

SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER 2016

SAT 00:00 Doctor Who (b0864fk0)

Demon Quest, A Shard of Ice, part 1
The Doctor is reunited with Captain Yates, as they search for the lost TARDIS components in 1847 Germany. Stars Tom Baker.

SAT 00:30 Soul Music (b03m79cq)

Series 17, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
Soul Music tells the story of the song, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, and talks to people for whom it has special meaning.

'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas', was first performed by Judy Garland in the 1944 MGM musical Meet Me In St Louis', for the now famous scene in which Garland and her seven year old sister, played by Margaret O'Brien are downcast about the prospect of moving away from their beloved home.

Garland asked the composer, Hugh Martin to modify his original lyric, explaining it to be too depressing for her to sing, or the audience to hear.

Martin's collaborator and friend, John Fricke, explains the importance this song had for the composer and the joy he experienced in hearing it covered by every major artist since, from Frank Sinatra to Chrissie Hynde. Punk band Fear to Cold Play, Rod Stewart to James Taylor.

It's clear that the song's enduring power lies in a beautiful melody with a melancholic feel that sums up our emotional ambivalence to the Christmas season. We hear from those who have a special connection to the song.

Producer Lucy Lunt.

SAT 01:00 Johan Theorin - The Darkest Room (b01b12mf)

Episode 5

As a harsh blizzard descends, Thilda must face a desperate gun battle. Swedish supernatural thriller concluded by Nigel Cooke.

SAT 01:30 Crib City (b0076pna)

Susannah Clapp investigates Naples's claim to be the home of the Christmas crib. The Italian city has been making miniature model holy stables for centuries with great craftsmanship and the tradition has continued to the present day. She visits the great churches of the city where spectacular cribs are on show and mingles with Christmas shoppers down the city centre street of crib makers to explore the survival of this true folk art.

SAT 02:00 Rhys Davies Competition Winners (b01pf5v0)

Supper

Supper by Linda Ruhemann. It's Christmas Eve and a woman begins to decorate a very empty house. The kids have left home and she's facing the prospect of her first Christmas alone.

However, she's expecting an unusual guest for supper: Her ex-husband. Runner-up in the Welsh short story contest.

Read by Sharon Morgan

Directed by James Robinson

A BBC Cymru Wales Production.

SAT 02:15 Disneyfied (b00765wv)

Jungle Book

Phill Jupitus claims it is the greatest movie ever made. But did Disney make real monkeys disappointing by comparison? From November 2001.

SAT 02:30 Charles Dickens (b00x544m)

A House to Let, Episode 5

The derelict house finally reveals its sad secrets, but Trotter is determined to make it a happy ending. Stars Marcia Warren.

SAT 02:45 Nabokov's Christmas (b01pfy5p)

by Vladimir Nabokov.

An intensely moving short story about a father mourning the death of his son. On Christmas Eve, a grieving father moves around the family home gathering together some of his son's effects. This leads him to discover things that he did not know about his beloved son and also to find something among his belongings that will renew his will to live.

Vladimir Nabokov was born in St. Petersburg in 1899, the eldest son of an aristocratic family. Nabokov is arguably most famous for his 1955 novel LOLITA.

Read by Robert Glenister.

Produced by Gaynor Macfarlane.

SAT 03:00 Mystery Theater (b063jxt)

Lifeboat: Tallulah Bankhead

Legendary hard-living actress Tallulah Bankhead reprises her role as Constance 'Connie' Porter in Alfred Hitchcock's 1944 film Lifeboat for this NBC radio adaptation.

Introduced by Alfred Hitchcock.

July 1943: Connie is a glamorous foreign correspondent aboard a lifeboat alone in the middle of the Atlantic, after the freighter ship SS Argo was torpedoed by a Nazi submarine. She soon rescues John Kovak from the ship's engine room (Jeff Chandler) and sparks fly between the couple as they pick up other survivors - including a Nazi seaman from the enemy U-boat.

Presented by NBC's Screen Directors' Playhouse on November 16th 1950, the film's director Alfred Hitchcock briefly explains how he made the movie - based on a story by John Steinbeck.

Adapted for radio by Jack Ruben

Announcer: Jimmy Wallington

Produced by Howard Wiley and directed by Bill Cairn.

First broadcast in the USA on NBC in 1950.

SAT 03:50 Desert Island Discs Revisited (b063jkdz)

Tallulah Bankhead

Hollywood star Tallulah Bankhead speaks frankly to Roy

Plomley about how hopeless she'd be on a desert island.

Revealing how very lazy she is, Tallulah recalls some of her

many performances on stage in London.

The only surviving extract from the first broadcast in December 1964.

SAT 04:00 The Museum of Curiosity (b03df00b)

Series 6, Herring, Lippincott, Clemente

This week, the Professor of Ignorance John Lloyd and his curator Humphrey Ker welcome the art historian and former director of the Greenwich Observatory Dr Kristin Lippincott; comedian, chat show host and blogger Richard Herring and animal locomotion expert Dr Christofer Clemente. Topics for illumination include Time, inspiration, writer's block, sticky ants' feet, Russia's Greatest Love Machine lizards doing wheelies and the most controversial moustache in history.

The show was researched by James Harkin, Molly Oldfield and Stevyn Colgan of QI.

The producers were Richard Turner and Dan Schreiber.

SAT 04:30 The Phenomenon Squad (b0864fjv)

Episode 5

Brabazon's cops prepare to greet an alien craft due to land on Salisbury Plain. Stars Roy Kinnear and Simon Cadell. From October 1987.

SAT 05:00 Second Thoughts (b007jzst)

The Fight Before Christmas

Faith's children and Bill's ex-wife threaten her dream of a perfect Christmas. Stars Lynda Bellingham. From December 1992.

SAT 05:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b08579m6)

Series 8, The Scam

As Christmas approaches and Arthur attempts to engineer his Christmas scotch from Secret Santa, he bumps into an old friend from his Army Days. Will Arthur be persuaded to be involved in an investment scheme?

All false starts and nervous fumbling badly covered up by a delicate sheen of bravado and self-assurance, an expert in everything from the world of entertainment to the origin of the species, everyday life with Arthur is an enlightening, sometimes frustrating, never dull experience.

Count Arthur Strong is supported in the Christmas special by his Radio Repertory Company (like the RSC only better) - Alastair Kerr, Dave Mounfield and Mel Giedroyc.

Steve Delaney has been performing as Count Arthur Strong since the late 90s. In the last 15 years the character has evolved from Edinburgh cult to a mainstay of BBC comedy, with seven series on BBC Radio 4, and a TV sitcom that has stepped from BBC2 to BBC1 and will return for a third series in 2017.

A Komedia Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 06:00 King Lear on Boxing Day (b007728h)

On Boxing Day 1606, the entertainment offered to King James I and his guests at Whitehall Palace was a new play by William Shakespeare - King Lear.

Four hundred years on, Francine Stock and a studio full of guests, including actors Fiona Shaw and Oliver Ford Davis; scholars Jonathan Bate, Richard Dutton, Brett Dolman and Tiffany Stern; food historian Ivan Day and musicians Passamezzo (along with some distinguished contributors from the BBC Archives), bring to life every aspect of that momentous opening night.

SAT 07:30 Letters to Father Christmas (b00765hw)

Carole Boyd explores the tradition of writing letters to Father Christmas, featuring some by Dickens and Tolkien. From December 2001.

SAT 08:00 Archive on 4 (b0076ppm)

Sing Christmas

4 Extra Debut. The memories of those involved in the BBC's 1957 groundbreaking hour-long live Christmas Day broadcast from around the country.

SAT 09:00 The Meow Show With Ed Reardon And Elgar (b0868bq0)

The 12-year-olds at Radio 4 Extra insist that Ed Reardon's feline companion Elgar joins him to co-present programmes about cats from the BBC radio archives.

SAT 12:00 Victoria Wood As NOT Seen on TV (b0868bq4)

With rare BBC radio clips of the much-loved entertainer, Maxine Peake remembers friend and Dinnerladies co-star, Victoria Wood.

SAT 13:00 Northanger Abbey Omnibus (b0868bq6)

Episode 1

Entering society, Catherine imagines danger in every encounter with comic results. Gothic novel satire with Miriam Margolyes.

SAT 14:10 Inheritance Tracks (b0868cjq)

Paddy Ashdown

Former MP and diplomat Paddy Ashdown chooses 'The Parting Glass' by The Dubliners and 'Beim Schlafengehen' by Richard Strauss.

SAT 14:15 Down Your Way (b0868cjs)

Malcolm Bradbury in Beverley

4 Extra Debut. Academic and novelist Malcolm Bradbury returns to where he first taught, back in the East Riding of Yorkshire. From March 1990.

SAT 15:00 Archive on 4 (b0076ppm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SAT 16:00 King Lear on Boxing Day (b007728h)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SAT 17:30 Letters to Father Christmas (b00765hw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SAT 18:00 Anton Chekov - A Dreadful Night (b0868d54)

4 Extra Debut. Returning home from a seance one Christmas Eve, Ivan Spektroff is horrified by what is waiting for him. Read by Alex McCowen.

SAT 18:15 Harry Towb - A Candle for Casey (b0076jdw)

4 Extra Debut. An elderly Jewish man is haunted by his old Irish

pal who wants his help to get into Heaven. Christmas tale with Henry Goodman.

SAT 19:00 The Meow Show With Ed Reardon And Elgar (b0868bq0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SAT 22:00 My Teenage Diary (b0117wtr)

Series 4, Julia Donaldson

Another brave celebrity revisits their formative years by opening up their intimate teenage diaries, and reading them out in public for the very first time.

This week, comedian Rufus Hound is joined by the author of The Gruffalo, Julia Donaldson. Donaldson's diaries are a vivid account of her obsession with Mick Jagger and the lengths she went to in order to meet the elusive Rolling Stone.

Producer: Harriet Jaime

A Talkback production for BBC Radio 4.

SAT 22:30 Revolting People (b007jrx3)

Series 1, Even More Storm Clouds

Samuel's crooked brother lures Joshua into fighting the 'Cockney Monster'. 1770 America sitcom stars Andy Hamilton. From February 2000.

SAT 23:00 The Mary Whitehouse Experience (b007jpp5)

From 17/02/1990

Nice or nastiness? What is embarrassing? Stars David Baddiel, Rob Newman, Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis. From February 1990.

SAT 23:30 4 at the Store (b007jw7y)

Series 2, Episode 1

Simon Bligh hosts a Christmas flavoured stand-up comedy show, with Luke Ponte, Mitch Benn and Ian Moore. From December 2001.

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER 2016

SUN 00:00 Anton Chekov - A Dreadful Night (b0868d54)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Saturday]

SUN 00:15 Harry Towb - A Candle for Casey (b0076jdw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Saturday]

SUN 01:00 Northanger Abbey Omnibus (b0868bq6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 13:00 on Saturday]

SUN 02:10 Inheritance Tracks (b0868cjq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:10 on Saturday]

SUN 02:15 Down Your Way (b0868cjs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Saturday]

SUN 03:00 Archive on 4 (b0076ppm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 on Saturday]

SUN 04:00 King Lear on Boxing Day (b007728h)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Saturday]

SUN 05:30 Letters to Father Christmas (b00765hw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Saturday]

SUN 06:00 Charles Dickens (b00x544m)

A House to Let, Omnibus

Charles Dickens, Wilkie Collins and Elizabeth Gaskell's tale of a woman worried about a derelict house. Stars Marcia Warren. Omnibus edition.

SUN 07:15 Completely Crackers (b00pd389)

Episode 2

Linda Smith concludes her panoramic investigation with a visit to the World Cracker Pulling extravaganza. From December 2001.

SUN 07:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b06sbpn3)

Christmas 2015

Christmas creeps up on Arthur, leaving him little time to plan his festive arrangements.

Count Arthur Strong - one time Variety Star, now sole proprietor and owner of Doncaster's Academy of Performance - is a show business legend, raconteur, and lecturer extraordinaire. In this one off episode, the sudden arrival of Christmas ("We've only just celebrated Easter!") surprises Arthur. Could the lack of seasonal planning possibly see Arthur miss out on his Turkey?

All false starts and nervous fumbling badly covered up by a delicate sheen of bravado and self-assurance, and an expert in everything from the world of entertainment to the origin of the species, everyday life with Arthur is an enlightening, sometimes frustrating, never dull experience.

Count Arthur Strong is supported in the Christmas special by his Radio Repertory Company (like the RSC only better) - Alastair Kerr, Dave Mounfield and Mel Giedroyc.

Steve Delaney has been performing as Count Arthur Strong since the late 90s. In the last fifteen years the character has stepped from Edinburgh cult to mainstay of BBC Comedy, with seven series on BBC Radio 4, and a TV sitcom that has stepped from BBC2 to BBC1 and will return for a third series in 2016.

A Komedia Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 08:00 Take It From Here (b01dhkjr)

From 21/05/1958

A warring pantomime horse trots on, while Ron Glum's love for Eth is tested on a night out. Stars Jimmy Edwards. From May 1958.

SUN 08:30 The Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise Show (b0868hh6)

Christmas Radio Show

Eric and Ernie invite Ann Hamilton over for Christmas dinner - with mistletoe, plus a song from Vince Hill. From December

1977.

SUN 09:00 Madeleine Bunting - Love of Country: Omnibus (b086810q)

A journey into the history and landscapes of the Hebrides and how these islands have shaped Britain. Read by Doon Mackichan.

SUN 10:10 Inheritance Tracks (b086810t)

Alexandra Shulman

Vogue's editor Alexandra Shulman chooses 'Ladies who Lunch' by Elaine Stritch and Stevie Wonder's 'Blowin' in the Wind'.

SUN 10:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (b086810w)

Absent Friends, Victoria Wood

From The Doobie Brothers to Tom Waits, comedy star Victoria Wood makes her castaway choices. With Kirsty Young. From December 2007.

SUN 11:00 The Moth Radio Hour (b08581mx)

Series 4, All about Moms: Babies, Bees, Concerts and Contacts True stories told live in the USA. True stories told live in the USA. Catherine Burns introduces stories about motherhood, from the challenges to the joys.

SUN 11:55 Just So Stories (b0471k7w)

Series 2, The Sing Song of Old Man Kangaroo

Samuel West reads Kipling's fantastical tale of the kangaroo who was chased all over Australia by a dingo and found his hop.

SUN 12:00 Take It From Here (b01dnhkr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SUN 12:30 The Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise Show (b0868hh6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

SUN 13:00 Charles Dickens (b00x8c60)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SUN 14:15 Completely Crackers (b00pd389)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 today]

SUN 14:30 The Story of Alice (b05qz61)

Omnibus. Lewis Carroll began his fairy-tale about Alice on an 1862 river trip. Robert Douglas-Fairhurst probes the complex history.

SUN 15:45 John Burnside - A Snowman on the Old Perth Road (b0075f09)

4 Extra Debut. 'I couldn't help thinking later that I was to blame.' A childhood prank leaves lifelong scars. Read by John Gordon Sinclair.

SUN 16:00 Saturday Drama (b01hw3zk)

David Spicer - Kind Hearts and Coronets: Like Father, Like Daughter

Natalie Walter is pursuing a title and Alistair McGowan plays the seven members of a family standing in her way in a sequel to the famous Edwardian comedy by Roy Horniman.

The action of this new radio sequel to a classic comedy takes place some years after the death of the 10th Earl of Chalfont, a man who has systematically murdered his family in order to inherit his title. The twentieth century rolls on and even against a backdrop of international conflict and revolution, an Earldom is still not to be sniffed at apparently. It is rather to be fought for by fair means and foul. There are at least eight claimants to the Chalfont title, all of them ruthless. The Gascoyne family is a big one, its sense of entitlement enormous, its appetite for violence impressive and the family resemblance at times uncanny. A fresh modern take on a great comic plot, this Saturday Play draws both on the Edwardian novel 'Israel Rank' by Roy Horniman for inspiration. David Spicer's entirely new version of this brilliantly simple story has something to offer both those who know the original and those who come to it for the first time.

Written by David Spicer

Producer: Frank Stirling

A Unique production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 17:00 Poetry Extra (b087bflks)

Paul Durcan - Christmas Day 3/3

Poet-in-Residence Daljit Nagra selects the final part of Paul Durcan's reading of his poem 'Christmas Day'. From 1997.

SUN 17:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b06sbpn3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 18:00 Flora Robson in Christmas Meeting (b0868pcd)

4 Extra Debut. 'If one has always been part of a family, the first Christmas alone is rather terrible'. Rosemary Timperley's story. From December 1963.

SUN 18:15 Jerome K Jerome - After Supper Ghost Stories (b0868pcg)

4 Extra Debut. Christmas Eve 1891. Tooting: Whisky-punch and toasted lobsters aren't the only frights on the menu. Stars Dinsdale Lenden.

SUN 19:00 The Moth Radio Hour (b08581mx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

SUN 19:55 Just So Stories (b0471k7w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:55 today]

SUN 20:00 Madeleine Bunting - Love of Country: Omnibus (b086810q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SUN 21:10 Inheritance Tracks (b086810t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:10 today]

SUN 21:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (b086810w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:15 today]

SUN 22:00 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b06sbpn3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 22:30 Innes Own World (b0170r0p)

Episode 1

Famed for The Rutles and The Bonzo Dog Band, Neil Innes ruminates wryly on the nature of civilisation. From January 2003.

SUN 23:00 Cabin Pressure (b00cb5k4)

Series 1, Abu Dhabi

Sitcom about the pilots of a tiny charter airline for whom no job is too small and many jobs are too difficult.

The town of Bristol, a cat and a thermostat combine to present

Martin with a career-breaking crisis.

Carolyn Knapp-Shappey Stephanie Cole

First Officer Douglas Richardson Roger Allam

Capt Martin Crieff Benedict Cumberbatch

Arthur Shappey John Finnemore

ATC Fitton Ewen MacIntosh

Written by John Finnemore.

SUN 23:30 Old Harry's Game (b007jzzh)

Christmas Special 2002, The Roll of the Dice

The saintly Hope Fraser arrives in Hell, throwing Satan into confusion. Devilish comedy stars Andy Hamilton and James Grouit. From December 2002.

MONDAY 26 DECEMBER 2016

MON 00:00 Flora Robson in Christmas Meeting (b0868pcd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Sunday]

MON 00:15 Jerome K Jerome - After Supper Ghost Stories (b0868pcg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Sunday]

MON 01:00 Charles Dickens (b00x8c60)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Sunday]

MON 02:15 Completely Crackers (b00pd389)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 on Sunday]

MON 02:30 The Story of Alice (b05qz61)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Sunday]

MON 03:45 John Burnside - A Snowman on the Old Perth Road (b0075f09)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Sunday]

MON 04:00 Saturday Drama (b01hw3zk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:00 Poetry Extra (b087bflks)

[Repeat of broadcast at 17:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b06sbpn3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Sunday]

MON 06:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01pftbl)

Rick Comes to Stay

Wisha, wisha, wisha.

Playfulness, soundscape and oddity above the rustling leaves of Blyton's Magic Faraway Tree.

In the centre of the Enchanted Wood is the Faraway Tree. Home to Moonface, Silky and Saucepan Man; its upper branches stretch into cloud-hosted dimensions of strange and magical lands. In this two-part abridged adaptation of Enid Blyton's classic children's tale, BBC Radio 4 swoops voices from the world of entertainment into the mystical lands above.

Featuring Johnny Vegas as Moonface, Nigel Planer as Saucepan and Lucy Beaumont (Winner of the BBC's New Comedy Awards 2012) as Silky.

Episode 1 of 2: Rick Comes to Stay

Cast:

Narrator.....Ronni Ancona

Rick.....Billy Kennedy

Joe.....Alex Clarke

Frannie.....Nell Tiger Free

Beth.....Tess Fontaine

Moonface.....Johnny Vegas

Silky.....Lucy Beaumont

Saucepan.....Nigel Planer

Mother.....Joanna Hall

Angry Pixie.....Wayne Forester

Written by Enid Blyton

Adapted for radio by Andrew Lynch

Music composed and arranged by Phase Music

Directed by Johnny Vegas

Produced by Sally Harrison

A Woollyback Production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 06:30 Beatles Christmas (b018g6ws)

Show business enjoys a cosy relationship with Christmas and as we hear The Fab Four responded with a wealth of festive fan club recordings, appeared in panto and (later) their Boxing Day TV film 'Magic Mystery Tour'. 'Beatle Christmas' hears the best of their rare Christmas message recordings revealing a refreshing sense of fun that helped set the Fab Four apart.

Presenter Alexei Sayle explores how their fan club messages were recorded with comments from the man who wrote the scripts Beatle publicist Tony Barrow. The fan club recordings are featured and reflect the changing stages of the Beatles career and creativity. The programme also reveals the Beatles played two seasons in panto and we hear what was going on back stage.

Christmas 1963 saw The Beatles taking to the stage for 16 shows across the seasonal period and it's surprising they took to wearing pantomime costume so well.

The Beatles did a second spell in panto this time playing 21 shows in London Christmas 64 and the programme has comments from supporting acts, singer Elkie Brooks and Barron Knights guitarist Peter Langford. Time is also devoted to the group's Boxing Day broadcast on BBC 1 for their 'Magical Mystery Tour' film and we hear how the movie was made and scheduled for festive family viewing with comments from the film's editor Roy Benson.

Presenter Alexei Sayle takes us on a remarkable musical journey

through the Christmas recordings of The Beatles.

Producer: John Sugar

A Sugar Production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 07:00 A Whole 'Nother Story (b0076hft)

Series 3, Que Sera Sera

Back from America, Jenny is after Pete. Cassie is burying her head. Who will live happily ever after? Stars Dave Lamb. From October 2003.

MON 07:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (b08578tr)

Series 66, Episode 6

Back for a second week at the Theatre Royal in Bath, regulars Barry Cryer and Tim Brooke-Taylor are joined on the panel by Jeremy Hardy and Jo Brand with Jack Dee in the chair. Piano accompaniment is provided by Colin Sell. Producer - Jon Naismith. It is a BBC Studios production.

MON 08:00 Thank You, Mrs Fothergill (b0868wsf)

'Alice Foster, This Is Your Life'

It's the Annual General Meeting of the Cloughbottom Ladies' Evening Guild. Stars Sheila Hancock and Pat Coombs. From November 1978.

MON 08:30 It Sticks Out Half a Mile (b007jq15)

The Fancy Dress Parade

The pier's costume party is going well, until Pike brings a piano. Dad's Army spin-off stars John Le Mesurier and Ian Lavender. From January 1984.

MON 09:00 Just a Minute (b00pxk23)

Series 56, Episode 3

Nicholas Parsons chairs the devious word game, recorded at Derby University. The panellists are Josie Lawrence, Justin Moorhouse, Tony Hawks and Dave Gorman. Subjects include how to spot a mature student and three ways to pay back your student loan.

MON 09:30 The Change (b0076czk)

Series 2, Episode 4

Maureen becomes embroiled in George's secretive lifestyle. Stars Lynda Bellingham and Chris Ellison. From February 2003.

MON 10:00 Mystery Theater (b0868wvr)

The Adventures of Ellery Queen: One Diamond

4 Extra Debut. 1948: If murder is the fever, who has the cure? Stars Hugh Marlowe. With ABC's guest star Peggy Lee playing armchair detective.

MON 10:30 Soul Music (b0076b92)

Series 3, Fever

Legendary singer Peggy Lee's daughter Nicki Foster talks about her mother's life and her unforgettable hit record. From November 2002.

MON 11:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01p7hdj)

Pomegranate

These three stories by Morven Crumlish, commissioned specially for Radio 4, are inspired by the work of the artist Phoebe Anna Traquair.

Traquair (1852-1936) was born in County Dublin and, in the 1870s, moved to Edinburgh where she would later become a prominent figure in the Scottish Arts and Crafts movement.

Probably her best-known works are the vibrantly-coloured murals in what was formerly the Catholic Apostolic Church in Broughton Street, Edinburgh which Traquair took eight years to complete (1893-1901). When the church fell out of ecclesiastical use, the murals suffered badly through neglect but, following the formation of the Mansfield Traquair Trust, a major restoration was undertaken, completed in 2005.

While art is at the core of all three fictions, Murals also mirrors the evolution of a similar building: from church, to brickyard, to present-day use for visitors and as a venue for events.

1/3. Pomegranate

"With such an enormous task sometimes artistry had to be abandoned in favour of completion." At the top of her ladder, painting her mural, an artist is adding detail to the robes of a priest: "a pomegranate and a bell. And a pomegranate and a bell ..."

Morven Crumlish's stories have been broadcast widely, and she also contributes to the Guardian. Her work has featured in four previous Sweet Talk productions for BBC Radio 4, including Dilemmas of Modern Martyrs - five of her stories - in 2008; and most recently 'Harold Lloyd Is Not The Man Of My Dreams' (Three For My Baby, 2011).

Morven lives in Edinburgh.

Reader: Gillian Kearney

Producer: Jeremy Osborne

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 11:15 Afternoon Drama (b03m7p9z)

Enid Bagnold - National Velvet, Episode 1

Fourteen year old Velvet is mad about horses. She knows 'there are pleasures earlier than love. Earlier than love, nearer heaven' in the form of horses.

When she wins a piebald horse in a raffle, she recognises he's something special. He can easily clear five-foot fences, and he'll do anything for her. Soon, she and butcher's assistant Mi have their sights set on the biggest race in England. But how can a girl in 1930s England get near Aintree?

Peter Flannery rescues National Velvet from Hollywood, returning 14 year old Velvet to her Sussex butcher's family in the 1930s. A welcome return for Enid Bagnold's strange, inventive fairytale about a young amateur girl rider who takes an untrained horse over the stiffest course in the world and wins.

Sound design: Eloise Whitmore

Author: Enid Bagnold

Dramatised by Peter Flannery

Director/Producer: Melanie Harris
Executive Producer: Polly Thomas
A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 12:00 Thank You, Mrs Fothergill (b0868wsf)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 12:30 It Sticks Out Half a Mile (b007jq15)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 13:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01pftbl)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 13:30 Beatles Christmas (b018g6ws)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 14:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00sqf68)
Episode 1
Arriving in desert boom town Izzard, Arizona, sharp-edged tough guy Steve Threefall finds that all is not what it seems. Read by Stuart Milligan.

MON 14:15 The Good Samaritan (b00mk6dn)
Hassan's Story
1. Hassan's story. When a group of Jewish commuters were attacked on the New York subway, a slightly built accountancy student decided it was time to act.
Producer John Byrne.

MON 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnxcb)
Julian Fellowes - Snobs, Episode 1
Satire on English snobbery, adapted from his own novel by Julian Fellowes.
On a visit to the local stately home, middle-class estate agent Edith meets Charles, the extremely eligible Earl.
Narrator Nicholas Farrell
Edith Sophie Roberts
Charles Hugh Bonneville
Lady Uckfield Celia Imrie
Lord Uckfield Richard Mitchley
Isabel Sophie Thompson
David/Eric Rupert Vanisittart
Caroline Caroline Harker
Simon Julian Rhind-Tutt
Bella Bernice Stegers
Singer David Benson.

MON 14:45 Book of the Week (b01jqd3l)
Dear Lupin, Episode 1
The late Sunday Times Racing Correspondent Roger Mortimer wrote to his wayward son Charlie over a period of twenty five years. The correspondence was sometimes touching, often hilarious and always generous. Charlie is publishing this collection as a tribute to a father who never gave up on him despite his frequent disasters and general inability to live up to expectations.
'Initially there were hopes that I would get my house colours at Eton and become an officer in the Coldstream Guards. Ultimately my dad merely hoped that I would avoid "being taken away in a Black Maria" ... As he predicted it is only in later life that I have come to fully appreciate the affection and wisdom imparted by him to me.'
Read by David Horovitch and Nicky Henson.
Abridged and Produced by Jane Marshall
A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

MON 15:00 Mystery Theater (b0868wvj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

MON 15:30 Soul Music (b0076b92)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]

MON 16:00 Just a Minute (b00pxk23)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 16:30 The Change (b0076czk)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

MON 17:00 A Whole 'Nother Story (b0076hft)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

MON 17:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (b08578tr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 18:00 Doctor Who (b086932t)
Demon Quest, A Shard of Ice, part 2
The Doctor and Captain Yates are in 1874 Germany and are confronted by another manifestation of The Demon. Stars Tom Baker.

MON 18:30 A Good Read (b0076dtn)
4 Extra Debut. Rosie Boycott, Aminatta Forna and Tim Healey discuss books by Laura Blumenfeld, Pascal Khoo Thwe and Arthur Japin. From April 2003.

MON 19:00 Thank You, Mrs Fothergill (b0868wsf)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 19:30 It Sticks Out Half a Mile (b007jq15)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 20:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01pftbl)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 20:30 Beatles Christmas (b018g6ws)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 21:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01p7hdj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

MON 21:15 Afternoon Drama (b03m7p9z)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

MON 22:00 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (b08578tr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 22:30 The Lee Mack Show (b00bnnvy)
Tony Hadley
Tony Hadley joins the quick-fire comic for stand-up, sketches and music. With Angela McHale and Trevor Crook. From March 2005.

MON 23:00 Dead Ringers (b085bg02)
Series 17, Episode 1
Topical impressions show that offers a satirical take on politics, media and celebrity.

MON 23:30 Will Smith Presents the Tao of Bergerac (b007wh7j)
Episode 4
Comedian Will Smith is obsessed with 1980s detective series Bergerac, so uses an audio book of its star, John Nettles, reading the Tao, to navigate the minefield of his life with the help of a special guest.
Will wonders how he can defend his machismo when he is scared of his builders.
With Ewan Bailey, John Nettles, Dan Tetsell, Roger Drew and Rachel Bavidge.

TUESDAY 27 DECEMBER 2016

TUE 00:00 Doctor Who (b086932t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Monday]

TUE 00:30 A Good Read (b0076dtn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Monday]

TUE 01:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01pftbl)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Monday]

TUE 01:30 Beatles Christmas (b018g6ws)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00sqf68)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Monday]

TUE 02:15 The Good Samaritan (b00mk6dn)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Monday]

TUE 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnxcb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:45 Book of the Week (b01jqd3l)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Monday]

TUE 03:00 Mystery Theater (b0868wvj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Monday]

TUE 03:30 Soul Music (b0076b92)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Monday]

TUE 04:00 Just a Minute (b00pxk23)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:30 The Change (b0076czk)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Monday]

TUE 05:00 A Whole 'Nother Story (b0076hft)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Monday]

TUE 05:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (b08578tr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Monday]

TUE 06:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01pftbl)
Up the Tree Again
Wisha, wisha.
Playfulness, soundscape and oddity above the rustling leaves of Enid Blyton's Magic Faraway Tree.
In the centre of the Enchanted Wood is the Faraway Tree. Home to Moonface, Silky and Sauceman Man, its upper branches stretch into cloud-hosted dimensions of strange and magical lands.
In this two-part abridged adaptation of Enid Blyton's classic children's tale, BBC Radio 4 swoops voices from the world of entertainment into the mystical lands above.
Featuring Johnny Vegas, as Moonface, Nigel Planer as Sauceman and Lucy Beaumont (Winner of the BBC's New Comedy Awards 2012) as Silky.
Episode 2 of 2: Up The Tree Again
Narrator.....Ronni Ancona
Rick.....Billy Kennedy
Joe.....Alex Clarke
Frannie.....Nell Tiger Free
Beth.....Tess Fontaine
Moonface.....Johnny Vegas
Silky.....Lucy Beaumont
Sauceman.....Nigel Planer
Mother.....Joanna Hall
Mr Changeabout.....Wayne Forester
Additional voices: Joanna Hall and Wayne Forrester
Written by Enid Blyton
Adapted for Radio by Andrew Lynch
Music composed and arranged by Phase Music
Directed by Johnny Vegas
Produced by Sally Harrison
A Woollyback Production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 06:30 Oh Yes I Am (b00765dx)
4 Extra Debut. Why does pantomime still attract the Christmas crowds? Oh yes it does. Mark Ravenhill's history, with Jim Davidson. From December 2001.

TUE 07:00 Dave Sheasby - Sharing Fatman (b0075kyg)
Episode 6
Will the syndicate sell Mr Fatman? Dreams come true at Ascot, and romance blooms. Stars Gerard McDermott. From June 1999.

TUE 07:30 Clare in the Community (b08587nz)
Series 11, You Take the High Road
It's the social work event of the year and Clare Barker is giving the keynote speech; it's the biggest moment of her career.
Provided she can actually get there for it. Back at home Brian and Nali have been taken in by Ray after a barbecue got out of hand. His housekeeping leaves a bit to be desired as far as Nali's concerned.
Sally Phillips is Clare Barker the social worker who has all the

right jargon but never a practical solution.
A control freak, Clare likes nothing better than interfering in other people's lives on both a professional and personal basis. Clare is in her thirties, white, middle class and heterosexual, all of which are occasional causes of discomfort to her.
Each week we join Clare in her continued struggle to control both her professional and private life. In today's Big Society there are plenty of challenges out there for an involved, caring social worker. Or even Clare.
Written by Harry Venning and David Ramsden
Producer Alexandra Smith
A BBC Studios production.

TUE 08:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jlt3)
Series 3, Cuckoo in the Nest
Harold Steptoe is shocked to meet his older half-brother from Australia.
Starring Wilfrid Brambell as Albert and Harry H Corbett as Harold. With Kenneth J Warren as Arthur.
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 man Albert Steptoe and his son Harold and it was the spark for a run of 8 series for TV.
Adapted for radio from Galton and Simpson's TV script by Gale Pedrick.
Produced by Bobby Jaye
First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in April 1971.

TUE 08:30 The Men From the Ministry (b018741f)
Boots
When the men have to find 5,000 boots, No 1's writing proves problematic. With Norma Ronald. Re-recorded in April 1980.

TUE 09:00 Dead Ringers (b085bg02)
[Repeat of broadcast at 23:00 on Monday]

TUE 09:30 Instant Sunshine (b00pf59k)
Seasonably Together Again
Festive fun from the singing quartet of David Barlow, Peter Christie, Miles Kington and Alan Maryon-Davis. From December 1985.

TUE 10:00 Mystery Theater (b086944k)
The Radio Theater: Hostages
4 Extra Debut. 1979: An armed robber takes hostages, blurring the lines between victim and villain. Vincent Price hosts with Virginia Gregg.

TUE 10:40 Mystery Theater (b086961k)
The Third Man: Voodoo
4 Extra Debut. 1951: Con artist Harry Lime recalls a low point arriving in Haiti. Orson Welles reprises his 1949 film role in The Third Man.

TUE 11:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01pcwgs)
Banana Bread
These three stories by Morven Crumlish, commissioned specially for Radio 4, are inspired by the work of the artist Phoebe Anna Traquair.
Traquair (1852-1936) was born in County Dublin and, in the 1870s, moved to Edinburgh where she would later become a prominent figure in the Scottish Arts and Crafts movement.
Probably her best-known works are the vibrantly-coloured murals in what was formerly the Catholic Apostolic Church in Broughton Street, Edinburgh which Traquair took eight years to complete (1893-1901). When the church fell out of ecclesiastical use, the murals suffered badly through neglect but, following the formation of the Mansfield Traquair Trust, a major restoration was undertaken, completed in 2005.
While art is at the core of all three fictions, Murals also mirrors the evolution of a similar building: from church, to brickyard, to present-day use for visitors and as a venue for events.
2/3. Banana Bread
The building has fallen into disuse as a church and is now a warehouse for bricks. A builder uncovers some of the neglected murals and relives the life and death of his lost son.
Morven Crumlish's stories have been broadcast widely, and she also contributes to the Guardian. Her work has featured in four previous Sweet Talk productions for BBC Radio 4, including Dilemmas of Modern Martyrs - five of her stories - in 2008; and most recently 'Harold Lloyd Is Not The Man Of My Dreams' (Three For My Baby, 2011). Morven lives in Edinburgh.
Reader: Mark Bonnar
Producer: Jeremy Osborne
A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 11:15 Afternoon Drama (b03mtfrl)
Enid Bagnold - National Velvet, Episode 2
Fourteen year old Velvet is mad about horses. She knows 'there are pleasures earlier than love. Earlier than love, nearer heaven' in the form of horses.
When she wins a piebald horse in a raffle, she recognises he's something special. He can easily clear five-foot fences, and he'll do anything for her. Soon, she and butcher's assistant Mi have their sights set on the biggest race in England. But how can a girl in 1930s England get near Aintree?
Peter Flannery rescues National Velvet from Hollywood, returning 14 year old Velvet to her Sussex butcher's family in the 1930s. A welcome return for Enid Bagnold's strange, inventive fairytale about a young amateur girl rider who takes an untrained horse over the stiffest course in the world and wins.
Author: Enid Bagnold
Dramatised by Peter Flannery
Director/Producer: Melanie Harris

Executive Producer: Polly Thomas
A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 12:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jL3)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:00 today](#)]

TUE 12:30 The Men From the Ministry (b018741f)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:30 today](#)]

TUE 13:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01ph4m)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 today](#)]

TUE 13:30 Oh Yes I Am (b00765dx)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]

TUE 14:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00sqf6b)
Episode 2

A hostile reception sends Steve Threefall into the arms of Nova Vallance, but what is she afraid of? Read by Stuart Milligan.

TUE 14:15 The Good Samaritan (b00mr234)

Sylvia's Story

2. Sylvia's story

After serving just two days of her prison sentence for failing to pay her full council tax, pensioner Sylvia Hardy had her protest ruined when an anonymous benefactor paid her arrears and she was released.

Producer John Byrne.

TUE 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnx1)

Julian Fellowes - Snobs, Episode 2

Satire on English snobbery, adapted from his own novel by Julian Fellowes.

News of Edith and Charles's romance hits the gossip columns but Lady Uckfield and the rest of Edith's aristocratic soon-to-be in-laws are not impressed.

Narrator Nicholas Farrell

Edith Sophie Roberts

Charles Hugh Bonneville

Lady Uckfield Celia Imrie

Lord Uckfield Richard Mitchley

Isabel Sophie Thompson

David/Eric Rupert Vansittart

Caroline Caroline Harker

Simon Julian Rhind-Tutt

Bella Bernice Stegers

Singer David Benson.

TUE 14:45 Book of the Week (b01jrs27)

Dear Lupin, Episode 2

To his father's surprise, Charlie has made an impetuous decision to join the Coldstream Guards as a squaddie. But true to form, he regrets it almost immediately. And his father writes him encouraging letters about his own days in the army, not always glorious, and relates the usual tales from home. "In the Hyperion Bar a blonde lady stood me a large Irish whiskey which I naturally accepted ... It would be interesting and doubtless humiliating too, to discover who she thought I really was."

Read by David Horovitch and Nicky Henson

Abridged and Produced by Jane Marshall

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 15:00 Mystery Theater (b086944k)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:00 today](#)]

TUE 15:40 Mystery Theater (b086961k)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:40 today](#)]

TUE 16:00 Trivia Test Match (b007jsrv)

From 01/10/1991

Brian Johnston umpires as team captains Tim Rice and Stephen Fry battle guest panellists Willie Rushton and Rachel Heyhoe-Flint. From October 1991.

TUE 16:30 Flying the Flag (b00f34fk)

Series 4, The Pretenders

Ambassador Mackenzie faces an aristocratic revival in the Federated People's Republic. Stars Dinsdale Landen. From July 1992.

TUE 17:00 Dave Sheasby - Sharing Fatman (b0075kyg)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:00 today](#)]

TUE 17:30 Clare in the Community (b08587nz)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]

TUE 18:00 Doctor Who (b086961m)

Demon Quest, Starfall, part 1

The Doctor, Yates and Mrs Wibsey are in 1976 New York to establish why their images are on a comic book cover. Stars Tom Baker.

TUE 18:30 How Ticked Am I? (b007js75)

Series 1, Frank Randle

Mark Radcliffe tells the story of the bad lad of showbiz. He was a gargoyle, a grotesque, and the funniest man alive'.

TUE 19:00 Steptoe and Son (b007jL3)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:00 today](#)]

TUE 19:30 The Men From the Ministry (b018741f)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:30 today](#)]

TUE 20:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01ph4m)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 today](#)]

TUE 20:30 Oh Yes I Am (b00765dx)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]

TUE 21:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01pcwqs)

[Repeat of broadcast at [11:00 today](#)]

TUE 21:15 Afternoon Drama (b03mfr1)

[Repeat of broadcast at [11:15 today](#)]

TUE 22:00 Clare in the Community (b08587nz)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]

TUE 22:30 What to Do If You're Not Like Everybody Else (b00tjqzx)

Series 1, Personal Appearance

What lengths do we need to go to "look good"? Do we really need to communicate with our fellow men? How important is it to work? Or to have a relationship?

What To Do If You're Not Like Everybody Else is a four part mini-series of short comedic monologues on BBC Radio 4 written and performed by the stand-up comedian Andrew Lawrence, taking a light-hearted look at various aspects of conventional living and the pressure we feel to conform to social norms and ideals.

Each episode is fifteen minutes long and was recorded in front of an audience, the first two episodes at South London comedy club 'Up The Creek', the final two recorded at the Edinburgh Comedy Festival.

This first episode examines the effort we all put into our personal appearance and the pressure we feel to look good.

TUE 22:45 Date With Fate (b008y7g7)

A Damp Fib

Surveyor's clerk Simon tries hard to cover up a huge white lie.

Stars Charles Gray and Alex Lowe. From February 1996.

TUE 23:00 Trodd en Bratt Say 'Well Done You' (b046ny8j)

Series 1, Episode 1

Nominated for Best Comedy in the BBC Audio Drama Awards 2015, Trodd en Bratt Say 'Well Done You' is a comedy sketch show written and performed by Ruth Bratt and Lucy Trodd, stars of Radio 4's Showstoppers.

What happens when you put together jaded (sorry, 'experienced') comedy circuit veteran Ruth Bratt (Derek, People Just Do Nothing, Quick Cuts, Ministry of Curious Stuff, Mongrels) and 'serious circuit' enthusiast Lucy Trodd (famous for her fruit impressions)?

This week Ruth gets to perform her favourite sketch featuring eight different Kens - she just has to get Lucy to understand it. Meanwhile the 1940's divas who run a lighthouse can't work out whose turn it is to switch on the light; and on Wetumpka's public access radio station, Thandie is trying to find her clumsy and slightly terrifying daughter Lily-Rose-May a date.

Written and performed by Ruth Bratt and Lucy Trodd

Supporting cast: Adam Meggido and Oliver Senton

Script Editor: Jon Hunter

Composer: Duncan Walsh Atkins

Producer: Ben Worsfield

A Lucky Giant production for BBC Radio 4.

TUE 23:30 The In Crowd (b00shkc5)

Series 3, Episode 3

Sketch show from Manchester's Comedy Store with Robin Ince, Helen Moon, Smug Roberts and Kate Ward. From August 2002.

WEDNESDAY 28 DECEMBER 2016

WED 00:00 Doctor Who (b086961m)

[Repeat of broadcast at [18:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 00:30 How Ticked Am I? (b007js75)

[Repeat of broadcast at [18:30 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 01:00 Enid Blyton - The Magic Faraway Tree (b01ph4m)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 01:30 Oh Yes I Am (b00765dx)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 02:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00sqf6b)

[Repeat of broadcast at [14:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 02:15 The Good Samaritan (b00mr234)

[Repeat of broadcast at [14:15 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnx1)

[Repeat of broadcast at [14:30 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 02:45 Book of the Week (b01jrs27)

[Repeat of broadcast at [14:45 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 03:00 Mystery Theater (b086944k)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 03:40 Mystery Theater (b086961k)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:40 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 04:00 Trivia Test Match (b007jsrv)

[Repeat of broadcast at [16:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 04:30 Flying the Flag (b00f34fk)

[Repeat of broadcast at [16:30 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 05:00 Dave Sheasby - Sharing Fatman (b0075kyg)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:00 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 05:30 Clare in the Community (b08587nz)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 on Tuesday](#)]

WED 06:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fv6gc)

Episode 1

A VIP visitor to a village is soon the target of love and gossip. A two-part adaptation by Rene Basilico of Gogol's classic comedy - a picture of municipal 'sleaze' and corruption in 19th century Russia.

Stars Julian Rhind-Tutt as Khlestakov, Trevor Peacock as Osip, Bill Wallis as The Mayor and David Gant as The Judge.

Music by Max Harris.

Producer: John Fawcett Wilson

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

WED 06:30 Wilson, Keppel and Several Bettys (b017528q)

Barbara Windsor tells the story of the popular variety act Wilson, Keppel and Betty.

Wilson, Keppel and Betty formed one of the greatest eccentric dance acts of all time. Their names are so familiar and yet amazingly their fascinating story has never been told on radio before. As with many tales of the stars of music hall and variety, it is one which is shrouded in contradictions and myth.

The programme includes new research into their early days as a duo in Australia and America - and reveals how the act was catapulted to stardom when Wilson and Keppel met Betty.

Liverpudlian Jack Wilson and Irishman Joe Keppel were drolful, gangling, mustachioed and skinny-legged. They wore poodles of Eastern dress, usually a fez and a short nightshirt, revealing their scrawny legs. The third member was the glamorous Betty - who over the years was playing them several different women. They performed a side-splitting sand dance based on poses familiar from Egyptian tomb art, with Betty as the central seductress. Their complete seriousness added to the hilarity.

From the early 1930's the trio became an established feature of British variety shows and were chosen for several Royal Variety Performances. Because the act was visual and hence instantly understandable to anyone, they received many offers from Europe.

In 1938 it was reported that whilst performing at the Berlin Wintergarten they upset Goebbels who was disgusted at the display of bare legs, calling them 'bad for the morals of Nazi Youth'. Mussolini, however, is said to have loved the act. Contributors include Bill Pertwee, Mark Colleano, Jean Kent, Georgy Jamieson and relatives of the trio.

WED 07:00 Robin and Wendy's Wet Weekends (b013plyb)

Series 3, Arrivederci Coma

Wendy visits Robin in hospital and opens the door on a whole new life. Stars Kay Stonham and Martin Trenaman. From July 2004.

WED 07:30 Women Talking About Cars (b0858nhv)

Germaine Greer

Victoria Coren Mitchell interviews famous women about their life and the cars they have known. This week Germaine Greer talks about the journeys she has been on and the cars she has travelled in, including her first Mini, a series of Triumphs, and Australia's own car, the mighty Holden.

Car descriptions read by Josette Simon.

WED 08:00 The Navy Lark (b01857zf)

Operation Recovery

Trouble afloat as the crew of HMS Troutbridge try to locate an American warhead. Stars Leslie Phillips. From June 1971.

WED 08:30 Hancock's Half Hour (b007lrvq)

The New Secretary

The lad's plan to hire help is thwarted by the scary Grizelda Pugh. Stars Tony Hancock and Hattie Jacques. From November 1956.

WED 09:00 Heresy (b02qr6wd)

Series 9, Episode 5

Victoria Coren Mitchell presents another edition of the show which dares to commit heresy.

Her guests this week are comedians Miles Jupp, Sue Perkins and television presenter Richard Osman.

Producers: Victoria Coren Mitchell and Daisy Knight

An Avalon production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 09:30 The Newly Discovered Casebook of Sherlock Holmes (b00brb8n)

The Demon Cobbler of Greek Street

The spoof sleuth probes a shoe clue connection in two mystery murders. Stars Roy Hudd and June Whitfield. From February 1999.

WED 10:00 Mystery Theater (b086971t)

Dimension X: The Martian Chronicles

4 Extra Debut. 1950: Humanity's encounter with Red Planet citizen's in 1999 sparks serious repercussions in Ray Bradbury's space thriller.

WED 10:30 Mystery Theater (b061y3z7)

Rocky Fortune: Frank Sinatra, part 1

Selected shows from the golden days of American radio in the 1940s and 50s, when many of Hollywood's greatest screen stars were regular performers, often re-enacting film roles.

Frank Sinatra portrayed job-seeking drifter Rocky Fortune for NBC for 25 episodes during an album-recording hiatus that ended with the release of the legendary 'Songs for Young Lovers' in 1954.

In this episode, as a lowly 'Oyster Shucker', Rocky's taken on at the Fifty Fathoms Clam House. He inadvertently gets involved with a pearl smuggling scam, but will he get the girl - sassy Iris? Cast includes: Jack Nessel, Lynne Allen and Jack Kruschen.

Directed by Andrew C Love.

Announcer: Eddy King.

First broadcast in the USA on NBC (National Broadcasting Company) in 1953.

WED 11:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01pgl17)

A Bowl of Cherries

These three stories by Morven Crumlish - commissioned specially for Radio 4 - are inspired by the work of the artist Phoebe Anna Traquair. Traquair (1852-1936) was born in County Dublin and in the 1870s moved to Edinburgh, where she would later become a prominent figure in the Scottish Arts and Crafts movement. Probably her best-known works are the vibrantly-coloured murals in what was formerly the Catholic Apostolic Church in Broughton Street, Edinburgh, which Traquair took eight years to complete

(1893-1901). When the church fell out of ecclesiastical use, the murals suffered badly through neglect, but following the formation of the Mansfield Traquair Trust, a major restoration was undertaken, completed in 2005.

While art is at the core of all three fictions, Murals also mirrors the evolution of a similar building: from church, to brickyard, to present-day use for visitors and as a venue for events."

3/3. A Bowl Of Cherries

An events manager, organising a christening party at the former church, is beset by crises. One is professional - there's a dead dog in the basement. But the other is more existential.

Morven Crumlish's stories have been broadcast widely, and she also contributes to the Guardian. Her work has featured in four previous Sweet Talk productions for BBC Radio 4, including Dilemmas of Modern Martyrs - five of her stories - in 2008; and most recently 'Harold Lloyd Is Not The Man Of My Dreams' (Three For My Baby, 2011).

Morven lives in Edinburgh.

Reader: Ashley Jensen

Producer: Jeremy Osborne

A Sweet Talk production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 11:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw69)

Heart's Ache, Heart's Ease

Young Lecky and his uncle rescue the Prince of Wales from the Tyne. 1930s Jarrow childhood trilogy with Shaun Prendergast.

WED 12:00 The Navy Lark (b01857zf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 12:30 Hancock's Half Hour (b007lraq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 13:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fyg6c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

WED 13:30 Wilson, Keppel and Several Bettys (b017528q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

WED 14:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00ssnqz)

Episode 3

As Steve Threefall ponders the wrongdoings of desert boomtown Izzard, events take a sinister turn. Read by Stuart Milligan.

WED 14:15 The Good Samaritan (b00mw5n5)

The Butterfields' Story

3. The Butterfield's Story.

Jane and Ashley Butterfield used to organise railway tours of India. Distressed by the sight of children living rough near railway lines, they set up their own charity to run a home for girls on the outskirts of Delhi.

Producer John Byrne.

WED 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnxk0)

Julian Fellowes - Snobs, Episode 3

Satire on English snobbery, adapted from his own novel by Julian Fellowes.

3/5. Edith's privileged yet dull new existence is shaken up when a film crew arrives at Broughton Hall, among which is the handsome Simon Russell.

Narrator Nicholas Farrell

Edith Sophie Roberts

Charles Hugh Bonneville

Lady Uckfield Celia Imrie

Lord Uckfield Richard Mitchley

Isabel Sophie Thompson

David/Eric Rupert Vansittart

Caroline Caroline Harker

Simon Julian Rhind-Tutt

Bella Bernice Stegers

Singer David Benson.

WED 14:45 Book of the Week (b01jt0ny)

Dear Lupin, Episode 3

More correspondence from a father to his wayward son: "Dear Charles, I suppose writing a serious letter to you is about as effective as trying to kick a 30 ton block of concrete in bedroom slippers, but I'm a glutton for punishment as far as you are concerned."

Read by David Horovitch and Nicky Henson

Abridged and Produced by Jane Marshall

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 15:00 Mystery Theater (b086971t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

WED 15:30 Mystery Theater (b061v3z7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]

WED 16:00 Heresy (b02qr6wd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

WED 16:30 The Newly Discovered Casebook of Sherlock Holmes (b00brb8n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

WED 17:00 Robin and Wendy's Wet Weekends (b013plyb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

WED 17:30 Women Talking About Cars (b0858nvh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 18:00 Doctor Who (b08698yv)

Demon Quest, Starfall, part 2

With help from New York's newest superheroine, The Doctor confronts the latest manifestation of The Demon. Stars Tom Baker.

WED 18:30 Off the Page (b00nv8fz)

Last Orders

4 Extra Debut. Dominic Arkwright quizzes Ian Marchant, Simon Fanshawe and Melissa Cole about the future of the public house. From November 2009.

WED 19:00 The Navy Lark (b01857zf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 19:30 Hancock's Half Hour (b007lraq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 20:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fyg6c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

WED 20:30 Wilson, Keppel and Several Bettys (b017528q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

WED 21:00 Morven Crumlish - Murals (b01pgll7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

WED 21:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw69)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

WED 22:00 Women Talking About Cars (b0858nvh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 22:30 Meet David Sedaris (b01n60m2)

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

The multi-award winning American essayist brings more of his wit and charm to BBC Radio 4 with a series of audience readings.

Series 3, Author Author; Front Row Centre with Thaddeus Bristol

traces how the once glittering star of the Girl Can't Help It and Too Hot to Handle was forced to get out on the road as her movie career faded.

Producer: Paula McGinley.

THU 07:00 Mark Tavener - In the Red (b007jzh9)

Episode 1

Anarchic BBC reporter George Cragge hunts a murderer of bank managers. Mark Tavener's comedy-thriller with Michael Williams.

THU 07:30 A Beginner's Guide to India (b085b73n)

Youth

India is the second most populous nation in the world (1.2 billion people), and British-Indian is the largest ethnic minority in the United Kingdom (1.4 million people). So after Radio 4 broadcast A Beginner's Guide To Pakistan last year, it feels only right to broadcast A Beginner's Guide To India as without India there wouldn't even be a Pakistan.

Our guide will be Aditi Mittal, a Mumbai-based comic who has already appeared on The Now Show and on The Asian Network's Big Comedy Night. The Times of India listed her as one of the top ten comedians in India; Forbes Magazine India put her in their 30 Under 30, ranging across every sphere of life from science to law to sport to theatre to comedy - and she's written articles for everyone from The Financial Times to Grazia. Radio 4 has brought her to the UK to perform A Beginner's Guide To India because she, like all Indians, loves the British - the last time they got some, they kept them for 200 years.

Aditi is young in a country with more history than most; she's a woman in a country that sees street harassment as 'Eve teasing'; she's an Anglophone because of the legacy of the British Empire, but India was independent before her parents were born; she's an atheist in a country that has given the world four major religions and also one actual God (Sachin Tendulkar).

Episode 2: Youth.

Speaking as someone who lives in one of the oldest cultures on the planet, Aditi looks at the challenges facing India's youth - of whom India has more (350m) than any other country in the world, from education to jobs to body image - including the booming industry of skin-lightening cream.

A Beginner's Guide To India will look at an undoubtedly significant and increasingly important country from a point of view that is rarely heard, performed by the most exciting stand-up comedian India has generated. As with A Beginner's Guide To Pakistan ("Stylishly cynical, brutally newsy, bitingly funny, this is political stand-up done with gusto", The Sunday Telegraph) it is informative, educational and entertaining, broadening the range of voices in Radio 4 comedy.

Written and performed by ... Aditi Mittal

The Voice of the Guide ... Ritula Shah

Production Coordinator ... Tamara Shilham

Produced by ... Ed Morrish

A BBC Studios Production.

THU 08:00 Stop Messing About! (b00b8w6q)

Series 1, Episode 3

Have a vada at Marvello the Mind Reader, plus a little bee's tale. Stars Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick and Joan Sims. From April 1969.

THU 08:30 The Michael Bentine Show (b00k3myf)

From 15/04/1984

From his own father to a huge hairy mountain gorilla, it's the ultimate one-man show, written by the host. From April 1984.

THU 09:00 The Personality Test (b007rlx5)

Series 3, Janet Street-Porter

Comedy quiz presented by a new guest host every week. All the questions are about the host.

Janet Street-Porter takes the chair, with panellists Sue Perkins, Lucy Porter, Nick Doody and Will Smith.

THU 09:30 Taking It up the Octave (b0869g9z)

Episode 2

Blackmail and throat nodules plague the cast of Opera Sunderland's production of Carmen. With Simon Butteriss. From June 1997.

THU 10:00 Mystery Theater (b0869g8d)

The Shadow: Sabotage with Orson Welles

4 Extra Debut. 1938: Sag Island shipyard is a place of treachery, but someone is watching. Orson Welles stars as the intrepid crime fighter.

THU 10:30 Mystery Theater (b0869g8b)

The New Adventures of Nero Wolfe: Stamped for Murder

4 Extra Debut. 1950: NBC radio's orchid-loving gourmand detective chases a fraudulent treasure map. Stars Sydney Greenstreet.

THU 11:00 Short Stories by John McGahern (b00p1hnx)

Swallows

A young Dublin surveyor meets a country policeman and their life choices are ruthlessly compared. Read by Sean McGinley.

THU 11:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw6c)

A Time of Deep Affliction

Lecky's pursuit of a butcher's daughter threatens his scholarship chances. 1930s Jarrow childhood trilogy with Gareth Brown.

THU 12:00 Stop Messing About! (b00b8w6q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 12:30 The Michael Bentine Show (b00k3myf)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 13:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fyg6f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 13:30 When Hollywood Met Halifax (b010r7bw)[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]**THU 14:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00svcgx)**

Episode 4

Facing more danger and intrigue, can Steve Threefall finally unravel the town's dark mystery? Read by Stuart Milligan.

THU 14:15 The Good Samaritan (b00n0wvt)

Gordon's Story

4/5 Gordon's Story.

Dominic Arkwright meets people who have lent a helping hand, including the man who stopped by the roadside to help some swans in distress, only to have his luxury car stolen.

Producer John Byrne.

THU 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fny8b)

Julian Fellowes - Snobs, Episode 4

Satire on English snobbery, adapted from his own novel by Julian Fellowes.

Simon is on sparkling form when David and Isabel Easton invite the Broughtons and some of the film crew out for dinner, not realising that they are making a dreadful faux pas. But the evening takes an embarrassing turn and Charles is forced to make an early departure.

Narrator Nicholas Farrell

Edith Sophie Roberts

Charles Hugh Bonneville

Lady Uckfield Celia Imrie

Lord Uckfield Richard Mitchley

Isabel Sophie Thompson

David/Eric Rupert Vansittart

Caroline Caroline Harker

Simon Julian Rhind-Tutt

Bella Bernice Stegers

Singer David Benson.

THU 14:45 Book of the Week (b01jxslb)

Dear Lupin, Episode 4

Charlie is drifting from job to job but his father keeps in touch with a mix of gentle admonishment, advice and amusing tales from home: "We had a very good midday party where there was a lot to drink and your dear mother took advantage of that fact. Nor in fact did I stint myself ... A tall lady in an azure wig explained at some length why she loathed her husband so much. Perhaps I am a sympathetic listener; possibly I just lack the energy to move away."

Read by David Horovitch and Nicky Henson

Abridged and Produced by Jane Marshall

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

THU 15:00 Mystery Theater (b0869gb4)[Repeat of broadcast at [10:00 today](#)]**THU 15:30 Mystery Theater (b0869gb6)**[Repeat of broadcast at [10:30 today](#)]**THU 16:00 The Personality Test (b007rlx5)**[Repeat of broadcast at [09:00 today](#)]**THU 16:30 Taking It up the Octave (b0869g9z)**[Repeat of broadcast at [09:30 today](#)]**THU 17:00 Mark Tavener - In the Red (b007jzh9)**[Repeat of broadcast at [07:00 today](#)]**THU 17:30 A Beginner's Guide to India (b085b73n)**[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]**THU 18:00 Doctor Who (b0869gb8)**

Demon Quest, Sepulchre, part 1

The Doctor and Captain Yates receive a distress call from Mrs Wibsey, who is being held captive by The Demon. Stars Tom Baker.

THU 18:30 Great Lives (b009y1t0)

Series 15, Juan Manuel Fangio

Series of biographical discussions with Matthew Parris.

Stirling Moss nominates the great racing driver Juan Manuel Fangio, a quiet home-loving man who made the record books by winning five world titles.

THU 19:00 Stop Messing About! (b00b8w6q)[Repeat of broadcast at [08:00 today](#)]**THU 19:30 The Michael Bentine Show (b00k3myf)**[Repeat of broadcast at [08:30 today](#)]**THU 20:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fv6f)**[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 today](#)]**THU 20:30 When Hollywood Met Halifax (b010r7bw)**[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]**THU 21:00 Short Stories by John McGahern (b00p1hnx)**[Repeat of broadcast at [11:00 today](#)]**THU 21:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw6c)**[Repeat of broadcast at [11:15 today](#)]**THU 22:00 A Beginner's Guide to India (b085b73n)**[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]**THU 22:30 Brian Gulliver's Travels (b01mdg8l)**

Series 2, Anidara

by Bill Dare

Brian Gulliver, a seasoned presenter of travel documentaries, finds himself in a hospital's secure unit after claiming to have experienced a succession of bizarre adventures. This week, he relives his experiences in Anidara where Brian finds himself put out to stud.

Brian Gulliver Neil Pearson

Rachel Gulliver Mariah Gale

Computer Duncan Wisby

Gem Gerard McDermot

Markl Harry Livingstone

Dorka Vicki Pepperdine

Liberator Duncan Wisby

Master Patrick Brennan

Producer Steven Canny

This is the second series of this satirical adventure story from Bill Dare. The series has attracted an excellent cast led by Neil Pearson and including, Duncan Wisby, Vicki Pepperdine, Lisa Dillon, Colin Hault, Toby Longworth, Adrian Scarborough, Dan Tetsell, Barunka O'Shaughnessy, Debra Stephenson, Colin Hault, Nina Conti, Jo Bobin and Marcus Brigstocke.

For years Bill Dare wanted to create a satire about different worlds exploring Kipling's idea that we travel, 'not just to explore civilizations, but to better understand our own'. But science fiction and space ships never interested him, so he put the idea on ice. Then Brian Gulliver arrived and meant that our hero could be lost in a fictional world without the need for any sci-fi.

Gulliver's Travels is the only book Bill Dare read at university.

His father, Peter Jones, narrated a similarly peripatetic radio series: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

THU 23:00 King Cutler (b008pbxf)

Episode 1

Phyllis King and Ivor Cutler present offbeat humorous songs, stories and poems. With Glen Baxter. From January 1990.

THU 23:30 Night Class (b0076919)

Episode 4

Pottery teacher Johnny Vegas takes his class on a sculpture trip but discovers more than he bargained for. From September 2002.

FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER 2016**FRI 00:00 Doctor Who (b0869gb8)**[Repeat of broadcast at [18:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 00:30 Great Lives (b009y1t0)**[Repeat of broadcast at [18:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 01:00 Nikolai Gogol - The Government Inspector (b00fv6f)**[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 01:30 When Hollywood Met Halifax (b010r7bw)**[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 02:00 Dashiell Hammett - Nightmare Town (b00svcgx)**[Repeat of broadcast at [14:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 02:15 The Good Samaritan (b00n0wvt)**[Repeat of broadcast at [14:15 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fny8b)**[Repeat of broadcast at [14:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 02:45 Book of the Week (b01jxslb)**[Repeat of broadcast at [14:45 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 03:00 Mystery Theater (b0869gb4)**[Repeat of broadcast at [10:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 03:30 Mystery Theater (b0869gb6)**[Repeat of broadcast at [10:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 04:00 The Personality Test (b007rlx5)**[Repeat of broadcast at [09:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 04:30 Taking It up the Octave (b0869g9z)**[Repeat of broadcast at [09:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 05:00 Mark Tavener - In the Red (b007jzh9)**[Repeat of broadcast at [07:00 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 05:30 A Beginner's Guide to India (b085b73n)**[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 on Thursday](#)]**FRI 06:00 Wimsey (b007jwgl)**Busman's Honeymoon, The Mysteries of Married Life
Honeymooners Lord Peter Wimsey and his wife soon find their marital bliss disturbed. Dorothy L Sayers' mystery with Ian Carmichael.**FRI 06:30 The Ice Cream Van Cometh (b012w944)**

Sound designer Jim Carey celebrates the colourful history of one of our great national treasures - the British ice cream van.

For over a hundred years extravagantly painted wagons have been delivering extravagant looking ice creams to the streets of Britain. What are the origins of these curvacious and pastel skinned creatures? Why are there so many people of Italian origin involved? What has Margaret Thatcher got to do with it? And, providing the acoustic backdrop for generations of British summers, where do those evocative chimes come from?

Carey's quest leads us headlong into the rich whippy world of all things ice cream van; a story of art, science, music, cuisine, royalty, turf war and childhood. Francis Rossi (co-founder of Status Quo and ex-ice cream van man), Johnny Vegas (entertainer and ice cream enthusiast) and Banksy (graffiti artist and ice cream van owner) join historians, engineers, and ice cream people to help piece together the story of how ice cream vans have charmed and chimed their way into our subconsciousness as icons of British cultural life.

Written and presented by Jim Carey

Produced by Jim Carey

A Loftus production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 07:00 The Secret Life of Rosewood Avenue (b007k1rc)

Moving In

A hapless vicar discovers that life behind suburbia's net curtains is not what he expected. Stars James Groux. From February 1991.

FRI 07:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085210)

Series 8, Randolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

After causing confusion with his Christmas nuts selection, Arthur attempts to round up reindeer and build Mont Fuji for his own Japanese themed Christmas wonderland.
All false starts and nervous fumbling badly covered up by a

delicate sheen of bravado and self-assurance, an expert in everything from the world of entertainment to the origin of the species, everyday life with Arthur is an enlightening, sometimes frustrating, never dull experience.

Count Arthur Strong is supported in the Christmas special by his Radio Repertory Company (like the RSC, only better) - Alastair Kerr, Dave Mounfield, Mel Giedroyc and Alfie Delaney as Billy. Steve Delaney has been performing as Count Arthur Strong since the late 90s. In the last 15 years the character has evolved from Edinburgh cult to a mainstay of BBC comedy, with seven series on BBC Radio 4 and a TV sitcom that has stepped from BBC2 to BBC1 and will return for a third series in 2017.

A Komedija Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 08:00 Yes Minister (b007k0ww)

Series 2, The Quality of Life

Jim Hacker gets floored by the high rise world of property business.

Starring Paul Eddington as Jim Hacker, Nigel Hawthorne as Sir Humphrey Appleby, Derek Fowldes as Bernard, Richard Vernon as Sir Desmond and Selina Scott as herself.

Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn's satirical sitcom ran on BBC TV between 1980 and 1984. Yes Minister is centred around the hapless Jim Hacker and a collection of civil service underlings headed by the Machiavellian Sir Humphrey Appleby and obsequious Bernard.

Adapted for radio by producer Pete Atkin.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 1984.

FRI 08:30 The Goon Show (b007jq80)

The Million Pound Penny

Two tales for the price of one - The Sockjelly Murder and the story of Ned The Miser! With Peter Sellers. From November 1958.

FRI 09:00 The Museum of Curiosity (b03f92qc)

Series 6, Llewellyn, Roccos, Warwick

This week, the Professor of Ignorance John Lloyd and his curator Humphrey Ker welcome the author, presenter and actor Robert Llewellyn; comedian, socialite and tequila Cleo Roccos and the partly-robotic professor of cybernetics at the University of Reading, Professor Kevin Warwick. This week, the Museum's Steering Committee discusses the joys of mobile chat shows; the demise of the internal combustion engine; the advantages of higher quality alcohol; the possibility that intelligent machines will make slaves of us all; and the late, lamented trees of our youth.

The show was researched by James Harkin, Molly Oldfield and Stevyn Colgan of QI.

The producers were Richard Turner and Dan Schreiber.

FRI 09:30 No Commitments (b007k3ak)

Series 12, Settling Down

4 Extra Debut. More sisterly bickering in Beckenham, but why is Victoria learning to speak French? Stars Angela Thorne. From April 2006.

FRI 10:00 Mystery Theater (b06sg52c)

Rocky Fortune: Frank Sinatra, part 3

Always in need of a job, genial drifter Rocky lands in a complex identity scam in 'Steven in a Rest Home'.

Frank Sinatra portrayed "footloose and fancy-free young man"

Rocky Fortune for NBC for 25 episodes during an album-recording hiatus that ended with the release of the legendary 'Songs for Young Lovers' in 1954.

Cast includes: Frances Eury, Maurice Hart, Jack Maither and Herb Ellis.

Directed by Andrew C Love.

Announcer: Eddie King.

First broadcast in the USA on NBC (National Broadcasting Company) in 1953

4 Extra's MYSTERY THEATER showcases American radio's golden years of the 1940s and 50s, when many of Hollywood's greatest screen stars were regular performers, often re-enacting film roles.

FRI 10:30 Great Lives (b00k3zns)

Series 18, Frank Sinatra

Broadcaster Colin Murray chooses Francis Albert Sinatra the biographical series in which Matthew Parris asks his guests to choose someone who's inspired their lives.

"Fiercely competitive", "aggressive", "utterly masculine" and "supremely talented". Just some of the words - Matthew Parris says - that might be used to describe one of the greatest entertainers of the 20th century.

Colin calls Frank omnipresent. Enchanted by his songs he says:

"It's not about the notes you hit for me, it's about the simplicity and the honesty. And for me he had it in bucket loads"

New York author and music critic Will Friedwald vividly describes the singer's life history, from his early years to the marriages and through his recording and screen career.

Featuring excerpts of many of Sinatra's greatest recordings.

Produced by Beth O'Dea

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2009.

FRI 11:00 Short Stories by John McGahern (b00pbv14)

A Slip Up

Exiled in England, a retired Irishman sustains himself by imagining working the farm he lost back home. Read by Sean McGinley.

FRI 11:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw6h)

A Catalogue of Disasters

Set-backs and surprises unite the family, making Lecky the hero of the hour. 1930s Jarrow childhood trilogy with Shaun Prendergast.

FRI 12:00 Yes Minister (b007k0ww)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:00 today](#)]

FRI 12:30 The Goon Show (b007jq80)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:30 today](#)]

FRI 13:00 Wimsey (b007jwgl)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 today](#)]

FRI 13:30 The Ice Cream Van Cometh (b012w944)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]

FRI 14:00 Oscar Wilde (b007k0vk)

The Remarkable Rocket

A collection of celebratory fireworks discuss the nature of love, and one of them gets his comeuppance. Read by John Moffat.

FRI 14:15 The Good Samaritan (b00n52kx)

Episode 5

Dominic Arkwright talks to the Sheffield man who came to the rescue of a distraught teenager.

Producer John Byrne.

FRI 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b00fnv8v)

Julian Fellowes - Snobs, Episode 5

Satire on English snobbery, adapted from his own novel by Julian Fellowes.

Edith and Simon move in together, leaving Charles devastated.

But life with an actor is not as glamorous as Edith had hoped and, when she makes an unfortunate discovery, she is forced to make a choice.

Narrator Nicholas Farrell

Edith Sophie Roberts

Charles Hugh Bonneville

Lady Uckfield Celia Imrie

Lord Uckfield Richard Mitchley

Isabel Sophie Thompson

David/Eric Rupert Vansittart

Caroline Caroline Harker

Simon Julian Rhind-Tutt

Bella Bernice Stegers

Singer David Benson.

FRI 14:45 Book of the Week (b01jsw4q)

Dear Lupin, Episode 5

David Horovitch and Nicky Henson conclude their reading from the collected correspondence of a long-suffering father to his wayward son.

"My Dear Lupin, How are things going with you? Are you (a) On the verge of becoming a millionaire? (b) On the brink of insolvency? (c) The subject of investigation by the Fraud Squad?" or (d) Cruising along like me, in genteel poverty?

Abridged and Produced by Jane Marshall

A Jane Marshall production for BBC Radio 4.

FRI 15:00 Mystery Theater (b06sg52c)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:00 today](#)]

FRI 15:30 Great Lives (b00k3zns)

[Repeat of broadcast at [10:30 today](#)]

FRI 16:00 The Museum of Curiosity (b03f92qc)

[Repeat of broadcast at [09:00 today](#)]

FRI 16:30 No Commitments (b007k3qk)

[Repeat of broadcast at [09:30 today](#)]

FRI 17:00 The Secret Life of Rosewood Avenue (b007k1rc)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:00 today](#)]

FRI 17:30 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085t210)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]

FRI 18:00 Doctor Who (b0869kfh)

Demon Quest, Sepulchre, part 2

In a thrilling conclusion, The Doctor and Captain Yates learn who is really responsible for the chain of events. Stars Tom Baker.

FRI 18:30 Soul Music (b0145x7m)

Series 12, Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

The words of one of our most loved hymns, Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, were taken from the last six verses of John Greenleaf Whittier's poem, The Brewing of Soma, an attack on ostentatious and overt religious practise. But it wasn't until over fifty years later, that a school master at Repton in Derbyshire had the inspiration to pair it with a tune by Sir Hubert Parry, thus confirming it as a favourite for school assemblies, funerals and weddings. The current Director of Music at Repton, John Bowley, explains how this happened, while composer and conductor Bob Chilcott explains why this was a musical marriage made in heaven.

We hear from those for whom the hymn has special significance, including the MP from Gloucester, Richard Graham; when briefly imprisoned in a Libyan gaol in 1978 he found enormous comfort in the words and tune. Pipe Major Ross Munro remembers recording the piece in the sweltering heat of Basra with members of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and film director Joe Wright recalls how the inclusion of this hymn was central to the power of his famous scene depicting the evacuation of Dunkirk in his film, Atonement.

Producer: Lucy Lunt.

FRI 19:00 Yes Minister (b007k0ww)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:00 today](#)]

FRI 19:30 The Goon Show (b007jq80)

[Repeat of broadcast at [08:30 today](#)]

FRI 20:00 Wimsey (b007jwgl)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:00 today](#)]

FRI 20:30 The Ice Cream Van Cometh (b012w944)

[Repeat of broadcast at [06:30 today](#)]

FRI 21:00 Short Stories by John McGahern (b00pby14)

[Repeat of broadcast at [11:00 today](#)]

FRI 21:15 Alex Ferguson - My Uncle Freddie (b007jw6h)

[Repeat of broadcast at [11:15 today](#)]

FRI 22:00 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085t210)

[Repeat of broadcast at [07:30 today](#)]

FRI 22:30 Sarah Millican's Support Group (b00qps89)

Series 1, Episode 1

Comedy by Sarah Millican, who plays Sarah, life counsellor and modern-day agony aunt.

Together with her team of 'experts', Sarah tackles the nation's problems head on, dishing out real advice for real people.

Sarah tackles the problems, 'I love a plumber but I'm no boiler; dating outside of your class: would you, should you, could you?' and 'Help! I love two women at the same time - my mam not included'.

Sarah Sarah Millican

Marion Ruth Bratt

Terry Simon Daye

Chris Steve Edge

Jamie Nick Mohammed

Carol Helen Atkinson Wood.

FRI 23:00 Armando Iannucci's Charm Offensive (b007xs3b)

Series 3, Episode 4

The comedic alchemist brews up a potent comic potion. With David Cross, Clive Anderson and Mark Watson. From September 2007.

FRI 23:30 Hamish and Dougal: You'll Have Had Your Tea (b007k1n1)

Series 2, The Poison Pen Letters

The elderly Scotsmen investigate who's been snitching with green ink. Stars Barry Cryer and Graeme Garden. From March 2004.

FRI 23:45 Self Storage (b01hblzr)

Family

Dave's domestic life is still upside down, and so his dad arrives to offer advice. Stars Reece Shearsmith. From October 2007.