

human connections.
Set against the dramatic and artfully evoked backdrop of the Lakeland fells, *The Wolf Border* explores issues of vested power and re-wilding, and of family and motherhood.
Reader: Hattie Morahan
Abridger: Sally Marmion
Producer: Di Speirs
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 2015.
MON 14:15 The History of Pop (m000cmmj)
1. Life Pre-Pop
John Peel presents the definitive history of carbonated water - drinks that have made millions and conquered the world. The first of a four-part series, looking at pop culture and how it all began...
Broadcaster John Peel was the champion of British music for nearly 40 years on his late-night Radio 1 show, but he was also a regular voice on BBC Radio 4.
Producer: Mark Palmer
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1999.
MON 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b08575fp)
Jane Austen - Northanger Abbey
Episode 1
Catherine Morland is taken to Bath for the season and finds that in her fertile imagination danger lurks round every corner. Jane Austen's satire pokes fun at the popular sensationalist fiction of the day.
Dramatised in ten parts by Hattie Naylor
Catherine Georgia Groome
Henry Luke Thompson
Mrs Allen Tracy Wiles
Mr Allen Kim Wall
Isabella Ainsley Howard
Mrs Morland Alison Belbin
Mr Morland John Bowler
Mrs Thorpe Karen Bartke
The Book Miriam Margolyes
Directed by Sally Avens
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2016.
MON 14:45 Book of the Week (b068td6z)
Maggie Smith - A Biography
Episode 1
Maggie Smith gets the acting bug.
Peter Firth reads Michael Coveney's biography of one of Britain's best-loved actors.
No one does glamour, severity, girlish charm or tight-lipped witticism better than Dame Maggie Smith.
This fresh biography in five parts shines the stage-lights on the life and work of a truly remarkable performer, whose career spans six decades.
From her days as a star of West End comedy and revue, Dame Maggie's path would cross with those of the greatest actors, playwrights and directors of the era. Whether stealing scenes from Richard Burton (by his own admission), answering back to Laurence Olivier, or impressing Ingmar Bergman, her career can be seen as a Who's Who of British theatre in the twentieth century.
We also hear about her success in Hollywood - inaugurated by her first Oscar for her signature film, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* - as well as her subsequent departure to Canada for a prolific four-season run of leading theatre roles.
Recently, Dame Maggie has been as prominent on our screens as ever, with high-profile roles as Violet Crawley, the formidable Dowager Countess of Grantham in the phenomenally successful *Downton Abbey*, and in the Harry Potter films as Professor Minerva McGonagall - a role she describes as 'Miss Jean Brodie in a wizard's hat'.
Yet paradoxically, Dame Maggie remains an enigmatic figure, rarely appearing in public and carefully guarding her considerable talent. Michael Coveney's absorbing biography, drawing on personal archives, interviews and encounters with the actress, as well as conversations with immediate family and dear friends, is therefore as close as it gets to seeing the real Maggie Smith.
Producer: Clive Brill
A Brill production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in September 2015.
MON 15:00 Drama (b081tpw0)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
MON 16:00 Just a Minute (b01m0lqg)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]
MON 16:30 Semi Circles (b007jts2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]
MON 17:00 Arrested Development (b0075vh3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]
MON 17:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m000c9mv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
MON 18:00 Doctor Who (b08dcknc)
Serpent Crest
Tsar Wars, part 1/2
Seized by intimidating robots, the Fourth Doctor and Mrs Wibsey are taken to an elaborate space palace, 100,000 years in the future.
Tom Baker stars as the Fourth Doctor.
The first part of *Serpent Crest* - an exciting five-story adventure written by Paul Magrs.
The Doctor Tom Baker
Mrs Wibsey Susan Jameson
Tsar Michael Jayston
Tsarina Suzy Aitchison

Boolin Simon Shepherd
Producer: Kate Thomas
Made by BBC Audio and reversioned for broadcast by BBC Radio 4 Extra.
MON 18:30 A Good Read (b00kpvbq)
Natalie Haynes and Monty Halls
Kate Mosse and her guests - comedian, Natalie Haynes and marine biologist and explorer, Monty Halls - discuss favourite books by Mark Dunn, Rowland White and Rafael Sabbatini.
Ella Minnow Pea by Mark Dunn,
Publisher: Methuen
Vulcan 607 by Rowland White,
Publisher: Transworld
Captain Blood by Rafael Sabbatini,
Publisher: Vintage
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2009.
MON 19:00 The Enchanting World of Hinge and Bracket (b04nqv4)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]
MON 19:30 Dad's Army (b007jprv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
MON 20:00 Cadfael (b007k2mr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
MON 20:30 Letters To Father Christmas (b00765hw)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]
MON 21:00 TED Radio Hour (m000cmmg)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]
MON 21:50 Inheritance Tracks (b07djq70)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:50 today]
MON 22:00 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m000c9mv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
MON 22:30 Bleak Expectations (b00p3380)
Series 3
Lives Lost, Ruined, Wrecked and Redeemed
Comedy Victorian adventure by Mark Evans.
Pip and Ripely find themselves facing a vast and evil undead army. England has only one hope - that Miss Sweetly Delightful can melt Mr Benevolent's cruel, undead heart.
Sir Philip Richard Johnson
Young Pip Bin Tom Allen
Gently Benevolent Anthony Head
Harry Biscuit James Bachman
Bishop Wackwallop Geoffrey Whitehead
Ripely Bin Sarah Hadland
Miss Sweetly Delightful Raquel Cassidy
The Duke of Chelsea Mark Evans.
MON 22:55 Comedy Club Extra (m000d4th)
12 Days of Christmas
Episode 3
Jake Yapp and Jon Holmes interview the characters from the carol the 12 Days of Christmas. Tonight, a goose a-laying, Five Gold Rings and a calling bird.
MON 23:00 Dead Ringers (m000c8rq)
Christmas Specials 2019
Episode 2
With the nation still coming to grips with the election results, the team bring you in-depth analysis, the political comment and a joke about Christmas.
Staring Jon Culshaw, Jan Ravens, Lewis McLeod, Duncan Wisbey, Deborah Stevenson.
The writing team for the series: Tom Jamieson & Nev Fountain, Laurence Howarth, Sarah Campbell, Ed Amsden & Tom Coles, James Bugg, Max Davis, Sara Gibbs, Simon Alcock, Alex Hardy and others.
Producer: Bill Dare
A BBC Studios Production
MON 23:30 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 is supported by his Radio Repertory Company (like the RSC only better):
Alastair Kerr
Dave Mounfield
Mel Giedroyc
Steve Delaney has been performing as Count Arthur Strong since the late 90s. The character stepped from Edinburgh cult to mainstream of BBC Comedy, with eight series on BBC Radio 4, and a TV sitcom that stepped from BBC2 to BBC1.
A Komedia Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in December 2015.

TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2019

TUE 00:00 Doctor Who (b08dcknc)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Monday]

TUE 00:30 A Good Read (b00kpvbq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Monday]
TUE 01:00 Cadfael (b007k2mr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Monday]
TUE 01:30 Letters To Father Christmas (b00765hw)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Monday]
TUE 02:00 Book at Bedtime (b05vy8dq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Monday]
TUE 02:15 The History of Pop (m000cmmj)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Monday]
TUE 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b08575fp)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Monday]
TUE 02:45 Book of the Week (b068td6z)
[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Monday]
TUE 03:00 Drama (b081tpw0)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Monday]
TUE 04:00 Just a Minute (b01m0lqg)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Monday]
TUE 04:30 Semi Circles (b007jts2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Monday]
TUE 05:00 Arrested Development (b0075vh3)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Monday]
TUE 05:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m000c9mv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Monday]
TUE 06:00 Cadfael (b007j9z)
Monk's Hood
2. The Inheritance
Brother Cadfael fears the worst over the sickness of Shrewsbury Abbey's benefactor.
Ellis Peters' medieval thriller narrated by Sir Michael Hordern stars Philip Madoc as Brother Cadfael.
From the Chronicles of Brother Cadfael dramatised by Bert Coules.
Narrator Sir Michael Hordern
Brother Cadfael Phillip Madoc
Sergeant William Warden Ian Hogg
Brother Mark Ian Targett
Prior Robert Geoffrey Whitehead
Brother Rees Norman Jones
Rishildis Burnel Pat Heywood
Elfrick Mark Straker
Maerreg Kenneth Price
Aldith Jane Whittenshaw
Brother Edmund Timothy Carlton
Edwin Gurney Richard Pearce
Sybil Bellecott Petra Markham
Edwy Bellecott Stephen Garlick
Producer: Lisa Evans
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 1991.
TUE 06:30 One Day in Winter: Driving Home for Christmas (b04wgsmt)
Each year nearly 15 and a half million people travel home for the festive period. Just a few of them share their stories as they head home.
Long journeys, short journeys, each trip is for a reason and each trip will trigger a multitude of emotions.
This programme captures those feelings: from the excitement of Christmas that never seems to leave us, the feeling of relief of making it to a safe haven after a difficult year, the feeling of uncertainty and fear of how Christmas will play out, the feeling of stress from the actual journey. Tension levels increase depending on the weather and traffic conditions and the kids in the back of the car gradually getting more and more bored, chiming 'Are we nearly there yet?' every five minutes.
The great Christmas getaway is always wildly anticipated but often fraught and highly stressful: are all the kids in the car, is the snow going to come, will we get caught in a jam?
Feelings and emotions galore as travellers make their journeys home.
Producer: Martin Poyntz-Roberts
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2014.
TUE 07:00 A Month of June (b01jhdgn)
Spray the Grass Green
It's 1939 and fading Hollywood star Lana Garfield hears the studio wants to dump her.
Contracted to Tantamount Pictures run by the notoriously difficult and womanising studio head, Al Seltzer. Miss Garfield is writing her autobiography with the assistance of British ghost writer George Creighton but is shocked when she hears on a radio gossip programme that Al intends to end her contract.
George and his ex-pat cronies take time off from their cocktails and cricket matches to collude with Al's ambitious and glamorous assistant Betty Stevens in exacting an appropriate revenge.
Written by Andy Merriman and Peter Morfoot.
The first of four comedies written for the many voices of legendary actor June Whitfield.
Lana Garfield June Whitfield
George Creighton David Haig
Al Seltzer Patrick Brennan
Betty Stevens Tracy Wiles
Harry Harcourt-Jones Robert Blythe
Edna Harper Amaka Okafor
Boris Karloff Peter Morfoot
Director: David Hunter
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2012
TUE 07:30 Rhys James (m000c9sf)
Series 2
Rhys James Isn't... "B"

Boolin Simon Shepherd
 Producer: Kate Thomas
 Made by BBC Audio and reversioned for broadcast by BBC Radio 4 Extra.
TUE 18:30 Pioneers (b00wvmt)
 Series 1
 David Blunkett
 David Blunkett talks about how failure wasn't an option during his rise to political high office.
 Blind from birth, he talks openly about the isolation of attending boarding school from the age of four, as well as the trauma of losing his father at the age of twelve.
 Coming from a deprived background, David recognised very quickly that his route out of poverty was through education and against all odds, he graduated from Sheffield University at the age of 22.
 David went on to become the youngest-ever councillor on Sheffield City Council, and climbed his way through the political ladder to become the first ever blind Home Secretary.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio Scotland in 2010.
TUE 19:00 The Goon Show (b007j14y)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]
TUE 19:30 Round the Horne (m000cm9z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
TUE 20:00 Cadfael (b007j19z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
TUE 20:30 One Day in Winter: Driving Home for Christmas (b04wgsmt)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]
TUE 21:00 Telling Tales (m000cmb2)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]
TUE 22:00 Rhys James (m000c9sf)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
TUE 22:30 Armstrong and Miller (b0015x2s)
 Episode 3
 Australian lifestyle, and a Euro rock band.
 Sketches and songs with Ben Miller and Alexander Armstrong in their first series for radio.
 With Samuel West and Tony Gardiner.
 Written by Ben Miller and Alexander Armstrong.
 Producer: Gareth Edwards
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1998.
TUE 22:45 Jelly Mountain (b00ftk74)
 Episode 5
 Musings on a footkerchief and a forest full of girls. Songs and stories from Ivor Cutler, with Beverley Crew. From May 1996.
TUE 22:55 Comedy Club Extra (m000d5tk)
 12 Days of Christmas
 Episode 4
 Jake Yapp and Jon Holmes interview the characters from the carol the 12 Days of Christmas. Tonight, a French Hen, a turtle dove and, everyone's favourite, a partridge in a pear tree.
TUE 23:00 Vent (b01dlg0k)
 Series 3
 Ladies and Gentlemen
 Ben makes the ambulance journey home to begin life in a wheelchair. On the way he remembers an argument about cheesecake, invents a panel game and meets Buzz Aldrin.
 Dark sitcom about a man in a coma, travelling through the distinctly odd landscape of his own unconscious mind.
 Written by Nigel Smith.
 Ben Neil Pearson
 Mary Fiona Allen
 Mum Josie Lawrence
 Blitz Leslie Ash
 Nurse Jo Martin
 Derek Stephen Frost
 Marley Spencer Brown
 Chairman Robert Webb
 Buzz Peter Banks
 Announcer Bruce Alexander
 Bea Scarlett Milburn-Smith
 Director: Nigel Smith.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2009.
TUE 23:30 Think the Unthinkable (b00ctcm)
 Series 2
 Christmas Party
 The consultants' drunken office party looks like a recipe for festive disaster. Starring Marcus Brigstocke. From December 2002.

WEDNESDAY 25 DECEMBER 2019

WED 00:00 Doctor Who (b08dcrsq)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Tuesday]
WED 00:30 Pioneers (b00wvmt)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Tuesday]
WED 01:00 Cadfael (b007j19z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Tuesday]
WED 01:30 One Day in Winter: Driving Home for Christmas (b04wgsmt)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Tuesday]
WED 02:00 Book at Bedtime (b05vy8fd)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Tuesday]
WED 02:15 The History of Pop (m000cmb4)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Tuesday]
WED 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b08584jr)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Tuesday]

WED 02:45 Book of the Week (b069b4lw)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Tuesday]
WED 03:00 James Bond (b084t5fw)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Tuesday]
WED 04:30 James Bond: Licence to Kill (b06j628c)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Tuesday]
WED 05:00 A Month of June (b01jhdgn)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Tuesday]
WED 05:30 Rhys James (m000c9sf)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Tuesday]
WED 06:00 Cadfael (b007j1bb)
 Monk's Hood
 3. Hunted
 Medieval monk Brother Cadfael harbours a young lad suspected of murdering his stepfather.
 Ellis Peters' medieval thriller narrated by Sir Michael Hordern with Philip Madoc as Brother Cadfael.
 From the Chronicles of Brother Cadfael dramatised by Bert Coules.
 Narrator Sir Michael Hordern
 Brother Cadfael Phillip Madoc
 Sergeant William Warden Ian Hogg
 Brother Mark Ian Targett
 Prior Robert Geoffrey Whitehead
 Brother Rees Norman Jones
 Rishildis Burnel Pat Heywood
 Elfrick Mark Straker
 Maerreg Kenneth Price
 Aldith Jane Whittenshaw
 Brother Edmund Timothy Carlton
 Edwin Gurney Richard Pearce
 Sybil Bellecott Petra Markham
 Edwy Bellecott Stephen Garlick
 Brother Petrus Fraser Kerr
 Brother Jerome Andrew Wincott
 Groom Nigel Carrington
 Producer: Lissa Evans
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 1991.
WED 06:30 Bringing Holly from the Bongs (b06sqkhl)
 Christmas 1965: The children of Goostrey Primary School in Cheshire are preparing to perform a special nativity play in the stable of the Crown Inn. Holly from the Bongs has been written especially for them by the famous children's writer Alan Garner (The Weirstone of Brisingamen, The Moon of Gornrath, The Owl Service) who lives locally and worked with them to help create the play.
 Christmas 2015: The grown-ups who originally performed in the play return to the Crown Inn, 50 years on, to reflect on this unique theatrical experience with Alan Garner – who still regards Holly from the Bongs as his most technically perfect piece of writing.
 Leslie Pimlott who played the Doctor in the original production, recalls with other cast members the story of how this customised nativity play was created by Alan Garner. The author spent many afternoons walking the children round the village's boundaries, fields and The Bongs, the wooded area behind the school to explore the history and living heritage of Goostrey. Leslie celebrates the excitement of taking part in the original production and its memorable first performance half a century ago.
 Part nativity play/part mummer's play Holly from the Bongs is a customised piece of theatre written for the voices of the individual children of Goostrey School in 1965. A stylistic lesson in English writing from the middle ages to the 1960's that has a very special place in the hearts of the original cast and the village of Goostrey.
 Producer: Andy Cartwright
 Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra by Soundscape Productions.
 First broadcast in December 2015.
WED 07:00 Electric Ink (b011f3pc)
 Series 1
 Episode 2
 Circulation is going through the roof.
 Old hacks meet new media in Alistair Beaton's satire set in the changing world of the newspaper industry.
 Maddox Robert Lindsay
 Oliver Alex Jennings
 Amelia Elizabeth Berrington
 Tasneem Zita Sattar
 Masha Debbie Chazen
 Freddy Ben Willbond
 Announcer Matt Addis
 With additional material by Tom Mitchelson.
 Director: Sally Avens
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2009.
WED 07:30 The Missing Hancocks (m000cc7h)
 Prime Minister Hancock
 The Missing Hancocks recreates those episodes of the classic Hancock's Half Hour that have been wiped or lost from the archive.
 The first modern sitcom, Hancock's Half Hour made stars of Tony Hancock, Sid James and Kenneth Williams, and launched Ray Galton and Alan Simpson as one of the most successful comedy-writing partnerships in history. But 20 episodes of the show were missing from the BBC archives. Now, after four highly successful series, the final batch of those episodes have been lovingly re-recorded in front of a live audience at the BBC Radio Theatre.
 Tonight's episode: Hancock stands for Parliament, with no

success whatsoever. But in his dreams he's swept to power on a landslide, and the country salutes.....Prime Minister Hancock.
 Written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson, and with the classic score re-recorded by the BBC Concert Orchestra, the show stars Kevin McNally, Kevin Eldon, Simon Greenall, Robin Sebastian and Susy Kane. Prime Minister Hancock was first broadcast on the 31st May, 1955.
 Produced by Neil Pearson & Hayley Sterling.
 Written by Ray Galton & Simpson
 Music recorded by the BBC Concert Orchestra, conducted by Levon Parikian.
 A BBC Studios Production.
WED 08:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b007jpps)
 Series 4
 Hancock's Happy Christmas
 The festive spirit is in short supply at 23 Railway Cuttings. Then the vicar arrives...
 Starring Tony Hancock.
 With Bill Kerr, Sidney James, Hattie Jacques and Kenneth Williams.
 Children: Michael Anderson and Dorothy Marks.
 Written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.
 Theme and incidental music composed and conducted by Wally Stott.
 Producer: Dennis Main Wilson
 First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in December 1956.
WED 08:30 The Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise Show (b0868hh6)
 Series 3
 Christmas Radio Show
 Legendary comic duo, Eric and Ern are swapping gifts and Ann Hamilton gets invited over for Christmas dinner - with mistletoe!
 Plus a song from Vince Hill.
 Written by Eddie Braben.
 Music by the Max Harris Orchestra.
 Producer: Bobby Jaye
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 on Christmas Day 1977.
WED 09:00 Booked (b0075m92)
 Series 3
 Episode 6
 Ian McMillan chairs the literary quiz with Roger McGough, Mark Thomas, Rory Motion and Dillie Keane. From November 1997.
WED 09:30 An Actor's Life for Me (b0089m77)
 Series 2
 Fathers and Sons
 Yet again, Robert is desperate for work, but is offered a job while he's supposed to be away with Sue.
 His plan to get out of the holiday is devious to say the least...
 John Gordon Sinclair stars in Paul Mayhew-Archer's sitcom.
 Robert Wilson John Gordon Sinclair
 Desmond Shaw Gary Waldhorn
 Sue Caroline Quentin
 With:
 Jo Kendall
 Joe Dunlop
 Danny Schiller
 Phil Nice
 Jennifer Piercey
 Producer: Paul Spencer
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in February 1990.
WED 10:00 Classic Serial (b001t3x1)
 Emile Zola - The Ladies' Delight
 Episode 1
 Business, ambition and fashion all collide in Emile Zola's colourful love story - set in the hustle and excitement of the expansion of one of Paris' first department stores.
 Dramatised in two-parts by Carine Adler.
 When innocent provincial girl Denise arrives in Paris, she quickly catches the eye of the notorious seducer of women, Octave Mouret. Despite her uncle's disapproval, Denise accepts a job at Mouret's ever expanding department store The Ladies' Delight.
 Narrator.....David Hargreaves
 Denise.....Georgia King
 Mouret.....Lee Williams
 Bourdoncle.....Conrad Nelson
 Baudu.....Nicholas Blane
 Old Bourras/Baron/Vincard.....Will Tacey
 Jean/Bauge.....Stephen Hoyle
 Deloche/Colomban.....Michael Hugo
 Mme Aurelie/Mme Baudu.....Clare Beck
 Mme Desforges.....Melissa Jane Sinden
 Mme Marty/Pauline.....Maevae Larkin
 Clara.....Chantelle Dean
 Genevieve/Marguerite/Mme Boves.....Polly Lister
 Director: Stefan Escreet
 Producer: Charlotte Riches
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2010.
WED 11:00 Sue Perkins' Christmas Comedy Stocking (m000ckpy)
 2. Lines from My Grandfather Christmas's Forehead / Tony Hawks' 12 Days of Christmas
 Sue Perkins pours the snowballs and opens her box of dates to accompany some vintage BBC Christmas comedy.
 The second of three festive fun-packed stockings:
 * Lines from My Grandfather Christmas's Forehead:

Catherine Georgia Groome
 John Stephen Wight
 Isabella Ainsley Howard
 Mrs Allen Tracey Miles
 Mr Allen Kim Wall
 Henry Luke Thompson
 James Finlay Robertson
 Eleanor Natasha Cowley
 The Book Miriam Margolyes
 Dramatised by Hattie Naylor.
 Director: Sally Avens
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2016.
THU 14:45 Book of the Week (b069b5yy)
 Maggie Smith - A Biography
 Episode 4
 Maggie Smith's film career blossoms.
 Peter Firth reads Michael Coveney's biography of one of Britain's best-loved actors.
 No one does glamour, severity, girlish charm or tight-lipped witicism better than Dame Maggie Smith. This new biography shines the stage-lights on the life and work of a truly remarkable performer, whose career spans six decades.
 From her days as a star of West End comedy and revue, Dame Maggie's path would cross with those of the greatest actors, playwrights and directors of the era. Whether stealing scenes from Richard Burton (by his own admission), answering back to Laurence Olivier, or impressing Ingmar Bergman, her career can be seen as a Who's Who of British theatre in the twentieth century.
 We also hear about her success in Hollywood - inaugurated by her first Oscar for her signature film, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* - as well as her subsequent departure to Canada for a prolific four-season run of leading theatre roles.
 Recently, Dame Maggie has been as prominent on our screens as ever, with high-profile roles such as Violet Crawley, the formidable Dowager Countess of Grantham in the phenomenally successful *Downton Abbey*, and in the Harry Potter films as Professor Minerva McGonagall - a role she describes as 'Miss Jean Brodie in a wizard's hat'.
 Yet paradoxically, Dame Maggie remains an enigmatic figure, rarely appearing in public and carefully guarding her considerable talent. Michael Coveney's absorbing biography, drawing on personal archives, interviews and encounters with the actress, as well as conversations with immediate family and dear friends, is therefore as close as it gets to seeing the real Maggie Smith.
 Producer: Clive Brill
 A Brill production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in in September 2015.
THU 15:00 James Bond (b09x8sp7)
 Moonraker
 It's 1954 and British patriot Sir Hugo Drax has built an atomic rocket, Moonraker, vital to Britain's defences.
 It's ready for a trial launch. But after a double-murder, James Bond goes undercover at Moonraker's secret base. He and agent Gala Brand discover possible treachery. Can they prevent a catastrophe?
 All-star guided missile drama with Toby Stephens and Samuel West.
 Martin Jarvis directs Archie Scottney's compelling and surprisingly up-to-date dramatisation of Ian Fleming's novel. James Bond Toby Stephens
 Sir Hugo Drax Samuel West
 Sir Winston Churchill John Baddeley
 Money Penny Janie Dee
 'M' John Standing
 'Q' Julian Sands
 Vallance Jared Harris
 Prof Train Patricia Hodge
 Gala Katherine Kingsley
 Basildon Nigel Anthony
 Krebs Nigel Anthony
 Meyer Simon de Deney
 Dr Walter Simon de Deney
 Trimble Simon de Deney
 Movietone Jon Glover
 Minister Jon Glover
 Broadcaster Ian Ogilvy
 Brevett Matthew Wolf
 Countdown Darren Richardson
 Captain Kenneth Danziger
 Ian Fleming Martin Jarvis
 Sound design: Mark Holden
 Specially composed music: Mark Holden and Mike Lopez
 Producer: Rosalind Ayres
 Director: Martin Jarvis
 A Jarvis and Ayres production for BBC Radio 4 first broadcast in March 2018
THU 16:30 The Soviet James Bond (b04y59h9)
 In the depths of the Cold War, the Soviets had their own version of James Bond, a superspy whose adventures thrilled readers from Minsk to the Urals.
 But whereas Bond enjoyed champagne, gambling and beautiful women, the spy codenamed Stierlitz was a Russian patriot of austere tastes (though he does enjoy vodka and singing Russian songs). In novels like "Diamonds for the Dictatorship of the Proletariat," Stierlitz carved a parallel path to that being followed by the great 007.
 Spy fan Miles Jupp explores the extraordinary legacy of the

Soviet James Bond and his creator Julian Semyonov.
 Producer: David Stenhouse
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2014.
THU 17:00 Ballylenon (b00yinc3)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]
THU 17:30 Tom Allen Is Actually Not Very Nice (m000cc21)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
THU 18:00 Doctor Who (b08dd29j)
 Serpent Crest
 The Broken Crown, part 2/2
 Discovering the awesome power of the Skishtari Egg, the Doctor realises that it can't be entrusted to a child.
 Part of Paul Magrs' five-story adventure.
 Starring Tom Baker as the Fourth Doctor, Susan Jameson as Mrs Wibsey, Terence Hardiman as Rev Dobbs, Guy Harvey as Andrew and Charlie Mitchell as Jake.
 Producer: Kate Thomas
 Made by BBC Audio and reversed for broadcast by BBC Radio 4 Extra.
THU 18:30 Great Lives (b03zb4bd)
 Series 33
 Evelyn Glennie on Jacqueline Du Pre
 Evelyn Glennie, solo percussionist talks about her admiration for the cellist Jacqueline Du Pre with presenter Matthew Parris.
 Producer: Perminder Khatkar
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2014.
THU 19:00 The Ken Dodd Show (b05pwkxc)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]
THU 19:30 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again (b00s09rq)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
THU 20:00 Cadfael (b007jibp)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
THU 20:30 50 Years of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (b04lpxx7)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]
THU 21:00 Maeve Binchy - The Special Sale (m000clsd)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]
THU 21:15 Drama (b04v4jxm)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]
THU 22:00 Tom Allen Is Actually Not Very Nice (m000cc21)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
THU 22:30 Lewis Macleod Is Not Himself (b04hvy0q)
 Episode 2
 A brand new impression and sketch show that looks behind the scenes at the life and work of star impressionist Lewis Macleod (Newsjack, Postman Pat, The Phantom Menace, Dead Ringers) with Kate O'Sullivan, Duncan Wisbey and Julian Dutton.
 Producer: Lyndsay Fenner.
THU 22:55 Comedy Club Extra (m000d908)
 Boxing Day Sports Round-Up
 Jake Yapp and Jon Holmes present a rundown of all the Boxing Day sports action.
THU 23:00 Mr and Mrs Smith (b01bwp6g)
 The Bathroom
 An audience sitcom about a couple in marriage counselling. Annabelle is annoyed because Will couldn't stand up to their over-enthusiastic builder. Will is furious at Annabelle for hiring the builder. Guy mediates, but this week the counsellor has his own problems.
 FULL CAST DETAILS:
 Will Smith Will Smith
 Annabelle Smith Sarah Hadland
 Guy Paterson Joseph
 John Geoffrey Whitehead
 Saskia, Sally Susie Blake
 Adam Dan Tetsell
 Claudia Tracy Wiles
 Written by Will Smith
 Produced by Tilusha Ghelani
 A year into married life and already things are a little creaky. So, following Will's unimaginative anniversary present (a draining rack), Annabelle has signed them up for a course of marriage counselling.
 Each week, counsellor Guy mediates a recent dispute between Will and Annabelle, with flashbacks to the events that spawned the argument, and by the end, the couple find marital equilibrium once more. Sort of.
 Guy arbitrates, usually leaning towards Annabelle's more sensible point of view. In contrast to Will's uptightness, Guy is confident and urbane and clearly irritates Will.
 The writer and comedian Will Smith leads the starry cast of Mr and Mrs Smith. Will's writing credits include Armstrong and Miller (BBC1), Harry and Paul (BBC1), Moving Wallpaper (ITV1), Time Trumpet (BBC2), the multi-award winning *The Thick Of It* (BBC2) in which he also appears as Phil Smith, and the upcoming *Veep* (HBO).
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2012.
THU 23:30 Cowards (b00fhtml0)
 Series 2
 Episode 2
 Cowards: Sketch show with a comic slant on human frailties.
 With Tom Basden, Stefan Golaszewski and Tim Key.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2008.

FRIDAY 27 DECEMBER 2019

FRI 00:00 Doctor Who (b08dd29j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Thursday]
FRI 00:30 Great Lives (b03zb4bd)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Thursday]
FRI 01:00 Cadfael (b007jibp)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Thursday]
FRI 01:30 50 Years of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (b04lpxx7)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Thursday]
FRI 02:00 Book at Bedtime (b05w4jzr)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Thursday]
FRI 02:15 The History of Pop (m000clsj)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Thursday]
FRI 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b0858w47)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Thursday]
FRI 02:45 Book of the Week (b069b5yy)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Thursday]
FRI 03:00 James Bond (b09x8sp7)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Thursday]
FRI 04:30 The Soviet James Bond (b04y59h9)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Thursday]
FRI 05:00 Ballylenon (b00yinc3)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Thursday]
FRI 05:30 Tom Allen Is Actually Not Very Nice (m000cc21)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Thursday]
FRI 06:00 Cadfael (b007jibz)
 Monk's Hood
 5. Judgement
 With Edwin arrested for murder, Brother Cadfael seeks justice in the local court.
 Conclusion of Ellis Peters' medieval thriller.
 Narrated by Sir Michael Hordern with Philip Madoc as Brother Cadfael.
 From the Chronicles of Brother Cadfael dramatised by Bert Coules.
 Narrator Sir Michael Hordern
 Brother Cadfael Phillip Madoc
 Sergeant William Warden Ian Hogg
 Brother Mark Ian Targett
 Prior Robert Geoffrey Whitehead
 Martin Bellecote Timothy Carlton
 Edwin Gurney Richard Pearce
 Edwy Bellecote Stephen Garlick
 Brother Petrus Fraser Kerr
 The Judge Norman Jones
 Hugh Beringar Alan Barker
 Maerreg Kenneth Price
 Brother Simon Michael Turner
 Brother Barnabas Terrence Edmond
 Father Heribert Timothy Bateson
 Producer: Lissa Evans
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 1991.
FRI 06:30 Pantomime (m000clvf)
 Theatre critic Michael Billington interviews the actor and writer John Morley, who loved pantomime beyond all other forms of entertainment.
 On his death in 1994, John Morley had more than 250 pantomime scripts to his credit. In 1981, when this interview was recorded, he dominated the festive season with ten professional pantomimes in production around the UK, starring the likes of Ken Dodd, Frankie Howerd and Rikki Fulton.
 John wrote his first pantomime at the age of 11, staged Dick Wittington while serving as a Captain in the Coldstream Guards, and his first professional production was *Puss-in-Boots* at the London Palladium.
 The pair discuss the long theatrical history of pantomime, from its Greek etymology, to Roman Bacchanalia, the Commedia dell'arte and John Rich's introduction of Harlequin to Drury Lane in the 18th century.
 They also discuss pantomime's evolution, enduring popularity and important staples, from boozing, to ghastly jokes and the song sheet.
 We also hear John Morley talking to Ken Dodd, with whom he worked. They reminisce about opulent former productions, including a memorable Cinderella from producer Freddie Carpenter.
 Produced by Richard Dunn.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1981.
FRI 07:00 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 Belport with a faithful valet, Ned.
 Stars Michael Begley as Jason Slater, Joe Caffrey as Ned, Kenneth Alan Taylor as Hoskins, Mark Chatterton as Lord Belport, Glenn Cunningham as Stubbs and Julia Routhwaite as Millicent.
 Directed at BBC Manchester by Polly Thomas.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2003.
FRI 07:30 The Shuttleworths (m000clq0)
 Your Very Good Elf
 John Shuttleworth's wife, Mary, has cancelled Christmas because their children, Karen and Darren, have decided to spend Christmas Day elsewhere. So, instead of preparing for the big day, John finds himself taking down the Christmas tree and putting away the chocolate brazils.
 He is naturally upset at this turn of events, so when Joan Chitty phones for help because her Christmas tree is broken, John happily offers to take the Shuttleworth tree around to Joan's as a

