

SATURDAY 02 AUGUST 2025**SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m002gd9f)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:30 Speed of Light by Laura Cumming (m002gd7z)

5. Nadar - The Psychological Side of Photography

An exhilarating series written and read by Laura Cumming explores the 19th century revolution in photography. Today, Nadar's talent for capturing the inner worlds of his subjects and his innovative approaches which point to photography's future and the moving image.

Links to photographs taken by Nadar:

Sarah Bernhardt by Nadar - https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a7/Sarah_Bernhardt%2C_par_Nadar%2C_1864%2C_sepia.jpg

The Banker's Hand - https://expositions.bnf.fr/les-nadar/grand_en/nad_207.php

The Revolving Portrait and other photos taken by Nadar - <https://expositions.bnf.fr/les-nadar/albums/nadar/index.php?lang=en>
Nadar and Chevreul - <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qbqhp84p/images?id=ksbgu7xa>

In Speed of Light, Cumming takes us on an exhilarating journey through the early years of photography, a revolutionary technology that changed the way we see ourselves forever. From Daguerre's first patent, in 1839, this art hurtles forward at unbelievable speed - from close-up to collage, snapshot to montage, mugshot, news photography and more, all within two or three decades. To tell the story, Cumming delves into the lives of five ground-breaking photographers whose innovations transformed the medium, leaving us with some of the most affecting images ever made.

The series opens with Alexander Gardner, the Scottish photographer who became an eyewitness to the American Civil War. Gardner's haunting images, including his iconic photograph of Abraham Lincoln just days before his assassination - "the moment when the President became a legend" as Cumming puts it - offer a deeply human insight into living history. Another Scot, William Notman, sails from Glasgow to Canada to open the nation's most celebrated studio. Here he invents ingenious ways to depict hundreds of people – together – in the snow and ice, and to bring the outside, as it were, indoors. In London, John Jabez Mayall takes the only known photograph of the painter, JMW Turner, as well as the first and most significant photographs of Charles Dickens and Karl Marx. Mayall also captures the spirit of democracy with his carte de visites – pocket sized photographs – that anyone could buy of the stars of the day, from Wilkie Collins to Queen Victoria. And in Paris the meticulous police officer Alphonse Bertillon invents the front-and-profile mugshot that is still used in the solving of crime today. Last comes Nadar, renowned for capturing the innermost thoughts of his Parisian sitters, who took the first aerial shots, and the first revolving shots, and put interviews with images for the first time, reaching forward to the advent of film and television.

Laura Cumming is Chief Art Critic of The Observer. Thunderclap, her memoir of art, life and sudden death, was shortlisted for The Women's Prize and won The Writer's Prize and The Saltire Book of the Year Award in 2024. The Vanishing Man: In Pursuit of Velazquez won the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Biography in 2017. On Chapel Sands: My Mother and Other Missing Person was a Sunday Times bestseller and Radio 4 Book of the Week.

Produced by Elizabeth Allard

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002gd9h)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002gd9k)

BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

SAT 05:30 News Summary (m002gd9m)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002gd9p)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002gd9r)

The wonder of Wonderland

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.

Good morning.

A young girl tumbles down a hole, and into an extraordinary adventure, where she meets a grinning cat, encounters a rabbit who is late, joins a very unusual tea party, and even plays croquet with the Queen! With each step, she gets curiouser and curiouser. Many may recognise this as the story of Alice in Wonderland, written by Lewis Carroll, and published for the first time 160 years ago today.

When I was growing up, I was captivated by this story. I watched an animated version of it numerous times, and I would imagine myself stepping into a scene, full of colour and surprise. Stories like this, have the ability to bring joy, and evoke images of new worlds, drawing us into a place of wonder. There in the realm of story, we can look on, and think about our own position. I love getting lost in a good story now as much as ever, and look back with fondness, at the way with which I was enthralled by the story of Alice and her adventures.

For me, the greatest storyteller was Jesus. He taught many complex and important lessons through story, as it gave his followers a chance to draw deeper into the meaning of his words, and place themselves within his teaching. Jesus's parables have stood the test of time, and today people will be familiar with phrases like a 'good Samaritan', for example.

So today I pray with gratitude for the gift of story, and for all whose words invite us into new worlds. I give special thanks to Jesus, whose storytelling enables me to understand more about God, my faith and my life.

Amen.

SAT 05:45 Uncharted with Hannah Fry (m0022syl)

13. The Grain of Truth

Amid the desperation of war-starved Netherlands a doctor finds a way of curing a group of gravely ill children. His finding challenges accepted medical wisdom, and provokes opposition from Catholics. But why had the rest of the world missed this miracle treatment?

Producer: Ilan Goodman
Sound Designer: Jon Nicholls
Story Editor: John Yorke

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m002gqj1)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SAT 06:07 This Natural Life (m002gg7h)

Angela Harding

Martha Kearney travels to one of Britain's most isolated islands where the illustrator of books by the likes of Simon Armitage and Isabella Tree seeks her inspiration among the seabird colonies of Fair Isle.

Angela Harding's lino-cut prints are an integral part of the recent boom in nature writing. Dynamic birds or mammals dominate the foreground while abstract interpretations of landscape set them in the context of wild shores and woodlands. Martha catches up with Angela as she searches for fresh inspiration on an artist's retreat on Fair Isle, a tiny island halfway between Orkney and Shetland.

They take a walk along the steep cliffs of the island's southside, meeting puffins, kittiwakes and fulmars and discuss Angela's determination to make her career as an artist.

Producer: Alasdair Cross

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m002gqj3)

02/08/25: Coping With Downpour And Drought, Inheritance Tax

Farmers are having to cope with too much water, or too little, more and more often due to the effects of climate change. This week Charlotte Smith explores how farmers can strike a balance on their land, with competing pressures for water including crops, homes, and wildlife. And, campaigners against Government plans to reintroduce Inheritance Tax on farms worth over £1 million found an unlikely ally in President Trump this week. But with the Government showing no sign of changing course, how feasible is a backbench rebellion on which farm lobby groups are now pinning their hopes?

Presenter: Charlotte Smith
Producer: Sarah Swadling

SAT 06:57 Weather (m002gqj5)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 07:00 Today (m002gqj7)

Today (Saturday)

SAT 09:00 What's Up Docs? (m002gfix)

Should you say 'no' more often?

Why is it so hard to say no? Whether it's at work, with family, or in everyday social situations, many of us find ourselves saying yes when we really want to say no, then paying the price later in stress, burnout, or resentment.

In this programme, the doctors explore the psychology behind our reluctance to turn things down, and how we can become more comfortable protecting our boundaries.

They're joined by behavioural scientist and physician Dr Sunita Sah from Cornell University, whose research reveals how social pressure, guilt, and even professionalism can get in the way of a simple two-letter word. Together, they explore why we struggle to say no, and offer practical strategies to help us do it more often, and with confidence.

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 Sunita Sah
Producer: Emily Bird
Executive Producers: Rami Tzabar and Jo Rowntree
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Assistant Producer: Maia Miller-Lewis
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

SAT 09:30 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics (m002gfwf)

Alexandria: The Library

Natalie is joined by Professors Islam Issa and Edith Hall to tell the story of the great library of Alexandria. It was included in Alexander the Great's original design for his city, located in the Nile Delta. Alexandria was to be a city of knowledge.

The founders of the library were ambitious: they wanted nothing less than to collect all the books in the world. They were willing to pay huge sums, but they were also ruthless and unscrupulous. The Ptolemies would write to fellow rulers and wealthy friends and ask to borrow their priceless texts. Then the library would copy the scrolls, and return the copies. Or alternatively they'd just steal them.

Handily, papyrus, the principal reading material of the era, grew in great abundance around Alexandria. So there was plenty of it for those copies. Less fortunately, it's extremely flammable. So in 48 BCE, when Julius Caesar's besieged army set fire to ships in the harbour in order to block the invading fleet, the fire spread and destroyed a significant part of the library.

'Rockstar mythologist' Natalie Haynes is the best-selling author of 'Divine Might', 'Stone Blind', and 'A Thousand Ships' as well as a reformed comedian who is a little bit obsessive about Ancient Greek and Rome.

Islam Issa is Professor of Literature and History at Birmingham City University. His book 'Alexandria, the City that Changed the World' is the Winner of the Runciman Award and The Times, Sunday Times, TLS, Booklist, Epoch Times and Waterstones Book of the Year.

Edith Hall is Professor of Classics at Durham University, specialising in ancient Greek literature. She has written over thirty books and is a Fellow of the British Academy.

Producer...Mary Ward-Lowery

SAT 10:00 You're Dead to Me (m002ggqj)

Viking Women: wives, weavers and warriors

Greg Jenner is joined in medieval Scandinavia by historian Dr Eleanor Barraclough and comedian Chloe Petts to learn about the fascinating women of the Viking age. The popular stereotype of the Vikings is pretty macho: bearded men on boats, heading out to raid, pillage and burn down monasteries. There are some famous images of Viking warrior women: shieldmaidens, Valkyries and various goddesses. But what about the lives led by ordinary women in medieval Scandinavia and across the Viking world? In this episode we look at the real history behind the myths and stereotypes, exploring daily life for Viking women: their roles as wives and mothers, the work they did as weavers and healers, the gods they prayed to, the archaeological traces they left behind, as well as the sad reality

that many women in the Viking world were enslaved. We also look at women who lived lives out of the ordinary – as queens, sorceresses, and warriors.

If you're a fan of feminist history, the intimate details of daily life in the past, and fantastical myths and legends, you'll love our episode on Viking Women.

If you want to know more about the Vikings, check out our episodes on Leif Erikson and Old Norse Literature. And for more fearsome warrior women, there's our episode on Njinga of Ndongo and Matamba.

You're Dead To Me is the comedy podcast that takes history seriously. Every episode, Greg Jenner brings together the best names in history and comedy to learn and laugh about the past.

Hosted by: Greg Jenner

Research by: Clara Chamberlain

Written by: Clara Chamberlain, Emmie Rose Price-

Goodfellow, Emma Nagouse, and Greg Jenner

Produced by: Emmie Rose Price-Goodfellow and Greg Jenner

Audio Producer: Steve Hankey

Production Coordinator: Gill Huggett

Senior Producer: Emma Nagouse

Executive Editor: Philip Sellars

SAT 10:30 Artworks (m0029zbl)

Art that Conquered the World

The Scream

It's one of the most famous, reproduced and pastiched images of all time. Edvard Munch's The Scream is a celebrity, one of a small number of artworks known the world over. But how and why did The Scream hit the big time?

In this series, art historian Dr James Fox traces the twists of fate and happy accidents that pushed a handful of artworks to the forefront of global pop culture. The story of The Scream is an unlikely one - over the decades it has been an obscure, experimental artwork, a national treasure, a stolen masterpiece, an inflatable, an emoji, the most expensive painting in the world and a gift to cartoonists.

Both a profound expression of human suffering and an icon of kitsch, The Scream has somehow conquered the world.

In conversation with James are the art historian Noah Charney, designer Angela Guzman, mural-painter and businessman Robert Fishbone and The Times political cartoonist Morten Morland.

Producer: Julia Johnson

Executive Producer: Laurence Bassett

A TBI Media production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 11:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002gg82)

Britain's New Right: Could Reform Replace The Tories? (James Orr)

Ever since Labour won a landslide victory at the general election, Nigel Farage's Reform UK party and Kemi Badenoch's Conservatives have been fighting for the soul of the political right in Britain.

Now a new right-wing think tank is putting together a suite of potential policies for a future Reform government.

Dr James Orr, an associate professor of the philosophy of religion at Cambridge University and friend of US Vice President JD Vance, chairs the advisory board of that new think tank - the Centre for a Better Britain (CBB).

Amol asks him whether the CBB is modelled on American organisations like the Heritage Foundation, which wrote a policy wish list called 'Project 2025' that set out a vision for how Donald Trump might govern during his second term in the White House.

They also discuss who is funding the CBB, the politics of national preference, and how James was radicalised by Brexit and the culture wars.

GET IN TOUCH

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* Email: radical@bbc.co.uk

Amol Rajan is a presenter of the Today programme on BBC Radio 4. He is also the host of University Challenge on BBC One. Before that, Amol was media editor at the BBC and editor at The Independent. Radical with Amol Rajan is a Today Podcast.

It was made by Lewis Vickers with Izzy Rowley. Digital

production was by Gabriel Purcell-Davis. Technical production was by Rohan Madison. The editor is Sam Bonham. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths.

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002gq97)

Gaza: a turning point?

Kate Adie presents stories from Gaza and Israel, the US, Lesotho, Taiwan and Peru.

This week the British government pledged to recognise a Palestinian state, unless Israel meets certain conditions, including agreeing to a ceasefire in Gaza and reviving the prospect of a two-state solution. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the decision rewarded 'Hamas's monstrous terrorism.' Jeremy Bowen reflects on this latest chapter in Britain's long-standing influence in the region.

At the UN, Saudi Arabia and France co-hosted a summit to rekindle plans for a two-state solution as a means to find peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Dozens of countries were in attendance - others were notable by their absence. Tom Bateman reports from New York.

Donald Trump once claimed Lesotho was a country 'nobody has heard of' - but it has been feeling the pinch of his trade policy. While the White House rowed back on its threat of imposing 50 per cent tariffs, the uncertainty has already led to many job losses, finds Shingai Nyoka.

Taiwan's president William Lai suffered a major setback last weekend, in a recall vote that had been aimed at removing twenty-four opposition lawmakers - yet failed to unseat any of them. James Crabtree reflects on how Taiwan's characteristically flamboyant campaigning style was markedly absent in this latest vote.

And finally, many of our staple foods are at risk because of increasingly frequent extreme weather - including the humble potato. But some farmers are tracing the crop's ancient roots in search of solutions to help mitigate the risks, as Beth Timmins has been finding out in the Peruvian Andes.

Series Producer: Serena Tarling

Production Coordinators: Sophie Hill & Katie Morrison

Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

SAT 12:00 News Summary (m002gqj9)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 12:04 Sliced Bread (m002d1bv)

Toast - Freeserve

Freeserve rapidly became the UK's number one internet service provider within months of its launch in 1998, yet the brand disappeared almost as quickly. So, what happened?

The BBC Business journalist, Sean Farrington, investigates.

Alongside him is the entrepreneur, Sam White, who at the end of the show has to reach her own conclusions, based only on what she has heard and her own business acumen.

Sean and Sam hear from expert guests including:

- Rory Cellan-Jones OBE - the BBC's former technology correspondent who covered Freeserve's rise and later dedicated a chapter to it in his book 'Dot Bomb - the Rise and Fall of Dot Com Britain'.

- Ajaz Ahmed - a 'Freeserve founder' who badgered bosses to start an ISP while working as a store manager at PC World in Leeds. He later became Freeserve's Business Development Manager.

- Mark Danby - a former Chief Operating Officer at Freeserve.

Produced by Jon Douglas, Toast is a BBC Audio North production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds.

You can email the programme at toast@bbc.co.uk

Feel free to suggest topics which could be covered in future episodes.

SAT 12:30 Too Long; Didn't Read (m002gd8w)

Series 2

It's a taxing subject

Wealth tax - no brainer or non starter? Catherine Bohart unpicks the arguments raging about the mooted solution to Britain's infamous financial black hole with plenty of silliness thrown in. With Baroness Ayesha Hazarika MBE, Sunil Patel and tax expert Dr Emma Chamberlain OBE.

Written by Catherine Bohart, with Madeleine Brettingham, Tom Neenan and Pravanya Pillay.

Producer: Alison Vernon Smith

Executive Producers: Lyndsay Fenner & Victoria Lloyd

Sound Design: David Thomas

Production Co-ordinator: Katie Sayer

A Mighty Bunny production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 12:57 Weather (m002ggjc)

The latest weather forecast

SAT 13:00 News (m002gqjf)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m002gd92)

Stephen Atkinson, Sarah Champion MP, Lord Parkinson, Prof Mona Siddiqui

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from Ilkley Playhouse in West Yorkshire, with the Reform UK councillor and leader of Lancashire County Council, Stephen Atkinson; Labour MP for Rotherham and chair of the international development committee, Sarah Champion; the shadow culture minister and Conservative peer, Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay; and the academic and broadcaster Professor Mona Siddiqui.

Producer: Paul Martin

Lead broadcast engineer: Jonathan Esp

SAT 14:05 Any Answers? (m002gqjh)

Listeners respond to the issues raised in the preceding edition of Any Questions?

SAT 14:45 The Archers (m002gd8y)

During a break in the Board meeting Brian and Annabelle rail against Justin's duplicity and Martyn's apparent capitulation, intimating they might even contemplate resignation. But when Justin later suggests his opponents should resign, Brian hits the roof. Martyn offers the compromise of a feasibility report, then closes the meeting. Later at The Bull, Martyn claims this as a result, brushing off Brian and Annabelle's accusations that he has reneged on his previous position. Justin joins them, playing the innocent to their accusations of treachery, before arguing the case for his suggested food storage facility and vertical farming. When Brian lashes out Martyn suggests Brian's in danger of losing the BL contract altogether. But Brian doesn't give a damn - they can get someone else to do their wheat harvest!

Neil and Susan pick their way through the stock piled high at Ambridge View, worried about the effect the chaos is having on Martha. Susan admits to feeling sorry for herself too, so when Chris takes them out for dinner at The Bull later, Neil explains that it's not just the shop getting Susan down, but also the business of Amber and Nana Ivy's ring. Chris sympathises, but when he supposes it might be better for Martha to stay with Alice, Neil is quick to say that having Martha at Ambridge View is what's keeping Susan going. But it's Susan who then suggests Chris and Martha could find somewhere else to stay, if they want. Chris readily agrees and heads to the bar while Susan reasons to Neil that there'll be more space to put the stock if Chris vacates his room.

SAT 15:00 Drama on 4 (m000ypxw)

South on the Great North Road

"Many have gone before us now Many have tried and failed somehow Many souls on the Queen's highway Where many a tail light glowed With the promise of a better life Heading South on the Great North Road South on the Great North Road."

The drama is inspired by the song Going South On The Great North Road from Sting's 2016 album 57th and 9th. Sting says both the road and the journey to London have resonances for him: 'It's about my journey from Newcastle in to make my fortune. In my young life I covered enough road miles to recall that relentless gravitational pull, the promise of a different kind of life down that road'.

Down the centuries, countless young people from the North and other points of the compass have made similar journeys. The central character in this play is one of them, and the drama reveals how that journey threatens to tear Peggy Charlton apart. In her 30s, Peggy (a long-standing name for the Charlton family girls) has the Great North Road in her blood and bones.

Sting's haunting song, which he has performed acapella for the production, is the counterpoint to this drama written by Michael Chaplin.

<p>Cast: PEGGY Jessica Johnson STEVE Stephen Tompkinson KELLY Laura Jane Matthewson JOE Tom Glenister JEAN Judi Earl The Singer Sting</p> <p>Directed by Eoin O'Callaghan Produced by Marilyn Imrie A Big Fish Radio production for BBC Radio 4</p>	<p>SAT 17:57 Weather (m002gqjr) The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p>SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002gqjt) A man is accused of lacing sweets with sedatives</p> <p>A man has appeared in court accused of lacing sweets with sedatives and causing children to fall ill at a summer camp.</p> <p>Hamas has rejected US claims that it's ready to lay down its weapons as part of a peace deal with Israel.</p> <p>India set England a huge victory target in the final test at the Oval.</p>	<p>Initial US announcements of the attack claimed the bomb had been used on a military target, and there was no mention of the scale of the civilian casualties, or the deadly and lasting impacts of radiation.</p> <p>But a month later – before Japan had even officially surrendered - Australian journalist Wilfred Burchett made a daring and unauthorised trip to Hiroshima, and in what has been described as the 'scoop of the century' became the first Western journalist to publish an uncensored eye-witness account from Ground Zero. He was the first to highlight the unimaginable suffering of the city's population, and revealed the existence of a mysterious 'Atomic Plague' that even a month later was still killing hundreds of survivors daily.</p>
<p>SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (m002gqjk) Weekend Woman's Hour: Lionesses' win & Diane Bronze, Child sex abuse gangs, Michelle Collins, Sara Pascoe, Nicola Benedetti</p>	<p>SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m002gqjw) Bertie Carvel: Jo Wood; Lost Chimes; Tori Allen-Martin; Rajiv Karia; RIYA</p>	<p>The resulting front-page splash on the UK's Daily Express reverberated around the world and presented a serious challenge to the US narrative that there was no lingering harmful radiation. The US authorities responded with a PR campaign to suppress the truth. Front-page articles denied any deadly fallout, and dismissed reports such as Burchett's as 'Japanese propaganda'.</p>
<p>The Lionesses have made history by becoming the first England football squad to win a major trophy on foreign soil, they successfully defended their European title in Basel last night. The match went to extra time and penalties - Clare McDonnell got reaction and reflection from guests including 5Live commentator Vicki Sparks, BBC Sport correspondent Katie Gornall, chief executive of the Women's Professional League Nikki Doucet and star player Lucy Bronze's mum Diane.</p>	<p>Listen up as Nihal unfolds the Beyoncé/Destiny's Child theme he's spotted in this week's Loose Ends. He's humming "Irreplaceable" for the heroine of author Jo Wood's debut novel - The Resurrection of Flo - who's left her cheating husband Max ("To the left, to the left"). It's "I'm a Survivor" for the actor Bertie Carvel who is playing King Leontes in Shakespeare's intense psychological drama The Winter's Tale at the RSC. Newlywed comedian Rajiv Karia gets a blast of Crazy In Love on his way to performing at the Edinburgh Festival. And the actor and writer Tori Allen-Martin, who plays Cherry in the BBC sitcom Here We Go, won celebrity mastermind with the specialist subject of.....Beyoncé and Destiny's Child! All this with music from the classically trained, Bollywood influenced pop artist RIYA and from Indie folk duo Lost Chimes.</p>	<p>But the truth was too powerful to contain, and eventually the world came to know the realities of nuclear fallout and radiation sickness.</p>
<p>The BBC has found that five women who were exploited by so-called grooming gangs in Rotherham as children say they were also abused by police officers in the town at the time. One woman says she was raped repeatedly in a marked police car, and threatened with being handed back to the gang if she didn't comply. The BBC's Ed Thomas brings us the story and Clare hears from Professor Alexis Jay who is the author of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse and Zoë Billingham, former His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary.</p>	<p>Presented by Nihal Arthanayake Produced in Salford by Olive Clancy</p> <p>SAT 19:00 The Bottom Line (m002gq8j) The Decisions That Made Me</p> <p>Sonnaz Nooranvary (House of Sonnaz, upholsterer)</p>	<p>Filmmaker and journalist Steve O'Hagan tells the story of one an epic feat of investigative reporting, of the resulting struggle to control the narrative surrounding nuclear weapons, and of one of the most fascinating – and controversial – journalists of the 20th century.</p> <p>Producer: Steve O'Hagan Executive Producer: Robert Nicholson A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4</p>
<p>Actor Michelle Collins, best known as Cindy Beale in the BBC's EastEnders, makes her Edinburgh Festival Fringe debut in Motorhome Marilyn, a dark comedy inspired by Michelle's real-life encounter with a woman Cindy saw in LA. The play reveals the toll of living in the shadow of an icon, exploring failure, ageing and the heartbreaking cost of unattained dreams. Michelle joined Datshiane from Edinburgh to talk about her debut.</p>	<p>Sonnaz Nooranvary thought she'd have to be a doctor or a lawyer to please her parents but struggled academically thanks to a combination of dyslexia and ADHD. Everything changed when she spotted an advert for an upholstery apprenticeship. She dropped out of college to build yachts from scratch. The upholsterer talks to Evan Davis about how she went against her family's expectations to follow her instincts.</p>	<p>SAT 21:00 Artworks (m002900z) Orchestras of Auschwitz</p> <p>Prisoner orchestras were an ever-present accompaniment to the horrors of Auschwitz - from enslavement marching tunes to cryptic compositions. Jewish musicians sent to the camps by the Nazis had to perform to try and stay alive. Young conductor and composer Leo Geyer has - for more than 7 years - collaborated with the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum to study the orchestras and decode their arrangements.</p>
<p>Hattie Williams lost her mother when she was 18 years old leaving her feeling anchorless and needing to embark on a self-exploratory journey to recover some stability. When she experienced motherhood, she felt that she had achieved that. She told Anita Rani how these experiences inspired her first novel, Bitter Sweet, which she wrote on her maternity leave.</p>	<p>Production team: Producer: Bob Howard, Georgiana Tudor Editor: Matt Willis Sound: John Scott Production co-ordinator: Katie Morrison Photo credit: Luke David</p>	<p>He also discovered ripped and burned remnants of scores - 210 pieces of music, all incomplete - which he has painstakingly worked on to understand and restore. In 2025, Leo and his company Constella will perform an 80-minute Opera-Ballet of those salvaged compositional fragments, in tribute to the murdered musicians of Auschwitz.</p>
<p>Sara Pascoe is a comedian, and her children don't sleep, her kitchen won't clean itself and her husband "doesn't want to be in it". Sara's new show - I am a Strange Gloop – is on a UK tour. She stumbles stunned to the stage from the soft play area, with battle-hardened tales to tell on the front line of motherhood.</p>	<p>SAT 19:15 The Infinite Monkey Cage (m002fxn7) Series 33</p> <p>The Mighty Spud - Sandy Knapp, Glenn Bryan and Susan Calman</p>	<p>By telling the story of Leo Geyer's engagement with the history and the manuscripts, this programme asks what more we can learn and understand about the experience and legacy of the Holocaust by listening to the music.</p>
<p>Nicola Benedetti is a Grammy award winning violinist and ambassador for classical music. She is also director of the Edinburgh International Festival, which begins on Friday. In October she's due to embark on her first solo tour in more than ten years. She joined Clare to discuss the repertoire, and how she will combine solo performances with storytelling, and share a selection of shorter works.</p>	<p>Robin Ince and Brian Cox get out the ketchup and peel back the layers of one of the most versatile and beloved foods - potatoes. From the science of starch to the surprising role potatoes have played in history, we're digging deep to uncover the truth behind the mighty spud. Chipping into the conversation are botanist Sandy Knapp, geneticist Glenn Bryan and potato passionate comedian Susan Calman. Susan is astonished to learn that the potatoes lining our supermarket shelves all belong to a single species and once she discovered the rich diversity of wild potato species in South America, she's already planning her next holiday to visit them! Plus we end the episode on a tuber-powered musical note as Helen Anahita-Wilson plays the monkey cage theme song on none other than a potato keyboard!</p>	<p>Presenter: Leo Geyer Producer: Eva Krysiak Executive Producer: Jack Howson</p> <p>A Peanut & Crumb production for BBC Radio 4</p>
<p>Presenter: Anita Rani Producer: Annette Wells Editor: Corinna Jones</p>	<p>SAT 17:00 PM (m002gqjm) Full coverage of the day's news</p>	<p>SAT 21:30 Artworks (m00298p4) Talk Talk: Living in Another World</p>
<p>SAT 17:30 Sliced Bread (m002gg75) Standing Desks</p>	<p>Chipping into the conversation are botanist Sandy Knapp, geneticist Glenn Bryan and potato passionate comedian Susan Calman.</p>	<p>Elbow frontman Guy Garvey explores the mystery surrounding Talk Talk, their reclusive leader Mark Hollis, and the album that saw him eschew fame and fortune in favour of something radically new.</p>
<p>SAT 17:30 Sliced Bread (m002gg75) Standing Desks</p>	<p>Susan is astonished to learn that the potatoes lining our supermarket shelves all belong to a single species and once she discovered the rich diversity of wild potato species in South America, she's already planning her next holiday to visit them! Plus we end the episode on a tuber-powered musical note as Helen Anahita-Wilson plays the monkey cage theme song on none other than a potato keyboard!</p>	<p>Recorded over a brutal nine months, Spirit of Eden was a critical and commercial flop at the time – but is now lauded as a masterpiece. Garvey speaks to the musicians who witnessed its troubled birth, the friends who understood Mark best, and the new generation of artists who have taken inspiration from his dogged pursuit of true creative freedom.</p>
<p>Greg Foot gathers the experts, to find out which claims "stand up" to scrutiny for listener Bede.</p>	<p>Producer: Melanie Brown Assistant Producer: Olivia Jani Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem</p>	<p>Featuring contributions from legendary producer Nigel Godrich and Phill Brown, as well as Radiohead's Ed O'Brien.</p>
<p>Each episode Greg investigates the latest ad-hyped products and trending fads promising to make us healthier, happier and greener. Are they really 'the best thing since sliced bread' and should you spend your money on them?</p>	<p>BBC Studios Audio Production</p>	<p>A Cup and Nuzzle production for BBC Radio 4</p>
<p>All of our episodes start with YOUR suggestions. If you've seen an ad, trend or wonder product promising to make you happier, healthier or greener, email us at sliced.bread@bbc.co.uk OR send a voice note to our WhatsApp number, 07543 306807.</p>	<p>SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m002gqjy) Exposing Hiroshima</p>	<p>SAT 22:00 News (m002gqk0) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p>
<p>RESEARCHER: PHIL SANSOM PRODUCERS: KATE HOLDSWORTH AND GREG FOOT</p>	<p>Eighty years ago the Japanese city of Hiroshima was devastated by the first ever use of an atomic bomb. Dropping such a terrifyingly powerful and experimental weapon on a largely civilian target presented the US authorities with a dilemma – what story to tell the world?</p>	<p>SAT 22:15 The Food Programme (m002gd7x) Food and the Elements</p>
<p>SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002gqjp) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p>		<p>Dan Saladino explores stories of food and 'the elements', the theme of this year's Oxford Food Symposium.</p>

Radio 4 Listings for 2 – 8 August 2025		Page 4 of 22
<p>Expect surprising insights on earth, fire, air, water and much more.</p> <p>For more than forty years the Symposium has celebrated, explored and shared research by scholars, enthusiastic amateurs, writers, and chefs from around the world, all united in the belief that food deserves to be treated as a serious, as well as a joyful, subject.</p> <p>Hundreds of 'symposiasts' gather at St Catherine's College each year, to submit papers, deliver presentations, discuss ideas and to dine - all based around a theme.</p> <p>Dan talks to some of the presenters about their interpretation of 'food and the elements'. Some took inspiration from the classical world (earth, air, fire and water), others explored food and the periodic table or climate and weather.</p> <p>In this 'mix-tape edition', stories range from the use of fire and ashes in food cultures around the world to the Trump administration's plan to remove 'chemical elements' from the diets of Americans.</p> <p>For more information about the symposium and this year's papers, go to: https://www.oxfordsymposium.org.uk/</p> <p>Produced and presented by Dan Saladino.</p> <p>SAT 23:00 Crybabies Present... (m002gm50) Series 1</p> <p>Yours Fatally</p> <p>Jeremy Moleskine is the biggest writer in bawdy greetings cards. So when his car veers off the road, his number one fan is on hand to nurse him back to health. But when R&R turns into B&B (belittling and bludgeoning), Jeremy's agent must track him down with the help of incarcerated lunatic, Clinton Scards.</p> <p>Brace yourself for a psychological thriller as Crybabies bring the big screen to your normal sized radio.</p> <p>Written and performed by Michael Clarke, James Gault & Ed Jones.</p> <p>Featuring Chiara Goldsmith</p> <p>Production Co-ordinator - Laura Shaw</p> <p>Sound Design by David Thomas and Victoria Freund</p> <p>Producer - Benjamin Sutton</p> <p>Executive Producer - Joe Nunnery</p> <p>A Boffola Pictures production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SAT 23:30 Round Britain Quiz (m002gd08) Programme 12 - Scotland vs Wales</p> <p>(12/12)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Scotland take on Wales in the final contest, with Kirsty revealing the overall scores and announcing the series winner.</p> <p>You can follow the questions in each edition on the Round Britain Quiz webpages. Each week's questions will be posted on the day before the Sunday transmission.</p> <p>Teams: Val McDermid and Alan McCredie - Scotland Myfanwy Alexander and Ciarad Lloyd - Wales</p> <p>Questions in today's edition:</p> <p>Q1 Can you find a hidden Cole in a radio pirate A beeping Baker in a faraway land And a Celtic King in An (historic) field And what familiar call unites them all?</p> <p>Q2 In the end, what lingers in a stringed companion to the raga A rugged strait A Mesopotamian goddess of war and love An Eastern blade And a franchise of 'blue' films- All leading to a sticky, fictional cinematic conductor?</p> <p>Q3 Music: Identify what might link them in an Italian restaurant (and it doesn't grow on trees)</p>	<p>Q4 Why might you expect these people to give you a break? A writer who unveiled Secret Gardens A voodoo priest who met his end in a coffin full of snakes An opera singer who duetted with John Denver.</p> <p>Q5 In which arena would the following all meet? And why might it be in the wrong place? The Crown's Princess Margaret Michael and his band of brothers A cinematic Joker One Prime Minister who fathered another And The Iron Chancellor</p> <p>Q6 Music: What do all these songs lead your eyes to?</p> <p>Q7 What links all of these to where we are right now? And which is the odd one out? Sheila Hancock in a short-lived ITV comedy Eric Lidell's nickname John Coltrane's 1958 album An Agatha Christie murder mystery And a A Wes Anderson film</p> <p>Q8 You'll be answering clues in 6 categories, each represented by a different colour. You may recognise the different categories from a popular trivia game... which should help you. After answering all the clues you have to identify the common thread that links them all.</p> <p>So, who are we Pursuing? In blue you'll find... The linoleum capital where the story began. In pink you'll find... not quite a singing detective but close enough. In yellow you'll find... 18th-century tattoos in a peat bog In purple you'll find... the answer to this very question and a familiar face In green you'll find... the science behind the stories In orange you will find... not quite singing detectives, but again, close enough</p> <p>BONUS END OF SERIES TEASER Final challenge. Find five hidden curiosities across the series.</p> <p>If you've listened to all 12 programmes in this series, you'll know we've heard many voices and sounds... some expected, some a little different. Among them, five names didn't quite fit the tune.</p> <p>Your challenge is to find these five voices and figure out where they've been hiding.</p> <p>Here's a clue to get you started: One flows, one mends, one weaves, one unlocks, and one stands tall.</p> <p>Host: Kirsty Lang Recorded by: Phil Booth Sound Design: Chris Maclean Production Coordinator: Caroline Barlow Producer: Carl Cooper</p> <p>Questions set by: Lucy Porter, Alan Poulton, and public contributors.</p> <p>SUNDAY 03 AUGUST 2025</p> <p>SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m002gqk2) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 00:15 Take Four Books (m002gd06) Denise Mina</p> <p>Multi-award-winning writer Denise Mina discusses her twentieth novel, The Good Liar, which follows blood-spatter forensics expert Claudia O'Sheil as she faces a profound moral dilemma.</p> <p>Denise also shares the three key influences that inspired the novel's creation: Dorothy Thompson's Who Goes Nazi?, Stanley Milgram's Obedience to Authority, and George Orwell's 1984.</p> <p>The supporting contributor is award-winning author, James Bond novelist, and lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Edinburgh, Kim Sherwood.</p> <p>Producer: Rachael O'Neill Editor: Gillian Wheelan This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.</p> <p>SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002gqk4)</p>	<p>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002gqk6) BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p>SUN 05:30 News Summary (m002gqk8) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002gqk8) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m002gq9f) The parish church of St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol</p> <p>Bells on Sunday comes from the parish church of St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol. The church is considered to be one of the country's finest and largest parish churches as well as an outstanding example of English Gothic architecture. The imposing 274 foot tall tower and spire houses a peal of twelve bells with a tenor bell weighing fifty and one half hundredweight and tuned to the note of B.St Mary's recently hosted the National twelve-bell ringing competition and we now hear the winning team, from Bristol, ringing Stedman Cinques.</p> <p>SUN 05:45 In Touch (m002gfmt) It Could Be You: All Things Dotty</p> <p>How do you deal with a life changing disability? Penny Melville-Brown was a naval officer when she started to lose her sight. Now, decades later, she has used her experience as well as that of other disabled people to write her new book "It Could Be You". Penny joins us to explain, (among other things) what prompted her to write it, who might benefit from reading it and what its key messages are.</p> <p>Also joining us is Brandon Hulcoop, a blind entrepreneur from Devon. Brandon tells us how his business "All Things Dotty" is helping visually impaired people to "see the world with their fingers" and how his work has been royally recognised!</p> <p>Presenter: Peter White Producer: Fern Lulham Production Coordinator: Liz Poole</p> <p>Website image description: Peter White sits smiling in the centre of the image, wearing a dark green jumper. Above Peter's head is the BBC logo (three individual white squares house each of the three letters). Bottom centre and overlaying the image are the words "In Touch"; and the Radio 4 logo (the word Radio in a bold white font, with the number 4 inside a white circle). The background is a bright mid-blue with two rectangles angled diagonally to the right. Both are behind Peter, one of a darker blue and the other is a lighter blue.'</p> <p>SUN 06:00 News Summary (m002gq7p) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 06:05 Heart and Soul (w3ct6vzn) Praise You: A forgotten love letter to black men</p> <p>DJ Fatboy Slim's Praise You is a song you might have heard in a Hollywood movie or danced to in a club - to this day, it is still his biggest hit. But there is something you won't know - the singer behind it or the true meaning of the lyrics.</p> <p>Civil rights activist Camille Yarbrough first released Take Yo' Praise 50 years ago. It was written as a love letter to African-American men, inspired by a moment of spiritual awakening and family secret. After its release, radio stations refused to play it and she felt she was labelled a "troublemaker".</p> <p>When Fatboy Slim picked up an old copy of Camille's song, he turned it into a hit. But there is an irony - it is now played by radio stations around the world, but the true meaning of the music has been lost.</p> <p>Reporter Emily Webb goes to meet Camille in her New York apartment.</p> <p>This programme includes discussion of sexual violence against a child.</p> <p>Producer/presenter: Emily Webb Executive producer: Rajeev Gupta Editor: Chloe Walker Production co-ordinator: Mica Nepomuceno</p> <p>(Photo: Carmille Yarbrough. Credit: Emily Webb)</p>
Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/		

SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m002gq7r)

Restoring Rainforest

When Merlin Hanbury-Tenison took over the reins of his family's farm, on the edge of Bodmin Moor, it was making a loss. An ancient woodland, a rare Temperate Rainforest, inspired a new vision for the farm. The rainforest also became a place of healing for Merlin and his family, as they began restoring the farm's habitats. Merlin had been an Army officer, and suffered PTSD following a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. His wife, Lizzie, found solace in the woods following a difficult journey into parenthood and Post Natal Anxiety. Meanwhile, Merlin's father, the explorer Robin Hanbury-Tenison, used walks among the trees to rebuild his strength after Covid bought him close to death in 2020. He tells Antonia there's a certain irony that he led expeditions to tropical rainforests in Borneo, which helped kickstart the movement to save them, whilst all along he had a rainforest on his doorstep without realising.

SUN 06:57 Weather (m002gq7t)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m002gq7w)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 07:10 Sunday (m002gq7y)

Israel-Gaza, Shaolin Scandals, Axe Murder Priest

The Board of Deputies of British Jews hosted an emergency meeting this week in response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. A statement followed, which called for, "a rapid, uninhibited, and sustained increase in aid through all available channels". It goes on to say, "Food must not be used as a weapon of war, by any side in this conflict." We get the latest on the conflict from a correspondent and speak to Phil Rosenberg – President of The Board of Deputies of British Jews.

This week, it's been announced that Shi Yongxin, the abbot of the world-renowned Shaolin Temple, is being investigated by multiple agencies for embezzlement, "improper relationships with multiple women" and "fathering illegitimate children". Emily Buchanan speaks to BBC China correspondent Stephen McDonnell about the religious significance of the Shaolin temple in China & the reaction on the ground to news of the latest scandal.

The archbishop of Warsaw, Poland, has asked the Vatican to defrock a priest charged with the killing of a 68-year-old homeless man who was beaten with an axe and set on fire. The priest, identified only as Mirosław M in line with Polish privacy rules, is believed to have had an argument with the victim over housing. The priest admitted the crime after being arrested. Emily Buchanan speaks to Jonathan Luxmoore – a journalist and author who specialises in Catholic Church affairs in Europe and who was based in Poland for more than a decade.

Presenter: Emily Buchanan

Producers: Bara'atu Ibrahim & Katy Davis

Production Coordinator: Liz Poole

Studio Managers: Kelly Young & Grant Cassidy

Editor: Tim Pemberton

SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Appeal (m002gq80)

Hospice UK

Comedian Jo Brand makes the Radio 4 Appeal on behalf of Hospice UK. The charity works with around two hundred hospices around the UK to improve facilities and train staff.

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 'Hospice UK'.

- Cheques should be made payable to 'Hospice UK'.

- You can donate online at bbc.co.uk/appeal/radio4

Registered Charity Number: 1014851. If you'd like to find out more about the charity's work visit [*https://www.hospiceuk.org](https://www.hospiceuk.org)

*The BBC is not responsible for content on external websites

Producer: Katy Takatsuki

SUN 07:57 Weather (m002gq82)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m002gq84)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m002gq86)

From Nicaea to Now: The Living Legacy of the Creed

A service commemorating the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, led by Rev Dr Mark Smith, Dean of Clare College, Cambridge, bringing together a rich diversity of church traditions to reflect on some enduring questions: how does the Nicene Creed unite us as a communities of faith, and how does it shape our shared beliefs? The service includes reflections from Bishop Mike Royal, General Secretary of Churches Together in England, and Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London

Through scripture, prayer, music, and reflection, the service celebrates the lasting legacy of the Creed and its power to connect Christians across centuries and denominations.

Producer: Andrew Earis

SUN 08:48 Witness History (w3ct74mf)

The Reichstag fire

On 27 February 1933, the Reichstag building in Berlin, which was home to the German Parliament, was burned down.

This was a key event in the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship.

Berlin-born journalist, Sefton Delmer, told his story to the BBC World Service in 1967.

He grew up in the city so knew people involved with the Nazi party. This meant he was able to get close to the main people on the night.

Delmer walked around the burning building with Hitler and Goring. He recalls their conversations and describes the scene in this fascinating account.

Produced and presented by Gill Kearsley.

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 Gaudi and the design of the Sagrada Familia; 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: The Reichstag fire in 1933. Credit: Universal History Archive/Universal Images Group via Getty Images)

SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (m002gq88)

Paul Farley on the Reed Bunting

In poet Paul Farley's house the reed bunting is known as The Vicar. For Paul, the way it finds a high place on the tip of a reed from which to call gives off a pulpit vibe, and the contrast between the jet-black head and the brilliant white collar beneath makes it like a bird of the cloth. Whenever he sees a reed bunting in the reedbeds at the Leighton Moss nature reserve in Lancashire, a poem always writes itself.

Presented by Paul Farley and produced by Sophie Anton for BBC Audio Production in Bristol

Featuring a recording from Xeno-Canto by Simon Elliott: Common Reed Bunting - XC787452.

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m002gq8b)

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

SUN 10:00 Desert Island Discs (m002gq8d)

Harry Hill, comedian

Harry Hill is a comedian, writer and broadcaster best known for presenting popular television shows including You've Been Framed, Junior Bake Off and the multi award-winning TV Burp.

He was born Matthew Hall in Surrey and brought up in Kent. He became a Cub Scout and got a taste for performing when he was nine after playing Widow Twankey in the Christmas pantomime.

In 1983 he started studying medicine at St George's Medical School in London and began work as a trainee doctor in 1988. He wrote and performed in medical revues during this time and comedy became his true passion. In 1990 he made the decision to follow his heart and leave medicine to try his luck as a stand-up.

In 1993 Harry got his first show on BBC Radio 4 – Harry Hill's Fruit Corner. Four years later he starred in his own television series on Channel 4 which allowed him to channel his off-the-wall humour in a series of wildly unpredictable comedy sketches.

In 2001 he started writing and presenting Harry Hill's TV Burp on ITV which looked back at the week's television output in a series of comedy sketches and inventive parodies. The show won three BAFTAs, three Royal Television Society awards, a Rose d'Or and Seven British Comedy Awards.

Harry lives in London with his wife Magda. They have three children.

DISC ONE: Ernie (The Fastest Milkman in the West) - Benny Hill

DISC TWO: Have I The Right - The Honeycombs

DISC THREE: Grandad's Flannelette Nightshirt - George Formby

DISC FOUR: Gay Bar - Electric Six

DISC FIVE: Life During Wartime - Talking Heads

DISC SIX: Hey Bulldog - The Beatles

DISC SEVEN: Never Give Up on Love - Steve Brown

DISC EIGHT: Life Is The Name Of The Game - Bruce Forsyth

BOOK CHOICE: Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes

LUXURY ITEM: A bucket and spade

CASTAWAY'S FAVOURITE: Never Give Up on Love - Steve Brown

Presenter Lauren Laverne

Producer Paula McGinley

SUN 11:00 The Archers Omnibus (m002gq8g)

Writer: Sarah McDonald Hughes

Director: Helen Aitken & Kim Greengrass

Editor: Jeremy Howe

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood

David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck

Jolene Archer.... Buffy Davis

Alice Carter.... Hollie Chapman

Chris Carter.... Wilf Scolding

Susan Carter.... Charlotte Martin

Neil Carter.... Brian Hewlett

Justin Elliott.... Simon Williams

Martyn Gibson.... Jon Glover

Ed Grundy.... Barry Farrimond

Emma Grundy.... Emerald O'Hanrahan

George Grundy.... Angus Stobie

Mia Grundy.... Molly Pipe

Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley

Joy Horville.... Jackie Lye

Adam Macy.... Andrew Wincott

Kate Madikane.... Perdita Avery

Akram Malik.... Asif Khan

Kirsty Miller.... Annabelle Dowler

Stella Pryor.... Lucy Speed

Annabelle Scrivener... Lucy Hills

Terry.... Lloyd Thomas

SUN 12:15 The Bottom Line (m002gq8j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 12:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m002gfzs)

Series 83

4. Cricketers' Songbook

The godfather of all panel shows returns to the Butterworth Hall in Warwick. On the panel are Harry Enfield, Lucy Porter, Miles Jupp and Marcus Brigstocke, with Jack Dee in the umpire's chair. Regular listeners will know to expect inspired nonsense, pointless revelry and Colin Sell at the piano.

Producer: Jon Naismith

A Random production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 12:57 Weather (m002gq8l)

The latest weather forecast

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m002gq8n)

What next for the conflict in Ukraine?

As Donald Trump increases the pressure on Russia, we'll speak to ordinary Ukrainians on the front lines of this war and hear from former CIA Director David Petraeus on how the US could move the conflict closer to a conclusion.

SUN 13:30 Currently (m002gd02)

Turn Right for Wales

In early June this year Nigel Farage held a press conference in the South Wales steel town of Port Talbot. He announced Reform UK's commitment to the re-industrialisation of Wales, including the re-opening of Port Talbot's blast furnaces and a return to coal mining in the South Wales Valleys.

His controversial announcement was the opening shot in Reform UK's campaign for the Welsh Senedd elections in May next year. Those elections could be a watershed moment for British politics. In a startling and far-reaching "perfect storm" of circumstances, Reform UK may become the largest party in Wales and could even, conceivably, end up forming the government.

Whatever the outcome, a substantial Reform presence in the Senedd would be a major step forward for a party which didn't even exist just a few years ago. It could also be a significant indication of what could happen across the UK as we look ahead to the next general election in 2029.

Political journalist Will Hayward has been watching and reporting on Reform's rise in Wales. Now he explores how Wales could become the setting for their biggest breakthrough yet.

Current polls show Reform neck-and-neck with the Welsh nationalist party Plaid Cymru and the Labour party currently in a distant third place. This is potentially a seismic shift in Welsh politics. Labour have dominated Wales not just in the last 26 years since devolution began, but for over a century. From the general election of 1922 onwards, Wales has always returned a majority of Labour MPs, making it the most successful democratic party in history. Yet this run of success could be about to come to a crashing halt.

To understand how next year's elections might play out, Will speaks to politicians from across the spectrum in Wales, including current and former Welsh party leaders, and to Reform's man in Wales, Llyr Powell. Will explores Reform's ambitions and policies for Wales; he considers whether this is really a right-turn politically for a nation that's famously left-leaning; and he asks what a Reform victory in the Senedd elections could mean for the rest of the UK.

Presenter: Will Hayward
Producer: Jeremy Grange
Executive Producer: Michael Surcombe
An Overcoat Media production for BBC Radio 4

Photo credit: Rob Norman

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002gd8k)

Postbag Edition: Finsbury Circus Gardens

Are there any indoor plants that give out more moisture than others? How long does an average "short-lived" perennial live? What plants are resistant to shot hole disease?

This week, Peter Gibbs and a panel of gardening experts visit the beautifully restored Finsbury Circus Gardens – a green oasis in the heart of London, with roots stretching back to Roman times and now reopened to the public.

Joining Peter are garden designer Bunny Guinness, botanist Dr Chris Thorogood, and grow-your-own guru Bob Flowerdew. They're also joined by members of the City Gardens Management Team – Jake Tibbetts, Jessica Beatty, and Ed Freeman – to explore the newly renovated grounds and celebrate the space's rich horticultural history.

The panel tackles a thorny crop of questions from the GQT postbag, offering expert tips on topics including how to prevent shot hole disease, successful techniques for growing Pak Choi, and the fascinating science behind a fern's life cycle.

Senior Producer: Matthew Smith
Junior 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 plants are resistant to shot hole disease? (04'09")

Jake Tibbetts –
Pinus parviflora 'Zelkova'
Zelkova serrata, japanese zelkova
Toona sinensis, chinese cedar

Chris Thorogood –
Styphnolobium
Aesculus parviflora, bottlebrush buckeye
Stewartia

Q – Can you recommend plants to go under and around the tree which has very dry soil? (07'25")

Ed Freeman –
Pachysandra
Polystichum, shield fern
Polypodium, polypody
Asperula, woodruff
Brunnera macrophylla, Siberian bugloss
Asplenium scolopendrium, hart's tongue fern

Bunny Guinness –
Daphne laureola, spurge laurel
Crinum x powellii, swamp lily

Q – Could the panel recommend fruit trees that are resilient and adaptable to the changing climate? (12'54")

Bob Flowerdew –
Prunus armeniaca, apricot

Bunny Guinness –
Amelanchier alnifolia, alder-leaved serviceberry
Apples

Jake Tibbetts –
Mulberries
Pears
Pyrus communis (F), common pear

Q – How do you encourage ferns to germinate? (17'55")

Q – How long does an average "short-lived" perennial live? (20'52")

Dr Chris Thorogood –
Arum italicum marmoratum, Italian arum 'Marmoratum'

Bunny Guinness –
Matthiola incana, brompton stock

Q – Could you advise on how to fill a big dip in our lawn and some ideas on something more interesting? (23'13")

Q – Why have the 50 bulbs I've planted failed to sprout any buds? (27'53")

Dr Chris Thorogood –
Angelica gigas, purple angelica

Jessica Beatty –
Hyacinthoides non-scripta, bluebell
Narcissus, daffodils
Galanthus nivalis, snowdrops
Crocus

Bunny Guinness –
Allium 'Globemaster', allium 'Globemaster'

Q – How do I stop Pak Choi going to seed before they have hearted up? (33'06")

Q – Are there any indoor plants that give out more moisture than others? (34'58")

Bunny Guinness –
Ficus pumila, creeping fig
Rosa Basanti ('Ruicl0062a'PBR)

Bob Flowerdew –
Plumbago, leadwort

Dr Chris Thorogood –
Bromeliads

Q – Why haven't my healthy 4-year-old bird of paradise hasn't flowered yet? (37'49")

SUN 14:45 Why Do We Do That? (p0kv9xck)

Series 2

10. Why do we dance?

Dance seems like such a natural thing, a good beat comes on and you can't help it, you might find yourself bobbing, even the rhythmically impaired might find themselves tapping their fingers along to the music and it starts early - one study has shown that babies as young as 5 months engage in rhythmic

movements.

Every culture on earth dances and yet look around at the rest of the animal kingdom... besides birds, can we say that other animals dance? Paleoanthropologist Ella Al-Shamahi asks why do we dance?

SUN 15:00 Drama on 4 (m002gq8q)

Acqua Alta - Part 2

Brett Lynch is in danger again, as an increasingly unhinged collector craves her reassurance. The question is how long can she play out an elaborate game of cat and mouse with her kidnapper before Brunetti and his colourful side-kick Vianello can locate her and drag her through the flood waters of the acqua alta to a place of safety.

Though art theft and a vastly wealthy criminal class seem endemic in a rain-lashed Venice where the rising tides match the ooze of deadly corruption, this is mercifully contrasted by what Brunetti perceives as moments of extreme beauty, kindness and social awareness – as if an essential goodness in the people will in the end hold the toxic waters at bay – enduring the worst, in the knowledge that the water will recede and that common decency and equilibrium will be restored.

CAST
COMMISSARIO GUIDO BRUNETTI - Julian Rhind-Tutt
PAOLA BRUNETTI - Jeany Spark
SERGEANT LORENZO VIANELLO - Tayla Kovacevic-Ebong
BRETT LYNCH - Jane Slavin
CONTESSA FALIER - Siobhan Redmond
VICE-QUESTORE GIUSEPPE PATTA - David Horovitch
ELETTRA - Emily Bruni
CARMELO LA CAPRA/GIORGIO - Richard Elfyn
SALVATORE - .Elliot Barnes-Worrell

Dramatised by D J Britton from the novel by Donna Leon
Music by Julie Cooper
Produced and directed by Eoin O'Callaghan
A Big Fish Radio production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 16:00 Bookclub (m002gq8s)

Kit de Waal

Presented by James Naughtie, BBC Radio 4's Bookclub, speaks to the award-winning writer Kit de Waal about her heart-rending debut novel, My Name Is Leon. Published in 2016 by Penguin it's the story of two brothers separated after one is adopted. The book, now taught on the curriculum in English schools, takes us back to 1980s Birmingham, and while brothers Leon and Jake share the same mother, Carol, their futures look very different. Jake is adopted, while Leon remains in foster care. The story follows Leon over the course of one difficult year in his life, and when he's given a bike it opens up his horizons. He often goes to the local allotments, where he meets the characters of Mr Devlin and Tufty, and sees a different slice of life.

This recording takes place at the Rare Birds Bookshop in Edinburgh.

Producer: Dominic Howell
Editor: Gillian Wheelan
This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.

SUN 16:30 Nature Table (m001fm83)

Series 3

Episode 1

Celebrating the natural world and all it's funny eccentricities.

Taking the simple format of a 'Show & Tell', in each episode Sue Perkins is joined by celebrity guests from the worlds of comedy and natural history.

Nature Table has a simple clear brief: to positively celebrate and promote the importance of all our planet's wonderfully wild flora and fauna in a fun and easily grasped way... whilst at the same time having a giggle.

Recorded at The Eden Project, this week Sue Perkins is joined by special guests: Billy Heaney (Zoologist), Holly Smith-Baendorf (RSPB & Ecologist) and comedian Anna Keirle.

In this episode, Sue welcomes:

* Zoologist Bill Heaney
* RSPB and ecologist Holly Smith-Baendorf
* Comedian Anna Keirle

Written by Catherine Brinkworth, Jon Hunter, Jenny Laville and Nicky Roberts.

Producer: Simon Nicholls

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 17:00 Witness History (w3ct74j3)

Ten countries join the EU in one night

On 1 May 2004, the European Union went through its biggest ever enlargement. 10 countries joined including eight from the former Soviet Union's sphere of influence. For some, it was the moment the Eastern Bloc threw off the shackles of the Cold War and embraced a prosperous future in the EU. For others, it was the moment European countries lost control of their borders, leading to mass migration. Twice Italian Prime Minister, Prof Romano Prodi, was President of the European Commission at the time. He speaks to Ben Henderson.

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: People celebrate the Czech Republic joining the EU. Credit: Sean Gallup via Getty Images)

SUN 17:10 The Invention Of... (m002d9rs)

Hungary

Hungary and Mohacs 500

Misha Glenny and producer Miles Warde travel from Vienna to Budapest and beyond to find out how Hungarian hardman Viktor Orban stays in power. With an election coming up next year, now seemed a good time to find out how he uses history in his campaigns, beginning with a battle his country lost to the Ottomans back in 1526.

"There are going to be three dates that matter in our series - 1526 and the battle of Mohacs; 1848, when the Hungarians rebelled against their Austrian overlords; and 1956, when anti Soviet protestors stood up to the Russian Bear ... and were crushed. Three dates, three defeats, powerful moments in any nation's history for politicians to exploit."

This is the thirteenth in the international How to Invent a Country series that asks where countries come from, and what are the stories people tell themselves about their past. Misha Glenny is the award-winning author of McMafia and currently head of the IWM in Vienna. With contributions from Paul Lendvai, Reka Kinga Papp, Simon Winder, Kamilla Marosi, Tibor Fischer and Nick Thorpe, plus Norbert Papp on location near Mohacs.

"The actual events of the battle don't matter - history is just raw material for politicians," Papp says.

The producer for BBC Studios Audio is Miles Warde.

SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002gg8v)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 17:57 Weather (m002gg8x)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002gg8z)

Details of a compensation scheme for victims of mis-sold car finance

The financial regulator has said a compensation scheme for drivers over the mis-selling of car loans will likely cost between nine and 18 billion pounds.

SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m002gg9l)

Myfanwy Alexander

This week, we've been surfing the airwaves for the strange, the true, the funny and the fabulous. From frosty tigers to cartoon

fawns, from lingering love in station waiting room, to the infinity of the night sky, and streets where music pours from every door - this Pick is a mix of wonders!

Presenter: Myfanwy Alexander

Producer: Elizabeth Ann Duffy

Production Coordinator: Caroline Peddle

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 19:00 The Archers (m002gq93)

Kate's ears prick up when she finds out Kirsty's on the hunt for a lodger. She thinks she may know just the person. She suggests Chris Carter might need to take back Rookery Cottage while he's out of the flat, leaving Jakob without a home. She volunteers him for a look round Willow Farm, while admitting to a crestfallen Kirsty that he can be annoyingly fussy.

Brian's determined to stick to his plan of refusing to harvest the BL wheat. Kate insists this is not a good idea - it's bound to get messy if solicitors get involved. Brian doesn't want to hear it. Stella also gets on Brian's case, to no avail. She then suggests a meeting with Justin to try and iron things out, to which Brian grudgingly agrees. Having worked her persuasive magic on Justin by pointing out the awkwardness of her situation, he too accedes to her request to meet. Justin declares that Home Farm is contracted to harvest the wheat, and there's a stalemate as Brian points out that any legal proceedings against him would take so long that the crop would be spoiled anyway. All Justin needs to do is drop his controversial plans and the harvest can start tomorrow. Despairing Stella gets them to meet on common ground - their mutual trust in her. But any hope of a rapprochement is lost when Justin brings up the poisoning of the Am, and mentions Jennifer. Brian leaves, spitting his parting shot: Justin's wheat can rot in the dirt.

SUN 19:15 Illuminated (m002gg95)

A Taste of Home

Care packages are a universal love language and a way for families to stay connected across distances. We unbox four from China, India, Ireland and the Philippines, each filled with the tastes, textures and memories of home.

In Newton-le-Willows, content creator Aurora unwraps a parcel from her mother in China revealing fragrant spices, dried mushrooms and handmade gifts as a reminder of her native traditions. In Cardiff, dancer Ishika shares a tightly sealed batch of homemade bori, sun-dried lentil dumplings prepared and packed by her cousins in India. Over in Liverpool, full-time mum Sarah introduces us to a selection of snacks pulled from her Nanny's cabinet in Ireland for a mix of nostalgia, sweetness and comfort that bridges generations. In Norwich, multidisciplinary artist Sha opens a package from her mum in the Philippines filled with dried mangoes and polvoron, a crumbly, sugary treat that melts in your mouth and warms the heart.

Each of them shares how these packages, sent with care and packed with love, offer more than just food. They're a connection to family, culture, belonging and the best remedy for homesickness.

Presented and produced by Jay Behrouzi

Executive Producer Richard McIlroy

A BBC Audio North production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 19:45 Just One Thing - with Michael Mosley (m001jkq4)

Nibble Some Nuts

Nuts are a rich source of fibre and polyphenols. They are also very high in fats and calories, but studies have shown that eating these bite-sized snacks won't add to your waistline. These nutrient powerhouses could also help slow-down the ageing process. Research has found that walnut eaters live, on average, over a year longer than those who don't. What's more, adding nuts to your diet can help your brain! Michael Mosley is joined by Dr Sze-Yen Tan from Deakin University in Australia who reveals how eating nuts can benefit the brain, and why eating moderate amounts of nuts won't add to your waistline. A recent study of his found that people who ate nuts performed better in cognitive tests and had improved short-term memory. Meanwhile, our volunteer Emma swaps out her usual snack for a handful of mixed nuts!

SUN 20:00 Feedback (m002gg7k)

Nick Robinson's interview with David Mencer. Reaction to BBC App overseas

With news of starvation in Gaza making headlines, Today presenter Nick Robinson conducted an interview with Israeli Government Spokesperson David Mencer that divided listeners and lit up our inbox. We hear what you had to say.

Andrea Catherwood talks to radio futurologist James Cridland about BBC.com and the BBC app, the two platforms offered as alternatives to overseas listeners after the closure of BBC Sounds outside of the UK. Listeners from around the world give their honest reviews of the website and app as they get to grips with them. And we get some answers to some of your more specific questions - including the whereabouts of The Archers Podcast.

Also, we hear another nomination for Interview of the Year - this time it's for Jonathan Agnew's recent interview with young registered blind cricketer Ravi, on Test Match Special.

Presenter: Andrea Catherwood

Producer: Pauline Moore

Assistant Producer: Rebecca Guthrie

A Whistledown Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 20:30 Last Word (m002gd8p)

Dame Cleo Laine, Hulk Hogan, Margaret Boden, Tom Lehrer

Matthew Bannister on

Dame Cleo Laine, whose glorious voice was equally at home singing jazz, pop and classical music. Her daughter Jacqui Dankworth shares her memories.

Hulk Hogan, who spearheaded the transformation of American wrestling from niche activity to global phenomenon.

Professor Margaret Boden, whose expertise in cognitive science helped to shape the future of artificial intelligence.

Tom Lehrer, the American satirical songwriter and mathematician. We have a tribute from Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

Producer: Ed Prendeville

Archive used

First Lady of Jazz - Cleo Laine, BBC Radio 4 Extra, 30/10/2022; Front Row, BBC Radio 4, 28/05/2018; Desert Island Discs, BBC Radio 4, 05/09/1997; Jonathan Ross Presents: Hulk Hogan, BBC One, 14/04/1994; Is Wrestling Fake? - Hulk Hogan, Pebble Mill, BBC One, 31/03/1993; WWE Saturday Night's Main Event - Hulk Hogan vs. Big Boss Man (Steel Cage Match), 1989; Hulk Hogan B-Roll, Including Strongest Slam and Hall of Fame Speech, provided by WWE; The Life Scientific - Margaret Boden, BBC Radio 4; Kaleidoscope, BBC Radio 4, 02/06/1980; Parkinson, BBC One, 04/10/1980; Desert Island Discs: Tom Lehrer, BBC Radio 4, 12/07/1980

SUN 21:00 Sliced Bread (m002d1bv)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]

SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Appeal (m002gg80)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]

SUN 21:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002gg97)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:30 on Saturday]

SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m002gg99)

Helen Catt and guests discuss latest political developments

Helen Catt is joined by the Labour peer and former education union leader, Mary Boustead; Shadow Work and Pensions Minister, Danny Kruger; and Jill Rutter - expert on the workings of Whitehall at the Institute of Government. They discuss the latest Home Office announcements on dealing with illegal migration, and its impact on social cohesion. Lizzy Buchan - political editor of the Daily Mirror - brings additional insight and analysis. Helen also speaks to the Labour MP for Southport, Patrick Hurley, about the town's recovery from last year's tragedy and the unrest which followed. And the panel suggest books for summer reading, after hearing recommendations from the President of the Publishers Association, Mandy Hill and James Marriott - columnist on culture and ideas for The Times.

SUN 23:00 Artworks (m002gg6v)

New York 1925

4. Autumn

In 1925 New York became the biggest, most populous city in the world, overtaking London, and was the launchpad for an extraordinary range of writing, music, culture and politics which still resonate 100 years later - from the publication of F Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby and the launch of The New Yorker, to the rise of the Harlem Renaissance and the first success for the composer Richard Rodgers.

This is the story of that momentous year, season by season, told over four episodes, with contributors including novelist Jay McInerney, the writer and academic Margo Jefferson and the editor of the New Yorker David Remnick. The series is presented by the saxophonist and broadcaster Soweto Kinch, with an original soundtrack played by the composer and jazz clarinetist Giacomo Smith and his band.

Episode 4: Autumn

It was election time for mayor of the biggest city on earth, and the fun-loving, fast-living Jimmy Walker was up against the establishment in the form of pen millionaire, Frank Waterman. But who ever won, Jimmy had changed politics in New York forever.

The New Yorker magazine was finally turning a corner, with its first edition that sold out – thanks to a celebrity debutante.

November saw two publications that showcased the city in different ways – the kaleidoscopic, impressionistic novel *Manhattan Transfer* by John Dos Passos, and *The New Negro: An Interpretation*, edited by Alain Locke, which was the nearest thing to a mission statement for the Harlem Renaissance.

Presenter Soweto Kinch

Producer Katy Hickman

Band: Giacomo Smith clarinet; Laura Judd trumpet; Daniel Higham trombone; Alexander Boulton banjo; Joe Webb piano; Corrie Dick drums; Soweto Kinch saxophone

SUN 23:30 The History Podcast (m0024bg3)

The Lucan Obsession

4. Searching for Lady Lucan

The press portrayed Lady Lucan as a perfect victim: a tiny, fragile woman, attacked by a cruel and vengeful man. Lord Lucan's friends said she was a volatile, difficult snob.

She is certainly enigmatic and intriguing.

With access to never before broadcast tapes, Alex von Tunzelmann looks for the truth behind the stories of the Countess and explores how her image emerged.

Producer: Sarah Bowen

SUN 23:45 Short Works (m002gd8m)

Flyology by Alison MacLeod

The acclaimed writer Alison MacLeod's new and specially commissioned story sees the brilliant Ada Lovelace take a liberating flight of fancy where a vision of the future unfurls. Phoebe Campbell reads.

In Alison MacLeod's beautifully written and sharply observed story, we travel back to the Victorian era where we encounter a young woman and her formidable intellect. Ada Lovelace well known as the daughter of Byron and an early contributor the forerunner to the computer and AI, the 'Analytical Machine' was a mathematical genius. Less well known is that she once wanted to fly, and in her desire to be airborne her fierce imagination led her into the unseen worlds of science and discovery.

Alison MacLeod is a novelist, short story writer and senior academic. Her most recent novel, *Tenderness*, was a New York Times 'Best Book' of the year and a 'Best Paperback' of the year for *The Sunday Times*. Her novel *Unexploded* was nominated for the Man-Booker Prize and adapted for BBC Radio 4. Her collection *All the Beloved Ghosts* was shortlisted for Canada's Governor General's Award for Fiction and for the UK's Edge Hill Short Story Prize. She has also been shortlisted for the BBC National Short Story Award, and her stories have often been broadcast on Radio 3 and 4. She is a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund, Visiting Professor at the University of Chichester, a Writers' Award recipient of the British Library, and currently lectures on a part-time basis at Anglia Ruskin University, where she contributes to the Cambridge Writing Centre.

Phoebe Campbell is best known for playing Rhaena Targaryen in the fantasy series *House of the Dragon*. Campbell's played Susanna in the RSC West End production of *Hamnet*, and Nikki in *Alma Mater* at the Almeida.

The producer is Elizabeth Allard.

MONDAY 04 AUGUST 2025

MON 00:00 Midnight News (m002gg9c)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 00:15 Artworks (m002gfx9)

Depeche Mode: Reach Out and Touch Faith

In 1981, four teenagers from Basildon released 'Just Can't Get Enough' - a bright, synth-pop single that announced the arrival of Depeche Mode. Over the next four decades, that same band would evolve into something far darker, stranger, and more monumental. This documentary explores how Depeche Mode became one of the most beloved bands in the world - everywhere before the country they came from.

They've sold over 100 million records, filled stadiums from Mexico City to Moscow, and become a source of near-religious devotion for fans around the world. And yet, back home in Britain, they've often been misunderstood - too weird, too pop, too synthetic, too uncool.

Writer, critic and musician Sasha Frere-Jones leads a journey through class, coolness, eyeliner, bondage, synthesizers and the Cold War. Along the way, he meets the fans who followed the band across continents, critics and the artists who owe them so much.

Featuring exclusive interviews and extraordinary archive from behind the Iron Curtain to Los Angeles riot scenes, this is the untold story of how Depeche Mode conquered the world - by accident, by design, and by sheer persistence.

Contributors:

Gary Numan, musician
Daniel Miller, founder of Mute Records
Alexis Petridis, music critic
Jeremy Deller, artist and filmmaker
Suzie Stapleton, musician
Paul Gidley, Depeche Mode fan

Presenter: Sasha Frere-Jones

Producer: Richard Power

Executive Producer: Kellie While

A huge thank you to Jacqueline Edenbrow, Jeremy Deller and Nick Abrahams for use of the clips from the 2006 film *My Hobby* is Depeche Mode.

'Our Hobby is Depeche Mode'

Directed by Jeremy Deller and Nick Abrahams

Produced by Jacqui Edenbrow

Courtesy of Mute Records

A Pomona Audio production for BBC Radio 4

MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m002gg9f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002gg9h)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002gg9k)

BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

MON 05:00 News Summary (m002gg9m)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 05:04 Last Word (m002gd8p)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Sunday]

MON 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002gg9p)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002gg9r)

A splash of joy

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.

Good morning.

Often, as I walk up to the cathedral here in Manchester, I pass children laughing and playing, in the sculptured streams of water that we have in cathedral gardens. There is something about the flow of fresh water, that brings joy. It speaks of life and possibility.

Rivers wind their way throughout scripture, from the four rivers in Genesis that emerge from Eden and flow around various lands, to the river Jordan, to Revelation, where the "river of the water of life" flows from the throne of God, into the city. Rivers are places where people converge, for life-giving properties, they are places of encounter and of transformation,

and they mirror the life and flow of the Holy spirit in creation.

The problem we have though, is that our rivers are dying. A recent report stated that just 15% of English rivers, reach good ecological health standards. This is repeated throughout the world. My father's home city of Chennai has three rivers, all considered toxic and devoid of most life. If we kill off these life giving entities of creation, we limit all creations ability to flourish, including our own.

This is why my prayer today, is for the rivers that flow in our lands. Rivers that have been places of encounter and transformation since creation began. Rivers that gush through the landscapes, as signs of vitality and freshness.

I pray that I may treasure, and care for the rivers in my midst. That I might be like a child, in my joyful excitement, at the sound and sight of fresh flowing rivers. That rivers may give life, and may live, and that they may continue to be places of joy and hope.

Amen.

MON 05:45 Farming Today (m002gg9t)

04/08/25 Harvest and the impact of this year's dry weather on crops

It's been a tricky year for many farmers this year with extremes of drought and rain at various times - usually the wrong times. All week we'll see how harvest 2025 is shaping up. We start with barley in East Anglia and a dairy farm in Wiltshire, and find out from a cereals analyst how crops are looking across the board.

Presenter = Charlotte Smith

Producer = Rebecca Rooney

MON 05:57 Weather (m002gg9w)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for farmers

MON 06:00 Today (m002ggfh)

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

MON 09:00 Rory Stewart: The Long History of... (m002gjfv)

Heroism

1. The Classical Hero

Rory Stewart explores ideas of what it means to be a hero from the ancient world to the present day. How have these ideas changed? Why do heroes matter? Who are the heroes we need today?

With the help of leading historians, psychologists, philosophers and theologians, he examines how heroism is continually questioned and re-invented in every age, and how these contrasting visions of the hero might speak to us in our own time. What does it mean for our moral life? How should we perceive and pursue human excellence?

In this episode, Rory explores ideas of the hero from the classical world to the middle ages.

Presenter: Rory Stewart

Producer and sound design: Dan Tierney

Editor: Tim Pemberton

Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke

MON 09:30 Fool's Gold (p0l4tp44)

6. History on Trial

George and Layton are jailed, but where are all the missing coins? Gareth Williams helps police bust a new coin-selling operation in Durham. Could these coins be from the Herefordshire hoard?

The mystery of the missing hoard is far from over.

Narrator: Aimee-Ffion Edwards

Contributors: Holly Morgan, Simon Wicks, Dr Gareth Williams

Sound Design: Peregrine Andrews

Production Co-ordinator: Dan Marchini

Additional Research: Holly Morgan

Associate Producer: David James Smith

Producer: Aron Keller

Exec Producer: James Robinson

A BBC Studios Audio Production

MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002gqfp)

Listener Week: Seatbelts and busts, Recruitment and AI, Married but living apart

To kick this week off, we heard from listener Melanie Williams. Melanie is forever having to adjust her seatbelt because of her bust size. She worries if she were to be in an accident she would end up choking or being strangled by her seatbelt rather than protected by it. Melanie joins Nuala McGovern to discuss, along with motoring journalist Maria McCarthy who has been looking into the issue.

How might the use of AI in recruitment be negatively impacting women's chances of finding work? Listener Valerie joins Nuala to talk about the challenges of being shortlisted for jobs. They are also joined by Judy Wajcman, Emeritus Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science, she has written extensively on the relationship between gender, science and technology, and Lauren Spearman who is a careers content creator and brand consultant.

After 30 years of marriage, Margaret Murphy moved from the family home in Australia to the UK—alone. Fifteen years later, she and her husband are still married, despite living on opposite sides of the world. She believes her later-life choices reflect a freer, more modern way to look at traditional married life—one that may appeal to listeners.

Amy Ennion is a 32-year-old engineer from Surrey, who in her spare time, is an ultra-marathon swimmer. She has swum the English Channel, the length of Lake Windermere twice, she has swum Lac Leman in Geneva for 28 hours straight and just a few weeks ago she swam the length of Loch Ness! After her mother and partner wrote into Woman's Hour about her, Amy tells us what it's like to swim for such an extreme period of time.

Have you ever wondered what it's like to stand in front of a room full of strangers and make them laugh? Listener Susan Warlock wanted to explore older women taking up stand-up comedy. At 66, she decided to try it herself – and after just one gig, she was completely hooked. She joins Nuala along with writer, performer & stand-up comedy teacher Rach Sambrooks.

Presenter: Nuala McGovern

Producer: Dianne McGregor

MON 11:00 En-Gulfed (m002gqft)

Culture Capture?

BAFTA winning activist and satirist Heydon Prowse gives a personal take on how and why the Gulf States are so interested in British culture.

From cash-strapped theatres and museums to huge infrastructure projects, Gulf money is a key ingredient across our cultural landscape. What does this mean to us and what's in it for them? Critics cry 'culture washing' but is this really what's on and should we care?

Written and presented by Heydon Prowse
Producer: Alison Vernon-Smith

MON 11:45 The Autism Curve (m002bszl)

1. The Data

What do the data showing a steep rise in autism diagnoses reveal - and hide?

A 20-year study in the UK showed an astonishing eightfold rise in new autism diagnoses on an exponential curve. We hear from the study's author Ginny Russell and ask how the numbers compare in other parts of the world. And Professor Joshua Stott explains how a surprising discovery at a dementia clinic led him to calculate that that enormous rise in diagnoses may still undercount the country's autistic population by as much as 1.2 million.

Archive: BBC; CSPAN; Fox News; CNN.

Presenter: Michael Blastland
Series Producer: Simon Maybin
Editor: Clare Fordham
Sound mix: Neil Churchill
Production Co-ordinator: Gemma Ashman

MON 12:00 News Summary (m002gqfy)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

MON 12:04 You and Yours (m002ggg1)

Conditional Selling, Car Finance, Couples Counselling

In the housing market, conditional selling is when an estate agent refuses to pass an offer on to a seller unless the buyer meets certain criteria. Often, this will be an attempt to ensure that the buyer lists their property with the same estate agent – doubling their business. It is illegal, yet a recent Panorama documentary demonstrated just how widespread it is. We hear from someone impacted and discuss how you can spot it.

Attending couples counselling was once considered a taboo. However, changing social attitudes have seen it not only become more popular, but a more open topic of discussion. It's causing significant growth in the sector.

Buying a park home has long been an accessible way of entering the housing market. Whilst many of them have low upfront costs to buy, some owners are frustrated that they must pay 10% of any sale value back to the site it sits in.

It's been a bumper year for wasp numbers, with some pest control companies reporting upwards of 40% increases in callouts compared to last year. As climate change alters conditions in the UK, will this continue to increase? We hear from wasp expert Professor Seirian Sumner, who is asking the public to help monitor this: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeev-nj4sNsfL9HQArvy0Vi0xW522w-5vjTA17p1tOo2a_83A/viewform

Following Friday's decision in the Supreme Court, the Financial Conduct Authority is planning a consultation that might see large numbers of consumers receive at least some form of compensation. We'll discuss who is eligible and what you need to do to claim.

PRESENTER: WINIFRED ROBINSON

PRODUCER: CHARLIE FILMER-COURT

MON 12:57 Weather (m002ggg5)

The latest weather forecast

MON 13:00 World at One (m002ggg8)

Immigration tops the political agenda

We explore how an extra £100 million might help curb the numbers. And, as Storm Floris batters these isles, we speak to people sheltering from the storm. Plus, we kick off our 60th birthday celebrations.

MON 13:45 Understand (m002gggb)

The Trip

1. Altered States

During the early weeks of the pandemic, Tim Hayward spent 14 days in a coma. He remembers this time vividly – his days and nights filled with strange, incandescent visions and hallucinations. That experience is something he would never choose to revisit but, around the world, large numbers of people are deliberately seeking out powerfully altered states.

In this ten-part series, Tim sets out to better understand a group of substances that induce altered states: psychedelics.

There's been a surge of interest in their therapeutic potential for various mental health conditions - as well as a range of other clinical possibilities. As research around the world ramps up after years of taboo and prohibition he tries to get to grips with - or at least get a clearer sense of - how science, culture, politics and business might all interact in this changing psychedelic landscape, and what it all might mean.

He also explores what might be happening in the brain during a trip and whether, by studying psychedelics, we might uncover more about consciousness, imagination and even the mysteries of reality itself.

In this first episode he discovers where psychedelics come from, gets terrified about ergot poisoning, and hears from a scientist at the forefront of clinical research looking at psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy for treatment resistant depression.

Contributors:
Lucie Berkovitch, psychiatrist and neuroscientist, GHU Paris Psychiatrie et Neurosciences
Erika Dyck, historian of psychedelics, University of Saskatchewan
Mike Jay, author and cultural historian
David Luke, psychologist and psychedelic researcher, University of Greenwich

Presenter: Tim Hayward
Series Producer: Richard Ward
Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones

Editor: Kirsten Lass

Written by Tim Hayward and Richard Ward
Sound Design and Mixing: Richard Ward
Researcher: Grace Revill
Voiceover Artist: Sandra-Mae Lux
Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke
A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

MON 14:00 The Archers (m002ggq93)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

MON 14:15 Ed Reardon's Week (m002ggqd)

Series 16

6. Blocked!

Ed has finally decided that enough is enough and has decided to stop writing. For good. Unless Zadie Smith can convince him otherwise.

Series 16 not only marks 20 years of Ed Reardon broadcasting on Radio 4, but this final episode in the series is the 100th episode. Ed still manages to fail at reaching the heady heights of successful, rich author, but he still succeeds in scraping by with various schemes and writing projects.

Ed Reardon - Christopher Douglas
Eli - Lisa Coleman
Maggie - Pippa Haywood
Jaz Milvain - Philip Jackson
Ping - Barunka O'Shaughnessy
Kate - Robin Weaver
Petroc Trelawny as himself

Written by Christopher Douglas

Produced by Dawn Ellis

Production Co-ordinator: Katie Baum

Sound: Jon Calver & Alison McKenzie

MON 14:45 Death of a Naturalist by Seamus Heaney (m001q13b)

Episode 5

A new reading of the debut poetry collection by the Nobel Prize in Literature recipient Seamus Heaney, specially commissioned by BBC Radio 4 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of his death.

As read by Bríd Brennan, Adrian Dunbar and Stephen Rea.

Music composed and performed by Neil Martin.

Seamus Heaney was a poet, translator, teacher and critic. During a career spanning fifty years, he became one of the most celebrated poets of his generation. While often rooted in the landscape of his homeland, Heaney's poetry has a universal appeal that was to find a worldwide readership. During his lifetime he was the recipient of many honours, including the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature, and his work has been translated into 27 languages. His legacy lives on, as readers continue to enjoy and engage with his poetry, prose, drama and translations.

Readers: Bríd Brennan, Adrian Dunbar and Stephen Rea.
Author: Seamus Heaney
Music: Neil Martin
Producer: Michael Shannon
Editor: Andy Martin

A BBC Northern Ireland production.

MON 15:00 A Good Read (m002gggg)

Rob Rinder and Juno Dawson

RUNNING WITH SCISSORS by Augusten Burroughs, chosen by Rob Rinder
THE ODD WOMAN AND THE CITY by Vivian Gornick, chosen by Harriett Gilbert
EARTHLINGS by Sayaka Murata, chosen by Juno Dawson

The barrister, television presenter and writer Rob Rinder and author Juno Dawson talk books with Harriett Gilbert. Juno Dawson selects Sayaka Murata's Earthlings, the follow-up to her cult hit Convenience Store Woman. Rob Rinder advocates for Running with Scissors, Augusten Burroughs' memoir of a deeply bizarre childhood, and Harriett has gone for The Odd Woman and the City, Vivian Gornick's essays celebrating New York.

Producer for BBC Audio Bristol: Sally Heaven

Join the conversation on Instagram: [agoodreadbbc](https://www.instagram.com/agoodreadbbc)

Photo credit: Ollie Rosser

MON 15:30 You're Dead to Me (m002gqgj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]

MON 16:00 Currently (m002gd02)
[Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]

MON 16:30 Soul Music (m001fm2r)
Chervona Kalyna

Powerful stories linked to this beautiful and stirring Ukrainian folk song which inspired Pink Floyd to reform so they could release their own version, 'Hey Hey Rise Up', alongside Andriy Khlyvnyuk of Boombox.

Chervona Kalyna is a clarion call with roots stretching back to 17th century Cossack history; as meaningful now as then, this episode of Soul Music reflects how music can be a unifying force in the most dangerous and difficult of times.

Anti-Russian, it was banned prior to Ukrainian independence in 1991 with one of its lyrics calling to 'free our brothers Ukrainian from Muscovites shackles'. Its full title 'O'i u luzi chervona kalyna' translates as 'Oh the red viburnum in the meadow': red viburnum is a common plant in Ukraine and in the song it's a metaphor for the country itself.

Telling their stories on Soul Music: Taras Ratushnyy, journalist turned soldier, discusses his beloved son, Roman, and the heroic role he played in Ukrainian society both before after the war began.

Elizaveta Izmalkova is a young Ukrainian singer who now lives in Lithuania. She performed Chervona Kalyna as part of a flash-mob co-organised by Egle Plytnikaite who describes why she and other Lithuanians wanted to demonstrate their support for Ukraine.

Nadia Morykvas wrote a book about the cultural polymath, Stepan Charnetskyi, who - in the early 20th century - adapted Chervona Kalyna for one of his plays. (Volodymyr Oleyko translates for Nadia Morykvas).

Andriy Halushka is a Ukrainian who now lives in London. He describes how his family history, down multiple generations, connects with the song.

Julia and Kateryna came to England under the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme when the war began. Under the name 'Dvi Doli' they raise money for Ukraine by staging concerts where they perform traditional songs on the Bandura.

Taras Filenko is a pianist and ethno-musicologist. Originally from Zaporizhzhia in Ukraine, he now lives in Pennsylvania, USA. He discusses the musicology of the song, and recalls a neighbour from his childhood who was imprisoned for performing Chervona Kalyna in the 1940s.

Myroslava Hartmond is a British-Ukrainian cultural diplomacy expert. She explains how the current popularity of Chervona Kalyna began when Andriy Khlyvnyuk, the lead singer of Boombox, recorded an a capella version in the centre of Kyiv. This inspired Pink Floyd to collaborate with Khlyvnyuk and release their own version.

Please scroll down to the 'Related Links' box on the Radio 4 Soul Music webpage for further information about some of the interviewees and the different versions of the song used in the programme. The programme image is of Taras and Roman Ratushnyy.

Producer for BBC Audio in Bristol: Karen Gregor

MON 17:00 PM (m002gqgl)
Hostage family reacts to Hamas captivity video

We'll bring you the latest from the conflict in Gaza and hear from the cousin of Evyatar David one of two hostages in a video released by Hamas. As storm Floris makes landfall across the UK we hear how it has been impacting people, and we remember the life of the first female head of MI5, Stella Rimington as her family announces her passing.

MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002gqgn)
Israel to consider Gaza war goals as reports say escalation planned

Hundreds of retired senior Israeli security and military officials have written to President Trump urging him to intervene to end the war in Gaza. The main hostage support group in Israel has accused Benjamin Netanyahu of leading Israel and the remaining captives being held by Hamas to doom. Also: Ukraine says it has stolen and published classified material

about a new Russian nuclear submarine. And England and India draw their dramatic Test series in a cliff-hanger finish at the Oval.

MON 18:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m002gqgq)
Series 83

5. On the Buzzer

The godfather of all panel shows pays a visit to the Bristol Beacon. On the panel are Adrian Edmondson, Rachel Parris, Miles Jupp and Henning Wehn, with Jack Dee in the umpire's chair. Regular listeners will know to expect inspired nonsense, pointless revelry and Colin Sell at the piano.

Producer: Jon Naismith
A Random production for BBC Radio 4

MON 19:00 The Archers (m002gqgs)

Kate informs Stella that Brian's gone away with Miranda for the week. Stella didn't know this, but acknowledged it was unlikely she'd have changed his mind about the stand he was taking against the harvest anyway.

Jakob takes a dim view of having to view Willow Farm as a rental option, but goes along with it. He presents what at first appears to be a negative impression, with Kate attempting valiantly to turn all his downsides into positives. Relieved Kirsty's fine with the potential outcome, but Jakob stops her in her tracks by declaring the room ideal. He'll take it. Kate assures nonplussed Kirsty that Jakob won't hide away in his room, but will spend lots of his time downstairs socialising. Isn't it wonderful? Kirsty agrees that it is.

It's the final week of Ben's nursing course and he's struggling to find a job. David asserts he can always come back to farming, but when Ben gets a soaking from a dirty water pipe he's not impressed. David gives him an admin task instead, and asks him to gather information on the Grey Gables tug of war team when he goes to the Health Club on Wednesday. Stella arrives to enlist their support with a plan. With Brian away she intends to get the BL harvest in without his knowledge. Will David help her? David has to refuse; Brian is family and he can't go against his wishes. Ben wonders if Stella might ask Ruth instead.

MON 19:15 Front Row (m002gqgv)
Freakier Friday

Freakier Friday is an update on the 2003 hit body-swap movie, and it features the return of the original stars - Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsey Lohan. Samira, with film critic Larushka Ivan-Zedah and Jesse Green, the chief New York Times' theatre critic, look at the legacy and impact of the book on which the films were based.

Auction house Sotheby's is returning a set of sacred jewels believed to be linked to the Buddha's remains, to India - William Dalrymple joins Front Row to discuss the gems' remarkable history.

The BFI is launching a season of films starring an Italian screen icon. Sophia Loren: Hollywood Style, Neapolitan Spirit. Now 90 years old, she has 7 decades of film work under her belt. How and why did she become such an astonishing global cinema titan.

Presenter: Samira Ahmed

MON 20:00 The Briefing Room (m002gg7m)
Why don't we have ID cards in the UK?

For years there has been an argument, sometimes loud, sometimes subdued, on whether Britain needs an ID card system. One big reason given for wanting them is simply to know who is here legally. With illegal and irregular migration never far from the headlines these days and with President Macron, during his recent visit describing the "pull factor" of illegal migrants being able to work in Britain, the debate is being resurrected. So, what is the history of ID cards in the UK, what form might they take if we have a system and would they work?

Presenter: David Aaronovitch

Guests:

Jon Agar, author of The Government Machine
Rainer Kattel, Professor of Innovation and Public Governance, UCL
Edgar Whitley, Professor of Information Systems in the Department of Management, LSE
Rachel Coldicutt, technology specialist and executive director of the research consultancy, Careful Industries.

Producers: Caroline Bayley, Kirsteen Knight and Sally Abrahams
Productions co-ordinator: Maria Ogundele

Sound engineers: James Beard and Neil Churchill
Editors: Sam Bonham and Bridget Harney

MON 20:30 BBC Inside Science (m002gg7p)
Why wasn't the Russia mega earthquake as damaging as previous ones?

A massive 8.8 magnitude mega earthquake off Russia's east coast sent tsunami waves into Japan, Hawaii and the US west coast this week. While more than two million people across the Pacific were ordered to evacuate, there were no immediate reports of any fatalities.

After recent devastating tsunamis like the ones that hit Fukushima in 2011 and the Boxing Day disaster of 2004, we speak to Environmental Seismology lecturer at University College London, Dr Stephen Hicks, to ask why this quake didn't cause anywhere near the same amount of harm.

After the Lionesses successfully defended their UEFA European Women's Championship, Marnie Chesterton is joined by Professor of Sports Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University, Steve Haake, to look at the role data analysis and Artificial Intelligence is now playing in football and other sports.

We hear about fascinating new research from primatologist Professor Cat Hobaiter at the University of St Andrews into what we can learn about our evolution by studying how apes eat alcoholic fermented fruit.

And Marnie is joined by technology broadcaster Gareth Mitchell to hear about the week's brand new scientific discovery news, and for a musical homage to the satirical songwriter and mathematician Tom Lehrer, who died this week at the age of 97.

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

MON 21:00 Changing the Odds (m00298h5)
Episode 2: Gibraltar - Online betting's birthplace

When you place a bet online, the chances are it will be processed in Gibraltar - the tiny British overseas territory on the tip of Spain.

Gibraltar is a major hub for gambling firms, and not just because it offers tax breaks. In the 90s the major British betting brands started moving over to Gibraltar, and thanks to low tax, the rise of football and innovations in online betting - Gibraltar is now the centre of innovation and tech in the industry.

In the second episode of Changing the Odds, Lydia Thomas who's reported on the industry for a decade travels to Gibraltar to meet gambling industry innovators and find out how British companies like Skybet, Bet365, Betfred, William Hill and Ladbrokes led the charge in developing online gambling platforms.

Alongside her is Stewart Kenny, who founded Paddy Power in the 80s, he explains how his business saw the potential in online gambling but he started to worry about the impact it might be having on people who had gambling addictions.

British companies led the way in developing online gambling after the 2005 Gambling Act liberalised betting - but what have been the consequences of that Act? Lydia and Stewart investigate the treasure trove of data companies hold on its customers, and how it's used to keep players spending. But, could it have been used to spot potential problem gamblers? Stewart thinks so.

Presenter: Lydia Thomas
Producer: Lydia Thomas and Richard McLlroy
Main Contributor: Stewart Kenny
Assistant Producer: Emma Smith
Technical Producer: Michael Smith

MON 21:45 Untaxing (m0029hw8)
5. The £10 Billion Fridge

A fruit and veg supplier installs a fridge. A tax advisor claims it's a scientific breakthrough, and urges a claim for R&D tax relief.

That fridge is just the tip of a £10 billion scandal. How did HMRC let it happen? And why is no one talking about it?

Producer: Tom Pooley
A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m002gqgx)

Radio 4 Listings for 2 – 8 August 2025		Page 11 of 22
<p>Israeli sources say expansion of Gaza operation being planned</p> <p>Reports out of Israel suggest Benjamin Netanyahu is considering expanding military operations in Gaza, despite growing opposition to the war. Hundreds of Israeli security officials have signed a letter to US President Trump urging him to intervene and stop the war. We speak to one of them, former head of the Israeli Secret Service Shin Bet.</p> <p>Nigel Farage has called on the police to release the immigration status of suspects charged with crimes following the arrest of two men in connection with the alleged rape of a 12-year-old girl in Warwickshire.</p> <p>And after a spell-binding last test match, we'll ask where this summer's series between England and India sit in the cricketing pantheon.</p> <p>MON 22:45 An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo Ishiguro (m002ggqz) 1: 'War damage.'</p> <p>As part of BBC BBC Radio 4's commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VJ Day, Tim McNerny reads Nobel Prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro's classic novel, set in post-WWII Japan.</p> <p>It is 1948. Japan is rebuilding after the horrors of the war, its people putting defeat behind them and looking to the future. The celebrated artist Masuji Ono fills his days in his garden with his two grown daughters and grandson, and his evenings drinking with old associates in the quiet lantern-lit bars of the old pleasure district. His should be a tranquil retirement. But as his memories continually return to the past, a dark shadow begins to grow over his serenity.</p> <p>Today: On a visit from his daughter, artist Masuji Ono's quiet retirement is shaken by questions about his past...</p> <p>Reader: Tim McNerny</p> <p>Writer: Kazuo Ishiguro is one of the world's most acclaimed contemporary writers. His novels have earned him many honours, including the Nobel Prize in Literature and the Booker Prize. His work has been translated into over fifty languages and The Remains of the Day and Never Let Me Go have both been made into acclaimed films. He was awarded a knighthood in 2018 for Services to Literature and made Companion of Honour in 2025. He also holds the decorations of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from France and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star from Japan. He was born in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1954 and moved to Britain at the age of five.</p> <p>Abrider: Richard Hamilton Producer: Justine Willett</p> <p>MON 23:00 Limelight (m001k83s) Who Killed Aldrich Kemp?</p> <p>1. Funeral In London</p> <p>Our heroine Clara Page (Phoebe Fox) returns. And this time the question's deadly serious - Who Killed Aldrich Kemp?</p> <p>Prepare for another rollercoaster ride from the pen of Julian Simpson, flying us from the Italian Riviera to the Malaysian jungle - via afternoon tea at Themis House.</p> <p>Chapter One - and there's trouble in London ...</p> <p>Cast: Clara Page - Phoebe Fox Aldrich Kemp – Ferdinand Kingsley Mrs Boone – Nicola Walker Sebastian Harcourt – Kyle Soller Nakesha Kemp – Karla Crome Aunt Lily – Susan Jameson The Underwood Sisters – Jana Carpenter. Sabine Seah – Rebecca Boey Mrs Bartholomew – Kate Isitt Blue 2/Novak - Ben Crowe Winslow/Blue 1 - James Joyce.</p> <p>Created and written by Julian Simpson</p> <p>Recorded on location in Hove and at the Brighton Conference Centre.</p> <p>Music composed by Tim Elsenburg. Sound Design: David Thomas Director: Julian Simpson Producer: Sarah Tombling Executive Producer: Karen Rose</p> <p>A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4</p>	<p>MON 23:30 What's Funny About... (m0027cr1) Series 4</p> <p>2. After Life</p> <p>Peter Fincham and Jon Plowman are joined by Ricky Gervais to hear the inside story of how he made his hit sitcom, After Life.</p> <p>Ricky talks about the decision to set a comedy against the backdrop of grief and loss, and how lucky he feels that audiences trust him to tell these difficult and complex stories. He tells us about the huge importance of music in After Life (and the equally huge line that was required in the budget to licence it all!). And he explains his decision to break with a habit of a lifetime and write a third series of one of his shows.</p> <p>Producer: Owen Braben An Expectation Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUESDAY 05 AUGUST 2025</p> <p>TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m002gqh2) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 00:30 The Autism Curve (m002bszl) [Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Monday]</p> <p>TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002gqh4) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002gqh6) BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p>TUE 05:00 News Summary (m002gqh8) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>TUE 05:04 Currently (m002gd02) [Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]</p> <p>TUE 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002gqhb) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002gqhd) When macaroni cheese changes lives</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.</p> <p>Good morning.</p> <p>'This is incredible!' came the text from my youngest daughter. Within a few seconds, another pinged on my phone that simply read 'life changed'.</p> <p>What, you may ask, had caused her to write these two short messages to me? I can't imagine many of you thought that it would be the macaroni cheese I had cooked for tea, before heading out to an evening meeting.</p> <p>I love moments like this - daft, fleeting moments that make me smile. Little conversations, or jokes or gestures, that just bring a sense of fun and appreciation. Like the little chocolate bar that is left in my pigeonhole in work every week by a generous volunteer. Or the short thank you email, that someone has taken the time to send following a service or activity.</p> <p>Grand gestures are obviously always welcome, but these little offerings that show care, gratitude and appreciation, are what keep me going. They can mean a great deal in their simplicity.</p> <p>I often say the Christian faith is a faith of small things, making a big difference. Jesus talks about how the mustard seed is the smallest of them all, but when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants, where birds perch on its branches. And we have parables about the value of a single lost coin, or a small pinch of yeast.</p> <p>While my macaroni cheese might not actually change lives, the small messages of appreciation, do help to lift my day, and so today I pray with thanks, for the small gestures that make me smile. May I never take them for granted, and may I be a bearer of small gifts to others as well.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p>TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m002gqhg)</p>	<p>05/08/25 Egg imports and salmonella concerns, plum boom, oil seed rape harvest</p> <p>The egg industry is calling for better labelling of products using imported eggs, and for all imports of eggs and egg products to be checked at the border. The British Egg Industry Council says there's been a rise in imports and they're concerned that eggs contaminated with salmonella are not being picked up.</p> <p>Plums used to be a big crop for British farms back in the 1960s, but over the decades the amount grown here has fallen dramatically. However, one farm in Kent believes the tide is turning. WB Chambers near Maidstone say new varieties, new orchards and new technology are extending the growing season and providing consumers with British plums for longer.</p> <p>As part of our week-long focus on harvest, we see how this year's oil seed rape crop has fared. We visit a farmer in East Yorkshire who used a drone to help seal the pods with a special sealant a couple of months ago, to stop them falling off too early. He says it's saved a lot of crop - and money.</p> <p>Presenter = Anna Hill Producer = Rebecca Rooney</p> <p>TUE 06:00 Today (m002grqh) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>TUE 09:00 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics (m002grqk) The Women Poets of Ancient Greece</p> <p>Natalie is joined by Edith Hall and Nikita Gill to tell the stories of the Nine Earthly Muses, the most admired Greek women poets. They are Sappho, Myrtis, Corinna, Moero, Anyte, Nossis, Erinna, Praxilla and Telesilla. The idea was that these "divine voices" had been nurtured by the Muses themselves.</p> <p>Sappho's magnificent poetry offers a different perspective from Homer's. Her Helen of Troy feels no guilt at all about leaving her family to be with Paris. The poets provide funny, inventive and unexpected angles: Corinna writes about a contest between two local mountains to see which of them can play the best song on the lyre. The disgruntled loser, Mount Helicon, then rains down boulders like snow in displeasure. Praxilla writes drinking songs using her own meter and rhythms. But their work has been scorned and misunderstood by critics and Natalie wants to redress that.</p> <p>'Rockstar mythologist' Natalie Haynes is the best-selling author of 'Divine Might', 'Stone Blind', and 'A Thousand Ships' as well as a reformed comedian who is a little bit obsessive about Ancient Greek and Rome.</p> <p>Nikita Gill is an Irish-Indian poet whose work offers a shift of perspective which centres women in both Greek and Hindu myth as well as folklore. She has been shortlisted for the Goodreads Choice Award in poetry and the Children's Poetry Award and longlisted for the Jhalak Prize. Her new book is Hekate: The Witch.</p> <p>Edith Hall is Professor of Classics at Durham University, specialising in ancient Greek literature. She has written over thirty books and is a Fellow of the British Academy.</p> <p>Producer...Beth O'Dea</p> <p>TUE 09:30 Inside Health (m002grqm) Can we reverse rising drug deaths?</p> <p>Drug-related deaths are at their highest levels in England and Wales since records began 30 years ago.</p> <p>Scotland has had the highest number of drug deaths in Europe for at least seven years. And the UK has even seen opioid-related deaths surpass the number of people dying in road traffic accidents.</p> <p>So today on Inside Health we're asking, what's the real story behind these numbers? Who is dying of a drug overdose and why - and how can we tackle this issue?</p> <p>James Gallagher is joined by an expert panel, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professor Catriona Matheson, Professor in Substance Use at the University of Stirling and former chair of Scotland's drug deaths taskforce - Dr Caroline Copeland, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology and Toxicology at King's College London and Director of the National Programme on Substance Use Mortality - Dr Michael Blackmore, a GP in Grangemouth, central Scotland, who has a special interest in addictions and is himself a former drug addict, now 16 years in recovery <p>We also visit Professor Sir John Strang at the National Institute</p>
Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/		

for Health and Care Research King's Clinical Research Facility to see how he is experimenting with new ways of tackling rising deaths.

Professor Strang is based at the National Addictions Centre, King's College London, and monitors heroin users in the lab to see if this could in future bring about a wearable overdose detection device to save lives.

Presenter: James Gallagher
Producer Gerry Holt
Researcher: Minnie Harrop
Editor: Ilan Goodman
Production coordinator: Ishmael Soriano

If you've been affected by addiction, details of help and support are available at bbc.co.uk/actionline.

This episode was produced in partnership with The Open University.

TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002grqp)

Listener Week: Testosterone, Talking to adult children about abuse, Why we dream

Listener Week continues on Woman's Hour as we bring your stories, ideas and the issues you want to hear about to the air.

Carola got in touch to ask if we could find out more about the benefits of testosterone for post-menopausal women. Dr Joyce Harper, Professor of Reproductive Science at the Institute for Women's Health at University College London, joins Nuala McGovern to discuss the evidence.

When we think about children in situations of domestic abuse, it's often young children we think of - but what about adult children? We received a letter from a listener telling us about a dilemma she is facing. After previously being in an abusive relationship with the father of her four adult children, she's now considering whether to tell them that their parents' relationship was coercive. Gemma Sherrington, CEO of Refuge, and coercive control expert Dr Gemma Katz join us to discuss the issues around a parent deciding whether to be honest with their grown-up children or continue to protect them from their reality.

Jess wrote in to tell us about a poem she came across on social media about the post-partum period, calling it "absolutely beautiful". She added: "There are hundreds of comments across Instagram and TikTok of mothers feeling exactly the same way. Please check it out, I would love to hear more from this poet." We've tracked her down and her name is Amy Williams. She joins us to perform the poem live in the studio.

Listener Sarah Hutchinson wants to know more about dreams. Specifically, why she has been having more vivid, memorable dreams during the recent heatwaves, and whether women's experience of dreaming is linked to the menstrual cycle? Sarah joins Nuala along with Caroline Horton, Professor of Sleep and Cognition and director of the DrEAMSLab at Bishop Grosseteste University.

And listener Heather tells us what it was like setting up one of the first dating agencies in the 1980s, aimed at helping people in rural communities find love.

Presented by: Nuala McGovern
Produced by: Sarah Jane Griffiths and Di McGregor

TUE 11:00 Screenshot (m002gd90)

Police Procedurals

Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode are on patrol, investigating why the police procedural continues to be so arresting for audiences.

Mark meets the film writer and critic Kim Newman who charts the beginnings of the genre and some of its tropes. Next, he talks to the director and documentaryarian Sandhya Suri, to discuss her feature film debut, *Santosh*, that follows the journey of a widow turned police constable.

Meanwhile, Ellen discusses how fiction aimed to mimic reality in 90s TV series, *Homicide: Life on the Street*, with actor from the show, Kyle Secor. She also speaks to Simon Ford, executive producer of the documentary series, *24 Hours in Police Custody*, who explains how dramatic structure borrowed from fiction has helped the award-winning programme tell wider stories about the world around us.

Producer: Mae-Li Evans
A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 11:45 The Autism Curve (m002bswk)

2. The Past

How has autism changed to include those - like women - who were previously missed?

To make sense of the steep upwards curve in autism diagnoses, we go back to the start, to understand who we counted then compared with now. Professor Francesca Happé describes the evolution and expansion of the definition of autism, including the role played by Hans Asperger and controversy around his alleged Nazi sympathies. And we hear from Sarah Hendrickx, author of *Women and Girls on the Autism Spectrum*, about how women have been misdiagnosed with mental health conditions rather than autism; and from education consultant Frances Akinde about the experience of autistic people in ethnic minority groups.

Archive: BBC.

Presenter: Michael Blastland
Series Producer: Simon Maybin
Editor: Clare Fordham
Sound mix: Neil Churchill
Production Co-ordinator: Gemma Ashman

TUE 12:00 News Summary (m002grqr)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m002grqt)

Call You & Yours: What's your experience of buying a car and how do you pay for it?

We're talking about car finance in our phone in today.

What's your experience of buying a car and how do you pay for it?

Buying a car with a finance deal has become the norm in this country - around 9 in 10 new cars are bought on finance, usually a PCP - a personal contract purchase. It's become a way to make more expensive cars affordable because you're not paying back the full price of the car. Some of these deals have 0% finance and full warranty and servicing but some are not so good and of course you don't own the car at the end. It's not just new cars - many second hand cars are bought on finance too - on PCP or Hire purchase - what car could you afford and how did you finance it?

Have you taken out a finance deal on a car? Tell us what you considered before signing up. Did it work out well? What did you do with your car when your contract was up?

What's your experience of buying a car and how do you pay for it?

Our phone lines open at **11am**, you can call 03700 100 444.

Email us: youandyours@bbc.co.uk

TUE 12:57 Weather (m002grqw)

The latest weather forecast

TUE 13:00 World at One (m002grqy)

Prison system came 'close to collapse'

Dame Anne Owers, author of the report, tells us about her concerns about the prison system, and we put her points to former Justice Secretary Alex Chalk. Plus, what would a potential global deal on plastic pollution look like? We also continue our 60th birthday celebrations by revisiting a 1966 interview with Muhammad Ali.

TUE 13:45 Understand (m002grr0)

The Trip

2. When the drugs take hold

During the early weeks of the pandemic, Tim Hayward spent 14 days in a coma. He remembers this time vividly - his days and nights filled with strange, incandescent visions and hallucinations. That experience is something he would never choose to revisit but, around the world, large numbers of people are deliberately seeking out powerfully altered states.

In this ten-part series, Tim sets out to better understand a group of substances that induce altered states: psychedelics.

There's been a surge of interest in their therapeutic potential for various mental health conditions - as well as a range of other clinical possibilities. As research around the world ramps up after years of taboo and prohibition he tries to get to grips with - or at least get a clearer sense of - how science, culture, politics and business might all interact in this changing psychedelic landscape, and what it all might mean.

He also explores what might be happening in the brain during a

trip and whether, by studying psychedelics, we might uncover more about consciousness, imagination and even the mysteries of reality itself.

In this second episode Tim stares at a rose, encounters an inflatable head, and tries to get to grips with the anatomy of a trip.

Contributors:

Eugenia Bone, journalist and author of "How to Have a Good Trip"
Steven A. Jones, filmmaker
Katrin Preller, neuropsychologist and neuroimaging researcher, University of Zurich

Presenter: Tim Hayward
Series Producer: Richard Ward
Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Written by Tim Hayward and Richard Ward
Sound Design and Mixing: Richard Ward
Researcher: Grace Revill
Voiceover Artist: Sandra-Mae Lux
Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke
A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 14:00 The Archers (m002gqgs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

TUE 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m002grr2)

Series 7

38. Hope and Jean

As Hope faces an unexpected medical scare, she sets her heart on reconnecting with her long-lost daughter — but secrets from the past threaten to derail her plans. Meanwhile, Jean embarks on her own emotional quest to confront her birth mother. Old wounds resurface, loyalties are tested, and a quiet family life begins to crack open in unexpected ways.

Hope Danielle Vitalis
Faith Shiloh Coke
Jean Cecilia Appiah
Elizabeth Tessa Peake-Jones
Doctor Jason Barnett
Ophelia Marilyn Nnadebe
Sheila Keziah Joseph

Writer: Carol Russell
Director: Anastasia Osei-Kuffour
Producer: Patricia Cumper
Production Co-Ordinators: Maggie Olgiati and Jenny Mendez

TUE 15:00 Extreme (m0027h5t)

Peak Danger

3. The Death Zone

Once you get beyond 26,000 feet, your body can no longer acclimatise to the extreme high altitude. This is called the Death Zone.

Cecilie Skog and her fellow climbers are in the Death Zone, their eyes trained on the top of K2. They're approaching one of the most dangerous parts of the mountain - but things aren't going according to plan.

As the climbers scramble to keep their summit dreams alive, things take a devastating turn.

Featuring climbers Cecilie Skog, Lars Nessa, Eric Meyer, Fredrik Strang, Predrag Zagorac and Chhiring Dorje Sherpa.

Special thanks to Fredrik Strång for providing archival footage.

Host and Executive Producer: Natalia Mehlman Petrzela
Producers: Leigh Meyer & Amalie Sortland
Editor: Josephine Wheeler
Production Manager: Joe Savage
Sound Design and Mix by Nicholas Alexander, with additional engineering from Daniel Kempson.
Original Music by Adam Foran, Theme music by Adam Foran and Silverhawk
Executive Producers: Max O'Brien & Craig Strachan
Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke
A Novel production for the BBC

TUE 15:30 Heart and Soul (w3ct6vp0)

Verses for Women: Egypt's Quran Reciters

Salma El-Wardany meets young women in Egypt using their voices to amplify their faith – drawing inspiration from the long tradition of female Quran reciters in the country. Following in the footsteps of pioneering women like Sheikhha Munira Abdul

who was first heard on Egyptian Radio 100 years ago and the renowned singer Umm Kulthum, more Egyptian women are sharing their recitations of the Quran publicly. They're stepping out of the shadows of a fatwa that denounced women's voices as awrah (to be covered or not heard) which led to a ban of public recitation on the radio in the 1940s. The ban lasted years but the tradition is being restored thanks to a new generation, with women boldly reciting and chanting about the Prophet Mohammed on social media.

Salma visits Aya Mahmoud and Horeya Boreya, two young women who have both gained hundreds of thousands of followers thanks to their reciting online, and have the backing of Al Azhar Mosque, who announced a fatwa in 2021 that it was permissible. Salma visits the El Hour troupe, the first all-female chanting group to meet the founder Neama Fathy and hears about the challenges of overcoming conservative opinions. While the female voice is still a controversial topic – Salma meets Dr Yasmin Asmin, a feminist scholar who argues there isn't basis in scripture to say women's voices are awrah – women spoke and were heard in the Quran and were central to sharing and teaching the Quran in the time of the Prophet onwards.

Presenter: Salma El-Wardany
Producer: Miriam Williamson
Executive producer: Rajeev Gupta
Editor: Chloe Walker
Production co-ordinator: Mica Nepomuceno

TUE 16:00 Artworks (m002grr6)
Angry and Young

"If you're not angry, you're not paying attention," says one character in Dawn King's play about the climate crisis, *The Trials*.

"I learnt at an early age what it is to be angry - angry and helpless." In *Look Back in Anger*, a youthful Jimmy Porter rages against church, country and the docility of those he loves.

People working in theatre now - amid war, injustice and increasing authoritarianism - reflect on anger as a motivation for the 'art of words', its creative limitations and the eroding effect of the passing years.

With playwrights Dawn King and Georgia Bruce, director Atri Banerjee and Cress Brown of *Cutting the Tights*.

Including extracts from the 1959 film *Look Back in Anger*. Original music (Homage to Jimmy Porter) written and performed by Alan Hall.

Produced by Alan Hall
A Falling Tree production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 16:30 What's Up Docs? (m002grrb)
Will laughter help you live longer?

Welcome to *What's Up Docs?*, the podcast where doctors and identical twins Chris and Xand van Tulleken cut through the confusion around health and wellbeing.

In this episode, the Doctors turn their attention to laughter. You've probably heard the phrase 'laughter is the best medicine', but have you ever wondered if there's actually any science behind that? Can a good belly laugh really help with stress, pain, or even your immune system? How does it help to improve our relationships? And why do we laugh at all - even when nothing's particularly funny?

To find out, Chris and Xand sit down with Professor Sophie Scott CBE, a leading expert in the neuroscience of laughter from University College London.

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: Professor Sophie Scott
Producer: Jo Rowntree
Executive Producer: Rami Tzabar
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Assistant Producer: Maia Miller-Lewis
Researcher: Grace Revill
Tech Lead: Reuben Huxtable
Social Media: Leon Gover
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 (m002grrg)

UK-France migration deal begins

The BBC investigation into a major cross-channel people smuggling gang. Plus, millions of pounds worth of premium bond winnings are going unclaimed. Could you be owed?

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002grrl)

The BBC gains unprecedented access to a violent people-smuggling gang

A BBC investigation has exposed the operations of a powerful and violent people-smuggling gang sending migrants to the UK in small boats. Also: A report by the US Coast Guard says the operator of the Titan sub which imploded used "intimidation tactics" to evade scrutiny from the regulator. And NASA is told to fast-track plans to build a nuclear reactor on the Moon.

TUE 18:30 Room 101 with Paul Merton (m002grrq)
Series 3

Maisie Adam

Paul Merton interviews a variety of guests from the world of comedy and entertainment to find out what they would send to Room 101.

Maisie Adam attempts to banish speedy boarding on airlines, sequels, and mobile phones at live events.

Additional material John Irwin and Suki Webster
Produced by Richard Wilson
A Hat Trick production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 19:00 The Archers (m002grrx)

Kate gives Kirsty the news that that Chris won't require Rookery Cottage back after all, so Jakob can stay put. Kirsty asserts that's absolutely fine with her. She'll keep looking for a tenant. Later Kate laments there's no sign Brian will change his mind about the harvest. He and Justin are as bad as each other. Kirsty counters that Justin's capable of changing his mind in the blink of an eye – just take the beaver scheme for example. Kate suddenly wrongfoots Kirsty by suggesting she becomes Kirsty's tenant. It would get her out of her dad's hair. It's the perfect solution; they'll have so much fun!

Oliver's trying to track down his shooting magazine. Susan struggles to remember where it's being stored; everyone's magazines seem to be somewhere different. She tries Tracy's house.

Dane's confident Leroy's fete tug of war team will be victorious. Oliver declares Dane's done a wonderful job. Oliver looks ahead to their autumn wedding fayre. He's surprised to learn Dane's advertising for a coordinator when he has Lily right there. Dane says he'll make sure Lily applies. Later when Lily and Brad try to share some tug of war tactics with Dane he shuts them down. Lily's unimpressed. She tells Brad she's not applying for the wedding coordinator post, it's not for her. She confides later that she liked Dane to start with, but he's too keen on work – he never talks to her about anything else. She thinks they should bypass Dane and talk to Leroy directly about tactics. This way she guarantees they'll win.

TUE 19:15 Front Row (m002grsl)

Sean Hayes, from *Will & Grace*, on his Tony Award-winning stage show *Good Night, Oscar*

Tom Sutcliffe speaks to Sean Hayes, best known for his role as Jack in *Will and Grace*. Now he's playing pianist Oscar Levant in Broadway hit *Good Night Oscar*, which has just opened at the Barbican in London.

Dmitri Shostakovich wrote his *Symphony No 5* under massive pressure, having been denounced by Stalin the year before during the great purge of 1936. The success of *Symphony No 5* saved his career, and now it's being performed from memory by the *Aurora Orchestra* for the BBC Proms. Nicholas Collon, Conductor of the *Aurora Orchestra* and Professor Marina Frolova-Walker discuss.

K-Pop Demon Hunters has just become the most successful animation ever on Netflix, and the show's music, by a fictional band, has made it to number one in charts both sides of the Atlantic. The BBC's Julie Yoonnyung Lee tells us about the surprising trend of 2025.

Two playwrights on the Edinburgh fringe are putting white supremacy under the spotlight: Priyanka Shetty's *#Charlottesville*, and Gabriel Jason Dean's play *Rift*. Both draw on the personal experiences of their writers. Priyanka and Gabriel join us on the line from Edinburgh.

TUE 20:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002grs5)
Trip Shocked

Psychedelics are having a moment — hailed as miracle cures for depression, PTSD and addiction. But what happens when the trip doesn't end?

In *Trip Shocked*, writer and researcher Ed Prideaux takes a hard look at the risks lurking in the psychedelic renaissance. Drawing on his own long-term side effects from LSD, Ed explores a hidden history of harms: from persistent hallucinations and underground support groups to therapy sessions that crossed the line.

As billionaires, biotech firms and media stars race to mainstream psychedelics, are we ignoring inconvenient truths about safety, science and consent?

Producer: Nadia Mehdi
A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 20:40 In Touch (m002grs9)

Natalie's Story: Being Transgender & Blind

Natalie is a blind transgender woman and she contacted *In Touch* wishing to highlight the intersectional impacts of the UK Supreme Court's ruling in April, that ruled that a woman is to be defined by biological sex under equality law. Natalie describes how this could have major implications for how sex-based rights are applied and how society responds to her and especially those with disabilities.

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.

TUE 21:00 Crossing Continents (m002grsf)

Waiting for my Dad - Ukraine's children of the missing

A pioneering summer camp for Ukrainian children with missing parents. According to the Ukrainian government, more than 70 thousand people are missing in the war, leaving families, including thousands of children, anxious for news of their loved ones and unable to move on.

Psychologists say these children are some of the most traumatised they have worked with.

Now for the first time a leading Ukrainian children's charity is putting on a special summer camp for some of these children, offering them therapy, fun activities and a safe place.

For *Crossing Continents*, Will Vernon is given exclusive access to this project, where psychologists are developing a new framework to treat these deeply traumatised children.

Producer: John Murphy
Sound mixer: Neil Churchill
Production Coordinator: Gemma Ashman
Series editor: Penny Murphy

TUE 21:30 Great Lives (m001xwrr)

Harry Enfield on Gerard Hoffnung

Gerard Hoffnung's life was short. He died in 1959 at the age of 34, but this cartoonist, musician, broadcaster and raconteur achieved a lot in that time. Born in Berlin, he lived most of his life in London. His charming cartoons which often gently poked fun at musicians and conductors were printed in magazines and books. His wife Annetta said he was always on-show and even a trip to the bank could turn into an uproarious occasion. Having caught the attention of the BBC he recorded a series of interviews with Charles Richardson, and his delivery of 'The Bricklayer's Lament' to the Oxford Union in 1958 is considered a triumph of comedic story-telling. The Hoffnung concerts which combined music and comedy sold out quicker than Liberace.

Harry Enfield discovered Hoffnung when he was looking through the records in his local library. He knows it's boring for comedians to talk about timing but Hoffnung's was brilliant, and he finds it annoying that comedy wasn't even his main job. Harry got to know the family later on and his impersonation of Gerard became the inspiration for his own character 'Sir Henry'. Harry's joined in the studio by Gerard and Annetta's children, Emily and Benedict Hoffnung.

Future episodes in this series include Alice Roberts on Emma, Queen of England, Journalist Steve Richards on Bruce Forsyth

and Baroness Ros Altman on Antoni Gaudi.

Presenter: Matthew Parris
Producer: Toby Field for BBC Studios Audio

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m002grsk)
80 years since the dropping of the first atomic bomb

As Japan prepares to mark the anniversary of a turning point in history, we ask whether the doctrine of nuclear non-proliferation is at risk. We look at aid agency reports of a worsening famine in Sudan. And we speak to one of the Democratic representatives on the run from the Texas state legislature.

TUE 22:45 An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo Ishiguro (m002grsp)
2: Precautionary Steps

Tim McInnerny reads Nobel Prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro's classic 1986 novel, set in post-WWII Japan.

It is 1948. Japan is rebuilding after the horrors of the war, its people putting defeat behind them and looking to the future. The celebrated artist Masuji Ono fills his days in his garden with his two grown daughters and grandson, and his evenings drinking with old associates in the quiet lantern-lit bars of the old pleasure district. His should be a tranquil retirement. But as his memories continually return to the past, a dark shadow begins to grow over his serenity.

Today: Ono is bewildered when his eldest daughter suggests he take certain steps to ensure his youngest daughter's marriage negotiations go smoothly...

Author: Kazuo Ishiguro
Reader: Tim McInnerny
Abridger: Richard Hamilton
Producer: Justine Willett

TUE 23:00 Havana Helmet Club (m002ddb8)
6. The Thing

When the room begins spinning wildly, CIA agent Marc believes he has been hit on an assignment in Moscow. It turns out, an eerily similar phenomena in the Russian capital - affecting US embassy staff - happened before, in the 1970s...

Meanwhile, Adam - back on US soil - begins to suspect he is being followed. And the search is on for an untraceable weapon.

Credits
Havana Helmet Club is written and presented by Jennifer Forde and Sam Bungey
Editor: Guy Crossman
Story editing: Mike Ollove Producer: Larry Ryan
Sound designer: Merijn Royaards
Additional mixing: Peregrine Andrews
Theme music: Tom Pintens, with additional music composed by Merijn Royaards
Fact checking: Stanley Masters. Additional reporting: Isobel Sutton, Pascale Hardey Stewart and Stanley Masters
Archive producers: Miriam Walsh and Helen Carr
Production executive: Kirstin Drybrugh
Editorial advisor: Jesse Baker
Commissioner: Dylan Haskins
Assistant commissioners: Sarah Green and Natasha Johansson

Havana Helmet Club is a Yarn production for Radio 4 and BBC Sounds

TUE 23:30 Illuminated (m0026n4x)
One Hundred Ways of Listening

Distracted, privatised, enchanted - do you ever think about how you listen? For the last 20 years, sound anthropologist Dr Tom Rice has been collecting different ways of listening from the world's leading sound experts. He's gathered more than 100 - some of these may be quite familiar, others will definitely surprise you.

We are at a critical moment when it comes to listening. The world is increasingly busy with sound, and it's placing more and more demands on our ears. There's an awareness that our culture and economic circumstances influence our perception, concern about growing pressures on our attention, and anxiety about our relationship to the environment. With the pace at which technology is developing, can we even be sure of what it is we're listening to?

We need to be skilful and agile listeners. By recognising the vast scope and extraordinary complexity of listening, we can develop our awareness and sharpen our perception, helping us to survive and even thrive in the complex sound world of the 21st century.

Contributors: Bernd Brabec, University of Innsbruck; Ruth Herbert, University of Kent and City University; Dylan Robinson, University of British Columbia.

Special thanks to: Michel Chion - semantic listening; Martin Daughtry - palimpsestic listening; Michael Gallagher, Jonathan Prior, Martin Needham and Rachel Holmes - embodied listening, expanded listening; Stefan Helmreich - soundstate; David Huron - ecstatic listening; James M. Kopf - anal listening; Pierre Schaeffer - acousmatic listening; Murray Schafer, David Toop - clairauidience; Kai Tuuri - critical listening.

Written by Tom Rice and Ben Lewis
Produced by Eve Streeter and Tom Rice
Sound design by David Thomas
Music by Max Walter
A Raconteur Studios production for BBC Radio 4

WEDNESDAY 06 AUGUST 2025

WED 00:00 Midnight News (m002grsw)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 00:30 The Autism Curve (m002bswk)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Tuesday]

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002grt0)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002grt4)
BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

WED 05:00 News Summary (m002grt8)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 05:04 BBC Inside Science (m002gg7p)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Monday]

WED 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002grtd)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002grtg)
A story from the top of the world

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.

Good morning.

On a blisteringly hot day, where the sun blazed unforgivingly onto the dusty ground, I made my way up a large hill called St Thomas' Mount in Chennai, South India. At the top of the hill stood a beautiful white chapel, known as the shrine of St Thomas, the location of which Thomas, a follower of Jesus and an evangelist, is said to have been martyred.

Here, I felt a sense of deep connection, both to my Indian ancestry, and my Christian heritage. I was part of a story that spanned continents and across faiths.

Hilltops and mountaintops, are places of revelation and transformation throughout scripture. Today in the Christian calendar, we celebrate the transfiguration, where, on a mountaintop, Jesus is said to have changed into a glowing apparition, giving a sense of his heavenly glory. The two followers of Jesus who accompany him, see a vision of the ancient prophets, Elijah and Moses joining Jesus, and in this, their story is vividly connected, with the lives of faithful people who have gone before them.

Such moments of wonder are rare and precious. On that Chennai hilltop, I was taken beyond the here and now, into the bigger story. It was humbling to think of those, who had walked before me, and also to imagine who might come after.

And so today, I give thanks for mountaintop moments, that can bring awe and wonder. Knowing that I am part of a bigger story, that stretches into the past and extends into the future, I pray that what I do now, has meaning, and shapes a story of hope and promise for the days, months and years to come.

Amen.

WED 05:45 Farming Today (m002grtj)
06/08/25 Parasite control, barn owls, pea harvest

The British Veterinary Association is urging farmers to avoid treating livestock for parasites unnecessarily. The say blanket treatments of worming medicines can lead to resistance and have an impact on the environment.

Conservationists in the south east are reporting a drop in the number of barn owl chicks being raised, they say it's the worst breeding season they've seen for decades.

All week we're following the harvest around the country, pea producers say this year's crop is down by a quarter because of dry windy weather.

Presenter = Anna Hill
Producer = Rebecca Rooney

WED 06:00 Today (m002grtn)
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

WED 09:00 Sideways (m002gqyd)
74. Inventing a Language

Identical twins Matthew and Michael Youlden invented their own private language as toddlers. They've gone on to become accomplished multi-linguists, but kept up their childhood invented language and still use it today.

Matthew Syed explores the extraordinary human capacity to invent new systems of communication and considers whether language can penetrate and shape the way we see the world.

He discovers the fascinating process involved in developing fictional languages with language creator Jessie Peterson. She invented 'Firish' (or Ts'its'ash), which is spoken by the animated fire beings in Disney's Elemental. Matthew also hears about the life-changing effect the ancient language of Sanskrit had on an American Professor. Through their stories, Matthew rethinks his own feelings towards the relationship between language and thought.

With identical twins 'Superpolyglot Bros' Matthew and Michael Youlden; Professor of Psychology and Director of the Twin Studies Center at California State University Fullerton, Dr Nancy Segal; professional language creator Jessie Peterson; and Varun Khanna, Professor of Classics at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania.

Presenter: Matthew Syed
Producer: Vishva Samani
Editor: Hannah Marshall
Sound Design and Mix: Mark Pittan
Theme music by Ioana Selaru
A Novel production for BBC Radio 4

WED 09:30 Shadow World (m002grtq)
The Grave Robbers

5. Ripe for the Taking

Where did the gang get the idea to use fake wills to steal the homes of the dead? Sue travels to Budapest to find out. As her investigation concludes, she exposes the scale of a crime that had gone unreported until now, and she hears how the authorities are finally starting to act.

Presenter: Sue Mitchell
Producers: Sue Mitchell, Joe Moors and Winifred Robinson
Sound design and mix: Tom Brignell
Production coordinator: Juliette Harvey
Executive producer: Joe Kent
Commissioning executive: Tracy Williams
Commissioning editor: Dan Clarke

The Grave Robbers is a BBC Studios production for Radio 4.

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002grts)
Listener Week: MND and women, Not being a granny, Studying later in life

Motor Neurone Disease is a condition that affects nerves found in the brain and spinal cord which tell our muscles what to do. The disease is life shortening and there is no cure. One listener, Diana Keys, was diagnosed in May 2023. She tells us about her experience and asks why does representation of MND in the media skew so heavily towards men? Diana is joined by Dame Pamela Shaw, an academic neurologist and world-leading researcher in MND.

Listener Sally Ruffles describes herself as a 68 year old woman with one daughter and no grandchildren. She got in touch with Woman's Hour for Listener Week to say: "There's this common assumption that having grandchildren is always a wonderful thing. But nobody really stops to think that not having them might also be okay—or even a positive thing for

Radio 4 Listings for 2 – 8 August 2025		Page 15 of 22
<p>some people." She joins Nuala with her daughter Hannah, who persuaded her mother to write to Woman's Hour, to discuss why it can be difficult to talk about not being a grandparent.</p> <p>We talk to women living full time on the UK's waterways. Charlotte Ashman is an artist and print maker and Jo Bell is a writer and former UK Canal Laureate. They tell us about their lives, their work and the pros and cons of narrowboat living.</p> <p>Have you ever thought about going back to school? Recent graduates Sue Goldsmith & Rahat Ismail both returned to studying later in life. They join Nuala to discuss what took them back to education and the value of lifelong learning.</p> <p>Presenter: Nuala McGovern Producer: Emma Pearce</p> <p>WED 11:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002grs5) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Tuesday]</p> <p>WED 11:40 This Week in History (m002gqz9) August 4th - August 10th</p> <p>Fascinating, surprising and eye-opening stories from the past, brought to life.</p> <p>BBC Radio 4 explores the history books and archives to see what has happened on this same week throughout history. With short vignettes of the events that have shaped the world and made us who we are today.</p> <p>This week: August 4th - August 10th - 6th of August 1945. An atomic bomb is dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima; it is the first time a nuclear weapon is used during a war. - 6th of August 1991. The computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee launches the first web page. - 4th of August 1976. The first women's international cricket match is played at Lord's.</p> <p>Presented by Jane Steel and Ron Brown. Produced by Stuart Ross.</p> <p>WED 11:45 The Autism Curve (m002btyc) 3. The Science</p> <p>What's the evidence that there's been a rise not just in diagnosis, but in autism itself?</p> <p>We've heard that the exponential trend in autism diagnosis can be explained in large part, at least, by a widening definition and the diagnosis of groups - like women - who were previously missed. But could the amount of underlying autism also be rising? And if so, why? Professor Francesca Happé explains the role of genetics, environmental factors, and vaccine scares. And Ginny Russell, author of The Rise of Autism, talks through her research into the plausibility of various causes that people claim are behind a real rise in autism.</p> <p>Archive: The White House; Fox News; NatureDocHealth; Dr Josh Ax; NonToxicDad; BBC.</p> <p>Presenter: Michael Blastland Series Producer: Simon Maybin Editor: Clare Fordham Sound mix: Neil Churchill Production Co-ordinator: Gemma Ashman</p> <p>WED 12:00 News Summary (m002grtv) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>WED 12:04 You and Yours (m002grtx) Summer Holiday Activities, Food Inflation, Mobile Phone Theft</p> <p>With the summer holidays now in full swing across the UK, many working parents are faced with the extra costs of having children at home for 6 weeks. We'll be speaking with parents about how they manage this, as well as giving advice on how to keep those costs down.</p> <p>You may have noticed that the amount you are spending on your food shopping is going up – food prices rose in July, the sixth month in a row, meaning they are now 4% up on this time last year. The British Retail Consortium will tell us what is going up in price and why, as well as telling us what is happening in other areas of retail.</p> <p>And you may well know from bitter experience that mobile phone theft is rife in cities across the UK - particularly in London. More than 80,000 phones were stolen in London last year. That was a 20% increase year-on-year, according to the Metropolitan Police. A pilot scheme that starts today, in Westminster, is looking to educate people on protecting</p>	<p>themselves and their phone, as well as offering support to those who have their phones snatched.</p> <p>PRESENTER: Winifred Robinson PRODUCER: Dave James</p> <p>WED 12:57 Weather (m002grtz) The latest weather forecast</p> <p>WED 13:00 World at One (m002grv1) Trouble for the UK Economy</p> <p>The report from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research says Rachel Reeves must raise tax to meet her borrowing rules. John McTernan, former Number 10 advisor to Tony Blair, gives his analysis. Plus: United States envoy Steve Witkoff meets President Putin in Moscow. And Paddy O'Connell reports from The Cotswolds, the newest holiday hotspot for wealthy Americans.</p> <p>WED 13:45 Understand (m002grv3) The Trip</p> <p>3. Stranger things</p> <p>During the early weeks of the pandemic, Tim Hayward spent 14 days in a coma. He remembers this time vividly – his days and nights filled with strange, incandescent visions and hallucinations. That experience is something he would never choose to revisit but, around the world, large numbers of people are deliberately seeking out powerfully altered states.</p> <p>In this ten-part series, Tim sets out to better understand a group of substances that induce altered states: psychedelics.</p> <p>There's been a surge of interest in their therapeutic potential for various mental health conditions - as well as a range of other clinical possibilities. As research around the world ramps up after years of taboo and prohibition he tries to get to grips with - or at least get a clearer sense of - how science, culture, politics and business might all interact in this changing psychedelic landscape, and what it all might mean.</p> <p>He also explores what might be happening in the brain during a trip and whether, by studying psychedelics, we might uncover more about consciousness, imagination and even the mysteries of reality itself.</p> <p>In this third episode Tim hears tales of pixies, hyper-intelligent alien entities and explores a highly unusual molecule found in the glands of a toad.</p> <p>Contributors: Lisa Luan, neuroscientist and psychologist, Imperial College London David Luke, psychologist and psychedelic researcher, University of Greenwich Chris Timmermann, neuroscientist and psychologist, University College London</p> <p>Presenter: Tim Hayward Series Producer: Richard Ward Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones Editor: Kirsten Lass Written by Tim Hayward and Richard Ward Sound Design and Mixing: Richard Ward Researcher: Grace Revill Voiceover Artist: Sandra-Mae Lux Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>WED 14:00 The Archers (m002grrx) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]</p> <p>WED 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m002grv5) Series 7</p> <p>39. Hope and Faith</p> <p>Determined to make amends before time runs out, Hope embarks on an emotional trip to find Joy. Meanwhile, Jean's long-awaited meeting with her birth mother peels back layers of family pain and unexpected tenderness. As old bonds fray and new ties form, both women are forced to confront who they really are - and who they might still become.</p> <p>Hope Danielle Vitalis Faith Shiloh Coke Jean Cecilia Appiah Elizabeth Tessa Peake-Jones Gloria Ellen Thomas Joy Cherrelle Skeete Winston Daniel Francis-Swabey Doctor Jason Barnett</p>	<p>Writer: Carol Russell Director: Anastasia Osei-Kuffour Producer: Patricia Cumper Production Co-Ordinators: Maggie Olgiati and Jenny Mendez</p> <p>WED 15:00 Politically (m002flhp) Reflections: Series 3</p> <p>John Kerry</p> <p>James Naughtie talks to former US Secretary of State John Kerry about his life and political career.</p> <p>At his home in Massachusetts, which he represented in the United States Senate for close to 30 years, Kerry discusses his experiences as a naval officer in Vietnam, how he felt the pull of politics, and what he attempted to achieve. Reflecting on the 2004 presidential election campaign, where he was the Democrat nominee against President George W. Bush, Kerry says it was the first 'fake news election'.</p> <p>In four years as President Obama's Secretary of State, Kerry travelled more than a million miles around the world, and he discusses his experiences negotiating the Iran Nuclear Deal, the decision not to strike Syria, and his friendship with Benjamin Netanyahu.</p> <p>And on domestic politics, Kerry has some striking advice for his party after losing the 2024 presidential election.</p> <p>Producer: Giles Edwards</p> <p>WED 15:30 The Hidden History of the Staircase (m0012scj) Join Rachel Hurdley as she climbs the staircase to discover a story of steps, status, segregation and grand entrances.</p> <p>Staircases go back thousands of years to the stepped temples of the ancient world. In this country they developed from simple ladders to the spiral staircases of medieval castles and the imposing stairways of Tudor mansions.</p> <p>Staircases may seem to be just a way of getting from one floor to another but, over the centuries, they've taken on a range of hidden meanings and symbolism.</p> <p>Rachel travels to Newark Castle to find the truth behind a medieval myth, discovers how the many flights of stairs at Tudor Hardwick Hall were used to impress visitors and visits Kedleston Hall to find out how Georgian landowners used staircases to reinforce their social position.</p> <p>Along the way, we learn about the Victorian hierarchy that governed who went down the stairs first. And grab the popcorn as we consider the role of the staircase in cinematic history.</p> <p>Interviewees: Sonia Solicari, Director of The Museum of the Home Jonathan Glancey, Architectural Writer and Historian Imogen Tedbury, Curator of Art, Royal Museums Greenwich speaking at the Queen's House. James Wright, Buildings Archaeologist speaking at Newark Castle Denise Edwards, General Manager of Hardwick Hall Richard Swinscoe, Assistant Curator, National Trust speaking at Kedleston Hall Deborah Sugg Ryan, Professor of Design History at Portsmouth University Karen Krizanovich, Film Journalist</p> <p>Presenter: Rachel Hurdley Producer: Louise Adamson Executive Producer: Samir Shah</p> <p>A Juniper Connect production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>WED 16:00 Human Intelligence (m0026pnw) Disruptors: Mary Wollstonecraft</p> <p>Mary Wollstonecraft argued with passion and moral certainty in her great work, A Vindication of the Rights of Women. Naomi Alderman meets the first modern woman, who lived the ideas she espoused – travelling to revolutionary France, living unmarried to her lover, arguing, debating, persuading and showing, with the quality of her arguments, the justice of her own cause. She died tragically young, giving birth to her daughter Mary, known now as Mary Shelley, the author of Frankenstein.</p> <p>Special thanks to Dr Corin Throsby, who teaches English at the University of Cambridge.</p> <p>Produced by BBC Studios Audio in partnership with The Open University.</p> <p>WED 16:15 The Media Show (m002gr0k)</p>
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Return of MasterChef, No. 10's TikTok Strategy, Bluey on YouTube, Investigating Tesla

MasterChef has returned to our screens. We hear from the BBC journalist who first broke the story about allegations of misconduct and ask what the future holds for one of the BBC's biggest brands.

As Downing Street holds its first ever influencer reception, we speak to one of the TikTok creators who attended and the journalist who first reported on the event. We lift the lid on the relationship between influencers and the government.

Children's cartoon Bluey is riding high in the YouTube charts. We hear from the BBC executive behind Bluey's YouTube strategy.

Plus, New York Times reporter Chris Buckley on the Taiwanese TV drama imagining a Chinese invasion and the political controversy it's sparked. And the German journalist who gained access to an extraordinary data leak from Tesla discusses what he found about the company and its boss, Elon Musk.

Producer: Dan Hardoon

WED 17:00 PM (m002grv7)

Putin meets US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff

President Putin calls the meeting with Witkoff "constructive and useful". Plus, deadly wildfires in France, across Europe and in Canada.

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002grv9)

Trump gives update on Russia talks

Trump threatens 50% tariffs on India for buying Russian oil.

Also: The Prime Minister says the government will focus on improving living standards at the Budget this autumn.

Medics in Gaza say they're struggling to deal with casualties after several lorries overturned.

WED 18:30 Oliver Callan Bins the Border (m002gszf)

Part 1: Dublin

Oliver Callan hosts a panel show in which comedians from both sides of the Irish border and Britain imagine what a united Ireland would look like if it ever happened. This week, Oliver Callan is joined by Neil Delamere, Alison Spittle, John Meagher and Ashley Storrie to debate a new national flag, who the head of state might be and the official, national breakfast.

Producer: Marc McElroy

A BBC Northern Ireland Production for Radio 4.

WED 19:00 The Archers (m002gqzb)

Emma and Will meet Amber at a café near to where she works. Will maintaining it'll help them get to know her if she's in her own environment. He suggests to Emma that they pay for some elements of the wedding; they could cut costs on a car or maybe the flowers. But when Amber arrives she assures them she has everything they mention covered. Instead perhaps they can contribute towards the venue? Will says they'd be delighted, and suggests Lower Loxley. Amber resolves to put it on her list. When she's gone Emma wonders what Will's playing at. Lower Loxley will be extortionate – it's popular and beautiful. Precisely, says Will, so it'll be booked out and the wedding will be delayed, just as Emma wants. Emma thinks this is a risky strategy.

Lily's on to Ben straight away when he asks where the Grey Gables tug of war practice is taking place. She teases him about spying for the village. Ben admits he doesn't care about the tug of war, it's his dad who's stressing. Ben's more concerned with filling in nursing applications. Lily's looking forward to quality downtime – there's a whole wide world out there she wants to see.

Ruth assures Stella she's fine to help with the harvest. She knows how difficult Brian can be, and what she's getting into. Stella intends to start today if the moisture readings are suitable. Perfect reading established and combine ready to go, they set to work on harvesting the wheat.

WED 19:15 Front Row (m002grvc)

Special edition from the Edinburgh Festivals with guests including Emmy and Olivier Award-winning actor Brian Cox

A special edition of the programme recorded in front of an audience at the Edinburgh Festivals earlier this week.

Emmy and Olivier Award-winning actor Brian Cox discusses his role as the ghost of economist Adam Smith in James Graham's satirical play Make It Happen. The National Theatre of Scotland production at the Edinburgh International Festival chronicles the rise and downfall (in 2008) of the world's biggest bank, The Royal Bank of Scotland, and also features an actor playing the role of the bank's former chief executive, Fred Goodwin, and an onstage chorus.

We're joined by Zainab Johnson - a black female Muslim comedian from Harlem whose show Toxically Optimistic is her debut at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and by comedian, Taskmaster star and the voice of Netflix's Too Hot to Handle Desiree Burch, whose show The Golden Wrath tackles themes including death, menopause, spirituality and nationality.

Plus music from leading trumpeter Jay Phelps, whose show Miles at the Fringe reflects on the legacy of the bestselling jazz album of all time, Kind of Blue by Miles Davis, and from The Bengsons, an Obie-winning husband and wife indie folk duo whose production Ohio is a celebratory true story about losing faith and finding hope in the darkest of places and is produced by the team behind Fleabag and Baby Reindeer.

Presenter: Kirsty Wark
Producer: Mark Crossan

WED 20:00 AntiSocial (m002gd84)

Dating and toxicity

An app offering women dating safety tools and advice has suspended some of its services following a hack, sparking a debate between the sexes about fairness and respect in dating.

Tea, which lets women do background checks on potential male dates, is only available in the USA, but the incident has prompted discussion about similar online groups available in the UK, like 'Are We Dating The Same Guy' on Facebook. Some users say online spaces where they can flag concerns about infidelity or potential abuse are vital for women's wellbeing and safety, but some men feel they are being treated unfairly and that the groups are spreading lies.

We spill the tea on the Tea app, look at the laws around what users can and can't say on these groups, and ask whether men really are less trustworthy than women when it comes to dating. Plus, online dating has changed the way we meet potential partners - how has the industry evolved?

Presenter: Adam Fleming

Producers: Simon Tulett, Lucy Proctor, Nik Sindle, Natasha Fernandes

Editor: Penny Murphy

Studio Manager: Hal Haines

WED 20:45 Café Hope (m00274s4)

Travel and chat

Douglas Fraser tells Rachel Burden how the community bus scheme in Glenfarg in Perthshire has helped with reconnecting people as well as providing transport.

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

WED 21:00 Walt Disney: A Life in Films (p0fxbrmf)

6. Cinderella

Through the stories of ten of his greatest works, Mel Giedroyc examines the life of Walt Disney, a much mythologised genius. A man to whom storytelling was an escape from an oppressive father and a respite from periods of depression.

His name is truly iconic, but how much do we really know about this titan of the entertainment industry? Who was the real Walt and why did a man who moulded Western pop culture in his image end up on his deathbed, afraid that he'd be forgotten?

In this episode, Mel explores Cinderella, one of Walt's most revered animations. The movie magically appeared on screens in 1950, emerging not from a pumpkin carriage, but from a period of the Disney studio's most profound instability yet.

Walt had unwavering faith that salvation was just one Snow

White-sized mega hit around the corner and in Cinderella he delivered it. It's a film filled with romance and wonder, but as Mel discovers, Walt's own love life wasn't always a fairy tale.

A Novel production for BBC Radio 4

WED 21:30 Inside Health (m002grqm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Tuesday]

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m002grvg)

Trump willing to meet Putin after Moscow talks

US President Trump said his envoy made "great progress" in talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow. He says he's willing to meet President Putin as well as President Zelensky of Ukraine. However the Trump administration is also threatening to slap secondary tariffs of 50% on India due to its continued purchase of Russian oil.

As international pressure grows, how are the Israeli media portraying the war in Gaza? One Israeli journalist tells us many people aren't getting the whole story.

And a conversation with an MP's AI chatbot. A Labour MP has created a digital version of himself to answer queries from constituents.

WED 22:45 An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo

Ishiguro (m002grvj)

3: 'No better than war criminals.'

Tim McNerny reads Nobel Prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro's classic 1986 novel, set in post-WWII Japan.

It is 1948. Japan is rebuilding after the horrors of the war, its people putting defeat behind them and looking to the future. The celebrated artist Masuji Ono fills his days in his garden with his two grown daughters and grandson, and his evenings drinking with old associates in the quiet lantern-lit bars of the old pleasure district. His should be a tranquil retirement. But as his memories continually return to the past, a dark shadow begins to grow over his serenity.

Today: as he reflects on his formidable influence on Art during the war, Ono is confused by the attitudes of Japan's younger generation...

Writer: Kazuo Ishiguro

Reader: Tim McNerny

Abridger: Richard Hamilton

Producer: Justine Willett

WED 23:00 Stand-Up Specials (m002grvl)

Stuart Mitchell's Cost of Dying

1. Checking Out

This first episode takes a cheeky look at the costs of end of life care and you might be surprised to find out just how pricey it is to pop your clogs!

When it seems like everything is getting more expensive; comedian, former banker and serial funeral-organiser Stuart Mitchell breaks down the true Cost of Dying. Using his own experience Stuart aims to find out if can we even afford to kick the bucket? You'll learn so much about the hidden costs of dying, you may well decide not to bother doing it!

Written and Performed by Stuart Mitchell

Producer: Lauren Mackay

Sound: Andy Hay and Chris Currie

WED 23:15 Njambi McGrath: Becoming Njambi

(m000zsq4)

Who Am I?

Kenyan-born comedian Njambi McGrath goes on a challenging journey of self-discovery, as she traces the roots of her upbringing and the British influences that shaped her life.

In this episode, Njambi explores the history of British colonisation of her home country and how it directly impacted her father's life, and subsequently her own. Njambi shares the story of meeting her husband, starting a family and moving to the UK and becoming the talk of the town.

Produced by Julia Sutherland

A Dabster production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:30 Ken Cheng: I Can School You (m001tj1z)

2. Cooking Up a Full English

Comedian Ken Cheng focuses his analytical observations on

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<p>school subjects. In this episode, Ken explores English lessons, the only subject you keep on learning after you've learned it.</p> <p>Producer: Rajiv Karia An EcoAudio certified production.</p> <p>A BBC Studios production for Radio 4.</p> <p>THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025</p> <p>THU 00:00 Midnight News (m002grvp) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 00:30 The Autism Curve (m002btyc) [Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Wednesday]</p> <p>THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002grvr) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002grvt) BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p>THU 05:00 News Summary (m002grvw) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 05:04 Sideways (m002ggyd) [Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]</p> <p>THU 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002grvy) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002grw0) Stop, in the name of love, and rest!</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.</p> <p>Good morning.</p> <p>August, in the cathedral where I work, is a quiet month work-wise. We make a point of having no meetings, and many go on holiday during this time.</p> <p>I really appreciate the opportunity to take things a little slower, to rest, to read, to spend more time with family and friends. Whenever I do this, I recognise the healing, nourishing effect it has on me.</p> <p>In the book of Genesis, when humans are created, the very next thing God does is create a day of rest for everyone. Humanity's life on earth begins with rest. Indeed, the creation poem in Genesis repeats the phrase - and then there was evening, and there was morning, the day. In Jewish tradition therefore, a day begins at sunset. The first part of the day, is dedicated to rest. I love this idea. All too often, I begin the day frantically getting ready for work, and the day ends with me being exhausted, ready to drop. How lovely would it be to begin the day in rest and continue the day having rested.</p> <p>Research has definitively shown that rest improves mental and physical health, it enhances cognitive function, helps reduce stress, and boosts the immune system. But for me, what I find most compelling, is the holiness of rest. God writes it into our very existence, from the very beginning</p> <p>And so this morning and throughout August, I pray for good, restorative times of relaxation. That I may learn to accept, that being busy all the time is not what God intended for me. And that, instead, I may find time, to simply stop - to lean back into the arms of God, and rest.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p>THU 05:45 Farming Today (m002grw2) 07/08/25 Farmwatch: a celebration of farming across England, sweetcorn harvest.</p> <p>Farmwatch will see farms take over BBC local radio in England today. It's a celebration of farming and a chance to hear from rural communities across the country. It's happening at one of the busiest times of the year for many farmers - harvest, and as part of our week-long focus on harvest we speak to a farmer in Lincolnshire who's growing corn on the cob.</p> <p>Presenter = Charlotte Smith Producer = Rebecca Rooney</p>	<p>THU 06:00 Today (m002ggy1) News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>THU 09:00 Artworks (m002ggy5) What Happened to Counter-Culture?</p> <p>1. Absolute Beginners</p> <p>More than just a cultural trend – counter-culture became a social movement so powerful it shaped institutions, businesses, politics and the attitudes and aspirations of whole generations – including everything from haircuts to voting choices. In fact, it became so prevalent that it's sometimes hard to remember how things have changed under its influence.</p> <p>Comedian Stewart Lee presents a five-part series exploring the evolution and key ideas that have driven counter-culture from its beginnings with the Beats, folk and jazz in the 1950s, to its heights in the 1960s and 70s including the hippies and the early tech-communists, the new liberation movements and punk, to the 1980s and early 90s, where political power on both sides of the Atlantic pushed back against the values of the 'permissive society'.</p> <p>Talking to artists, musicians, writers, activists and historians, Stewart continues to the present day asking where we are now, in the digital age of social media silos and the so-called 'culture wars' – what's happened to counter-culture? Was it co-opted, did it sell out? Or did its ideas of freedom and identity become so entrenched within mainstream culture it's legacy has become unassailable? Or has it migrated politically to the Right? Throughout the series, the counter-culture is explored not only in terms of its history, extraordinary cultural output and key events – but also its deeper political and philosophical impact, its continued meaning for our own age.</p> <p>Part 1, Absolute Beginners, explores why the counter-culture happened when it did and the uniquely placed generation driving it forwards - the Beat poets, the folk scene and its ties to the growing peace movement. A younger generation rejected ideas of security and hyper-conformity – a fear of the automated society and of a repressed 'One Dimensional Man' - the life being lived by their parents, still shaken by World War Two. Freedom and self-expression would become the new currency and poet Alan Ginsberg's Howl (1956) heralds the start of an unstoppable movement.</p> <p>Contributors include musician Brian Eno, authors Iain Sinclair and Olivia Laing, music producer Joe Boyd, sculptor Emily Young, cultural historian Jon Savage and folk singer Shirley Collins, with Ian Kearey playing The Instrument.</p> <p>Presenter: Stewart Lee Producer: Simon Hollis</p> <p>A Brook Lapping production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>THU 09:30 Across the Red Line (m002gqyc) Series 8</p> <p>Cousin marriage: tradition or risk? Anne McElvoy explores this divisive issue with two expert guests.</p> <p>Anne McElvoy presents Across the Red Line, the show that tackles divisive issues with thoughtful debate. This episode explores cousin marriage - legally permitted in the UK and practiced in some South Asian communities, where it's seen as a bond of trust and kinship. Historically common among British elites, cousin marriage has come under scrutiny due to medical risks, including increased chances of recessive genetic disorders.</p> <p>The debate has intensified: Norway has banned the practice, Sweden is set to follow, and UK MP Richard Holden has proposed legislation to outlaw it. A recent YouGov poll shows 77% of the public supports a ban, but enforcing it in communities where it's culturally embedded remains complex. Joining Anne are journalist Matthew Syed, a vocal critic of cousin marriage, and Dr Maleeha Mansur, an Obstetrics & Gynaecology Registrar who defends the practice and recently challenged Syed's views in The Times.</p> <p>Producer: Lisa Jenkinson</p> <p>THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002gqyk) Listener Week: Female breadwinners, Attitudes to stepmothers, Traditional craftswomen</p> <p>Listener Week continues on Woman's Hour as we bring your stories, ideas and the issues you want to hear about to the air.</p> <p>What happens when a woman earns more than her partner, or is the sole earner in a household? For some couples, it's a practical arrangement that works well. For others, it can bring unexpected tensions, challenging traditional ideas about gender, identity and power. Listener Karla emailed the programme to</p>	<p>say that she wanted to talk about what it means to be a female breadwinner. She joins Anita Rani along with Melissa Hogenboom, author of the book Breadwinners.</p> <p>Lynne got in touch with the show to share her experience of being a stepmother and ask why people question the validity of her role and other her. Lynne explains that her bonds with her partner and her stepdaughter are incredibly strong, but expresses confusion and anxiety at how people react to her being a stepmum. Lynne talks to Anita and Professor Lisa Doodson, a chartered psychologist, author and stepmother herself, who has carried out research into this topic.</p> <p>After our recent series about women and gaming, listener Jacqueline got in touch to say, 'I use games to 'check out' of life and to cope with an overwhelming amount of stuff that I need to manage. The games are an escape, but all those issues just come rushing back afterwards. I don't know where to turn for help.' Jacqueline joins Anita to share her experience, alongside consultant psychiatrist Professor Henrietta Bowden-Jones, founder and Director of the National Centre for Gaming Disorders.</p> <p>Last weekend Laura Hollywood was crowned Europe's Strongest Woman at the Official Strongman European Championship. We heard about her achievements from her friend Helen, who is a Woman's Hour listener. As well as being a 'strong-woman', Laura is also a strength coach, supporting women through the perimenopause, helping them to embrace their strength, enhance their performance, and build their best self. Laura joins Anita to explain what it take to become a 'strong woman'.</p> <p>Mary-Havana Little is a traditional fibrous plasterer. She got in touch for Listener Week to suggest we talk about traditional crafts. Mary is one of the few women in the plastering world, working to create ornate decorative mouldings using techniques from hundreds of years ago. She joins Anita to speak about working in this male-dominated craft, and why she wants to inspire more women and girls into the industry.</p> <p>Presenter: Anita Rani Producer: Rebecca Myatt</p> <p>THU 11:00 The Infinite Monkey Cage (m002fxn2) Series 33</p> <p>Technofossils - Sarah Gabbott, Mark Miodownik and Aurie Styla</p> <p>Brian Cox and Robin Ince dig deep into the strata of an imagined human history to unearth the curious concept of technofossils. Joined by paleobiologist Sarah Gabbott, material scientist Mark Miodownik and comedian and tech enthusiast Aurie Styla the panel unearth how the everyday objects that we throw away today compare to fossils of the past. Together, the panel investigates how these modern artifacts could degrade over time to become the fossils of the future. From old smartphones buried in bedside drawers to sprawling landfill sites, they imagine how these remnants of the Anthropocene might puzzle future archaeologists—and speculate on what these researchers might infer about our technology, customs, and way of life.</p> <p>Series Producer: Melanie Brown Assistant Producer: Olivia Jani Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem</p> <p>BBC Studios Audio Production</p> <p>THU 11:45 The Autism Curve (m002bt8f) 4. The Identity</p> <p>Autism today is not just medical but political. So who gets to decide who's autistic?</p> <p>The neurodiversity movement has given autistic people a voice in discussions about autism and its growing diagnosis for the first time. Ari Ne'eman, who co-founded the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, describes how he wanted to push back against groups run by the parents of autistic children, which advocated "pseudoscientific treatments and cures". Today, people like Ellie Middleton, an autistic and ADHD content creator, celebrate their autistic identity online, inspiring others to self-diagnose. Are sceptics right to suspect a social media fad?</p> <p>Archive: NBC; BBC; ITV; 7-Ahead; The Aspie World; List 25; Dr Sohoh Das.</p> <p>Presenter: Michael Blastland Series Producer: Simon Maybin Editor: Clare Fordham Sound mix: Neil Churchill Production Co-ordinator: Gemma Ashman</p>
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THU 12:00 News Summary (m002gqyp)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

THU 12:04 Scam Secrets (m002h3ks)

Dating Fraud: Don't Worry, I'm Rich

You've met someone online. You chat every night and it's going well - but then they need your help. Would you know what to do?

Romance fraud cost people more than £400m last year - and that's just the cases that were reported.

In this episode, BBC reporter Shari Vahl, criminologist Dr Elisabeth Carter and former scammer Alex Wood dissect the harrowing story of a woman who sent £80,000 to a man she believed was her soulmate.

Step by step, they uncover the criminal's elaborate tactics - from the powerful use of silence and love bombing, to a fake banking app and lies about a trip to hospital.

They highlight the red flags to watch out for and how to see criminals coming.

You can email the team at scam.secrets@bbc.co.uk

PRESENTER: SHARI VAHL

PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY

THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m002gqyt)

Nail Polish and Gels

Greg Foot gathers the experts, and "chips" away at the science for listener Helen.

Each episode Greg investigates the latest ad-hyped products and trending fads promising to make you healthier, happier and greener. Are they really 'the best thing since sliced bread' and should you spend your money on them?

All of our episodes start with YOUR suggestions. If you've seen an ad, trend or wonder product promising to make you happier, healthier or greener, email us at sliced.bread@bbc.co.uk OR send a voice note to our WhatsApp number, 07543 306807.

RESEARCHER: PHIL SANSOM

PRODUCERS: KATE HOLDSWORTH & GREG FOOT

THU 12:57 Weather (m002gqyy)

The latest weather forecast

THU 13:00 World at One (m002gqz2)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

THU 13:45 Understand (m002gqz6)

The Trip

4. Looking for a cure

During the early weeks of the pandemic, Tim Hayward spent 14 days in a coma. He remembers this time vividly – his days and nights filled with strange, incandescent visions and hallucinations. That experience is something he would never choose to revisit but, around the world, large numbers of people are deliberately seeking out powerfully altered states.

In this ten-part series, Tim sets out to better understand a group of substances that induce altered states: psychedelics.

There's been a surge of interest in their therapeutic potential for various mental health conditions - as well as a range of other clinical possibilities. As research around the world ramps up after years of taboo and prohibition he tries to get to grips with - or at least get a clearer sense of - how science, culture, politics and business might all interact in this changing psychedelic landscape, and what it all might mean.

He also explores what might be happening in the brain during a trip and whether, by studying psychedelics, we might uncover more about consciousness, imagination and even the mysteries of reality itself.

In this episode, Tim Hayward hears the story of a paramedic who decided to travel abroad in a search for a cure.

Contributors:

John, paramedic practitioner

Katrin Preller, neuropsychologist and neuroimaging researcher, University of Zurich

Presenter: Tim Hayward

Series Producer: Richard Ward

Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones

Editor: Kirsten Lass

Written by Tim Hayward and Richard Ward

Sound Design and Mixing: Richard Ward

Researcher: Grace Revill

Voiceover Artist: Sandra-Mae Lux

Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke

A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

THU 14:00 The Archers (m002gqzb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

THU 14:15 Faith, Hope and Glory (m002gqzg)

Series 7

40. Hope and Joy

At Hope's long-awaited birthday celebration, past and present collide in unexpected ways. Joy arrives with her children, unaware of the secret that will upend her world. As tensions rise and the truth finally emerges, Hope must face the consequences of her silence and decide if love can heal the deepest wounds.

Hope Danielle Vitalis

Joy Cherrelle Skeete

Faith Shiloh Coke

Gloria Ellen Thomas

Glory Trinity Benjamin

Badrick Toyin Omari-Kinch

Writer: Rex Obano

Director: Anastasia Osei-Kuffour

Producer: Patricia Cumper

Production Co-Ordinators: Maggie Olgiati and Jenny Mendez

THU 15:00 This Natural Life (m002gqzn)

Jeanette Winterson

The author Jeanette Winterson grew up in Accrington in Lancashire, but has made her home in a village in rural Gloucestershire. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the publication of her best-known novel 'Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit'. In this programme she talks to Martha Kearney, giving her unique access to the garden of her cottage, where she grows her own fruit and vegetables. She explains why nature, wildlife and life in the countryside are so important to her, as she gives Martha a tour of her veg patch.

Producer: Emma Campbell

THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (m002gq80)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]

THU 15:30 Feedback (m002gqzs)

Jeremy Bowen on reporting from Gaza, and the RAJARs

It's been almost two years since the most recent conflict between Israel and Palestine broke out, and it has generated almost constant radio news coverage, as well as plenty of challenges for BBC journalists while reporting. BBC News International Editor Jeremy Bowen joins Andrea Catherwood from Jerusalem to answer listener questions about the coverage of the conflict and the ongoing crisis in Gaza.

Radio consultant Matt Deegan returns to discuss the recent RAJAR figures on radio listening. Matt gives his view of the data across all radio in the UK.

And listeners share their thoughts on the ongoing BBC Sounds overseas saga, with an update on plans for 'catch up' listening on the new BBC App and bbc.com.

Presenter: Andrea Catherwood

Producer: Pauline Moore

Assistant Producer: Rebecca Guthrie

Executive Producer: David Prest

A Whistledown Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

THU 16:00 The Briefing Room (m002gqzx)

Should the government worry about debt?

In a time of sluggish economic growth, the favourite way of squaring the circle of spending more but not increasing taxes is to borrow - and we have.

Keeping everybody's lights on during the pandemic and homes heated after the Russian invasion of Ukraine has helped send our national debt up from £1.8 trillion to £2.8 trillion in recent years.

But the question for the chancellor Rachel Reeves is how much more debt we can afford - and how much more debt do the

markets think we can afford?

So what's the answer to that?

Guests:

Duncan Weldon, economist and author of 'Two Hundred Years of Muddling Through'
Mehreen Khan, economics editor of The Times
Chris Giles, economics editor of The Financial Times

Producers: Ben Carter, Kirsteen Knight and Sally Abrahams
Productions co-ordinator: Maria Ogundele
Sound engineer: Neil Churchill
Editor: Richard Fenton-Smith

THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m002gr01)

What's the evidence for vaccines?

US Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr announced plans this week to cancel \$500 million dollars of funding for mRNA vaccine development. The research was focusing on trying to counter viruses that cause diseases such as the flu and Covid-19.

Marnie Chesterton is joined by Professor Anne Willis, Director of the MRC Toxicology Unit at the University of Cambridge, to explore the claims made by The US Department of Health and Human Services that the technology "poses more risks than benefits", and to look at the evidence behind the vaccines.

We also visit the most powerful computer the UK has ever seen at the University of Bristol, and explore how the Isambard-AI supercomputer is being used to carry out groundbreaking new research.

After last week's call for our listeners to pay homage to the satirical songwriter and mathematician Tom Lehrer, who died at the age of 97, we hear a range of your brilliant musical tributes.

And Marnie is joined by journalist Caroline Steel to explore the week's fascinating scientific discoveries.

Presenter: Marnie Chesterton

Producers: Clare Salisbury, Dan Welsh, Jonathan Blackwell

Editor: Martin Smith

Production Co-ordinator: Jana Bennett-Holesworth

THU 17:00 PM (m002gr05)

Netanyahu: we will temporarily re-occupy all of Gaza

Israel's Security Cabinet meet to discuss the plans. Plus, a history of daylight saving - 100 years after the UK adopted British Summer Time.

THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002gr09)

Bank of England cuts interest rates again

The Bank of England has cut interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point to 4% -- the fifth drop in a year. The Bank's governor, Andrew Bailey, said it was a "finely balanced decision", with inflation still sitting well above the Bank's two percent target. Also: dozens of migrants have been detained under the UK's new "one in, one out" deportation deal with France, which came into force yesterday. And in Italy, an outcry over a British website's controversial recipe for a pasta dish.

THU 18:30 Tim Key's Poetry Programme (m001xmc4)

Series 6

2. Customs

More comic chaos from Tim Key, Tom Basden, Katy Wix and guest star Mike Wozniak.

A poetry show like no other – over the course of 6 series Key has performed magic, music, cookery and witchcraft; he's delivered a baby, gone underground, up the Shard and into space.

And sometimes he finds time to read poems.

This series our regulars are joined by guest stars Stephen Merchant, Lolly Adefope, Mike Wozniak, Sam Campbell, Simon Armstrong and Morgana Robinson.

Written and presented by Tim Key

Produced by James Robinson

A BBC Studios Audio Production for Radio 4

An EcoAudio certified production

THU 19:00 The Archers (m002gqxv)

Susan confesses to Oliver that his magazine has been found at Ambridge View; Martha was about to snip bits out of it. All magazines will be stored at Greenacres from now on. Oliver's concerned that Susan's not comfortable visiting Grange Farm. Susan admits it feels awkward after all the business over Ivy's engagement ring. It's still on Neil's mind. She's not sure they'll ever get to know Amber now. She comments that Ambridge View's bursting at the seams with stock from the shop – there's a lot of money tied up in the stored alcohol but she can't sell it without a licence. Oliver suggests she sells some at the fete, offering to work out the logistics with Dane. Susan's grateful; it's a wonderful idea.

As they pause the harvest for refreshments Stella observes the yield yesterday was surprisingly good. Ruth loves the sounds, scents and rhythms of the harvest. Having listened to excerpts from the Farmwatch campaign on Radio Dorsetshire Ruth reckons Stella should set up a camera in her cab. Stella sets her phone to record, and combine cam is born.

Brad brings Emma a birthday present from Tracy. Emma's looking at plans for the teddy zipwire at the fete, which she'll be setting up with Ed. She's determined to enjoy her birthday this year after last year's surprise party disaster. Amber brings flowers from her and George, and also a voucher for teeth whitening. Nonplussed Emma doesn't think there's much wrong with her teeth – and Amber's are beautiful. But Amber's planning to have the perfect smile on her wedding day.

THU 19:15 Front Row (m002gr0g)

Review: Alien Earth series plus Rom-Com Materialists

Noah Hawley talks about creating Alien: Earth which is the first ever TV series based on the blockbuster Alien films created by Ridley Scott. Film critic Rhianna Dhillon and poet and editor Tristram Fane Saunders join Tom Sutcliffe to review the series.

They also review Celine Song's new romantic comedy-drama Materialists starring Dakota Johnson as a New York Matchmaker.

And John Burnside's final collection of poetry, The Empire of Forgetting.

Presenter: Tom Sutcliffe
Producer: Claire Bartlett

THU 20:00 Human Intelligence (m0026pnw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Wednesday]

THU 20:15 The Media Show (m002gr0k)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:15 on Wednesday]

THU 21:00 Loose Ends (m002gqjw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

THU 21:45 Sideways (m00254gr)

Appetite for Distraction

5. The Future of Attention

Matthew Syed asks what it means to be distracted in a media world vying for our attention.

In this final episode, he considers where our media consumption might be headed. Many are concerned about smartphone addiction and a disintegration of public discourse, but others see a brighter future and our current times as a turning point to a world where the capacities of technology are used to benefit of society.

Matthew speaks to a former tech engineer who has become a philosopher and activist on attention, a historian who believes that our current era has many precedents, a psychologist who is wary of headlines about collapsed attention spans and a behavioural economist who can see a way that our society will adapt to the digital world.

Contributors:

James Williams, author of Stand Out of Our Light: Freedom and Resistance in the Attention Economy
Matthew Sweet, Historian and Broadcaster
Professor Pete Etchells, Psychologist, Bath Spa University and author of Unlocked: The Science of Screen Time and How to Spend it Better
Michael Muthukrishna, Associate Professor of Economic Psychology and author of A Theory of Everyone: The New Science of who we are, how we got here and where we are going.

Presenter: Matthew Syed
Producer: Sam Peach

THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m002gr0m)

Israeli security cabinet discusses occupying Gaza

As Israel's security cabinet meets, Benjamin Netanyahu says he wants to occupy Gaza temporarily. The father of an IDF soldier held hostage by Hamas insists the plan puts his son in more danger.

Rushanara Ali resigns as Homelessness Minister amid accusations of hypocrisy over a rental property she owns.

And a tribute to the pioneering pianist of Latin jazz, Eddie Palmieri.

THU 22:45 An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo Ishiguro (m002gr0p)

4: 'The Patriotic Spirit.'

Tim McInnerny reads Nobel Prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro's classic 1986 novel, set in post-WWII Japan.

It is 1948. Japan is rebuilding after the horrors of the war, its people putting defeat behind them and looking to the future. The celebrated artist Masuji Ono fills his days in his garden with his two grown daughters and grandson, and his evenings drinking with old associates in the quiet lantern-lit bars of the old pleasure district. His should be a tranquil retirement. But as his memories continually return to the past, a dark shadow begins to grow over his serenity.

Today: Ono reflects on the rise in Japanese militarism during the war, and its transformative impact on his art...

Writer: Kazuo Ishiguro
Reader: Tim McInnerny
Abridger: Richard Hamilton
Producer: Justine Willett

THU 23:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002gr0r)

Books v Screens: Why Every School Needs a Library (Katherine Rundell)

Only one in three children in the UK enjoy reading in their spare time – the lowest rate recorded in 20 years, according to a survey for the National Literacy Trust.

Best-selling children's author Katherine Rundell, whose books include Impossible Creatures and The Explorer, says that represents a crisis of reading which will make it harder to tackle disinformation.

She thinks every school should have a library that is subject to an Ofsted inspection and literacy should be included in teacher training programmes to try to tackle the decline in children reading for pleasure.

Amol and Katherine also discuss why Donald Trump's re-election as US president led her to donate all the royalties from US sales of The Golden Mole (published under the title Vanishing Treasures in America) to climate charities.

GET IN TOUCH

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Episodes of Radical with Amol Rajan are released every Thursday and you can also watch them on BBC iPlayer: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m002f1d0/radical-with-amol-rajan>

Amol Rajan is a presenter of the Today programme on BBC Radio 4. He is also the host of University Challenge on BBC One. Before that, Amol was media editor at the BBC and editor at The Independent.

Radical with Amol Rajan is a Today Podcast. It was made by Lewis Vickers with Izzy Rowley. Digital production was by Gabriel Purcell-Davis. Technical production was by James Piper. The editor is Sam Bonham. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths.

THU 23:30 A Good Read (m002gggg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Monday]

FRIDAY 08 AUGUST 2025

FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m002gr0t)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 00:30 The Autism Curve (m002bt8f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Thursday]

FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002gr0w)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002gr0y)

BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

FRI 05:00 News Summary (m002gr10)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 05:04 The Briefing Room (m002gqzx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Thursday]

FRI 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002gr12)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002gr14)

The gift that keeps on giving

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with The Reverend Canon Grace Thomas.

Good morning.

This month, I have an appointment scheduled in my diary to give blood. I feel privileged to be able to do this, not least as I get a free chocolate bar and a cuppa at the end. It may sound strange for someone to say that they enjoy giving blood, which inevitably involves a sharp needle, but I do, because whenever I go to the donation centre, I leave feeling hopeful.

There in the waiting room, are people of different ages and backgrounds, volunteering to literally give something of themselves, to someone they probably will never knowingly meet. And there is a network of healthcare professionals ready to support, and to ensure the donations get to where they need to be.

In the book of Proverbs, there is this little verse in chapter eleven that reads 'Some give freely, yet grow all the richer'. I often think of that verse when I am hooked up to the machinery in the donation centre. Because I recognise the gift I am giving, but also I recognise how much more, I am being given. The sense of peace I gain from knowing that there are so many who give freely, is a welcome antidote to the negative news and rampant consumerism, that seems to dominate our world.

And so, today, my prayer is one of gratitude, for all that I have been given, and for all that I am able to freely give. I lift up thanks to God for the NHS, which enables people to benefit from others' donations. And I pray for the person who will receive my donation later this month. That it may bring healing and comfort to them.

Amen.

FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m002gr16)

08/08/25 Heather burning and wildfires, cherry harvest, green road bridge for wildlife.

Scottish gamekeepers may refuse to help tackle wildfires in a dispute over licences for muirburn. Muirburn is the controlled burning of heather and other vegetation to encourage new growth, mostly to raise game birds for shooting. It takes place from autumn to spring, but from January next year it will be licensed and it will be an offence to carry out any burning without a licence. Gamekeepers say controlled burning reduces the amount of dead vegetation which fuels wildfires and if they can't do it, they say tackling future wildfires will become too dangerous.

All week we've been following the harvest. It started early for many and one of the country's largest cherry growers in Herefordshire says warmer winters and summers are shortening the growing season.

Britain's newest and largest Green Bridge is under construction in the Cotswolds as part of a half billion-pound road building scheme. When it's completed at the end of the year, the bridge won't be tarmacked - instead it'll be planted with grasses, wildflowers and shrubs designed to create a crossing for wildlife, and walkers over a new eight lane highway near Cheltenham.

Presenter = Charlotte Smith
Producer = Rebecca Rooney

FRI 06:00 Today (m002gqxb)

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

FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (m002gq8d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]

FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002gqxd)

Listener Week: Living with an incurable diagnosis, Sex therapy, Hybrid working

It's the final day of Woman's Hour's Listener Week, where all the topics in the programme have been decided by YOU!

Listener Brenda wrote in about her situation: "I would love to hear you talking about a mother's play-book or instruction manual for getting through cancer. I would love to know how others are doing it." Ailsa McDonagh also got in touch after an on-air shout out. She has been living with cancer for almost 10 years and received her diagnosis when her children were aged one and three. Both Brenda and Ailsa join Anita Rani to discuss.

Therapist Cate Campbell joins Anita to offer advice to a listener considering radical solutions for her sexless marriage.

Woman's Hour listener Kudzai wrote to us about hybrid working. She has the option to work from home but she chooses to go in every day, and she's been wondering what impact those choices have, especially for younger women just starting out in their careers. Kudzai speaks to Anita along with listener, El, who embraces the benefits of working from home. They're also joined by Rebecca Florisson from the Work Foundation at Lancaster University.

Listeners Yara and Davina are an art collective, working in a unique job share to create socially engaged public art. They contacted us to highlight their work and explore the issues that come alongside working in the non-commercial art sector, being mothers and working part time.

And what is Pickleball? Listener Caroline got in touch to say that taking up the sport in her 40s has been "lifechanging", helping her to navigate grief and build resilience and self-belief. It just so happens it is also the Pickleball English Open this weekend, so Caroline joins us along with Karen Mitchell from Pickleball England to discuss the sport and its growing popularity.

Presenter: Anita Rani
Producer: Corinna Jones

FRI 11:00 The Food Programme (m002gqxs)

Polski Sklep: A Recent History of the Polish Shop

Since the early 2000s, one type of shop has quietly become a regular feature on British high streets: the Polski sklep – or Polish shop.

Known for their smoked sausages, sour pickles, and wide selection of herbal teas, these shops offer more than just food. With Polish people now the largest non-British nationality in the UK, and Polish the next most spoken language after English and Welsh, they also reflect a broader story of migration and community. Jaega Wise explores what makes these stores worth visiting for everyone, not just Poles, and how they're adapting to the challenges facing the high street.

To find out more, Jaega visits Peterborough – a city she once lived in and remembers for its vibrant Polish community. There, she explores the busy Europol supermarket and a popular home-style restaurant, Pierogarnia.

In Walthamstow, she meets cultural historian and second-generation Pole Dr Kasia Tomasiewicz, who explains the background behind the herbal teas and how they connect her to her ancestors. And back in Hackney, Jaega makes pierogi at home with food writer Zuza Zak, using a mix of Polish and British ingredients. She also hears from Dr Kathy Burrell, Professor of Migration Geographies at the University of Liverpool.

Producer: Eliza Lomas

FRI 11:45 The Autism Curve (m002bv3k)

5. The Spectrum

Has the idea of autism expanded so far that it's breaking?

The rapid upwards curve in autism diagnoses and a social media-fuelled trend for self-diagnosis have led to tension. Autism's centre of gravity has shifted: now those without an intellectual disability are most visible. But where does that leave autistic people who do have an intellectual disability and who could also be non-speaking? Who speaks for them? And what is diagnosis for anyway?

Presenter: Michael Blastland
Series Producer: Simon Maybin
Editor: Clare Fordham

Sound mix: Neil Churchill
Production Co-ordinator: Gemma Ashman

FRI 12:00 News Summary (m002gqxj)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

FRI 12:04 AntiSocial (m002gqxl)

Sydney Sweeney, jeans and genes

A jeans advert featuring the American actress Sydney Sweeney talking about her good genes provoked fierce reaction - and then came the backlash to the backlash.

Some people say the advert promotes a eugenicist ideal of blonde hair and blue eyes. Others say it's a sign that the days of diversity in the advertising industry are over. Is 'woke' dead? And what does the controversy tell us about how brands use culture to get our attention?

Presenter: Adam Fleming
Producers: Simon Tulett, Lucy Proctor, Natasha Fernandes, Mike Wendling
Editor: Penny Murphy
Production coordinator: Janet Staples
Studio engineer: Annie Gardiner

FRI 12:57 Weather (m002gqxn)

The latest weather forecast

FRI 13:00 World at One (m002gqxs)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

FRI 13:45 Understand (m002gqxs)

The Trip

5. Message in a bottle

During the early weeks of the pandemic, Tim Hayward spent 14 days in a coma. He remembers this time vividly – his days and nights filled with strange, incandescent visions and hallucinations. That experience is something he would never choose to revisit but, around the world, large numbers of people are deliberately seeking out powerfully altered states.

In this ten-part series, Tim sets out to better understand a group of substances that induce altered states: psychedelics.

There's been a surge of interest in their therapeutic potential for various mental health conditions - as well as a range of other clinical possibilities. As research around the world ramps up after years of taboo and prohibition he tries to get to grips with - or at least get a clearer sense of - how science, culture, politics and business might all interact in this changing psychedelic landscape, and what it all might mean.

He also explores what might be happening in the brain during a trip and whether, by studying psychedelics, we might uncover more about consciousness, imagination and even the mysteries of reality itself.

In this episode, Tim travels back in time to a Victorian pharmacy, drinks a lot of coffee, uncovers some pioneering psychedelic research in 1950s Canada - and discovers a nurse who was there.

Contributors:
Erika Dyck, historian of psychedelics, University of Saskatchewan
Mike Jay, author and cultural historian
Kay Parley, former nurse Saskatchewan Hospital, Weyburn, Canada
Andrew Penn, psychiatric nurse practitioner and psychedelics researcher, University of California San Francisco School of Nursing

Presenter: Tim Hayward
Series Producer: Richard Ward
Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Written by Tim Hayward and Richard Ward
Sound Design and Mixing: Richard Ward
Researcher: Grace Revill
Voiceover Artist: Sandra-Mae Lux
Special thanks to Zoë Dubus
Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke
A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 14:00 The Archers (m002gqyv)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

FRI 14:15 Limelight (m002gqxx)

Central Intelligence: Series 2

Episode 8

The story of the CIA, told from the inside out by veteran agent Eloise Page. Starring Kim Cattrall, Ed Harris and Johnny Flynn.

In Episode 8... A young President takes office, but the shadows of the Cold War are closing in. John F. Kennedy inherits a covert CIA plot to remove Fidel Castro—an operation born under Eisenhower and fuelled by anti-communist zeal. Pressured to act but desperate to avoid open war, Kennedy green-lights a quiet invasion.

What follows is a catastrophic failure on Cuban shores: the Bay of Pigs. In his first major test, Kennedy is pulled into the deep end of Cold War deception—and blood is already in the water.

Cast:
Eloise Page.....Kim Cattrall
Allen Dulles.....Ed Harris
Richard Helms.....Johnny Flynn
Frank Wisner.....Geoffrey Arend
Young Eloise Page.....Elena Delia
John 'Jack' F. Kennedy.....Armand Schultz
President Eisenhower.....Kerry Shale
Bob McNamara.....Rob Benedict
Richard Bissell.....Ian Porter
Tracy Barnes.....Adam Sina
James Jesus Angleton.....Philip Desmeules
Adlai Stevenson.....Patrick Poletti
Annie Bissell.....Carlyss Peer
Elizabeth.....Laurel Lefkow
Pilot..... Walles Hamonde
JFK's Secretary.....Jennifer Armour
Bissell children..... Hugo & Leela-Grace Dryden

All other parts were played by members of the cast.

Written by Greg Haddrick
Created by Greg Haddrick & Jeremy Fox
Directed by John Scott Dryden

Original music by Sacha Putnam

Sound Designers & Editors: John Scott Dryden, Adam Woodhams, Martha Littlehailes & Andreina Gomez Casanova
Script Consultant: Misha Kawnel
Script Supervisor: Alex Lynch
Trails: Jack Soper
Sonica Studio Sound Engineers: Paul Clark & Paul Clark
Sonica Runner: Flynn Hallman
Marc Graue Sound Engineers, LA: Juan Martin del Campo & Tony Diaz

Director: John Scott Dryden
Producer & Casting Director: Emma Hearn
Executive Producers: Howard Stringer, Jeremy Fox, Greg Haddrick and John Scott Dryden

A Goldhawk production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 14:45 Uncharted with Hannah Fry (m0022swq)

14. Whispers from the Cosmos

In a shabby brick hut in 1967, a young researcher spots a bizarre, pulsing signal: a cosmic whisper picked up a huge receiver she helped to build. Is it just mundane interference - or could it be alien life?

Hannah Fry shares a tale of one woman's journey through the male-dominated halls of 1960s academia, to a groundbreaking discovery that transformed our understanding of the universe.

Producer: Ilan Goodman
Sound Designer: Jon Nicholls
Story Editor: John Yorke

FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002gqy0)

Summer Garden Party

Kathy Clugston and a crack team of top horticultural experts celebrate the return of the GQT Summer Garden Party in style — this year set against the stunning backdrop of RHS Garden Hyde Hall in the heart of Essex.

Kathy is joined by an all-star panel, including visionary garden designers Matthew Wilson and Bunny Guinness, RHS head gardener Matthew Pottage, and the king of all things edible, Bob Flowerdew. Together, they tackle a lively mix of questions from an enthusiastic audience of budding green thumbs, sharing expert tips, clever tricks, and plenty of inspiration to get your garden growing.

Senior Producer: Dan Cocker
Assistant Producer: Rocky Cocker
Assistant Producer: Suhaar Ali
Junior Producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 15:45 Short Works (m002gqy4)

The Market Photographer by Kamand Kojouri

David's sixteen, misses his friends and London, and definitely does not want to be doing an unpaid internship with a photographer in Swansea market. But Kourosh has more to teach David than simply taking photos. Kamand Kojouri was a finalist for the Rhys Davies National Short Story Prize, 2024. Read by Zak Ghazi-Torbati.

FRI 16:00 Last Word (m002gqy8)

Dame Stella Rimington, Sylvia Young, Sir Jamie McGrigor, Joan Anderson

Matthew Bannister on

Dame Stella Rimington, the first woman to be Director General of MI5, who made the service more open and accountable.

Sylvia Young, whose drama school turned out countless stars of stage, screen and music.

Sir Jamie McGrigor, the Conservative Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Highlands and Islands, who introduced a bill to protect tartan.

And Joan Anderson the former model who brought the hula hoop to America.

Producer: Ben Mitchell

Archive:

AI Murray's Great British Spy Movies, BBC Four, 21/04/2015; Woman's Hour, BBC Radio 4, 28/07/2011; Newsround, BBC One, 25/02/1992; BBC News, BBC One, 16/07/1993; Stella Rimington: Security and Democracy – Is There a Conflict?, The Richard Dimbleby Lecture, BBC One, 12/06/1994; Death on the Rock, ITV (uploaded to YouTube), first broadcast 28/04/1988; BBC News, BBC One, 08/09/2001; EastEnders Feuds: The Beales vs The Mitchells, BBC Three, 18/05/2007; Doctor Who trailer – “Rose: I've got a choice”, BBC One (uploaded to YouTube), c.2005; BBC Radio Wales – Aled Jones, 06/06/2010; Through the Keyhole, BBC 1, 10/05/1999; Saving Our Salmon, BBC Two Scotland, 16/10/2018; The Radio Café, BBC Radio Scotland, 31/12/2008; Desert Island Discs: Allan Ahlberg, BBC Radio 4, 12/07/1980; Hula Girl (documentary), dir. Amy Hill & Chris Riess, Snap Pictures, 2018

FRI 16:30 Sideways (m002gqyd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

FRI 17:00 PM (m002gqyj)

News and current affairs, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002gqyn)

International criticism grows of Israel's decision to take control of the Gaza Strip

Israel's Security Cabinet has backed Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to expand military operations in Gaza. The decision has drawn criticism from international allies, including Germany, which has suspended military exports to Israel that could be used in Gaza. Also: A 15-year-old boy is found guilty of murdering Harvey Willgoose by stabbing him during a school lunchbreak. And astronomers believe they've spotted a new planet in the closest star system to our own.

FRI 18:30 Too Long; Didn't Read (m002gqys)

Series 2

Let's get this party started

Why does Britain have so many new parties? And why are none of them the fun kind? Catherine Bohart investigates the rising challengers to the two-party system, with the help of Zoe Lyons, Ian Dunt and roving correspondent Sunil Patel.

Written by Catherine Bohart, with Madeleine Brettingham, Gareth Gwynn and John Tothill.

Producer: Alison Vernon Smith
Executive Producers: Lyndsay Fenner & Victoria Lloyd
Sound Design: David Thomas
Production Co-ordinator: Katie Sayer

A Mighty Bunny production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 19:00 The Archers (m002gqyx)

Ruth's having a great time doing the harvest despite despite finding the tractor seat uncomfortable. There's still a big chunk left to do so after a break she and Stella get back to it. Stella continues filming on 'combine cam' and the two of them happily give a running commentary. However Stella's stopped short by a hare leaping out in front of them. She's reminded of her dog Weaver for a second. Ruth confesses she finds it hard not to beat herself up about the accident and his death. Stella reiterates Weaver was just following his instincts. Ruth knows Stella's forgiven her – but wonders if she's forgiven herself? Stella admits she's not sure if she's ready yet to get another dog.

After a sumptuous picnic lunch with David the two women crack on with their task. Stopping to deal with a slow puncture on the trailer, they chat about Stella's dad. She admits harvest time brings back the memory of when he died. Ruth feels similar about her mother, recalling the harvest before her death of a stroke. They agree it's easy to get absorbed with work and miss precious moments, especially when there's no warning of what's to come.

Later they wrap up combine cam and the wheat harvest, pausing to admire the view of the beautifully cut fields. Stella reckons she'll get another dog after all. Suddenly Brian appears, shocked and furious that Stella's defied him. He hurls insults and they quarrel bitterly, until outraged Stella quits. Brian's left to wonder what Stella's done.

FRI 19:15 Screenshot (m002gqz1)

Twin Peaks

For a very special 100th episode of Screenshot, Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode explore the cult classic TV show.

The great surrealist American filmmaker David Lynch died in January 2025 at the age of 78. Lynch's films spanned the underground midnight movie Eraserhead, the black and white heartbreaker The Elephant Man and the critically beloved Mulholland Drive. Yet the director was perhaps most appreciated for the TV show he co-created with screenwriter Mark Frost - Twin Peaks.

Mark speaks to Mark Frost about his relationship with Lynch, and about the impact and legacy of their ground-breaking series. The pair discuss how pressure to solve the central murder of high school student Laura Palmer impacted Twin Peaks, and how the revival of the series in 2017 - after a 25 year hiatus - now seems fated.

Meanwhile, Ellen talks to critic and die-hard Twin Peaks fan Jourdain Seales about the series' dedicated cult following.

And she speaks to actor Tim Roth, star of Reservoir Dogs and Rob Roy, who got a chance to work with his hero David Lynch in 2017 on Twin Peaks: The Return.

Producer: Jane Long

A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m002gqz5)

Halima Begum, Lord Falconer, Sir Andrew Mitchell MP, Isabel Oakeshott

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from Wiston House in West Sussex, with the chief executive of Oxfam GB, Halima Begum; the Labour peer and former Lord Chancellor, Lord Falconer of Thoroton; Sir Andrew Mitchell, the Conservative MP and former deputy foreign secretary; and Talk TV international editor and Telegraph columnist, Isabel Oakeshott.

Producer: Paul Martin

Lead broadcast engineer: Caitlin Gazeley

FRI 20:55 This Week in History (m002gqz9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:40 on Wednesday]

FRI 21:00 Politically (m002gqzf)

Postwar: Omnibus 4

David Runciman tells the story of the 1945 election and the dawn of a new age.

The 1945 general election was one of the biggest shocks in British parliamentary history: a decisive rejection of Winston Churchill and his leadership. The election of Clement Attlee's Labour government in a landslide marked a break with the past and signalled a strong desire on the part of the British people for something new. But it was also a product of Britain's wartime experiences and revealed the many ways in which the country had already changed.

The years that followed -- the postwar years -- would bring about bold and radical reform, the building of a new nation, a 'New Jerusalem'. The Britain of the National Health Service and the welfare state, of nationalised industry and the so-called

'postwar consensus' -- all were ushered into place with this election. This is the Britain that most have us have grown up in and which still shapes an idea of who we think we are.

Featuring John Bew, Patricia Clavin, Lucy Delap, Christopher Frayling, David Kynaston, David Reynolds, Robert Saunders and Wendy Webster.

With additional research by Alex Hill.

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m002gqzk)

Trump will meet Putin in the coming days

US President Donald Trump says he'll meet Vladimir Putin in the coming days. Speaking in Washington DC, Trump said any ceasefire deal might involve territorial swaps between Ukraine and Russia. We hear from former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, who saw Trump and Putin interact in person during the former's first term in office.

Following the death of the astronaut, Jim Lovell, aged 97, we hear from two people who knew him about what he contributed to space travel.

Also: is it annoying to overuse the word "like"? We hear from author of new book on the subject.

FRI 22:45 An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo

Ishiguro (m002gqzp)

5: 'Utmost delicacy.'

Tim McInnerny continues Nobel Prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro's classic 1986 novel, set in post-WWII Japan.

It is 1948. Japan is rebuilding after the horrors of the war, its people putting defeat behind them and looking to the future. The celebrated artist Masuji Ono fills his days in his garden with his two grown daughters and grandson, and his evenings drinking with old associates in the quiet lantern-lit bars of the old pleasure district. His should be a tranquil retirement. But as his memories continually return to the past, a dark shadow begins to grow over his serenity.

Today: with Nokiyo's marriage negotiations at a delicate stage, Ono visits an old colleague, imploring him for discretion about the past...

Writer: Kazuo Ishiguro

Reader: Tim McInnerny

Abridger: Richard Hamilton

Producer: Justine Willett

FRI 23:00 Americast (w3ct7t5r)

Why are Texan Democrats on the run?

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker said on Monday: "There are no rules anymore, apparently," as he stood alongside the Democrat lawmakers who fled Texas to prevent a vote which would redraw the state's political map in favour of the Republican Party.

It is a process known as 'redistricting', which normally occurs at the end of each decade when the census takes place. But in a move designed to give the Republicans a crucial advantage heading into the 2026 Midterms, Donald Trump wants it to take place now. It would give Republicans five extra seats in the House.

It is an unconventional request by Donald Trump's administration, but Democrat governors are now threatening to do the same thing in their states, including California Governor Gavin Newsom.

Presenter Justin Webb and North America correspondent Anthony Zurcher, discuss whether this a fight the Democrats can win, and whether this is an audition for some 2028 presidential hopefuls. They are joined by special guest Steve Israel, former New York Congressman (2001-2017)

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This episode was made by Rufus Gray with Alix Pickles and Grace Reeve. The technical producer was Mike Regaard. The series producer is Purvee Pattni. The senior news editor is Sam Bonham.

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Ukrainecast: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/p0bqztzm>
Radical: BBC Sounds - Radical with Amol Rajan - Available Episodes

FRI 23:30 Illuminated (m002gq95)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:15 on Sunday]