



Talking Pictures TV

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Highlights for Week Commencing

Mon 18th December 2023

GHOST STORIES FOR CHRISTMAS



A staple Yuletide treat for TV viewers in the 1970s was the BBC's annual 'Ghost Story for Christmas'. These atmospheric dramas drew heavily on the stories of Cambridge scholar MR James (1862-1936). Favouring Victorian or Edwardian settings, they played brilliantly with the power of suggestion to terrify viewers across Britain.

The Ash Tree (1975) Stars Edward Petherbridge, Barbara Ewing & Lalla Ward. A nobleman who will have no truck with superstition inherits a stately home overshadowed by a tree concealing an ancient curse.

Wednesday 20th December 9.05pm

The Treasure of Abbot Thomas (1974) Stars Sheila Dunn, Anne Blake. A historian finds a clue to the whereabouts of hidden treasure, only to find it protected by a guardian.

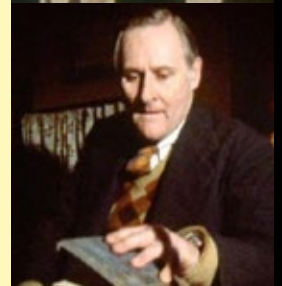
Thursday 21st December 10.05pm

Stigma (1977) Stars Kate Binchy, Peter Bowles. A family move into a house when they decide to have a stone in their garden moved, they unwittingly unleash a curse.

Saturday 23rd December 10.05pm

The Ice House (1978) Stars John Stride, Elizabeth Romilly & Geoffrey Burridge. In an attempt to come to terms with his recent divorce, a man seeks solace in a countryside retreat, but does not find the comfort he was looking for.

Sunday 24th December 10.35pm



Monday 18th December 7.30am **Impact** (1949)

Drama. Directed by Arthur Lubin. Stars Brian Donlevy, Ella Raines, Charles Coburn, Helen Walker. An unfaithful wife plots with her lover to kill her husband but the lover is accidentally killed instead. [S]



Monday 18th December 11am **Time to Remember** (1959)

The Peace Makers. Narrator: Sir Ralph Richardson. A nostalgic look at the events of 1919 as peace arrives across the world with celebrations of the Armistice and negotiations at Versailles. [S]



Three Part Story (New Episodes Every Monday, Thursday and Friday at 2.30pm)

Monday 18th December 2.30pm **Crown Court** (1973)

CREDIBILITY GAP - Stars Frank Middlemass. A steel erector, fell and is now paralysed and has lost the power of speech. His wife Carol, acting on behalf of her husband, is suing the Porton Construction Company for £35,000.



Monday 18th December 4pm **The Boy Who Caught a Crook**

(1961) Directed by Edward L. Cahn. Stars Don Beddoe, Wanda Hendrix. A small newsboy, his dog and a friendly hobo stumble upon a briefcase containing \$100,000.



Monday 18th December 8.35pm **Waking the Dead** (2000)

Pilot Episode. Stars Trevor Eve Sue Johnston & Claire Goose. DCI Boyd and the team hunt a killer who murdered a schoolgirl. [S]



Monday 18th December 10.45pm **Villain** (1971)

Drama. Director: Michael Tuchner. Stars Richard Burton. Your everyday London businessman and sadistic gang leader.



Tuesday 19th December 7.20am **Hangman's Wharf** (1950)

Thriller. Directed by Cecil H. Williamson. Stars John Witty, Genine Graham. A doctor is framed for murder. [S]



Tuesday 19th December 10.15am **Devil Girl From Mars** (1954)

Sci-Fi. Directed by David MacDonald. Stars Patricia Laffan. A female alien and a menacing robot comes to Earth to collect Earth's men as breeding stock.



Tuesday 19th December 11.50am **Writing on the Wall**

Blue Plaques are a footprint of where we've been, who we are and what we've achieved. This series brings to life people from the world of sport, literature, science, art, music, politics, theatre, film, television, the military and beyond.



Tuesday 19th December 2.35pm **Lost Lagoon** (1958)

Drama. Directed by John Rawlins. Stars: Leila Barry, Peter Donat. A man is castaway on a Caribbean island and thought dead.



Tuesday 19th December 9.05pm **Maigret** (1997)

The Vanishing M. Owen. Stars Bruno Cremer, Whilst on holiday in Cannes, Maigret receives news a man has drowned in the bath in the suite of M. Ernst Owen. [S]





Nanette Newman and Bryan Forbes - Together Forever

Narrated by Sir Derek Jacobi, the film is part love story, part film history. Together, Nanette and Bryan have over 150 screen credits and have published more than 40 books. But their proudest achievement is their family, keeping everyone together, despite the tumultuous ups and downs of the film business. The documentary assesses the lives and careers of a couple who were at the heart of British film for over four decades, combining a new interview with Nanette Newman, with contributions from daughters Sarah Standing and Emma Forbes, and never before seen photos from Bryan's extensive archive. Bryan was one of our most influential writers and directors. He wrote *The League of Gentleman*, collaborated with Richard Attenborough to direct a string of groundbreaking films, including *Whistle Down the Wind*.
Monday 18th December 7pm



Wednesday 20th December 8.40am Profile (1954) Drama. Director Francis Searle and starring John Bentley. The editor of a magazine is keen on the boss's daughter but her mother is keen on him. [S]



Wednesday 20th December 10.35am Home for Christmas (1990) Director Peter McCubbin. With Mickey Rooney Simon Richards. A bond of friendship grows between a homeless man and a little girl who wants a grandfather. [S]



Wednesday 20th December 1.20pm The Devils Disciple (1959) Directed by Guy Hamilton. Burt Lancaster and Kirk Douglas star in this satirical take on the American Revolution, boasting a cutting performance from acting great Laurence Olivier.



Thursday 21st December 8am The Rogues - Mr. White's Christmas (1965) Gig Young, David Niven and Charles Boyer are The Rogues members of two related families of international forgers and conmen.



Thursday 21st December 9.30am The Frightened Man (1952) Crime Drama. Directed by John Gilling. Starring Dermot Walsh. Julius (Walsh) is sent down from Oxford to join a gang of jewel thieves who plan a foolhardy raid. [S]

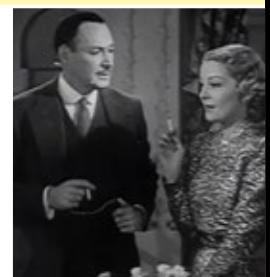


Melwyn's TALKING PICTURES Thursday 21st December 3pm

This time it's 1939's *Cheer, Boys, Cheer* starring Nova Pilbeam and Edmund Gwenn and is often called the first Ealing comedy. When a corporate brewer tries to buy up all the pubs owned by a much-loved family brewery, he's surprised when the family firm turns him down.



Thursday 21st December 5.05pm Beyond Christmas (1940) Drama. Director: A Edward Sutherland. Stars Harry Carey C. Aubrey Smith & Charles Winninger. The ghosts of three victims of an airplane crash return to Earth to help reunite a young couple. [S]



SADDLE UP! WEDNESDAY 3PM

Hosted by James Stephens. Bringing you everything western. **The Tall Men (1955)** Directed by Raoul Walsh. Starring Clark Gable. Two brothers discharged from the Confederate Army join a businessman for a cattle drive from Texas to Montana.

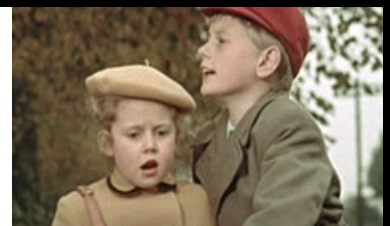


Johnny Ringo: A Killing for Cully (1959) Directed by Howard W. Koch. Starring Don Durant and Karen Sharpe. Cully kills a drunken rancher who threatened him in a saloon and is stricken with remorse.



Saturday Morning Pictures

- 09.00 *Larry the Lamb* (1973) Episode 14: 1973. The Extraordinary Affair of Ernest the Policeman. Whilst helping Larry track down fairies Ernest mysteriously disappears. [S]
- 09.15 *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1957) Episode 71: Food for Thought. Stars Richard Greene, John Sharplin & Patrick Troughton. A delegation of villagers from Upper Minton come to Robin's camp and tell him of an oppressive new tax.
- 09.45 *John and Julie* (1955) Comedy. Director William Fairchild. Stars Colin Gibson, Lesley Dudley, Noelle Middleton, Sid James & Peter Sellers. Two children sneak to London so they can watch the Queen's coronation. [S]
- 11.20 *12 Days of Christmas* (1956) Charming 1950s animation of the 12 days of Christmas. First aired in 1956 on Christmas eve.
- 11.30 *The Buccaneers* (1957) Episode 33: Indian Fighters. Stars Robert Shaw, Ronan O'Casey & Jane Griffiths. Tempest returns a famous Indian fighter to his hometown. Instead of a hero's welcome the fighter is charged with treason. [S]





VENGEANCE OF SHE

Made in 1968. Directed by Cliff Owen. Starring Olinka Berova, Colin Blake-ly, Derek Godfrey, Edward Judd, Jill Melford, André Morell, John Richardson, George Sewell, Noel Willman. A beautiful young European girl, Carol, is taken over by the spirit of mysterious Ayesha, queen of the lost city of Kuma. Carol is taken to Kuma to succeed the almost-immortal Ayesha as empress of Kuma.
Saturday 23rd December 5.45pm



Thursday 21st December 10.05pm
A Ghost Story for Christmas - The Treasure of Abbot Thomas (1974) Stars Sheila Dunn, Anne Blake & Frank Mills. Supernatural tale about a 19th-century historian who, along with his protégé, finds a clue to the whereabouts of hidden treasure in an old stained-glass window, only to find it protected by an ancient guardian.



Friday 22nd December 3pm
In Suspicious Circumstances (1996) Ring of Truth - The Golden Goose. Stars Julia Farino & Paul Shelley. A look at the case of a man haunted by crimes of the past and the story of a captain of industry who knows too much. [S]



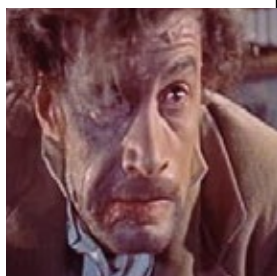
Friday 22nd December 4.15pm
Scrooge (1935) Family. Ebenezer Scrooge (Seymour Hicks) is persuaded to change his ways one Christmas by visitations from the ghosts of Christmas past, present and yet-to-come. [S]



Friday 22nd December 6.30pm
Oliver Twist (1948) Drama. Directed by David Lean. Stars John Howard Davies, Alec Guinness. An orphaned boy in London joins a household of boys trained to steal for their master. [S]



Friday 22nd December 9.05pm
The Revenge of Frankenstein (1958) Horror. Directed by Terence Fisher. Stars Peter Cushing, Francis Matthews & Eunice Grayson. Baron Frankenstein escapes execution and rekindles his controversial experiments to create life. [S]



Saturday 23rd December 7.40am
Murder at the Windmill (1949) Crime Drama. Directed by Val Guest. Stars Garry Marsh, Jack Livesey & Jon Pertwee. Two London detectives order the repeat of a stage show after a spectator is shot.



Saturday 23rd December 12pm
Strange invaders (1984) Fantasy. Directed by Michael Laughlin. Starring Nancy Allen, Louise Fletcher. The sky blazed with an eerie blue light over the Mid-West town of Centreville.



Saturday 23rd December 3pm
Fireball XL-5 (1963) Space Vacation. Stars David Graham, Sylvia Anderson, Steve Zodiac and his crew arrive on the planet Olympus for a vacation, where they become caught up in a deadly planetary feud..



Saturday 23rd December 4.35pm
The Christmas Tree (1966) Family. Starring Brian Blessed, William Burleigh, Anthony Honour, Kate Nicholls, Doreen Keogh. Gary determines to get a tree for children who will be in hospital for Christmas. Directed by Jim Clark. [S].



Saturday 23rd December 10.05pm
A Ghost Story for Christmas - Stigma (1977) Stars Kate Binchy, Peter Bowles & Jon Laurimore. A family move into a remote country house on the edge of a stone circle. When they decide to have a stone in their garden moved, they unwittingly unleash an ancient curse.



Footage Detectives - NEW SERIES - Episode 102

Join Mike and Noel on Christmas Eve for an exciting, nostalgic journey of Christmas's past! There's a festive Tommy Steel reel with some very familiar faces that's been unseen since 1960. We look back at our Christmas presents from times gone by and there's some fascinating reels of Christmas parties. There's a charming reel from the 1930s and 40s with some great Christmas shopping advice, and apparently Butlins need some Christmas staff but we aren't to apply. There's your competition winning stories - perhaps the prize of the week goes to the chap who won 10 shillings from the Whizzer and Chips comic. What an accolade! Or maybe it should go to John Spark who won... (drum roll) an electric kettle from Radio Luxembourg! So bring us some figgy pudding and join us for a bit of festive cheer and tea and chatter.
Christmas Eve, 5pm on THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES! BAH HUMBUG!

THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

Every Sunday at 5pm.





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CHRISTMAS EVE HIGHLIGHTS

Worzel Gummidge Christmas Special

A Cup O' Tea an' a Slice O' Cake. 1980. Stars John Pertwee, Geoffrey Bayldon, Billy Connolly, Una Stubbs, Barbara Windsor. Wily old Worzel looks destined to spend a cold Christmas alone in Ten Acre Field when the Crowman bans him from the scarecrow celebrations because he deserts his post. However, Worzel does not stay put for long, and as he searches in the snow for Aunt Sally to invite to the Scarecrow Ball. Sunday 24th December 12.55pm



Sunday 24th December 7.15am Runaround Christmas Special (1979) Classic children's gameshow. Hosted by Mike Reid and featuring Barbara Dickson.



Sunday 24th December 9.40am Christmas Eve with Tom Baker (1993) Tom Baker introduces a Dickens theme into the service from St Andrews United Reform Church in Eastbourne. [S]



Sunday 24th December 10.50am When the Legends Die (1972) Western. Directed by Stuart Miller. Stars Richard Widmark, Fredric Forrest, Luana Anders, Vito Scotti, Herbert Nelson, John War Eagle, John Gruber, Garry Walberg, Jack Mullaney, Malcolm Curley, Rex Holman. An aging cowboy takes an orphaned boy under his wing to teach him the ways of the rodeo. [S]



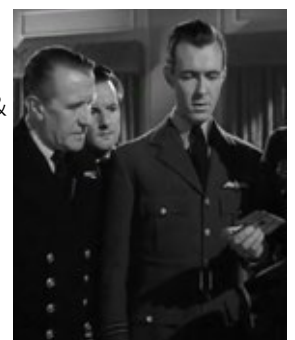
Sunday 24th December 2.30pm The Larkins - Christmas Special (1958) Christmas with the Larkins. Stars David Kossoff. Ada invites a miserable man to spend Christmas with the family and Alf tries to defrost a meagre frozen turkey. [S]



Sunday 24th December 3.20pm Christmas Lights (2004) Comedy Drama. Directed by Paul Seed. Stars Robson Green, Mark Benton, Nicola Stephenson, Maxine Peake, Keith Clifford, Nicola Headley, Lee Worswick, Finlay Lowry, Mason Walker. Comedy drama that's ultimately a heart-warming story of love and friendship, centred on two lifelong friends who take rivalry to extremes and end up forgetting what Christmas is really about.



Sunday 24th December 6.30pm Landfall (1949) War. Director: Ken Annakin. Stars Michael Denison Patricia Plunkett & Kathleen Harrison. At Coastal Command in Southern England, an RAF pilot is suspended after possibly sinking a British sub.



Sunday 24th December 8.15pm A Lifetime Ago with the Baim Collection (Every Sunday Before Manhunt) Big City (1963) Narration by Ed Bishop. London: Two-way traffic in New Bond Street, crowded Fleet Street, St Paul's Cathedral, a glimpse of the Park Lane Hilton hotel being built. It's surprising how so much still exists of London 60 years ago, but with subtle changes such as the docks and all the ships coming into the upper pool of London. The importance of the City of London and the Bank of England is still all there, but without the tower blocks that currently overshadow their work.



Sunday 24th December 9pm Manhunt (1970) A Different Kind of War. Stars Peter Barkworth, Moira Redmond & Julian Glover. Vincent, Nina and Jimmy arrive at the house of a pre-war friend of Vincent, but something doesn't seem right. [S]



Sunday 24th December 10.35pm A Ghost Story for Christmas - The Ice House (1978) Stars John Stride, Elizabeth Romilly & Geoffrey Burridge. In an attempt to come to terms with his recent divorce, a man seeks solace in a countryside retreat, but does not find the comfort he was looking for.

