

SATURDAY 07 MARCH 2026

SAT 00:00 Soul Music (m001n1h5)

Ghost Town

Ghost Town was recorded by British two-tone band The Specials as a comment on urban decay and social unrest. It was released in June 1981 as riots were springing up around the UK and with the help of an iconic video it topped the UK singles charts. It was also the band's final single.

Writer Alex Wheatle first heard 'Ghost Town' in 1981 whilst in a social services hostel in Brixton awaiting his court appearance. He'd been arrested following a day of action in Brixton to protest against racist treatment of Black people, after rumours of police brutality. He was sentenced to one year in prison and sang 'Ghost Town' in his cell, as he began to find hope and purpose in his life.

Claire Horton grew up in Dudley and says 'Ghost Town' echoed her experiences of watching the shops and nightclubs of this once vibrant town closing down.

Her Dad was made redundant and it had a huge impact on her family, and as a young police officer she would walk the streets and understand why people were getting so frustrated with their situation.

Soul and Reggae DJ Dave Marshall Barrett traces the history of The Specials who formed in Dave Fun' and was reminded of it in 1977. It's the first thing people mention when he says where he comes from.

John Collins was surprised when Jerry Dammers asked him to produce the record.

John created the initial opening 'ghostly' sounds on a synth at home but he says they now sound more like sirens. The song's success opened doors for John and he loves how it keeps finding new audiences.

Broadcaster Samira Ahmed grew up in London and said her recession of the early 80s hit her family's catering business hard.

Too young for nightclubs, she remembers the video of 'Ghost Town' playing on Top of the Pops and says the track made a huge impact on her understanding of music and politics.

Jazz singer Beverley Beirne covered 'Ghost Town' for her 2018 album 'Jazz Just Wants to Have Fun' and was reminded of it during the first lockdown when she wasn't able to perform.

Founder of The Specials Jerry Dammers reflects on the inspiration behind 'Ghost Town' and how trombonist Rico Rodriguez was the heart and soul of the band.

Additional research: Melanie Pearson

Technical Producer: Michael Harrison

Editor: Emma Harding

Produced for BBC Audio Bristol by Toby Field.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2023.

SAT 00:30 Rock Transition (b08jb6s8)

For centuries musicians have defied gender boundaries to create some of the most evocative and provocative art and music.

Journalist and culture critic Laura Snapes joins the dots of a fascinating musical history that encompasses musical icons such as Ma Rainey, Little Richard, Lou Reed, the Pet Shop Boys, Grace Jones and Madonna.

She looks at how today's musicians use music and performance to express their own gender and sexuality.

In recent years, the issue of gender and identity has been a hot topic in the musical landscape and beyond.

From niche publications to tabloids and political debate, issues surrounding gender identity and how it influences both personal and social life have been widely publicised.

Amid the deeply complex personal world of gender identity and the often ruthlessly myopic world of the music industry, a new generation of artists are using music for fearless expressions of their gender and sexuality that break beyond the archetypes set by their forebears.

Rock Transition speaks with artists such as garage maverick Ezra Furman, Canadian pop stars Tegan and Sara, musician and author CN Lester, and musician and activist Ryan Cassata to understand why music offers an exciting platform to express and explore gender identity and sexuality.

How can these artists resist being marginalised and commodified by an industry keen to capitalise on a hot topic?

Producer: James Roberts

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2017.

SAT 01:00 Whodunnits (b011tz3y)

Agatha Raisin - Series 3

4. The Green-Eyed Monster

A murder at the hotel disco has forced the warring Agatha and James to co-habit.

But will they be able to solve this sudden death before they end up killing each other?

Penelope Keith stars as the PR guru turned amateur detective. MC Beaton's novel dramatised by David Semple

Agatha Raisin Penelope Keith

James Lacey Malcolm Sinclair

Olivia Debenham Caroline Harker

Sam Payne George Layton

George Debenham Spencer Banks

Producer: Carol Smith

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2006.

SAT 01:30 Whodunnits (b007jwgz)

Wimsey - Busman's Honeymoon

2. Credit Where Credit's Due

With William Noakes dead, Superintendent Kirk has his

suspicion, but upper crust sleuth, Lord Peter Wimsey is not so sure...

Ian Carmichael stars as Lord Peter Wimsey – the British gentleman detective created by Dorothy L Sayers.

Dramatised by Alistair Beaton.

Lord Peter Wimsey Ian Carmichael

Lady Wimsey Sarah Badel

Bunter Peter Jones

Mrs Ruddle Pearl Hackney

Mr Puffett Michael Ripper

MacBride Roger Lloyd Pack

Frank Crutchley Kenneth Cranham

Narrator John Westbrook

Superintendent Kirk Peter Vaughan

Constable Sellon Christopher Beeny

Producer: Martin Fisher

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1983.

SAT 02:00 My Mammy and Me (m002s4nw)

Series 1

5. Kamikaze Weekend

Isobel's weekend is ruined when her Mammy asks her to help with one of her little obligations - to give Ida a lift to see her sister.

Cathy McPhail's sitcom about Isobel's attempt to untie her mother's ever-tightening apron strings.

Mammy Eileen McCallum

Isobel Kate Donnelly

Willie Jake D'Arcy

Ida Barbara Rafferty

Jada Forbes Masson

Sgt Blood Sean Scanlan

Elsie Carolyn Boneyman

Producer: Kathy Smith

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in March 1995.

SAT 02:30 Steptoe and Son (b007k0k6)

Series 4

Is That Your Horse Outside?

Albert Steptoe advises son Harold on the art of seduction. Starring Wilfrid Brambell and Harry H Corbett.

Classic sitcom about the lives of rag and bone men Albert Steptoe and his son Harold.

Written for BBC TV and adapted for BBC Radio by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.

Albert Wilfrid Brambell

Harold Harry H Corbett

With:

Jo Manning Wilson

John Samson

Producer: Bobby Jaye

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in February 1972.

SAT 03:00 Cooking in a Bedsitter (b09jrkr2)

Series 2

Bolognese Cutlets

Trisha is definitely over Deepak. She really, truly is.

Extracts from Cooking in a Bedsitter are read by Eleanor Bron.

Beattie Edmondson and Nikesh Patel star in Sue Teddern's romantic comedy set in the 1960s.

Inspired by Katharine Whitehorn's cookery classic.

Katharine Whitehorn Eleanor Bron

Trisha Beattie Edmondson

Deepak Nikesh Patel

Moir Isabella Inghald

June Ellie Darvill

Len Rupert Holliday Evans

Malcolm Gary Duncan

Errol Tayla Kovacevic-Ebong

Director: Emma Harding.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2017.

SAT 03:30 Anybody Can Do Anything by Betty MacDonald (b00js6rf)

10. A Reluctant Writer

Mary tells a publisher about Betty's wonderful new book.

It's news to Betty too.

Will she be able to come up with a book?

Betty MacDonald's hilarious account of survival during the USA's Great Depression back in Seattle, under the wing of her sister Mary.

Abridged by Jennifer Howarth.

Concluded by Debora Weston.

Producer: Mary Ward-Lowery

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2009.

SAT 03:45 Ladies of Letters (b00tvlbc)

Ladies of Letters Say No

5. Revenge

A doomed plan for revenge on Alan brings Vera and Irene closer to Her Majesty.

Vera and Irene are back, and this time they're in a combative mood.

Starring Patricia Routledge and Prunella Scales.

The up and down relationship of two mature ladies shared via their barbed correspondence.

Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman.

Vera Small Patricia Routledge

Irene Spencer Prunella Scales

Sir James Fotherington-Fanshawe Simon Treves

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2007.

SAT 04:00 One Person Found This Helpful (m001xdfc)

Series 1

5. The Old Man & The Fishfinger

A scenic fishfinger and a wobbly cupcake.

The weird and wonderful world of online reviews explored in a panel game, hosted by Frank Skinner

With:

Scott Bennett

Esther Manito

Simon Evans

Jo Caulfield

Written by Frank Skinner, Catherine Brinkworth, Sarah Dempster, Jason Hazeley, Rajiv Karia, Karl Mimms, Katie Sayer & Peter Tellouche

Devised by Jason Hazeley and Simon Evans with the producer David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in March 2024.

SAT 04:30 A Short Gentleman (b019rqh1)

Episode 4

QC Robert's nemesis approaches, along with Edward, basset hound of doom.

Hugh Bonneville stars as Robert Purcell, QC.

He's a perfect specimen of the British Establishment, who applies faultless legal logic to his disastrous personal life.

Conclusion of Jon Canter's comic novel adapted by Robin Brooks.

Robert Purcell Hugh Bonneville

Geoffrey Paul Moriarty

Father James Hayes

Elizabeth Lyndsey Marshall

Judy Tracy Wiles

Pilkington Ewan Bailey

Sergeant Carl Prekopp

Isobel Lauren Mote

Max Ted Allpress

Alan Gerard McDermott

Director: Jonquil Panting

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2012.

SAT 05:00 Drama on 4 (m000wrt3)

The Last of England by Neil McKay

A darkly comic drama with three 60-something friends on an overnight ferry crossing to Santander.

They argue passionately whilst returning to their expat life in Spain, after the UK funeral of their friend Ken, who went home for a visit and would never come back.

Hywel, a loquacious Welshman, Irishman Jim from Lurgan and pugnacious ex-MP Malcolm from Glasgow are unlikely allies (and enforced drinking pals) in the small Spanish town they now call home.

Fuelled by some indifferent Rioja and cheap Spanish brandy, through the course of a night they try - and fail - to come to terms with life, death, truth and Brexit.

Also on the ferry are Ken's daughter Gemma and her partner Rashid, carrying the ashes of Ken, to scatter beneath an almond tree in his favourite spot near the village.

But Gemma is furious with her father for abandoning his English family and falling for a bartender more than half his age. She's furious with her father's so-called friends for encouraging him. And she's quite cross with Rashid.

As the ferry heads for Spain and the sea gets rougher, secrets and motivations are revealed, showing nothing is quite as anyone believed and nobody is quite what they seem. Is home where you live, or where your heart is?

Starring Anthony O'Donnell, Gary Lewis and Dan Gordon.

Written by BAFTA award-winning dramatist, Neil McKay.

Hywel Anthony O'Donnell

Malcolm Gary Lewis

Jim Dan Gordon

Rashid George Bukhari

Gemma Faye McKeever

Director: Melanie Harris

A Sparklab production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in June 2021.

SAT 06:00 Vile Bodies by Evelyn Waugh (m002sek2)

Time: 1928. Place: mainly London.

The decadent exploits of the Bright Young Things of the late 1920s.

The artistic socialites of a world that was to vanish before the Second World War.

Starring John Standing, Lynn Redgrave and Anna Cropper.

Evelyn Waugh satirical novel, first published in 1930.

Dramatised by Barry Campbell.

Adam ... John Standing

Agatha Runciple ... Lynn Redgrave

Nina ... Anna Cropper

Lottie ... Julia Lang

Mrs Ape ... Margaret Robertson

Drunken Major ... Alan Lawrance

Lord Balcairn ... Ian Lubbock

Colonel Blount ... Anthony Jacobs

Social editress ... Grizelda Hervey

Ginger Littlejohn ... Sean Arnold

Mrs Florin ... Lynn Carson

Benfleet, a publisher ... Leo Maguire

Matron ... Diana Robson

Customs Chief/Judge ... Malcolm Hayes

Mr. Brown - Prime Minister ... Gerald Cross

Mrs. Brown ... Pauline Wynn

Miles Malpractice ... Richard Griffiths

Margot Metroland ... Carol Boyer

Faith ... Patricia Gallimore
Chastity ... Elizabeth Morgan
all other parts by members of the cast
Producer: RD Smith
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1970.
SAT 07:30 Night Terrors by Alice Vernon (Omnibus) (m002sck4)
Alice Vernon often wakes up to find strangers in her bedroom. Ever since she was a child, her nights have been haunted by nightmares of a figure from her adolescence - sinister hallucinations and episodes of sleepwalking. These are known as 'parasomnias' - and they're surprisingly common.
Now a lecturer in Creative Writing, Vernon set out to understand the history, science and culture of these strange and haunting experiences.
Night Terrors examines the history of our relationship with bad dreams - how we've tried to make sense of and treat them, from some decidedly odd 'cures' like magical 'mare-stones', to research on how video games might help people rewrite their dreams.
Along the way she explores the Salem Witch Trials and sleep paralysis, Victorian ghost stories, and soldiers' experiences of PTSD.
By directly confronting her own strange and frightening nights for the first time, Alice Vernon encourages us to think about the way troubled sleep has impacted our imaginations.
Omnibus of five episodes abridged by Polly Coles.
Read by Emily Raymond.
Producer: Clive Brill
A Brill production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in October 2022.
SAT 08:45 The Fosdyke Saga (b007jrk6)
1. New Horizons
'One more mouth to feed! That settles it. We're going.'
Lancashire, 1902: Will the luck of the Fosdyke family ever take a turn for the better?
A classic tale of struggle, power, personalities and tripe.
Bill Tidy and John Junkin's family saga - based on Tidy's Daily Mirror cartoon strip (1971-1985) parodying John Galsworthy's 'The Forsyte Saga' novels.
Jos Fosdyke Philip Lowrie
Victoria Fosdyke Miriam Margolyes
Tom Fosdyke David Threlfall
Albert Fosdyke Enn Reitel
Roger Ditchley Christian Rodska
Ben Ditchley Colin Douglas
Other parts played by:
Douglas Blackwell
Christopher Barr
Sally Grace
John Junkin
Producer: Alan Nixon
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1983.
SAT 09:00 At Home With Hinge and Bracket (b008qq3d)
4. Jack Brymer
Dame Hilda Bracket and her lifelong companion, Dr Evadne Hinge, invite you to eavesdrop on some informal music and conversation.
Joining them in the music room is renowned clarinetist and broadcaster Jack Brymer.
Dame Hilda Bracket Patrick Fyffe
Dr Evadne Hinge George Logan
Producer: John Fawcett Wilson
First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in December 1990.
SAT 09:30 Beyond Our Ken (m000mlj9)
Series 4
Episode 3
Kenneth Horne travels back in time, and Hornerama looks at London.
A madcap mix of sketches and songs written by Eric Merriman.
Starring:
Kenneth Horne
Kenneth Williams
Hugh Paddick
Betty Marsden
Bill Pertwee
Music from Janet Waters, The Hornets and the BBC Variety Orchestra conducted by Paul Fenoulhet.
Incidental music by Edwin Braden.
Announcer: Douglas Smith
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 November 1960.
SAT 10:00 Cook and Greenaway: In Perfect Harmony (m001716v)
Celebrating the incredible careers of the song-writing duo Roger Cook and Roger Greenaway.
Born in Bristol, the award-winning partnership wrote some of the biggest songs in music history, for some of the biggest names.
Cook went on to have phenomenal success in Nashville and

Greenaway with the Drifters in the UK.
Together they've enjoyed an unbelievable career spanning seven decades.
Producer: Tom Ryan
Made for BBC Radio Bristol and first broadcast in 2021.
SAT 11:00 Vile Bodies by Evelyn Waugh (m002sck2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
SAT 12:30 Night Terrors by Alice Vernon (Omnibus) (m002sck4)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
SAT 13:45 The Fosdyke Saga (b007jrk6)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]
SAT 14:00 At Home With Hinge and Bracket (b008qq3d)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]
SAT 14:30 Beyond Our Ken (m000mlj9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]
SAT 15:00 Cook and Greenaway: In Perfect Harmony (m001716v)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
SAT 16:00 The State of the Art by Iain M Banks (b00hv1dz)
The Culture ship Arbitrary arrives on Earth in 1977. Its finds a planet obsessed with alien concepts like 'property' and 'money' - and on the edge of self-destruction.
When Agent Dervley Linter decides to go native, can Diziet Sma change his mind?
Sci-fi thriller novella written by Iain M Banks.
Dramatised by Paul Cornell.
The Ship Antony Sher
Diziet Sma Nina Sosanya
Dervley Linter Paterson Joseph
Li Graeme Hawley
Tel Brigit Forsyth
Sodel Conrad Nelson
Director: Nadia Molinari
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2009.
SAT 16:45 The Mermaid and the Rat Catcher by Moy McCrory (b00vknkp)
A lonely rat catcher tells his tale of being cruelly treated by a mermaid
Moy McCrory's short story read by Gerard McSorley.
Producer: David Hunter
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 1991.
SAT 17:00 Putting You Through, Caller (b098hjv5)
In 1958, the Queen made the first direct trunk telephone call. It was the beginning of the end for the female operators known as the 'Hello Girls'.
Telephone operators had connected callers since the earliest days of the telephone, 80 years before. Despite the intimacy of phone conversations, subscribers willingly accepted the presence of a third voice on the line.
In this three hour showcase, Shaun Ley uses drama and comedy from the BBC archives to demonstrate how the telephone operator became a valuable dramatic device.
With the aid of the recordings from the GPO (General Post Office) and the BT archive, Shaun explores the role of the operator, the strict rules governing their work and some official secrets.
Featuring:
* Extracts from 'Liz and Sally' - a 1960s Post Office recruitment film
* Burn Your Phone - a radio drama by Andrew Wallace
Alan Cumming plays a telephone operator beset by voices, requests and problems. With Jonathan Keeble
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1995
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* If You're Glad, I'll be Frank - a radio drama by Tom Stoppard

What happens when Frank recognises the voice of the GPO speaking clock as that of his long-lost wife?
Starring Timothy West and Patsy Rowlands
First broadcast on the BBC Third Programme in 1966.
* Ballylenon - an extract of the Irish village comedy set in County Donegal
Producer: Adam Bowen
Made for BBC for Radio 4 Extra and first broadcast in October 2017.
SAT 20:00 At Home With Hinge and Bracket (b008qq3d)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]
SAT 20:30 Beyond Our Ken (m000mlj9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today]
SAT 21:00 Cook and Greenaway: In Perfect Harmony (m001716v)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
SAT 22:00 Craig Brown's Lost Diaries (b01g614z)
March and April
Satirist Craig Brown dips into more of the private lives of public figures from the 1960's to the present day.
March and April: Gyles Brandreth celebrates his birthday through the years, and Sharon Osbourne auditions some handsome young singers.
Written by Craig Brown.
Voiced by:
Jan Ravens
Alistair McGowan
Lewis McLeod
Ewan Bailey
Margaret Cabourn-Smith
Dolly Wells
Producer: Victoria Lloyd

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2010.
SAT 22:30 Fred at The Stand (b09dysxg)
Series 1
Cook, Sutherland, Brimson and Waugh
Fred MacAulay introduces some of the funniest comedians in the UK doing what they do best - pure stand up comedy.
From The Stand Comedy Club in Edinburgh.
In this episode:
* Jason Cook tells a story about performing on a cruise ship
* JoJo Sutherland lets slip some of her supermum secrets
* Eddy Brimson survives a terrorist attack
* Scotsman Gareth Waugh has a plan to save the bees
A Dabster production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in November 2017.
SAT 23:00 The Dream Factory (m001czhv)
Daydream Believer
The Dream Factory is a towering global monopoly. It's responsible for the manufacture and distribution of humanity's hopes, fantasies and nightmares since the night before the dawn of time.
Due, presumably, to an admin error, their UK regional management have recently appointed the worst possible person to the delivery team - cheerful blockhead, Joz Norris.
It's now his responsibility to get the right dreams into the right heads at the right time.
His life of well-meant but foolhardy failure, buoyed by friends and family, has been mostly harmless - until now.
Overnight, Joz has attained power over the dreams and fantasies of his friends and family. In no time he makes so many mistakes that the inner worlds of everyone he knows have been turned upside-down.
His stunning ineptitude jeopardises all his significant personal relationships as he starts inadvertently messing with the contents of his friends' heads. It also infuriates his bosses, and he risks losing his job, just as he'd finally found some stable work.
He is utterly inept, but cheerfully enthusiastic to the last, always assuming he can bluff his way out of any situation, no matter how rarely that seems to be true
Written by Joz Norris and Miranda Holms.
Joz Joz Norris
Paula Desiree Burch
Anna Stevie Martin
Meg Roisin O'Mahony
Susie Chiara Goldsmith
Yak Kiehl Smith-Bynoe
Boneless Man Ben Targét
With other parts played by members of the cast
Producer: Steve Doherty
A Giddy Goat production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in October 2022.
SAT 23:30 The Harpoon (b00cgrsm)
Series 3
Episode 1
Is your journey really necessary?
Do you know your submarines?
Are you bored with your biscuits?
And above all - are you German?
The Empire's favourite is back with a special wartime edition of the nostalgic spoof of boys' adventure magazine.
Written by Julian Dutton and Peter Baynham.
Performed by:
Alistair McGowan
Peter Baynham
Susie Brann
Mary Elliot-Nelson
Julian Dutton
Producer: Sarah Smith
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 1994.

SUNDAY 08 MARCH 2026

SUN 00:00 The State of the Art by Iain M Banks (b00hv1dz)
[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Saturday]
SUN 00:45 The Mermaid and the Rat Catcher by Moy McCrory (b00vknkp)
[Repeat of broadcast at 16:45 on Saturday]
SUN 01:00 Vile Bodies by Evelyn Waugh (m002sck2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Saturday]
SUN 02:30 Night Terrors by Alice Vernon (Omnibus) (m002sck4)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Saturday]
SUN 03:45 The Fosdyke Saga (b007jrk6)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 on Saturday]
SUN 04:00 At Home With Hinge and Bracket (b008qq3d)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 on Saturday]
SUN 04:30 Beyond Our Ken (m000mlj9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 on Saturday]
SUN 05:00 Cook and Greenaway: In Perfect Harmony (m001716v)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Saturday]
SUN 06:00 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m002sf0k)
Oscar Winners 3
Dustin Hoffman
Hollywood film actor Dustin Hoffman is castaway by Kirsty Young.
In spite of Dustin's Aunt Pearl telling him he wasn't good looking enough to be an actor, for the past 45 years he's been

crafting landmark movie performances. He is that rare and apparently contradictory thing - a character actor and a superstar.

The Graduate, Midnight Cowboy, Lenny, All The President's Men, Marathon Man, Kramer v Kramer, Tootsie, Rain Man, Wag The Dog, and Last Chance Harvey are just a handful of the movies that contribute to an unparalleled body of work. Dustin is the only actor in history to have top billing in three films that won Best Picture Oscars.

Now in his mid-70s he is making his directorial debut. He says "I'm always fighting to break through... I'm trying to show you the part of me that wants to love, wants to kill, that wants to find my way out, that feels there is no way out."

DISC ONE: Ritchie Valens - La Bamba
DISC TWO: Slim Gaillard Cement Mixer
DISC THREE: Otis Redding - (Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay
DISC FOUR: Diana Krall - Frim Fram Sauce
DISC FIVE: Bette Midler - Shoot the Breeze
DISC SIX: Jon Hendricks - How High the Moon
DISC SEVEN: Donnie Brooks - Memphis
DISC EIGHT: Trevor Peacock and David Ryall - Are You Havin' Any Fun?
CASTAWAY'S FAVOURITE: Trevor Peacock and David Ryall - Are You Havin' Any Fun?
BOOK CHOICE: The complete works - Charles Dickens
LUXURY CHOICE: An endless bar
Producer: Cathy Drysdale
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2012.
SUN 06:45 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00lq99f)
Series 1
Archaeopteryx
Sir David recounts the remarkable story of a feather, like any other feather from a bird.
Only this one was 150 million years old, and the animal that lost it lived when birds had not yet evolved.
Series of talks by Sir David Attenborough on the natural histories of creatures and plants from around the world.
Producer: Julian Hector
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2009.
SUN 07:00 Poetry Extra (m002sf0n)
Stories In Verse - Robert Hardy
Daljit Nagra revisits the BBC's poetry archive and selects Stories in Verse - Robert Hardy.
The acclaimed actor Robert Hardy reads the following poems:
*Hiawatha's Wooing' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
*The Burghers' by Thomas Hardy
*The Diverting History of John Gilpin' by William Cowper.
Presented and produced by Joy Boatman
First broadcast on the BBC World Service in 1994.
SUN 07:30 Anybody Can Do Anything by Betty MacDonald (Omnibus) (m002sf0q)
Episode 2
During the worst of the Great Depression, Betty tries to improve her prospects, and come up with cheap ways to have fun with her sisters.
Betty MacDonald's hilarious account of survival during the USA's Great Depression, under the wing of her sister Mary. Omnibus of the last five of ten parts abridged in ten parts by Jennifer Howarth.
Concluded by Debora Weston.
Producer: Mary Ward-Lowery
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2009.
SUN 08:40 Witness History (w3ct3c6p)
Paul Robeson and the transatlantic phone line
In September 1956, a telephone cable called TAT-1 was laid under the Atlantic Ocean.
This made high-quality transatlantic phone calls possible for the first time.
Eight months later in May 1957, 1,000 people squeezed into St Pancras Town Hall in London to listen to a transatlantic concert. The person performing, Paul Robeson, was a globally renowned singer, but he'd been banned from travelling outside the USA. So, he made use of the new transatlantic telephone line to perform to his fans in the UK.
Ben Henderson speaks to John Liffen, who curated an exhibition on TAT-1 and the concert at the Science Museum in London.
(Photo: Engineers build repeaters used in TAT-1. Credit: Russell Knight/BIPs via Getty Images)
SUN 08:50 Ladies of Letters (b00tyx83)
Ladies of Letters Say No (Omnibus)
Vera has a new "friend", but unsurprisingly Irene doesn't approve.
Vera and Irene are back, and this time they're in a combative mood.
Starring Patricia Routledge and Prunella Scales.
Omnibus of five episodes written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman.
Vera Small Patricia Routledge
Irene Spencer Prunella Scales
Alan Trumper John Rowe
Howard ... Christopher Kelham
Sir James Fotherington-Fanshawe Simon Treves
Producer: Liz Webb
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2007.
SUN 10:00 AI Read Classics (m002sf0t)
The funny man from Salford entertains with jokes and sketches about everyday British life.
Removal men struggles, the frustrations of being a golf

instructor and being a hospital patient...
AI Read does all the voices
AI first came to fame on BBC Radio in the 1950s thanks to his northern comic monologues.
Written by Ronnie Taylor.
Music from Alex Welsh and his Band.
Producer: John Browell
First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in April 1976.
SUN 10:30 Take It From Here (b01770vb)
From 19/05/1955
Can Ron ever thank Pa Glum enough for rearing him right?
Starring:
Professor Jimmy Edwards
Dick Bentley
June Whitfield
Wallis Eaton
Music from Alma Cogan, The Keynotes and the Augmented BBC Revue Orchestra conducted by Harry Rabinowitz.
Written by Frank Muir and Denis Norden.
Producer: Charles Maxwell
First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in May 1955.
SUN 11:00 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m002sf0k)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
SUN 11:45 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00lq99f)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:45 today]
SUN 12:00 Poetry Extra (m002sf0n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]
SUN 12:30 Anybody Can Do Anything by Betty MacDonald (Omnibus) (m002sf0q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
SUN 13:40 Witness History (w3ct3c6p)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:40 today]
SUN 13:50 Ladies of Letters (b00tyx83)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]
SUN 15:00 AI Read Classics (m002sf0t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
SUN 15:30 Take It From Here (b01770vb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]
SUN 16:00 The Coma by Alex Garland (b007m5v9)
2. Blackouts
Carl fears the attack has caused brain damage, as he keeps having blackouts...
Alex Garland's surreal fantasy explores the lucid, but powerless workings of the mind of Carl, who is in a coma following a violent assault
It plays tricks on both the story's protagonist and the listener.
Read by Tom Goodman-Hill.
Producer: Gemma Jenkins
Made for BBC 7 and first broadcast in December 2004.
SUN 16:30 The Slide (m000llyv)
3. Analysis
On the instructions of the dominating MP Hugh Deverill, seismologist, Josef Gomez has been called in to examine earth tremors in Kent.
But the effects of the oozing mud on both people and animals is becoming increasingly evident...
Victor Pemberton's vintage sci-fi serial starring Roger Delgado and Maurice Denham.
Inspector Baxter... Geoffrey Matthews
Sorensen Fraser Kerr
Dr Ken Richards David Spenser
Professor Landers Rolf Lefebvre
Hugh Deverill, MP Maurice Denham
Josef Gomez Roger Delgado
Professor Lippert Allan McClelland
Anna Deverill Marion Mathie
Nursing Sister Eva Haddon
Janet Marshall Elizabeth Proud
Nurse Patricia Leventon
RAF Corporal Anthony Hall
Tug' Wilson Stephen Jack
Mrs Wilson Miriam Margolyes
AC2 Gibbons Nigel Graham
Special Effects: The BBC Radiophonic Workshop
Producer: John Tydemann
First broadcast on the BBC Light Programme in February 1966.
SUN 17:00 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m002sf0k)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
SUN 17:45 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00lq99f)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:45 today]
SUN 18:00 Poetry Extra (m002sf0n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]
SUN 18:30 Anybody Can Do Anything by Betty MacDonald (Omnibus) (m002sf0q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
SUN 19:40 Witness History (w3ct3c6p)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:40 today]
SUN 19:50 Ladies of Letters (b00tyx83)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]
SUN 21:00 AI Read Classics (m002sf0t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
SUN 21:30 Take It From Here (b01770vb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]
SUN 22:00 Mitch Benn Is the 37th Beatle (b03szxdh)
Musical satirist Mitch Benn explores his comedy connections to the story of the Beatles.
Mitch has realised that over the years many people have claimed the title The Fifth Beatle.
In fact, so many of them have been described as such that there

are now at least 36 of them. They can't all be right. But some of them are righter than others...
50 years on from the release of 'Please, Please Me', Mitch presents his own definitive list of the Beatles.
He presents a whistle-stop tour through musical history and the enduring legacy of the Fab Four, whilst shamelessly milking his own - incredibly tenuous - connection to it.
Written by and starring Mitch Benn.
Producer: Alexandra Smith
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2014.
SUN 22:30 The Nick Revell Show (b00ct94s)
Series 2
The Promised Land
As writer Nick gets a lucky Hollywood break, his geraniums are terrorised by an old foe.
A sitcom for the 1990s, written by and starring comedian Nick Revell.
With:
Alistair McGowan
Doon MacKichan
Brian Bowles
Alison Sterling
John Guerrasio
Producer: Ioan Magnusson
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1993.
SUN 23:00 In and Out of the Kitchen (b01qw8m7)
Series 2
On Location
Damien is sent on location to the Lake District to film a chunk of his new series for Sky Arts about "poets and their palates".
But when the sunshine turns to driving rain, Damien's spirits are further dampened when it appears Anthony might not be missing him quite as much as he had hoped...
Sitcom written by and starring Miles Jupp, charting the life of cookery writer Damien Trench and his partner Anthony.
Damien Trench Miles Jupp
Anthony MacLveny Justin Edwards
Gary McDade Ben Crowe
Sound Man Ben Crowe
Mr Mullaney Brendan Dempsey
Marion Duffett Lesley Vickeraage
Producer: Sam Michell
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2013.
SUN 23:30 I've Never Seen Star Wars (b00hdb84)
Series 2
Arthur Smith
Balham-based comedian, Arthur Smith watches 'Top Gear', tries food for kids and goes see to 'Les Misérables'.
Series in which Marcus Brigstocke invites celebrities to try new experiences.
Producer: Bill Dare
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2009.

MONDAY 09 MARCH 2026

MON 00:00 The Coma by Alex Garland (b007m5v9)
[Repeat of broadcast at 16:00 on Sunday]
MON 00:30 The Slide (m000llyv)
[Repeat of broadcast at 16:30 on Sunday]
MON 01:00 Desert Island Discs Revisited (m002sf0k)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Sunday]
MON 01:45 David Attenborough's Life Stories (b00lq99f)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:45 on Sunday]
MON 02:00 Poetry Extra (m002sf0n)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Sunday]
MON 02:30 Anybody Can Do Anything by Betty MacDonald (Omnibus) (m002sf0q)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Sunday]
MON 03:40 Witness History (w3ct3c6p)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:40 on Sunday]
MON 03:50 Ladies of Letters (b00tyx83)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Sunday]
MON 05:00 AI Read Classics (m002sf0t)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Sunday]
MON 05:30 Take It From Here (b01770vb)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Sunday]
MON 06:00 Whodunnits (b011vf01)
Agatha Raisin - Series 3
5. The Fairies of Fryfam
Hurt by James once too often, Agatha takes a trip to the Cornish village of Fryham.
However, she's soon disturbed by some strange lights at the bottom of her garden...
Penelope Keith stars as the PR guru turned amateur detective. Dramatised in two parts by David Semple from the novel by MC Beaton.
Agatha Raisin Penelope Keith
James Lacey Malcolm Sinclair
Mrs Bloxby Liza Sadovy
Lucy Danvers Rebecca Saire
Tolly Danvers Mark Straker
Mr Poppellwell Stephen Crichtlow

Producer: Carol Smith
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2006.
MON 06:30 Whodunnits (b007k47f)
Wimsey - Busman's Honeymoon
3. A Policeman's Lot

As the questioning over the murder of William Noakes continues, some revelatory evidence emerges from the upper crust sleuth's cleaner.

Ian Carmichael stars as Lord Peter Wimsey – the British gentleman detective created by Dorothy L. Sayers. Dramatised by Alistair Beaton.

Lord Peter Wimsey Ian Carmichael

Lady Wimsey Sarah Badel

Bunter Peter Jones

Mrs Ruddle Pearl Hackney

Narrator John Westbrook

Superintendent Kirk Peter Vaughan

Constable Sellon Christopher Beeny

Miss Twitterton Rosemary Leach

Reverend Goodacre Gerald Sim

Sergeant Foster Alexander John

Producer: Martin Fisher

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1983.

MON 07:00 Home Again (m0005gym)

Courage, Mother, Courage

Margaret plans to infuriate husband Fulton by revealing she's taken a lover.

Starring Robin Bailey.

As suddenly as he disappeared, Fulton Jones returned to his family – wife Margaret, and children Rosie and Martin.

He went to the newsagent to buy matches 20 years before and, bold as brass, waltzed back assuming his role as father figure once more. Margaret is perplexed, whilst Rosie and Martin are furious with him.

Sitcom written by Peter Timmiswood.

Robin Bailey ... Fulton

Doreen Mantle ... Margaret

Liz Goulding ... Rosie

David Troughton ... Martin

Ursula Smith ... Cyrilla

Christopher Benjamin ... Ernest Blackrock

Producer: Griff Rhys Jones

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 1980.

MON 07:30 Dad's Army (b00qxh17)

Series 2

War Dance

Captain Mainwaring's platoon dance is disrupted by an announcement from Private Pike.

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

Adapted for radio from Jimmy Perry and David Croft's TV scripts by Harold Snoad and Michael Knowles.

Captain Mainwaring Arthur Lowe

Sergeant Wilson John Le Mesurier

Corporal Jones Clive Dunn

Private Frazer John Laurie

Private Pike Ian Lavender

Private Godfrey Arnold Ridley

Private Walker Larry Martin

Mrs Pike Pearl Hackney

Violet Gibbons Wendy Richard

Announcer John Snagge

Producer: John Dyas

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1975.

MON 08:00 For the Love of Leo (m000176v)

Series 3

The Tender-Hearted Post

Edinburgh widower Leo still talks to his beloved wife Tamsin when he's alone; though pregnant daughter Laura and housekeeper Sadie fill the house and his life.

Leo goes hill-walking in a beloved spot and meets a woman who desperately needs his help.

Comedy written by Michael Chaplin, starring Mark Bonnar and Beth Marshall.

Prepare to meet another of the women who come into Leo's life.

Leo Fabiani Mark Bonnar

Tamsin Beth Marshall

Grace Hilary Maclean

Director: Catherine Bailey

A Catherine Bailey production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in March 2021.

MON 08:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cb0m)

1. Creating the Network

Stephen Fry traces the evolution of the mobile phone, from hefty executive bricks that required a separate briefcase to carry the battery to today's smart little devices complete with personal assistant.

There are more mobile phones in the world than there are people on the planet.

In this series, Stephen talks to the backroom boys who made it all possible and hears how the technology succeeded, in ways that the geeks had not necessarily intended.

For starters, Stephen meets the men who first dreamt of creating a cellular network.

Back in the 1960s, two Bell Labs engineers in the US thought perhaps a maximum of 50,000 people might use a cellular phone network.

Now, there are billions of phones in the world, all of them dependent on the networks based on their design.

It was an enormous technical challenge that took decades to complete; but the main problems were political. Motorola, for example, argued that phone calls were a frivolous waste of radio spectrum compared to more worthy causes like TV.

Producer: Anna Buckley

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2011.

MON 08:45 Ladies of Letters (b01213dz)

Ladies of Letters Go Green

1. Planet

Irene and Vera are back - and this time their thoughts turn to all things environmental.

Grandmothers Irene Spencer and Vera Small continue their tempestuous correspondence.

They start to look beyond at the future of the planet - but as ever, soon manage to bring their focus back to themselves!

Starring Prunella Scales and Patricia Routledge.

Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman

Vera Small Patricia Routledge

Irene Spencer Prunella Scales

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2008.

MON 09:00 Just a Minute (m002rd1y)

Series 96

5. That's a real headscratcher

Gyles attempts to sing his own version of a Benjamin Britten opera, Emma explains why she can't remember the plot of The Great Gatsby and one of the players finally gets their first minute.

Host: Sue Perkins

Players: Gyles Brandreth, Emma Sidi, Desiree Burch and Josie Lawrence

Producer: Georgia Keating

Executive Producer: James Robinson

Production Coordinator: Sarah Nicholls

Sound Editor: Marc Willcox

Additional material by Ruth Husko

An EcoAudio certified production.

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4.

MON 09:30 The Call (b00y2d7j)

Series 2

Concorde

Dominic Arkwright meets people who have made life-changing phone calls.

He firstly meets Alice Brooking, who was on the phone to her sister Nathalie in London when an Air France Concorde crashed into her Paris hotel.

It was the 25th July 2000 and Alice was in the Hotelissimo in Gonesse, near Paris Charles de Gaulle airport. A language student working through her holidays as a tour guide, Alice was waiting for a party of young musicians to arrive from England. Torn between having a nap, having a shower and calling her sister for a chat, she picked up the phone to London.

Half way through the conversation there was loud bang and the phone went dead.

She went to the door of her room, to be met by searing heat and a wall of flame.

"I ran barefoot across the fields, because I'd left my shoes in my room, then tried calling the attention of the car drivers..... If I'd chosen to take a shower or a nap I'd be dead."

Producer: John Byrne

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2011.

MON 09:45 Daily Service (m002sf15)

Sing my soul - Sing to the Lord

A space for spiritual reflection from Bolton Parish Church with Bolton Parish Church Choir directed by Philip O'Connor and accompanied by Logan Ferris.

Theme: Sing my soul - Sing to the Lord

Presenter: Rev Hannah Lane

Reading: Psalm 104 31-35

Music:

Angel voices ever singing - Bolton Parish Church Choir

He Prayeth Best by Morfydd Owen - Bolton Junior Choir

How shall I sing that majesty - Bolton Parish Church Choir

MON 10:00 And the Academy Award Goes To...

(b00hmc52)

Series 2

West Side Story

Concluding his series on Oscar-winning films, Paul Gambaccini turns his attention to one that tackled tough issues through the medium of the musical.

It boasted a young fresh cast - Natalie Wood in her first adult role, Rita Moreno sweeping everyone else off the dancefloor, and a relatively inexperienced but dazzling array of support actors.

The movie sizzles with colour, drama, the outstanding choreography of Jerome Robbins, the music of Leonard Bernstein and the lyrics of a young Stephen Sondheim.

Who could tell that behind-the-scenes, there were arguments, voice dubbings and overruns, plus issues over racial casting and 'blacking up'?

What emerged from a tumultuous production was a triumph.

Producer: Sara Jane Hall

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2009.

MON 10:30 Off the Page (b00771dl)

Telephones

Dominic Arkwright invites Ben Goldacre, Sophie Borland and Joe Queenan to explore the cultural impact of the telephone.

Ben Goldacre has a sinister story of mobile phone stalking.

Sophie Borland recalls going undercover at a call centre.

And Joe Queenan, on the line from New York, describes

telephone accents that he hates.

Producer: Miles Warde

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2006.

MON 11:00 Whodunnits (b011vf01)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 11:30 Whodunnits (b007k47f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 12:00 Home Again (m0005gym)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

MON 12:30 Dad's Army (b00qxh17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 13:00 For the Love of Leo (m000176v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 13:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cb0m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 13:45 Ladies of Letters (b01213dz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

MON 14:00 Punch Line (m002sf17)

From 11/10/1975

Bernard Cribbins, Bob Monkhouse and June Whitfield perform a series of comedy sketches.

But Terry Wogan interrupts to ask each of them to suggest their own punch lines!

From an idea by Myles Rudge, who also wrote the sketches.

Producer: Edward Taylor

First Broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in October 1975.

MON 14:30 Married (b00dvdff)

Series 3

Episode 6

Cantankerous Robin Lightfoot makes a vital discovery about his parallel universes.

Starring Hugh Bonneville.

Confirmed bachelor Robin Lightfoot is dealing with life in a parallel universe where he has kids and an ex-wife who hates him.

Tony Bagley's comedy drama.

Robin Hugh Bonneville

Lesley Josie Lawrence

Dirk Stephen Frost

Maxine Ann Gosling

Ned Sam Bradley

Muriel Janet Ellis

Arthur Smith Himself

Producer: Claire Jones

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2001.

MON 15:00 The Vicar, the Automaton and the Talking Dog by Lavinia Murray (b04dk880)

Using a mixture of fact and fantasy, this is an extraordinary day in the life of Alexander Graham Bell as a child. We discover the roots of his genius, and how his mother's impending deafness helped lead him to his invention of the telephone.

Aleck, with the help of his friend and brother, made an automaton that could say 'Mama' and further, he manipulated his dog's throat and mouth so he indeed had a talking dog.

Starring John Bell.

Written by Lavinia Murray.

Aleck John Bell

Ben Keir Beckwith

Reverend McReady Stuart McQuarrie

Father, Voice of the Automaton, and Trouve Seamus

O'Neill

Mother Morag Siller

Melville Stephen Fletcher

Director: Pauline Harris

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2014.

**** FURTHER INFO:

We begin with a symphony of various telephone rings through the ages brought to us on a light Scottish breeze, and then we cut to answer machine. We see the stark difference between Bell's world of sound and his mother's world into silence.

This is a drama not without humour, fascinating, illuminating and enchanting; providing a real, dramatic insight into the roots of a scientific genius, told with imagination and originality, and created especially for radio.

MON 15:45 Short Works (b07w6jhn)

Give Me a Buzz by Emma Healey

Carla has a telephone phobia, whilst her mother is seldom off the thing.

Mother has a PHD in History of Art, and somehow telephoning and Dutch Flower Paintings become connected in this world of theirs.

This is one of five stories originally commissioned from outstanding younger writers to accompany the 2016 BBC National Short Story Award.

Written by Emma Healey

Read by Louise Brealey.

Producer: Duncan Minshull

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2016

MON 16:00 And the Academy Award Goes To...

(b00hmc52)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

MON 16:30 Off the Page (b00771dl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]

MON 17:00 Whodunnits (b011vf01)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

MON 17:30 Whodunnits (b007k47f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

MON 18:00 Home Again (m0005gym)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

MON 18:30 Dad's Army (b00qxh17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

MON 19:00 For the Love of Leo (m000t76v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

MON 19:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cb0m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

MON 19:45 Ladies of Letters (b01213dz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

MON 20:00 Punch Line (m002sf17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 today]

MON 20:30 Married (b00dvd1f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 today]

MON 21:00 The Vicar, the Automaton and the Talking Dog

by Lavinia Murray (b04dk880)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 today]

MON 21:45 Short Works (b07w6jhn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 today]

MON 22:00 Just a Minute (m002rd1y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]

MON 22:30 Listen Against (b00tm197)

Series 3

Episode 1

A week of radio and TV that never happened in the show that works its way through it all, like a critical tapeworm going through a giant media dog.

* Jeremy Paxman finally breaks and goes roge

* Today gets remade as a US sitcom

* Listeners thoughts on the Food Programme giving recipes for cooking a Flump and spit roasting a Clanger

Presenters:

Alice Arnold

Jon Holmes

With special guests Jenni Murray, Richard Bacon and John Humphrys.

Featuring:

James Bachman

Stephen Critchlow

Sarah Hadland

David Schnieder

Written by Jon Holmes, Matthew Charlton, Sam Bryant,

Lyndsay Fenner, James Kettle, Joel Morris, Jason Hazely and

Gareth Gwynn.

Producer: Sam Bryant

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2010.

MON 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m002ss06)

Ginger Johnson 1/3

From 10pm until midnight, seven days a week, the Comedy Club has two hours of comedy. Plus Rob Deering chats to drag queen Ginger Johnson about how the character was created, her inspirations, and how she comes up with her show names.

MON 23:00 The Naked Week (m002s4qh)

Series 4

War, Law, and Operation Amol Rajan

The Naked Week team dive into war, flout the law and enjoy a real life Town Crier performing selected highlights from Amol Rajan's Instagram feed.

From The Skewer's Jon Holmes and host Andrew Hunter Murray comes The Naked Week, a fresh way of dressing the week's news in the altogether and parading it around for everyone to laugh at.

With award-winning writers and a crack team of contemporary satirists - and recorded in front of a live audience - The Naked Week delivers an topical news-nude straight to your ears.

Written by:

Jon Holmes

Katie Sayer

Gareth Ceredig

James Kettle

Jason Hazeley

Additional Material:

Karl Minns

Ali Panting

Helen Brooks

Pete Redfern

Cooper Mawhinny Swerty

Joe Topping

Investigations Team:

Cat Neilan

Emily Channon

Guests: Rachel Parris, Mark Stephens CBE, Alan Myatt.

Production Team: Tony Churnside, Jerry Peal, David Riffkin.

Production Coordinator: Molly Punshon

Assistant Producer: Katie Sayer

Executive Producer: Philip Abrams

Produced and Directed by Jon Holmes

An unusual production for BBC Radio 4

MON 23:30 The Museum of Everything (b007k1gw)

Series 1

The History of Everything

Discover the origins of the first-ever museum and learn the secrets of the Pyramids.

Meanwhile, Badgerland fights back

Written and performed by:

Marcus Brigstocke

Danny Robins

Dan Tetsell.

With Lucy Montgomery.

Music by Dominic Haslam and Ben Walker.

Producer: Alex Walsh-Taylor

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 2004.

TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026**TUE 00:00 And the Academy Award Goes To... (b00hmc52)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Monday]

TUE 00:30 Off the Page (b00771dl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Monday]

TUE 01:00 Whodunnits (b011vf01)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Monday]

TUE 01:30 Whodunnits (b007k47f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Monday]

TUE 02:00 Home Again (m0005gym)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Monday]

TUE 02:30 Dad's Army (b00qxh17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Monday]

TUE 03:00 For the Love of Leo (m000t76v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 on Monday]

TUE 03:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cb0m)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 on Monday]

TUE 03:45 Ladies of Letters (b01213dz)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 on Monday]

TUE 04:00 Punch Line (m002sf17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Monday]

TUE 04:30 Married (b00dvd1f)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Monday]

TUE 05:00 The Vicar, the Automaton and the Talking Dog

by Lavinia Murray (b04dk880)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Monday]

TUE 05:45 Short Works (b07w6jhn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Monday]

TUE 06:00 Whodunnits (b011vhyk)

Agatha Raisin - Series 3

6. Murder in the Dark

Agatha continues investigating the murder in the Cornish village of Fryfam, before the killer strikes again.

But, even more of a mystery, can James forgive and forget..?

Penelope Keith stars as the PR guru turned amateur detective.

MC Beaton's novel dramatised by David Semple

Agatha Raisin Penelope Keith

James Lacey Malcolm Sinclair

Mrs Bloxby Liza Sadovy

Lucy Danvers Rebecca Saire

Arthur Poplewell Stephen Critchlow

Producer: Carol Smith

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2006.

TUE 06:30 Whodunnits (b007k48n)

Wimsey - Busman's Honeymoon

4. Not Why, But How

The upper crust sleuth and his new bride try to recreate the lead-up to the mysterious circumstances of the murder of Noakes.

Ian Carmichael stars as Lord Peter Wimsey – the British

gentleman detective created by Dorothy L. Sayers.

Dramatised by Alistair Beaton.

Lord Peter Wimsey Ian Carmichael

Lady Wimsey Sarah Badel

Bunter Peter Jones

Mrs Ruddle Pearl Hackney

Narrator John Westbrook

Miss Titterton Rosemary Leach

Frank Crutchley Kenneth Cranham

Salcombe Hardy Patrick Newell

Sid David Peart

Producer: Martin Fisher

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1983.

TUE 07:00 Flying the Flag (b00b0317)

Series 2

A Tooth for a Tooth

There's no extradition agreement yet between the UK and the People's Republic.

But some accusations can't be lightly brushed aside...

Starring Dinsdale Landen.

Eastern Bloc embassy sitcom written by Alex Shearer.

HM Ambassador Mackenzie Dinsdale Landen

William Frost Peter Acre

Helen Waterson Moir Leslie

US Ambassador Stephen Greif

Colonel Surikov Christopher Benjamin

Producer: Pete Atkin

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 1988.

TUE 07:30 The Goon Show (b007jz4z)

Series 9

The Gold Plate Robbery

Neddie Seagoon goes overseas to pursue some stolen booty, but can Bloodnok be far behind?

Groundbreaking, surreal BBC radio comedy written by Spike

Milligan.

Starring:

Harry Secombe

Spike Milligan

Peter Sellers

First billed as Crazy People, ten series of The Goon Show were recorded between 1951 and 1960, but sadly many of the earliest shows weren't kept in the archive.

With the Ray Ellington Quartet and Max Geldray.

Orchestra conducted by Wally Stott.

Announcer: Wallace Greenslade

Producer: John Browell

First broadcast on the BBC Home Service in February 1959.

TUE 08:00 The Fair Intellectual Club (b081tdph)

A Rendezvous with Mr Voltaire

Lucy Porter's sitcom takes us to Edinburgh in the early 18th Century.

Monsieur Voltaire has been thrown out of France for immorality and has come to see his old friend Robert He trades philosophical maxims with Ishbel and the fellow members of her secret society - Alison and Marjory.

The scholarly young ladies teach him the value of free speech and a brand new use for a broom handle.

Voltaire Lewis Macleod

Robert Simon Donaldson

Ishbel Caroline Deyga

Alison Jessica Hardwick

Marjory Samara MacLaren

Music by Aly Macrae.

Director: Marilyn Imrie

Producer: Gordon Kennedy

An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in November 2016.

TUE 08:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cfkj)

2. From Car Phone to Executive Brick

Stephen Fry continues to trace the evolution of the mobile

phone.

Now he meets the men who brought mobile phones to Britain.

Thanks to Margaret Thatcher opening up the airwaves, Britain

became a world leader in mobile phone technology in the

1980s.

Vodafone (short for voice-data-phone) competed fiercely with the BT's mobile baby, Celnnet (short for cellular network), to create the first mobile phone network in the UK, launched to great fanfare on Christmas Day 1985.

Coverage was truly patchy, handsets were seriously hefty and calls cost a fortune, but mobile phones quickly replaced car phones as the ultimate yuppie accessory.

Voicemail, incidentally, was a good excuse to charge customers

yet more for a service that was, in reality, rather poor.

Producer: Anna Buckley

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2011.

TUE 08:45 Ladies of Letters (b01211hc)

Ladies of Letters Go Green

2. Dumped

Irene is appalled when Vera dumps an unwanted fridge in a

river.

Grandmothers Irene Spencer and Vera Small continue their

tempestuous correspondence.

They started to look beyond at the future of the planet - but as

ever, soon manage to bring their focus back to themselves!

Starring Prunella Scales and Patricia Routledge.

Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman

Vera Small Patricia Routledge

Irene Spencer Prunella Scales

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2008.

TUE 09:00 Wing It (m002s4ds)

Series 2

1. The Spider's Lament

Cariad Lloyd, Steen Raskopoulos, Luke Manning, and Emily

Lloyd-Saini embark on a new series of improv mayhem. Host

Alasdair Beckett-King presides over a series of games full of

emotional butchers, a three-headed movie director, and the

inner monologue of a spider trapped in the bath.

"No Script. No Prep. No Clue."

Presented by Alasdair Beckett-King

Devised and produced by Sam Holmes

Executive Producer: James Robinson

Production Co-ordinator: Katie Baum

Additional material: Ruth Husko

Sound Editor: Chris Maclean

A BBC Studios Production for Radio 4

TUE 09:30 The Call (b00y8tzn)

Series 2

Sinking Ship

Dominic Arkwright meets another person who's made or

received a life-changing phone call.

Alex Evans was shopping in an Aberystwyth DIY store with his

num when he took a call from his friend Mark Corbett.

Mark said he was on board a ship in the Caribbean and that it

was sinking. The radio wasn't working and the only number he

could remember was his best friend's.

Alex grabbed a till receipt, borrowed a pen from his mum, and

started to take down the details.

Both are volunteers for the RNLI, but when Alex heard the

name of the vessel in distress there was a moment of hesitation.

"When he said the yacht was called Titanic, I did have to ask if

this was a wind-up. But there was real panic in his voice, so I

knew it was the real thing."

Producer: John Byrne

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2011.

TUE 09:45 Daily Service (m002sfym)

Sing my soul - Joyful songs

A space for spiritual reflection from Bolton Parish Church with

Archdeacon Rachel Mann with Bolton Parish Church Choir and

the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars, directed by Philip

O'Connor and accompanied by John Hosking.

Theme: Sing my soul - Joyful songs

Presenter: Dr Rachel Mann

Reading: Psalm 100

Music:

Guide me o thou great redeemer - Bolton Parish Church Choir

& the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars

Let all the world (Tomlin) - Bolton Parish Church Choir & the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars
 How great thou art - Bolton Parish Church Choir & the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars
TUE 10:00 A Good Read (m000ktp)
 Fiona Shaw & Nicola Coughlan
 Irish actors Fiona Shaw and Nicola Coughlan join Harriett Gilbert to discuss favourite books by Jon Ronson, Joan Didion and Dorothy M Hughes.
 The Psychopath Test by Jon Ronson
 Publisher: Picador
 In a Lonely Place by Dorothy M Hughes
 Publisher: Penguin
 Slouching Towards Bethlehem by Joan Didion
 Publisher: Fourth Estate
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2020.
TUE 10:30 Open the Box (b0075rhq)
 Sara Parker meets those for whom the red telephone box is far more than somewhere to place a call.
 Set against the relentless 24-hour story of the phone box's life - from late-night revellers calling for cabs to the clean-up teams that scour out the box ready for another day.
 Producer: Simon Elmes
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2000.
TUE 11:00 Whodunnits (b011vhyk)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]
TUE 11:30 Whodunnits (b007k48n)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]
TUE 12:00 Flying the Flag (b00b0317)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]
TUE 12:30 The Goon Show (b007jz4z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]
TUE 13:00 The Fair Intellectual Club (b081tdph)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]
TUE 13:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cfk)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
TUE 13:45 Ladies of Letters (b0121lhc)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]
TUE 14:00 Hidden Treasures (b05qf1cg)
 Parham House
 Exquisite Louis XIV walnut chairs, and a pair of substantial leather boots - definitely not made for walking...
 Lars Tharp chairs the light-hearted antiques quiz.
 From the Elizabethan splendour of Parham House in West Sussex, where Queen Elizabeth I is said to have once dined
 With:
 Hilary Kay
 Penny Brittain
 Clive Stewart-Lockhart
 Anthony North
 Producers: Elizabeth Abrahams and Annie Bristow.
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in May 1998.
TUE 14:30 Says on the Tin (b00gvhvx)
 Healthcare
 Elliott makes a film to encourage US investment in the NHS, explaining that 'where there's pain, there's gain'.
 Starring Michael Brandon.
 Christopher William Hill's sitcom about an American advertising man, forced to relocate to London.
 Elliott Thurber Michael Brandon
 Esther Finn Samantha Bond
 Hannah Walker Pippa Haywood
 Zadie Joannah Tincey
 Baz Inam Mirza
 Ted Malcolm Tierney
 Carl Jonathan Tafler
 Moses Stephen Critchlow
 Film Director Janice Acquah
 Hospital Exec Dan Starkey
 Other parts played by:
 Stephen Critchlow
 Jonathan Tafler
 Dan Starkey
 Gunnar Cauchery
 Domla Hughes
 Producer: Liz Webb
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2009.
TUE 15:00 Press the Hash Key Now # by Peter G Morgan (m002sfyq)
 Lorna has found messages from another woman on Joe's mobile and wants to dump him.
 Joe has got different plans but modern methods of communication just keep letting them both down.
 Starring Ruth Jones and Julian Rhind-Tutt.
 Written by Peter G Morgan.
 Lorna ... Ruth Jones
 Joe ... Julian Rhind-Tutt
 Will ... Bradley Freegard
 Carla ... Mali Harries
 Joseph ... Keith Woodason
 Phil ... Laurence Allan
 Daksha ... Shireen Shah
 Director: Alison Hindell
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2005.
TUE 15:45 Short Works (m001yj6z)
 At Heart Centre by Bernie McGill
 Stella is inspired to take up yoga again - despite having not tried since she was pregnant with her daughter.
 An original short story commissioned by BBC Radio 4 from the

writer Bernie McGill.
 Read by Seána Kerslake
 Producer: Michael Shannon
 A BBC Audio Northern Ireland production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in April 2024.
 **** Bernie McGill is the author of two novels and two short story collections.
 She's also written audio scripts for heritage projects and stage scripts for the theatre. She studied English and Italian at Queen's University, Belfast and graduated with a Masters degree in Irish Writing.
 Her novel 'The Watch House' was nominated in 2019 for the Ireland/European Union Prize for Literature and 'The Butterfly Cabinet' was named in 2012 by Downton Abbey creator Julian Fellowes as his novel of the year. Her short story collection 'This Train is For' won the Edge Hill Short Story Prize 2023.
TUE 16:00 A Good Read (m000ktp)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
TUE 16:30 Open the Box (b0075rhq)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]
TUE 17:00 Whodunnits (b011vhyk)
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TUE 17:30 Whodunnits (b007k48n)
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TUE 20:00 Hidden Treasures (b05qf1cg)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 today]
TUE 20:30 Says on the Tin (b00gvhvx)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 today]
TUE 21:00 Press the Hash Key Now # by Peter G Morgan (m002sfyq)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 today]
TUE 21:45 Short Works (m001yj6z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 today]
TUE 22:00 Wing It (m002s4ds)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]
TUE 22:30 John Shuttleworth's Lounge Music (b0848sqj)
 Series 2
 Nick Heyward
 John Shuttleworth invites Nick Heyward from Haircut 100 to his Sheffield home to perform one of his own songs and also, more importantly, one of his.
 Ken is very excited as he's heard that Nick has had a spiritual awakening and he's keen to learn how he can have one of his own.
 John feels that Ken is being silly wearing a kaftan and beads, but Ken is convinced that Nick can help him and ignores John. Also, Mary is not happy with the smell of the josticks that Ken has lit so he's ejected by John while Nick wins Mary over with his rendition of Can't Go Back To Savoury Now.
 In Top Tips on the Telephone, John learns from Tony Christie about coping with Eurovision failure!
 Written and Performed by Graham Fellows.
 With special guests
 Nick Heyward
 Tony Christie
 Producer: Dawn Ellis
 A Chic Ken production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in December 2016.
TUE 23:00 Paul Sinha's History Revision (b08vzq7y)
 Series 3
 Episode 3
 Comedian and quizzer Paul Sinha shines a light on the important historical moments that you never got taught at school.
 This time, he explores the idea of 'greatness'. From an English king who we know less about than we think, to the Pope that accidentally killed millions of people, some leaders seem to get away with their dirty laundry being left unaired.
 But there are also some leaders who truly deserve the title 'The Great', including another Pope, and a brutal tyrant who changed his ways.
 Paul also looks at other countries' versions of the BBC's 100 Greatest Britons: who do the foreign general public think are "Great"? The answers may surprise you.
 Written and performed by Paul Sinha.
 Paul Sinha's History Revision was the winner of the 2016 Rose d'Or for 'Best Radio Comedy'.
 Producer: Ed Morrish
 A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in June 2017.
TUE 23:30 Chain Reaction (b011jwn3)
 Series 8
 Chris Addison interviews Darren Brown
 The comedian and the amazing illusionist in the talk tag show where the guest is the next interviewer
 Chris Addison gets the rare chance to talk to the amazing Darren Brown about magic, comedy, art, faith and Hitler.
 Recorded with an audience, the interviews focus on the life, career and the passions of the interviewee but often prove to be

as revealing about the interviewer.
 Producer: Carl Cooper
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2012.

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026

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 [Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Tuesday]
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 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Tuesday]
WED 04:30 Says on the Tin (b00gvhvx)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Tuesday]
WED 05:00 Press the Hash Key Now # by Peter G Morgan (m002sfyq)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Tuesday]
WED 05:45 Short Works (m001yj6z)
 [Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Tuesday]
WED 06:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw7z)
 1. How It All Began
 Journalist Kathy Swenson comes upon a man on a remote farm in Vermont and suddenly finds herself caught up in a new and frightening world.
 Starring Margaret Robertson and James Kerry.
 Spy-based serial in eight parts written by Ted Allbeury.
 Kathy Swenson Margaret Robertson
 John Rennie James Kerry
 Rennie's Father William Eedle
 Young John Rennie James Holland
 Mary Rennie Ellen McIntosh
 Adam Fredericks Lockwood West
 Hugo Paynter David Garth
 Williams / French Driver Michael Jenner
 Fleur Mason Maggie McCarthy
 Director: Christopher Venning
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1984.
WED 06:30 Whodunnits (b007k4c3)
 Wimsey - Busman's Honeymoon
 5. Crossed in Love
 As the debts of murder victim William Noakes start mounting up, the upper crust sleuth grows suspicious of one of his relatives.
 Ian Carmichael stars as Lord Peter Wimsey - the British gentleman detective created by Dorothy L Sayers.
 Dramatised by Alistair Beaton.
 Lord Peter Wimsey Ian Carmichael
 Lady Wimsey Sarah Badel
 Bunter Peter Jones
 Mrs Ruddle Pearl Hackney
 Narrator John Westbrook
 Miss Twiterton Rosemary Leach
 Frank Crutchley Kenneth Cranham
 MacBride Roger Lloyd Pack
 Mr. Solomons Bernard Spear
 Voice from wireless Michael Bilton
 Superintendent Kirk Peter Vaughan
 Producer: Martin Fisher
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1983.
WED 07:00 Little Blighty on the Down (b00tv7wv)
 Series 4
 Episode 4
 As the council launches a new charter, the opposition needs a new initiative.
 '80s political satirical soap opera set in the strangely familiar village of Little Blighty.
 Life here is pretty uneventful, though the humdrum happenings include social turmoil, economic upheaval and vicious political squabbles.
 Written by Mark Burton, John O'Farrell and Mike Coleman.
 Starring:
 Jo Kendall
 Michael Troughton
 John Baddeley
 Bernadine Corrigan
 Jonathan Kydd
 Daniel Strauss
 Producer: Lissa Evans
 First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 1991.
WED 07:30 Hancock's Half Hour (b0132tk2)
 The Radio Ham: Pye's Re-recording
 The Lad Himself talks to the world.
 Starring Tony Hancock
 The classic BBC TV episode of 'Hancock as re-recorded for

release as a vinyl LP.
Re-created before an invited audience in Pye Records London studio in October 1961.
Written by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.
Contains: references and attitudes of the time.
GLK London Tony Hancock
Mayday Caller Patrick Cargill
Phyllis, the Landlady Annie Leake
Albert, the Landlady's Husband Deryck Guyler
HBX Belgrade, Flying Doctor John Bluthal
B45 Malaya and Police Radio Frank Thornton
Robin and Policeman 2 Clive Dunn
Desdemona June Whitfield
Policeman 1 Hugh Lloyd
Originally broadcast on BBC TV in June 1961
Re-recording first released on Pye Records in 1961
First broadcast on BBC 7 in July 2008.
WED 08:00 Reluctant Persuaders (m000td1s)
Series 4
4. Ask The Man Who Owns One
Hardacre's advertising agency is shaken when one of their latest ads is ridiculed by industry bible Campaign.
Copywriter Joe Starling takes the news especially hard, spiralling into depression.
Amanda and Hardacre compete to pull Joe out of his funk, and prove to the other that they are the more gifted mentor.
Meanwhile Teddy has worries of his own, as he attempts to care for a new pet.
Edward Rowett's award-winning sitcom, based on an original idea by Edward Rowett and Robert Frimstone.
Hardacre Nigel Havers
Joe Starling Mathew Baynton
Amanda Josie Lawrence
Teddy Rasmus Hardiker
Producer: Gordon Kennedy
An Absolutely production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in March 2021.
WED 08:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017chq0)
3. The Accidental Discovery of Text
Stephen Fry continues to trace the evolution of the mobile phone.
Now he meets the men who created the first texting facility, as well as other less commercially successful products like taxifones, payphones on trains and in-car fax machines.
He hears how texting triumphed unexpectedly when paging was all the rage, partly because paging services never seemed to work on Friday afternoon.
On the earliest handsets there was no way of replying to a text. Later, just in case someone might want to reply, they included a short list of possible pre-set answers: yes, no and later.
In the mid-1990s, texting was just one of countless facilities embedded within the new digital mobile phones: no one thought it that important.
In 2010 alone, a staggering 6.1 trillion text messages were sent. And most of them received a reply.
Producer: Anna Buckley
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2011.
WED 08:45 Ladies of Letters (b0122k7j)
Ladies of Letters Go Green
3. Recycling
Irene has been sorting through her late Aunt Doris's possessions. Grandmothers Irene Spencer and Vera Small continue their tempestuous correspondence.
They started to look beyond at the future of the planet - but as ever, soon manage to bring their focus back to themselves!
Starring Prunella Scales and Patricia Routledge.
Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman
Vera Small Patricia Routledge
Irene Spencer Prunella Scales
Producer: Liz Webb
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2008.
WED 09:00 Stand-Up Specials (m002s4j7)
Live from the UK
S2 E2: Do You Prefer Individual or Group?
Angela Barnes is back on the road at some of the best comedy clubs in the country, bringing you the funniest stand ups around. So if you want to know the struggles of not being a dog person, what a toddler keeps in their handbag, and why asking for Angela isn't always straightforward, then this is the programme for you
In this episode, you can hear:
Danny McLoughlin at Hot Water Comedy Club in Liverpool
Kyrh Gray at Brighton Komedia
Alana Jackson at Monkey Barrel in Edinburgh
Suzi Ruffell at Brighton Komedia
Additional Material by Ruth Husko
Recorded by David Thomas and Sean Kerwin
Sound design by David Thomas
Production Coordinator: Jodie Charman
Executive Producer: Pety Strauss
Produced by Gwyn Rhys Davies. A BBC Studios Audio Production for Radio 4.
WED 09:30 The Call (b00yj5vd)
Series 2
Answerphone Messages
Dominic Arkwright meets another person who's made or received a life-changing phone call.
When he bought a brand new ansaphone machine back in 1985, Mark Craig decided not to re-cycle his tapes but to keep them

all in a box.
20 years later he opened the box and started to listen back to the audio diary of his life that he had inadvertently created.
"I went to a remote house in Devon and spent days just listening to voices from my past. It was like therapy. It was their lives, but it was the story of my life as well."
Carefully selecting messages to create a short film, Mark ended up with both a very personal story and a tale of "everyman", growing through reckless youth, loss, birth and eventually, wisdom.
Producer: John Byrne
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2011.
WED 09:45 Daily Service (m002sev2)
Sing my soul - Give praise to the Lord
A space for spiritual reflection from Bolton Parish Church with the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars, directed by Andrew Earis and accompanied by John Hosking.
Theme: Sing my soul - Give praise to the Lord
Presenter: Rev Grace Thomas
Reading: Isaiah 12 2-5
Music:
When in our music God is glorified - Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars
Litany to the Holy Spirit - Bolton Junior Choir
Praise to the Lord the almighty - Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars
WED 10:00 Archive on 4 (b07z2j3r)
Song of the Singer Sewing Machine
The song of the Singer has whirred its way through more than 160 years.
There is not a town in the world where this machine has not made its presence felt.
Maria Margaroni considers the might of the sewing machine to make empires and change lives for better or worse.
Isaac Singer patented his machine in 1851.
That bold fact alone doesn't even begin to describe the individual behind this perfection of technologies and processes.
Impresario, inventor, actor and millionaire and father of 22 children with six wives, the last of whom was the model for the Statue of Liberty.
There was skulduggery and power play at work in his ability to capture the market - the rise of the first multi-national.
By the late 19th century, Singer had 86,000 employees and 5,000 branch offices in 190 countries - a reach second only to the Catholic Church.
But we begin on a busy North London road. The shop simply says SINGER, inside is a nest of sewing machines.
It is here that Maria has brought her mother's old machine and it is here she begins her story, unpicking the threads of time.
This machine was one of millions made on Glasgow's Clydeside. Singer's European heartland until 1980. A place that produced some 36 million machines.
Maria travels to both Glasgow and to the site of the vast American Singer factory in Elizabethport New Jersey to piece together the story of a once all powerful empire. From the Amazon river where they were traded for emeralds to St Petersburg where the Bolsheviks had the temerity to nationalize the Singer factory.
Drawing on oral history, newly recorded interviews and rare gems, Maria follows the many threads of Singers presence in the world.
Producer: Mark Burman.
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2016.
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[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]
WED 13:45 Ladies of Letters (b0122k7j)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]
WED 14:00 The Museum of Curiosity (m000my7x)
Series 15
Episode 4
Professor of Ignorance John Lloyd and his curator Alice Levine welcome:
* Comedian and The Last Leg host Josh Widdicombe
* Mathematician and pianist Dr Eugenia Cheng
* Have I Got News For You captain Ian Hislop
The Museum's Guest Committee offer as exhibits Bowerman's Nose, the equals sign and print.
Researchers: Mike Turner and Anne Miller of QI.
Producers: Richard Turner & James Harkin.
A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in September 2020.
WED 14:30 Turf Wars (b00z5hr2)
Losing the Plot
Bashful Edward passes a local allotment and speaks to an attractive female allottee.
He decides there and then that he must apply for a plot. But doing so involves an interview with ferocious site-manager Bernie, who runs the allotments with military rigour.
It's all looking unlikely until Edward reveals that his father was

a local landscape horticulturalist, one Bernie has admired all his life.
Edward joins the site. And it is only then that he springs a surprise on Bernie. One that leads to explosive confrontation.
Which of them will lose the plot?
Starring James Fleet.
Nick Warburton's delicious four-part sitcom.
Edward James Fleet
Amanda Joanna Monro
Bernie Jonathan Coy
Director: Peter Kavanagh
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2011.
WED 15:00 Hello Caller by Jonathan Holloway (m00025fr)
In the last two years, BT has decommissioned and removed at least 20,000 phone boxes.
But what if these boxes have always been able to remember all of the conversations that have been routed through them?
What if the wires hold memories suspended in their copper strands?
What if, faced with extinction, these voices breach, at least for a short time, the barrier between temporal reality and the pulses coursing through the cables?
Built from a series of intercut 'trapped' phone calls, this is a ramshackle, effervescent collection of tales.
Via the receiver and from within the wires we hear secrets, confessions, fears and declarations of love from voices now lost.
Jonathan Holloway's ghost story relies on physics.
All roles played by:
Annette Badland
Luke MacGregor
Sean Murray
David Reakes
Alex Tregear
Based on an idea by Tim Dee.
Director: Alison Crawford
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2019.
WED 15:45 Short Works (m001tjlp)
Dancing Ganesh by Alan Spence
A frustrated climber seeks enlightenment in Kathmandu.
Short story written by Alan Spence.
Read by: Michael Nardone.
Producer: Eilidh McCreadie
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in December 2023.
**** Alan Spence is an award-winning poet, playwright and novelist based in Edinburgh.
Appointed Edinburgh Makar in 2017, he is also Professor Emeritus in Creative Writing at University of Aberdeen.
His longer works include novels, 'Its Colours They Are Fine', 'The Stone Garden', 'The Magic Flute', 'Way to Go' and 'The Pure Land'.
WED 16:00 Archive on 4 (b07z2j3r)
[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]
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WED 17:30 Whodunnits (b007k4c3)
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WED 21:00 Hello Caller by Jonathan Holloway (m00025fr)
[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 today]
WED 21:45 Short Works (m001tjlp)
[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 today]
WED 22:00 Stand-Up Specials (m002s4j7)
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today]
WED 22:30 The Maltby Collection (b00mgwpp)
Series 3
Episode 3
Warring curators, wedding cleaners and a dodgy alarm system all add to the unwanted pressure on Walter.
Starring Geoffrey Palmer and Julian Rhind-Tutt.
David Nobbs' sitcom about a small art museum staffed by eccentrics and obsessives.
Rod Millet Julian Rhind-Tutt
Walter Brindle Geoffrey Palmer
Prunella Edgecumbe Rachel Atkins
Susie Maltby Margaret Cabourn-Smith
Julian Crumb-Loosely Ben Willbond
Wilf Arbutnot Geoff McGivern
Eva Tattle Juklia Deakin
Des Wainwright Michael Smiley
Stelios Constantinopoulis Chris Pavlo
Producer: Colin Anderson
First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in September 2009.
WED 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m002s00c)
Ginger Johnson 2/3
From 10pm until midnight, seven days a week, the Comedy

Club has two hours of comedy. Plus Rob Deering chats again to drag queen Ginger Johnson, about winning RuPaul's Drag Race, success in Masterchef, and what she's planning to win next.

WED 23:00 John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme (m000wsyb)

Series 9

Episode 6

With no live studio audience, John Finnemore took the opportunity to try something completely new.

Every episode in this series of Souvenir Programme is made up of scenes from one person's life, played in reverse order.

There's no narrative to the episode; it's still a sketch show, not a sitcom... but the sketches in each episode all happened to one person, played by one member of the cast, over the course of their lifetime.

For this final episode, we jump between the lives of those five characters - Russ, Deborah, Jerry, Vanessa and Newt - and jump back and forth in time.

Written and performed by John Finnemore.

Newt ... John Finnemore

Russ ... Lawry Lewin

Deborah ... Margaret Cabourn-Smith

Jerry ... Simon Kane

Vanessa ... Carrie Quinlan

Other parts played by the cast.

Original music composed by Susannah Pearce

Original music performed by Susannah Pearce and Sally Stares

Recorded and edited by Rich Evans at Synchbox Post

Producer: Ed Morrish

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in June 2021.

WED 23:30 Liam Williams: Ladhoo (b098nfgb)

Series 2

Episode 3

Comedian Liam Williams recounts his youthful misadventures in this autobiographical sitcom.

Liam looks for love in all the wrong places as he tries to impress the ladies with some help from a sleazy pick-up manual.

Written and performed by Liam Williams.

With:

Al Roberts

Emma Sidi

Freya Parker

Kieran Hodgson

Paul G Raymond

Sally Grace

Paul Copley

Producer: Joe Nunnelly

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in October 2017.

THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026

THU 00:00 Archive on 4 (b07z2j3r)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Wednesday]

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[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Wednesday]

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[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Wednesday]

THU 04:30 Turf Wars (b00z5hr2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Wednesday]

THU 05:00 Hello Caller by Jonathan Holloway (m00025fr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Wednesday]

THU 05:45 Short Works (m001tjlp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 on Wednesday]

THU 06:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw53)

2. A Meeting in Amsterdam

Can John Rennie's special training help him to track down the missing Secret Intelligence Service agent in Amsterdam?

Journalist Kathy Swenson is being drawn into a frightening world...

Starring Margaret Robertson and John Kerry.

Spy-based serial written by Ted Allbeury.

John Rennie James Kerry

Kathy Swenson Margaret Robertson

Derek Humphries Julian Wadhams

Fleur Mason Maggie McCarthy

Hugo Paynter David Garth

Mary Rennie Ellen McIntosh

Peter Lambert Simon Hewitt

Jan Branders Ali Refaie

Adele Palmer Susannah Fellows

Young Mary Samantha Holland

Beth Karina Wilsher

Operator / Waitress Moir Leslie

Director: Christopher Venning

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1984.

THU 06:30 Whodunnits (b007k4d8)

Wimsey - Busman's Honeymoon

6. A Chain of Circumstance

With no clear murder suspect, the arrival of the removal men helps the upper crust sleuth to spot a vital clue.

Ian Carmichael stars as Lord Peter Wimsey – the British gentleman detective.

Gripping conclusion of Dorothy L Sayers' vintage thriller.

Dramatised by Alistair Beaton.

Lord Peter Wimsey Ian Carmichael

Lady Wimsey Sarah Badel

Bunter Peter Jones

Mrs Ruddle Pearl Hackney

Narrator John Westbrook

Miss Twiterton Rosemary Leach

Frank Crutchley Kenneth Cranham

Superintendent Kirk Peter Vaughan

Mr Puffett Michael Ripper

Reverend Goodacre Gerald Sim

Constable Sellon Christopher Beeny

First Removal man Edward Cast

Second Removal Man Alex Jennings

Producer: Martin Fisher

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1983.

THU 07:00 A Whole New Ball Game (b00gf8dn)

Series 2

The Friendly

Fists fly when Andy and Robert's football teams meet, but not among the players. Stars Brenda Blethyn. From November 1994.

THU 07:30 The Burkiss Way (b00gsb7z)

Series 2

Govern Britain the Burkiss Way

The comedy team sweep to a political landslide.

The Burkiss Way to Dynamic Living from radio's Advanced

Correspondence Course

With democratic instruction from:

Jo Kendall

Nigel Rees

Chris Emmett

Fred Harris

A proportionally representative script by Andrew Marshall and

David Renwick.

Ministerial production by Simon Brett.

Cult sketch show first broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1977.

THU 08:00 Alexei Sayle's Strangers on a Train (m00223qt)

Series 3

London to Berwick-upon-Tweed

Alexei Sayle takes his final train journey across Great Britain in this series and breaks the golden rule of travelling by train in the UK - by actually talking to his fellow passengers.

In this episode he takes a trip from London to Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Among his many fellow travellers, he meets

*Christina, who is returning to Yorkshire after being scared of taking on such a long journey to London - especially the perils of travelling on the underground - but happily found a knight in shining armour to help her at King's Cross station.

*Steven who, apart from working on the railway, has carved out a budding career as a playwright

*Sally, who spent 24 years in the Army and now works as a philanthropy manager helping a leading cancer charity to raise money for its work

*Rahul and Priya, who are heading for Scotland on a short break sightseeing

Producers: Peter Lowe and Lyndon Jones

A Ride production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in August 2024.

THU 08:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cjmj)

4. Shrinking the Handset

Stephen Fry traces the evolution of the mobile phone, from hefty executive bricks that required a separate briefcase to carry the battery to the smart little devices complete with

personal assistant we have today.

There are more mobile phones in the world than there are people on the planet: Stephen Fry talks to the backroom boys who made it all possible and hears how the technology

succeeded, in ways that the geeks had not necessarily intended.

In the fourth episode, Stephen Fry talk to the engineers who turned mobile phones from hefty executive bricks into svelte

fashion accessories. One man at Motorola dreamt of a mobile phone small enough to fit in a shirt pocket but it was Nokia ,

once more famous for making loo paper and wellies, that cornered the global market. In the early nineties, Nokia was on

the brink of collapse. But the new chief executive, brought in to save the company from bankruptcy, made a bold decision to

ditch the wellies and focus solely on mobile phones. Soon the iconic Nokia ringtone (extracted incidentally from a piece for

classical guitar composed in 1902) was inescapable.

Producer: Anna Buckley

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2011.

THU 08:45 Ladies of Letters (b0121xgw)

Ladies of Letters Go Green

4. Incommunicado

Irene tries to keep Vera's nose out of her son's wedding plans.

Grandmothers Irene Spencer and Vera Small continue their

tempestuous correspondence. They start to look beyond at the future of the planet - but as ever, soon manage to bring their focus back to themselves!

Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman

Irene Spencer Prunella Scales

Vera Small Patricia Routledge

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2008.

THU 09:00 The Shuttleworths (m001fwjg)

Series 6

All's well that begins badly

John Shuttleworth's future is looking bleak as his sole agent,

Ken Worthington, announces that he is going to retire. Who will

secure John's bookings at the local drop-in centre and sort his expenses?

John doesn't know, but to take his mind off events, he decides to get his ladders and fix the car port roof.

When Mary's friend, Joan Chitty arrives, he shares this news, and she tries to brighten his day by suggesting he could be a

contestant on Love Island.

John isn't convinced and, to escape Joan, he joins Ken in looking around the Golden Acres retirement home - where all is

not as it first appears. Could this be the end of John's career?

Comic series following the lives of Sheffield's favourite singer-songwriter John Shuttleworth, his wife Mary and his agent.

Written and performed by Graham Fellows.

Produce: Dawn Ellis

A Chic Ken Production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in December 2022.

THU 09:30 The Call (b00m67vx)

Series 1

The Win

Dominic Arkwright meets people who have made life-changing phone calls.

Some people cry, some feel sick, some throw a 24-hour party, and some are millionaires already. Winning the lottery can be a

traumatic event, but what's it like for the people on the other end of the line?

Dominic Arkwright talks to the operators on Camelot's lottery claim line, and discovers that even really good news can be quite a shock to the system. He hears about the winner who hid

his ticket in a sponge cake for security reasons; the woman who sat and stared at her ticket for three hours before making the

call, and the millionaire who calmly announced the win would come in useful to put a swimming pool in his country estate.

Producer: John Byrne

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2009.

THU 09:45 Daily Service (m002sf83)

Sing my soul - My soul glorifies the Lord

A space for spiritual reflection from Bolton Parish Church with Rev Hannah Currin with the Diocese of Manchester Choral

Scholars, directed by Andrew Earis, accompanied by John Hosking.

Theme: Sing my soul - My soul glorifies the Lord

Presenter: Rev Hannah Currin

Reading: Luke 1 46-55

Magnificat in E (Watson) - Diocese of Manchester Choral

Scholars

Magnificat (Taize) - Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars

Tell out my soul - Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars

THU 10:00 Great Lives (b00djvkg)

Lady Hester Stanhope

Entrepreneur Deborah Meaden chooses Georgian traveller, diplomat and spy, Lady Hester Stanhope.

The "Dragon's Den" investor, business woman Deborah Meaden, explains her fascination with the life of the Georgian

political hostess, traveller, diplomat and spy, Lady Hester Stanhope.

Biographer Kirsten Ellis lends her expertise and Matthew Parris presents.

Producer: Isobel Eaton

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2008.

THU 10:30 Living Without My Smartphone (m00209dl)

A group of teenagers agree to give up their smartphones for five school days. The phones are locked in a box, and our

subjects pick up their old style "brick" phone instead. What's the best and worst of their smartphone free days?

Can they cope, and what, if anything, do they, their parents and teachers notice?

Rachel Burden has teenagers, and knows all about smartphone parenting.

She joins our intrepid students throughout their week, and reflects upon the positives and negatives of a world where everyone can choose to be constantly connected.

Produced by Victoria Farncombe and Tim O'Callaghan.

Mixed by Nicky Edwards.

Edited by Clare Fordham.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2024.

THU 11:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw53)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 11:30 Whodunnits (b007k4d8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 12:00 A Whole New Ball Game (b00gf8dn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

THU 12:30 The Burkiss Way (b00gsb7z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 13:00 Alexei Sayle's Strangers on a Train (m00223qt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 13:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cjmj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 13:45 Ladies of Letters (b0121xgw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

THU 14:00 Foul Play (b00k7xd6)

Series 3

Death in Intensive Care

Crime writers Frances Fyfield and Peter N Walker try to solve a dastardly medical mystery.

Simon Brett hosts the murder quiz.

Suspects played by:

Maria McErlane

Lee Simpson

Producer Liz Anstree

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 1998.

THU 14:30 Ballylenon (b00y8xdx)

Series 8

More News Than Is Fit to Print

Jobless Stumpy applies for a post as a journalist with The Vindicator.

Series set in the sleepy town of Ballylenon, Co Donegal in the 1960s.

Ballylenon, County Donegal. Pop. 1,999 was founded by St Lenon of Padua, when he fell into the river at this spot in 953.

Ballylenon is situated on the shores of Lough Swilly with entrancing views of Muckish Mountain, in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe. (Note: Ballylenon is a fictional name, but the other landmarks are identifiable.)

Written by Christopher Fitz-Simon.

Muriel McConkey Margaret D'Arcy

Vera McConke Stella McCusker

Phonsie Doherty Gerard Murphy

Mrs Vivienne Hawthorne Aine McCartney

Rev. Samuel Hawthorne Dermot Crowley

Kevin 'Stumpy' Bonnar Gerard McSorley

Guard Gallagher Frankie McCafferty

Daniel O'Searcaigh James Greene

Monsignor McFadden Niall Cusack

Aubrey Frawley Chris McHalleem

Polly Acton Joanna Munro

Eamonn Doyle Patrick Fitzsymons

Mr Boylan Derek Bailey

Pianist: Michael Harrison

Director: Eoin O'Callaghan

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in January 2011.

THU 15:00 RD Wingfield (m002sf85)

Innocent Victim

A victim of threatening phone-calls seeks the help of a private investigator, who finds there are other victims in this case - and he is one of them.

Starring Lee Harrington as Robbins, Edward Judge as Tyrrell, Frances Jeater as Wendy and David Lodge as Inspector Morrow.

Written by RD Wingfield.

Robbins ... Lee Harrington

Tyrrell ... Edward Judd

Wendy ... Frances Jeater

Det. Insp. Morrow ... David Lodge

Mrs. Furley ... Peggy Paige

Ruth ... Christine Absalom

Hilda ... Diana Bishop

Barman ... Ronald Herdman

Det. Serg ... Nicholas Courtney

Holy Joe ... Derek Pollitt

Director: Gerry Jones

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 1981.

THU 16:00 Great Lives (b00djpgk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

THU 16:30 Living Without My Smartphone (m00209dl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]

THU 17:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw53)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

THU 17:30 Whodunnits (b007k4d8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

THU 18:00 A Whole New Ball Game (b00gf8dn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

THU 18:30 The Burkiss Way (b00gsb7z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

THU 19:00 Alexei Sayle's Strangers on a Train (m00223qt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

THU 19:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cjmn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

THU 19:45 Ladies of Letters (b0121xgw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

THU 20:00 Foul Play (b00k7xd6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 today]

THU 20:30 Ballylenon (b00y8xdx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 today]

THU 21:00 RD Wingfield (m002sf85)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 today]

THU 22:00 Stand-Up Specials (m0023hth)

Randy Feltface

4. Water

Randy Feltface takes a deep dive and comes up wishing he hadn't. Extinction, pollution, rising temperatures and a very angry salmon all make an unwelcome appearance in this show - but will Randy press on with his plan to press the destruction button, or will he have a change of heart and share his hopes for the future?

This head-on charge into possibly the most important subject

facing humanity comes to you via a show where you'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll learn, you'll laugh again between the learyn bits and most of all, you'll be able to say "I was there when Radio 4 decided to have show hosted by a puppet"

Randy Feltface has been seen on Netflix, ABC, NBC, and has a huge & devoted following across the globe (1m+ social media followers, 1.6m TikTok followers, 833k subscribers, 79m YouTube views). His hour-long specials are YouTube cult classics, his world tours are sold out sensations, and he's the only Radio 4 presenter to be entirely made of felt.

With Margaret Cabourn-Smith, William Hartley & Venice Ohleyer

Produced & directed by David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4

THU 22:30 Brian Gulliver's Travels (b01mdg8l)

Series 2

Anidara

Brian Gulliver, a seasoned presenter of travel documentaries, finds himself in a hospital's secure unit after claiming to have experienced a succession of bizarre adventures.

More memories as Brian relives his experiences in Anidara where he finds himself put out to stud.

Starring Neil Pearson and Mariah Gale.

A satirical adventure story from Bill Dare.

Brian Gulliver Neil Pearson

Rachel Gulliver Mariah Gale

Computer Duncan Wisby

Gem Gerard McDermot

Markl Harry Livingstone

Dorka Vicki Pepperdine

Liberator Duncan Wisby

Master Patrick Brennan

Producer: Steven Canny

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2012.

THU 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (m002s0ff)

Ginger Johnson 3/3

From 10pm until midnight, seven days a week, the Comedy Club has two hours of comedy. Plus Rob Deering chats again to drag queen Ginger Johnson. They discuss how she comes up with new shows, why she loves being on tour, and why she has a cannon in storage.

THU 23:00 Alex Horne Presents The Horne Section (b045z943)

Series 3

Terry Alderton

Alex Horne and his five-piece band explore the theme of miscellaneous mysterious things

Live music and comedy, with songs about aliens, de ja vu and life from a fly's perspective.

With guest comedian: Terry Alderton

Alex's Horne Section are:

Joe Auckland

Mark Brown

Will Collier

Ben Reynolds

Ed Sheldrake

Producer: Charlie Perkins

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in June 2014.

THU 23:30 Small Scenes (b0410y2l)

Series 2

Episode 1

A man uncovers a great Australian conspiracy and a financial advisor starts up a sideline as an assassin's assistant.

Small Scenes is back with more excerpts from odd lives.

Starring:

Daniel Rigby

Sara Pascoe

Mike Wozniak

Cariad Lloyd

Henry Paker

Written by Benjamin Partridge, Henry Paker and Mike Wozniak.

Producer: Simon Mayhew-Archer

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 2014.

FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2026

FRI 00:00 Great Lives (b00djpgk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 on Thursday]

FRI 00:30 Living Without My Smartphone (m00209dl)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 on Thursday]

FRI 01:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw53)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 on Thursday]

FRI 01:30 Whodunnits (b007k4d8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 on Thursday]

FRI 02:00 A Whole New Ball Game (b00gf8dn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 on Thursday]

FRI 02:30 The Burkiss Way (b00gsb7z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 on Thursday]

FRI 03:00 Alexei Sayle's Strangers on a Train (m00223qt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 on Thursday]

FRI 03:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017cjmn)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 on Thursday]

FRI 03:45 Ladies of Letters (b0121xgw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 on Thursday]

FRI 04:00 Foul Play (b00k7xd6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 on Thursday]

FRI 04:30 Ballylenon (b00y8xdx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 on Thursday]

FRI 05:00 RD Wingfield (m002sf85)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 on Thursday]

FRI 06:00 No Place To Hide (m001kw53)

3. Joanna Appears

After the seizure of a British M16 agent, John Rennie must use every lead to try and track the kidnappers down...

Starring John Kerry and Margaret Robertson.

Spy-based serial written by Ted Allbeury.

John Rennie James Kerry

Kathy Swenson Margaret Robertson

Khalim Said Richard Kay

Adele Palmer Susannah Fellows

Jan Branders Ali Refaie

Hugo Paynter David Garth

Joanna de Vries Colette Hiller

Gabriella Carole Boyd

Dutchman/Porter Mark Straker

Policeman Charles Whaley

Piano played by Mary Nash.

Director: Christopher Venning

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in October 1984.

FRI 06:30 Only the Good Die Young (b007jn17)

1. Killed?

When Kim Drake's fiance is killed on their wedding day, the authorities agree on suicide.

But why would computer expert Mike kill himself on his wedding day?

Could it be connected to his decision to walk out of his sensitive job at Peregrine Communications Systems?

Starring Siriol Jenkins.

Shaun Prendergast's techno thriller in six-parts.

Kim Drake Siriol Jenkins

Mike Fisher Neil Roberts

Anne Kate Binchy

Frank Shaun Prendergast

Miss Gee Ann Davies

Stone Kenneth Cranham

Todd Jack Klaff

DI Dear Eric Alan

DS Love Jonathan Tafler

John Maschler Terence Edmond

Emma/Nurse Lewis Caroline Strong

Mary/WPC Nicola Boyce

Director: Adrian Bean

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1992.

FRI 07:00 My Mammy and Me (m002sg4z)

Series 1

6. Swami Mammy

Cathy McPhail's comedy about a woman's search for Mr Right continues.

Mammy thinks Isobel's romantic life could use a little bit of magical intervention.

Mammy Eileen McCallum

Isobel Kate Donnelly

Willie Jake D'Arcy

Ida Barbara Rafferty

Sgt Blood Sean Scanlan

Con Forbes Masson

Elsie / Madame Fortunata Carolyn Boneyman

Marion Clare Hemphill

Mr Patel / Mrs Patel / Fraser Lewis

Organ played by Sheena Creighton

Written by Cathy McPhail.

Producer: Kathy Smith

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in March 1995.

FRI 07:30 Steptoe and Son (b007k0rm)

Series 4

The Lodger

Albert and Harold Steptoe argue over their lack of cash.

Starring Wilfrid Brambell and Harry H Corbett.

Classic sitcom about the lives of rag and bone men Albert Steptoe and his son Harold.

Written for BBC TV and adapted for BBC Radio by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.

Albert Wilfrid Brambell

Harold Harry H Corbett

With:

William Eadie

Producer: Bobby Jaye

First broadcast on BBC Radio 2 in February 1972.

FRI 08:00 Mark Steel's in Town (m001bgrp)

Series 12

Nottingham

Mark Steel sets out to discover what makes Nottingham special.

Mark Steel returns with the 12th series of his award winning show that travels around the country visiting towns that have nothing in common but their uniqueness. After thoroughly

researching each town, Mark writes and performs a bespoke evening of comedy for a local audience.

In this first episode Mark visits Nottingham, a contrarian city, full of heroes, rebels, caves and lovers of mushy peas. He learns about local legends, Robin Hood, Lord Byron, DH Lawrence, Brian Clough, and the most famous of all, Frank the xylophone player. He looks at the history of the Luddites, the cheese riots and visits three pubs that are all the oldest in the country.

As well as Nottingham, later in this series, Mark will also be popping to the Isles of Scilly, Tring, Salisbury, Newport and Paris.

Written and performed by Mark Steel.

Additional material by Pete Sinclair.

Producer: Carl Cooper

A BBC Studios production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in August 2022.

FRI 08:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017clwx)

5. The Chips Inside Smartphones

Stephen Fry traces the evolution of the mobile phone, from hefty executive bricks that required a separate briefcase to carry the battery to the smart little devices complete with personal assistant we have today.

There are more mobile phones in the world than there are people on the planet: Stephen Fry talks to the backroom boys who made it all possible and hears how the technology succeeded, in ways that the geeks had not necessarily intended. All mobile phones rely on hyper-intelligent silicon chips to run them. And the astonishing thing is 85% of the silicon chips inside all mobile phones are designed by one Cambridge-based company, ARM. Stephen Fry talks to the pioneers who designed these chips. They needed some micro-processors to build a better home computer, but didn't like what they saw and decided to make their own. Strapped for cash, they designed chips that were small, cheap and exceptionally low power and, quite by chance, ideally suited to the next generation of pocket-sized mobile phones. Not to mention today's power-hungry smartphones.

Producer: Anna Buckley

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in November 2011.

FRI 08:45 Ladies of Letters (b012211j)

Ladies of Letters Go Green

5. Aftermath

Vera has ruined Irene's son's wedding by her unexpected arrival at the nuptials.

Grandmothers Irene Spencer and Vera Small continue their tempestuous correspondence. They start to look beyond at the future of the planet - but as ever, soon manage to bring their focus back to themselves!

Starring Prunella Scales as Irene and Patricia Routledge as Vera.

Written by Lou Wakefield and Carole Hayman.

Irene Spencer Prunella Scales

Vera Small Patricia Routledge

Producer: Liz Webb

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in March 2008.

FRI 09:00 Stand-Up Specials (m000ydpX)

Tessa Coates: Resting Witch Face

Stand-up comedy from Tessa Coates as she explores the rise in modern witchcraft in young women.

Comedian Tessa Coates uses her anthropology degree to explore the recent rise of witchcraft and her own desire to be a witch.

Producer: Amy Annette

A Tiger Aspect production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast August 2021.

FRI 09:30 The Call (b00yyg1w)

Series 2

Dominic Arkwright talks to Professor Peter French of York University about the art and science of forensic acoustics, including speaker profiling, voice line-ups, and sound enhancement.

Developments in new technology mean that sound recordings can be examined and prepared for use in extortion, blackmail and murder trials. Also, the proliferation of digital recordings in all walks of life mean that copies of recordings for evidential purposes can now be taken from mobile telephones, voicemail services, digital dictaphones, digital answer phones and other devices. So just how much information can be extracted from a phone call, and how much of ourselves do we reveal in conversation?

Producer: John Byrne

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in February 2011.

FRI 09:45 Daily Service (m002sg53)

Sing my soul - The power of music

A service led by the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars reflecting on music in church and worship. As part of the Sing My Soul programme, in collaboration with St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the Choral Scholars have had the opportunity to bring music to churches across Manchester. Today, they reflect on their experience being a part of this programme, finding community in singing, and explore music's role in bringing people together.

Readings

Psalms 150

Extract from 'At a solemn musick' - John Milton

Music

Abide with me (Eventide)

Upon your heart (Eleanor Daley)

Glory to thee, my God, this night (Tallis Canon)

FRI 10:00 Soul Music (b013f96w)

Series 12

Wichita Lineman

Wichita Lineman is the ultimate country/pop crossover track - written by Jimmy Webb for the Country star Glen Campbell. Released in 1968, it tells the story of a lonely lineman in the American Midwest, travelling vast distances to mend power and telephone lines.

The song has been covered many times, but Glen's version remains the best-loved and most played.

Johnny Cash also recorded an extraordinary and very raw version. Peter Lewry, a lifelong Cash fan, describes how it came about.

David Cray is a lineman from Oklahoma, who recalls his reaction to the first time he heard the song.

Meggean Ward's father was a lineman in Rhode Island. As a child she always felt it was written for her him.

Glen Campbell is also interviewed.

Shortly after it was recorded, he went public about his diagnosis of Alzheimer's. His contribution is brief, but it includes an acoustic performance of the song. It was a privilege to record 'down the line'.

Series exploring famous pieces of music and their emotional appeal.

Producer: Karen Gregor.

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 2011.

FRI 10:30 Between the Ears (b08v8lzk)

Brightstone 428

Artist Graeme Miller captures the poetry of the headline. In this half hour, we follow the arc of a single call from dialling to hanging up, taking in the sweep across the global landscape of the 20th century. He draws out the private habits and distinctive speech as well as the collective dreams and nightmares of the landlines art and culture.

While collaging the mores and cadences of telephone behaviour and speech the piece also lands in the physical space of the headline - the actual line and the real land. The world of the telephone engineer atop a telegraph pole; the village operator, the maintenance or laying of underwater cables, the middle-of-nowhere phone box which exists oblique to the density of traffic of information and chat.

The plot lines of death and murder stalking the crossed lines of the city, to the call of the worried voice "Are you still there?". All these spaces are opened up with the reassurances and communities of headline use.

It is a line crossed next to the atmospheric space that denotes a fragility and hints at the ways in which the technology that opened up connection also imported in its liveness an equal and opposite force of disconnection.

Running out of change, the broken phone box, the drama and plunge into existential separation, opened up by the one-sided conversation and now, the relentless possibility of being in touch.

With thanks to Max Flemmich of Darvel Telephone Museum and Dr Sarah Jackson, Senior Lecturer English and Creative Writing, Nottingham Trent University.

A Cast Iron Radio production for BBC Radio 3, first broadcast in June 2017.

FRI 11:00 No Place To Hide (m001kwh8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 11:30 Only the Good Die Young (b007jn17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 12:00 My Mammy and Me (m002sg4z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

FRI 12:30 Steptoe and Son (b007k0rm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 13:00 Mark Steel's in Town (m001bgrp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 13:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017clwx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 13:45 Ladies of Letters (b012211j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

FRI 14:00 One Person Found This Helpful (m001xm0y)

Series 1

6. Everybody Loves Velociraptor

Frank Skinner and guests Simon Evans, Ania Magliano, Sunil Patel and Kiri Pritchard-McLean find out what you think about sharp carpets and a keg with a difference.

A panel game based on those reviews you leave when you shop online - the good, the bad and the downright baffling.

Written by Frank Skinner, Catherine Brinkworth, Sarah Dempster, Jason Hazeley, Rajiv Karia, Karl Minns, Katie Sayer & Peter Tellouche

Devised by Jason Hazeley and Simon Evans with the producer David Tyler

A Pozzitive production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in March 2024.

FRI 14:30 King Street Junior Revisited (b00jnlsk)

Series 3

Half-Term Blues

Half-term is a time for King Street's teachers to catch their breath within a busy autumn term. If only...

School comedy created and written by Jim Eldridge.

Mrs Devon Carolyn Pickles

Miss Lewis Marlene Sidaway

Mr Maxwell Michael Cochrane

Mr Long Paul Copley

Miss Featherstone Teresa Gallagher

Miss Reid Jacqueline Beatty

Mrs Khan Janice Acquah

Rajesh Pax Baldwin

Wayne Daryl Moore

Kirsten Ruby Williams

Dawn Jessica Hill.

Ten series of this King Street Junior ran between 1985 and 1998.

King Street Junior Revisited ran from 2002 to 2005.

Producer: John Fawcett Wilson

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in July 2004.

FRI 15:00 Drama on 4 (b04cb9gy)

Close Call by Sarah Weatherall

With Apollo 11 about to land on the moon, the Watts family have finally installed their first telephone, little realising how much their lives will change with its arrival. The phone sits in the hallway, witnessing the activities of the house, listening to the family's secret loves, fears and joys.

There is much excitement at using a phone for the first time, in the days before mobiles and texts, and when no conversation was private.

Written by Sarah Weatherall

:

Frank Watts Ricky Champ

Natalie Angie Wallis

Vincent Matthew Tennyson

Liam Reece Buttery

DJ Clive Hayward

Newsreader Elaine Claxton

Director: Anne Bunting

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 2014.

FRI 15:45 Short Works (m0029hwh)

Up Dog Down Dog by Vicki Jarrett

A cleaner labours in a large townhouse while her client strives for inner peace.

Written by Vicki Jarrett.

Reader: Molly Innes

Producer: Eilidh McCreadie

A BBC Audio Scotland production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in April 2025.

FRI 16:00 Soul Music (b013f96w)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today]

FRI 16:30 Between the Ears (b08v8lzk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:30 today]

FRI 17:00 No Place To Hide (m001kwh8)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 17:30 Only the Good Die Young (b007jn17)

[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

FRI 18:00 My Mammy and Me (m002sg4z)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:00 today]

FRI 18:30 Steptoe and Son (b007k0rm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 19:00 Mark Steel's in Town (m001bgrp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 19:30 Stephen Fry on the Phone (b017clwx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 19:45 Ladies of Letters (b012211j)

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:45 today]

FRI 20:00 One Person Found This Helpful (m001xm0y)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:00 today]

FRI 20:30 King Street Junior Revisited (b00jnlsk)

[Repeat of broadcast at 14:30 today]

FRI 21:00 Drama on 4 (b04cb9gy)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:00 today]

FRI 21:45 Short Works (m0029hwh)

[Repeat of broadcast at 15:45 today]

FRI 22:00 Stand-Up Specials (m002scs8)

Eddie Kadi and Friends

Travis Jay, Kyras Gray, Diesel and Junior Booker

The second part of a two-part stand-up special featuring highlights from 1Xtra's Comedy Gala with some of the UK's top Black comedians, including Travis Jay, Kyras Gray, Diesel and Junior Booker. Hosted by Eddie Kadi and filmed at the Hackney Empire in London, the unofficial home of Black British Comedy.

FRI 22:30 Unnatural Acts (b00jm3kz)

Series 1

Royal Fever

The gang get a genealogist to probe Jeremy Hardy's lineage. But who will be Queen?

A sitcom about a happily-married pair of young people and their crazy friends.

Jeremy.....Jeremy Hardy

Kit.....Kit Hollerbach

Paul.....Paul B Davies

Caroline.....Caroline Leddy

Written by Jeremy Hardy, Kit Hollerbach, Paul B Davies,

Caroline Leddy, Peter Sinclair, Steve Punt.

Producer: David Tyler

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in April 1987.

FRI 23:00 The Masterson Inheritance (b007jr62)

Series 3

The St Valentine's Day Mastersons

Budding starlette Genevieve hits seedy 1920s Hollywood.

The award-winning improvised historical comedy.

Based entirely on audience suggestions - this is the unfolding saga of the Mastersons - a family at war with itself.

Starring:

Paul Merton

Josie Lawrence

Lee Simpson

Jim Sweeney

Phelim McDermott

Caroline Quentin

Producer: Phil Clarke

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in August 1995.

FRI 23:30 Hal (b08lgdpp)

Series 2

Teenagers

Hal Cruttenden returns as a hapless house husband trying to

cope with his mid-life crisis and doubting his every move. His wife Sam is still a highly successful business woman, while daughters Lily and Molly continue to grow into teenagers and find their dad just a little annoying. Racist neighbour Penny is a major thorn in Hal's side and his best mates Fergus and Barry hinder rather than help Hal's goal of finding himself. In this opening episode, Lily is set to introduce the family to her new hip boyfriend, but Hal's need to re-ignite his own romantic past leads to unforeseen challenges. Hal's bitter and embittered sister Pippa has come to stay unexpectedly, after her husband decided to experiment with his sexuality...

Written by Hal Cruttenden and Dominic Holland.

Hal Hal Cruttenden
Sam Kerry Godliman
Penny Ronni Ancona
Pippa Abigail Cruttenden
Fergus Ed Byrne
Barry Gavin Webster
Oberon Arthur Hughes
Therapist Jonathan Kydd
Ian Jonathan Kydd
Policeman Simon Greenall
Bazman Joe Attewell
Producer: Paul Russell

An Open Mike production for BBC Radio 4, first broadcast in April 2017.