

SATURDAY 25 DECEMBER 2021**SAT 00:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g8nhs)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 00:06 The Documentary (w3ct302q)

Afghan girls given a sporting chance

Female athletes faced brutal choices as allied forces withdrew from Afghanistan - to flee their homes and country or to stay and possibly abandon all hope of pursuing their sporting dreams.

Some made it onto those final flights out of the country, others faced dangerous journeys across borders with their friends and families. BBC journalist Sue Mitchell examines what has been happening to those who escaped and to the team mates they have left behind. Sue has been following the fortunes of teenage football players settling into new lives in the UK and female athletes stuck in limbo in Pakistan.

When the UK Government announced it was granting asylum to the Afghanistan girls development youth football team there was relief that the teenagers could continue to play. Weeks on from that decision the girls are still in Pakistan awaiting visas, new homes and training opportunities. The uncertainty is compounded by stories of brutal acts committed against female athletes still in Afghanistan and worries about family members they have left behind.

Kashif Siddiqi, the co-founder of charity Football for Peace, played a leading role in helping the girls flee Afghanistan. He said their perilous journey involved traveling in small groups and crossing the border wearing burqas. He is optimistic that sport can help them rebuild their lives and settle in communities linked by football.

In Portugal a group of girl soccer players who were part of the Afghanistan under 15 and under 17 programs are already adjusting to their new lives. They are being helped by the former captain of the Afghanistan women's soccer team, Farkhunda Muhtaj, who was already acutely aware of how difficult things were for the girls even before the Taliban returned to power. She fears that girls left behind will never play again.

Those fears have recently been compounded by reports that a member of the Afghanistan women's youth volleyball team has been beheaded by the Taliban in Kabul. Former team player, Zaharia Fayazi, relays the increasing anxiety she and others feel about those left behind.

(Photo: Girls from Afghanistan's National Youth team)

SAT 01:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g8s7x)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 01:06 World Business Report (w172zxll6nndf5)

South Korea pardons ex-President Park Guen-hye

The former South Korean president, Park Geun-hye, is to be granted a presidential pardon. She was convicted in 2018 for her part in a huge corruption scandal which involved major S Korean conglomerates including Samsung. We find out more from Jen Moon, editor and presenter at Arirang TV in Seoul. Also in the programme, iconic London department store chain Selfridges is sold for £4bn to Thai and Austrian buyers. The BBC's Russell Newlove reports. We also hear about the money making magic behind Harry Potter and as champagne corks pop to celebrate Christmas and the approaching New Year, Anthony Maxwell from Liv-ex tells us how vintage bubbly is back in demand from investors.

(Image: Demonstrators call for the release of Park Guen-hye in 2018, JUNG YEON-JE/AFP via Getty Images)

SAT 01:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxkrry1z4j9)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 01:32 WorklifeIndia (w3ct2f48)

How to choose the perfect gift

Have you ever sat in a room surrounded by gift wrapping paper, a pile of holiday or festive gifts, and wondered whether you will ever use any of them? Once again, we are in the middle of the gifting season. And the dilemma for many of us is what to buy.

How can you make that joy even more special for someone receiving the gift? Is it okay to just go ahead and buy the most expensive gift you can find? Should a bunch of flowers or a cake accompany every present you give? Would you rather gift a voucher, a digital card or an investment? Or are you for a sustainable present, or one that focuses on an experience?

In this edition of WorklifeIndia, we discuss the many, many

ways you can choose a perfect gift.

Presenter: Devina Gupta

Contributors: Harshvardhan Khemani, founder, OyeHappy; Pawan Gadia, CEO, Ferns n Petals; Dominique Lopez, co-founder, Oh Scrap!; Bhavna Kanoria, founder, Scift; Shweta Gupta, gift curator

SAT 02:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g8x01)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 02:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct1mvy)

The moments which made us think

Pascale Harter presents a selection of the dispatches broadcast during 2021 - reflecting the personal stories behind the headline news.

Fergal Keane has reported from scenes of war, natural disaster and revolution around the world. Time after time he's seen the journeys of refugees and migrants across the world's borders - and so often the official responses to their needs have been similar. This year, as Greece reported a rise in the number of people arriving on its island via the Mediterranean Sea, he analysed how the European Union really polices its borders - and how international policy on migration so rarely takes in the full story of people's lives.

Chad lost its long-time leader, Idriss Deby, this year - reportedly killed in a desert battle with rebel forces. His son soon took the reins. Mayeni Jones went to the Chadian capital N'Djamena to hear the official line on the transfer of power. After a conversation with a minister with an apparently extravagant lifestyle, she came away wondering about the apparent disconnect between the country's masses and its leaders.

Karim Haidari was just one of hundreds of Afghans who'd worked with the BBC who left the country as part of the huge evacuation from Kabul Airport in August. He and his children are now safe in the UK. As he explained in a personal dispatch, "survival is a blessing ... but just the beginning" of a whole new sea of challenges.

And the Indian poet and writer Tishani Doshi was among those trying to adjust to a whole new rhythm of life under lockdown. In a small fishing village in Tamil Nadu, so remote that the post never arrives and online shopping is a distant dream, how would her neighbours - many of them depending on farming and fishing for a livelihood - manage the restrictions? From finding food, to helping with medicines, it turned out that even at a distance, personal contacts still made all the difference.

Producer: Polly Hope

SAT 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxkrry1z88f)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 02:32 Stumped (w3ct1lck)

The best of Stumped in 2021

Alison Mitchell brings you the best of Stumped in 2021.

The show features an interview with the former West Indies cricketer and commentator Michael Holding on his book which documents the racism he has suffered and seen throughout his life.

Plus you can hear a classic Stumped debate on the term 'outs' instead of 'wickets' and hear from the first woman to be made President of the Marylebone Cricket Club, Clare Connor.

Photo: Commentator Michael Holding before the second day of the third test between England and India at Headingley on August 26, 2021 in Leeds, England. (Photo by Visionhaus/Getty Images)

SAT 03:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g90r5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 03:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct20g1)

Songs and social media

This month BBC Persian TV launched a new show. It's called Update and aims to bring social media trends and online discussions around the news to TV audiences. One of its first stories was the social media campaigns around Isfahan's water protests. First time presenter Taraneh Stone tells us about their agenda, and about her own launch 'wobbles'.

The tattooed women of Sindh

The women of a Hindu community in Sindh in Pakistan have a tradition of tattooing themselves before marriage. Stars, flowers

and Hindu symbols adorn their arms, necks and faces. For BBC Urdu, Nazish Ayaz went to meet them to find out why this tradition is so important.

Christmas dinner on the 5th Floor

For many in the language services, arriving on the 5th floor was their first experience of a traditional British Christmas dinner. Roast turkey and potatoes, stuffing and sauces, and the dreaded Brussels sprouts, as well as mince pies and Christmas pudding - we find out what they love and loathe, and how they make it their own. With BBC Russian's Janina Litvinova, Shekiba Habib from BBC Afghan and Pierre-Antoine Denis from BBC Afrique.

Arabic vintage vinyl revival

BBC Arabic's Omar Abdel-Razek has been investigating the growing enthusiasm for old records in the Arab world. He is a keen collector himself, but says the current demand comes mostly from young people, who are hunting down nostalgic recordings of the songs their parents loved.

Bangladeshi calligrapher awarded Saudi citizenship

A Bangladeshi man has been awarded Saudi Arabian citizenship for his extraordinary work as a calligrapher. Muqtar Alim has done calligraphy for the Gilaf, the cloth covering for the Kaaba, the holiest site in Islam. Shahnewaj Rocky of BBC Bangla met him to find out what this meant to him.

(Image: Protesters in the dried up Zayandeh Rud River bed, Isfahan. Credit: Fatmeh Nasr/AFP/Getty Images)

SAT 03:50 Witness History (w3ct1wnz)

The home of Santa Claus

Rovaniemi, a small town in Lapland, is home to dozens of Christmas tourist attractions and is widely considered the unofficial home of Santa Claus. The town had to re-invent itself after being flattened during the Arctic campaign in World War Two, and was inspired to become a Christmas destination by a visit from the American first lady, Eleanor Roosevelt. Rovaniemi now gets more than half a million visitors a year. Petra Zivic talks to two local residents.

PHOTO: Father Christmas in his "office" near Rovaniemi (Getty Images)

SAT 04:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g94b9)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 04:06 The Reith Lectures (w3ct2zpd)

AI: A Future for humans?

Prof Stuart Russell returns to the questions of human control over increasingly capable AI systems. He will argue for the abandonment of the current "standard model" of AI, proposing instead a new model based on three principles—chief among them the idea that machines should know that they don't know what humans' true objectives are. Echoes of the new model are already found in phenomena as diverse as menus, market research, and democracy. Machines designed according to the new model are, Russell suggests, deferential to humans, cautious and minimally invasive in their behaviour and, crucially, willing to be switched off. He will conclude by exploring further the consequences of success in AI for our future as a species.

The lectures will be chaired by presenter, journalist and author, Anita Anand.

SAT 05:00 BBC News (w172xzyb6g987f)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 05:06 The Cultural Frontline (w3ct1ptq)

The gift that changed me

Tumi Morake speaks to global stars and listeners about the gifts of art that have inspired them.

Lira is one of South Africa's bestselling pop stars. She has won multiple South African Music awards and was the first African woman to have a Barbie made in her likeness. She spoke to Tumi about how her love of painting was inspired by the gift of a piece of work from a talented South African artist.

The dancer Carlos Acosta has travelled the world with his art, from his early love of breakdancing in the streets of Havana to becoming the first black principal dancer of the Royal Ballet. He spoke to the Cultural Frontline about the classic book that caught his imagination and helped him tell his own story.

South Korean violin virtuoso Min Kym talks about the deep grief she experienced when her rare Stradivarius violin was stolen, and how seeing a painting by Vincent Van Gogh called 'Long Grasses with Butterflies' was the start of her recovery

from depression.

Plus we hear from our listeners in Kenya, Brazil and beyond about the art that has changed them during the pandemic.

Photo: Min Kym, Lira and Carlos Acosta. Credit: Roberto Ricciuti/Getty, Otarel Music and Man Yee Lee)

SAT 05:30 BBC News Summary (w172zkrry1zmht)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 05:32 World of Wisdom (w3ct2zw9)

Happiness in a hard situation

How do you find inner happiness when life in your home country is very hard? Eduardo is a young man in Venezuela facing daily struggles in his life. He finds it difficult to accept he cannot leave his country. Sister Dang Nghiem, is an Amerasian Buddhist nun, born during the Vietnam war. She talks to him about how we might find happiness and personal fulfilment wherever we are.

Presented by the BBC's Sana Safi.

Produced by Charlie Taylor and Ruth Edwards.

SAT 05:50 Ros Atkins on ... (w3ct2dpc)

The fight for Nazanin's freedom

The husband of a British-Iranian charity worker held in Iran since 2016 went on a three week hunger strike in October and November to push for her release. Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe is being held on spying charges, which she denies. Ros Atkins looks at how her story is part of a complicated history between Iran and the UK.

(Photo: Richard Ratcliffe holds up a photo of his wife Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe as he protests outside the Foreign Office while on hunger strike, 24 October, 2021, London. Credit: Hollie Adams/Getty Images)

SAT 06:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9czk)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 06:06 The Science Hour (w3ct1yw9)

Omicron – mild or monster?

Studies from South Africa and the UK suggest Omicron may be a mild infection for the majority of people. Hospital admissions are down when compared with other variants. However, the virus is replicating at a much faster rate than earlier variants and is able to overcome vaccines to some extent. Cases studies so far have mainly been in young people. There is concern over what will now happen as Omicron spreads across Europe and the US where there are older unvaccinated populations.

Anne von Gottberg from South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases tells us what early results from studies there show and discusses the implications.

Typhoon Rai in the Philippines led to the loss of many lives and even destroyed buildings designed to resist such extreme weather events. Could more have been done either to predict the ferocity of the typhoon or to prepare for its impact?

Liz Stephens, Associate Professor in Climate Risks and Resilience from the University of Reading discusses these issues.

Beavers are making a comeback – in the Arctic. Their activity in engineering the landscape, building dams, and changing water courses is so widespread it can be picked out by satellites. However, this is not entirely welcome says Helen Wheeler Senior Lecturer in Zoology at Anglia Ruskin University. who has been working with local people concerned about the beavers impact on their livelihoods.

And the James Webb telescope is finally launching. Heidi Hammel, who has been involved in the project for over 20 years tells us what it's all about.

Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens – CrowdScience has covered a lot this year. And what better way to see out 2021 than to look back at a few of our (and your!) favourite things? Great questions are right at the top of the team's list – especially with the way that for every one we answer, five more appear in our inbox!

So for a festive treat, Marnie asks the crew to answer three of them. What's the sun's role in our sense of direction? Why are we so uncomfortable with other people's sadness? And why does listening to the radio make us sleepy? (Or is it just too much eggnog...?) From our favourite listener advice on how to keep your Christmas lights untangled to why cold swimming could activate your Vagus nerve, tune in for new questions and more CrowdScience favourites to light up your holiday season!

Presented by Marnie Chesterton and many members the CrowdScience Team – Melanie Brown, Marijke Peters, Caroline Steel, Hannah Fisher, Samara Linton and Anand Jagatia.

Produced by Sam Baker for BBC World Service.

Featuring:

- Haneul Jang, post-doctoral researcher, the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
- Juliet Rosenfeld, psychotherapist and author of *The State of Disbelief: A Story of Death, Love and Forgetting*
- Mathias Basner, professor of psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania

(Image: Getty Images)

SAT 07:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9hqp)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 07:06 The History Hour (w3ct1z80)

The right to drive in Saudi Arabia

In 2011, cybersecurity expert Manal Al-Sharif helped found the Women2Drive movement. It was designed to force the Saudi Arabian government to overturn its ban on women driving cars - one of the many restrictions on women in the Kingdom. Inspired by the mood of the Arab Spring, Saudi women got behind the wheel and then posted videos of themselves all over social media. The movement attracted international attention and the ban on women drivers was eventually lifted. Saudi journalist Safa Al-Ahmad describes how the lifting of the ban was a radical change to Saudi society, but women in the country still face many severe restrictions. Plus, how in 2010 a Tanzanian man with albinism braved threats and discrimination to become the country's first albino elected politician. Also, the dramatic story of how the great Russian ballet dancer, Rudolf Nureyev, defected from the Soviet Union in 1961. Finally, the festive history of how a town in Finnish Lapland, eviscerated during WWII, rose from the ashes to become the unofficial home of Santa Claus. Presented by Max Pearson.

SAT 08:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9mgt)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n69)

Nitin Sawhney, Musician and Composer

Stephen Sackur speaks to renowned British Indian musician and composer Nitin Sawhney. From a childhood disfigured by racism to the embrace of the UK's cultural elite, what are the common threads in his remarkable career?

SAT 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172zkrry1zzr6)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 08:32 The Conversation (w3ct1p91)

Leading women in song

Singing is said to improve your mood, relieve stress, help you sleep better and produce pain-relieving endorphins - as well as improving posture and boost immunity and lung function! Kim Chakanetsa finds out more about the benefits of singing together, and the strange world of choir competitions.

Adwoa Dickson is from Jamaica. She is Choir Director for The Amies Freedom Choir, in the UK, which supports women who've survived trafficking. Singing in the choir helps the women relax and regain confidence as they explore songs and musical styles from each others' cultures and languages.

Finnish choir director, Marjukka Riimäki established the women's choir, Philomela in 1984 and has taken their distinctive sound around the world, working with a composer and choreographer to give them a unique stage presence. Philomela won the Female Chamber Choir competition at the World Choir Games in Riga in 2014. Since retiring as a music teacher Marjukka also works with people in sheltered housing who have dementia.

Produced by Jane Thurlow

(Image: (L) Marjukka Riimäki, credit Maarit Kytöharju. (R) Adwoa Dickson, courtesy Adwoa Dickson.)

SAT 09:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9r6y)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 09:06 BBC OS Conversations (w3ct2d6t)

Coronavirus: Reporting Covid

Vaccines, vaccine hesitancy, Delta and Omicron – what is it like reporting on the pandemic?

Host Nuala McGovern links up with journalists in Brazil, the United States and Germany to hear how they have been covering the coronavirus pandemic over the past year and the situation in their countries as they see it. How have things changed, and what are their predictions for 2022?

Barbara Carvalho, from Globo News in Brazil, explains why vaccine take-up is high in a country where the national leadership has been sceptical of vaccination.

We are also joined by Kathrin Wesolowski, a reporter and fact-checker in Germany, who warns of the dangers of misinformation around the pandemic. And Apoorva Mandavilli, Global Health and Science Reporter for the New York Times, tells us how her feelings go from despair to optimism.

(Photo: Journalists wearing protective suits at Mugda Medical College Hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in April 2021. Credit: Piyas Biswas/SOPA Images/LightRocket/Getty Images)

SAT 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172zkrry203hb)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 09:32 The Explanation (w3ct2z3n)

Understanding the Islamic State group

Anu Anand talks to Quentin Sommerville about the rise, fall and potential re-emergence of the Islamic State group.

SAT 09:50 Over to You (w3ct11j2)

Ask the controller: Part one

The controller of BBC World Service English, Jon Zilkha, responds to your comments, views and questions - be they favourable or critical. Topics include how the World Service develops new presenters and programmes and the stresses of reporting on the Covid pandemic.

Presenter: Rajan Datar

Producer: Howard Shannon

SAT 10:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9vz2)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 10:06 Sportshour (w172y0qc87ms8zq)

2021: A year in review

We look back at some of the stories we covered and people we met in 2021 including Haley Carter the former assistant coach of the Afghan women's team and also a US Marine veteran. We hear from Janelly Farias, who was called "the Mexican Rapinoc" on social media for her willingness to bring to light the prejudiced faced by the LGBTQ+ community in Mexico. Nav Bhatia who was inducted into the NBA Hall of Fame an honour normally confined to those who perform on the court, tells us about devotion to his beloved Toronto Raptors. Australian cyclist Lachlan Morton on the challenge of completing his own remarkable Tour de France.

Photo: Haley Carter coaches the Afghan women's football team (Credit: Haley Carter) Photo supplied and used to ensure no players can be identified

SAT 11:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9zq6)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxyvldlpg)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SAT 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172zkrry20bz)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 11:32 WorklifeIndia (w3ct2f48)

[Repeat of broadcast at 01:32 today]

SAT 12:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6g9zq6)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 12:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvn)

MTV@40

In the early 1980s the idea of a television channel showing nothing but music videos 24 hours a day was completely revolutionary.

The arrival of MTV posed the first real threat to the dominance of Top 40 Radio across America and went on to completely redefine how artists marketed themselves and the way popular music was consumed by the fans.

In 'MTV@40' presenter Mark Goodman, the very first 'Video Jockey' to appear on the channel after it launched in 1981, tells the behind-the-scenes story of the channel's successes and controversies.

From MTV's inauspicious launch night, to broadcasting all 17 hours of Live Aid in 1985, to how Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' helped the channel combat claims of racial bias in its music policy; MTV has been the soundtrack to some of the biggest moments in popular culture for the last four decades.

Through extensive use of archive and new interviews with people who have first-hand experience of working at the channel, the BBC World Service tells the story of how a daring experiment 40 years ago changed both music and television forever.

Presenter: Mark Goodman
Producer: Mike Williams

Image: The MTV Music Television logo circa 1982. (Photo by Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images)

SAT 13:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gb76g)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 13:06 Newshour (w172xv5hwmp6j2)
World's most powerful telescope launched into orbit

The world's most powerful telescope has been blasted off into space by a European Ariane Rocket from French Guiana. With its huge gold-plated mirror, the James Webb Space Telescope aims to see deeper into space than ever before, to picture the very first stars. We speak to Thomas Zurbuchen, NASA's head of science.

Also in the programme: How climate change is driving reindeer from their feeding grounds; and our correspondents look back at some of this year's biggest stories.

(Image: Lift-off of an Ariane 5 rocket carrying NASA's James Webb Space Telescope. Credit: Epa/JM Guillon/Esa handout)

SAT 14:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbbyl)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 14:06 The Documentary (w3ct302q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 00:06 today]

SAT 15:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbgpq)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 15:06 Her Majesty the Queen's Christmas Message (w3ct3dmx)
Her Majesty the Queen's Christmas message

Coverage of Her Majesty the Queen's traditional Christmas message to the Commonwealth.

SAT 15:12 On the Podium (w3ct300j)
A show about what it takes to get to the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

SAT 16:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbblfv)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 16:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvy)
Generation change: Part one

BBC presenter Babita Sharma meets the young people from around the world working to fight hunger and climate change as well as speaking to Nobel Prize Laureates including the World Food Programme and the co-Chair of President Biden's science commission and Nobel Chemistry Laureate Frances H. Arnold.

We hear from the young people in South Korea taking the Government to court to stop the carbon emissions which cause climate change, the young Lebanese man who worked to feed people after the deadly bomb blast in 2019, the young American woman whose work connecting charities to excess food from restaurants is spreading around the world and the young Kenyan engineer who has designed a solar powered

fridge which can transport vaccines on a bike.

SAT 17:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbq5z)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 17:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvz)
Generation change: Part two

BBC presenter Babita Sharma and correspondent Megha Mohan meet the young people from India, Nigeria, the United Kingdom, the United States and the United Arab Emirates fighting to change taboos around organ donation and for greater diversity in the critical fields of science, technology, engineering and maths. We also speak to Nobel Prize awarded contributors including kidney transfer campaigner and economist Alvin Roth as well as astronomer and Physics Laureate Andrea Ghez.

(Photo: Farmers)

SAT 18:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbty3)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 18:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxywllfxe)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SAT 18:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkrry2166h)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 18:32 World of Wisdom (w3ct2zw9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 05:32 today]

SAT 18:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct1199)
Nigeria's Paralympic heroine

At the 2016 Paralympics in Rio, Nigerian shotputter, Lauritta Onye, became a social media sensation thanks to her cart-wheeling gold-medal celebration dance. Onye has dwarfism and has never grown beyond four foot one, or 125 centimetres. She suffered social stigma in Nigeria and at one point ended up selling DVDs on the street in order to survive. But a taster session of Paralympic sport would transform her life. She talks to Ian Williams .

PHOTO: Lauritta Onye competing at the Rio Paralympics (Getty Images)

SAT 19:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gbyp7)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 19:06 The Evidence (w3ct2zqk)
Coronavirus: The Evidence

When will the pandemic end?

Everybody hopes that the new super-charged Omicron variant of coronavirus will be less severe, but even if it is, it's spreading so fast and infecting so many people, health services around the world could still buckle under the strain.

Two years into the pandemic, Claudia Hammond is joined by two world-leading scientists to discuss the impact of Omicron and to review what the world has got right in its response to coronavirus, and what it has got very, very wrong.

As many countries roll out and plan for booster campaigns in the face of this new variant, concerns are raised that enhancing vaccine coverage in richer countries will again monopolise scarce supplies, and leave the millions of unvaccinated in poorer countries – including three quarters of healthcare workers in Africa – exposed yet again.

Dr Soumya Swaminathan, the Chief Scientist of the World Health Organisation, acknowledges the need to boost the elderly and vulnerable, but says it's good science to make sure everyone around the world gets their first vaccine doses. Only then will further deaths be prevented and new variants stalled.

Director of the Wellcome Trust, Sir Jeremy Farrar agrees. Booster vaccines in rich countries, maybe even a fourth dose, are unsustainable he says, when so many people have yet to receive their first jab. It's not just a moral and ethical argument to vaccinate the world, he says, but it makes sound scientific sense too.

Produced by: Fiona Hill, Anna Buckley, Maria Simons and Emily Bird
Studio Engineer: Tim Heffer and Giles Aspen

Picture: Virus shaped Globe, World map texture credits to

NASA. Credit: imaginima/Getty Images

SAT 20:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gc2fc)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 20:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct1rv1)
Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason

World famous cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason – who played at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle – joins us to reveal his family celebrations over the holiday season. We also hear from other guests about how they mark this time of year.

Tom Holland tells us about his training regime to play Spiderman, Maggie Gyllenhaal on her feature film directing debut.

The Waltz King Andre Rieu on wanting to spread a love for classical music

Joachim Trier - director of The Worst Person In The World – on his romantic melodrama which has been described as “an instant classic”.

And Nikki Bedi is joined by critic Rhianna Dhillon to discuss the many aural delights on offer at this time of the year.

(Photo: Sheku Kanneh-Mason. Credit: Jake Turney)

SAT 21:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gc65h)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5hwmp5h3)
Interviews, news and analysis of the day's global events.

SAT 22:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gc9xm)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xyx1j4zrmgl)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SAT 22:20 Sports News (w172y0stlffwp37)
BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

SAT 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkrry21p60)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SAT 22:32 The Cultural Frontline (w3ct1ptq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 05:06 today]

SAT 23:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gcfnr)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SAT 23:06 Music Life (w3ct1hcz)
Home for the holidays with MØ, Sigrid, Tove Lo and Alma

Nordic pop superstars MØ, Sigrid, Tove Lo and Alma discuss writing songs on your holidays, which elements work best for their songwriting, and why Scandinavians are so good at making pop music.

Karen Ørsted, better known as Danish singer and songwriter MØ, is an electro-pop star who blends different genres to make a sound that's uniquely hers. She grew up listening to punk music and this is definitely something that's influenced her most recent work. She's worked with the likes of Iggy Azalea, Major Lazer and DJ Snake, Charli XCX, Justin Bieber and superstar producer Jack Antonoff, and supported artists including Years & Years, AlunaGeorge and Sia on international stages.

Sigrid is a Norwegian singer and songwriter who has toured with the likes of Maroon 5 and George Ezra, and her latest single Burning Bridges is a taste of what's to come from her second album.

Tove Lo has been dubbed “Sweden's darkest pop export”. Known for her grunge-infused pop sound, she has released four albums and has had global success with tracks like Habits (Stay High), Cool Girl and the Grammy-nominated Glad He's Gone.

Alma went from performing on Finnish talent show Idols to achieving platinum-selling singles in just five years. She shot to fame in 2017 with the release of Chasing Highs, released her debut album Have U Seen Her? in 2020, and has collaborated with the likes of Charli XCX, Tove Lo and MØ. Beyond her own music, she has written for pop heavyweights like Miley Cyrus and Ariana Grande.

SUNDAY 26 DECEMBER 2021**SUN 00:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gckdw)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 00:06 The Science Hour (w3ct1yw9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:06 on Saturday]

SUN 01:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gcp50)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 01:06 The Cultural Frontline (w3ct1ptq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:06 on Saturday]

SUN 01:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky221fd)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 01:32 World of Wisdom (w3ct2zw9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:32 on Saturday]

SUN 01:50 Over to You (w3ct112j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:50 on Saturday]

SUN 02:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gcsx4)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 02:06 BBC OS Conversations (w3ct2d6t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:06 on Saturday]

SUN 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky2255j)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 02:32 The Explanation (w3ct2z3n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 on Saturday]

SUN 02:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct1199)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:50 on Saturday]

SUN 03:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gcnx8)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 03:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

SUN 04:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gd1dd)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 04:06 Business Weekly (w3ct2dhv)

Gas prices soar across Europe

On this edition of Business Weekly, we're looking at the rising cost of energy across Europe, and hear from Emma Pinchbeck of Energy UK on how producers and consumers are coping, plus Tom Wilson from The Financial Times analyses the causes behind the price hike.

We hear about how some countries are scaling back their road building projects in the face of climate change and ask how best to get people out of their cars? Plus, we go to Ghana, where consumers are unhappy with a new tax the government wants to add to electronic money transfers made using mobile phones. And the BBC's Michelle Fluerry is in the US state of Kentucky to meet people who have decided to quit their job, and reevaluate their lives during the pandemic. Business Weekly is presented by Sasha Twining and produced by Clare Williamson.

(Image: cooking gas ring with blue gas flame; Credit: BBC)

SUN 05:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gd54j)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 05:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct1mvy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 on Saturday]

SUN 05:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky22jdx)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 05:32 WorklifeIndia (w3ct2f48)

[Repeat of broadcast at 01:32 on Saturday]

SUN 06:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gd8wn)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 06:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:06 on Saturday]

SUN 07:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gddms)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 07:06 A Wish for Afghanistan (w3ct379d)

The Taliban and the president

A chance to hear once again from the BBC's acclaimed series examining the seismic events shaping Afghanistan before and after this year's return to power of the Taliban. The BBC's chief international correspondent, Lyse Doucet, hears from two key players who have shaped the country's recent history: Mullah Abdul Salam Zaeef, a former Afghan diplomat and co-founder of the Taliban movement; and Hamid Karzai, the country's first elected president. Both talk in detail about the events that shaped their lives, their thinking and what they make of the collapse of the US-backed government in the country.

SUN 08:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gdjcx)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n61)

Sir Hilary Beckles: Reparations for slavery

Zeinab Badawi speaks to the eminent historian professor Sir Hilary Beckles in Barbados. Over three centuries, Africans were transported to the Caribbean to toil on sugar and cotton plantations - a trade that made Britain rich. For decades there have been calls for compensation to atone for the sins of slavery. Sir Hilary is Chair of the CARICOM Reparations Commission. Can there be justice for the descendants of enslaved Africans?

SUN 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky22wn9)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 08:32 The Food Chain (w3ct1rgr)

Why I chose to live on rations

World War Two rationing imposed severe restrictions on food, so why would anyone voluntarily go back to it?

Ruth Alexander meets three women who chose to adopt the diet endured in 1940s and 1950s Britain, one of them for an entire year.

We hear how such scarcity inspired creativity, a reverence for the ingenuity of wartime cooks, and an enduring change of perspective on the responsibility of the 21st century food consumer.

If you would like to get in touch with the show please email thefoodchain@bbc.co.uk.

Producer: Simon Tulett

Contributors:

Karen Burns-Booth, food writer - www.lavenderandlovage.com/category/recipes/general-recipes/wartime-recipes
 Claud Fullwood, author of The Rations Challenge: Forty Days of Feasting in a Wartime Kitchen
 Carolyn Ekins, blogger - <https://the1940sexperiment.com>

(Picture: Basket of food rations on display at the Imperial War Museum, London, in 2011. Credit: Paul Kerley/BBC)

SUN 09:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gdn41)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 09:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct1mvy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 on Saturday]

SUN 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky230df)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 09:32 Outlook (w3ct1ky0)

A star is gone: Judy Garland's last act

Judy Garland was a musical icon who spent her whole life in the spotlight. In 1969, she was in London for what would be her last ever UK shows. At the time, Rosalyn Wilder was a young production assistant who had always dreamed of working in

show business and she was tasked with getting the star on stage. But this was a gig that was both exhilarating and upsetting. Rosalyn witnessed first-hand Judy Garland's struggles with addiction and confidence - some nights she would have to coax the singer to perform without her pills, other times she saw a testy audience hurling bread rolls at her. But there were also moments when Garland produced 'mind-blowing magic.' Rosalyn's experience of working with Garland is portrayed in the film, *Judy*. (This episode was first broadcast on 7th December 2019.)

Presenter: Emily Webb
 Producer: Maryam Maruf

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com

(Photo: A studio portrait of Judy Garland from the 1960s
 Credit: Getty Images)

SUN 10:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gdrw5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 10:06 A Pyrotechnic History Of Humanity (w3ct2zv7)

Fossil fuels

Justin Rowlatt looks at the bonanza provided by coal, oil and gas in just the last two centuries. Our modern comfortable way of life is only made possible by burning through a finite stock of fossilised chemical energy. Today we are a fossil fuel society, according to the noted energy historian Vaclav Smil. Fossil fuels underpin everything we take for granted - our long leisurely lives, our material goods, even the crops needed to feed our gigantic populations.

Justin takes a tour through the history of the engine with Prof Paul Warde at London's Science Museum. He explores the dark library of hydrocarbon fuels with chemist Andrea Sella. And he discovers how coal and natural gas created the materials that built our modern urban worlds. Indeed, our megacities emerged to exploit fossil fuels more efficiently, and to provide the crucible for an explosion of technology, according to physicist Geoffrey West, in a process analogous to the evolution of the human brain.

(Photo: Afghan laborer sorts coal wood as he wait for customers in Kabul, Afghanistan. Credit: EPA)

SUN 10:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky2344k)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 10:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct2zvr)

Andrea Bocelli: Faith and music

Andrea Bocelli is a multi-award winning Italian tenor who has sold over 75 million records worldwide. Blind from the age of 12, singing was always his passion but he never could have dreamt his life would turn out as it has. When asked what he puts his success down to, he lists his talents, hard work, and overall his belief and faith in God. A strong Catholic, Bocelli has even performed for three popes at the Vatican, and his faith lead him to establish the Andrea Bocelli Foundation where he helps people in impoverished and disaster-stricken parts of the world. Much of his music has a spiritual air to it, and has sustained Bocelli through the ups and downs of life. This Christmas, Heart & Soul on the BBC World Service will present a special one-on-one interview with Andrea Bocelli, presented by Rome based journalist Colm Flynn. The programme will be recorded in the historic Italian city of Florence and will feature some of Bocelli's much-loved music, as well as the story of his life and faith.

(Photo: Andrea Bocelli. Credit: Colm Flynn/BBC)

SUN 11:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gdwm9)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxyvhlhkk)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SUN 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172zxrky237wp)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 11:32 The Documentary (w3ct3nff)

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Reflecting on the life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the South African priest who became a prominent figure in the fight against apartheid, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

Image: Archbishop Desmond Tutu, pictured in 2017 (Credit: Mike Hutchings/Reuters)

SUN 12:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gf0cf)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 12:06 The Evidence (w3ct2zqk)
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:06 on Saturday]

SUN 13:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gf43k)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 13:06 Newshour (w172xv5hwmpx3f5)
Anti-apartheid hero Desmond Tutu dies

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate who helped end apartheid in South Africa, has died aged 90. In 1986, Tutu became the first black Archbishop of Cape Town, which he used to great effect to help tear down apartheid. The current holder of that bishopric, Thabo Makgoba, remembers his friend on Newshour.

Also on the programme: Archbishop Desmond Tutu was a member of The Elders, which was set up by Nelson Mandela. The Elders Chair and former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, recalls working beside him, recounting his commitment for causes from Palestinian rights to ending child marriage.

And, Desmond Tutu's international campaign against apartheid opened the way for the ANC - the African National Congress - to come to power. We speak to a former ANC cabinet member.

(Photo: Archbishop Desmond Tutu makes a point as he addresses a meeting March 16, 2001 to raise awareness for World Tuberculosis Day. REUTERS/Mike Hutchings/File Photo)

SUN 14:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gf7vp)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 14:06 Sportsworld (w172y0tn151mwlh)
Live sport from around the world with news, interviews and analysis.

SUN 18:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gfqv6)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 18:06 Music Life (w3ct1hez)
[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Saturday]

SUN 19:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gfv1b)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 19:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxyw1jgkl)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SUN 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkrry246vq)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 19:32 The Compass (w3ct2zgh)
My Arab Spring

War - Harb

Violence and loss of life were features of the 2011 Arab Spring from the outset - peaceful protests were met with live bullets in multiple countries, and protesters were imprisoned, tortured, and killed.

Brother and sister Abubakr and Ella al-Shamahi look at the revolutionary prisoners of Bahrain, the chaos of the conflict in Libya, the Yemeni Civil War and the destruction and devastation that Syrians have experienced over the last 10 years.

(Photo: A Yemeni sits next to the grave of his slain son at a cemetery dedicated to slain Houthis fighters. Credit: Yahya Arhab/EPA)

SUN 20:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gfzbg)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 20:06 Business Weekly (w3ct2dhv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

SUN 21:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gg32l)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5hwmpy2d6)
Archbishop Desmond Tutu dies

Global leaders past and present have been paying tribute to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, whose voice helped end apartheid in South Africa. He was 90 years old.

Also in the programme: Israel approves a plan to double the population of the Golan heights; and The Taliban says Afghan women need to be accompanied by a man to travel.

(Picture: Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Credit: REUTERS/Mike Hutchings/File Photo)

SUN 22:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6gg6tq)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xyx1j4zvjcj)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

SUN 22:20 Sports News (w172y0stiffz10b)
BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

SUN 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkrry24133)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 22:32 Outlook (w3ct1ky0)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 today]

SUN 23:00 BBC News (w172xzjyb6ggbkv)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

SUN 23:06 A Pyrotechnic History Of Humanity (w3ct2zv7)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 today]

SUN 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkrry24pv7)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

SUN 23:32 The Explanation (w3ct2zn3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 on Saturday]

SUN 23:50 More or Less (w3ct2dl3)
Numbers of 2021

A guide to the most concerning, striking and downright extraordinary numbers of 2021. Tim Harford asks three More or Less interviewees about their most significant and memorable figure over the past year. From the excess death toll of Covid-19; to declining total fertility rates, and a spike in the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, we showcase the numbers that tell us something about the year gone by.

During this programme, we speak to Hannah Ritchie, head of research at Our World in Data and senior researcher at the University of Oxford; Marina Adshade, Economics Professor at the University of British Columbia; and Heleen De Coninck, professor at Eindhoven University of Technology, and a lead author on several reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

(Mauna Loa observatory Hawaii. Courtesy of NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Photo credit: Susan Cobb)

MONDAY 27 DECEMBER 2021

MON 00:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgr1914)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 00:06 A Pyrotechnic History Of Humanity (w3ct2zv7)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 on Sunday]

MON 00:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkzs46c8nvj)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 00:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct2zvr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:32 on Sunday]

MON 01:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgr1fb8)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 01:06 World Business Report (w172xzlz9c0yctd)
Ireland's economy surges despite Covid and Brexit

Russell Padmore travels across Ireland to find out how the Irish economy has shrugged off the impact of the pandemic and problems caused by Brexit.

It seems foreign investors, especially Irish Americans, are confident that Ireland will enjoy significant growth in 2022, despite the prospect of corporation tax being increased, after the country signed up to a global deal orchestrated by the OECD.

Russell's journey from the capital city, Dublin, to the rural north west also includes a trip across the border into Northern Ireland to hear how businesses there are worried about the UK Government creating more uncertainty in its economic relationship with the European Union, which could undermine trade with the Irish Republic.

We hear analysis from Austin Hughes, chief economist at KBC Ireland, Professor Luke O'Neill an immunologist at Trinity College Dublin, Mark Redmond, the Chief Executive of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ireland, Gillian Doyle, the founder of Cerebreon Technologies and Stephen Kelly, the Chief Executive of Manufacturing Northern Ireland.

(Picture: Irish Financial Services Centre, IFSC, by the River Liffey in Dublin. Getty Images.)

MON 01:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkzs46c8ln)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 01:32 In the Studio (w3ct1ftf2)
Nutcracker! with Sir Matthew Bourne

We follow the internationally celebrated choreographer Sir Matthew Bourne as he reimagines his popular work Nutcracker! for Autumn 2021.

Taking Tchaikovsky's ballet and in a set heavily influenced by the lavish Hollywood musicals of the 1930s, Bourne's production is a spectacle as it journeys between Dr. Dross' drab Orphanage, through a shimmering, ice-skating winter wonderland, and into the mouth-watering Sweetieland full of dancing sugar coated goodies.

Complete with newly-refreshed delectable sets and costumes, combined with sparkling new choreography, Luke Whitlock explores with Bourne how this reinvention comes about.

From preparations way ahead of the opening night of the tour, and then heading to London to light up the Christmas Season, the creative process for Bourne doesn't stop.

Presented by Luke Whitlock
Produced by Luke Whitlock for the BBC World Service

Image: Matthew Bourne (Credit: Sarah Jaynes/BBC)

MON 02:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgr1k2d)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 02:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n5h)
Barbara Amiel: What do the super-rich owe the rest of the world?

The proportion of wealth owned by a super-rich elite continues to grow in societies around the world. The glaring disparity between the 'have-mosts' and the 'have-nothings' has fuelled a wave of political anger. Stephen Sackur speaks to the former newspaper columnist, editor, and one-time high society hostess Barbara Amiel, whose recent memoir, wittingly or not, paints an extraordinary, even grotesque, picture of the lives of the wealthy.

MON 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzkzs46c8xbs)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 02:32 CrowdScience (w3ct1prj)
CrowdScience Christmas bonanza

Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens – CrowdScience has covered a lot this year. And what better way to see out 2021 than to look back at a few of our (and your!) favourite things? Great questions are right at the top of the team's list – especially with the way that for every one we answer, five more appear in our inbox!

So for a festive treat, Marnie asks the crew to answer three of them. What's the sun's role in our sense of direction? Why are we so uncomfortable with other people's sadness? And why does listening to the radio make us sleepy? (Or is it just too much eggnog...?) From our favourite listener advice on how to keep your Christmas lights untangled to why cold swimming could activate your Vagus nerve, tune in for new questions and more CrowdScience favourites to light up your holiday season!

Presented by Marnie Chesterton and many members the CrowdScience Team – Melanie Brown, Marijke Peters, Caroline Steel, Hannah Fisher, Samara Linton and Anand Jagatia.

Produced by Sam Baker for BBC World Service.

Featuring:

- Haneul Jang, post-doctoral researcher, the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
- Juliet Rosenfeld, psychotherapist and author of *The State of Disbelief: A Story of Death, Love and Forgetting*
- Mathias Basner, professor of psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania

MON 03:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlntj)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 03:06 A Pyrotechnic History Of Humanity (w3ct2zv7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 on Sunday]

MON 03:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c912x)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 03:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct2zvr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:32 on Sunday]

MON 04:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlntj)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 04:06 The Climate Question (w3ct2drm)

Does climate change have an 'image problem'?

Images are a key part of communicating climate change, and shape how we understand the crisis unfolding around us. But while lots of research has been done into the language we use to talk about climate, images are often left out of the conversation.

As a result, over time, a limited set of images have come to dominate how we think of climate change – like polar bears and melting glaciers - which haven't kept up with the changing conversation about the crisis. All too often, these images tend to be abstract, removed from our daily lives and typically don't feature people - when we know that climate change is happening all around us, all the time, and is very much a story with people and communities at its core.

So how can we develop a new, and more effective visual language for climate change? What kind of images 'work' to both convey the urgency of the crisis as well as inspire behavioural change? And what are some of the ways in which photographers are seeking to represent the crisis in a way that transforms apathy into action?

Guests:

Cristina Mittermeier, photographer and conservationist
Arati Kumar-Rao, National Geographic Explorer and photographer
Toby Smith, Programme Lead at Climate Visuals
Saffron O'Neill, University of Exeter

Presenter: Neal Razzell

Producer: Zoe Gelber

Researcher: Lizzie Frisby

Series Producer: Alex Lewis

MON 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c94v1)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 04:32 The Conversation (w3ct1p9m)

Musical child prodigies

Very few people in the world are blessed with exceptional musical talent that is apparent from an early age. What is childhood like in the spotlight, especially as a young woman? To find out, Kim Chakanetsa meets two musicians whose careers began when they were children.

Tosin Jegede was a child singing sensation in Nigeria in the 1980s. She released her first solo album in 1985 when just five years old, and went on to release two more before her teenage years. From hiding from adoring fans, flying all over the

country to perform and singing in front of Nelson Mandela, her childhood was anything but ordinary and she had to cope with publicity which went well beyond her music and its performance.

Twenty-year-old Sujari Britt is a classical cellist from the United States. She began learning the instrument at the age of four, having already studied the violin and the piano. A year later, Sujari started performing in a professional capacity with her sibling trio. By the time she was eight, she had played at the White House for President Obama. Sujari has performed at renowned venues such as Carnegie Hall and Madison Square Garden, and with reputable orchestras in Europe, Asia, Canada and the USA.

Produced by Emily Naylor and Jane Thurlow

(Image: (L) Tosin Jegede, credit Tosin Jegede. (R) Sujari Britt, credit Jamie Jung.)

MON 05:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlx9s)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 05:06 Newscast (w172xv31xq60zbj)

Israel expands into Golan Heights

The Israeli cabinet votes in a \$317 million plan to build 7,300 settler homes in the area. Seized from Syria in 1967, it's regarded by much of the world as occupied territory.

We remember the anti-apartheid campaigner, Desmond Tutu through the eyes of his Soweto neighbours.

And we speak to Afghanistan's first ever female airline pilot, who fled Taliban rule.

MON 06:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlm11x)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 06:06 Newscast (w172xv31xq6132n)

Israel's multi-million dollar plan for Golan Heights settlement

The cabinet votes to approve a plan to build hundreds of new homes in the disputed area.

As South Africa prepares for a week of mourning following the death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, we'll hear more about his legacy.

And how to recycle the world's ever-growing mountain of plastic? A special report from Denmark on innovative new ideas.

MON 07:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlm4t1)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 07:06 Newscast (w172xv31xq616ts)

Calculating the toll of climate change related disasters

The charity Christian Aid has identified 10 extreme events that each caused more than \$1.5bn of damage in 2021 - and brought misery to millions of people.

Somalia's president has suspended his prime minister, accusing him of corruption amid a deepening political crisis.

And there's an uneasy calm on the Canary Islands after the volcano there quietened after spewing lava for almost three months. So does that mean life can now go back to normal?

MON 08:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprlm8k5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n5h)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

MON 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c9mtk)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct1j5v)

Harry Potter and the phenomenally profitable franchise

It's 20 years since the first Harry Potter film was released and the movies and books have spawned a world of wizard-related retail opportunities. Elizabeth Hotson asks Chris Columbus, director of the first two Harry Potter films, how he dealt with the pressure of bringing the boy wizard to life. And we travel to Edinburgh for The Potter Trail tour which starts with a spell and ends in a graveyard. We step inside the magical Museum

Context shop, and hear from owner, Andrew McRae. Plus, Scott Mendelson, a film critic and box office pundit at Forbes, tells us why he thinks the franchise has been so successful. And we end with a look at the most hallowed of magic artefacts, the philosopher's stone itself.

Presenter: Elizabeth Hotson

Producers: Elizabeth Hotson and Sarah Treanor

(Picture of a boy dressed as Harry Potter, Picture by Stephen Chernin for Getty Images)

MON 08:50 Witness History (w3ct1x1y)

Pong and the birth of computer games

In 1973, a video game was invented which would change the way we play. An on screen version of table tennis, Pong was initially only played in arcades. But later a home version was created which gamers could plug into their televisions. Louise Hidalgo spoke to Nolan Bushnell, one of the creators of Pong.

Photo credit: BBC.

MON 09:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprmd99)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 09:06 The Climate Question (w3ct2drm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

MON 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c9rpk)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 09:32 CrowdScience (w3ct1prj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

MON 10:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprmj1f)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 10:06 The Cultural Frontline (w3ct1ptq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:06 on Saturday]

MON 10:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c9w9t)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 10:32 World of Wisdom (w3ct2zw9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:32 on Saturday]

MON 10:50 More or Less (w3ct2dl3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:50 on Sunday]

MON 11:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprmmks)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4wq7rt)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

MON 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46c01y)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 11:32 The Conversation (w3ct1p9m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

MON 12:00 BBC News (w172xzyjprmrjpp)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 12:06 Outlook (w3ct1jv5)

The violinist hoping to unite North and South Korea

Violinist Won Hyung Joon had a unique idea to bring peace between North and South Korea. He dreams of an orchestra made up of musicians from across the great divide that could perform at special events and eventually tour the world. Reporter Jason Strother interviewed him in Seoul in late 2017. Won Hyung Joon recently took on another unusual project when he collaborated with MIT professor and composer Markus Buehler to create Protein Antibody in E-minor, a piece inspired by the vibrational frequencies of Covid antibodies to promote optimism and healing in the midst of the pandemic.

Antonio Ruiz Gomar was in a Mexican prison when he formed a rock band with fellow inmates. Los Segregados became so popular that they were allowed to tour while still serving their sentences. Clayton Conn reports from Mexico City. First

broadcast 21st August 2017.

Amani Yahya is a pioneer of Yemen's rap scene, and is one of the country's best known female rappers. She spoke to Emily Webb about how she got started and how her rapping brought her death threats. This interview was first broadcast on 1st August 2018.

Beat Wampfler is a cheesemaker from Switzerland whose techniques have attracted some attention. In a world of traditional cheese production, he's been trying to find out whether cheese enjoys music. First broadcast 8th May 2019.

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com

Presenter: Emily Webb

(Photo: Won Hyung Joon playing his violin. Credit: Won Hyung Joon)

MON 12:50 Witness History (w3ct1x1y)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

MON 13:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrm8t)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 13:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4wqh82)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

MON 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cb7k6)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 13:32 CrowdScience (w3ct1prj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

MON 14:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrn00y)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 14:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x03zbk)
Devastating floods in northeastern Brazil

Two dams have collapsed amid relentless rainfall in Bahia State. We speak to Brazil-based journalist Sam Cowie. Also in the programme, the growing economic costs of extreme weather events caused by climate change: a new report from the charity Christian Aid.

Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover: we discuss the changes with two Afghans who have left their homeland. And could monoclonal drugs help people who are immunocompromised deal with Covid? We hear from a doctor taking the drugs, and a medical researcher.

(Photo: Flooding caused by overflowing rivers in Bahia. Credit: REUTERS/Leonardo Benassatto)

MON 15:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrn3s2)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n5h)
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

MON 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cbh1g)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 15:32 World Business Report (w172y48bz6q6bwx)
Review of the year - 2021

The big event of 2021 that will shape economies all over the world for decades to come was the COP 26 climate conference in Glasgow in November. The meeting saw a deluge of promises, but what was actually achieved? Martin Webber speaks to Tim Gould, chief energy economist at the International Energy Agency and economist Irwin Stelzer, from the Hudson Institute in the United States.

It was another boom year for the pharmaceutical industry as it crafted the vaccines that have saved so many lives. Of the 8 billion coronavirus vaccinations worldwide, one billion have been delivered by the US logistics company, UPS. We hear from Wes Wealer, President of UPS healthcare.

And small business owners have had a bleak time for much of the past year. But many of those that have survived now feel optimistic. We hear from the owner of the Aroma speciality coffee shop in Bologna in Italy, Cristina Caroli, about her year.

(Image: climate activists demonstrate outside of the COP26

Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. Credit: Getty Images).

MON 16:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrn7j6)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 16:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrsw37gn)
South Africa mourns Desmond Tutu

As South Africa begins a week of mourning for Archbishop Desmond Tutu, we hear stories from people who met him. We also explain who he was, including his role in the anti-apartheid struggle.

We answer your latest questions on the coronavirus pandemic with the help of one of our regular expert guests, Professor Manfred Green from the University of Haifa in Israel.

All week, we'll reflect on 2021 with some of the BBC correspondents who have helped us tell the story of the year. Today, with our Climate Editor Justin Rowlatt, we look back on floods, heatwaves and the Glasgow climate summit.

(Photo: Desmond Tutu speaking during the One Young World Summit ceremony. Credit should: Zak Hussein/PA Wire)

MON 17:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnc8b)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 17:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrsw3c6s)
Was 2021 a good year for the climate?

All week, we reflect on 2021 with some of the BBC correspondents who have helped us tell the story of the year. Today, with our Climate Editor Justin Rowlatt, we look back on floods, heatwaves and the Glasgow climate summit.

As South Africa begins a week of mourning for Archbishop Desmond Tutu, we hear stories from people who met him. We also explain who he was, including his role in the anti-apartheid struggle.

We answer your latest questions on the coronavirus pandemic with the help of one of our regular expert guests, Professor Manfred Green from the University of Haifa in Israel.

(Photo: A demonstrator wearing a mask holds a banner during a protest in London, November 6, 2021. Credit: Reuters/Henry Nicholls)

MON 18:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnh0g)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 18:06 Outlook (w3ct1jv5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

MON 18:50 Witness History (w3ct1x1y)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

MON 19:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnlrl)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 19:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4wr6qv)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

MON 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cbz0z)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 19:32 Sport Today (w172y0nqr1qrgky)
2021/12/27 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

MON 20:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnhq)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 20:06 The Climate Question (w3ct2drn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

MON 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cc2s3)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 20:32 Discovery (w3ct301c)

The Curious Cases of Rutherford and Fry

The weirdness of water, Part 1 of 2

"I don't really understand why water has so many properties on different scales ranging from very large and cosmic to very small quantum and quarky - Could you help by zooming in and out on water to explain what is known about it? Asks Neil Morton in Stirling. Rutherford and Fry learn about the special hydrogen bonds that makes water such an unusual liquid.

Quantum physicist Professor Patricia Hunt, at the Victoria University in Wellington in New Zealand explains to Hannah the quantum properties of individual water molecules and how they link up with other water molecules in liquid water and solid ice. She describes the hydrogen bonds that give water some of its weird and wonderful properties such as why ice floats, why water is able to store huge amounts of heat and why water has such a strong surface tension.

Science writer and author of 'H2O – a biography of water' Philip Ball describes how in the 18th century it was discovered that water was not one of the classical elements, but a compound liquid of water and hydrogen and explains to Adam why there are at least 15 different types of ice.

Physicist Dr. Helen Czerski sets the record straight on how ice forms in oceans and lakes and why water is at its densest at 4 degrees Centigrade and not zero.

Presenters: Hannah Fry & Adam Rutherford
Producer: Fiona Roberts

MON 21:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnv7v)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x04tkg)
Clinical trial begins in Israel for fourth dose of Covid vaccine

A hospital in Israel is holding the first major study into the use of a fourth dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. The clinical trial is being held at Sheba Medical Centre near Tel Aviv. Israel was one of the first countries to launch a booster programme.

Also in the programme: the death of naturalist E O Wilson; and Poland's President vetoes a controversial media bill.

(Photo: A nurse prepares a fourth dose of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccine as part of a trial in Israel. CREDIT: REUTERS/Ronen Zvulun)

MON 22:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrnyzz)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xyx1wf928jy)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

MON 22:20 Sports News (w172y0styp6b5l)
BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

MON 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cb8c)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 22:32 World Business Report (w172y48bz6q763t)
Review of the year - 2021

The big event of 2021 that will shape economies all over the world for decades to come was the COP 26 climate conference in Glasgow in November. The meeting saw a deluge of promises, but what was actually achieved? Martin Webber speaks to Tim Gould, chief energy economist at the International Energy Agency and economist Irwin Stelzer, from the Hudson Institute in the United States.

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(Image: climate activists demonstrate outside of the COP26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. Credit: Getty Images).

MON 23:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgr2r3)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

MON 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n5h)
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

MON 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk546ccg0h)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

MON 23:32 The Conversation (w3ct1p9m)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

TUESDAY 28 DECEMBER 2021

TUE 00:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprp6h7)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 00:06 The History Hour (w3ct1z80)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:06 on Saturday]

TUE 01:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprp7c)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 01:06 Business Matters (w172xvqrk6nlpk2)
Review of the year - 2021

The big event of 2021 that will shape economies all over the world for decades to come was the COP 26 climate conference in Glasgow in November. The meeting saw a deluge of promises, but what was actually achieved? Martin Webber speaks to Tim Gould, chief energy economist at the International Energy Agency and economist Irwin Stelzer, from the Hudson Institute in the United States.

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(Image: climate activists demonstrate outside of the COP26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. Credit: Getty Images).

TUE 02:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprpfzh)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 02:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct1plz)
The moo loo and other stories

Training cows to use the toilet and a bouncy castle that fights climate change are some of the surprising solutions today.

Humans have been training animals like dogs and horses for centuries. But how easy is it to train a cow? Well scientists in New Zealand and Germany have been successfully training cows to use a special latrine. The cows get a reward each time they pay a visit.

The idea behind it is that by collecting their urine in the latrine, it won't release so much ammonia into rivers and streams.

In this programme we are going to look at some unusual solutions to big problems, and solutions to unusual problems you might not know existed.

We'll also hear about a bouncy castle which fights climate change by absorbing CO₂, and a project to help people with different size feet find shoes that actually fit.

Presenter: Celestina Olulode
Reporter and producer: Richard Kenny
Image: Dr Matthews (Credit: Dr Caroline Bagshaw)

TUE 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk546cct7w)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 02:32 Discovery (w3ct301c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Monday]

TUE 03:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprpkqm)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 03:06 Outlook (w3ct1jv5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Monday]

TUE 03:50 Witness History (w3ct1x1y)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Monday]

TUE 04:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprppgr)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 04:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvs)
Instahappiness

As New Year approaches, you might be looking for some inspiration to help you 'turn a new leaf', or 'be the best you' or maybe even 'add life to your days, not days to your life'.

Whether it is a quote from Einstein, a zinger from Marie Curie, or a simple reminder to Live, Laugh, Love, it will probably appear with a picture of a warm sunrise, or flowers blowing in a breeze. Glib? Perhaps. Life changing? Also, perhaps. The perfect topic for a fun investigation around an ever-growing trend? Definitely.

India Rakusen wants to get under the skin of this seemingly harmless international phenomenon and find out if one quote can change her life. She is joined by journalist and sceptic Anisa Subedar as they both try and live by a mantra. On the way, she discovers how the brain responds to inspirational siren calls by talking to behavioural neuroscientist Patricia Riddell, and she meets a therapist who tells us when we need to remain wary. She also meets those, like eternal optimist Basma Fawzy, who swear a quote really can work, as well as those who want to see them disappear by the great delete button in the sky. Author James Fell explains epiphanies and Japanese writer and lawyer Yutaka Yazawa explores the power of the proverb.

(Image: Inspirational quote over a picture of the sunset. Credit: BBC/Getty Images)

TUE 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk546cd1r4)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 04:32 In the Studio (w3ct1tf3)
Balla Kouyaté: 800 years of tradition

To say that balafon player Balla Kouyaté was born into a musical family is an understatement. His family line goes back 800 years to Balla Faséké, the first of an unbroken line of djelis in the Kouyaté clan. Djelis are the oral historians, musicians, and performers who keep alive the history of the Mandé people of Mali and Guinea.

The balafon is the ancestor to all marimbas and xylophones. Played with mallets, it comprises of wooden slats with rows of gourds acting as natural amplifiers underneath. The story goes that back in the 13th century, when the emperor Sundiata overthrew the villainous Soumaora Kante, he appointed the Kouyaté family to protect the Sosso Bala, the original balafon. That instrument survives today, in the safe keeping of Balla's father's in Guinea.

With all that history it's no surprise that Balla is a virtuoso player of the balafon. Now living in Boston in the US, he's a much sought-after collaborator, playing with the likes of Yo-Yo Ma in his Silk Road ensemble. As well as frequently touring with his own band, he also makes time to fulfil his responsibilities to his community as a djeli, playing traditional music at family events from weddings to baby naming ceremonies.

Presenter: Aleks Krotoski

Image: Balla Kouyaté (Credit: Tom Pich)

TUE 05:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprpt6w)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 05:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq63w7m)
Covid-19: US cuts isolation period by half

The US authorities reduce the isolation period for asymptomatic people from 10 days to 5 in a bid to counter huge staff shortages.

We hear how fisherman in Indonesia have been prevented from helping stranded Rohingya refugees.

And in Japan students enrolling in schools will no longer have to specify their gender.

TUE 06:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprpxz0)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 06:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq63zr)

Isolation time for asymptomatic Covid carriers in US cut by half

The US halves isolation rules from ten days to five - but is this good health policy?

In North East Brazil extensive flooding continues to wreak havoc with 20 people now reported dead

And in China computer scientists have developed an artificial intelligence system to prosecute people for common crimes.

TUE 07:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprq1q4)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 07:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq643qw)
US halves Covid isolation time

People with no symptoms will only have to isolate for 5 days - in a bid to keep hospitals, airlines and the general economy running.

The Hong Kong media tycoon Jimmy Lai and six of his newspaper staff have been charged with conspiring to publish seditious publications.

And why Rohingya refugees are allegedly being turned away from Indonesia.

TUE 08:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprq5g8)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 08:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct1plz)
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

TUE 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk546cdjqn)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct1jgw)
Moon missions and space junk

2021 was another year of firsts in the ever-expanding industry around space, as we moved towards space tourism as a reality. But what about NASA, and its plans to return to the moon? We hear all about it, and the space agency's ambitious plans for not just the moon, but mars; from NASA's Carlos Garcia-Galan. We also hear about the increasingly urgent issue of space junk, which is causing serious safety issues in orbit. University of Texas at Austin professor, and chief scientific officer at Privateer, Moriba Jah explains. Plus Katie Miller from Skyrora tells us about the company's space tug; a nifty idea to clean up unwanted objects in space.

Presenter Jane Wakefield
Producer Sarah Treanor

(Picture: Earth from space, Credit: Getty Images).

TUE 08:50 Witness History (w3ct1x6g)
Grand Theft Auto

A new action-adventure computer game - designed in Scotland - became a surprise global hit in 1997. But Grand Theft Auto also courted controversy and sparked debate over violence and drugs in video games. Paul Schuster spoke to Brian Baglow - one of the original team behind the launch.

PHOTO: A gamer using a Playstation controller (Getty Images)

TUE 09:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprq96d)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 09:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvs)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

TUE 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk546cdngs)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 09:32 Discovery (w3ct301c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Monday]

TUE 10:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprqdyj)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 10:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct1rv1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:06 on Saturday]

TUE 11:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrqjpn)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wt4nx)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

TUE 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cdwz1)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 11:32 In the Studio (w3ct1tf3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

TUE 12:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrqnf5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 12:06 Outlook (w3ct1jxf)

My soldier dad's goodbye tape

Tricia Davies Nearn's father was killed in the Vietnam War when she was just two years old. Growing up without him, she knew there was something missing, even with a loving family around her. Her mother, an ardent fan of musicals, was careful never to play music from West Side Story, for example. It was only as an adult that Tricia would discover an extraordinary archive of tape recordings that would help her to understand why, and to get to know her father better. This interview was first broadcast on 14th September 2020.

If you visit the famous Ritz Hotel in London, the first thing you hear is often the beautiful sound of a piano being played. The hotel's resident pianist is Ian Gomes and over the past 26 years he's developed a reputation for being able to play anything, from Tchaikovsky to Taylor Swift. Emily Webb went to meet him in May 2017 and he told her about some of his most high-profile fans.

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com

Presenter: Emily Webb

Photo: David Davies
Credit: Tricia Davies Nearn

TUE 12:50 Witness History (w3ct1x6g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

TUE 13:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrqs5x)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 13:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wt4nx)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

TUE 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cf4g9)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 13:32 Discovery (w3ct301c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Monday]

TUE 14:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrqwy1)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 14:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x06w7n)

Russian human rights group ordered to close

Russia's Supreme Court says Memorial violated a law requiring groups to register as foreign agents. The organisation was originally set up to investigate abuses during Joseph Stalin's time in power.

Also in the programme: US health officials halve the recommended isolation time for those with asymptomatic Covid-19 infections; China says Elon Musk's satellites came close to colliding with its space station; and COP26 President Alok Sharma reflects on 2021's climate successes and failures.

(Photo: Russian police detain a supporter of Memorial outside the country's Supreme Court during a hearing in Moscow on December 28, 2021 – Credit: EPA / YURI KOCHETKOV)

TUE 15:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgr0p5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 15:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct1plz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

TUE 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cfcyk)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 15:32 World Business Report (w172y4bt9djc52w)

Omicron leading to global staff shortages

Omicron is having an impact on the global workforce. To try and tackle the problem in the US, health authorities have halved the recommended isolation period for people who test positive for Covid nineteen, but don't exhibit symptoms. Dr Sara Machado, health economist from the London School of Economics, looks at what kinds of measures could get people back to work, and which are unlikely to help. Also in the programme, China's foreign ministry has accused the United States of putting astronauts in danger by ignoring obligations under treaties on outer space. In this context, the BBC's Jane Wakefield looks at the issue of space junk in an extended report. And finally, we look at the first film to earn over a billion dollars in the pandemic early. We ask film critic Caroline Front: is it a sign that audiences are ready to come back to the cinema?

This programme is presented by Rahul Tandon and produced by Josh Thorpe and Susan Karanja.

(Image: An empty office building in London. Credit: Richard Baker/Getty Images)

TUE 16:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgr4f9)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 16:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrsw64cr)

Russian court bans civil rights group Memorial

The Supreme Court in Russia has banned one of the country's best known and oldest human rights organisations, International Memorial, in the latest move against critics of the Kremlin. We speak to our colleague from BBC Russian.

Our medical expert Dr Isaac Bogoch joins us from Toronto to explain some of today's coronavirus stories.

We'll also hear from passengers left aboard cruise ship that has been refused docking in Mexico over Covid cases.

All week, we reflect on 2021 with some of the BBC correspondents who have helped us tell the story of the year. Today we hear from the BBC's former North America editor Jon Sopel, who has reported of American politics for years, and covered three presidencies.

(Photo: Russia's Supreme Court judge, Alla Nazarova, reads the conclusion during a hearing on the International Historical Educational Charitable and Human Rights Society "Memorial" (International Memorial) case in Moscow, Russia, 28 December 2021. Credit: YURI KOCHETKOV/EPA)

TUE 17:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgr85f)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 17:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrsw6830c)

Reporting of American politics

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The Supreme Court in Russia has banned one of the country's best known and oldest human rights organisations in the latest move against critics of the Kremlin. We'll hear about the reaction.

We'll answer your latest questions on the pandemic with the help of Dr Swapneil Parikh, an infectious disease researcher at the Kasturba Hospital of infectious diseases in Mumbai.

(Photo: The US National flag flies on the US Capitol in Washington, DC on August 8, 2021. Credit: MANDEL NGAN/AFP via Getty Images)

TUE 18:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrcxc)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 18:06 Outlook (w3ct1jxf)

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TUE 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cfvy2)

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TUE 19:32 Sport Today (w172y0nqr1qvch1)

2021/12/28 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

TUE 20:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrmdt)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 20:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

TUE 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cfzp6)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 20:32 Digital Planet (w3ct115)

A tech review of 2021

We look back on some of the stories we covered in 2021 – from age appropriate design to protect children, through internet shutdowns, a remote air traffic control tower and a WhatsApp school in Zimbabwe to a virtual reality opera.

The podcast has even more stories: comparing Mars locations to Earth locations, a smart phone test to detect malaria, how technology can help prep for a date at home if you're blind and controlling our devices with a muscle in our ear! Available on BBC Sounds.

The programme is presented by Gareth Mitchell with expert commentary from Angelica Mari, Bill Thompson and Ghislaine Boddington.

Image: Man using mobile phone
Credit: Chaiwat Chaythawin/EyeEm/Getty Images

Studio Manager: Donald MacDonald
Producer: Ania Lichtarowicz

TUE 21:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrrr4y)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x07qkg)

Russian court orders human rights group to close

Russia's Supreme Court has ordered Russia's oldest human rights group, International Memorial, to close. Memorial was founded in 1989. In court, the prosecutor called Memorial a "public threat".

Also in the programme: an Egyptian mummy is digitally unwrapped; and an environmental court decision in South Africa.

(Photo: Russian policemen detain a supporter of the International Historical Educational Charitable and Human Rights Society "Memorial" (International Memorial) outside the Russian Supreme Court. CREDIT: EPA/YURI KOCHETKOV)

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TUE 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cg75g)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 22:32 World Business Report (w172yels3hfzmy9)

The long-term impact of Covid on workers

Omicron is having an impact on the global workforce. To try and tackle the problem in the US, health authorities have halved the recommended isolation period for people who test positive for Covid-19, but don't exhibit symptoms. Joshua Hausman of the University of Michigan recently wrote an article for the Atlantic about the wider impact of the pandemic on workers in the US, and gives us his thoughts on how long the effect might last. Also in the programme, China's foreign ministry has accused the United States of putting astronauts in danger by ignoring obligations under treaties on outer space. In this context, the BBC's Jane Wakefield looks at the issue of space junk in an extended report. And finally, we look at the first film to earn over a billion dollars in the pandemic early. We ask film critic Caroline Front: is it a sign that audiences are ready to come back to the cinema?

(Image: An empty office building in London. Credit: Richard Baker/Getty Images)

TUE 23:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrzn6)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

TUE 23:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct1plz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

TUE 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172zks46cgbxl)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

TUE 23:32 In the Studio (w3ct1tf3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

WEDNESDAY 29 DECEMBER 2021

WED 00:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrs3db)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 00:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct1rv1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:06 on Saturday]

WED 01:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrs74g)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 01:06 Business Matters (w172xvqrk6nplg5)

Omicron leading to global staff shortages

Omicron is having an impact on the global workforce. To try and tackle the problem in the US, health authorities have halved the recommended isolation period for people who test positive for Covid-19, but don't exhibit symptoms. Joshua Hausman of the University of Michigan recently wrote an article for the Atlantic about the wider impact of the pandemic on workers in the US, and gives us his thoughts on how long the effect might last. Also in the programme, China's foreign ministry has accused the United States of putting astronauts in danger by ignoring obligations under treaties on outer space. In this context, the BBC's Jane Wakefield looks at the issue of space junk in an extended report. And finally, we look at the first film to earn over a billion dollars in the pandemic early. We ask film critic Caroline Front: is it a sign that audiences are ready to come back to the cinema?

WED 02:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrsbwl)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 02:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n63)

Aly Raisman: Are gold medals put above athletes' wellbeing?

The athletic excellence seen at the Tokyo Olympics will live long in the memory, but so will the moment the brilliant US gymnast Simone Biles chose not to compete to safeguard her mental and physical health. US gymnastics is still reeling from the repercussions of a sex abuse scandal - what can go wrong when results are put above care of individual athletes? Stephen Sackur speaks to Aly Raisman, a multiple Olympic gold medalist who testified about being abused by the team's former doctor. Is there a wider lesson for elite sport in the shame of American gymnastics?

WED 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172zks46cgq4z)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 02:32 Digital Planet (w3ct1lt5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Tuesday]

WED 03:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrsgmq)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 03:06 Outlook (w3ct1jxf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Tuesday]

WED 03:50 Witness History (w3ct1x6g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Tuesday]

WED 04:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrslv)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 04:06 The Compass (w3ct2zhh)

My Arab Spring

Displacement - Tashreed

While movement of people across, into and out of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region occurred before the Arab Spring, the numbers have jumped since 2011. A decade ago, the region was home to over 3.6 million internally displaced people (IDPs). The figure has more than tripled since, as a result of civil wars, localised conflicts and disasters.

There are now around 11.7 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen - including around 6.5 million IDPs in Syria, the highest number in the world. There are major refugee situations across the MENA region and beyond, linked to the outcomes of the 2011 Revolutions.

Abubakr and Ella al-Shamahi speak to displaced people, all with different reasons for leaving their homes, and with different experiences in the years since 2011 - from a man living in a camp for internally displaced people in the last rebel held part of Syria, to their cousin, a political refugee living in exile in the UK.

Producer: Sasha Edye-Lindner and Gaia Caramazza.

(Photo: Yazidi people fleeing violence from forces loyal to Islamic State on outskirts of Sinjar mountain. Credit: Rodi Said/Reuters)

WED 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172zks46cgyn7)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 04:32 The Documentary (w3ct2zvc)

Once in a Lifetime

Talking Heads emerged out of the post punk scene of the late 1970s. Once in a Lifetime is the iconic single taken from their album Remain in Light. With its looped synthesizer and Afrobeats inspired by Fela Kuti, it seemed to pre-empt the consumerism and ennui of the 1980s. Writer Ian Gittins interviewed the band's lead singer, David Byrne, and later wrote the book Once in a Lifetime. He says Byrne had in mind people of a certain middle-class existence, who seemingly breeze through life with ease, when he wrote the lyrics. They may get to middle age or reach a crisis point and ask, "How did I get here?"

For a song that invites us to question our lives, it has a surprisingly emotional core that encourages people to be grateful and make positive changes in their lives where necessary. For Glaswegian Gerry Murphy, that meant becoming more present for his family after serious illness forced him to reconsider the amount of time he devoted to his career. He went on to write the book And You May Find Yourself: A Guided Practice to Never Fearing Death Again.

Ian Peddie was inspired by the song to leave his dead-end existence in Wolverhampton in the mid-1980s to 'find himself in another part of the world', following his dreams. Kelly Waterhouse says the song symbolises gratitude for all the things she takes for granted and sometimes struggles with in her life as a busy working mother.

And singer Angelique Kidjo recorded her own version of Once in a Lifetime in 2018, after coming full circle with the song from her arrival in Paris in 1983 after fleeing the dictatorship in her home country of Benin. She heard the song at a student party and recognised the Afrobeats adopted by David Byrne and Brian Eno that made her feel both joyful and homesick at the same time.

(Photo: Musician David Byrne, founding member and principal songwriter of the American New Wave band Talking Heads. Credit: Jack Mitchell/Getty Images)

WED 05:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrsq3z)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 05:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq66s4q)

Hong Kong police raid independent news outlet

Police in Hong Kong have carried out a raid targeting Stand News - one of the last independent media organisations in the territory.

The United States has recorded its highest ever level of daily coronavirus infections as it struggles to contain the Omicron variant.

Following the ban on Russian human rights organisation International Memorial, today will see their sister organisation face charges in a Moscow court.

WED 06:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrstw3)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 06:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq66wv)

Stand News: six detained on sedition charges in Hong Kong

Police in Hong Kong have carried out a raid targeting Stand News - one of the last independent media organisations in the territory.

There have been record daily coronavirus rates reported in the United States and Europe - what impact has the holiday season had on the infection rate.

And we report on the fight to tackle gambling addiction in Northern Ireland where the illness is being blamed for a rise in suicides.

WED 07:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrsym7)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 07:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq670mz)

Stand News arrests: Hong Kong targets pro-democracy media group

Police in Hong Kong have carried out a raid targeting Stand News - one of the last independent media organisations in the territory.

The United States has recorded its highest ever daily level of coronavirus infections as it struggles to contain the Omicron variant.

And in sport - we mark the passing of the legendary American football coach and commentator, John Madden, aged 85.

WED 08:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrt2cc)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n63)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

WED 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172zks46chfmr)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct1jpn)

Men and cosmetic surgery

More men have considered cosmetic treatments during the pandemic. Has spending more time at home staring at ourselves in video conferencing made us more worried about our appearance, and have the pressures of ageism in the workplace also had an impact. Ed Butler speaks to psychologist Helena Lewis Smith, and Past President of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons Dr Alan Matarasso about just what's motivating men to make more changes. Plus, he tries a treatment for himself. (Picture of man having cosmetic surgery. Picture via Getty Images).

WED 08:50 Witness History (w3ct1x8q)

Tetris

In 1984 Tetris, one of the most popular computer games ever, was invented in Moscow. Chloe Hadjimatheou speaks to its creator, Alexey Pajitnov, and to Henk Rogers, an American businessman who helped bring Tetris to the world. This programme was first broadcast in 2011.

PHOTO: Tetris being played on a mobile phone (Getty Images)

WED 09:00 BBC News (w172xzjyppgrt63h)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 09:06 The Compass (w3ct2zhh)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

WED 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46chkcw)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 09:32 Digital Planet (w3ct1t5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Tuesday]

WED 10:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrt9vm)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 10:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

WED 11:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrtflr)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wx110)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

WED 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46chsw4)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 11:32 The Documentary (w3ct2zvc)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

WED 12:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrtkbw)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 12:06 Outlook (w3ct1jzp)
The break-up that cost me my voice

Shirley Collins grew up in a folk music-loving family in Sussex, England, during World War Two, and announced her intention to become a folk singer when she was still just a teenager. Her career would lead her to record music with her sister Dolly; to record folk songs in America with legendary song collector Alan Lomax, and to become a key figure in the 'folk revival' of the 1960s and 1970s. But the trauma of a painful break-up cost Shirley her singing voice - "sometimes I would open my mouth and nothing would come out", she remembers - and led to a heart-breaking decision: "I walked away from music for years. I felt I had no option." Shirley did all sorts of jobs to support her children, and avoided even listening to music sometimes - it made her too sad. Then one day, the musician David Tibet, a huge fan, got in touch and begged Shirley to try to sing. Shirley tells Emily Webb the story of a voice lost and found again. This interview was first broadcast on 12th April 2021.

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com

Presenter: Emily Webb
Producer: Laura Thomas

(Photo: Shirley Collins circa 1963. Credit: Brian Shuel/Redferns via Getty Images)

WED 12:50 Witness History (w3ct1x8q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

WED 13:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrtp30)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 13:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wx928)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

WED 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cj1cd)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 13:32 Digital Planet (w3ct1t5)
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Tuesday]

WED 14:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrtsv4)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 14:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x09s4r)
Kashmiris condemn land sales to outsiders

Is India's BJP government trying to change the demography of the country's only Muslim-majority state by selling land to outsiders?

Also in the programme: police in Hong Kong have raided Stand News, one of the region's last remaining pro-democracy media organizations; and as the US and several European countries record their highest ever daily Covid numbers, we hear from Matthew Heineman, director of a documentary about the first wave.

(Photo: An elderly man sits under an electricity transformer during light rainfall in Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, India on 27 December 2021 – Credit: Nasir Kachroo / NurPhoto via Getty Images)

WED 15:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrtx18)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n63)
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

WED 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cj8vn)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 15:32 World Business Report (w172y4d1ghf0mx)
Hong Kong news site to shut after police raid

Hong Kong's Stand News is to shut after a police raid and the arrest of senior staff. It was one of the few remaining media outlets that support democracy in the territory, and the BBC's Andrew Wood in Hong Kong explains the background and the potential impact on the business climate there. Also in the programme, vinyl music sales in the UK have hit their highest level since 1991, fueled by the popularity of Abba's Voyage album. We hear about the latest trends in the sale of physical music from Gennaro Castaldo of music trade association the British Phonographic Industry. Plus, the BBC's Elizabeth Hotson reports from Scotland on the state of the Scotch whisky industry.

Today's edition is presented by Rob Young, and produced by Sarah Hawkins and Tom Kavanagh.

(Picture: Stand News editor Patrick Lam under arrest. Picture credit: Getty Images.)

WED 16:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrv1bd)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 16:06 BBC OS (w172xxxrsw918v)
Hong Kong news website to shut

One of the last pro-democracy media organisations in Hong Kong, Stand News, is shutting down after it was raided by police and senior staff were arrested. We'll play some of the messages we've been gathering from people reacting to the news.

We'll go to South Africa where memorial services are being held for Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who died on Sunday.

Every day this week we are speaking to BBC correspondents, reflecting on the biggest stories they have covered in 2021 and the people they have encountered. Today the BBC's Africa correspondent Catherine Byaruhanga talks about her interviews and stories from the continent she has covered.

The legendary American football coach and commentator John Madden has died. We'll hear from fans reflecting on his long career and legacy.

(Photo: Deputy assignment editor Ronson Chan (C) of the online media outlet Stand News speaks to members of the press outside the media outlet office after taken for questioning by the police in Hong Kong, China, 29 December 2021. Credit: MIGUEL CANDELA/EPA)

WED 17:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrv52j)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 17:06 BBC OS (w172xxxrsw950z)
Reporting of Africa

This week we are speaking to BBC correspondents, reflecting on the biggest stories they have covered in 2021 and the people they have encountered. Today the BBC's Africa correspondent Catherine Byaruhanga talks about her interviews and stories from the continent she has covered this year.

We'll find out about a study suggesting that hurricanes could be moving out of the tropics into northern latitudes.

We'll answer your questions about the coronavirus pandemic with Dr Pedro Hallal, an epidemiologist from Brazil, who is

currently at the University of California in San Diego.

One of the last pro-democracy media organisations in Hong Kong, Stand News, is shutting down after it was raided by police and senior staff were arrested. We'll play some of the messages from people reacting to the news.

(Photo: A woman stands in line to receive food donations, at the Tsehaye primary school, which was turned into a temporary shelter for people displaced by conflict, in the town of Shire, Tigray region, Ethiopia, March 15, 2021. Credit: Baz Ratner/File Photo/Reuters)

WED 18:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrv8tn)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 18:06 Outlook (w3ct1jzp)
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

WED 18:50 Witness History (w3ct1x8q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

WED 19:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrvdk5)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 19:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wy0k1)
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

WED 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cjrjv5)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 19:32 Sport Today (w172y0nqr1qy8d4)
2021/12/29 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

WED 20:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrvj9x)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 20:06 The Compass (w3ct2zhh)
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

WED 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cjrjw19)
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 20:32 Health Check (w3ct1nwd)
Do our pets care about us?

In the past philosophers and scientists have argued about the nature of animal minds: Darwin thought they differed from us only by degree but Descartes believed they were merely machines made of flesh. Anthro-zoologist from the University of Sussex Dr Karen Hiestand wants to find out if our pets really care about us so she filmed owners pretending to be hurt to monitor the reactions of their dogs and cats.

Mental health campaigner Marion Janner says her life was saved numerous times by her support dog Buddy. We hear about the central role animals play in Marion's life and how she coped when Buddy died last year.

On a walk in the park, we hear how a Rhodesian Ridgeback puppy called Polly helped her owner Sam to come to terms with the death of her previous dog Margo. And Diane James from the Blue Cross for Pets charity explains how they offer telephone and online support to anyone who's experienced pet loss.

Cats have had a bit of an image problem but Karen Hiestand says their apparent aloofness and accusations of laziness arise because we forget that they are solitary creatures, descended from wildcats.

Presenter: Claudia Hammond
Producer: Paula McGrath

(Picture: A young girl enjoying the company of a cat at home. Photo credit: d3sign/Getty Images.)

WED 21:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrvn21)
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x0bmcn)
WHO boss warns of Covid 'tsunami'

The Director General of the World Health Organisation, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, says the Omicron variant is leading to a tsunami of Covid-19 cases. We hear from the WHO's special envoy on Covid-19, David Nabarro.

Also in the programme: the Tequila fish makes a comeback; and gambling addiction in Northern Ireland.

(Picture: A health worker takes a swab sample of a woman for COVID-19 testing, in New Delhi, India, 29 December 2021. Credit:EPA/RAJAT GUPTA)

WED 22:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xy1wf982c4)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

WED 22:20 Sports News (w172y0stypd3zs)

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

WED 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46ck42k)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 22:32 World Business Report (w172ycsztrvf621)

Hong Kong news site to shut after police raid

Hong Kong's Stand News is to shut after a police raid and the arrest of senior staff. It was one of the few remaining media outlets that support democracy in the territory, and the BBC's Andrew Wood in Hong Kong explains the background and the potential impact on the business climate there. Also in the programme, vinyl music sales in the UK have hit their highest level since 1991, fueled by the popularity of Abba's Voyage album. We hear about the latest trends in the sale of physical music from Gennaro Castaldo of music trade association the British Phonographic Industry. Plus, the BBC's Elizabeth Hotson reports from Scotland on the state of the Scotch whisky industry.

(Picture: Stand News editor Patrick Lam under arrest. Picture credit: Getty Images.)

WED 23:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt9)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

WED 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n63)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

WED 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46ck7tp)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

WED 23:32 The Documentary (w3ct2zvc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

THURSDAY 30 DECEMBER 2021

THU 00:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt9f)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 00:06 The Documentary (w3ct2zvn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

THU 01:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt41k)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 01:06 Business Matters (w172xvqrk6nshc8)

Omicron and delta variants increase Covid case numbers

Record-breaking cases of Covid have been reported in the USA, the UK, France, Australia and elsewhere, as the World Health Organisation says rich countries must address global vaccine inequality – we speak to the WHO's Margaret Harris. In Sweden, battery manufacturer North Volt has produced the first lithium ion battery – the power source of most electric vehicles – to be designed, developed and assembled in the country. North Volt's Jesper Wegat tells us why the country stands to lead the way in manufacturing car batteries. It's been a mixed year for Scotch whisky as US trade tariffs and Brexit throw up a cocktail of obstacles, but at the investment end of the market, things have never been better. The BBC's Elizabeth Hotson reports from Edinburgh. And sales of vinyl records are on the up – in a digital age, do we want to be able to feel music, literally? Throughout the programme we're joined by Zyma

Islam, a journalist for the Daily Star in Dhaka, Bangladesh and by Kimberly Adams, a correspondent at our sister programme Marketplace in Washington, DC.

Picture: A public health campaign poster in London Credit: Reuters

THU 02:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt7sp)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 02:06 The Inquiry (w3ct1z33)

Can we solve our space junk problem?

The world is entering a new space race but every new satellite launched into Earth's orbit runs the risk of colliding with one of the millions of pieces of space junk left behind by previous missions. So how can we solve our space junk problem?

Featuring former NASA astrophysicist, Don Kessler; Associate Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, Moriba Jah; space systems engineer, Richard Duke; and Victoria Samson of the Secure World Foundation.

Presenter: Charmaine Cozier

Producer: Viv Jones

(A spent S-IVB rocket floats in Earth orbit. View from Skylab Space Station 1973. NASA photo via Getty Images)

THU 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46ckm22)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 02:32 Health Check (w3ct1nwd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Wednesday]

THU 03:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrtjct)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 03:06 Outlook (w3ct1jzp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Wednesday]

THU 03:50 Witness History (w3ct1x8q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Wednesday]

THU 04:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrt8y)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 04:06 Assignment (w3ct1gyg)

Peru's left behind children

Peru has been battered by Covid-19. It has the highest known death toll in the world per capita. But behind the figures there's another hidden pandemic. By the end of April 2021 around 93,000 children had lost a father, mother, grand-parent, or other primary caregiver to the virus - that's one in every hundred children. For Assignment, Jane Chambers travels to Lima to meet the families struggling to cope. The immediate urgency of the health crisis is masking a much deeper malaise; that of a generation of children mentally and physically scarred by loss and poverty.

Reported and produced by Jane Chambers

Editor: Bridget Hamey

(Image: Jhoana Olinda Antón Silva and her children in their home at the shrine they built for their father who died of Covid-19. Credit: Paola Ugaz)

THU 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46ckvkb)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 04:32 The Food Chain (w3ct1rfs)

The Food Chain unwrapped

In this final episode of 2021, we're revisiting some of the most powerful food stories from the pandemic. Following widespread restaurant closures and labour shortages across the hospitality sector, we catch up with a New York chef who is forging a new path. And what about those people who thanks to Covid-19 can't even smell or taste their food anymore? We'll be finding out whether this leading symptom of the virus is now better understood. Plus, how is one of the world's newest emojis – the arepa flatbread - faring, one year on?

(Picture: Drawing of sweet being unwrapped. Credit: BBC/Getty)

If you would like to get in touch with the show, please email

thefoodchain@bbc.co.uk

Contributors:

Amanda Cohen, Chef and owner, Dirt Candy restaurant New York

Chrissi Kelly, founder, smell and taste loss charity AbScent

Sebastian Delmont, software developer and co-creator of the arepa emoji

THU 05:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrtm12)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 05:06 Newsday (w172xv2y91826f6)

Ghislaine Maxwell guilty of helping Jeffrey Epstein abuse girls

The British socialite, Ghislaine Maxwell, has been convicted of trafficking under-age girls for sexual abuse by the late US financier, Jeffrey Epstein. A jury in New York found the 60-year-old guilty on five out of six charges connected with procuring the victims and facilitating the abuse. Maxwell's lawyer says she will appeal.

European countries have again registered huge numbers of coronavirus infections, as the World Health Organization warned the Omicron and Delta variants were causing 'a tsunami' of cases.

And the appointment of Rina Amiri as US Special Envoy for Afghan Women, Girls, and Human Rights comes as women in the country face increasing oppression by the ruling Taliban.

THU 06:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrtqs6)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 06:06 Newsday (w172xv2y9182b5b)

Ghislaine Maxwell found guilty in sex-trafficking trial

Ghislaine Maxwell who pleaded not guilty to all charges said she is being made a scapegoat for Jeffrey Epstein's acts after he died in 2019 while awaiting his own trial.

The World Health Organisation warns that Omicron could overwhelm health systems as cases rise to record highs in Europe.

And a special report on how people are surviving in Afghanistan.

THU 07:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrtjyb)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 07:06 Newsday (w172xv2y9182fxg)

Ghislaine Maxwell found guilty of grooming and trafficking underage girls for Jeffrey Epstein

Ghislaine Maxwell is found guilty of five out of six federal child sex charges, including sex trafficking of a minor. Her lawyers say they will appeal the verdict.

European countries have again registered huge numbers of coronavirus infections. The World Health Organization warns the Omicron and Delta variants are causing 'a tsunami' of cases.

And the US appoints Rina Amiri a special envoy for Afghan women, girls and human rights as women's rights in the country continue to deteriorate under the new Taliban government.

THU 08:00 BBC News (w172xzyjyprvrtz8g)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 08:06 The Inquiry (w3ct1z33)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

THU 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46clbjy)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct1jbc)

Taking on fast fashion in rural China

In the remote mountain villages of Guizhou, China, indigenous people have been handmaking clothes for centuries. But with so many young people leaving rural areas for jobs in China's manufacturing centres, those ancient skills are disappearing. Angel Chang tells us how she quit her job in the designer

fashion houses of New York to start her own clothing line, employing indigenous craftspeople to grow organic cotton, use natural dyes and sew her collection by hand. It's part of a wider shift away from the highly-polluting fast fashion industry. We also hear from Nicole Rycroft, founder of the NGO Canopy, which is changing the way popular brands source the world's third most popular fabric: viscose, which is traditionally made from the wood-pulp of trees. Vivienne Nunis asks if this more environmental approach can be adopted by the wider fashion industry. Producer: Sarah Treanor. Image: A woman dressed in handmade clothing typical of the Dong indigenous community in Dimen, Guizhou, China, holds some handwoven cotton fabric that has been dyed with locally-grown indigo. Credit: Angel Chang/Boe Marion/2DM Management

THU 08:50 Witness History (w3ct1x46)

Lego

The Lego brick, one of the world's most popular toys, was invented in the small Danish town of Billund in 1958. Created by Godtfred Kirk Christiansen, the plastic bricks can be combined in countless combinations and have sold in the billions. Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen, the inventor's son, was ten at the time. He used to play in the company workshop and helped test early Lego models. Olga Smirnova spoke to Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen for Witness History.

PHOTO: A boy playing in a Lego display in 1981 (Getty Images)

THU 09:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx301)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 09:06 Assignment (w3ct1gyg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

THU 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46clg8z)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 09:32 Health Check (w3ct1nwd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Wednesday]

THU 10:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx6rq)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 10:06 The Forum (w3ct1rm9)

Harry Houdini: Escape artist and showman

Harry Houdini's story is the classic American tale of an immigrant who from impoverished beginnings made it big in the United States. Perhaps it is this early hard to mouth existence in a large family which explains his extraordinary drive to succeed. Captivated by magic shows, he began performing tricks on stage with one of his brothers, and then with his wife.

Houdini's decision to make escape the focus of his act was well-timed, chiming with the public mood for sensational trickery. Whether it was escaping from handcuffs, a straitjacket or from a box filled with water, Houdini wowed audiences with his seemingly death-defying performance. So what motivated this complex man who spent a lifetime 'deluding' the public with his illusions, and how did he reconcile that with his campaign against the Spiritualist movement which he regarded as a racket?

Rajan Datar charts the life and career of the legendary Houdini, with writer and biographer Adam Begley, whose book *Houdini: The Elusive American* was published in 2020; Dr Matthew Solomon, Associate Professor at the University of Michigan and the author of *Disappearing Tricks: Silent Film, Houdini, and the New Magic of the Twentieth Century*; and Dr Katharina Rein from the University of Potsdam in Germany, who's published widely on stage magic in the 19th and early 20th centuries, including *Techniques of Illusion* which will be available in 2022.

Produced by Fiona Clampin for the BBC World Service.

(Photo: Harry Houdini chained up ready to jump into Charles River, Boston, Massachusetts in 1906. Credit: Bettmann via Getty Images)

THU 10:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct119b)

Yale women rowers protest

In 1976, the Yale women's rowing team stripped naked to demand equal treatment for women's sport. The protest attracted national attention in the USA and helped force universities to make the same funding and facilities available to women athletes as to men. Catherine Davies talks to two of the

Yale protestors, Christine Ernst and Ginny Gilder.

(Photo: The 1976 Yale women's rowing team in action. Credit: Getty Images).

THU 11:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx7b)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4wzyh3)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

THU 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46clps7)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 11:32 The Food Chain (w3ct1rqs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

THU 12:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx7z)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 12:06 Outlook (w3ct1k46)

Hamilton: Overcoming hearing loss to make its music

Alex Lacamoire is the award-winning orchestrator, arranger and conductor for the hit musical *Hamilton*. This hip hop homage to the US statesman Alexander Hamilton has become one of the most successful musicals of all time. Although Alex is now one of the world's most celebrated composers, as a child he was diagnosed with a hearing impairment and was even told to go to a school for deaf children. Despite his hearing challenges, Alex's passion and talent for music grew, and eventually he would join forces with Lin-Manuel Miranda. The chemistry between them would form part of the magic behind the development of *Hamilton*. This episode was first broadcast in June 2020.

Presenter: Emily Webb

Producer: Maryam Maruf

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com

(Photo: Alex Lacamoire and Lin-Manuel Miranda. Credit: Theo Wargo / Getty Images)

THU 12:50 Witness History (w3ct1x46)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

THU 13:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx103)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 13:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4x05zc)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

THU 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46cly8h)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 13:32 Health Check (w3ct1nwd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Wednesday]

THU 14:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgxpr7)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 14:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x0dp1v)

Ghislaine Maxwell guilty of helping Jeffrey Epstein abuse girls

Ghislaine Maxwell, a British former socialite, has been convicted of trafficking under-age girls for sexual abuse by the late US financier, Jeffrey Epstein. A jury in New York found the 60 year old guilty on 5 out of 6 charges connected with facilitating the abuse.

We hear a defence from the former Afghan President, Ashraf Ghani of his decision to flee Afghanistan when the Taliban took over. And we get a reaction from a Kabul resident.

And as Covid figures continue to rise, we hear the reflections of three writers: their working and personal and professional lives under Covid.

(Photo: Maxwell argued she was unaware of Epstein's abuse. Credit: US State Department of Justice)

THU 15:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgxthc)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 15:06 The Inquiry (w3ct1z33)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

THU 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzs46cm5rr)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 15:32 World Business Report (w172y49l49mj084)

China ride-hailing app Didi reports \$6bn loss

Chinese ride-hailing app Didi Global has seen losses deepen after a crackdown by Beijing. The Chinese government ordered online stores not to offer the company's app earlier this year, and Duncan Clark, chairman of the advisory firm BDA China explains the background to Didi's woes. Also in the programme, Argentina is in talks with the International Monetary Fund about its debts. We hear about the implications from Daniel Munevar, who is an economist with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Amy Booth, who is a journalist based in Buenos Aires. Plus, the BBC's Vivienne Nunis reports on how fashion designer Angel Chang quit her job in the designer fashion houses of New York, to start her own clothing line, employing indigenous craftspeople in the remote mountain villages of Guizhou, China, to grow organic cotton, and sew her collection by hand.

Today's edition is presented by Rob Young, and produced by Benjie Guy and Tom Kavanagh.

(Picture: A Didi logo on a smartphone. Picture credit: Getty Images.)

THU 16:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgx7h)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 16:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrswcy5y)

Ex-Afghan president defends his decision to flee

Afghanistan's former president has said he fled the country as the Taliban closed in earlier this year to prevent the destruction of Kabul. We'll speak to our regional experts and hear reaction from Afghans inside and outside the country.

All week, we reflect on 2021 with some of the BBC correspondents who have helped us tell the story of the year. The BBC's Chief International correspondent Lyse Doucet has reported on Afghanistan for three decades and today she talks about covering the Taliban takeover and how the story has evolved since then.

We'll also look at the guilty verdict of Ghislaine Maxwell and the wider impact the case may have.

(Photo: Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani looks on while attending a Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board meeting (JCMB) at the Afghan presidential palace in Kabul on July 28, 2021. Credit: SAJJAD HUSSAIN /AFP/Getty Images)

THU 17:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgy1zm)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 17:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrswd1y2)

Reporting of Afghanistan

All week, we reflect on 2021 with some of the BBC correspondents who have helped us tell the story of the year. The BBC's Chief International correspondent Lyse Doucet has reported on Afghanistan for three decades and today she talks about covering the Taliban takeover and how the story has evolved since then.

Afghanistan's former president has said he fled the country as the Taliban closed in earlier this year to prevent the destruction of Kabul. We'll speak to our regional experts and hear reaction from Afghans inside and outside the country.

We'll also look at the guilty verdict of Ghislaine Maxwell and the wider impact the case may have.

Opposition groups and activists in Sudan are protesting across the country against the military rulers. We'll be hearing from some of the people taking part in the protests.

(Photo: Afghan women wait for transport on a road in Kabul, Afghanistan, 27 December 2021. Credit: STRINGER/EPA)

THU 18:00 BBC News (w172xjyprgy5qr)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 18:06 Outlook (w3ct1k46)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

THU 18:50 Witness History (w3ct1x46)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

THU 19:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgry9gw)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 19:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4x0xg4)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

THU 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cmnr8)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 19:32 Sport Today (w172y0nqr1r1597)

2021/12/30 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

THU 20:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgry70)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 20:06 Assignment (w3ct1gyg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

THU 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cmshd)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 20:32 Science in Action (w3ct1l4t)

2021: The year of variants

In our first programme of the year, we gathered a group of scientific experts directly involved in analysing the structure and impact of the SARS-Cov-2 coronavirus. There were concerns over the emergence of two new variants, Alpha and Beta, especially whether these variants might spread more quickly, or outmanoeuvre the suite of new vaccines that were about to be rolled out.

Now the same questions are being asked about the Omicron variant's ability to spread and overcome our defences.

We've invited the same scientists back to give us their assessment of our journey with Covid-19 over the past year, and discuss their findings on Omicron.

The programme features:

Ravi Gupta, Professor of Clinical Microbiology at the

University of Cambridge

Tulio de Oliveira, Professor of Bioinformatics, Stellenbosch

University, South Africa

Dr Allie Greaney from the Medical Scientist Training Program

at the University of Washington School of Medicine

Professor Jeremy Luban from the Broad Institute of MIT and

Harvard

(Image:Getty Images)

Presenter: Roland Pease

Producer: Julian Siddle

THU 21:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgryjz4)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x0fj8r)

Protesters in Sudan demand the military relinquish power

Health workers in Sudan say at least four people have been killed by the security forces during protests against October's coup. We hear from a former minister who has become an outspoken critic of the military.

Also in the programme: The former Afghan President Ashraf Ghani gives us his account of his decision to flee Afghanistan when the Taliban took over; and temperature extremes in the American state of Alaska.

(Photo: Protesters opposed to military rule march in Khartoum North, Sudan. Credit: This photo is a screen grab obtained from a social media video. Resistance Committees Atbara via Reuters.)

THU 22:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgryng8)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xyx1w19bz87)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

THU 22:20 Sports News (w172y0styprrh0ww)

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

THU 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cn0zn)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 22:32 World Business Report (w172y5d44tsjv)

China ride-hailing app Didi reports \$6bn loss

Chinese ride-hailing app Didi Global has seen losses deepen after a crackdown by Beijing. The Chinese government ordered online stores not to offer the company's app earlier this year, and Duncan Clark, chairman of the advisory firm BDA China explains the background to Didi's woes. Also in the programme, Argentina is in talks with the International Monetary Fund about its debts. We hear about the implications from Daniel Munevar, who is an economist with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Amy Booth, who is a journalist based in Buenos Aires. Plus, the BBC's Vivienne Nunis reports on how fashion designer Angel Chang quit her job in the designer fashion houses of New York, to start her own clothing line, employing indigenous craftspeople in the remote mountain villages of Guizhou, China, to grow organic cotton, and sew her collection by hand.

(Picture: A Didi logo on a smartphone. Picture credit: Getty Images.)

THU 23:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrysgd)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

THU 23:06 The Inquiry (w3ct1z33)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

THU 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cn4qs)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

THU 23:32 The Food Chain (w3ct1rqs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

FRIDAY 31 DECEMBER 2021**FRI 00:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgryx6j)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 00:06 The Forum (w3ct1rm9)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 on Thursday]

FRI 00:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct1l9b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:50 on Thursday]

FRI 01:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrz0yn)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 01:06 Business Matters (w172xvqrk6nwd8c)

Pharmaceutical company fuelled American opioid crisis, says court

A jury in New York state finds Teva Pharmaceuticals contributed to the opioid crisis in the USA – we speak to the Guardian's Chris McGreal in New York City, who has written extensively on the subject. In Asia a new trade agreement has been ratified by 15 member nations and has been touted as being a bigger trading bloc than the European Union, the BBC's Leisha Santorelli tells us more. Meanwhile in China, the authorities clamp down on ride-hailing company Didi after its listing on the New York Stock Exchange ruffled feathers – we hear from Duncan Clark of Consultancy BDA China. Vivienne Nunis looks into slow fashion, and we discuss tattoos in the workplace. Throughout the programme we're joined by Peter Morici, economist at the University of Maryland and by Jessica Khine, Business Development Consultant at Absolute Strategy Research.

Picture: Opioids in various forms Credit: Getty

FRI 02:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrz4ps)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 02:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n6d)

Philippe Sands: Is international justice working?

When the first Nuremberg trial of Nazi war criminals came to an end, the ground-breaking international tribunal handed down

12 death sentences. Seventy-five years on, is the world any better at delivering justice for the worst of crimes? In the years that followed, there were hopes that an evolving mechanism of international justice would deter and punish further heinous acts of mass murder and genocide. Does it remain an impossible ideal? Stephen Sackur speaks to international lawyer and author Philippe Sands.

(Photo: Philippe Sands in the Hardtalk studio)

FRI 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cnz5)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 02:32 Science in Action (w3ct1l4t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Thursday]

FRI 03:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrz8fx)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 03:06 Outlook (w3ct1k46)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Thursday]

FRI 03:50 Witness History (w3ct1x46)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Thursday]

FRI 04:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrz61)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 04:06 Tech Tent (w3ct1nj2)

Tech predictions for 2022

The BBC tech team on what we'll all be talking about over the next 12 months. Featuring Silicon Valley correspondent James Clayton on why Web 3.0 will be the buzzword of 2022, technology editor Zoe Kleinman on tech to fight climate change, plus what the new year will hold for AR and VR hardware, cryptocurrency and regulation, the new space race, and the future for Mark Zuckerberg. Presented by Joe Tidy with Jane Wakefield.

FRI 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzk46cnrgf)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 04:32 World Football (w3ct1v05)

Bojan Krkić and Finland's Linda Sällström

Bojan Krkić discusses the new generation of young players at his old club Barcelona. Finland's leading goal scorer Linda Sällström looks ahead to the European Championship. And Pat Nevin looks back at the year in football.

Picture on website: Bojan Krkić celebrates a goal for Catalonia during a friendly against Venezuela (Quality Sport Images/Getty Images).

FRI 05:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrzhy5)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 05:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq6dkyx)

Tens of thousands flee Colorado wildfires

We speak to one of the 30,000 people who've had to evacuate their homes as another devastating wildfire hits the US.

Russia's President Putin and US President Biden have held another call about Ukraine - so what do their public statements tell us about what might happen next?

And state-run dating in China: how one city is turning matchmaker to bring single people together.

FRI 06:00 BBC News (w172xzyjppgrzmp9)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 06:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq6dpq1)

Colorado fires force tens of thousands to flee

The rapidly spreading flames - fanned by high winds - have destroyed hundreds of homes.

After a telephone call on the subject, Vladimir Putin warns Joe Biden that imposing new sanctions over Ukraine could lead to a complete breakdown in relations between Russia and the US.

And how can governments be made to stick to promises made at COP26 to reduce carbon emissions and coal use? Young

Environmentalists are deciding to turn to the courts.

FRI 07:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprzrff)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 07:06 Newsday (w172xv31xq6dtg5)

Colorado wildfires: "There were no sirens, no warnings"

We speak to a woman who lost her home - her sister saved her life by warning her with a phone call. She's one of tens of thousands who've had to flee for their lives.

The surprise release in South Korea of the former President, Park Geun-hye, who was sent to prison in 2017 for corruption and abuse of power.

And young people in the Chinese city of Lanzhou are being encouraged to meet their future partner through a database set up by city officials.

FRI 08:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprzrw5k)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n6d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

FRI 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cp7fy)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct1j1b)

Cocktail trends 2022

Our love for cocktails has surged during the pandemic. Nisha Patel speaks to mixologists and bar owners from all over the world to find out what's inspiring them and what concoctions we may see across global bar menus. Hanky Panky bar in Mexico says lockdown sent everyone back to their books and emerging are pairings inspired by cook books. Two Schmucks in Barcelona say the diversity of their staff has led to a range of cocktails you'd usually see in your main meal and cocktail aficionado Lynette Marrero shares how she's seen her cocktail masterclasses filled with customers who have a thirst for premium alcohol. Phil Tate from CGA strategy analyses cocktail trends worldwide and explains how the pandemic has influenced and changed the global cocktail trend, and how this will continue into 2022.

This programme is produced and presented by Nisha Patel

(PIC: Vodka with cranberry and grapefruit CREDIT: Getty)

FRI 08:50 Witness History (w3ct1wzp)

The secret history of Monopoly

In 1904, a left-wing American feminist called Lizzy Magie patented a board game that evolved into what we now know as Monopoly. But 30 years later, when Monopoly was first marketed in the United States during the Great Depression, it was an out-of-work salesman from Pennsylvania who was credited with inventing it. Louise Hidalgo has been talking to American journalist Mary Pilon about the hidden history of one of the world's most popular board games, and to the economics professor Ralph Anspach who unearthed the story.

Picture: A family playing a game of Monopoly in the 1930s (Credit: SSPL/Getty Images)

FRI 09:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprzrzzp)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 09:06 Tech Tent (w3ct1n2j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

FRI 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cp62)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 09:32 Science in Action (w3ct114d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Thursday]

FRI 10:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz03nt)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 10:06 BBC Correspondents' Look Ahead (w3ct2zvw)

What has 2022 got in store?

Razia Iqbal asks Andrew Harding, Katy Watson, Laura

Traveyian, Lyse Doucet and Yogita Limaye predict the key events and trends for 2022.

As the developed world recovers from the coronavirus pandemic, what are the risks for poorer countries – and will the global economic rebound continue? What chances are there for a dramatic breakthrough on the climate when world powers meet at Cop27 in Egypt? The American public will get their first chance for a verdict on the Biden administration in the mid-term elections – alongside a general election in Brazil, while France will choose its new president. How will this change our view of the world?

Producer: Ben Carte
Editor: Hugh Levinson

FRI 11:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz07dy)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 11:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4x2vd6)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

FRI 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cplb)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 11:32 World Football (w3ct1v05)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

FRI 12:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz0c52)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 12:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct20g2)

Iraq 2021

BBC Arabic journalist Murad Shishani spent several weeks this year reporting from Iraq. He visited Mosul, liberated four years ago from so-called Islamic State, to gauge the mood ahead of October's election. More recently, he covered the stories of migrants, from those repatriated from Belarus to those lost in the English Channel, and those still planning to make the hazardous journey.

Benin's royal treasures

This year saw a historic moment for the West African nation of Benin, when France handed back 26 royal treasures that were looted by colonial troops in 1892. BBC Afrique contributor Rachida Houssou, interpreted by Rose-Marie Bouboutou, describes the power, wealth and craftsmanship of the former Kingdom of Dahomey.

Karachi's dwindling Parsi community

The Sohrab Katrak Parsi colony in Karachi was built nearly a century ago by the local Parsi population, who played a huge role in the development of the city. But today the community is dwindling, with many houses falling into disrepair, as BBC Urdu's Saher Baloch discovered.

Is housework work?

A landmark ruling in Kenya answered that question with a yes, when a judge recognised its value in the division of a couple's property. Carolyne Kiambo from BBC Nairobi explains the detail of this case, and what it means for Kenyan women.

The Passengers of the Yomei Maru

Ilya Kizirov tells the story of his BBC Russian podcast series, The Passengers of the Yomei Maru, which follows the adventures of nearly 800 Russian children who had to flee the Civil War. They travelled around the world on a Japanese freighter before arriving home over two years later.

(Photo: Election banners in Mosul on sites destroyed in the liberation battle of 2017. Credit: BBC)

FRI 12:50 Witness History (w3ct1wzp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

FRI 13:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz0gx6)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 13:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxwb4x32wg)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

FRI 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cpv5l)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 13:32 Science in Action (w3ct114d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Thursday]

FRI 14:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz0lnb)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 14:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x0hkyy)

Omicron variant has peaked in South Africa, doctors say

As the head of the World Health Organization sounded an optimistic note about beating the pandemic in 2022, South African authorities say they believe the country has passed the peak of its fourth coronavirus wave driven by the Omicron variant. Data from South Africa's health department showed a 29.7% weekly decrease in new cases detected in the week ending the 25th of December. Hospital admissions have also declined in eight of South Africa's nine provinces.

Also in the programme: At least four people have been shot dead in Sudan during the last crackdown on nationwide protests against military rule; and Germany shut down today three of its nuclear power plants in a bid to curb climate change.

(Photo: A student at the Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria, South Africa. Credit: Reuters).

FRI 15:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz0qdg)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n6d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

FRI 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cq2nv)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 15:32 World Business Report (w172y473t3tjzwc)

Germany shuts three of its six nuclear plants

Germany has closed three nuclear power plants as part of the government's plan to entirely phase out nuclear energy by the end of 2022. Can renewables pick up the slack or will coal-fire plants be needed in their absence? Jakob Schlandt, Editor-in-Chief of the climate team at the Berlin newspaper Der Tagesspiegel, gives us his view. Conservationist Jane Goodall has declared that we cannot tackle climate change without also tackling poverty. Our environment correspondent Justin Rowlatt looks closer at the links between poverty alleviation and a greener planet. Finally, to ring in the new year, Nisha Patel brings us an extended report with the cocktail trends to look out for in 2022.

(Image: Grohnde Nuclear Power Plant, pictured in November 2021 before it was shuttered. Credit: Sean Gallup/Getty Images)

FRI 16:00 BBC News (w172xzjyprz0v4l)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 16:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrswgv31)

2021: Reflections on the pandemic

Exactly two years ago today, a short piece of medical news was reported - China informed the World Health Organisation of a number of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in the city of Wuhan. The news largely went unnoticed. But the spread of Covid would soon come to dominate all of our lives. Today the World Health Organisation has tweeted a New Year message of hope, that this pandemic will eventually end. Perhaps there are more signs of hope from South Africa where the Omicron variant was first detected, as officials there say infections appear to have passed their peak without a significant increase in deaths. Here on OS, we've been bringing you the latest news and developments on the pandemic and if you're a regular listener, you'll know that we set aside time each day to go through the latest headlines about the coronavirus and answer your questions about it with the help of a health expert. These experts have now become familiar voices on the programme, and we've brought together three of them to hear their reflections on the past year, and what we should expect from the next year and beyond.

Also, we are looking back to the big stories of the year and hearing from our correspondents across the world who have helped us to explain those stories for you. Today we are talking to the BBC's Middle East Correspondent — Anna Foster, who is based in Beirut in Lebanon. Before this job she was a presenter on a news programme on the BBC's domestic radio station.

And, tens of thousands of people have been evacuated and hundreds of homes have been destroyed as wildfires spread through the US state of Colorado. We'll speak to a reporter on the ground to hear what's happening.

(Heath workers pose for a photo at a private hospital for

Covid-19 patients in Bangalore, India, 31 December 2021. India reported over 1,300 cases of coronavirus Omicron variant so far. Credit: EPA/JAGADEESH NV)

FRI 17:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps0yww)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 17:06 BBC OS (w172xxxxrswgyv5)

Reporting of the Middle East

We are looking back to the big stories of the year and hearing from our correspondents across the world who have helped us to explain those stories for you. Today we are talking to the BBC's Middle East Correspondent — Anna Foster who is based in Beirut, Lebanon. Before this job she was a presenter on a news programme on the BBC's domestic radio station.

Exactly two years ago today, a short piece of medical news was reported - China informed the World Health Organisation of a number of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in the city of Wuhan. The news largely went unnoticed. But the spread of Covid would soon come to dominate all of our lives. Today the World Health Organisation has tweeted a New Year message of hope, that this pandemic will eventually end. Perhaps there are more signs of hope from South Africa where the Omicron variant was first detected, as officials there say infections appear to have passed their peak without a significant increase in deaths. Here on OS, we've been bringing you the latest news and developments on the pandemic and if you're a regular listener, you'll know that we set aside time each day to go through the latest headlines about the coronavirus and answer your questions about it with the help of a health expert. These experts have now become familiar voices on the programme, and we've brought together three of them to hear their reflections on the past year, and what we should expect from the next year and beyond.

And, tens of thousands of people have been evacuated and hundreds of homes have been destroyed as wildfires spread through the US state of Colorado. We'll speak to a reporter on the ground to hear what's happening.

(Photo: An anti-government protester shouts slogans as other demonstrators burn tires to block the road during a rally against the power cuts, the high cost of living and the low purchasing power of the Lebanese pound, in front of Lebanese Central Bank at Hamra street in Beirut, Lebanon, 15 March 2021. Credit: EPA/WAEL HAMZEH)

FRI 18:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps12mv)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 18:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct20g2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

FRI 18:50 Witness History (w3ct1wzp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

FRI 19:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps16cz)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 19:06 The Newsroom (w172xyxb4x3tc7)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

FRI 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cqknc)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 19:32 Sport Today (w172y0nqr1r426b)

2021/12/31 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

FRI 20:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps1b43)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 20:06 Tech Tent (w3ct1nj2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

FRI 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cqpdh)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 20:32 CrowdScience (w3ct1prk)

How do you like your eggs in the morning?

Should you wash your eggs? Well believe it or not, there is quite an international debate about this question from CrowdScience listener Susan. In Canada, where Susan grew up, commercially sold eggs are washed before they reach stores, whereas in the UK where she is now living they are not. So what is best to avoid contamination?

It's one of a number of egg-themed questions that CrowdScience tries to crack in this episode. One of our presenters, Marnie Chesterton, heads over to Susan's home in London to cook some eggs and explore other egg cooking questions from our listeners, such as what is the science behind frying an egg without it sticking to the pan and why are some boiled eggs harder to shell than others?

Meanwhile this episode's other presenter, Anand Jagatia, explores questions about eggs after they have hatched. He investigates a case of curious chicken behaviour sent in by listener Laurie, as well as working out how a cuckoo knows it's a cuckoo when it's been raised in another bird's nest.

Presented by Marnie Chesterton and Anand Jagatia
Produced by Jonathan Blackwell for BBC World Service

Featuring: Dr. Vincent Guyonnet, Dr. Valérie Lechevalier, Dr. Siobhan Abeyesinghe and Dr. Ros Gloag

(Photo credit: Getty Images)

FRI 21:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps1fw7)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 21:06 Newshour (w172xv5j7x0jf5v)

Interviews, news and analysis of the day's global events.

FRI 22:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps1kmc)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 22:06 The Newsroom (w172xyx1wf9fw5b)

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

FRI 22:20 Sports News (w172y0stypkrxsz)

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

FRI 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cqxr)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 22:32 World Business Report (w172yrcbydk7d0n)

Ireland's economy surges despite Covid and Brexit

Russell Padmore travels across Ireland to find out how the Irish economy has shrugged off the impact of the pandemic and problems caused by Brexit.

It seems foreign investors, especially Irish Americans, are confident that Ireland will enjoy significant growth in 2022, despite the prospect of corporation tax being increased, after the country signed up to a global deal orchestrated by the OECD.

Russell's journey from the capital city, Dublin, to the rural north west also includes a trip across the border into Northern Ireland to hear how businesses there are worried about the UK Government creating more uncertainty in its economic relationship with the European Union, which could undermine trade with the Irish Republic.

We hear analysis from Austin Hughes, chief economist at KBC Ireland, Professor Luke O'Neill an immunologist at Trinity College Dublin, Mark Redmond, the Chief Executive of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ireland, Gillian Doyle, the founder of Cerebreon Technologies and Stephen Kelly, the Chief Executive of Manufacturing Northern Ireland.

(Picture: Irish Financial Services Centre, IFSC, by the River Liffey in Dublin. Getty Images.)

FRI 23:00 BBC News (w172xzjypps1pch)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

FRI 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct1n6d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:06 today]

FRI 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172xzks46cr1mw)

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

FRI 23:32 World Football (w3ct1v05)

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

FRI 23:59 BBC News (w172xzjypps1t3m)

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.