

SATURDAY 23 AUGUST 2025

SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m002hbl)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:30 Beyond Lonely (m0029zfx)

Loneliness Is Not The Same As Being Alone

Jason Arday considers the concept of solitude as opposed to loneliness and wonders if we should consider embracing solitude more. In an increasingly hectic and connected world, many people are feeling more lonely than ever. But others are choosing to disconnect and enjoy the freedom of being alone. In this episode, Jason hears from Rachel Denton who is a religious hermit. After taking a vow with the Church's blessing twenty years ago, Rachel has lived simply and silently ever since. She shares her experiences of happiness, gratitude and fulfilment that could perhaps teach us all to find contentment in being alone from time to time. Meanwhile Jason is taking steps to feel less lonely by accepting invitations to social events. This is a start, he says, to changes he wants to make as a direct result of making this series.

Beyond Lonely is presented by Professor Jason Arday

Producer: Maggie Ayre

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hbln)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hblq)

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 (m002hbls)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hblv)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002hblx)

Self Portraits

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky

Good Morning!

When I prepare a sermon it begins long before I sit down to write. A phrase from a song, a scene in a film, a news headline, all get stored away like pieces of a jigsaw, waiting for the picture to emerge.

One of those pieces for me is always Bob Dylan. In 1970, during a time of protest and upheaval, he released an album of gentle introspective covers, music people didn't want to hear. They were looking for anthems, not self-portraits. But Dylan was making a statement: sometimes the work isn't to speak for the moment, but to turn inwards and ask, Who am I really?

That question can be uncomfortable. We all carry a picture of ourselves in our minds, the kind, patient, interesting person we hope others see. But every so often, it's worth holding up the mirror and asking whether that picture is still true.

We might find things to celebrate, small acts of generosity, moments we stayed calm under pressure, times we showed up for someone who needed us. We might also find places where we've fallen short.

The danger comes when we never look at all. Then the picture grows less true, gathering dust in the attic of the soul.

May we have the courage to paint honest self-portraits, ones that include the scars and the hope, the mistakes and the learning. May we see ourselves clearly, and choose the colours for the person we still want to become. And may that clarity shape the way we meet the days ahead.

Amen.

SAT 05:45 Uncharted with Hannah Fry (m0022z38)

16. A Drop in the Ocean

A fisherman is stranded in the ocean late at night. Completely alone, the clock is ticking. How do you find one man lost in the open ocean? Can he be rescued in time?

Producer: Lauren Armstrong Carter
Sound Designer: Jon Nicholls
Story Editor: John Yorke

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m002hkdy)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SAT 06:07 Open Country (m002hb97)

Aeolian harps on Wicken Fen

Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire is one of the few remaining fragments of England's original fenland. A place loved by naturalists for generations, it was Victorian botanists and entomologists who led the efforts to ensure the land was entrusted to the National Trust, which has protected it for 125 years.

Today, Wicken Fen is a thriving mosaic of flowering meadows, sedge and reedbeds. It is one of the most species-rich areas in Britain, home to endangered species such as the crane, bittern, marsh harrier and great crested newt.

Martha Kearney explores the unique history and ecology of this remarkable landscape alongside sound artist Kathy Hinde. Together, they craft a handheld aeolian harp – a stringed instrument played solely by the wind. Kathy Hinde has created sound sculptures across Wicken Fen to celebrate 125 years of this special place, called 'Listen to the Voices of the Fen'.

Martha also meets local volunteer Gerard Smallwood, who demonstrates how the last surviving wooden windpump in the Fens, an iconic piece of machinery, is now used to re-wet the land. Ajay Tegala, a National Trust warden, shares recent wildlife sightings, offering a glimpse into the lives that flourish in this delicate ecosystem.

Producer: Eliza Lomas

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m002hkf0)

23/08/25 Farming Today This Week: early apples, bioethanol industry in trouble, rise in avian flu

The cider apple harvest has started already. Most apples are picked in the autumn and even varieties which ripen early aren't usually ready yet, and the apple harvest looks likely to buck this year's trend and be good.

The Government's decision last week not to offer a rescue package to two plants producing bioethanol is a cause for worry for farmers. This week the Vivergo bioethanol plant on the Humber near Hull stopped production and started laying off staff. It had been buying around a million tonnes of wheat a year, distilling it into bioethanol which is added to petrol to reduce emissions. It also produced large quantities of cattle feed as a by-product. A separate business, Ensus on Teesside is continuing for now; it produces bioethanol and also carbon dioxide which is used in abattoirs and the food industry. The plants have been rendered economically unviable by the US trade deal, which removed tariffs from bioethanol imports from the States. We hear how the UK has been dependent on American bioethanol for some time now.

Avian flu is on the rise again. In England new rules on game birds are being introduced after warnings of a 'heightened risk' of the virus. The Government says there have been more new cases, particularly in coastal areas and places with a significant number of shoots.

Presented by Charlotte Smith and produced by Beatrice Fenton.

SAT 06:57 Weather (m002hkf2)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 07:00 Today (m002hkf4)

Today (Saturday)

SAT 09:00 What's Up Docs? (m002h9wc)

How to look after your kidneys

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

Chris and Xand have always found the kidneys somewhat mysterious and elusive, going all the way back to medical school. Now they want to understand what makes this pair of organs so complex, and why they are so much more than simple filters. How do the kidneys work? What can happen when they go wrong? And how can we keep them healthy for as long as possible?

To answer these questions and more, the Docs are joined by Dr Kate Bramham, Consultant Nephrologist at King's College Hospital and Reader at King's 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: Dr Kate Bramham
Producers: William Hornbrook and Jo Rowntree
Executive Producer: Rami Tzabar
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 (m002h9vn)

Series 11

Catullus

The brilliant Roman love poet is the poster boy for teen angst. He feels everything intensely, from the stealing of his favourite napkin to the death of his lover Lesbia's pet sparrow. And then he dies young. Of course the Romantics loved him, as do his biographer Dr Daisy Dunn and Professor Llewelyn Morgan.

Born to an aristocratic family in Verona, Catullus is fearless in abusing in sophisticated verse his father's friend Julius Caesar, his ex-lover Lesbia and the poets unlucky enough to be his contemporaries. Satirical, scurrilous and obscene, his popularity endures.

'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.

Dr Daisy Dunn is an award-winning classicist. Her books, Catullus' Bedspreed: The Life of Rome's Most Erotic Poet, and The Poems of Catullus: A New Translation, were published in 2016 and earned her a place in the Guardian's list of leading female historians.

Producer...Beth O'Dea

SAT 10:00 You're Dead to Me (m002hkf6)

Alexandria: city of knowledge and culture

Greg Jenner is joined in Egypt by historian Professor Islam Issa and comedian Athena Kugblenu to learn all about the history of science and philosophy in the city of Alexandria. Founded by ancient conqueror Alexander the Great, Alexandria from its earliest days was a city at the forefront of scientific discoveries, philosophical enquiry and religious debate. At its height, the city's famous library housed nearly one million texts, and attracted thinkers like Hypatia of Alexandria, Euclid and Heron (who invented the steam engine). This episode tells the story of this incredible site of knowledge and culture, taking in its epic founding, the rise of Christianity and its impact on the city, its fate during the Crusades, the coming of Napoleon, and its role in the rise of the Arab nationalism movement.

If you're a fan of the history of science, brainy philosophers and incredible architectural achievements, you'll love our episode on Alexandria.

If you want more from Athena Kugblenu, check out our episodes on the Haitian Revolution and Njinga of Ndongo and Matamba. Or for another journey through a historical city, listen to our episode on Istanbul in the Ottoman Golden Age.

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: Emma Bentley
Written by: 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 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002hkf8)

Series 49

Eastleigh

Jay Rayner and the expert panel are answering questions from an audience of food lovers in Eastleigh, Hampshire with

inspiration for carrot-based dishes and inventive ways of cooking with pears.

They help conjure suppers out of corner-shop finds, explain the art of preparing sweetbreads and tap into the area's maritime heritage as they sail through the history of dining on the high seas.

On this week's panel are chefs, cooks and food writers Jocky Petrie, Sophie Wright and Shelina Permalloo, alongside resident food historian Dr Annie Gray.

Senior Producer: Dom Tyerman
Assistant Producer: Dulcie Whadcock

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 11:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002hkfc)
Homelessness and the Housing Crisis: How To End Rough Sleeping (Sabrina Cohen-Hatton)

Homelessness is on the rise in Britain with record numbers of people living in emergency accommodation.

Sabrina Cohen-Hatton, Chief Fire Officer of the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, spent time sleeping rough on the streets of Newport in Wales as a teenager.

Now, she is working to end homelessness and stop people getting stuck in poverty.

Amol and Sabrina discuss what can be done in schools to prevent homelessness, the stigma facing homeless people and how to stop professions from being dominated by the elites.

They also talk about Sabrina's work with Prince William's charity, Homewards, and how poverty becomes a trap.

GET IN TOUCH

* WhatsApp: 0330 123 9480
* Email: radical@bbc.co.uk

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 Philip Bull. The editor is Sam Bonham. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths.

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002hkff)
Putin, Trump and the art of no deal (yet)

Kate Adie presents stories from Alaska, Washington, South Korea, Chile and France.

From the military fly-past to the grandiose entrance on the red carpet, to the press conference, without any questions, the meeting between Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin drew dismay from Western governments. Steve Rosenberg was in Alaska - and reflects on the aftermath.

After the pomp and pageantry of Donald Trump's meeting with Vladimir Putin, six European leaders rushed to Washington DC this week to meet with the US President in a show of solidarity with Volodymyr Zelensky. Tom Bateman followed the twists and turns and reflects on what was actually achieved at the White House.

Vladimir Putin has come to rely on support from North Korea to bolster his troops in Ukraine. Pyongyang is now sending thousands of construction workers, to help fill a huge labour shortage created by the war. Jean Mackenzie has spoken to six workers who've managed to escape.

In the hills of southern Chile there is an alluring tourist destination - a German-style village - but it was once home to a religious sect run by a manipulative and abusive leader. The Chilean government wants to expropriate some of its land to create a memorial for the people who were tortured and killed there during Pinochet's regime. But Grace Livingstone finds, it's proving divisive.

In the Loire valley the summer months bring both extended bank holiday weekends in France and the return in the last few decades of the 'Guinguettes', waterside outdoor bars and dance halls which were once popular in the 17th and 18th centuries. Jamie Smith-Maillet went to soak up the atmosphere

Series Producer: Serena Tarling
Production Coordinators: Katie Morrison & Sophie Hill
Editor: Richard Vadon

SAT 12:00 News Summary (m002hkf)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 12:04 Sliced Bread (m002dzjy)
Toast - Homebase

Homebase was once one of our leading home improvement chains so, why did it have to close all of its stores?

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.

Homebase was established by the supermarket chain Sainsbury's and a Belgian retailer which was already running a DIY business in Europe and America.

The first Homebase store opened in Croydon in 1981 and it had to be temporarily closed by the police after visiting crowds caused a traffic jam.

The chain expanded across the UK and had more than 300 stores.

It went through some highs, and some serious lows, with various owners but what ultimately caused the closure of its shops?

Sean and Sam hear from expert guests including:

- Allison Foster, curator of the Sainsbury Archive, which is based at London Museum Docklands

- Dave Elliott, a former Trading Director then later Commercial Director at Homebase under different owners

- Matt Walton, senior data analyst at GlobalData

While Homebase's standalone stores are toast, the brand continues to trade online under new ownership. Homebase garden centres and products are also being included within branches of The Range.

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 (m002hbl6)
Series 2

The Special Relationship

With UK-US relations in the spotlight, Catherine Bohart wants to know just what the special relationship means in 2025. With the help of Felicity Ward, Amb. John Bolton and our regular roving correspondent Sunil Patel, Catherine's asking what makes the special relationship 'special'? Are the US and the UK really exclusive? And does anyone have the number of that nice girl, the EU?

Written by Catherine Bohart, with Madeleine Brettingham, Catherine Brinkworth and Priya Hall

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 (m002hkf)
The latest weather forecast

SAT 13:00 News (m002hkfm)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m002hblb)
Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, Nick Thomas-Symonds MP, Alice Thomson

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from Stogursey and District Victory Village Hall, near Bridgwater, Somerset, with columnist and broadcaster Yasmin Alibhai-Brown; former Conservative MP Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg; Nick Thomas-Symonds

MP, the Paymaster General and Minister for the Cabinet Office (Minister for the Constitution and European Union Relations); and Alice Thomson, columnist with The Times.

Producer: Gareth Nelson-Davies

Lead broadcast engineers: Tanya Bhoola and Andrew Smillie

SAT 14:05 Any Answers? (m002hkfp)
Listeners respond to the issues raised in the preceding edition of Any Questions?

SAT 14:45 The Archers (m002hbl8)
Zainab and Chelsea are back at the Driving Range with Martyn, telling him they've been following a female golf pro online. As Zainab prepares to hit the ball Lawrence appears and starts mansplaining how she's going wrong. When Zainab hits the ball sweetly he scoffs it was beginner's luck. Later, in the Club Shop, Zainab tells Martyn about Lawrence's racism towards her brother. Back on the Range Lawrence gives Chelsea unsolicited advice on her stance, then criticises the way she is dressed. When Chelsea accuses him of being sexist and ridiculous Lawrence loses his rag. Lawrence then makes further offensive remarks and insinuations about Chelsea to Martyn, who surprises Lawrence by threatening to report him to the Club Captain. His behaviour will not be tolerated.

Chris and Fallon drink tea in the garden at Woodbine after moving his and Martha's belongings in. Fallon lets slip she knows how worried Alice has been about Martha's development and the reason for it. Chris reckons Alice is even more stressed now they've been told no-one can tell until Martha's six. Chris is sure everything's fine, but worries that Alice's anxiety will rub off on Martha, even though he understands it's just Alice's sense of guilt coming through. Fallon reassures Chris it will all work out in the end, before admitting how tough the last week has been for her and how lonely she feels. Chris is sympathetic, drawing on his own experience, while Fallon looks forward to bonding with Martha over peanut butter.

SAT 15:00 Spotlight (m002hkfr)
Faith Healer

Travelling faith healer Frank Hardy, his lover Grace and his manager Teddy give differing accounts of their life on the road together in four powerful, lyrical monologues, the realities of which shift as each of them tries to make sense of what has happened.

Everyone believes in Frank's healing powers, but his gift is unreliable and his charisma comes with a destructiveness which all three struggle to understand or live with.

This major new production of Brian Friel's masterpiece marks the 10th anniversary of his death and features a superb cast. Friel is sometimes referred to as the Irish Chekhov.

Faith Healer is a profound, poetic exploration of the creative and destructive qualities of the artist; the subjectivity of memory and the pain of exile.

Ben Brantley, writing in the New York Times, describes perfectly how the play 'unfolds as a quietly devastating study of pain recollected and the transfiguring nature of memory. It is one of those rare works of art audiences are destined to recall as a deeply personal experience, and you'll find yourself trying to sort out the different visions of reality... long after the play is over.'

With strong language.

Cast:
Frank Aidan Gillen
Grace Michelle Fairley
Teddy Daniel Mays

Sound Design Peter Ringrose
Composer Jon Nicholls

Written by Brian Friel

Directed and produced by Jessica Dromgoole and Mary Peate

A Hooley production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 17:00 PM (m002hkft)
Full coverage of the day's news

SAT 17:30 Sliced Bread (m002hb8z)
Smart Doorbells

Is it worth getting a Smart Doorbell?

Greg Foot pushes all the right buttons as he gathers consumer

and crime experts to get answers for listener Derek, who's keen to learn more about the various features, prices and security elements in the growing market of smart doorbells.

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?

This episode is the last in the current series of Sliced Bread, but we're hungry for your suggestions so we can prepare another batch! 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: SIMON HOBAN AND GREG FOOT

SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002hkf)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 17:57 Weather (m002hkf)
The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hkg0)
A wave of protests outside hotels housing asylum seekers

A wave of protests outside hotels housing asylum seekers has spread across the UK. Nigel Farage says Reform UK would seek returns deals with countries like Afghanistan and Eritrea, as part of plans for "mass deportations" of migrants. And dozens more deaths are reported in Gaza -- including a family whose tent was hit by an Israeli attack on a camp for displaced people.

SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m002hkg2)
Jon Culshaw, Harriet Dyer, Jon Watts, Nadia Reid, Yazmin Lacey

Stuart is joined by Jon Culshaw, the star of the much loved comedy series Dead Ringers, which is about to hit the road for its 25th anniversary tour. Harriet Dyer is Easily Distracted... so let's hope she doesn't wander off halfway through the show. Jon Watts discovered his love of cooking in custody. After being taken under the wing of Jamie Oliver he's now a culinary star in his own right, about to publish his third book. And there's music from the Manchester based, New Zealand born singer songwriter Nadia Reid from her acclaimed third album Enter Now Brightness and soul singer Yazmin Lacey.

Presenter: Stuart Maconie
Producer: Jessica Treen

SAT 19:00 The Bottom Line (m002hkg4)
The Decisions That Made Me

Richard Farleigh (Dragon's Den, entrepreneur)

Richard Farleigh grew up poverty-stricken in outback Australia as one of eleven children. When he was an infant, he was taken into care and spent most of his childhood in a foster home. A love of puzzles, a determination to prove himself, and some teachers who believed in his abilities, helped him gain a scholarship to university. From there he became a successful investment fund manager, eventually retiring at 34 to become an entrepreneur, and later an angel investor. The former dragon talks to Evan Davis about his new book Humble Stumbles, and how some of his early entrepreneurial decisions didn't work out quite as well as he'd hoped.

Production team:
Producers: Eleanor Harrison-Dengate, Georgiana Tudor
Editor: Matt Willis
Sound: John Scott
Production co-ordinator: Katie Morrison
Photo credit: Visual Marvels

SAT 19:15 The Infinite Monkey Cage (m002fxn5)
Series 33

Illuminating Light - Jess Wade, Russell Foster and Bridget Christie

What is light? How has it shaped our understanding of the universe, our biology, and even our culture? In this illuminating episode Brian Cox and Robin Ince shine a spotlight on the fascinating science and history of light. From sun and circadian rhythms to the dazzling complexity of quantum, they explore how humans have understood and been influenced by light across time. Joining them to shed light on the subject are physicist Dr Jess Wade, Neuroscientist Professor Russell Foster and comedian

Bridget Christie. Together, they trace the story of light from early scientific theories to the cutting-edge research of today. Expect tales of light emitting eyes, the mystery of wave-particle duality and why Bridget thinks that if we had understood light better, we'd never have believed in ghosts!

Series Producer: Melanie Brown
Assistant Producer: Olivia Jani
Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem

BBC Studios Audio Production

SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m002hkg6)
Outrage Inc

From Suffragette arsonists to soup on sunflowers – why the stunt still matters.

Legendary publicist Mark Borkowski takes a no-prisoners look at the history of the protest stunt – the noisy, theatrical interventions that have rattled the establishment for over a century.

With fascinating examples from the BBC archive and interviews with Led By Donkeys, The Centre for Political Beauty, Joey Skaggs, The Yes Men, veteran activist Jamie Kelsey Fry and Clare Farrell from XR.

Written and presented by Mark Borkowski
Produced by Alison Vernon-Smith
Researcher: Ellie Dobing
Executive Producer: Julian Mayers.

A Yada-Yada Audio production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 21:00 Illuminated (m0025m7h)
Voices from the Bog

For 2000 years beneath layer upon layer of peat, the remains of two bodies - a man and a woman - lay buried in the earth. Within 12 months of each other, they were discovered on Lindow Moss, the cut-over peat bog in Cheshire.

It's now more than 40 years since the remains of Lindow Man were found, the best-preserved bog body ever discovered in the UK. A year before that, the skull of Lindow Woman was found, with major ramifications for a modern-day mystery. We still don't know who these people were or in the case of Lindow Man, why he met his violent death. Was it ritual sacrifice to the gods, private scores settled or a public execution?

Their spirits remain in the place of their burial - a small corner of Cheshire filled with myth, mystery and history. Together with one of the original peat cutters at that time, the first journalist on the site, a professor of pre-history, a conservator and material from archive, we tell the story of this remarkable archaeological discovery.

And a slight twist - listening in on proceedings are Lindow Man and Lindow Woman. What might they make of the celebrations around the discovery of the bodies in the bog?

Contributors: Melanie Giles Professor in European Prehistory, University of Manchester; Stephen Dooley, former peat cutter; Rachel Pugh, writer and journalist; Velson Horie, conservation consultant and the late Rick Turner (archive) former County Archaeologist, Cheshire. Lindow Man is played by Fisayo Akinawe and Lindow Woman by Eve Shotton.

Produced and written by Geoff Bird
Executive Producer: Mel Harris
Sound Engineer: Eloise Whitmore
Music composed & performed by Laetitia Stott & mixed and mastered by Geoff Southall
A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 21:30 Music To Scream To - The Hammer Horror Soundtracks (m001f6bj)
* Curse of the Werewolf
* The Brides of Dracula
* Frankenstein
* The Monster from Hell

These are just some films from the height of Hammer Films' prolific cinema output in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Many of the musical soundtracks were composed by leading British modernists of the late 20th Century.

Hammer's music supervisor Philip Martell hired the avant-garde composers of the day.

The likes of Malcolm Williamson (later Master of the Queen's Music), Elisabeth Lutyens, Benjamin Frankel and Richard Rodney Bennett all made a living scoring horror films alongside their concert hall work.

Prising open Dracula's coffin to unearth the story of Hammer's modernist soundtracks, composer and pianist Neil Brand explores the nuts and bolts of scary music – how it is designed to psychologically unsettle us – and explores why avant-garde music is such a good fit for horror.

On his journey into the abyss, Neil visits the haunted mansion where many of the Hammer classics were made, Bray Studios in Berkshire

Neil gets the horrifying low-down from:

* Hammer aficionado, Wayne Kinsey
* Film music historian, David Huckvale
* Composer Richard, Rodney Bennett
* On-screen Hammer scream queen, actress Madeline Smith.

Producer: Graham Rogers

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2022.

SAT 22:00 News (m002hkg8)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 22:15 The Food Programme (m002hbk7)
Butter Is Back

Butter superfan Felicity Cloake asks whether the movement against ultra-processed foods is linked to a recent rise in popularity of her favourite kitchen staple. Her investigations take her to the rich grasslands of the West Country as she visits Wyke Farms, Quicke's and Ivy House Farm Dairy. She looks at how flavoured butter is taking off and finds out more about the tradition of cheesemakers making whey butter.

Professor Sarah Berry from King's College London gives advice on how much butter we should be eating as part of a healthy diet and food historian Regina Sexton looks at the relationship between butter and Ireland. Felicity also has a turn at making her own butter using an historic dash churn at The Butter Museum in Cork.

Presented by Felicity Cloake
Produced in Bristol for BBC Audio by Robin Markwell
The programme features a short excerpt of the song "Please Leave My Butter Alone" by Elsie Carlisle.

SAT 23:00 Crybabies Present... (m002hkgb)
Series 1

All or Nothingham

With bailiffs threatening to shut them down, the employees of Starkers Stripping Men's Club have only one choice. Enter the Dropping a Coin on a Table and Guessing what Type of Coin it is while Blindfolded Championship.

A heartwarming story of friendship, family and the sound coins make when you drop them on a table. Get ready for a plucky underdog story as Crybabies bring the big screen to your normal sized radio.

Written and performed by Michael Clarke, James Gault & Ed Jones.

Featuring Celeste Dring, Amy Gledhill & Greg James.

Production Co-ordinator - Laura Shaw

Sound Design by David Thomas and Victoria Freund

Producer - Benjamin Sutton

Executive Producer - Joe Nunnery

A Boffola Pictures production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 23:30 Nature Table (m001g2y7)
Series 3

Episode 3

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 ZSL London Zoo.

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<p>In this episode, Sue welcomes:</p> <p>* Zoologist Yusef Rafik * Entomologist & Conservation Biologist Dr Karim Vahed * Comedian Lucy Porter</p> <p>Written by Catherine Brinkworth, Jon Hunter, Jenny Laville and Nicky Roberts.</p> <p>Additional material by Kat Sadler.</p> <p>Producer Simon Nicholls.</p> <p>A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025</p> <p>SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m002hkgd) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 00:15 Take Four Books (m002h9n8) Rachel Kushner</p> <p>Presented by James Crawford, Take Four Books, speaks to the Booker-shortlisted American writer, Rachel Kushner, about her novel, Creation Lake, now out in paperback, and explores its connections to three other literary works. Creation Lake introduces us to the character of Sadie Smith, a ruthless 34-year-old American undercover agent who is sent by mysterious but powerful employers to a remote corner of France to infiltrate a group of eco-protestors.</p> <p>For her three influences Rachel chose: Fatale by Jean-Patrick Manchette published in 1977; Pale Fire by Vladimir Nabokov published in 1962; and The Tribe: Interviews with Jean-Michel Mension, which was originally published and translated into English by City Lights Books in 2001.</p> <p>The supporting contributor for this episode is the writer and lecturer at the University of Strathclyde, Andrew Meehan.</p> <p>It was recorded at the Edinburgh International Book Festival.</p> <p>Producer: Dominic Howell Editor: Gillian Wheelan This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.</p> <p>SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hkgg) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hkgj) 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 (m002hkgk) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hkgn) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m002hkgq) St Peter's Church, Chertsey, Surrey</p> <p>Bells on Sunday comes from St Peter's Church in Chertsey, Surrey. The church has eight bells, the oldest of which is believed to have come from Chertsey Abbey after the Abbey's bell tower collapsed in 1370. In 1905 all the bells were rehung by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel. The Tenor bell weighs nineteen and a half hundredweight and is tuned to the note of E. We now hear them ringing Little Bob Major.</p> <p>SUN 05:45 In Touch (m002h9wt) New Pricing of JAWS the Screen Reader</p> <p>JAWS is a screen reader that allows visually impaired people to access information on their computers. It works by reading aloud information such as emails, financial information, documents and more. But the company who produce the screen reader have recently announced rises to the cost of the software, along with some of their other assistive technology products, and it has caused worry amongst its users. In Touch hears from Vispero, the parent company of Freedom Scientific who develop JAWS, Fusion and ZoomText, and to Sight and Sound who are the sole distributor of the softwares in the UK. They tell us what these new pricing models will look like for UK customers, why these changes are happening and what is the best course of action for current and new users of JAWS.</p> <p>Presenter: Peter White</p>	<p>Producer: Beth Hemmings Production Coordinator: Paul Holloway 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.</p> <p>SUN 06:00 News Summary (m002hkzp) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 06:05 Heart and Soul (w3ct6vp1) France's new Christians</p> <p>The number of adults getting baptised in France has tripled in the last three years. Why are so many more adults joining the Church in France? We meet two of France's new Christians - one baptised this Easter, one last Easter - and hear why they chose the path they took and ask whether Catholicism is changing from a religion that baptises infants to one that baptises adults and whether that is a good thing.</p> <p>Presenter: John Laurenson Executive producer: Rajeev Gupta Editor: Chloe Walker Production co-ordinator: Mica Nepomuceno</p> <p>[Photo: The Mass was at the church of Nogent-le-Roi. Credit: John Laurenson]</p> <p>SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m002hkzr) Farmland Inferno</p> <p>Scotland's biggest moorland wildfire in living memory has been extinguished. The helicopters have left and the fire engine sirens fallen silent, but the blaze which raged for days has left its mark, not just on the charred trees and ravished land, but on farmers who were depending on thousands of hill acres to graze their sheep this autumn. With the smell of smoke still hanging in the air, Nancy Nicolson joins Alex and Moyra Gray out on their hillside as they recount their terrifying experience and contemplate the almost impossible task of finding costly temporary grazing or having to sell some of their livestock.</p> <p>SUN 06:57 Weather (m002hkzt) The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p>SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m002hkwz) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 07:10 Sunday (m002hkzy) Ukrainian Independence day, Córdoba Cathedral, Kayaking Priests</p> <p>It's Ukraine's independence day, a state holiday begun after the break with the old Soviet Union in 1991. Churches across the world have been invited to join a global prayer chain to call for peace. We are joined by Nadiyka Gerbish, a writer and podcaster living in Ternopil in Western Ukraine, and part of the Calvary Chapel Church.</p> <p>The Mezquita, or Great Mosque in the Spanish city of Cordoba is a unique jewel of both Islamic and Christian architecture. Just over two weeks ago we were getting news of a fire there and we immediately wondered if this was, like Notre Dame Cathedral in 2019, going to be another national disaster. Luckily the fire didn't spread, but still there's a major restoration job underway. Guy Hedgecoe reports for us from southern Spain.</p> <p>For two Church of England priests the command to 'take up your cross', became 'take up your paddle'. The Reverend Christina Rees and the Reverend Patrick Forbes decided to kayak down the Great Ouse - an 85 mile journey - to raise money for charity.</p> <p>While Cambodia has been in the news for escalating tensions with Thailand, today we're bringing you a story of reconciliation. Since 2014, Hindu and Buddhist masterpieces housed in museums and private collections in the West, have been slowly returning Cambodia. Just last summer, 22 were welcomed back. The artefacts were looted from temples during the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime in the late 1970s, and its turbulent aftermath. We hear from investigators, and former looters, who are now working together to bring the sacred statues back to Cambodia.</p> <p>Producers: Katy Davis and Linda Walker</p>	<p>Presenter: Emily Buchanan Editor: Chloe Walker Studio Managers: George Willis and Georgia-Mae Browne</p> <p>SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Appeal (m002hkxw) The Matt Hampson Foundation</p> <p>Founder Matt Hampson makes the Radio 4 Appeal on behalf of The Matt Hampson Foundation. The charity runs rehabilitation centres for young people who have sustained life-changing injuries where they receive physiotherapy, personal training, counselling and mentoring.</p> <p>The Radio 4 Appeal features a new charity every week. Each appeal then runs on Radio 4 from Sunday 0755 for 7 days. 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 'The Matt Hampson Foundation'. - Cheques should be made payable to 'The Matt Hampson Foundation'. - You can donate online at bbc.co.uk/appeal/radio4 - Please ensure you are donating to the correct charity by checking the name of the charity on the donate page.</p> <p>Registered Charity Number: 1139823. If you'd like to find out more about the charity's work visit *https://matthampsonfoundation.org *The BBC is not responsible for content on external websites Producer: Katy Takatsuki</p> <p>SUN 07:57 Weather (m002hl00) The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p>SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m002hl02) The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.</p> <p>SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m002hl04) Hope in the Heart of Cumbria</p> <p>Many know Cumbria and the Lake District for its stunning landscapes — the mountains and lakes that draw people from near and far. But Cumbria is more than its scenery. Alongside the fells and valleys lie the coastal towns of Whitehaven, Workington, and Barrow, and the regional centres of Carlisle and Penrith — places shaped by a proud industrial heritage of shipbuilding, mining, and steel.</p> <p>That heritage continues to bring strength and identity, while also presenting real challenges as communities adapt to change. In this service, we'll hear stories of mission and ministry rooted in this diverse landscape, from the coast at Workington to the market town of Penrith in the east, each reflecting how faith is lived and shared in different contexts across the county.</p> <p>The service is led by Rob Saner-Haigh, the new Bishop of Carlisle.</p> <p>Producer: Andrew Earis</p> <p>SUN 08:48 Witness History (w3ct5yr2) In event of moon disaster: 'The speech that never was'</p> <p>"Fate has ordained that the men who went to the moon to explore in peace will stay on the moon to rest in peace."</p> <p>These are the opening lines of the 'In Event of Moon Disaster' speech, written in 1969 in case the moon landing astronauts did not make it home.</p> <p>They were composed by President Richard Nixon's speechwriter, William Safire, who died in 2009, at the age of 79.</p> <p>The speech continued: "These brave men, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, know that there is no hope for their recovery. But they also know that there is hope for mankind in their sacrifice."</p> <p>Using archive from the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and NASA, Vicky Farncombe tells the story of "the speech that never was".</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Recent episodes explore everything from football in Brazil, the history of the 'Indian Titanic' and the invention of air fryers, to</p>
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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: Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin on the moon. Credit: Getty Images)

SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (m002hl06)

Amy-Jane Beer on the Song Thrush

The song thrush's morning proclamations remind naturalist and writer Amy-Jane Beer that she's home. In this episode Amy describes how she finds the confident delivery of this species' song reassuring and grounding in troubled times.

Produced by Sophie Anton for BBC Audio in Bristol

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m002hl08)

Government plans asylum system overhaul

As political discourse hardens, Lord Dubs warns against abandoning the Refugee Convention. Plus we stick up for real-life friendships after warnings about human-AI relationships.

SUN 10:00 The Reunion (m002bgwt)

L!ve Tv

Launched in 1995, L!ve TV was a television channel unlike any other. For four years it was the home to topless darts, handy hunks, trampolining dwarfs, and the weather in Norwegian.

Its newreaders delivered the breaking stories while, over their shoulder, a giant rabbit – aka the “news bunny” – emoted in the background. Bunny gave the thumbs up for good stories, and rubbed his eyes in distress for the sad ones.

The station was a bold experiment in tabloid television. It combined the populist chutzpah of the former editor of The Sun, Kelvin MacKenzie, with the daylong zeitgeist of TV executive Janet Street Porter, the woman who infamously brought “yoof” TV to the BBC.

It broadcast from the freshly constructed shell of London's Canary Wharf. Programmes were made for a fraction of the cost of anything else on television at the time, and L!ve TV helped launch the career of some of the biggest stars in the industry today.

Joining Kirsty Wark are producer Ruth Wrigley; Kelvin MacKenzie, Mirror TV's former Managing Director who came up with many of LIVE's most famous shows; Rhodri Williams, LIVE's original breakfast show presenter; Simon London, presenter and the original producer of Topless Darts; former investment banker Richard Horwood who worked closely with David Montgomery to devise the Mirror's television strategy; and from Namsos in Norway, Anne Marie Foss, now a TV executive, who was L!ve TV's weather presenter.

Presenter: Kirsty Wark

Producer: Emily Williams

Additional Research: Howard Shannon

Editor: David Prest

A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 11:00 The Archers Omnibus (m002hl0b)

Writer: Jessica Mitic

Director: Peter Leslie Wild

Editor: Jeremy Howe

Henry Archer ... Blayke Darby
Chris Carter ... Wilf Scolding
Martyn Gibson ... Jon Glover
Amber Gordon ... Charlotte Jordan
Ed Grundy ... Barry Farrimond
Lawrence Harrington ... Rupert Vansittart
Brad Horrobin ... Taylor Utley
Chelsea Horrobin ... Madeleine Leslay
Tracy Horrobin ... Susie Riddell
Zainab Malik ... Priyasha Kumari
Jazzer McCreary ... Ryan Kelly
Freddie Pargetter ... Toby Laurence
Fallon Rogers ... Joanna van Kampen
Jenna ... Nia Gwynne

SUN 12:15 The Bottom Line (m002hkg4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 12:30 Just a Minute (m002h9t3)

Series 95

1. The time I went to Sue Perkins' birthday party

Sue Perkins challenges Paul Merton, Lucy Porter, Zoe Lyons and Stephen Mangan to speak for 60 seconds without repetition, deviation or hesitation. Subjects include sharing is caring, Mr. Darcy and the worst piece of advice I've ever been given.

Production Coordinator: Sarah Nicholls

Sound Editor: Marc Willcox

Producer: Georgia Keating

Executive Producer: James Robinson

Additional material by Eve Delaney

An EcoAudio certified production.

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

SUN 12:57 Weather (m002hl0d)

The latest weather forecast

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m002hl0g)

How much will net zero cost energy customers?

A crucial wind power auction this week will make or break the government's net zero target. But how much will it cost consumers? Plus Donald Trump targets 'woke' museums.

SUN 13:30 Currently (m002hkw3)

Germany: United and Divided

A programme marking the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Unification that brought East and West Germany together after 40 years of separation.

Historian Katja Hoyer was born in East Germany in the 1980s. Then, her home town of Guben was a bustling hub of the GDR's chemical industry, shrouded in smog and crowded with people. Today, it is clean and beautifully rebuilt, but also rather desolate and depopulated as residents debate how best to revitalise the region. 40% of people in Guben now vote for the right wing AfD party and express disappointment with life 35 years after reunification. Why?

Katja reports from Guben and discovers that people in the east feel hugely underrepresented in every sphere of German life. They believe that the united Germany is run on western terms and resent government intrusion from Berlin – especially the imposition of 'green' infrastructure. The AfD wins approval with its policies on this and migration, as well as a more pro-Russian stance on the war in Ukraine.

Katja talks to the city mayor, librarian, AfD politician, journalists, a rapper, pub owner and people who grew up in the GDR.

Presenter: Katja Hoyer

Producer : Susan Marling

A Just Radio production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002hbkq)

Postbag Edition: Rutland Flower Show

Our pear tree, which was once thriving has died, what should I do with it? Are weeds plants with attitude or is it the other way round? What are your thoughts on using a wound sealer after pruning?

Join Gardeners' Question Time for a floral-filled adventure at the Rutland Flower Show. This week, Peter Gibbs and a panel of passionate horticulturalists soak up the sights, scents and seasonal inspiration while digging into the famous GQT postbag, to solve your trickiest gardening conundrums.

Joining Peter under the big top are proud plantswoman Christine Walkden, and top garden designers Matthew Wilson and Adam Frost - ready with expert advice, clever solutions, and a few laughs along the way.

Senior Producer: Dan Cocker

Junior Producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 14:45 Opening Lines (m002hl0j)

Treasure Island

John Yorke looks at Treasure Island, the great swash-buckling adventure by Robert Louis Stevenson that inspired almost every pirate tale to follow.

Stevenson wrote the story to amuse his stepson on a wet holiday in the Scottish Highlands, with the original title The Sea Cook. Looking back at his time as a boy, narrator Jim Hawkins recounts his thrilling adventures on land and at sea in the pursuit of buried treasure, and we discover that the sea cook is none other than archetypal pirate Long John Silver, one-legged and with a parrot on his shoulder, one of Stevenson's great literary creations.

John Yorke argues that Treasure Island has a profound and lasting impact even in the age of Minecraft, Reality TV and YouTube length dramas, and in this episode of Opening Lines he will explain why.

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

Contributor:

Louise Welsh, author and Professor of Creative Writing, Glasgow University

Extracts from:

Michael Morpurgo, Twice Upon a Time podcast produced by Hat Trick Productions Ltd, 2022

Claire Harman, BBC Radio 4's Great Lives, 2005

Reader: Crawford Logan

Sound: Sean Kerwin

Researcher: Henry Tydeman

Production Hub Coordinator: Nina Sample

Producer: Mark Rickards

Executive Producer: Caroline Raphael

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 15:00 Drama on 4 (m002hl0l)

Treasure Island

Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale vibrantly reimagined.

Jim lives and works with his parents at their inn on the coast.

But when an old buccaneer comes to stay, their world is turned upside down, and Jim finds himself on a quest for buried treasure accompanied by a group of bloodthirsty pirates.

Written and performed by Gary McNair

Original music written and performed by Michael John McCarthy and Malin Lewis

Production co-ordinator: Ellie Marsh

Studio production: Fraser Jackson

Sound design: Michael John McCarthy

Directed by Kirsty Williams

SUN 16:00 Take Four Books (m002hl0n)

Sarah Hall

Presented by James Crawford, Take Four Books, speaks to the writer Sarah Hall about her new novel, Helm, and explores its connections to three other literary works. This new novel has been twenty years in the making and features a wind called Helm as its principal character. A number of other narratives interweave and interact differently with Helm: a Neolithic tribe tries to placate it, a Dark Age wizard priest wants to banish it, a Victorian steam engineer attempts to capture Helm, and a farmer's daughter simply loves Helm. The contemporary narrative follows a weather researcher who fears human pollution is killing Helm.

For her three influences Sarah chose: Lincoln In The Bardo by George Saunders which was published in 2017 and won the Booker prize that same year; Angela Carter's The Bloody Chamber from 1979; and Margaret Baker's Discovering the Folklore of Plants from 1969.

The supporting contributor for this episode is literary editor and founder of the independent publisher this wurd - Alan McMunnigall.

Producer: Dominic Howell

Editor: Gillian Wheelan

This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.

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<p><i>SUN 16:30 Nature Table (m001g924)</i> Series 3</p> <p>Episode 4</p> <p>Celebrating the natural world and all it's funny eccentricities.</p> <p>Taking the simple format of a 'Show & Tell', in each episode Sue Perkins is surrounded by celebrity guests from the worlds of comedy and natural history.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Recorded at ZSL London Zoo.</p> <p>In this episode, Sue welcomes:</p> <p>* Zoologist Lucy Cooke * Ethnobotanist James Wong * Comedian Felicity Ward.</p> <p>Written by Catherine Brinkworth, Jon Hunter, Jenny Laville and Nicky Roberts</p> <p>Additional material by Kat Sadler.</p> <p>Producer Simon Nicholls.</p> <p>A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p><i>SUN 17:00 BBC Proms: 100 Years of the Shipping Forecast (m002hl0q)</i> From the BBC Proms, a special evening of words and music with the Ulster Orchestra and conductor Chloé van Soeterstède celebrating the centenary of the Shipping Forecast, heard daily on BBC Radio 4, a lifeline to all those at sea and a poetic salve for countless others on land. With presenters from Radio 4's Continuity team, music and readings inspired by the oceans and the elements, and a new work by Poet Laureate Simon Armitage and his group LYR, this is an event that speaks to the heart of our island nation.</p> <p>Presented by Caroline Nicholls and Al Ryan</p> <p><i>SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002hl0s)</i> The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><i>SUN 17:57 Weather (m002hl0v)</i> The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p><i>SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hl0x)</i> Refugee charities react cautiously to plans to overhaul asylum appeals.</p> <p>The Refugee Council says fewer asylum appeals are needed, but there must be 'legal' and 'judicial' oversight of decisions. Also: questions are raised about new criminal sentencing guidelines which could prevent visits to pubs or football matches. And: a lucky escape for those on board a hot air balloon which landed on a street in Bedford.</p> <p><i>SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m002hl0z)</i> John Toal</p> <p>This week, Radio 4 is tackling the architectural woes of the so called 'blandemic' with the help of designer Thomas Heatherwick, whilst the World Service is bringing us to the heavenly heights of the Sagrada Familia - so much so, Gaudi's on the route to a sainthood. Outside of the city, we're transported via sound to the harvest of bulrushes on the River Great Ouse, chough-watching on the Llyn Peninsula, and Martha Kearney crafting an aeolian harp on Cambridgeshire's Wicken Fen. And after all that, you can wash ashore with the sounds of fairies, and the Shipping Forecast, whichever is sweeter.</p> <p>Presenter: John Toal Producer: Anthony McKee Production Coordinator: Caroline Peddle</p> <p>A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p><i>SUN 19:00 The Archers (m002hkvz)</i> Henry's a success at bowling but when Freddie praises him, Henry's concerned about being encouraged to bowl short. Later Freddie notices that Henry's being really hesitant and coaches him to give it a bit more clout. But Henry's worried about bowling in that style, particularly against the women players. Chelsea bumps into Freddie at the cricket and asks about his experience with Lawrence. Lawrence was really sexist to her</p>	<p>and Zainab at the golf club last week and Martyn's put a complaint in for them at the club.</p> <p>Robert's back from looking after Leonie but seems out of sorts. When Lynda probes him he admits that sometimes he feels like he's competing with the whole of Ambridge for Lynda's attention. And the last fortnight has been extreme. He sometimes needs Lynda more than the village does. When Lynda counters that he could have unloaded to her at any point, Robert explains that he tried but she was always busy. Lynda starts to apologise when it appears that someone on the cricket pitch has been hurt. It turns out a woman batter's hand has been injured by a ball bowled by Henry. She's taken off to A and E as a precaution.</p> <p>Ambridge win against the Borchester Fourths but both Chelsea and Robert think Henry's bowling style was pretty fierce. Freddie congratulates Henry, but instead of joining them all for celebrations at The Bull, Henry just wants to go home. When Freddie points out they won fair and square, Henry laments that it doesn't feel like that.</p> <p><i>SUN 19:15 Illuminated (m002hpf0)</i> The Watch Case</p> <p>Watchmaker Rebecca Struthers has been invited to come and examine a watch which its owners claim is the world's oldest - but is it?</p> <p>Until now, Rebecca had only heard rumours of this watch - about the reputation of its famous maker, about the extraordinary circumstances in which it was found, about its unbelievable valuation. It is famous, or infamous, in antiquarian horology circles. But until Rebecca wrote her book 'Hands of Time' (a Radio 4 Book of the Week), few outside that small world had heard much about it.</p> <p>Now, thanks to her book, a mysterious lawyer has emailed to ask if she'd like to examine the watch. So she's on her way to Switzerland with a lot of questions. Not least - is it the real deal or, as so many of the watch's detractors claim, nothing more than a forgery.</p> <p>Producer: Giles Edwards</p> <p><i>SUN 19:45 Just One Thing - with Michael Mosley (m001rh1k)</i> Practice Pilates</p> <p>It's a low-impact, low-intensity exercise that can make you stronger, more flexible, and benefit your posture and balance. It's proven to reduce lower back pain and it can even enhance your exercise performance! No surprise that tennis star Andy Murray uses it in his training routine. In this episode, Pilates expert Professor Ruth Melo from the University of San Paulo reveals all about the benefits of Pilates on our cardiovascular endurance, core strength and healthy ageing. Meanwhile, Michael challenges keen tennis player Rambali to take up Pilates and see if he can improve his serve.</p> <p>New episodes will be released on Wednesdays, but if you're in the UK, listen to new episodes, a week early, first on BBC Sounds: bbc.in/3zqa6BB</p> <p>Producer: Nija Dalal-Small Science Producer: Catherine Wyler Assistant Producer: Gulnar Mimaroglu Trainee Assistant Producer: Toni Arenyeka Executive Producer:: Zoe Heron A BBC Studios production for BBC Sounds / BBC Radio 4.</p> <p><i>SUN 20:00 Word of Mouth (m002hb99)</i> Speech difficulties</p> <p>Michael Rosen asks what happens to people's sense of identity and social being when speaking becomes hard. Jonathan Cole has interviewed people with conditions such as cerebral palsy, vocal cord palsy, spasmodic dysphonia and post-stroke aphasia. They describe in their own words what the experience of not being able to express themselves is like, the frustration and isolation as well as the adaptation and resilience. Jonathan Cole is the author of Hard Talk: When Speech Is Difficult and a consultant in Clinical Neurophysiology at University Hospitals, Dorset. Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Beth O'Dea, in partnership with the Open University. Subscribe to the Word of Mouth podcast and never miss an episode: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006gtnz</p> <p><i>SUN 20:30 Last Word (m002hbkz)</i> Terence Stamp, Stephanie Shirley, Kay Dunbar, Eric Midwinter</p> <p>John Wilson on:</p> <p>Actor Terence Stamp, the Oscar nominated 60s screen icon</p>	<p>who went onto play many villains in his later film career</p> <p>Baroness Stephanie Shirley, the pioneering computer scientist and founder of her own software company</p> <p>Kay Dunbar who founded the Ways with Words literary festival which ran in Devon for 30 years</p> <p>Eric Midwinter was one of the three co-founders of u3a to encourage continued learning in retirement</p> <p>Producer: Ed Prendeville</p> <p>Archive used: Desert Island Discs, BBC, 12/03/2006; Billy Budd, Rank Film Distributors, 1962; Superman II, Warner Bros, 1980; Far from the Madding Crowd, Warner-Pathe Distributors, 1967; Front Row, BBC, 16/05/2013; Morning Live, BBC, 08/03/2022; HARDtalk, BBC, 07/03/2000; Spotlight, BBC News Plymouth, 11/07/2023; Spotlight, BBC News Plymouth, 02/09/1996; Archive on 4: Kindertransport, BBC, 09/2015; Lifespan, AS Choices, 16/08/1987; Armchair Discussions with u3a, u3a UK, n.d.; You and Yours, BBC, 12/12/2016</p> <p><i>SUN 21:00 Sliced Bread (m002dzyj)</i> [Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]</p> <p><i>SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Appeal (m002hkxw)</i> [Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]</p> <p><i>SUN 21:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002hkff)</i> [Repeat of broadcast at 11:30 on Saturday]</p> <p><i>SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m002hl11)</i> Guests including the Labour leader in Scotland Anas Sarwar join Nick Eardley for an hour of political discussion</p> <p><i>SUN 23:00 Artworks (m002hb8m)</i> What Happened to Counter-Culture?</p> <p>3. Beauty in the Streets</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-communalists, 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>Leading to the revolt and turbulence of May 68 in Paris, London and around the world, this episode explores how the 'revolution in the head' fuses with the revolution in the streets as counter-culture becomes more expressly political and actively dangerous to the forces of order. From attempts to levitate the Pentagon in Washington to organising conferences on liberation and violence in London, Stewart investigates the influence of the Avant Garde in the politics of '68 in Paris, of the Flourishing of Black counter-culture and free jazz in America, especially the work of musician Sun Ra. 'Happenings' in London become more participatory and political, anticipating future technologies – even as the new tech-communalists of the West Coast dream of a fully networked planet, laying the foundations for the internet in the name of a non-hierarchical counter-culture.</p> <p>Contributors include musician Damon Albarn and artist Hazel Albarn, author Iain Sinclair, journalist and author John Harris, founding member of Blondie and specialist on counter-culture and the occult Gary Lachman, poet Sonia Sanchez, author and critic Kevin Le Gendre, artist Nelly Ben Hayoun, French historian Richard Vinen, writer on cyber-culture Fred Turner and author-musician Robyn Hitchcock.</p>
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<p>Presenter: Stewart Lee</p> <p>Producer: Simon Hollis</p> <p>A Brook Lapping production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 23:30 The History Podcast (m0024hgb) The Lucan Obsession</p> <p>7. The Investigation</p> <p>Police traipsed through 46 Lower Belgrave St on the night of Sandra Rivett's murder, but did they contaminate the evidence?</p> <p>The police files are still closed. Where there have been unanswered questions, enticing myths and conspiracies have filled the void.</p> <p>Alex von Tunzelmann pieces together what we can know of the investigation, trying to separate fact from fiction.</p> <p>She hears from two policemen who worked on the Lucan case and reassesses the forensics with an ex-Metropolitan Police detective.</p> <p>Stories emerge about close relations between the press and police and she wonders if booze, bribes and class deference may have obscured the truth.</p> <p>Producer: Sarah Bowen Content Producer: Becca Bryers</p> <p>SUN 23:45 Short Works (m002hbkv) The Fishing Lesson by Brian Friel</p> <p>A very special edition of Short Works is a newly unearthed story by Brian Friel, known as the Irish Chekhov for his plays Translations, Dancing at Lughnasa and Philadelphia Here I Come!</p> <p>Friel originally wrote this story for BBC radio whilst he was still working as a maths teacher in rural Ireland. It was originally broadcast 1958, but hasn't been heard or read since.</p> <p>Nearly 70 years later, the story has been rediscovered in the BBC Archives and newly recorded with actor Dermot Crowley. It has been specially commissioned by Radio 4 as part of a celebration of Brian Friel's work 10 years after his death, which also includes a new production of Faith Healer.</p> <p>The Fishing Lesson shows Friel at his lyrical best, brimming with his trademark pathos, dry wit and a troubled relationship with the past which would later define his work. Though it was penned early in Friel's career, it tells the story of a regret-ridden man who is older but perhaps not, yet, wiser.</p> <p>With thanks to Kelly Matthews and Kate O'Brien.</p> <p>Reader: Dermot Crowley Producer: Ciaran Bermingham</p> <p>MONDAY 25 AUGUST 2025</p> <p>MON 00:00 Midnight News (m002h13) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>MON 00:15 Crossing Continents (m002h9ww) Europe's migrant crisis: the truck that shocked the world</p> <p>In the summer of 2015, tens of thousands of people left their homes in Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq in the hope of finding a safe haven in Europe. The journeys they took were often hazardous and not everyone reached their destination. In one of the most notorious cases, 71 migrants were found dead in the back of a refrigerated truck on a motorway in Austria. They had all suffocated. Could this tragedy have been prevented? For Crossing Continents, Nick Thorpe speaks to two of the people smugglers who are now serving life sentences in a Bulgarian prison. He visits a man in northern Iraq who lost his younger brother and two children aboard the truck and asks the police in Hungary if they could have acted sooner.</p> <p>Presenter: Nick Thorpe Producer: Tim Mansel Local Producer: Yana Pelovska Sound mixer: Hal Haines Series editor: Penny Murphy</p> <p>MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m002hkgq) [Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]</p> <p>MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002h15)</p>	<p>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002h17) BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p>MON 05:00 News Summary (m002h19) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>MON 05:04 Last Word (m002hbkz) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Sunday]</p> <p>MON 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002h1c) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002h1f) The Empty Chairs</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky</p> <p>Good morning!</p> <p>When I was a child, my father would read me a poem by A. A. Milne about "James James Morrison Morrison", who warns his mother never to go to the end of the town without him. Of course, one day she does - and is never seen again.</p> <p>In my family, we each saw something different in that poem. My father, a teacher, saw the way children sometimes care for their parents. My brother, a child protection social worker, saw a child's fear that a parent might leave and not come back. For me, it has always been about loss, the simple truth that people leave us, and there is nothing we can do to change it.</p> <p>We all know what it is to have an empty chair in our lives, someone who used to be there and now is not. The space they leave can feel impossibly large. And yet, in another sense, they are still with us. I believe those we have loved live on in us: in our words, our values, the way we greet the day, the way we love others. Their presence is felt, even in their absence.</p> <p>There is a line in the Bible when Jonathan says to David, knowing they may never see each other again: "Your chair will be empty. You will be missed."</p> <p>May we carry the memory of those we love with tenderness. May we live in a way that honours what they gave us. And may we choose life, as they would have wanted for us.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p>MON 05:45 Farming Today (m002h1h) In a special programme, Kathleen Carragher travels to the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides to find out how transhumance, the summer migration of livestock, lasted in one area of the island into the 1970s. Whole communities moved their animals to common grazings to protect their crops – it was called going to the Shielings, named after the small huts they built as temporary homes. We hear crofters' memories of working, playing and praying on the moors during the summer months.</p> <p>Presented and produced by Kathleen Carragher</p> <p>MON 05:57 Weather (m002h1k) The latest weather reports and forecasts for farmers</p> <p>MON 06:00 Today (m002hkvj) Ukraine War: On the frontline in the Donbas</p> <p>25/08/25 - Anna Foster and Simon Jack present Today. News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p>MON 09:00 Rory Stewart: The Long History of... (m002gjg2) Heroism</p> <p>4. Poster Heroes</p> <p>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?</p> <p>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</p>	<p>time. What does it mean for our moral life? How should we perceive and pursue human excellence?</p> <p>In this episode, Rory explores ideas of the hero from the middle of the 20th century.</p> <p>Presenter: Rory Stewart Producer and sound design: Dan Tierney Editor: Tim Pemberton Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke</p> <p>MON 09:30 Building Soul: with Thomas Heatherwick (m002hkvj) Series 2</p> <p>Making 'Making' Great Again</p> <p>Our cities have been built like machines – efficient, repeatable, and soulless. In this second episode, Thomas Heatherwick argues it's time to put the hand back into architecture.</p> <p>Can embracing craft, imperfection – even AI as a creative partner – help us make buildings that feel human again?</p> <p>Producer: Anouk Millet Series Producer: Nadia Mehdi Mix Engineer: Will Fitzpatrick A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002hkv1) Stalking & heart disease, Cellist Laura van der Heijden, Periods</p> <p>Sussex-born cellist Laura van der Heijden won the BBC Young Musician of the Year at the age of 15 in 2012. She's now been named as the Royal Philharmonic Society's Instrumentalist of the Year and will be the Artist in Residence at this year's Lammermuir Festival in Scotland. Laura tells Kylie Pentelow about her repertoire, her love of the outdoors, and plays live in the studio.</p> <p>Women who've been stalked, or had to take out a restraining order, have a much higher chance of suffering a heart attack or stroke, according to a new study from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. It followed a group of over 66,000 women across 10 years, and found those who'd been stalked were 41% more likely to develop cardiovascular disease, with those who'd taken out a restraining orders 71% more likely to have heart problems. Kylie talks to Dr Audrey Murchland, one of the lead researchers who carried out the study, about their findings.</p> <p>Paula Byrne, Jane Austen's biographer and also a novelist, has spent 25 years researching and writing about the iconic author. In this 250th anniversary year of Austen's birth, she joins Kylie to talk about her new novel, Six Weeks by the Sea, which is her first fictional treatment of Austen and tells the story of how she imagines the most famous romance writer of all time first fell in love.</p> <p>New government guidance on sex education coming in next year doesn't include specific information on how children should be taught about menstruation, despite a new study showing children don't get enough lessons on the subject. Researchers from University College London claim children get at most two sessions on periods and they say boys and girls should be taught about it together. The study was led by Professor Joyce Harper from the UCL Institute for Women's Health. She joins Kylie along with Tina Leslie from the charity Freedom for Girls, which provides period education.</p> <p>Presenter: Kylie Pentelow Producer: Andrea Kidd</p> <p>MON 11:00 The History Podcast (m002gjdt) The Second Map</p> <p>2. The Secrets in the Safe</p> <p>In Episode 2 of The Second Map, the war against Japan enters a new phase. Some of the most significant battles of the Second World War were fought on the Asian front - including by the 14th Army, which was known as 'The Forgotten Army', even at the time. It was formed after a string of defeats to Japan and was made up of nearly a million men, the majority from India and across the British empire. Their main aim: to win Burma back. Assisting them was a remarkable British woman from North London who became known as "The Jungle Queen," and the tribal group she was living with. Their intervention would be critical. And we hear rare voices from Japanese forces, as the war shifts against them.</p> <p>Creator, Writer and Presenter: Kavita Puri Series Producer: Ellie House Script Editor: Ant Adeane Sound Designer: James Beard Series Editor: Matt Willis</p>
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Production Coordinators: Sabine Scherek, Maria Ogundele
Commissioners for Radio 4 and The World Service: Dan Clarke, Jon Zilkha

Original music: Felix Taylor
Archive Curator: Tariq Hussain
Voice actor: Dai Tabuchi
Translators: Hannah Kilcoyne, Sumire Hori

With thanks to Dr Diya Gupta, Dr Vikki Hawkins, Dr Peter Johnston, Professor Rana Mitter and Tejpal Singh Ralmill.

MON 11:45 Blood Lands (m006zx5) Blood on the Wall

Blood Lands is a true story told in five parts which takes us to the heart of modern South Africa.

At dusk on a warm evening in 2016, two men arrive, unexpectedly, at a remote South African farmhouse. The frenzy that follows will come to haunt a community, destroying families, turning neighbours into traitors, prompting street protests and threats of violence, and dividing the small farming and tourist town of Parys along racial lines. Blood Lands is a murder investigation, a political drama, a courtroom thriller, and a profound exploration of the enduring tensions threatening the "rainbow nation". Over the course of three years, correspondent Andrew Harding has followed every twist of the police's hunt for the killers, the betrayals that opened the door to an explosive trial, and the fortunes of all those involved – from the dead men's families to the handful of men controversially selected for prosecution.

Presenter, Andrew Harding
Producer, Becky Lipscombe
Editor, Bridget Harney

MON 12:00 News Summary (m002hkv) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

MON 12:04 You and Yours (m002hkvq) Pension Scam, Electric Vehicles, Mountain Bothies

Thousands of people invested their pensions in a scam that encouraged them to buy storage units through a company called Store First – with some people losing up to a million pounds. Our reporter Shari Vahl brings us the latest as those responsible appear in court for the first time.

Have you ever stayed in a mountain bothy? Bothies are free shelters found in some of the UK's harshest environments. There are just over a hundred in the British Isles, and whilst they have long been popular with those in the know, they are reaching a new audience through social media. We hear whether bothies are changing in the 21st century.

The Yorkshire Dales Food and Drink Festival was meant to be one of the country's biggest food festivals, featuring luxury camping and celebrity chefs. However, its last-minute cancellation last month by organisers Cocker Hoop Ltd has left ticket holders and traders out of pocket. We hear from some of the people affected and find out what you can do if you have lost money on a cancelled event.

How important are hair, skin and beauty regimes to men? According to Boots, there was a 14% increase in men shopping for beauty products in 2024. From lower body scents and sprays to premium hair products and deodorant, we discuss how young men in particular are paying more attention to grooming.

The government is continuing to roll out its Electric Car Grant scheme, with new eligible vehicles being regularly added. It is incentivising electric vehicle ownership by reducing the upfront costs for consumers, so we'll find out what it's like to own one in 2025. Is range anxiety a thing of the past? How easy is it to find a charging point? And what models are proving popular on the scheme?

PRODUCER: CHARLIE FILMER-COURT
PRESENTER: WINIFRED ROBINSON

MON 12:57 Weather (m002hkvs) The latest weather forecast

MON 13:00 World at One (m002hkv) At least 20 killed in a strike on a Gaza hospital

Several journalists are among the dead at the Nasser Hospital - a British aid worker who was there joins us. Also today: will we end up paying more for medicine thanks to President Trump? He wants Americans to pay less which could lead to higher prices in the UK. And plastic bag sales have risen for the first time in 10 years - a decade since UK-wide charges were introduced.

MON 13:45 Naturebang (m002hkvx) Magpies and Altruism

Why do we help each other out? Even when it gets us nothing in return? Becky Ripley and Emily Knight explore the existence of altruism, with the help of some mischievous magpies.

Featuring Professor Dominique Potvin from the University of the Sunshine Coast, and Dr Abigail Marsh from Georgetown University.

Produced and presented by Emily Knight and Becky Ripley.

MON 14:00 The Archers (m002hkvz) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

MON 14:15 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (m002hkw1) 2025 Special

2025's instalment of John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme is forty-five minutes of the funniest things John thought of in the last year, performed by John and his regular cast of Margaret Cabourn-Smith, Simon Kane, Lawry Lewin and Carrie Quinlan, with composer Susannah Pearce at the piano and Sally Stares on the cello.

Please note that listening to these sketches about seahorses, time travel and sirens may cause side effects, unless you're listening to the placebo version of the show.

Written and performed by ... John Finnemore
Ensemble ... Margaret Cabourn-Smith
Ensemble ... Simon Kane
Ensemble ... Lawry Lewin
Ensemble ... Carrie Quinlan

Original music ... Susannah Pearce
Piano ... Susannah Pearce
Cello ... Sally Stares

Recording ... Jerry Peal & Jon Calver
Editing ... Rich Evans

Production Manager ... Katie Baum
Executive Producer ... Richard Morris

Producer ... Ed Morrish

John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme is a BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

MON 15:00 Great Lives (m002hkkq) Miles Jupp on JL Carr, author of A Month in the Country

"I find his novels extraordinarily beautiful .. and they're an excellent length."

Miles Jupp picks an author he loves, but knows little about. JL Carr was born in Yorkshire and was a teacher, mapmaker, and an eccentric. Joining the comedian in studio to discuss Carr is a man who knew him well - DJ Taylor - who paints a picture of a man who hated London literary parties and knew how to have fun with anyone sent to interview him. A delightful episode that includes archive of Carr himself, plus Kenneth Branagh reading from his biography, God's Englishman by Byron Rogers.

Carr's novel - A Month in the Country - was shortlisted for the Booker and turned into a film starring Kenneth Branagh, Colin Firth and Natasha Richardson in 1987.

The producer for BBC Studios in Bristol is Miles Warde

MON 15:30 You're Dead to Me (m002hkf6) [Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]

MON 16:00 Currently (m002hkw3) [Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]

MON 16:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002hkf8) [Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Saturday]

MON 17:00 PM (m002hkw5) At least 20 die in Gaza hospital airstrike

UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy "horrified" at the Israeli attack on Nasser Hospital - at least 20 were killed including 5 journalists. Also today, men explain mansplaining. And after the legendary film score composer John Williams said "I never liked film music very much", what is the magic of movie music?

MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hkw7) Five journalists among 20 killed in Israeli strike on hospital

Israeli strikes on a hospital in the south of Gaza have killed at least twenty people. The journalists worked with international outlets, including the Associated Press, Reuters and Al Jazeera. Also: a helicopter crash on the Isle of Wight kills three people. And a medical transplant firm set up by Oxford University is bought by a Japanese company for \$1.5 billion.

MON 18:30 Just a Minute (m002hkw9) Series 95

2. Where's the live, laugh, love?

Sue Perkins challenges Tony Hawks, Desiree Burch, Gyles Brandreth and Emma Sidi to speak for 60 seconds without repetition, deviation or hesitation. Subjects include the perfect pair of pyjamas, checking one's moles and getting the 'ick'.

Production Coordinator: Sarah Nicholls
Sound Editor: Marc Willcox
Producer: Georgia Keating
Executive Producer: James Robinson
Additional material by Eve Delaney

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

MON 19:00 The Archers (m002hkpr)

Henry's flat when Adam praises him for his bowling prowess yesterday. Henry doesn't think cricket's for him and he might not play again after this season. Pat asks Henry why he wants to quit cricket and he admits that he's worried about injuring the batter from the Borchester Fourths. Pat reckons that she'll be ok and that bowling short is a perfectly legitimate tactic. Henry then opens up about when Rob got really angry with him when he was being taught how to play cricket. Pat thinks it's a shame to miss out on a game Henry enjoys because of 'that man'.

When Brian asks Adam for some help at Home Farm, Pat's not impressed saying that the situation can't go on.

Emma visits George who explains how his relationship with Amber has given him renewed hope. Emma's surprised when George mentions that Amber's being sponsored to have her veneers done in Turkey. It all helps with getting subscribers to her account and so discounts for the wedding. George then checks whether Emma's used Amber's gift of teeth whitening vouchers – George thinks she might offend Amber if they're not used.

Talk turns to the arson attack at The Bill and Ed and Mia's drone footage. The police can't find Markie's accomplice. When George asks what Markie's surname is, Emma wonders why. Later George asks Brad to contact Fallon to tell her that George might be able to help find the perpetrators. Brad doesn't think it's a good idea to get involved, but George reckons it's a great way to prove himself to the village. He just needs Brad's help.

MON 19:15 Artworks (m002hkwc) Hollywood and The Adland Five

1. Transforming Ads, Transforming Movies

The UK's foremost film director Sir Christopher Nolan and the leading cultural historian Sir Christopher Frayling unite to assess the impact of one of the biggest, boldest - and least celebrated - eras in filmmaking history.

Meet the Adland Five - five British directors who stormed Hollywood in the late 1970s and early 1980s, having already revolutionised the world of advertising.

Hugh Hudson, Adrian Lyne, Alan Parker, Ridley and Tony Scott went from working side by side in London's Soho ad business - on 30 second TV spots for the likes of Hovis and Heineken - to transforming the film industry with movies including Alien, Chariots of Fire and Top Gun. So why have critics never taken them seriously?

Christopher Nolan's own love for the work of the Adland Five can be traced back to a childhood visit to the Pinewood set of Bugsy Malone in 1976. The film's director Alan Parker was the first of the group to break into cinema, and it was the success of his debut – a prohibition-era musical starring kids, with adults providing singing voices - that led Parker's friend and colleague Ridley Scott to move into the movies himself, with 1977's Napoleonic drama The Duellists.

Without the impact of the Adland Five some decades before, Christopher Nolan's own Hollywood career - with films like The Dark Knight, Inception and Oppenheimer - might never have seemed within reach. Now he believes it's time they were given their due...

Producer - Jane Long
Executive Producer - Freya Hellier
Additional research - Edward Charles, Heather Dempsey and Queenie Qureshi-Wales
Sound mix - Jon Calver
A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

MON 19:45 New Storytellers (m000y5f8)
The Bathing Place

Cultural historian George Townsend leads us through his research into Parson's Pleasure, a male-only nude bathing place on the outskirts of Oxford.

A unique site, Parson's Pleasure offered exercise and repose to men from many walks of life, for at least 400 years. It formed a centre of muscular Christianity for the Victorians and a hub for the sunbathing craze between the wars. It was also a cruising spot and sanctuary for gay men until its demolition in 1992, and remains a part of the city's collective imagination to this day.

Through poetry and stories from old regulars, we explore the river island where Parson's Pleasure sits, and discover surprising echoes of its history among the younger generation of today.

Touching on social and landscape history and the history of sexuality, The Bathing Place offers an insight into the city of dreaming spires like no other.

New Storytellers presents the work of new radio and audio producers, and this series features the five winners of the 2021 Charles Parker Prize for Best Student Radio Feature. The award is presented every year in memory of the pioneering radio producer Charles Parker who produced the famous series of Radio Ballads with Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger.

Winning producer of The Bathing Place, Hunter Charlton studying an MA at Goldsmiths, University of London, was commended by the judges for having made 'a lovely engrossing listen, with a great mix of oral history, music, poetry and effects.'

Presenter: George Townsend
Producer: Hunter Charlton
A Soundscape production for BBC Radio 4

MON 20:00 The Briefing Room (m002hb9c)
UK Resilience 2: How prepared are we for cyber threats?

From councils disrupted by ransomware, leaked defence data or individuals duped by deep fakes, the UK faces increasing cyber threats. David Aaronovitch asks his guests how prepared we are - whether as government defending critical infrastructure or as individuals guarding our digital identities.

Guests:
Sadie Creese, Professor of Cyber Security in the department of computer science, Oxford University
Dr Aybars Tuncdogan, Associate Professor in digital innovation and information security, Kings College, London
Emily Taylor, CEO of Oxford Information Labs and Associate Fellow, Chatham House

Presenter: David Aaronovitch
Producers: Ben Carter, Sally Abrahams and Kirsteen Knight
Production co-ordinator: Rosie Strawbridge
Sound Engineers: Dave O'Neill and James Beard
Editor: Richard Vadon

MON 20:30 BBC Inside Science (m002hb9f)
Could solar panels in space be the energy source of the future?

As new research looks at the financial and environmental case for solar panels in space, we explore how likely the technology could be to power our future energy needs back on Earth.

Mamie Chesterton hears from the author of a new study into the topic, Dr Wei He from King's College London, and is joined by Professor Henry Snaith from Oxford University to look at the future of solar panel technology.

We also hear from conservation scientist Adam Hart about his views on whether allowing trophy hunting could actually help to protect threatened species in the long term.

Mamie also speaks to the author of one of the books shortlisted for the annual Royal Society Trivedi Book Prize, Simon Parkin. His book, The Forbidden Garden of Leningrad, explores the story of the botanists working at the world's first seed bank during World War Two, and the extraordinary lengths they went to to protect the specimens they were keeping. We also hear from one of the judges of the awards, the crime writer Val McDermid.

And science journalist Caroline Steel joins us to highlights the week's most fascinating new pieces of research.

MON 21:00 The Patch (m002cpqv)
Bruton

One random generated postcode and a story you probably haven't heard before. Today it's Bruton, Somerset.

This small town in rural Somerset has become a magnet for contemporary art, celebrities, and newspaper journalists who like to write about "the new Notting Hill" and "the new Montecito", interchangeably. It's a new challenge for producer Polly Weston, who is not used to being sent to such well documented destinations. Ten years ago, the international contemporary art titans, Hauser and Wirth, decided to open a gallery here. A decade on, and rarely a week goes by without a journalist writing a spread about the town. But what Polly finds most surprising is the number of smaller art galleries she notices on her first visit. How does this contemporary art business work? And what does the town make of it all?

Produced and presented by Polly Weston
Editor: Chris Ledgard
Mixed by Ilse Lademann

MON 21:45 One to One (m001149b)
Re-inventing Yourself: Malaika Kegode with Rev Paul Cowley

Malaika Kegode took a chance and left her rural Devon home in her early twenties, to escape what she describes as a toxic situation, when drugs and violence became part of her daily life. She made the massive life change with the support of her parents and she's now a successful Bristol-based writer and performer. She's always been drawn to stories of people who manage to re-invent themselves and in the first of two programmes, Malaika talks to Rev Paul Cowley, a man who has re-invented himself through-out his life, from prisoner to soldier and eventually to priest.

Produced by Jo Dwyer for BBC Audio in Bristol

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m002hkwg)
Five journalists among 20 killed in Israeli strike

There's been international condemnation as five Palestinian journalists were among those killed in a double Israeli air strike on a Gaza hospital. Israel has called it a "tragic mishap". A friend of one of the victims tells us about the choices facing colleagues left behind.

Also on the programme:

As Reform UK leader Nigel Farage prepares to unveil his plan for mass deportations of asylum seekers - we ask what political and legal challenges it might face.

And we speak to the conductor of today's CBeebies Prom - where an "informal environment" was encouraged.

MON 22:45 Crooked Cross by Sally Carson (m002hkwj)
Episode Six

Crooked Cross was first published in 1934 and was based on Sally Carson's first-hand experience of travelling through Bavaria where she witnessed the inexorable and devastating rise of fascism and antisemitism. Long out of print it was discovered by Persephone Books and republished in 2025.

We are in Bavaria in a small provincial town outside Munich. There, on Christmas Eve of 1932, we first meet the Kluger family, a happy band of Frau and Herr Kluger, and their three grown up children, Helmy, Lexa and Eric. Life is not always easy: jobs are scarce, money is tight; they are living under the shadow of defeat in the Great War. But by 1933 Hitler has won the election and become chancellor and everything is about to change for all of them. None more so than for Moritz Weissmann, Lexa's fiancé, a young Catholic doctor but with a Jewish name, who first and foremost thought of himself as German. But now his country is starting to turn against him.

'Too much power and too sudden power makes men lose all sense of proportion: blood turns such men into madmen.'

Sally Carson's novel explores how relationships between family, friends, lovers and neighbours all begin to subtly shift until confidence in the new fascist regime and the hope it offers empowers, gives licence, to many to commit atrocities that would eventually lead to another world war and the Holocaust.

The setting of a very ordinary small town allows Carson to chart how over six months this can happen against the backdrop of catastrophic political upheaval. Carson was only 38 when she died in 1941 of breast cancer, so she never lived to see the end of the war which makes Crooked Cross and her foresight even more extraordinary.

'It doesn't seem like propaganda and it makes you feel that grim sense of uncertainty and fear which must come upon any people under a rule of terror.' The Saturday Review August 1934

Sally Carson wrote two sequels both still out of print: The Prisoner published in 1936 and A Traveller Came By published in 1938. But despite the excellent reviews for Crooked Cross (which also enjoyed a successful theatrical adaptation) all three books, and their author disappeared. Until now.

Reader: Scarlett Courtney
Abridged by Sara Davies
Produced by Caroline Raphael
Production Co-ordinator: Henry Tydeman and Nina Semple
Sound by Matt Bainbridge
Recorded at Fitzrovia Studios

Crooked Cross is published by Persephone Books.

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

MON 23:00 Limelight (p0ffhlzb)
Who Killed Aldrich Kemp?

4. The Murder Clowns

Dr Hazlitt sends Aldrich and Clara on a mission to unexplored and dangerous territory.

Chapter Four – more questions than answers?

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
Forsaken McTeague and the Underwood Sisters – Jana Carpenter.
Sabine Seah – Rebecca Boey
Remington Schofield– Barnaby Kay
Mrs Bartholomew – Kate Isitt
Dr Hazlitt - Ben Crowe
Film Director – James Joyce.

Created and written by Julian Simpson

Recorded on location in Hove.

Music composed by Tim Elsenburg.
Sound Design: David Thomas
Director: Julian Simpson
Producer: Sarah Tombling
Executive Producer: Karen Rose

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

MON 23:30 What's Funny About... (m00282q2)
Series 4

5. Comic Relief

On the eve of Comic Relief's 40th birthday, Peter Fincham and Jon Plowman are joined by Richard Curtis and Sir Lenny Henry to hear the inside story of the charity they founded in 1985, which has gone on to raise more than a £1.6 billion for good causes.

They explain the origins of the idea, reveal some of their favourite moments, and talk about what they hope Comic Relief might achieve in its next 40 years.

Producer: Owen Braben
An Expectation Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST 2025

TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m002hkw1)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

TUE 00:30 Blood Lands (m0006zx5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Monday]

TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hkw1)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hkwg)
BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

TUE 05:00 News Summary (m002hkw5)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

Radio 4 Listings for 23 – 29 August 2025		Page 10 of 21
<p>TUE 05:04 Currently (m002hkw3) [Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]</p> <p>TUE 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hkww) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002hkwx) Finding the Breeze</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky</p> <p>Good Morning!</p> <p>We've had some hot days this summer. The sort of heat where the air feels thick and everything takes twice as long. Where tempers fray, sleep vanishes, and even my dog refuses to go for a walk.</p> <p>I was at a bus stop recently. Two women were fanning themselves with folded delivery menus. One turned to the other and said, "This is what I imagine purgatory feels like, nothing dramatic, just slightly unbearable."</p> <p>It made me laugh, but it also made me think.</p> <p>There are stretches of life like that. Not extreme crisis. Just a slow wearing down. A feeling of being stuck, short on energy, short on patience, waiting for some shift - in the weather, in circumstances, in ourselves.</p> <p>In Jewish tradition, we speak of "ruach", a word that means breath, or wind, or spirit. It carries the idea that something invisible can shift everything. A breath of air in a still room. A kind word that eases loneliness. A change in tone, in mood, in outlook. The smallest shift, and suddenly it feels possible to begin again.</p> <p>Whatever the forecast, I'm looking out for a breeze - or at least, for small moments of relief: a shaded bench, an unexpected kindness, a conversation that lifts the air a little.</p> <p>May we find: A breath of fresh air when things feel stuck, Some shade when the world feels too much, And the chance to be that bit of relief for someone else. Just enough to help us get through the heat, and carry us, one breath at a time, into whatever comes next.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p>TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m002hkwz) 26/08/25 Countryside Code, pollinators, fruit farm bees.</p> <p>A new stakeholder survey has been launched by Natural England and Natural Resources Wales to find out how the Countryside Code is working in England and Wales. The code in Northern Ireland is similar but runs separately, and in Scotland, where they have the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, access, rules are different. We speak to two farmers about whether they feel the code's working for them and what they'd like to see.</p> <p>Pollinators play an essential part in crop production and we're looking at them all week. One fruit farm in Herefordshire imports bees from the Netherlands to pollinate fruit in polytunnels. We also speak to the insect charity Buglife.</p> <p>Presenter = Charlotte Smith Producer = Rebecca Rooney</p> <p>TUE 06:00 Today (m002hkp5) 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 (m002hkp7) Series 11</p> <p>Hestia</p> <p>The overlooked Olympian who was the resolutely unmarried goddess of the hearth and home. In fact, Zeus awarded her a glorious gift for remaining unmarried, a tradition Natalie very much feels should be continued. In Hestia's Roman form of Vesta her Vestal Virgins guarded the sacred flame in her temple.</p> <p>Edith Hall thinks she's like Nigella, a domestic goddess, which may explain why references to her are hard to find, but that her importance both to men and women at the time cannot be overestimated.</p> <p>'Rockstar mythologist' Natalie Haynes is the best-selling author of 'Divine Might', 'Stone Blind', and 'A Thousand Ships' as well</p>	<p>as a reformed comedian who is a little bit obsessive about Ancient Greek and Rome.</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 (m002hkp9) The Revolution in Cystic Fibrosis Care That is Changing Lives</p> <p>In 1964, the future for children born with Cystic Fibrosis was grim - most faced a life cut tragically short. Today, the majority of people living with CF in the UK are adults, a testament to extraordinary medical progress.</p> <p>We meet Annabelle who lives with Cystic Fibrosis, and once believed she might not see her 18th birthday. And we hear from Dr Imogen Felton, a respiratory consultant at Royal Brompton Hospital, with expertise in cystic fibrosis, who tells us about the therapies crucial to this extended prognosis.</p> <p>The EDITH trial (Early Detection using Information Technology in Health) is testing how AI can help radiologists identify breast cancer at an earlier stage, transforming the future of diagnosis. We speak to Professor Sian Taylor-Philips, Professor of Population Health at the University of Warwick and co-leader of the trial.</p> <p>In 2024, participation in Run Clubs across the UK surged by 64%. But does running in a group lead to better performance? To find out, James laces up for a jog around Hyde Park with the Monday Mood Booster Run Club and speaks with Arran Davis, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Oxford, who's exploring the links between social interaction and physical activity.</p> <p>Presenter: James Gallagher Producers: Debbie Kilbride, Minnie Harrop & Tom Bonnett Editor: Ilan Goodman Production coordinator: Ishmael Soriano This episode was produced in partnership with The Open University.</p> <p>TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002hkpce) Gender pay gap, 'Spicy' fiction, Is rugby safe? Labubu dolls</p> <p>A new report, published yesterday, says Britain's gender pay gap has been understated for two decades, casting doubt on the accuracy of official figures. It's news that might have big implications for women in the workplace and policymakers, from the Bank of England to ministers, who rely on these figures to make big economic decisions. Alex Bryson is Professor of Quantitative Social Science at University College London and worked on this research and Amy Borrett is a data journalist at the Financial Times. They join Nuala McGovern to discuss.</p> <p>Have you heard of 'spicy' fiction? Now worth £53 million annually, it's a genre that's booming, with sales of romance fiction up 110% between 2023 and 2024 in the UK. And it's mainly women reading these erotic novels, giving them chilli ratings depending on the level of explicit content, and sharing their across Instagram and TikTok. So, what's driving this trend? Nuala is joined by author Emma Lucy, who writes spicy fiction, and Stylist journalist Shahed Eazydi to find out more.</p> <p>If you've been watching any of the Women's Rugby World Cup you may have seen 'high tech mouthguards being used. They will now flash red — signally potentially high impacts, requiring players to have a head injury assessment - a move aimed at improving player safety. So just how safe is it for women to play rugby? What are the risks of getting injured, and what is being done to mitigate those risks? We hear from Fi Tomas, women's sports reporter at the Telegraph, Dr Izzy Moore, reader in human movement and sports medicine at Cardiff Metropolitan University and Welsh Ruby Union injury surveillance project lead, and Dr Anna Stodter, senior lecturer in sport coaching at Leeds Beckett University, former Sottish International player, who also coaches the university team.</p> <p>With queues leading out of the shops and reports of thefts, we look at the lengths to which some women will go to get their hands on the latest style must-have, Labubu dolls.</p> <p>Presenter: Nuala McGovern Producer: Kirsty Starkey</p> <p>TUE 11:00 Add to Playlist (m002gl7b) Alison Balsom and Linton Stephens celebrate the BBC Proms</p> <p>With three weeks remaining of this year's BBC Proms, Jeffrey Boakye and Anna Phoebe present a Proms-themed edition. Studio guests are the celebrated trumpeter Alison Balsom, who'll be performing in this year's Last Night of the Proms, and</p>	<p>bassoonist, Radio 3 and Proms presenter Linton Stephens. Expect music from the Proms and beyond as we head from a live, scaled-back Springsteen anthem to the Outer Hebrides, via Mendelssohn, Shostakovich and Andrew Lloyd Webber.</p> <p>Producer: Jerome Weatherald Presented with musical direction by Jeffrey Boakye and Anna Phoebe</p> <p>The five tracks in this week's playlist:</p> <p>Born in the USA (live) by Bruce Springsteen 2nd movement of the Symphony No 10 in E Minor by Dmitri Shostakovich Superstar from Jesus Christ Superstar by Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice Andante: 2nd movement of the Violin Concerto in E minor by Felix Mendelssohn Hùg air a' Bhonaid Mhòir (Celebrate the Big Bonnet) by Julie Fowlis</p> <p>Other music in this episode:</p> <p>A Night on the Bare Mountain by Modest Mussorgsky Trumpet Concerto in E flat major by Johann Nepomuk Hummel The Lovecats by The Cure Born in the USA by Bruce Springsteen I Don't Know How to Love Him by Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice, sung by Yvonne Elliman Touch the Sky (from the film Brave) by Julie Fowlis</p> <p>You can listen to every Prom and unmissable moments from across the season on BBC Sounds. Just search 'Proms'.</p> <p>TUE 11:45 Blood Lands (m0006zty) Say Nothing</p> <p>Blood Lands is a true story told in five parts which takes us to the heart of modern South Africa.</p> <p>A white farming family falls silent following the brutal deaths of two black workers. Were the dead men really thieves? Or has South Africa's tortured past come back to haunt a racially divided community? Blood Lands is a murder investigation, a political drama, a courtroom thriller, and a profound exploration of the enduring tensions threatening the "rainbow nation". Over the course of three years, correspondent Andrew Harding has followed every twist of the police's hunt for the killers, the betrayals that opened the door to an explosive trial, and the fortunes of all those involved – from the dead men's families to the handful of men controversially selected for prosecution. When a whole community is on trial, who pays the price?</p> <p>Presenter, Andrew Harding Producer, Becky Lipscombe Editor, Bridget Harney</p> <p>TUE 12:00 News Summary (m002hkpfl) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.</p> <p>TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m002hkphe) Call You & Yours: How did you holiday this year and is it different from what you've done before?</p> <p>It's our weekly phone in and we're asking: "How did you holiday this year and is it different from what you've done before?"</p> <p>Data this year shows we tried new things when it came to booking a good value holiday. More people chose to book a last minute holiday either abroad or in the UK. And we tried new countries - Montenegro, Estonia and Slovenia to get away from overcrowded destinations where protests against tourists have been taking place.</p> <p>Perhaps you tried a camping holiday in the UK, or you booked really far in advance to get the best possible deal?</p> <p>How did you holiday this year, and is it different from what you've done before?</p> <p>Our lines open at 11am. You can call 03700 100 444</p> <p>Or you can email us youandyou@bbc.co.uk</p> <p>PRESENTER: WINIFRED ROBINSON PRODUCER: LYDIA THOMAS</p> <p>TUE 12:57 Weather (m002hkpki) The latest weather forecast</p> <p>TUE 13:00 World at One (m002hkpml)</p>
Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/		

Reform UK sets out their plans for tackling illegal migration

The party's leader Nigel Farage said if it won power, it would bar anyone who comes to the UK on small boats from claiming asylum and strike deals with countries to return those people. Could its policy work in practice? Also, President Trump continues his war on the US central bank. And, as the Guinness World Records turns 70, we hear from former Record Breakers presenter Cheryl Baker and a seven time record holder.

TUE 13:45 Naturebang (m002hkpp)
Red Deer and Authority of Voice

Do lower voices demand more power? Do we take them more seriously? And is this a bias that needs to be challenged more in today's world? Becky Ripley and Emily Knight compare the bellowing roars of red deer stags to dig deeper into the psychology of human and animal voice.

Featuring David Reby, Professor of Ethology at Jean Monnet University, and David Puts, Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University. Produced and presented by Emily Knight and Becky Ripley.

TUE 14:00 The Archers (m002hkpr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

TUE 14:15 Drama on 4 (m001fczg)
Rise

Lorna French's compelling drama explores the importance of history and the human spirit. It introduces us to Aimee, a, looked-after British Black girl, who finds inner strength from looking at, and learning from, her past, including an unexpected link to some of the pioneers of gospel music. As she untangles her own web of identity, discovery and belonging, she starts to rise – literally.

15-year-old Aimee Long's History homework is entitled Tell Us Your History. The problem for this cared-for Black girl is that history is something that she thinks she doesn't have. When her key worker Dani introduces Aimee to life story worker Rose, her life changes, as she discovers that she has a history as rich, deep and close, as her beloved Entwistle reservoir.

Featuring Laurietta Essien (Rules of the Game, Eastenders, Eden), and Andrea Crewe (Waterloo Road, Coronation Street, Line of Duty), the cast is completed by newcomer Olivia Triste as Aimee, alongside Rosa Brooks and Femi Nylander, all making their BBC Radio 4 debut in this heart-warming drama.

Recorded on location, this contemporary drama set in Bolton is directed by Dermot Daly, who co-produced sections of the first series of United Kingdoms for BBC Radio 4 and recently directed the critically acclaimed theatre show, My Voice Was Heard But It Was Ignored which won the Lustrum Award during its Edinburgh Fringe Festival run and saw him nominated as Best Director at the 2022 Black British Theatre Awards.

The writer Lorna French is a two-time winner of the Alfred Fagon Award. She is currently under commission to Pentabus Theatre Company and Limbik Theatre, with recent work on the Hear Me Now monologues series (Titola Dawudu and Tamasha Theatre Company) published by Methuen Drama. Her audio work includes The Last Flag for Radio 4, short radio drama NFA for Menagerie Theatre Company and Cambridge University, October 2020. Her play Esther was shortlisted for Theatre Uncut Political Playwright Award 2 in 2021 and shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Playwriting in 2020.

Cast:
Aimee.....Olivia Triste
Rose.....Laurietta Essien
Dani.....Rosa Brooks
Mrs Taylor / Grandmother.....Andrea Crewe
Isaac William Cisco.....Femi Nylander

Writer.....Lorna French
Director.....Dermot Daly
Sound Recordist.....Louis Blatherwick
Sound Designer.....Sami El Enany
Illustration.....Tessie Orange-Turner
Production Manager.....Darren Spruce
Producer.....Polly Thomas
Executive Producer.....Eloise Whitmore

A Naked production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 15:00 Extreme (m0027h5x)
Peak Danger

6. Descent into Madness

What was first a tragedy now morphs into a full blown catastrophe. In the aftermath of the avalanche, stranded climbers are battling their way back to Camp.

What they don't know is that they're searching for a path down K2 that no longer exists.

Some will risk it all to climb down in total darkness, while others wait out the night on K2's slopes.

Rescue missions are being planned. Who can hold on long enough for help to reach them?

Featuring climbers Wilco van Rooijen, Pasang Lama, Chhiring Dorje Sherpa, Eric Meyer and Kim Jae-Soo. Also featuring June Yoon as the voice of Kim Jae-Soo.

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 (w3ct6vp2)
Escaping North Korea

North Korea is considered one of the most secretive countries in the world. It is officially an atheist state. The ruling party sees religion as a threat to its authority. Instead North Koreans are expected to show complete devotion to the ruling Kim family, who many view as godlike. There are believed to be a small number of Christians practicing in secret inside the hermit kingdom, but entire families can be sent to prison camps for practicing religion. Even owning a Bible can lead to detention or even death.

There are an estimated 33,000 North Korean defectors living in South Korea. The exact number of North Korean Christians living in the south is unknown, but it is believed that a significant number of defectors now identify as Christians. BBC Correspondent Danny Vincent travels to the South Korean capital of Seoul to meet a family of defectors he first met a decade earlier while fleeing Northern China. They recall their defection from North Korea and their journey from devotion to a dictator, to belief in Christ.

Producer/presenter: Danny Vincent
Producer: Jen Kwon
Editor: Chloe Walker

(Photo: People pay tribute to the statues of late North Korean leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hil. Credit: Kim Won Jin)

TUE 16:00 Artworks (m002hkpw)
The Farmer's Guide to Animal Farm

George Orwell's Animal Farm was published 80 years ago this week. It's often interpreted as a satire of Soviet communism under Stalin. But to mark its anniversary writer and academic Lisa Mullen seeks out a new perspective by asking, what if we read it as a book about farming instead? As Lisa travels from the rich sandy loam of East Anglia to the hill farms of the Cotswolds, George Orwell emerges as a man committed to life as a smallholder, and as a writer deeply involved in the agricultural debates of the 20th century – debates that have shaped the English countryside as it is today. With contributors Nathan Waddell, Professor of 20th Century Literature at the University of Birmingham and author of A Bright Cold Day: The Wonder of George Orwell; Ian Wilkinson, co-founder and director of FarmED; Melissa Abbot, Growing Officer at the Food Museum, Stowmarket; Dr Ollie Douglas, Curator at the Museum of English Rural life in Reading; Dr Sophie Scott Brown, Fellow of the Institute of Intellectual History at the University of St Andrews and author of The Radical Fifties: Activist Politics in Cold War Britain

Producer: Luke Mulhall

TUE 16:30 What's Up Docs? (m002hkpy)
Is our noisy world killing us?

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

This week, Chris and Xand speak to Professor Charlotte Clark, Environmental Epidemiologist at City St George's, University

of London. She explains how being exposed to transport noise over long periods of our life can have disastrous consequences for our cardiovascular systems, brains and minds. But how big a problem is this? And is there anything we can do to protect ourselves from the effects of noise?

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 Charlotte Clark
Producers: William Hornbrook and Jo Rowntree
Executive Producer: Rami Tzabar
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

TUE 17:00 PM (m002hkq0)
News and current affairs, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hkq2)
Nigel Farage sets out the Reform Party's plans for illegal immigration

Nigel Farage has outlined plans to detain and deport every single migrant who arrives in the UK on a small boat, including women and children. The plans are dismissed by Labour, the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats. Also: the trial begins of an asylum seeker who's accused of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl in Epping. And the Met Office says this summer will "almost certainly" be the UK's warmest on record.

TUE 18:30 Room 101 with Paul Merton (m002hkq4)
Series 3

Richard Ayoade

Paul asks Richard Ayoade what he would like to put into Room 101.

TUE 19:00 The Archers (m002hkq6)
Chelsea and Zainab are in the Golf Club bar where Zainab tells Chelsea how much she enjoys playing golf. She might even become a member of the Club. They're surprised when Lawrence approaches them – they thought he'd been chucked out. He continues to be offensive, but then says he wants to start over and offers to buy them a drink. They refuse and resolve to ignore him. But when he overhears Zainab talking about joining the club, he sneers that she won't be able to afford it; golf and the club are simply out of her league.

Brad heads to The Bull where he lets Fallon know that George would like to ring her from prison. When Fallon wonders why, Brad explains that it's to do with the man who set The Bull sign on fire. George knows someone in prison whose dad has had dealings with Markie in the past. They now hate each other, but he might know where Markie is. Fallon thinks it's a bad idea for George to get involved.

Kenton's pleased that The Bull has won the South Dorsetshire Best Local Pub Award. But he's jumpy when there's a rowdy group in the pub. When Fallon checks how he's doing, Kenton admits that he just wishes Markie and his accomplice were locked up. This prompts Fallon to tell Kenton about George's offer. Kenton approaches Brad who explains how George might help find Markie. Kenton reckons it's worth a try – he wants Markie behind bars and to be able to sleep at night.

TUE 19:15 Artworks (m002hkq9)
Hollywood and The Adland Five

2. The British are Coming!

Director Sir Christopher Nolan and cultural historian Sir Christopher Fraying continue their story of the Adland Five – five British directors who burst into Hollywood in the 1970s and 1980s, having transformed the world of advertising. Hugh Hudson, Adrian Lyne, Alan Parker, Ridley and Tony Scott changed the look and feel of modern cinema, bringing the visual grammar of their TV ads – 30-second spots for beer, brandy and beef burgers – to the big screen.

Ridley Scott was the first of the group to make a seismic impact in Hollywood with Alien in 1979. But in this episode, the focus

turns to 1982. Scott's Blade Runner, released that year, was not an immediate success, but would go on to transform the look of cinema – and advertising – with its rain-soaked cityscapes and luminous billboards. For Nolan, the atmosphere, imagery and scope of Alien and Blade Runner would shape his own approach to world-building in films like The Prestige and The Dark Knight.

And also in 1982, Chariots of Fire won the Academy Award for Best Picture. The film's vision of British Olympic glory became an international phenomenon, but its evocation of national identity in the early years of Thatcher's Britain raised as many questions as it answered. So when screenwriter Colin Welland declared at the Oscars, "The British are coming!", was he right?

Together, Christopher Nolan and Christopher Frayling argue for a reappraisal of the Adland Five – as pioneering cinematic subversives, whose instinct for spectacle and mastery of audience engagement was forged in the discipline of the television commercial.

Producer - Jane Long
Executive Producer - Freya Hellier
Additional research - Edward Charles, Heather Dempsey and Queenie Qureshi-Wales
Sound mix - Jon Calver
A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 19:45 New Storytellers (m000y6jt)
Outsider Sisters

'I remember a girl calling me a black pig...' - Kat Francois.

Through poetry, music, sounds and interviews, producer Chantal Herbert brings to life the emotions and experiences of women and non-binary persons of colour who grew up or migrated to the UK. With powerful spoken word, stories and real-life accounts of racism, Outsider Sisters gives you an uncomfortable snapshot into the everyday shared life experience of many people of colour living on this small island.

New Storytellers presents the work of new radio and audio producers, and this series features the five winners of the 2021 Charles Parker Prize for the Best Student Radio Feature.

Outsider Sisters was produced by Chantal Herbert, who graduated from the University of Sunderland's MA Radio course last year. The competition judges praised the feature's 'skilled and creative use of the medium and vivid contributions ... It had a great flow and groove ... A lovely piece.'

Producer: Chantal Herbert
A Soundscape production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 20:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002hq7)
Domestic Abuse: Beyond the Checklist

Leila Nathoo investigates the risk assessment system for domestic abuse, and asks whether it is any longer fit for purpose.

The DASH form is the gateway for victims and survivors of domestic abuse - used by the police, charities and social workers to assess people who may be at risk of domestic abuse. It is deeply embedded in the whole system and plays a central role in deciding what further support victims receive. But Leila reveals troubling evidence that DASH too often incorrectly identifies those at the highest risk, meaning they do not get the support they need. And people across the system tell her that the form has not kept pace with the latest research about domestic abuse. Leila asks those who use the form, those who have studied its use, and those who developed it, what improvements need to be made, and why it has taken so long.

Producer: Daniel Kraemer.

TUE 20:40 In Touch (m002hkqh)
Casting Your Vote; Edinburgh Festival Fringe; JAWS Pricing

The ability for blind and visually impaired people to cast their vote privately and independently at elections is an issue we've followed closely on In Touch. We're joined by the head of guidance at the Electoral Commission, Charlene Hannon, who tells us about their research of the matter and how you can take part.

Our reporter, Ian Hamilton visited the Edinburgh Festival Fringe to meet some of the visually impaired artists taking part. Ian discovers what themes they're covering and learns about efforts to make the arts more accessible.

Listener input is an essential ingredient of In Touch, and this week's episode is no exception. In response to your reaction to last week's discussion about JAWS software pricing, we revisit the issue.

Presenter: Peter White
Producer: Fern Lulham
Production Coordinator: David Baguley

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.'

TUE 21:00 Crossing Continents (m002hkqn)
Suing 'Alligator Alcatraz': Immigration in the US

President Trump has called illegal immigration an "invasion" and what's followed is a huge rise in the arrest and detention of migrants. Some have ended up in 'Alligator Alcatraz' - an immigration detention centre that was speedily constructed in June, deep in the Florida swampland. It has become a focal point for debates around immigration. Outside its gates, some take proud selfies with the 'Alligator Alcatraz' sign; others protest, following reports of poor conditions inside.

'Alligator Alcatraz' is now subject to a number of lawsuits. Immigration attorneys say they haven't been granted proper access to clients inside; environmentalists claim the detention centre is harming the protected wetlands that surround it. Within the last few days, a judge has that ruled that much of the detention centre must be dismantled and no new migrants taken there. It's a preliminary ruling - and the case will continue to be litigated. The government immediately filed an appeal.

Josephine Casserly follows immigration lawyer Mich Gonzalez as he attempts to meet his client inside the detention centre. She reports from Florida - America's new frontline on immigration.

Produced by Ellie House

TUE 21:30 Great Lives (m002hkqs)
[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Monday]

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m002hkqw)
Will Reform's deportation plan reshape UK politics?

As Nigel Farage unveils plans to deport more than half a million illegal immigrants, we ask if it will hit home politically. Are voters more interested in policies, rhetoric, or data?

Also on the programme:

The French government is teetering on the edge - as the finance minister warns that France could need an IMF bail-out.

And we discuss the role of sensitivity readers.

TUE 22:45 Crooked Cross by Sally Carson (m002hkr0)
Episode Seven

Crooked Cross was first published in 1934 and was based on Sally Carson's first-hand experience of travelling through Bavaria where she witnessed the inexorable and devastating rise of fascism and antisemitism. Long out of print it was discovered by Persephone Books and republished in 2025.

We are in Bavaria in a small provincial town outside Munich. There, on Christmas Eve of 1932, we first meet the Kluger family, a happy band of Frau and Herr Kluger, and their three grown up children, Helmy, Lexa and Eric. Life is not always easy: jobs are scarce, money is tight; they are living under the shadow of defeat in the Great War. But by 1933 Hitler has won the election and become chancellor and everything is about to change for all of them. None more so than for Moritz Weissmann, Lexa's fiancé, a young Catholic doctor but with a Jewish name, who first and foremost thought of himself as German. But now his country is starting to turn against him.

'Too much power and too sudden power makes men lose all sense of proportion: blood turns such men into madmen.'

Sally Carson's novel explores how relationships between family, friends, lovers and neighbours all begin to subtly shift until confidence in the new fascist regime and the hope it offers empowers, gives licence, to many to commit atrocities that would eventually lead to another world war and the Holocaust.

The setting of a very ordinary small town allows Carson to chart how over six months this can happen against the backdrop of catastrophic political upheaval. Carson was only 38 when she died in 1941 of breast cancer, so she never lived to see the end of the war which makes Crooked Cross and her foresight even more extraordinary.

'It doesn't seem like propaganda and it makes you feel that grim sense of uncertainty and fear which must come upon any people under a rule of terror.' The Saturday Review August 1934

Sally Carson wrote two sequels both still out of print: The Prisoner published in 1936 and A Traveller Came By published in 1938. But despite the excellent reviews for Crooked Cross (which also enjoyed a successful theatrical adaptation) all three books, and their author disappeared. Until now.

Reader: Scarlett Courtney
Abridged by Sara Davies
Produced by Caroline Raphael
Production Co-ordinator: Henry Tydeman and Nina Semple
Sound by Matt Bainbridge
Recorded at Fitzrovia Studios

Crooked Cross is published by Persephone Books.

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 23:00 Havana Helmet Club (m002ddbc)
9. Squeaky Fans

"A tense environment and a good villain" are the perfect ingredients for mass hysteria, according to psychologist and epidemiologist Professor Simon Wessley. It's a phrase so toxic, it was removed from the diagnostic manual in the late 1960s. But as neurologist and mystery illness expert Suzanne O'Sullivan explains, "We are all vulnerable. We just need to meet the right circumstance."

In the penultimate episode of Havana Helmet Club, Jennifer Forde and Sam Bungey investigate high-profile cases of mass hysteria – now known as mass psychogenic illness or conversion disorder - for clues about Havana Syndrome. Could it be the solution to the puzzle, or a way for the CIA to dig themselves out of a hole?

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: Ger McDonnell
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 Dryburgh
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 (m0029yq6)
The Big Ask

How many questions have you asked today? How many were rhetorical, "boomer-asking", passive/aggressive or just boringly functional?

Did you know that our appetites for question-asking peak at the age of five, then steadily diminish? That kids ask an average of 40,000 questions between the ages of 2 and 5, while adults ask fewer than ten questions a day? Why are we asking fewer, meaningful questions? In an age where antisocial behaviour has become normal — where it's entirely acceptable to spend most of the time looking down at our phones, or ranting on social media — shouldn't we be asking what we're losing in the process?

Can journalist Ian Wylie, who uses the five Ws daily, reignite our curiosity and appetite for asking questions? And can he discover better questions that unlock bigger stories and deeper conversations? What will he learn from professional question-askers, including barrister Melanie Simpson, detective Steve Hibbit, philosopher Lani Watson and priest Leanne Roberts? Is artificial intelligence likely to discourage us from asking deep, open-ended questions? Or could it force us to ask clearer, sharper, more precise questions?

Can Ian create his documentary entirely from questions? Or will he slip up?

A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST 2025

WED 00:00 Midnight News (m002hkr6)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 00:30 Blood Lands (m0006zty)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Tuesday]

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hkrb)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hkrb)

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 (m002hkrm)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 05:04 BBC Inside Science (m002hb9f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Monday]

WED 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hkrb)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002hkrv)

Unexpected Joy

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky

Good morning!

The other day I found an old photograph tucked between the pages of a book. I did not even remember owning the book, never mind the photo. It was of a day ten years ago when my kids were very small, and I could not get them to pose for a picture. In the end, I gave up and started taking a selfie. The moment they saw me, they jumped in, laughing.

And then something happened. Looking at that photo, I could suddenly smell the suntan lotion on their small heads and feel the stickiness of ice lollies on their fingers pressed against my face, the smell of pure joy. It was as though no time had passed at all.

In Jewish thought, there is a word, "zicharon", meaning remembrance. It is not only about facts or dates, but about bringing the past alive in the present. The memories that do this are not always the grand ones.

Sometimes it is the sound of a song, the smell of a kitchen, the feel of a familiar jumper.

I am grateful for the unexpected ways memory finds us. These moments remind me that joy is still possible, that kindness is worth offering, that the love we have known still shapes the life we live now.

May we stumble upon something today, a picture, a smell, a taste, that reminds us of what is good. And may that reminder carry us gently forward into whatever lies ahead.

Amen.

WED 05:45 Farming Today (m002hks0)

27/08/25 Water scarcity, Scottish harvest, grazing for butterflies

Three river catchments in the East of Scotland are now in a state of significant scarcity - that's the most extreme level of water shortage issued by SEPA, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. It says the river Deveron in Aberdeenshire is at its lowest level since the 1970s and that unless there's significant rainfall, other rivers including the Lower Tweed and the Don could also fall into that highest drought-alert category.

Farmers in Scotland have been harvesting cereals earlier than usual, and agronomists are warning that shifting weather patterns mean growers will need to change their farming practices to help deal with the impacts of climate change.

Butterflies are an important pollinator across farmland, orchards and gardens. However, their numbers have fallen dramatically over the last fifty years. According to the charity, Butterfly Conservation, they've dropped by 80% since 1970, due to habitat loss and changes in land management. We take a look at a project in South Wales where grazing cattle are helping to manage bracken and encourage rare High Brown Fritillary butterflies.

Presenter: Caz Graham
Producer: Rebecca Rooney

WED 06:00 Today (m002hksj)

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

WED 09:00 Sideways (m002hksl)

77. Crazy Cat Lady

Anna Go-Go has always defied expectations - she was a drummer (still rare for a woman), then a comedian and now a mass Go-Go dance instructor - always with her beloved cats by her side. But when she turned 40, she noticed people's attitudes changed towards her. They saw her as an older woman living alone with cats and really began to treat her like a 'crazy cat lady'.

The idea of a woman living alone with cats has caused cultural panic for centuries. In 2021 when US vice-president JD Vance was a Senate candidate, he described how his country was run by a bunch of 'childless cat ladies' - miserable at their lives and the choices they made. The comments went viral and were heavily criticised but they also drew attention to the modern-day use of the cat lady trope.

In this episode, with the help of history and science, Matthew Syed explores how and why this centuries-old shaming tactic has travelled through time and still echoes today.

With performer, mass dance master and author of Cat Lady Manifesto, Anna Go-Go; Dr Corey Wrenn, Lecturer of Sociology at the University of Kent; historian and author of the book Catland, Kathryn Hughes; and evolutionary biologist at Washington University in St Louis and author of The Age of Cats, Professor Jonathan Losos.

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 (m002hksn)

The People vs McDonald's

3. Flipping Burgers!

When McDonald's discloses internal company documents to the court, they reveal somebody has been watching...

In 1986, members of environmental group, London Greenpeace, published a leaflet called 'What's wrong with McDonald's?' It claimed McDonald's was exploiting workers, destroying rainforests, torturing animals, and promoting food that could make people sick, even cause cancer...

McDonald's said the claims in the leaflet were untrue and defamatory and the company demanded an apology.

Helen Steel, a gardener, and a former postman named Dave Morris, refused.

Mark Steel takes us into the murky world of McDonald's Corporation vs Steel & Morris - aka 'McLibel' - the longest-running trial in English history which would turn the spotlight on the way big business operates. As well as bringing issues like rainforest destruction and advertising to children into the mainstream, it would also be the moment our current Prime Minister first comes to prominence. If that isn't enough, this story would ultimately have connections with a dark and shameful secret at the heart of the British state - something which Mark discovers he himself had been a victim of.

Shadow World: Gripping stories from the Shadows - BBC investigations from across the UK.

Presenter: Mark Steel
Producer: Conor Garrett
Executive Producer: Georgia Catt
Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke
Commissioning Executive: Tracy Williams
Production Coordinator: Dan Marchini
Sound Mix: Tim Heffer
Music Score: Phil Kieran

*Archive excerpts from director Franny Armstrong's 'McLibel,' reproduced with the permission of Spanner Films

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002hksq)

Child abuse & VAWG, Novelist Miriam Robinson, Taylor Swift's engagement, Private midwives

Ten child protection organisations have written an urgent letter to the home secretary expressing concern over the omission of child sexual abuse from the upcoming government strategy on violence against women and girls. A draft version of the strategy, due to be published in September, was leaked to Sky

News's Mollie Malone, who first broke the story. She joins Nuala McGovern, along with Anna Edmundson from the NSPCC, one of the organisations that signed the letter.

Miriam Robinson's debut novel And Notre Dame is Burning tells how Esther, a mother, tries to pick up the pieces of her life after a miscarriage - while her marriage falls apart. It is written in short bursts, in fragments of notes and letters. Miriam joins Nuala to talk about the female experience of losing a baby, betrayal, break-ups and moving on.

It's a love story, Taylor just said yes! Pop superstar Taylor Swift is engaged to her American footballer boyfriend Travis Kelce. In photos, which have been liked more than 18 million times, the pair are surrounded by roses, delphiniums and hydrangeas. Taylor's love life has been the inspiration for a huge amount of her music, and the subject of tabloid speculation for years. What does this moment mean and how could it impact her music? Joining Nuala to discuss is freelance journalist and author Olivia Petter and Guardian Deputy Music Editor Laura Barton.

With maternity services stretched across the UK, a new startup called Kove aims to address some of the problems in midwifery by providing a pay-as-you-go service at £180 per hour. But why are women opting for private care, and is it a good idea? Nuala talks to Kove co-founder Alakina Mann and NHS midwife and author Leah Hazard.

Presenter: Nuala McGovern
Producer: Louise Corley

WED 11:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002hqb7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Tuesday]

WED 11:40 This Week in History (m002hkss)

August 25th - August 31st

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

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.

This week: August 25th - August 31st
- 27th August 1896. The British Empire defeat the sultanate of Zanzibar in the shortest recorded war in History.
- 26th August 1994. Arthur Cornhill receives the world's first 'Bionic Heart'.
- 29th August 1930. The evacuation of the archipelago of St Kilda.

Presented by Jane Steel and Ron Brown.
Produced by Chris Pearson and Luke Doran.

WED 11:45 Blood Lands (m00070hc)

Shaking the Tree

Blood Lands is a true story told in five parts which takes us to the heart of modern South Africa.

Police investigating a suspected double murder in a small South African farming community uncover crucial new evidence. But will it be enough to break the farmers' wall of silence and solve a case that has divided a town on racial lines? Blood Lands is a murder investigation, a political drama, a courtroom thriller, and a profound exploration of the enduring tensions threatening the "rainbow nation". Over the course of three years, correspondent Andrew Harding has followed every twist of the police's hunt for the killers, the betrayals that opened the door to an explosive trial, and the fortunes of all those involved - from the dead men's families to the handful of men controversially selected for prosecution.

Presenter, Andrew Harding
Producer, Becky Lipscombe
Editor, Bridget Harney

WED 12:00 News Summary (m002hksv)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

WED 12:04 You and Yours (m002hksx)

Energy Price Cap: Returns; Tipping

The new energy price cap for the rest of this year for households in England, Scotland and Wales, was announced this morning by the regulator, Ofgem. Those on a standard variable tariff, over 60% of us, will see a 2% rise from October. It means a household using a typical amount of energy will pay £1,755 a year, up £35 a year on the current cap. We talk to USwitch about the impact on bills, if now is the time to switch provider and tariff, along with the

issue of standing charges.

Would you wear something and then return it? Do you buy lots of items online with the intention of only keeping one or two? Fashion retailers like Asos, BooHoo, and Pretty Little Thing have all started banning certain customers that they consider to be abusing their returns policy. We'll be talking to the authors of a new poll which asked how the public feels about people who do that.

And are you finding tipping, or service charges, are more visible when you're paying for drinks and food? There were changes to the law last year making it compulsory that tips and service charges go to staff in restaurants and bars, in their entirety, with nothing deducted. But has tipping become more of an obligation than a choice? We'll be talking to an industry body as well as hearing about the impact it has on consumers.

PRESENTER - Winifred Robinson
PRODUCER - Dave James

WED 12:57 Weather (m002hksz)
The latest weather forecast

WED 13:00 World at One (m002hkt1)
Trump to host post war Gaza talks

President Trump prepares to host a meeting in Washington on the future of Gaza. We hear the hopes and fears of a former US Middle East advisor and a Minister of the Palestinian Authority. As the UK bond markets reach a 27-year high, we speak to a former member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee and, we report from China, where the gold snub-nosed monkeys which was once on the brink of extinction is now seeing numbers increase.

WED 13:45 Naturebang (m002hkt3)
Running Wild and the Science of Endurance

Why do animals move the way they do? And why do we humans love to run? Becky Ripley and Emily Knight enlist dogs, horses, armadillos, and some uncooperative rabbits to find out.

Featuring Professor Lewis Halsey from the University of Roehampton, and Dr Andrew Yegian from Harvard University. Produced and presented by Emily Knight and Becky Ripley.

WED 14:00 The Archers (m002hkq6)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

WED 14:15 Drama on 4 (m001b459)
Knock of the Ban-Sithe

A contemporary ghost story based on Gaelic folklore. Three siblings return to the family croft on the Isle of Lewis to visit their dying mother – but their childhood home is haunted by unsettling memories and fears as they wait through the night for the arrival of the dreaded Ban-Sithe.

By Kenny Boyle.

Kirstin.....Helen Mackay
Mairi.....Sophia Mclean
Calum.....Kenny Boyle
Peggi.....Mairi Morrison
Titan.....Aora

Producer/director: Bruce Young

WED 15:00 Politically (m002gg6x)
Reflections: Series 3

Steve Baker

Steve Baker was a pivotal figure in the Brexit turmoil that engulfed the Conservatives. Becoming an MP in 2010 order to help achieve Britain's severance from the European Union, he came to prominence as chair of an influential group of Eurosceptic rebels who helped bring down the prime ministership of Theresa May.

Having lost his seat in the general election of 2024, the former Royal Air Force engineer talks to James Naughtie about how to organise a rebellion, his Christian faith, the state of the Conservative party and the toll political life took on his mental health.

Producer: Leela Padmanabhan

WED 15:30 The Hidden History of the Wall (m001thzr)
Cultural Sociologist Rachel Hurdley travels round England and

Wales to uncover what walls tell us about how we live, from iron age roundhouses to Victorian mansions, medieval halls to terraced workers' cottages, castles to the domestic interiors of today.

Rachel explores how walls, which we often take for granted, define the spaces we inhabit and make sense of everyday life and our place in the world, talking to a range of experts and academics including architectural writer Jonathan Glancey.

She tries her hand at making wattle and daub for roundhouses at Castell Henllys in Wales, with archaeologist Dr David Howell . She climbs through the thick stone walls of the Norman castle at Conisbrough in South Yorkshire, with buildings archaeologist James Wright and English Heritage curator Kevin Booth.

From the top of the tower, Rachel explores ideas of status and wealth, where building the tallest tower was as much about impressing the neighbours, as it was about military defence and protecting the vast wealth of the aristocratic elite. She also visits St Fagans National Museum of History Wales – a living museum of vernacular buildings throughout the ages.

Rachel looks at the way walls have redefined our living spaces from medieval times, such as the longhouses where farmers lived side by side with their animals and the great medieval halls. Here, daily life carried on in one space – masters and servants - until the ruling family was wealthy enough to seek privacy by building first floor solars. Now in modern day Britain, privacy can be at a premium in warehouses and factories converted into rented accommodation to meet to housing demand in sought after areas such as Hackney in London.

She also hears stories of horror and superstition – people and animals incarcerated in walls – as well as the use of burn marks at Gainsborough Old Hall in Lincolnshire to keep evil spirits away and visits one of the oldest medieval houses to survive in England, the National Trust's Ightham Mote in Kent, to see centuries of change through its walls with conservation architect Stuart Page and collections manager Amanda Doran,

She looks at how fashions and styles have changed with a visit the Museum of the Home where Director Dr Sonia Solicari tells Rachel more about social change through the Museum room sets. Wallpaper was a game changer, a much cheaper alternative to tapestries or rich wall paintings. She hears some surprising facts - the introduction in the 18th century of wallpaper tax, and also how the arsenic in some of the wallpaper pigments was poisoning people. Yet it was the industrial revolution which brought wallpaper and the other mass produced trappings of the home to almost everyone and a chance to curate our spaces - like those of British born Caribbean playwright and artist Michael McMillan, who remembers from his childhood the power of the front room to impress and reveal who we are.

Presenter: Rachel Hurdley
Producer: Sara Parker
Executive Producer: Samir Shah
A Juniper production for BBC Radio 4

WED 16:00 Human Intelligence (m0026v8w)
Teachers: Michael Faraday

The modern world is inconceivable without this son of a blacksmith and his meticulous, relentless brain. Naomi Alderman meets the mind behind huge scientific advances – who made breakthroughs in the understanding of electricity, changed the technology by which we live and contributed to our theoretical understanding of the forces underpinning the universe. Faraday also devoted his life to spreading the understanding of science into public life via his lectures at the Royal Institution.

Special thanks to Frank James, Professor of the History of Science at University College London.

Produced by BBC Studios Audio in partnership with The Open University.

WED 16:15 The Media Show (m002hkt5)
Noel Clarke libel case, AI articles, filming wildlife

Actor Noel Clarke has lost his libel case against The Guardian. The paper had run a series of stories containing allegations of sexual misconduct. The judgment found that the meaning of each of the newspaper's articles was 'substantially true'. We speak to The Guardian's Sirin Kale, one of the reporters behind the original reporting. Plus, legal commentator Clive Coleman explains how libel cases work.

A number of online news outlets have withdrawn articles by what they thought was a freelance journalist called 'Margaux Blanchard'. But now, it seems the stories may have been written by AI. Press Gazette broke the story last week – they were tipped off to the story by Jacob Furedi, editor of Dispatch, whose suspicions were raised by one of her pitches. Jacob joins

us alongside Dr Glenda Cooper, Head of Journalism at City St George's, University of London.

A new football season is upon us, and with it, fresh innovations in how we watch. In the UK, for the first time, some of the live TV rights to the German Bundesliga have been awarded to YouTube channels. Minal Modha from Ampere Analysis analyses the changes to football broadcasting. Telegraph sport columnist Graham Scott also joins us to discuss pivoting from Premier League refereeing to journalism.

As the BBC's natural history series Parenthood approaches its finale this weekend, series director and producer Jeff Wilson from Silverback Films, takes us behind the scenes.

WED 17:00 PM (m002hkt7)
The fertility rate in England and Wales falls to a new record low

A new record low for fertility rates in England and Wales, plus Ryanair increases bonuses for staff to catch oversize baggage.

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hkt9)
Sir Tony Blair will attend a meeting about the future of Gaza at the White House

The former Prime Minister Sir Tony Blair will take part in a meeting, chaired by Donald Trump, on plans for a post-war Gaza at the White House. It comes as Israeli tanks have pushed into a new area on the edge of Gaza City. Also: Nigel Farage says his Reform UK party still needs to "work out what to do" with people who arrive here illegally with children. And a Kylie Minogue CD, a solar powered calculator and a pocket TV, are amongst the items found in a time capsule buried by the late Princess Diana at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

WED 18:30 Stand-Up Specials (m002hktc)
The Edinburgh Comedy Awards Gala 2025

Best Newcomer

Comedy fans can catch the Best Newcomer nominees for The Edinburgh Comedy Awards 2025 in this showcase for BBC Radio 4.

The prestigious Awards turns 45 this year and in this gala, hosted by 2024 Best Show winner Amy Gledhill, we'll hear from all the Best Newcomer nominees - plus the winner Ayoadé Bamgboye.

This gives listeners around the UK the chance to hear from the future of comedy. The gala was recorded at the Gilded Balloon, one of the Edinburgh Fringe's iconic comedy venues.

The winner for Best Newcomer 2025 is Ayoadé Bamgboye.

Nominated for Best Newcomer are:
Molly McGuinness, Touissant Douglass, Ada & Bron, Elouise Eftos, Ayoadé Bamgboye, Kate Owens and Roger O'Sullivan.

Host: Amy Gledhill
Producer: Georgia Keating
Production Co-ordinator: Caroline Barlow
Edited by Giles Aspen
Recorded by Sean Kerwin

Recorded at Gilded Balloon in Edinburgh.
A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

WED 19:00 The Archers (m002hktf)

Adam helps Brian out at the Home Farm office. He tells Brian that he's just been in touch with some people about potential contracts for autumn drilling, so they might hear something positive back soon. When Adam says he needs to head back to Bridge Farm, Brian lists all the things that need doing that Stella was across and Adam feels compelled to stay a little longer. They're interrupted by Pat ringing wondering where Adam is. He's supposed to be in the Dairy with Susan. Pat gives Adam ten minutes to get there. Later Brian admits to Adam that he's written Stella a heartfelt letter of apology. She should receive it by post tomorrow.

Jolene wonders whether George offering to help track down Markie is a trap. What if George is being blackmailed? But Kenton reckons they should trust George and anyway it's too good an offer to miss. When George rings he wants to ask Kenton something first – does Fallon still hate him, because he feels haunted by the whole thing. Kenton thinks Fallon doesn't hate him, but obviously George isn't her favourite person. George then explains how one of the inmate's dads hates Markie and would love to see him and any accomplices banged up. Kenton shares what he remembers, and George promises to do what he can. Afterwards Jolene wonders if George might be at risk by getting involved. But Kenton thinks the main things is if George succeeds in helping to track down Markie and his accomplice.

WED 19:15 Artworks (m002hkhth)

Hollywood and The Adland Five

3. A New Brand of Moviemaking

Director Sir Christopher Nolan and cultural historian Sir Christopher Frayling continue their story of an under-celebrated group of British film directors - five men who came to the movies via an entirely new route, advertising.

Hugh Hudson, Adrian Lyne, Alan Parker, Ridley and Tony Scott started their careers working side by side in London's Soho, making highly memorable, highly rewatchable television commercials. They arrived in Hollywood in the late 1970s and early 1980s - during a time of corporate takeover and the collapse of the studio system. It was a new world, where marketing and market research were of the utmost importance. Given their backgrounds, it was also a world in which these filmmakers would thrive, creating hit after box office hit.

In this episode, Christopher Nolan and Christopher Frayling look at the role played by market research - and music - in the movies of the Adland Five. And they talk about two erotically-charged dramas made by Adrian Lyne - Flashdance and Fatal Attraction - which had a tone, pace and style unlike anything seen from British directors before.

Producer - Jane Long
Executive Producer - Freya Hellier
Additional research - Edward Charles, Heather Dempsey and Queenie Qureshi-Wales
Sound mix - Jon Calver
A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

WED 19:45 New Storytellers (m000y6np)

Read my Lips

Danielle was born with a cleft lip and palate and knows what it is like to be different in a world focused on appearance.

She has experienced first-hand the effect of looks on everyday life. For her, the mental effects of 28 operations have required a much higher resilience than the sheer physical endurance. She has had to cope with missing a lot of school and the challenge of keeping friendships, struggling to find a sense of identity as her face constantly changed through surgery.

Now Danielle hopes her first-hand experience will help others. A researcher at the University of the West of England (UWE), she is studying the psychology of those affected by craniofacial conditions.

New Storytellers presents the work of new radio and audio producers, and this series features all five winners of this year's prize for Best Student Radio Feature. The award is presented every year in memory of pioneering radio producer Charles Parker, who produced the famous series of Radio Ballads with Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger.

This was the first feature made by producer Isobel Howe - an MA student studying audio journalism at UWE. The judges praised the piece as 'a beautifully told personal story' which was 'completely absorbing', saying 'Danielle, the subject and principal speaker, is articulate, funny and open' with 'some visceral and moving moments'.

Producer: Isobel Howe
A Soundscape production for BBC Radio 4

WED 20:00 Moral Maze (m002hktk)

What is the moral value of disgust?

The decision of OnlyFans and Instagram to ban the porn star Bonnie Blue, who engaged in sequential sex with more than a thousand men in 12 hours, indicates the strength of the backlash of disapproval to the stunt. The reaction of many people has been what the psychologist Jonathan Haidt calls 'moral bafflement', the idea that most of us instinctively condemn some behaviours without being able to say why they are wrong. Western morality says, "don't hurt other people", but Bonnie Blue arguably hurt nobody. This was understood to be safe sex between consenting adults (although the psychological or social impact is harder to determine). Others might form their judgments based on values within sacred texts, but religion is no longer the moral and cultural force it once was.

How much attention should we pay to our knee-jerk sense of right and wrong when judging the actions of other people? Evolutionary psychologists describe how the emotion of disgust was a survival mechanism against the spread of disease. Thus, ritual purity, enforced by religious edict, was vital for the moral and spiritual life of our ancestors. But does disgust still carry moral weight in a modern, secular, and technologically advanced society, or is it merely an evolutionary hangover?

Just because we think something is wrong, how do we know that it is? And do we have the right, as a society, to translate our

instinctive disapproval into prohibition? What is the moral value of disgust?

Chair: Michal Buerk

Panellists: Ash Sarkar, Tim Stanley, Anne McElvoy and Matthew Taylor.

Witnesses: Stacey Clare, Julie Bindel, Jussi Suikkanen, John Haldane.

Producer: Dan Tierney

WED 21:00 Walt Disney: A Life in Films (p0fbtvs)

9. Mary Poppins

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, the "practically perfect in every way" Mel descends from the clouds to tell the tale of Mary Poppins. The film is a colourful, joy filled romp, but its creation was far from a jolly holiday for Walt Disney. Mel reveals the lengths Disney went to secure the rights to Mary Poppins and the highly antagonistic relationship he had with the author of the original book upon which his iconic film is based.

A Novel production for BBC Radio 4

WED 21:30 Inside Health (m002hkp9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Tuesday]

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m002hktm)

Blair joins White House talks on Gaza

President Trump is hosting a meeting in the White House to discuss post-war plans for Gaza - and Sir Tony Blair is among those attending. We ask what influence the former prime minister might have over the current US President - and whether an end to the war is any closer.

Also on the programme:

New figures show the birth rate in England and Wales has reached a record low. We speak to politicians from left and right who fear we're heading for a demographic catastrophe.

And 20 years after Hurricane Katrina, James Coomarasamy catches up with two people he met in New Orleans following the devastation.

WED 22:45 Crooked Cross by Sally Carson (m002hktp)

Episode Eight

Crooked Cross was first published in 1934 and was based on Sally Carson's first-hand experience of travelling through Bavaria where she witnessed the inexorable and devastating rise of fascism and antisemitism. Long out of print it was discovered by Persephone Books and republished in 2025.

We are in Bavaria in a small provincial town outside Munich. There, on Christmas Eve of 1932, we first meet the Kluger family, a happy band of Frau and Herr Kluger, and their three grown up children, Helmy, Lexa and Eric. Life is not always easy: jobs are scarce, money is tight; they are living under the shadow of defeat in the Great War. But by 1933 Hitler has won the election and become chancellor and everything is about to change for all of them. None more so than for Moritz Weissmann, Lexa's fiancé, a young Catholic doctor but with a Jewish name, who first and foremost thought of himself as German. But now his country is starting to turn against him.

'Too much power and too sudden power makes men lose all sense of proportion: blood turns such men into madmen.'

Sally Carson's novel explores how relationships between family, friends, lovers and neighbours all begin to subtly shift until confidence in the new fascist regime and the hope it offers empowers, gives licence, to many to commit atrocities that would eventually lead to another world war and the Holocaust.

The setting of a very ordinary small town allows Carson to chart how over six months this can happen against the backdrop of catastrophic political upheaval. Carson was only 38 when she died in 1941 of breast cancer, so she never lived to see the end of the war which makes Crooked Cross and her foresight even more extraordinary.

'It doesn't seem like propaganda and it makes you feel that grim sense of uncertainty and fear which must come upon any people under a rule of terror.' The Saturday Review August 1934

Sally Carson wrote two sequels both still out of print: The Prisoner published in 1936 and A Traveller Came By published in 1938. But despite the excellent reviews for Crooked Cross (which also enjoyed a successful theatrical adaptation) all three books, and their author disappeared. Until now.

Reader: Scarlett Courtney
Abridged by Sara Davies
Produced by Caroline Raphael
Production Co-ordinator: Henry Tydeman and Nina Semple
Sound by Matt Bainbridge
Recorded at Fitzrovia Studios

Crooked Cross is published by Persephone Books.

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:00 Stand-Up Specials (m002hdwc)

Stuart Mitchell's Cost of Dying

4. Estate of Affairs

What profession charges every 6 minutes? Get your mind out of the gutter!

In this episode, Stuart wades through all the legal documents involved after losing a loved one and the surprising financial costs involved.

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 (m0010jld)

Do You Have Democracy?

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.

This episode details the colonisation of Kenya, and the torrid experiences that her family and the Gikuyu tribe went through. Just three generations ago, Njambi expertly shares a history that many in the UK will not be familiar with, comparing modern day politics to the brutality and camps of the late 1800s.

Produced by Julia Sutherland
A Dabster production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:30 Illuminated (m002525p)

The Sun Does Shine

The story of Anthony Ray Hinton who spent years on death row for crimes he didn't commit, with a soundtrack composed by Harvey Brough and performed by Vox Holloway Community Choir.

In June 1988, Mr Hinton was convicted of two murders, in one of the most shockingly cynical miscarriages of justice in US history. He spent the next 28 years on death row, before all charges were dropped and he was finally released in April 2015.

The Sun Does Shine is the title of his memoir, in which he tells how he found life and freedom on death row. His story reflects the compassion, faith and heroic courage of a remarkable man. In prison he befriended Henry Hays, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, who was convicted and eventually executed for a racist murder.

The unlikely friendship of Hinton and Hays lies at the heart of this story.

The Sun Does Shine features an extended interview with Hinton, in which he talks about how he survived years of imprisonment, facing the constant threat of execution, and how the multiple appeals launched by his lawyer Bryan Stevenson ultimately led to his release.

His words are accompanied by an oratorio composed by Harvey Brough, based on Hinton's memoir and performed by the Vox Holloway Community Choir. Vox Holloway's work on The Sun Does Shine was supported by Arts Council England

Since leaving prison, Anthony Ray Hinton has worked tirelessly, alongside Bryan Stevenson, campaigning for the

abolition of the death penalty and for reforms to the criminal justice and prison systems in America

PRESENTER: Christina Gill
PRODUCERS: Abigail Morris and Sam Liebmann with Osman Teezo Kargbo
COMPOSER: Harvey Brough
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Andrew Wilkie and Tricia Zipfel
 A Vox Holloway / Prison Radio Association production for BBC Radio 4

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST 2025

THU 00:00 Midnight News (m002hktr)
 National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 00:30 Blood Lands (m00070hc)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Wednesday]

THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hktt)
 The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hktw)
 BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

THU 05:00 News Summary (m002hkty)
 National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 05:04 Sideways (m002hkls)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

THU 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hkv0)
 The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002hkv2)
 Do you have Chutzpah?

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky

Good morning!

Chutzpah is one of those words that refuses to sit quietly in a neat translation. In Yiddish, it can mean arrogance and entitlement, but it can also mean boldness, courage, and the willingness to speak up when it matters. The difference is in whether it's used for ourselves alone, or for something bigger.

There's a story in the Bible about Balaam's donkey that captures the good kind. Balaam is travelling along a narrow road, intent on his mission, when an angel steps into the path, invisible to him, but not to the donkey.

She swerves, crushes his foot against a wall, and finally sits down. Balaam lashes out in frustration.

And then, the donkey speaks.

She asks why, after all her years of service, he can't imagine there might be a reason for her behaviour.

It's only then that Balaam's eyes are opened and he sees the danger ahead.

That's chutzpah.

Not arrogance, but the courage to stop when others are pushing forward. The clarity to notice what's being missed. The nerve to speak up, even to someone more powerful, when the moment calls for it.

Sometimes we need that kind of chutzpah ourselves - to question, to pause, to steer away from harm even if it makes us unpopular. And sometimes we need to hear it from others and be willing to stop, listen, and see with new eyes.

May we notice what others miss. May we have the courage to pause when the path ahead isn't safe. And may we speak up, kindly but firmly, when the moment demands it.

Amen.

THU 05:45 Farming Today (m002hkv4)
 28/08/25 'Disappointment' from food industry as minister says EU export checks to last until 2027, bee insemination

Changes to the costs, paperwork and bureaucracy that are

hampering agri-food exports from Great Britain to the European Union won't be in place until 2027. Nick Thomas-Symonds, the minister for EU relations, has been setting out his priorities for the future of the UK-EU relationship in a speech in front of industry representatives and journalists. We speak to trade expert David Henig and hear how food exporters are 'disappointed' that barriers to trade won't be removed sooner.

As part of our week-long look at pollinators, we visit Bishop's Bees in Devon, where owner Darren Molyneux is developing genetic lines suited to the UK climate using artificial insemination.

Presented by Caz Graham and produced by Beatrice Fenton.

THU 06:00 Today (m002hks1)
 News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

THU 09:00 Artworks (m002hks3)
 What Happened to Counter-Culture?

4. Culture Clash

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.

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-communalists, 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'.

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, it's continued meaning for our own age.

In part 4, Culture Clash, the counter-culture generates opposition of its own - first in the courts and then from government. As the infamous Oz magazine trial puts the British underground press in the dock for 'corrupting public morals', the UK underground extends outside London to urban communities across the country, creating vibrant, alternative scenes in the 1970s and 80s, despite growing opposition from government.

Punk re-energises some of the same counter-cultural, DIY values as the hippie movement and joins with reggae, by now the music of Black British counter-culture, to form a powerful, multifaceted cultural challenge to mainstream politics and society.

But has the free individualism of the 1960s become hardened and monetised into a version of its own worst enemy - the economic self-centredness of the 1980s? This episode explores the pushback – a political 'counter' counter-culture - led by the Thatcher and Reagan governments respectively, explicitly opposing the ideas of the 'permissive society' and 1960s counter-culture in Britain and America. In the UK, following its success defeating the NUM, the Conservative government targets the alternative culture of 'new age travellers' culminating with the 'Battle of the Beanfield' in June 1985, one of the most violent police operations in British history.

Contributors include journalist and author John Harris, photographer Lisa Law, former Oz and IT journalist Jonathon Green, Geoffrey Robertson KC, musician Brian Eno, critic and author Paul Morley, historian Andy Beckett, founding member of Steel Pulse and director of the Black Music Research Unit Mykaell Riley, fashion designer and founding member of XR Clare Farrell, historian and journalist Simon Heffer, guitarist and songwriter Johnny Marr, and photographer Alan Lodge.

Presenter: Stewart Lee
Producer: Simon Hollis

A Brook Lapping production for BBC Radio 4

THU 09:30 How to Play (m002hks5)
 Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique with Anja Bihlmaier and the

BBC Philharmonic

The BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and conductor Anja Bihlmaier invite us into their rehearsal room as they prepare for a Proms performance of Hector Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique.

Hector Berlioz was a French composer and his Symphonie Fantastique - first performed in 1830 - is a work of high Romanticism. It is a dramatic five-movement symphony, using vivid orchestral colours and effects to depict the story of a young artist who, driven to despair by unrequited love, falls into an hallucinatory state after taking opium. It progresses through a series of visions and dreams, from a ball and a pastoral scene to a frightening march to the guillotine and a grotesque witches' Sabbath.

Featuring Anja Bihlmaier, conductor; Zoe Beyers, violin; Paul Patrick, percussion; and Kenny Sturgeon, oboe

Thanks to Jess Mills, Stephen Rinker and all at the BBC Philharmonic.

THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002hks7)
 Double jeopardy fight, Fertility rates, SRY tests, Wool sourcing

New ONS stats show that fertility rates are the lowest in England and Wales since 1938 when they were first recorded. Dr Bernice Kuona is researcher in fertility and family relationships at the University of Southampton and explains the research to Anita Rani.

Ann Ming's 22-year-old daughter Julie went missing in Billingham, County Durham, in 1989. The police launched an investigation but following a search of Julie's house they failed to find her. Three months after Julie's disappearance, Ann went to Julie's house and stumbled across her daughter's remains. Ann's 17-year fight for justice has now been turned into a four part ITV drama called I Fought the Law starring Sheridan Smith as Ann. Ann joins Anita to talk about her battle to overturn the 800-year-old British Double Jeopardy law and her determination to fight for justice.

The World Athletics Championships starts in Tokyo on 13 September. Ahead of that, from next Monday, World Athletics will require all athletes competing in the female category to undergo a one-time test for the SRY gene, or 'sex determining region Y' gene. World Athletics says this test is 'a reliable proxy for determining biological sex'. BBC Sports Editor Dan Roan explains the test, the reasons why World Athletics have introduced it, and the wider implications for the debates around biological sex and inclusion in sports.

Justine Lee is a knitwear designer of 30 years who fell out of love with fast fashion. Her latest work focuses on helping to protect the future of British rare breed sheep. She works with shepherds and wool producers, mostly women, and has knitted swatches from all 62 rare-breed sheep to show the versatility of the wool. She joins Anita to discuss her work with farmers, her knitwear designs and her new book which showcases the wool.

Presenter: Anita Rani
Producer: Corinna Jones

THU 11:00 This Cultural Life (m002hks9)
 Eric Idle

Comedian, writer, musician and actor Eric Idle talks to John Wilson about his creative influences. A founding member of the Monty Python comedy troupe, he wrote and performed across their four television series and films, including The Life of Brian and The Meaning of Life. As a songwriter, he was responsible for much of the Python's musical comedy, including Always Look on the Bright Side of Life and The Galaxy Song.

He created the comedy series Rutland Weekend Television and the Beatles parody band The Rutles, which toured and released albums. In 2005, Eric Idle created the Tony Award-winning musical Spamalot, based on the film Monty Python and The Holy Grail which, for over 20 years, has run twice in London's West End and on Broadway and has been staged in 14 countries around the world.

Producer: Edwina Pitman

THU 11:45 Blood Lands (m00070n8)
 Betrayal

Blood Lands is a true story told in five parts which takes us to the heart of modern South Africa.

A family betrayal leads to a murder trial in a small farming town in South Africa. But who is telling the truth about a frenzied attack that left two black farm workers dead, and a community bitterly divided on racial lines? Blood Lands is murder investigation, a political drama, a courtroom thriller,

and a profound exploration of the enduring tensions threatening the "rainbow nation". Over the course of three years, correspondent Andrew Harding has followed every twist of the police's hunt for the killers, the betrayals that opened the door to an explosive trial, and the fortunes of all those involved – from the dead men's families to the handful of men controversially selected for prosecution.

Presenter, Andrew Harding
Producer, Becky Lipscombe
Editor, Bridget Harney

THU 12:00 News Summary (m002hkxc)
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

THU 12:04 Scam Secrets (m002hkxf)
Investment Scam: The Crypto Coach

A trusted celeb seems to be promoting a crypto investment. Would you know what to do?

In this episode of Scam Secrets, Shari Vahl, Dr Elisabeth Carter and former criminal Alex Wood hear how an apparent endorsement from a trusted celebrity paved the way for the relentless psychological manipulation of a couple, with devastating consequences.

The team discuss how helpless people can even be made to lie to their own banks while under the spell of criminals, and they highlight the red flags to watch out for so you can spot what the fraudsters are doing.

PRESENTER: SHARI VAHL
PRODUCER: TOM MOSELEY

THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m002hkxh)
Dough - The Future of Cars

Will your car be driving you by 2050?

Greg Foot, host of the BBC Radio 4 show Sliced Bread, now brings you Dough.

Each episode explores future wonder products that might rise to success and redefine our lives.

Experts and entrepreneurs discuss the trends shaping what today's everyday technology may look like tomorrow, before a leading futurist offers their predictions on what life might be like within five, ten and fifty years.

The series kicks off with a look at the future of cars.

Will new battery technology transform the range and price of electric cars?
Why are fully autonomous vehicles still not yet allowed on the UK's public roads?
Which self-driving vehicles are we most likely to see first? Will we really let our cars do the driving for us anyway?
Could vehicles communicating with streetlights make journeys quicker for select motorists?

Alongside Greg in the passenger seat is the futurist Tom Cheesewright and expert guests including:

-Phil Blythe CBE - a former Chief Scientific Adviser to the UK's Department for Transport and Professor of Intelligent Transport Systems at Newcastle University
-Paul Shearing - Director of the Zero Institute at Oxford University and the Royal Academy of Engineering Chair in Emerging Battery Technologies
-Paul Newman - Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer at Oxa, a UK-based company developing software for self-driving vehicles

Produced by Jon Douglas. Dough is a BBC Audio North Production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds.

THU 12:57 Weather (m002hkxk)
The latest weather forecast

THU 13:00 World at One (m002hkxm)
Russian strike 'sabotages' hope for peace in Ukraine

European leaders condemn Russia after it launches the second-largest strike on Ukraine, killing at least ten and damaging British and EU offices in Kyiv.

THU 13:45 Naturebang (m002hkxp)
Photosynthetic Clams and the Problem of Power

How do we extract the maximum amount of power from the sun? Becky Ripley and Emily Knight enlist the help of a giant,

thousand-year old clam. And end up in the depths of space...

Featuring Professor Alison Sweeney at Yale University, and Mike Garrett from the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics. Produced and presented by Emily Knight and Becky Ripley

THU 14:00 The Archers (m002hktf)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

THU 14:15 Drama on 4 (m002hkxr)
Lyra

Comedy drama starring Joe Barnes, Henry Perrymont, Rose Matafeo and Charlotte Ritchie.

When old friends Mike and Hunter find a baby in a crater in the woods, they're faced with the obvious question - did she fall from space? Hunter's always wanted to make contact with alien life, Mike's always wanted a baby, so their discovery changes everything.

Since being nominated for Best Show at the Edinburgh Comedy Awards (as double act Goodbear), Joe Barnes and Henry Perrymont have cropped up in some of the biggest shows on TV (Starstruck, Cheaters, Big Boys, Bridgerton). Now they bring their trademark blend of comedy and wonder to the world of audio.

Joining them in the cast are fellow funny people Rose Matafeo (Starstruck), Charlotte Ritchie (Ghosts) and Ed Kear (Here We Go).

Mike: Joe Barnes
Hunter: Henry Perrymont
Maggie: Rose Matafeo
Aubrey: Charlotte Ritchie
Glenn: Ed Kear

Music: Max Perrymont
Sound design: Peregrine Andrews
Production co-ordinator: Becky Carewe-Jeffries
Script editor: Eve Delaney
Producer: James Robinson

A BBC Studios Audio Production for Radio 4

THU 15:00 Open Country (m002hkxt)
Exploring the Lakes by wheelchair

Caz Graham tries out Miles without Stiles, a scheme which helps disabled people access the Lake District. She joins a group of people in a fleet of mobility vehicles on a route from Sizergh Castle near Kendal, and visits the Keswick to Threlkeld path which was rebuilt after Storm Desmond but attracted controversy when it was surfaced with tarmac.

Will Clark explains how the scheme helps him continue to enjoy the countryside after a mountain biking accident left him paralysed from the neck down. He explores the lakes and fells using a power chair which he operates with his chin.

Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Sally Heaven

THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (m002hkxw)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]

THU 15:30 Word of Mouth (m002hkxy)
Keeping My Family's Language Alive

Michael Rosen talks to Samantha Ellis, author of Chopping Onions on My Heart, about her efforts to keep alive the language of her parents: Judeo-Iraqi Arabic.

Samantha grew up in London hearing her parents speak the language they spoke in their homeland of Iraq. Now she's keen to try and speak it herself, and to share the poetic expressions of Judeo-Iraqi Arabic with her son.

Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Sally Heaven, in partnership with The Open University.

Subscribe to the Word of Mouth podcast and never miss an episode: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006qtqz>

THU 16:00 The Briefing Room (m002hky0)
UK Resilience 3: How prepared are we for the next pandemic?

Five years ago we in the UK were in the false lull between the first wave of covid and the second, between the first variant and the second, between the first peak of covid deaths and the second, higher peak. There wasn't a vaccine and we didn't know when we might get one. Now it's a memory.

But another deadly pathogen might pop up in fifty years or it might be manifesting its early stages right now.

In the final part of our three-part mini-series looking at how the resilient the UK might be in dealing with potential future crises, we're asking.....how prepared are we to deal with the next pandemic?

Guests:
Dame Sarah Gilbert, Professor of Vaccinology at the Pandemic Sciences Institute, University of Oxford;
Sir Peter Horby, Professor of Emerging Infections and Global Health, and Director of the Pandemic Sciences Institute, University of Oxford;
Malik Peiris, Emeritus Professor of Virology in the School of Public Health at The University of Hong Kong

Presenter: David Aaronovitch
Production co-ordinator: Maria Ogundele
Producers: Ben Carter, Kirsteen Knight, Sally Abrahams
Studio engineer: Neil Churchill
Editor: Richard Vaden

THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m002hky2)
Does warm weather mean more rats in UK towns and cities?

Summer heatwaves and missed bin collections have created panic in the press that rat numbers in the UK are increasing. We ask Steve Belmain, Professor of Ecology at the Natural Resources Institute at the University of Greenwich for the science.

This summer Wales became the first country in the UK to ban plastic in wet wipes, with the other nations pledging they will do the same. Over the past few weeks there's been work to remove a giant mound of them, known as 'Wet Wipe Island' on the Thames in west London. Marnie Chesterton has been to find out how they got there and what damage they could be doing to the river's ecosystem.

Professor Sadiya Quereshi, Chair in Modern British History at the University of Manchester explains why we should see the extinction of species as a modern, and often political phenomenon. Her book Vanished: An Unnatural History of Extinction is the second book we're featuring from the shortlist for the 2025 Royal Society Trivedi Science Book Prize.

And Lizzie Gibney, senior physics reporter at Nature brings us a round up of the news causing a stir in science circles this week.

Presenter: Marnie Chesterton
Producers: Ella Hubber, Jonathan Blackwell and Clare Salisbury
Editor: Ian Goodman
Production Co-ordinator: Jana Bennett-Holesworth

THU 17:00 PM (m002hky4)
Inside the Bell Hotel in Epping

PM hears from an asylum seeker staying at the hotel. Plus the British Council's Ukraine director talks us through the Russian strikes on their Kyiv headquarters.

THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hky6)
Russia launches a massive air assault on Ukraine

At least 19 people have been killed and dozens injured after a huge drone and missile attack by Russia on the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, overnight. The Court of Appeal has been hearing legal argument from the Home Office and the owner of the Bell Hotel in Epping against a judge's decision to stop asylum seekers being housed there. Also: The Reform Party leader of Nottinghamshire County Council bans a local newspaper's reporters from speaking to him or to his councillors.

THU 18:30 Stand-Up Specials (m002hky8)
The Edinburgh Comedy Awards Gala 2025

Best Show

Comedy fans can catch the Best Show nominees for The Edinburgh Comedy Awards 2025 in this showcase for BBC Radio 4.

The prestigious Awards turns 45 this year and in this gala, hosted by 2024 Best Show winner Amy Gledhill, we hear from all of the Best Show nominees - plus the winner Sam Nicoresti.

This gives listeners around the UK the chance to hear from some of the best shows at the Fringe this year. The gala was recorded at the Gilded Balloon, one of the Edinburgh Fringe's iconic comedy venues.

The winner for Best Show 2025 is Sam Nicoresti.

Nominated for Best Show are:

Ian Smith, Katie Norris, Ed Night, Sam Jay, John Tothill, Creepy Boys and Dan Tiernan

Host: Amy Gledhill

Producer: Georgia Keating

Production Co-ordinator: Caroline Barlow

Edited by Giles Aspen

Recorded by Sean Kerwin

Recorded at Gilded Balloon in Edinburgh.

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

THU 19:00 The Archers (m002hkyb)

Lynda and Robert are in Ambridge Hall garden where they share how much they hate being at odds with one another; they're each other's favourite person. Chelsea turns up to do Lynda's hair and tells her all about the run in she and Zainab had with Lawrence at the Golf Club last week. Lynda points out he was really awful with Khalil a few months ago and describes him as a misogynist and a racist. Robert offers to go and talk to Lawrence to help Chelsea and Zainab, but Lynda has another idea. She's going to get in touch with the Dorsetshire Golf Association.

The police have checked in with Kenton and advised him to continue being vigilant while they're still looking for the perpetrators. They have so much evidence now that he and Jolene probably won't need to testify, if and when it goes to court.

Later, angry Emma turns up at The Bull. Amber's told her about George's offer to help catch the person who's been harassing Kenton and Jolene. She can't believe it's true and that they're throwing George to the wolves. Kenton tries to calm her down saying that the offer came from George who's trying to make amends. It could be a good thing for George. Jolene appears wondering what all the noise is about. She admits they didn't really think about running it by Emma first, they just wanted Markie to be caught. But Emma counters that they've put George up against a man who intimidated them. How will George be safe now?

THU 19:15 Artworks (m002hkyd)

Hollywood and The Adland Five

4. The Need for Speed

Director Sir Christopher Nolan and cultural historian Sir Christopher Frayling conclude their exploration of the Adland Five - five British filmmakers who stormed Hollywood in the 1970s and 1980s, after reshaping the world of television advertising.

Hugh Hudson, Adrian Lyne, Alan Parker, Ridley and Tony Scott brought a fresh approach to filmmaking, rooted in an ability to distill complex ideas into simple, impactful narratives. By the mid-1980s they were firmly ensconced in Hollywood, making some of the biggest box office hits of the era.

This episode turns to Tony Scott – the last of the group to break through, but the one who delivered the most spectacular box office success. Top Gun, Tony's second feature after the cult vampire tale *The Hunger*, became the defining blockbuster of 1986, pairing cutting-edge aerial spectacle with Reagan-era visions of military might. Hand-picked for the project by producer Jerry Bruckheimer on the strength of a Saab commercial – a car racing a fighter jet – Scott translated advertising bravura into pure Hollywood spectacle.

But if Top Gun represented Hollywood triumph, Hugh Hudson's path after *Chariots of Fire* proved more troubled. His lavish *Greystoke* was dogged by production difficulties, and his next project, the American Revolutionary War drama *Revolution* starring Al Pacino, was met with critical hostility.

Christopher Nolan reflects on these diverging fortunes, and the wider impact of the Adland Five – five British directors who changed the pace, look and feel of modern cinema.

Producer - Jane Long

Executive Producer - Freya Hellier

Additional research - Edward Charles, Heather Dempsey and

Queenie Qureshi-Wales

Sound mix - Jon Calver

A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

THU 19:45 New Storytellers (m000y7t5)

Remembering the New Cross Fire

Commemorating the tragedy of a house fire in New Cross, South East London in 1981, where 13 young black teenagers died at the joint birthday party of Yvonne Ruddock, 16, who was one of those who lost their life, and Angela Jackson, 18, who survived after leaving the party early.

To this day, no-one has been found responsible for the fire which is believed by some to have been a racist arson attack. At the time, the families and community criticised the police investigation. The government's lack of action and press disinterest led to a Black People's Day of Action, which has continued every year, campaigning for racial justice. The historic first protest saw 20,000 march from the Moonshot Youth Club in New Cross into Central London.

Forty years on, Remembering the New Cross Fire weaves together protest and memories including that of Lewisham community leader Sybil Phoenix OBE who ran the Moonshot, the first black youth club in the area, with music created in response to the fire and a poem by Linton Kwesi Johnson. Magdalena Moursy (2021 Gold winner of the Charles Parker Prize) also recorded at this year's Black People's Day of Action in March where many gathered, despite pandemic restrictions, to continue to remember and demand justice for those who died and their families.

New Storytellers presents the work of new radio and audio producers, and this series features all five winners of this year's prize for Best Student Radio Feature.

The judges praised Magdalena Moursy, an MA student at Goldsmiths, University of London, for 'an extremely moving and well-crafted feature that is true to the spirit of Charles Parker while doing something fresh and entirely its own'.

Producer: Magdalena Moursy

A Soundscape production for BBC Radio 4

THU 20:00 Human Intelligence (m0026v8w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Wednesday]

THU 20:15 The Media Show (m002hkt5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:15 on Wednesday]

THU 21:00 Loose Ends (m002hkg2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

THU 21:45 One to One (m0011cpt)

Re-inventing Yourself: Malaika Kegode chats to Polly Meech

Malaika Kegode has always been drawn to stories of people who manage to re-invent themselves and this is what inspired her to leave her rural Devon home in her early twenties, to escape a situation where drugs and violence had become part of her life. She made the decision to leave and try to start again with the support of her parents and she's now a successful Bristol-based writer and performer. In this programme, Malaika talks to someone she met in the theatre world at the very start of her own career. Polly Meech was a theatre manager at Bristol's Tobacco Factory venue. But losing her mother to cancer and her own diagnosis with the same disease, led Polly to re-assess her life and make some pretty big changes.

Produced by Jo Dwyer for BBC Audio in Bristol

THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m002hkyg)

Russians hit residential and diplomatic buildings in Kyiv

Twenty-one people were killed in the overnight strikes on the Ukrainian capital, which also damaged buildings used by the British Council, the European Union and the Embassy of Azerbaijan. White House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt said US President Donald Trump "was not happy" about the bombardment.

Also on the programme: Britain, France and Germany begin the process of reimposing sanctions against Iran, saying it's in breach of the 2015 deal to limit its nuclear activities; and we hear from an exhibition showcasing the work of artist Ralph Steadman.

THU 22:45 Crooked Cross by Sally Carson (m002hkyj)

Episode Nine

Crooked Cross was first published in 1934 and was based on Sally Carson's first-hand experience of travelling through Bavaria where she witnessed the inexorable and devastating rise of fascism and antisemitism. Long out of print it was discovered by Persephone Books and republished in 2025.

We are in Bavaria in a small provincial town outside Munich. There, on Christmas Eve of 1932, we first meet the Kluger family, a happy band of Frau and Herr Kluger, and their three grown up children, Helmy, Lexa and Eric. Life is not always easy: jobs are scarce, money is tight; they are living under the shadow of defeat in the Great War. But by 1933 Hitler has won the election and become chancellor and everything is about to change for all of them. None more so than for Moritz Weissmann, Lexa's fiancé, a young Catholic doctor but with a

Jewish name, who first and foremost thought of himself as German. But now his country is starting to turn against him.

'Too much power and too sudden power makes men lose all sense of proportion: blood turns such men into madmen.'

Sally Carson's novel explores how relationships between family, friends, lovers and neighbours all begin to subtly shift until confidence in the new fascist regime and the hope it offers empowers, gives licence, to many to commit atrocities that would eventually lead to another world war and the Holocaust.

The setting of a very ordinary small town allows Carson to chart how over six months this can happen against the backdrop of catastrophic political upheaval. Carson was only 38 when she died in 1941 of breast cancer, so she never lived to see the end of the war which makes *Crooked Cross* and her foresight even more extraordinary.

'It doesn't seem like propaganda and it makes you feel that grim sense of uncertainty and fear which must come upon any people under a rule of terror.' *The Saturday Review* August 1934

Sally Carson wrote two sequels both still out of print: *The Prisoner* published in 1936 and *A Traveller Came By* published in 1938. But despite the excellent reviews for *Crooked Cross* (which also enjoyed a successful theatrical adaptation) all three books, and their author disappeared. Until now.

This episode contains antisemitic language and descriptions of violence against and persecution of Jews.

Reader: Scarlett Courtney

Abridged by Sara Davies

Produced by Caroline Raphael

Production Co-ordinator: Henry Tydeman and Nina Semple

Sound by Matt Bainbridge

Recorded at Fitzrovia Studios

Crooked Cross is published by Persephone Books.

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

THU 23:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002hky1)

YouTube, Insta and TikTok: A Guide to Growing Your Social Media Following (Jordan Schwarzenberger - part one)

With audiences increasingly turning to echo-chambers on Instagram, TikTok and YouTube for their entertainment and away from traditional mass-media, is there anything that can bring communities together again?

Jordan Schwarzenberger manages Sidemen, Europe's most popular YouTube collective – and recently went viral with a thesis over what he described as “the death of monoculture”.

The Forbes 30 Under 30 entrepreneur and member of Downing Street's Small Business Council tells Amol why he thinks Gen Z are withdrawing into micro-communities.

But he has some radical suggestions for how to survive and thrive in an era where unique social content can count for far more than being part of an established media brand.

GET IN TOUCH

* WhatsApp: 0330 123 9480

* Email: radical@bbc.co.uk

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-rajn>

Amol 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. If you enjoy this (and you've read this far so hopefully you do), then we think you'll also like another podcast from *Today*. It's called *Political Thinking* with Nick Robinson and you can listen to Nick's interviews here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/p04z203l>

This episode of *Radical with Amol Rajan* was made by Lewis Vickers with Izzy Rowley. Digital production was by Gabriel Purcell-Davis. Technical production was by Phil Bull. The editor is Sam Bonham. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths.

THU 23:30 Artworks (m002hkpw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Tuesday]

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST 2025

FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m002hkyn)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 00:30 Blood Lands (m00070n8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Thursday]

FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002hkyq)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002hkys)

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 (m002hkyy)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 05:04 The Briefing Room (m002hky0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Thursday]

FRI 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002hkys)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002hkyz)

This Too Shall Pass

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rabbi Charley Baginsky

Good morning.

In *The Great Gatsby*, Daisy Buchanan asks: "Do you always watch for the longest day of the year and then miss it?"

I will admit, I am Daisy. The phrase "this too shall pass" is one I return to often. It reminds me that pain and illness will end, and there is a better future ahead. But most of all, it reminds me to pause and be present, because moments pass too quickly.

Last night I came home late, exhausted. The house looked like the chaos only three teenagers, one dog, and two cats can cause. I was tempted to leave it all for the morning, but my son had been hinting all week that he fancied a particular dinner. So, clearing a space in the kitchen, I sweated and swore my way through the recipe he'd requested.

I wondered at my own madness, indulging the whims of a teenager, but then this boy who now towers over me threw his arms around me and said, "Mum, you are the very, very best." Suddenly he was six months old again, asleep on my lap.

In Judaism, for these moments, we say the Shehecheyanu: "Blessed are you... who has given us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season." It is said for firsts, but also for private moments no one else will notice.

Imagine if we lived as though every day contained a once-in-a-lifetime moment, one that too will pass and made sure to catch it before it slips away.

May we notice them. May we bless them. And may we treasure them before they're gone.

Amen.

FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m002hky1)

A new report from the Wildlife Trusts outlines the environmental damage caused by pig and poultry pollution. Caz Graham talks to the report authors and to the National Pig Association.

Moths and hoverflies are the unloved pollinators that keep our farms and gardens healthy. We hear about their brilliant undercover work.

Presented by Caz Graham and produced by Beatrice Fenton

FRI 06:00 Today (m002hmqd)

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

FRI 09:00 The Reunion (m002bgwt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]

FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002hmqq)

Forced adoptions, Belinda Carlisle, Harvest mice release

The former Prime Minister Gordon Brown has added his voice

to calls for an apology for what he has called the state's role in the "terrible tragedy" of historic forced adoptions. Between 1949 and 1976, thousands of pregnant women and girls in the UK were sent away to "prison-like" homes run by the church and state and had their babies put up for adoption. In 2021, an inquiry concluded that the State bore ultimate responsibility for the suffering inflicted on vulnerable women and their children, calling on the government to issue an official apology. Anna Foster is joined by Diana Defries, chair of the Movement for Adoption Apology and Karen Constantine, author of *Taken*, experiences of forced adoption, to give their reaction to the intervention by the former PM and whether they will be granted an apology.

Belinda Carlisle started her musical career as Dottie Danger, a drummer in a punk band. She gained fame as the lead vocalist of the Go-Go's and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She went on to have a prolific career as a solo artist with hits including *Heaven Is a Place on Earth* and *Circle in the Sand*. She joins Anna to discuss her new album, *Once Upon a Time in California*, which takes a deeply personal journey through the golden sounds of her youth.

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 say that she wanted to talk about what it means to be a female breadwinner. She joined Anita in a replay of the item from Listener Week, along with Melissa Hogenboom, author of the book *Breadwinners*.

After learning about the threat to harvest mice in the UK, 13 year old friends Eva and Emily decided to breed 250 of them at home and release them into a local nature reserve - with the help of a crowdfunder and Chris Packham.

We think of the coal mining industry as dark, dirty and macho, but was there a place for women or even, beauty queens? Jennifer Jasmine White recently curated an exhibition at the National Coal Mining Museum that looks at the women at the heart of coal mining industry and their creative contributions to those communities.

Presenter: Anna Foster
Producer: Emma Pearce

FRI 11:00 The Food Programme (m002hmqq)

Cooking From Landscape: Rethinking Scottish Food

Historian Polly Russell and chef Pam Brunton explore Scotland's landscapes to answer the question, 'what is modern Scottish food?'. On a road trip through landscapes, old and new, they encounter deer stalkers, robot milking machines and a bean to bar chocolate maker.

Why is it we end up with a fixed view of what a nation's food culture looks and tastes like and how easy is it to create a change?

Produced by Dan Saladino.

FRI 11:45 Blood Lands (m000712I)

Common Purpose

The final episode of *Blood Lands* - a true story told in five parts which takes us to the heart of modern South Africa.

A group of white men are on trial accused of murdering two black South Africans, but as a long and explosive trial comes to an end, could muddled medical evidence see them walk free? *Blood Lands* is a murder investigation, a political drama, a courtroom thriller, and a profound exploration of the enduring racial tensions threatening the "rainbow nation". Over the course of three years, correspondent Andrew Harding has followed every twist of the police's hunt for the killers, the betrayals that opened the door to a dramatic trial, and the fortunes of all those involved – from the dead men's families to the handful of men controversially selected for prosecution. When a whole community is on trial, who pays the price?

Presenter, Andrew Harding
Producer, Becky Lipscombe
Editor, Bridget Harney

FRI 12:00 News Summary (m002hmql)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

FRI 12:04 Rare Earth (m002hmqn)

Creatures of the Night

A celebration of the wildlife that works while we sleep. Tom Heap and Helen Czerski explore the world of animals that

provoke fear and wonder in equal measure.

Producer: Emma Campbell

Rare Earth is produced in collaboration with the Open University

FRI 12:57 Weather (m002hmqq)

The latest weather forecast

FRI 13:00 World at One (m002hmqs)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

FRI 13:45 Naturebang (m002hmqv)

Grooming Apes and the Origins of Kissing

Becky Ripley and Emily Knight discover the hairy history of the human kiss. Where did it come from? Why do we like doing it? And how is it good for us?

Featuring Dr Adriano Lameira, primatologist turned evolutionary psychologist from the University of Warwick, and Dr Dean Burnett, neuroscientist, lecturer, and author of *The Idiot Brain* and *The Happy Brain*, among others. Produced and presented by Emily Knight and Becky Ripley.

FRI 14:00 The Archers (m002hkyb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

FRI 14:15 Limelight (m002hmqs)

Mothercover

Episode 1: Camera Obscura

Gwen is recruited to spy on another mum in her local baby group. But how long can she keep up the act?

An Aberystwyth-set thriller, by BAFTA Cymru nominee Fflur Dafydd, with original music by Mercury Prize nominees Gwenno and Rhys Edwards.

CAST

Gwen Alexandra Roach
Liz Remy Beasley
Owen Sacha Dhawan
Geraint Matthew Gravelle
Yoga Teacher Lisa Zahra
Group Leader Nadia Wyn Abouayen
Mums Aoife Moss and Bethan Mclean
Ioan Liam Donnelly
Theo Cai Roberts

Original Music, Gwenno and Rhys Edwards

Sound design, Rhys Morris
Production Co-ordinators, Lindsay Rees and Eleri McAuliffe
Directed by Fay Lomas
Produced by Fay Lomas and John Norton, BBC Audio Drama Wales

FRI 14:45 Uncharted with Hannah Fry (m00230wc)

17. The Golden Spike

At a conference in Mexico, one scientist's outburst launches a global quest.

Hannah Fry follows a group of researchers on the hunt for a 'golden spike': the boundary, marking a shift into a dramatic new geological period dominated, not by volcanoes and asteroids, but the influence of humans.

From plastics and concrete to nuclear fallout, the data they uncover reveals a planet profoundly changed. But can these scientists persuade their colleagues - and the world?

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

FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002hmr0)

Claygate Surrey

How do I get rid of fungus gnats? Is it bad to fertilise plants when water is scarce? What direction is best for gardens?

Kathy Clugston chairs this week's edition of *Gardeners' Question Time* from Claygate in Surrey, where she's joined by a panel of horticultural heavyweights including Bob Flowerdew, Pippa Greenwood and Juliet Sargeant.

Later in the programme, Christine Walkden delivers a no-nonsense guide to watering, sharing practical tips to help your

plants flourish whatever the weather.

Producer: Matthew Smith
Assistant Producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 15:45 Short Works (m002hmr2)

Apis Mellifera by Philip Hensher, read by Mark Heap

Sally is driving through Pimlico with her dog Reggie in her tangerine Honda Civic when a bee flies into her car. The bee sets off a chain of events that will change her life.

A new short story written by Philip Hensher and read by Mark Heap.

Philip Hensher is Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University. A novelist and journalist, he's the editor of The Penguin Book of the Contemporary British Short Story and The Penguin Book of the British Short Story. He's also the author of two collections of short stories: The Bedroom of the Mister's Wife and Tales of Persuasion.

Produced by Beth O'Dea in Bristol for BBC Audio, Wales and West of England

FRI 16:00 Last Word (m002hmr4)

David Richardson, Doris Lockhart Saatchi, Dame Annette Brooke, Byron Rogers

John Wilson on:

Broadcaster David Richardson who was for over 60 years a leading voice in the farming community

Doris Lockhart Saatchi, the Art collector who along with her former husband Charles Saatchi transformed the UK art scene in the 80s and 90s

Dame Annette Brooke who for 14 years was the Liberal Democrat MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole

Byron Rogers, the biographer and journalist who sought out and chronicled the lives of many eccentric characters

Producer: Ed Prendeville

Archive;
BBC News, BBC, 02/07/2014; BBC News, BBC, 12/05/2013; BBC News, BBC, 05/04/2008; BBC News, BBC, 14/09/2008; Late Again, BBC Two, 14/03/1992; BBC News Ten, BBC, 07/10/2008; On Your Farm: A New Dawn for British Farming?, BBC, 24/07/2016; The Food Programme, BBC, 04/06/1976; Farming Today, BBC, 21/08/2025; Farming, BBC, 21/08/1977; The Last Human Cannonball (Episode 5), BBC Radio 4 Extra, 28/11/2009; Sara's People, BBC Radio Wales, 01/01/2004

FRI 16:30 Sideways (m002hksl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

FRI 17:00 PM (m002hmr6)

Home Office wins Epping asylum hotel appeal

Epping Forest Council's leader joins us live. The Director of World Food Programme, Cindy McCain, on the situation in Gaza. And, we meet the man campaigning to give his AI chatbot rights.

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002hmr8)

Appeal Court judges lift a ban on asylum seekers in a hotel in Essex

The Court of Appeal has ruled that asylum seekers can remain at the Bell Hotel in Epping where protests have been held since July. Also: The UK government bars Israeli officials from an arms fair in London because of the war in Gaza. And British Cycling has apologised for accidentally censoring the name of a village in Powys on its website.

FRI 18:30 Too Long; Didn't Read (m002hmrh)

Series 2

Computer says no

Is AI taking over? And if so, how should we treat our new robot overlords? Catherine Bohart investigates, with the help of Olga Koch, Professor Kate Devlin, and our regular roving correspondent Sunil Patel.

Written by Catherine Bohart, with Madeleine Brettingham, Rose Johnson 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

FRI 19:00 The Archers (m002hmrD)

Fallon seeks Emma out at the Tearoom to let her know that Markie and his accomplice have been arrested. When Emma asks whether the police said it was because of George, Fallon admits that they'd had a tip off about Markie's location. But Fallon reckons Emma can stop worrying now they've been arrested. Incredulous Emma points out that Markie and his accomplice are in prison and that's where George is too. And there's nothing anyone can do to help the situation. Fallon apologises and shares that Kenton was moved by his phone conversation with George. It sounds like George has done some growing up.

Pat's surprised that it's mid-afternoon and Adam hasn't been called back to help out at Home Farm yet. When Adam wonders why nothing seems to be happening with the Peggy holiday plan, Pat reckons it's because no-one can agree about where to go. Adam's phone rings and Pat knows it's Brian even when Adam denies it. Pat warns Adam that he'd better not head over to Home Farm – she's really fed up with the situation. Later Pat tells Adam that Tom saw Stella in the pub last night. She mentioned Brian's letter and found it bizarre when she's already made it clear to Brian that she never wants to go back to work at Home Farm. When Adam lets slip that Brian's at the Tearoom now angry Pat storms over there to ask what he's playing at. Adam now works for Bridge Farm – so Brian needs to let him get on with his job.

FRI 19:15 Add to Playlist (m002hmrG)

Jess Gillam and Keelan Carew with music fit for a king

Saxophonist and Radio 3 broadcaster Jess Gillam and pianist Keelan Carew are Jeffrey Boakye and Anna Phoebe's studio guests as they add the next five tracks, taking us from an east London housing estate to Heaven, via a certain celebrated Norwegian hall of a Mountain King.

Producer: Jerome Weatherald
Presented with musical direction by Jeffrey Boakye and Anna Phoebe

The five tracks in this week's playlist:

Ill Manors by Plan B
The Coronation scene from Boris Godunov by Modest Mussorgsky
King by Years & Years
In the Hall of the Mountain King by Edvard Grieg
Heaven by Emeli Sandé

Other music in this episode:

Ain't Nobody Here But Us Chickens by Louis Jordan & His Tympany Five
Hug air a' B'honaid Mhòir (Celebrate the Big Bonnet) by Julie Fowlis
Alles Neu by Peter Fox
Fourth movement of the Symphony No 7 (The 'Leningrad' Symphony) by Dmitry Shostakovich
In the Hall of the Mountain King by The Who
In the Hall of the Mountain King by ELO
Sonic the Hedgehog Theme
Inspector Gadget Theme

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m002hmrj)

Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP, Russell Findlay MSP, Kirsty McNeill MP, Alison Thewliss

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from Woodside Hall in Glasgow with the leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP, the leader of the Scottish Conservatives Russell Findlay MSP, Scotland Minister Kirsty McNeill MP and former SNP MP Alison Thewliss

Producer: Robin Markwell
Lead Broadcast Engineer: Gavin Murchie

FRI 20:55 This Week in History (m002hkss)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:40 on Wednesday]

FRI 21:00 The Verb (m002hmrl)

The Adverb at the Hay Festival 2025

For this edition of The Adverb recorded at this year's Hay Festival, The Barnsley Bard Ian McMillan is joined by a veritable paean of poets.

For over five decades national treasure Michael Rosen has been writing poetry praised for its "ability to address the most serious matters of life in a spirit of joy, humour and hope".

Len Pennie has won acclaim and admirers for her muscular use of the Scots language.

Alex Wharton is currently Children's Laureate Wales but he writes poems for everyone and his fans include racing driver Sir Lewis Hamilton who had one of Alex's poems stitched into his Met Gala suit last year.

Natalie Ann Holborow describes poetry as "a powerful and precious thread that runs through the tapestry of our lives". With three poetry collections under her belt, the thread is strong in this one.

To mark sixty years since the death of Eleanor Farjeon, there's a tribute to the distinguished children's writer with a special reading of one of her most loved poems – Cats Sleep Anywhere.

Presenter: Ian McMillan
Producers: Ekene Akalawu and Jessica Treen

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m002hmrn)

Government wins Epping asylum hotel appeal

The government has won an appeal against a bid by Epping Forest District Council to block the housing of asylum seekers in a local hotel. We hear from a local councillor and a Labour MP on the Home Affairs Committee.

Also on the programme: we debate whether the handling of Covid is behind growing vaccine hesitancy and a mistrust of health experts in the United States; and why are seven American warships and thousands of marines heading to the Caribbean, off the coast of Venezuela?

FRI 22:45 Crooked Cross by Sally Carson (m002hmrg)

Episode Ten

Crooked Cross was first published in 1934 and was based on Sally Carson's first-hand experience of travelling through Bavaria where she witnessed the inexorable and devastating rise of fascism and antisemitism. Long out of print it was discovered by Persephone Books and republished in 2025.

We are in Bavaria in a small provincial town outside Munich. There, on Christmas Eve of 1932, we first meet the Kluger family, a happy band of Frau and Herr Kluger, and their three grown up children, Helmy, Lexa and Eric. Life is not always easy: jobs are scarce, money is tight; they are living under the shadow of defeat in the Great War. But by 1933 Hitler has won the election and become chancellor and everything is about to change for all of them. None more so than for Moritz Weissmann, Lexa's fiancé, a young Catholic doctor but with a Jewish name, who first and foremost thought of himself as German. But now his country is starting to turn against him.

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This episode contains antisemitic language and details of the persecution of the Jewish community.

Reader: Scarlett Courtney
Abridged by Sara Davies
Produced by Caroline Raphael
Production Co-ordinator: Henry Tydeman and Nina Semple
Sound by Matt Bainbridge
Recorded at Fitzrovia Studios

Crooked Cross is published by Persephone Books.

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 23:00 Americast (w3ct7t5v)

Will the Democrats go "dark woke" to take on Trump?

Sharing AI-generated images of himself riding a horse, waving a giant flag, inserting his face on Mount Rushmore...sound familiar?

If you're California Governor Gavin Newsom, that's entirely the point as he embarks on a new strategy to combat Donald Trump online, by imitating him.

It's all part of a "dark woke" strategy which sees Newsom playing Trump at his own game on social media. Is the approach an online blueprint for the wider Democratic Party, and what are the risks for taking on the president so directly?

HOSTS:

- Sarah Smith, North America Editor
- Anthony Zurcher, North America Correspondent
- Marianna Spring, Social Media Investigations Correspondent

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- Join our online community: <https://discord.gg/qSrxqNcmRB>
- Send us a message or voice note via WhatsApp to +44 330 123 9480
- Email Americast@bbc.co.uk
- Or use #Americast

This episode was made by George Dabby with Rufus Gray and Alix Pickles. The technical producer was Mike Regaard. The series producer is George Dabby. 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 (m002hpf0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:15 on Sunday]