

SATURDAY 23 JANUARY 2016

SAT 00:00 Bill Murphy - Vostok (b007jzm4)

Three intrepid divers plunge into the world's last unexplored Antarctic lake. Stars Stuart Milligan and Ingvar Sigurdsson.

SAT 00:30 Soul Music (b0076m60)

Series 4

Swing Low Sweet Chariot

An exploration of the spiritual song, from its origins in slavery in America, to its role in English rugby. From July 2004.

SAT 01:00 Cadfael (b007jldz)

The Virgin in the Ice

5. Discoveries

Detective monk Brother Cadfael discovers outlaws have taken Ives Hugonin prisoner.

Conclusion starring Philip Madoc as Brother Cadfael.

Written by Ellis Peters and dramatised by Bert Coules.

Brother Cadfael Philip Madoc

Narrator Sir Michael Hordern

Ermina Moira Buffini

Leonard Leonard Fenton

Hugh Douglas Hodge

Le Gaucher Peter Laird

Ives Dean Magri

Elyas Crispin Letts

Axeman Peter Gunn

Boterel Andrew Wincott

Other parts played by the cast.

Music by Peter Salem.

Producer: Phil Clarke.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 1992.

SAT 01:30 Open the Vaults (b006prr0)

Razia Iqbal examines the tradition of banks as patrons of art - a role which dates back to 14th-century Italy.

She also asks what responsibility comes with owning great art, particularly in light of the 2007-2008 UK banking crisis.

Producer: Henrietta Harrison

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2009.

SAT 02:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03pm1hw)

Episode 10

The murder has finally been committed. However, a phone call complicates things. Donna Tartt thriller read by William Hope. From April 1995.

SAT 02:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05tpy82)

Ashoka: Power and Persuasion

Professor Sunil Khilnani of the King's India Institute in London looks at the life and legacy of the emperor Ashoka, who ruled over a large part of the Indian sub-continent. He came to power around the time the Romans were fighting Carthage and the Chinese were building their Great Wall but faded from view over time. Rediscovered by the British, he went on to become an inspiration to India's nationalists. Ashoka's symbol of four lions, each facing in a different direction, can be found on official Indian documents and the nation's currency. His most remarkable legacy is the rock edicts, public instructions to his people on correct behaviour - including religious tolerance and his own principle of Dhamma. "Dhamma described the ruler's duty to interest himself in the welfare of his people, their health and happiness. It even committed him to planting banyan trees and mango groves along the roads, to provide water and resting places for travellers . . . an early statement about the private faith of a leader and the responsibilities of public office"

Producer: Mark Savage.

Researcher: Manu Pillai

With incidental music by the composer Talvin Singh.

Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

SAT 02:30 Stan Barstow - A Kind of Loving (b015fv20)

Episode 10

Things come to a head in Vic and Ingrid's marriage. Who can Vic turn to for advice? Stars Lee Ingleby and Rebecca Callard. From July 2010.

SAT 02:45 Book of the Week (b03k2gqd)

Penelope Fitzgerald: A Life

Episode 5

Penelope Fitzgerald's novels were short, spare masterpieces, self-concealing, oblique and subtle. She won the Booker Prize for her novel *Offshore* in 1979, and her last work, *The Blue Flower*, was acclaimed as a work of genius.

The early novels drew on her own experiences - a boat on the Thames in the 1960s, the BBC in war-time, a failing bookshop in Suffolk, an eccentric stage-school. The later ones opened out to encompass historical worlds which, magically, she seemed to possess entirely: Russia before the Revolution, post-war Italy, Germany in the time of the Romantic writer Novalis.

Fitzgerald's life is as various and as cryptic as her fiction. It spans most of the twentieth century, and moves from a Bishop's Palace to a sinking barge, from a demanding intellectual family to hardship and poverty, from a life of teaching and obscurity to a blaze of renown.

She was first published at sixty and became famous at eighty.

This is a story of lateness, patience and persistence - a private form of heroism.

Loved and admired, and increasingly recognised as one of the outstanding novelists of her time, she remains also mysterious and intriguing. She liked to mislead people with a good imitation of an absent-minded old lady, but under that scatty front was a steel-sharp brain and an imagination of wonderful reach.

Directed at BBC Manchester by Polly Thomas.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2003.

SAT 05:30 So Wrong It's Right (b01hxmws)

Series 3

Episode 2

Presented by Charlie Brooker, 'So Wrong It's Right' is a competitive game of failure where coming up with the wrong answer is the right thing to do.

Over a series of rounds, Charlie asks three guests a number of

This biography by Hermione Lee pursues Fitzgerald's life, her writing, and her secret self, with fascinated interest.

Read by Penelope Wilton

Abridged by Libby Spurrier

Producer: Joanna Green

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 03:00 Jill Paton Walsh - A Piece of Justice (b010vyt7)

When Fran gets the chance to take over the biography of the great mathematician Gideon Summerfield, she rapidly discovers there's a mystery over a few days he went missing in August 1978.

Her friend Imogen is the first to realise she may be in danger... Dramatised by Neville Teller from the novel by Jill Paton Walsh.

Imogen Quy Barbara Flynn

Janet Somerfield Rosemary Leach

Francis Bullion Tracy Wales

Josh Robert Harper

Dr Mistral James Greene

Lady Buckmote Marlene Sidaway

Sir William Buckmote Geoffrey Whitehead

Professor Maverack Colin Starkey

Meredith Bagadeuce Peter Howell

Pamela Zephyr Di Botcher

David Swann Iwan Thomas

Director: Janet Whitaker

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1998.

SAT 04:00 The 3rd Degree (b01f5hp1)

Series 2

University of Sussex

Coming this week from the University of Sussex, "The 3rd Degree" is a funny, lively and dynamic quiz show aimed at cultivating the next generation of Radio 4 listeners whilst delighting the current ones. It's recorded on location at a different University each week, and it pits three Undergraduates against three of their Professors in a genuinely original and fresh take on an academic quiz. Being a Radio 4 programme, it of course meets the most stringent standards of academic rigour - but with lots of facts and jokes thrown in for good measure.

Together with host Steve Punt, the show tours the (sometimes posh, sometimes murky, but always welcoming!) Union buildings, cafés and lecture halls of six universities across the UK.

The rounds vary between Specialist Subjects and General Knowledge, quickfire bell-and-buzzer rounds and the 'Highbrow & Lowbrow' round cunningly devised to test not only the students' knowledge of current affairs, history, languages and science, but also their Professors' awareness of television, film, and Lady Gaga... In addition, the Head-to-Head rounds, in which students take on their Professors in their own subjects, were particularly lively, and offered plenty of scope for mild embarrassment on both sides...

The resulting show is funny, fresh, and not a little bit surprising, with a truly varied range of scores, friendly rivalry, and moments where students wished they had more than just glanced at that reading list...

Producer: David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 04:30 Albert and Me (b007jzdc)

Series 2

Minder

Bryan is offered a job at last, but where will he find a babysitter?

Stars Robert Lindsay and Pat Coombs.

Single parent Bryan Archer struggles to find work while raising his baby son, Albert.

Bryan Archer Robert Lindsay

Mum/Albert Pat Coombs

Mrs Willis Diana King

Vera Marcia Warren

Joe Ron Pember

Mr Graham Douglas Blackwell

Job Centre Clerk David Graham

Incidental music by Max Harris.

Producer: John Fawcett Wilson

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in March 1983.

SAT 05:00 1834 (b011pw52)

Dentists and Lovers

Ned needs root canal work, but 21st-century Jason needs lessons in 19th-century courting.

In Jim Poyser's riotous comedy of transportation and delight, Jason is now Tarquin, third son of Lord Belpot with a faithful valet, Ned.

Jason Slater Michael Begley

Ned Joe Caffrey

Hoskins Kenneth Alan Taylor

Lord Belpot Mark Chatterton

Stubbs Glenn Cunningham

Millicent Julia Rounthwaite

Directed at BBC Manchester by Polly Thomas.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2003.

SAT 05:30 So Wrong It's Right (b01hxmws)

Series 3

Episode 2

Presented by Charlie Brooker, 'So Wrong It's Right' is a competitive game of failure where coming up with the wrong answer is the right thing to do.

Over a series of rounds, Charlie asks three guests a number of

questions to rummage through their pasts and test their creativity. So Wrong It's Right celebrates the pungent taste of disappointment by turning embarrassing mistakes into perverse triumphs.

In this episode, the guests joining him to try and out-wrong each other are comedians Lee Mack, Holly Walsh and panel show legend Barry Cryer.

The panel's worst experiences at school and the best ideas for the worst TV news gimmicks are put to the panel. Will anyone surpass Barry Cryer's suggestion of a revamped 'Newsnight' presented by tabloid darling and reality TV superstar Katie Price?

The host of So Wrong It's Right, Charlie Brooker, also presents BBC2's How TV Ruined Your Life, Channel 4's You Have Been Watching and 10 O'Clock Live, and writes for The Guardian. He won Columnist of the Year at the 2009 British Press Awards and Best Newcomer at the British Comedy Awards 2009.

Produced by Aled Evans

A Zeppotron Production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 06:00 Thomas Love Peacock - Headlong Hall (b06y048x)

Winter, 1815: Harry Headlong, like all Welsh squires, is fond of shooting, hunting and drinking. But he becomes seized with a passion to form the acquaintance of philosophers and dilettanti. Sir Michael Hordern narrates Thomas Love Peacock's novella.

Escot, the deteriorationist Daniel Masey

Foster, the perfectionist Ronald Lacey

Jenkison, the statu-quo-ite John Grillo

Cranium, the craniologist John Horsley

Headlong William Simons

Cephalis Polly James

Gaster Alan Dudley

Milestone Andrew Branch

Gall Simon Cuff

Norman BirdPanscope

Tenorina Caroline Gruber

MacLaurel Michael Deacon

O'Prism John Tate

Chromatic John Baddeley

Graziosa Joan Walker

Dramatised by James Saunders.

Producer: Matthew Walters

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1988

SAT 07:30 Marguerite Patten's Century of British Cooking (b0075plw)

Pesto With Chips - 1990 to 1999

Hummus, couscous, polenta, prawns in lime and coconut, Thai curries, pesto, pork satay, tempura, passion fruit and kiwi sorbet and pistachio and pineapple ice cream.

Marguerite Patten mingles diverse recipes of the 1990s with memories of the Queen's "annus horribilis", Margaret Thatcher stepping down as Prime Minister, the freeing of Nelson Mandela, the opening of the Channel Tunnel, the handing back of Hong Kong to China and Labour elected to power with their biggest majority ever.

Marguerite told us how to make the most of our rations during the Second World War in 'Kitchen Front' on the BBC Home Service. She fronted her first BBC TV cookery show in 1947.

Born in Bath, the home economist was widely considered to be the first celebrity cook, and wrote more than 170 books with worldwide sales of 17 million.

A regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's Woman's Hour programme from 1946, Marguerite's final appearance was in 2011. She was awarded the OBE in 1991 and CBE in 2011.

Born November 4th 1915, Marguerite Patten died just a few months short of her 100th birthday in June 2015.

Producer: Ian Willox

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

SAT 08:00 Archive on 4 (b0075vj7)

Metropolis

Novelist Paul Bailey takes an autobiographical journey through the BBC sound archive in celebration of London, as documented by the microphone from 1930 onwards.

He recalls aspects of the city which have disappeared forever, from horse traffic to street markets, and looks at how radio has represented - and misrepresented - the average Londoner.

Producer: Thomas Morris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2000.

SAT 09:00 Comedy Greats (b007k228)

1980s

Episode 2

Decade by decade, Barry Cryer showcases some of the funniest and finest shows ever broadcast by the BBC.

OK, yah? The original 1980s Sloane Ranger - complete with leg-warmers and shoulder-pads - presents six favourite shows plucked from the schedules of BBC Radio Scotland, BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio 4:

* Naked Radio

(23rd March 1985)

The Scottish comedy team pokes fun at topical events.

Recorded at the Glasgow Theatre Club at the Tron. Stars Ian Aldred, Ron Bain, Andy Gray, Tony Roper and Elaine C Smith.

From 1985.

* The Grumbleweeds

(10th August 1980)

Impressions and sketches in an episode of the long-running series featuring the musical comedy band of Graham Walker, Albert Sutcliffe, Carl Sutcliffe, Maurice Lee and Robin Colvill.

From 1980.

* The Jason Explanation... of Myths and Legends

Does the Loch Ness monster really exist? Is there life after death? Why do fingers and toes go all crinkly in the bath? David Jason explains all with Sheila Steafel and Jon Glover. From 1981.

* The Million Pound Radio Show

Series 2 (8/8)

Back to the days of Mrs Thatcher, Sir Clive Sinclair and Brookside courtesy of Andy Hamilton and Nick Revell's sharp-edged topical humour. From 1986.

* The Big Fun Show

Series 1 (5/6)

Sketches galore in the series starring Paul Merton, Julian Clary, Tony Hawks and Josie Lawrence - before they hit the big time. From 1988.

* Whose Line Is It Anyway?

Ep 4/6

The improv game before it moved to TV. Clive Anderson hosts more ad-lib fun with Stephen Fry, John Sessions, Kate Robbins and Griff Rhys-Jones. From 1988.

Produced and scripted by Peter Reed

Made for BBC 7 and first broadcast in July 2003.

SAT 12:00 Round the Horne (b00n905p)

Series 3

Episode 17

'What Shall We Do With The Drunken Nurker?' Rambling Syd Rumpo sings - and it's a Horne from home for Kenneth at Julian and Sandy's Bona Guest House.

With Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick, Betty Marsden and Bill Pertwee.

Recorded at the BBC's Paris Studio in Lower Regent Street, London. Announcer: Douglas Smith

Round The Horne was born out of the demise of BBC radio comedy Beyond Our Ken, after the end of writer Eric Merriman's involvement. Using the same cast and producer, Barry Took and Marty Feldman were persuaded to write the scripts - which led to four series that ran between 1965 and 1968 - packed full of parodies, recurring characters, catchphrases and double-entendres.

Music by Edwin Braden and the Hornblowers and The Fraser Hayes Four.

Producer: John Simmonds

First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in May 1967.

SAT 12:30 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again (b011ppvg)

Series 7

Episode 10

Gooseberries and Centurion tanks in Arthur Price's shopping news.

Starring Tim Brooke-Taylor, John Cleese, Graeme Garden, David Hatch, Jo Kendall and Bill Oddie.

Sketches written by Graeme Garden and Bill Oddie. Originating from the Cambridge University Footlights revue 'Cambridge Circus', ISIRTA ran for 8 years on BBC Radio and quickly developed a cult following.

Music and songs by Bill Oddie, Liam Cohen and Dave Lee.

Producer: David Hatch/Peter Titheradge

First broadcast on the BBC Radio 2 in March 1969.

SAT 13:00 The One About the Social Worker: Omnibus (b06y0mfj)

How did the boy in boxers become wanted for an armed siege? A tough case for social worker, Liz Beecham. Stars Claire Skinner.

SAT 14:10 Inheritance Tracks (b06y0mqj)

Tessa Peake-Jones

Actress Tessa Peake-Jones chooses 'She Loves You' by The Beatles, and 'Every Breath You Take' by The Police.

SAT 14:15 Drama (b03c3cn6)

Anita Sullivan - The Octopus

By Anita Sullivan

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have eight legs, no bones, and skin that changes colour?

Hester is a Marine Biologist seeking to discover what it means to be an octopus. When she's called in to help the local aquarium try to breed two Giant Pacific Octopus (GPO), she uses the opportunity to carry out a social recognition experiment. Can an octopus recognise an individual human being? As Hester delves deeper into questions of cephalopod consciousness, she develops an attachment with 'Monster' - the male GPO.

"Four-hundred million years ago, when we shared the ocean, I was a bony fish, a prototype. But you... were already you. An octopus. Now I stand here, human. Confronted by you." A strange and compelling journey into the mind of an ancient creature.

Directed by James Robinson

A BBC Cymru Wales Production.

SAT 15:00 Archive on 4 (b0075vj7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SAT 16:00 Thomas Love Peacock - Headlong Hall (b06y048x)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SAT 17:30 Marguerite Patten's Century of British Cooking (b0075plw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SAT 18:00 Planet B (b00y1whc)

Series 3

Haunted

As the rogues face their biggest threat yet, a familiar face

returns. Virtual reality saga by Dawn King. Stars Lloyd Thomas.

SAT 18:30 Ghost Zone (b007k31r)

Episode 1

As Jill Logan telephones her ex-husband Dan at the Highland village of Inchbrae, she hears a devastating explosion behind his anguished voice...

In this sci-fi thriller - specially-written for the BBC by Marty Ross - an alien archaeologist takes over a Scottish village and examines the past lives of its inhabitants by 'unpeeling' layers of time.

Stars Simon Tait as Dan Collins, Gayanne Potter as Jill Logan, Joanna Tope as Dr Beth Granger, Sandy Neilson as Captain Cairns, Lesley Hart as Heather Logan, Stevie Hannan as Soldier/Pilot/Jamie and John Paul Hurley as the Technician.

Producer: Bruce Young

Made for BBC 7 and first broadcast in 2004.

SAT 19:00 Comedy Greats (b007k228)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SAT 22:00 Colin Houl's Carnival of Monsters (b0375b3z)

Series 1

Episode 3

Master character comedian Colin Houl presents his debut comedy series. Enter the Carnival of Monsters, a bizarre and hilarious world of sketches, stories and characters, presented by the sinister Ringmaster.

Meet such monstrous yet strangely familiar oddities as: Thwor - the mighty (but Leeds-based) god of Thwunder; Len Parker - Nottingham-born martial arts and transformers enthusiast; Anna Mann - outrageous star of such forgotten silver screen hits such as 'Rogue Baker', 'Who's For Turkish Delight' and 'A Bowl For My Bottom'; and many more.

Writers Guild Award-winner Colin Houl is best known for his highly acclaimed starring roles in 'Being Human', 'Life's Too Short', and 'Russell Howard's Good News', as well as his many hit shows at the Edinburgh Festival. He has also appeared and written for a number of Radio 4 series including 'The Headset Set' and 'Colin and Fergus's Digi-Radio'.

'Lewis Carol meets The League Of Gentlemen - A beautifully staged masterclass in character comedy' - Time Out

'Comic gold' - Metro

'Delightfully funny' - The Telegraph

Produced by Sam Bryant.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2013.

SAT 22:30 Mordrin McDonald: 21st Century Wizard (b00yqvkb)

Series 2

Team Building

Written by David Kay and Gavin Smith, Mordrin McDonald is a 2000 year old Wizard living in the modern world where settling garden disputes and watching Countdown are just as important as slaying the odd Jakonty Dragon.

This week Mordrin is convinced by Councillor Campbell to take part in a team building exercise.

Featuring and co-written by Scottish stand up David Kay, and starring Gordon Kennedy and Jack Docherty with this week's guest star Brian Pettifer. Mordrin McDonald mixes the magical with the mundane and offers a hilarious take on the life of a modern day Wizard.

Cast:

Mordrin David Kay

Geoff Gordon Kennedy

Councillor Campbell Callum Cuthbertson

Pete The Pict Brian Pettifer

Heather Hannah Donaldson

Producer/Director: Gus Beattie

A Comedy Unit production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 22:45 Warhorses of Letters (b01p7by2)

Series 2

Episode 3

The romantic correspondence between two of history's most important horses: Napoleon's mount Marengo and the Duke of Wellington's own Copenhagen.

The opposing armies are on the march through Belgium, but our lovers face a more immediate challenge to their relationship as Marengo's stablemate Marcy turns out to be a stalking horse.

Marengo Stephen Fry

Copenhagen Daniel Rigby

Narrator Tamsin Greig

Written by Robbie Hudson and Marie Phillips.

Producer: Gareth Edwards.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2012.

SAT 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b06yznzp)

From 10.00pm to midnight, seven days a week, the Comedy Club has two hours of comedy. Plus Arthur Smith chats again to Jon Ronson.

SAT 23:00 The Jason Byrne Show (b01phj38)

Series 3

The Irish and the Scottish Are Black-Belts in Misery Jason compares international attitudes to other people's good fortune and explains why his Irish background means that revelling in misery is never far away.

Why is British fruit so bitter? Can Jason relieve heart-ache in the audience and what simple pleasures make Jason and his son happy?

Themed audience comedy show with high-energy stand-up and sketches featuring Laurence Howarth and Daisy Haggard.

Producer: Julia McKenzie

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in December 2010.

SAT 23:30 The Big Booth (b007k32y)

Series 2: The Big Booth Too

Episode 2

Boothby stays the night in a haunted Scottish castle.

More guitar-flavoured songs and surreal laughs from Boothby Graffoe.

With Stephen Frost, Vivienne Soan, Big Al and Kevin Eldon.

Special guest: singer-songwriter Robyn Hitchcock.

Written by Boothby Graffoe and Dave Thompson.

Producer: Julia McKenzie

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2001.

SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2016

SUN 00:00 Planet B (b00y1whc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Saturday]

SUN 00:30 Ghost Zone (b007k31r)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Saturday]

SUN 01:00 The One About the Social Worker: Omnibus (b06y0mfj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 13:00 on Saturday]

SUN 02:10 Inheritance Tracks (b06y0mqj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:10 on Saturday]

SUN 02:15 Drama (b03c3cn6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Saturday]

SUN 03:00 Archive on 4 (b0075vj7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 on Saturday]

SUN 04:00 Thomas Love Peacock - Headlong Hall (b06y048x)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Saturday]

SUN 05:30 Marguerite Patten's Century of British Cooking (b0075plw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Saturday]

SUN 06:00 Stan Barstow - A Kind of Loving Omnibus (b015p5xj)

Episode 2

Vic Brown wangles a new job - but the same old confused emotions persist when it comes to Ingrid...

Set in Yorkshire, Stan Barstow's iconic 1960s novel is a compelling, poignant and humorous account of 20 year-old Vic's infatuation for Ingrid - which develops into an emotional crisis, thanks in part to her spiteful friend, Dorothy.

Dramatised by Stan Barstow's partner Diana Griffiths.

Starring Lee Ingleby as Vic Brown, Rebecca Callard as Ingrid

Rothwell, Kate Layden as Mrs Brown and Seamus O'Neill as Mr Van Huyton.

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on the BBC Radio 4 in 2010.

SUN 07:15 Tony Hawks Gets Lost in the Afternoon (b007j8cy)

How do we manage to lose things we held in our hands only minutes ago? Neuroscientists and psychologists suggest it may be more complicated than we think. From May 2007.

SUN 07:30 Life: An Idiot's Guide (b01q0313)

Series 2

Facing Your Fears

Stephen K Amos is joined by stand-ups Michael Redmond,

Holly Walsh, Boothby Graffoe and a particularly nervous

audience member to compile and Idiot's Guide to Facing Your

Fears.

SUN 08:00 Jim the Great (b011kvms)

Series 3

Oh, Claudius!

After losing his Kingdom, the King is now a grumpy galley

slave rowing to Rome. Starring Jimmy Edwards. From

September 1979.

SUN 08:30 A Life of Bliss (b04dmnc5)

United They Stay

Shy bachelor David Bliss fears the worst when a replacement

manager pressurises him to chase an invoice.

George Cole stars in Godfrey Harrison's sitcom about bashful, bumbling bachelor David Alexander Bliss.

David Bliss George Cole

Ann Diana Churchill

Tony Colin Gordon

Psyche the Dog Percy Edwards

Maynard Fillimore Terence Alexander

Marcia Hammond Gwen Cherrall

Mr Hood Barry K Barnes

Mrs Hood Nan Kenway

Six series of 118 episodes of A Life of Bliss ran on the BBC Home Service from 1953. It moved to BBC TV for a run of six episodes in 1969.

Sadly very few episodes survive in the BBC archive, including the first seven starring David Tomlinson. His replacement George Cole went to to star in the St Trinian's films and later as dodgy Arthur Daley in ITV's Minder.

The BBC Variety Orchestra conducted by Paul Fenhoulet.

Producer: Leslie Bridgmont

First broadcast on the BBC Home Service in February 1959.

SUN 09:00 Amy Liptrot - The Outrun: Omnibus (b06y11w3)

Amy Liptrot's incisive memoir of fleeing London to battle her alcoholism amid Orkney's luminous landscape. Read by Tracy

Wiles.

SUN 10:10 Inheritance Tracks (b06y11yq)

Roger Lloyd Pack

Actor Roger Lloyd Pack chooses 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik' by

Mozart and 'Forever Young' by Bob Dylan.

SUN 10:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (b06y123h)

Absent Friends
Charles Kennedy

4 Extra Debut. From Bowie to his father playing fiddle, Charles Kennedy's castaway choices during his stint as Lib Dem Leader. With Sue Lawley. From October 2003.

SUN 11:00 The Moth Radio Hour (b06y148k)

Series 1

Hitchhiking, a Mosh Pit and Iggy Pop

True stories told live in the USA: Jenifer Hixson introduces stories about revelations, nightmares and meeting your idols.

The Moth is an acclaimed not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling based in the USA. Since 1997, it has celebrated both the raconteur and the storytelling novice, who has lived through something extraordinary and yearns to share it. Originally formed by the writer George Dawes Green as an intimate gathering of friends on a porch in Georgia (where moths would flutter in through a hole in the screen), and then recreated in a New York City living room.

The Moth quickly grew to produce immensely popular events at theatres and clubs around New York City and later around the USA, the UK and other parts of the world.

The Moth has presented more than 15,000 stories, told live and without notes, to standing-room-only crowds worldwide. The Moth podcast is downloaded over 27 million times a year. Featuring true stories told live on stage without scripts, from the humorous to the heart-breaking.

The Moth Radio Hour is produced by Jay Allison and Atlantic Public Media in Woods Hole, Massachusetts and is distributed by the Public Radio Exchange.

SUN 11:50 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00z62ns)

Series 2

Foreign Fare

We sometimes forget that vegetables that we see as commonplace today in all their varieties have wild origins.

The potato for example is a name given to a tuber that both comes from Africa and South America - and the history of their discovery and export into our European markets can be traced by examining how those first explorers named the plants.

Sir David Attenborough traces the discovery of some common vegetables to their wild beginnings - and the fascinating natural history of their use as food.

Producer: Julian Hector

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2011.

SUN 12:00 Jim the Great (b011kvms)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SUN 12:30 A Life of Bliss (b04dmnc5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

SUN 13:00 Stan Barstov - A Kind of Loving Omnibus (b015p5xj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SUN 14:15 Tony Hawks Gets Lost in the Afternoon (b007j8cy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 today]

SUN 14:30 Automobile Club of Egypt: Omnibus (b06y14c1)

Episode 1

A once wealthy landowner, Abd el-Aziz, has fallen into penury. Alaa Al Aswany's novel is read by Raad Rawi, Amir El-Masry and Emerald O'Hanrahan.

SUN 15:45 Vincent McInerney - Bringing Home a Budgie for Mum (b0389s5c)

A young sailor's loyalty to his family is tested after his mother makes a seemingly innocent request.

Keith Drinkel reads Vincent McInerney's short story.

Producer: Pam Fraser Solomon

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1996.

SUN 16:00 Louis Robinson - Julie and the Prince (b0076kd0)

Julie and the Prince

by Louis Robinson

The intriguing and romantic story of Queen Victoria's father, Prince Edward, and his long-term mistress, Julie, "Madame de St Laurent". Edward, the fourth son of George III, lived in the colonies with Julie until he was put under pressure to marry a German Princess and produce an heir to throne. He faced a choice between giving up his true love or giving up his status as Prince.

Julie Julia Hills

Edward Timothy Watson

Lady Sefton Janet Dale

Crawford Sam Graham

Mr Murchison/Philippe Paul Clarkson

Mrs Murchison Buffy Davis

Queen Victoria Jaimi Barbakoff

Directed by Peter Leslie Wild

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2004.

SUN 17:00 Poetry Extra (b06y14yg)

With Great Pleasure - Don Paterson

BBC Radio 4's Poet in Residence, Daljit Nagra revisits the BBC's radio poetry archive.

'With Great Pleasure' from Summer 2006, when the Ledbury Poetry Festival featured Don Paterson as poet-in-residence. He entertained an audience at the festival with the work of some of his favourite fellow poets, including Douglas Dunn, Tony Harrison, Billy Collins, Seamus Heaney and William Topaz McGonagall.

Producer: Viv Beeby

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2006.

SUN 17:30 Life: An Idiot's Guide (b01q0313)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 18:00 Fear on 4 (b007jzd5)

Series 3

Dance in the Underworld

The Man in Black wonders whether teenager Tony really was dead when they buried him?

Starring Bryan Pringle as Victor, Maggie McCarthy as Avril, Angus Wright as Tony and Edward de Souza as the Man in Black.

Fear on 4 brings you more in a series of nerve-tinglers.

Written by Stuart Kerr.

Producer: Martin Jenkins

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1991.

SUN 18:30 Martin Jameson - Ice (b007jlpb)

Episode 3

Michelle comes face to face with the evil Ice Queen, Novod Scaa. Is she too late to save Travis?

Conclusion of the retelling of 'The Snow Queen' by Martin Jameson.

Michelle Tara Prendergast

Novod Scaa Ishia Bennison

Gary Gerard McDermott

Stash Vincent Davies

Roth Bradley Lavelle

Bandit Miles Anderson

Travis Alan Halsall

Thug Christopher Pavlo

Chaperoning Child Margaret Jervis

Director: Sally Avens.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1998.

SUN 19:00 The Moth Radio Hour (b06y148k)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

SUN 19:50 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00z62ns)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:50 today]

SUN 20:00 Amy Liptrot - The Outrun: Omnibus (b06y11w3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SUN 21:10 Inheritance Tracks (b06y11yg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:10 today]

SUN 21:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (b06y123h)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:15 today]

SUN 22:00 Life: An Idiot's Guide (b01q0313)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 22:30 Clayton Grange (b01n11xj)

Series 1

Episode 2

The team of brilliantly stupid scientists attempt to solve the global fuel crisis. With a hamster.

This is Clayton Grange, top secret Scientific Institute with a government brief to solve the global fuel crisis, cheer people up and make war just a bit more gentle. Meet the scientists who are a bit rubbish at life. And not much better at science.

Comedy by Neil Warhurst with extra material by Paul Barnhill.

Saunders Anthony Head

Geoff Neil Warhurst

Roger Paul Barnhill

Jameson Stephanie Racine

Helen/Lionel Don Gilet

Alan Dobson Paul Stonehouse

Director: .. Sally Avens

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2012.

SUN 23:00 Laura Solon - Talking and Not Talking (b00c1d22)

Series 2

Episode 4

'China Lion', pepping up your sex life and why it is not a good idea to tell lies on your CV.

Award-winning comedian Laura Solon's sketch and character comedy series

With Rosie Cavaliero, Ben Moor and Ben Willbond.

Written by Laura Solon.

With additional material by Ben Moor, Charlie Miller, Andy Marlot, Jon Walsh and Holly Walsh.

Producer: Colin Anderson

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2008.

SUN 23:30 The Harpoon (b00cmgpb)

Series 3

Episode 3

Across the Atlantic alone, and great beverages from history.

More nostalgic fun in the spoof of boys' adventure story papers - this week incorporating 'Lath Monthly'.

Performed by Alistair McGowan, Peter Baynham, Susie Brann, Mary Elliot-Nelson and Julian Dutton.

Producer: Sarah Smith

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1994.

MONDAY 25 JANUARY 2016**MON 00:00 Fear on 4 (b007jzd5)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Sunday]

MON 00:30 Martin Jameson - Ice (b007jlpb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Sunday]

MON 01:00 Stan Barstov - A Kind of Loving Omnibus (b015p5xj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Sunday]

MON 02:15 Tony Hawks Gets Lost in the Afternoon (b007j8cy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 on Sunday]

MON 02:30 Automobile Club of Egypt: Omnibus (b06y14c1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Sunday]

MON 03:45 Vincent McInerney - Bringing Home a Budgie for Mum (b0389s5c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Sunday]

MON 04:00 Louis Robinson - Julie and the Prince (b0076kd0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:00 Poetry Extra (b06y14yg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 17:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:30 Life: An Idiot's Guide (b01q0313)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Sunday]

MON 06:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpl)

Episode 1

The Dutch police arrive at Martin's house just as he's thinking of going to bed. He has to leave his wife Sophia and travel with them to Amsterdam's central police station, where Inspector Van der Valk breaks the news.

Martin is the chief suspect in the murder of the seductive Elsa de Charmoy - his former lover and manipulator of men...

Nicholas Freeling's crime thriller read by David Troughton. Piet Van der Valk is the much-copied prototype detective, 'a cranky, gentle, bumbling, brilliant, non-conformist student of human behaviour whose primary concern is why rather than how crimes are committed'.

Abridged by Lauris Morgan-Griffiths.

Producer: Mary Ward-Lowery

First broadcast on BBC Radio 7 in 2006.

MON 06:30 Robin Hood and the Cuban Revolutionaries (b00n3mq4)

Errol Flynn was cinema's brightest Hollywood star, with a series of unforgettable swashbuckling epics to his name. However, Flynn spent his last year with girlfriend Beverley Aadland on the island of Cuba, mixing with Castro, Che Guevara and the Cuban rebels. We hear about the pair's two-year relationship and their time together in Cuba.

Errol's daughter Rory Flynn saw Beverley as a positive force in her father's life and key in their final adventure to Cuba in 1958. Flynn secured a commission from Hearst newspapers to file reports and secure an interview with Castro. The programme explores these articles filed by Flynn - many which have lain unseen in a Texan archive for 50 years.

On his return from the mountains, Flynn set about capturing his adventures on film and secured the funds to star alongside Beverley in "Cuban Rebel Girls". The film disappeared without trace, but Flynn set about recording the events of the revolution with producer Victor Pahlen, and their documentary film "Cuban Story" was the result. Hear clips from both of these films in this programme.

Fifty years after his passing, Errol Flynn is famous for his epic films, womanising, and hard-living lifestyle. However, his strange venture into the world of Cuban politics and flirtation with the flowering of Castro's brand of communism is as an untold story. Now, we address this oversight.

Presented by Patrick Humphries.

Producer: John Sugar

A Sugar production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 07:00 Street and Lane (b00w5rgj)

Series 2

Going for Broke

The Yorkshire builders are warned over a dodgy landlord - and a birth is imminent...

Series 2 of Ian McMillan and Dave Sheasby's comedy stars Shaun Dooley as Johnny Street, Fine Time Fontayne as Arthur Lane, Muzz Khan as Pete and Bethan Walker as Lucy.

Producer: David Hunter

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2007.

MON 07:30 The Museum of Curiosity (b06wcnsl)

Series 8

Dodd, Fry, Jenner

Professor of Ignorance John Lloyd and his curator Sarah Millican welcome:

* Singer, photographic playboy and failed accountant Ken Dodd

* The University College London lecturer who took up mathematical modelling to get to grips with the dating scene, Dr Hannah Fry

* The man with the enviable task of overseeing the historical accuracy of over 1,200 songs and sketches that make up Horrible Histories, Greg Jenner

The Museum's peripatetic scholars reveal how the first ever alcoholic drinks were guzzled from a spittoon; why the equation $Wt+1 = a + rW$, $+IHW(H)$ and $HI+1 = b + r2Ht + IWH(Wt)$, is the formula for a happy marriage; and why you can tell a joke in Liverpool that that won't get a laugh in London.

Researchers: Anne Miller and Molly Oldfield of QI.

Producers: Richard Turner and James Harkin.

A BBC Radio Comedy production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in January 2016.

MON 08:00 Dad's Army (b007jqlx)

Series 3

We Know Our Onions

Jones's van is commandeered for the platoon's anti-tank gun

exercise - but the trouble is it's also full of Hodges' consignment of onions.

The comic exploits of a Second World War Home Guard platoon in Walmington-on-Sea.

Adapted for radio from Jimmy Perry and David Croft's TV

scripts by Harold Snoad and Michael Knowles.

Captain Mainwaring Arthur Lowe

Sergeant Wilson John Le Mesurier

Corporal Jones Clive Dunn

Private Frazer John Laurie

Private Godfrey Arnold Ridley

Private Pike Ian Lavender

Warden Hodges Bill Pertwee

Private Walker Larry Martyn

Captain Ramsay Alan Tilvern

Sergeant Baxter Michael Middleton

Announcer/Newsreader John Snagge

Producer: John Dyas

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 1976.

MON 08:30 Brothers in Law (b007k2fg)

Series 2

In Reverse

Lawyer Roger Thursby is touting for work, meaning some sweet-talking to both Joy and Sally.

Starring Richard Briers as Roger Thursby, Julia Lockwood as

Sally, Bridget Armstrong as Joy, Blake Butler as Alec, Nigel

Pegram as Biggs and Andrew Cruickshank as the Judge.

All other parts played by Gerald Cross, William Fox, Garard

Green and Peter Tuddenham.

Written by Henry Cecil and Basil Dawson.

Published in 1955, Henry Cecil's comic legal novel Brothers in

Law was adapted first for TV in 1962 by Frank Muir and Denis

Norden. It provided the first regular starring role for Richard

Briers, who later reprised his role of the idealistic young lawyer

Roger Thursby for BBC Radio between 1970 and 1972.

Producer: David Hatch.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 1971.

MON 09:00 Quote... Unquote (b013214d)

Last in the current series of Quote...Unquote, presented by the

renowned Nigel Rees. Joining Nigel to wave au revoir are the

comedian Ardal O'Hanlon, broadcaster Shelagh Fogarty, writer

Brian Sibley and actor Martin Jarvis.

The reader is Peter Jefferson.

Produced by Simon Mayhew-Archer.

MON 09:30 Tomorrow, Today! (b016r51y)

Series 2

Dr Chaotica and the Rise of the Atomic Man-Bees

A BBC producer struggles to make a radio soap set in the

unimaginably futuristic world of 2008.

Suspicious deaths provoke mixed reactions.

Series two of Christopher William Hill's sitcom set in 1962.

Nigel Lavery Peter Bowles

Sylvia Hann Cheryl Campbell

Godfrey Winnard John Fortune

Sir Angus McNairn Gary Waldhorn

Hugo Kellerman Joseph Kloska

Douglas Bennings Jon Glover

Keith Wood Sam Pamphilon

Mrs Tinkler Rachel Atkins

Graham Tinkler Lloyd Thomas

Delivery Boy Alex Lamipekun

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2008.

MON 10:00 Charles Dickens (b01b20s5)

Little Dorrit

Episode 1

Arthur Clennam returns from China, fearful of a wrong

committed by his parents. Curious and feeling protective when

he meets young seamstress, Amy Dorrit - he follows her home,

to the Marshalsea Debtor's Prison, where he's introduced to her

extraordinary family.

Charles Dickens's masterpiece of social satire and

imprisonment dramatised in five episodes by Doug Lucie.

Starring Sir Ian McKellen as Charles Dickens.

Recorded on location in London.

Charles Dickens Ian McKellen

Arthur Clennam Julian Wadham

Mrs Clennam Margaret Tzack

William Dorrit John Wood

Little Dorrit Jasmine Hyde

Flora Finching Sophie Thompson

Fanny Dorrit Indira Varma

Frederick Dorrit Peter Tuddenham

Affery Jennie Stoller

Barnacle Junior Kenny Blyth

Maggy Helen Ayres

Pancks Philip Joseph

Flintwinch Ioan Meredith

Tite Barnacle Gordon Reid

Plornish Jonathan Keeble

Music by Mia Soteriou

Director: Janet Whitaker

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2001.

MON 11:00 Don Haworth - In Mr Bruin's Time (b007k3xy)

The brief tale of a bus driver whose philanthropic nature means

bad timekeeping but general goodwill. Read by Bernard

Cribbins. From April 1990.

MON 11:15 Drama (b010m9l2)

Jon Canter - The Vertigo Trust

By Jon Canter.

Ronnie Sax is a sixty something multi-millionaire businessman,

abrasive, cocky, three times divorced but on wife number four.

He's egotistical and high energy and very much afraid of

heights. He lives in a bungalow. His very large office is on the

ground floor. Branson keeps inviting him into his balloon but

Ronnie always has an excuse.

He gives an interview to Deborah - a journalist with some

serious copy to fill - and her searching questions turn into a

flirtation that Ronnie feels can only be consummated by

conquering his phobia.

Enter Martin - a 'Vertigo Counsellor' who has read Deborah's

article and thinks he can help. Martin's done his research and

Ronnie, impressed, quickly hires him as his very own counsellor

(as long as no one knows finds out what he's doing in Ronnie's

office.)

Over a series of sessions, Ronnie gets attached to Martin and

quite dependent on him. Martin helps him overcome his deepest

fears.

But Martin has a secret. A big secret. One that threatens to turn

Ronnie's world completely upside down.

Produced and directed by Clive Brill

A Pacificus Production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 12:00 Dad's Army (b007jqlx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 12:30 Brothers in Law (b007k2fg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 13:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 13:30 Robin Hood and the Cuban Revolutionaries (b00n3mq4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 14:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q8q66)

Episode 11

A reward is offered for Bunny. Charles and Henry find

themselves under scrutiny.

MON 14:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05v7ht2)

Charaka: On Not Violating Good Judgement

Professor Sunil Khilnani visits a modern-day clinic which

follows the practices set out by Charaka, a medical pioneer

whose handbook is still widely used in India today. His text,

known as the Charaka Samhita or 'Compendium of Charaka', is

an encyclopaedic work covering different aspects of health and

how to live a good life. Ayurveda is the best known of the

Indian subcontinent's three indigenous medical traditions and

continues to be an important adjunct to India's national health

system. Today, it is part of government policy and a ministry

funds Ayurvedic training and care. Charaka believed that health

depended on the balance of basic humours - wind, bile, phlegm

- and that "if these elements are disturbed from their proper

bodily locations, illness follows. Such disturbance often occurs

through our own thoughtlessness, what Charaka calls 'violations

of good judgement."

Produced by Mark Savage

With incidental music by the composer Talvin Singh.

Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of

remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

MON 14:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767d8)

Episode 1

Andrea meets Philip, a married man. The warnings are all about

lust, but tenderness is the real enemy.

Stan Barstow's gritty double love story set in Yorkshire in the

1960s, dramatised by his partner Diana Griffiths.

Andrea.....Deborah McAndrew

Philip.....Robert Glenister

Tom.....David Calder

George.....John Griffin

Julie.....Naomi Radcliffe

Mrs Warner.....Daryl Fishwick

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

MON 14:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy5g)

Episode 1

The touching correspondence between the young Indira Gandhi

and her father Nehru. Read by Nina Wadia and Paul

Bhattacharjee.

MON 15:00 Charles Dickens (b01b20s5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

MON 16:00 Quote... Unquote (b013214d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 16:30 Tomorrow, Today! (b016r51y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

MON 17:00 Street and Lane (b00w5rgj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

MON 17:30 The Museum of Curiosity (b06wcnsl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 18:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2c1)

Episode 1

Mystery space tourist deaths land two planet cleaners with a

new contract.

Stephen Hawking once warned us that our species could soon

be wiped out by plagues, asteroids and our tendency to destroy

ourselves. The solution, he suggested, was for us to colonise

other planets. But Chris Larner and David Gilbert's sci-fi

comedy sees the truth as a little more complicated.

The Laxian Key shows how, as soon as Man steps onto another

planet, he promptly fouls it up just as he did earth. The heroes

of this wonderfully wacky tale are two interplanetary

decontaminationists.

CAST:

Arnold Chris Larner

Gregor Mark Bonner

Evan Trevor Cooper

Office Alex Lowe

Ferngraum Sam Dale

Jo Christine Kavanagh

Dolores Virge Gilchrist

The Virtual Newsreader Bethan Walker

with Paul Biggin, Emma Noakes and Joseph Kloska.

Producer: Peter Kavanagh

Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra and first broadcast in February

2007.

MON 18:30 A Good Read (b007620x)

Sue Gaisford and Kimberly Fortier

Kirsty Wark and her guests, journalist Sue Gaisford and former

publisher of The Spectator, Kimberly Fortier, discuss

paperbacks by Suzanne Clemenishaw, Henry Mayhew and

Alistair MacCleod. From 2001.

The Great Ideas by Suzanne Clemenishaw

Publisher: Fourth Estate

London Labour and the London Poor by Henry Mayhew

Publisher: Penguin

No Great Mischief by Alistair MacCleod

Publisher: Vintage.

MON 19:00 Dad's Army (b007jqlx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 19:30 Brothers in Law (b007k2fg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 20:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 20:30 Robin Hood and the Cuban Revolutionaries (b00n3mq4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 21:00 Don Haworth - In Mr Bruin's Time (b007k3xy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

MON 21:15 Drama (b010m9l2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

MON 22:00 The Museum of Curiosity (b06wcnsl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 22:30 Fags, Mags and Bags (b010dhcy)

Series 4

The Bewerdine Spectrum

The hit Radio 4 series 'Fags, Mags & Bags' returns with more

shop based shenanigans and over the counter philosophy,

courtesy of Ramesh Mahju and his trusty sidekick Dave.

Written by and starring Donald McLeary and Sanjeev Kohli

'Fags, Mags & Bags' has proved a hit with the Radio 4 audience

with this series picking up a Writers' Guild nomination for best

comedy in 2011.

In this episode Sanjay goes on work experience at the local

paper, The Lenzie Trumpet, and ends up writing the problem

page which spells disaster for Ramesh and his loyal customers.

So join the staff of 'Fags, Mags and Bags' in their tireless quest

to bring nice-price custard creams and cans of coke with Arabic

writing on them to an ungrateful nation. Ramesh Mahju has

built it up over the course of 30 years, and is a firmly

entrenched feature of the local area. Ramesh loves the art of the

'shop'.

However, he does apply the 'low return' rules of the shop to all

other aspects of his life. Ramesh is ably assisted by his shop

sidekick Dave, a forty-something underachiever who shares

Ramesh's love of the art of shopkeeping, even if he is treated

Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman in space, who at one time logged more hours in orbit than all the male American astronauts put together makes a thought-provoking contrast to the marginalised female astronauts of the USA, the so called Mercury 13, none of whom ever got to go into space. Written by Helen Keen and Miriam Underhill Produced by Gareth Edwards.

TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2016

TUE 00:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2c1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Monday]

TUE 00:30 A Good Read (b007620x)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Monday]

TUE 01:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Monday]

TUE 01:30 Robin Hood and the Cuban Revolutionaries (b00n3mq4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q8q66)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Monday]

TUE 02:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05v7th2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Monday]

TUE 02:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767d8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy5g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Monday]

TUE 03:00 Charles Dickens (b01b20s5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:00 Quote... Unquote (b013214d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:30 Tomorrow, Today! (b016r51y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Monday]

TUE 05:00 Street and Lane (b00w5rgj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Monday]

TUE 05:30 The Museum of Curiosity (b06wscnl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Monday]

TUE 06:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)
Episode 2

Martin's finally admitted the truth: he met Elsa de Charmoy shortly before her death - and he attempted to visit her on the night she died, but claims he didn't kill her. Martin's alibi is thin and there are no other suspects, but Van der Valk takes a chance on him. Together they visit Elsa's apartment to try and find evidence...

Nicholas Freeling's crime thriller read by David Troughton. Piet Van der Valk is the much-copied prototype detective, 'a cranky, gentle, bumbling, brilliant, non-conformist student of human behaviour whose primary concern is why rather than how crimes are committed'.

Abridged by Lauris Morgan-Griffiths.

Producer: Mary Ward-Lowery

First broadcast on BBC Radio 7 in 2006.

TUE 06:30 The Gorbals Vampire (b00rmt00)

In September 1954 hundreds of Glasgow schoolchildren crowded into a Gorbals graveyard to hunt for a Vampire with Iron Teeth. Novelist Louise Welsh discovers how the "Gorbals Vampire" led to a change in Britain's censorship laws.

In 1954 in Glasgow's Southern Necropolis cemetery hundreds of local children, ranging in ages from 4 to 14, were discovered by police roaming between the crypts. They were armed with sharpened sticks, knives stolen from home and stakes. They said they were hunting down "a vampire with iron teeth" that they believed had kidnapped and eaten two local boys.

The local press got hold of the story of what became known as the 'Gorbals Vampire' and it soon went national. The press and politicians cast around for an explanation. They soon found one in the wave of American Horror comics with names like "Astounding Stories" and "Tales from the Crypt" which had recently flooded into the west of Scotland.

Academics pointed out that none of the comics featured a vampire with iron teeth, though there was a monster with iron teeth in the Bible (Daniel 7.7) and in a poem taught in local schools. Their voices were drowned out in a full-blown moral panic about the effect that terrifying comics were having on children. Soon the case of the "Gorbals Vampire" was international news.

The British Press raged against the "terrifying, corrupt" comics and after a heated debate in the House of Commons where the case of Gorbals Vampire was cited, Britain passed the Children and Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act 1955 which, for the first time, specifically banned the sale of magazines and comics portraying "incidents of a repulsive or horrible nature" to minors.

Produced by David Stenhouse.

First broadcast on Radio 4 in 2010.

TUE 07:00 Fat Chance (b01bn4qm)

Secrets and Lies

Will Graham be the next Blue Peter presenter and why did Tina's husband leave her?

Jenny McDade's high-fat bittersweet comedy for those believing there's a thin person inside them begging to get out.

Graham Pitscottie Gareth Corke

Wendy Bottomley Janine Duviski

Clive Bottomley Michael Troughton

Soo Pitscottie Anne Reid

Tina Tattersall Julia Deakin

Kelly Chambers Tilly Gaunt

Lee Dubs Harry Myers

Mrs Enright Frances Jeater

Producer: Sally Avens

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1999.

TUE 07:30 Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (b06wd7dt)

Series 2

The Employment Agency

When Milton launches a job agency, it turns out that getting people into work actually is rocket science. Which is why his best client suddenly goes ballistic.

Mention Milton Jones to most people and the first thing they think is 'Help!'. Because each week, Milton, and his trusty assistant Anton (Tom Goodman-Hill) set out to help people and soon find they're embroiled in a new adventure. Because when you're close to the edge, then Milton can give you a push. Written by Milton with James Cary and Dan Evans, the man they call "Britain's funniest Milton" returns to the radio with a fully-working cast and a shiplod of new jokes.

With Tom Goodman-Hill, Josie Lawrence and Ben Willbond. Music by Guy Jackson.

Produced and directed by David Tyler

A Pozziute production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in January 2016.

TUE 08:00 Round the Horne (b007jn85)

Series 3

Episode 18

Ole! Kenneth Horne heads to a Spanish bullring, while Julian and Sandy get switched on for Bona TV.

With Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick, Betty Marsden and Bill Pertwee.

Recorded at the BBC's Paris Studio in Lower Regent Street, London. Announcer: Douglas Smith

Round The Horne was born out of the demise of BBC radio comedy Beyond Our Ken, after the end of writer Eric Merriman's involvement. Using the same cast and producer, Barry Took and Marty Feldman were persuaded to write the scripts - which led to four series that ran between 1965 and 1968 - packed full of parodies, recurring characters, catchphrases and double-entendres.

Music by Edwin Braden and the Hornblowers and The Fraser Hayes Four.

Producer: John Simmonds

First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in June 1967.

TUE 08:30 The Men from the Ministry (b0085hmk)

The Desk Job

Can the bungling bureaucrats manage to sell off the old office furniture?

A weekly tribute to all those who work in government departments.

Stars Richard Murdoch and Deryck Guyler. With Norma Ronald, Ronald Baddiley and John Graham.

Written by Edward Taylor and John Graham.

'The Men from the Ministry' ran for 14 series between 1962 and 1977. Deryck Guyler replaced Wilfrid Hyde-White from 1966. Sadly many episodes didn't survive in the archive, however the BBC's Transcription Service re-recorded 14 shows in 1980 - never broadcast in the UK, until the arrival of BBC Radio 4 Extra.

Producer: Edward Taylor

First broadcast on the BBC Radio 4 in August 1972.

TUE 09:00 The News Quiz Extra (b06y9r47)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:00 on Monday]

TUE 09:45 Helen Keen's It Is Rocket Science (b01j5nxt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:45 on Monday]

TUE 10:00 Charles Dickens (b01b2wb5)

Little Dorrit

Episode 2

Arthur Clennam still believes his parents to have wronged someone, but he can't get any help from the Circumlocution Office.

He also thinks he's found a new love, and Little Dorrit receives a proposal.

Charles Dickens's masterpiece of social satire and imprisonment dramatised by Doug Lucie.

Starring Sir Ian McKellen as Charles Dickens.

Recorded on location in London.

Charles Dickens Ian McKellen

Arthur Clennam Julian Wadham

Mrs Clennam Margaret Tyzack

William Dorrit John Wood

Little Dorrit Jasmine Hyde

Mrs Merdle Jennie Stoller

Fanny Dorrit Indra Varma

Flora Finching Sophie Thompson

Frederick Dorrit Peter Tuddenham

Pet Meagles Clare Corbett

John Chivery Ben Crowe

Tip Dorritt Kenny Blyth

Maggy Helen Ayres

Flintwinch Ioan Meredith

Mr Meagles Gordon Reid

Mr Doyce Jonathan Keeble

Other parts played by members of the cast.

Music by Mia Soteriou

Director: Janet Whitaker

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2001.

TUE 11:00 Alex Shearer - Getting a Life (b007k4br)

When a person sees their life going the other way on the back

of a lorry, what can they do?

Brian Parr reads Alex Shearer's short story.

Producer: Pauline Stone

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 1997.

TUE 11:15 Drama (b00jzfb6)

Ed Harris - The Moment You Feel It

The Moment You Feel It

By Ed Harris

Alf's memories come in flashes and great blank holes, along with a running commentary from the voices of his past. So how does finding a strange coat in his kitchen, remind Alf why he doesn't want a bath today? A tender, sad comedy about remembering your past.

Alf Richard Briers

Young Alf Rory Kinnear

Pru Tracy Wiles

Steven Hugh Ross

Marina Caroline Guthrie

with Janice Acquah

Producer/Director: Jonquil Panting.

TUE 12:00 Round the Horne (b007jn85)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

TUE 12:30 The Men from the Ministry (b0085hmk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

TUE 13:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

TUE 13:30 The Gorbals Vampire (b00rmt00)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

TUE 14:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q8tcc)

Episode 12

Lurking in a mailbox is a typewritten revelation which proves to be a shock to all. Donna Tartt thriller read by William Hope. From April 1995.

TUE 14:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05v7tqh)

Aryabhata: The Boat of Intellect

Professor Sunil Khilnani, from the King's India Institute in London, explores the life and legacy of Aryabhata, the legendary Indian mathematician and astronomer. Unknown in the West until a few decades ago, he is said by some to rank with Euclid and the great Greek mathematicians and astronomers such as Ptolemy. But unlike Euclid, Aryabhata left no proofs, explaining how to recreate his findings. "His ideas, translated into Arabic, influenced Islamic astronomers and mathematicians. But he wasn't working in the idiom of his Western counterparts, so his ideas didn't feed into the global stream of scientific discovery, and eventually Indians forgot Aryabhata too. It was only when science and technology began to flourish in modern India that his reputation got a relaunch," says Professor Khilnani.

Producer: Mark Savage

Researcher: Manu Pillai

Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

TUE 14:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767ds)

Episode 2

Town councillor Tom discovers unsettling news about the husband of his long-term lover Norma.

Stan Barstow's gritty double love story set in Yorkshire in the 1960s, dramatised by his partner Diana Griffiths.

Bess.....Daryl Fishwick

TomDavid Calder

Norman.....Geoff Hinsliff

Bob.....Stan Barstow

Andrea.....Deborah McAndrew

Norma.....Sharon Duce

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

TUE 14:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy6q)

Episode 2

In prison, Nehru relies on daughter Indira Gandhi's letters to learn about India's struggle for freedom. Read by Nina Wadia.

TUE 15:00 Charles Dickens (b01b2wb5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

TUE 16:00 Act Your Age (b00g3hr8)

Series 1

Episode 5

Simon Mayo discovers which generation is the funniest. With Jon Richardson, Lucy Porter and Roy Walker. From December 2008.

TUE 16:30 Flying the Flag (b00b0317)

Series 2

A Tooth for a Tooth

There's no extradition agreement yet between the UK and the People's Republic - but some accusations can't be lightly brushed aside...

Alex Shearer's Eastern Bloc embassy sitcom.

Starring Dinsdale Lenden as HM Ambassador Mackenzie, Peter Acre as William Frost, Moir Leslie as Helen Waterson, Stephen Greif as the United States Ambassador and Christopher Benjamin as Colonel Surikov.

Producer: Pete Atkin

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1988.

TUE 17:00 Fat Chance (b01bn4qm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

TUE 17:30 Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (b06wd7dt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

TUE 18:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2m3)

Episode 2

London is melting, but planetary decontaminationists Arnold and Gregor get the blame and go on the run. Stephen Hawking once warned us that our species could soon be wiped out by plagues, asteroids and our tendency to destroy ourselves. The solution, he suggested, was for us to colonise other planets. But Chris Larner and David Gilbert's sci-fi comedy sees the truth as a little more complicated.

The Laxian Key shows how, as soon as Man steps onto another planet, he promptly fouls it up just as he did earth. The heroes of this wonderfully wacky tale are two interplanetary decontaminationists.

CAST:

Arnold Chris Larner
Gregor Mark Bonner
Evan Trevor Cooper
Office Alex Lowe
Fengraum Sam Dale
Jo Christine Kavanagh
Dolores Virge Gilchrist

Virtual Newsreader Bethan Walker
with Paul Biggin, Emma Noakes and Joseph Kloska
Music by Mark Stevens and Chris Larner
Producer: Peter Kavanagh

Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra and first broadcast in February 2007.

TUE 18:30 That Reminds Me (b007jp1h)

Series 3

Sheila Steafel

Actress Sheila Steafel shares memories of her stage, film and TV career with an audience.

From 'drowning' for Michael Bentine and the unpredictability of Robert Morley to the perils of dancing topless!

Producer: Claire Jones

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2001.

TUE 19:00 Round the Horne (b007jn85)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

TUE 19:30 The Men from the Ministry (b0085hmk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

TUE 20:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

TUE 20:30 The Gorbals Vampire (b00rmt00)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

TUE 21:00 Alex Shearer - Getting a Life (b007k4br)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

TUE 21:15 Drama (b00jzfb6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

TUE 22:00 Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (b06wd7dt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

TUE 22:30 The Show What You Wrote (b036w3pn)

Series 1

Kitchen Sink

The Show What You Wrote is a brand new sketch show, which is made up entirely from sketches sent in by the public.

Recorded in Manchester in front of a live audience, and starring John Thomson, Helen Moon, Fiona Clarke and Gavin Webster.

We've picked the best sketches from thousands of submissions to make each show, and every week we'll be covering a different theme, from sci fi and fantasy, to historical. This week's episode is Kitchen Sink.

Script editor Jon Hunter

Producers Carl Cooper and Alexandra Smith

Writers Chris Allen, Elise Bramich, Alex Buchanan, Steve Bugeja, Alex Clissold-Jones, Alex Collier, Andy Fury, Jez Gee, Lucy Guy, Mike Haskins, Katherine Knowles, Maeve Larkin, Sarah Page, Ash Williamson.

TUE 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b06z94yp)

For two hours six nights a week, the Comedy Club offers the best laughs. Tonight, Thom Tuck chats to Mark Watson.

TUE 23:00 Revolting People (b00wbnb0)

Series 4

McGurk Runs the Shop

Samuel is reunited with his sister and Ezekiel is dressed as a bear. 1775 America sitcom. Stars Andy Hamilton. From May 2006.

TUE 23:30 Les Kelly's Britain (b017cjy8)

Episode 3

Les Kelly (Kevin Bishop) hosts a magazine show from hell. Les is a cross between Jeremy Kyle and a slap in the face. He claims this is the only radio show for 'normal, decent people'. 'If you aren't normal or decent, this is not the show for you,' says Les. Should able-bodied people have the same rights as the disabled when it comes to having mobility scooters, guide dogs and hearing aids. This and other outrageous questions are put by Les Kelly, radio's most insensitive presenter. Also on the show - a preacher whose religious education lessons involves twisting balloons into the shape of Moses and Jesus, and a woman with an obsessive hatred of Belgians.

Written by Bill Dare and Julian Dutton.

Produced by Bill Dare.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2011.

WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016

WED 00:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2m3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Tuesday]

WED 00:30 That Reminds Me (b007jp1h)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Tuesday]

WED 01:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Tuesday]

WED 01:30 The Gorbals Vampire (b00rmt00)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Tuesday]

WED 02:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q8tcc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Tuesday]

WED 02:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05v7tqh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Tuesday]

WED 02:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767ds)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Tuesday]

WED 02:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy6q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Tuesday]

WED 03:00 Charles Dickens (b01b2wb5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Tuesday]

WED 04:00 Act Your Age (b00g3hr8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Tuesday]

WED 04:30 Flying the Flag (b00b0317)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Tuesday]

WED 05:00 Fat Chance (b01bn4qm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Tuesday]

WED 05:30 Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (b06wd7dt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Tuesday]

WED 06:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)

Episode 3

The Dutch detective has finally discovered murder victim Elsa de Charmoy's secret. A decoy is needed to snare the killer, but it's a very risky assignment. Tension mounts as the murderer makes his presence felt.

Nicholas Freeling's crime thriller concluded by David Troughton.

Piet Van der Valk is the much-copied prototype detective, 'a cranky, gentle, bumbling, brilliant, non-conformist student of human behaviour whose primary concern is why rather than how crimes are committed'.

Abridged by Lauris Morgan-Griffiths.

Producer: Mary Ward-Lowery

First broadcast on BBC Radio 7 in 2006.

WED 06:30 It's My Story (b00hpj9d)

The Boxing Civil Servant

Journalist Jackie Ashley tells the story of how her fifty-something friend Miranda Carter, a high-flying civil servant at the Department of Transport, astonished friends and family when she announced that she was applying for a licence as a boxing promoter.

By day she continues to work in the corridors of power in Whitehall, but in the evenings and at weekends she mixes with the raucous boxing crowd of York Hall, Bethnal Green, in the East End of London.

WED 07:00 The Brothers (b00p6b1t)

Series 2

Episode 5

Oonagh makes a discovery and Nigel is at last pushed to the brink. Stars Raymond Coulthard and Adam Godley. From October 2005.

WED 07:30 It's Jocelyn (b06wg7rw)

Series 1

Episode 4

Meet a monosyllabic shop assistant, a pair of terrible African Drummers and a two terrible bedroom DJ's called 'Uncooth Youth FM'.

Jocelyn Jee Esien vents her frustration at the world around her through sketches and stand-up.

With Curtis Walker, Ninia Benjamin and Kevin J.

Producer: John Pocock

A BBC Radio Comedy production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in January 2016.

WED 08:00 The Navy Lark (b01h0kpk)

Series 6

Wren Chasen Returns

The crew are back from some eventful leave, but Heather's surprise return from Scotland gives her fiancé Phillips a nasty shock.

Stars Jon Pertwee as the Chief Petty Officer, Leslie Phillips as the Sub-Lieutenant, Stephen Murray as the Number One, Ronnie Barker as Able Seaman Johnson, Richard Caldicote as Captain Povey and Heather Chasen as Heather.

Laughs afloat aboard British Royal Navy frigate HMS

Troutbridge. The Navy Lark ran for an impressive thirteen series between 1959 and 1976.

Scripted by Lawrie Wyman

Producer: Alastair Scott Johnston.

First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in September 1963.

WED 08:30 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again (b011tzml)

Series 7

Episode 11

A complete guide to London - and Professor Prune's Time Trousers materialise in gangster-ridden Chicago.

Starring:

Tim Brooke-Taylor

John Cleese

Graeme Garden

David Hatch

Jo Kendall

Bill Oddie

Sketches written by Graeme Garden and Bill Oddie
Originating from the Cambridge University Footlights revue 'Cambridge Circus'. ISIRTA ran for 8 years on BBC Radio and quickly developed a cult following.

Music and songs by Bill Oddie, Liam Cohen and Dave Lee.

Producer: David Hatch/Peter Titheradge

First broadcast on the BBC Radio 2 in March 1969.

WED 09:00 The Motion Show (b00768f5)

Series 3

Episode 1

Debates galore over the North/South divide, glorious failure - and blowing your own trumpet.

Graeme Garden chairs the quirky battle of words and wit.

With Steve Punt, Simon Fanshawe, Dan Gaster and Jenny Eclair.

Producer: Helen Williams

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2000

WED 09:30 Beachcomber... By the Way (b007jqgs)

Series 2

Episode 5

JB Morton's whimsies as performed by Richard Ingrams, Patricia Routledge, John Sessions and John Wells. From August 1991.

WED 10:00 Charles Dickens (b01b311m)

Little Dorrit

Episode 3

Mr Pancks has made discoveries about the Dorrit family, but

Arthur still hasn't solved his family's secret...

Charles Dickens's masterpiece of social satire and

imprisonment dramatised by Doug Lucie.

Starring Sir Ian McKellen as Charles Dickens.

Recorded on location in London.

Charles Dickens Ian McKellen

Arthur Clennam Julian Wadham

Mrs Clennam Margaret Tyack

William Dorrit John Wood

Little Dorrit Jasmine Hyde

Mrs Merdle Jennie Stoller

Mr Pancks Philip Joseph

Fanny Dorrit Indira Varma

Mr Merdle Kenneth Cranham

Flora Finching Sophie Thompson

Frederick Dorrit Peter Tuddenham

Pet Meagles Clare Corbett

John Chivery Ben Crowe

Tip Dorritt Kenny Blyth

Maggy Helen Ayres

Flintwinch Ioan Meredith

Mr Meagles Gordon Reid

Mr Doyce Jonathan Keeble

Other parts played by members of the cast.

Music by Mia Soteriou

Director: Janet Whitaker

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2001.

WED 11:00 Afternoon Reading (b00y8y97)

Womanly Wiles

Ties That Bind

American star Kathleen Turner reads this specially

commissioned story of family tension.

After the death of her husband, a New York writer decides to

move to Cape Cod where her younger sister has a house on the

Bay. Their mother lives in a nearby assisted-living facility.

Neither sister has children; the father died many years ago.

Only the three women are left. How nice, our storyteller feels,

for them to regain some of the closeness of former years; to

recapture the fun and memories of childhood summers - when

the family had happily vacationed there.

But what if ties that are supposed to be binding turn out to be less

than secure - even fraying at the edges? What if a house-

purchase becomes problematic? And where are the difficulties

actually coming from? Mother? Or the sisters? Could 'family',

perhaps, exist only in the mind?

Producer/Director: Rosalind Ayres.

WED 11:15 Renny Krupinski - No Problem (b007jw1g)

An idyllic holiday runs into problems as Beth and Simon get

stuck in an airport. Stars Renny Krupinski and Belinda Sinclair.

WED 12:00 The Navy Lark (b01h0kpk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 12:30 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again (b011tzml)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 13:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

WED 13:30 It's My Story (b00hpj9d)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

WED 14:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q957k)

Episode 13

Despite their best efforts, Richard and Henry cannot stop their

role being exposed. Donna Tartt thriller read by William Hope.

From April 1995.

WED 14:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05vct0r)

Shankaracharya: A God Without Qualities

Is that a snake or a coiled rope? Intriguingly, that is the question

which starts Professor Sunil Khilnani's look at the life and

legacy of Adi Shankaracharya, the philosopher and theologian

who set Hinduism - the third largest religion in the world - on a

new course. Shankaracharya's ambition was to provide a

unified, coherent, single reading of the Hindu scriptures. His

teachings were not universally embraced but they were revived

by Indian nationalists looking for a muscular response to the monotheistic religions of Christianity and Islam. His efforts to capture the oneness of the universe produced beautiful, sometimes enigmatic sentences - as elusive as the man himself. "I am neither earth nor water nor fire nor air nor sense-organ nor the aggregate of all these," wrote Shankaracharya, "for all these are transient, variable by nature."

Produced by Mark Savage

Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

WED 14:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767f4)

Episode 3

With their affair still a secret, Andrea meets her lover's wife, Kate.

Stan Barstow's gritty double love story set in Yorkshire in the 1960s, dramatised by his partner Diana Griffiths.

Andrea.....Deborah McAndrew

Philp.....Robert Glenister

Mrs Warner.....Daryl Fishwick

George.....John Griffin

Kate.....Jo Anne Knowles

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

WED 14:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy7z)

Episode 3

Indira Gandhi's father Nehru learns of her search abroad to cure her sick mother. Read by Nina Wadia. and Paul Bhattacharjee.

WED 15:00 Charles Dickens (b01b311m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

WED 16:00 The Motion Show (b00768f5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

WED 16:30 Beachcomber... By the Way (b007jqgs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

WED 17:00 The Brothers (b00p6b1t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

WED 17:30 It's Jocelyn (b06wg7rw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 18:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2tx)

Episode 3

With the planetary decontaminationists on the run, Arnold's apologetic call for melting Earth is traced.

Stephen Hawking once warned us that our species could soon be wiped out by plagues, asteroids and our tendency to destroy ourselves. The solution, he suggested, was for us to colonise other planets. But Chris Larner and David Gilbert's sci-fi comedy sees the truth as a little more complicated.

The Laxian Key shows how, as soon as Man steps onto another planet, he promptly fouls it up just as he did earth. The heroes of this wonderfully wacky tale are two interplanetary decontaminationists.

CAST:

Arnold Chris Larner

Gregor Mark Bonner

Evan Trevor Cooper

Office Alex Lowe

Ferngraum Sam Dale

Jo Christine Kavanagh

Dolores Virge Gilchrist

Virtual Newsreader Bethan Walker

with Paul Biggin, Emma Noakes and Joseph Kloska

Music by Mark Stevens and Chris Larner

Producer: Peter Kavanagh

Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra and first broadcast in February 2007.

WED 18:30 Off the Page (b0076z54)

My Brilliant Baby

Dominic Arkwright discusses the joys of parenting with Amanda Mitchison, Tom Hodgkinson and Caroline Oulton. From July 2006.

WED 19:00 The Navy Lark (b01h0kpk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 19:30 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again (b011tzm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 20:00 Van der Valk - Love in Amsterdam (b007jwpq)

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[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

WED 21:15 Renny Krupinski - No Problem (b007jw1g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

WED 22:00 It's Jocelyn (b06wg7rw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 22:30 Tom Wrigglesworth's Open Letters (b01hxpyp)

Series 2

Junk Mail

Sony Award-winning comic Tom Wrigglesworth performs the last in his series of open letters.

Now he's taking issue with his local curry house and their addiction to junk mail.

Tom also tracks the development of advertising and marketing - a development trajectory which has now led us to the rather ridiculous stage where we can be "Facebook friends" with Jacob's Crackers.

Written by Tom Wrigglesworth, James Kettle and Miles Jupp.

Producer: Simon Mayhew-Archer

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 2012.

WED 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b06z94yd)

For two hours six nights a week, the Comedy Club offers the best laughs. Tonight, Thom Tuck chats to Mark Watson.

WED 23:00 Listen Against (b008crj0)

Series 1

Episode 3

The show that prises the back off your radio, fiddles around with the programmes inside and then puts it all back together the wrong way round.

Alice Arnold and Jon Holmes take liberties with Laurie Taylor, BBC Radio 1Xtra and Melvyn Bragg

The brain-child of writer, comic and broadcaster Jon Holmes.

Producer: Bill Dare and Jon Holmes

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2007.

WED 23:30 And Now in Colour (b007v2t3)

Series 1

Mike's House

The sketch show team take the audience to Mike's house, but they get lost. Plus a phone-in on problems with phones...

Precision comedy written and performed by Tim Firth, Tim de Jongh, Michael Rutger and William Vandyc.

Producer: Lissa Evans

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1990

THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016

THU 00:00 The Laxian Key (b007k2tx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Wednesday]

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[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Wednesday]

THU 05:00 The Brothers (b00p6b1t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Wednesday]

THU 05:30 It's Jocelyn (b06wg7rw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Wednesday]

THU 06:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r73qn)

Series 2

The Stolen Ingots

At first glance it looked like a simple bullion robbery, but Thorndyke's investigations reveal that nothing is as it first appeared. Read by William Gaminara.

John Thorndyke, barrister and doctor of medicine, possesses an armoury of skills that equip him as the first scientifically plausible "forensic" detective. R. Austin Freeman, his creator, was himself a medic with an extensive knowledge of forensic medicine, and the solutions to the puzzles are completely plausible. In fact the scientific detail and authenticity of Thorndyke's investigations go much further than anything in the Holmes stories, though Freeman was happy to acknowledge his debt to Arthur Conan Doyle:

"A fellow doctor, Conan Doyle, had made a brilliant and well-deserved success by the creation of the immortal Sherlock Holmes. Considering that achievement, I asked myself whether it might not be possible to devise a detective story of a slightly different kind: one based on the science of Medical Jurisprudence, in which, by the sacrifice of a certain amount of dramatic effect, one could keep entirely within the facts of real life, with nothing fictitious excepting the persons and the events. I came to the conclusion that it was, and began to turn the idea over in my mind."

Thorndyke's work-life stretches over four decades from the early 1900s until the Second World War, a period during which Freeman wrote more than 20 novels and several collections of short stories, from which the six in this series are selected.

The reader William Gaminara is best known as pathologist Leo Dalton in the BBC's long-running series 'Silent Witness'.

Producer: John Taylor

Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra by Fiction Factory and first broadcast in 2013.

THU 06:30 The Oxbridge Murder (b00mtm9c)

Marking Cambridge University's 800th anniversary in 2009, David Baddiel investigates the events which led to its foundation and trace its origins to a crime committed in the 13th century.

With the help of Cambridge University archivist Dr Patrick Zutshi, medieval historian Henrietta Leyser and Detective Inspector Ted East, David discovers that the reason for a mass exodus of scholars from Oxford to Cambridge can be traced back to a murder. He walks the very streets where the murder took place and visits Oxford Castle, where some believe those

accused of the murder were hanged.

He then takes a punt up the River Cam, where he is joined by members of the Cambridge Historical Society for a discussion about town and gown rivalry and also some of the amusing myths surrounding the university's foundation.

Finally, David visits St Mary's Church, where Cambridge's new student body met for their first lectures and ceremonies.

THU 07:00 Hazelbeach (b00899mt)

Series 1

Language Teacher

Nick gets a job with a dominatrix and Ronnie buys an extraordinary number of sinks.

Caroline and David Stafford's comedy stars Jamie Forman as Ronnie Hazelbeach.

Ronnie Jamie Foreman

Nick Paul Bazely

Mrs Barlow Tracy Wiles

James John Dougall

Senora Liza Sadovy

Producer: Marc Beevy

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2007.

THU 07:30 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (b06whsx1)

Series 5

Episode 3

John Finnemore - writer and star of Cabin Pressure and John Finnemore's Double Acts, regular guest on The Now Show and The Unbelievable Truth - returns for a fifth series of his multi-award-winning sketch show, joined as ever by a cast of Margaret Cabourn-Smith, Simon Kane, Lawry Lewin and Carrie Quinlan.

This week we look back at a career in accounting, hear of an over-rated experience and, we're sorry to say, Patsy Straightwoman returns with an interview sketch.

"One of the most consistently funny sketch shows for quite some time" - The Guardian

"The best sketch show in years, on television or radio" - The Radio Times

"The inventive sketch show ... continues to deliver the goods" - The Daily Mail

"Superior comedy" - The Observer

Written by and starring ... John Finnemore

Original music composed by ... Susannah Pearce

Original music performed by ... Susannah Pearce & Sally Stares

Producer: Ed Morrish

A BBC Radio Comedy production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in 2016.

THU 08:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jn4t)

Series 5

A Star Is Born

Harold falls for the leading lady from his drama society - and Albert makes an entrance.

Starring Wilfrid Brambell as Albert, Harry H Corbett as Harold and Trevor Bannister as Rupert. With Jo Manning Wilson, Michael McClain and Nicolette MacKenzie.

Following the conclusion of their hugely successful association with Tony Hancock, writers Ray Galton and Alan Simpson wrote 10 pilots for the BBC TV's Comedy Playhouse in 1962. The Offer was set in a house with a yard full of junk, featuring the lives of rag and bone men Albert Steptoe and his son Harold and it was the spark for a run of 8 series for TV.

Written for TV and adapted for radio by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.

Produced by Bobby Jaye

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in June 1974.

THU 08:30 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007wvg9)

Series 1

The Dog

Gerald is alarmed to discover a large four-legged friend sitting in his car.

The convoluted chronicle of an optimistic crime writer written by Basil Boothroyd.

Starring Ian Carmichael as Gerald C Potter and Charlotte Mitchell as his wife and more successful writer, Diana.

With Margaret Robertson, James Thomason and Peter Craze.

The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter ran from 1976 to 1981.

Producer: Bobby Jaye

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1976.

THU 09:00 Genius (b0084ffq)

Series 3

Matthew Wright

A coat for showering and anthems of shame?

Dave Gorman asks broadcaster Matthew Wright to select the public's best loopy idea.

Award-winning comedian Dave Gorman and a celebrity guest chew over the ridiculous, unworkable but sometimes genius inventions, schemes and policies of the public.

Producer: Simon Nicholls

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2007.

THU 09:30 No Commitments (b007jp15)

Series 7

Soap Bubbles

Charlotte discovers that starring in a soap opera is a cut-throat business. Starring Angela Thorne and Celia Imrie.

THU 10:00 Charles Dickens (b01b3clm)

Little Dorrit

Episode 4

The newly wealthy Dorrits set off on a tour of Europe but Little Dorrit is homesick.

Fanny finds a suitor and William is gratified by the attentions of the banker, Mr Merdle.

Charles Dickens's masterpiece of social satire and imprisonment dramatised by Doug Lucie.

Starring Sir Ian McKellen as Charles Dickens.

Recorded on location in London.

Charles Dickens Ian McKellen
Arthur Clennam Julian Wadham
Mrs Clennam Margaret Tyzack
William Dorrit John Wood
Little Dorrit Jasmine Hyde
Mr Merdle Kenneth Cranham
Mrs Merdle Jennie Stoller
Fanny Dorrit Indira Varma
Flora Finching Sophie Thompson
Frederick Dorrit Peter Tuddenham
John Chivery Ben Crowe
Tip Dorritt Kenny Blyth
Flintwinch Ioan Meredith
Mr Pancks Philip Joseph
Mr Doyce Jonathan Keeble

Other parts played by members of the cast.

Music by Mia Soteriou
Director: Janet Whitaker
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2001.

THU 11:00 Afternoon Reading (b009yc2)
Womanly Wiles
The Weighing Up
Jeremy plainly cares deeply for his family. His business takes him all over the world but when he is home he gives them his full attention.

He calls occasionally at inconvenient hours from various places abroad, though the sound of his voice is never inconvenient.

His comfortably overweight wife, Avril, always gets a decent warning of his actual homecoming, so she can be sure of having ready his favourite food and wine.

But what if, this time, he's been delayed in Tokyo and won't, after all, be back by the weekend? And what if, suddenly, there's a young woman on the line to Avril with some surprising news that could disturb the pattern of a contented family life?

In Angela Huth's cannily observant tale of comfort food and feminine rivalry, which of the two women is likely to come off best when there are no more 'soft centres' left in the chocolate box? Who has the ultimate 'hard-centre'? Will Jeremy leave his wife for a younger, more streamlined, model? Or is there a way to keep him content?

Reader: Gemma Jones
Producer/Director: Martin Jarvis
A Jarvis & Ayres Production for BBC Radio 4.

THU 11:15 Michael Butt - Harry in the Underworld (b00rdspe)
A novelist is losing readers. But then he encounters two hardened criminals breaking into his house. Starring Richard E Grant.

THU 12:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jn4t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 12:30 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007wvg9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 13:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r73qn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 13:30 The Oxbridge Murder (b00mtm9c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 14:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q9k59)
Episode 14
With their tutor mysteriously absent, things go from bad to worse for the Greek class. Donna Tartt thriller read by William Hope. From April 1995.

THU 14:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05vffp8)
Rajaraja Chola: Cults of the Imagination
Rajaraja was not the first of the Chola dynasty but he took their empire to its zenith - from a relatively small kingdom to the dominant empire in India. Professor Sunil Khilnani, from the King's India Institute in London, visits Tamil Nadu where he finds modern day connections with the ruler whose name means 'king of kings'. Professor Khilnani visits the temple at Thanjavur which Rajaraja built a thousand years ago and named after himself, utilising the profits of trade. "For Raja Raja had pulled off something that no Indian ruler before him seems to have done," says Professor Khilnani. "He'd commandeered trading boats, timber sailed craft and launched maritime expeditions, bringing far flung wealth back home." The king was lavish with his gifts and used his wealth to capture the imaginations of those he ruled. His most important gift to art history came at the temple's consecration: 60 portable icons of Lord Shiva, the Hindu deity.

Producer: Mark Savage
Researcher: Manu Pillai
With incidental music by the composer Talvin Singh
Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

THU 14:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767fk)
Episode 4
The tragic news of Norma's husband draws Tom closer, but at what cost to her children?
Stan Barstow's gritty double love story set in Yorkshire in the

1960s, dramatised by his partner Diana Griffiths.

Bess.....Daryl Fishwick
Tom.....David Calder
Norma.....Sharon Duce
Nick.....Ben Crompton
Caroline.....Naomi Radcliffe
Roger.....John Griffin
Shirley.....Ruth Herbert
Director: Pauline Harris
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

THU 14:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy99)
Episode 4
Nehru feels cut off from Indira, as tragic events threaten to overtake his family. Read by Nina Wadia. and Paul Bhattacharjee.

THU 15:00 Charles Dickens (b01b3clm)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

THU 16:00 Genius (b0084ffq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

THU 16:30 No Commitments (b007jp15)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

THU 17:00 Hazelbeach (b00899mt)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

THU 17:30 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (b06whsx1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 18:00 No Point Talking (b06yk7w1)
Award-winning sci-fi writer Geoff Ryman's new story for the BBC, imagining a future world where California has been split in two, each half with very different political outlooks.

His conservative hero finds himself in a place he doesn't like or understand, where everything he holds dear is challenged: relations between men and women, and even the very definitions of 'he' and 'her'.

This story was written as Geoff was investigating the portrayal of gender in utopian science fiction, as part of BBC Radio 4's Utopia season. That documentary which accompanies 'No Point Talking' is called 'Herland'.

THU 18:15 James Follett - The Devil to Pay (b06yk87w)
A car crash on a hot deserted road; a camper on hand to drag the driver from the blazing wreck. The start of an action-packed adventure play?... Not quite. Listen on.

Stars Norman Rodway as the Devil and Derek Seaton as the Camper.

Director: Glyn Dearman
First broadcast in Double Act – a selection of plays from Just Before Midnight on BBC Radio 4 in 1979.

THU 18:30 Great Lives (b0076w0n)
Series 8
Dorothy Parker
4 Extra Debut. Actress and comedian Helen Lederer chooses writer, poet and barbed wit, Dorothy Parker. With Francine Stock. From December 2005.

THU 19:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jn4t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 19:30 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007wvg9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 20:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r73qn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 20:30 The Oxbridge Murder (b00mtm9c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 21:00 Afternoon Reading (b009yc2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

THU 21:15 Michael Butt - Harry in the Underworld (b00rdspe)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

THU 22:00 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (b06whsx1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 22:30 The Secret World (b012rf47)
Series 2
Episode 5
Prince Charles ends up helping his driver move a sideboard. Jon Culshaw explores famous folk's private lives. From July 2010.

THU 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b06z94zg)
For two hours six nights a week, the Comedy Club offers the best laughs. Tonight, Thom Tuck chats to Mark Watson.

THU 23:00 Susan Calman Is Convicted (b01qwc92)
Series 1
Depression
In a brand new series for Radio 4, Susan Calman explores issues on which she has strong opinions.

When Susan was younger (and more than a little self-obsessed), she thought that the brooding, silent type was the best way to be. Then, whilst trying to deal with depression, she went on a journey of counselling, self-help, even writing poetry - you name it, she did it all. Now she is convinced that bottling things up makes things worse and that we should all talk about everything all the time. Well, not quite. But nearly.

But does counselling help or does it encourage self-pity? Should we all just pull ourselves together?

Produced by Lyndsay Fenner.

THU 23:30 The Consultants (b007k2vv)
Series 1
Episode 1
A lifestyle presentation conference - and sketch show, with Neil

Edmond, Justin Edwards and James Rawlings. From February 2003.

THU 23:45 World of Pub (b007jwxs)
Series 1
Episode 1
The only regulars at Barry and Garry's East End boozier are late-night DJs and Trappist monks.

Can dodgy Phil help boost custom?
First of two comedy series written by Tony Roche.

Dodgy Phil John Thomson
Barry Phil Cornwall
Garry Peter Serafinowicz
Other parts played by Kim Wall and Debra Stephenson.
Music: Bill Bailey
Special effects: Carl Phillips and Nick Romero.
Producer: Jane Berthoud
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1998.

FRIDAY 29 JANUARY 2016

FRI 00:00 No Point Talking (b06yk7w1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Thursday]

FRI 00:15 James Follett - The Devil to Pay (b06yk87w)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Thursday]

FRI 00:30 Great Lives (b0076w0n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Thursday]

FRI 01:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r73qn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Thursday]

FRI 01:30 The Oxbridge Murder (b00mtm9c)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Thursday]

FRI 02:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q9k59)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Thursday]

FRI 02:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05vffp8)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Thursday]

FRI 02:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767fk)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Thursday]

FRI 02:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jy99)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Thursday]

FRI 03:00 Charles Dickens (b01b3clm)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Thursday]

FRI 04:00 Genius (b0084ffq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Thursday]

FRI 04:30 No Commitments (b007jp15)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Thursday]

FRI 05:00 Hazelbeach (b00899mt)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Thursday]

FRI 05:30 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (b06whsx1)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Thursday]

FRI 06:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r7bhp)
Series 2
Rex v Burnaby
At first glance it looked like a simple bullion robbery, but Thorndyke's investigations reveal that nothing is as it first appeared. Read by William Gaminara.

John Thorndyke, barrister and doctor of medicine, possesses an armoury of skills that equip him as the first scientifically plausible "forensic" detective. R. Austin Freeman, his creator, was himself a medic with an extensive knowledge of forensic medicine, and the solutions to the puzzles are completely plausible. In fact the scientific detail and authenticity of Thorndyke's investigations go much further than anything in the Holmes stories, though Freeman was happy to acknowledge his debt to Arthur Conan Doyle:

"A fellow doctor, Conan Doyle, had made a brilliant and well-deserved success by the creation of the immortal Sherlock Holmes. Considering that achievement, I asked myself whether it might not be possible to devise a detective story of a slightly different kind; one based on the science of Medical Jurisprudence, in which, by the sacrifice of a certain amount of dramatic effect, one could keep entirely within the facts of real life, with nothing fictitious excepting the persons and the events. I came to the conclusion that it was, and began to turn the idea over in my mind."

Thorndyke's work-life stretches over four decades from the early 1900s until the Second World War, a period during which Freeman wrote more than 20 novels and several collections of short stories, from which the six in this series are selected. The reader William Gaminara is best known as pathologist Leo Dalton in the BBC's long-running series 'Silent Witness'.

Producer: John Taylor
Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra by Fiction Factory and first broadcast in 2013.

FRI 06:30 Bandits of the Blitz (b00tmtj8)
With Britain at war and London under siege from the Luftwaffe, everyone's pulling together. Or are they? Whilst bombs rained down and long-suffering Brits helped each other, some people were simply helping themselves - stealing, looting, and making money on the black market.

The Second World War created vast opportunities for crime. Warehouses were robbed, army stores rifled and forgers kept busy providing false identity documents, ration books and clothing coupons. Looters, stealing anything of value, cleaned out blitzed houses.

The blackout and bombing provided perfect cover for safe

cracking and Post Office raids. Professional criminals thrived. People like Billy Hill, who despite prison terms used his wartime muscle to become, in his words, "Boss of Britain's Underworld".

Complex emergency rules left normally-law-abiding citizens facing the courts. Shopkeepers who fell foul of the tangle of red tape faced heavy fines.

Even as the war ended, rationing continued, and the black market flourished. Presenter Duncan Campbell unearths once-secret papers that put Billy Hill at the centre of London's organized crime in the 1950s.

Using archive accounts and talking to people who were there, Campbell tells the tale of crime on the home front. With interviews from Billy Hill's son, Justin Hill, former jewel thief Peter Scott, veteran ex police officers, and historians and academics.

Presenter Duncan Campbell is a former crime correspondent for the Guardian.

Producer: Liz Carney

A Juniper production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in 2010.
FRI 07:00 1834 (b011vffj)

London

Trapped in 19th-century Macclesfield, bored 21st-century Jason heads to London, but is waylaid by a mint-popping highwayman...

In Jim Poyser's riotous comedy of transportation and delight, Jason is now Tarquin, third son of Lord Belport with faithful valet, Ned.

Jason Slater Michael Begley

Ned Joe Caffrey

Hoskins Kenneth Alan Taylor

Lord Belport Mark Chatterton

Millicent Julia Rounthwaite

Henry James Nickerson

Highwayman Toby Hadoke

Duke of Cranmere John Craig

Directed at BBC Manchester by Polly Thomas.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2003.

FRI 07:30 So Wrong It's Right (b01j5nws)

Series 3

Episode 3

Charlie Brooker hosts the comedy panel show about the wrong side of life. Guests Father Ted and IT Crowd writer Graham Linehan, comedian Matthew Crosby and Sony-award winning podcaster Helen Zaltzman compete to suggest the best in bad ideas.

So Wrong It's Right sees Charlie ask three guests a number of questions testing their powers of creativity and revealing the best embarrassing stories from their lives. This week, the panel's worst experiences with a stranger and the best ideas for the worst new gadget are just two of the challenges faced by the panel.

Can anyone top Helen's nomination for most annoying modern irritant, 'constructed reality TV'? And will anyone beat Graham Linehan's suggestion for a terrible new gadget, the 'exciting ladder'?

The host of So Wrong It's Right, Charlie Brooker, also presents BBC4's acclaimed Newswipe and Screenwipe series, and is an award winning columnist for The Guardian. He also won Best Newcomer at the British Comedy Awards 2009.

Produced by Aled Evans

A Zeppotron Production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 08:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b0090xjy)

Series 6

The Picnic

Bill, Sid and The Lad Himself eat al fresco to impress their dates from the local Palais.

Starring Tony Hancock.

With Sidney James, Bill Kerr, Patricia Hayes, Ann Lancaster, Elizabeth Fraser and Wilfred Brabbage.

Written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.

Theme and incidental music written by Wally Stott.

Producer: Tom Ronald

First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in October 1959.

FRI 08:30 The Goon Show (b018jjzf)

Series 6

The House of Teeth

Neddie investigates a dastardly denture-stealing plan. But who wants them and why? With Valentine Dyall. From January 1956.

FRI 09:00 The 3rd Degree (b01fhrjh)

Series 2

Queen Mary, University of London

Coming this week from Queen Mary, University of London, "The 3rd Degree" is a funny, lively and dynamic quiz show aimed at cultivating the next generation of Radio 4 listeners whilst delighting the current ones. It's recorded on location at a different University each week, and it pits three

Undergraduates against three of their Professors in a genuinely original and fresh take on an academic quiz. Being a Radio 4 programme, it of course meets the most stringent standards of academic rigour - but with lots of facts and jokes thrown in for good measure.

Together with host Steve Punt, the show tours the (sometimes posh, sometimes murky, but always welcoming!) Union buildings, cafés and lecture halls of six universities across the UK.

The rounds vary between Specialist Subjects and General Knowledge, quickfire bell-and-buzzer rounds and the

'Highbrow & Lowbrow' round cunningly devised to test not only the students' knowledge of current affairs, history, languages and science, but also their Professors' awareness of television, film, and Lady Gaga... In addition, the Head-to-Head rounds, in which students take on their Professors in their own subjects, were particularly lively, and offered plenty of scope for mild embarrassment on both sides...

The resulting show is funny, fresh, and not a little bit surprising, with a truly varied range of scores, friendly rivalry, and moments where students wished they had more than just glanced at that reading list...

Producer: David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 09:30 Albert and Me (b0480vfp)

Series 2

Casual Labour

Single dad Bryan is sacked and advertises for work in a local shop window.

Stars Robert Lindsay and Pat Coombs.

Single dad Bryan Archer struggles to find work while raising his baby son, Albert.

Bryan Archer Robert Lindsay

Mum/Albert Pat Coombs

Mrs Willis Diana King

Fred Harry Fowler

Vikkie Sherrie Hewson

Mr Graham Douglas Blackwell

Mrs Weston Frances Jeater

Amateur Photographer John Tordoff.

Incidental music by Matt Harris.

Producer: John Fawcett Wilson

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in April 1983.

FRI 10:00 Charles Dickens (b01b3fqd)

Little Dorrit

Episode 5

After her father's death Little Dorrit is still in Italy when the newly-married Fanny has a strange visit from Mr Merdle.

Arthur is struck by disaster and Mrs Clennam is forced to reveal the family secret at last.

Conclusion of Charles Dickens's masterpiece of social satire and imprisonment.

Starring Sir Ian McKellen as Charles Dickens.

Recorded on location in London.

Charles Dickens Ian McKellen

Arthur Clennam Julian Wadham

Mrs Clennam Margaret Tyzack

Little Dorrit Jasmine Hyde

Fanny Dorrit Indira Varma

John Chivery Ben Crowe

Flintwinch Ioan Meredith

Mr Pancks Philip Joseph

Mr Doyce Jonathan Keeble

Mr Merdle Kenneth Cranham

Chivery Gordon Reid

Dramatised by Doug Lucie.

Music by Mia Soteriou

Director: Janet Whitaker

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2001.

FRI 11:00 Afternoon Reading (b00yb2s6)

Womanly Wiles

Mrs Windermere

Elizabeth Bowen's mysterious story of power and control - as compelling today as when written in 1925.

Two women - one young, one older - come face to face in the doorway of a Regent Street restaurant. The older woman, Mrs Windermere, grasps Esme's wrists, draws them towards her bosom, and cries in her deep tremolo, 'My dear!' She regards the younger woman with a strange intensity and gently massages the wrists with her thumbs. Unsettling! These two have previously met in Italy.

But there's something decidedly odd about Mrs Windermere - her effect on Esme is almost hypnotic. They take a table upstairs and soon Mrs Windermere is discussing Esme's marriage, and suggesting some surprising changes to her marital status quo. The young woman finds herself being unwillingly drawn in to something peculiar and distasteful. But can she escape the clutches of this strangely controlling personality?

Reader: Sarah Badel

Producer/Director: Martin Jarvis

A Jarvis & Ayres Production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 11:15 Drama (b00xpp21)

Jerome Vincent - Ciao Bella!

Written by Jerome Vincent.

Eleanor Bron plays Nonna Grazia, and Cherie Lunghi, plays her daughter, Theresa, in Jerome Vincent's play set in and around an Italian delicatessen in Brighton.

The action turns around the fate of the deli following the death of Theresa's husband, Carlo - who had worked hard to build up his business and stop it falling into the hands of Salvatore Iaquina, the owner of a chain of cheap Italian coffee shops. Sal is smooth, ruthless and good-looking; and he's after Theresa, as well as her shop.

But in steps Theresa's daughter, Toni - recently made redundant from a high-powered job in the City - who decides to put her business acumen to good use and drag the deli into the 21st century, while making sure it still retains the old world charm and wonderful food, the customers love.

Toni's grandmother, Nonna Grazia, is a fiery old woman who was once a child-partisan in the hills around Benevento, and

fought the Germans during the war, even though she was only 13. As well as handing out advice to all and sundry (whether they want it or not!) she's also a fantastic cook. In one scene of the play she cooks a garlic and pasta dish guaranteed to have listeners licking their lips!

Throughout the production we use specially recorded Italian popular music, performed by cousin Immacolata (played by Rita Ullo). Based on the real-life experiences of the writer's extended, deli-owning family, the play is rich in detail and humour - and the very distinct aural flavour of the Italian community in Britain.

Cast:

Nonna Eleanor Bron

Theresa Cherie Lunghi

Salvatore / Kiriakov Richard Attlee

Toni Alison Pettit

Nino / Fiorello Gunnar Cauchery

Emilio Adrian Grove

Aldo / Carlo John Evitts

Immacolata Rita Ullo

Guitarist: Paolo Vanoncini

Producer/Director: David Blount

A Pier production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 12:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b0090xjy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 12:30 The Goon Show (b018jjzf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 13:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r7bhp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 13:30 Bandits of the Blitz (b00tmtj8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

FRI 14:00 Donna Tartt - The Secret History (b03q9ng3)

Episode 15

Richard has been shot and, as events escalate, not everyone will get out alive. Donna Tartt thriller concluded by William Hope. From April 1995.

FRI 14:15 Incarnations: India in 50 Lives (b05vhh4d)

Basavana: A Voice in the Air

A portrait of Basavana, the radical poet and religious guru from the 12th century, whose words have inspired many other Indian poets, writers and dramatists. Professor Sunil Khilnani tells the story of a man whose deceptively simple verses protest against the immorality of the caste system and proclaim the intrinsic value of people who happen to be born poor. "His verses ... are what best explain him. They have a directness that reveals to us a free thinker, social reformer and religious evangelist who sometimes struggled to resist worldly temptations," says Professor Khilnani. Basavana was an inspiration to his followers yet his life came to a bitter end. His teachings are kept alive by a substantial religious community called the Lingayats who are concentrated in Northern Karnataka.

Produced by Mark Savage

Researcher: Manu Pillai

Readings by Sagar Arya

Listeners can catch up with the series and see the list of remarkable Indians featured on the Radio 4 website.

FRI 14:30 Stan Barstow - A Raging Calm (b00767g1)

Episode 5

Can Andrea and married Philip manage to keep their affair secret?

Stan Barstow's gritty double love story set in Yorkshire in the 1960s, dramatised by his partner Diana Griffiths.

Agnes.....Naomi Radcliffe

Andrea.....Deborah Meandrew

Philip.....Robert Glenister

Landlord.....Geoff Hinliff

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

FRI 14:45 Rukhsana Ahmad - Freedom's Daughter (b007jybp)

Episode 5

Nehru is released from jail, while Indira Gandhi's political views are developing. Read by Nina Wadia. and Paul Bhattacharjee.

FRI 15:00 Charles Dickens (b01b3fqd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

FRI 16:00 The 3rd Degree (b01fhrjh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

FRI 16:30 Albert and Me (b0480vfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

FRI 17:00 1834 (b011vffj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

FRI 17:30 So Wrong It's Right (b01j5nws)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 18:00 The Laxian Key (b007k30w)

Episode 4

Evans the Welsh vigilante aims to senselessly bomb the planetary decontaminationists for melting Earth. Stephen Hawking once warned us that our species could soon be wiped out by plagues, asteroids and our tendency to destroy ourselves. The solution, he suggested, was for us to colonise other planets. But Chris Lerner and David Gilbert's sci-fi comedy sees the truth as a little more complicated.

The Laxian Key shows how, as soon as Man steps onto another planet, he promptly fouls it up just as he did earth. The heroes of this wonderfully wacky tale are two interplanetary decontaminationists.

CAST:

Arnold Chris Lerner
 Gregor Mark Bonner
 Evan Trevor Cooper
 Office Alex Lowe
 Ferngraum Sam Dale
 Jo Christine Kavanagh
 Dolores Virge Gilchrist
 Virtual Newsreader Bethan Walker
 with Paul Biggin, Emma Noakes and Joseph Kloska
 Music by Mark Stevens and Chris Lerner
 Producer: Peter Kavanagh
 Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra and first broadcast in February 2007.

FRI 18:30 Soul Music (b0076m94)
 Series 4
 Stand By Me
 Singer-songwriter Ben E King talks about writing the classic song in his bedroom on a cheap guitar.
 It was recorded by Marc Bolan and John Lennon, and was featured in a film.
 Those reflecting on its lasting emotional power are:
 Raynold Gideon
 Bruce Evans
 Jason Toynbee
 Steve Brosnihan
 Alan Clayson
 Reader: Kerry Shale
 Series about music that makes the hairs stand up on the back of our necks.
 Producer: Lucy Lunt
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2004.

FRI 19:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b0090xjy)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]
FRI 19:30 The Goon Show (b018jjzf)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
FRI 20:00 R Austin Freeman - Thorndyke, Forensic Investigator (b01r7bhp)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
FRI 20:30 Bandits of the Blitz (b00tmtj8)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]
FRI 21:00 Afternoon Reading (b00yb2s6)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]
FRI 21:15 Drama (b00xpp21)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]
FRI 22:00 So Wrong It's Right (b01jj5nws)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
FRI 22:30 Absolute Power (b007wwf1)
 Series 3
 Episode 1
 Prentiss McCabe's government retainer is under threat from a difficult and complicated task, which Martin so decorously puts it as "poking one right up the prime minister".
 Whilst Martin is enthused with the challenge, Charles is torn and admits to quite liking the PM.
 Stephen Fry and John Bird star in Mark Tavener's biting satire.
 Charles Prentiss and Martin McCabe return as spin masters in the world of government and media relations.
 Charles Prentiss Stephen Fry
 Martin McCabe John Bird
 With:
 Tony Gardner
 Siobhan Hayes
 Tom George
 David Timpson
 Music by Matthew Scott
 Producer: Dawn Ellis
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2002.

FRI 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b070es54)
 The best in contemporary comedy. Tonight Arthur Smith chats to 'Beasts'.
FRI 23:00 Meet David Sedaris (b03jysr6)
 Series 4
 Episode 1
 One of the world's funniest storytellers is back on BBC Radio 4 doing what he does best.
 There are two stories, this week: "The Happy Place", dealing with the ups and downs of a colonoscopy; and "The Shadow of Your Smile", about how the right lighting can make us all look good.
 Producer: Steve Doherty
 A Giddy Goat production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 23:30 Hard to Tell (b016ldt6)
 Series 1
 Episode 4
 Hard To Tell is a four part relationship comedy by Jonny Sweet (Edinburgh Comedy Award for Best Newcomer 2009), who conjures up characters depicting every relationship from father and daughter to the mirror in the bathroom and the feller hiding at a party; from the stalker and the stalked to dog owners and their dogs; and from lifelong friends to long term partners and their dearly departed.
 In episode 4, Tom's loyalty is tested to the full when he's forced to choose between supporting Ellen as a bridesmaid or indulging in an uninterrupted TV marathon of Jonathan Creek, season 2.
 Producer: Lucy Armitage
 A Tiger Aspect production for BBC Radio 4.