

Make Time For Digital Radio

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Make time for digital radio

Make time for digital radio this summer with five new stations from the BBC.

From the best in UK garage on *1Xtra* to top comedy from the nation's favourite performers on *BBC 7*, from exclusive sporting events on *Five Live Sports Extra* to new Asian talent on the Asian Network, plus the best in contemporary and classic pop on *6 Music*, the BBC's portfolio of digital radio networks is great news for listeners, bringing them more choice, more great programmes and more great radio talent.

Alongside the BBC's existing family of six speech and music stations – *Radio 1*, *Radio 2*, *Radio 3*, *Radio 4*, *Radio Five Live* and the *World Service* – the five new networks are all available nationally on DAB digital radio. And, in some areas, the BBC's regional services have been launched on digital radio too.

As well as more stations, DAB digital radio offers listeners a totally different listening experience from analogue radio, with no electrical interference or interference from atmospheric conditions, clear sound, easy tuning and extra information transmitted as text. The BBC's digital radio networks are also available through digital television (satellite, cable and Freeview) and via the internet.

Jenny Abramsky, Director, BBC Radio & Music says: "2002 was a wonderful year for BBC Radio and a marked a major step towards the digital future. We launched five new networks and made a huge addition to public service broadcasting. It's clear that the new BBC services will play a major role in driving the uptake of digital radio."

This summer sees for the first time a major on-air promotional campaign by the BBC for its new digital radio portfolio, with radio, television and online trails running from late June to the end of July.

Andy Duncan, Director, BBC Marketing & Communications explains: "Our big goal is to see as many people as possible getting access to our new radio networks. We expect new stocks of DAB digital radios to be available in the shops at the same time as the campaign, so the impact should be considerable."

Another landmark for summer 2003 is the expansion of the BBC's DAB transmitter network. Currently covering 65% of the UK population, the figure will rise to 85% by 2004 with coverage being extended to areas of Scotland, the South and South East, East Anglia, Central England, the North, and the West and South West.

A further landmark for 2003 is the first reporting in October on RAJAR of the BBC's digital-only stations *1Xtra*, *Five Live Sports Extra*, *6 Music* and *BBC 7*. Figures will cover quarter three of 2003, the months of July, August and September.

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23 June 2003

The BBC's five new digital radio networks



1Xtra is the new digital station from the BBC dedicated to playing the best in new black music for fans nationwide.

1Xtra plays everything from the hottest new R&B and hip hop through to the latest breaking drum and bass and reggae. In addition the network is home to some of the best new presenting talent in the country today.

With DJs such as Rampage and Ace & Invisible in the daytime through to big clubland talent such as the Punjabi Hit Squad, Semtex and Femme Fatale in the evening, the line up has something for everyone.

1Xtra provides innovative speech from a dedicated news team alongside an unparalleled level of live music and is committed to ensuring its audience gets a station targeted at their needs and dedicated to their lifestyles.

Launched on 16 August 2002, 1Xtra is a real first for the UK, providing a much-needed service for young, black music fans and helping the black music scene grow and develop in a way it never could before.

www.bbc.co.uk/1xtra



Five Live Sports Extra is the home of live sport, offering exclusive coverage of major sporting events, from the Premiership and Six Nations Rugby to Formula One and cricket.

Produced by Radio Five Live's award-winning team and launched in February 2002, Five Live Sports Extra offers listeners the opportunity to enjoy a front-row seat at some of the biggest sporting events of the year.

A part-time network, the station broadcasts live events which are not scheduled elsewhere on BBC Radio. It's already the digital home of *Test Match Special* and provides additional Wimbledon coverage and in-depth football commentaries.

www.bbc.co.uk/fivelive/sportsextra



A celebration of the very best in music, 6 Music is a station for people passionate about rock and pop.

Launched on 11 March 2002, 6 Music features a rich mix of contemporary and classic artists that range from The Clash, Patti Smith and New Order, through to Sly & The Family Stone, Jimi Hendrix and Public Enemy. In addition to playing a wide selection of established acts, the network also champions some of the best emerging bands and talent including Muse, Turin Brakes, Elbow and many others.

As diverse as its schedules is 6 Music's presenter roster which includes, among others, Phill Jupitus, Liz Kershaw, Gideon Coe, Andrew Collins, Jayne Middlemiss, Steve Lamacq, Stuart Maconie, Tom Robinson, Janice Long, Craig Charles and Bruce Dickinson.

True to its promise that it will deliver the best music, 6 Music is not dictated to by the charts or influenced by fashion and gives a national platform to the more obscure tracks that rarely receive airtime on radio. Programming also includes highlights from 40 years of bespoke sessions (many of which contain unique, otherwise unavailable recordings) and re-runs of definitive BBC music documentaries, which reveal the true stories at the heart of the music.

www.bbc.co.uk/6music



BBC 7 broadcasts unadulterated entertainment all day, every day,

celebrating the power of the spoken word to make people think, smile laugh out loud. It offers the best of BBC comedy, drama and books from the archives, as well as a daily live kids' show.

Welcome to a world where Winnie The Pooh meets The League Of Gentlemen, where Alan Partridge meets Alice In Wonderland and where Agatha Christie meets Doctor Who. BBC 7's huge range of top-quality programmes guarantees there's something for everybody.

Its comedy line-up includes some of the best-known shows and biggest names around. Listeners can hear the original radio comedies which became TV hits – *Dead Ringers*, *Goodness Gracious Me*, *Knowing Me, Knowing You* – plus all-time greats *The Goons*, *Hancock's Half Hour* and *Just A Minute*, and stand-up from the likes of Rory Bremner, Greg Proops, Jo Brand and Ross Noble.

There's also drama, from thrillers to detective stories, science fiction to the classics, as well as readings of favourite books and best sellers. *Big Toe* is a new, live, interactive show just for kids, providing gossip, competitions, interviews and stories with presenters including Jez Edwards and Kirsten O'Brien.

BBC 7 launched on 15 December 2002 and was awarded one of the radio industry's top awards – a Sony Gold – for Best Station Sound in May 2003. In July it extends its broadcasting hours from midnight to 3.30am.

www.bbc.co.uk/bbc7



A one-stop shop for Asian communities, the Asian Network

re-launched as a nationwide digital station on 28 October 2002. The station features news, including top international and consumer stories, and music from the British Asian scene – from cutting-edge sounds to old favourites.

For young Asians living in different urban communities across the country, the channel provides an opportunity to have a voice about issues affecting their lives. And because the station has a young talent base, it ensures that the Asian Network's finger is firmly on the pulse of contemporary Asian life.

Sonia Deol presents a weekday morning show dedicated to giving Asian Britons the chance to discuss the big news or social issues of the day; Gagan Grewal presents *Breakfast*, a mixture of news, travel, sport and the best music to start the day; Ray Khan makes sure listeners are kept entertained and informed on their way home from work on his *Drive* programme; and weekends can be spent catching up on sports news or the glamorous goings on in the film world, from Bollywood to Hollywood, with presenters Maz Khan and Rajni Sharma.

On the music front, DJ Adil Ray and DJ Ritu showcase the latest offerings from British Asian artists including feature interviews and live studio sessions.

www.bbc.co.uk/asiannetwork

The BBC's long-standing radio networks – Radio 1, Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 4, Radio Five Live and the World Service (in English) – can also be heard on DAB digital radio, as well as BBC regional services in some areas.

Double Trouble

Breakfast Show, Weekdays, 7.00am, 6 Music

It's been over a year since 6 Music hit the airwaves yet in all that time *Breakfast Show* presenter Phill Jupitus and his producer and sidekick, Phil Wilding, have never been interviewed together. Now, sitting chummily together on a couch in Broadcasting House, they talk about their mums, their love affair with music and their digital radios.



Phil Wilding, producer of the *Breakfast Show* is clutching a box of cereal and DJ Phill Jupitus is clutching his box of records. They have just been through their e-mails, sent before and during this morning's show – and are looking a little worried. No, they haven't had a complaint – far from it. What's distressing them is a certain ER doctor in New York who e-mails

them every morning when he's on shift. They have convinced themselves that he waits to hear his requested song before attending to his dying patients ...

Despite their paranoia, Jupitus and Wilding love hearing from their listeners, though they are reluctant to predict just how many tune in each day. The official RAJAR figures are released for the first time in October this year but they don't seem overly worried. After all, laughs Jupitus, "Terry Wogan sits 60ft from us with millions of people listening to him – so we just keep doing what we do."

Indeed, Wogan is a bit of a broadcasting hero for both Jupitus and Wilding, along with John Peel, John Humphrys, Danny Baker, Jenny Murray and Tim Westwood.

Producer Wilding is warm in his praise: "I think in terms of radio these are people you want to be in a room with, because radio is intimate ... If you want to wake up and spend time with them in your bathroom or kitchen, then that's a good radio show."

So they know a good radio show when they hear one, and their own is no exception. They are particularly happy with how the *Breakfast Show* has developed over the last year or so. "It has just very organically and naturally achieved its shape," Jupitus says proudly. Wilding agrees: "We've shed a lot of stuff, actually ... and I think we've realised that the dynamic is us two, pretty much."

"That's it," Jupitus echoes. "The achievement is that we know how we work together."

The rapport between them is certainly palpable: they complete each other's

sentences, seem to know what the other is thinking and sound like old friends more than colleagues. Jupitus and Wilding, a former music journalist, first met through Mark Lamarr at GLR, BBC London’s predecessor. “When Phil worked at GLR, he was through the glass and he used to say funny things to me through the headphones and I would think, ‘I could have done with that on air, really,’” recalls Jupitus. “It’s just nice to have the dynamic where you can talk about anything you want and respond to guests and things in the paper. I like almost every part of the double act.”

Jupitus goes as far as to say that working with Wilding on the *Breakfast Show* is the best job he’s ever had – and he’s had a lot of jobs. In his past lives he’s worked at a job centre, as a press officer for the Housemartins and as a stand-up comedian, not to mention doing stints on TV in *Never Mind The Buzzcocks*. “Phil’s the first person I thought of when I was offered this gig; the only one I thought I could make it through the year with,” Jupitus admits. Apparently he met Wilding in Starbucks and tied up the deal – two hours later Gideon Coe called the producer to offer him the same thing. “It was close, it was that close,” Jupitus says, breathing a sigh of relief.

It’s easy to see why Jupitus’s mum refers to the pair as an “old married couple”, especially when Jupitus starts talking about how much they’re enjoying their life together. But Wilding points out that Jupitus’s mum, a divorcee, might know something that they don’t. “Yeah, I think she senses the big split coming any time,” Jupitus confirms with a chuckle.

Aside from having the same sense of humour, they also share another great passion: music. Jupitus remembers the first single he bought, though not necessarily fondly: “It was *The Streak* by Ray Stevens, so that doesn’t really indicate a passion as much as a dysfunction ...” Wilding jumps in with his own, which was *Puppy Love* by Donny Osmond.

After admitting that “Seventies pop spoke to me briefly”, Jupitus mentions listening to prog rock at boarding school – Genesis, Floyd, Yes – before punk slapped him in the face, for which he has been forever thankful. “I went on to proper records,” he continues, “and out of that ... I started regressing and got into Sixties soul ... In the Eighties I loved Two Tone, which sent me to reggae, which sent me to ska and then to R&B and to bluebeat.”



Wilding is no different; he embraces music of all different styles and genres. Among his favourites he cites Aaron Copeland, Yo-Yo Ma and Chopin. This wilful eclecticism influences the pair’s musical choices on the programme, which ranges from soul, blues, alternative country, country, hard rock, ska, reggae and much more. Jupitus is without doubt that 6 Music is about collecting together a bunch of people who love music and letting them do their own thing. They’re also certain that their listeners are willing to listen to a lot of

different styles and that the network attracts people with a broad musical palate who just enjoy good music. They certainly seem to come from far and wide, with people from Holland, Canada, Australia – and of course New York medics – all contacting the show.

This wide spectrum of listeners is, of course, only possible with digital radio, which can be heard through the internet and digital television, in addition to standard DAB digital radios. Jupitus and Wilding are united in thinking that this relatively new medium is the future of radio – and not just because they work for a digital radio station.

“Honestly, the sound is amazing,” Wilding raves. And apparently all of his friends and family think so as well – which is why he even bought one for his mum. And Jupitus did the same for his mum, though he claims that “she persists on listening to Terry [Wogan]”. Wilding’s mum, however, is “more loyal” and texts their show regularly.

This all seems to prove that the audience for digital radio is growing, which does not surprise Jupitus. “Loads of people I know who have bought these little digital radios are the ones who had been listening on computers or telly – and this is great.

“And when they get it, it just broadens their choice even more ... There’s literature, stories and plays, BBC 7 is amazing, the Asian Network I listen to, I Xtra – I love I Xtra, it’s like having a 24-hour high-quality pirate radio. And I’ve got digital radio in my car, I love it that much.”

Although Jupitus has admitted to being a technophobe, he thinks that those afraid of using a digital radio should be “buried up to their neck in mud”. He says (affectionately, one hopes), “Even my mother likes it. But you have to understand that to her it’s just a radio with the subtle difference of being ‘posh’.”

Jupitus’s enthusiasm seems to know no bounds: “I think they’re the best gadgets to come out in the last 10 years in this country. The digital radio and the iPod are fighting for supremacy in my life.”

Going back to their show, I challenge the pair to describe it in six words. “Err ... sleepy ... oh no, that’s our favourite dwarves,” laughs Jupitus, before Wilding comes up with “potent”, “angry” and “magical”. Jupitus adds “whimsical” and “frisky”.

I make that five words but who’s counting when they are so obviously enjoying themselves and doing such a good job of it too.

Stand Up And Be Counted

Spanking New On 7, Monday 7 July, 11.00pm, BBC 7

Name: Robin Ince
 Age: 34
 Place of birth: A village where they often film Midsomer Murders



You may not necessarily recognise his name, but Robin Ince is a prolific comedian, writer and culture pundit, pontificating on a variety of subjects. He’s written for Channel 4’s *V Graham Norton*, performed for Radio 4’s *The In Crowd* and *4 At The Store* and impersonated John Peel for *The 11 O’Clock Show*. He also made a brief cameo appearance in *The Office*, though you’d be forgiven for missing it. Even *The Saturday Show*’s Tiny and Mr Duk have enlisted Robin’s expert services.

After so many incarnations, Robin’s latest project is to simply be himself. As part of BBC 7’s first original comedy commission, *Spanking New On 7*, Robin took to the stage as a compere, with the arguably unenviable task of warming up the crowd before introducing new

stand-ups. The idea behind the show is to find hot comedians who’ve never had exposure on television and radio and to bring them to a new listening audience. Broadcast over seven weeks, *Spanking New On 7* will introduce 28 stand-ups in total, found by scouring the country’s pubs, clubs and everything in between.

After wrapping up the last show and before jetting off to the Big Apple, Robin kindly agreed to answer a few questions in which he discusses his modelling prospects, the Radiophonic Workshop and deflecting an angry mob at the Glastonbury Festival.

How did you first discover you had a talent for comedy?

“I have always liked larking about and when I found out I could make money for doing it, it added an air of shabby professionalism to my larking.”

What was your big break?

“My big break probably was coming second in the *So You Think You’re Funny* competition at the Edinburgh Festival because, from that point onwards, I made a living as a comedian. I think I’m still waiting for a bigger break: being talent-scouted by an agent from Models 1 whilst eating an ice cream at Heathrow Airport is, I think, possible if I get my figure back.”

Who are your favourite comedians and why?

“Woody Allen – sheer genius, both as a writer and as a slapstick performer; Bill Murray – brilliantly deadpan. Others are: the Marx Brothers, Chris Morris, Victoria Wood, Alastair Sim, Buster Keaton, Laurel and Hardy, Rik Mayall, Joe Orton, Frankie Howerd, Margaret Rutherford, Fry and Laurie and on and on and on. I will give no reason because if you don’t

know there is no point in going on (though Rik Mayall standing in dog excrement in *More Bad News* made me fall off my cinema seat).”

What did you enjoy most about *Spanking New On 7*?

“Making stuff up and fearing it wouldn’t work. (I think I am being voiced by Barry Cryer in the edit.)”

How did you come up with so much original material for your warm-up act for each show?

“The majority of my material comes from one-line ideas – such as the Radiophonic Workshop collaborating with the French resistance and making spooky noises to scare the Germans away from haystacks full of infantrymen – then I just try to create a routine on the spot. I am easily distracted by thoughts and things, so I mainly make sure I drink a lot of orange squash and wait for the tartrazine to kick in.”

What is the biggest source of inspiration for your act?

“I read lots of bits of things and watch lots of bits of things and they make me think of things.”

Have you had a worst moment on stage and what was it?

“My best worst moment was turning a difficult but quietly responsive Glastonbury audience into an angry mob by using the word gypsy (it was not in a derogatory way). Within five minutes the audience members were screaming at me with puce faces and trying to run up on the stage and punch me; I stood my ground and laughed in their silly faces.”

Do you think *Spanking New On 7* has uncovered some hot new talent?

“I think there have been some brilliant new acts on, from great one-liner merchants to surreal ramblers. In a time when stand-up

comedy seems to be becoming so homogenised, it is great to see that there are, in fact, many fine new comedy minds.”

What would be your one piece of advice for new comedians trying to break into the business?

“Don’t just think about how much money you can make from comedy.”

What’s next for you?

“I am writing a sitcom with Howard Read (a funny boy who broke my arm in Edinburgh once) and recording a pilot about John Peel with Ross Noble. And resting on some tatty laurels.”

Listening highlights

IXtra

**IXtra Live – Dizzee Rascal
Saturday 19 July, 11.00pm**

Talented UK garage artist Dizzee Rascal makes an exclusive PA for IXtra, recorded live at Sound in London’s Leicester Square.

Still only a teenager, Dizzee Rascal is a hot new talent on the UK garage scene. A rapper with east London garage collective Roll Deep Crew, he recently came fifth in BBC News Online’s Sound Of 2003 Poll, the highest-placed UK artist. In addition to this accolade, Dizzee was voted Best Newcomer at the Sidewinder UK Garage People’s Choice Awards in 2002.

Popular on the underground circuit, Dizzee is now winning a large following thanks to his phenomenal success as an MC. After growing up on the streets of Bow in London’s East End, things are looking up for this newcomer who said in a recent interview: “If I wasn’t expressing myself in music, I wouldn’t have carried on.”

**Heartless Crew
Sundays, 9.00pm**



Heartless Crew heat up this summer’s musical sounds on IXtra.

Heartless Crew are not saying they’re cold-hearted with their stage name, but simply that “their hearts are in their music”. Passionate about house and garage, their sound system style has been big in the underground circuit for a decade and now gets a wider audience on IXtra. Their all-encompassing musical tastes include hip-hop, garage, soul, jungle, dancehall, R&B and bashment.

DJ Fonti and MCs Mighty Moe and Bushkin formed Heartless Crew in 1992, taking their inspiration from the likes of Buju Banton, R Kelly, Shabba, Brockie and Det, to name but a few. First recognised in London’s Islington in 1992, they became residents at Chimes Nightclub in Hackney in 1996. Since then, they’ve played at many venues throughout the UK and ran a successful night in Ayia Napa. They have an international following and release a new album, *Heart’s In The Music*, in September.

**Rampage
Weekdays, 3.00pm**



Mike Anthony and Treble T bring their unique expertise in urban music to the IXtra listening audience weekdays from 3.00-5.00pm.

The sound of urban life, Rampage are one of the leading crews in UK's clubland. Since launching in 1990, Mike Anthony and Treble T have enjoyed widespread success in clubs, on radio, through presenting and doing promotions. More recently, they have moved into production, song writing, re-mixing and artist development.

Their following, however, is not restricted to the UK. They are the DJs of choice for top R&B artists such as Usher and K-Ci and JoJo. They regularly play abroad and have hosted nights in Ayia Napa, Dubai and Faliraki.

TX UnLtd
Weekdays, 5.00pm

TX UnLtd is IExtra's weekly one-hour news programme. A unique combination of news, features, documentaries and music, *TX UnLtd* tackles important new stories such as the recent war in Iraq and the murders of Charlene Ellis and Letitia Shakespeare; it also includes sports coverage, entertainment news, and music and gig reviews.

Since the station's launch, the news team has secured exclusive interviews with Asher D, his first on leaving prison; and the notorious boss of Tha Row Records, Suge Knight. It was also the first and only news outlet to interview young people present at the party where Charlene and Letitia died.

The programme's weekly documentaries have covered a wide range of subjects, from HIV and Aids in the black community, through skin lightening, graffiti culture, turntablism to the rise of the UK's female MCs. *TX UnLtd* reporters also write and present three-minute summaries every hour as part of the station's 24-hour news service.

Five Live Sports Extra

Wimbledon Tennis
Monday 23 June-Wednesday 2 July,
12.55pm



Five Live Sports Extra offers extended coverage of the highlight of the world tennis calendar, the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. The station carries uninterrupted additional live commentary of the matches on Centre Court and Number One Court, right through to the semi-finals, giving fans a choice of matches to listen to.

Tennis reporter Jonathan Overend heads up the commentary team, which also includes Richard Evans, Iain Carter and Tony Adamson.

They are joined by summarisers and analysts Annabel Croft, Christine Janes, Sam Smith, Frew MacMillan, Mark Petchey, Wendy Turnbull, Debbie Jevans and newcomer Danny Sapsford, a former Great Britain Davis Cup player.

International Cricket
Wednesday 26 June-Saturday 12 July,
times vary



Five Live Sports Extra carries live, uninterrupted commentary from the NatWest Series from Trent Bridge.

Henry Olonga, the first-ever black cricketer to represent Zimbabwe, joins the *Test Match Special* team this summer along with South Africans Allan Donald, arguably the country's finest-ever bowler, and Andrew Hudson, the first batsman to hit a century for South Africa on their return from international isolation.

They are joined by *TMS* stalwarts – Vic Marks, Angus Fraser and Mike Selvey – and the existing commentary team of Jonathan Agnew, Christopher Martin-Jenkins, Henry Blofeld, Simon Mann and Jonny Saunders.

Domestic Cricket
Saturday 19 July, 10.30am

The Twenty20 Cup is cricket's brand-new, fast-hitting competition. This action-packed tournament is designed to bring a new, younger audience to cricket, with pop groups even playing at some games. Matches will last under three hours.

Five Live Sports Extra has live, uninterrupted radio commentary from the crucial semi-finals on 19 July at Trent Bridge, with the final broadcast on Five Live. Not only are these two big-hitting games, but Liverpool's pop trio Atomic Kitten will also be playing to the crowds.

Five Live Sports Extra's coverage complements that on Radio Five Live, which has been given special access to bring the atmosphere of the tournament home to the listeners and reflect the exciting feel of this 20-over-a-side tournament.

Throughout the commentary, there will be interviews with batsmen just before they head to the crease and with fielders on the boundary edge. Reporters in the crowd will give the fans' perspective and umpires will be asked to explain their decisions live.

Formula One
Saturday 18-Sunday 19 July,
times vary

The racing season reaches a climax on Monday 20 July with the British Grand Prix at Silverstone. Five Live Sports Extra brings listeners live coverage of the all-important qualifying sessions on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 July.

Jonathan Legard, Five Live's Formula 1 commentator, reports on this new qualifying system, which has made the sport even more exciting this season.

In addition to the coverage of British Grand Prix, Five Live Sports Extra will also be at Magny Cours for the French Grand Prix qualifying sessions on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 July.

6 Music

**Breakfast Show
Weekdays, 7.00am**



Phill Jupitus presents a three-hour wake-up call to start each weekday morning with his producer and sidekick, Phil Wilding. The show throws a sideways glance at the daily papers and brings listeners great music, exciting guests, boundless energy and amusing features, including *6 Musings* in which the two read listeners' e-mails on their chosen topic of the day, and *Things We Have Learned Today*, a chance to marvel at the life lessons learned on the show.

For an interview with Phill and Phil, go to page 5.

**Glastonbury
Monday 28 June, 4.00pm**



Lucky 6 Music listeners get to hear the cream of the Glastonbury Festival when highlights of the best acts run across the station from Friday 27 to Sunday 29 June. Some of the presenters showcasing the best of the festival are Liz Kershaw, Andrew Collins, Clare McDonnell, Jayne Middlemiss, Gideon Coe, Chris Hawkins, Stuart Maconie and Tom Robinson.

This year's Glastonbury coverage is complemented by a special documentary that highlights the very best of the acts from last year, presented by Janice Long. The programme includes music from No Doubt, Roger Waters, Faithless, Ash and Stereophonics, amongst other great performances.

**6 Music Navigator – Chapter One:
The Surrey State Of Music
Monday 7-Sunday 13 July, times vary**

From July 6 Music embarks on its biggest project ever – to map the path of music across the UK and provide a definitive guide to the best music in Britain today.

The idea is to build an archive of musical hotspots throughout the country and to track where music has been, where it's at now and where it's going. The first chapter in this musical journey starts in Surrey, home to bands such as The Jam, Pyschedelic Furs and Sham 69. In *The Surrey State Of Music*, broadcast over one week on various programmes, listeners can hear music from this year's Guilfest, including tracks from Aqualung, The Vessels, Tom McRae and Cosmic Rough Riders; they'll get a tour of Surrey's music landmarks in Liz Kershaw's *Slap My Plaque*; Phill Jupitus takes a look at some of the county's rock star mansions; and Tom Robinson broadcast live; from Guildford, home of The Stranglers.

The project is not only station-wide, but also online. Over the next weeks, months and years, listeners can add to the archive online,

which ultimately will provide a definitive map of the UK's music scene. Go to www.bbc.co.uk/6music from Wednesday 30 June for more details.

Also to look out for this summer is *Chapter Two: Get Your Kicks On The A66*, when 6 Music heads up North to get its kicks on the not-so-legendary A66, which runs from Teesside to Cumbria.

Lunch With Liz
Tuesday 8 July, 1.00pm



West Coast pop band Tyde perform live tracks from their new album *Twice* on Liz Kershaw's lunchtime show.

The five-piece band formed in 1998 and released their debut album in 2001. They have been described by *NME* as "really rather magnificent", with comparisons made to The Byrds and The Strokes.

Liz Kershaw's lunchtime show invites artists and music personalities to join her in the studio, where she presents a mix of topical news, music features and the best in contemporary music.

Tom Robinson Evening Sequence
Thursday 10 July, 7.00pm



Indie rock band Haven perform live tracks from their new album, provisionally titled *What Love Is*, on the *Tom Robinson Evening Sequence*. The session promises to be full of attitude and intensity, along with spine-chilling guitars and passionate vocals.

Gary Briggs, Nat Wason, Tom Lewis, Iwan Gonow and Jack Mitchell formed Haven in Cornwall and moved to Manchester in 1999. They were signed by Virgin in 2002, releasing their debut album, *Between The Senses*, later that year. The band's earnest and reflective lyrics have earned them comparisons to Coldplay and Starsailor.

Tom Robinson presents an eclectic mix of the best in contemporary music, every Monday to Thursday evening. Tom's show includes previews and reviews of live music events around the UK and live sessions with some of the hottest musical talent around.

Steve Lamacq
Saturday 19 July, 1.00pm



Fresh from his acoustic tour of Europe earlier this year, Beck talks to Steve Lamacq about the upcoming Reading Festival and his most recent album *Sea Change*, which marked a more mellow departure from his previous album *Midnight Vultures*. The multi-talented performer also treats listeners to some acoustic tracks.

Steve Lamacq brings his cutting-edge style and musical choices to 6 Music. His quest to find the next big artist continues in *Your New Favourite Band* and *Rebel Playlist*. Each week he is joined by a regular music hack to theorise about anything they fancy.

BBC 7

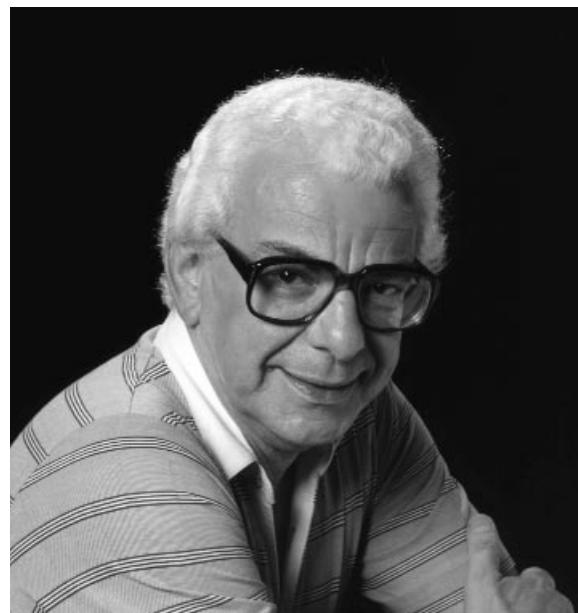
Our Mutual Friend
From Saturday 21 June, 11.00am

This 10-part dramatisation of Dickens's great classic 1865 novel, his final complete work, was first broadcast on Radio 4 in 1984. It features Dickens's usual ensemble of unforgettable characters such as Mr Boffin, Silas Wegg, Jenny Wren, Bradley Headstone and Mr Podsnap.

The story explores the complexity of inheritance and is also concerned with families

– what holds them together and what rips them apart. The cast includes Michael Graham Cox, Douglas Livingstone, Angela Pleasence, Tom Wilkinson and Simon Cadell as the narrator.

Comedy Greats
Continuing from Saturday 28 June, 9.00pm



Comedy legend Barry Cryer presents a new series on BBC 7, uncovering decade by decade the best of BBC Radio's comedy goldmine. Two Saturday programmes are dedicated to each decade, which started with the funniest of the Fifties and continues through to the present day.

On 28 June Barry reaches the Eighties where he features shows such as *Radio Active*, *After Henry*, *Saturday Night Fry*, *The Mary Whitehouse Experience* and *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*

Barry finishes with a flourish and chooses some modern classics from the Nineties, starting on 19 July. Likely to be among his choices are: *Goodness Gracious Me*, *People Like Us*, *The League Of Gentlemen*, *Jeremy Hardy Speaks To The Nation* and *The Very World Of Milton Jones*.

Comedy Greats is rounded off with the listeners' choice, the result of an interactive poll in which listeners pick their own all-time favourite comedy programmes. The top six will be broadcast in August. To cast a vote, log on to BBC 7's website: www.bbc.co.uk/bbc7

Telling Tales
from Monday 23 June, 9.00am



Poignantly looking back on his childhood, Alan Bennett remembers growing up in a house above his father's butcher's shop in Leeds. Fascinated with small details, Alan muses on his Aunt Eveline's "enormous bust" and remembers cleaning his parents' false teeth. Bennett goes on to reminisce about his years at Oxford University, to which he won a scholarship.

Bennett is well known for being a member of the *Beyond The Fringe* comedy troupe, whose other members included Dudley Moore, Peter Cook and Jonathan Miller. He is also one of Britain's most popular and prolific playwrights with a keen eye for the absurdities of modern life and an excellent ear for dialogue. *Telling Tales* is read in 10 parts with music by George Fenton.

A Murder Is Announced
From Monday 23 June, 1.30pm,
rpt 8.30pm

June Whitfield stars as the indomitable Miss Marple in a classic treat for all Agatha Christie fans.

The residents of Chipping Cleghorn are agog to discover that they have been invited to a murder – but surely it must be a game? The five-part dramatisation also stars Ian Lavender as Detective Inspector Craddock, Sarah Lawson as Letty Blacklock and Judy Cornwell as Dora Bunner. There are additional performances by Angela Sims, Jamie Glover, Sarah Rice and Jenny Funnell.

Little Britain
From Tuesday 24 June, 2.00pm,
rpt 9.00pm



Matt Lucas and David Walliams's character-comedy sketch show explores British life in Britain as lived by Britons today. First broadcast on Radio 4 in 2001, the show successfully transferred to BBC Three in time for its launch in 2003.

Each programme introduces a host of characters such as rubbish transvestite Emily Howard; former Olympic-champion-turned-business-lecturer Denver Mills; Dyffed, the only gay man in Llandewi Brefi; and games inventor

Matthew Waterhouse, as well as including old favourites Sir Bernard Chumley and slimming expert Marjorie Dawes.

The sketches are introduced by the voice of Tom Baker and the series features a new theme tune recorded by David Arnold (*The World Is Not Enough, Tomorrow Never Dies, Stargate*).

Ghosts Of Albion
Saturday 28 June, 6.00pm, rpt 12.00am

A thrilling horror adventure about demons, ghosts and vampires, *Ghosts Of Albion* promises to have plenty of bite thanks to two key figures from the cult *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* television series. *Ghosts Of Albion* was first developed as part of BBCi's innovative internet dramas for the web.

Amber Benson, better known as Tara in *Buffy*, and Christopher Golden, a bestselling author of numerous novels including *Buffy* and *Angel*, have collaborated on writing for this project.

On the death of their grandfather – a famed stage magician – a brother and sister discover that not all of the old man's magic was performed on stage. The siblings find themselves the inheritors of an extraordinary legacy and must bear the burden of having sorcerer-like powers that make them the mystical guardians of early 19th-century England.

The Small World Of Dominic Holland
From Tuesday 1 July, 2.00pm,
rpt 9.00pm

Another chance to hear Dominic Holland's six-part Radio 4 series from August 2000 where he explores the comedic minutiae of everyday life, from domesticity and shopping to the pitfalls of growing up and having children.

Comedy Controller – Dominic Holland
Saturday 5 July, 8.00am, rpt 9.00pm



Author and comedian Dominic Holland is BBC 7's *Comedy Controller* for July, picking his favourite comedies to share with listeners.

One of today's funniest writers and performers, Dominic has performed stand-up for over 10 years, appearing regularly at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (winning the Perrier Best Newcomer Award in 1993 and another nomination in 1996). He's also enjoyed success with his BBC Radio 4 series, *The Small World Of Dominic Holland*, which went down a storm with audiences.

Dominic reminisces about playing the comedy circuit and his choice picks include *Jeremy Hardy Speaks To The Nation*, *Radio Active*, *I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue* and *Knowing Me, Knowing You*.

Stop Messin' About – Tribute To Kenneth Williams
Sunday 6 July, 9.00pm



In a three-hour special dedicated to Kenneth Williams and presented by Liz Fraser, BBC 7 prepares to flare its nostrils and say, "Oooh no, Stop Messin' About".

Star of the *Carry On* films and a perennial radio favourite, Kenneth Williams' career began with *Hancock's Half Hour* and continued with classics such as *Beyond Our Ken*, *Round The Horne* and *Just A Minute*, as well as many solo projects.

The tribute includes radio favourites and rarely heard gems, from Sandy's double entendre to erudite disputes with Nicholas Parsons. As Williams would have said, "It'll be nice to varda your dolly old eek."

Spanking New On 7
From Monday 7 July, 11.00pm

Twenty-eight brand-new stand-ups get their big break on BBC 7's first original comedy commission, *Spanking New On 7*. Hot new comedians, talent-scouted from across the

country, get their chance to impress a new audience in a series of hour-long stand-up shows, broadcast over seven weeks.



Robin Ince, a prolific comedian and writer with credits that include *The In Crowd*, *4 At The Store*, *The Office* and *The 11 O'Clock Show*, takes centre stage as compere. His challenging and arguably unenviable task is to warm up the crowd before introducing some of the country's brightest and talented new comedians.

To read an interview with Robin, go to page 8.

The Men From The Ministry
From Wednesday 16 July, 2.30pm



Produced and written by Edward Taylor, *The Men From The Ministry* was a spoof on

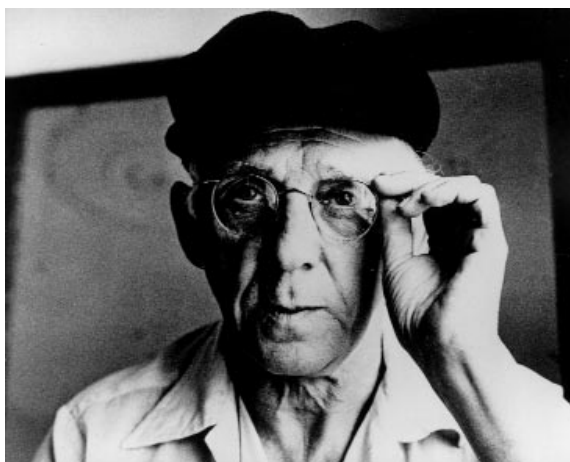
government bureaucracy and a parody of the British Civil Service.

Centred on the General Assistance Department of an unnamed Government ministry in Whitehall, incompetent civil servants, played for most of its run by Deryck Guyler and Richard Murdoch, try to keep their domineering and irrational boss, Under-Secretary George Pitkin, happy. The result is a wide range of escapades and buffoonery now considered classics of radio comedy. Over the years, several distinguished actors made guest appearances including Clive Dunn, Patricia Hayes, June Whitfield and Kenneth Horne.

The series was first broadcast in 1962 and carried on until 1977 with a total of 147 episodes; it also spawned BBC's *Yes, Minister*, which can be heard on BBC 7 on Wednesdays 25 June and 2 July at 2.30pm.

The next generation of civil service comedy, *In The Red*, with Stephen Fry and John Bird, can also be heard on BBC 7 from Wednesday 2 July at 8.30am.

King Cutler
From Saturday 19 July, 2.00pm,
rpt 8.00pm



Ivor Cutler brings his unique skills as a performer of poetry, music, comedy and art

to a six-part series with Phyllis King, first broadcast on Radio 3 in 1990. The programmes offer a glimpse into the inimitable man's personal kingdom.

Ivor Cutler was born in 1924 in Glasgow and his austere childhood there has been a source of inspiration for a number of books of prose, stories and programmes. Ivor's first gig was at the Blue Angel in 1957 but was, in his words, an "unmitigated failure". He started to write poetry at the age of 42, and claims that he wasn't any good until six years later.

Ivor is also recording his canon of children's stories for BBC 7's *Little Toe* in June.

The Foundation Trilogy
From Saturday 19 July, 6.00pm,
rpt 12.00am

Isaac Asimov's powerful science fiction saga spanning hundreds of years is dramatised by Patrick Tull and Mike Stott.

Harry Seldon is an expert in "psycho-history", the practice of predicting the future by analysing recent and yet-to-come historical events. He essentially reduces human behaviour to mathematical equations. Although unable to consistently predict the behaviour of a single human being, he can predict the actions of larger groups of people, especially by putting them in their social context. With this knowledge, Harry determines a way to save his galaxy from years of poverty and ruin, which he predicts will follow after the fall of the Empire.

Produced by David Cain in 1973 for Radio 4, the eight-part dramatisation stars Dinsdale Landen and Martin Friend.

Dick Barton – Special Agent
From Monday 21 July, 8.00pm

A beloved national treasure, Dick Barton was the star of the BBC's first daily radio serial,



broadcast between 1946 and 1951 on the Light Programme.

Along with his two best mates, Jock Anderson and Snowey White, special agent Dick gets himself into some pretty serious scrapes, which he also manages to get out of, thanks to some crime-busting gismos that would even make James Bond envious.

The tongue-in-cheek adventures struck a chord with post-war Britain and the programme had 15 million listeners at its peak. In total, 711 episodes were aired, of which these are some of its best.

Big Toe
Live daily, 4.00pm

S Club 8 are in the studio on Wednesday 25 June and *Big Toe* listeners have the chance to talk to and maybe even sing along with them.

GP Taylor, a Yorkshire vicar, a former policeman and now the author of *Shadowmancer* – which some believe could challenge Harry Potter in the popularity stakes – talks to *Big Toe* listeners on Thursday 26 June about his book’s release in June. A turbulent adventure of good versus evil, with some magic, witchcraft and

shipwrecks thrown in for good measure, *Shadowmancer* is set against the backdrop of 18th-century Scarborough, Whitby, Ravenscar and Robin Hood’s Bay.



Also in June, Jerammy Fine of the *Guinness Book Of Records* challenges the presenters of *Big Toe* to break some records of their own. In a previous show Kirsten O’Brien made it into the *Book* by managing to wear an amazing 41 pairs of socks at the same time!

In addition, there is music, great comedy and great stories including *Midnight For Charlie Bone* by Jenny Nimmo, *Mighty Fizz Chilla* by Philip Ridley and *Suitcase Kid* by Jacqueline Wilson.

Little Toe
Daily, 7.00am

To celebrate BBC 7’s homage to Ivor Cutler in June, the iconoclast poet, writer and musician, beloved of the late John Lennon and the never-late John Peel, records his canon of children’s books for *Big Toe*’s younger sibling, *Little Toe*, including *Meal One*, *Herbert: 5 Stories*, *The New Dress*, *The Animal House*, *One-And-A-Quarter*, *Doris The Hen* and *Grape Zoo*. The stories are broadcast later this summer.

Asian Network**Top Ten With Anjum Rafiq
Weekdays, 12.00noon**

Recently re-launched, this unique programme, the only national chart show to track the most popular albums in Asian music every weekday, gives listeners the opportunity to shape their Top Ten favourite albums by voting every day at www.bbc.co.uk/asiannetwork

**Adil Ray
Wednesday 25 June, 10.00pm**

Adil Ray features a session with Hunterz, who performs material from his new album *Most Wanted* live in the acoustic lounge tonight. Hunterz is a well known artist on the British Asian music scene and his album has been eagerly anticipated.

**Sonia Deol
Wednesday 2 July, 9.00am**

Sonia talks at length with controversial Bollywood heartthrob Salman Khan. The show



Hunterz

comes live from Glasgow, where Khan will be performing in concert later that evening.

**Breakfast With Gagan Grewal
Throughout July, 6.00am**

Gagan is blagging invites to weddings across the UK in *Gagan's Gatecrash*. Listeners wanting to participate can nominate themselves on the show, and Gagan will turn up to one special

wedding unannounced. The results are broadcast the morning after the big party.

Drive With Ray Khan
Wednesday 11 July, 4.00pm



Ray Khan presents a live programme from Bradford's National Museum of Photography, Film and Television to mark the opening of the BBC's new radio studios.

NHS, The Asian Experience
Thursday 31 July, throughout the day

The BBC Asian Network features reports, interviews and discussion on the service the Asian community gets from today's NHS in a special day of programming.

Music From The Melas
Saturday 19-Sunday 20 July, times tbc

The Asian Network brings together the sound of fresh Asian talent and established artists, going behind the scenes of a series of Melas across the UK this summer. The Asian Network has its own stage and will offer listeners reports and special interviews with performers.

On Saturday 19 July, Adil Ray and Sofia Hyatt are at the Respect Festival in London from midday, talking to performers who include DCS, Rishi Rich, Jay Sean, Juggy D, Mona, Devoted, Sona Family and dancers from the hit West End musical Bombay Dreams.



DCS

On Sunday 20 July, Ray C is at the Slough Mela from 2.00pm, with performers such as Stereonation, DIP, Sona Family, Devoted and more. And on the same date, both Adil Ray and Sofia Hyatt are at the Croydon Mela with a line-up of acts yet to be confirmed.



Mona

The Asian Network will continue to cover the Mela festivals in August at various locations throughout the country.

Facts and figures

- The BBC pioneered digital audio broadcasting (DAB) and was the first broadcaster in the world to build a transmission network and transmit digital radio.
- The first BBC digital radio broadcasts were in 1995.
- The BBC now has five digital-only radio networks – 1Xtra, Five Live Sports Extra, 6 Music, BBC 7 and the Asian Network.
- The BBC launched all five of its new digital radio networks in one year – 2002.
- The BBC's whole family of speech and music networks is also available on DAB, including Radio 1, Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 4, Radio Five Live and the World Service (in English).
- Digital radio can be received in three ways: via a DAB digital radio, via digital television (satellite, cable and Freeview), and via the internet.
- The BBC's national digital radio transmitters currently cover 65% of the UK population.
- Coverage will rise to 85% of the UK population by 2004.
- Digital radio is a more efficient means of broadcasting – this means more radio networks can be transmitted, offering more choice for listeners.
- Digital radio is free – there is no subscription to pay.
- Some towns and cities have more than 40 digital radio stations (BBC and commercial), about twice the number currently available in most areas on FM and AM.
- Digital radio is more robust than analogue radio. Because of the way it is broadcast, it doesn't suffer from the same interference that can spoil analogue radio.
- Digital radio stations are broadcast on the same frequency across the country so there is no need for listeners to retune when on the move in a car.
- Digital radio can transmit text and data with the audio signal. Digital radios come equipped with a small screen which carries rolling text across it. The text enhances the programme so listeners can check what they're listening to, who's being interviewed, or what music is playing and see phone numbers and e-mail addresses.
- There are currently 21 manufacturers of digital radios – with more due to come into the market.
- Digital radios are available in over 3,000 retail outlets across the UK and can be bought on the internet.
- Total digital radio sales reached 175,000 in May 2003 (GFK data).

BBC radio networks on DAB

BBC national radio stations

Radio 1
1Xtra*
Radio 2
Radio 3
Radio 4 FM
Radio 4 LW
Radio Five Live*
Five Live Sports Extra
6 Music*
BBC 7*
Asian Network*
World Service

*available on digital radio only

BBC regional and local stations

Radio Scotland	Radio Leeds
Nan Gaidheal	Radio Bristol
Radio Wales	Radio Lancashire
Radio Cymru	Radio Humberside
Radio Ulster	Radio Essex
BBC WM	Radio Solent
BBC GMR	Radio Devon
Radio Sheffield	Radio Cambridgeshire
Radio Newcastle	Radio Leicester
Radio Merseyside	Radio Norfolk
BBC London	Radio Swindon
Radio Cleveland	Radio Wiltshire

Please note, regional stations are broadcast
in the local area only.

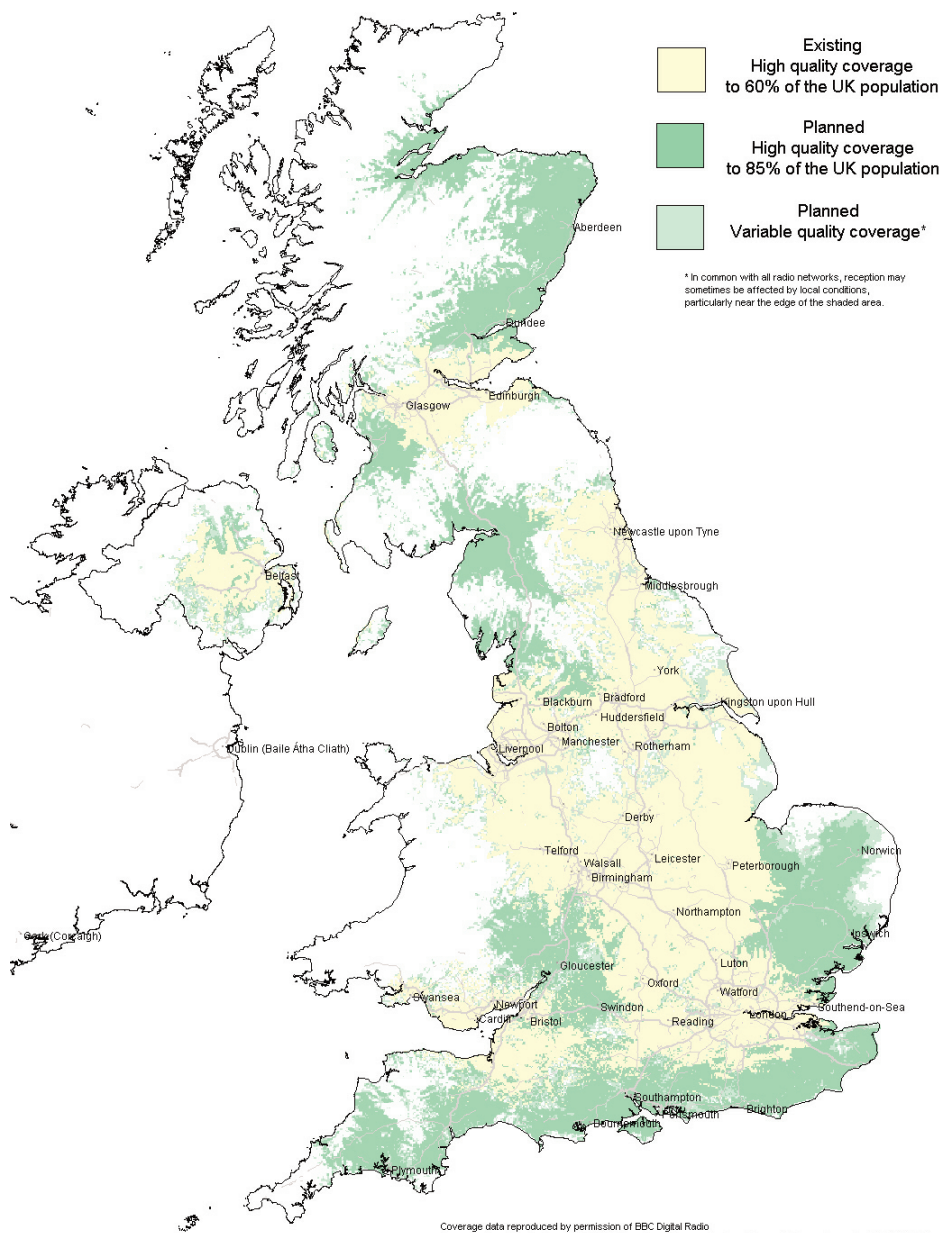
Coverage

This summer work begins to increase the coverage from the BBC's national digital radio transmitter network from 65% of the UK population to 85% by 2004.

New areas covered include parts of Scotland, the South and South East, East Anglia, Central England, the North, and the West and South West.

The map below shows current coverage and predicted coverage.

BBC Digital Radio Expansion in the UK, 2003-2004 Predicted Coverage



Radio listeners can find out if digital radio is available in their area by going to www.bbc.co.uk/digitalradio.

Frequently asked questions

What does DAB stand for?

DAB stands for Digital Audio Broadcasting. DAB is a new way of broadcasting radio, transmitting the signal in a digital form rather than by the conventional analogue methods used by AM and FM.

What's the difference between digital radio and analogue radio?

Digital radio offers very robust reception – this means it does not suffer from the interference and fading that can happen with AM and FM. Digital also offers more choice of stations and other benefits such as text information about programmes. DAB digital radio is similar to analogue radio in that it is portable and can be installed in cars.

I get a good FM reception, so why should I bother with digital radio?

If you receive good FM radio, the differences in sound may not be so obvious. However, you will not be able to listen to the new digital-only services that are carried on DAB digital radio.

What are the benefits of having a DAB digital radio?

More choice of stations; digital quality sound; text options; easy tuning; no need to retune when you're on the move.

Will I be able to pick up a digital radio signal in my area?

65% of the UK population are currently in a BBC coverage area and more than 80% can receive commercial digital radio transmissions. The BBC figure will rise to 85% by 2004.

How can I find out if I'm in coverage?

By going to the BBC website on www.bbc.co.uk/digitalradio

How do I tune my DAB digital radio?

DAB digital radios work by selecting the name of the station from a list – you don't need to know any frequencies.

Will I need a new aerial at home or in my car?

Most people will find the aerial on the radio set perfectly adequate for receiving DAB. But if you experience difficulty, it may be worth investing in a roof-mounted aerial to maximise your chances of reception. As a general rule of thumb, people with poor FM or mobile phone reception may have problems getting DAB through an indoor aerial.

Most car sets for digital radio come with a new aerial supplied, and this should be mounted on the roof rather like a car-phone aerial. (Always remember to check with the installer before removing your FM aerial.) It's also possible to buy FM/AM and digital aeralis, which would simply mean replacing your existing aerial.

Can I get the BBC's digital radio stations abroad?

BBC services are only available in the UK. BBC stations are paid for by the licence fee, so copyright and reception agreements generally limit them to UK audiences.

However, many BBC radio services are streamed via the internet and some are available via digital satellite in Europe.

Where can I find out what's on BBC digital radio?

The *Radio Times* carries listings for the BBC's digital radio services or you can get full programming information by visiting the BBC website on www.bbc.co.uk/whatson.

Will I still get the existing radio stations I enjoy such as Radios 1-4?

Yes, of course. With digital radio you simply get more stations as well. You will get a total of 11 national BBC stations (Radios 1-4, Radio Five Live, Five Live Sports Extra, 1Xtra, 6 Music, BBC 7, the Asian Network and the World Service). All are included in your licence fee. The local and commercial stations you get will depend on your area.

Is my BBC local radio station available on digital radio?

There are 24 BBC local services available via digital radio. Listeners will only be able to receive these services in their locality. For instance, you cannot listen to Radio Scotland in London via digital radio. To find out what local areas are served, please visit www.bbc.co.uk/digitalradio/radiostations.shtml.

What do I ask for when I go into the shop?



Always ask for a DAB digital radio – that is, a digital radio that carries the DAB logo. It is the only radio that will let you listen to the new services. Don't be pushed into buying a radio that says "digital" but does not carry the DAB logo – it will be an analogue radio with a digital display.

There are a range of DAB products on the market including portable radios with batteries, hand-held radios, home tuners and boom boxes. For more information about digital radio products available, visit Digital Radio Now's website on www.digitalradionow.com.

Where can I buy a digital radio?

Digital radios are available across the country from High Street retailers, independent retailers and some online dealers. For a complete list of stockists, visit Digital Radio Now's website at www.digitalradionow.com

If I can't buy a DAB radio, is there any other way I can listen to the BBC's digital radio services?

Yes, you can listen via digital television (satellite, cable and Freeview) and through the internet. Some manufacturers have also produced PC cards which enable you to listen to digital radio through a PC with an attached aerial. (This is not the same as internet radio.)

Do I have to pay a subscription to get digital radio?

No, you will only need to pay a one-off cost for the radio, which starts at about £99 for a portable digital radio and £129 for a digital tuner that hooks up to your existing hi-fi system.

Radio milestones

- 1864 Scottish physicist James Clerk-Maxwell develops theory of electromagnetic waves.
- 1888 Maxwell's theory given practical confirmation in the laboratory by German physicist Heinrich Hertz.
- 1895 Guglielmo Marconi, an Italian electrical engineer, invents the first practical radio-signalling system.
- 1901 Marconi transmits the first transatlantic wireless signal from Cornwall, England, to Newfoundland, Canada.
- 1922 Radio broadcasts start from 2MT at Writtle, Chelmsford on AM.
- 1922 Formation of the British Broadcasting Company is agreed by the Post Office and radio manufacturers.
- 1922 Daily broadcasts start from London station 2LO.
- 1923 BBC London radio's operation moves to Savoy Hill from Marconi Magnet House.
- 1923 First valve wireless goes on sale, replacing crystal sets.
- 1923 First edition of Radio Times.
- 1927 British Broadcasting Company becomes British Broadcasting Corporation with the granting of the Royal Charter.
- 1928 Battery eliminator that allows radios to be installed in cars invented by an American, Paul Galvin.
- 1932 First BBC broadcast from Broadcasting House: Henry Hall and the BBC Dance Orchestra.
- 1938 BBC's Arabic service launches – the first foreign language service from the BBC.
- 1939 BBC's Home Service launches.
- 1940 A bomb drops on Broadcasting House, killing seven people.
- 1945 BBC's Light Programme launches.
- 1946 BBC's Third Programme launches.
- 1955 First BBC FM broadcasts from Wrotham transmitter in Kent.
- 1956 First transistor radios appear in the UK, making radios portable.
- 1957 A combined licence costs £4; a radio licence is £1.
- 1967 BBC Radio One launches; the other BBC radio networks renamed Radios 2, 3 and 4.
- 1971 Radio licence is abolished.
- 1973 Capital Radio launched.
- 1979 Conservative Government elected with commitment to expanding commercial radio.
- 1989 Government relaxes restrictions on commercial radio.
- 1990 First BBC DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting) trial from Crystal Palace.
- 1990 BBC Radio 5 launches.
- 1992 Radio Luxembourg closes down.
- 1994 Radio 5 renamed Radio Five Live.
- 1995 First BBC DAB broadcasts – Radios 1-Five Live.
- 1996 Broadcasting Act sets out plans for launch of digital broadcasting including radio.
- 1998 First commercially available digital radio tuner, made by Arcam, demonstrated in Scotland.
- 1998 Digital One is awarded a national digital licence.
- 2001 First digital portable digital radios go on sale.
- 2002 BBC launches five new digital radio networks – 1Xtra, Five Live Sports Extra, 6 Music, BBC 7, Asian Network.