

SATURDAY 04 OCTOBER 2025**SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m002k4qh)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:30 Dangerous Miracle by Liam Shaw (m002k4p9)
Episode 5: Redesigning Research

Biologist Liam Shaw explores the surprising history and uncertain future of antibiotics, one of humanity's greatest medical advances.

The week concludes with an overview of the possible future of antibiotic treatment; from bespoke phage therapy to a complete overhaul of the pharmaceutical industry.

Read by James Macnaughton

Abridged by Eileen Horne

Produced by Eilidh McCreddie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002k4qk)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002k4qm)

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 (m002k4qp)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002k4qr)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002k4qt)

The seasons of our lives

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

'I'm glad I live in a world where there are Octobers'. If you recognise that quotation, you may well be of a generation which grew up reading 'Anne of Green Gables' and its sequels. The books were among my all-time favourites, and so I was ridiculously excited when my brother and family moved across Canada to settle on Prince Edward Island, where the books were both written and set.

As a result, and quite out of character, the first time I visited the island, I went both to the Anne of Green Gables musical and on the tourist trail. The books don't just portray the adventures of the eponymous heroine – Anne with an 'e' – but give us an insight into a beautiful island, where the stunning, changing colours of October inspired her.

This 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' is often the most beautiful of seasons: the low autumn sun, early morning mists and the colours, have a warmth and beauty which can ease us gently into winter.

'For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven', the writer of Ecclesiastes put it. The seasons of our lives are no less clearly defined for us by the Creator than the seasons of nature – and yet we can be slow to recognise those changes. We may celebrate our 'summer moments', the births, weddings, successes in our lives, and even the significance of spring with its new possibilities and hopes.

But God is with us in all of our seasons - in the mourning as well as the laughing. He is with us in the autumn season, as some of the certainties of life around us change, where the colours of life fade, and we move into a winter of grief and loss.

Lord, as you give us eyes to see the splendour of the autumn, give us the faith to know that you walk with us in every season of our lives, Amen

SAT 05:45 Untaxing (m0029hm0)
2. The Beatles Clause

Harry Potter star, Rupert Grint, thought he'd found a way to cut his tax bill, until an obscure law tripped him up. That law? One created because of The Beatles.

But why were the Fab Four so desperate to avoid tax? And how did their money-saving scheme end with them losing control of their own music? A story of rock, rebellion, and the long arm of the taxman.

Producer: Tom Pooley

A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m002kf43)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SAT 06:07 Open Country (m002k4io)

Black Poplars: How to Save a Tree

Have you ever heard of a black poplar? You've probably seen one, at least in a painting, even if you didn't recognise it as such. The black poplar is Britain's most endangered tree, and features in Constable's famous work, The Hay Wain. Martha Kearney is in Suffolk to see black poplars at Plattford Mill, the location in the painting, and to talk to botanical artist Ruth Wharrier about painting from nature. With tree wardens David Appleton and Fe Morris, Martha surveys new trees on the riverbank nearby. She finishes by visiting a new clone bank of trees at Jimmy's Farm, which are thriving between the wolves and polar bears. Without active support, this native British tree could disappear from our countryside altogether.

Suffolk Tree Warden Network:

<https://www.suffolktreewardens.org.uk>

<https://ruthwharrier.com>

<https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/adult-learning/botanical-art>

Producer: Beth O'Dea

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m002kf45)

Farming Today This Week: illegal meat, rural poverty, bluetongue, livestock marts, acorns and pigs

Twenty tonnes of illegal meat and animal products have been intercepted at Dover in September alone according to Dover's Head of Port Health and Public Protection. Lucy Manzano tells us the amount of illegal meat her staff are seizing is 'escalating'.

The way deprivation is measured in the UK means the challenges facing rural areas aren't taken into account. That's the conclusion of "Pretty Poverty", a new report from Plymouth Marjon University. It argues that rural hardship could be "hidden behind scenic views" and that factors like needing to own a car in remote areas with poor public transport aren't taken into consideration.

All week we've been looking at livestock markets, we catch up with farmers who say Cockerthorpe Mart in Cumbria is a vital social hub. We visit a mart on the English Welsh border to find out how the sector's coping with bluetongue restrictions and we speak to Dr Carrie Batten the bluetongue expert at the World Organisation for Animal Health and Head of the National Reference Laboratory for the disease at the Pirbright Institute

Every autumn pigs are released into the New Forest for the ancient tradition of "pannage". The pigs gobble up acorns from the thousands of oak trees in the Forest - and it's a bumper crop this year. Good news for fattening pigs, but bad news for ponies and cattle for whom the acorns are toxic.

Presenter = Charlotte Smith

Producer = Rebecca Rooney

SAT 06:57 Weather (m002kf47)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 07:00 Today (m002kf49)

Today (Saturday)

SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (m002kf4c)

Priscilla Presley, Ann Cleaves, Panning for Gold, and Davina McCall's Inheritance Tracks

Priscilla Presley joins Adrian Chiles for extraordinary stories from remarkable people.

SAT 10:00 Curious Cases (m002kf4f)

Series 24

To Crab, or Not to Crab?

We can all picture a crab, but did you know that nature has reinvented those claw clicking, sideways scuttling crustaceans at least five separate times? In recent years the internet has run wild with the idea that crabs are the ultimate life-form, and that even humans might one day end up with pincers too. But is there any truth behind the memes? Hannah and Dara scale the tangled tree of life and tackle taxonomy to figure out if 'crab' really is evolution's favourite shape. Exploring coconut to spanner, ghost to hermit, soldier to spider they learn how to tell the 'true' crabs from the impostors.

You can send your everyday mysteries for the team to investigate to: curiouscases@bbc.co.uk

Contributors

Dr Joanna Wolfe – Evolutionary Biologist, Harvard University and UC Santa Barbara
Professor Matthew Wills - Professor of Evolutionary Paleobiology, University of Bath
Ned Suesat-Williams – Director of the Crab Museum, Margate

Producer: Emily Bird

Executive Producer: Sasha Feachem

A BBC Studios Production

SAT 10:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002kf4h)

Series 49

Durham

Jay Rayner and the panel are in Durham answering questions from an audience of eager home cooks. Joining Jay are chefs, cooks and food writers Rob Owen Brown, Sarah Rankin and Rachel McCormack, and local legend and hairy biker, Si King.

The panel discuss chutneys fit for a wedding, how to concoct the perfect sweet and sour pork, and aubergine recipes for someone who doesn't like aubergines.

Later, we hear the panel's verdict whether eating ice cream with cheese and onion crisps is ever acceptable.

Producer: Dan Cocker

Junior Producer: Dulcie Whadcock

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 11:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002k4ln)

British Identity: How Schools Can Improve Multiculturalism (Katharine Birbalsingh)

Headteacher Katharine Birbalsingh thinks multiculturalism in Britain has led to an excessive focus on our differences rather than what unites us, but she believes schools like hers can change that by teaching traditional values and British culture.

Known for enforcing strict discipline at Michaela Community School in north London, Katharine explains why she promotes unity over diversity.

She is also critical of those in power who ignore what she sees as the concerns of "white British people", which she says breeds resentment towards minorities.

And she tells Amol why she's opposed to the government's school's bill and what she makes of Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson.

In a statement the Department for Education said: "This government is delivering transformative education reforms so every child can achieve and thrive, regardless of their background or postcode because expecting a great education for all children should never be controversial.

"The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill will be a seminal moment for the safety and success of our children, introducing common-sense measures backed by parents and teachers that ensure excellence and support - from highly qualified teachers and a cutting-edge curriculum, to reduced costs for families through breakfast clubs and school uniforms."

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 Anna Budd. Digital production was by Gabriel Purcell-Davies. Technical production was by James Piper. The editor is Sam Bonham. The executive producer is Owenna Griffiths.

SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002kf4k)

Dubai's hidden sex trade

Kate Adie introduces stories from Dubai, The Dominican Republic, Denmark, Spain and Australia.

Dubai is often described as one of the safest cities in the world - but safe for who? In the shadows of shining skyscrapers and shopping malls is an exploitative sex trade. Runako Celina has been investigating the suspicious deaths of two women who travelled to Dubai with big dreams.

The Dominican Republic is a popular tourist destination - though not all new arrivals are welcome. The government is currently undertaking a sweeping campaign to deport illegal immigrants - in particular, those who have arrived from neighbouring Haiti. John Murphy met Haitians hiding out in the hills, to evade authorities.

Denmark is among several European countries to have reported mysterious drone incursions in recent weeks. This comes at a time when the country is already on edge over its national security, having recently decided to extend its mandatory military service to include young women. Anna Holligan met some of the new recruits.

In the Basque country, harvest festival season is underway - including some of the most enduring Pagan celebrations in Europe. These champion the land, the people deeply rooted to it, and a rich sense of local pride. Simon Busch has been joining in the festivities.

And finally, while rare, Australia sees the highest rate of shark attacks in the world, but it doesn't stop millions of people enjoying the beaches and the ocean. So, what can Australians' love of the outdoors, no matter the dangers, teach the rest of us? Katy Watson reports from her local life-saving club in Sydney.

Series Producer: Serena Tarling
Production Coordinator: Rosie Strawbridge
Editors: Richard Fenton-Smith

SAT 12:00 News Summary (m002kf4m)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

SAT 12:04 Money Box (m002kf4p)

Paying with Cash and Pension Age Rise

Cash now accounts for less than 10% of all the retail payments we make. New figures out this week UK Finance, which represents banks and others, show the latest in the long term decline of cash. Just over a year ago new rules from the regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority said banks had to ensure customers had access to their cash and could take their money out in cash, but at the same time the number of shops putting up the card only signs has increased. What does that mean for the future of cash?

On Monday it will be 6 months until the state pension age begins to rise from 66 to 67. How will that transition work?

The price cap on electricity and gas went up this week - affecting millions of households across England, Wales and Scotland. The energy regulator, Ofgem, says gas and electricity bills will increase by an average of 2% but it's the costs of electricity that's rising, not gas.

And what can do to ensure that your pension is being invested ethically?

Presenter: Paul Lewis
Reporters: Luke Wilson and Niamh McDermott
Researcher: Eimear Devlin and Jo Krasner
Editor: Jess Quayle
Senior News Editor: Sara Wadeson

(First broadcast 12pm Saturday 4th October 2025)

SAT 12:30 The News Quiz (m002k4q0)

Series 118

Less Flags, More Bunting

At this week's Labour Conference, Kier Starmer warned that Britain faces a 'fork in the road'. Helping Andy Zaltzman decide which way to turn are Ian Smith, Celya AB, Hugo Rifkind and Zoe Lyons.

Written by Andy Zaltzman.

With additional material by: Cody Dahler, Eve Delaney and John Tothill
Producer: Georgia Keating and James Robinson
Executive Producer: Pete Strauss
Production Coordinator: Jodie Charman
Sound Editor: Marc Willcox

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

SAT 12:57 Weather (m002kf4r)

The latest weather forecast

SAT 13:00 News (m002kf4t)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m002k4q6)

Aphra Brandreth MP, Lord Carlile, George Monbiot, Emma Reynolds MP

Alex Forsyth presents political debate from The Square at Chester Zoo, with the Conservative MP and member of the Commons foreign affairs committee, Aphra Brandreth; the crossbench peer and former independent reviewer of terrorism legislation, Lord Carlile; Guardian columnist and environmental campaigner, George Monbiot; and the secretary of state for environment, food and rural affairs, Labour's Emma Reynolds.

Producer: Paul Martin
Lead broadcast engineer: Michael Smith

SAT 14:05 Any Answers? (m002kf4w)

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

SAT 14:45 The Archers (m002k4q2)

Writer: Keri Davies

Director: Marina Caldarone

Editor: Jeremy Howe

28th September - 3rd October

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood

Pip Archer.... Daisy Badger

Alice Carter.... Hollie Chapman

Ian Craig.... Stephen Kennedy

Ruairi Donovan.... Arthur Hughes

Justin Elliott.... Simon Williams

Amber Gordon.... Charlotte Jordan

Ed Grundy.... Barry Farrimond

Emma Grundy.... Emerald O'Hanrahan

George Grundy.... Angus Stobie

Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley

Alistair Lloyd.... Michael Lumsden

Paul Mack.... Joshua Riley

Adam Macy.... Andrew Wincott

Kirsty Miller.... Annabelle Dowler

Stella Pryor.... Lucy Speed

Prison Officer.... Janice Connolly

SAT 15:00 Drama on 4 (m000wrt3)

The Last of England

A darkly comic drama by BAFTA award-winning dramatist Neil McKay, with a title inspired by Ford Madox Brown's painting. Three 60-something friends argue passionately over the course of a ferry journey from Portsmouth to Santander, returning to their expat life in Spain after attending the UK funeral of their friend Ken, who went home for a visit and would never come back.

Hywel, a loquacious Welshman, Irishman Jim from Lurgan and pugnacious ex-MP Malcolm from Glasgow are unlikely allies (and enforced drinking pals) in the small Spanish town they now call home. Fuelled by some indifferent Rioja and cheap Spanish brandy, through the course of a night they try - and fail - to come to terms with life, death, truth and Brexit.

Also on the ferry are Ken's daughter Gemma and her partner Rashid, carrying the ashes of Ken, to scatter beneath an almond tree in his favourite spot near the village. But Gemma is furious with her father for abandoning his English family and falling for a bartender more than half his age. She's furious with her father's so-called friends for encouraging him. And she's quite cross with Rashid.

As the ferry heads for Spain and the sea gets rougher, secrets and motivations are revealed, showing nothing is quite as anyone believed and nobody is quite what they seem. Is home where you live, or where your heart is?

Neil McKay - The Moorside, Appropriate Adult, Mo, See No Evil, The Hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper - is one of our foremost television dramatists, specialising in factually-based drama. He has written many comic pieces including: Hot Money, about female Bank of England employees who robbed the bank of disused notes; Planespotting about British plane-spotters arrested for spying in Greece, starring Lesley Sharp; and, most recently, feature film Dream Horse for Film4/ Warner Bros about a female cleaner in a South Wales village who bred a champion racehorse - starring Toni Collette and Damian Lewis.

Cast

Hywel – Anthony O'Donnell
Malcolm – Gary Lewis
Jim – Dan Gordon
Rashid – George Bukhari
Gemma – Faye McKeever

Writer – Neil McKay
Director – Melanie Harris
Executive Producer – Jeremy Mortimer
Production Co-ordinator - Darren Spruce
Sound Recordist - Louis Blatherwick
Sound Designer – Eloise Whitmore

A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (m002kf4y)

Weekend Woman's Hour: Melinda French Gates, Rebecca Solnit, 'Carents', Actor Tracey Ullman

Melinda French Gates is on a crusade to boost research into women's health. She co-founded the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000 which has, to date, donated over \$100 billion to charitable projects. Since her divorce from Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, she has left their joint enterprise and set up her own, Pivotal Ventures, which has one purpose: to put power into the hands of women. She joined Anita Rani in the Woman's Hour studio.

Gloria Allred is one of the best known women's rights lawyers in the US. She tells Nuala McGovern what has happened to victims' voices amongst the continuous revelations in the press from the Epstein Files. We then hear from bestselling author and leading feminist thinker Rebecca Solnit, who says the released documents are reminders of a culture that decades of feminism have started to dismantle.

The conservationist and primatologist Dame Jane Goodall died this week aged 91. According to the Jane Goodall Institute, she died of natural causes in California where she was staying as part of a speaking tour in the US. There have been tributes from around the world. Wildlife biologist, National Geographic Explorer and President of the Wildlife Trust, Liz Bonnin, joins Anita Rani to remember this ground-breaking conservationist who revolutionised the study of great apes. Jillian Miller who is the director of the Gorilla Organisation, which works to save gorillas from extinction also pays tribute.

Many of us will remember the multi-award winning Tracey Ullman from her TV shows, A Kick up the Eighties, Three of a Kind, as well as The Tracey Ullman Show, which was a hit on both sides of the Atlantic. Tracey joins Nuala McGovern to discuss her latest role in the film, Steve, in which she plays the deputy head in a last chance reform school for troubled teenage boys.

A 'carent' is an adult child who is caring for one or both of their ageing parents, in-laws or elderly relatives. Many 'carents' will be balancing work and family alongside. Dr Jackie Gray, a retired GP and founder of The Carents Room, joins Nuala McGovern to discuss, along with Kendra and Rachel who provide care for their parents.

Presenter: Anita Rani
Producer: Simon Richardson

SAT 17:00 PM (m002kf50)

Full coverage of the day's news

SAT 17:30 Political Thinking with Nick Robinson (m002kf52)

Bridget Phillipson on life as education secretary

One of the two candidates to be deputy leader of Labour joins Nick at the end of party's conference in Liverpool.

Bridget Phillipson opens up about how her own experience of poverty informs her political views on childcare, schools and universities.

She also reveals her DJ set-list

Producer: Daniel Kraemer
Research: Chloe Desave

Radio 4 Listings for 4 – 10 October 2025		Page 3 of 16
<p>Editor: Giles Edwards</p> <p>SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002kf54) The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p>SAT 17:57 Weather (m002kf56) The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p>SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kf58) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m002kf5b) Joanna Lumley; James Graham; Esther Walker; Bret McKenzie; Nxdia</p> <p>Joanna Lumley, James Graham and Esther Walker join Clive Anderson for conversation and comedy with music by Bret McKenzie and Nxdia.</p> <p>SAT 19:00 Profile (m002kf5d) Sarah Mullally</p> <p>Sarah Mullally, named this week as the first female Archbishop of Canterbury, the most senior position in the Anglican Church. Formerly the Bishop of London, in her previous career she was the youngest ever chief nursing officer in England. She was ordained in 2001 and in 2005 became a Dame. Her appointment breaks the long-held tradition of a male head of the Church. She's expected to attract criticism from more conservative elements of the Anglo-Catholic and Evangelical elements of the church. Mark Coles speaks to friends, family and former colleagues.</p> <p>This programme was first broadcast in December 2017.</p> <p>Presenter: Mark Coles Producers: Helen Grady and Siobhan O'Connell Production Coordinator: Janet Staples</p> <p>SAT 19:15 This Cultural Life (m002k4kh) Jonathan Anderson</p> <p>Jonathan Anderson was appointed as creative director of the French fashion house Dior in March 2025, becoming one of the world's most influential designers. As creative director of the luxury label Loewe for 11 years from 2013, he led a rebranding of the Spanish company, and was hailed a critical and commercial success. He's also run his own label JW Anderson since 2008, and launched collaborative lines with high street brands including Top Shop and Uniqlo. The recipient of many accolades since winning the Emerging Talent prize at the British Fashion Awards in 2012, he was named Designer Of The Year in 2023 and 2024.</p> <p>Jonathan Anderson tells John Wilson about his rural upbringing in Northern Ireland at the height of The Troubles, and the influence of his father, the former Ireland rugby team captain Willie Anderson. He recalls a childhood visit to a textiles factory run by his maternal grandfather that sparked a fascination for printed fabrics. Working as a shop window designer for the luxury label Prada led him to pursue ambitions to become a fashion designer, encouraged by Prada stylist Manuela Pavesi. Jonathan Anderson also reflects on the importance of creative freedom in his industry, claiming that the radical era of fashion, epitomised by designers such as Alexander McQueen and John Galliano, has been replaced by a fear of pushing boundaries due to the risk of social media backlash.</p> <p>Producer: Edwina Pitman</p> <p>SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m002kf5g) One Last Chance to See</p> <p>"It's funny how often, every author I know, their own favourite book is the one that sold the least... My favourite book is what I'm here to talk about tonight."</p> <p>Douglas Adams is best known as a science fiction writer. But in the late 80s, the author of The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy embarked on something completely different. After a life-changing meeting with a rare lemur called an Aye-Aye, he decided he wanted to travel the world with the zoologist Mark Carwardine, in search of endangered species. Their journeys became a book and a Radio 4 series called Last Chance To See.</p> <p>A few years ago, Katherine Rundell stumbled upon Last Chance To See in a second hand book shop. "It was a revelation... the way that he managed to salute the intricate variety and infinite strangeness of living things and still tell some of the best jokes that you will encounter in print, that seemed to me both an extraordinary thing and the thing that we need so much more</p>	<p>of."</p> <p>Here, Katherine Rundell revisits the story behind the book and Radio 4 series – as told by its co-author Mark Carwardine in a new interview, and Douglas himself, thanks to archive from the lecture Douglas gave at the University of California in 2001, just a month before his death .</p> <p>Ever ahead of his time, the message of the book is even more stark today.</p> <p>"We don't have to save the world. The world's fine. The world has been through five periods of mass extinction.... What we have to be concerned about is whether or not the world we live in will be capable of sustaining us in it. That's what we need to think about."</p> <p>With thanks to Mark Carwardine, the Douglas Adams Estate, and the University of California.</p> <p>Presented by Katherine Rundell. Produced in Bristol by Polly Weston</p> <p>SAT 21:00 Moral Maze (m002k3mg) Is democracy a failed experiment?</p> <p>Later this month, millions of demonstrators are due to take to the streets across the USA for a second time, under the banner "No Kings". Organisers say, "America has no kings, and the power belongs to the people". They are mobilizing to protest against what they see as democratic backsliding during Trump's second presidency.</p> <p>Faith in democracy has been shaking all over the world. Recent Pew research suggests that, since 2017, public dissatisfaction with democracy far outweighs satisfaction across 12 high-income countries, including the UK, France and Germany. There are different interpretations of what's causing this, and how to fix it.</p> <p>Some observers think that Trump's more controversial policies – from DOGE to attacks on elite institutions to the dismantling of DEI programmes – could have been inspired by the ideas of Curtis Yarvin, a computer engineer turned political theorist. He's known for founding an anti-democracy philosophical movement called 'The Dark Enlightenment', dismissing America's democratic values and instead calling for the return of an absolute monarchy, run by a 'CEO' figure.</p> <p>Are democratic values a fiction, designed to prop up the elites? Or are they the only safeguard we have against tyranny?</p> <p>Chair: Michael Buerk Panel: Carmody Grey, Ash Sarkar, Anne McElvoy and Inaya Folarin-Iman Witnesses: Curtis Yarvin, Mike Wendling and Andrés Velasco Producers: Dan Tierney and Peter Everett</p> <p>*This is a special episode of the Moral Maze recorded at 'How The Light Gets In' philosophy and music festival: https://howthelightgetsin.org/festivals</p> <p>SAT 22:00 News (m002kf5j) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SAT 22:15 The Food Programme (m002k4p7) In Search of Mustard in Norwich</p> <p>Five years ago, after 160 years in Norwich, the Colman's factory shuts its doors for the last time.</p> <p>John Osborne is a writer, a poet and a performer - he's called Norwich home for 25 years. But last year, while writing a show about his city, he began to learn more about the depth of the history of Colman's, and he started to wonder why more people don't know about it.</p> <p>Between Jeremiah Colman, James Colman, Jeremiah James Colman and many many generations since, an entire empire was built on the back of these humble seeds. The company had a cradle-to-grave ethos, providing education, housing, healthcare and leisure for workers and their families. All of which means the factory, the school buildings, the churches, even the entire village of Trowse is still a part of the fabric of the city. Now, everywhere he looks in Norwich, from the double yellow lines, to the big yellow boxes on the pavement full of sand for de-icing the concrete in winter... John sees mustard.</p> <p>Hundreds of people worked at the factory, and as its doors shut in 2020, a crowdfunder was underway to launch a new Norwich mustard. Five years on, the mustard is nowhere to be found. Even the famous mustard shop, where everyone went for Christmas presents for their relatives, is gone. So John wants to rediscover this history, and along the way find out what's happened to Norwich's mustard. After all, the bright yellow labels on shelves all over the world still proudly read Colman's</p>	<p>"of Norwich". As it turns out, thanks to the determination of the local mustard farmers, mustard never really left Norwich at all...</p> <p>Presented by John Osborne Produced in Bristol by Polly Weston</p> <p>SAT 23:00 Icklewick FM (m002j89k) Series 2</p> <p>6. The Barricade</p> <p>The long running stand off between Mayor Power and the Coalition of Concerned Pensioners threatens to boil over into an all out war. With Chris and Amy still not talking to each other, Simon is forced to cover the rapidly escalating ruckus from the studio with Mr Patel. The truth about Amy's gap year is finally revealed which leads to grave consequences that will change Icklewick forever...</p> <p>Icklewick FM is created and written by Chris Cantrill and Amy Gledhill, with additional material from the cast.</p> <p>Starring: Amy Gledhill Chris Cantrill Mark Silcox Colin Hoult Janice Connolly Phil Ellis Jen Brister Henry Paker Molly McGuinness Darren J Coles Shivani Thussu Joe Kent Walters Jin Hao Li Tom Burgess Nicola Redman Tai Campbell Em Humble James Carbutt</p> <p>Series Artwork by Sam O'Leary</p> <p>Music, sound design and additional material by Jack Lewis Evans. Line Produced by Laura Shaw Produced by Benjamin Sutton. A Daddy's Superyacht production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SAT 23:30 The 3rd Degree (m002k3g8) Series 15</p> <p>3. University of Kent</p> <p>This episode coming from the University of Kent, The 3rd Degree is a funny, upbeat and brainy quiz show.</p> <p>The specialist subjects this week are Forensic Science, Architecture and English Literature, so we'll be charging James Bond under the Firearms Act, watching friendly bombs fall on Slough and chatting about the worst bits of Titus Andronicus. All this plus dinosaurs!</p> <p>The show is recorded on location at a different University each week, and pits three Undergraduates against three of their Professors in this fresh take on an academic quiz. The General Knowledge rounds include a quickfire bell-and-buzzer finale and the Highbrow & Lowbrow round cunningly devised to test not only the students' knowledge of history, art, literature and politics, but also their Professors' awareness of TV, music and sport. Meanwhile there are the three Specialist Subject rounds, in which students take on their Professors in their own subjects, and where we find out whether the students have actually been awake during lectures.</p> <p>In this series, universities include Bristol, Queen Mary University of London, Kent, Worcester College Oxford, and Manchester Metropolitan University.</p> <p>Producer: David Tyler</p> <p>A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUNDAY 05 OCTOBER 2025</p> <p>SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m002kf5l) National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p>SUN 00:15 Take Four Books (m002k3g6) William Boyd</p> <p>Booker shortlisted writer William Boyd speaks to Take Four</p>
Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/		

Books this week about his new spy novel, The Predicament, and together with presenter James Crawford, and the crime writer Louise Welsh, they explore its connections to three other literary works. In his new novel, which is the second in a trilogy, travel writer turned accidental spy, Gabriel Dax, finds himself caught up in events in Guatemala, and then in Berlin, where he becomes aware of a plot to assassinate the charismatic, young president John F Kennedy. The stakes are high, the pace is fast, and Gabriel is finding the allure of his handler, Faith Green, difficult to resist.

For his three influences William chose: Mountolive, published in 1958, and which is the third volume in The Alexandria Quartet series by Lawrence Durrell; Len Deighton's debut novel The Ipcress File from 1962, this was later turned into a film, of the same name, starring Michael Cane; and John Le Carré's iconic The Spy Who Came In From The Cold published in 1963.

Producer: Dominic Howell
Editor: Gillian Wheelan

This is a BBC Audio Scotland production.

SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kf5n)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kf5q)

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

SUN 05:30 News Summary (m002kf5s)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kf5v)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m002kf5x)

Winchester Cathedral in Hampshire.

Bells on Sunday, comes from Winchester Cathedral in Hampshire. Bells have rung out from the Cathedral since Saxon times. It is recorded that King Cnut gave two bells to the Old Minster in the early 11th century. Today the Cathedral has the only diatonic ring of fourteen in the world. The tenor bell weighs thirty five and a half hundredweight and is tuned to the note of C. We hear them ringing Erin Septuples.

SUN 05:45 In Touch (m002k3jp)

Scottish Venues; A Career in Computer Science

Sight Scotland are a charity that provide support for vision impaired and blind people in Scotland. They have recently launched a report about the state of arts access across Scotland and a subsequent campaign that is calling for all venues across the country to be made accessible to visually impaired people. Scotland's culture secretary Angus Robertson has thrown his support behind the campaign but how will this all be done? To help answer that, Peter White is joined by Sight Scotland's Head of External Affairs and Campaigns Mark Ballard and Alistair Mackie, Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, which has already been implementing some accessibility features to better cater to their visually impaired concert goers.

When 24 year-old Haseeb Jabbar wanted to study computer science at GCSE and A-Levels, he was told that the course would be too visual and too difficult to adapt for someone who was totally blind. Despite this, Haseeb already had the skills necessary from teaching himself computer coding using screen reading software when he was a youngster and he now works for a global IT consultancy firm. Haseeb tells In Touch about his journey from being told no to achieving the career he'd always wanted.

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

SUN 06:00 News Summary (m002kfhm)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 06:05 Beyond Belief (m002k3j5)

Have religions forgotten the working class?

This special edition of Beyond Belief was recorded in Bradford, the 2025 City of Culture, at the Contains Strong Language festival - the BBC's annual celebration of poetry, performance and spoken word.

In this episode the panel will explore have religions forgotten the working class - with creative responses from spoken word artists Saju Ahmed and Sharena Lee Satti.

Is religion fundamentally a middle-class activity? Does the church have a class problem? And, how can religious organisations play their role in making a society for all?

To examine these questions, Giles is joined by:

Father Alex Frost, Anglican Priest and author of 'From Argos to Altar'.

Alina Khan, Vice Principal for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion at Bradford College, and winner of the British Muslim Woman of the Year 2024 at the British Muslim Awards.

Dermot Bolton, Vice Chair of Bradford Standing Advisory Council on Religion Education and Humanist Advisor to Bradford University Chaplaincy.

Dr Sufyan Abid Dogra - Anthropologist of Religion. He is involved in campaigns against inequalities and advocates for the upward mobility of disadvantaged minority populations. He is a board member for Active Bradford and Bradford Art Centre. He is a member of Muslims in Britain Research Network.

Presenter: Giles Fraser
Producer: Alexa Good
Assistant Producers: Naomi Wellings and Linda Walker
Editor: Tim Pemberton

SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m002kfhp)

Dyfi Dairy: Rescue, Retirement and Rich Rewards

Sophia Morgan-Swinhoe, Scott Sanders and Sam Lewis sell milk and cheese direct to their local community, produced from a herd of goats and some 45 head of cattle. They're young, driven and relentlessly hard working, herding their livestock up the steep hills of Powys on foot and forever looking for ways to optimise animal welfare. Many of the original dairy herd were rescue animals, they move the bull calves on as conservation grazers, and older cows are kept on farm after retirement. As a former vegan, Sophia describes the operation as an 'ethics experiment', using positive reinforcement by way of treats and scratches to build relationships with the animals and promote both safety and productivity. The farm is now not only profitable but also has a secure base. After ten years of hard graft and multiple tenancies, Dyfi Dairy at last have the keys to their first farm. The sense of security is a welcome relief. On the morning Verity Sharp visits, the new mobile, solar-powered milking parlour the trio have designed and built is in operation. As an approved calf-at-foot dairy, the small system enables newborns to be kept with their mothers during milking. They talk through how it works and then, after a steep climb up the valley to reunite the cows with the older calves, sit down to talk farm economics whilst handing round some of Dyfi Dairy's legendary fudge.

SUN 06:57 Weather (m002kfhr)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m002kfht)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 07:10 Sunday (m002kfhw)

A look at the ethical and religious issues of the week

SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Appeal (m002kfhy)

Kinship

Actor and ambassador for Kinship Jay Kontzle makes this week's Radio 4 appeal. When parents are unable to raise their children, the charity provides help, advice and training for kinship carers in England and Wales.

The Radio 4 Appeal features a new charity every week. Each appeal then runs on Radio 4 from Sunday 0754 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 'Kinship'.
- Cheques should be made payable to 'Kinship'.
- 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.

Registered Charity Number: 1093975. If you'd like to find out more about the charity's work visit [*https://kinship.org.uk/](https://kinship.org.uk/)
*The BBC is not responsible for content on external websites

Producer: Katy Takatsuki

SUN 07:57 Weather (m002kfj0)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m002kfj2)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m002kfj4)

Brother Sun and Sister Moon

"Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who brings the day; and you give light through him....Praise be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful"

St Francis of Assisi's great hymn of praise, Canticle of the Creatures, is a shout of exultation, that brings together all of creation; wind, rain, plants and animals, the cosmos, and even death. For 800 years it has inspired an affinity with the natural world, placing all things into a relationship with God.

In this service from Selwyn College, Cambridge, the Revd Dr Arabella Milbank Robinson explores what this 800 year old song can tell us about our responsibility to the environment in the face of climate change and ecological challenges.

The service is led by the Dean of Chapel and Chaplain, Arabella Milbank Robinson. Selwyn Chapel Choir are directed by Selwyn College's Director of Music and University Organist, Sarah MacDonald. The organist is Stanley Godfrey.

MUSIC

Brother Sun, Sister Moon (Sarah MacDonald)
And the swallow (Caroline Shaw)
Benedicite omnia opera Domini (Lassus)
All Creatures of our God and King (Lasst uns erfreuen)
Creation sings! each plant and tree (Melita)
Responsorial Psalm: 104

Producer: Katharine Longworth

SUN 08:48 Witness History (w3ct74n3)

The founding of USAID

On 3 November 1961, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was founded, bringing all existing aid work under one single agency.

A key proponent of it was Barbara Ward, a pioneering British economist and journalist who had the ear of presidents and prime ministers across the world.

Later known as Baroness Jackson, she spoke to the John F Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum Oral History Program in 1964 about how the newly independent West African nation of Ghana was one of the first countries to benefit with funds to construct the Volta River Project.

Surya Elango listens back to those archive interviews.

Eye-witness accounts brought to life by archive. Witness History is for those fascinated by the past. We take you to the events that have shaped our world through the eyes of the people who were there.

For nine minutes every day, we take you back in time and all over the world, to examine wars, coups, scientific discoveries, cultural moments and much more.

Recent episodes explore everything from the death of Adolf Hitler, the first spacewalk and the making of the movie Jaws, to celebrity tortoise Lonesome George, the Kobe earthquake and the invention of superglue.

We look at the lives of some of the most famous leaders, artists, scientists and personalities in history, including: Eva Peron – Argentina's Evita; President Ronald Reagan and his famous 'tear down this wall' speech; Thomas Keneally on why he wrote Schindler's List; and Jacques Derrida, France's 'rock star' philosopher.

You can learn all about fascinating and surprising stories, such as the civil rights swimming protest; the disastrous D-Day rehearsal; and the death of one of the world's oldest languages.

(Photo: Barbara Ward. Credit: Getty Images)

SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (m002kfj6)

Paul Farley on the Redwing

Poet Paul Farley muses on the autumnal arrival of redwings, small thrushes that migrate here from continental and northern Europe to spend the winter. Paul watches a flock of redwings feast on a rowan tree laden with berries, and listens out for their high-pitched nocturnal call as they move under the cover of darkness.

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

This programme features a recording from Xeno-canto by Mats Rellmar (Redwing - XC711115)

SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m002kfj8)

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

SUN 10:00 Desert Island Discs (m002kfjb)

Angela Harding, artist

Angela Harding is an artist, printmaker and illustrator. Based in Rutland, Angela's work is inspired by the countryside of the British Isles, and in particular British birds. Alongside her many prints and artistic creations, her award-winning illustrations can be found adorning many a book cover.

Angela was born in Stoke-on-Trent in June 1960, the middle of three daughters to Stephen and Joan Harding. It was an artistic household: her father, a headteacher, passed on his love of poetry to Angela, her mother taught pottery, and all three sisters would end up going to art college.

She left school at sixteen and, at her mother's behest, did a pre-nursing course before pursuing her passion for art. She studied Fine Art at Leicester Polytechnic from where she graduated with a first in 1982.

After indulging her love of travel – both on her bike around Britain as well as on a Magic Bus across Europe – Angela spent twenty years working in the art world, from teaching to consultancy. During these years, she married and raised two children, then divorced and married her second husband, Mark.

In 2008, she made the life changing decision to pursue a career as a professional artist: she abandoned the media she had previously worked in and concentrated on linocuts and silkscreen printing.

She has worked as a magazine illustrator and today her prints can be found on everything from book covers to tea towels and greeting cards. Her advent calendars – first produced in 2015 – have become a collector's item. She has also published several books of her own.

When she's not on her boat sailing around the British Isles, Angela lives in Rutland, with her husband Mark and her whippet, Oaty.

Presenter Lauren Laverne
Producer Sarah Taylor

There are more than 2000 programmes in our archive available for you to listen to. We have cast away other notable artists including Helen Oxenbury, Maggie Hambling and Quentin Blake. You'll also find the Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage in our archive too. You can find their episodes on BBC Sounds or on our Desert Island Discs website.

SUN 11:00 The Archers Omnibus (m002kfjd)

Writer: Keri Davies

Director: Marina Caldarone

Editor: Jeremy Howe

28th September - 3rd October

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood

Pip Archer.... Daisy Badger

Alice Carter.... Hollie Chapman

Ian Craig.... Stephen Kennedy

Ruairi Donovan.... Arthur Hughes

Justin Elliott.... Simon Williams

Amber Gordon.... Charlotte Jordan

Ed Grundy.... Barry Farrimond

Emma Grundy.... Emerald O'Hanrahan

George Grundy.... Angus Stobie

Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley

Alistair Lloyd.... Michael Lumsden

Paul Mack.... Joshua Riley

Adam Macy.... Andrew Wincott

Kirsty Miller.... Annabelle Dowler

Stella Pryor.... Lucy Speed

Prison Officer.... Janice Connolly

SUN 12:15 Profile (m002kf5d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

SUN 12:30 Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (m002k391)

Series 4

Foxy Flag Facts

Paul Sinha tests his audience in Leicester on their knowledge of their home county, Trivial Pursuit-style - with all the colours of questions, from geography to entertainment, getting asked. Can they fill the wedges, and can Paul answer their favourite questions, about crisps, bells and cricket?

Written and performed by Paul Sinha
Additional material: Oliver Levy
Additional questions: The Audience

Original music: Tim Sutton

Recording engineer: Jerry Peal
Mixed by: Rich Evans
Producer: Ed Morrish

A Lead Mojo production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 12:57 Weather (m002kfjg)

The latest weather forecast

SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m002kfjj)

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

SUN 13:30 Marianna in Conspiracyland (m002hfv1)

Marianna in Conspiracyland 2

6. The Inquest

Can Coroners' courts cope with conspiracy?

It's been more than a year since Paloma Shemirani died after rejecting chemotherapy in favour of alternative methods. Her brother Gabriel blames the beliefs of their mum Kate - who is a prominent British conspiracy theorist - for his sister's death. This summer, he's found himself face to face with his mum for the first time since Paloma died at an inquest into how and why she lost her life. After investigating - and revealing - what happened to Paloma for the first time almost four months ago, the BBC's social media investigations correspondent Marianna Spring is back following the twists and turns of an inquest that has felt like Conspiracyland colliding with the real world. In the coroner's court she see's medics questioned by conspiracy theorists and tense family feuds unfolding in real-time. Could Paloma have been saved? And can society handle Conspiracyland?

SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002k4pp)

Darley Dale: Flood Proof Plants, Hangry Heathers and Fast Climbers

What trees are flood and arid proof that will still be here in a hundred years? How can I rejuvenate my gappy Heathers? What fast growing plants could we plant to hide a wall?

Peter Gibbs and a proud panel of gardening experts venture to the Whitworth Institute in Darley Dale where they field questions from an eager live audience of gardeners. Tackling everything from hangry heathers to planting dilemmas, the panel includes head gardeners' Bethan Collerton and Marcus Chilton Jones, and garden designer Bunny Guinness

Later in the programme, James Wong provides some practical advice on how to keep your plants happy indoors this season.

Senior producer: Matthew Smith
Junior producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 14:45 Opening Lines (m002kfjn)

Star of the Sea

In the winter of 1847, the Star of the Sea sets sail from Ireland for New York. Among the refugees are a maidservant, a bankrupt aristocrat, an aspiring novelist and a maker of revolutionary ballads. It reads like a Victorian gothic novel, with murder and intrigue at its heart.

Star of the Sea by Joseph O'Connor was published in 2002 and attracted multiple plaudits as well as literary awards. O'Connor talks about the shocked response from his publishers when he proposed writing a novel about the Irish Famine and we learn how real facts are woven skillfully into fiction.

Novelist Colm Tóibín explains how there are elements of pastiche in Star of the Sea and how it's written like a 19th century novel. He also states that, at a time when the Irish narrative was being re-imagined, even the great Irish playwrights such as Sean O'Casey didn't write about the Famine.

At the heart of the story is the threatening figure of Pius Mulvey – the balladeer and adventurer. Known as 'The Monster', Mulvey stalks the decks of the ship like some kind of embodiment of the tragedy that has overtaken the old country. We hear about the tragic and human stories within this novel into which O'Connor is also able weave humour and a propulsive narrative.

John Yorke explains that the skill of this novel is that, with the aid of eyewitness accounts, historical documents, letters home, passenger manifests and Captain's logs, O'Connor unravels the extraordinary relationships at the book's heart by re-stitching them into a grander tapestry – that of a terrible horror, long hidden, central to a nation's heart.

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:
Colm Tóibín, bestselling writer

Extracts from:
The Arts Show, BBC Radio Ulster with Marie Louise Muir, 16 August 2007
Reading from Star of the Sea by Peter Marinker, from the audiobook of the same title published by W.F. Howes Ltd, 2011

Star of the Sea published in 2002 by Secker and Warburg

Sound: Sean Kerwin
Researcher: Henry Tydeman
Production Hub Coordinator: Nina Semple
Producer: Belinda Naylor
Executive Producer: Caroline Raphael

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 15:00 Drama on 4 (m002kfjg)

A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian

Episode 2

Episode 2 deepens the turmoil unleashed by Mykolai's marriage to the volatile and much younger Valentyna. Domestic chaos erupts as Mykolai locks himself in fear, alleging abuse, while Valentyna flaunts wealth, bullies him, and charms others with half-truths. The police dismiss the conflict as marital squabbling, but Nadya sees her father's frailty and grows desperate to intervene.

When Mykolai finally takes legal action, divorce proceedings are set in motion, though Valentyna pleads that she is merely a misunderstood immigrant trying to provide for her son, Stanislav. Her past resurfaces with the dramatic arrival of her ex-husband Dubov, who still longs for her and seeks to reunite their fractured family.

Meanwhile, suspicions mount about Valentyna's motives when she returns unexpectedly, apparently pregnant, and demands

money in exchange for leaving. Mykolai, blinded by pride and confusion, insists he may be the father, fuelling bitter disputes among his daughters and Dubov.

Interwoven with this present-day drama are poignant wartime recollections. Ludmyla narrates the hardships of her early marriage, motherhood under poverty, and survival through famine, war, and forced labour. Viria, too, begins to reveal her own traumatic childhood memories from a Nazi labour camp - secrets long buried beneath her bitterness.

As tensions escalate, Mykolai clings to poetry, tractors, and delusions of love, even as his daughters push him toward safety and truth. The episode exposes not only Valentyna's manipulations but also the scars of history carried by every member of the family, where loyalty, betrayal, and resilience continue to collide.

An International Arts Partnership production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 16:00 Bookclub (m002kxfj)
John Niven

Led by presenter, James Naughtie, the writer John Niven speaks to Radio 4's Bookclub programme about his 2008 novel, *Kill Your Friends*, which is a darkly comic satire of the UK music industry, as told through the perspective of the sadistic, Steven Stelfox, an A&R executive (Artists and Repertoire) for a London record label. The year is 1997, the height of the Britpop era, and Stelfox has his eyes on promotion.

This recording takes place in the BBC Scotland studios in Glasgow, Pacific Quay.

Producer: Dominic Howell
Editor: Gillian Wheelan

It was a BBC Audio Scotland production.

SUN 16:30 The 3rd Degree (m002kfvj)
Series 15

4. Worcester College, Oxford

This episode coming from Worcester College, Oxford, The 3rd Degree is a funny, upbeat and brainy quiz show.

The specialist subjects this week are Maths, Theology and History, so naturally we'll be looking at exotic 4-spaces, the concept of homoiousion and a little heraldic bird with no feet. And a slug called Shaun. And Wittgenstein.

The show is recorded on location at a different University each week, and pits three Undergraduates against three of their Professors in this fresh take on an academic quiz. The General Knowledge rounds include a quickfire bell-and-buzzer finale and the Highbrow & Lowbrow round cunningly devised to test not only the students' knowledge of history, art, literature and politics, but also their Professors' awareness of TV, music and sport. Meanwhile there are the three Specialist Subject rounds, in which students take on their Professors in their own subjects, and where we find out whether the students have actually been awake during lectures.

In this series, universities include Bristol, Queen Mary University of London, Kent, Worcester College Oxford, and Manchester Metropolitan University.

Producer: David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 17:00 Witness History (w3ct74q4)
Greece's debt crisis

It was a week that brought the future of Greece and the Eurozone to the brink. Ten years ago, on 6 July the Greek people voted against the terms of a financial bailout which included raising taxes and slashing welfare spending.

Greece owed €323bn to various countries and banks within Europe. Its banks were closed. A quarter of the population and half of Greece's young people were unemployed.

The morning after the vote, Euclid Tsakalotos was brought in to replace Yanis Varoufakis as finance minister. His predecessor had accused European leaders of "terrorism" in their handling of the crisis. Parachuted in to last-ditch talks with angry European leaders, Euclid Tsakalotos describes to Josephine McDermott the make-or-break 17-hour summit in Brussels.

He reveals that when Angela Merkel, the leader of Greece's biggest lender Germany, said she was leaving the room because she could not accept what was on the table, Donald Tusk, president of the European Council, actually locked the door to stop her leaving and force an agreement to be reached.

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

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

(Photo: A queue outside a bank in Greece in 2015. Credit: Getty Images)

SUN 17:10 The Verb (m002kfyj)
The Verb from Contains Strong Language in Bradford

Ian McMillan presents The Verb from Contains Strong Language in Bradford - with poets Imtiaz Dharker, Kieron Higgins, Nabeela Ahmed, and Katrina Porteous (reading poems from her Laurel Prize winning collection *Rhizodont*).

Rock, stone and sediments are everywhere in this celebration of poetry and poetry in Bradford. We have millstone grit and the story of stone in a specially commissioned poem from Queen's Gold Medal winner Imtiaz Dharker, the influence of ska on the sediments of language that turned Kieron Higgins into a poet. Nabeela Ahmed reads from her new book 'From Kashmir to Yorkshire' and explores the layers of languages, including Pahari, that helped to tune her poetry ear, and the winner of this year's Laurel Prize for Nature or Environmental poetry, Katrina Porteous, reads from her collection 'Rhizodont'. She was described by the judges as 'always keeping faith with the north-east' and the book was praised as a 'a crucial act of the imagination, speaking as non-human entities (eg an ice core) ...loving, knowing and authoritative'.

Produced by Faith Lawrence

SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m002kfk0)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SUN 17:57 Weather (m002kfk2)
The latest weather reports and forecast

SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kfk4)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m002kfk6)
James Crawford

A selection of highlights from the past week on BBC radio

SUN 19:00 The Archers (m002kfk8)
Jolene finds herself bearing the brunt, and Paul struggles with small talk.

SUN 19:15 Illuminated (m002kfkB)
Peanuts at 75

On the 75th anniversary of the iconic comic strip Peanuts, psychoanalyst and author Josh Cohen shares how Charlie Brown and the Snoopy gang have become his constant companions—and how they can help us navigate the frustrating squiggle of life.

Charles Schultz's daily newspaper comic strip is perhaps the most enduring, beloved and iconic cartoon ever penned. Even if you've never read the strip itself, you are unlikely to have escaped its famous characters' journeys across the decades and the globe. The round-headed, wobbly mouthed Charlie Brown and his dog Snoopy, often found snoozing atop his kennel, have been emblazoned across t-shirts, crockery and pretty much every other conceivable piece of merchandise. They have inspired TV shows, pop songs, and even been the namesakes of Apollo lunar modules.

Far from just a bunch of cutesy doodles, as many have come to see it, Peanuts' cross-generational appeal is down to its spot-on depiction of the complex emotions that follow us all from

childhood into adulthood. From Charlie Brown's humiliation on the baseball field to his frenemy Lucy's unrequited pining for her piano-playing crush, and her brother Linus' desperate attachment to his security blanket, the strip reflects the everyday pain and frustration of being human. And, with warmth and wit, offers its readers a way to live with it.

In fact, Peanuts deals so much in the intense emotional experiences of its young protagonists that one of its most recognisable recurring gags is Lucy's booth offering 'PSYCHIATRIC HELP 5p'.

Stepping out from behind his analytic couch and taking a seat at its cartoon simulacrum in that famous booth, Josh unpacks the psychological truths illustrated in the comic's four main characters - Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and Snoopy. Hooked by a copy of Peanuts Jubilee aged five, they were his contemporaries. Today, after 50 years of avid reading, he's on the other side of the two-way channel between childhood and adulthood that Peanuts opens up. He investigates the emotional pull of the comic for him and for so many of us - including the other writers and thinkers we hear from who share his passion.

Presenter and Writer: Josh Cohen
Producer: Heather Dempsey
Executive Producer: Samantha Psyk
Editor: Kirsten Lass
A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

SUN 19:45 Just One Thing - with Michael Mosley (m0017tbn)
Enjoy Oily Fish

In this episode, Michael speaks to nutritional neuroscientist Dr Simon Dyall from the University of Roehampton to get to the bottom of the many benefits behind oily fish and Omega-3s. He finds out how consuming Omega-3 could affect your mood, your brain and even your walking speed! They discuss the different types of oily fish, other sources of Omega-3 fatty acids, revealing why these fatty acids are so important.

SUN 20:00 Word of Mouth (m002k4I2)
Julia Donaldson: A life in language

Julia Donaldson, author of *The Gruffalo* and many other beloved children's books, tells Michael Rosen about her own writing, reading, speaking and listening. Her childhood experiences were a big influence, as was busking in Paris and writing songs which ended up on Play School and Play Away. One of the songs became her first book, *A Squash and a Squeeze*.

They also talk about Julia's new book, *Paper Chase*, illustrated by Victoria Sandø. 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/b006qtzn>

SUN 20:30 Last Word (m002k4pt)
Dame Jane Goodall, Tony Harrison, Lord Menzies Campbell, Danny Thompson

Matthew Bannister on

Dame Jane Goodall, the primatologist and environmental campaigner who changed our understanding of animal behaviour. Chris Packham pays tribute.

Tony Harrison, the Yorkshire born poet who took his writing to new audiences through theatre and TV. Michael Rosen assesses his work.

Lord Menzies Campbell, the former leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Danny Thompson, the upright bass player who blended folk and jazz and worked with musicians ranging from Kate Bush, Paul Weller to John Martyn and Donovan - who shares his memories.

Interviewee: Chris Packham
Interviewee: Professor Ben Garrod
Interviewee: Michael Rosen
Interviewee: Magnus Linklater
Interviewee: Donovan
Interviewee: Jacqui McShee
Interviewee: Martin Simpson

Producer: Gareth Nelson-Davies

Archive used:
Tony Harrison, Meriden, BBC World Service, 21/10/1992; The Mysteries, Cottesloe Theatre, The National Theatre, Channel 4 Television, Directed by Bill Bryden, Writer Tony Harrison.,1985; V by Tony Harrison reads short extract from the poem 'V'. BBC Radio 4, 21/01/2013; Menzies Campbell

Elected Leader Of The Liberal Democrats, BBC News, 02/03/06; Menzies Campbell, Desert Island Discs, BBC Radio 4, 17/10/2004; Menzies Campbell, Iraq War, BBC News, 24/02/2009; Danny Thompson plays bass, extract from, Pentangle - Blue Monk, Songs From The Two Brewers, ITV, Danny Thompson YouTube Channel, 08/05/1970;

SUN 21:00 Money Box (m002kf4p)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]

SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Appeal (m002kfhy)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]

SUN 21:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m002kf4k)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:30 on Saturday]

SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m002kfk d)
Conservative Party Conference

Radio 4's Sunday night political discussion programme.

SUN 23:00 On the Run (m0023pcs)
Running the Show

Writer, poet and runner Helen Mort continues on the trail of the history of running, asking why we run and what it has meant to humanity through the ages.

In this final episode she rounds the the corner into the 20th Century, and finishes by examining the role running plays in our life today. Helen explores how distance running became the sport we know today. She heads back to the races of one hundred years ago and finds out who took part, and who wasn't allowed to.

She heads into the heart of the 'running boom' of the 1970s, which saw the emergence of 'jogging' as a phenomenon and the mass participation of running we see today, including big city marathons. One major factor was the creation of the cushioned running shoe by Nike, and Helen talks to the company's first employee, who thought up the name of the iconic sports brand.

Helen charts the emergence of running in mass media, from adverts to cinema, and considers how narrative of running have changed. As she reaches the 21st century, Helen heads inside the mind of the modern runner and finds out about the psychology of running, its benefits and also its downsides. Thousands of people line to run a Parkrun each weekend, what does that tell us?

'Mass participation' still only reaches some however, and Helen also finds out about the movements to make running more inclusive which are gaining pace throughout the world.

Contributors:
Sabrina Pace-Humphreys, Author of Black Sheep: A Story of Rural Racism, Identity and Hope
Dr Sam Edwards, Loughborough University
Katie Holmes, Historian
Vybarr Cregan Reid, Author of Footnotes: Why Running Makes Us Human
Pro Steve Haake, Sheffield Hallam University
Jeff Johnson, early employee of Nike
Dr Peter Olusaga, Sheffield Hallam University

With thanks to Thor Gotaas, author of 'A Global History of Running', Dr Nathalie Hager, Matt Rimmer and the MyRaceKit North team.

Producer: Sam Peach
Readings by Nuhazet Diaz Cano

SUN 23:45 Short Works (m002k4pr)
This Is the Way I'm Going by Michael Amherst

"As I run for the platform at Paddington, I know that even if I make the train I will still have missed it. For all the trains are evenly spaced and if you are in time for one, it means you were just too late for another."

An original short story for radio, about one man's journey to the end of the line...

Writer: Michael Amherst, winner of the Hubert Butler Essay Prize and Stonewall Prize for Nonfiction. His debut novel, The Boyhood of Cain, was published by Faber in February.
Reader: Tayla Kovacevic-Ebong
Producer-Director: Becky Ripley

MONDAY 06 OCTOBER 2025

MON 00:00 Midnight News (m002kfk g)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 00:15 Crossing Continents (m002k3jr)
Haitians Living in Fear in the Dominican Republic

How Haitians in the Dominican Republic are being targeted for expulsion.
The Dominican Republic is the Caribbean's number one tourist destination. Last year 11 million visitors came here, many enjoying the five star resorts that skirt the island's coast.

Much of the construction work building those tourist facilities is in fact done by Haitians, and many of the staff who work in them are from Haiti, which occupies the western half of this island of Hispaniola. Over recent years the tourism industry has helped make the Dominican economy the fastest growing in Latin America.

However, the Dominican government is now implementing one of the most systematic deportation policies anywhere in the world. Last year the president, Luis Abinader, announced that his country would expel illegal migrants at the rate of ten thousand a week. The chief target is Haitians and people of Haitian descent. President Abinader says he is keeping his country secure and implementing the constitution. Meanwhile Haitians in the Dominican Republic are living in fear of raids by the immigration authorities and of being sent back across the border, to a country riven by violence as well as political and economic instability.

John Murphy is in the Dominican Republic to talk to Haitians stuck between a rock and a hard place.

Producer: Bob Howard
Mix: Rod Farquhar
Programme Coordinator: Katie Morrison
Series Editor: Penny Murphy

MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m002kf5x)
[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]

MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kfk j)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kfk l)
BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.

MON 05:00 News Summary (m002kfk n)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

MON 05:04 Last Word (m002k4pt)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Sunday]

MON 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kfk q)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002kfk s)
More than a cup of tea

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

As I wrestle with the bigger issues of parish life, I sometimes wonder how much time we spend talking about brands of biscuits and biodegradable cups. Fellowship and friendship is deeply rooted in church life, and has always been inextricably linked with food. And yet, hospitality as an expression of our very identity runs more deeply and reaches more widely than a smile at the door and a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Hospitality as 'an expression of who we are' is even more than the warmth of our welcome, and perhaps more like our solidarity with others, even those who may not look like us or share our experiences.

In Ireland, north and south, we pride ourselves on our hospitality. It's never a problem to put another teabag in the pot or set another place at the table. Every culture is similar, with a welcome to the table for friend and stranger alike. The New Testament is full of stories of welcome and hospitality.

Jesus, an itinerant preacher with his ragtag band of disciples, incurred the judgement and even disgust of the religious authorities, as he ate and drank in the homes of the most unlikely and unsuitable of characters. It wasn't about the food, or even the fellowship but rather about sitting comfortably with

strangers, those beyond our doors and beyond our experience.

Hospitality is about offering God's back to everyone. It means taking a long hard look at where our doors slam shut, our invitations are withheld and our welcome is just for those already inside enjoying the party.

Generous God, teach us to open our doors, our minds and our hearts, and to sit, as Jesus sat, with those whom we least know and who need us most. Amen

MON 05:45 Farming Today (m002kfk v)
The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

MON 05:57 Weather (m002kfk x)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for farmers

MON 06:00 Today (m002kfk p d)
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

MON 09:00 Start the Week (m002kfk g)
Yanis Varoufakis on Greece's civil war

The economist Yanis Varoufakis found himself in the eye of the storm as Greece's Minister of Finance in 2015, at the height of the country's debt crisis. Now he reflects on his political awakenings and the women who influenced him in Raise Your Soul. It's a family story that starts in Egypt in the 1920s and traces Greece's tumultuous century through Nazi occupation, civil war, dictatorship, socialism and economic crisis.

The historian Professor Mary Vincent focuses on the Spanish Civil War and has written about fascism, political violence and its impact on the people. She sees both similarities and stark differences between the Greek and Spanish Civil Wars and ponders the question of how global politics influence what happens in nation states.

As a new translation of Thucydides's The History of the Peloponnesian War (by Robin Waterfield) is published, the classicist Professor Paul Cartledge explains why this ancient text has remained essential reading for military leaders and politicians for centuries. Thucydides's account of the war between Athens and Sparta that began in 431 BCE depicts the devastation of civil war and reflects on the nature of political power.

Producer: Katy Hickman
Assistant Producer: Natalia Fernandez

MON 09:45 Café Hope (m002kfk j)
Dedication to donation

Lorna Newbrook tells Rachel Burden how she is trying to get more people to give blood after frequent transfusions helped extend her husband Mike's life for 16 months. She's trying to educate young people that they can donate blood from the age of 17, and wants people to give a 'Pint for Mike'.

Café Hope is our virtual Radio 4 coffee shop, where guests pop in for a brew and a chat to tell us what they're doing to make things better in big and small ways. Think of us as sitting in your local café, cooking up plans, hearing the gossip, and celebrating the people making the world a better place.

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

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

Presenter: Rachel Burden
Series Producer: Uma Doraiswamy
Sound Design: Nicky Edwards
Editor: Clare Fordham

MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002kfk l)
Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

MON 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002kfk p n)
The Orangutan

In this new series for BBC Sounds and BBC Radio 4, best-selling author and scholar Katherine Rundell celebrates the lives of twenty astonishing but endangered animals. Each episode includes fascinating stories that connect natural history with cultural insight, myth and science — revealing how animals

Radio 4 Listings for 4 – 10 October 2025		Page 8 of 16
have shaped human imagination, and how our choices now shape their survival.	MON 13:00 World at One (m002kfq1) News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4	Thorne, author and singer.
This first episode, The Orangutan, introduces us to Rose, who once lived in Napoleon's household, and takes us deep into the forests of Borneo, where orangutans have learned to weed paths, wash clothes, and steal canoes — simply by watching the humans around them.	MON 13:45 Multitrack (m002kfq3) I Am What I Ate How can you reconnect with yourself through food?	Mrs Bridge by Evan S. Connell Read by Fenella Woolgar Abridged by Isobel Creed and Jill Waters The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4
But fewer than 800 Tapanuli orangutans remain in the wild. Katherine asks what it means to live alongside such beings — and what it will take to ensure they remain part of our shared future.	Chantal has always relied on her mother to make traditional Jamaican meals. Now she's an adult and living away from home, she has to take the initiative.	MON 15:00 Great Lives (m002kfq5) Oliver Postgate "Postgate's work is deep inside me and I think that's true for so many of my generation...His work represents nothing less than a touchstone for our national imagination and in that sense it's profoundly important"
Written and Presented by Katherine Rundell Produced by Natalie Donovan for BBC Audio in Bristol	Has her lack of knowledge in preparing these cuisines distanced her from part of her culture? She travels through London to see whether the multicultural nature of the city is up to the challenge of providing the ingredients to her favourite dish.	Andrew Davenport, writer, composer, and creator of Teletubbies and In the Night Garden, nominates Oliver Postgate, who, along with his Smallfilms business partner, the artist Peter Firmin, invented the children's television shows Ivor the Engine, The Clangers and, perhaps most loved of all, Bagpuss.
MON 11:00 Three Ages of Child (m002kfpq) Episode 2: The Middle Years Dr Guddi Singh is a paediatrician looking for answers. She's worried about the patients whose problems can't be fixed with a prescription – babies who are not thriving because their parents can't afford to heat their home or children who are obese because they don't have access to outdoor space. Children in the UK face some of the worst health outcomes in Europe. Dr Singh wants to find solutions.	Presented and produced by Chantal Romain A Falling Tree production for BBC Radio 4 Commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio Producers Fellowship for new talent in feature-making	Postgate was a late bloomer. Following Dartington school (which he hated) a stint in jail and working the land, several odd jobs and even odder inventions, he eventually discovered a love of stop-motion animation and created some of the most enduring works and best-loved characters in television, all from a cowshed in Kent.
In a three-part series, she travels across England through the three ages of childhood: the early years, the primary school years and adolescence. She meets people in the community, from health workers to teachers, on a quest to discover what's going wrong and what it will take to turn things around.	MON 14:00 The Archers (m002kfk8) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]	Including clips of his programmes, contributions from singer and musician Sandra Kerr. and archive from Postgate's 2007 Desert Island Discs interview.
In the second episode, she's in London, travelling from east to west across the capital to find out what's making the difference for children in their school years. She goes to an adventure playground in Tower Hamlets, meets community health workers in Westminster and visits a school in Feltham that puts wellbeing at the heart of education.	MON 14:15 Alone (m0009yy1) Series 2 Front Window The neighbours become obsessed with various goings-on at the front of the house.	With cultural historian Matthew Sweet. Produced by Ellie Richold. Presented by Matthew Parris.
Presenter: Guddi Singh Producer: Jo Glanville Editor: Kirsten Lass Executive Producer: Rosamund Jones Production Executive: Lisa Lipman Sound Engineers: Dan King and Jon Calver Photography of Guddi Singh courtesy of Anad Singh Commissioning Editor: Daniel Clarke	There's bad parking to contend with, naked neighbours at night and, worst of all, someone keeps stealing the expensive bay tree plants that sit on the porch.	MON 15:30 Curious Cases (m002kf4f) [Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]
A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4	An exasperated Ellie has had enough and suggests everyone gathers together on a stake out to protect their precious plants.	MON 16:00 Marianna in Conspiracyland (m002hfv1) [Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]
MON 11:45 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kfps) Episode 1	Sitcom about five single, middle aged neighbours living in flats in a converted house in North London.	MON 16:30 The Kitchen Cabinet (m002kf4h) [Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Saturday]
In this sequel to her memoir Wild Swans, Jung Chang charts her path from arriving as a 26-year-old student in the UK in 1978, through the years of post-Mao liberalisation, to the more recent authoritarian and increasingly repressive rule of President Xi Jinping. The constant thread throughout these years has been her powerful bond with her mother, the woman to whom this book is dedicated.	Mitch is a widower and part-time therapist, looking to put his life back together now that he is single and living with Will, his younger, more volatile and unhappily divorced half-brother.	MON 17:00 PM (m002kfq7) News and current affairs, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines
Jung and her fellow students grew up in complete isolation from the West, and lived in fear as to what might happen if they broke any of the strict rules imposed upon them by their government. The chance to travel to Britain and then to study at York University was an invaluable opportunity. But the freedom of expression that she chose to exercise once she became a British citizen eventually exacted a high price.	Elsewhere in the building is schoolteacher Ellie who is shy, nervous and holds a secret candle for Mitch. Overly honest, frustrated actress Louisa, and socially inept IT nerd Morris complete the line-up of mis-matched neighbours.	MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kfq9) National and international news from BBC Radio 4
Although for many years she was able to return to China and visit her family while researching her subsequent books, there came a point when the political situation meant permanent separation from her mother and those family members who she left behind in China. Today Jung Chang is unable to return to bid farewell to her frail mother who is now in her 90s, but she remains determined to honour the freedom that her mother encouraged her to embrace.	Mitch Angus Deayton Will Pearce Quigley Ellie Abigail Cruttenden Louisa Kate Isitt Morris Bennett Arron Connor Fred Haig Written and created by Moray Hunter Produced by Gordon Kennedy Based on an original idea developed in association with Dandy Productions	MON 18:30 Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (m002kfqc) Series 4 Walking On Ayr
Written by Jung Chang Read by Sarah Lam Abridged and Produced by Jill Waters The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4	An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in November 2019.	Paul Sinha tests his audience in Ayr on their knowledge of their home county. So, if you're not after half an hour of amazing facts about scientists, poets and football then, well... keep walking.
MON 12:00 News Summary (m002kfvp) The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.	MON 14:45 Mrs Bridge by Evan S Connell (m0019r5l) Episode 8 Evan S. Connell's Mrs Bridge is an extraordinary tragicomic portrayal of suburban life and one of the classic American novels of the twentieth century. Mrs Bridge, a conservative housewife in Missouri, has three children and a kindly lawyer husband. Her married life begins in the early 1930s – and soon after she and her young family move to a wealthy country club suburb of Kansas City. she spends her time shopping, going to bridge parties and bringing up her children to be pleasant, clean and have nice manners. The qualities that she values above all else. And yet she finds modern life increasingly baffling, her children aren't growing up into the people she expected, and sometimes she has the vague disquieting sensation that all is not well in her life. In a series of comic, telling vignettes, Evan S. Connell illuminates the narrow morality, confusion, futility and even terror at the heart of a life of plenty.	Written and performed by Paul Sinha. Additional material: Oliver Levy Additional questions: The Audience Original music: Tim Sutton Recording engineer: Hamish Campbell Mixed by Rich Evans. Producer: Ed Morrish
MON 12:04 You and Yours (m002kfpx) News and discussion of consumer affairs.	First published in 1959 it was perhaps overshadowed by the critical attention paid to contemporaries like Philip Roth and John Updike. Although Mrs Bridge was a finalist for the National Book Award in that year. Ten years later Connell published Mr Bridge which follows that same events largely from the point of view of Walter Bridge. In 1990 James Ivory directed the film Mr and Mrs Bridge based on both novels and starring Paul Newman and his wife Joanne Woodward. Fans of the book today include the novelist David Nicholls and Tracey	A Lead Mojo production for BBC Radio 4.
MON 12:57 Weather (m002kf pz) The latest weather forecast		MON 19:00 The Archers (m002kf90) The Grundys face an anxious wait, and Mick smells a rat.
		MON 19:15 Front Row (m002kf qf) Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature, film, media and music
		MON 20:00 Rethink (m002k414) Rethink... nightlife
		The Night Times Industries Association says one in four venues have shut down since 2020, and the sector will face an irreversible decline unless the government provides urgent support.
Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/		

The industry was one of the worst hit during the pandemic, and it's asking for cuts to National Insurance, a permanent cut in VAT and a reform of business rates to help it keep afloat.

The NTIA claims the night time economy contributes more than £153 billion to the UK economy and supports over 2 million jobs.

Culturally, the sector punches above its weight. The nightclub boom in the last 50 years gave us disco, acid house, drum and bass and grime, as well as many other sub-genres of music. But nightclubs are expensive and consumers are finding their thrills elsewhere; drink is cheaper from supermarkets, and why search for someone you fancy on the dancefloor when you can use a dating app?

And as nightclubs struggle, so do small music venues, where artists like Ed Sheeran, Dua Lipa, Coldplay, Arctic Monkeys Blur and Oasis started out, as well as many others.

People are willing to pay hundreds of pounds to see those same artists in giant venues like Co-op Live in Manchester or at Wembley Stadium, so what can be done to make sure the next wave of new artists have somewhere to play? Should the government intervene? Should big venues subsidise smaller ones, or is it up to fans to throw them a lifeline?

Or has nightlife in its current form - much like variety music halls - taken its last curtain call?

Presenter: Ben Ansell
Producer: Tom Gillett
Editor: Lisa Baxter

Contributors:

Michael Kill - CEO, Night Time Industries Association
Fat Tony - DJ
Steve Lamacq - BBC 6 Music DJ and Patron of the Music Venues Trust
Richard Simm - Co-owner, The Forum Tunbridge Wells
Jane Darougar - Psychotherapist and counselor at the Central St Martins University, London

MON 20:30 BBC Inside Science (m002k416)

Are embryos made from skin cells the future of fertility treatment?

Scientists in the US have, for the first time, made early-stage human embryos by manipulating DNA taken from people's skin cells and then fertilising them with sperm. It's hoped the technique could overcome infertility due to old age or disease.

Marnie Chesterton is joined by Dr Geraldine Jowett from the University of Cambridge and Emily Jackson from the London School of Economics to discuss the science behind the research, and the ethical and legal issues it could raise.

We also look back at the life of the pioneering primatologist and conservationist Jane Goodall, who died this week at the age of 91. Marnie is joined by one of the scientists she helped to inspire - the biologist Joyce Poole - to reflect on the huge legacy she leaves behind.

As the European Union discusses the possibility of setting up a Europe-wide 'drone wall' to protect against Russian airspace incursions, we discuss the rapid advancements in drone technology with journalist and author of the book 'Swarm Troopers: How Small Drones Will Conquer The World', David Hambling.

And Marnie is joined by journalist Caroline Steel to look through a range of this week's most intriguing scientific breakthroughs.

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

MON 21:00 Start the Week (m002kfpg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 21:45 Café Hope (m002kfpp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m002kfqh)

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

MON 22:45 Helm by Sarah Hall (m002kfqq)

That Brief, Busy Interlude

An elemental novel from the twice-nominated Booker author of BURNTCOAT and THE WOLF BORDER. Helm, the only named wind in the UK, has scoured the Eden Valley since the dawn of time. When people arrive, Helm becomes the subject of their myth and folklore but, as the Anthropocene takes us all past the point of no return, Helm's very existence is threatened.

Read by Hattie Morahan
Written by Sarah Hall
Abridged by Siân Preece
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

MON 23:00 Limelight (m00254h0)

Aldrich Kemp and The Rose of Pamir

1. Mothers

A break-in at the Linnean Society triggers a race for the mysterious and elusive Rose of Pamir. Clara Page and the Themis Group are on one side, but who is on the other?

Aldrich Kemp and the gang are back with some new faces as the race moves from London to Paris, New York to Amsterdam and the Maldives to Tajikistan.

Chapter One: Mothers

... and daughters take centre stage.

Clara Page - Phoebe Fox
Aldrich Kemp - Ferdinand Kingsley
Mrs Boone - Nicola Walker
Nakesha Kemp - Karla Crome
Aunt Lily - Susan Jameson
The Underwood Sisters - Jana Carpenter
Mrs Bartholomew - Kate Isitt
Lionel - Steven Mackintosh
Selina - Catherine Kanter
Hazlitt & Sir Peregrine - Ben Crowe
Recruitment Consultant - Bec Boey

Written and directed by Julian Simpson
Music composed by Tim Elsenburg.

Sound Design: David Thomas
Producer: Sarah Tombling
Production Assistant: Ethan Elsenburg
Executive Producer: Karen Rose

New episodes available on Fridays. Listen first on BBC Sounds

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

MON 23:30 Being Roman with Mary Beard (m001znpg)

10. A Bag of Snails and a Glass of Wine

An obscure carved stone dug up from a vineyard in southern Italy tells the story of a pair of publicans- the delightfully named Calidius Eroticus and Fannia Voluptas- and their bawdy adventures in the pub trade. Fans of Frankie Howard, the Carry On films and the sitcom Plebs will instantly feel at home with the Roman sense of humour, but these two characters have so much more to offer than lame jokes and a glass of rough wine- they're our window into the fascinating bar culture of the Romans.

Most urban Romans had neither the facilities nor the time to cook their own food so meals were eaten and drinks drunk from bars. New discoveries at Pompeii reveal the complex stratification of the culture, from the most basic takeaways to dining rooms that mimicked the lifestyles of the rich and famous.

Producer: Alasdair Cross

Cast: Robert Wilfort and Tyler Cameron

Expert contributors: Allison Emmerson, Tulane University, Claire Holleran, Exeter University and Sophie Hay, Archaeological Park of Pompeii

Special thanks to Antonio Valerio of Campi Valerio and Museo Archeologico di Santa Maria delle Monache, Isernia

Translations by Mary Beard

TUESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2025

TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m002kfqn)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

TUE 00:30 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kfps)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Monday]

TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kfqp)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kfqr)

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 (m002kfqt)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

TUE 05:04 Marianna in Conspiracyland (m002hfv1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]

TUE 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kfqw)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002kfqy)

Using aright the time left to us

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

Michel Quoist, the French theologian died almost thirty years ago. Some of the language of his writing may seem a little bit dated nowadays, but his words still speak to us in a timeless way on matters of faith and life. In his reflection 'Lord, I have time', Quoist wrote that 'Time is a gift that you give us, But a perishable gift, A gift that does not keep.'

Often time is a gift that we only value when it's gone. When we lose a loved one before their 'three score years and ten', we are reminded of how precious the time which is gifted to us really is.

We are each challenged to think about how we will use the time left to us, as almost overnight, it seems, we realise that our time is to be used both carefully and generously.

'Grant us the wisdom and grace to use aright the time that is left us here on earth' – words from a funeral liturgy which remind us that our time is finite and limited.

It's not just a matter of having a 'carpe diem, use your good china now' attitude, and of taking all of the enjoyment and joy that we can from life - although when Jesus declared that he came that we might have life 'in all its fullness', I am fairly sure that he meant it in every sense.

Using our time wisely means living in harmony not just with our neighbours, but with strangers and with our enemies. It means setting down those burdens that we don't need to carry through life, and making time to build bridges and restore relationships, and simply setting aside whatever would prevent us from 'using aright the time left to us'.

Lord, give us the wisdom to put you at the centre of our lives, and the grace to use to use wisely the time which is gifted to us, Amen

TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m002kfr0)

The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

TUE 06:00 Today (m002kf87)

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

TUE 09:00 The Life Scientific (m002kf89)

Eleanor Schofield on conserving Tudor warship the Mary Rose

In July 1545, King Henry VIII watched from Southsea Castle on England's south coast as his fleet sailed out to face the French - only to witness his prized warship, the Mary Rose, sink before his eyes.

Raised from the Solent in 1982, the ship is now the centrepiece of the Mary Rose Museum, along with thousands more artefacts that were recovered from the seabed. But keeping the 500-year-old ship and its associated Tudor relics in good condition is no small task, which is where Dr Eleanor Schofield comes in. As Director of Collections at the Mary Rose Trust and a materials engineer by training, Eleanor has spent years tackling the unique scientific challenges of conserving centuries-old wood and metal. From the United States to Portsmouth, Eleanor's research is helping ensure this iconic vessel remains 'ship-shape' for generations to come.

In a special edition of The Life Scientific, recorded in front of an audience at the museum in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyards, Professor Jim Al-Khalili discovers how cutting-edge science is keeping history afloat.

Presented by Jim Al-Khalili
Produced by Lucy Taylor for BBC Studios

TUE 09:30 All in the Mind (m002kf8c)

The show on how we think, feel and behave. Claudia Hammond delves into the evidence on mental health, psychology and neuroscience.

TUE 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002kf8f)

Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

TUE 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002kf8h)

The Hummingbird

In this series for BBC Sounds and BBC Radio 4, best-selling author and scholar Katherine Rundell celebrates the lives of twenty astonishing but endangered animals. Each short essay includes fascinating stories that connect natural history with cultural insight, myth and science - revealing how animals have shaped human imagination, and how our choices now shape their survival.

In this episode, Katherine introduces the hummingbird - the smallest living bird, hatched from eggs typically no bigger than a chickpea, and explains how these birds, named for the sound of their wings, see a world far more vivid than ours, thanks to ultraviolet-sensitive cones in their eyes.

We also hear how Queen Victoria's fascination with hummingbirds helped spark a craze that led to their use in jewellery - and eventually to the founding of the RSPB. Today, more than 10% of hummingbird species are endangered. Katherine explores why we need them - not only for pollination, but as dazzling proof of nature's ability to evolve in colours beyond our imagination.

Written and Presented by Katherine Rundell
Produced by Natalie Donovan for BBC Audio in Bristol

TUE 11:00 Screenshot (m002k4q4)

Painters and Painting

2025 marks 250 years since the birth of JMW Turner - the great 19th century landscape artist, whose expressive, atmospheric paintings transformed British art. His life and genius was also unforgettably brought to the screen in Mike Leigh's 2014 film Mr Turner, starring Timothy Spall. Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode look at the long relationship between cinema and painting.

Mark speaks to cultural historian Professor Sir Christopher Frayling on Hollywood's approach to the history of art, from Kirk Douglas as Van Gogh to Salma Hayek as Frida Kahlo. He then talks to actor Timothy Spall on how playing JMW Turner led to a parallel career as a painter.

Ellen explores the relationship between painting and cinematography with cinematographer Sir Roger Deakins. She also speaks to artist Cathy Lomax on the painterly in cinema - and the cinematic in painting.

Producer: Jane Long
A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 11:45 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kf8l)

Episode 2

In this sequel to her memoir Wild Swans, Jung Chang charts her path from arriving as a 26-year-old student in the UK in 1978, through the years of post-Mao liberalisation, to the more recent authoritarian and increasingly repressive rule of President Xi Jinping. The constant thread throughout these years has been her powerful bond with her mother, the woman to whom this book is dedicated.

Jung and her fellow students grew up in complete isolation from the West, and lived in fear as to what might happen if they broke any of the strict rules imposed upon them by their government. The chance to travel to Britain and then to study at York University was an invaluable opportunity. But the freedom of expression that she chose to exercise once she became a British citizen eventually exacted a high price.

Although for many years she was able to return to China and visit her family while researching her subsequent books, there came a point when the political situation meant permanent separation from her mother and those family members who she left behind in China. Today Jung Chang is unable to return to

bid farewell to her frail mother who is now in her 90s, but she remains determined to honour the freedom that her mother encouraged her to embrace.

Written by Jung Chang
Read by Sarah Lam
Abridged and Produced by Jill Waters
The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

TUE 12:00 News Summary (m002kf8p)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m002kf8r)

News and discussion of consumer affairs

TUE 12:57 Weather (m002kf8t)

The latest weather forecast

TUE 13:00 World at One (m002kf8w)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

TUE 13:45 Multitrack (m002kf8y)

Lost & Found: The Methodists

Lost & Found: The Methodists is a personal story about a Zimbabwean Mother's search for a community and spiritual home she thought she had lost forever.

"Standing on the street corner, there were seven people dressed in red and white uniforms. I knew who they were."

Tendayi Pearce, the daughter of a Methodist minister, used to travel from England to Zimbabwe just to enjoy the church songs that she had sung as a child, until one day, her son saw a group of women wearing the traditional Zimbabwean Methodist church uniforms in Southend-on-Sea.

Tendayi tells the story of her journey to Britain and the loss of her connection to the church she had grown up with, before this chance encounter resulted in her connecting with hundreds of Zimbabweans across the country, long forgotten school friends, and creating her own branch of the church in Milton Keynes.

Lost and Found: The Methodists is a story about searching for something that was intrinsic to you and the magic that can happen once it is found again. It is a story of immigration and community which is rarely talked about - the connecting of communities across the country, which has a positive ripple effect on the individuals found within it, as well as the 'traditional British' communities and institutions.

Written, presented and produced by Daniel Pearce
Featuring Tendayi Pearce, Martin Nyamupingidza & Annah Mwadiwa
Sound Design and Editing: Daniel Pearce
Choir Recording and TX Mastering: Jerry Peal
Exec Producer: Gordon Kennedy
Music recorded at Freeman Memorial Methodist Church, Bletchley
Featuring The Milton Keynes Zimbabwean Fellowship Choir and Shalom Trumpet

An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4

Commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio Producers Fellowship for new talent in feature-making

TUE 14:00 The Archers (m002kf90)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

TUE 14:15 Drama on 4 (m001c6tr)

I've Been So Touched

Zarah has been sexually assaulted at work. Her two best friends Aisha and Ceri are on hand with love, jokes, kids' drinks and a lift home to Wales. Leila Navabi's new hard hitting comedy drama about the healing power of real friends starts with an assault and ends with a hug.

This drama includes frank and sometimes graphic conversations about a sexual assault.

CAST
Zarah - Zadeiah Campbell-Davies
Aisha - Ashna Rabheru
Ceri - Georgina Henshaw
Hamish - Simon Armstrong

Sound by Nigel Lewis
Produced by John Norton
for BBC Audio Wales

TUE 15:00 History's Heroes (m002kf92)

History's Toughest Heroes

Peter Freuchen: Surviving the Arctic Wilderness

An arctic explorer is trapped in a snow drift the size of a coffin. How will he survive frostbite and make it out alive?

In History's Toughest Heroes, Ray Winstone tells ten true stories of adventurers, rebels and survivors who lived life on the edge.

Danish born Peter Freuchen looked like a Viking, 6ft 7, huge beard, massive furs. His life was one non-stop adventure. He started out as well-to-do young man in Copenhagen – destined for a life as a doctor. But there was a race for the North Pole going on, and explorers would pass through the city to tell their incredible stories. Freuchen was inspired. He dropped out of medical school and joined an expedition to the extreme north. From that moment on, his life was fraught with danger, severed limbs, murderous wolves and lost dogs, extreme isolation and loneliness and very unlikely survival. He was undefeated by the frozen desert of the arctic and, as the century wore on, by Nazi oppression, even by the dazzling glare of Hollywood celebrity.

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4 and BBC Sounds.

Producer: Suniti Somaia
Executive Producer: Paul Smith
Written by Imogen Robertson
Commissioning editor for Radio 4: Rhian Roberts

TUE 15:30 Beyond Belief (m002kf94)

Prison Conversations

In this episode of Beyond Belief, Giles Fraser explores the deeply personal and often transformative phenomenon of religious conversion in prison. From heroin addiction and violence to spiritual awakening, we hear the raw and powerful testimony of Tony Winter, whose journey to faith began behind bars & Maliki Clique aka Ali Abdul Raheem, a former US inmate whose conversion to Islam during incarceration reshaped his life and message to over 700,000 TikTok followers. Panellists Pastor Mick Fleming who leads the Church On The Street ministry based in Burnley, Researcher Alex Beaumont from the University of Law, Manchester , psychotherapist Jackie Ogleshorpe who's also Chair of Trustees at the Community Chaplaincy Association and Suleman Amad Project Manager Criminal Justice at Maslaha- unpack the motivations behind prison conversions— discuss how prisoners find faith as a path to redemption and how to distinguish sincere transformation from strategic adaptation in the prison context?

Presenter: Giles Fraser
Producer: Bara'atu Ibrahim & Linda Walker
Editor: Tim Pemberton

TUE 16:00 Artworks (m002kf96)

Ways of Not Seeing

For decades, art galleries have provided blind visitors with audio descriptions of paintings in their collections. But these descriptions are often only dry, "objective" accounts of the fabulous artworks they aim to represent. Now, a new world of imaginative audio description is emerging, and it promises to transform the experience of art galleries for blind and sighted people alike.

Our guide to these new approaches is blind writer Joseph Rizzo Naudi, who takes us on a search for a highly unusual oil painting by the Dutch Golden Age painter, Frans Hals. Join him as this elusive painting is brought to life by a unique group of blind and not-so-blind describers, and experience for yourself a fascinating approach to visual art that depends not so much on what we see, but what we say.

Featuring Georgina Kleege, Professor Emeritus of English, University of California, Berkeley; Hannah Thompson, Professor of French and Critical Disability Studies, Royal Holloway, University of London; Maria Oshodi, writer, theatre director and CEO of Extant; Bart Cornelis, Curator of Dutch and Flemish Paintings 1600-1800, The National Gallery; artist and writer Elina Cerla; anthropologist of access Harshadha Balasubramanian; and Katy Tarbard, Gallery Educator, The National Gallery..

Writer and presenter: Joseph Rizzo Naudi
Producer: Michael Umney
Executive Producer: Susan Marling
Mixing Engineer: Chris O'Shaughnessy

Original poem written and read by Ella Frears
Standard gallery audio description read by Megan McKie-Smith

John Berger's essay "The Hals Mystery" appeared in The Threepenny Review (no. 10, Summer 1982)

Joseph Rizzo Naudi is a postgraduate researcher at Royal Holloway, University of London, where his research is funded by the Techne AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership.

With special thanks to Margherita di Ceglie, Anne Fay, Karen Elsea and Alexandra Moskalenko at the National Gallery for their support.

Programme image shows a detail from Frans Hals, Portrait of a Woman with a Fan, about 1640 © The National Gallery, London.

TUE 16:30 What's Up Docs? (m002kf98)

What can natural spaces do for my health?

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.

In this special episode, Chris and Xand are out of the studio and into the woods, exploring something a little different - the connection between nature and our health and wellbeing.

You've probably heard claims that just being in green spaces can boost your mood, help you recover from illness, and even lower your stress. But how much of that is really backed by science, and how much is just the latest wellness fad? To do this they are joined by Baroness Kathy Willis, Professor of Biodiversity at Oxford University.

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

Presenters: Drs Chris and Xand van Tulleken
Guest: Professor Kathy Willis
Producers: Rami Tzabar and Maia Miller-Lewis
Executive Producer: Jo Rowntree
Editor: Kirsten Lass
Researcher: Grace Revill
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 (m002kf9b)

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

TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kf9d)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

TUE 18:30 Mark Steel's in Town (m002kf9g)

Series 14

1. Oakham

First stop of the new series is Oakham, nestled in the UK's smallest county – Rutland.

Oakham is proudly twinned with Paris (even if the Parisians don't know), has Europe's largest man-made lake (which required flooding a local village) and hangs its horseshoes the other way round (so the devil falls out, obviously).

Joining Mark is Clare Balding, who's also in town to take him on a ramble around Rutland, which you can hear in Ramblings, this Thursday on Radio 4.

This is the 14th series of Mark's award winning show where he travels around the country visiting towns that have nothing in common but their uniqueness. After thoroughly researching each town, Mark writes and performs a bespoke evening of comedy for a local audience. As well as Oakham, in this series, Mark be will also be popping to Wrexham, Cambridge, Lewisham and, Lerwick and Unst in Shetland.

There will also be extended versions of each episode available on BBC sounds.

Written and performed by Mark Steel

Additional material by Pete Sinclair
Production co-ordinator Caroline Barlow and Katie Baum
Sound Manager Jerry Peal
Producer Carl Cooper

A BBC Studios production for Radio 4

TUE 19:00 The Archers (m002kf9k)

Brad sees things from another perspective, and Neil attempts to stay positive.

TUE 19:15 Front Row (m002kf9m)

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

TUE 20:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002k3jm)

News-making original journalism investigating stories at home and abroad

TUE 20:40 In Touch (m002kf9p)

News, views and information for people who are blind or partially sighted

TUE 21:00 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.

TUE 21:30 The Bottom Line (m002k4kp)

Spinouts: How Can Universities Turn Research Into Successful Businesses?

What happens when university research becomes a business? It's called a spin-out and it's built Silicon Valley, with Stanford University at the centre. In the UK, Oxford alone has launched more than 200 in the last 15 years.

Whether it's a new drug, software or material, brilliant university research can create huge rewards – for founders, universities and the economy. But also battles over who really owns the idea and should get a share of the equity.

Does the spin-out system deliver or does it stall? Evan Davis and a panel of guests discuss.

Guests:
Molly Allington, CEO of Albotherm
Harry Destecroix, co-founder of Ziylo and also founder of incubator Science Creates in Bristol
Amber Hill, founder of Research Grid

Production team:
Presenter: Evan Davis
Producers: Phoebe Keane and Sally Abrahams
Production co-ordinator: Rosie Strawbridge
Sound engineer: Rod Farquhar
Editor: Matt Willis

TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m002kf9r)

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

TUE 22:45 Helm by Sarah Hall (m002kf9t)

The Centre for Atmospheric Science

An elemental novel from the twice-nominated Booker author of BURNTCOAT and THE WOLF BORDER. Helm, the only named wind in the UK, has scoured the Eden Valley since the dawn of time. When people arrive, Helm becomes the subject of their myth and folklore but, as the Anthropocene takes us all past the point of no return, Helm's very existence is threatened.

Helm's peculiarities catch the eye of the intrepid Victorians while, in the present day, there are still investigations to be made near the top of Cross Fell.

Read by Hattie Morahan
Written by Sarah Hall
Abridged by Siân Preece

Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 23:00 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics (m0021j1m)

Series 10

Artemis

Natalie stands up for the goddess Artemis. She's a predator, a hunter, an archer. Goddess of wild creatures, the moon to her brother Apollo's sun, she's not averse to the odd human sacrifice. And if you forget her in your prayers, she's liable to send a really big pig to dig up your orchards.

Rock star mythologist' and reformed stand-up Natalie Haynes is obsessed with the ancient world. Here she explores key stories from ancient Rome and Greece that still have resonance today. They might be biographical, topographical, mythological or epic, but they are always hilarious, magical and tragic, mystifying and revelatory. And they tell us more about ourselves now than seems possible of stories from a couple of thousand years ago.

Producer...Mary Ward-Lowery

TUE 23:30 Being Roman with Mary Beard (m001zv1d)

11. Three Lovers and a Funeral

Allia Potestas is a woman remembered in one of the most intriguing and affecting funeral orations of the ancient world. Her lover remembers her diligent application to housework before praising to the skies her beauty and her erotic skills. But he didn't have Allia to himself. She was shared in a ménage à trois with his male friend. It's an unusual domestic arrangement and a surprising one to advertise on a tombstone. The lines themselves reveal an enormous amount about Roman morality and the sexual politics of the time, but the story between the lines is even more fascinating. Can we dig beneath the emotional turmoil of the man and guess what Allia herself thought about the arrangement? Mary Beard is joined in Rome by Allison Emmerson of Tulane University to examine this extraordinary funerary monument at the Baths of Diocletian.

Producer: Alasdair Cross

Expert contributors: Allison Emmerson, Tulane University; Helen King, Open University; Mairead McAuley, University College London

Cast: Tyler Cameron as Allius

Special thanks to Museo Nazionale Romano

WEDNESDAY 08 OCTOBER 2025

WED 00:00 Midnight News (m002kf9x)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 00:30 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kf8l)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Tuesday]

WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kf9z)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kfb1)

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 (m002kfb3)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 05:04 BBC Inside Science (m002k4l6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Monday]

WED 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kfb5)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002kfb7)

Who is my neighbour?

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

I belong to a generation who grew up learning 'by heart'. At school, that meant poetry and snippets of plays, crammed into our brains before exams, never to be used again. In Sunday school, it meant that we also learned the creed, the whole catechism and the Ten Commandments by heart.

Increasingly, I find I've been reflecting on God's command to observe a holy Sabbath, and his reminder that the day of rest was for everyone – families, servants and the 'stranger who is within your gates'. The 'stranger who is within our gates' is to be welcomed, protected and will also receive God's blessing.

There is at present, debate and disagreement about to whom we owe those obligations. Are they to be largely confined to those closest to us? In a sense, it is a similar question to that asked of Jesus "Who is my neighbour?".

When Jesus was asked that, he told the parable of the Good Samaritan. It was an uncompromising response. The neighbour to the injured man was the one who showed love and compassion. Not only did he help in a practical way while others passed by on the other side – but he stepped out of his comfort zone and took a risk in crossing the road to help 'the other'.

There are many examples of intolerance and fear-filled hatred of those who are a different race, creed, colour, gender and sexuality. The call to people of faith and none, to cross the road to help, to step out of our comfort zones and to speak up for the 'other', has never been more important.

'Who then was a neighbour to the injured man?', Jesus asked. 'The one who showed mercy on him', the lawyer replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Lord, give us courage, kindness and the compassion that we might show your mercy to everyone. Amen

WED 05:45 Farming Today (m002kfb9)

The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

WED 06:00 Today (m002kglv)

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

WED 09:00 More or Less (m002kfn8)

Tim Harford explains - and sometimes debunks - the numbers and statistics used in political debate, the news and everyday life.

WED 09:30 The History Podcast (m002kglx)

The Magnificent O'Connors

2. The Murder of Donk Ambridge

Jimmy O'Connor was a small-time thief, making the most of the opportunities war-torn London presented to him. How did he end up in a condemned cell at Pentonville?

On the Easter weekend 1941, a man is murdered in a London suburb. The police have little evidence to go on, and the usual suspects are pulled in for questioning. Among them is 23-year-old Jimmy O'Connor. He's eventually charged and tried for the crime, though he maintains his innocence. Sentenced to death, the outlook is bleak as Jimmy awaits his final appointment with hangman Albert Pierrepont.

Presenter: Ragnar O'Connor

Producer: Emily Esson, Victoria McArthur

Research: Elizabeth Ann Duffy, Louise Yeoman

Script Assistant and Additional Research: Marisha Currie

Script Writers: Emily Esson, Jack Kibble-White

Original Music: Lomond Campbell

Theme Music: Barry Jackson

Addition mixing and sound effects: Charlie McPhee, Kayleigh Raphael

Story Consultant: Jack Kibble-White

Script Editor: Graham Russell

Executive Editor: Gillian Whealan

Commissioning Executive: Tracy Williams

Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

Archive: The Russell Harty Show, ITV, April 1976

Thanks to Cheryl Field, Richard Field and Kirsty Williams

WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002kgly)

Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

WED 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002kgm1)

The Swift

In this series for BBC Sounds and BBC Radio 4, best-selling author and scholar Katherine Rundell celebrates the lives of twenty astonishing but endangered animals. Each short essay includes fascinating stories that connect natural history with cultural insight, myth and science - revealing how animals have shaped human imagination, and how our choices now shape their survival.

In this short essay, written and read by Katherine, we meet the swift - a bird so committed to flight that it spends at least ten months of the year airborne. Over its lifetime, a swift will fly around two million kilometres: enough to reach the moon and back twice, and then once more to the moon. They even sleep on the wing, as witnessed by a First World War pilot who described flying through a motionless flock in the night sky.

Swifts belong to the family Apodidae, from the Greek ápos, meaning "footless" - a reflection of the belief that they had no legs. They do, but if all goes well, they rarely need them. Yet in Britain, swift numbers have dropped by 50% in the last two decades, as nesting sites vanish with the demolition of old buildings.

Written and Presented by Katherine Rundell

Produced by Natalie Donovan for BBC Audio in Bristol

WED 11:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002k3jm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Tuesday]

WED 11:40 This Week in History (m002kfnq)

Oct 6th - Oct 12th

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

This week: the 6th to the 12th October.

8th October 1769 - James Cook and the crew of HMS Endeavour land in New Zealand

9th October 2012 - 15 year old Malala Yousafzai survives a shooting by the Taliban.

9th October 1446 - King Sejong the Great creates the Korean Hangul alphabet.

WED 11:45 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kgm3)

Episode 3

In this sequel to her memoir Wild Swans, Jung Chang charts her path from arriving as a 26-year-old student in the UK in 1978, through the years of post-Mao liberalisation, to the more recent authoritarian and increasingly repressive rule of President Xi Jinping. The constant thread throughout these years has been her powerful bond with her mother, the woman to whom this book is dedicated.

Jung and her fellow students grew up in complete isolation from the West, and lived in fear as to what might happen if they broke any of the strict rules imposed upon them by their government. The chance to travel to Britain and then to study at York University was an invaluable opportunity. But the freedom of expression that she chose to exercise once she became a British citizen eventually exacted a high price.

Although for many years she was able to return to China and visit her family while researching her subsequent books, there came a point when the political situation meant permanent separation from her mother and those family members who she left behind in China. Today Jung Chang is unable to return to bid farewell to her frail mother who is now in her 90s, but she remains determined to honour the freedom that her mother encouraged her to embrace.

Written by Jung Chang

Read by Sarah Lam

Abridged and Produced by Jill Waters

The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

WED 12:00 News Summary (m002kgm5)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

WED 12:04 You and Yours (m002kgm7)

News and discussion of consumer affairs

WED 12:57 Weather (m002kgm9)

The latest weather forecast

WED 13:00 World at One (m002kgmc)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

WED 13:45 Multitrack (m002kgmf)

The Alcoholic's Tarot

Artist Leon Clowes traces addiction recovery through the lens of a bespoke tarot deck. In a Brighton workshop, Leon invites people touched by addiction to share candid conversations sparked by his alcoholic misfortune-tellings.

The programme explores how addiction speaks to universal human experiences: sadness, resilience, and moments of levity. In partnership with recovery-focused arts organisations in Brighton (small performance adventures and Performing Recovery magazine), The Alcoholic's Tarot weaves in city textures and intimate storytelling to produce an intimate and poignant portrait of recovery and connection.

Music by Leon Clowes

Produced by Leon Clowes

Commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio

Producers Fellowship

A Falling Tree production for BBC Radio 4

WED 14:00 The Archers (m002kf9k)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

WED 14:15 Drama on 4 (m002kgmh)

Murder in Aland

Episode 2

In Episode 2, following a violent attack, Pekka awakens in the hospital, haunted by fragmented memories and nightmares. As he pieces together the events surrounding a mysterious death, uncovered audio files hint at lovers, spies and secrets that could destabilise nations.

Pekka follows the clues - but someone is watching, and the danger is closer than he thinks.

Cast:

Pekka Pelle Heikkilä

Mikael Santtu Karvonen

Astrid Laura Malmivaara

Fagerudd Jaana Saarinen

Other parts played by Pääru Oja, Satu Tuuli Karhu, Anna Airola, Thomas Dellinger, Olli Rahkonen, Joel Hirvonen, Asta Sveholm, Akseli Kouki, Riitta Havukainen, Mikko Kouki and Pihla Penttinen

Written by Satu Rasila, Akseli Kouki and Mikko Kouki

Sound Design - Samuli Welin and Steve Bond

Producers - Alex Hollands and Jenni Kaunisto

Director - Mikko Kouki

Recorded in Helsinki, in Finnish and English

A Goldhawk production for YLE Finland and BBC Radio 4

WED 15:00 Money Box (m002kgmk)

The latest news from the world of personal finance

WED 15:30 The Artificial Human (m002kgmm)

Why am I sad when my AI leaves?

According to the Harvard Business Review, companionship has become the number one use case for generative AI. But what if the model gets updated and the AI chum you've been confiding in and sharing your life with disappears? Who picks up the pieces and should the creators of these technologies be more careful?

Aleks Krotoski and Kevin Fong explore the latest and most high-profile incident of this when Open AI replaced GPT 4o with GPT 5. At a stroke, all personas that users had shaped through their use and careful prompting got wiped, causing a wave of emotion ranging from irritation at the lack of forewarning to genuine distress of people denied the opportunity to prepare and say goodbye.

They'll hear from Casey Fiesler, professor in the Department of Information Science at the University of Colorado Boulder, about how this all went down and whether Open AI could or should have done things differently. They'll also be joined by Alan Cowan from Hume AI about how you can create highly personable AI responsibly.

Presenters: Aleks Krotoski and Kevin Fong

Producer: Peter McManus

Sound: Tim Heffer.

WED 16:00 When It Hits the Fan (m002kgmp)

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

WED 16:15 The Media Show (m002kgmr)
Social media, anti-social media, breaking news, faking news: this is the programme about a revolution in media.

WED 17:00 PM (m002kgmt)
News and current affairs, reporting on breaking stories and summing up the day's headlines

WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kgmw)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

WED 18:30 Do Gooders (m002kgmy)
Series 2

6. The OBE

Harriett finds herself in a PR storm after her surprisingly high salary is leaked. Clive, ever the champion of needlessly high pay cheques, jumps to her defence. Elsewhere, the team pursue a new celebrity patron much to Ken's dismay.

Garrett Millerick's ensemble sitcom Do Gooders returns for another series. The show takes us back behind the curtain of fictional mid-level charity, The Alzheimers Alliance, as the fundraising events team continue their struggle for survival. Cue more office feuds, more workplace romances and more catastrophic fundraising blunders – all par for the course when trying to 'do good' on an industrial scale.

Cast

Gladys – Kathryn Drysdale
Lauren – Ania Magliano
Clive – Garrett Millerick
Harriett – Fay Ripley
Achi – Ahir Shah
Ken – Frank Skinner

Writer – Garrett Millerick
Additional Material – Andrea Hubert
Sound Engineer – David Thomas
Editor – David Thomas
Production Assistant – Jenny Recaldin
Producer – Jules Lom
Executive Producers – Richard Allen-Turner, Daisy Knight, Julien Matthews, Jon Thoday

An Avalon Television Production for BBC Radio 4

WED 19:00 The Archers (m002kgn0)
Chris makes his feelings clear, and Susan has a brainwave.

WED 19:15 Front Row (m002kgn2)
Live magazine programme on the worlds of arts, literature, film, media and music

WED 20:00 AntiSocial (m002k4pf)
What is patriotism?

It seems like everyone wants to be a patriot this week, from Prime Minister Keir Starmer to people hoisting flags up British lampposts. But what does patriotism really mean?

At the Labour Party conference there was lots of talk of 'progressive patriotism' - a definition of the term that emphasises Britain's tolerance and multiculturalism. Others invoke patriotism when seeking a return to the past. Others reject the word entirely because of its links to nationalism.

We find out why Keir Starmer and the Labour Party are trying to formulate 'progressive patriotism', examine the history of the concept going back to the ancient Greeks, and ask what polling tells us about how patriotic British people feel.

Presenter: Adam Fleming
Production team: Lucy Proctor, Natasha Fernandes, Mike Wendling, Tom Gillet
Studio manager: Andy Mills
Production coordinator: Janet Staples
Editor: Bridget Harney

WED 20:45 Superhead (m00237h7)
Episode 1 - A Delight in Class

John Dickens has been investigating Trevor Avere-Beeson for the best part of a decade. Avere-Beeson was once one of the most prominent examples of the generation of "Superheads" that Tony Blair and Michael Gove backed in turn to help transform failing schools in Britain. He built an education empire around a large academy trust, Lilac Sky.

But in 2016, that empire suddenly and rapidly collapsed,

sparking a scandal that sent shockwaves through the world of education.

John Dickens explores the inside story behind the rise and fall of one of Britain's most charismatic educators, and investigates whether the rapid growth - and precipitous collapse - of Lilac Sky exposes weaknesses in regulation that the government has failed to fully reckon with.

In Episode 1, John goes back to the beginning, hearing the story of Trevor's emergence as one of the original "Superheads".

Producers: Robert Nicholson and Charlie Towler
Sound Design: Tom Brignell
Executive Producer: David Prest
A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

WED 21:00 The Life Scientific (m002kf89)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Tuesday]

WED 21:30 All in the Mind (m002kf8c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Tuesday]

WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m002kgn5)
In-depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective

WED 22:45 Helm by Sarah Hall (m002kgn7)
Who Will Build the Cross?

An elemental novel from the twice-nominated Booker author of BURNTOAT and THE WOLF BORDER. Helm, the only named wind in the UK, has scoured the Eden Valley since the dawn of time. When people arrive, Helm becomes the subject of their myth and folklore but, as the Anthropocene takes us all past the point of no return, Helm's very existence is threatened.

Michael Lang's divine plan becomes clearer as a diabolical threat is made against Long Meg and her Sisters.

Read by Hattie Morahan
Written by Sarah Hall
Abridged by Sián Preece
Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:00 Ria Lina Gets Forensic (m002k6q8)
Series 1

5. Electrical Muscle Stimulation (EMS)

Former-forensic-scientist-turned-current-stand-up-comedian Ria Lina examines the gap between the science we're sold by the beauty and fitness industry and the science that's done in a lab – particularly when it comes to exercises and treatments that boast anti-aging effects.

This episode, she's joined by real-life Baroness Ayesha Hazarika to try Electrical Muscle Stimulation (EMS).

Featuring Ria Lina and Ayesha Hazarika
Written by Ria Lina and Steve N Allen
Produced by Ben Walker

A DLT Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4

WED 23:15 The Skewer (m002kgn9)
Series 14

Episode 5

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

WED 23:30 Being Roman with Mary Beard (m002020b)
12. The Wolf of Via Vesuvio

Lucius Caecilius Iucundus kept the economic wheels of Pompeii well greased. He was a middle man doing very nicely - part money-lender, part auctioneer, part banker, all hustler.

Thanks to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the preservation of the ruins of Pompeii, we can still visit his house, look at his bronze portrait, and read his account books. 150 tablets of receipts, carbonised in the destruction of Pompeii, lead us through the deals that keep the city's economy moving. If you want to buy a Ferrari-level horse but only have the cash for a Fiesta then Iucundus is your man. It might look like dry stuff, but it's as revealing of real life as snooping on someone's Paypal account or leafing through their credit card receipts might be now. Never mind imperial plunder and luxury lifestyles, it's a

glimpse of how the economy works in a regular town.

Mary Beard visits Iucundus's home and talks to the novelist Robert Harris about his fascination with the Pompeii moneylender.

Producer: Alasdair Cross

Expert Contributors: Sophie Hay, Parco Archeologico di Pompei; Matthew Nicholls, Oxford University

Special thanks to National Archaeological Museum, Naples and Parco Archeologico di Pompei

THURSDAY 09 OCTOBER 2025

THU 00:00 Midnight News (m002kgnc)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 00:30 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kgm3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Wednesday]

THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kgnf)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kgnh)
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 (m002kgngk)
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 05:04 More or Less (m002kfn8)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

THU 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kgnm)
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002kgnp)
What would Jesus do?

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

I was browsing online when I stumbled across a small 'plushie' Jesus figure. It was being marketed as a comforting toy and a 'bedtime companion' for children. I could appreciate the sentiment, but there was something about a 'cute smiling pocket sized Jesus' which made me uncomfortable. Perhaps because a pocket-sized God tailored to meet our needs, seems to be a sadly inadequate representation of the Creator of the universe. Or perhaps because such a God, taken out when we need him to play with at Christmas and Easter, and put away again afterwards, is a little bit too close to the reality of God's place in the world and even in the church today.

So what would the real Jesus make of this frazzled, fragile and failing world? As our slick logo puts it, 'What Would Jesus Do?' We don't have to speculate – we can read it in the gospels, and so we know that he's not the Jesus of some churchgoers, who gets left behind in the pews as they leave for the week ahead.

The Jesus of the gospels is not cuddly, cute or domesticated. He cracked a whip and overturned the tables of corruption and exploitation in the temple. He touched the untouchable, welcomed the 'other', the outsider – women, Samaritans and tax collectors. He loved not just neighbours, but strangers, enemies, and those who would betray him.

He loved to death and beyond, and calls each of us to love and welcome in his name those whom we meet along the way. If we are serious about following in his footsteps, it means standing up, speaking out and overturning the tables of oppression and inequity wherever we encounter them. What Would Jesus Do? We already know the answer.

God who overturned tables and overturns our prejudices, send us out to build a kingdom of love, mercy and acceptance in your world, Amen

THU 05:45 Farming Today (m002kgnr)
The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

THU 06:00 Today (m002kgre)
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and

Thought for the Day.

THU 09:00 In Our Time (m002kt25)

The Moon

After 27 years, Melvyn Bragg has decided to step down from the In Our Time presenter's chair. With over a thousand episodes to choose from, he has selected just six that capture the huge range and depth of the subjects he and his experts have tackled. In this first pick, we hear Melvyn Bragg and his guests discuss the origins, science and mythology of the moon.

Humans have been fascinated by our only known satellite since prehistory. In some cultures the Moon has been worshipped as a deity; in recent centuries there has been lively debate about its origins and physical characteristics. Although other planets in our solar system have moons ours is, relatively speaking, the largest, and is perhaps more accurately described as a 'twin planet'; the past, present and future of the Earth and the Moon are locked together. Only very recently has water been found on the Moon - a discovery which could prove to be invaluable if human colonisation of the Moon were ever to occur.

Mankind first walked on the Moon in 1969, but it is debatable how important this huge political event was in developing our scientific knowledge. The advances of space science, including data from satellites and the moon landings, have given us some startling insights into the history of our own planet, but many intriguing questions remain unanswered.

With:

Paul Murdin

Visiting Professor of Astronomy at Liverpool John Moores University

Carolyn Crawford

Gresham Professor of Astronomy at the University of Cambridge

Ian Crawford

Reader in Planetary Science and Astrobiology at Birkbeck College, London.

Producer: Natalia Fernandez

Spanning history, religion, culture, science and philosophy, In Our Time from BBC Radio 4 is essential listening for the intellectually curious. In each episode, host Melvyn Bragg and expert guests explore the characters, events and discoveries that have shaped our world.

THU 09:45 Strong Message Here (m002kgrb)

Armando Iannucci and guests decode the utterly baffling world of political language.

THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002kgd)

Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

THU 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002kgrg)

The Pig

In this series for BBC Sounds and BBC Radio 4, best-selling author and scholar Katherine Rundell celebrates the lives of twenty astonishing but endangered animals. Each short essay includes stories that connect natural history with cultural insight, myth and science - revealing how animals have shaped human imagination, and how our choices now shape their survival.

In this episode, Katherine introduces us to Lulu, a black potbellied pig who once saved a human's life - a reminder of the pig's intelligence. We learn that pigs can distinguish between different types of music, and some have even learned to play video games. The largest pig on record was Big Bill, who weighed 1,100kg - as much as a VW Beetle with a lion inside. But their size can also make them dangerous: in 14th-century Normandy, one was tried and sentenced in a court of law for killing a child.

Despite their strength and intelligence, some pig species are now critically endangered. One of them, the Visayan Warty Pig, has piglets with go-faster stripes along their backs and adults with extravagant bouffant hair. The pig may even be the subject of the world's oldest known animal art - a 45,000-year-old cave painting of the Sulawesi Warty Pig, now listed as near-threatened. Whether it survives another 45,000 years - or even another hundred - is up to us.

Written and Presented by Katherine Rundell

Produced by Natalie Donovan for BBC Audio in Bristol

THU 11:00 This Cultural Life (m002kgrj)

In-depth conversations with some of the world's leading artists and creatives across theatre, visual arts, music, dance, film and more. Hosted by John Wilson.

THU 11:45 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kgrl)
Episode 4

In this sequel to her memoir Wild Swans, Jung Chang charts her path from arriving as a 26-year-old student in the UK in 1978, through the years of post-Mao liberalisation, to the more recent authoritarian and increasingly repressive rule of President Xi Jinping. The constant thread throughout these years has been her powerful bond with her mother, the woman to whom this book is dedicated.

Jung and her fellow students grew up in complete isolation from the West, and lived in fear as to what might happen if they broke any of the strict rules imposed upon them by their government. The chance to travel to Britain and then to study at York University was an invaluable opportunity. But the freedom of expression that she chose to exercise once she became a British citizen eventually exacted a high price.

Although for many years she was able to return to China and visit her family while researching her subsequent books, there came a point when the political situation meant permanent separation from her mother and those family members who she left behind in China. Today Jung Chang is unable to return to bid farewell to her frail mother who is now in her 90s, but she remains determined to honour the freedom that her mother encouraged her to embrace.

Written by Jung Chang

Read by Sarah Lam

Abridged and Produced by Jill Waters

The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

THU 12:00 News Summary (m002kgrn)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

THU 12:04 The Bottom Line (m002kgrq)

Evan Davis hosts the business conversation show with people at the top giving insight into what matters.

THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m002kgrrs)

Scar Gels and Oils

Greg Foot investigates the so-called wonder products making bold claims.

THU 12:57 Weather (m002kgrrv)

The latest weather forecast

THU 13:00 World at One (m002kgrrx)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

THU 13:45 Multitrack (m002kgrrz)

Song of the Deer

Song of the Deer reimagines the monumental 18th Century Gaelic poem, Moladh Beinn Dobhrain - In Praise of Beinn Dorain - a celebrated Munro in the Scottish Highlands.

We join Niall Rowantree, a modern-day forester and deer stalker, as he hunts his prey and uncovers the secrets of this revered animal. Kathleen MacInnes voices the perspective of a hind as she moves through the landscape.

The original poem was created by Duncan Ban MacIntyre and it was translated in 2021 by Gary MacKenzie. This documentary explores the relationship between highlanders, their landscape, and the ecology around them.

Producers: Uilleam MacCormaic, Flora Zajicek

Produced in Scotland by The Big Light for BBC Radio 4

Commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio Producers Fellowship for new talent in feature-making

THU 14:00 The Archers (m002kgn0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

THU 14:15 Drama on 4 (m002kgs1)

The Lovers

By Andy Grace Edwards.

Poignant drama about love, art and the healing power of a big old walk.

Sam and Liv's are a couple and a performance artist collective. But their personal and artistic relationships have reached a fork in the road, so they turn to their favourite performance artists in search of inspiration.

Marina Abramovic and Ulay once walked The Great Wall of China for their art. Now Sam and Liv will walk the Southern Upland Way...

Cast in Order of Appearance:

Liv ... Chloe Ann Tyler

Sam ... Reuben Joseph

Dee ... Wendy Seager

Helen ... Anne Lacey

Original music by Fraser Jackson

Sound Design by Andy Hay

Production Co-ordinator: Rosalind Gibson

Directed by Kirsty Williams

THU 15:00 Ramblings (m002kgs3)

Clare Balding's in Town!

Clare Balding's In Town! To kick off the new series, Clare is walking in Rutland with comedian Mark Steel. Since they're in the same place at the same time, Clare is also making a cameo appearance on Mark's hugely successful Radio 4 show, Mark Steel's In Town, in Oakham, Rutland's largest town.

Mark has been making In Town for 450 years (he told us) and each show involves intense research before he performs a stand-up routine about the area to a local audience. As Clare and Mark amble around the Hambleton Peninsula, which stretches into Rutland Water, Mark and his producer Carl Cooper discuss what it takes to pull together an episode of In Town.

Mark also discusses the theme of his new book, Leopard in My House, about his recovery from cancer. Guiding Mark and Clare is keen local walker Richard Cooper, who has lived in the area for 20 years and is both knowledgeable and passionate about Rutland. Mark Steel's In Town – Oakham, Rutland will be broadcast on Tuesday, 7 October, with Ramblings following on the 9th... with both available forever on BBC Sounds...

Map: OS Explorer 234 - Rutland Water

Map Ref: SK901075 for Ketton Road where they started the walk

Presenter: Clare Balding

Producer: Karen Gregor

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4

THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (m002kfhy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]

THU 15:30 Feedback (m002kgs5)

The programme that holds the BBC to account on behalf of the radio audience

THU 16:00 The Briefing Room (m002kgs7)

David Aaronovitch presents in-depth explainers on big issues in the news.

THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m002kgs9)

A weekly programme that illuminates the mysteries and challenges the controversies behind the science that's changing our world.

THU 17:00 PM (m002kgsc)

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

THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kgsf)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

THU 18:30 Call Jonathan Pie (p0fst5cb)

4. Race

After a night of riots in Sam's home town, Pie makes a stupid remark and Sam takes umbrage. Pie takes to the airwaves to prove his non-racist credentials, but ends up looking like a slice of Gammon on the side of the road. Sam and Pie make up and soon Jules is thinking that she herself might be a bit racist because she didn't like a film that Sam likes. It's all gets a bit silly really.

Jonathan Pie Tom Walker

Jules Lucy Pearman

Sam Aqib Khan

Roger Nick Revell
 Agent Daniel Abelson
 Voiceovers Bob Sinfield and Rob Curling
 Callers ... Cole Anderson-James, Ellie Dobing, Sarah Gabriel,
 Ed Kear, Hope Leslie, Thanyia Moore and Jonathan Tafler
 Writer Tom Walker
 Script Editor Nick Revell
 Additional Material Daniel Abelson
 Producers..... Alison Vernon-Smith and Julian Mayers
 Production Coordinator Ellie Dobing
 Original music composed by Jason Read
 Additional music Leighton James House

A Yada-Yada Audio Production.

THU 19:00 The Archers (m002kfmX)

Emotions run high for Will, and things don't go to plan for George.

THU 19:15 Front Row (m002kgsj)

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

THU 20:00 When It Hits the Fan (m002kgmp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Wednesday]

THU 20:15 The Media Show (m002kgmr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:15 on Wednesday]

THU 21:00 Loose Ends (m002kf5b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

THU 21:45 Strong Message Here (m002kgrib)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m002kgsI)

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

THU 22:45 Helm by Sarah Hall (m002kgsn)

Apocalypse/Various

An elemental novel from the twice-nominated Booker author of BURNTCOAT and THE WOLF BORDER. Helm, the only named wind in the UK, has scoured the Eden Valley since the dawn of time. When people arrive, Helm becomes the subject of their myth and folklore but, as the Anthropocene takes us all past the point of no return, Helm's very existence is threatened.

Selima meets depressingly familiar attitudes on Great Dun Fell as NaNay counfounds expectations and returns from the mountain.

Read by Hattie Morahan

Written by Sarah Hall

Abridged by Siân Preece

Produced by Eilidh McCreddie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

THU 23:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m002kgsq)

Conversations about tomorrow, from Today.

THU 23:30 Artworks (m002kf96)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Tuesday]

FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2025

FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m002kgsS)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 00:30 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kgri)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Thursday]

FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002kgsV)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002kgSx)

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 (m002kgsz)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 05:04 The Briefing Room (m002kgs7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Thursday]

FRI 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002kgt1)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002kgt3)

Being Prophetic

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Rev Lynne Gibson

Good morning.

It has been wisely said that a text without a context is just a con – and it is important to read the words of the prophets in their ancient context. Thousands of years ago, many had no hesitation in speaking out against failing and corrupt leaders of church and state, and people who had wandered far from God.

Words which are firmly rooted in their historical and political context still resonate on multiple levels with us today. Yet we are wary of the interweaving of politics and church or religion or faith. Some of us have grown up watching party politics sneak into our pulpits.

And yet, 'those who do believe that politics and religion do not mix, don't understand either' – words attributed to two different 'wise men': Albert Einstein and Mahatma Gandhi.

Can we detach what we believe from how we speak, act, vote and govern? How can faith, which runs deepest and most strongly through us, be compartmentalised? How can values of integrity and compassion be irrelevant in our world?

I have been humbled recently to see a new generation of brave writers, speaking out about the state of their nation: men and women unafraid to preach about the values of the kingdom of God.

While we think that we live in a ultra modern age, where we are masters of our destiny, scripture reminds us that in thousands of years, little has changed. People are still people, with all of their faults, led by failing and fallible leaders. God is still a God of love and compassion, waiting to welcome us back home to himself.

That's a message which our 21st century prophets still need to proclaim from our pulpits, and our media mountain tops.

Lord, give us a faith which speaks and witnesses to your love and mercy, and teach us when to speak and when to keep silent. Amen

FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m002kgt5)

The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

FRI 06:00 Today (m002kfm8)

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

FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (m002kfjb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]

FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002kfmb)

Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

FRI 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002kfmd)

The Golden Mole

In this episode acclaimed writer Katherine Rundell introduces us to the golden mole - a creature so rare in its beauty, it seems almost mythical. Iridescent fur, shifting through black, silver, turquoise and gold, makes it one of the few mammals to glow.

Golden moles are miniature powerhouses. Their kidneys are so efficient that many species never need to drink water. Their hearing is extraordinary: the bone in their middle ear is so large and sensitive that they can detect the vibrations of insects moving above them. There are twenty-one known species, all found in sub-Saharan Africa - and more than half are threatened with extinction due to pollution and habitat loss.

Perhaps the greatest mystery is why they shine. Unlike butterflies or hummingbirds, which use iridescence to communicate or attract mates, the golden mole is blind and lives almost entirely underground. Scientists believe its shimmering fur evolved for low-friction burrowing - the glow is a by-

product, not a signal. They burrow, breed and hunt, unaware of their brilliance - unknowingly shining.

Written and Presented by Katherine Rundell

Produced by Natalie Donovan for BBC Audio in Bristol

FRI 11:00 The Food Programme (m002kfmg)

The Food Innovators: 2025

Dan Saladino meets people behind pioneering projects rethinking the future of chocolate, seafood and food forests. Which one will win this year's BBC Best Food Innovation Award?

Produced and presented by Dan Saladino.

FRI 11:45 Fly, Wild Swans by Jung Chang (m002kfmi)

Episode 5

In this sequel to her memoir Wild Swans, Jung Chang charts her path from arriving as a 26-year-old student in the UK in 1978, through the years of post-Mao liberalisation, to the more recent authoritarian and increasingly repressive rule of President Xi Jinping. The constant thread throughout these years has been her powerful bond with her mother, the woman to whom this book is dedicated.

Jung and her fellow students grew up in complete isolation from the West, and lived in fear as to what might happen if they broke any of the strict rules imposed upon them by their government. The chance to travel to Britain and then to study at York University was an invaluable opportunity. But the freedom of expression that she chose to exercise once she became a British citizen eventually exacted a high price.

Although for many years she was able to return to China and visit her family while researching her subsequent books, there came a point when the political situation meant permanent separation from her mother and those family members who she left behind in China. Today Jung Chang is unable to return to bid farewell to her frail mother who is now in her 90s, but she remains determined to honour the freedom that her mother encouraged her to embrace.

Written by Jung Chang

Read by Sarah Lam

Abridged and Produced by Jill Waters

The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

FRI 12:00 News Summary (m002kfml)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

FRI 12:04 AntiSocial (m002kfmm)

News and discussion of consumer affairs

FRI 12:57 Weather (m002kfmg)

The latest weather forecast

FRI 13:00 World at One (m002kfms)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

FRI 13:45 Multitrack (m002kfmv)

A Northerner's Guide to London

In this satirical audio fiction, in the style of a 1940s public information film, lost northerner Ben is given crucial support on a make-or-break work trip to London.

Writer, producer and sound designer: Antonia Gospel

Executive producer: Carys Wall

Script consultant: Tom McLean

Additional sound design and mixing by Jonathan Webb.

Voice acting by Freddie Bolt (Ben), Antonia Gospel (The Guide), Patrick Wallace, Amy Howard, Matt Bailey and Nick Bailey.

A Bespoke Media production for BBC Radio 4

Commissioned in association with the Multitrack Audio Producers Fellowship for new talent in feature-making

FRI 14:00 The Archers (m002kfmx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

FRI 14:15 Limelight (m002kfmsz)

The Betrayed

Episode 1. Siblings

A five-part drama about a family - and a society - divided by

far-right populist extremism.

When Louise a senior officer in the Garda Síochána sees her brother Frank on the news, taking part in an aggressive far-right protest she is shocked. Not least because she is and she had no idea Frank had been influenced by the populist extremists who hurl accusations of being 'traitors' at police and politicians alike.

In the aftermath, Frank's face doesn't show up on CCTV. But when she threatens to have him arrested, he accepts the deal she reluctantly offers - she will cover for him if he promises to stay away from demos and protests.

But then Louise learns that Frank is connected to a much wider network. He's in touch with organised extremists throughout Europe, Louise realises that Frank is on a path that could bring Ireland, and other countries, to the brink of chaos. The time has come to break up his network, whatever the family consequences.

LOUISE KENNY ... Niamh Algar

FRANK KENNY ... Jonathan Forbes

KEVIN ... Stephen Hogan

TONY ... Aidan O'Callaghan

DERVLA ... Karen Ardill

MICHAEL GRIFFITHS ... Jonathan Harden

MUSA ... Amy McAllister

MARYAM ... Lara Sawalha

Directed by Eoin O'Callaghan

A Big Fish/BBC Northern Ireland Production for Limelight

FRI 14:45 Untaxing (m0029j9j)

3. Jaffa Cake or Biscuit?

A biscuit or a cake? That was the question that landed biscuit company McVities in court in 1991 - and the fate of the Jaffa Cake rested on the most unexpected piece of evidence.

But behind the absurdity lies a deeper issue - how the UK's messy VAT system distorts prices, creates baffling tax battles, and might just be costing us over £20 billion a year.

Producer: Tom Pooley

Music: Jaffa Cake Musical is by Gigglemug Theatre, with songs by Sam Cochrane, arrangements by Rob Gathercole, and Katie Pritchard singing 'Tax Man'.

A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002kfn2)

Horticultural programme featuring a group of gardening experts.

FRI 15:45 Short Works (m002kfn4)

The Victim

When her ex-boyfriend suddenly vanishes, forensic accountant Natalie decides to turn detective. She's done an online training course, and she's bought a vintage trench coat. So what could possibly go wrong? A brand new detective comedy from J.D. Brinkworth, read by Ada Player.

J.D. Brinkworth is an award-winning comedy writer, and the author of The Pie & Mash Detective Agency. Ada Player (BAFTA nominee) is an actress and comedian, and was nominated for Best Newcomer at the 2025 Edinburgh Fringe.

Producer: Katie Sayer

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 16:00 Last Word (m002kfn6)

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

FRI 16:30 More or Less (m002kfn8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

FRI 17:00 PM (m002kfnb)

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

FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002kfnf)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

FRI 18:30 The News Quiz (m002kfnf)

Series 118

Episode 6

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

FRI 19:00 The Archers (m002kfnj)

Writer: Sarah Hehir

Director: Dave Payne

Editor: Jeremy Howe

Jolene Archer.... Buffy Davis
Chris Carter.... Wilf Scolding
Neil Carter.... Brian Hewlett
Susan Carter.... Charlotte Martin
Ruairi Donovan.... Arthur Hughes
Mick Fadmoor.... Martin Barrass
Amber Gordon.... Charlotte Jordan
Clarrie Grundy.... Heather Bell
Ed Grundy.... Barry Farrimond
Eddie Grundy.... Trevor Harrison
Emma Grundy.... Emerald O'Hanrahan
George Grundy.... Angus Stobie
Will Grundy.... Philip Molloy
Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley
Adam Macy.... Andrew Wincott
Paul Mack.... Joshua Riley
Lily Pargetter.... Katie Redford
Fallon Rogers.... Joanna Van Kampen
Prison Guard.... Janice Connolly

FRI 19:15 Screenshot (m002kfnl)

Death

Viewers are so used to seeing death and dying on screen, often in dramatic or unrealistic ways. Ellen and Mark explore how films and TV are drawn to personifications of death, why we need more realistic depictions and who is making them.

Mark speaks to film critic Kim Newman about the way in which personifications of death have been portrayed throughout cinema history, from The Seventh Seal to the Final Destination series. Mark then talks to director Kristen Johnson about her film, Dick Johnson is Dead.

Ellen talks to academic Michele Aaron about how death and dying has been depicted in film and if we need more realistic depictions.

Producer: Hester Cant

A Prospect Street production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m002kfnm)

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

FRI 20:55 This Week in History (m002kfnq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:40 on Wednesday]

FRI 21:00 Free Thinking (m002kfns)

The status of science

Science is one of the major sources of authority in society today. Scientists develop technologies to make our lives easier and more comfortable. They fight diseases, they have identified and are helping to combat climate change. Yet developments like AI, and some areas of genetic science, seem to raise ethical dilemmas that scientists on their own can't address. And at a time when the authority of 'experts' has been challenged, where does that leave the authority of scientists? Shahidha Bari discusses science in society with theologian Dr Dafydd Mills Daniel, who's been working on Samuel Clarke, known as Newton's Bulldog, as a case study in the status of science in 17th century England, and Dr Sandra Knapp, researcher at the National History Museum and chair of the judges of this year's Royal Society Trivedi Science Book Prize. Also Hannah Devlin, science correspondent for The Guardian, and Nick Spencer, Senior Fellow at Theos.

Producer: Luke Mulhall

FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m002kfnv)

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

FRI 22:45 Helm by Sarah Hall (m002kfnx)

Problems, But Not Unsolvable

An elemental novel from the twice-nominated Booker author of BURNTCOAT and THE WOLF BORDER. Helm, the only named wind in the UK, has scoured the Eden Valley since the dawn of time. When people arrive, Helm becomes the subject of their myth and folklore but, as the Anthropocene takes us all past the point of no return, Helm's very existence is threatened.

Catherine's husband remains unmoved by the solstice harnessing power of Long Meg. Helm pays a destructive visit and leaves a gift for NaNay's tribe.

Read by Hattie Morahan

Written by Sarah Hall

Abridged by Siân Preece

Produced by Eilidh McCreadie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 23:00 Americast (w3ct7t61)

Join Americast for insights and analysis on what's happening inside Trump's White House.

FRI 23:30 Illuminated (m002kfkf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:15 on Sunday]