

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER 2025**SAT 00:00 Midnight News (m002ks6r)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:30 1929 by Andrew Ross Sorkin (m002ks57)
Episode 5

In October 1929, the world watched in shock as the US stock market went into freefall, wiping out major fortunes and small-town savings, and igniting a depression that would re-shape a generation.

Best-selling author and journalist Andrew Ross Sorkin charts the inside story of the greatest financial crash in history, as the rollercoaster that gripped Wall Street in that year of chaos accelerated. Through dizzying highs and brutal lows, he follows the players at the heart of America's financial markets - the bankers, investors, traders and speculators who disregarded increasingly loud alarm bells as they risked everything to save themselves and the institutions that had brought them wealth, fame and power.

This is a story about money, but it's also about power, influence and illusion. In this account of the most pivotal market collapse of all time, Sorkin offers an electrifying insight into the cycles of speculation, the forces that drive financial upheavals and the warning signs that precede them. The lessons are as urgent as ever.

Andrew Ross Sorkin is the author of Too Big to Fail, about the 2008 financial crisis. He is a long-time journalist at The New York Times and the co-creator of the television drama Billions.

Reader: Demetri Goritsas

Abridger: Libby Spurrier

Sound engineer: Matt Bainbridge

Programme Co-ordinators: Nina Semple, Henry Tydemann, Dawn Williams

Producer: Sara Davies

Executive Producer: Peter Hoare

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002ks6t)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002ks6w)

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 (m002ks6y)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

SAT 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002ks70)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

SAT 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002ks72)

A Prayer for When You Don't Know What to Ask For

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun

My first proposal was one I'll never forget. I was in my early twenties when my three-year-old cousin got down on one knee, clutching a bouquet of plastic flowers, and declared his undying love for me. Naturally, I accepted. He proceeded to make me an imaginary cup of tea, which seemed like a logical start to married life, then we spun around the garden hand in hand.

Our whirlwind romance ended rather abruptly when, without warning, he shouted, "You have to do the housework!" and pointed to the broom...

But of course, I adore him still and today, he's an incredibly bright and mischievous seven-year-old. The day he was born, however, was a different story, he was born very prematurely, and my uncle will never forget that moment, when the doctor listed the terrifying risks for my cousin and his mother.

He recalls the numbness he felt, the helplessness and the uncertainty as he wandered through the hospital corridors until he found himself drawn to the prayer room; he remembers saying these words:

You know me in my heart of hearts, so only give me that burden which you know I can bear and whatever you give me, I will trust that I have the strength to carry it.

My uncle's prayer always stayed with me. It's more beautiful than asking God for everything to work out how you want it to. God already knows what we desire, but sometimes what is more

honourable, is recognising that life isn't about having every wish granted—it's about cherishing what you have and hoping you have the strength to get through the difficult times.

I pray for patience to endure in times of hardship, and that we may emerge with the strength to continue forward. May we learn to face life's challenges not with fear, but with quiet trust, knowing that grace can carry us through.

Amen

SAT 05:45 Untaxing (m0029jjz)

4. The Porn Star Tax Lawyer

A football club in ruins. Thousands of people facing financial devastation. And one man at the centre of it all - a tax lawyer turned porn mogul.

But how did he get away with it? And why did HMRC struggle to stop him?

Producer: Tom Pooley

A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 06:00 News and Papers (m0021lyj)

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

SAT 06:07 Ramblings (m002kq3h)

Walk for Wendy - Chater Valley

Clare explores a six-mile loop of the Chater Valley in this week's Ramblings. Her companion is Will Hetherington who wrote to the programme inviting Clare to join him. He wanted to share his story of sudden bereavement, and the positivity that ultimately emerged from it.

Tragically, in 2017, Will's first wife, Wendy, took her own life. It was an enormous shock, bringing with it what Will describes as "complicated grief." However, a remark at her funeral about a long walk Will and Wendy had once done together led to the suggestion that he organise a group walk in her name. Sixty people turned up for that first hike, and it's now grown into a regular event known as Walk for Wendy.

Will says walking has been a wonderful way for him to process his emotions, and for others to step away from the daily grind and open up about the things that affect them. His passion for the outdoors has even led him to publish a series of books about walking in the local area.

Clare and Will met in North Luffenham, continued onto Pilton, Wing, Lyndon and then completed their circuit by returning to North Luffenham. This is Clare's second consecutive walk in Rutland... check out last week's episode where she ambled around the Hambleton Peninsula with the comedian, Mark Steel.

Map: OS Explorer 234 - Rutland Water (approaching the southern edge of the map)
Map Ref: SK 935 033 for Church Street where they started - and ended - the walk

If you are suffering distress or despair and need support, including urgent support, a list of organisations that can help is available at bbc.co.uk/actionline.

Presenter: Clare Balding

Producer: Karen Gregor

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 06:30 Farming Today (m0021lyl)

18/10/25 Farming Today This Week: No U-turn on farm inheritance tax, environmental scheme extension "too late", farming in Gaza

There will be no U-turn on the Government's plans for inheritance tax for farmers, according to the Farming Minister. Dame Angela Eagle says planned changes will go ahead in next month's budget, in spite of press reports to the contrary.

"Too little too late", that's what we're hearing from some farmers who've already ploughed up and planted fields that were being farmed for nature. They say this is because the Government took too long to come up with an extension to their environmental funding.

Red Tractor, the UK's largest farm assurance scheme, has had a TV advert banned by the Advertising Standards Authority. The watchdog says the advert exaggerated the environmental credentials of the scheme and misled customers.

Presented by Charlotte Smith and produced by Beatrice Fenton.

SAT 06:57 Weather (m0021lyn)

The latest weather reports and forecast

SAT 07:00 Today (m0021lyq)

Today (Saturday)

SAT 09:00 Saturday Live (m0021lys)

Peter James, Hedgelaying, Prosthetics and Philippa Gregory's Inheritance Tracks

Peter James joins Adrian Chiles for extraordinary stories from remarkable people.

SAT 10:00 Curious Cases (m0021lyv)

Series 24

Just My Luck

Are you a lucky person? Do the cards just fall well for you? Whether it's always find a parking spot when you need one or chance encounters that change your life's trajectory for the better, some people seem to have more luck than others. Hannah and Dara explore the world of probability and psychology to figure out if some people are luckier than others, and if there's anything we can do to turn things around.

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

Contributors

David Spiegelhalter - Emeritus Professor of Statistics in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences at the University of Cambridge

Richard Wiseman - Professor of the Public Understanding of Psychology University of Hertfordshire

Maia Young - Professor of Organization and Management at UC Irvine, California US

Edward Oldfield

Producer: Emily Bird

Executive Producer: Sasha Feachem

A BBC Studios Production

SAT 10:30 Legend (m0021lyx)

The Bruce Springsteen Story

2. Born to Run

How did Bruce become The Boss, and what did it cost him to get there? Laura Barton explores the extraordinary life story of Bruce Springsteen, taking a front-row seat at five important gigs to reveal the life behind the legend.

Bruce's story continues in Asbury Park, New Jersey, where he's living above a beauty parlour, broke, writing songs amongst the hairdressers. It's here he writes his first album, Greetings From Asbury Park. And in 1975, when New York is in turmoil and America in crisis, Springsteen releases his landmark album, Born To Run. This launches him to stardom.

London Hammersmith, 1975. Bruce's wildest dreams come true when the opportunity comes to perform in the home country of his greatest musical heroes. But what follows is far from the Springsteen shows of exuberant legend. And this newfound fame soon comes to replace Freehold, New Jersey, as the town he wants to flee.

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"I'm here tonight to provide proof of life to that ever elusive, never completely believable, particularly these days, us. That's my magic trick."

In Legend: The Bruce Springsteen Story, we uncover the magic trick to discover how a scrawny, long-haired introvert from small-town New Jersey became the iconic, muscular, and oft-misunderstood rock star of the 1980s, to the eloquent elder statesman he is now. What can his story tell us about America today?

In each episode, Laura takes us to the front row of a live performance that reveals a different side of The Boss, and hears him across the decades in his own words from the archive. We'll also hear from fellow worshippers in the Church of Springsteen and disciples from the E Street Band, including drummer Max Weinberg, tributes from those influenced by Bruce, such as Bryce Dessner from The National, as well as Freehold town historian Kevin Coyne and music critics and biographers such as Richard Williams, Eric Alterman, Steven Hyden, Warren Zanes and Diane H. Winston.

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

Producer: Eliza Lomas  
Series Developer: Mair Bosworth  
Production Coordinator: Stuart Laws  
Research: Sarah Goodman  
Series Editor: Emma Harding  
Sound Design and Original Music: Hannis Brown  
Commissioning Editors: Daniel Clarke and Matthew Dodd

**SAT 11:00 The Week in Westminster (m00211yz)**  
Radio 4's assessment of developments at Westminster

**SAT 11:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m00211zl)**  
Trump's Middle East victory lap

Kate Adie presents stories from Israel and Egypt, Haiti, Italy and Ireland.

President Trump received a hero's welcome when he landed in Israel this week, following his central role in brokering the Gaza ceasefire and hostage exchange deal. He also flew into the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, where he declared 'an historical turning point' to the gathered world leaders. Tom Bateman travelled with the president on Air Force One.

Mr Trump was short on detail when it came to how peace will proceed over the coming weeks, months - and years. That leaves the question: what happens next? Jeremy Bowen reflects on this moment in the region's long history – and wonders if there will ever be reconciliation.

In Haiti, armed criminal gangs still have a firm grip on the capital's impoverished neighbourhoods. On a recent visit, Jasmin Dyer saw the ruined communities the gangs have left in their wake, and met some of the young victims of their brutality.

Last month, a London-born boy became the first millennial saint. Carlo Acutis died of leukaemia aged 15, but in his short life he built websites documenting miracles as a means of spreading Catholic teaching – and became known as 'God's influencer'. Isabella Redmayne met pilgrims in the hilltop town of Assisi.

And it's perhaps a bit of a cliché when travelling to the US for locals to boast of their ancestry – part English, part German, part Scots and, more often than not, part Irish. On a recent visit to Ireland's south coast, James Helm bumped into some trans-Atlantic travellers and learned more about the country's enduring international appeal.

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

**SAT 12:00 News Summary (m00211z3)**  
The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**SAT 12:04 Money Box (m00211z5)**  
Unauthorised Recurring Card Payments and Overpaying Mortgages

The Chartered Trading Standards Institute is warning people to keep a close eye on their bank and credit card accounts after thousands of unsuspecting shoppers have said they're having money taken without their knowledge. Individual payments are usually quite low, but if not spotted, they can quickly start to add up. Trading Standards say it's "outrageous" these payments are being taken without explicit consent. How can you spot and stop these payments?

Two thirds of first time buyers are overpaying their mortgage and one in six hope to be mortgage free by the time they're 40 according to a report from TSB. Is it the same for other mortgage holders and what should you think about if you're considering overpaying on your mortgage?

More than half of adults in the UK do not have a will. So if they die they will have no say in how their money, property, and possessions are distributed. WillAid, where solicitors all over the UK make free wills and suggest a donation to charity in exchange. How does it all work and what happens if someone dies without a will?

Presenter: Paul Lewis  
Reporter: Dan Whitworth  
Researchers: Eimear Devlin and Jo Krasner  
Producers: Robert Cave  
Editor: Jess Quayle  
Senior News Editor: Sara Wadson

(First broadcast at **12pm** on Saturday 18th October 2025)

**SAT 12:30 The News Quiz (m002ks64)**  
Series 118

7. Forecast for Inflation and Flooding

In a week of budget talks, IMF forecasts of Inflation on the British horizon, flood risk reports and approval of solar farms, Andy Zaltzman is joined by Adam Kay, Zoe Lyons, Ria Lina and Stephen Bush to break down this week's news.

Written by Andy Zaltzman.

With additional material by: Daman Bamrah, Ruth Husko, Christina Riggs and Peter Tellouche.  
Producer: Rajiv Karia  
Executive Producer: Pete Strauss  
Production Coordinator: Giulia Lopes Mazzu  
Sound Editor: Marc Willcox

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

**SAT 12:57 Weather (m00211z7)**  
The latest weather forecast

**SAT 13:00 News (m00211z9)**  
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SAT 13:10 Any Questions? (m002ks6b)**  
Ann Davies MP, Tom Giffard MS, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Gawain Towler

Ben Wright presents political debate from the Vale of Rheidol Railway in Aberystwyth, with Plaid Cymru MP Ann Davies; Conservative Senedd member Tom Giffard; the deputy first minister of Wales, Labour's Huw Irranca-Davies; and Reform UK board member Gawain Towler.

Producer: Paul Martin  
Lead broadcast engineer: Owain Williams

**SAT 14:05 Any Answers? (m00211zc)**  
Listeners respond to the issues raised in the preceding edition of Any Questions?

Producer: Ed Prendeville  
Assistant Producer: Lowri Morgan  
Researcher: Jesse Edwards  
Editor: Glyn Tansley

**SAT 14:45 The Archers (m002ks66)**  
WRITER: Shaun McKenna  
DIRECTOR: Marina Calderone and David Payne  
EDITOR: Jeremy Howe

12-17th October

David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck  
Jolene Archer.... Buffy Davis  
Ruth Archer.... Felicity Finch  
Lilian Bellamy.... Sunny Ormonde  
Leonard Berry.... Paul Copley  
Clarrie Grundy.... Heather Bell  
Eddie Grundy.... Trevor Harrison  
George Grundy.... Angus Stobie  
Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley  
Tracy Horrobin.... Susie Riddell  
Akram Malik.... Asif Khan  
Khalil Malik.... Krish Bassi  
Zainab Malik.... Priyasha Kumari  
Fallon Rogers.... Joanna Van Kampen  
Oliver Sterling.... Michael Cochrane  
Esme Mulligan.... Ellie Pawsey

**SAT 15:00 Drama on 4 (m000rmck)**  
Star of the Sea

Episode Two

It is 1847 and American journalist Grantley Dixon is investigating a murder on board the Star of the Sea of bankrupt landowner, husband and father Lord David Merridith. The ship is bound for New York and full of fleeing refugees escaping from Ireland and the Potato Famine that has torn the country they have left apart. The ship is full of characters, all of whom may have a reason as to why they would want to kill Lord Merridith, but who is the actual murderer. Someone on board this ship is hungry for vengeance and has a need to see justice executed... Could it be Laura his wife, or their maidservant Mary or the pitiful Pius Mulvey who drags his maimed leg behind him as he stalks the deck at night... There are many characters for Grantley to choose from.

Few novels have been written about the Irish Potato famine by the great writers but Joseph O'Connor shows us in glorious technicolor just what effect this famine had on Ireland and its

people.

Cast  
Grantley Dixon ... Kyle Soller  
Lord David Merridith ... Johnny Flynn  
Laura ... Georgina Beedle  
Pius ... Rory Keenan  
Mary ... Charlene McKenna  
Captain ... Daniel Flynn  
Leeson ... Carl Prekopp  
David's father ... Stephen Critchlow  
Doctor Mangan ... Niall Buggy  
Nicholas Mulvey ... Kwaku Fortune  
Jonathan ... Ronan Casey  
Robert ... Alfie Hurley  
Young Mary ... Joni Martin  
Young David ... Hugo Mallon  
Mary's mother ... Tallulah Bond

Writer, Joseph O'Connor  
Dramatized by Claire McGowan  
Director, Celia de Wolff  
BBC Northern Ireland Production

**SAT 16:00 Woman's Hour (m00211zf)**  
Weekend Woman's Hour: Tilda Swinton, Dads at work, Karen Carney, Living with Tourette Syndrome, Bobbi Brown

Half of working dads feel nervous asking for time off to care for their children, more than 20% have been asked 'where's your wife/partner?' when requesting flexibility and 44% say employers treat mothers more favourably in terms of flexible working. These are the findings of a new study 'Barriers to Equal Parenting' by the charity Working Families. Nuala McGovern is joined by Elliott Rae founder of Parenting Out Loud and Penny East, chief executive of the Fawcett Society.

Tilda Swinton is one of the UK's most singular and celebrated performers. Over four decades she has delivered unforgettable and varied screen performances, notably Orlando, The Chronicles of Narnia, Michael Clayton and Asteroid City and collaborated with artists and filmmakers. She joins Anita Rani to talk about a new exhibition in Amsterdam celebrating her work and the enduring relationships that have inspired her.

There is a new film out now in cinemas called I Swear. It is inspired by the life and experiences of John Davidson, and charts his journey from a misunderstood teenager in 1980s Britain to a present-day advocate for greater understanding of Tourette syndrome. John was also featured in a BBC documentary back in 1989 called John's Not Mad. There is more recognition of the syndrome now, singers Lewis Capaldi and Billie Eilish have both openly talked about living with Tourette's and it's estimated over 300,000 children and adults in the UK have it. The key features are ties which cause people to make sudden, involuntary sounds and movements. To hear more about the condition and how it impacts women and girls Nuala talks to Wilamena Dyer, musician and Tourette syndrome advocate and Dr Tara Murphy, Consultant psychologist in the NHS, and Trustee of the support and research charity Tourettes Action.

Karen Carney is one of the most capped female footballers for England. The former Lioness joins Anita to talk about how she is using Strictly to help her 'rebuild confidence' after being 'crushed' by the sexist abuse she faced as a football pundit and her vision to improve women's sport.

Bobbi Brown is a make-up artist turned entrepreneur who created her now famous eponymous line in 1990. Her fresh-faced approach went against 80s and 90s trends at the time for bright colour and contouring and instead aimed to celebrate and enhance women's natural beauty. She made millions selling her brand to Estée Lauder and has gone on to create a new multimillion brand. On the release of her memoir, she joins Nuala to talk about her life and work.

Presenter: Anita Rani  
Producer: Simon Richardson

**SAT 17:00 PM (m00211zh)**  
Full coverage of the day's news

**SAT 17:30 Political Thinking with Nick Robinson (m00211zk)**  
Net Zero has become a religion: Claire Coutinho on climate, identity and cooking

The Shadow Energy Minister has transformed her party's approach to climate policy.

In this extended conversation, Claire Coutinho sets out what changed her mind on net zero, a shift that has brought her into fierce debates with her opposite number, Ed Miliband.

She also shares her feelings about what she calls a rising "ethno-

| Radio 4 Listings for 18 – 24 October 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              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| <p>nationalism" on the right of British politics, as well as her reaction to her colleague Robert Jenrick's comments about Birmingham.</p> <p>Nick asks how she ended up being sacked by Nigella Lawson, and sets up a future dinner party with Miliband.</p> <p>Producer: Daniel Kraemer<br/>Research: Chloe Desave<br/>Sound: Jed Sudlow and Andy Mills<br/>Editor: Jonathan Brunert</p> <p><b>SAT 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m00211zm)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>SAT 17:57 Weather (m00211zp)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecast</p> <p><b>SAT 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00211zr)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>SAT 18:15 Loose Ends (m00211zt)</b><br/>Brian Bilston, Chris Smither, Teresa Livingstone, Jolene O'Hara, Stick in the Wheel, AOIBHA</p> <p>Clive kicks off in Belfast's Black Box as the Belfast International Arts Festival begins to light up venues around the city. Poet Brian Bilston is in town after putting some of his poetry to music with the help of The Catenary Wires. US folk and blues musician Chris Smither tells all about his musical journey spanning over six decades. Someone else who knows a lot about blues as of recent is opera singer Jolene O'Hara, who has taken on the role of County Down musician and 'godmother of British blues' Otilie Patterson in the one-woman show, Otilie. Plus, Teresa Livingstone has plenty of embarrassing stories from former jobs and her own work in stand-up, so she's channelling it all into gathering the same from other comedians in her podcast Scundered.</p> <p>Belfast's AOIBHA reflects on her year of her first debut EP Peace in Insignificance, and folk-duo Stick in the Wheel chat about their current tour as they bring a bit of Tudor-era satire with their track The Cramp.</p> <p>Presenter: Clive Anderson<br/>Producer: Anthony McKee</p> <p>A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p><b>SAT 19:00 Profile (m00211zw)</b><br/>Luke Littler</p> <p>Luke Littler, the 18-year-old darts star, is already one of the most famous people in British sport. This week he won yet another title, the World Grand Prix.</p> <p>Born in Warrington, he started throwing arrows while he was still wearing nappies. By the time he was 10, Littler was competing in under-21 competitions and would win his first senior title at 14.</p> <p>He shot to national fame in early 2024 when he reached the world championship final aged 16. Despite losing the match, he sparked 'Littlermania', drawing huge crowds and introducing a whole new generation to the sport. Earlier this year, he managed to do one better and became the youngest ever World Darts Champion.</p> <p>Stephen Smith traces his meteoric rise.</p> <p>Production<br/>Presenter: Stephen Smith<br/>Producers: Ben Crighton, Mhairi MacKenzie and Alex Loftus<br/>Editor: Justine Lang<br/>Sound Editor: Neil Churchill</p> <p><b>SAT 19:15 This Cultural Life (m002kq2v)</b><br/>Rose Tremain</p> <p>Dame Rose Tremain is one of Britain's most prolific and popular writers, having written 17 novels and five collections of short stories over the last 50 years. She was one of only six women on Granta magazine inaugural 1982 list of the best young British novelists, alongside Martin Amis, Ian McEwan Salman Rushdie and others. Her fifth novel Restoration was nominated for the Booker Prize in 1989, she won the Whitbread Prize for Music And Silence in 1999, and was awarded the 2008 Orange Prize - the precursor to the Women's Prize for Fiction - for her novel The Road Home. Having already been made a CBE in 2007, she became Dame Rose Tremain in 2020 for services to writing. Her most recent work is a short story called The Toy Car.</p> | <p>Rose Tremain tells John Wilson how her father, a largely unsuccessful playwright called Keith Thomson, inspired her childhood interest in storytelling, although he never encouraged her to write. She recalls how she first starting writing fiction to help her cope with loneliness in a household where there was little parental affection.</p> <p>Rose recalls how it was a teacher at her boarding school first recognised her ability and encouraged her to apply for an Oxbridge university place, only to be dissuaded by her mother, who sent her to a finishing school in the France instead. She credits the novelist Angus Wilson, one of her English Literature tutors at the University Of East Anglia, for giving her the confidence to write her first novel. She also chooses The Diary Of Samuel Pepys as a major inspiration on her 1989 Booker-shortlisted novel Restoration, which was later turned into a Hollywood film starring Robert Downey Jr. and Meg Ryan.</p> <p>Producer: Edwina Pitman</p> <p><b>SAT 20:00 Archive on 4 (m00211zy)</b><br/>A People's History of Gaza</p> <p>The back-story of Gaza, from the 1940s to the 2010s, told mainly through the personal experiences of a wide variety of ordinary people - a teacher, a smuggler, a bird-watcher, musicians, doctors and others. Tim Whewell finds out how the tiny territory was created, how it first filled with refugees, how people lived, worked and died, how they survived invasions, wars and blockade, how hopes for peace rose and fell - under the rule of Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and Hamas. How did refugees arrive in Gaza in 1948? Why is the Strip so important to Palestinian identity - and the wider Palestinian-Israeli conflict? How did living conditions gradually improve? How did the 1967 Six Day War change people's lives? Why did the two intifadas of 1987 and 2000 break out? When were the best times for Gazans in recent history? What changed for them after Hamas took control in 2007? Tim asks these and many other questions in this journey through the recent history of a sliver of land that has often dominated world news.</p> <p>(Image: Palestinian refugee Ayish Younis with his grandmother Khadija Khalima (left) and his mother, also Khadija Khalima, 1955 Credit: family archive)</p> <p><b>SAT 21:00 The History Podcast (m0021200)</b><br/>The Fort. Omnibus 2</p> <p>A Taliban ambush has forced Zulu Company to withdraw from Jugroom Fort.</p> <p>But Lance Corporal Mathew Ford is missing back at the enemy stronghold - and a daring plan from pilot Tom O'Malley has seen Three Royal Marines and a Royal engineer volunteer to head straight back into danger to get him back - by perching on the stub wings of two Apache attack helicopters.</p> <p>The volunteers are in a desperate race to find their comrade. After the operation, a reckoning takes place - but some sacrifices can't be measured.</p> <p>Charlotte Madison spoke to Woman's Hour in 2010. The Fort is told solely by current and serving members of the Armed Forces.</p> <p>Produced by Kev Core</p> <p><b>SAT 22:00 News (m0021202)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>SAT 22:15 The Food Programme (m002ks53)</b><br/>Feeding Britain: Can Our Best Food Producers Deliver?</p> <p>Sheila Dillon and this year's head judge of the BBC Food and Farming Awards, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, hit the road to meet the finalists in the Best Food Producer category. From sourdough pioneers Aidan Monks and Catherine Connor at Lovingly Artisan in Kendal, and regenerative grower Calixta Killander at Flourish Produce in Cambridgeshire, to cheese champions Andy and Kathy Swinscoe at The Courtyard Dairy in North Yorkshire — they explore how these exceptional producers might hold clues to a more resilient food future. Inspired by Professor Tim Lang's recent report, Just in Case: narrowing the UK civil food resilience gap, the episode asks: could these small but significant businesses be part of the solution to Britain's food security crisis?</p> <p>Presented by Sheila Dillon<br/>Produced for BBC Audio in Bristol by Natalie Donovan</p> <p><b>SAT 23:00 Mark Steel's in Town (m002krhw)</b><br/>Series 14</p> <p>2. Wrexham</p> <p>Second stop of the new series is Wrexham in North Wales.</p> | <p>Wrexham has gone from industrial workhorse to global celebrity, thanks to two Hollywood actors who bought the local football club.</p> <p>It's a place where five of the Seven Wonders of Wales are apparently within walking distance of a Screwfix, where children learn "risk management" on playgrounds made from drainpipes salvaged at the council tip, and where an underground tunnel network may or may not have been built for priests sneaking to the pub... or for inmates tunnelling into prison for a game of pool.</p> <p>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 Wrexham, in this series, Mark be will also be popping to Oakham, Cambridge, Lewisham and, Lerwick and Unst in Shetland.</p> <p>There will also be extended versions of each episode available on BBC sounds.</p> <p>Written and performed by Mark Steel</p> <p>Additional material by Pete Sinclair<br/>Production co-ordinator Caroline Barlow and Katie Baum<br/>Sound Manager Jerry Peal<br/>Producer Carl Cooper</p> <p>A BBC Studios production for Radio 4</p> <p><b>SAT 23:30 The 3rd Degree (m002krbz)</b><br/>Series 15</p> <p>5. Manchester Metropolitan University</p> <p>This episode coming from Manchester Metropolitan University, The 3rd Degree is a funny, upbeat and brainy quiz show.</p> <p>The specialist subjects this week are Mental Health Nursing, Law and Digital Marketing, so there'll be questions on the serious topic of Epigenetic Development Theory, the very serious topic of what legal form you need to ask about your drains, and the incredibly serious topic of what McDonalds tweeted back to Kanye West. And just what is going on with Blackpool's postcode?</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 &amp; 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><b>SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2025</b></p> <p><b>SUN 00:00 Midnight News (m0021204)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>SUN 00:15 Take Four Books (m002krbx)</b><br/>John Banville</p> <p>Booker Prize winning Irish author John Banville speaks about his new novel Venetian Vespers and together with presenter James Crawford they explore its connections to three other works of literary art.</p> <p>Set in the year 1899, Venetian Vespers is told from the perspective of the unfortunate Evelyn Dolman, a self-confessed hack-writer who marries Laura Rensselaer, the daughter of a wealthy American plutocrat, but in the midst of a mysterious rift between Laura and her father, Evelyn's plans of a substantial inheritance are thrown into doubt.</p> <p>For his three influences John chose: the Daphne Du Maurier short story, Don't Look Now, from 1971, which is also the inspiration for director Nicolas Roeg's classic film of the same name; The Aspern Papers by Henry James from 1888; and Death In Venice by Thomas Mann, from 1912.</p> <p>Producer: Dominic Howell<br/>Editor: Gillian Wheelan</p> |
| Supported by <a href="https://bbc.co.uk/programmes/">bbc.co.uk/programmes/</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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This was a BBC Audio Scotland production.

**SUN 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m0021206)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SUN 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m0021208)**

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 (m002120b)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SUN 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002120d)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**SUN 05:43 Bells on Sunday (m002120g)**

The Church of St Mary Magdalene, Richmond in Greater London

Bells on Sunday comes from the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Richmond in Greater London. The earliest reference to the church is in 1100 from the records of nearby Merton Abbey. The church was rebuilt in the 15th century and the tower is the only remaining part of that Tudor church. There are eight bells dating from the late 17th and mid-18th centuries. The tenor bell weighs eighteen and half hundredweight and is tuned to the note of F. We now hear them ringing Plain Bob Major.

**SUN 05:45 In Touch (m002krj4)**

Sir Stephen Timms on Access to Work

Minister for Social Security and Disability Sir Stephen Timms provides In Touch with updates on the Access to Work scheme. AtW is the government programme that provides disabled people with support in the workplace; be that funding for support workers or things like specialist equipment. Throughout the course of this year, In Touch has been hearing many rumours about potential cuts to the scheme, which caused fear and anxiety amongst the scheme's recipients. Sir Stephen Timms addresses these concerns and provides updates on his recent consultations which were based on what the future of the scheme may look like.

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 (m002121y)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SUN 06:05 Beyond Belief (m002krhk)**

Consciousness

Giles Fraser explores Dr. Iain McGilchrist's brain hemisphere theory, which argues that the left and right hemispheres of the brain perceive the world in radically different ways—and that modern society has become dangerously dominated by the left hemisphere's analytical, fragmented, and controlling mode of thought. He describes how the two hemispheres of the brain perceive reality in fundamentally different ways. The left hemisphere, he argues, sees a fragmented, abstract world—focused on control and acquisition—while the right hemisphere perceives a flowing, interconnected reality, rich in context, meaning, and mystery.

We unpack this theory with our panel of experts: Dr. Philip Goff, philosopher and professor at Durham University. Philip is known for his work in panpsychism, a philosophical view which proposes that consciousness is a fundamental and ubiquitous feature of the universe—not just something that emerges from complex brains, but something that may be present even at the level of basic matter. His research focuses on the philosophy of mind and the nature of consciousness.

Canon Dr. Joanna Collicutt, psychologist and theologian from the University of Oxford. Joanna brings a unique perspective that bridges psychology, spirituality, and pastoral care—exploring how religious experience shapes and is shaped by the human mind.

And Professor Andrew Newberg, a neuroscientist and a leading

figure in the emerging field of neurotheology—which explores the relationship between brain function and religious or spiritual experience. Andrew is Professor in the Department of Integrative Medicine and Nutritional Sciences and Director of Research at the Marcus Institute of Integrative Health at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in the United States.

Also on the programme, The Sacred podcaster Elizabeth Oldfield, shares a powerful spiritual experience—one that defied easy explanation and left a lasting imprint on her spiritual life.

Beyond Belief is a BBC Audio North production for Radio 4.

Presenter: Giles Fraser

Producer: Bara'atu Ibrahim

Assistant Producer: Jay Behrouzi & Linda Walker

Editor: Tim Pemberton

**SUN 06:35 On Your Farm (m0021220)**

The Hebridean Tree Project

Laura McEwan is a self-confessed dendrophile: a tree lover. She can talk for hours about her favourite - the aspen - and other varieties including the alder, willow, hazel and downy birch which are being planted in a mosaic of small woodlands on underused crofts across the Outer Hebrides.

Nearly a quarter of a million trees have been planted so far in the Western Isles Croft Woodland Project. It is largely funded by the Point and Sandwick Trust which owns a community wind farm on the Isle of Lewis.

Kathleen Carragher visits a couple of participating crofts with Laura including a small planting project started by retired minister, Murdo Smith. Murdo's saplings are being grazed by deer, a common problem on Lewis. Laura has been advising him on the use of a spray deterrent made from sheep fat, which seems to be having some success in keeping them at bay.

Presented by Kathleen Carragher and produced by John Deering.

**SUN 06:57 Weather (m0021222)**

The latest weather reports and forecast

**SUN 07:00 News and Papers (m0021224)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**SUN 07:10 Sunday (m0021226)**

A look at the ethical and religious issues of the week

**SUN 07:54 Radio 4 Appeal (m0021228)**

The PSP Association

Trustee Jon Garrard makes the Radio 4 Appeal on behalf of The PSP Association. Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), is a rare and incurable neurological condition and the charity provides support for families from across the UK who are affected in some way by the disease.

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 'The PSP Association'.

- Cheques should be made payable to 'The PSP Association'.

- You can donate online at [bbc.co.uk/appeal/radio4](https://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: 1037087. If you'd like to find out more about the charity's work visit

[\\*https://www.pspassociation.org.uk/](https://www.pspassociation.org.uk/)

\*The BBC is not responsible for content on external websites

Producer: Katy Takatsuki

**SUN 07:57 Weather (m002122b)**

The latest weather reports and forecast

**SUN 08:00 News and Papers (m002122d)**

The news headlines, including a look at the newspapers.

**SUN 08:10 Sunday Worship (m002122g)**

Lost and Found: The Parables

Swazy Shire from BBC Radio 1 and 1Xtra hosts a series across

Sunday Worship and Daily Service exploring some of Jesus's best stories - The Parables - with musicians from different genres. As Swazy says 'Jesus is a master storyteller - using imagery and word pictures to help us understand heavenly truths - and so I thought I'd chat with some super talented people in the music who write and compose and sing and bless us with great stories too.'

Swazy sits down with Keisha Buchanan from The Sugababes and David Melodee from The Composers to unpack their favourite parables and finds out how Jesus' teachings help them navigate their faith so authentically in the music industry, from influencing lifestyle choices, to what they write or sing about. David picks The Parable of the Talents and Keisha picks The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant, and they choose a gospel track each that means something to them.

Music:

Guide me o thou great jehovah - Rachel John

Amazing Grace - Melodees from Heaven

Your world - Jonathan McReynolds

I give myself away - William McDowell

Yet - Maverick City

Jesus I do - Mariah Carey and The Clark Sisters

**SUN 08:48 Witness History (w3ct7461)**

Lunch atop a Skyscraper

In 1932, a photo was taken showing 11 New York ironworkers casually eating their lunch while sitting on a steel beam at the top of a skyscraper.

No safety harnesses, no helmets. Their legs dangled freely over the death-defying drop. 'Lunch atop a Skyscraper' is now one of the most famous pictures in the world but it's an image surrounded in mystery.

For years, the identity of its photographer and the 11 men have been unknown. Christine Roussel, archivist at the Rockefeller Center, tells Vicky Farncombe about her mission to uncover the photo's secrets.

Eye-witness accounts brought to life by archive. Witness History is for those fascinated by the past.

We take you to the events that have shaped our world through the eyes of the people who were there. For nine minutes every day, we take you back in time and all over the world, to examine wars, coups, scientific discoveries, cultural moments and much more.

Recent episodes explore everything from football in Brazil, the history of the 'Indian Titanic' and the invention of air fryers, to Public Enemy's Fight The Power, subway art and the political crisis in Georgia.

We look at the lives of some of the most famous leaders, artists, scientists and personalities in history, including: visionary architect Antoni Gaudi and the design of the Sagrada Familia; Michael Jordan and his bespoke Nike trainers; Princess Diana at the Taj Mahal; and Görel Hanser, manager of legendary Swedish pop band Abba on the influence they've had on the music industry.

You can learn all about fascinating and surprising stories, such as the time an Iraqi journalist hurled his shoes at the President of the United States in protest of America's occupation of Iraq; the creation of the Hollywood commercial that changed advertising forever; and the ascent of the first Aboriginal MP.

(Photo: Lunch atop a Skyscraper. Credit: Getty Images)

**SUN 08:58 Tweet of the Day (m002122j)**

Roland Arnison on the Leach's Petrel

In 2024 and 2025 expedition leader and film-maker Roland Arnison kayaked along the west coast and isles of Scotland to find and record the sounds of seabird species. His quest took him 40 miles out into the Atlantic to St Kilda in search of the Leach's petrel, one of Britain's rarest birds that only nests on a handful of offshore rocky islands. We join Roland scrambling up a cliff at midnight to hear the extraordinary call of this nocturnal bird.

Presented by Roland Arnison and produced by Sophie Anton for BBC Audio in Bristol

This programme features audio recorded on St Kilda by Roland Arnison.

**SUN 09:00 Broadcasting House (m002122i)**

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

**SUN 10:00 Desert Island Discs (m002122n)**

Mary Greenwell, makeup artist

Mary Greenwell is a makeup artist who has worked with some of the most famous faces in the world including Christy Turlington, Linda Evangelista, David Bowie and Cate Blanchett. Her less-is-more approach has won her plaudits in the beauty industry and she became Princess Diana's makeup artist of choice.

Mary was born in Sussex and left school at 16. By the mid-1970s she was living in Los Angeles where she started out on the door at the legendary Joe Allen restaurant, escorting the likes of Paul Newman and Jack Lemmon to their tables. She received her one and only makeup lesson from the award-winning Ilana Harkavi and shortly afterwards created a look for 12-year-old actor Brooke Shields.

Mary's big break came when she moved to Paris in 1984 and began working with the original supermodels; Christy Turlington, Cindy Crawford, Linda Evangelista and Tatiana Patitz. In 1990 she met Princess Diana on a Vogue photo shoot and became her go-to makeup artist and friend.

In 2025 Mary was appointed an MBE for services to the beauty and fashion industries and her charity work.

Mary lives in London.

Presenter: Lauren Laverne  
Producer: Paula McGinley

There are more than 2000 programmes in our archive available for you to listen to. We've cast away other hair and beauty experts including the makeup artist Pat McGrath, and hairdressers Vidal Sassoon and Trevor Sorbie. Cate Blanchett, one of Mary's clients, is 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 (m002122q)**  
WRITER: Shaun McKenna  
DIRECTOR: Marina Caldarone and David Payne  
EDITOR: Jeremy Howe

12-17th October

David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck  
Jolene Archer.... Buffy Davis  
Ruth Archer.... Felicity Finch  
Lilian Bellamy.... Sunny Ormonde  
Leonard Berry.... Paul Copley  
Clarrie Grundy.... Heather Bell  
Eddie Grundy.... Trevor Harrison  
George Grundy.... Angus Stobie  
Brad Horrobin.... Taylor Uttley  
Tracy Horrobin.... Susie Riddell  
Akram Malik.... Asif Khan  
Khalil Malik.... Krish Bassi  
Zainab Malik.... Priyasasha Kumari  
Fallon Rogers.... Joanna Van Kampen  
Oliver Sterling.... Michael Cochrane  
Esme Mulligan.... Ellie Pawsey

**SUN 12:15 Profile (m00211zw)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Saturday]

**SUN 12:30 Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (m002krlw)**  
Series 4

Walking In A Sinha Sunderland

Paul Sinha tests his audience in Sunderland on their knowledge of white suits, local football heroes and literary icons in a splendiferous half-hour of edutainment.

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

Original music: Tim Sutton

Recording engineers: Sean Kerwin & Hamish Campbell  
Mixed by Rich Evans  
Producer: Ed Morrish

A Lead Mojo production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 12:57 Weather (m002122s)**  
The latest weather forecast

**SUN 13:00 The World This Weekend (m002122v)**  
Radio 4's look at the week's big stories from both home and around the world.

**SUN 13:30 Currently (m002kflj)**  
The Split

David Baker's Jewish identity and faith have always been central to who he is - and so is his affiliation with Israel. But he has been re-evaluating that relationship since Hamas's attack on Israel on 7 October 2023 and the war in Gaza.

For many decades after the founding of Israel, most British Jews were unequivocal in their support. And that is still the case for many Jews in Britain. But there is evidence that those ties are weakening for a younger generation and some older Jews, too, are criticising the actions of Israel's current right-wing government and the devastation of Gaza.

In a search for answers, David talks to other British Jews who are responding in different ways. Some are taking political action, some are deepening their bonds with Israel and others are re-examining their connection with the Jewish state.

Presenter: David Baker  
Producer: Jo Glanville  
Executive Producer: Robert Nicholson  
A Whistledown Production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 14:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m002ks5t)**  
Postbag Edition: RHS Wisley Greening Skills Garden

Peter Gibbs and the Gardeners Question Time panel visit the RHS Wisley Greening Skills Garden in Woking, an exciting new project designed to inspire and equip the next generation of horticulturalists. No postbag edition is complete without your questions, so the panel dip into the GQT inbox to answer your gardening conundrums.

Joining Peter are head gardeners and garden designers Pippa Greenwood, Matthew Pottage and Matthew Biggs.

Senior Producer: Dan Cocker  
Junior Producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 14:45 One to One (m001q67d)**  
Aleighcia Scott's Reggae Heroes: Benji Webbe

Benji Webbe's memories of Reggae began with his parents' record collection and the 'blues' parties his brother held when their Dad was away, when the furniture in the front room was replaced with huge wardrobe speakers and curried goat would be cooking in the kitchen. After several attempts to forge a career in Reggae, Benji started writing rock songs with a friend in what became the band Dub War, and the blend of heavy metal riffs with Benji's roots in Reggae and dance hall started opening doors. It's an ethos that's continued with the band Skindred and Benji maintains it's about spreading those same positive messages of peace, love and unity.

Aleighcia and Benji talk about the culture of Reggae in South Wales, and how coachloads of people used to come to Cardiff and Newport to listen to the music and see live bands. They talk about Benji's relationship with the genre and how it has come full-circle again with the band Skindred, and why when they go further afield some people are surprised to find out there is any Reggae music (and black people) in Wales.

Presenter: Aleighcia Scott  
Produced by Toby Field for BBC Audio Bristol

**SUN 15:00 Drama on 4 (m002122z)**  
Stormy Applause

Episode 2

Stormy Applause, adapted from Rostislav Dubinsky's memoir, tells how the Borodin Quarter rose from idealistic students in Moscow to cultural ambassadors of the Soviet Union, their music shaped as much by politics as by artistry. In America, they are dazzled by the abundance and openness of the West, but success abroad brings new strains at home. Tempers flare, loyalties fray, and the bond that once held them together is pushed to breaking point, as each must decide whether to bend to the state, betray a friend, or gamble everything on escape.

Cast:

Jacob Fortune-Lloyd  
James Corrigan  
Danny Ashok  
Django Bevan  
Eric Meyers  
Ronan Summers  
Maggie Service  
Aoife Moss  
Sasha McCabe

Musicians:

Andrew O'Reilly  
Isabell Karlsson  
Vivek Dinesh  
Yixuan Ren

Sound design: Peter Ringrose.

Adapted by Nick Perry.

Produced & directed by Sasha Yevtushenko and Luke MacGregor.

A BBC Studios production.

**SUN 16:00 Take Four Books (m0021231)**  
Philippa Gregory

Celebrated historical novelist Philippa Gregory speaks to James Crawford about her latest novel Boleyn Traitor and explores its connections to three other works of literature.

Philippa's intimate portrayals of the machinations of the Tudor court have made her a bestseller and a household name. In her latest dive in to 16th Century England, she returns to the world of King Henry VIII, seen through the eyes of Jane Boleyn, confidante to five of Henry's six wives – but was she a loyal friend, or a duplicitous spy?

For her three influences Philippa chose: The Golden Bowl by Henry James (1904), A Room With A View by EM Forster (1908), and The Country and the City by Raymond Williams (1973).

Producer: Caitlin Sneddon  
Editor: Gillian Wheelan

This is a BBC Audio Scotland production.

**SUN 16:30 The 3rd Degree (m0021233)**  
Series 15

6. University of Edinburgh

The 3rd Degree is a funny, upbeat and brainy quiz show.

With this episode coming from the University of Edinburgh, the Specialist Subjects are Theology, Jewellery & Silversmithing and Medicine - so naturally we'll be learning the true meaning of univocity, the proper method of sintering, the correct usage of fluorisotopes and the best way to eat Dubai Chocolate. Oh, and how to pronounce Kirkcudbrightshire. More or less.

The show is recorded on location at a different University each week, and pits three Undergraduates against three of their Professors. 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, the universities include Bristol, Queen Mary University of London, Kent, Worcester College Oxford, Manchester Metropolitan University and Edinburgh

Producer: David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4

**SUN 17:00 Witness History (w3ctf74jk)**  
Brazil's biggest bank heist

In August 2005, a gang of thieves tunnelled their way into a Brazilian bank vault in a heist straight out of the movies.

Three months before, the thieves had set up a landscaping business, Grama Sintetica - or Synthetic Grass, from a house close to the Banco Central in Fortaleza. But it was a plot to disguise their real activity.

Working in shifts, they dug an 80 metre tunnel from the house, under a neighbouring street and into the vault before escaping with more than 160million reais, then the equivalent of \$70m.

Antonio Celso Dos Santos, then a federal police chief, was one of the detectives who tracked down the gang. He spoke to Jane Wilkinson about the investigation.

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: Police and journalists examine the Banco Central tunnel, 2005. Credit: AP Photo/Tuno de Vieira, Diario do Nordeste)

#### **SUN 17:10 The Verb (m0021236)**

Poetry by Tony Harrison, US Poet Laureate Arthur Sze, Sinéad Morrissey, David Morley, and Daniel Sluman

Ian McMillan celebrates an iconic poem that inspired a generation of poets and readers - Tony Harrison's 'Them and Uz'

His guests include the new US Poet Laureate Arthur Sze, the former Poet Laureate of Belfast Sinéad Morrissey who brings us an autumnal 'Neon Line', zoologist and poet David Morley on his new book 'Passion', and Daniel Sluman on a landmark anthology 'Versus Versus - 100 Poems by Deaf, Disabled & Neurodivergent Poets'

#### **SUN 17:54 Shipping Forecast (m0021238)**

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

#### **SUN 17:57 Weather (m002123b)**

The latest weather reports and forecast

#### **SUN 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002123d)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### **SUN 18:15 Pick of the Week (m002123g)**

Guvna B

There's a theme of writing this week, as Radio 1's Richie Brave covers the sometimes controversial world of spoken word poetry on 1Xtra Talks. Dame Rose Tremain is on This Cultural Life, discussing how writing helped her process a difficult childhood, and Illuminated brings us the enduring appeal (and life span) of the simple message in a bottle. Plus, one very special young photographer who is capturing hearts as well as photos on PM.

Presenter: Guvna B

Producer: Emily Esson

Production Coordinators: Caroline Peddle and Caoilfhinn McFadden

A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4.

#### **SUN 19:00 The Archers (m002123j)**

It's clash of the titans at The Bull, and Josh makes a friend.

#### **SUN 19:15 Illuminated (m002123l)**

The Findhorn Garden

This is a story about a community on the north east coast of Scotland that talked to plants with miraculous results.

Established in 1962, the Findhorn community gained international recognition for 40lb cabbages, 8-foot delphiniums, and roses that bloomed in snow.

With seemingly no gardening experience, community founders Peter and Eileen Caddy and their friend Dorothy Maclean transformed the barren sand dunes surrounding the 30-foot caravan they were living in, into a modern-day garden of Eden.

The public wanted to know how this was possible. What was the source of this horticultural miracle?

People flocked to Findhorn from around the world to witness this incredible transformation first-hand.

An extraordinary story began to emerge. Peter, Eileen and Dorothy - along with Scottish writer and supernatural enthusiast Robert Ogilvie Crombie (ROC) - attributed their success to one thing: collaboration with the 'intelligence of nature'.

They claimed they had pierced the veil of the nature spirit realm, and were regularly receiving guidance from fairies, floral spirits and angelic forms Dorothy called 'Devas' - the 'architects' of the natural world. Moreover, they had been called upon by these entities to transform the Findhorn Garden into a centre of spiritual light.

What started with a single family in a caravan quickly grew into a thriving international village of hundreds of people united by shared social, spiritual and ecological values.

Inspired by the media's enduring fascination with Findhorn's supernatural origins, sound designer Jonathan Webb travels to Findhorn in search of transmissions from the nature spirit realm.

Trawling through the archives, in conversation with community elders, and in pursuit of sonic traces of higher elemental worlds, Jonathan brings into focus the echoes and reverberations of Findhorn's strange and magical past.

Produced, Edited & Sound Designed by Jonathan Webb  
Executive Producer: Carys Wall

A Bspoken Media Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

Additional field recordings by Brenda Hutchinson.

With grateful thanks to Jonathan Caddy, Judy McAllister and Karl Jay-Lewin, whose kindness and generosity made this programme possible.

Thank you to the Findhorn Foundation for providing access and permission to use recordings from the Findhorn Foundation archive.

The Findhorn Garden includes excerpts from 'The River' by Lark Batteau and 'Love One Another' by David Spangler and Milenko Matanovic, performing as The New Troubadours (Findhorn community band, 1970-1973)

Jonathan Webb makes no claim to authorship or ownership over any of the quotations or repurposed recordings used in the production of this work, and for practical and artistic reasons it has not been possible to reference and cite them individually. Jonathan Webb's authorship is in the overall conception, arrangement, treatment and presentation of this audio artwork in its context.

#### **SUN 19:45 Just One Thing - with Michael Mosley (m00187ws)**

Read

In this episode, Michael enters the world of creative fiction to discover how simply reading a story for half an hour a day can bring big benefits to your body and brain - from reducing stress and helping stave off depression, to strengthening your social skills and even helping you live longer! With the help of Professor Raymond Mar from York University in Toronto, Canada, Michael discovers why reading for pleasure could have such a significant impact on overall health and longevity, and delves into research revealing the unique benefits of reading narrative fiction.

#### **SUN 20:00 Feedback (m002kq3m)**

Politics Editor Chris Mason. Interview of the Year. Desert Island Discs with Ronnie Wood

With a summer of political turmoil over, and party conference season near an end, Andrea Catherwood talks to Chris Mason about how BBC audio coverage has reflected the key political players. The Feedback inbox has been receiving messages that question the amount of coverage given to Nigel Farage's Reform UK party. Chris responds to your questions and weighs in on what he says is a change in UK politics we haven't seen in decades.

And our search for BBC audio's best interview of 2025 continues. One listener has nominated an interview conducted by presenter Evan Davies in a recent episode of PM. He spoke to an unnamed asylum seeker from Somalia, currently waiting on an asylum application in the Bell Hotel in Epping. What they discussed revealed a different side of a story that has seized the attention of the nation this year.

Finally, we've heard from a listener who has thoughts about a recent episode of Desert Island Discs - in which Rolling Stone's guitarist Ronnie Wood seemed to request an endless array of luxury items for his island getaway.

Presenter: Andrea Catherwood  
Producer: Pauline Moore

Assistant Producer: Rebecca Guthrie  
Executive Producer: David Prest

A Whistledown Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

#### **SUN 20:30 Last Word (m002ks5y)**

Peter Gurney, Diane Keaton, Peter Hall, Angela Bond

Matthew Bannister on

Peter Gurney, the George Medal winning bomb disposal expert who regularly risked his life to defuse explosive devices, including the mortars that were fired at 10 Downing Street by the IRA in 1991.

Diane Keaton, the actor best known for her collaboration with Woody Allen in Annie Hall and Manhattan.

Peter Hall, the pioneering English winemaker from Sussex who turned his Breaky Bottom grapes into acclaimed sparkling wines.

Angela Bond, who saved the much-loved Bush Theatre in West London from closure. The director Josie Rourke and the writer Jack Thorne pay tribute.

Producer: Ed Prendeville  
Assistant Producer: Ribika Moktan  
Researcher: Jesse Edwards  
Editor: Glyn Tansley

Archive used:  
BBC News, BBC, 07/02/1991; Newsnight, BBC, 26/10/1981; It's My Story: The Long Walk, BBC Radio 4, 26/03/2012; The Food Programme: A Vintage Year for Homegrown Wine, BBC Radio 4, 22/11/2018; Food and Drink, BBC, 10/08/1982; Annie Hall, MGM, 1977; Cast: Diane Keaton; Director: Woody Allen; Producers: Fred T. Gallo, Robert Greenhut, Jack Rollins, Charles H. Joffe; Screenwriters: Woody Allen, Marshall Brickman; Woman's Hour, BBC Radio 4, 15/11/2011; Front Row, BBC Radio 4, 19/06/2017; Diane Keaton – Seems Like Old Times, Columbia Pictures, 1980

#### **SUN 21:00 Money Box (m00211z5)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:04 on Saturday]

#### **SUN 21:25 Radio 4 Appeal (m0021228)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 today]

#### **SUN 21:30 From Our Own Correspondent (m00211z1)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:30 on Saturday]

#### **SUN 22:00 Westminster Hour (m002123n)**

Ben Wright hosts lively political chat

Radio 4's Sunday night political discussion programme.

#### **SUN 23:00 In Our Time (m00139nw)**

Thomas Hardy's Poetry

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 second of his choices, we hear Melvyn Bragg and his guests discuss one of his favourite poets.

Their topic is Thomas Hardy (1840-1928) and his commitment to poetry, which he prized far above his novels. In the 1890s, once he had earned enough from his fiction, Hardy stopped writing novels altogether and returned to the poetry he had largely put aside since his twenties. He hoped that he might be ranked one day alongside Shelley and Byron, worthy of inclusion in a collection such as Palgrave's Golden Treasury which had inspired him. Hardy kept writing poems for the rest of his life, in different styles and metres, and he explored genres from nature, to war, to epic. Among his best known are what he called his Poems of 1912 to 13, responding to his grief at the death of his first wife, Emma (1840-1912), who he credited as the one who had made it possible for him to leave his work as an architect's clerk and to write the novels that made him famous.

With

Mark Ford  
Poet, and Professor of English and American Literature, University College London.

Jane Thomas  
Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Hull and Senior Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Leeds

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| <p>And</p> <p>Tim Armstrong<br/>Professor of Modern English and American Literature at Royal Holloway, University of London</p> <p>Producer: Simon Tillotson</p> <p>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</p> <p><b>SUN 23:45 Short Works (m002ks5w)</b><br/>The Cottage</p> <p>A new short work from award-winning writer Callum McSorley.</p> <p>Labouring for your dad in the summer holidays is grim enough without factoring in a ruined cottage where normal rules don't apply.<br/>Read by Scott Miller<br/>Produced by Eilidh McCreadie</p> <p>Callum McSorley is a writer based in Glasgow. His short stories have appeared in Gutter Magazine, New Writing Scotland, Typehouse Literary Magazine, The Glasgow Review of Books, Monstrous Regiment, and many more. His debut novel, SQUEAKY CLEAN, featuring DCI Alison McCoist, won The McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Book of the Year 2023. Its sequel, PAPERBOY, was published this year and is shortlisted for the same award.</p> <p>"The Cottage" is a BBC Scotland Audio Production for BBC Radio 4.</p> <p><b>MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2025</b></p> <p><b>MON 00:00 Midnight News (m002123q)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>MON 00:15 Soul Music (m0029ygx)</b><br/>Ae Fond Kiss by Robert Burns</p> <p>Burns began a correspondence with Agnes McElhose, also known as Clarinda and Nancy, a married woman he was besotted with. When she left Scotland to reunite with her husband he wrote Ae Fond Kiss as a heartfelt farewell. It was later set to music and is one of his most famous 'songs' along with Auld Lang Syne and My Love Is Like A Red Red Rose.</p> <p>Karen Matheson the singer with Capercaille talks about its meaning to her and how performing it at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014 was a very special moment.</p> <p>Joan Donaldson from Michigan grew up with Scottish music and has called her latest historical novel Ae Fond Kiss. She says she channelled her grief into the characters as a way of dealing with a devastating loss.</p> <p>Sir Geoff Palmer discovered the song when he arrived in Edinburgh in the 1960s. He has traced Burns' and the song's connection to his home country of Jamaica and feels proud of the links he discovered.</p> <p>For film maker Karen Guthrie from Ayrshire - Burns' birthplace - coping with and caring for her estranged parents meant long drives home through the countryside he inhabited. It was a journey of rediscovering Scotland's national poet and relating her family's story to Ae Fond Kiss.</p> <p>Musician Seonaid Aitken plays both versions of the song on the violin and explains how the music conveys the feelings of longing after an unresolved love affair.</p> <p>Producer: Maggie Ayre</p> <p><b>MON 00:45 Bells on Sunday (m002120g)</b><br/>[Repeat of broadcast at 05:43 on Sunday]</p> <p><b>MON 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002123s)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>MON 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002123v)</b><br/>BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>MON 05:00 News Summary (m002123x)</b></p> | <p>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>MON 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002123z)</b><br/>Susan Hulme looks back on 80 years of our sister programme, Today in Parliament.</p> <p><b>MON 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m0021241)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>MON 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m0021243)</b><br/>Peppered with Glimmers</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun</p> <p>I work in a children's hospice, and I've listened to the stories of many bereaved parents. The strength of these parents is inspiring, but one thing that really moves me is the legacy of love these little souls leave. By teaching their parents the true essence of love, light and strength can enter a parent's heart once again.</p> <p>Even in our bereavement groups, laughter often finds its way in. As parents share stories of mischievous moments and the unique quirks that made their children who they were, the room fills with warmth. Their little ones may be gone, but their light still ripples through every memory.</p> <p>These parents carry the weight of love, loss, and memories every day, and yet every single day they make the decision to rise again, to carry on like everything is normal, even to begin to laugh once more, and enjoy time with friends and family. The world carries on around them, people are busy and distracted with the demands of life but for a bereaved parent, not a day passes by without the beautiful memory of their child coming to mind. It is near impossible to find the words to describe the depth of that love, or the ache of their absence and the hole that it leaves in life.</p> <p>I pray that the memory of those we have lost is kept alive because in remembrance, in speaking of them, that's where their life is honoured. Not defined by their illness or their passing, but by the joy, the light, and the love they brought into our world, no matter how long or short their time here was. And I pray for all parents, who carry that love forward every single day.</p> <p>As one mum said, sometimes even grief can be "peppered with glimmers" and that's not wrong. It's love, still alive.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p><b>MON 05:45 Farming Today (m0021245)</b><br/>20/10/25 Planning reform, beer and growing hops.</p> <p>The Government's bill to 'get Britain building' returns to the House of Lords for its report stage. The Planning and Infrastructure Bill gained more than sixty Government amendments earlier this month to streamline the process and give ministers more power to grant permission for big planning projects. However conservation campaigners are not happy about the developments, and the Government's rhetoric.</p> <p>All this week we're taking a look at the beer and cider industry, and the UK growers who make it possible. There are around 45 hop growers across the country, around half of them in the West Midlands. We speak to a farmer in Herefordshire as he harvests his crop and ask the Campaign for Real Ale about the market for home-grown hops.</p> <p>Presenter = Charlotte Smith<br/>Producer = Rebecca Rooney</p> <p><b>MON 05:57 Weather (m0021247)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for farmers</p> <p><b>MON 06:00 Today (m002136h)</b><br/>News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p><b>MON 09:00 Start the Week (m002136k)</b><br/>Maps – lost, secret and revealing</p> <p>The Library of Lost Maps by James Cheshire, Professor of Geographic Information and Cartography, tells the story of the discovery of a treasure-trove at the heart of University College London. In a long-forgotten room James found thousands of maps and atlases. This abandoned archive reveals how maps have traced the contours of the world, inspiring some of the greatest scientific discoveries, as well as leading to terrible atrocities and power grabs.</p> | <p>But maps have not always been used to navigate or reveal the world, according to a new exhibition at the British Library on Secret Maps (from 24 October 2025 to 18 January 2026). Jerry Brotton, Professor of Renaissance Studies at Queen Mary University of London, and author of Four Points of the Compass, explains how mysterious maps throughout history have been used to hide, shape and control knowledge.</p> <p>The biographer Jenny Uglow celebrates a different kind of mapping in her new book, A Year with Gilbert White: The First Great Nature Writer. In 1781 the country curate Gilbert White charted the world around him – from close observation of the weather, to the migration of birds to the sex lives of snails and the coming harvest – revealing a natural map of his Hampshire village.</p> <p>Producer: Katy Hickman<br/>Assistant Producer: Natalia Fernandez</p> <p><b>MON 09:45 Café Hope (m002136m)</b><br/>A refuge for everyone</p> <p>Susan Mansaray, founder of Purple Rose, tells Rachel Burden how the community interest company supports refugees and their families, alongside Stockton residents. Purple Rose provides a space for socialisation and integration, where people can make new friends whilst enjoying a hot meal cooked by volunteers.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>You can contact us on <a href="mailto:cafehope@bbc.co.uk">cafehope@bbc.co.uk</a></p> <p>Presenter: Rachel Burden<br/>Series Producer: Uma Doraiswamy<br/>Sound Design: Nicky Edwards<br/>Researcher: Maeve Schaffer<br/>Editor: Clare Fordham</p> <p><b>MON 10:00 Woman's Hour (m002136p)</b><br/>Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.</p> <p><b>MON 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002ktsm)</b><br/>The Chicken</p> <p>In this episode, Katherine Rundell looks at the chicken - the most numerous bird on Earth, with 23 billion alive today and 60 billion consumed each year. Their bones may be one of the most enduring traces of human civilisation. Since the Second World War, chickens have been bred to grow faster and larger, making today's broiler chickens biologically distinct from their ancestors.</p> <p>Chickens were first domesticated around 8,000 years ago and have played many roles in human culture - from sacred animals believed to predict the future, to pets and food. There are over 500 breeds, and despite their reputation, chickens are intelligent animals. They can solve problems, play games, and even adjust their behaviour depending on who's watching.</p> <p>With their long history and surprising abilities, this episode asks us to reconsider the chicken not just as a food source, but as a remarkable and complex animal.</p> <p>Written and presented by Katherine Rundell<br/>Produced for BBC Audio in Bristol by Natalie Donovan</p> <p><b>MON 11:00 The Tax Conundrum (m002136r)</b><br/>Episode 1: The Problem</p> <p>On 26th November Rachel Reeves will present her second budget and the overwhelming expectation is that she will be reluctantly forced to raise taxes once again to stick to her borrowing rules. Expect anger and accusations that the Chancellor has betrayed promises. Yet, perhaps worse, our tax system is a complex mess, with apparently zero appetite from politicians of any party to reform it. So expect more complexity, more economic damage and even greater national frustration over tax later this autumn. Why do we find it so hard to have a grown-up national conversation about tax? Why are we seemingly so stuck? That's what the economics journalist Ben Chu will be asking in the Tax Conundrum, a major new three part series for BBC Radio 4.</p> |
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In the first episode Ben will hear from an impressive range of senior voices on the reasons the UK tax system has become such a mess and why we should all care. Former chancellor Philip Hammond talks frankly about his own failed battle to reform the system. Mervyn King, the former Bank of England governor - and author of a seminal textbook on the British tax system - explains the damage being done and critiques the popular idea that middle earners are currently overtaxed. Along the way, Ben meets a tax barrister who makes a bizarre living arguing in court over whether or not mega marshmallows are eaten with the fingers. He also takes a trip to an Essex care home, to see for himself why loading ever greater tax costs onto employers - in order to spare workers - is no free lunch.

Presenter: Ben Chu  
Producer: Caroline Bayley  
Production coordinator: Janet Staples  
Sound engineer: Rod Farquhar  
Editor: Richard Vadon

**MON 11:45 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m002136v)**

1. Sugared doughnuts and circus tricks

"Now I understand there are no ordinary lives – that every death is the end of a single event in time's history: an event so improbable as to be miraculous, and irreplaceable in every particular."

Booker Prize-longlisted author Sarah Perry's father-in-law, David, died at home nine days after a cancer diagnosis having previously been in good health. The speed of his illness outstripped that of the NHS and social care, so the majority of nursing fell to Sarah and her husband. They witnessed what happens to the body and spirit, hour by hour, as it approaches death.

Death of an Ordinary Man is an unstinting account of death by cancer, a reportage into the experience of caring, an exploration of the structural conditions of dying in the UK, and most importantly a testament to David's life, that of an ordinary man.

Unflinching and profoundly moving, Sarah Perry confronts the taboo surrounding death and how the saddest thing she has ever seen is also the best thing she's ever done.

**Episode One**

A day of sugared doughnuts and circus tricks glimmers with joy, yet already carries the shadow of David's final summer, as daughter-in-law Sarah Perry recalls the small treasures that define a life.

Reader: Louise Brealey  
Abridged and produced by Karen Rose  
A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

**MON 12:00 News Summary (m002136x)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

**MON 12:04 You and Yours (m002136z)**

News and discussion of consumer affairs

**MON 12:57 Weather (m0021371)**

The latest weather forecast

**MON 13:00 World at One (m0021373)**

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

**MON 13:45 The History Podcast (m0021461)**

The House at Number 48

Made in Britain

When Antony Easton's enigmatic father passes away, he goes through his Dad's suitcase, filled with cryptic clues: neatly stacked German money, a family tree he doesn't recognise, and books filled with sprawling notes. He also finds his father's birth certificate, but bearing a different name. Confronting his dad's double identity, Antony begins a ten-year quest to uncover the truth. Piece-by-piece he comes to understand his family's dark history as he attempts to reclaim his grandfather's property and art empire, and expose the historic robbery and murder of his relatives.

Antony is determined to find the descendants of those who looted his family's assets, and continue to live off their wealth today. He wants to meet them face to face.

The House at Number 48 is presented by Charlie Northcott. The series producer is Jim Frank. Sound design and mixing by Tom Brignell. The Editor is Matt Willis.

**MON 14:00 The Archers (m002123j)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Sunday]

**MON 14:15 Alone (m000bg44)**

Series 2

Friday Nights, Saturday Mornings

Will's new girlfriend Hannah has a problem with Mitch being around all the time and, to Ellie's dismay, Will finds himself having to make a difficult decision. Meanwhile, Louisa is convinced her acting career is collapsing and she is determined to get her retaliation in first.

Sitcom about five single, middle-aged neighbours living in flats in a converted house in North London.

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.

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.

Mitch ..... Angus Deayton  
Will ..... Pearce Quigley  
Ellie ..... Abigail Cruttenden  
Hannah and Rebecca.....Carrie Quinlan  
Louisa ..... Kate Isitt  
Morris ..... Bennett Arnon

Written and created by Moray Hunter

Producer: Gordon Kennedy

Based on an original idea developed in association with Dandy Productions

An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in November 2019.

**MON 14:45 Mrs Bridge by Evan S Connell (m0019rsp)**

Episode 10

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.

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 Thorne, author and singer.

Mrs Bridge by Evan S. Connell  
Read by Fenella Woolgar  
Abridged by Isobel Creed and Jill Waters  
The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

**MON 15:00 A Good Read (m0021375)**

Chris Tarrant and Mike Gayle

OPEN by Andre Agassi  
SONIC YOUTH SLEPT ON MY FLOOR by Dave Haslam  
THE SECRET HOURS by Mick Herron

Television and radio broadcaster Chris Tarrant nominates the autobiography of tennis legend Andre Agassi, and novelist Mike Gayle has gone for Dave Haslam's memoir of his time spent DJing at Manchester's famous Hacienda. Harriett is hoping the two of them will enjoy an espionage novel by Slow Horses author Mick Herron.

Producer for BBC Audio Bristol: Sally Heaven

Join the conversation on Instagram: agoodreadbbc

**MON 15:30 Curious Cases (m00211yv)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]

**MON 16:00 Currently (m002kfj1)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 13:30 on Sunday]

**MON 16:30 Legend (m00211yx)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Saturday]

**MON 17:00 PM (m0021377)**

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

**MON 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m0021379)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**MON 18:30 Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (m002137c)**

Series 4

Episode IV: A New Pope

Paul Sinha tests his audience in Ayr on their knowledge of universities, Popes and islands. In return, they get to quiz him about notable Scottish footballing achievements and the Scottish Grand National.

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

A Lead Mojo production for BBC Radio 4

**MON 19:00 The Archers (m0021350)**

There's confusion for the Aldridges, and Oliver makes a surprising decision.

**MON 19:15 Front Row (m002137f)**

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

**MON 20:00 The Briefing Room (m002kq3q)**

Is the UK in a data crisis?

As Rachel Reeves approaches a tricky budget, her job has got that much harder. Some of our most fundamental economic data, statistics that policymakers are used to accepting at face value, suddenly have major question marks over their accuracy.

The UK's top stats agency, the Office for National Statistics, finds itself under considerable pressure as falling response rates to its surveys leave politicians flying blind. David Aaronovitch asks what this means for government decisions and how the ONS can rebuild confidence in its most vital statistics.

Guests:  
Georgina Sturge, research affiliate at the Migration Observatory at the University of Oxford  
Professor Denise Lievesley, former Principal of Green Templeton College, Oxford  
Chris Giles, economics commentator at the Financial Times.  
Peter Lynn, Professor of Survey Methodology at the University of Essex

Presenter: David Aaronovitch  
Production co-ordinator: Maria Ogundele  
Producers: Nathan Gower, Kirsteen Knight, Cordelia Hemming  
Studio engineer: Duncan Hannant  
Editor: Richard Vadon

**MON 20:30 BBC Inside Science (m002kq3t)**

Why do we love to play games?

Inside Science explores the science and maths of games: why we play them, how to win them and the rise of gamification in our lives - with a particular focus on The Traitors - in a special programme with a live audience at Green Man Festival in the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons) National Park.

Presenter Victoria Gill looks into whether humans are innately programmed to play games with Gilly Forrester, professor of evolutionary and developmental psychology at the University of Sussex, and investigates how maths can help us strategise and win games with mathematician and maths communicator Dr

Katie Steckles.

We encounter the Prisoner's Dilemma with broadcaster Jaz Singh of The Traitors series 2 fame – will he share or steal? Jaz also dives into the immersive world of The Traitors discussing his gameplay, the stakes and what makes an effective Faithful!

To discover more fascinating science content, head to [bbc.co.uk/search](https://bbc.co.uk/search) for BBC Inside Science and follow the links to The Open University.

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

**MON 21:00 Start the Week (m002136k)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

**MON 21:45 Café Hope (m002136m)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

**MON 22:00 The World Tonight (m002137h)**  
In-depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective.

**MON 22:45 North Woods by Daniel Mason (m002137k)**  
Episode 1

Daniel Mason's North Woods is a time-spanning novel chronicling four centuries of human and natural history centred on a yellow house and its surrounding woods in Massachusetts, New England.

Through varied narrative styles, the book follows a diverse cast of fascinating inhabitants, from Puritan lovers to a lovelorn painter, a fraudulent mystic, a farmer, a slave hunter, a detectorist, twin sisters, a crime reporter. It even includes the stories of panthers and beetles, whilst exploring themes of memory, fate, and the interconnectedness of life with the environment.

The novel also incorporates historical documents and diverse literary formats to create a genre-defying tapestry of stories and music within the same location.

Read by  
Hannah Traylen &  
Daniel Weyman

Abridged by Lucy Ellis

Produced by Clive Brill  
A Brill production for BBC Radio 4

**MON 23:00 Limelight (m0025dvx)**  
Aldrich Kemp and The Rose of Pamir

3. American Cryptography

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

Chapter Three: American Cryptography

Clara Page and Aldrich Kemp travel to New York and call in a favour, but who else is lurking in Manhattan? Meanwhile, Mrs Bartholomew and Mrs Boone are facing challenges of their own back in Blighty.

Clara Page - Phoebe Fox  
Aldrich Kemp – Ferdinand Kingsley  
Mrs Boone – Nicola Walker  
Nakesha – Karla Crome  
Sebastian Harcourt – Kyle Soller  
Aunt Lily – Susan Jameson  
The Underwood Sisters & Forsaken McTeague – Jana Carpenter  
Mrs Bartholomew – Kate Isitt  
Lionel – Steven Mackintosh  
Selina – Catherine Kanter  
Vartan - Ben Crowe

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 Today in Parliament (m002137m)**  
News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament

**TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2025**

**TUE 00:00 Midnight News (m002137p)**  
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**TUE 00:30 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m002136v)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Monday]

**TUE 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002137r)**  
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**TUE 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002137t)**  
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 (m002137w)**  
National and international news from BBC Radio 4

**TUE 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002137y)**  
News, views and features on yesterday's stories in Parliament

**TUE 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m0021380)**  
The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

**TUE 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m0021382)**  
Kindness without Applause

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun

Several years ago, I visited Rome with my mum and sister; we were wandering through the alleyways towards a crowded square when something – or someone- caught my eye. I saw a man who had no limbs sitting on the ground, beside him sat a nun and she was feeding him with a spoon. Around them the square was alive with people, drinking espresso, taking photos, busy with their day, nobody else really noticed them.

I watched how her attention was fixed as she patiently waited between each spoonful, surrounded by indifference, they shared a moment of grace that belonged only to them. I believe there is something very noble in the lives of those who devote themselves to helping others. It requires a great deal of sacrifice of worldly comforts to serve God from the moment you wake up to when you sleep at night. And yet, the most striking aspect is not the sacrifice itself, but the humility with which it is offered. True devotion, I realised that day, is not measured by grandeur or fame, but by silent, selfless love.

Though we hold tightly to our comforts, there is a lesson for all of us in the tenderness she embodied - To care for others, to show compassion and kindness is the greatest form of devotion. The truest service often happens when no one is watching, in those moments, we act not for glory, but simply because love compels us.

I pray that we might cultivate such compassion in our own lives and show loving care to those around us without seeking recognition or reward, even in the smallest acts - a cup of tea, a hug, a listening ear. These small acts feed our spirit, connect us to one another and brings us closer to the divine. Let our daily acts of love become like quiet hymns of gratitude echoing softly in the lives we touch.

Amen

**TUE 05:45 Farming Today (m0021384)**  
The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

**TUE 06:00 Today (m002134d)**  
News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.

**TUE 09:00 The Life Scientific (m002134g)**  
AP De Silva on building molecular fluorescence sensors for healthcare

From humble beginnings in his native Sri Lanka, to a more than 40 year academic career at Queen's University Belfast, Prof.

AP (Amilra Prasanna) De Silva's research into molecular photosensors has led to a pioneering career in that's evolved from chemistry to medical diagnostics on one hand, to information processing on the other.

Prof. De Silva challenged cultural expectations and overcame the lack of opportunities in chemistry that were available in Sri Lanka in the early 1970s. He first moved to Belfast to pursue research in photochemistry at Queen's University. Inspired by his grandmother's struggle with high blood pressure he engineered a unique sodium photosensor by marrying fluorescent molecules with chemical receptors. As a result of his international collaborations, a commercial, portable sensor was developed to detect salts and minerals in the blood. Its speed of analysis has since saved countless lives and improved healthcare around the world.

AP talks to Jim Al-Khalili about his passion for engineering molecules and how his photochemical innovations have since crossed into computer science. They've been developed to perform molecular computations far inside the human body - where silicon microchips fear to tread. A new deeper understanding of life inside our tissues and cells beckons.

Presented by Jim Al-Khalili  
Produced by Adrian Washbourne  
Executive Producer: Alexandra Feachem  
A BBC Studios Production

**TUE 09:30 All in the Mind (m002134j)**  
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 (m002134i)**  
Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.

**TUE 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m0021ktsq)**  
The Snake

In this episode, Katherine Rundell explores the snake - a creature often feared, partly due to myth and partly perhaps because of its unblinking stare. Of more than 4,000 snake species, only around 250 are dangerous to humans, yet snakebites still kill over 100,000 people each year, mostly in areas with poor access to healthcare. Despite this, snakes are remarkable animals: the death adder can strike and return to position in just 0.15 seconds.

But snake populations are in sharp decline due to habitat loss, roads, and climate change. Some species, like the Round Island Burrowing Boa, are already extinct, while others, such as the harmless Ornate Ground Snake, number fewer than twenty. Katherine Rundell considers what we lose when we let fear overshadow the ingenuity and fragility of these animals.

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

**TUE 11:00 Screenshot (m002ks68)**  
Translation

This week, Ellen and Mark read between the lines, and find out what can get lost in translation.

Mark speaks to the film critic, Manuela Lazic, who discusses the impossibility of translation, and her experiences of watching films and television across languages. Next, the translator and film critic, Irina Margareta Nistor details her role in overdubbing bootlegged VHS tapes during the Ceausescu dictatorship in Romania. During the 1980s, her work allowed local audiences an escape from the regime through the medium of foreign cinema.

Meanwhile, Ellen discusses the poetry of translation with Darcy Paquet. The translator has produced subtitles with collaborators including the South Korean film director, Bong Joon Ho, on the Oscar award winning film, Parasite. Darcy shares the challenges found in a set character count, and some of the cultural specificities he's noted along the way.

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

**TUE 11:45 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m002134n)**  
2. A trip to the GP

"Now I understand there are no ordinary lives – that every death is the end of a single event in time's history: an event so improbable as to be miraculous, and irreplaceable in every particular."

Booker Prize-longlisted author Sarah Perry's father-in-law, David, died at home nine days after a cancer diagnosis having previously been in good health. The speed of his illness outstripped that of the NHS and social care, so the majority of nursing fell to Sarah and her husband. They witnessed what happens to the body and spirit, hour by hour, as it approaches death.

Death of an Ordinary Man is an unstinting account of death by cancer, a reportage into the experience of caring, an exploration of the structural conditions of dying in the UK, and most importantly a testament to David's life, that of an ordinary man.

Unflinching and profoundly moving, Sarah Perry confronts the taboo surrounding death and how the saddest thing she has ever seen is also the best thing she's ever done.

#### Episode Two

As concern for David's health grows, Rob persuades him to see a doctor.

Reader: Louise Brealey  
Abridged and produced by Karen Rose  
A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

#### TUE 12:00 News Summary (m002134r)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

#### TUE 12:04 You and Yours (m002134t)

News and discussion of consumer affairs

#### TUE 12:57 Weather (m002134w)

The latest weather forecast

#### TUE 13:00 World at One (m002134y)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

#### TUE 13:45 The History Podcast (m002145x)

The House at Number 48

The Secret Suitcase

After the death of his enigmatic and distant father, Antony Easton finally gets to go through his Dad's secret suitcase: "This was his life," Antony says. As he forensically trawls through its contents, Antony discovers a series of clues which are about to change his life forever. And, after decades, a woman from Antony's childhood gets in touch. For her, time is running out. She says she must see him one last time...

The House at Number 48 is presented by Charlie Northcott. The series producer is Jim Frank. Sound design and mixing by Tom Brignell. The Editor is Matt Willis.

#### TUE 14:00 The Archers (m0021350)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Monday]

#### TUE 14:15 Drama on 4 (m001dxdx)

monday

A new drama by award-winning writer/director debbie tucker green. Set over one day, four lives cross paths revealing aspects of themselves, events of the day and four different accounts of what they did and saw.

Mum ..... Cherrelle Skeete  
Dad ..... Don Gillet  
Son ..... Hayden McLean  
Woman/Barista ..... Maddy Hill  
Piercer/Ms Nexton ..... Manjinder Virk  
Mr James ..... Jonathan Forbes

Written and directed by debbie tucker green  
Produced by Toby Swift

debbie tucker green's last original radio drama, lament, won the gold award for 'Best Fictional Storytelling' in the ARIAS.

#### TUE 15:00 History's Heroes (m0021352)

History's Toughest Heroes

Robert Smalls: Last Chance for Freedom

For an enslaved man like Robert Smalls during the American Civil War, there was only way out of Charleston: through the harbour and past hostile Confederate forts. He just needed a ship...

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

edge.

Robert Smalls was born a slave in the American South. His one chance at escape and freedom hung on a key act of bravery on a single night. He'd have to sail right under the noses and massive cannons of the Confederate ships and forts. If he hoped to survive with his fellow fleeing slaves, he'd have to be bold, be a great actor, don a cunning disguise and have nerves of steel to pull it off.

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

Producer: Michael LaPointe  
Development Producer: Georgina Leslie  
Executive Producer: Paul Smith  
Written by Imogen Robertson  
Commissioning editor for Radio 4: Rhian Roberts

#### TUE 15:30 Heart and Soul (w3ct6vpg)

Searching for hope as a hostage in Gaza

After two long years President Trump has announced a ceasefire agreement which should see the remaining hostages returned home in exchange for the release of Palestinian prisoners.

How have the families of Israeli hostages and their loved ones, held captive in dark tunnels for hundreds of days, managed to hold onto hope? Do people deepen their faith during periods of immense suffering, or turn away from religion?

For this edition of Heart and Soul, Naomi Scherbel-Ball explores how, two years on since the October 7th attacks, hostages and their families see their lives and their faith.

Many of those held hostage in Gaza come from the kibbutzim, largely secular communities that border Gaza, or were taken from the Nova music festival. Some of those released have spoken about reconnecting with their Jewish faith, with one female hostage even translating her prayers into Arabic so she would be allowed to continue to pray by her captors. Others speak of the strength they found in their family, the kibbutzim movement and community.

65-year-old American-Israeli Keith Siegel, who was kidnapped with his wife Aviva, explains how his connection to Judaism deepened during nearly 500 days in captivity. On his release, his daughter asked what he would like for their first family shabbat meal together after nearly 500 days. "What I want most is a kippah and a kiddush cup", he answered, referring to the head covering worn by observant Jewish men and the symbolic cup that is held during the Friday night blessing in Judaism. Now back with his family in Israel, he says his heart is not whole until the remaining hostages return.

Produced and Presented by Naomi Scherbel-Ball  
Executive Producer: Rajeev Gupta  
Editor: Chloe Walker

#### TUE 16:00 Artworks (m0021355)

When Kevin Met Sadie

At the beginning of the Troubles, an author called Joan Lingard decided to write a series of novels for young people about a Catholic boy named Kevin and a Protestant girl called Sadie. Set initially in 1970s Belfast, the stories were some of the first written for young people about the conflict in Northern Ireland. BBC Ireland Correspondent Chris Page first read them as a boy and they've stayed with him ever since. He hears from generations of readers in Northern Ireland about how the novels shaped their understanding of the place they were from.

He starts in Bangor, near where he grew up, with his friend Ann-Marie Foster who first read the novels in the 1970s. Lingard's eldest daughter Kersten England tells him how Joan Lingard's childhood inspired the novels and about how an unlikely visitor shaped their first pages. Writer Jan Carson sits down with Chris in front of Lingard's manuscripts held at the Linen Hall Library in central Belfast to explore Lingard's continued influence on writers in Northern Ireland.

Chris follows in the footsteps of Kevin and Sadie, walking down the towpath by the River Lagan – a place where the characters retreat. He meets Dr Kevin de Ornellas, Lecturer in Renaissance Literature at Ulster University, to discuss Lingard's use of Shakespearean stories. Dr Kevin talks to Chris about what he made of characterisation when he read the novels as a young boy.

For Chris, the novels also gave him the idea that young people could strike out for a better future. He explores how the five novels progress, visiting students at Integrated College Dungannon, who have studied Joan Lingard's novels in class. They tell him what they think Kevin and Sadie would have made of Northern Ireland today.

Presenter: Chris Page

Reader: Aoife Moss  
Producer: Camellia Sinclair  
Studio Manager: Ilse Lademann

With material from:

Joan Lingard, The Twelfth of July, Hamish Hamilton, 1970  
Joan Lingard, Across the Barricades, Hamish Hamilton, 1972  
Joan Lingard, Into Exile, Hamish Hamilton, 1973  
Joan Lingard, A Proper Place, Hamish Hamilton, 1975

Archive used:

Book Week NI, BBC Radio Ulster, 27 October 2010; Across the Barricades, BBC Radio Ulster, 8 November 1985; Children in Crossfire, BBC TV, 12 March 1974; Treasure Islands, BBC Radio 4, 11 December 1991; Stark Talk, BBC Radio Scotland, 20 October 2011; The Usual Suspects: Joan Lingard, BBC Radio Scotland, 1998; Kevin and Sadie, BBC Radio Ulster, 11 July 2010

#### TUE 16:30 What's Up Docs? (m0021357)

To nap or not to nap

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 episode, they're asking, what's the deal with naps? Some people nod off in minutes, while others can't manage it at all. So why is napping so different from person to person? Is it actually good for us? Is there a "right" way to nap - and should we all be making time for it? Also, they uncover what's really happening inside the brain when we drift off.

To help answer these questions, they're joined once again by Russell Foster, Professor of Circadian Neuroscience at the University of Oxford.

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

Presenters: Drs Chris and Xand van Tulleken  
Guest: Professor Russell Foster  
Producer: Maia Miller-Lewis  
Executive Producer: Rami Tzabar and 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: Ruth Rainey

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

A Loftus Media production for BBC Radio 4

#### TUE 17:00 PM (m0021359)

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

#### TUE 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m002135c)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### TUE 18:30 Mark Steel's in Town (m002135f)

Series 14

3. Lewisham

Mark Steel visits Lewisham in south London and creates a show for the local audience.

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 (m002135h)

Reality sets in for Alice, and Tracy makes her feelings clear.

#### TUE 19:15 Front Row (m002135k)

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

#### TUE 20:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002lgxg)

| Radio 4 Listings for 18 – 24 October 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              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| <p>Abused for Our Food</p> <p>File on 4 Investigates: News-making original journalism</p> <p><b>TUE 20:40 In Touch (m002135p)</b><br/>News, views and information for people who are blind or partially sighted</p> <p><b>TUE 21:00 How to Play (m002j74d)</b><br/>Max Richter's Four Seasons Recomposed with Elena Urioste and Odyssey Ensemble</p> <p>Violinist Elena Urioste and the brand new Odyssey Ensemble invite us to eavesdrop on rehearsals as they prepare to perform one of this century's best loved instrumental works.</p> <p>German-born British composer Max Richter's moving and atmospheric music has made him one of the most influential of his generation, with over 3 billion streams. He describes his reinterpretation of the Four Seasons as an "off-road trip through Vivaldi's landscape" - using the baroque masterpiece as a blueprint to develop fragments of the melodies and cast them in a new light. From Spring through to Winter, his suite is infectious, dramatic and packed with emotion. Behind the rehearsal room doors, we hear from players as they "unlearn" Vivaldi, bring their own layers of interpretation and try to emulate heat and ice through their instruments.</p> <p>Featuring violinist/director Elena Urioste, 2nd violinist Steven Crichlow, cellist Sarah Ayoub and double bassist Noah Daniel.</p> <p>With thanks to Josh Asokan and the rest of Odyssey Ensemble - the UK's first professional orchestra exclusively dedicated to amplifying real-life stories of asylum-seekers and refugees through orchestral music.</p> <p>Produced by Amelia Parker for BBC Audio</p> <p>Photo credit: Odyssey Ensemble/Monika S. Jakubowska</p> <p><b>TUE 21:30 The Bottom Line (m002kq32)</b><br/>Human Resources: Is HR Out of Control?</p> <p>Once known as "personnel", Human Resources seems to have become a real centre of power in modern business. No longer just handing out payslips or organising the Christmas party, HR now shapes company culture, influences major decisions and – some say – acts as a kind of corporate police force and judiciary. The profession has doubled in size over the past two decades and grown in authority. How did it rise so fast and what does its growing influence mean for the workplace? Evan Davis and guests discuss how HR seemingly took control of the corporate agenda and ask whether company bosses have delegated too much power to a profession that comes with its own code of values and priorities.</p> <p>Guests:<br/>Neil Morrison, HR Director, Severn Trent<br/>Nicole Whittaker, Associate Director of HR Consultancy, Peninsula<br/>Pamela Dow, Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer, Civic Future</p> <p>Production team:<br/>Presenter: Evan Davis<br/>Producer: Sally Abrahams<br/>Production Co-ordinator: Rosie Strawbridge<br/>Sound: Pat Sissons and Duncan Hannant<br/>Editor: Matt Willis</p> <p><b>TUE 22:00 The World Tonight (m002l35r)</b><br/>In-depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective.</p> <p><b>TUE 22:45 North Woods by Daniel Mason (m002l35t)</b><br/>Episode 2</p> <p>Daniel Mason's North Woods is a time-spanning novel chronicling four centuries of human and natural history centred on a yellow house and its surrounding woods in Massachusetts, New England.</p> <p>Through varied narrative styles, the book follows a diverse cast of fascinating inhabitants, from Puritan lovers to a lovelorn painter, a fraudulent mystic, a farmer, a slave hunter, a detectorist, twin sisters, a crime reporter. It even includes the stories of panthers and beetles, whilst exploring themes of memory, fate, and the interconnectedness of life with the environment.</p> <p>The novel also incorporates historical documents and diverse literary formats to create a genre-defying tapestry of stories and music within the same location.</p> | <p>Read by<br/>Hannah Traylen &amp;<br/>Daniel Weyman</p> <p>Abridged by Lucy Ellis</p> <p>Produced by Clive Brill<br/>A Brill production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>TUE 23:00 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics (m0021x2x)</b><br/>Series 10</p> <p>Tacitus</p> <p>Tacitus is the great historian of imperial Rome. His writing is beautiful, unsettling, extraordinarily persuasive. We know many of his likes and dislikes about people and politics, but facts about his personal life? Not so much.</p> <p>His memoir of Agricola tells us much fascinating detail about Roman Britain: that it's an island (the Roman fleet sailed all the way round, just to check), that it's very close to Spain (with only Ireland in between); that invading Anglesey was a great victory for the Romans. He notes that it rains a lot, but omits to mention the Druids. He is also, he says, dedicated to writing impartially. Natalie may disagree. Who needs evidence when you have Tacitus' persuasive prose? It's not as if we can cross-check, because so little of the written record of the time survives to us. Natalie's guest, (modern) historian Dan Snow, finds this hard to fathom. Her other guest, Professor Llewelyn Morgan, knows it's unwise to lament the lost work. We should value what remains and hope that some new bits of Tacitus may appear in the future.</p> <p>And it turns out that by boat, Britain IS actually close to Spain. Travelling overland was hard going in Tacitus' day, so compared to that, the sea journey to Spain was easy.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Producer...Mary Ward-Lowery</p> <p><b>TUE 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002l35x)</b><br/>News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2025</b></p> <p><b>WED 00:00 Midnight News (m002l35z)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>WED 00:30 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m002l34n)</b><br/>[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Tuesday]</p> <p><b>WED 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m002l361)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>WED 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m002l363)</b><br/>BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>WED 05:00 News Summary (m002l365)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>WED 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m002l367)</b><br/>News, views and features on yesterday's stories in Parliament</p> <p><b>WED 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m002l369)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>WED 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m002l36c)</b><br/>The Art of Flying a Kite</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun</p> <p>In a small village in South Asia, a young Afghan boy once taught me how to make a kite with a plastic bag, two sticks and some string. He then spent the evening teaching me how to</p> | <p>make it fly. I ran and leapt and threw it into the air and hung it off the wall and then jumped some more but I couldn't even get it a metre off the ground; I passed it to him and with a flick of his wrist he skilfully raised the kite until it was just a speck in the dusky sky. I stood watching him guide the kite as it danced on the breeze, the horizon now alive with colourful, rustling tissue-paper kites and the laughter of children rising through the evening air.</p> <p>There is an ancient wisdom in life on the Eastern side of the world, where the sense of urgency can be as distant as the highest kite in the sky. Here in contrast, we may struggle to find the time for everything and everyone. We make plans and write lists as if God has granted us the certainty of tomorrow. Too often, we forget to pause.</p> <p>There, I found a slower movement of time, a pace in which I can catch up with myself, a place where I no longer neglect myself. The world even seems to breathe slower, and I begin to match its rhythm, as the car twists around the bends of the mountain road and my head is in a haze, my eyelids heavy from travel, even though I can't bear to miss the view. But my mind and body are at ease, knowing they have time to recharge, a moment away from all the distractions and excess.</p> <p>I pray we each give ourselves time to recharge, to listen to our body when it whispers for rest because in the slowing, something sacred happens - the water clears, the heart steadies. May we learn that stillness is not a bad thing, it is healing, and it is renewal.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p><b>WED 05:45 Farming Today (m002l36f)</b><br/>The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.</p> <p><b>WED 06:00 Today (m002l3cy)</b><br/>News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p><b>WED 09:00 Life Changing (m002l3d0)</b><br/>A former soldier finds a secret weapon</p> <p>As a young soldier trained to run towards danger, Geoff Stear had an exemplary military career serving as a medic in the Falklands War. But like so many who serve he took trauma away with him, in his case a very particular reaction to the smell of meat. It was so powerful and debilitating that it made his life almost impossible, leading him to injure himself and endanger others as he tried to get away from the perceived danger. On several occasions it left him hospitalised, with no recollection of how he had come to, on different occasions, break his neck, dislocated his shoulder and suffer severe hypothermia. The last of those, he discovered later, was the result of swimming across a swollen river.</p> <p>His marriage broke down, he became estranged from his children and he was left helpless.</p> <p>He did everything in his power to come to terms with his condition, seeking and finding help from the charity Combat Stress, amongst others.</p> <p>At his darkest hour daughter came to his aid, taking him to Milton Keynes for a day out. There he had a chance meeting with a lady who was walking a dog in a red coat. She was from the charity MDD - Medical detection Dogs.</p> <p>Geoff introduces Sian to Charlie, the extraordinary dog whose capacity to intervene when danger threatens has given Geoff back his freedom and sense of worth.</p> <p>Producer: Tom Alban</p> <p><b>WED 09:30 The History Podcast (m002kt88)</b><br/>The Magnificent O'Connors</p> <p>4. The Rise and Fall of Jimmy O'Connor</p> <p>The fortunes of the O'Connors flip almost overnight. Nemone is no longer allowed to practice law, even after appealing to the highest authority, the Lord Chancellor. Meanwhile Jimmy's confrontational style of writing attracts the attention of the BBC, landing him several prime-time TV plays. All the while Jimmy's conviction is a constant shadow in their marriage.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in the present, the family continue to investigate the case. They uncover brand new documents that have never been seen before. Could these hold the key to getting Jimmy's conviction overturned?</p> <p>Presenter: Ragnar O'Connor<br/>Producer: Emily Esson, Victoria McArthur<br/>Research: Elizabeth Ann Duffy, Louise Yeoman<br/>Script Assistant and Additional Research: Marisha Currie<br/>Script Writers: Emily Esson, Jack Kibble-White<br/>Original Music: Lomond Campbell<br/>Theme Music: Barry Jackson<br/>Addition mixing and sound effects: Charlie McPhee, Kayleigh</p> |
| Supported by <a href="http://bbc.co.uk/programmes/">bbc.co.uk/programmes/</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          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Raphel  
Story Consultant: Jack Kibble-White  
Script Editor: Graham Russell  
Executive Editor: Gillian Wheelan  
Commissioning Executive: Tracy Williams  
Commissioning Editor: Dan Clarke

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4

Thanks to Cheryl Field, Richard Field and Kirsty Williams

#### **WED 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00213d2)**

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

#### **WED 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002ktsr)**

The Eel

In this episode, Katherine Rundell introduces one of the ocean's most mysterious creatures: the eel. At 19, Sigmund Freud dissected hundreds in search of their reproductive organs - a futile mission, as we now know European eels only develop them when they begin their long journey to the Sargasso Sea to spawn. Their lifecycle remains one of nature's great enigmas: after hatching, young eels travel 6,500 kilometres to live in European rivers for decades before returning to the ocean to reproduce.

There are over a thousand species of eel, many with striking appearances - from the fangtooth moray with its vivid yellow head to the pelican eel with its enormous, gaping mouth. But the most urgent mystery is their rapid decline. Once common, eels are now critically endangered, with populations plummeting due to habitat loss, climate change, and overfishing.

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

#### **WED 11:00 File on 4 Investigates (m002lgxg)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 on Tuesday]

#### **WED 11:40 This Week in History (m00213d4)**

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

#### **WED 11:45 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m00213d6)**

3. The diagnosis

"Now I understand there are no ordinary lives – that every death is the end of a single event in time's history: an event so improbable as to be miraculous, and irreplaceable in every particular."

Booker Prize-longlisted author Sarah Perry's father-in-law, David, died at home nine days after a cancer diagnosis having previously been in good health. The speed of his illness outstripped that of the NHS and social care, so the majority of nursing fell to Sarah and her husband. They witnessed what happens to the body and spirit, hour by hour, as it approaches death.

Death of an Ordinary Man is an unstinting account of death by cancer, a reportage into the experience of caring, an exploration of the structural conditions of dying in the UK, and most importantly a testament to David's life, that of an ordinary man.

Unflinching and profoundly moving, Sarah Perry confronts the taboo surrounding death and how the saddest thing she has ever seen is also the best thing she's ever done.

Episode Three  
David's health continues to deteriorate as he finally receives a diagnosis.

Reader: Louise Brealey  
Abridged and produced by Karen Rose  
A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

#### **WED 12:00 News Summary (m00213d8)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

#### **WED 12:04 You and Yours (m00213db)**

News and discussion of consumer affairs

#### **WED 12:57 Weather (m00213dd)**

The latest weather forecast

#### **WED 13:00 World at One (m00213dg)**

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

#### **WED 13:45 The History Podcast (m002145z)**

The House at Number 48

The Eisners

Antony Easton begins to investigate his family's history. What he finds astonishes him: his relatives were owners of a huge steel empire worth billions today. But what has happened to this family fortune?

The House at Number 48 is presented by Charlie Northcott. The series producer is Jim Frank. Sound design and mixing by Tom Brignell. The Editor is Matt Willis.

#### **WED 14:00 The Archers (m002135h)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Tuesday]

#### **WED 14:15 Drama on 4 (m00213dj)**

Murder in Aland

Episode 4

In Episode 4, the truth about the murders - and Astrid's dark secret - unravels in a deadly game of espionage. As the Baltic crisis peaks, Pekka discovers the shocking betrayal that changes everything - and faces the lethal consequences of love, trust, and lies.

Cast:  
Pekka ..... Pelle Heikkilä  
Astrid ..... Laura Malmivaara  
Andrei ..... Pääru Oja  
Linn ..... Satu-Tuuli Karhu  
Birthe ..... Anna Victoria Eriksson  
Fagerudd ..... Jaana Saarinen

Other parts played by Anna Airola, Thomas Dellinger, Asta Sveholm, Akseli Kouki, Riitta Havukainen, Mikko Kouki, Kari-Pekka Toivonen, Sanna Stellan, Pihla Penttinen

Created by: Suomen Podcastmedia and Hannu-Pekka Komonen  
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 (m00213dl)**

The latest news from the world of personal finance

#### **WED 15:30 The Artificial Human (m00213dn)**

Did AI Fuel the Charlie Kirk Rumour Mill

Aleks & Kevin explore how people turned to AI to solve Charlie Kirk's murder, enhancing grainy CCTV pictures or asking chatbots to help them investigate, but did it help or hinder?

They're joined by Lauren Fichten and Julia Ingram from US broadcaster CBS; they watched in real time as the AI generated content began to trickle in after the shooting finally reaching a frenzy of activity. They then turn to deep fake and misinformation expert Henry Ajder to understand the motivations of those so desperate for information after such events that they turn to AI to fill in the blanks.

Presenters: Aleks Krotoski & Kevin Fong  
Production team: Elizabeth Ann Duffy, Rachael O'Neill and Peter McManus  
Sound: Laura Hay

#### **WED 16:00 When It Hits the Fan (m00213dq)**

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

#### **WED 16:15 The Media Show (m00213ds)**

Social media, anti-social media, breaking news, faking news: this is the programme about a revolution in media.

#### **WED 17:00 PM (m00213dv)**

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

#### **WED 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00213dx)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### **WED 18:30 Carbon Lifeforms (m00213dz)**

The Fashion Footprint

Jon Long and Dr Tara Shine join forces for more of the hybrid comedy-magazine show that emits jokes and facts that (carbon) capture all things climate to demystify the issues and offer advice on how to make positive choices in our everyday lives.

This week - The Fashion Footprint with special guests Bo Carter and Phoebe English.

In previous episodes we've covered Food, Travel and Christmas, so what's next? Well, it turns out that our previous episodes did not solve the climate crisis on their own. So, for this series, we will be looking at the topics of The Carbon Cost of Tech, The Internet, and AI, Waste Management and Recycling, and The Fashion Footprint.

Expect new in-studio guests and on-location experts, more games, more practical advice, more cold hard stats, and the return of Greenwash of the Week to shout out the heroes and villains of the climate crisis.

Presenters: Jon Long and Dr Tara Shine  
Guests: Bo Carter and Phoebe English  
Producer: Laura Grimshaw  
Executive Producer: Jon Holmes  
Live Sound: Jerry Peal  
Post-production Sound: Tony Churnside

An unusual production for BBC Radio 4

#### **WED 19:00 The Archers (m00213f1)**

David attempts to offer support, and Kate is not impressed.

#### **WED 19:15 Front Row (m00213f3)**

John Grisham on his new thriller, The Widow

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

#### **WED 20:00 AntiSocial (m002ks5h)**

Graffiti, church, and Western civilisation

An art exhibition in Canterbury Cathedral has enraged traditionalists who believe that it doesn't fit with the holy site's beauty or the church's mission. The works consist of a set of temporary vinyl stickers with questions like "Why did you create hate when love is by far more powerful?" and "Does our struggle mean anything?" The questions for God were devised after artist Alex Vellis and curator Jacqueline Creswell consulted a series of marginalised groups. The organisers say the stickers were tested to make sure they did not damage the cathedral's ancient walls. But they have faced criticism on artistic grounds and questions about the appropriateness of the art and the values behind it. Among the outraged were Vice President JD Vance, who called the stickers "ugly", and Elon Musk, who called it an affront to western civilisation. They in turn were faced with supporters of the exhibition who argued it reflected the church's mission and spread a message of inclusiveness and tolerance. Art has always been intrinsically tied to religion and the Anglican Church, so how far back does this culture war battle really go – and why did political leaders in America jump into the controversy? Presenter: Adam Fleming Production team: Natasha Fernandes, Ellie House, Mike Wendling Studio manager: Andy Mills Production coordinator: Janet Staples Editor: Richard Vaden

#### **WED 20:45 Superhead (m00237vr)**

Episode 3 - Needs Improvement

John Dickens has been investigating Trevor Averre-Beeson for the best part of a decade. Averre-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 3, John hears how Lilac Sky took over schools in Kent and raised questions from local campaigners.

| Radio 4 Listings for 18 – 24 October 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              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| <p>Producers: Robert Nicholson and Charlie Towler<br/>Sound Design: Tom Brignell<br/>Executive Producer: David Prest<br/>A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>WED 21:00 The Life Scientific (m002134g)</b><br/>[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Tuesday]</p> <p><b>WED 21:30 All in the Mind (m002134j)</b><br/>[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Tuesday]</p> <p><b>WED 22:00 The World Tonight (m00213f6)</b><br/>In-depth reporting, intelligent analysis and breaking news from a global perspective.</p> <p><b>WED 22:45 North Woods by Daniel Mason (m00213f8)</b><br/>Episode 3</p> <p>Daniel Mason's North Woods is a time-spanning novel chronicling four centuries of human and natural history centred on a yellow house and its surrounding woods in Massachusetts, New England.</p> <p>Through varied narrative styles, the book follows a diverse cast of fascinating inhabitants, from Puritan lovers to a lovelorn painter, a fraudulent mystic, a farmer, a slave hunter, a detectorist, twin sisters, a crime reporter. It even includes the stories of panthers and beetles, whilst exploring themes of memory, fate, and the interconnectedness of life with the environment.</p> <p>The novel also incorporates historical documents and diverse literary formats to create a genre-defying tapestry of stories and music within the same location.</p> <p>Read by<br/>Hannah Traylen &amp;<br/>Daniel Weyman</p> <p>Abridged by Lucy Ellis</p> <p>Produced by Clive Brill<br/>A Brill production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>WED 23:00 Tom &amp; Lauren Are Going OOT (m00224kr)</b><br/>Series 1</p> <p>2. Puppy Love</p> <p>Tom and Lauren take care of a puppy for a friend. Lauren should go to her Nanna Doreen's surprise 90th birthday party but is finding it hard to leave the puppy alone at home. Neil is concerned that Barbara can sense the puppy and it's causing her to smash his china. Tom would prefer to be at the match instead of surrounded by Nanna Doreen's flirtatious friends.</p> <p>Special guest appearance by Julian Clary as Neil.</p> <p>Cast:<br/>TOM MACHELL as Tom<br/>LAUREN PATTISON as Lauren<br/>JULIAN CLARY as Neil</p> <p>Writers: Tom Machell &amp; Lauren Pattison<br/>Director: Katharine Armitage<br/>Recording Engineer: Tom Glenwright<br/>Sound Design: Philip Quinton<br/>Theme Music: Scrannabis<br/>Producers: Maria Caruana Galizia &amp; Zahra Zomorrodian</p> <p>A Candle &amp; Bell production for BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>WED 23:15 Humanwatch (m00213fb)</b><br/>2. Hobbies, Hotels &amp; Hot Dates</p> <p>The team look at human hobbies and wonder, what is the point? Gareth goes on a date, purely for research purposes, and roving reporter Phil is back at the Swindon nest to observe his favourite family...from a safe and morally appropriate distance.</p> <p>Written and presented by Marjolein Robertson and Gareth Waugh</p> <p>With Phil Ellis and Katia Kvinge</p> <p>Additional voice by Kai Humphries</p> <p>Produced by Lauren Mackay</p> <p>Sound by Fraser Jackson</p> <p>Photographer: Chris Quilietti</p> | <p>A BBC Scotland production for Radio 4.</p> <p><b>WED 23:30 Today in Parliament (m00213fd)</b><br/>News, views and features on today's stories in Parliament</p> <p><b>THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2025</b></p> <p><b>THU 00:00 Midnight News (m00213fg)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>THU 00:30 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m00213d6)</b><br/>[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Wednesday]</p> <p><b>THU 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m00213fj)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>THU 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m00213fi)</b><br/>BBC Radio 4 presents a selection of news and current affairs, arts and science programmes from the BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>THU 05:00 News Summary (m00213fn)</b><br/>National and international news from BBC Radio 4</p> <p><b>THU 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m00213fq)</b><br/>News, views and features on yesterday's stories in Parliament</p> <p><b>THU 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m00213fs)</b><br/>The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping</p> <p><b>THU 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m00213fv)</b><br/>Pineapple Fields in Maui</p> <p>A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun</p> <p>I once saw a captivating photograph of a pineapple field in Maui, a beautiful island in Hawaii. For a long time after I dreamt of living there and eating papayas for breakfast, wandering through lush forests, and stumbling upon mystical waterfalls.</p> <p>I imagined that peace would come easily in a place like that - that it would be simpler to feel grounded and content when the world around me was drenched in colour and light. But the truth was, I lived in a humble corner of Bradford, and I wasn't moving to Maui any time soon. I realised I couldn't withhold my happiness waiting for some perfect place or perfect life. I had to learn to see the beauty here.</p> <p>It's easy to focus on the grey skies, the wail of the sirens and the damp creeping up the old brick walls. But if I look more closely, there's a lilac evening sky above the terraced houses, the healing smell of toast in the morning, children laughing as they race down the street. The same God who made the waterfalls of Maui made this, too. Perhaps beauty isn't only found in a tropical paradise, but in the patience to notice what's already around us. Even the greyest day holds a trace of gold if you pause long enough to see it.</p> <p>I pray that our hearts learn to notice beauty even in seemingly mundane places, to meet the morning not with hurry, but with wonder. Let it remind you, when we look up at the morning sky, that this same beauty stretches above us all, wherever we may be.</p> <p>And may the seemingly ordinary moments, the kettle boiling, the sound of rain, footsteps in the hallway, remind us that life is holy, even when it feels unremarkable.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p><b>THU 05:45 Farming Today (m00213fx)</b><br/>The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.</p> <p><b>THU 06:00 Today (m00213gy)</b><br/>News and current affairs, including Sports Desk, Weather and Thought for the Day.</p> <p><b>THU 09:00 In Our Time (b07vs3v1)</b><br/>Zeno's Paradoxes</p> <p>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</p> | <p>the huge range and depth of the subjects he and his experts have tackled. In this third of his choices, we hear Melvyn Bragg and his guests discuss Greek philosophy.</p> <p>Their topic is Zeno of Elea, a pre-Socratic philosopher from c490-430 BC whose paradoxes were described by Bertrand Russell as "immeasurably subtle and profound." The best known argue against motion, such as that of an arrow in flight which is at a series of different points but moving at none of them, or that of Achilles who, despite being the faster runner, will never catch up with a tortoise with a head start. Aristotle and Aquinas engaged with these, as did Russell, yet it is still debatable whether Zeno's Paradoxes have been resolved.</p> <p>With</p> <p>Marcus du Sautoy<br/>Professor of Mathematics and Simonyi Professor for the Public Understanding of Science at the University of Oxford</p> <p>Barbara Sattler<br/>Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of St Andrews</p> <p>and</p> <p>James Warren<br/>Reader in Ancient Philosophy at the University of Cambridge</p> <p>Producer: Simon Tillotson<br/>In Our Time is a BBC Studios Production</p> <p>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</p> <p><b>THU 09:45 Strong Message Here (m00213h1)</b><br/>Armando Iannucci and guests decode the utterly baffling world of political language.</p> <p><b>THU 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00213h3)</b><br/>Women's voices and women's lives - topical conversations to inform, challenge and inspire.</p> <p><b>THU 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m0021kts)</b><br/>The Capybara</p> <p>In this episode, best-selling author Katherine Rundell brings us the capybara - the world's largest rodent and one of its most unexpectedly charming. Native to South America, capybaras are semi-aquatic animals with eyes and nostrils set high on their heads, allowing them to spend long hours submerged in water to escape the heat. They're strong swimmers, surprisingly adaptable, and in at least one case, even trainable: a blind farmer in Suriname once taught a rescued capybara to act as his guide.</p> <p>Capybaras exist in two species. The greater capybara is thriving. In Argentina's gated community of Nordelta, they've returned in large numbers, roaming lawns and tennis courts in what some see as justice for the wetlands that were destroyed to build the development.</p> <p>But not all capybaras are so fortunate. The lesser capybara is threatened by deforestation, polluted water, and hunting, and is listed as Data Deficient.</p> <p>Written and presented by Katherine Rundell<br/>Produced for BBC Audio in Bristol by Natalie Donovan</p> <p><b>THU 11:00 This Cultural Life (m00213h5)</b><br/>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.</p> <p><b>THU 11:45 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m00213h7)</b><br/>4. Choices</p> <p>"Now I understand there are no ordinary lives – that every death is the end of a single event in time's history: an event so improbable as to be miraculous, and irreplaceable in every particular."</p> <p>Booker Prize-longlisted author Sarah Perry's father-in-law, David, died at home nine days after a cancer diagnosis having previously been in good health. The speed of his illness outstripped that of the NHS and social care, so the majority of nursing fell to Sarah and her husband. They witnessed what happens to the body and spirit, hour by hour, as it approaches death.</p> <p>Death of an Ordinary Man is an unstinting account of death by</p> |
| Supported by <a href="https://bbc.co.uk/programmes/">bbc.co.uk/programmes/</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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cancer, a reportage into the experience of caring, an exploration of the structural conditions of dying in the UK, and most importantly a testament to David's life, that of an ordinary man.

Unflinching and profoundly moving, Sarah Perry confronts the taboo surrounding death and how the saddest thing she has ever seen is also the best thing she's ever done.

#### Episode Four

As illness overtakes him, David faces blunt questions about his end-of-life care wishes.

Reader: Louise Brealey

Abridged and produced by Karen Rose

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

#### THU 12:00 News Summary (m00213h9)

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

#### THU 12:04 The Bottom Line (m00213hc)

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

#### THU 12:32 Sliced Bread (m00213hf)

Fake Tans

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

#### THU 12:57 Weather (m00213hh)

The latest weather forecast

#### THU 13:00 World at One (m00213hk)

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

#### THU 13:45 The History Podcast (m00214ff)

The House at Number 48

The Silver Arrow

As the net closes in on the Eisners, Antony's grandfather, Rudolph, has come up with an ingenious plan to save his family and their business empire. Will it work?  
And who is this mysterious man who enters the lives of the Eisners? Is he a friend or foe?

The House at Number 48 is presented by Charlie Northcott.  
The series producer is Jim Frank.  
Sound design and mixing by Tom Brignell.  
The Editor is Matt Willis.

#### THU 14:00 The Archers (m00213f1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Wednesday]

#### THU 14:15 Drama on 4 (m001lrgc)

Leaving (Part 2)

by Tessa Gibbs

A darkly funny family drama about love, loss and legacy - and why doing the right thing can seem like the wrong thing to do.

#### Part Two

Drew and Isla are still being held by the police.

Catriona ..... Georgie Glen  
Isla ..... Anita Vettesse  
Drew ..... Robin Laing  
Esme ..... Anneika Rose  
DS Wallace ..... Kyle Gardiner  
Murdo .... Simon Donaldson

Produced/Directed by Gaynor Macfarlane

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4WLs5NlwrySXJR2n8Snszgd/information-and-support-suicide-emotional-distress>

#### THU 15:00 Ramblings (m00213hm)

Crime and Punishment in the Peak District

Clare joins writer Kate Morgan on a walk from Monsal Head to Tideswell in the Peak District. Along the way, they explore how the use of gallows and gibbets in public punishment has influenced rural place names. Gibbet Rock, a striking limestone outcrop also called Peter's Stone for its resemblance to the dome of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, was once used to 'gibbet' or display the bodies of executed criminals. Kate tells the story of Anthony Lingard, who was convicted in 1815 of murdering a local woman, Hannah Oliver, and became the last person to be gibbeted at the site.

Kate is currently researching her third book, which will be on this subject. Her previous two books are Murder: The Biography which explores the legal history of the crime of murder in English Law, and The Walnut Tree which looks into the major legal changes affecting women in the 19th and early 20th centuries. (<https://amheath.com/authors/kate-morgan>)

Map:OS Explorer OL24 The Peak District White Peak Area, Buxton Bakewell, Matlock & Dove Dale  
Map Ref: SK185715 for the start of the walk at Monsal Head car park

Presenter: Clare Balding

Producer: Karen Gregor

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4

#### THU 15:27 Radio 4 Appeal (m0021228)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:54 on Sunday]

#### THU 15:30 Feedback (m00213hp)

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

#### THU 16:00 The Briefing Room (m00213hr)

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

#### THU 16:30 BBC Inside Science (m00213ht)

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

#### THU 17:00 PM (m00213hw)

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

#### THU 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00213hy)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### THU 18:30 Call Jonathan Pie (p0fsypw8)

6. Women

When Roger warns Pie that he must widen his demographic, Pie decides to dedicate an entire show to "women's issues". Pie's combative and contrary style does not suit the topic and Pie is taught a lesson or two by the female callers. Jules also gets involved by threatening Pie with quite serious bodily harm if he doesn't shut his "rancid instant-coffee stinking mouth". Pie is dismayed as he never touches instant coffee.

Jonathan Pie ..... Tom Walker  
Jules ..... Lucy Pearman  
Sam ..... Aqib Khan  
Roger .... Nick Revell  
Voiceovers ..... Bob Sinfield and Rob Curling  
Callers ... Ellie Dobing, Sarah Gabriel, Thanyia Moore and Emma Thornett.  
Writer ..... Tom Walker  
Script Editor ..... Nick Revell  
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 (m00213j1)

Ruairi struggles to process his feelings, and there's a surprise for Oliver.

#### THU 19:15 Front Row (m00213j3)

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

#### THU 20:00 When It Hits the Fan (m00213dq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Wednesday]

#### THU 20:15 The Media Show (m00213ds)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:15 on Wednesday]

#### THU 21:00 Loose Ends (m00211zt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

#### THU 21:45 Strong Message Here (m00213h1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:45 today]

#### THU 22:00 The World Tonight (m00213j5)

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

#### THU 22:45 North Woods by Daniel Mason (m00213j7)

Episode 4

Daniel Mason's North Woods is a time-spanning novel chronicling four centuries of human and natural history centred on a yellow house and its surrounding woods in Massachusetts, New England.

Through varied narrative styles, the book follows a diverse cast of fascinating inhabitants, from Puritan lovers to a lovelorn painter, a fraudulent mystic, a farmer, a slave hunter, a detectorist, twin sisters, a crime reporter. It even includes the stories of panthers and beetles, whilst exploring themes of memory, fate, and the interconnectedness of life with the environment.

The novel also incorporates historical documents and diverse literary formats to create a genre-defying tapestry of stories and music within the same location.

Read by  
Hannah Traylen &  
Daniel Weyman

Abridged by Lucy Ellis

Produced by Clive Brill

A Brill production for BBC Radio 4

#### THU 23:00 Radical with Amol Rajan (m00213j9)

Conversations about tomorrow, from Today.

#### THU 23:30 Today in Parliament (m00213jc)

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

### FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER 2025

#### FRI 00:00 Midnight News (m00213jf)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### FRI 00:30 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m00213h7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:45 on Thursday]

#### FRI 00:48 Shipping Forecast (m00213jh)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

#### FRI 01:00 Selection of BBC World Service Programmes (m00213jk)

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 (m00213jm)

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### FRI 05:04 Yesterday in Parliament (m00213jp)

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

#### FRI 05:34 Shipping Forecast (m00213jr)

The latest weather reports and forecasts for UK shipping

#### FRI 05:43 Prayer for the Day (m00213jt)

A Little Light with Your Coffee?

A spiritual comment and prayer to start the day with Saarah Hamayun

I used to work in a café, and I can remember the winter mornings, I'd catch the early bus through the quiet streets of Bradford, the town still half-asleep. The cold would bite at my bones as I opened up, switching on the lights and waking the coffee machine from its slumber. The divine smell of the coffee would welcome me as I pulled the first shot of espresso.

Soon, the rosy-faced commuters would arrive all carrying their own stories. I saw people on days when they'd just lost their job, or ended a relationship, or finished an exam. And every day, I tried to meet them with a smile. Sometimes I'd write a little message of hope on their cup or gift a blueberry muffin to soften a hard day, or simply open the door to someone who just needed the warmth. I still remember the morning a chap came in before work, he dropped his change and bent to pick it up when his trousers suddenly split right down the seam! We

scrambled to find a fleece to spare him the embarrassment, but we all had a good laugh.

I didn't realise it then, but that tiny café was its own small world; a refuge where a word, a look, or a warming cup of coffee could make all the difference to someone's day.

Now, in my role at a children's hospice, I meet families in our Sanctuary – which itself feels like a little refuge nestled in the hospice gardens, I don't know what burdens they carry when they walk through the door, I just know that I'll meet them where they are, with compassion and with kindness.

We sometimes think impact belongs to people in powerful places, but we can turn even the quietest corner of the world into a sanctuary.

Every encounter holds the chance to lighten someone's load, to remind another person that they are seen.

I pray that we bring light to the corners of the world we inhabit where even a smile is a small act of charity. These are the lights that warm the world.

Amen

#### **FRI 05:45 Farming Today (m00213jw)**

The latest news about food, farming and the countryside.

#### **FRI 06:00 Today (m00213p5)**

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

#### **FRI 09:00 Desert Island Discs (m002122n)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]

#### **FRI 10:00 Woman's Hour (m00213p7)**

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

#### **FRI 10:55 A Carnival of Animals (m002ktsw)**

The Hermit Crab

In this episode, Katherine Rundell explores the hermit crab - a creature known for its resourcefulness and quiet ingenuity. Most hermit crabs are small and vulnerable, making their homes in scavenged shells. When a new shell appears, crabs will sometimes form orderly queues, waiting and holding claws until one fits. But not all hermit crabs are so gentle: the coconut crab, the world's largest land crab, can crack open coconuts and has been known to strip a carcass clean.

Hermit crabs have found their way into human lives too - sometimes as pets, often to their detriment. Many die in captivity, while others are threatened by plastic pollution, habitat loss, and hunting.

Written and presented by Katherine Rundell

Produced for BBC Audio in Bristol by Natalie Donovan

#### **FRI 11:00 The Food Programme (m00213p9)**

Keeping It Local: A Suffolk Story

It's twenty years since the Aldeburgh Food Festival began. Sheila Dillon examines its impact in this small Suffolk seaside town where food producers work together to forge strong local supply chains. She speaks to the festival's co-founder Lady Caroline Cranbrook who has been a passionate advocate of Suffolk's rich food ecosystem. She goes on a shopping trip with local restaurateur and hotelier George Pell, a self-styled "blow-in" from London. They visit a fishing family, a butcher and a farmer supporting a start-up serving crullers in a town where collaboration is king.

Produced in Bristol for BBC Audio by Robin Markwell

#### **FRI 11:45 Death of an Ordinary Man by Sarah Perry (m00213pc)**

5. End of an Ordinary Life

"Now I understand there are no ordinary lives – that every death is the end of a single event in time's history: an event so improbable as to be miraculous, and irreplaceable in every particular."

Booker Prize-longlisted author Sarah Perry's father-in-law, David, died at home nine days after a cancer diagnosis having previously been in good health. The speed of his illness outstripped that of the NHS and social care, so the majority of nursing fell to Sarah and her husband. They witnessed what happens to the body and spirit, hour by hour, as it approaches death.

Death of an Ordinary Man is an unstinting account of death by cancer, a reportage into the experience of caring, an exploration of the structural conditions of dying in the UK, and most importantly a testament to David's life, that of an ordinary man.

Unflinching and profoundly moving, Sarah Perry confronts the taboo surrounding death and how the saddest thing she has ever seen is also the best thing she's ever done.

#### **Episode Five**

David is fast-tracked to end-of-life care at home, surrounded by family and watchful carers.

Reader: Louise Brealey

Abridged and produced by Karen Rose

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4

#### **FRI 12:00 News Summary (m00213pf)**

The latest national and international news from BBC Radio 4.

#### **FRI 12:04 AntiSocial (m00213ph)**

News and discussion of consumer affairs

#### **FRI 12:57 Weather (m00213pk)**

The latest weather forecast

#### **FRI 13:00 World at One (m00213pm)**

News, analysis and comment from BBC Radio 4

#### **FRI 13:45 The History Podcast (m00214g6)**

The House at Number 48

The Final Ticket

Antony Easton's relatives, the Eisners were one of the richest Jewish families in Berlin. The patriarch, Rudolph Eisner, has done everything he possibly could to steer them safely through the rise of the Nazis. But now, as the net finally closes in, what will they do?

The House at Number 48 is presented by Charlie Northcott.

The series producer is Jim Frank.

Sound design and mixing by Tom Brignell.

The Editor is Matt Willis.

#### **FRI 14:00 The Archers (m00213j1)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 on Thursday]

#### **FRI 14:15 Limelight (m002ktsd)**

The Betrayed

Episode 3. The Network

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 Ardiff

MICHAEL GRIFFITHS ... Jonathan Harden

BASTIAN ... Nicholas Murchie

SUZANNE ... Jane Slavin

JOE ... James Downie

SORCHA ... Amy McAllister

Directed by Eoin O'Callaghan

A Big Fish/BBC N Ireland Production for Limelight

#### **FRI 14:45 Untaxing (m0029hw8)**

5. The £10 Billion Fridge

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

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

Producer: Tom Pooley

A Tempo+Talker production for BBC Radio 4

#### **FRI 15:00 Gardeners' Question Time (m00213pp)**

Two Dales

Peter Gibbs and a proud panel of gardening experts return to the Whitworth Institute in Darley Dale where they answer questions from an eager live audience of gardeners. Tackling all your weedy woes are the panel, including head gardeners Bethan Collerton and Marcus Chilton Jones, and garden designer Bunny Guinness.

Senior producer: Matthew Smith

Junior producer: Rahnee Prescod

A Somethin' Else Production for BBC Radio 4.

#### **FRI 15:45 Short Works (m00213pr)**

Harry Swithenback's Private Visit by Alan Warner

The award-winning Scottish writer Alan Warner's new and specially commissioned story sees an antiques expert off the telly – Harry Swithenback – arrive in at this unnamed harbour town for what he hopes is a few days of rest and relaxation, however, the townspeople have other ideas. Stuart McQuarrie reads.

Alan Warner, who as was born in Oban on the west coast of Scotland in 1964, is the author of several novels including: Morvern Callar (1995), which won the Somerset Maugham Prize and was adapted for the cinema by director Lynne Ramsay in 2002. It is published as a Vintage Classic. He also wrote These Demented Lands (1997), which won the Encore Award and The Sopranos/Our Ladies, (1998), which won the Saltire Book of the Year Award. His novel The Stars in the Bright Sky from 2010 was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

Stuart McQuarrie is a television, film and theatre actor who has appeared in shows such as Taggart, Rab C Nesbitt, London's Burning and Silent Witness. In film, he's also had notable roles in 28 Days Later, Terminator: Dark Fate and White Bird.

The producer is Dominic Howell.

#### **FRI 16:00 Last Word (m00213pt)**

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

#### **FRI 16:30 Life Changing (m00213d0)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

#### **FRI 17:00 PM (m00213pw)**

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

#### **FRI 18:00 Six O'Clock News (m00213py)**

National and international news from BBC Radio 4

#### **FRI 18:30 The News Quiz (m00213q0)**

Series 118

Episode 8

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

#### **FRI 19:00 The Archers (m00213q2)**

Writer: Katie Hims

Director: Andy Partington

Editor: Jeremy Howe

Brian Aldridge.... Charles Collingwood

David Archer.... Timothy Bentinck

Josh Archer.... Angus Imrie  
 Jolene Archer.... Buffy Davies  
 Ruth Archer.... Felicity Finch  
 Lilian Bellamy.... Sunny Ormonde  
 Alice Carter.... Hollie Chapman  
 Ruairi Donavan.... Arthur Hughes  
 Amber Gordon.... Charlotte Jordan  
 George Grundy.... Angus Stobie  
 Tracy Horrorbin.... Susie Riddell  
 Adam Macy.... Andrew Wincott  
 Kate Madikane.... Perdita Avery  
 Esme Mulligan.... Ellie Pawsey  
 Oliver Sterling.... Michael Cochrane  
 Carly.... Louise Brearley

**FRI 19:15 Screenshot (m002l3q4)**

The Naked Civil Servant

Mark and Ellen celebrate 50 years of the ground breaking TV drama, The Naked Civil Servant.

Mark speaks to Rob Halford of Judas Priest about how The Naked Civil Servant changed his life. Mark then talks to filmmaker and drag queen Amrou Al-Kadhi about how forward thinking the show was and its influence on their own work.

Ellen talks to historian Stephen Bourne about the impact of "The Naked Civil Servant" on British television.

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

**FRI 20:00 Any Questions? (m002l3q6)**

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

**FRI 20:55 This Week in History (m002l3d4)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:40 on Wednesday]

**FRI 21:00 Free Thinking (m002l3q8)**

Rational and Irrational decision making

From economics to dreams: Anne McElvoy and guests consider the value of irrationality.

Producer: Ruth Watts

**FRI 22:00 The World Tonight (m002l3qb)**

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

**FRI 22:45 North Woods by Daniel Mason (m002l3qd)**

Episode 5

Daniel Mason's North Woods is a time-spanning novel chronicling four centuries of human and natural history centred on a yellow house and its surrounding woods in Massachusetts, New England.

Through varied narrative styles, the book follows a diverse cast of fascinating inhabitants, from Puritan lovers to a lovelorn painter, a fraudulent mystic, a farmer, a slave hunter, a detectorist, twin sisters, a crime reporter. It even includes the stories of panthers and beetles, whilst exploring themes of memory, fate, and the interconnectedness of life with the environment.

The novel also incorporates historical documents and diverse literary formats to create a genre-defying tapestry of stories and music within the same location.

Read by  
 Hannah Traylen &  
 Daniel Weyman

Abridged by Lucy Ellis

Produced by Clive Brill  
 A Brill production for BBC Radio 4

**FRI 23:00 Americast (w3ct7t63)**

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

**FRI 23:30 Today in Parliament (m002l3gg)**

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