to a theological world that can feel dry at times. Here's a quotation of his that we found particularly helpful and may also offer something to all of us who worry whether we are achieving enough: and gives us another way to measure our value.

"In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved."

God of love,

We thank for your servant John, for his poetry and prose where he shares with us the wisdom he learned along the way, and encourages us to follow in his footsteps. Thank you above all for his revealing to us that you are a God of infinite love, that you have created us for love, and that in the final analysis, love is all that matters.

In the name of your son Jesus, who was love made flesh, Amen.

WED 05:45 Farming Today (m002cdj0)
The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

WED 06:00 Today (m002cdzk)
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

WED 09:00 Life Changing (m002cdzm)
The Singing Bus Driver

Phillip Browne was born into a large and loving Windrush generation family in Birmingham. Church and singing were an important part of his upbringing, and when he struggled at school it was singing that gave him an escape and a status. But just as he was beginning to show signs of real potential, a devastating ear infection robbed him of his hearing completely in one ear - and Phillip was told by a doctor that a singing career was out of the question. Phillip's struggle in the aftermath of his illness and his need to find a job resulted in him becoming a London bus driver. He knew the security of employment was a relief to his father who had spent a lifetime working on the railways, but it seemed to be leading him further and further away from his dream. Until a chance meeting with an old college friend turned his life in an extraordinary new direction.

Phillip tells Dr Sian Williams about that Life Changing moment - and his incredible journey to the bright lights of the West End stage.

Producer: Tom Alban

WED 09:30 The History Podcast (m002cdzp)
Half-Life

3. Lost

Joe's research into his great-grandfather's work takes him to Ammendorf, south of Berlin - one of the key sites of Nazi Germany's chemical weapons production.

Written and presented by Joe Dunthorne
Produced by Eleanor McDowall
Music by Jeremy Warmesley
Mixing engineer, Mike Woolley
Story consultant, Sarah Geis
Executive producer, Alan Hall
A Falling Tree production for BBC Radio 4

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002cdzr)
The programme that offers a female perspective on the world

WED 11:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002ckqb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Tuesday]

WED 11:40 This Week in History (m002cdzt)
May 19 - May 25

Fascinating, surprising, and eye-opening stories from the past, brought to life.

BBC Radio 4 explores the history books and archives to see what else has happened on this same week throughout history. With short looks at the events that have shaped the world and made us who we are today.

This week. May 19th – May 25th
- 20th of May 1948. It used to be a German owned boat, used throughout the Second World War. But in May 1948 the HMT Empire Windrush first set sail from the Caribbean, bringing new settlers to the United Kingdom.
- 20th of May 1570. The Flemish cartographer Abraham Ortelius changes how we viewed the world with the publication of his atlas, the 'Theatrum Orbis Terrarum'.
- 21st of May 1916. William Willett spent his years campaigning against the 'Waste of Daylight' but was not around to see British Summer Time introduced in 1916.

Presented by Caroline Nicholls and Jane Steel
Produced by Stuart Ross and Kerry McCarthy

WED 11:45 Me and the Farmer (m00213wm)
3. Mucking In and Mucking Out

Comedian and farmer Jim Smith grew up on a family farm with his mum, dad, sisters and his granny and grandad all in the one place. Being in such close proximity had its ups and its downs, with company never being an issue but tension and friction always a possibility.

Me and the Farmer is a stand up show chronicling Jim's life as a working farmer in rural Perthshire. This isn't an act. By day, Jim works the land and looks after his sheep and by night he performs stand up to sold out venues across Scotland.

In each episode, Jim tells anecdotes about life on his family farm to a live audience in his nearest city of Perth. This is an honest, behind the scenes look at what it takes to be a modern farmer.

Written and Performed by Jim Smith
Produced by Lauren Mackay
Sound by Andy Hay and Barry Jackson
Photo credit: Chris Quilietti

WED 12:00 News Summary (m002cdzw)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

WED 12:04 You and Yours (m002cdzy)
News and discussion of consumer affairs

WED 12:57 Weather (m002cf00)
The latest weather forecast

WED 13:00 World at One (m002cf02)
News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

WED 13:45 Mary Bourke: Who Cares? (m002cf04)
Episode 3: The professional caring industry.

Five years ago, Mary Bourke's husband had a stroke - and she immediately became his carer. It's a job no one wants - and one that comes with no formal training, and very little support. Guilt, isolation, toilets, and endless, endless admin - welcome to the day-to-day reality of being a carer. There are more than 5 million carers in the UK - but who cares for the carers?

Through a mixture of interviews and stand-up comedy, comedian and carer Mary Bourke investigates, with the help of friends and fellow comedians with caring responsibilities.

In episode three, Mary learns about the professional care system from Pope Lonergan (comedian and care worker) and Michael Akadiri (comedian and junior doctor).

An unusual production for BBC Radio 4

WED 14:00 The Archers (m002cdgy)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

WED 14:15 The Citadel (m000x0yd)
Series 8

Episode 2

The Citadel episode 2/2 - written by Christopher Reason and Tom Needham, based on the novel by AJ Cronin. 1930, South Wales. Dr. Manson, returns in haste from London. As Medical Officer, he enforces quarantine on a local village

which doesn't go down well. And the former soldier, Trevithick, in a botched attempt to quell unresolved feelings, is rushed to hospital but with no ambulances available, it's Dr. Denny who takes him.

Dr. Andrew Manson Richard Fleeshman
Phillip Denny Matthew Gravelle
Christine Manson Catrin Stewart
Frank Trevithick Carl Prekopp,
Mrs. Trevithick/Mrs. Thomas Jennie Platt
Dylan Thomas Luca Rawlinson
Freddy/Policeman Rupert Hill
Mrs. Roberts /Mrs. Powell..... Kath Weare
Eleanor.....Emily Pithon
Gwyneth.....Charlotte Sienna Lee

Producers: Pauline Harris and Gary Brown
Directed by Pauline Harris

WED 15:00 The Law Show (m002cf06)

My data's been stolen in a cyberattack - what are my legal rights?

M&S, The Co-op and Harrods are picking up the pieces after their vital operational systems were hacked.

The cyber criminals also claim to have the private information of 20 million people who signed up to Co-op's membership scheme, but the firm have not confirmed that number. The Co-op says the breach did not include members' passwords, bank or credit card details. However, experts say seemingly innocent information can be used to commit fraud or identity theft.

So can you sue if your private data is stolen in this way? What legal responsibilities does a company have to keep your data secure, and if you're the employee who clicked on a hacker's dodgy link in an email, how liable are you for any losses that occur?

Also on the programme:

Victims of abuse want to be told if their attackers make plea deals with Scottish prosecutors.

and if you're a couple with a pet - why splitting up could cost you, and how a "pet-nup" might help.

Presenter: Joelle Grogan

Producers: Ravi Naik and Charlotte Rowles

Editor: Tara McDermott

WED 15:30 The Science of Dad (m000gn5z)

Whilst most men become fathers, and men make up roughly half the parental population, the vast majority of scientific research has focused on the mother.

But studies have started to reveal the impact of fatherhood on both dads themselves and on their children. We're seeing how fathers play a crucial role in children's behaviour, happiness, and even cognitive skills.

Oscar Duke, a doctor, new dad and author of How To Be A Dad, discovers how pregnancy, birth and childcare affect the father, bringing about profound physiological and hormonal changes. Only 5% of mammal fathers invest in their offspring, and human males have evolved to undergo key changes when their children are born.

Involved fathers can expect their levels of the 'love hormone' oxytocin to rise, nature's way of helping parents bond with their children. At birth, a dad's testosterone levels dramatically fall, increasing affection and responsiveness, and discouraging polygamy.

With more fathers taking on a hands-on role in bringing up their children, how can these new discoveries about the science of dad help support them, and inform social and healthcare policies?

Presented by Dr Oscar Duke and produced by Melanie Brown and Cathy Edwards

WED 16:00 When It Hits the Fan (m002cf08)

Who's in the news for all the wrong reasons? With David Yelland and Simon Lewis.

WED 16:15 The Media Show (m002cf0b)

Topical programme about the fast-changing media world

WED 17:00 PM (m002cf0d)

Full coverage of the day's news

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cf0g)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 18:30 Stand-Up Specials (m002cf0j)

Live from the UK

Lindsey Santoro, Jay Lafferty, Barry Dodds and Brennan Reece

Live from the UK brings you the best comedy talent from around the country, all from the comfort of your own headphones.

Host with the most Angela Barnes talks to Birmingham about being the youngest city in the UK, Glasgow about their charity shops, and Newcastle about the the perils of the Great North Run.

She brings you acts from all of these places and more, with stories about breastfeeding, children's parties, dieting with your partner and being 100% British.

This week you can hear;

Lindsey Santoro at The Glee Club, Birmingham
Jay Lafferty at The Stand, Glasgow
Barry Dodds at The Stand, Newcastle
and headliner Brennan Reece at the Frog and Bucket, Manchester

Additional Material by Eve Delaney

Recorded by Sean Kerwin and David Thomas
Sound design by David Thomas
Production Coordinator: Sarah Nicholls
Executive Producer: Pete Strauss

Produced by Gwyn Rhys Davies. A BBC Studios Audio Production for Radio 4.

An EcoAudio Certified Production.

WED 19:00 The Archers (m002cf0l)

Lilian attempts a brave face, and David makes a potentially far-reaching mistake.

WED 19:15 Front Row (m002cf0n)

Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature, film, media and music

WED 20:00 AntiSocial (m002c3k7)

Island of strangers?

As the Prime Minister announced reforms to the UK's immigration system, he warned that without these changes we risk becoming an "island of strangers". This has drawn criticism comparing his remarks to historical examples of inflammatory language on immigration. Others say this comparison is unfair and his comments were part of a sensible conversation about immigration.

Presenter: Adam Fleming

Producers: Bethan Ashmead Latham, Josephine Casserly, Viv

Jones and Nik Sindle

Editor: Richard Vaden

Production Coordinator: Janet Staples

Studio Engineer: Hal Haines

WED 20:45 The Prophets of Profit (m0027d3p)

Going for Growth

It's been called the dumbest idea in the world. But many believe shareholder value is the most important, the most consequential idea of the last hundred years.

In Prophets of Profit the BBC's Business Editor Simon Jack discovers why so many believe the prime responsibility of business is to increase profits and maximise returns to shareholders. Simon reveals how this powerful idea was propelled by a few influential individuals from academic cloisters to dominate boardrooms across the world from the 1980s onwards. He shows how the consequences have enriched many people but devastated many too. How the separation of the idea of money-making from other social obligations has led to severe social tensions and a profound misunderstanding of business within communities and governments alike.

Speaking to investors managing trillions, the most powerful union boss in Britain, and CEOs who've been at the very top of some of the world's biggest companies, Simon tracks how a simple idea became so powerful and why it shapes all of our lives today. In this final episode he considers how the idea of shareholder value might change and adapt in the next decade.

WED 21:00 The Life Scientific (m002cdfx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Tuesday]

WED 21:30 All in the Mind (m002cdfz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Tuesday]

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m002cf0r)

In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

WED 22:45 The Boy from the Sea by Garrett Carr

(m002cf0t)

Episode Eight

In 1973 on the west coast of Ireland, a baby is found abandoned on the beach. Who is he? Where is he from? What changes will he bring?

Ambrose Bonnar, a local fisherman, is far more interested in who he will become and – with a curious community looking on – takes the baby home and adopts him. But for Declan, the baby's new brother, this arrival is surely bad news . . .

Set over twenty years, Garrett Carr's 'The Boy from the Sea' is about a restless boy trying to find his place in the world, and a town caught in the storm of a rapidly approaching future.

The Author

Garrett Carr was born and brought up in the harbour town of Killybegs, County Donegal where his father was a fisherman. Garrett now teaches Creative Writing at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast. His non-fiction book 'The Rule of the Land: Walking Ireland's Border' was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. 'The Boy from the Sea' is his debut novel.

Reader: Niall Cusack

Author: Garrett Carr

Abridger: Rowan Routh

Producer: Michael Shannon

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland Production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 23:00 Michael Spicer: No Room (m002c42v)

Series 2

4. This is a case for Inspector Sands

With no more murder mystery book series to adapt, a crisis has hit TV drama. Time for Inspector Sands to come to the rescue, but who will play the lead? Quake beneath the intellect of the Guardian Columnist who understands culture better than you and isn't afraid to tell you.

With his unique satirical voice and playing every character in the show, Michael Spicer takes aim at everything from politics and culture to CGI ducks.

Michael is famous for his Room Next Door government advisor character whose withering take downs of politicians have amassed more than 100 million views and helped keep his audience sane in fractured times.

Writer, Performer and Co-Editor: Michael Spicer

Composer and Sound Designer: Augustin Bousfield

Producer: Matt Tiller

A Tillervision production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:15 The Skewer (m002cf0w)

Series 13

Episode 6

Jon Holmes brings you the week's biggest stories like you've never heard them before.

WED 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002cf0y)

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

THURSDAY 22 MAY 2025

THU 00:00 Midnight News (m002cf10)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 00:30 Ten Second Showdown (m0020y31)

Florence Griffith Joyner

In the summer of 1988, Florence Griffith Joyner - better known as FloJo - ran times the world had never seen before.

And she did it wearing outfits the world of track and field had never seen before - with her vibrant one-legged suits and

| Radio 4 Listings for 17 – 23 May 2025 | | Page 13 of 15 |
|--|---|--|
| <p>brightly-painted nails inspiring a future generation of athletes.</p> <p>In this episode of Ten Second Showdown - a series telling the stories behind some of the most iconic 100m races of all time - Mike Costello takes us to the Seoul Olympics, and the jaw-dropping world record FloJo had set two months earlier.</p> <p>PRESENTER: MIKE COSTELLO PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY</p> <p>THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002cf12) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002cf14) BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.</p> <p>THU 05:00 News Summary (m002cf16) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002cf18) News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p>THU 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002cf1b) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002cf1d) The King and the Pawn</p> <p>Good morning.</p> <p>On this day in 337, the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great died. Despite having had a famous conversion to Christianity, he never got baptised until his final illness a quarter of a century later. And on his deathbed he's said to have taken off his imperial purple robes and put on the white robes of a new convert.</p> <p>Historians disagree as to why Constantine waited so long before getting baptised. Some conjecture that he may have been too busy, while the more cynical claim that he just didn't want to stop killing people just yet. But whatever the reason, it seems that at the end Constantine wanted to be defined by the white robes of a baptismal candidate rather than the purple robes of an emperor.</p> <p>"Death comes equally to us all, and makes us all equal when it comes", wrote John Donne. The author of the book of Genesis has God saying to the first humans:</p> <p>By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.</p> <p>As an Italian proverb has it, "When the game is over, the king and the pawn go into the same box. "</p> <p>God of life and death, We know that we cannot take our riches, achievements and possessions with us when we die, but sometimes we live as though we can. Neither do we take our failures, our humiliations and our mistakes with us, but sometimes we live as though we will. Help us to live not as those who are afraid of death, but as those who make the most of every opportunity to live lives of joy, celebration and love.</p> <p>We ask this in the name of Jesus, who came to give us life in all its fulness, Amen.</p> <p>THU 05:45 Farming Today (m002cf1g) The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.</p> <p>THU 06:00 Today (m002cfjx) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>THU 09:00 In Our Time (m002cfjz) Paul von Hindenberg</p> <p>Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss the career of the man who allowed Hitler to come to power.</p> <p>THU 09:45 Strong Message Here (m002cfk1) Armando Iannucci and Helen Lewis decode the utterly baffling world of political language.</p> | <p>THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002cfk3) The programme that offers a female perspective on the world</p> <p>THU 11:00 This Cultural Life (m002cfk5) Pete Townshend</p> <p>Pete Townshend, songwriter, guitarist and co-founder of The Who, talks to John Wilson about his cultural influences.</p> <p>THU 11:45 Me and the Farmer (m0021b0d) 4. Passionate about Potatoes</p> <p>Jim's dad was passionate about tatties (that's potatoes!) and it's a passion he shared with his son. This episode is all about the folk who came to help pick the tatties and the berries in the local area - with people coming from all over Scotland the fields were full of parties and good banter.</p> <p>Me and the Farmer is a stand up show chronicling Jim's life as a working farmer in rural Perthshire. This isn't an act. By day, Jim works the land and looks after his sheep and by night he performs stand up to sold out venues across Scotland.</p> <p>In each episode, Jim tells anecdotes about life on his family farm to a live audience in his nearest city of Perth. This is an honest, behind the scenes look at what it takes to be a modern farmer.</p> <p>Written and Performed by Jim Smith Produced by Lauren Mackay Sound by Andy Hay and Barry Jackson Photo credit: Chris Quilietti</p> <p>THU 12:00 News Summary (m002cfk7) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>THU 12:04 You and Yours (m002cfk9) News and discussion of consumer affairs</p> <p>THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m002cfkc) Greg Foot investigates the so-called wonder products making bold claims.</p> <p>THU 12:57 Weather (m002cfkf) The latest weather forecast</p> <p>THU 13:00 World at One (m002cfkh) News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 13:45 Mary Bourke: Who Cares? (m002cfkk) Episode 4: The carer relationship</p> <p>Five years ago, Mary Bourke's husband had a stroke - and she immediately became his carer. It's a job no one wants - and one that comes with no formal training, and very little support. Guilt, isolation, toilets, and endless, endless admin - welcome to the day-to-day reality of being a carer. There are more than 5 million carers in the UK - but who cares for the carers?</p> <p>Through a mixture of interviews and stand-up comedy, comedian and carer Mary Bourke investigates, with the help of friends and fellow comedians with caring responsibilities.</p> <p>In episode four, Mary investigates how your relationship with your loved one changes when you become their carer - with stand-up from guests Susan Murray and Imran Yusef - and we speak to Mary's husband, comedian Simon Clayton, about his experience.</p> <p>An unusual production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 14:00 The Archers (m002cf0l) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]</p> <p>THU 14:15 Drama on 4 (m002cfkm) Melophobia</p> <p>After a freak accident wrecks his hearing, a musician finds music - and life - distorted beyond recognition. With Sartre and Heidegger arguing in his head, he must face the biggest question of all: if you can't trust what you hear, who are you?</p> <p>A raw, funny, existential audio journey through trauma, recovery, and the messy art of being alive.</p> <p>Written and performed by award-winning writer/ Musician Paul Sirett</p> <p>And playing herself, artistic director of Graeae Theatre</p> | <p>Company, Jenny Sealey</p> <p>Cast also includes: Kate Isitt, Ben Crowe, David Holt, Sudha Bhuchar and Amandine Vincent.</p> <p>Sound by David Thomas Production manager Sarah Tombling Producer /director Karen Rose</p> <p>A Sweet Talk Production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 15:00 Ramblings (m002cfkp) Camino de Santiago with Manni Coe</p> <p>This is a very special series of Ramblings. To mark Clare's 25th year of presenting Radio 4's walking programme she is off to Spain to fulfil her long held desire of hiking one of the world's most famous pilgrimage footpaths, the Camino de Santiago. Translated roughly as The Way of St. James, the Camino isn't just one route, rather it's a network of trails across western Europe converging on Santiago de Compostela, the reputed burial place of St. James.</p> <p>Clare's first companion is Manni Coe. He first walked the Camino 22 years ago with his brother Reuben, following the Francés, or French, path. This is probably the most famous route, which starts in the French town of St Jean Pied de Port. Reuben has Down's Syndrome and Manni recalls their journey together as the most magical yet challenging time of their lives.</p> <p>Manni now lives in Spain and works as a tour guide, including leading pilgrims along the Sanabrés which begins in Granja de Moreruela and stretches around 225 miles to Santiago.</p> <p>Manni is also an author about to publish his second book, 'Little Ruins'. As he explains to Clare, the simple act of walking has been invaluable in enabling him to complete this personal project which is about recovery from childhood trauma.</p> <p>This is the second time Clare has walked with Manni: search in our episodes list for 'Brotherly Love in Burton Bradstock' to hear Manni and Reuben walking in Dorset. For this episode, Manni and Clare walked from Bendoiro (What3Words: tuxedos.unwed.enjoys) to Silleda (W3W: expecting.shortcuts.outsells)</p> <p>Presenter: Clare Balding Producer: Karen Gregor</p> <p>THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (m002ccjl) [Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]</p> <p>THU 15:30 Word of Mouth (m002cfkr) The language that changed the world</p> <p>Michael Rosen hears the fascinating story of the origin of all Indo-European languages from Laura Spinney, the author of Proto: How One Ancient Language Went Global. Today, nearly half of humanity speaks an Indo-European language and Laura has been investigating how that came to be. Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Beth O'Dea, in partnership with the Open University. Subscribe to the Word of Mouth podcast and never miss an episode: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006qtnz</p> <p>THU 16:00 The Briefing Room (m002cfkt) David Aaronovitch presents in-depth explainers on big issues in the news.</p> <p>THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m002cfkw) BBC Radio 4's science magazine</p> <p>THU 17:00 PM (m002cfky) Full coverage of the day's news</p> <p>THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cf10) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 18:30 The Matt Forde Focus Group (m002cf12) Episode 1</p> <p>Political discussion show hosted by leading British political comedian Matt Forde.</p> <p>THU 19:00 The Archers (m002cf3r) Ian has reservations, and Oliver makes a generous offer.</p> <p>THU 19:15 Front Row (m002cf15) Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature,</p> |
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| Radio 4 Listings for 17 – 23 May 2025 | | Page 14 of 15 |
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| <p>film, media and music</p> <p>THU 20:00 When It Hits the Fan (m002cf08) [Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Wednesday]</p> <p>THU 20:15 The Media Show (m002cf0b) [Repeat of broadcast at 16:15 on Wednesday]</p> <p>THU 21:00 Loose Ends (m002ccg0) [Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]</p> <p>THU 21:45 Strong Message Here (m002cfk1) [Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]</p> <p>THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m002cf17) In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective</p> <p>THU 22:45 The Boy from the Sea by Garrett Carr (m002cflc) Episode Nine</p> <p>In 1973 on the west coast of Ireland, a baby is found abandoned on the beach. Who is he? Where is he from? What changes will he bring?</p> <p>Ambrose Bonnar, a local fisherman, is far more interested in who he will become and – with a curious community looking on – takes the baby home and adopts him. But for Declan, the baby's new brother, this arrival is surely bad news . . .</p> <p>Set over twenty years, Garrett Carr's 'The Boy from the Sea' is about a restless boy trying to find his place in the world, and a town caught in the storm of a rapidly approaching future.</p> <p>The Author Garrett Carr was born and brought up in the harbour town of Killybegs, County Donegal where his father was a fisherman. Garrett now teaches Creative Writing at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast. His non-fiction book 'The Rule of the Land: Walking Ireland's Border' was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. 'The Boy from the Sea' is his debut novel.</p> <p>Reader: Niall Cusack Author: Garrett Carr Abridger: Rowan Routh Producer: Michael Shannon</p> <p>A BBC Audio Northern Ireland Production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>THU 23:00 The Today Podcast (m002cflh) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>THU 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002cf1m) News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p>FRIDAY 23 MAY 2025</p> <p>FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m002cflr) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>FRI 00:30 Ten Second Showdown (m0020xszj) Jonnie Peacock</p> <p>Nineteen-year-old Jonnie Peacock crouches in his blocks as 80,000 spectators fall silent. He knows the difference between triumph and disaster will be about the time it takes to blink an eye.</p> <p>'You sit there, and you think - in 10 seconds, this is going to be done. Four years of my life,' he recalls.</p> <p>In Ten Second Showdown, Mike Costello revisits some of the most iconic 100m races of all time. This time he's at London 2012 for the culmination of Thriller Thursday - perhaps the greatest night in Paralympic history.</p> <p>Mike speaks to Jonnie Peacock and his co-commentator from that night, Tanni Grey-Thompson.</p> <p>PRESENTER: MIKE COSTELLO PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY</p> <p>FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002cflt) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> | <p>FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002cflw) BBC Radio 4 joins the BBC World Service.</p> <p>FRI 05:00 News Summary (m002cfly) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>FRI 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002cfm0) News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p>FRI 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002cfm2) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002cfm4) Spiritual reflection to start the day with the Rev Dr Rosa Hunt.</p> <p>FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m002cfm6) The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.</p> <p>FRI 06:00 Today (m002cf37) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (m002ccjz) [Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]</p> <p>FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002cf39) The programme that offers a female perspective on the world</p> <p>FRI 11:00 The Food Programme (m002cf3c) Coffee Crisis: Why are Prices Breaking Records?</p> <p>Dan Saladino hears from coffee industry insiders about the current spike in global prices.</p> <p>Produced and presented by Dan Saladino.</p> <p>FRI 11:45 Me and the Farmer (m0021jbl) 5. A Tup and Bull Story</p> <p>It's all about the animals in this episode - from lambing nightmares to runaway collies and gassy cows.</p> <p>Me and the Farmer is a stand up show chronicling Jim's life as a working farmer in rural Perthshire. This isn't an act. By day, Jim works the land and looks after his sheep and by night he performs stand up to sold out venues across Scotland.</p> <p>In each episode, Jim tells anecdotes about life on his family farm to a live audience in his nearest city of Perth. This is an honest, behind the scenes look at what it takes to be a modern farmer.</p> <p>Written and Performed by Jim Smith Produced by Lauren Mackay Sound by Andy Hay and Barry Jackson Photo credit: Chris Quilietti</p> <p>FRI 12:00 News Summary (m002cf3f) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>FRI 12:04 AntiSocial (m002cf3h) News and discussion of consumer affairs</p> <p>FRI 12:57 Weather (m002cf3k) The latest weather forecast</p> <p>FRI 13:00 World at One (m002cf3m) News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>FRI 13:45 Mary Bourke: Who Cares? (m002cf3p) Episode 5: Burnout</p> <p>Five years ago, Mary Bourke's husband had a stroke - and she immediately became his carer. It's a job no one wants - and one that comes with no formal training, and very little support. Guilt, isolation, toilets, and endless, endless admin - welcome to the day-to-day reality of being a carer. There are more than 5 million carers in the UK - but who cares for the carers?</p> <p>Through a mixture of interviews and stand-up comedy, comedian and carer Mary Bourke investigates, with the help of friends and fellow comedians with caring responsibilities.</p> | <p>In episode five, Mary speaks to all our guests about how being a carer has affected them - and how they deal with the inevitable burnout.</p> <p>An unusual production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>FRI 14:00 The Archers (m002cf3r) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]</p> <p>FRI 14:15 Limelight (m002cf3w) Pretender Prince</p> <p>Episode 2: The Devil's in His Head</p> <p>Can Charles and his rag-tag Highland army seize control of Scotland's capital city?</p> <p>In 1745 British Government troops are massing near Edinburgh at Prestonpans - and thousands of Highland clansmen must prepare for the fight of their lives in their daring bid to restore Prince Charles to the British throne.</p> <p>Jack Lowden presents the dramatic story of the rise and fall of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 1745 Jacobite rebellion. Written by Colin MacDonald with original music by Duncan Chisholm.</p> <p>Narrator.....Jack Lowden</p> <p>Bonnie Prince CharlieLorn Macdonald Colonel John O'SullivanGavin Mitchell Lord George Murray.....Robert Jack Allan Ramsay.....Kenny Blyth Donald Cameron.....Sam James Smith Allan Cameron.....Douglas Yannaghass Catherine Cameron.....Helen Mackay</p> <p>Written by.....Colin MacDonald</p> <p>Music arranged by.....Duncan Chisholm Music performed by Duncan Chisholm, Ingrid Henderson, Martin O'Neill and Ross Ainslie. With contributions by historians, Jacqueline Riding, Alistair Moffat and Maggie Craig</p> <p>Edited by.....Kris MacConachie Studio Managers.....Sean Mullervy and Kris MacConnachie Executive Producer.....Gordon Kennedy Broadcast Assistant.....Clare Hipkiss</p> <p>Producer/Director.....Bruce Young</p> <p>Recorded at BBC Scotland Drama Studios, Pacific Quay, Glasgow An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>FRI 14:45 Child (p0hhqr1b) Series 1</p> <p>20. Playtime</p> <p>As parents start to think about the development of the child within, they might head out to classes. The advice on how a baby 'should be' and the pressures on parents to 'get it right' can be a lot, but does it all matter? Lucy Jones, journalist and author, guides us through the history of why there is so much pressure on carers.</p> <p>We also hear more from Rebecca Saxe, a cognitive neuroscientist and Dean of Science at MIT about what babies are learning from play, and from Graham Music about what makes good play.</p> <p>But, put down your wallet - the best toys for a baby are free, and with you all the time.</p> <p>Presented by India Rakusen Producer: Lucy Hunt Series Producer: Ellie Sans Executive Producer: Suzy Grant Commissioning Editor: Rhian Roberts Original music composed and performed by The Big Moon Mix and Mastering by Charlie Brandon-King</p> |
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A Listen production for Radio 4 and BBC Sounds

FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002cf40)

Horticultural programme featuring a group of gardening experts.

FRI 15:45 Short Works (m002cf44)

A Survival Thing

A middle-aged woman's secret tree climbing habit is disrupted by a group of teenage boys. When one of them is rejected by the group, he joins her in the branches.

An original short fiction for radio by Philippa Holloway, author of the The Half-life of Snails and the Parthian Books short story collection Untethered.

Reader: Catrin Powell

Sound: Nigel Lewis

Producer: John Norton

A BBC Audio Wales Production

FRI 16:00 Last Word (m002cf46)

Matthew Bannister tells the life stories of people who have recently died, from the rich and famous to unsung but significant.

FRI 16:30 Life Changing (m002cdzm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

FRI 17:00 PM (m002cf48)

Full coverage of the day's news

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002cf4b)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 18:30 The News Quiz (m002cf4d)

Series 117

Episode 6

Topical panel quiz show, taking its questions from the week's news stories.

FRI 19:00 The Archers (m002cf4g)

Writer: Sarah McDonald Hughes

Director: Peter Leslie Wild

Editor: Jeremy Howe

David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck
Helen Archer.... Louiza Patikas
Henry Archer.... Blayke Darby
Kenton Archer.... Richard Attlee
Natasha Archer.... Mali Harries
Tom Archer.... William Troughton
Lilian Bellamy.... Sunny Ormonde
Ian Craig.... Stephen Kennedy
Ed Grundy.... Barry Farrimond
Emma Grundy.... Emerald O'Hanrahan
Akram Malik.... Asif Khan
Zainab Malik.... Priyasasha Kumari
Lily Pargetter.... Katie Redford
Oliver Sterling.... Michael Cochrane
Dane.... Stavros Demetraki
Naomi.... Aoife Moss

FRI 19:15 Add to Playlist (m002cf4j)

Music Programme on Radio 4

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m002cf4l)

Topical discussion posing questions to a panel of political and media personalities

FRI 20:55 This Week in History (m002cdzt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:40 on Wednesday]

FRI 21:00 Free Thinking (m002cf4n)

Wolves

Shahidha Bari's guests include Adam Weymouth, author of Lone Wolf, which describes his journey tracking a wolf called Slave across the Alps and folklore experts Zoe Gilbert and Daisy Black.

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m002cf4q)

In depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

FRI 22:45 The Boy from the Sea by Garrett Carr (m002cf4s)

Episode Ten

In 1973 on the west coast of Ireland, a baby is found abandoned on the beach. Who is he? Where is he from? What changes will he bring?

Ambrose Bonnar, a local fisherman, is far more interested in who he will become and – with a curious community looking on – takes the baby home and adopts him. But for Declan, the baby's new brother, this arrival is surely bad news . . .

Set over twenty years, Garrett Carr's 'The Boy from the Sea' is about a restless boy trying to find his place in the world, and a town caught in the storm of a rapidly approaching future.

The Author

Garrett Carr was born and brought up in the harbour town of Killybegs, County Donegal where his father was a fisherman. Garrett now teaches Creative Writing at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast. His non-fiction book 'The Rule of the Land: Walking Ireland's Border' was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. 'The Boy from the Sea' is his debut novel.

Reader: Niall Cusack

Author: Garrett Carr

Abridger: Rowan Routh

Producer: Michael Shannon

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland Production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 23:00 Americast (m002cf4v)

Join the Americast team for insights from across the US.

FRI 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002cf4x)

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