

Radio programmes

1. The Deobandis (Part 1)

TX: 05/04/2016 Dur: 41'43"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

The British Muslim community is often spoken about as a vague, single entity in which all of its members are assumed to look, think and practice their religion in the same way. Though like any other faith, Islam is diverse and complex. It features multiple interpretations, which inform sects of different scope and significance – which, by and large, we don't really understand.

Take for example the Deobandis. They are virtually unknown to most British people, yet their influence in the UK is huge. They form the largest Islamic group in Britain, controlling over 40% of mosques and they have a near-monopoly on the UK training of Islamic scholars.

So what do they believe in exactly? What are their religious values? And if they hold such great influence, why do we not know more about them?

This was the starting point for The Deobandis - a two-part documentary series broadcast on BBC Radio 4, presented by the BBC's former Pakistan correspondent Owen Bennett Jones. This entry presents the first episode for the judges' consideration.

The programme reveals how the Deobandi movement built influence in the UK through a network of Islamic seminaries and its highly effective missionary movement, which serves to propagate a deeply pious lifestyle.

Importantly, this story is told by Muslims themselves, who have at some point in their life adhered to the Deobandi tradition. The programme is built around their compelling personal testimony, revealing a range of religious attitudes.

In turn, this diversity points to an internal conflict between intentional isolationism and a desire for broader integration. Deobandi Islam has its roots in 19th Century India, in the era of British colonialism – which its founders perceived as a threat to Islam. This is a movement borne to protect the Muslim faith in its purest form, free of external influence – and echoes of this can be seen today, putting it at odds with mainstream British society.

The main purpose of this programme is to help fill the sizeable vacuum which exists in the public understanding of Islam. The Deobandis presents a refined definition of a significant section of the British Muslim community, drilling down much deeper than the vague categories of Sunni and Shia.

According to BBC research this programme received a very high appreciation rating, strongly suggesting that there is a large appetite among the audience for a deeper understanding of what British Islam is really about.

CREDITS

Presenter: Owen Bennett Jones

Producers: Richard Fenton-Smith & Sajid Iqbal

Editor: Innes Bowen

2. The Deobandis (Part 2)

TX: 12/04/16 Dur: 41'49"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

Over the past year, three British Muslims have been murdered by other British Muslims because of their religious beliefs. This violent sectarianism is something most Britons would assume happens elsewhere - in Iraq or Afghanistan maybe, but not here.

So when the Glasgow shop keeper Assad Shah was bludgeoned to death by another Muslim who disagreed with his religious views, it was a wake-up call to the ideological schisms dividing Britain's Muslim communities, which have existed for decades.

In this documentary Owen Bennett Jones reveals the secret history of sectarian proselytising in Britain, involving senior members of Britain's biggest and most-influential Muslim movement, the Deobandis.

It reveals a highly-organised movement targeting people like shopkeeper Assad Shah, a member of the minority Ahmadiyyah Muslim sect, and exposes a London mosque distributing literature which proposes capital punishment for those it deems heretics.

A more serious revelation is the BBC's discovery of a huge haul of Pakistani publications, published by prominent terrorist organisations. Within their pages, we find evidence of long-standing ties between senior British Deobandi Muslims and extremist groups in Pakistan, which are responsible for murdering thousands of Shia Muslims, Christians and other religious minorities.

More broadly, this investigation shifts the narrative regarding the roots of religious extremism. In the post 9/11 world, fingers are often pointed at the Salafis of Saudi Arabia, but it is the Deobandi Islam of South Asia which provides the ideological inspiration for the Afghan Taliban. In turn, many of Britain's most high-profile terrorist plots were planned by British Deobandis.

Importantly, the programme explores the push back against the Pakistani religious politics which have infiltrated some Deobandi mosques around the UK. British-born, integration-minded Deobandi Muslims are seeking to distance themselves from the intolerant ideology which has been imported from Pakistan, and prove that their conservative Muslim values are compatible with broader British values.

This documentary is the second programme in the two-part series titled The Deobandis, which broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

The various investigative elements of this report had a huge impact, featuring twice on the BBC News at Ten – Britain's most-watched news programme – as well as other news bulletins across TV and radio. The programme team also produced multiple widely-read articles for the BBC News website, and collaborated with The Times for a series of stories, which began with a front-page headline.

Subsequently, these stories went global, being picked up by media around the world and the stories were widely discussed on social media – the term 'Kill Ahmadis' trended on Twitter in the UK, on the day the team broke the story that leaflets calling for the killing of Ahmadiyyah Muslims were found in a London mosque.

CREDITS

Presenter: Owen Bennett Jones

Producers: Richard Fenton-Smith & Sajid Iqbal

Researcher: Holly Topham

Editor: Innes Bowen

3. Supernatural

TX: 18/03/2016 Dur: 17'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

Supernatural Powers

The Why Factor

Juju, Evu, Witchcraft, the evil eye, Voodoo, black magic. There are many names for beliefs that supernatural forces can be harnessed by people who are out to cause harm. Harm to someone's health, finances, relationships, even their political ambitions. Mike Williams asks why these beliefs still appear to have such a strong hold across different societies, crossing boundaries of wealth and education. And why some attempts to combat these "evil forces" might help in reinforcing fear in them. He speaks to Indian rationalist Sanal Edamaruku, anthropologists Dr Hermione Harris and Peter Geschiere, Line Mariani Playfair and campaigner Vicky Ntetema.

Produced by Bob Howard

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03m6hb1>

4. Stabbed at School: A Story of Faith & Forgiveness

TX: 27/03/2016 Dur: 54'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio Leeds

Production Company: BBC Radio Leeds

On the 11th June 2015 teacher Vincent Uzomah was stabbed, by one of his pupils, in a classroom in Bradford. Remarkably, even though the long knife went through the middle of his body, he survived. Very publically – at the press conference when he left hospital – Vincent thanked God for sparing his life, and forgave the 14-year-old student who was found guilty of a pre-planned, racist attack. BBC Radio Leeds presenter Andrew Edwards was fascinated by this reaction to a terrible act of violence and wanted to find out more.

He spent a period of time, not only with Vincent but with his friends, family and fellow worshippers – building trust and talking over the events of that day. The resulting interview was used as the basis of an hour-long documentary, telling Vincent's story of faith and forgiveness – in his own words. There are also other voices. The police officer who led the investigation talks of Vincent's reaction to the events of that day. And Richard McCann – the son of the Yorkshire Ripper's first victim – tells his story. Richard was just six years old when his mother was killed, and his journey to forgiveness was very different.

The documentary also uses pieces of music from the Christian worship CD that Vincent was listening to in the car as he drove to work on the day he was stabbed. Broadcast on Easter Sunday, 27 March 2016, "Stabbed at School" is a thoughtful discussion about the power of faith and forgiveness in the darkest of times.

5. Good News Hour with Pastor Will Graham

TX: 04/09/2016 Dur: 60'00"

Broadcaster: www.cannockchaseradio.com

Production Company: Cannock Chase Radio

This show has a huge local and global audience. Pastor Will reaches out to all and has a great voice and mannerism and relax's everyone.

6. The Second Coming

TX: 24/12/2016 Dur: 30'00"

Broadcaster: WCR Community Radio

Production Company: WCR Community Radio

Unique to Warminster, the specially written production draws a parallel between the town's world famous historic UFO sightings of 50 years ago and the signs that might herald a second coming.

Would an alien visitation receive the same reactions as signs seen when Christ was born over 2000 years ago? would they be treated similarly? In this docu-drama the community are involved, town councilors and Mayor play themselves as does the reverend from the local church. The question is "What are we experiencing"? - The audience is left to ponder!

7. Islam, People and Power (Episode 1: The Sunni Traditionalists)

TX: 17/11/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

When revolution took hold across the Arab world in 2011, TV news reports depicted streets filled with millions of men and women protesting against oppressive regimes. This, it would appear, was a battle of political ideas.

What is less understood is the parallel battle of religious ideas which was also taking place, with big questions being asked by religious scholars in the region: is rebellion against an oppressive government a religious obligation, or a sin? Should governments in Muslim countries be built on the framework of Sharia law? And how much influence should Islam have in public life?

These are some of the questions explored In Islam, People and Power – a five part series for the BBC World Service in which journalist Safa Al Ahmad explores the relationship between Islam and the State.

It's a talking point which continues to dominate Arab society today, and the religious schisms which opened during the Arab Spring continue to divide the region's religious community.

This entry concerns the first episode of Islam, People and Power, which explores the breakdown of consensus within Islam's largest contingency - the mainstream Sunni Muslims.

In most of the Arab world, Sunni Islam's traditional scholars have provided religious leadership in a secular context. They have opposed Islamist movements which aim to take power through political agitation or violence. In Egypt, this proved a huge bone of contention as traditional scholars at Al Azhar University – Islam's most famous seat of learning - clashed with younger scholars, who were joining the Egyptian people in their protests in Tahrir Square.

There have been splits in Syria too, where one of the country's most popular religious scholars, Sheikh Ramadan Al Bouti, held fast to the traditional line, warning the faithful that Islam forbid them

to rebel against their political rulers. Other Sunni scholars did not agree and decided to back the Free Syrian Army against President Assad on the basis that “God does not allow oppression.”

This disagreement was not confined to the religious texts – and Sheikh Ramadan Al Bouti was assassinated by an unknown assailant while teaching in a mosque in 2013.

Throughout this series presenter Safa Al Ahmad travels to Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon and Turkey to meet Islamic scholars, politicians and ordinary citizens. She reveals a picture which is far more complex than the conventional narrative that these countries are divided by the demands of secular liberals and religious conservatives.

She reveals the deep thought and consideration religious scholars give to balancing the teachings of Islam, with the needs of society and the demands of the state – and how five years after the uprisings, conflict within the Arab world about the role that Islam should play in political governance is more intense than ever.

CREDITS

Presenter: Safa Al Ahmad

Producers: Wesley Stephenson and John Murphy

Editor: Innes Bowen

8. Islam, People and Power (Episode 2: The Salafis)

TX: 24/11/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

The Arab Spring of 2011 was not just a battle of political ideas. Across the region, hidden from the frontline street protests, a parallel battle was also raging – one which concerned religious ideas.

For the BBC World Service series Islam, People and Power, documentary maker Safa Al Ahmad explores the ideological schisms which emerged during the Arab Spring and how they are still shaping society in the Middle East today.

In this second of five programmes, Safa explores Islam's most misunderstood group: the Wahhabis – or as they are more accurately known, the Salafis.

The Salafis are often framed as the bad guys – the violent jihadists. When al Qaeda operatives hijacked aeroplanes to carry out the 9/11 attacks on the United States in 2001, some US politicians thought they knew the root causes. It's not just politicians in the west, either – Syrian President Bashar Al-Asad has labelled the entire Syrian opposition as Wahhabi terrorists.

Less discussed is the movement's majority quietist contingency which wholly rejects violence – or any kind of rebellion at all, in fact, believing that even oppressive governments should be obeyed.

The Salafists have long been split into these two camps but the revolution saw some scholars switch sides. Pre-revolution, the quietist Salafis believed that forming political parties was spiritually forbidden but in Egypt, the newly-formed Nour party took 24% of seats in the country's first post-revolution election.

So what led to this dramatic turnaround – and how have their fortunes fared since the coup of 2013 brought Egypt back under military rule?

This series seeks to answer questions which Muslims across the Arab world have been asking: what does Islam say about dictatorship and revolution? And what role should Islam play in the way countries are governed?

Speaking to leading scholars, politicians and members of the public from Egypt, Syria, Turkey and Iraq, the series explores and explains the relationship between Islam, politics and society in the post-revolution era.

CREDITS

Presenter: Safa Al Ahmad

Producers: Wesley Stephenson & John Murphy

Editor: Innes Bowen

9. Leaving the Fold

TX: 16/09/2016 Dur: 26'30"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: Far Shoreline Productions

What does it take for someone to turn their back on their religious upbringing? What effect does that decision ultimately have on them and those around them?

Leaving the Fold explores the personal journeys of three people who walked away from their faiths and redefined their morality in a world without God.

A young ex Muslim, a middle-aged ex Hindu, and an ex born again Christian each recount what their lives were like growing up in devout religious families and what spurred them on to renounce their faith. The programme traces the moments that define their journeys.

What did removing the hijab in public for the first time represent for the ex Muslim? How did a religiously motivated bomb attack in India affect the ex Hindu's understanding of his faith? How did the ex born again Christian learn to live in a world without morals and rules defined by God?

'Leaving the Fold' explores the difficult and often traumatic experiences of those who consciously set out to become atheist.

CREDITS

Producer: Ed Prosser

Exec Producer: Dan Shepherd

Programme Impact:

A last minute tx change prevented the programme from being reviewed by the UK press. However, it was previewed as a 'Radio Choice of the Day' by The Times and The Telegraph ("...sensitive and thoughtful documentary...") and was included in Radio 4's Pick of the Week (tx12.9.16). It also attracted a large amount of positive feedback on social media. Here is a selection of Twitter comments:

"...awesome audio doc..." (Ollie Broad)

"...great BBC World Service doc..." (Jake)

"Great listen..." (Steven Cleghorn)

"Touching testimony..." (Edward Allen)

"Inspiring listen..." (Jonathan Mosen)

"Wonderful 1st person testimonies..." (Jatinder Sidhu)

"When all we hear about today is radicalisation, check out [this] doc about people who lose their faith" (Anoosh Chakelian, New Statesman)

"Groundbreaking radio..." (Sarah Gillam)

"Beautiful BBC documentary..." (Christopher Stroop)

"THIS is an example of why i love radio so much!" (Alison Crawford, CBC presenter)

10. Drama on 3: Modern Morality Tales

TX: 21/02/2016 Dur: 120'

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 3

Production Company: BBC Radio Drama

Modern Morality Tales was broadcast on Radio 3 as part of Drama on 3 - it is a contemporary take on the morality plays that echo back to 'Everyman' taking a look at present day morality and how we view salvation.

Eve is played by Rebecca Front and the plays are written by Lin Coghlan, Al Smith, Duncan MacMillan and Effie Woods, Roy Williams and Lizzie Nunnery.

11. The Making of a Saint

TX: 04/09/2016 Dur: 29'45"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: Ruth Evans Productions Ltd.

Mother Teresa was canonised on September 4th 2016, the 19th anniversary of her death.

The Pope described Mother Teresa as a "gift from God to the poorest of the poor". To millions she is already a saint and an iconic saviour of the wretched of the Earth. To others, her approach to the most immediate medical and welfare needs of the poor was much more questionable. What is her legacy - not only in India but around the world? And how is her once-so-famous charitable religious order doing today?

In this Heart and Soul Mike Wooldridge looks back at her life and death, which he covered first hand as the BBC's former South Asia correspondent (1996- 2001) and Religious Affairs correspondent (1990-96).

(The making of a saint is a Ruth Evans Production for the BBC World Service)

12. America's Mosques – A Story of Integration, Ep. 1 (Old Mosques)

TX: 13/03/2016 Dur: 26'30"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service (Heart and Soul)

Production Company: Overtone Productions

This is the first of a two-part series broadcast in the "Heart and Soul" slot on the BBC World Service, in which journalist and travel writer Tharik Hussain asks what role mosques have had in American history and continue to have today (Part 2 also submitted.) At the time of recording, Donald Trump was still being seen as somewhat of a joke, expected to be knocked out of the race to be Republican Presidential candidate on Super Tuesday (while we were in the States recording.)

To an undercurrent of political rhetoric, Tharik tells the stories of the individuals and communities who live around, and use, some of America's oldest mosques. Many are quintessential Americans, now nervous about being identified as 'other'.

Tharik has never broadcast before. He is a second-generation British Bangladeshi Muslim, and sees parallels with his own community in London where the generations do not always agree about how

to balance heritage or tradition with integration and openness, or how to fit in to a country which is 'host' to parents, and 'home' to children.

A further edition of the series has been commissioned by the World Service, to be recorded after the first few months of Donald Trump's presidency.

13. America's Mosques – A Story of Integration, Ep. 2 (New Mosques)

TX: 20/03/2016 Dur: 26'30"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service (Heart and Soul)

Production Company: Overtone Productions

This is the second of a two-part series broadcast in the "Heart and Soul" slot on the BBC World Service, in which journalist and travel writer Tharik Hussain asks what role mosques have had in American history and continue to have today (Part 1 also submitted.)

Tharik meets young professional Muslims who are building a new, "welcoming" Mosque where they hope to create a distinctly American style of Islam. He also interviews a highly decorated Imam who served 30 years in the US Air Force, and a young singer-songwriter to gauge how it feels to be Muslim in America today.

Tharik has never broadcast before. He is a second-generation British Bangladeshi Muslim, and sees parallels with his own community in London where the generations do not always agree about how to balance heritage or tradition with integration and openness, or how to fit in to a country which is 'host' to parents, and 'home' to children.

A further edition of the series has been commissioned by the World Service, to be recorded after the first few months of Donald Trump's presidency.

14. The Heart of the Matter - Brian & Julie Downie

TX: 01/05/2016 Dur: 58'07"

Broadcaster: Blackdiamond FM www.blackdiamondfm.com

Production Company: David Aird

No additional info provided

15. The Heart of the Matter - Simona

TX: 22/05/2016 Dur: 57'59"

Broadcaster: Blackdiamond FM www.blackdiamondfm.com

Production Company: David Aird

No additional info provided.

16. A Heart and Soul - Wrestling with God

TX: 14/10/2016 Dur: 27'00"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC World Service

This programme had a worldwide reach and a profound impact, especially among LGBT Muslims and Christians in the developing world.

For example, from Singapore:

I am neither a Muslim nor a Jew. I'm Catholic, gay, and searching constantly for God and a life of meaning. Every voice in the 27-minute broadcast spoke to me, and I found kindred spirits in the gentle souls you spoke with. Thank you for turning their struggles – yours too – into something so uplifting and affirming.

17. The Borders of Sanity: Healing in Ghana

TX: 20/06/2016 Dur: 28'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

Here's the programme description:

What options do people in Ghana have when a person suffers mental illness?

In this religious country, most people seek out spiritual interpretations or traditional methods of healing.

Despite there being only 18 trained psychiatrists in the whole of Ghana, advocates of Western-style practices have been pushing for the use of medication and the human rights of the mentally ill.

In this final programme of a four-part series, Christopher Harding asks whether spiritual and biological interpretations and treatments for mental illness can ever get along.

Presenter: Christopher Harding

Producer: Keith Moore

Editor: Richard Vadon

18. The Torah and Tech in Israel

TX: 08/09/2016 Dur: 27'30"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4 / BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

In "Torah and Tech in Israel," David Baker takes a fresh look at age old questions – the interaction between religious traditions and modern life, and how and to what extent traditional religious groups can integrate into more secular mainstream societies.

British audiences might be aware that Israel is a Jewish state, but this programme helps them understand that there are different versions and understandings of Judaism in Israel, and tensions between them. The programme allows the ultra-Orthodox community to speak for themselves, featuring extensive access to and revealing interviews with those negotiating the boundaries of these intersecting worlds.

The programme is an in-depth, original and sympathetic look at a key issue of religious significance, bringing this to a wider audience in a programme slot that does not often feature religious issues.

19. Has Immigration Changed Christmas?

TX: 18/12/2016 Dur: 60'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Devon

Production Company: BBC English Regions, Religious Affairs

This programme was produced and presented for BBC English Regions by Trevor Barnes. Executive producer was Alex Strangways-Booth. The programme was played out on multiple BBC Local Radio stations over Christmas, either in the general Christmas schedule, but also on the specialist Asian programmes. Shorter versions were also played on BBC Radio 4's Sunday Programme and the BBC Local Radio Sunday Breakfast shows on the 18th December 2016. The Sunday Breakfast shows also featured a live guest talking about the effect of Immigration on how Christmas is celebrated in the UK, to compliment the pre-recorded material. It is a good example of the versatility of our English Regions productions, and how they can be featured in a wide range of ways across both Local and Network radio.

20. Finding The Light

TX: 25/11/2016 Dur: 26'00"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC English regions, Religious Affairs

This story about the increasing number of Gypsies and Travellers who are converting to Pentecostal Christianity was produced and presented by Alex Strangways-Booth. It was a jointly funded production for BBC English Regions and the BBC World Service. The ethos of the Religious Affairs unit for English Regions is to make sure our stories get out to as much of the BBC audience as possible. So this was made as a documentary for the Heart and Soul strand on the World Service, a series of 3 features for the BBC Local Radio Sunday Breakfast shows and a longer package for Radio 4's Sunday Programme. It also featured on From Our Home Correspondent on Radio 4. The story was told for BBC Online, and can be found at this link.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-38016090>

21. Raising the Dead

TX: 21/01/2016 Dur: 27'36"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Scotland Features

The musical scores left behind by victims of the Holocaust are amongst the most moving relics of the death camps. For decades, Italian music teacher Francesco Lotoro has collected the work of composers and musicians killed in those concentration camps. But this programme did more than just commemorate Lotoro's work: it staged its own kind of tribute, and resurrection, finding a piece of lost music written in a World War II camp by a Jewish composer and bringing it back to life as it was meant to be heard, with the help of BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.

The programme, broadcast on Holocaust Memorial Day 2016, is presented by Jewish composer Adam Gorb, the Head of Composition at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. This was his first presenting role, but a subject that was close to his heart. This lent him a deep musical and emotional connection to the subject matter.

The programme follows Adam as he travels to Italy to meet Francesco Lotoro and listens to his substantial archive in the search for a previously unheard piece of music that could be performed by the Orchestra.

There were huge challenges in locating music that had never been performed before, yet was sufficiently orchestrated that the Philharmonic Orchestra could play it. We eventually selected 'The Love And Death of Cornet Christopher Rilke' written by the Jewish Austrian composer Viktor Ullman in Theresienstadt ghetto in the months before he was killed. Ullman was writing right up until his last days so the piece is unfinished and ends suddenly and poignantly.

The score was only lightly orchestrated when Adam selected it from Lotoro's archive, but the Orchestra was able to translate the sections which were unclear while still remaining true to the composer's original outline. The finished recorded performance was made available to listeners as a free download on the BBC Radio 4 programme page.

I had hoped to play that piece of music to Viktor Ullman's last surviving relative; his son, who had escaped to London after his family were all killed in 1944. But it was too late; he had died in a mental institution in 2010, still traumatized by the death of his family decades earlier. Playing the piece to Francesco Lotoro and Jacqueline Cole, founder of the Viktor Ullman society, who visited Ullman's son in the final years of his life, was a powerful moment and thankfully both were delighted with the end result. Hearing the lost music of the concentration camp brought to life provoked a strong reaction from the audience:

@Tony_Jeffries Raising the Dead- music of the Holocaust. Inspiring radio: triumphant tale of great composition and great horror.

@robynwoolston musical fragments sourced from concentration camps – resilience, creativity and freedom in the face of annihilation.

@ProfOfMusic I'm listening to the most amazing BBC report about the BBC Orchestra performing pieces written by Holocaust victims. So stunning. Thanks for bringing it to my ears.

22. For Better or Worse

TX: 02/05/2016Dur: 27'30"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Scotland Features

Peter McGraith and his husband were the first gay men to get married in Britain. Two years after the change in legislation which made gay marriage possible Peter set out to explore the ways in which marriage is affecting gay and lesbian couples 'for better or worse', and how in turn same sex unions might be changing the very nature of marriage itself.

Plenty of programmes portray gay marriage from the outside - as an 'issue' - but we wanted this one told from the inside; to explore the internal emotional workings of relationships and encourage listeners to question their own preconceived notions about marriage.

'For Better or Worse' was very much presenter-led which only made it more authentic and gave it a straight from the mouth rawness. It was also the first time Peter had presented a documentary and he put a lot of himself, his views and his experiences into the narrative.

At the heart of this documentary is Peter's struggle to reconcile with marriage. A long-time activist and campaigner he sees huge flaws in this age old institution which is held up as the epitome of respectability by society, but yet, until recently, has only permitted certain people to join.

To represent these conflicting perspectives, we spent a huge amount of time trying to find the right contributors who could tell their complicated, often emotionally charged stories. We also wanted to reflect the diversity of the gay and lesbian community, and the ways in which couples are making marriage work for them in their own way.

The response to the documentary was overwhelmingly affectionate and each of the contributors contacted me to thank us for it.

Email from contributors Ade Omomo-Rashed and Rana Rashed: Well done to both of you for a thought provoking documentary. The program was beautifully executed and we feel very proud to be part of it. Thank you for asking us!

@kesson Fascinating and inspiring retrospective and current evaluation of same sex marriage in Britain 'For Better or Worse'.

@PeterTatchell Personal accounts of queer marriage in post equality Britain LISTEN

@katecudahy Sensitive exploration of changing attitudes to gay marriage in the UK amongst the #LGBT community For Better or Worse

@FallingTreeProd Glowing review by @msmirandasawyer of Peter McGraith and @caitlin_anna's tender and insightful same sex marriage doc

Miranda Sawyer review in The Guardian

https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2016/may/08/52-first-impressions-for-better-or-worse-futureproofing-radio-review?CMP=share_btn_link

For Better Or Worse, about gay marriage, brought a tear to my eye. Specifically when Will Anderson and Ford Hickson read out their vows, which were made a long time before civil partnerships or gay marriage became legal. One of the vows was about remembering those who were no longer with them: they got married in 1994, the year that the greatest number of people died from Aids.

Oh, I really enjoyed this programme. Love that overcomes obstacles is the most romantic love of all, and it was heartening to hear from so many couples, committed to each other no matter what anyone else thought. There were a few shocks, too. I wasn't surprised to hear that gay couples – male and female – tend to share parenting more equally than straight couples; but it was a jolt to discover that, when it comes to divorce, for every one male couple divorcing, there are three female ones. Male couples seem to negotiate more freely about sex: we heard from one couple who share lovers they find through apps. Female couples tend to go for serial monogamy: when it's over, it's over.

There were many small triumphs in the show: one couple rejoiced inwardly when their son called them his "parents" rather than his "mums". Another couple felt cheered by being able to go through customs as married. But still, it isn't always easy. Parents able to accept their grownup child's same-sex relationship don't always prove to be so liberated when that relationship leads to marriage. Presenter Peter McGraith had some great lines – "that blast of liberation you feel when you realise that you are the thing that people loathe or pity and you feel good about it" – and he asked the right questions. McGraith married his partner, David, in 2014, the first gay wedding to be registered in the UK, and we heard a little blast of cheering and car horns bipping at the top of the show. Great.

23. The Report: Tommy Robinson's Pegida Ambition

TX: 28/01/2016 Dur: 27'30"

Broadcaster: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4>

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

No additional info provided.

24. Harvest in Suffolk

TX: 09/10/2016 Dur: 2:57:30

Broadcaster: BBC Radio Suffolk

Production Company: Jon Wright

http://www.mediafire.com/file/is2xd84tq4mcce7/HARVEST_IN_SUFFOLK_JON_WRIGHT_BBCRADIO_SUFFOLK_BROADCAST091016.mp3

Harvest In Suffolk was a special Sunday breakfast programme on BBC Radio Suffolk, exploring faith in farming communities, some of the serious pressures facing those living in rural Suffolk, including suicide and mental health issues and providing an opportunity for three local churches to come together for an hour long harvest celebration service on the theme of gratitude.

Produced and presented by Jon Wright it was technically and creatively ambitious, broadcast live from a pig farm in rural Suffolk, commissioning two pieces of original music, using pre-recorded packages, live interviews and a service with a hundred-strong congregation and a live band.

Producer/Presenter - Jon Wright

On-site producer - Andrea Davidson

Engineer - David Butcher

Service prepared and presented by:

Steve Fenning, The Forge Community Church

Revd Michael Womack, Hoxne Benefice

Adam Barns, Horham Baptist Church

Live music by Finn Johnston Band

Hosted by Peter Havers at Athlington Hall

Welcome from service sheet

Thank you for coming and welcome from all of us involved in this morning's service, which is being broadcast live on BBC Radio Suffolk.

I always feel harvest is a magical time in Suffolk, a time of transformation, of beauty and of anticipation. The connection to the food growing all around us can sometimes be lost amid our busy lives, so whatever people's faith, I feel it's important to stop and reflect on what our farming

community does, and what it needs from the rest of us to make it sustainable and viable for future generations.

Thank you for being part of this celebration.

Jon Wright, Sunday breakfast presenter, BBC Radio Suffolk.

Supporting Facebook film:

<https://www.facebook.com/bbcsuffolk/videos/1408187599195516/>

Time coded running order:

The programme followed the regular template with interviews and features mixed with music, travel, weather and news bulletins until 8am then dedicated the entire hour to broadcasting the service live and in full.

00.00 Intro

01:25 Song (Neil Wilson - Cannons)

05:10 Short chat with Farmer Peter Havers and 'Smokey Joe' (a silent horse!)

07:12 Song (Isley Brothers - Harvest for the World)

12.03 Harvest Mega mix with original music by Ipswich producer Chris Brett, voices from Ipswich Community Children's Choir and Suffolk farmer Roy Barker.

16:10 Song (Eva Cassidy - Fields of Gold)

22:10 Interview with farmer Peter Havers.

26:40 Song (Beatles - Strawberry Fields)

29:50 News and sport bulletin

36:40 Song (Spring Harvest - Beauty Unspoken)

42:10 Interview from Lammas Day service with Addington Fund chief exec Ian Bell

47:10 Song (Take That - Patience)

52:00 Buddhist Grower on a community farm

58:00 7am news and sport.

1:03:00 Intro for second hour

1:04:00 Song (Crowded House - Four Seasons)

1:07:00 Suicide, Rural Isolation and Support - Interview with Revd Michael Womack and Revd Sally Fogden, Suffolk's Agricultural Chaplain.

1:18:00 Travel news

1:19:50 New Harvest song from Ipswich Community Children's Choir

1:25:55 Song (Joni Mitchell - Big Yellow Taxi)

1:28:50 News and sport bulletin

1:33:54 Chat about gratitude and vox

1:37:37 Song (Kate Rusby - Jolly Plough Boys)

1:43:00 Interview on Christian Aid harvest appeal and trip to Kenya.

1:49:30 Travel news and weather forecast

1:53:30 Chat with people arriving for the service.

1:55:35 Song (Ronan Keating and Yusif - Father and Son)

1:58:00 8am News bulletin

2:03:00 Intro for third hour and start of ecumenical service.

2:04:00 Welcome and introduction Steve Fenning

2:04:36 Hymn - How Great Thou Art

2:10:07 Farming story Roy Barker (pre-recorded interview)

2:13:50 Story Eric Says Thanks by Dai Hankey, read by Barbara Irwin

2:19:30 Reading Psalm 65:9-13 Sue Harvey

2:21:00 Talk part one Pastor Adam Blowes

2:25:34 Song - 10 thousand Reasons

2:34:26 Prayers followed by an interactive Lord's Prayer

2:41:00 Farming story Bert Stanford (pre-recorded interview)

2:45:40 Song - It is well (Bethel) Finn Johnston and Band

2:51:16 Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:15-18 Michael Harvey

2:51:56 Talk part two Reverend Michael Womack

2:55:50 Hymn - Come, ye thankful people, come.

25. Free Thinking: Religion Without Belief

TX: 23/02/2016 Dur: 45'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 3

Production Company: BBC Factual Production

A lot of discussion about religion today is framed in terms provided by the so-called New Atheists. Briefly, religious beliefs are reduced to series of claims, which are then assessed for truth or falsity. If the claims turn out to be false, so much the worse for religion.

This seems to me to be a wilful distortion of what religion has meant throughout its various histories, and of what it means today. I'm keen to investigate alternatives to the 'New Atheist' approach to understanding religion. To that end, in this programme I wanted to bring together

thinkers who present religions from the inside, so to speak, but also who profess decidedly unorthodox attitudes towards religious belief. Stephen Batchelor argues for a Buddhism that has a great deal to offer without the need to commit to a particular set of 'Religious Beliefs', whilst Kader Abdolah has presented a passionate plea for the Qur'an, but viewed as a work of literature and whilst declaring himself a non-believer. I thought the work of these two authors would cast an interesting light on Tim Whitmarsh's more academic study of what it meant to be an atheist (and so too, by contrast, a believer) in the Ancient Greek world, and with Linda Woodhead's detailed sociological research on what people actually mean in the UK today when they say they have no religion.

This programme brought together therefore new research and writing about religious belief and added to Free Thinking's series of broadcasts hearing from a range of leading religious thinkers. As you will see from our programme website – where these broadcasts are gathered together into a collection – Free Thinking has an ongoing interest in exploring attitudes towards religion and the way it has shaped both history and contemporary life.

26. Self's Search For Meaning, Episode 3, Faith

TX: 06/06/2016 Dur: 27'48"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC

The Faith episode of Self's Search For Meaning was the final in a three part series in which Will Self spoke to experts across different fields, in search of the ever elusive point to it all. The first two episodes explored Science and then Philosophy - and at the time of writing, they've kept all three programmes available on the iplayer. (Though I've sent Faith via wetransfer just in case - <https://wetransfer.com/downloads/fa96810aa2180bb663c99b01033f0fa920170112211801/d5531d3550dc1e4cc19acd741b33bf3420170112211801/d4862b>).

FAITH should still be playable here - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07gf9lc> (And the other episodes appear in the sidebar...)

Each programme is intended to sound stand-alone enough for the listener not to have to hear all of them - but for context, the "dream sequence" sort of montage at around 10 minutes in, features soundbites of the Science and Philosophy experts Will's previously interviewed, to highlight the point that if he was struggling with Faith, um... he didn't feel he'd found the answers in Science or Philosophy either...

The series was originally commissioned for the 23:00 slot on a Monday night, which is where the more experimental programmes tend to go, but I was very pleased that some weeks later in August, they also aired the series in the 16:00 slot on Wednesday.

Thanks very much for listening!

27. The Dilemma, Episode 2: Trevell Coleman - Confessing to Murder

TX: 09/07/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: CTVC

Mike Wooldridge presents the second of a four-part series featuring people who have faced some of the most difficult dilemmas imaginable – and resolved them at considerable personal cost.

In this edition, Mike meets a man who in the early 2000s seemed to have it all: Trevell Coleman, better known as the rapper G Dep. He was a rising star on the New York hip-hop scene and had been signed to megastar P Diddy's Bad Boy record label. He also had a wife, Crystal, and twin boys.

Yet Trevell, who was brought up a Catholic and always retained his faith, had a terrible secret: as an 18-year-old, he had mugged and shot a man. He never knew what happened to his victim, yet 17 years later, in 2010, he could no longer bear the guilt and went to the police – a step almost unimaginable for someone from the hip-hop world.

A police search of their cold case files revealed the case of John Henkel – shot and killed in 1993 at exactly the same street corner in Harlem where Trevell says he committed his crime. He is now serving a jail sentence of 15 years to life for Henkel's murder. Yet he has no regrets: "I wanted to get right with God," he says.

Trevell's choice was perhaps hardest to bear for his wife Crystal, who now has to bring up their teenage boys on her own.

The story, for the BBC World Service's Heart and Soul strand, is told by Trevell himself, Crystal and others who played a part – including the foreman of the jury that found him guilty. It was widely picked up in the press at the time of transmission.

28. Imams in the Vatican

TX: 10/09/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: CTVC

Some of the brightest and best students of Islam in Britain round off their education at Cambridge Muslim College, which aims to train the next generation of British Muslim leaders. Towards the end of their course, the students (some of them trainee imams) step out of their Islamic comfort zone to experience something which is quite new to most: they immerse themselves in the faith and culture of the world's largest Christian church during a trip to Rome and the Vatican.

In this edition of Heart and Soul for the BBC World Service, Abdul-Rehman Malik travels with the group as they visit some of the Catholic world's most important sites, and accompanies them during their meetings with ordinary and not-so-ordinary Catholics.

How, he asks, will they respond to attending mass for the first time, and to the majesty and vastness of St Peter's Basilica? What will they make of their meeting with a lively and enthusiastic cloistered nun, or the infectious passion for astronomy displayed by Br Guy Consolmagno, the director of the Vatican Observatory? And will all that pale into insignificance on the last day, when they come face to face with Pope Francis?

The programme examines how these encounters challenge and change the Muslim students' perceptions of Christianity, and what they will be taking away for their future work among Britain's Muslim communities.

29. Sushi Marriages

TX: 02/09/16 Dur: 27'19"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: CTVC

When a Sunni and a Shia Muslim in Britain tie the knot, this is sometimes jokingly referred to as a "Sushi" marriage. Such marriages are not uncommon; but international political events including the wars in Syria and Iraq have led many Muslims in the UK to identify more strongly with their own branch of Islam, and young people who fall in love across the divide face increasing resistance from their families and communities.

In this programme, Zubeida Malik meets three Sushi couples to find out how strongly the differences are playing themselves out within their marriages and families.

Ahmed, a Shia from a British-Iraqi background, and Rabia, a Sunni from a Pakistani family, almost saw their marriage torpedoed before it had even taken place - by a Sunni relative who believed such a union to be Islamically forbidden.

Farzana, a Sunni, was so horrified when she first saw her husband Shabbir flagellate himself with chains during a Shia mourning ritual that she fainted on the spot; whereas Sabina and Uzair, a young couple with a new baby, are taking refuge in the perception that they are both Muslims – and that they have far more in common than separates them.

International politics, some of the couples say, does play a role in their relationship; and at a Muslim marriage event, very few of the single hopefuls are willing to marry someone from outside their own branch of Islam.

Yet, says Shia husband Shabbir, Sushi marriages can have a positive effect on community cohesion: once you have both kinds of Muslim in the family, he feels, you are far more likely to try and accommodate different beliefs and practices.

Sushi Marriages

11.00am Radio 4

As with other Abrahamic faiths, Islam has its schisms. The major one is the Sunni-Shia split that was triggered a thousand years ago on the death of the Prophet Muhammad and still rages over the question of his succession. When a Sunni and Shia Muslim in Britain wed, it's amusingly referred to as a "Sushi" marriage. The standout story from Zubeida Malik's report on three couples who defied convention comes from Farzana, a Sunni who fainted when she first saw her husband flagellate himself with chains during a Shia mourning ritual. Can such unions help resolve religious factionalism?

FATIMA HASAN

30. Out in Africa

TX: 20/12/16 Dur: 36'33"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: CTVC

Africa, so surveys have shown, is the world's most religious continent. It's also arguably the most homophobic. In the majority of African countries, homosexual activity is illegal; in some, long jail sentences or even death await those who break anti-gay laws.

In this programme, Charles Adesina, himself a gay man with Nigerian roots, goes on a personal exploration to discover how deep homophobia really runs in families and communities in Africa, how much churches and mosques have to do with it, and what parents can do to help their communities embrace a gay or lesbian child.

He hears the story of Jide Macaulay, a Nigerian who struggled with his sexuality since he was a young boy and eventually had to flee the country after receiving death threats for establishing House of Rainbow, a Christian community for people from sexual minorities.

In South Africa, Charles meets a group of courageous grandmothers – Gogos in Zulu – who have taken it upon themselves to learn what it means to be lesbian or gay, and to defend their LGBT grandchildren from family hostility.

He visits Mpho Tutu-van Furth, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who famously said that he would never worship a homophobic God. Mpho, herself an Anglican priest, married a woman in 2015 – but under Anglican canon law, her father was not allowed to give the couple his blessing as a clergyman. Asked what she would say to the vast majority of African churchmen who object to same-sex marriage, Mpho expresses understanding – but argues that a God of love cannot be opposed to the kind of loving relationship she shares with her wife, Marceline.

Finally, Charles visits Cape Town's People's Mosque to hear the story of openly gay Imam Muhsin Hendricks, who works with LGBT Muslims and their parents to show them that a compassionate understanding of Islam embraces people regardless of their sexuality.

31. Good Friday and Easter Haiku

TX: 25/03/16 Dur: 26'54"

Broadcaster: Things Unseen website (www.thingsunseen.co.uk)

Production Company: CTVC

At the beginning of Lent 2016, we set our Things Unseen podcast listeners a special challenge: to write haiku inspired by the most important period in the Christian calendar, the time from Good Friday to Easter. Many picked up their pens and laptops to distil their perceptions and intuitions into poems following the traditional Japanese 5-7-5 syllable format. Among them was journalist and poet Tim Lenton, who wrote,

Mary leaves the tomb
Her hands full of light after
touching things unseen.

We recorded the best of our listeners' haiku with music and sound effects and invited poet Stewart Henderson to reflect on them in the Things Unseen studio in conversation with Alison Hilliard.

A selection of listeners' haiku were also made into short films to share online.

- <https://vimeo.com/159346574>
- <https://vimeo.com/159346573>
- <https://vimeo.com/159346727>

32. How to Make a Human

TX: 29/11/16 Dur: 32'52"

Broadcaster: Things Unseen website (www.thingsunseen.co.uk)

Production Company: CTVC

Channel 4's sci-fi drama series, Humans, is set in a parallel universe where technology is highly advanced and lifelike humanoids called Synths are the must-have machines for any household. But is this really just science fiction - or could we be quite close to really creating an artificial human?

To coincide with Series 2 in autumn 2016, Mark Dowd challenged four studio guests to think about the ethical and religious questions that would be thrown up by bringing artificial humans into the real world: what rights should they have? Can we baptise them? Or have sex with them? And is it at all ethical even to think of creating them?

Our panel is made up of the Humans writers, Sam Vincent and Jonathan Brackley; Kate Devlin of Goldsmiths, University of London, researcher into robots and sexuality; and Beth Singler from the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion at Cambridge University, where she's exploring the social and religious implications of advances in Artificial Intelligence.

33. In Our Time - Mary Magdalene

TX: 25/02/16 Dur: 41'51"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Production

This is the programme website which gives listeners a recommended reading list and a short guide to Mary Magdalene:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0717j1r>

34. Faith or Family

TX: 06/12/2016 Dur: 38'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Current Affairs

Inside the closed world of Hasidic Jews in the UK are stories of mothers who risk everything in order to leave their communities, with their children. Emily and Ruth are two women who found themselves locked in lopsided battles - facing harassment, intimidation, and crowd-funded lawyers. Neither of them realised what it would cost them. This is a story about sacrifice and tradition, and a clash between two worlds.

Produced and presented by Charlotte Pritchard & Camila Ruz.

There was a strong response to the story. The BBC is still receiving moving letters from people about their own experiences. One woman emailed from Australia, having escaped similar circumstances. She told us: "Falling pregnant at 16 to a non-Jew I was locked away in my sister's empty house & the family was told I had died... I still feel very sore about how a family can do such hurtful & painful actions to another person especially family. I am now 71 but the hurt is still there. Good luck to women in this situation - stay strong and thank you so much for sharing."

Alongside our Radio 4 programme was a long-form text piece for BBC News Online:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-75361d40-67f0-4544-bb29-c9bee5b2251f>

This was an innovative collaboration between Digital and Radio Current Affairs, featuring original illustrations from Laurene Boglio. The images responded to the reader as they scrolled and helped us tell a difficult story in a visually striking way.

35. Sunni Shia Splits?

TX: 16/02/2016 Dur: 38'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

File on 4 is no stranger to controversial subjects, but the tensions we discovered in Sunni Shia Splits? did prove to be unusually challenging to report.

The idea for the programme emerged after reporter Shabnam Mahmood heard about so-called 'Sushi' groups who were trying to bring together different sects of Islam. She attended their events and realised that among the similarities there was also a lack of understanding between the Sunni and Shia sects. And there was also real tension brewing between the two strands which it felt timely to report. Shabnam recalls embarking on the project knowing it would touch a nerve.

"There had been the widely reported killing of a Shia cleric in Saudi Arabia. I wondered how this could impact on Sunni-Shia relations in Britain and whether the violent sectarian rhetoric of Daesh was affecting community cohesion here as well. It was the right time to be asking these questions but I was warned by many in the community to leave the subject because it was touchy and prickly. I was told it's best avoided in case I incur the wrath of people. But I was determined to tell the story and the more we researched, the bigger the split we saw."

The team found a high level of reluctance in some communities to speaking out about the issue. But afterwards there was a lot of positive feedback with people saying that it was a very balanced and necessary report.

"I asked several people (whom I knew had extreme views on the subject) to listen ... and even they couldn't pick a fault with what we found and the way we told the story." Shabnam said.

36. Tinsel and Teatowels

TX: 24/12/2016 Dur: 56" (including commercial break)

Broadcaster: Premier Christian Radio

Production Company: Premier Christian Communications

Lisa Mainwaring explores the fun, hilarity, harmony and the magic of the school nativity play. This great British institution has been under threat in recent years, as tradition and religion have fallen out of favour. But are there signs of a revival? Be prepared to hark back to your childhood with funny disaster stories, as we follow the progress of children from around the country as they prepare to tread the boards this Christmas.

37. That Christmas Feeling!

TX: 24/12/2016 Dur: 56" (including commercial break)

Broadcaster: Premier Christian Radio

Production Company: Premier Christian Communications

Michael Cleere presents a feast of words and music to celebrate the coming of the Christ child, from a light-hearted look at Christmas to the more reflective. Think of it as your very own Premier Christian Radio Selection Box of poetry, song and story. Michael is joined by Pam Rhodes who shares two very personal Christmas memories from her rich store.

38. Christmas in Calais

TX: 27/12/2016 Dur: 27'30"

Broadcaster: Premier Christian Radio

Production Company: Premier Christian Communications

Rosie Wright joins the refugee camp in Calais on the day it close, talks to those who have fled war and persecution and hears the heartbreaking stories and heartwarming hopes of those seeking a better life for their families. What can we learn about the plight of Jesus as a refugee from hearing from those who are forced to flee today?

39. John Wesley Unpacked

TX: 29/08/2016 Dur: 56'00"

Broadcaster: Premier Christian Radio

Production Company: Premier Christian Communications

In the year of the 225th anniversary of Wesley's death, Ian Britton examine's his life and legacy alongside the Director of the Wesley Study Centre at Durham University, and some of the world's best loved Wesleyan hymns.

40. Farming Today: Farming Chaplain

TX: 27/12/16 Dur: 13'30"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC

Rev Canon Eileen Davies is the inspiring chaplain for four isolated rural communities in West Wales. As a dairy farmer herself she uses her knowledge of the industry to identify issues and offer support to farmers in difficulties - for example mental illness, and stress in difficult financial times. We meet her at her farm, at the local livestock market where she has a 'pop up church' stall to offer help, and at the new charity she's founded with the Diocese.

Presented by Sybil Ruscoe and produced by Sally Challoner.

41. My Heart in Hiding

TX: 30/09/2016 Dur: 44'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Drama

No additional info provided.

42. The Reith Lectures: "Creed" by Kwame Anthony Appiah

TX: 18/10/2016 Dur: 56'33"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

The philosopher and cultural theorist, Kwame Anthony Appiah argues that when considering religion we overestimate the importance of scripture and underestimate the importance of practice. He begins with the complexities of his own background, as the son of an English Anglican mother and a Ghanaian Methodist father. He turns to the idea that religious faith is based around unchanging and unchangeable Holy Scriptures. He argues that over the Millennia religious practice has been quite as important as religious writings. He provides examples from Jewish, Christian, Islamic and Buddhist texts to show that they are often contradictory and have been interpreted in different ways at different times, for example on the position of women and men in Islam. He argues that fundamentalists are a particularly extreme example of this mistaken scriptural determinism. The lecture was recorded in front of audience at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The series is presented and chaired by Sue Lawley and is one of four lectures in a series called Mistaken Identities.

43. In Defence of the Mid-life Crisis

TX: 20/08/2016 Dur: 27'37"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Current Affairs

Stephen Smith, best known as BBC Newsnight's culture correspondent, takes a wry look at the mid-life crisis.

Far from being something we might feel embarrassed or ashamed, isn't mid-life actually the perfect time to learn new skills, instruments or just an opportunity to re-invent yourself? Isn't it time we defended the Mid-Life Crisis?

Stephen hears from scholars of Schopenhauer to Sting, well, his accompanist, Jason Rebello, as he takes a field trip into the un-chartered waters of the Mid-Life Crisis, once considered just a heart-beat away from old age. He visits Brighton, considered by many to be the UK's capital of the mid-life crisis, to talk to those who've come out the other side. They now say they now lead happier and more fulfilled lives. How did they do it? He checks into a top Harley Street clinic, where the faces of the stars are lifted and tummies tucked, but what treatment will they do to him?

And if you thought the old MLC was just the preserve of heterosexual middle aged men, think again, as psychotherapist Philippa Perry, journalist and author Miranda Sawyer and writer Simon Fanshawe, describe.

Perhaps, after all, life is one big crisis, as veteran socialite Nicky Haslam suggests.

44. The Power and the Glory

TX: 26/06/2016 Dur: 57'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Drama

No additional info provided.

45. Archive on 4: The Art of the Obit

TX: 13/02/2016 Dur: 56'33"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC

To mark the tenth anniversary of R4's obituary programme Last Word, Matthew Bannister presents an archive hour celebrating this stalwart of the newspaper and broadcasting world.

Matthew finds out about the delicate work of preparation, as he talks to leading obituary figures about how they choose which lives to cover. He examines some landmark obituaries, and reads from The Times full page obit on Hitler, an indicator of how the often delicate balance between honesty and sensitivity is achieved. Matthew also reveals some of his own behind-the-scenes stories - like the time he made uncomfortably close contact with the deceased.

We find out about future developments, as some of the leaders in the obituary field reveal moves into the world of the pre-recorded farewell obituary video. Musician Dave Swarbrick recalls how it felt to see his premature obit in print, and Matthew explores why working in the world of the obit is always surprising and unexpectedly life-affirming.

Presenter: Matthew Bannister

Producer: Neil George

46. The Nativity

TX: 24/12/2016 Dur: 26'24"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC NI Radio Drama

An improvised drama of The Nativity as dictated by young children as they contemplate a story where there really is rather a lot to take on board.

At age five & six they know only the world around them so even hurdling the concept of "Long, long ago" - a world where there are no cars, no planes, no televisions, no ipods, no hospitals - threw up a lot of lively debate. And what with Angels appearing, and there being "no room in the inn", and having to have the baby on straw in a stable with animals, and Three Kings showing up with gifts and Shepherds arriving, this really was rich terrain to place in the small hands of truly natural story tellers.

With a helping hand from one of today's most beloved childrens authors Frank Cottrell Boyce (Doctor Who, London Olympics Opening Ceremony 2012) and Oscar nominee Liam Neeson, these children brought the story of the Nativity bang up to date – thus showcasing it's enduring appeal for audiences of all ages.

Performed by pupils from St Malachy's Primary School, Kilclief and St Joseph's Primary, Strangford.

Introduced by Liam Neeson.

Devised with Frank Cottrell Boyce & Denise Cottrell Boyce

Produced by Gemma McMullan

http://www.thedownrecorder.co.uk/pages/index.asp?title=School_nativity_to_hit_airwaves_on_Radio_4

<http://www.irishnews.com/arts/2016/12/22/news/strangford-children-re-tell-christmas-story-on-radio-4-841199/>

47. Venite

TX: 18/12/2016 Dur: 40'32

Broadcaster: Premier Christian Radio

Production Company: Premier Christian Communications

Presented and produced by Michael Cleere with readings by Pam Rhodes.

Music by Theatre of Voices, Libera, Aled Jones, and the Choir of Magdalen College, Oxford.

In words and music Michael Cleere explores Advent themes of waiting and the promise of a world transformed. Its message is both ancient and new, from the prophecies of Isaiah and the birth of the Christ child to the topicality of Brexit, the conflict in Syria and the American presidential campaign. Ultimately it is a programme that offers hope to a broken world by this season of redemption.

48. The Listening Project: Claudia and Alan - Living After Loss

TX: 08/06/2016 Dur: 03'50"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Documentaries Unit

Fi Glover introduces a conversation about how two people dealt with the death of someone close to them in very different ways. Another in the series that proves it's surprising what you hear when you listen.

It was suggested that this programme should be submitted to the Interview category of the Awards. However, as I explained to Anna McNamee, The Listening Project does not broadcast interviews, but unmediated, natural and balanced conversations. These conversations are deliberately free from professional, journalistic intervention, so to classify this programme as an Interview would go against everything The Listening Project stands for in terms of access to the airwaves for voices that would not otherwise be heard.

49. Sandra Jaffa -The Convert

TX: 28/12/2016 Dur: 07'40"

Broadcaster: Resonance FM

Production Company: Open Audio

Episode 1: 'The Plunge Pool'

This spoof documentary written and performed by comedian Penelope Solomon tells the story of Sandra Jaffa an 'Essex girl' who has recently converted to Judaism. In this opening episode Sandra wrestles with the intricacies of keeping kosher, discovers the joys of learning Yiddish with South African matriarch Eileen Schwartzberg and discusses the challenges she faces in her new Jewish life. This programme is being submitted in light of the recent shortage of comedy entries in Sandford St Martin Awards 2016 and raises the question 'Is religion not funny?'

Penelope is a Comedian and TV Critic for BBC Radio 4 ('World Tonight', 'Today Programme') and BBC Radio London. She performed as Sandra Jaffa at Edinburgh Fringe 2016 (The Stand Comedy Club) in

her live comedy show. The live show is touring Autumn 2017 to venues including Komedia (Brighton), Arts Depot and The Lowry.

Review by Chris Burgess in Jewish News -

<http://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/review-i-was-a-penis-at-the-royal-festival-hall-leicester-square-theatre/>

‘A highly original and amusing view of the Jewish community through the eyes of a convert’
JEWISH CHRONICLE

‘Solomon is superb as the estuary twanged convert’ METRO

‘Like a latter day Fanny Brice she brings funny Jewish bones to the stage and clowns around with great joie de vivre and humanity.’ JEWISH NEWS

Credits:

Writer: Penelope Solomon

Cast: Penelope Solomon and Anthony Rochman

Producer: Iain Chambers

An Open Audio production for Resonance FM

50. Tez Talks

TX: 07/09/2016 Dur: 13'41"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Studios

‘TEZ Talks’ sees breakthrough comedian Tez Ilyas host a satirical ‘TED Talks’-style show for everyone interested in British Muslims - or in becoming one. Everything you need to know is here - the do's, don'ts, and avoid-or-you'll-be-arresteds...

The series aimed to be simultaneously a hilarious celebration of British-Muslim life - and a thoughtful satire on society's hypocrisies and paranoia around Islam. Tez Ilyas is a totally unique voice in comedy, and very well placed to make this show – having worked for the Home Office in terrorism prevention, he has a razor-sharp insight in to British attitudes to his faith.

The production approach to the show was to transmit Tez's thoughtful sentiments, and sometimes more difficult questions, in a high-energy stand-up format. The programme uses jingles, voice-over, audience interaction, and music to create a warm, inclusive-feeling atmosphere for the listener. Tez put in a lot of work in try-outs ahead of the show to get exactly the right tone in the script to make sure it felt challenging without coming across as exclusionary to non-Muslim audience members.

‘TEZ Talks’ is exactly the kind of series Radio 4 can do best – a challenging, edgy show featuring a diverse rising star of comedy.

51. smallVOICE Podcast September 2016

TX: 03/09/2016 Dur: 58'18"

Broadcaster: www.smallvoice.org.uk and also available on iTunes

Production Company: GRF Christian Radio

In a packed, and timed-to-perfection podcast, we review Richard Holloway's new book, A Little History of Religion.... Kelvin Holdsworth contributes a very special 'Thousand Words' interview in the context of the September 11th attacks in New York we feature our regular 'small voice of the month', this time involving soup and crowdsourcing AND we'll discuss the ethical issues surrounding burkinis in our Moral Mixdown.... If that wasn't enough, fresh from appearing at Glastonbury and the Cambridge Folk Festival, the wonderful indie-Americana band Wildwood Kin are here to give us an exclusive live studio session, as a preview of their new mini-album. Our presenting team is Darren, Anne and Margaret.

Listeners can follow up stories or see the images referred to via the website (see above).

52. Hope at Christmas 2016

TX: 25/12/2016 Dur: 04'34"

Broadcaster: TD1 Radio (Scottish Borders)

Production Company: GRF Christian Radio

At the end of an unsettling year, where can we discern signs of hope? A variety of contributors offer some tentative suggestions.

53. We Need To Talk About Death

TX: 07/12/2016 Dur: 42'17"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio Science Unit

Mortality is often on Joan Bakewell's mind. She's in her eighties, many of her friends have died and older relatives went long ago. Given that death and dying are just part of the stream of human existence, she's baffled that so many of us shy away from the subject. Particularly given that many of us don't die 'well'.

In this series, Joan Bakewell and her panel talk openly about what happens in Britain today when we die. She explores the choices open to us and confronts the very questions we fear the most.

In the second episode (entered for the award), Joan Bakewell and her panel explore one of our greatest fears at the end of life - pain. Pain comes in all shapes and sizes and the meaning we ascribe to it - our suffering - drastically shapes how we experience and manage it. Joan explores what patients can do to help reduce their pain at the end of life. She dispels the myths about morphine and highlights the obstacles that most commonly hinder our chance of a so called 'good' death. She also discovers how religious belief can influence our experience of pain at the end of life.

Producer: Beth Eastwood

[Sunday Times article presenter Joan Bakewell wrote to accompany the above 3-part series.](#)

Please find here the weblink for this Radio 4 programme, in case it is useful:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b084bpjt>

You'll see a clip from the programme on the webpage too which, along with other clips from the series, did really well on social media.

We Need to Talk About Death is a discussion series, so please could you add to my submission the names of the panellists featured in Programme 2 (Ease My Pain):

Reverend Saskia Barnden, Lead Chaplain at Birmingham St Mary's Hospice

Jonathan Martin, Consultant in Palliative Care at Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

Janet Trundle, a retired Pharmacist in palliative care, now at the School of Pharmacy & Life Sciences at the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen

54. All Things Considered - Aberfan 50 year anniversary

TX: 16/10/2016 Dur: 27'13"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio Wales

Production Company: BBC Radio Wales, Religious Programmes Team

No additional info provided.

55. Gay, Female & Muslim (Sunday Breakfast with Mike Shaft)

TX: 06/11/2016 Dur: 15'22"

Broadcaster: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04czsr0>

Production Company: BBC Radio Manchester

Islam and sexuality...two words you've probably never thought about within the same sentence, but a group of gay Muslim women have told BBC Radio Manchester they are fighting to get their acceptance within the wider gay community. And their campaigning has come at a cost.

Verbal assaults, physical assaults, taunting, goading...not because of their sexuality..but because of their race. Because they wear a headscarf or look different to what's considered to be a typical lesbian.

After building trust and gaining the women's acceptance, Clare Freeman provided this exclusive report speaking with Rose at the Safra Project & Tamsila of the Inclusive Mosque. Plus Andrew Gilliver from the LGBT Foundation, based in Greater Manchester responds to Mike Shaft saying he's shocked, but not surprised.

56. Search For A Home (Sunday Breakfast with Mike Shaft)

TX: 16/10/2016 Dur: 15'43"

Broadcaster: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p049jpsn>

Production Company: BBC Radio Manchester

In April 1994: ten-year-old Beatrice came face to face with the Rwandan genocide when machete wielding killers burst into her family's home. Their aim was to kill.

With no other option, her family was forced to flee, and found themselves moving from one country to another in search of safety and rest.

In this exclusive story with Mike Shaft on BBC Radio Manchester, we hear the story of Beatrice Smith - now a flourishing Christian mother living in Manchester. Discussing life as a refugee, seeking asylum from country to country, she looks back at the place where she was born as "Rwanda was her paradise, Rwanda was her hell..."

57. Out Of The Darkness

TX: 25/03/2016 Dur: 53'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Sussex and BBC Surrey

Production Company: Produced by Emily Jeffery for BBC Sussex and BBC Surrey

'Out of the Darkness' is a programme of reflection for Good Friday produced by Emily Jeffery and presented by Emily Jeffery and the Reverend Martin Poole.

This is the second time BBC Sussex and BBC Surrey have broadcast a special programme for Good Friday. Our Good Friday reflections for 2014 were well received with subsequent feedback from listeners surprised and touched about our efforts to produce a locally relevant and hard hitting faith programme to mark such a significant day in the Christian calendar. This new programme 'Out of the Darkness' was broadcast at 6am and repeated at 6pm.

During the hour-long programme Emily explores some of the themes of Good Friday and hears from two people who have made Brighton their home and who have found light and their own 'Easter Moments' after the darkness of difficult times.

Trudi arrived in Brighton addicted to heroin and homeless. She reflects on her own feelings of abandonment and helplessness and how her encounter with a Christian mentor started a long and continuing journey towards healing and acceptance.

Jean-Paul is a Rwandan Musician now based in Brighton who lost many family members in the Rwandan Genocide. He shares his story of pain, addiction and grief and tells of how acknowledging that Jesus died for him released him from his own suffering.

Their powerful accounts are intertwined with gospel readings and thoughts from the Reverend Martin Poole, a familiar voice on our Sunday breakfast show, and recorded on a stormy Brighton seafront.

'Out of the Darkness' was made with a limited local radio budget and resources.

58. Hardeep's Sunday Lunch: Song of Voice

TX: 23/10/2016 Dur: 27'45"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Religion & Ethics Radio

Hardeep's Sunday Lunch is a series in which Hardeep Singh Kohli travels the country cooking for people and in return hears some extraordinary stories. In this programme Hardeep travels to Wiltshire to cook lunch for Jonathan Bryan and his parents Rev Christopher and Chantal. Jonathan was born after his 7 month pregnant mother was injured in a car crash. Starved of oxygen in the womb he was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and for the next few months his parents had to make difficult decisions about whether or not to continue his treatment. Jonathan is now 10 years old and throughout his life he's been unable to communicate, that was until last year. Through the perseverance of his parents, who taught him to read and write, he is at last able to communicate with one eye. Hardeep talks to Jonathan and his parents about how he is starting to find his own voice in the world and how the car crash and the events that followed challenged their faith.

This series is scheduled for broadcast at 1.30pm on Radio 4 at a time when many of the audience are eating lunch after listening to the main lunchtime news programme, 'The World This Weekend'. The idea of the format is for the listener to eavesdrop on a conversation as the contributors help Hardeep cook and eat Sunday lunch. As they prepare the meal an extraordinary story unfolds. The

audience feedback we got for the programme can be summed up in this comment sent in “It was wonderful. It was the best radio I think I’ve ever heard and please, please play that again and tell people about it because it was wonderful radio. Thank you very much.”

At the heart of these programmes is a very human story, with thought provoking moral and religious dilemmas to be navigated. At the end of the programme we want the audience to be inspired but also to think about some of the issues raised by these stories.

The programmes are always a technical challenge to record and a particular challenge for the presenter who has to concentrate on both cooking and conducting difficult conversations. This particular programme was difficult for radio because its principle contributor cannot speak. Hardeep is liked by the Radio 4 audience and is a sensitive but also challenging interviewer who is also known for his public cooking demonstrations.

Producer: Amanda Hancox

59. Nepal's Living Goddess

TX: 04/12/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Production North

In the centre of Patan City in Nepal resides a living goddess, a child as young as four, chosen to host a deity of invincible feminine power. On her young shoulders rests the fate of the nation.

Goddesses in many religious traditions around the world exist only in the spiritual realm, symbolised by statues and icons. But in Nepal they live and breathe and take the form of young girls – the Kumari. For centuries Hindus and Buddhists across the Kathmandu Valley have worshiped these young Buddhist girls believed to be possessed by the Hindu goddess Taleju. Selected so young, it is no easy task being a kumari – for reasons of purity they are taken out of school, only allowed to communicate with a select few, and are not allowed to walk on the ground outside of their homes. They are expected to sit still for long hours whilst giving blessings to thousands of visitors. But the kumari’s reign as a living deity is short. Upon her first period she is retired and replaced. Her powers are believed instantly lost and she must then negotiate how to become a normal teenager.

As part of the 100 Women Season, Sahar Zand joins the thousands of Nepalese Hindus and Buddhists on leave from work and school as they celebrate the national festival of Dashain. Sahar explores the symbolic status of blood, the importance of sacrificing animals during Dashain festival and why when a kumari first menstruates the goddess is believed to vacate her body. Sahar meets solicitor Subin Mulmi who argues the strict rules of purity and segregation surrounding the kumari are detrimental to the child’s freedom and education. However, a former Kumari Chanira Bajracharya, who despite describing the trauma of her first day transitioning from goddess to mortal, advocates this ancient tradition must be continued for the spiritual and cultural identity of Nepal.

60. Canada's Atheist Minister

TX: 15/05/2016 Dur: 26'29"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: BBC Radio Production North

Reverend Gretta Vosper is a minister in the United Church of Canada, an author and an avowed atheist. She is open about her lack of faith in a supernatural God and preaches that acting like a Christian is more important than believing like one. Now her controversial beliefs are testing the limits of her famously liberal church, and may lead to her being defrocked.

Jennifer Chevalier travels to Toronto to meet with Gretta Vosper and find out why her congregation prefers a church without God. Jennifer also hears from a minister who feels Gretta's beliefs are fundamentally at odds with what the United Church of Canada stands for. But a meeting with a third minister reveals that those beliefs are not as rare as they might seem.

61. Believing in Beauty

TX: 25/10/2016 Dur: 56'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 2

Production Company: BBC Religion & Ethics Radio

Our society is obsessed with beauty. One survey showed that the average British woman spends more than £2000 a year on "essential" beauty products while Britons generally spend £37 million enrolling for gym membership and fitness classes they never use.

As part of Radio 2's Faith in the World Week, the Rev Kate Bottley joins the physical and spiritual quest for beauty. We've all met people with a beach-body and flawless skin who have left us cold. What is the relationship between inner and outer beauty? What do the World's faiths teach about the effect our physical appearance has on our spiritual well being?

In this - her first radio documentary - Kate visits a gym, sketches nudes at a life drawing class, and attends a Muslim fashion show. Her sensitive but searching interviews combined with music reached an evening audience of more than 350,000. It was broadcast in the general documentary slot to a non-religious audience. Every year Radio 2 devotes a week across its output to exploring a theme which explores the relationship between faith and its place in the world. This year's theme was beauty, how we relate to this and what the different faiths say about it.

As the programme explores - religions teach that beauty is a blessing but has little worth unless accompanied by inner beauty. Hindu priest Dr Chetna Kang has a shrine in her London home where she decorates her deity Krishna. As she gazes on the beauty of her God, she says the love between them grows. "Does Krishna see your beauty," asks Kate. "I believe he sees my beauty more than anyone else," she replies.

Producer: Rosie Dawson

Series Producer: Amanda Hancox

62. Thought for the Day – HRH The Prince of Wales

TX: 22/12/2016 Dur: 03'32"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC

Thought for the Day broadcasts 6 days a week at 7.50 am during 'Today' on Radio 4. As a topical reflection from the perspective of faith in what is arguably the nation's most important news programme, Thought for the Day is the highest profile religious slot in British radio. With an audience of over 7 million listeners TFTD tries to capture the mood of the country and speak to it in a way that reaches those of all faiths and none.

In December 2016 after a year of reports on the increasing persecution of Christians and other faiths around the world, HRH The Prince of Wales agreed to write a script for the slot on this subject; a situation he has long made clear is of particular importance and concern to him.

The timing was key – following repeated attacks on Christians in the news, and what appeared to be a general hardening of attitudes towards the plight of migrants and refugees who filled our daily news coverage in 2016, Prince Charles wrote with candour and boldness. Drawing on his observations of current affairs, his own family experience and his personal faith he offered a strong and direct Thought for the Day.

The script was broadcast on Thursday 22 December at 0748 and was trending on Twitter within a couple of hours. It was broadcast on the News at 6 pm and 10 pm and was taken up by every newspaper and tens of news outlets at home and abroad. The video recording was also available via R4 Online from 24 December and received 40,000 hits.

63. Beyond Belief: Religion and Psychotherapy

TX: 04/01/2016 Dur: 28'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Religion & Ethics Radio

Beyond Belief explores the place and nature of religion in today's world. The series tackles a rich variety of stories, themes and issues from either one or multiple faith perspectives. It encourages challenging, stimulating and entertaining debate between people of faith, as well as those with no religion, about the subjects that matter to, and affect, religious communities. The programme aims to inform and aid religious understanding among a general audience of around 1 million (50.8% male, 49.2% female), with an average age of 59. It has been a regular part of the Radio 4 schedule for 16 years, broadcasting 26 episodes a year. Its regular presenter is Ernie Rea.

In this programme Ernie Rea explores the compatibility of Christianity and psychotherapy with Mark Vernon, a psychotherapist and writer; psychoanalyst Anouchka Grose; and Reverend Dr Andrew Walker, Director of the St Marylebone Healing and Counselling Centre.

There is a long Christian history of exploring the self. Some of the greatest Christian theologians wrote about the importance of the inner life; monastic living formed the bedrock of Western Christian societies and in times of distress and suffering it was the Church people turned to for both confession and counsel. Things began to change in the 20th century with the emergence of psychoanalysis and the writings of Sigmund Freud. No longer were ideas about the inner life the preserve of the Church. Psychotherapy was seen as a threat; and religion, conversely, was viewed with suspicion among many psychotherapists. Are religion and psychotherapy at war with one another? Or are they more compatible than we might think? Can they be reconciled?

Writing in the Telegraph, Gillian Reynolds described the programme as "a lively, thoughtful conversation... I have learned a lot from this series over the years, about comparative religions, common grounds, vital differences and how new thought can spring from old traditions."

Producer: Dan Tierney

Series Producer: Amanda Hancox

64. Beyond Belief: Children's Literature

TX: 03/10/2016 Dur: 28'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Religion & Ethics Radio

Beyond Belief explores the place and nature of religion in today's world. The programme tackles a rich variety of stories, themes and issues from either one or multiple faith perspectives. It encourages challenging, stimulating and entertaining debate between people of faith, as well as those with no religion, about the subjects that matter to, and affect, religious communities. The programme aims to inform and aid religious understanding among a general audience of around 1 million (50.8% male, 49.2% female), with an average age of 59. The programme broadcasts at 4.30pm on a Monday and its listeners are joining the programme all the way through to catch the 5pm News and PM. Beyond Belief has been a regular part of the Radio 4 schedule for 16 years, broadcasting 26 episodes a year. Its regular presenter is Ernie Rea.

In this programme Ernie Rea explores the role of religion in children's literature with the novelist Geraldine McCaughrean, whose work includes the retelling of classic stories for children, including *The Canterbury Tales*, *The Pilgrim's Progress* and *Moby Dick*; Frank Cottrell Boyce, screenwriter, novelist and author of *'Millions'* which won the 2004 Carnegie Medal for children's literature; and Nicholas Tucker, an educational psychologist and academic who has written widely on children's literature.

C.S. Lewis is thought of as one of the most influential children's authors of the 20th century. The *Chronicles of Narnia* series has inspired multiple generations of children. The story is gripping; and the magical land of Narnia excites the imagination. But just how much do children today know about the overt parallels to the Christian story contained within the books? And does it matter as long as it's a great story? Is C.S. Lewis one of a kind when it comes to the incorporation of religion into mainstream children's fiction? Do religious language, ideas and imagery have anything to offer children's literature in today's increasingly secular society?

Some tweets about this programme:

"Fascinating discussion on role of religion in children's literature"

"Excellent programme and made me think #thankyou"

"Beyond Belief is one of the best radio programmes around, whether you're anti-religion or not"

Producer: Dan Tierney

Series Producer: Amanda Hancox

65. The Essay - Christmas Close Up: New Life

TX: 19/12/2016 Dur: 14'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 3

Production Company: BBC Religion & Ethics Radio

The Essay is a late-night series on BBC Radio 3, in which leading writers on arts, history, philosophy, science, religion and beyond offer "insight, opinion and intellectual surprise". It is a fixture in the Radio 3 schedule and a key part of the station's arts and cultural speech output, with the broadcast of 5 episodes per week. The programme has a weekly audience of 157,000 (40% male, 60% female), with an average age of 60.

This essay by Professor John Wyatt was broadcast in the week before Christmas as part of a series of personal perspectives on the enduring significance of the Nativity story. John worked as a consultant neonatologist at London's University College Hospital for more than 20 years. He reflects on how St Luke's depiction of the fragility of new life has taken on a particular meaning for him, following his experiences of the neonatal ward at Christmas.

The episode was described by BBC Radio 4's Pick of the Week programme as "the best of Christmas radio" and by listener feedback as a "powerful, honest broadcast about caring for babies on a neonatal ward... Rarely have I heard anything which puts across so truthfully the meaning of the Christian belief that God became a human being and the preciousness of each human life. Sorrow and love were equally conveyed in this sensitive piece."

Producer: Dan Tierney

Series Producer: Amanda Hancox

66. E.F. Schumacher: Is Small the Next Big?

TX: 09/05/2016 Dur: 27'45"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: Reel Soul Movies

In 'Is Small the Next Big?' presenter Leo Johnson, takes us on a tour de force journey to discover the visionary ideas of his hero, E.F.Schumacher, author of 'Small is Beautiful; Economics as if People Mattered.

Along the way we hear how 'Western civilisation is like an express train which at ever increasing speed is running towards an abyss. But should we overtake it?'; why trusting & empowering people at work is good for business; what Buddhist economics can teach us about a way of living where economics can be built on ecology; what the philosophy of 'Good Work' is; how we can maximise happiness using the resources we've got; why we must stop iconising GDP per capita growth; how real wealth is nature, true capital is nature.

It's a tour of the landscape of the possible that takes us from the most successful bank share in the world – a bank with a quasi-mystical obsession with staying small - to the Brixton pound, complete with Brixton's local lad David Bowie on the 10 Pound note, to SIM-enabled solar lights targeting the Kenyan poor, to the Maker Movement – pioneers of distributed manufacturing – at Technoport in Norway, and finally to the bewilderingly salad-loving kids of Bristol's Ashton Vale primary school, their final request to the production team - to be paid for their services in raw carrots.

What emerges is a blueprint for a different economy-where banks can lend to small businesses, where local communities re-form, where decentralised renewable energy delivers lower cost power, where work forms us not as tools adapted to our machines, but as beings connected to the people

and place around us. It's a vision of an economy in transition towards the small - from mass towards micro-production, from fossil fuels towards local renewables, from centralised to distributed organisations – one where our own role shifts from consumer to producer and citizen. It's a glimpse of economics, as Schumacher put it, "as if people mattered". Or as Van Jones puts it, 'There's a revolution happening in your heart if you want it'.

There are interviews with Dr Stephan Harding, author of *Animate Earth*; Van Jones, co-founder of Dream Corps; Juliet Davenport of Good Energy; Satish Kumar, Editor-in-Chief of *Resurgence & Ecologist*; Helen Browning of the Soil Association; Rob Hopkins, founder of the Transition Town Movement, and others.

The programme was commissioned & broadcast by BBC Radio 4 & was selected for 'Pick of the Week'. Presenter, Leo Johnson was short-listed for the New Voice award at the Audio Production Awards 2016.

67. All Things Considered

TX: 11/09/2016 Dur: 27'45"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio Wales

Production Company: BBC Radio Wales Religious Programmes Team

No additional info provided.

68. Real Life Resurrection

TX: 27/03/2016 Dur: 05'20"

Broadcaster: UKRD Radio Network

Production Company: Reach Beyond

No additional info provided.

69. Real Life Good Friday

TX: 25/03/2016 Dur: 05'28"

Broadcaster: UKRD Radio Network

Production Company: Reach Beyond

No additional info provided.

70. The Muhammadan Bean: The Secret History of Islam and Coffee

TX: 10/09/2016 Dur: 27'39"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: TBI Media

In 'Is Small the Next Big?' presenter Leo Johnson, takes us on a tour de force journey to discover the visionary ideas of his hero, E.F.Schumacher, author of *Small is Beautiful; Economics as if People Mattered*.

Along the way we hear how 'Western civilisation is like an express train which at ever increasing speed is running towards an abyss. But should we overtake it?'; why trusting & empowering people at work is good for business; what Buddhist economics can teach us about a way of living where economics can be built on ecology; what the philosophy of 'Good Work' is; how we can maximise happiness using the resources we've got; why we must stop iconising GDP per capita growth; how real wealth is nature, true capital is nature.

It's a tour of the landscape of the possible that takes us from the most successful bank share in the world – a bank with a quasi-mystical obsession with staying small - to the Brixton pound, complete with Brixton's local lad David Bowie on the 10 Pound note, to SIM-enabled solar lights targeting the Kenyan poor, to the Maker Movement – pioneers of distributed manufacturing – at Technoport in Norway, and finally to the bewilderingly salad-loving kids of Bristol's Ashton Vale primary school, their final request to the production team - to be paid for their services in raw carrots.

What emerges is a blueprint for a different economy-where banks can lend to small businesses, where local communities re-form, where decentralised renewable energy delivers lower cost power, where work forms us not as tools adapted to our machines, but as beings connected to the people and place around us. It's a vision of an economy in transition towards the small - from mass towards micro-production, from fossil fuels towards local renewables, from centralised to distributed organisations – one where our own role shifts from consumer to producer and citizen. It's a glimpse of economics, as Schumacher put it, “as if people mattered”. Or as Van Jones puts it, 'There's a revolution happening in your heart if you want it'.

There are interviews with Dr Stephan Harding, author of *Animate Earth*; Van Jones, co-founder of Dream Corps; Juliet Davenport of Good Energy; Satish Kumar, Editor-in-Chief of *Resurgence & Ecologist*; Helen Browning of the Soil Association; Rob Hopkins, founder of the Transition Town Movement, and others.

The programme was commissioned & broadcast by BBC Radio 4 & was selected for 'Pick of the Week'. Presenter, Leo Johnson was short-listed for the New Voice award at the Audio Production Awards 2016.

71. Finding Allah at 33rpm

TX: 18/11/2016 Dur: 26'28"

Broadcaster: BBC World Service

Production Company: TBI Media

Abdul-Rehman Malik takes us on a musical journey exploring how he and other believers have found Allah through music. Abdul discovered the music of Islam by diving into his father's old records and tapes. He recalls how music disappeared from his home for a number of years, replaced only by recordings of reciters of the Koran.

Music and Islam have been uncomfortable bedfellows. But in fact there is a rich Islamic musical heritage, which weds theology and sound, that is both accessible and inspiring to the western ear. Drawing on fresh recordings and interpretations - from the banks of the Niger to the heart of ancient Lahore - Malik explores the faultlines where culture, theology and Shariah meet and reveals that music is central to his experience as a believer. He delves into the worlds of hip hop, folk and the Muslim answer to 'Christian Rock' - nasheeds. Abdul goes on to reveal that Islamic music has recently made a comeback and it is still the source of violent acrimony between some Muslims.

Abdul-Rehman Malik is a London-based journalist, educator and organiser. Formerly a contributing editor at *Q-News*, a pioneering Muslim current affairs magazine, he is currently programmes manager for the Radical Middle Way, an organisation that gives young Muslims the inspiration and tools to enable positive social change, promote social justice and combat exclusion and violence.

72. Something Understood - Reunions and Recognitions

TX: 03/04/2016 Dur: 27'18"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: TBI Media

Dr Rowan Williams, Master of Magdalene College Cambridge and the former Archbishop of Canterbury, explores reunions and recognitions in the context of the Easter narratives as he presents Radio 4's Something Understood for the very first time.

The Sunday after Easter, traditionally known as Low Sunday, is a time when Christians reflect more deeply on the celebrations of the previous weekend. Dr Williams describes the human story as full of creating, breaking and restoring relationships and illustrates his thinking with powerful moments of reconciliation in War and Peace when Natasha seeks forgiveness from Prince Andrei, and in King Lear where the King is revisited by his daughter, as well as with the reuniting of Jacob and Esau in Genesis.

It is this mending of brokenness that Dr Williams uses to link into the Easter stories. "They move us - and challenge us as well," he says, "because they echo these deep feelings around finding and losing, separating and reuniting, recognising and failing to recognise and discovering that what seemed completely lost has not been destroyed. They are good news for us because they say that there is no relationship beyond mending in God's providence and God's time - that even the most final of separations or the most bitter of betrayals will not stifle the possibility of the reconciliation we long for."

The programme also features the poetry of Wilfred Owen, as well as Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro where the unfaithful Count is forgiven by his wife, accompanied by music, which has been described as the sound of God absolving the world.

73. Something Understood - God Loves a Drunk

TX: 28/08/2016 Dur: 27'37"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: TBI Media

Award winning poet Imtiaz Dharker examines the phenomenon of divine intoxication - being drunk on God.

It's an experience which causes an uncontrollable release of energy and intoxication, one that has inspired writers for centuries. Imtiaz explains "Before I ever tasted it I understood the metaphor of wine and its powerful spell. It was in the Urdu poetry my parents listened to, the ghazals and Hindustani film songs with the recurring theme of 'nasha', intoxicating love."

Intoxication, especially when brought about by something as pure as love, offers us the chance to lose ourselves, to communicate with an elusive beyond. The imagery of intoxication flows through cultures, enriching art, songs and poetry. Drunkenness it transpires is not always frowned upon. At Purim, Jews are instructed to become inebriated, in memory of their deliverance through Esther. Dionysus offers liberation through wine, a release into exuberant fertility, music and dance.

Imtiaz draws upon the work of the 14th century Persian poet Hafiz and the Sufi poets who, despite being Muslims, used the metaphor of wine, taverns and heavenly barmaids to suggest a longing for God. Music featured includes Joni Mitchell, Jacques Brel and Richard Thompson.

74. The Web Sheikh and the Muslim Mums

TX: 12/09/2016 Dur: 28'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: PRA Productions

Shaimaa Khalil meets a group of Muslim mums to talk about the everyday fears of parents who worry that extreme interpretations of Islam may be infecting the minds of their children.

Young Muslims commonly learn about their faith from preachers in the community and online. Many preach positive values, but some drift dangerously close to fundamentalism, and beyond. These messages can be reinforced through the tangled grapevine of social media.

How much do mums know about the messages being preached to their children? This programme brings together five Muslim mums, in a book club-style, to discuss the hate messages their children are exposed to.

They follow the story of a young man who was on the verge of becoming a Jihadi fighter. The mums listen as he talks honestly about his experience and then consider what they've heard - relating his story to the stories of their own young, impressionable children.

They also hear the story of a young woman who began practicing Islam at a young age. Even though her journey to faith was peaceful, her parents worried about where this journey may lead.

The mums learn an enormous amount from the stories of these young people. They discuss whether Imams are out of touch with young Muslims, and whether there has been a collective failure to engage in conversations about extremism. They discuss the legitimate anger many young British Muslims feel as they experience day-to-day Islamophobia and learn about the suffering of Muslims overseas.

Crucially, they discuss how parents can put these issues into context for their children.

75. Daily Service - The Power of Acceptance

TX: 01/09/2016 Dur: 15'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4 LW

Production Company: BBC Religion and Ethics Radio

In August 2016 a team from BBC Religion Radio went to the Greenbelt Festival to record a week of Daily Services featuring contributors to the festival. The speech and music were recorded on site, in the open air, amidst the hubbub of this lively and vibrant gathering.

The broadcasts across the week focussed on the idea of power and how that might be subverted to include the power of compassion, love and art.

This programme is led by the Revd. John Bell and looks at the power that is found in acceptance; how strength can be found in building a diverse community. It includes a special reflection from the Revd Sally Hitchiner on the experience of LGTB Christians within her online community, Diverse Church. They are joined by members of the Iona Community who lead the prayers. The popular Christian singer/songwriters Gavin Mart and Beth Rowley recorded music especially for this broadcast.

Set in the grounds of the Boughton Estate near to Kettering, Greenbelt brings top Christian thinkers and musicians together with 20,000 festival goers to spend the August bank holiday weekend reflecting on faith, justice and culture. The production team behind The Daily Service, used this as an opportunity to reflect current belief and practice, featuring high calibre contributors in order to bring added value to a long running strand. The aim was appeal to a broader audience in a way that is relevant in the modern world whilst taking advantage of new production techniques and technology.

MUSIC

GAVIN MART

All creatures of our God and King

BETH ROWLEY AND ROB UPDEGRAFF

Wade in the Water

THE WILD GOOSE GROUP

Come bring your burdens to God

THE WILD GOOSE GROUP

The Lord's Prayer.

Audience Reaction

"Thank you for your awesome work bringing religious broadcasts to a listening audience that are of so much higher quality than what I find in religious broadcasting here in America. Peace and blessings,
Sarah

"Thank you for 'broadening' the daily offering."
Brian

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Greenbelt-Festival.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Iona-Community-at-Greebelt.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Beth-Rowley-at-Greenbelt.jpg>

76. Choral Evensong - 90th Anniversary

TX: 28/09/2016 Dur: 60'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 3

Production Company: BBC Radio - Religion and Ethics

Choral Evensong is the BBC's longest running outside broadcast. 'Nearly as old as God himself,' observed one listener, 'and like God himself, it's never taken a holiday or been off the air.' Another called it a 'spiritual lifeline.' 'You could call it holiness – but it's very precious.' Since it began in 1926 with a weekly transmission from Westminster Abbey, then York Minster and St Paul's Cathedral, over 80 different venues have been visited in this country and abroad – cathedrals and abbeys, parish churches, college chapels and monasteries - and, having experimented with two services a week and for a brief period a live transmission on a Sunday, the service now goes

out live on a Wednesday afternoon and is repeated the following Sunday afternoon, attracting a quarter of a million listeners each week.

To support the entry, there are a number of photographs, press articles, a historical time line of the programme and some archive press clippings that are provided.

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-timeline.jpg>

http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-Gramophone_Choral-Evensong-at-90_12102016.pdf

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-BBC-Music-Magazine-90th-anniversary-article.pdf>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-reception.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-Outside-Broadcast-Van.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-Organist.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-Chorister.jpg>

<http://sandfordawards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Choral-Evensong-90th-Anniversary-Chorister-2.jpg>

77. Sunday Worship: A service of Remembrance from Notre Dame Cathedral

TX: 13/11/2016 Dur: 38'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio

This broadcast combined the Remembrance of two World Wars, and especially the Centenary of the Somme, with the poignant necessity of remembering the Bataclan massacre exactly a year earlier.

Each year the Royal British Legion holds a remembrance service in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The annual service was adapted and extracts taken for broadcast using miniature lean outside broadcast kit, interspersed with specially recorded music by the Choir, the Maitrise de Notre Dame, and moving excerpts from families who lost loved ones at Bataclan. All this was achieved in a two day visit to Paris.

There were at least three groundbreaking partnerships, all brokered by producer Andrew Earis:

- Partnering with the Royal School of Church Music and the Royal British Legion in Paris for the broadcast of the Remembrance Service

- gaining access to Notre Dame de Paris, probably the first time the BBC has run an outside broadcast from there in recent years

- a special partnership with Musique Sacree de Notre Dame, allowing a separate evening recording session with the Choir, the Maitrise de Notre Dame, in the Cathedral itself

A Service for Remembrance from Notre Dame Cathedral

From Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris with members of the Royal British Legion. This year the mainly expatriate Parisian members of the Legion gather not only to remember and give thanks for all those who gave their lives in two world wars, but especially to mark the Battle of the Somme which raged for 141 days a century ago in 1916. They also gather at a time when Paris is remembering the terrible tragedy of the Bataclan concert hall massacre one year ago. The service is led by the Chaplain to the Royal British Legion, Paris, Revd Alyson Lamb, and the preacher is the Bishop to Her Majesty's Forces, Rt Revd Nigel Stock. The Maitrise de Notre Dame is directed by Henri Chalet and the choir of singers made up of churches affiliated to the Royal School Church Music, France is directed by Zachary Ullery. The organists are Sarah Kim and Johann Vexo. Producer: Andrew Earis.

78. Daily Service - National Poetry Day

TX: 06/10/2016 Dur: 15'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4 LW

Production Company: BBC Religion and Ethics Radio

For National Poetry Day, 2016, the Daily Service took on a poetic and meditative mood to encompass the enormous power and significance of poetry when facing the challenges of life in the modern world. In an expertly written and produced script, poet and theologian, Pádraig Ó Tuama seamlessly brought together poetry, prose, prayer and reflection to create a service that was educative, enlightening, artistic and deeply spiritual. Music was carefully chosen to reflect the content and integrated within the programme and included recordings from modern artists including Sigur Rós, Sinéad O'Connor and Julie Lee singing a setting of the Emily Dickinson poem, "Hope's a thing with feathers".

The aim of the production team was to improve the richness and variety of the offering of this long running strand and appeal to a broad audience. The Daily Service does not only serve to educate and inspire audiences in the subject of religion, it is also concerned with practical expressions of faith; reflecting how faith is practiced in the modern day by a wide range of believers. The intention behind this service was to encapsulate the poetic and elusive side of the numinous in an elegant and engaging manner.

79. The Boy who Gave His Heart Away

TX: 10/06/2016 Dur: 13'29"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio

Production Company: TBI Media

'The Boy Who Gave His Heart Away' is built on solid journalism offering a unique account of an issue that could affect us all. A bereaved mother, against all the odds, has traced and contacted some of the people who survived, as a result of her granting permission for her son's organs to be harvested, the ultimate act of generosity.

The principal component in the story is hours of first-hand accounts of events, gathered across the country by Journalist and presenter, Cole Morton and Producer, Jonathan Mayo. Using genuinely original journalism to uncover a startling new story, a highly compelling, deeply moving and completely unique perspective on the ever present ethical issue of organ donation is then painstakingly constructed.

A young Scottish footballer collapses suddenly in the summer of 2003 and is at the brink of death, soon afterwards another boy of the same age is also struck down, a couple of hundred miles away. One will die ... and his heart will save the other.

The listener is gripped from the beginning, unsure of who will survive and eager to know what happens next, as the friends and family and medical staff tell their own stories, connected by intimate and empathetic presentation delivered in the present tense.

The report is made over five, fifteen minute pieces broadcast at lunchtime over the course of a week on Radio 4. Each ends with a cliffhanger which, based on the reactions on social media, clearly brought the audience back for more the following day.

The story concludes with a moment that takes the breath away (we have supplied the final episode via WeTransfer). A mother, still grieving for her teenage son, reaches out and places her hand flat on the chest of another boy of the same age, and feels the heart of her own child beating inside him. We hear the awkward but completely sincere gratitude in his voice, and the tumbling mixture of grief and love that threatens to overwhelm in hers.

Many who heard this series spoke of being moved to tears by a story that caused them to think and helped them to understand the complex issue around organ donation in a completely new way. This level of engagement was illustrated by a remarkable AI (Appreciation Index) of 88.

“The Boy Who Gave His Heart Away is painfully sad but inspiring. Martin and Marc's story makes Donor cards essential” – Alfie Boon, Twitter

“Programmes that make you sit in the car, arrive late and weep a bit. 13:45 each day this week: The Boy Who Gave His Heart Away.” - Richard Kerley, Twitter

‘Sometimes, when you’re doing something else – in this case, drying dishes – radio can just stop you in your tracks, make you forget about what you’re doing and just stand there and listen.’ - Ian McMillan Pick of the Week

Perhaps most importantly, when the story was told, charities supporting organ donation reported an immediate rise in interest and contact from people wanting to sign up, because they had been touched so deeply by this report.

80. Pause For Thought

TX: 16/12/2016 Dur: 03'34"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 2

Production Company: TBI Media

Pause for Thought is a faith-based radio strand that appears in key day-parts across BBC Radio 2. Each broadcast is approximately 3 minutes and allows a schedule of daily contributors to reflect on events which happen in their lives, and to deliver sharp, relevant, sensitive thoughts inspired by them which are absolutely in tune with the Radio 2 audience.

Notably, Pause For Thought offers an opportunity, rare in large scale mainstream broadcasting, to deliver a religious perspective on the news events that potentially effect us all. This means that the PFT team has broken from the schedule on various occasions to react to major stories, including the resignation of the Pope, Nelson Mandela's death and the Boston Marathon bombing. Clearly, in all cases, great sensitivity was required to deliver perspective relevant to all faiths.

The Methodist Minister Michaela Youngson's contribution on Good Friday managed to emphasise the relevance of celebrating a prominent Christian moment by writing about it from the moving, and hugely relevant perspective of a mother grieving the death of her child.

This contribution was delivered just days after the Brussels bombing in March which killed over 30 people. Michaela used the piece to highlight the fact that there were families in Belgium, Afghanistan and Syria who were also grieving for lost loved ones.

At a time when we can all fall victim to becoming desensitised to the horrors of terror attacks, Michaela's contribution offered a unique and personal perspective on how she believes humanity will overcome the evil that can strike out in the world.

Transcript:

Pause For Thought - Good Friday 2016 - The Revd Michaela Youngson

I see the events of Good Friday through a mother's eyes, finding it almost impossible to imagine the pain that Mary went through as she witnessed the trials, the torture and, eventually, the death of her son Jesus. Today I will remember again how a heartbroken mother received the broken body of her son and watched him placed in a tomb. Today in Belgium, Afghanistan, Syria and countless other places, mothers will receive the broken bodies of sons and daughters. I will hold my own children a little closer in the days ahead and pray for their safety and their flourishing.

Good Friday is a day of deep reflection for those in the Christian faith. We remember the events surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus and his constant loving, forgiving nature in the face of horrendous violence and terror. His unjust death is understood to be a turning point in history, a new beginning - not in the way that a suicide bomber considers their own death to be of great worth to some campaign or as a way of winning an argument but because the self-giving nature of God's love is demonstrated by Jesus' willingness to give up his own life.

Christians are often asked why today is called 'Good' Friday, when it is a day to remember grief and sacrifice. We know it is only part of the story, that beyond the horizon is hope of new life, healing, even resurrection. Also it is a day to look for hints of love in the midst of the horror. At the foot of the cross some of Jesus' friends, particularly his mother and the female disciples remained loyal and stood by, not running away or denying their connection to him. Love held them there, despite their shock and grief. Jesus himself, forgave those who murdered him, asking God to forgive them because they did not understand what they were doing. As I watched the coverage from Brussels on Monday, it was possible to see glimpses of love and hope in the chaos - people risking themselves to get others to safety, the phone calls to loved ones to reassure and comfort. In the days since, there has been an outpouring of love and solidarity for the people of Brussels, as well as commitments from community and faith leaders to stand together against hate, to not allow differences of faith or ideology to have the last word. Whatever our faith, we have a common humanity which tells us again and again that hope conquers fear and that evil will always be driven away by love.

81. Pause For Thought

TX: 25/03/2016 Dur: 03'34"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 2

Production Company: TBI Media

Pause for Thought is a faith-based radio strand that runs through key day-parts across BBC Radio 2. Each broadcast runs at approx. 3 minutes and allows a schedule of daily contributors to reflect on events which happen in their lives, and to deliver sharp, relevant, sensitive thoughts inspired by them which are absolutely in tune with the Radio 2 audience.

One of the principle challenges is to consistently deliver content that is rooted in religion as well as being engaging to all, regardless of their own personal faith . The goal is to create radio that inspires, challenges, comforts and sets the mood for the day.

Unsurprisingly for the most popular show on BBC Radio, The Chris Evans Breakfast Show is fast-paced, highly interactive and family focused, the Pause for Thought at 09.15 must fit seamlessly with that approach.

This is why Rev'd Richard Coles is perfect for this slot. As a former member of 'The Communards' and frequent guest on TV panel shows, he offers a very different voice as a vicar.

We introduced Richard to PFT at the end of 2013 and he immediately struck up a great rapport with Chris. This means that Richard is integrated and sounds like any other very welcome guest on the show.

The key to Richard's warmth and humour is his frank honesty. He often shares his own failings and insecurities in his Pause For Thought in a uniquely touching and witty style. He is a master at tying his faith to day-to-day observations and he understands the importance of making the message he wants to communicate as accessible as possible. In short, Richard always receives a warm laugh and round of applause at the end of each contribution.

Transcript:

Pause For Thought – 16 December 2016 – Rev'd Richard Coles

Nothing fills my heart with dread like the prospect of interacting with the automotive trade. I have never been competent in mechanical matters – or anything to do with cars, which I only learned to drive in my thirties – so I have to brace myself for a trip to the garage, and the humiliation which there awaits. Example: I got a new tyre put on the other day and stood at the counter next to the workshop, surrounded by blokes who knew their big ends from their flying-arms. The mechanic couldn't have been more helpful or considerate, but he still had to ask me if the tyre was nearside or offside – I don't know what that means – is there a wheel locking nut? – yes, I said, not knowing what one of those is either – and what's the annual mileage? – at which point I would have been happy to give him the car if he promised not to ask any more questions.

These moments of humiliation – like not being picked for sport, or being unable to throw or catch a ball, or being overlooked as the great undiscovered ballroom dance talent of our age – have come back to haunt me since I've been ordained. There's something just not very butch about being a Vicar: which is I suspect why some men in the profession rather overstate their manliness, chugging pints in beards and rugby shirts while tearing hymn books in two.

I was berated the other day on Twitter for not being more assertive, confrontational, tough. It stung a bit – for who likes to be thought inadequate? – but then I thought, hang on, I'm a Christian not a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle.

Jesus would have been terrible in a fight, turning the other cheek, submitting to the ignorant rage of the crowd. But he had more important things to do than score points: and his power is made manifest not in a show of strength but of weakness, arriving as a baby, wrapped in rags, born in a lean-to round the back of a pub.

There was a locking wheel nut, by the way. You learn something new every day.

82. Good Friday: Breath of Life

TX: 25/03/2016 Dur: 27'55"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio Scotland

Production Company: BBC Scotland

(This programme won a Jerusalem Award in the autumn.)

Anna Magnusson shares her precious memories of the last moments of her parents' lives. Through her very personal memories she invites us to think about the mystery of life, and about our own last breath and that of our loved-ones, in the light of the Passion of Christ.

83. After Cathy

TX: 15/11/2016 Dur: 37'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC

Some background to the programme here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b082hg9s>

This programme had a huge response from listeners ranging from very generous financial support to offers of meals and a bed for the night. Several people offered Zahra help with a deposit for a new home; a number of psychologists offered Stewart specialist help for his PTSD. He's now starting to rebuild his life with the help of someone who heard the programme.

84. In Search of Eden: episode two - Every Beast of the Field

TX: 06/09/2016 Dur: 13'35"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio & Music Bristol

Paul Howard-Jones walks through the heavy wooden doors of the parish church at Fownhope in Herefordshire.

"Eden is a tale of forbidden knowledge and the irreversible consequences of possessing it..."

Paul is the Professor of Neuroscience and Education at Bristol University. He grew up in this village. His father, Ray, was the vicar. And Ray is inside the church waiting to talk to Paul, as he begins to explore the consequences of eating the apple. This is a quest to discover how knowledge has changed us, its ethical consequences, and whether the tale contains within it a nostalgic longing for our simpler, hunter-gathering past.

This was a 5 part series, broadcast on Radio 4 at 1.45pm, Monday 5th to Friday 9th September 2016. A selection of series reviews will be emailed separately.

In episode two, Paul visits Chauvet cave in the Ardeche region of southern France, to get a sense of the relationship that hunter-gatherers had with nature. Fiona Coward from Bournemouth University

discusses the shift to farming and the development of a material culture that helped larger societies bind together. And to experience material culture first hand, Paul dresses as a rabbit and hands out leaflets in Hereford city centre.

Producer: Chris Ledgard

85. In Search of Eden: episode three - The Flaming Sword

TX: 07/09/2016 Dur: 13'42"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Radio & Music Bristol

Paul Howard-Jones walks through the heavy wooden doors of the parish church at Fownhope in Herefordshire.

“Eden is a tale of forbidden knowledge and the irreversible consequences of possessing it...”

Paul is the Professor of Neuroscience and Education at Bristol University. He grew up in this village. His father, Ray, was the vicar. And Ray is inside the church waiting to talk to Paul, as he begins a neuroscientist’s take on what happened when we ate the apple. This is a quest to discover how knowledge has changed us, its ethical consequences, and whether the tale contains within it a nostalgic longing for our simpler, hunter-gathering past.

This was a 5 part series, broadcast on Radio 4 at 1.45pm, Monday 5th to Friday 9th September 2016. A selection of series reviews will be emailed separately.

In episode three, Paul visits the archaeological dig at Catalhoyuk in Turkey, where he sees a thousand years of technological development exposed in the soil. And he finds out what we lose when we gain the ability to read and to count – the downside of knowledge.

Producer: Chris Ledgard

Sandford St Martin Awards 2017

Supporting Material for Radio Award entries:

- ***In Search of Eden – episode two***
- ***In Search of Eden – episode three***

Here are three reviews – broadsheet, religious press and popular blog:

From the Telegraph:

“...you may have noted an endearing series in the 1.45pm slot, **In Search of Eden**. The title conjures thoughts of creation, paradises and such. It’s actually about neuro-science, what we remember and forget, how far back human memory can reach. Presenter Paul Howard is a thoughtful and ingenious guide. One minute yesterday he was standing in a French cave, looking at prehistoric wall paintings of animals in chase and flight, wondering at how, 36,000 years ago, its artist had captured the illusion of movement. Next minute he was handing out leaflets in Cambridge, noting people wouldn’t take them when they saw him in normal clothes but would, affectionately, when he put on a rabbit costume.”

From the Tablet:

“Who was Paul Howard-Jones, you wondered, as the first of **In Search of Eden’s** five episodes (5-9 September) broke upon the airwaves with a sonorous recitation from the Book of Genesis? A theologian? An anthropologist? In fact, the presenter of this nicely inquisitive series turned out to be professor of neuroscience at the University of Bristol, a man determined to, as he put it, make “a programme about knowledge ... and what it’s done to us”.

What knowledge had done to Professor Howard-Jones could be traced back to first hearing about Adam and Eve's difficulties from the pulpit of his clerical father's Herefordshire parish church. Curiosity further piqued by some early chemical experiments ("It did indeed begin with the chemistry set," the Revd Howard-Jones gamely recalled), he became absorbed by what seemed to be the great Edenic lesson – that information, once acquired, was irreversible."

From unthinkabledigital.co.uk (digital strategy website)

I thoroughly enjoyed a Radio 4 mini-series a couple of weeks ago, **In Search of Eden**, which excavated the hidden meanings of the story of the Tree of Knowledge with reference to our prehistory and transition from hunter-gatherers to settled agrarian communities and from illiterate and innumerate to literate and numerate, and the ratchet of cumulative 'entanglement' with different technologies that's characterised our supposed progress as human beings, right up to today's digital technologies that are our stock in trade in Unthinkable.

Among other things, the programme explored 'The Curse of Knowledge', a phenomenon I realise I've been familiar with for many years but first saw named in Steven Pinker's *The Sense of Style* (one of the many thoughtful presents that Justin has given me over the years). This is the process by which it becomes very hard to imagine not knowing something once we know it. (Paul Howard-Jones, the presenter of *In Search of Eden*, gave a neat example of this that anyone can try out by inviting us to drum out a tune to a friend and notice our own surprise when they find it hard to guess the notes that are so clearly playing in our head.) It's also the same phenomenon that occurs whenever you find yourself trotting out initialisms and jargon in conversation that are meaningless to your interlocutor (you mean you don't know what ROI stands for? B2B? the semantic web? COB? etc).

86. "A light for those who dwell in darkness" Sunday Worship HMP Long Lartin

TX: 31/01/2016 Dur: 38'00"

Broadcaster: BBC Radio 4

Production Company: BBC Religion and Ethics

Powerful prisoner testimonies recorded in the cells by a Quaker prison chaplain and former Radio 3 producer Judith Roles and ground breaking work with prisoners in music education are brought to air in this Sunday Worship. The title quotation comes from a piece of music sung during the service to rapt attention from the prisoners present: James MacMillan's 'O Radiant Dawn'.

Billing: "A light for those who dwell in darkness" Prisoners and prison chaplains gather to share Christian Worship in the chapel of Her Majesty's Prison Long Lartin, Worcestershire. How can Christian faith transform the lives of those doing time for some of the most serious offences? Leader: Managing Chaplain Kevin Downham and Quaker Chaplain Judith Roles. Preacher: the Reverend Doctor Stephen Blake. Music is provided by a prisoner's choir, assisted by Octavo and a Salvation Army band. Director of music Lesley Nicholson. Producer: Philip Billson.

Audience response to this edition was wholly positive:

"Thank you for a really inspiring service this morning. It was deeply moving." - "Wanted to say how much I enjoyed the singing at morning service to-day. Do not usually listen to Morning Service but found myself compelled not to switch off (apologies!) after hearing the wonderful voice of the sole prisoner followed by the choir singing "Amazing Grace" I then remained listening to the rest of the service and have made a promise to myself that in future I will switch on to this programme. Found the whole service thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you."

- "Just a word of thanks and congratulations for the uplifting Sunday Service on Radio 4 this morning. The BBC is to be commended for its willingness to highlight the faithful and persistent work of H.M.'s Prison Chaplaincy in this way. We were particularly touched by the opening testimony followed by the "raw" but moving rendering of Amazing Grace both at the beginning and end of the Service. And especial praise for the Preacher who made the Christian message so clear and accessible. Thank you again for such an excellent start to our day"

- "I always listen to Sunday Worship and find it a sublime way to start preparing for my own church service later in the morning. The service from HMP Long Lartin today was especially moving - the testimonies of the prisoners was highly affecting, the a capella and accompanied renditions of Amazing Grace had me close to tears, the sermon was most thought-provoking and the service ended on a glorious note with the rousing closing hymn. It's wonderful to know the chaplains are doing such a marvellous job and I doff my hat to the prisoners - true saints of Christ. My warm and hearty congratulations to all involved."

- "Enjoyment of an inspiring programme Just want 2 say how much I enjoyed this morning's Sunday Worship. I don't always listen 2 this..... sometimes listen 2 part of it, then find myself doing something else instead. But the act of worship from Long Lartin was really inspiring & thought-provoking, with such interesting things said about guilt and forgiveness. Impressive chaplains. Thnx"

- "Appreciation Great Service from Prison. I am writing to say how much my wife and i and a number of people at our church enjoyed this morning's Sunday Worship which came from prison. By far the best Sunday service that we have heard for a very long time. It "scratched where it itches" It was good to hear how men who have committed serious crimes have found forgiveness for their crimes"

- "Thanks Thank you again for all the wonderful programmes for the Sunday worship - always so appreciated and so moving - all in different ways. How blessed we are. Great encouragement to hear of so much good happening - again so moving this morning. Warmest thanks to all involved - and those behind the scenes making it happen. Warmest blessings"

SCRIPT ATTACHED:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06z1zdp>

Opening announcement from Radio 4 Continuity