



Talking Pictures TV

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

Weekly Highlights 10th–16th October

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For full listings please visit

talkingpicturestv.co.uk/schedule/



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'LIFE IN THE PAST LANE!' Celebrating 10 years of broadcasting

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SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

9.05pm THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE (1968)

Superb, groundbreaking adaptation of Frank Marcus's play, with Beryl Reid on top form as an ageing lesbian actress who is fired from a TV soap opera, just as her private life is falling apart around her. Susannah York, Coral Browne and Ronald Fraser co-star. The original theatrical production was a black comedy, but on screen it became a drama that, thanks to some rather frank scenes, shocked some cinemagoers.



Did you know...? Although set in Britain, the film was made by director Robert Aldrich at his own studio in LA. Bette Davis, with whom he'd recently worked on *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* and *Hush... Hush, Sweet Charlotte*, was considered for the lead role until he realised how badly their professional relationship had broken down. Reid, who'd played the role on stage, was cast instead.

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER



1pm CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN (1950)

Hilarious comedy inspired by the true story of the Gilbreth family, led by parents Frank and Lillian, time and motion experts who run their household – which also includes 12 children – with almost military precision. Clifton Webb and Myrna Loy play the couple, who are adopt unorthodox, experimental methods to raise their brood. Efficiency is the name of the game, although the youngsters don't always agree with what goes on.

Did you know...? The screenplay was adapted from a book written by two of the Gilbreth children, which was followed by the sequel *Belles on Their Toes* in 1952. Steve Martin and Bonnie Hunt starred in a less appealing but successful remake and its follow-up in 2003 and 2005. Another take on the story appeared in 2022, this time with Zach Braff and Gabrielle Union as the parents.



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5pm THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES – A VERY SPECIAL MILLIGAN EDITION!

THE FOOTAGE DETECTIVES

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



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This week is a very special edition of Footage Detecting at its finest. Mike and Noel have been given exclusive access to uncover reel treasures from the personal archive of... SPIKE MILLIGAN! Just wait till you see the lost footage they've uncovered. Whether you're a major fan of Spike's or just a lover of comedy in general, this is an episode not to be missed!

From lost TV episodes to lost footage of one-off performances, we share the discoveries with two of Spike Milligan's daughters as we learn about the legendary funnyman behind the scenes. Among the highlights are the great man in action – we have **exclusive**, rare footage of performances believed to have been lost for decades!

Síle and Jane also describe what it was like to be raised by the *Goon Show* star. In the spotlight, he was a performer who always had a hilarious remark to make, but as Jane once said of him, to his children, he "was the most wonderful, kind dad you could wish for". And that's what makes some of the home movies she and Síle will share so revealing – they give a true portrait of the real Terence Alan Milligan behind the mask of the man more commonly known as Spike.

Plus, stars including Britt Ekland share their memories of the great man.

Altogether now, "Ying tong, ying tong, ying tong, ying tong, ying tong idle I po..."



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MONDAY 12th OCTOBER

4.40pm THE LAMP STILL BURNS (1943)

It may have been made before the NHS was launched, but some of the issues in this drama are still relevant today – including the need for better hospital conditions and improved treatment of the selfless folk who work in them. Rosamund John heads the cast as Hilary Clarke, a successful architect who switches careers to become a nurse. She's just realising how difficult the job is when she's forced to choose between her profession and the patient with whom she's fallen in love. The excellent supporting cast includes Stewart Granger, Godfrey Tearle, Ernest Thesiger, John Laurie and Joyce Grenfell.



Did you know...? The film was produced by actor Leslie Howard, who was killed in a mysterious plane crash in June 1943, five months before the drama was released.

TUESDAY 13th OCTOBER



5.30pm SON OF A STRANGER (1957)

CHANNEL PREMIERE

You can't keep those Danziger brothers down! The prolific film and TV producers were behind this B movie which attempted to cash in on the trend for stories featuring 'angry young men' inspired by the success of John Osborne's 1956 play *Look Back in Anger*. James Kenney plays Tom, a working-class lad who's never met his father. On his release from jail, Tom finds a clue to his dad's identity, then sets out to find

him, but his romantic notion of him being welcomed with open arms doesn't quite work out. Ann Stephens, Victor Maddern and Basil Dignam co-star.

Did you know...? Danziger stalwart Ernest Morris was the director. Efficient rather than artistic, he was nevertheless popular with his colleagues. Sadly, both Kenney and Stephens died early; he took his own life at the age of 56 in 1987, while she passed away suddenly, at just 28, two years after *Son of a Stranger* was released.



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WEDNESDAY 14th OCTOBER

4.05pm OBSESSION (1949)

Expect eye-rolling aplenty from Robert Newton in a highly effective suspense thriller based on Alec Coppel's 1947 novel *Man About a Dog*. The man who, to many, will always be the definitive Long John Silver thanks to his barnstorming appearance in Disney's 1950 take on *Treasure Island*, plays Clive Riordan, a successful London



psychiatrist who discovers his wife Storm (Sally Gray) is having an affair with American Bill Kronin (Phil Brown). Riordan comes up with an elaborate plot to kill Bill, but can't carry it out until he's collated enough acid to get rid of the body... The claustrophobic tale was stylishly directed by then-blacklisted US film-maker Edward Dmytryk.

Did you know...? Newton is credited with creating 'pirate speech', a stereotypical, exaggerated West Country accent – ooh arrrr, he is! He's also the patron saint of International Talk Like a Pirate Day and, thanks to his boozy behaviour, was a hero to Oliver Reed and Keith Moon.

THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER



4.35pm THE JULIUS HAGEN SEASON – SQUIBS (1935) CHANNEL PREMIERE

Mr TPTV Noel Cronin cordially invites you to join him in watching a romantic comedy musical starring Betty Balfour, who had been one of our biggest silent era stars, dubbed both the 'British Mary Pickford' and 'Britain's Queen of Happiness'. Among her hits was 1921's *Squibs*, which was followed by three sequels. Hagen decided to remake it 14 years later, adding songs and dance routines to the tale of a cockney flower girl whose dodgy dad isn't keen on the idea of her marrying a policeman. Lady luck, however, has something in store

for her. Stanley Holloway plays the love interest, with Gordon Harker as Betty's father.

Did you know...? The film, which has echoes of *My Fair Lady*, was directed by Hagen's business partner, former silent era actor Henry Edwards. Sadly, *Squibs* was not the hit Hagen hoped, ending his dream of remaking the other titles in the series.



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FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

6pm ROOMS (1974) CHANNEL PREMIERE

Missed out during our previous run of the classic drama, this standalone episode was – fittingly, when you know the storyline – originally broadcast on December 31, 1974. Sarah, played by Susie Blake, has decided to throw an intimate New Year's Eve party for her divorced friend Lynn (Maureen Lipman) and her mysterious neighbour Robert (Sam Dastor). She's hoping the pair will hit it off, but it's safe to say the evening takes a turn she wasn't quite expecting as secrets from her own past come to light.

Did you know...? The rooms of the title are in a house at 35 Mafeking Terrace in West Kensington, London, but don't go looking for it – it's a fictional street made up by writer John Finch, who created the series.



**9pm THE CELLAR CLUB –
FRIGHT (1971) CHANNEL PREMIERE**

"She's a sensible girl, she won't be frightened," claims George Cole's character in director Peter Collinson's underrated, tension-filled thriller. So, of course, you know the girl in question – college student Amanda, played by Susan George – is about to be scared out of her wits, and with good reason. The poor lass thinks she's about to have a pretty ordinary evening babysitting a

couple's children. Instead, she's terrorised by the mother's deranged ex-husband. The impressive cast also includes Conor Blackman, Ian Bannen, John Gregson and Cole's future *Minder* co-star Dennis Waterman.

Did you know...? Many horror fans claim that *Fright* paved the way for various other teen-in-peril movies, including *Halloween* and *Scream*. It was written by Tudor Gates and produced by Harry Fine and Michael Styles, who had already made three films for Hammer – *The Vampire Lovers* (1970), *Lust for a Vampire* and *Twins of Evil* (both 1971).



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***** COMING ATTRACTIONS *****

And don't forget about these gems which will also be appearing on the UK's No 1 nostalgia channel in the coming weeks:

- NEW SERIES **Fox**, starring **Peter Vaughan, Elizabeth Spriggs, Ray Winstone, Larry Lamb, Bernard Hill** + loads more. Series starts 20th September and you can see our promo [HERE](#).
- NEW EPISODES **That's My Boy** starring **Mollie Sugden & Christopher Blake**. Series starts 22nd September and you can see our trailer [HERE](#).



TPTV Encore

The channel's catch up and VOD service can be found at tptvencore.co.uk, a HBBTV app via the red button on Freeview 82, Fire TV, the Amazon Firestick, Android TV, Apple TV and iOS & Android app stores. The service is free and we also offer a subscription package for ad free viewing and exclusive content never before seen on the channel.



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