



Talking Pictures TV

SKY 324 | FREEVIEW 82 | FREESAT 306 | VIRGIN 445 | FREELY 36

Weekly Highlights 11th–17th July

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For full listings please visit

talkingpicturestv.co.uk/schedule/

SATURDAY 11TH JULY

4.35pm TOMMY THE TOREADOR (1959)

¡Olé! Tommy Steele was at the height of his popularity when this comedy hit cinemas in time for Christmas 1959. And what a gift it turned out to be – Tommy is more troubadour than matador, performing songs he co-wrote with Lionel Bart and Mike Pratt, including the popular *Little White Bull*. He plays a sailor from London who becomes stranded in Spain, where he saves a bullfighter's life. He meets a



girl too, of course, played by Janet Munro, who was on loan from Disney, but it's his scenes with Sid James, Bernard Cribbins and Kenneth Williams that really sparkle. Olé indeed!

Did you know...? Steele donated his royalties from *Little White Bull* to the Variety Club of Great Britain, which was raising money for a children's cancer research unit.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

4pm THE MAN FROM UNCLE (1965)

Forget the 2015 Guy Ritchie movie, there's only one Napoleon Solo and Ilya Kuryakin! This time Robert Vaughn and David McCallum's alter egos meet an ex- U.N.C.L.E agent who's been re-recruited so that he can infiltrate a crime lord's organisation. Sadly, it doesn't go quite to plan...

Did you know...? Oscar-winner Martin Balsam, star of *Psycho*, *12 Angry Men* and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, guest stars as the former agent in this episode. It's the last entry in the show's first series, but don't worry, the boys will be back next week for more adventures in series two.



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5pm THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

Every Sunday at 5pm, only on Talking Pictures TV.



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This week Mike and Noel have got quite the show for you! There are memory joggers aplenty, including a tale about collecting sheep's wool from, would you believe it, a former Miss Wooley and a treasure trove of vintage cinema ads preserved by the projectionist at Manchester's old Odeon. Of course, there's some superb detective work from you too - including tracking down car chase locations in Z-Cars and the MG in Man Accused is causing quite a stir! Noel's unearthed a slice of the Big Apple in the 50s and there's a F.A.B. road safety reel from the Thunderbirds! Then the lads are taking us on a lovely trip down London's canals before crossing the Channel for a roaring reel of Le Mans, but from when? All this and more! So, tune in on Sunday at 5 or Monday at 7 for The Footage Detectives.



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9.05pm THE MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT (1951) CHANNEL PREMIERE



Wouldn't it be nice to have clothes that never needed to be washed and always looked pristine? Boffin Sidney Stratton thinks so, and sets about inventing a fabric that will endure everything modern life throws at it. He's successful too, but when his bosses and factory workers realise his innovation will result in closing down their place of work, Sidney becomes public enemy No 1... Alec Guinness is in fine fettle in Ealing's classic Oscar-nominated satire. Joan Greenwood co-stars alongside such familiar faces as Cecil Parker, Michael Gough and Jack Howarth, who would soon become better known as *Coronation Street's* Albert Tatlock.

Did you know...? The memorable gurgling sound effect used for Guinness' scientific experiments was sampled in musician Jack Parnell's *White Suit Samba*, and went on to feature in numerous kids' TV shows.

MONDAY 13th JULY

8pm MAIGRET (1993)

Who is the better Jules Maigret – Rupert Davies or Bruno Cremer? Luckily, we can watch both, courtesy of TPTV. While Rupert's 1960s BBC version can still be seen in its regular Saturday evening slot, Bruno continues to ply his trade every Monday night. The latest episode is based on *The Patience of Maigret*, Georges Simenon's 64th novel to feature the great French police detective and follows him as he hunts for the killer of Manuel Palmari, a cunning criminal with whom he had crossed swords for many years. (In French and with subtitles)

Did you know...? Bruno Cremer played Maigret 54 times between 1991 and 2004, more than any other actor apart from fellow French star Jean Richard.

11.25pm THE LAWLESS YEARS (1959)

One of the best things about watching classic TV shows is spotting stars before they made it big. We get an opportunity to do just that in the crime drama's latest episode when a young Burt Reynolds – who'd only been acting professionally for a couple of years – pops up looking as if he's channelling a young Marlon Brando an ambitious, smart-talking hoodlum. The plot involves the murder of a young woman who had dumped her bootlegger boyfriend for a rival.

Did you know...? The episode was made after Reynolds signed a seven-year contract with Universal Studios. Superagent Lew Wasserman had been impressed by the impact the young actor made on his secretaries when he visited his office, and claimed: "I don't care whether he can act or not. Anyone who has this effect on women deserves a break."



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TUESDAY 14th JULY

3.55pm NURSE ON WHEELS (1963)

Charming comedy starring Juliet Mills as a nurse; once filming stopped, she maybe felt as if she really could heal the sick, having played a similar role the year before in *Twice Round the Daffodils* from the same production team. This time, she's perky Joanna Jones, who has to win over the locals after becoming a district nurse in a rural area. Among them is a hot-tempered farmer (Ronald Lewis) who wants to evict a young couple living in a caravan on his land – until Joanna steps in... It's light, fluffy and a bit silly, but who cares when all involved are as charming as this?



Did you know...? If you think the film feels like an early entry in the *Carry On* series, that's perhaps because it had the same director (Gerald Thomas) and producer (Peter Rogers), while screenwriter Norman Hudis penned the first six films in the franchise. What's more, Joan Sims and Jim Dale have supporting roles.

5.40pm THE BESPOKE OVERCOAT (1956)



Small but perfectly formed – that's one way to describe acclaimed director Jack Clayton's 33-minute movie, which won an Oscar, a Bafta and a top award at the Venice Film Festival. David Kossoff and Alfie Bass played the central characters in Wolf Mankowitz's original play, and reprise their roles here. Bass is Fender, a lowly clerk who asks his tailor friend Morry (Kossoff) to make him the bespoke overcoat of the title, but he dies before it's finished. However, in death, Fender refuses

to give up on his dream of owning the garment, so his ghost forces Morry to take drastic action.

Did you know...? Clayton uses expressionist lighting to create a spooky atmosphere, a wonderful touch he would utilise again six years later in what has regarded as his supernatural masterpiece, *The Innocents* (1961).



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8pm THE MIND OF MR JG REEDER (1971)

Although unassuming in looks and mild-mannered too, woe betide anyone who tries to outsmart Mr JG Reeder of The Department of Public Prosecutions. We are, however, about to say farewell to him – the last-ever episode of the Edgar Wallace-inspired series is about to air. *The Treasure House* charts Reeder's efforts to find whoever killed his safecracking friend. **Did you know...?** Hugh Burden once again takes the title role, but the guest cast is rather impressive too – look out for Milton Johns, Damaris Hayman and Richard Vernon.

FRIDAY 17TH JULY.

9.05pm THE EXECUTIONER (1970)

The year 1970 was a barren one for James Bond. George Lazenby had left and Sean Connery was yet to return, which meant there was a gap in the market for a new spy. George Peppard tried to fill it in a tough thriller directed by Sam Wanamaker. He plays John Shay, a British agent who grew up in the US (which explains the accent)



and is convinced his near-death experience during a recent mission was caused by a mole within MI5. He heads off to prove his case during an assignment that takes in London, Athens, Istanbul and Corfu. Oh, and Joan Collins too. Sadly, Shay wasn't as popular as 007 and so this is his only outing. Still, it's a corker co-starring Bond alumni Charles Gray and George Baker. **Did you know...?** The screenplay was by Jack Pulman, who also penned the classic BBC series *I, Claudius*, based on Robert Graves' novels.



TPTV Encore

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