



Talking Pictures TV

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

Weekly Highlights 25th–31st July

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For full listings please visit

talkingpicturestv.co.uk/schedule/

SATURDAY 25TH JULY

1.30pm WENT THE DAY WELL? (1942)

Your day will go very well indeed if you watch this classic thriller, one of the finest war movies ever made. What's more, it features Thora Hird, in her first major film role, wielding a rifle – what's not to like about that? She plays one of a group of residents whose quiet English village becomes a hotbed of intrigue and violence after it's invaded by German forces disguised as British soldiers. Graham Greene wrote the tale on which it's based, while the supporting cast includes Leslie Banks and Mervyn Johns.



Did you know...? The film was released at the height of the Second World War. Although very British (it was produced by Ealing Studios), it was directed by Brazilian Alberto Cavalcanti, who reteamed with Mervyn Johns on *The Halfway House* (1944) and *Dead of Night* (1945).

9.05pm NIGHT OF THE EAGLE (1962)



Brilliant adaptation of Fritz Leiber's novel *Conjure Wife*. Peter Wyngarde plays Norman, a professor who is unaware that his wife Tansy (Janet Blair) has been using the occult to boost his career. Rationalist Norman refuses to believe in what he regards as superstition – until a series of bizarre events take place. Brace yourself for the stunning climax which is genuinely disturbing, despite some dodgy special effects. Full marks go to Richard Matheson, Charles Beaumont and George Braxt for the screenplay.

Did you know...? Clearly the role of Norman was destined to be played by someone called Peter – both Peter Cushing and Peter Finch reportedly turned it down before Wyngarde took it.



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SUNDAY 26th JULY

5pm THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

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



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Well fellow Footage detectives! This week, we head to 1970s London to join the specials on River Patrol.

Then from there we march back to wartime Edinburgh with a remarkable reel.

And we've been let loose! Out into the big wide world! Noel and Mike go location spotting in true FD style!

Will we make it back in time for tea, I hear you cry?

Then, hands up if you were a member of the Rupert the Bear Club?

There's some great casework too – including a right “ding dong” moment in Sherwood Forest involving one of our favourite actors...

There's always a “diiinnnggg donnggg” when Leslie Phillips is about!

And we meet Red Rum's official photographer!

All this and lots more, so see you Sunday at 5...

Or Monday at 7 for...

THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES!



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6pm A KID FOR TWO FARTHINGS (1955)

Between making his classic Graham Greene adaptations *The Fallen Idol* (1948), *The Third Man* (1949) and *Our Man in Havana* (1959) (and when his big-screen, Oscar-winning film version of *Oliver!* (1968) was still a glint in his eye), director Carol Reed brought this whimsical tale to the big screen, his first colour film. Based on a novel by Wolf Mankowitz, who also wrote the screenplay, it's set in the garment district of London's East End and follows the fortunes of Joe, a lively little lad on an obsessive quest to find a unicorn. Celia Johnson, Diana Dors, David Kossoff and boxer Primo Carnera co-star.



Did you know...? Jonathan Ashmore, who plays Joe, is the son of actors Rosalie Crutchley and Peter Ashmore, and is now a world-renowned physicist.

MONDAY 27th JULY

5.15pm THE ARSENAL STADIUM MYSTERY (1939)



Yes, we know we said we were a football-free zone during the World Cup, but we've snuck a little something in for fans. Really, the match itself isn't important, it's the murder of a player on the pitch that grabs the attention, followed by an investigation led by Leslie Banks's Scotland Yard detective. To make matters more complicated, the dead man's girlfriend is also killed. Talk about a game of two halves...

Did you know...? The film features cameos from real-life Arsenal stars Cliff Bastin and Eddie Hapgood. The match footage was captured during the Gunners' fixture against Brentford in May 1939, the club's last league match before the start of the Second World War. Also among the cast is Esmond Knight who went on to serve in the Royal Navy and was badly wounded during 1941's Battle of the Denmark Strait.



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WEDNESDAY 29th JULY

3.40pm HEAVENS ABOVE! (1963)

With a story by famed journalist and broadcaster Malcolm Muggeridge, direction from legendary cinematic siblings John and Roy Boulting, and a star turn from Peter Sellers, what more can you ask from this satirical comedy? Well, a sharp script from Frank Harvey, who had already worked with the brothers on *Private's Progress* (1956), *Brothers in Law* (1957) and *I'm All Right Jack* (1959), among others. Sellers plays gullible but kindly prison



chaplain John Smallwood who, due to a clerical error, is appointed to a posh parish where his radical ideas cause chaos. And brace yourself for the out-of-this-world ending!

Did you know...? Prolific character actress Marianne Stone plays Miss Palmer here – it was one of 16 movies she made in 1963, and the second with Peter Sellers; the first was *The Wrong Arm of the Law*. Sellers' old sparring partners Eric Sykes and Irene Handl are also among the cast.

7.30pm TRAVELLING MAN

We're drawing ever closer to the end of Max's journey – including the latest episode, entitled *On the Hook*, there's only three more to go in esteemed writer Roger Marshall's series, and that's a shame because it just keeps getting better and better. This time, Max (Leigh Lawson) steers his narrowboat towards the home of his old cellmate, 'Granny' Jackson. He believes his pal may know more about local cattle-rustling than he's letting on. Lawson gets a rare opportunity to use his native Midlands accent when Max goes undercover as the plot thickens...

Did you know...? Much-missed Tom Wilkinson makes an early TV appearance as 'Granny' Jackson. He's a long way from making a big splash while getting his kit off in *The Full Monty* (1997) and gaining two Oscar nominations (for 2001's *In the Bedroom* and 2007's *Michael Clayton*), but his star quality still shines through.



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THURSDAY 30TH JULY

2.50pm THE LATE EDWINA BLACK (1951)



They just don't make 'em like this any more. Dark, mysterious and full of atmosphere, director Maurice Elvey's masterful crime drama focuses on the aftermath of the death of the title character, a sickly but cruel woman who appears to have had a fatal dose of arsenic. But who gave it to her and why? The finger of suspicion points at a group of people who all had an axe to grind, including her not-so-loving husband. David Farrar is suitably moody as Edwina's other half, with Roland Culver as the police detective investigating the case.

Did you know...? The film was named as

one of the best low-budget movies of its kind ever made by genre experts Steve Chibnall and Brian McFarlane in their bible on the subject, *The British 'B' Film*.

FRIDAY 31ST JULY

9.05pm EYEWITNESS (1971)

Compelling British crime thriller set in Malta. A young boy has a hard time convincing the authorities that he has witnessed a murder. Director John Hough injects the proceedings with a few Hitchcock-style thrills, while the cast, which includes Mark Lester, Lionel Jeffries, Susan George, Peter Vaughan and Peter Bowles, is pretty impressive. The story is based on Cornell Woolrich's novella



The Boy Cried Murder, which was previously filmed as *The Window* (1949) and under its original title in 1966, as well as in 1984 as *Cloak & Dagger*.

Did you know...? The film was greenlit by the great Bryan Forbes (who also worked on the screenplay uncredited) while he was the head of EMI Films, and this is a very timely showing – July marks the centenary of his birth.



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