

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER 2018

SAT 00:00 Eric Pringle - Dancing With Jaques (b06zjdjy)
London 1959: A young girl's first night "working the streets" ends in a ghostly encounter with a man with a wind-up gramophone who calls himself Jaques. Written by Eric Pringle. Jackie - Alice Arnold. Jaques - John Evitts. Alice - Thersa Streatfield. News vendor - John Church. Director: Adrian Bean. First broadcast in Thirty Minute Theatre on BBC Radio 4 in May 1993.

SAT 00:30 Off the Page (m0001khy)
Absence

Journalist Emma Brockes joins Welsh poet Gwyneth Lewis and novelist Jay Basu to discuss gaps with Matthew Parris. Each week Matthew Parris introduces a group of writers of fact and fiction: new talent and established names. In the context of a discussion of one of the ideas and pre-occupations of our times, each presents a piece on this week's topic. The best new writing and the freshest conversation from 2002.

SAT 01:00 Julie Enfield Investigates (b007j18w)

The Smithfield Murders

A Passion for Hunting Something

With big business is involved, Detective Superintendent Julie Enfield finds herself trapped with hired killers underneath Smithfield meat market... Atmospheric thriller written by Nick Fisher. Starring Imelda Staunton as DS Julie Enfield, Geoffrey Matthews as Dad, Ross Livingstone as DS Lawrence Evans, Jane Whittenshaw as Sally, Deborah Berlin as Alex Wild and Jilly Bond as Rachel Jones. Producer: Richard Wortley. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1995.

SAT 01:30 Digital Folk (b0383vxx)

England's vast wealth of folk music heritage has finally been put online. Named "The Full English", it includes rare archives found in the basement of London's famous Cecil Sharp House and a dozen other collections. Songs that haven't been heard for a hundred years are now being sung again and are already inspiring a new generation of musical writers and artists. English Folk Dance and Song Society (Efds) librarian Malcolm Taylor has gathered together manuscripts of early 20th century songs that were once scattered across the country and placed them on one searchable internet portal. These are songs collected in the early 20th century by the likes of Cecil Sharp, Vaughan Williams and Percy Grainger who set out, notebook in hand, to record the songs sung by ordinary folk up and down the country. Now a whole new wave of artists is clicking on to the digital archives. Singer Billy Bragg has previously used them for his own musical inspiration and folk musicians Fay Hield, Nancy Kerr and Martin Simpson are now doing it too, as they create new music from old sources. The programme also hears from playwrights Nell Leyshon and Lee Hall (of Billy Elliott fame) who have been drawn into an exploration of the ethics of how the songs were originally collected and published. Our guide to the remarkable 'The Full English' collection is John Kirkpatrick, one of the giants of the British folk scene and BBC Radio 2 Folk Musician of 2010. Producer: Chris Eldon. Lee A Culture Wise production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 02:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001khw)

5. Altercation

Walking in the Lake District in an attempt to find musical inspiration for his symphony, Clive, witnesses an argument between two other hikers. Michael Kitchen reads Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel. Abridged in ten parts by Penny Leicester. Producer: Julia Butt. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

SAT 02:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01s8xvd)

Marsaba and The Sea of Galilee

In the fifth episode in this series, John remains in Israel and the West Bank, travelling up to the Sea of Galilee and also across the desert to the remote Marsaba monastery. In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years. Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight. The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still seek to influence the politics of the region. In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today. Presenter: John McCarthy. Producer: Kevin Dawson. A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 02:30 Moya O'Shea - The Chocolate Lovers' Club (b00w6f7p)

Episode 5

A huge cake box sits on the table, as the mysterious Mrs Drexel tells a tale which surprisingly concerns them all - as she explains how she came to be invited to join the club... At the Muchly Bottom village chocolate lovers' club five women take turns in creating a chocolate delight and tell a chocolate-related tale while eating it. Conclusion of Moya O'Shea's delicious five-part

drama. Mrs Drexel - Sylvia Sims. Clementine - Paula Wilcox. Rosie - Helena Breck. Sarah - Eleanor Bron. Charlotte - Carolyn Pickles. Hot Shot - Carl Prekop. Luke - Peter Darney. Director: Tracey Neale. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2001.

SAT 02:45 Book of the Week (b03xchh5)

The Fun Stuff

5. Packing My Father-in-law's Library

Highlights from an entertaining and idiosyncratic series of essays from James Wood, the leading literary critic of his generation. It's a collection which ranges widely, from a loving analysis of Keith Moon's drum technique to the intentions, gifts and limitations of some of our most celebrated modern novelists, including Kazuo Ishiguro and Ian McEwan. 5. PACKING MY FATHER-IN-LAW'S LIBRARY Wood describes disposing of his late father in law's library, and considers whether our personal collections of books hide us more than reveal us to our descendants. Abridged by Eileen Horne. Reader: Peter Firth. Produced by Clive Brilla. A Pacificus production for BBC Radio 4

SAT 03:00 DI Gwen Danbury - An Odd Body (b007js4n)

Series 1

The Hostages

When a hostage is taken by a gunman, Detective Inspector Gwen Danbury takes charge - but then her feisty mother Joan arrives. Sue Rodwell's detective mystery stars Annette Badland as DI Gwen Danbury, Gudrun Ure as Joan Danbury, John Duttine as DS Henry Jacobs, John Rye as Supt. Phillips, Paul Panting as Gary Wolsey, Elaine Claxton as Cathy Bedford and Crawford Logan as Keets. Director: Glyn Dearman. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1994.

SAT 04:00 Guess What? (b064dw48)

Episode 6

Animal, vegetable or mineral? Barry Took hosts a revised version of popular radio parlour game of 20 questions. Regular Geoffrey Durham is joined by Neil Innes and Jan Ravens. Written by Michael Dines. Producer: Andy Aliffe. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 1998.

SAT 04:30 Life in London (b011q9fv)

High and Low Life

Pierce Egan is reduced to pawning himself. He talks his way out of this bind by relating the adventures of Tom, Bob and Jerry as they drink with the lower orders in the East End, dance with high society up West and attend a masquerade, where Jerry is smitten by a serial seductress... Pierce Egan's 19th-century comic novel adapted in six-parts by Dan Tetsell. Pierce Egan Geoffrey McGivern. Corinthian Tom Greg Wise. Pickpocket Neil Edmond. Jerry Hawthorn Mark Gatiss. With James Bachman, Neil Edmond, Morwenna Banks, Giles Taylor and Alys Torrance. Original music by Ben Walker. Producer: Tilusha Ghelani. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 2006.

SAT 05:00 Trapped (b0076mpz)

Sow Cottage

The new residents of the village of Little Latchmere are having a bit of trouble fitting in... Six black comedies by Mark Maier and Daniel Maier. Edward Andrew Burt. Rev Fraction Duncan Wisbey. Adam Robert Webb. Paul Daniel Maier. Producer: Alex Walsh-Taylor. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2003.

SAT 05:30 Mrs Hudson's Radio Show (m0001h2j)

Episode 2: Wild Geese

Behind every great man there is an even greater woman - demanding rent. Comedy legend Barry Cryer brings his unique brand of silliness to the world of Sherlock Holmes' landlady in a special Radio 4 double bill recorded in front of an audience in London. There'll be plenty of festivities (as well as Music Hall singalongs accompanied by pianist Jeremy Limb) in this humorous and alternative take on Mrs Hudson's life below stairs at 221 Baker Street. Barry plays chestnut salesman Harry Fryer and is joined by Patricia Hodge as Mrs Hudson and Miriam Margolyes as her mischievous friend and neighbour, Mrs Brayley. The show has been written by Barry and his son, Bob Cryer and is based on their book, Mrs Hudson's Diaries. In this second episode, a dead goose and a battered hat are found by Inspector Lestrade (Bob Cryer) lying in the middle of Baker Street. It's not long before Mrs Hudson is leading her friends out to the night on a very silly seasonal adventure. However, one thing you can be sure of, Sherlock Holmes (Orlando Wells) and Dr Watson (Stephen Critchlow) are never far away and usually ahead of the game. So come in from the cold, turn on the wireless and make a date with Mrs Hudson. But don't forget to wipe your feet first. CAST: MRS HUDSON - Patricia Hodge. MRS BRAYLEY - Miriam Margolyes. HARRY FRYER - Barry Cryer. HOLMES - Orlando Wells. ARCHIE / WATSON - Stephen Critchlow. MARTHA/BELLA - Ruth Bratt. GUSTAV / MD - Jeremy Limb. LESTRADE - Bob Cryer. Written by Bob and Barry Cryer. Produced and directed by Ned Chaillet and Ben Walker. The Waters Company for BBC Radio 4

SAT 06:00 William Fox - Constant Hot Water (m0001m4m)

1943: From King Farouk's Egypt, Charles Willoughby is posted to Italy - and after the peace - is painfully involved in the resettlement of refugees. Chastened by his experiences, he returns to post-war England and a section of society that closes its eyes to any form of change. Events that may seem funny on the surface have a different effect upon the thinking man - and extractor Willoughby has learnt to think. The continuing fortunes and misfortunes of the young subaltern Charles Willoughby - sequel to 'Willoughby's Phoney War' by William Fox. Jeremy Irons stars as Charles, with Anna Massey as Charity, Madeline Smith as Clarissa, William Fox as Colonel Busford, Manning

Wilson as Benson, James Villiers as James Brady, Charles Gray as Uncle Willie, Rita Giovannini as Claudia, Margaret Ward as the Marquess, Philip Voss as Harold, June Tobin as Belle, Leonard Fenton as Reuben, Robert Trotter as the NCO, Alvar Lidell as the BBC Announcer, Peter Baldwin as the Police Sergeant, John Bull as the Junk Dealer, Gordon Dulieu as Bimbashi and Eva Stuart as the Female Guest. Director: John Tydemann. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1975.

SAT 07:30 Britain in a Box (m0001m4p)

For Those Watching In Black And White

In 1969, a short innovative programme was broadcast to make the most of the recently launched colour BBC TV service. By the time its last final was screened, 'Pot Black' had not only re-energised snooker, it had also changed forever the relationship between TV and sport. Paul Jackson continues his exploration of the social and cultural context of cult TV programmes that have caught the mood of the nation. Featuring David Attenborough, Peter Fiddick, Ted Lowe and Stephen Hendry. Director: Paul Kobrak. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2003.

SAT 08:00 Very Nearly An Armful: The Galton and Simpson Story (m0001m4r)

Stephen Merchant celebrates Ray Galton & Alan Simpson - the late, great writing duo behind Hancock and Steptoe & Son. After meeting in a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1949, the pair started writing for the hospital's radio station and within two years they were writing for the UK's top comic talent. In a move that changed comedy forever, the pair insisted that comedy should reflect life as it is. The show they created, Hancock's Half Hour, was so popular that pubs and shops complained that it was causing them to lose business. They followed up Hancock's Half Hour with Steptoe And Son, a show that was so popular that it reached 28 million viewers and Harold Wilson asked it to be rescheduled on the night of the 1964 general election. The series was not without controversy: third episode The Piano provoked complaints from Mary Whitehouse and even led to questions being asked in the House of Commons. As well as their most high profile series, Hancock and Steptoe, the pair wrote for a who's who of comedy including Frankie Howerd, Peter Sellers, Arthur Lowe, Warren Mitchell and Les Dawson. Ray Galton died in October 2018, one year after Alan Simpson, but the 600+ scripts they wrote for radio, television and cinema remain immensely important. They brought social realism to British comedy and helped lay the foundations for modern day classics like The Office. As well as hearing from the duo, contributors to the documentary include David Mitchell, Ben Elton, Damaris Hayman and the late Denis Norden. Archive interviewees include Tony Hancock, Sid James and Harry H Corbett. First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in 2009.

SAT 09:00 MasterTapes - Access All Areas (m0001m4t)

John Wilson goes behind the scenes of the iconic BBC studios at Maida Vale where over 40 episodes of Radio 4's MasterTapes were recorded. Starting with the very first series recorded in 2012, Wilson takes listeners on a three hour songwriting masterclass with the likes of Sir Paul McCartney, Tom Jones, Emeli Sandé, Robbie Williams, Rufus Wainwright and Laura Marling. Producer: Sarah Shebbeare

SAT 12:00 Old Dog and Partridge (b007jq9s)

Episode 1

Landlord Jack gets an offer from his daughter Nicola to help run his pub when she comes home for Christmas, but his reaction is not what she's expecting... Joe Turner's six-part sitcom stars Michael Williams as Jack, Lisa Coleman as Nicola, Cherry Morris as Mrs Drummond, Simon Greenall as Andy and Toby Longworth as Various. Producer: Liz Anstee. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 1998.

SAT 12:30 Just a Minute (b013ptfx)

Series 61

With guests Paul Merton, Gyles Brandreth, Shappi Khorsandi and Russell Kane

The popular panel game from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, hosted by Nicholas Parsons. With Paul Merton, Gyles Brandreth, Shappi Khorsandi and first timer Russell Kane. Subjects include My Tartan Underwear and Call Centres. Produced by Tilusha Ghelani.

SAT 13:00 Lucy Catherine - Gudrun (m0001m4w)

Series 5

Omnibus 2/2

On the run from the church, Gudrun finds love in her mountain hideout. Lucy Catherine's Viking epic of love, revenge and faith inspired by the Icelandic sagas. Gudrun, a young woman in 11th century Iceland, must forge her path through a world of unearthy beauty yet uncompromising harshness. Iceland is now an occupied country, its people forced to convert to Christianity by rival Norse kingdoms. After many years away, with plans to overthrow the regime and rescue her daughter who is being brought up in the new faith, Gudrun once more sails into Icelandic waters. Gudrun Kate Phillips. Freija Samantha Dakin. Dag Cameron Percival. Sylvia Carolyn Pickles. Bolli Lewis Bray. Aslak Tony Turner. Sigrid Rosie Boore. Frederick Simon Scardfield. Heidr Jeanette Percival. Volva Carolyn Pickles. Guard 2 Michael Bertenshaw. Warrior Don Gilet. Kjartan Luke MacGregor. Directed by Sasha Yevushenko. Last five of ten parts first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2018.

SAT 14:10 Inheritance Tracks (m0001m4y)

Nana Mouskouri

Greek singer Nana Mouskouri chooses Suzanne by Leonard

Cohen and Love is a Losing Game by Amy Winehouse.

SAT 14:15 Frankly Speaking (b05qk4m4)

Bette Davis - Self-Portrait of a Star

Actor George Coulouris and BBC producer Peter Duval Smith interview Hollywood icon Bette Davis. In an occasionally heated conversation about her career, Oscar-winning Davis shares her opinions on what it means to be a star after 30 years in the business. Davis shoots down the "misconception" that she creates frictions on her movie sets. Her arguments were always with the front office. The actress also strongly counters Duval Smith's claim that she uses the same mannerisms in every performance - blaming instead her imitators. Films discussed include 'Dark Victory' (1939), 'Juarez' (1939), 'Watch on the Rhine' (1943) and Davis's most recent hit at the time, 'What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?' with Joan Crawford (1962). George Coulouris had previously starred alongside Bette Davis in the films 'All This, and Heaven Too' (1940), 'Watch on the Rhine' (1943) and 'Mr Skeffington' (1944). He's best known for playing Walter Parks Thatcher in the Orson Welles drama 'Citizen Kane' (1941). Launched in 1952, Frankly Speaking was a completely novel and ground breaking BBC series. Initially there were three interviewers and the series was both unrehearsed and unscripted. First broadcast on the BBC Home Service in 1963.

SAT 14:45 Robb Wilton - I Should Say So (b039bbjz)

Series 2

The Hospital

Robb Wilton (1881 - 1957) was one of the most popular music hall and radio comics of the 1930s and 1940s. Famed as an all-round pessimist - what would he have made of 1980s Britain: can he lend a medical hand? Michael Williams stars as Robb Wilton - making as little sense out of life as he did 40 years before... Written by Allen Saddler. Producer: Brian Miller. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 1988.

SAT 15:00 Very Nearly An Armful: The Galton and Simpson Story (m0001m4r)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SAT 16:00 William Fox - Constant Hot Water (m0001m4m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SAT 17:30 Britain in a Box (m0001m4p)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SAT 18:00 Grimm's Fairy Tales (m0001m50)

The One Who Set Out to Study Fear

Sonny cannot feel fear and loves to investigate the paranormal. But is he truly incapable of shuddering? Drawn from Grimm's Fairy Tales and written by Peter Redgrove. Paul Lockwood stars as Sonny; Jennifer Piercy as Meg; Andrew Branch as Greg; Jonathan Taffer as Mark; Paul Gregory as Uncle; Deborah Makepeace as the student; Susie Brann as Princess; Sheila Grant as the cat; Alan Dudley as the old man; and Scott Peters as the Tsar. Music arranged and realised by Stephen Rollings. Director: Brian Miller. First broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in 1987.

SAT 18:45 Fairy Tales Retold by Sara Maitland (b01phdqk)

Sleeping Beauty Wakes Up

Sara Maitland puts her own spin on the classic fairy tale Sleeping Beauty. After that kiss, would the lovers really live happily ever after? Read by Lia Williams. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2002.

SAT 19:00 Mastertapes - Access All Areas (m0001m4t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SAT 22:00 Old Harry's Game (b00whwzs)

Series 6

Psychiatry

Edith quizzes Satan about "The Fall", but Satan sees it more as "The Push" and feels God has anger-management issues. Andy Hamilton's comedy set in Hell. Starring Andy Hamilton as Satan, Annette Crosbie as Edith, Robert Duncan as Scumspawn and Jimmy Mulville as Thomas. Other characters played by Michael Fenton Stevens, Philip Pope and Felicity Montagu. Producer: Paul Mayhew-Archer. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2007.

SAT 22:30 The Shuttleworths (b007n13d)

John Shuttleworth's Open Mind

Fairies

The Sheffield singer-songwriter investigates agent Ken's surprise discovery in his garden pond. With Kim Wilde. From April 2006.

SAT 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m0001m53)

Hannah George and Taylor Glenn 1/2

Arthur Smith chats to the (drunk) women behind the hit new podcast, Drunk Women Solving Crime: Hannah George and Taylor Glenn.

SAT 23:00 Rhod Gilbert's Bulging Barrel of Laughs (b00v4x0d)

Episode 6

Welsh comic Rhod Gilbert introduces regulars Lloyd Langford and Greg Davies, plus Sarah Millican who takes a look at the last stage of Woman. With live music from The Hoosiers. Guest comedian: Jon Richardson. Find out what aliens know about teeth; why young people are as annoying as a nude Elton John playing the vuvuzela; and what depths Rhod would sink to become a kung fu master. First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in October 2010.

SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2018

SUN 00:00 Grimm's Fairy Tales (m0001m50)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Saturday]

SUN 00:45 Fairy Tales Retold by Sara Maitland

(b01phdqk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:45 on Saturday]

SUN 01:00 Lucy Catherine - Gudrun (m0001m4w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 13:00 on Saturday]

SUN 02:10 Inheritance Tracks (m0001m4y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:10 on Saturday]

SUN 02:15 Frankly Speaking (b05qk4m4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Saturday]

SUN 02:45 Robb Wilton - I Should Say So (b039bbjz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Saturday]

SUN 03:00 Very Nearly An Armful: The Galton and Simpson Story (m0001m4r)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 on Saturday]

SUN 04:00 William Fox - Constant Hot Water (m0001m4m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Saturday]

SUN 05:30 Britain in a Box (m0001m4p)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Saturday]

SUN 06:00 Moya O'Shea - The Chocolate Lovers' Club

(b00w8ljj)

Omnibus

At the Muchly Bottom village chocolate lovers' club five women take turns in creating a chocolate delight and tell a chocolate-related tale while eating it. At the inaugural meeting, Sarah reveals how chocolate helped her make one of the biggest decisions of her life... Moya O'Shea's delicious five-part drama. Mrs Drexel - Sylvia Sims. Clementine - Paula Wilcox. Rosie - Helena Breck. Sarah - Eleanor Bron. Charlotte - Carolyn Pickles. Hot Shot - Carl Prekopp. Luke - Peter Darney. Director: Tracey Neale. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2001.

SUN 07:15 Susie Maguire - Offensive Behaviour

(m0001mzd)

4 Extra Debut. Caught in the act, a young shoplifter ponders her motives, actions and reactions. Read by Joyce Deans. From August 1993.

SUN 07:30 Alex Horne Presents The Horne Section

(b01r51fb)

Series 2

Charlie Baker

New series of the comedy show hosted by Alex Horne and his five piece band and specially written, original music. Guests across this series include Phill Jupitus, Charlie Baker, Nick Mohammed, Doc Brown, Matt Lucas and Danny Baker. This third episode explores the theme of love including songs on chat up lines and romance in Bognor as well as a foray into drum and bass and a look at the history of the flute. Guest starring Charlie Baker who deconstructs a classic love song. Host Alex Horne. Trumpet/banjo Joe Auckland. Saxophone/clarinet Mark Brown. Double Bass/Bass Will Collier. Drums and Percussion Ben Reynolds. Piano/keyboard Ed Sheldrake. Guest performer Charlie Baker. Producer Julia McKenzie.

SUN 08:00 The Jason Explanation of... (b007jq9g)

The Unknown

David Jason and company explore fork bending, time travel and things that go bump in the night. With Sheila Steafel, Royce Mills and John Owen Edwards. Following in the footsteps of Lord Clark, Dr Bronowski and Professor Galbraith, David Jason unravels the mysteries of the universe and the meaning of life. Scripted by Colin Bostock Smith, Andy Hamilton, Barry Pilton and Alastair Beaton. Music by John Owen Edwards. Producer: Geoffrey Perkins. First broadcast on the BBC Radio 4 in September 1977.

SUN 08:30 A Life of Bliss (m0001mzg)

A Slave of Fashion

David's father takes up art, much to his amusement - until he has to pose for a portrait... Stars George Cole as David Bliss, Diana Churchill as Anne Fellows, Colin Gordon as Tony Fellows, Sheila Sweet as Zoe Hunter, Gladys Young as Mrs Bliss, Carleton Hobbs as Mr Bliss, William Mervyn as Lord Garland and Percy Edwards as 'Psyche' the Dog. Godfrey Harrison's sitcom about shy, bumbling bachelor David Alexander Bliss. Beginning in 1953, it ran for six series of 118 episodes concluding in 1969 - but few survive in the BBC archive. (A TV series was made in 1969). For the first 7 episodes, David Tomlinson played David, but the rest starred the future star of The St Trinian's films - destined to find great fame as the doggy Arthur Daley in ITV's Minder - George Cole. Producer: Leslie Bridgmont. First broadcast on the BBC Home Service in February 1959.

SUN 09:00 Handel in London - The Making of a Genius

(Omnibus) (m0001mzj)

Handel in London tells the story of a young German composer who in 1712, followed his princely master to London and would remain there for the rest of his life. That master would become King George II and the composer was George Frederic Handel. He would be at the heart of musical activity in London for the next four decades, composing masterpiece after masterpiece, whether the glorious coronation anthem, Zadok the Priest, operas such as Giulio Cesare and Alcina or the great oratorios, culminating, of course, in Messiah. Jane Glover, who has conducted Handel's work in opera houses and concert halls throughout the world, draws on her profound understanding of music and musicians to tell Handel's story. Reader: Jane Glover. Producer: Clive Brill. Abridger: Eileen Horne. The readings will include music from Handel's vast output. A Brill Production first broadcast in five parts on BBC Radio 4.

SUN 10:10 The Listening Project (b04lr6m)

Tom and Sandra - Life Goes On

Fi Glover introduces a conversation between a couple who are beginning to acknowledge the ageing process and that it means their future is finite. The Listening Project is a Radio 4 initiative that offers a snapshot of contemporary Britain in which people across the UK volunteer to have a conversation with someone close to them about a subject they've never discussed intimately before. The conversations are being gathered across the UK by teams of producers from local and national radio stations who facilitate each encounter. Every conversation - they're not BBC interviews, and that's an important difference - lasts up to an hour, and is then edited to extract the key moment of connection between the participants. Most of the unedited conversations are being archived by the British Library and used to build up a collection of voices capturing a unique portrait of the UK in the second decade of the millennium. You can learn more about The Listening Project by visiting bbc.co.uk/listeningproject. Producer: Marya Burgess. First broadcast on Radio 4 in 2014.

SUN 10:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m0001mzl)

Absent Friends

Neil Simon

4 Extra Debut. From Mozart to Rex Harrison, New York playwright Neil Simon shares his castaway choices with Sue Lawley. From May 1995.

SUN 11:00 The Moth Radio Hour (m0001mzn)

Series 8

Something Borrowed, Something New

True stories told live in the USA: Jenifer Hixson introduces tales about uncommon similarities and unexpected situations. The Moth is an acclaimed not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling based in the USA. Since 1997, it has celebrated both the raconteur and the storytelling novice, who has lived through something extraordinary and yearns to share it. Originally formed by the writer George Dawes Green as an intimate gathering of friends on a porch in Georgia (where moths would flutter in through a hole in the screen), and then recreated in a New York City living room, The Moth quickly grew to produce immensely popular events at theatres and clubs around New York City and later around the USA, the UK and other parts of the world. The Moth has presented more than 15,000 stories, told live and without notes, to standing-room-only crowds worldwide. The Moth podcast is downloaded over 27 million times a year. Featuring true stories told live on stage without scripts, from the humorous to the heart-breaking. The Moth Radio Hour is produced by Jay Allison and Atlantic Public Media in Woods Hole, Massachusetts and is distributed by the Public Radio Exchange.

SUN 11:50 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b010mwv4)

Series 2

Monsters

Fire breathing dragons are clearly something from legend, but what about a monster that lives in an ancient deep lake? In this edition of David Attenborough's Life Stories, Sir David reflects on a time when pre-eminent conservationist and naturalist Peter Scott was immersed in acquiring evidence of the existence of the Loch Ness Monster. No such giant creature has ever been found or concrete evidence it ever existed, but this is an intriguing tale of discovery. David Attenborough moves his story on to beyond the highlands of Scotland and into the Himalayas - and it's here that Sir David reveals something very surprising. Written and presented by David Attenborough. Produced by Julian Hector.

SUN 12:00 The Jason Explanation of... (b007jq9g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

SUN 12:30 A Life of Bliss (m0001mzg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

SUN 13:00 Moya O'Shea - The Chocolate Lovers' Club

(b00w8ljj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

SUN 14:15 Susie Maguire - Offensive Behaviour

(m0001mzd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 today]

SUN 14:30 Barbara Kingsolver - Unsheltered (m0001mzq)

Omnibus 2/3

1871. Thatcher tries to address the issue of his disintegrating home. 2016. Willa tries to uncover a source of income to shore up her equally rundown house. Read by Laurel Lefkowitz. The new novel from Barbara Kingsolver, bestselling author of The Poisonwood Bible, The Lacuna and Flight Behaviour, interweaves the past and the present to explore the human capacity for resilience and compassion in times of great upheaval. It is a portrait of life in precarious times - when characters discover that the past has failed to prepare them for the future. Alternating between two centuries, Kingsolver examines the personal and social shocks that ensue when people's assumptions about the world and their place in it are shaken to their foundations. Omnibus two of three. Abridged by Sian Preece. Producer: Gaynor Macfarlane. First broadcast in fifteen parts on BBC Radio 4 in 2018.

SUN 15:45 Puzzling Passions (m0001mzs)

Maths

Marcel Berlins looks at the value of games and playing within maths, and at what point it becomes serious. From October 2000.

SUN 16:00 Saturday Drama (b01j2bmz)

Wilkie Collins - The Haunted Hotel

In 1860, the formidable Countess Narona marries a rich young aristocrat in London - but shortly after travelling to Venice her

husband dies, apparently of natural causes, leaving the Countess a rich woman.Years later, guests in a Venetian hotel encounter the terrifying apparition of a murder victim seeking revenge.Wilkie Collins' gothic horror tale is a powerful combination of ghost story and detective mystery.Dramatised by Rod Beacham.Director: Bruce Young.

SUN 17:00 Poetry Extra (m0001mzv)

Thomas Lynch's Season of Innocence
Poet Daljit Nagra revisits the BBC's radio poetry archive with Thomas Lynch's Season of Innocence.Essayist, poet and funeral director, Thomas Lynch presents poems that reveal the relationship between poets and their children.Producer: Kate BlandA Just Radio production first broadcast on Radio 4 in 2009.

SUN 17:30 Alex Horne Presents The Horne Section (b01r51fb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 18:00 The Prisoner (m0001mzx)

The Schizoid Man

6 finds himself fascinated by a strange bond which has suddenly developed between himself and Number 9. But the next morning, 6 wakes to find himself changed. A moustache, different hair, and... a new name. Number 12.The original 17-episode TV series of The Prisoner created intrigue and controversy in equal measure when it first aired in the UK in 1967. In a taut psychological spy thriller, the main character, dehumanised as 'Number 6', has committed no crime, save for having resigned from some unspecified branch of the British Secret Service. His prison is a heavily guarded coastal village.Under constant surveillance, Number 6 can trust no-one and relentlessly works to establish who his captors are, a seemingly impossible task when the most senior figure he encounters – Number 2 – changes frequently...Mark Elstob stars as Agent ZM73 aka Number 6, with Celia Imrie as Number Two, Sara Powell as Number 9, Helen Goldwyn as the Village Voice, Jim Barclay as Cobb, Jez Fielder as Number 17 and Barnaby Edwards as the Butler.Music - Jamie RobertsonScript Editor - Jamie AndersonWritten and directed by Nicholas Briggs.A Big Finish Production - based on the classic ITV series.

SUN 19:00 The Moth Radio Hour (m0001mzn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

SUN 19:50 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b010mwv4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:50 today]

SUN 20:00 Handel in London - The Making of a Genius (Omnibus) (m0001mzj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

SUN 21:10 The Listening Project (b04tlr6m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:10 today]

SUN 21:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m0001mzl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:15 today]

SUN 22:00 Alex Horne Presents The Horne Section (b01r51fb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

SUN 22:30 My First Planet (b04fc5p)

Series 2

Day Trip to Terror!

What better time for Social Media to kick in than on a dangerous search-and-rescue mission on the planet's surface? And just why is Lillian replacing her nose?The return of the hit sitcom starring Nicholas Lyndhurst and Vicki Pepperdine (Getting On) set on a shiny new planet.Welcome to the colony. We're aware that, having been in deep cryosleep for 73 years, you may be in need of some supplementary information.Unfortunately, Burrows the leader of the colony has died on the voyage so his Number 2, Brian (Nicholas Lyndhurst), is now in charge. He's a nice enough chap, but no alpha male, and his desire to sort things out with a nice friendly meeting infuriates the colony's Chief Physician Lillian (Vicki Pepperdine), who'd really rather everyone was walking round in tight colour-coded tunics and saluting each other. She's also in charge of Project Adam, the plan to conceive and give birth to the first colony-born baby. Unfortunately, the two people hand-picked for this purpose - Carol and Richard - were rather fibbing about being a couple, just to get on the trip.Add in an entirely unscrupulous Chief Scientist, Mason and also Archer, an idiot maintenance man who believes he's an "empath" rather than a plumber, and you're all set to answer the question - if humankind were to colonise space, is it destined to succumb to self-interest, prejudice and infighting? (By the way, the answer's "yes". Sorry.)Written by Phil WhelansProduced and Directed by David TylerA Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4.

SUN 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m0001mzz)

Hannah George and Taylor Glenn 2/2

Arthur Smith chats to the (drunk) women behind the hit new podcast, Drunk Women Solving Crime: Hannah George and Taylor Glenn.

SUN 23:00 Clare in the Community (b00z7f6j)

Series 3

We Need To Talk About Brian

Clare prepares to move to a new home with Brian - until a disturbing discovery she makes while packing forces her to question the decision.Clare Barker is a social worker with all the politically correct jargon but none of the practical solutions. Award-winning sitcom by Harry Venning and David Ramsden.Starring Sally Phillips as Clare, Alex Lowe as Brian, Andrew Wincott as Simon, Richard Lumsden as Ray, Gemma Craven as Helen, Ellen Thomas as Irene and Nina Conti as

Megan.Producer: Katie TyrrellFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4

in 2006

SUN 23:30 Laura Solon - Talking and Not Talking (b00c5xtr)

Series 2

Episode 5

An attic full of peas, switching from girl guide to sumo wrestler, and dull geological holidays. With Ben Moor. From June 2008.

MONDAY 17 DECEMBER 2018

MON 00:00 The Prisoner (m0001mzx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Sunday]

MON 01:00 Moya O'Shea - The Chocolate Lovers' Club (b00w8ljj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Sunday]

MON 02:15 Susie Maguire - Offensive Behaviour (m0001mzd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:15 on Sunday]

MON 02:30 Barbara Kingsolver - Unsheltered (m0001mzq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Sunday]

MON 03:45 Puzzling Passions (m0001mzs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Sunday]

MON 04:00 Saturday Drama (b012jbmz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:00 Poetry Extra (m0001mzv)

[Repeat of broadcast at 17:00 on Sunday]

MON 05:30 Alex Horne Presents The Horne Section (b01r51fb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Sunday]

MON 06:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1j)

Series 2

The Rest Cure

Bunny is surprised and pleased to be invited by Raffles to share the latter's self-imposed 'rest cure' in a large house in Kensington.But Raffles, needless to say, has his own somewhat nefarious reasons for wanting to take a holiday...Starring Jeremy Clyde as AJ Raffles, Michael Cochrane as Bunny Manders, Christopher Benjamin as Colonel Crutchley, Laurence Payne as the Porter and Norman Bird as the Cabby.EW Hornung's Raffles stories about the 'gentleman thief' dramatised by David Buck.Signature tune composed by Jim Parker.Director: Gordon HouseA BBC Radio 4/ BBC World Service production first broadcast in 1988.

MON 06:30 Blind Date with Runyon (b01qkmp0)

Peter White goes State-side to find out about one of his favourite all time writers - Damon Runyon - who so colourfully captured the lowlife vibes of jazz era New York. Runyon's comic villains include the gangsters and molls who people The Hot Box night club in 'Guys and Dolls', Frank Loesser's classic musical that was inspired by Runyon's memorable characters.The Big Apple's preeminent storyteller, newspaperman, and sportswriter, Damon Runyon, will be brought to life as Peter strides down Broadway, celebrating the memorable slang of such colourful characters as Harry the Horse, Bookie Bob, Little Isadore and Spanish John.Producer: Mark Smalley

MON 07:00 Flying the Flag (b00b2nfp)

Series 2

The Opium of the People

It's Glorious Reindeer Day in the People's Republic.Seasonal goodwill abounds, even if light bulbs and religious tolerance don't...Alex Shearer's Eastern bloc embassy sitcom.Starring Dinsdale Landen as HM Ambassador Mackenzie, Peter Acre as William Frost, Moir Leslie as Helen Waterson, John Baddeley as Morris and Christopher Benjamin as Colonel Surikov.Producer: Pete AtkinFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1988.

MON 07:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m0001hkc)

Series 7

Episode 5

The godfather of all panel shows pays a visit to Venue Cymru in Llandudno. Regular Tim Brooke-Taylor is joined on the panel by programme stalwarts Susan Calman, Richard Osman and Rob Brydon with Jack Dee in the chair. Colin Sell accompanies on the piano. Producer - Jon Naismith.It is a BBC Studios production.

MON 08:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b007jnqr)

Series 5

The Americans Hit Town

Visiting servicemen get Griselda excited and Sid all keen to rent out the lad's rooms.Stars Tony Hancock. With Sidney James, Bill Kerr, Hattie Jacques and Kenneth Williams.Written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.Theme and incidental music written by Wally Stott.Producer: Tom RonaldFirst broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in March 1958.

MON 08:30 Parsley Sidings (b008s3d0)

Series 1

Goodbye Parsley Sidings

Station Master Horace Hepplewhite takes on the bolshie buffet staff.Starring Arthur Lowe as Horace, Ian Lavender as Bert, Liz Fraser as Gloria, Kenneth Connor as Bradshaw and Bill Pertwee as Trimwick.Jim Eldridge's eponymous series is set in a sleepy railway station. The Hepplewhites have run 'Parsley Sidings' station for generations and the current Station Master, Horace, hopes that his son Bert will continue the line. Mild-mannered Ticket Clerk Bert wants to work anywhere but on the railways.

His colleague, Station Announcer Gloria Simpkins, secretly loves him. Porter Percy Valentine is an archetypal wheeler-dealer and the ancient Signalman, Bradshaw, causes havoc and dispenses home-made remedies in equal measure. The 'Parsley Sidings' nemesis is Phineas Perkins, the station master of Potwhistle Halt, one stop down the line.Producer: Edward TaylorFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in February 1972.

MON 09:00 Just a Minute (b01457q5)

Series 61

With Guests Gyles Brandreth, Tony Hawks, Miles Jupp and Pam Ayres

The popular panel game hosted by Nicholas Parsons, with panellists Tony Hawks, Gyles Brandreth, Pam Ayres and newcomer Miles Jupp. Recorded at the Lichfield Festival Produced by Tilusha Ghelani.

MON 09:30 King Street Junior Revisited (m0001n5l)

Series 2

Love All

Road safety, a painful little problem for Mr Long – and is romance in the air?School comedy created and written by Jim Eldridge. Ten series of this King Street Junior ran between 1985 and 1998. King Street Junior Revisited ran from 2002 to 2005.Stars Carolyn Pickles as Mrs Devon, Marlene Sidaway as Miss Lewis, Michael Cochrane as Mr Maxwell, Paul Copley as Mr Long, Teresa Gallagher as Miss Featherstone, Jacqueline Beatty as Miss Reid, Janice Acquah as Mrs Khan, Sally Grace as Mrs Meadows, Denica Fairman as Mrs Watson, John Harwood as Edward and Kachaan Ellis as Monica.Producer: John Fawcett WilsonFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2003.

MON 10:00 HG Wells (m0001n5n)

Kipps

The Making of Kipps

Arthur 'Artie' Kipps leaves school, and his first love Ann, when he's apprenticed to a Folkestone draper.1905 novel by HG Wells adapted by Michelene Wandor in five-parts...Mark Straker stars as Kipps; Paul Daneman as HG Wells; Kathryn Hurlbutt as Miss Walsingham; Rosalind Ayres as Emily; John Hollis as Uncle; Jane Wenham as Aunt; Michael Jenner as Sid Pornick; Moir Leslie as Ann; Michael Bilton as Mr Shalford; Christopher Biggins as Carshot; John Webb as Buggins; Helen Atkinson-Wood as Flo; Christopher Good as Chester Coote; Spencer Banks as Henry Walsingham; and Margot Boyd as Miss Lomax.Music by Ilona Sekacz.Director: Martin Jenkins.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

MON 11:00 Sitters' Stories (b052mbj)

Strandgade 30 by Elizabeth Kuti

Captured in a moment in time with faces forever staring at them and fingers ever pointing, the sitters from some well-known paintings get a chance to escape from the canvas, set the story straight, or tell us their particular version of the story behind the image.Characters from famous paintings finally get a chance to tell their story in this series of readings from Elizabeth Kuti, Sophia Hillan, and Niall Williams.Strandgade 30 by Elizabeth KutiPainting: Hammershoi's Interior, 1899, National Gallery London.<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/vilhelm-hammershoi-interior>Vilhelm Hammershoi's sparse interior of the home he shared with his wife Ida – Strandgade 30 - shows Ida with her back to us. But could it be that she is holding something, something obscured from our view? Writer Elizabeth Kuti ponders the secret that Ida is hiding from us – and her husband.Writer Elizabeth KutiReader Trine GarrettProducer Heather Larmour

MON 11:15 Nick Warburton - Interviews (b00tb9nw)

A year in the life of three primary school children - as seen through the eyes of their parents and teacher.Nick Warburton's drama stars Tracy Childs as Miss Salmon, Henry Goodman as Mr Zagorsky, Kate Fleetwood as Steph, Richard Katz as Frank and Laura Elphinstone as Mrs Harris.Director: Sally AvensFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2005.

MON 12:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b007jnqr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 12:30 Parsley Sidings (b008s3d0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 13:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 13:30 Blind Date with Runyon (b01qkmp0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 14:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001n5q)

6. Gathering

Ahead of publication day, photographers gather outside the Foreign Secretary's home, while Vernon has uneasy dreams.Michael Kitchen reads Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel.Abridged in ten parts by Penny LeicestersProducer: Julia ButtFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

MON 14:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdw2x)

Lebanon

In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years.Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops

and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight. The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still seek to influence the politics of the region. In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today. In the sixth programme in this series John arrives in Lebanon to seek out the site of the Prince's encampment in Beirut and he visits the ancient temples at Baalbek. Presenter: John McCarthy. Producer: Kevin Dawson. A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

MON 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b03m40zq)

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

1. The Tale of Pigling Bland

Beatrix Potter's famous tales are celebrated this Christmas. Her love of the British landscape and its inhabitants - coupled with her world famous ability for storytelling - means she has been one of the most celebrated children's authors of the last hundred years. This suite of five of her tumultuous tales, including some of the lesser-known stories, brings comedic surprise, comfort and joy to the Christmas audience. Their timeless wonders pit the delight and childlike innocence of the very human characters against the dark and dramatic ruthlessness of the food-chain-led underbelly of Cumbria's fields and hedgerows. In this episode Johnny Vegas stars as Pigling Bland and Morwenna Banks as Pig-Wig. Adapted and Directed by Sean Grundy. Produced by Sally Harrison. A Woollyback production for BBC Radio 4

MON 14:45 Book of the Week (b03xd3hd)

A Sense of Direction

Episode 1

The author Gideon Lewis-Kraus describes leaving America for life in Berlin, to ease the sadness after his father abandoned the family home. But Berlin isn't enough and only embarking on a series of world-wide pilgrimages will help him. The journeys turn out both amusing and moving, and are abridged in five episodes by Katrin Williams. 1. It's on a trip to Tallinn that that Gideon agrees with his friend Tomto walk the Camino in Spain. Later, reality bites! Reader Patrick Kennedy. Producer: Duncan Minshall

MON 15:00 HG Wells (m0001n5n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

MON 16:00 Just a Minute (b01457q5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 16:30 King Street Junior Revisited (m0001n5l)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

MON 17:00 Flying the Flag (b00b2nfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

MON 17:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m0001hkc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 18:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wq18p)

Chronicles of Ait - Magpie

Episode 1

The fourth series of The Chronicles of Ait, set in a remote East Coast settlement. Linus Scott's niece Lollo becomes convinced that reality is being influenced by forces which no-one has the power to stop - and that the plunge towards emotional disaster is unavoidable. Cast: Linus Scott, Greg Wise, Alice Pypers, Amanda Drew, Lollo, Gina Abolins, Jason, Joe Clafin, Marlene, Heather Craney, Trench, Stanley, Christopher James Afiz/Lee, Stewart Scudamore, Mac, Mihai Arsene. Writer: Michael Butt. Produced and directed by John Taylor. A Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4

MON 18:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xd2kh)

The Mistletoe Bride

The happiness of a young bride on her wedding day comes to a tragic and abrupt end. Read by Bryony Hannah. "The Mistletoe Bride and other Haunting Tales" is a collection of haunting short stories written, abridged and introduced by Kate Mosse. They are all inspired by legends and folktales from the French and Sussex Countryside and each story explores the relationship between landscape and emotion. Grief and Guilt. Loss and happiness. They are timeless in their telling, ranging from the mythical past to the present day. Kate Mosse has chosen 5 out of the collection that exemplify the redemption experienced by the various grief stricken men and women as they come to terms with their destiny. Producer: Celia de Wolff. Made for 4 Extra by Pier Productions.

MON 18:30 A Good Read (m0001n5s)

Marjorie Wallace and Richard Francis

Sue MacGregor and her guests - SANE charity Chief

Executive, Marjorie Wallace and writer, Richard Francis - discuss books by Madeleine Masson, Benjamin Markovits and Philip Marsden. Christine: SOE Agent and Churchill's Favourite Spy, by Madeleine Masson. Publisher: Virago. Either Side of Winter by Benjamin Markovits. Publisher: Faber. The Chains of Heaven by Philip Marsden. Publisher: Harper Collins. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2007.

MON 19:00 Hancock's Half Hour (b007jnqr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 19:30 Parsley Sidings (b008s3d0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 20:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 20:30 Blind Date with Runyon (b01qkmp0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 21:00 Sitters' Stories (b052mbjl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

MON 21:15 Nick Warburton - Interviews (b00b9nww)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

MON 22:00 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m0001hkc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 22:30 Tina C (b01b1jwx)

Tina C's Global Depression Tour

Australia

Country legend Tina C challenges the Secretary for the US Treasury, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve and the former CEO of Goldman Sachs that where they have failed, she can come up with a solution to the Global Recession, and sets off on a six country tour to prove it. This week she goes down under. Tina C... Christopher Green. With Andrew Cornell, Victoria Inez Hardy and James Lalely. Musical arrangements by Duncan Walsh. Atkins and Christopher Green. Director: Jeremy Mortimer.

MON 22:45 Knocker (b008d1f2)

Obsellectivity. Science

Market researcher Ian surveys a high-tech future. Sitcom with Neil Edmond and Paula Wilcox. From December 2007.

MON 23:00 Dead Ringers (m0001kch)

Christmas Specials 2018

Episode 2

It's been a week of panic, turmoil and last-minute fight-fighting for the writers as they cope with panic, turmoil and last-minute fire-fighting in Westminster. Satire and impressions from Jon Culshaw, Jan Ravens, Duncan Wisbey and Lewis MacLeod.

The series is written by Private Eye writers Tom Jamieson and Nev Fountain, together with Tom Coles, Ed Amsden, Laurence Howarth and many more. Producer... Bill Dare. A BBC Studios Production.

MON 23:30 Pleased to Meet You (b018j463)

A Very Dora Christmas

Episode 1

Theatre veteran Dora Dale puts the 'X' into Xmas with saucy festive yarns. With Jake Yapp and Martin Kelner. From December 2011. Episode 1 of 2.

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2018

TUE 00:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wq18p)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Monday]

TUE 00:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xd2kh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Monday]

TUE 00:30 A Good Read (m0001n5s)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Monday]

TUE 01:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Monday]

TUE 01:30 Blind Date with Runyon (b01qkmp0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001n5q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Monday]

TUE 02:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdw2x)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Monday]

TUE 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b03m40zq)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:45 Book of the Week (b03xd3hd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Monday]

TUE 03:00 HG Wells (m0001n5n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:00 Just a Minute (b01457q5)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:30 King Street Junior Revisited (m0001n5l)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Monday]

TUE 05:00 Flying the Flag (b00b2nfp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Monday]

TUE 05:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (m0001hkc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Monday]

TUE 06:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1w)

Series 2

The Criminologists' Club

Bunny is appalled to learn that the Criminologists' Club has invited Raffles and Bunny to dinner. But Raffles sees the opportunity to have a little fun... Starring Jeremy Clyde as AJ Raffles, Michael Cochrane as Bunny, Henry Stammer as Inspector Mackenzie, David March as Lord Thornaby, Michael Tudor Barnes as Kingsmill, Blain Fairman as Parrington, Simon Hewitt as Ernest, Norman Bird as Leggett, Paul Sirt as William and John Sanson as the Porter. EW Hornung's Raffles stories about the "gentleman thief" dramatised by David Buck. Signature tune composed by Jim Parker. Director: Gordon House. A BBC Radio 4/ BBC World Service production first broadcast in 1988.

TUE 06:30 The Matinee: The Creation of a Theatrical Institution (b00xgc64)

Ned Sherrin investigates the lore and history of matinees in theatres. Featuring June Whitfield, Donald Sinden, Sandy Wilson and John Moffatt. Producer - Philippa Ritchie. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2003.

TUE 07:00 Second Thoughts (b00jzckp)

Series 3

Name, Set and Match

Newly wed Faith and Bill's married monikers are a sensitive

subject. Sitcom about the battles of divorcees Bill and Faith beginning married life, whilst balancing the demands of his ex-wife, Liza and her teenage children, Hannah and Joe. Stars Lynda Bellingham as Faith, James Bolam as Bill, Emma Gregory as Hannah, Mark Denham as Joe, Geoffrey Whitehead as Richard and Norman Bird as Mr Burrows. Series three of four inspired by the real lives of its writers, husband and wife Jan Etherington and Gavin Petrie. A TV version made with LWT for ITV appeared in 1991 and ran for four series, with a spin-off 'Faith in the Future'. Producer: Paul Schlesinger. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1991.

TUE 07:30 Alex Edelman's Peer Group (m0001hxo)

Series 2

Personal

Nominated for this year's main Edinburgh Comedy Award, and winner of the Newcomer in 2014, American comedian Alex Edelman is back for a second series of his show PEER GROUP in which he takes a comic look at what it's like being a millennial today. After episodes about social media, politics and materialism, this episode is all about growing up and how he feels personally; living as a rootless millennial with no home and no family. At 29, is he an adult yet? When will he become an adult? Or indeed feel like one? Is he part of a generation that's increasingly stunted emotionally? And is the internet responsible? He also looks at modern relationships, both in terms of what one expects from one's parents as well as modern attitudes to picking your partner. We also hear from Alex's "peer group" - comedians Alfie Brown, Jak Knight, and Brandon Wardell, journalist Rebecca Nicholson and cultural commentator David Burstein. It is written and presented by Alex Edelman, with additional material by Ivo Graham. Producer: Sam Michell. A BBC Studios production.

TUE 08:00 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007jyt4)

Series 3

The Champagne

Diana must break the news to Gerald that she needs to go to hospital - to see a friend. But paying a visit proves to be tricky. The convoluted chronicle of an optimistic author starring Ian Carmichael as Gerald C Potter and Charlotte Mitchell as his wife, Diana. Written by Basil Boothroyd. Producer: Bobby Jaye. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1979.

TUE 08:30 The Men from the Ministry (b01cjlny)

Computaclanger

The bungling bureaucrats' get-rich-quick schemes backfire and sparks havoc! One of 14 shows not kept in the archive and re-recorded in 1980 - previously never broadcast in the UK, until the arrival of BBC Radio 4 Extra. 'The Men from the Ministry' ran for 14 series between 1962 and 1977. Stars Richard Murdoch and Deryck Guyler (who replaced Wilfrid Hyde-White from 1966). With Norma Ronald, Ronald Baddley and John Graham. Written by Johnnie Mortimer, Brian Cooke and Edward Taylor. Producer: Edward Taylor. Re-recording of "The Trouble with Cecil" made in May 1980.

TUE 09:00 Dead Ringers (m0001kch)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:00 on Monday]

TUE 09:30 Instant Sunshine (b007jxgk)

From 17/12/1986

Humorous songs performed by the comedy musical cabaret quartet, Instant Sunshine. Featuring David Barlow, Peter Christie, Miles Kington and Alan Maryon-Davis attempting to be reasonably together again. With special guests: The Cambridge Buskers. Producer: David Rayvern Allen. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1986.

TUE 10:00 HG Wells (m0001mfw)

Kipps

Kipps Learns Something to his Advantage

Artie Kipps' life - and fortune - changes dramatically when he answers a newspaper advertisement. 1905 novel by HG Wells adapted by Michelene Wandor. Mark Straker stars as Kipps; Paul Daneman as HG Wells; Kathryn Hurlbutt as Miss Walsingham; John Hollis as Uncle; Jane Wenham as Aunt; Michael Jenner as Sid Pornick; Moir Leslie as Ann; Michael Bilton as Mr Shalford; Christopher Biggins as Carshot; John Webb as Buggins; Helen Atkinson-Wood as Flo/Maid; Christopher Good as Chester Cootie; Nickolas Grace as Chitterlow; and Jon Strickland as Old Bean. Music by Ilona Sekacz. Director: Martin Jenkins. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

TUE 11:00 Sitters' Stories (b053c3pl)

Portrait of Elizabeth by Sophia Hillan

Captured in a moment in time with faces forever staring at them and fingers ever pointing, the sitters from some well-known paintings get a chance to escape from the canvas, set the story straight or tell us their particular version of the story behind the image. Painting: Portrait of Elizabeth Bridges Austen (1773-1808), housed at the Jane Austen's House Museum, Chawton. <http://www.jane-austens-house-museum.org.uk/ElizabethBridgesAusten> was the daughter of a baronet, Sir Brook Bridges of Goodnestone Park, near Sandwich in Kent. In December 1791 she married Edward Austen, elder brother of the celebrated novelist Jane Austen. Between 1793 and 1808, Elizabeth bore eleven children, and was not infrequently assisted in their care and education by her sisters-in-law, Jane and Cassandra. Elizabeth died suddenly, on 10 October 1808, less than a fortnight after the birth of her eleventh child. Her illness, thought at the time to be no more than the "Godmersham cold" then afflicting the family, was later discovered to be puerperal fever. Shortly after her death,

Edward belatedly offered a cottage on one of his estates to his mother and sisters, ending their peripatetic existence since the retirement in 1801 of the Rev. George Austen, and his death in 1805. They chose Chawton Cottage, now the Jane Austen House Museum at Chawton, where Jane Austen spent her final years, perhaps the most creative of her life. It is in this house that the portrait of Elizabeth hangs today. Sophia Hillan situates her story during this final illness, as Elizabeth, unaware of its severity, rails at the thought of having her sister-in-law Jane attend her. But just what has made Elizabeth so angry with Jane? Writer ... Sophia Hillan Reader Laura Carmichael Producer Heather Larmour

TUE 11:15 Dave Sheasby - Showing Promise (b007m6tg)

With her creative writing course threatened financially, Marjorie's glad to see a new face arrive - even if Harry lacks some of the graces she's accustomed to... Dave Sheasby's drama stars Heather Stoney as Marjorie, Gerry Kersey as Brian, John Branwell as John, Lorraine Peters as Jean, Daphne Oxenford as Florence and Graham Roberts as Harry. Director: Tony Cliff First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1990.

TUE 12:00 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007jyt4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

TUE 12:30 The Men from the Ministry (b01cjlny)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

TUE 13:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

TUE 13:30 The Matinee: The Creation of a Theatrical Institution (b00xgc64)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

TUE 14:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001mg2)

7. Judgement

Vernon urges Clive to go to the police about the Lakeland Rapist. Newspaper sales are up, but the big splash doesn't quite go to plan. Michael Kitchen reads Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel. Abridged in ten parts by Penny Leicester. Producer: Julia Butt First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

TUE 14:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdg34)

Lebanon

In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years. Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight. The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still seek to influence the politics of the region. In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today. In the seventh programme in this series, John remains in Lebanon visiting the remote town of Rachaiya and the crusader castle at Beaufort. Presenter: John McCarthy Producer: Kevin Dawson A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mt4k8)

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

2. The Tale of Peter Rabbit

Beatrix Potter's famous tales are celebrated this Christmas. Her love of the British landscape and its inhabitants - coupled with her world famous ability for storytelling - means she has been one of the most celebrated children's authors of the last hundred years. This suite of five of her tumultuous tales, including some of the lesser-known stories, brings comedic surprise, comfort and joy to the Christmas audience. Their timeless wonders pit the delight and childlike innocence of the very human characters against the dark and dramatic ruthlessness of the food-chain-led underbelly of Cumbria's fields and hedgerows. In this episode Chris Addison stars as Peter Rabbit and John Henshaw as Mr McGregor. Adapted and Directed by Sean Grundy Produced by Sally Harrison A Woollyback production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 14:45 Book of the Week (b03xdmz2)

A Sense of Direction

Episode 2

The author Gideon Lewis-Kraus describes leaving America for life in Berlin, to ease the sadness after his father abandoned the family home. But Berlin isn't enough and only embarking on a series of world-wide pilgrimages will help him. The journeys turn out both amusing and moving, and are abridged in five episodes by Katrin Williams. 2. Travel on the Camino continues. There are hardships, but also rewarding friendships with Roman and David, and the lovely Nora and Alina. Reader Patrick Kennedy Producer Duncan Minshall

TUE 15:00 HG Wells (m0001mfw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

TUE 16:00 All the Way from Memphis (b00jdp93)

Series 1

Episode 4

James Walton's pop music history quiz with Andrew Collins,

Martin Freeman, Tracey Maelod and Stewart Lee. From December 2004.

TUE 16:30 The Small World of Dominic Holland (b007w4dg)

Fear

The comedian shares his thoughts on how to cope with fear and pain. Six-part series illustrating the Domestic minutiae of life. Stand-up and sketches with Simon Greenall, Sally Grace and Dave Lamb. Producer: Maria Esposito First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2000.

TUE 17:00 Second Thoughts (b00jzckp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

TUE 17:30 Alex Edelman's Peer Group (m0001hx0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

TUE 18:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wy1bn)

Chronicles of Ait - Magpie

Episode 2

When Afiz looks to do a deal with Trench for a fake passport, her former affair with Linus comes to light, reinforcing Lollo's fears of an unavoidable tragedy. Cast: Linus Scott Greg Wise Alice Pyyer Amanda Drew Lollo Gina Abolins Jason Joe Clafin Marlene Heather Craney Trench / Stanley ... Christopher James Afiz Stewart Scudamore Mac Mihai Arsene Writer: Michael Butt Produced and directed by John Taylor A Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4

TUE 18:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgccc)

On Harting Hill

A horrified man thinks he's run over a young girl only to find all is not quite as it seems. Read by Robert Glenister. "The Mistletoe Bride and other Haunting Tales" is a collection of haunting short stories written, abridged and introduced by Kate Mosse. They are all inspired by legends and folktales from the French and Sussex Countryside and each story explores the relationship between landscape and emotion. Grief and Guilt, Loss and happiness. They are timeless in their telling, ranging from the mythical past to the present day. Kate Mosse has chosen 5 out of the collection that exemplify the redemption experienced by the various grief stricken men and women as they come to terms with their destiny. Producer: Celia de Wolff Made for 4 Extra by Pier Productions.

TUE 18:30 Sounds Natural (b071p1v3)

Derek Nimmo

From the Bar-Tailed Godwit to the Natterjack Toad. Actor, producer, author and Just A Minute panellist, Derek Nimmo talks to Derek Jones about his love of wildlife photography and filming, plus his recent trip to Australia - aided by recordings from the BBC Sound Archive. Derek Nimmo: born 1930 - died 1999. Producer: John Burton. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1973.

TUE 19:00 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (b007jyt4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

TUE 19:30 The Men from the Ministry (b01cjlny)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

TUE 20:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

TUE 20:30 The Matinee: The Creation of a Theatrical Institution (b00xgc64)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

TUE 21:00 Sitters' Stories (b053c3pl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

TUE 21:15 Dave Sheasby - Showing Promise (b007m6tg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

TUE 22:00 Alex Edelman's Peer Group (m0001hx0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

TUE 22:30 Think the Unthinkable (b01mtkqn)

Series 4

Be Happy

The bustling management consultants grapple with physical perfection for Phil's gym. Stars Marcus Brigstocke. From October 2005.

TUE 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m0001mg1)

Jason Hazeley and Joel Morris 1/2

Jake Yapp chats to the writers behind the Ladybird Books for Grown Ups, Cunk On ... and loads of other great comedy, Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris

TUE 23:00 Beautiful Dreamers (b00vrvwx)

The Whalemen of Musungenyi

In this series documentary maker Nat Segnit investigates the untold stories of visionary mavericks. This week Nat meets an extraordinary group of thrillseeking 'Jonahs' who offer themselves up to be swallowed by whales. With contributions from Toby Jones, Kevin Eldon, Christine Kavanagh, Iain Batchelor, Jude Akuwudike and Ewan Bailey. Writers James Lever and Nat Segnit Producers Steven Canny and Sasha Yevtushenko.

TUE 23:30 World of Pub (b008m4ft)

Series 1

Episode 2

Barry and Garry build the world's first environmentally friendly bar. Stars Phil Cornwell and John Thomson. From March 1998.

TUE 23:45 History Retweeted (b03w18l1)

The Premiere of Romeo and Juliet

History Retweeted sends us back in time as we hear people from the past comment on a series of major world events, in 140 characters or fewer. It's the opening night of Romeo and

Juliet and you are cordially invited to the premiere of a brand new play by the up-and-coming playwright Billy Shakespeare. Much the same as any other playwright, Shakespeare ponders how the play will be received. He needn't worry anymore as the 16th century now comes complete with wifi. Bloggers review the show, fan-made plays are rife and the stars are interviewed on YouTube as one of Shakespeare's greatest blockbusters is 'retweeted'. Turning statuses into sounds, History Retweeted transports us to timelines gone by, feeding hashtags, trolls and trending topics into moments from history. Featuring the voices of Tim Barnes and Simon Berry, Wayne Forester and Annabelle Llewellyn, Peter Temple and Jelly Macintosh - with Lucy Beaumont as the voice of The Computer. Written by Tim Barnes and Simon Berry. Produced by Sally Harrison A Woollyback production for BBC Radio 4.

WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2018

WED 00:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wy1bn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Tuesday]

WED 00:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgccc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Tuesday]

WED 00:30 Sounds Natural (b071p1v3)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Tuesday]

WED 01:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq1w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Tuesday]

WED 01:30 The Matinee: The Creation of a Theatrical Institution (b00xgc64)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Tuesday]

WED 02:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001mg2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Tuesday]

WED 02:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdg34)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Tuesday]

WED 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mt4k8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Tuesday]

WED 02:45 Book of the Week (b03xdmz2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Tuesday]

WED 03:00 HG Wells (m0001mfw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Tuesday]

WED 04:00 All the Way from Memphis (b00jdp93)

[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Tuesday]

WED 04:30 The Small World of Dominic Holland (m0001mgb)

Fear

The comedian shares his thoughts on how to cope with fear and pain. Six-part series illustrating the Domestic minutiae of life. Stand-up and sketches with Simon Greenall, Sally Grace and Dave Lamb. Producer: Maria Esposito First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2000.

WED 05:00 Second Thoughts (b00jzckp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Tuesday]

WED 05:30 Alex Edelman's Peer Group (m0001hx0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Tuesday]

WED 06:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq29)

Series 2

The Field of Philippi

Making a nostalgic return to their school, Raffles and Bunny meet old enemy, 'Soapy' Sudborough, who owns the local bank with his father. Raffles, like Caesar at the field of Philippi, is not one to leave old scores unsettled... EW Hornung's Raffles stories about the 'gentleman thief' dramatised by David Buck. Starring Jeremy Clyde as AJ Raffles, Michael Cochrane as Bunny, Bernard Brown as Sudborough, Steve Hodson as Calthorpe, Adrian Egan as Bodley, John Baddeley as Lapwing, Michael Dykes as McNa and James Dykes as Young Bunny. Signature tune composed by Jim Parker. Director: Gordon House A BBC Radio 4/ BBC World Service production first broadcast in 1988.

WED 06:30 Derek Tangye - The Cornish Gardener (b02x66z5)

John McCarthy explores the fascinating life of British author Derek Tangye and reveals a remarkable and enigmatic portrait of this influential writer. Popular writer Derek Tangye who lived in the West Country for almost fifty years penned a score of books collectively known as 'The Minack Chronicles'. The stories illustrate the anomalous lives Derek and his wife Jeannie led when, in the 1950's, they abandoned their sophisticated metropolitan lifestyle to live in isolation working a cliff top daffodil farm with their beloved animals in the farthest reaches of Cornwall. As McCarthy travels to the area surrounding Minack, the main inspiration for Tangye's work, he explores the world of a writer whose literary triumphs mask a mysterious and complex life. His descriptions in the books of the 'glorious anthem' of a cat's purr and the 'sweet moment when a long-awaited harvest awakes' provide an atmospheric backdrop to the captivating discoveries and secrets of his life. Derek Tangye was educated at Harrow and subsequently worked as a journalist. During and after the war he was a member of M15 and throughout his days at Minack was a neighbour of novelist John Le Carre. A few years after Derek Tangye's death in 1996 a national newspaper ran allegations that he was a Russian spy. The sensational headlines were quickly dismissed by those who knew him but last year during a Tangye centenary event an audio project also revealed a life a lot bleaker than the books portrayed, uncovering the author's intense jealousy and the extent to which the couple managed to avoid the Second World War. Speaking with the Tangye's inner circle, followers and

experts in spy history, McCarthy attempts to uncover some of the mysteries and unanswered questions surrounding the author whilst evoking the struggles and triumphs he encountered making a living from the land. He'll examine the Tangye's marriage, the motivation behind the couple's decision to discard glamour to live in a neglected cottage, and why after Derek Tangye's death his inspirational books fell so quickly out of print. In recent times there has been renewed interest in Tangye's books with publishers set to re-launch his canon of work using 21st century technology. McCarthy will discover the impact and merits of the anthologies past and present and consider whether Tangye's chronicles should receive greater recognition for their contribution towards literature.

WED 07:00 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085t210)
Series 8

Randolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

After causing confusion with his Christmas nuts selection, Arthur attempts to round up reindeer and build Mount 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 1990s. The character evolved from Edinburgh cult to a mainstay of BBC comedy via numerous series on BBC Radio 4 and three on BBC TV. A Komedia Entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 07:30 Women Talking About Cars (m0001jq7)
Series 3

Lynda La Plante

Lynda La Plante, the award-winning writer behind Prime Suspect and Widows talks to Victoria Coren Mitchell about her life and the cars she has driven along the way. From her origins in Liverpool to the stage to the USA and becoming a writer, via a Mini Cooper that turned out to be two Mini Coopers stuck together, a magnificent Mercedes and love at first sight with a Rolls Royce Corniche. Lynda La Plante tells her hilarious, uplifting and thought-provoking life story. Readings by Sarah Hadland. Produced by Gareth Edwards. A BBC Studios production

WED 08:00 The Navy Lark (b01ly8wn)
Series 6

Johnson's Memoirs

When Johnson gets set to take the literary world by storm with his memoirs, Pertwee decides to intervene. Stars Leslie Phillips as the Sub-Lieutenant, Jon Pertwee as the Chief Petty Officer, Stephen Murray as the Number One, Ronnie Barker as Able Seaman Johnson and Heather Chasen as Heather. Laughs afloat aboard British Royal Navy frigate HMS Troutbridge. The Navy Lark ran for an impressive thirteen series between 1959 and 1976. Scripted by Lawrie Wyman. Producer: Alastair Scott Johnston. First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in January 1964.

WED 08:30 Beyond Our Ken (m0001ngk)
From 21/12/1959

It's panto time with Kenneth Horne in 'Island Treasure', direct from the Corn Exchange, Titchfield. With Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick, Betty Marsden and Bill Pertwee. Written by Eric Merriman and Barry Took. Music from Pat Lancaster, the Fraser Hayes Four and the BBC Variety Orchestra conducted by Paul Fenoulhet. Announcer: Douglas Smith. A madcap mix of sketches and songs, Beyond Our Ken hit the airwaves in 1958 and ran to 1964 - featuring regulars like Arthur Fallowfield, Cecil Snaith and Rodney and Charles. The precursor to 'Round The Horne' - sadly only 15 shows survive from the original run of 21 episodes in Series 2. Audio restored using both home and overseas (BBC Transcription Service) recordings. Producer: Jacques Brown. First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in December 1959.

WED 09:00 Dilemma (b03vf07z)

Series 3

Episode 3

Sue Perkins puts Tom Wigglesworth, Lucy Beaumont, Anne McElvoy and Joel Morris through the moral and ethical wringer. The panellists attempt to resolve dilemmas based around dictators and ugly children: using a phone booth to solve a super problem and helping out an audience member. Devised by Danielle Ward. Producer: Ed Morrish

WED 09:30 Elephants to Catch Eels (b00vxs4v)

Series 2

Mother

Tamsyn's mother, 'Lizabeth, suddenly turns up at the tavern - and greets Tamsyn with the immortal phrase "Eilo, princess..." It's 1793 and in the small Cornish village of Drumlin Bay, heroic smuggler Tamsyn Trelawny is still running rings around the customs men, assisted by her drunken father Jago. Written by Tom Jamieson and Nev Fountain. Starring Sheridan Smith as Tamsyn Trelawny, John Bove as Jago Trelawny, Cameron Stewart as Major Thomas Falconer, Andrew McGibbon as Captain Marriot, Martin Hyder as Squire Bascombe, Mark Felgate as Dewey and Mark Perry as Roderick and Alison Steadman as 'Lizabeth. Producer: Jan Ravens. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 2004.

WED 10:00 HG Wells (m0001ngm)

Kipps

Kipps Gets Engaged

Artie Kipps gets engaged to Miss Walsingham but his thoughts return to his childhood sweetheart Ann. 1905 novel by HG Wells adapted by Micheline Wandor. Mark Straker stars as Kipps; Paul Daneman as HG Wells; Kathryn Hurlbutt as Miss Walsingham; Nickolas Grace as Chitterlow; John Hollis as Uncle; Jane Wenham as Aunt; Michael Jenner as Sid Pornick; Moir Leslie as Ann; Christopher Biggins as Carshot; John Webb as Buggins; Helen Atkinson-Wood as Flo; Christopher Good as Chester Cootie; Helena Breck as Miss Cootie; Spencer Banks as Henry Walsingham; and Penelope Lee as Mrs Walsingham. Music by Ilona Sekacz. Director: Martin Jenkins. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

WED 11:00 Sitters' Stories (b0543yjc)

That Moment by Niall Williams

Captured in a moment in time with faces forever staring at them and fingers ever pointing, the sitters from some well-known paintings get a chance to escape from the canvas, set the story straight, or tell us their particular version of the story behind the image. Characters from famous paintings finally get a chance to tell their story in this series of readings from Elizabeth Kuti, Sophia Hillan, and Niall Williams. That Moment by Niall Williams. Painting: Nu a Contre-Jour by Pierre Bonnard, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium. <http://www.fine-arts-museum.be/fr/la-collection/pierre-bonnard-nu-a-contre-jour> When a young woman meets artist Pierre Bonnard in a Paris street, she creates an alter-ego for herself, one that lasts for thirty years and will see her immortalised in countless paintings. Man Booker long-listed novelist Niall Williams (The History of the Rain) explores the relationship between French artist Pierre Bonnard and his muse - and later wife - Marthe, taking us back to a moment when he captured first captured her on canvas, in a small flat on the Rue Lepic in Paris. Writer Niall Williams. Reader Selma Brook. Producer Heather Larmour

WED 11:15 Jon Canter - The Dog (b04tdjxx)

Richard Wilson stars as Fraser McDonald, a counsellor trying to save a marriage on its last legs. Jon Canter's hilarious comedy features Charlie and Apples - two people who started off as boss and secretary and have ended up as adversaries on the cusp of murder. With over thirty years of experience, has Fraser finally come up against the one couple in a million who couldn't be helped? When he's not trying to help people, Fraser likes to spend time with the love of his life - Grace, a golden retriever. Their relationship is as simple as it is loving, with a deep understanding that seems to evade most humans. Fraser would be lost without her. The theatre version was first performed at Frinton Summer Theatre 2014. Cast: Fraser Richard Wilson. Apples Jasmine Hyde. Charlie Patrick Marlowe. Directed by Edward Max. Produced by Clive Brilla. Brill production for BBC Radio 4

WED 12:00 The Navy Lark (b01ly8wn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 12:30 Beyond Our Ken (m0001ngk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 13:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq29)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

WED 13:30 Derek Tangye - The Cornish Gardener (b02x66zs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

WED 14:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001ngp)

8. Termination

Vernon is sacked as editor, the police turn up at Clive's front door, and a friendship is shattered. Michael Kitchen reads Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel. Abridged in ten parts by Penny Leicester. Producer: Julia Butt. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

WED 14:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdmjp)

Syria

In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years. Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight. The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still seek to influence the politics of the region. In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today. In the eighth programme in this series, John considers two images taken in Damascus, and the current situation in Syria today. Presenter: John McCarthy. Producer: Kevin Dawson. A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

WED 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mt714)

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

3. The Tale of Jemima Puddleduck

Beatrix Potter's famous tales are celebrated this Christmas. Her love of the British landscape and its inhabitants - coupled with her world famous ability for storytelling - means she has been one of the most celebrated children's authors of the last hundred

years. This suite of five of her tumultuous tales, including some of the lesser-known stories, brings comedic surprise, comfort and joy to the Christmas audience. Their timeless wonders pit the delight and childlike innocence of the very human characters against the dark and dramatic ruthlessness of the food-chain-led underbelly of Cumbria's fields and hedgerows. Starring Janine Duvitski, Morwenna Banks and Seymour Mace. Adapted and Directed by Sean Grundy. Produced by Sally Harrison. A Woollyback production for BBC Radio 4

WED 14:45 Book of the Week (b03xt164)

A Sense of Direction

Episode 3

The author Gideon Lewis-Kraus describes leaving America for life in Berlin, to ease the sadness after his father abandoned the family home. But Berlin isn't enough and only embarking on a series of world-wide pilgrimages will help him. The journeys turn out both amusing and moving, and are abridged in five episodes by Katrin Williams. 3. The next adventure is Shikoku, Japan. It's a temple pilgrimage that goes round and round, and in the wettest of weather. Reader Patrick Kennedy. Producer Duncan Minshull

WED 15:00 HG Wells (m0001ngm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

WED 16:00 Dilemma (b03vf07z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

WED 16:30 Elephants to Catch Eels (b00vxs4v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

WED 17:00 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085t210)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

WED 17:30 Women Talking About Cars (m0001jq7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 18:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wyhnn)

Chronicles of Ait - Magpie

Episode 3

Linus remains bitter over what he sees as Alice's betrayal of their affair, unaware of the developments in her relationship with Afiz. Cast: Linus Scott Greg Wise. Alice Pypier Amanda Drew. Lollo Gina Abolins. Jason Joe Claffin. Marlene Heather Craney. Trench/Stanley Christopher James. Afiz Stewart Scudamore. Mac Mihai Arsenie. Writer: Michael Butt. Produced and directed by John Taylor. A Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4

WED 18:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgjdj)

Red Letter Day

A grief-stricken mother goes on a journey in search of peace. Read by Claire Skinner. "The Mistletoe Bride and other Haunting Tales" is a collection of haunting short stories written, abridged and introduced by Kate Mosse. They are all inspired by legends and folktales from the French and Sussex Countryside and each story explores the relationship between landscape and emotion, Grief and Guilt. Loss and happiness. They are timeless in their telling, ranging from the mythical past to the present day. Kate Mosse has chosen 5 out of the collection that exemplify the redemption experienced by the various grief stricken men and women as they come to terms with their destiny. Producer: Celia de Wolff. Made for 4 Extra by Pier Productions.

WED 18:30 Dexter and Dodd (m0001ngn)

Colin Dexter and Ken Dodd, two entertainment giants who admired each other's talent, were united on stage at the 2011 Cheltenham Literary Festival. Fiona Lindsay, who knew them both, had the inspired idea to bring them together for the first time. In this programme, the two wordsmiths compare notes, exchange tips, jokes, and puns, and delight the Cheltenham audience with their double act. Still irrepressible in their 80s, the two national treasures illustrate just why they were both so beloved. Dexter and Dodd were kindred spirits, in their love of entertaining the public but also their keen admiration for linguistic artistry. Produced by Chris Eldon Lee. First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2011.

WED 19:00 The Navy Lark (b01ly8wn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

WED 19:30 Beyond Our Ken (m0001ngk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

WED 20:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq29)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

WED 20:30 Derek Tangye - The Cornish Gardener (b02x66zs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

WED 21:00 Sitters' Stories (b0543yjc)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

WED 21:15 Jon Canter - The Dog (b04tdjxx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

WED 22:00 Women Talking About Cars (m0001jq7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

WED 22:30 Everyone Quite Likes Justin (b012fnbn)

Series 1

Episode 3

By Justin Moorhouse and Jim Poyser. Sitcom by Justin Moorhouse and Jim Poyser starring Justin, Anne Reid and Paul Copley. A Manchester DJ tries to balance love, work, life and everything else without much success. This week an untimely death causes a rethink. Anne Reid Gran. Bernard Wrigley Sven. Christine Bottomley Lisa. Jim Poyser Vicar. Justin Moorhouse Justin. Lloyd Langford Bryn. Paul Copley Ray. Rachel Austin Receptionist. Susan Cookson

TanyaProducer Steven CannyIn one version of his life, Justin is a well-known local Manchester radio DJ who is successful, funny, and stopped in the street by adoring fans. He's the man who has everything. In another version he's a DJ in a slightly shabby local radio station who gets hassled by the occasional oddball on the street. And he's the man who hopes for everything. The truth lies somewhere inbetween.And at home? Well, naturally, his private life is chaotic. His wife has left him, taking custody of his 8-year-old son Justin jnr, and is in the process of taking him to the cleaners. So he's back on the market. As is his house - so he's currently living in his father-in-law's spare room in Bury. The only person who understands him is his Gran, living in luxury in an old folk's home in Warrington. Oh, and his producer Bryn, but this might not be a good thing.Despite all this mess, Justin always remains positive. Every new day is a new opportunity. "When life throws you lemons, make lemonade".Recorded in front of an audience in Manchester.

WED 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m0001ngt)

Jason Hazeley and Joel Morris 2/2

Jake Yapp chats to the writers behind the Ladybird Books for Grown Ups, Cunk On... and loads of other great comedy, Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris

WED 23:00 The Ape That Got Lucky (b0080nk7)

Social Development

Chris Addison's spoof lectures exploring human evolution. With Geoffrey McGivern as Professor Austin Herring. From August 2005.

WED 23:30 Absolute Power (b019dqxr)

Series 4

Episode 4

Spin doctor Charles heads across the pond, leaving Martin to fend alone. Stars Stephen Fry and John Bird. From February 2004.

THURSDAY 20 DECEMBER 2018

THU 00:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wyhnn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Wednesday]

THU 00:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgjdj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Wednesday]

THU 00:30 Dexter and Dodd (m0001ngr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Wednesday]

THU 01:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq29)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Wednesday]

THU 01:30 Derek Tangye - The Cornish Gardener (b02x66zs)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Wednesday]

THU 02:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001ngp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Wednesday]

THU 02:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdmjp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Wednesday]

THU 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mt714)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Wednesday]

THU 02:45 Book of the Week (b03xf164)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Wednesday]

THU 03:00 HG Wells (m0001ngm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Wednesday]

THU 04:00 Dilemma (b03vf07z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Wednesday]

THU 04:30 Elephants to Catch Eels (b00vxs4v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Wednesday]

THU 05:00 Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show! (b085t210)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Wednesday]

THU 05:30 Women Talking About Cars (m0001jq7)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Wednesday]

THU 06:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq37)

Series 2

A Bad Night

Raffles' plans to avenge a friend by robbing a private house in Hampton Court are thwarted by a prior engagement at Old Trafford, to play in the second test cricket match against Australia.Bunny, however, nobly steps into the breach...Starring Jeremy Clyde as AJ Raffles, Michael Cochrane as Bunny Manders, Anton Lesser as Medicott and John Baddeley as the Police Officer.EW Hornung's Raffles stories about the 'gentleman thief' dramatised by David Buck.Signature tune composed by Jim Parker.Director: Gordon HouseA BBC Radio 4/ BBC World Service production first broadcast in 1988.

THU 06:30 Swimming through Chocolate (b01s4qqb)
For 30 years, Gladys Jones and Sir Adrian Cadbury worked at the same factory in Bourneville in Birmingham, but never met. They now come together to reflect on their lives then and now, and the love of chocolate and sport that unites them.Gladys joined Cadbury in 1936 at the age of 14. She was grateful to have a job that would provide her with security, further education and a chance to indulge in her great passion:

swimming. Having previously only ever swum in the local canal, the new opportunity to use the factory's 'Girls Baths' on a daily basis led her to a new career in the sport's section at the plant as a swimming teacher and life saver.Sir Adrian had a different trajectory: after Cambridge, the army and rowing in the Helsinki Olympics, he joined the family firm in 1952 rising to become Chairman of the company. We join them both as they travel from their homes to the Bourneville club to meet and compare their memories of the place, the people and a working life long gone.Producer: Lucy LuntFirst broadcast on BBC

Radio 4 in 2013.

THU 07:00 Old Dog and Partridge (b007v07y)

Episode 2

Jack and Nicola are struggling to re-establish their father-daughter bond, as she settles back into the pub.But when she breaks his favourite bowl, Nicola worries that she might have broken something else.Joe Turner's six-part sitcom stars Michael Williams as Jack, Lisa Coleman as Nicola, Cherry Morris as Mrs Drummond, Simon Greenall as Andy and Toby Longworth as Brian.Producer: Liz AnsteeFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1999.

THU 07:30 The Missing Hancocks (m0001ksd)

Department Store Santa

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 three highly successful series, another batch of those episodes have been lovingly re-recorded in front of a live audience at the BBC Radio Theatre.Tonight's episode: Hancock and Kerr are forced to stop claiming unemployment benefits by the Ministry Of Labour, so the Lad Himself takes on a job as Santa in Sid's department store.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 Margaret Cabourn-Smith. The Department Store Santa was first broadcast on the 14th December, 1954.Produced by Neil Pearson & Paul Sheehan.Written by Ray Galton & SimpsonMusic recorded by the BBC Concert Orchestra, conducted by Levon Parikian.A BBC Studios Production.

THU 08:00 Something to Shout About (m0001p35)

Series 2

Episode 5

Michael changes jobs after failing to get a pay rise - but quickly regrets his actions."A light-hearted exposé of the advertising world!". Set in a London ad agency called 'Apsley, Addis, Cohen, Barbican, Blythe, Giddy & Partners'.Starring Michael Medwin as Michael, Fenella Fielding as Janet, Joan Sims as Mavis, Eleanor Summerfield as Maggie and Nicholas Phipps as Adrian. Other parts by Warren Mitchell.Series two (of three) written by Myles Rudge with Ronnie Wolfe.Producer: Eric MillerFirst broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in January 1961.

THU 08:30 The Goon Show (m0001p37)

A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens's Christmas tale takes a bashing from Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers and Harry Secombe. From December 1959.

THU 09:00 Foul Play (b00jm6kb)

Series 3

The Proof of the Pudding

Crime writers PD James and HRF Keating probe a death at dinnertime.Simon Brett hosts the murder quiz.Suspects played by Maria McErlane and Lee Simpson.Producer Liz AnstreeFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 1997.

THU 09:30 Rent (b04nvl19)

Series 2

Episode 4

When Maria's oldest friend Ellen comes to stay, they can hear their biological clocks ticking very loudly. Richard, Paul and Ruby steer clear.Lucy Flannery's Writers' Guild award-winning sitcom about Maria and Richard and their lodgers.Stars Barbara Flynn as Maria, Patrick Barlow as Richard, Linda Polan as Amy, Toby Longworth as Paul and Helen Atkinson-Wood as Ellen. With Chris Emmett and Vivienne Rochester.Producer: Liz Anstee.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 1995.

THU 10:00 HG Wells (m0001p39)

Kipps

Kipps finds the Course of True Love a Little Muddy Artie Kipps re-connects with his childhood sweetheart Ann but fails to mention his fiancée.1905 novel by HG Wells adapted by Michelene Wandor.Mark Straker stars as Kipps; Paul Daneman as HG Wells; Kathryn Hurlbutt as Miss Walsingham; John Hollis as Uncle; Jane Wenham as Aunt; Michael Jenner as Sid Pornick; Moir Leslie as Ann; Christopher Good as Chester Coote; Nickolas Grace as Chitterlow; Spencer Banks as Henry Walsingham; Maggie McCarthy as Mrs Bindon Botting; Nigel Anthony as Masterman; Teresa Streatfield as Fanny; Judy Bennett as Baby Walt; and John Rye as Sidney Revel.Music by Ilona Sekacz.Director: Martin Jenkins.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

THU 11:00 Peter Regent - The Proposal (b06tggq4)

Marry Sally? George is not sure, but snooping landladies and memories from his past may force his hand. Read by Trevor Nichols.

THU 11:15 Sheila Goff - Grace and the Angel (m0001p3c)

It is Christmas Eve and a rather disgruntled angel is sent to Ruislip to collect his very first soul.Angel's task is meant to be straightforward, the natural end of one old lady, but Grace Booth is not going to go quietly.Rudolph Walker stars as Angel; Marlene Sidaway as Grace; Carolyn Jones as Ro; Jonathan Kydd as Vernon; Carolyn Pickles as Liz; Sean Baker as Derek; John Hartley as Nick; Peter Darney as Prancer and Jonathan Forbes as the Heavenly Clerk.Director: David Hunter.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2001.

THU 12:00 Something to Shout About (m0001p35)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 12:30 The Goon Show (m0001p37)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 13:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq37)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 13:30 Swimming through Chocolate (b01s4qqb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 14:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001p3f)

9. Revenge

Clive heads to Amsterdam, with a suitcase full of money - and his mind set on revenge.Michael Kitchen reads Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel.Abridged in ten parts by Penny Leicester.Producer: Julia ButtFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

THU 14:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdpv8)

Turkey

In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years.Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight.The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still seek to influence the politics of the region.In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today.In the ninth episode in this series, John travels to Istanbul and visits the Galata Tower and the Scutari Military barracks.Presenter: John McCarthyProducer: Kevin DawsonA Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

THU 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mtfrj)

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

4. The Tale of Mr Tod

Beatrix Potter's famous tales are celebrated this Christmas.Her love of the British landscape and its inhabitants - coupled with her world famous ability for storytelling - means she has been one of the most celebrated children's authors of the last hundred years.This suite of five of her tumultuous tales, including some of the lesser-known stories, brings comedic surprise, comfort and joy to the Christmas audience.Their timeless wonders pit the delight and childlike innocence of the very human characters against the dark and dramatic ruthlessness of the food-chain-led underbelly of Cumbria's fields and hedgerows.Seymour Mace is Mr Tod and John Henshaw is Tommy Brock. Morwenna Banks is Beattie.Adapted and Directed by Sean GrundyProduced by Sally HarrisonA Woollyback production for BBC Radio 4

THU 14:45 Book of the Week (b03xgl3p)

A Sense of Direction

Episode 4

The author Gideon Lewis-Kraus describes leaving America for life in Berlin, to ease the sadness after his father abandoned the family home. But Berlin isn't enough and only embarking on a series of world-wide pilgrimages will help him. The journeys turn out both amusing and moving, and are abridged in five episodes by Katrin Williams.4. Grandfather Max has gone back to America, so the author proceeds alone on his circular Temple trail..Reader Patrick KennedyProducer Duncan Minshull

THU 15:00 HG Wells (m0001p39)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

THU 16:00 Foul Play (b00jm6kb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

THU 16:30 Rent (b04nvl19)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

THU 17:00 Old Dog and Partridge (b007v07y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

THU 17:30 The Missing Hancocks (m0001ksd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 18:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wyq5t)

Chronicles of Ait - Maggie

Episode 4

While Lollo is convinced that events are moving inexorably towards a tragic conclusion, Linus desperately seeks to stave off the inevitable.Cast:Linus Scott.....Greg WiseAlice Pyper.....Amanda DrewLollo.....Gina AbolinsJason.....Joe ClafinMarlene.....Heather CraneyTrench/Stanley.....Christopher JamesAfiz.....Stewart ScudamoreMac.....Mihai ArseneWriter: Michael ButtProduced and directed by John TaylorA Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4

THU 18:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgpd4)

The House on the Hill

A young woman's life is protected by the haunting walls of a house within a house. Read by Lily James."The Mistletoe Bride and other Haunting Tales" is a collection of haunting short stories written, abridged and introduced by Kate Mosse. They are all inspired by legends and folktales from the French and

Sussex Countryside and each story explores the relationship between landscape and emotion. Grief and Guilt. Loss and happiness. They are timeless in their telling, ranging from the mythical past to the present day. Kate Mosse has chosen 5 out of the collection that exemplify the redemption experienced by the various grief stricken men and women as they come to terms with their destiny.Producer: Celia de WolffMade for 4 Extra by Pier Productions.

THU 18:30 Great Lives (m0001p3g)

Series 27

Edward Said

Edward Said was a man, who, in his own words, lived two quite separate lives. First there was the scholar and literary critic of Columbia University, and then there was the fierce critic of American and Israeli policies in the Middle East. In the United States he was an academic superstar, but his views - on Palestine in particular - made him an intensely divisive figure. He died of leukemia in 2003.In Great Lives, Alexei Sayle explains to Matthew Parris why Edward Said, a man he met twice and described as "very noble and fiercely intelligent", inspired him. Edward Said once described the Palestinians as 'the victims of the victims'. This eloquence, on a subject that in America was taboo, still impresses Alexie Sayle today.Producer: Toby Field

THU 19:00 Something to Shout About (m0001p35)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 19:30 The Goon Show (m0001p37)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 20:00 EW Horning - Raffles (b007jq37)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 20:30 Swimming through Chocolate (b01s4qqb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 21:00 Peter Regent - The Proposal (b06tggq4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

THU 21:15 Sheila Goff - Grace and the Angel (m0001p3c)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

THU 22:00 The Missing Hancock (m0001ksd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 22:30 Newsjack (m0001p3j)

Newsjack Unplugged, Series 2

Episode 9

Short-form show from the same team behind the long-running Newsjack show on BBC Radio 4 Extra.

THU 22:45 The News at Bedtime (b00pft4y)

Episode 2

Twin presenters John Tweedledum and Jim Tweedledee present in-depth news analysis, covering the latest stories happening this 'once upon a time'.Including a report on Yuletide Stress Syndrome, the latest on Santa's strike, a forecast for the Feast Of Stephen, and an update on The Xmas Factor.With Jack Dee, Peter Capaldi, Lewis MacLeod, Alex MacQueen, Lucy Montgomery and Vicki Pepperdine.Written by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2009.

THU 23:00 Isy Suttie's Love Letters (b01rszqv)

Series 1

Claire and Leigh

Isy Suttie (Dobby from Channel 4's Peep Show and double British Comedy Award nominee) returns to BBC Radio 4 with these unique tales, recounting a series of love stories affecting people she's known throughout her life, told partly through song.Sometimes Isy has merely observed other people's love lives; quite often she's intervened, changing the action dramatically - for better or worse. Intertwined within these stories are related real life anecdotes from Isy's own, often disastrous, love life.In this third episode, Isy looks for signs as to whether her relationship with a poet can survive despite semantic differences, while she lends a helping hand to Matlock's new chef Claire and her Elvis impersonator admirer Leigh.With her multi-character and vocal skills, plus her guitar, Isy creates a hilarious and deeply moving world, sharing with us her lessons in life and love."A voice you want to swim in" The IndependentProduced by Lianne Coop.

THU 23:30 Hut 33 (b00wldlg)

Series 2

Yankee Diddle

The Bletchley Park codebreakers' attempt to fleece a wealthy American backfires. Stars Robert Bathurst. From June 2008.

FRIDAY 21 DECEMBER 2018

FRI 00:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wyq5t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:00 on Thursday]

FRI 00:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xgvp4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:15 on Thursday]

FRI 00:30 Great Lives (m0001p3g)

[Repeat of broadcast at 18:30 on Thursday]

FRI 01:00 EW Horning - Raffles (b007jq37)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Thursday]

FRI 01:30 Swimming through Chocolate (b01s4qqb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Thursday]

FRI 02:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001p3f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Thursday]

FRI 02:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdpv8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:15 on Thursday]

FRI 02:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mfrfj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Thursday]

FRI 02:45 Book of the Week (b03xgl3p)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:45 on Thursday]

FRI 03:00 HG Wells (m0001p39)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Thursday]

FRI 04:00 Foul Play (b00jm6kb)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Thursday]

FRI 04:30 Rent (b04nvb19)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Thursday]

FRI 05:00 Old Dog and Partridge (b007v07y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Thursday]

FRI 05:30 The Missing Hancock (m0001ksd)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Thursday]

FRI 06:00 EW Horning - Raffles (b007jq3m)

Series 2

A Trap to Catch a Cracksman

When an American pugilist boasts of inventing a trap to catch the cleverest cracksman alive, it's a challenge Raffles is quite unable to resist - with disastrous consequences.Starring Jeremy Clyde as AJ Raffles, Michael Cochrane as Bunny, Henry Stamper as Inspector Mackenzie, Alan Tilvern as Maguire, Peter Banks as Hambone, Michael Deacon as Cruncher, Frances Jeter as Ruby and Alan Dudley as the Cabby.EW Horning's Raffles stories about the 'gentleman thief' dramatised by David Buck.Signature tune composed by Jim Parker.Director: Gordon House A BBC Radio 4/ BBC World Service production first broadcast in 1988.

FRI 06:30 Merry Christmas Morris Minor! (b00wqgmg)

Martin Wainwright sets off through the snow to give seasonal best wishes to the owners of Britain's favourite mass produced car - and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the special edition Morris Minor Million - the rarest minor of all.Highlight of the programme is a special rendition of 'Jingle Bells' from a Morris Minor 'choir'.Martin has a soft spot for the little car - often described as a large jelly mold with a speedometer sitting like a clock on the dashboard, and orange fingers for indicators. For it's time though, according to Stirling Moss, it was a nippy little car. Martin meets a mechanic who 'soups' the car up, owners like Dave Brown from 'The Mighty Boosh' and the drivers who 'danced' their Morris Minors at the end of the Manchester Commonwealth Games . Finally, using the horn, various clunks and clicks from the car door and boot, and a squeak from the chassis, he conducts a unique version of 'Jingle Bells' by the Morris Minor 'choir'.Producers: Janet Graves and Geoff BirdA Pennine production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 07:00 Trapped (b0076h2t)

The Art Class

Art tutor Mark is having commitment issues until he meets a model who should be committed...Black comedy set in the art class at a local Adult Education centre - by Mark Maier and Daniel Maier.Mark Alex LoweMoira Wendy WasonJanice/Elsbeth Tracy-Ann ObermanDonald Sam KellyAlan Roger SlomanBob Roger SlomanPeter Mark MaierProducer: Alex Walsh-TaylorFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2003.

FRI 07:30 Drama (m0001mv2)

Looking for Oil Drum Lane

A dramatisation of Ray Galton and Alan Simpson's comedy writing partnership - from Tony Hancock's departure to striking gold with Steptoe and Son. Starring Marc Wootton, Phil Cornwell, Barry Castagnola, James Hurn and Toby Longworth. Weaving comedy archive and newly written scenes, the show follows the tortuous search for Oil Drum Lane, the fictional address of Steptoe and Son. Ray Galton and Alan Simpson met in a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1948. They became friends through a shared passion for radio comedy. To amuse themselves, they broadcast their own sketches over the hospital radio. After sending their material to famous comedy writers of the day Denis Norden and Frank Muir, Alan and Ray were encouraged to post some scripts to the BBC. An unexpectedly positive response left the fledgling writers ecstatic. Soon they became regular sketch writers for the BBC. They met Tony Hancock and rose to the top of their profession. But when Hancock decided to go it alone Galton and Simpson were devastated and left high and dry. The team was then commissioned by the colourful head of light entertainment at the BBC, Tom Sloane, to write ten comedy plays - but the loss of Hancock generated an impenetrable writer's block - until they hammered out a pilot sit-com that became Steptoe and Son. Ray Galton.....Marc Wootton Alan Simpson.....Barry Castagnola Tony Hancock/Wilfred Brambell.....James Hurn Harry H Corbett.....Phil Cornwell Tom Sloan.....Ian Pearce Duncan Wood.....Toby Longworth Other parts were played by the cast Written by Ian Pearce Script Editor - Nick Romero Directed and Produced by Andrew McGibbon A Curtains For Radio production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 08:00 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again... Again! (m0001p3n)

Episode 1

A 'Best Of' revival of the BBC classic comedy with a new cast, new musicians, new gags and old favourites'I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again' was a seminal BBC Radio comedy, spawning 'The Goodies' and 'Monty Python's Flying Circus' and was the forerunner to 'I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue'. It featured John Cleese, Graeme Garden, Bill Oddie, Tim Brooke-Taylor, David Hatch and Jo Kendall.The show's mix of anarchic madness, puns, catchphrases galore and gloriously manic characters ran from 1964 to 1973, and had a youth following that made live recordings seem more like a rock concert than a comedy

show.A four-part 'Best Of' revival radio series coming off the back of a critically-acclaimed and sold out theatre tour with guest cameos by Graeme Garden, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Jo Kendall at every venue.Conceived, adapted and directed by Barnaby Eaton-Jones, from scripts and songs by Graeme Garden and Bill Oddie.Starring Hannah Boydell, David Clarke, Barnaby Eaton-Jones, William KV Browne and Ben Perkins.Musical accompaniment of The Farrington Four.Produced by Barnaby Eaton-Jones.

FRI 08:30 Steptoe and Son (b00rq30b)

Series 1

The Stepmother

Harold's not too happy to meet dad Albert's new girlfriend.Starring Wilfrid Brambell as Albert, Harry H Corbett as Harold and Joan Lovell as Emma.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 JayeFirst broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in July 1966.

FRI 09:00 Guess What? (b065jht1)

Episode 7

Animal, vegetable or mineral?Barry Took hosts a revised version of popular radio parlour game of 20 questions.Regular Geoffrey Durham is joined by Nigel Dempster and Frances Edmonds.Written by Michael Dines.Producer: Andy AliffeFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 1998

FRI 09:30 Life in London (b011vjfn)

The Show Folks

Desperate for money, Pierce Egan tries to get Tom, Bob and Jerry's adventures onto the stage.Jerry rescues a damsel at Bartholomew fair who leads him once more to the rapacious lady wanton...Pierce Egan's 19th-century comic novel adapted in six-parts by Dan Tetsell.Geoffrey McGivern stars as Pierce Egan.With Greg Wise, Mark Gatiss, James Bachman, Chris Douglas, Dave Lamb, Morwenna Banks, Neil Edmond and Margaret Cabourn-Smith.Original music by Ben WalkerProducer: Tilusha GhelaniFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 2006.

FRI 10:00 HG Wells (m0001p3q)

Kippis

The Kippises

Artie Kippis, our heroic draper-turned-gentleman, is building a dream home for Ann. But is his fortune lost?Conclusion of 1905 novel by HG Wells adapted by Michelene Wandor. Mark Straker stars as Kippis; Paul Daneman as HG Wells; Moir Leslie as Ann; Kathryn Hurlbutt as Miss Walsingham; John Hollis as Uncle; Michael Jenner as Sid Pormick; Nickolas Grace as Chitterlow; Nigel Anthony as Masterman; Teresa Stratfield as Fanny; Judy Bennett as Baby Walt; and Brett Usher as the architect.Music by Iлона Sekacz.Director: Martin Jenkins.First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1984.

FRI 11:00 Podcast Radio Hour (m0001p3s)

Christmas Special

Amanda Litherland presents a Christmas special of Podcast Radio Hour, with seasonal episode recommendations. Including a history of holiday music in Pitch and stories of awkward Christmas eve sleeping arrangements in The Boring Talks.Also regular guests such as Cariad Lloyd, Oly Mann and Luke Jones will suggest the best podcasts for festive situations - chopping sprouts, long winter drives, surviving the boredom of Crimbo Limbo and more.

FRI 12:00 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again... Again! (m0001p3n)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 12:30 Steptoe and Son (b00rq30b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 13:00 EW Horning - Raffles (b007jq3m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 13:30 Merry Christmas Morris Minor! (b00wqgmg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

FRI 14:00 Ian McEwan - Amsterdam (m0001p3v)

10. Retribution

In the dark finale, Clive and Vernon meet up in Amsterdam and exact their mutual revenge.Michael Kitchen concludes Ian McEwan's Booker Prize winning novel.Abridged in ten parts by Penny LeicesterProducer: Julia ButtFirst broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1999.

FRI 14:15 In a Prince's Footsteps (b01sdw22)

Greece

In 1862 Albert, Prince of Wales, toured the Middle East. At the time it was still predominantly controlled by the Ottoman Empire. As he travelled, his photographer Francis Bedford kept a detailed photographic record of the trip. In this series John McCarthy revisits the scenes of Bedford's photographs - Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. He considers how the immediate physical, political and social landscape has evolved during the intervening 150 years.Some of Bedford's photographs are of widely known locations - the Pyramids at Giza, the Mount of Olives, the temples at Baalbek, the Acropolis - others are of remote hilltops and apparently random buildings, scenes without any obvious significance. Both however hold fascinating and unexpected tales and insight.The series will reflect on the rise and fall of empires - the Ottoman, British and French all play their part in these stories. They are now all gone, but the world's powers still

seek to influence the politics of the region. In each episode John McCarthy focusses on two of Bedford's original photographs, revisiting the sites and taking his own pictures of the same scenes today. In the final programme in this series John travels to Athens and the Greek island of Kefalonia. Presenter: John McCarthy. Producer: Kevin Dawson. A Whistledown production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 14:30 15 Minute Drama (b03mthnm)

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

5. The Tale of Ginger and Pickles

Beatrix Potter's famous tales are celebrated this Christmas. Her love of the British landscape and its inhabitants - coupled with her world famous ability for storytelling - means she has been one of the most celebrated children's authors of the last hundred years. This suite of five of her tumultuous tales, including some of the lesser-known stories, brings comedic surprise, comfort and joy to the Christmas audience. Their timeless wonders pit the delight and childlike innocence of the very human characters against the dark and dramatic ruthlessness of the food-chain-led underbelly of Cumbria's fields and hedgerows. Stars Reece Shearsmith stars as Ginger with John Henshaw as Pickles. Adapted and Directed by Sean Grundy. Produced by Sally Harrison. A Woolyback production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 14:45 Book of the Week (b03xgslh)

A Sense of Direction

Episode 5

The author Gideon Lewis-Kraus describes leaving America for life in Berlin, to ease the sadness after his father abandoned the family home. But Berlin isn't enough and only embarking on a series of world-wide pilgrimages will help him. The journeys turn out both amusing and moving, and are abridged in five episodes by Katrin Williams. 5. It's to Uman in Ukraine to celebrate Rosh Hashanah with brother Micah - and their elusive father! Reader Patrick Kennedy. Producer Duncan Minshull

FRI 15:00 HG Wells (m0001p3q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

FRI 16:00 Guess What? (b065jht1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

FRI 16:30 Life in London (b011vjfn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]

FRI 17:00 Trapped (b0076h2t)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

FRI 17:30 Drama (m0001mv2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 18:00 15 Minute Drama (b05wz0kf)

Chronicles of Ait - Magpie

Episode 5

Events in Ait have persuaded Lollo that her predictions of disaster are about to be fulfilled and that Linus' reunion with Alice is about to come to a tragic theatrical conclusion. Cast: Linus Scott.....Greg Wise Alice Pyper.....Amanda Drew Lollo.....Gina Abolins Jason.....Joe Clafin Marlene.....Heather Craney Trench/Stanley...Christopher James Afiz/Lee.....Stewart

Scudamore Mac.....Mihai Arsene Writer: Michael Butt Produced and directed by John Taylor. A Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4

FRI 18:15 Kate Mosse - The Mistletoe Bride and Other Haunting Tales (b03xh0ft)

The Revenant

An old man's guilt will haunt him and not release him until the truth is told. Read by Charlotte Emmerson. "The Mistletoe Bride and other Haunting Tales" is a collection of haunting short stories written, abridged and introduced by Kate Mosse. They are all inspired by legends and folktales from the French and Sussex Countryside and each story explores the relationship between landscape and emotion. Grief and Guilt. Loss and happiness. They are timeless in their telling, ranging from the mythical past to the present day. Kate Mosse has chosen 5 out of the collection that exemplify the redemption experienced by the various grief stricken men and women as they come to terms with their destiny. Producer: Celia de Wolff. Made for 4 Extra by Pier Productions.

FRI 18:30 Off the Page (m0001p3x)

Paranoia

Authors Mil Millington, Louise Welsh and Belfast journalist Malachi O'Doherty discuss paranoia with Matthew Parris. Matthew Parris introduces a group of writers of fact and fiction: new talent and established names. In the context of a discussion of one of the ideas and pre-occupations of our times, each presents a piece on this week's topic. The best new writing and the freshest conversation from 2002.

FRI 19:00 I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again... Again!

(m0001p3m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 19:30 Steptoe and Son (b00rq30b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 20:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jq3m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 20:30 Merry Christmas Morris Minor! (b00wqgmg)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

FRI 21:00 Podcast Radio Hour (m0001p3s)

[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

FRI 22:00 Drama (m0001mv2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 22:30 What to Do If You're Not Like Everybody Else (b014gcmv)

Series 2

Leisure Pursuits

In the pressurized world of conventional living, Andrew Lawrence explores the strange things we do for fun. From September 2011.

FRI 22:45 Josie Long: All of the Planet's Wonders (b00hqzhz)

The Enlightenment

Comedian Josie Long sets out to validate herself through 18th-century philosophy, including finding a justification for collecting frogs. From February 2009.

FRI 23:00 Elis James's Pantheon of Heroes (b019n2m7)

Series 1

Politics

More historical heroism as Aneurin Bevan, Hywel Dda and the Rebecca Rioters are put to the Totaliser. With Ben Partridge, Nadia Kamil. From January 2012.

FRI 23:30 Will Smith's Midlife Crisis Management (b00ghnb3)

Episode 5

Comedy series in which comedian Will Smith seeks help and advice - primarily from his godfather Peter - on coping with the onset of middle age. To help Will become less cautious, Peter asks rock singer Alex to advise him. Will surprises Alex by revealing that he was once in a band himself. Will Will Smith Peter Roger Allam Alex Dan Tetsell Dan Roger Drew Stripper Manjeet Mann Stag Paul Rider.