

£2.50 United Kingdom/\$5 Australia & U.S.

LAUGH

The Comedy Magazine Issue 23 2002



Inside:
Ted Ray
Lenny Bruce
Anna Russell
Comic Relief (UK)
Father, Dear Father
Slightly Out To Lunch

Editor: Peter Tatchell **Layout & Design:** Mark McKay & Peter Tatchell

LAUGH is priced at \$5.00 per issue (plus \$1.00 postage) in Australia and the United States of America and £2.50 per issue (plus 50p postage) in Britain.

Subscription rates for four issues are \$20.00 (Australia and U.S.) or £10.00 (Britain) sent by air.

Subscriptions to LAUGH should be made payable to P. Tatchell and directed to the following addresses:

AUSTRALIA: c/o P.O. Box 394, Caulfield East, Victoria 3145.

GREAT BRITAIN: c/o 89 Welford Road, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8AJ.

UNITED STATES: c/o 143 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley, California 94707.

LAUGH is pleased to announce a special edition:

The Goodies Fact File

Two dozen pages telling you everything you wanted to know about this classic British comedy series, including:

Episode Guide
Videography

Discography
Bibliography

plus

An itemisation of the radio series which originally brought the team together...

I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again

Also includes guides to Broaden Your Mind and I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue and biographies of the three cast members

Send cheque or money order for \$6.00 (or £3.00) made payable to P. Tatchell

Contents

Father, Dear Father	3
Comic Relief (UK)	6
Lenny Bruce	10
Ted Ray	14
Anna Russell	18
Slightly Out To Lunch	20

Father, Dear Father

by Peter Tatchell

IN 1968, British commercial television welcomed several new franchises and a plethora of new programming. From Thames came *Father, Dear Father*, about a divorcee with two teenage daughters who writes crime novels. Perhaps television's best adaptation of theatrical farce, each episode managed to take a partially overheard conversation or misunderstanding and escalate it into a 25-minute rollercoaster of chaotic situations, before the truth is revealed as the credits roll.

Writers Johnnie Mortimer and Brian Cooke had graduated from scripting such radio shows as *Men From The Ministry*, *Comedy Parade* and the final series of *Round The Horne* and contributing to the TV series *Foreign Affairs*, *Life With Cooper*, *Hughie* and *Horne A'Plenty*.

The starring role of Patrick Glover was taken by Patrick Cargill, a familiar face on the West End stage and to viewers of such classic Hancock programmes as *The Blood Donor* and *The Bowmans*. Daughters Anna and Karen (played by Natasha Pyne and Ann Holloway) are revelling in the swinging sixties with all its music, fashion and ideals of sexual liberation.

Other women in their father's life are literary agent and romantic interest, Georgie (originally Sally Bazely, but later played by Dawn Addams) and the girls' Nanny (Noel Dyson) who has managed the household since the Glover divorce seven years earlier. Also resident on the premises is the pampered St. Bernard, H.G. Wells, played by several canines during the show's run... the first of whom was so large that any form of movement from the couch was apparently a problem.

Helping the plot entangle is Patrick's elderly mother (played by Joyce Carey, usually at the other end of the telephone in Herne Bay), a lady with a distinctly Gracie Allen style of understanding. And prone to dropping by in search of a place to stay or to cadge money is Patrick's ne'er-do-well brother Philip (portrayed by film and theatre great Donald Sinden).

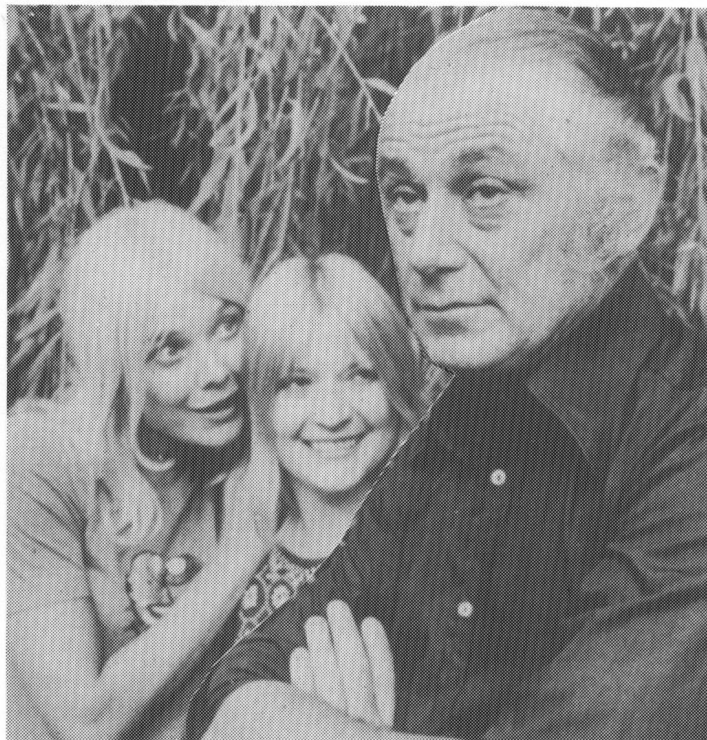
Other occasional visitors are the departed Mrs. Glover (Ursula Howells), now ensconced in Italy, and her new husband, the womanizing Bill Mossman (Patrick Holt in the first couple of seasons, before he was replaced by Tony Britton).

Also seen in several episodes is Karen's accident-prone boyfriend Howard, played by Richard O'Sullivan (who would later star in the Mortimer/Cooke success *Man About The House* and spin off, *Robin's Nest*, which also featured Tony Britton).

Father, Dear Father's performers and Mortimer and Cooke's clever scripts were immediate favourites with British (and soon overseas) viewers who warmed to the befuddled parent's gender and generational problems with his offspring.

After *Father, Dear Father* had completed two seasons in glorious monochrome, British commercial television and BBC 1 joined BBC 2 in taping in colour from the second half of 1969. And for four years in a row a short segment featuring the Glovers was featured in the annual ITV *All-Star Comedy Carnival* screened on Christmas Day.

The Glover clan were also guest contestants on the popular *Golden Shot* game show (March 1 1970) and appeared on the Edward Woodward variety hour (August 4 1971). Cargill starred in his own special, *Patrick Dear Patrick* (January 26 1972) which also featured a *Father Dear Father* segment.



After five seasons and over thirty programmes, the writers thought the show needed a lift and decided that Anna should get married. In the brief span of three episodes she meets, becomes engaged to, and marries Timothy Tanner (Jeremy Child) leading to a final series where the couple move into a flat, and new storylines can involve Patrick and his dunder-head son-in-law.

By 1973, cinema adaptations of television favourites like *Steptoe And Son*, *Till Death Us Do Part*, *Dad's Army*, *On The Buses* and *Up Pompeii!* were enjoying enormous box office success. With the TV series now out of production, Mortimer and Cooke decided to hop on the band waggon and reworked storylines from three early episodes into a film version of the show, which was released to cinemas in May 1974.

All the original cast took part (including Sinden, Howells and Carey) though Jack Watling took over as Bill and Jill Melford was cast as Georgie. Richard O'Sullivan reprised his occasional role as Karen's boyfriend (renamed "Richard" in the movie) and Beryl Reid appeared in an amusing cameo.

But the *Father, Dear Father* saga wasn't quite over. In 1978, Cargill and Dyson were signed to revive their characters in a continuation of the storyline called *Father, Dear Father In Australia*. The Seven Network, which had become known as the home of ITV comedies downunder (it had also screened the *Doctor* series, *Please Sir!*, *On The Buses* and several lesser known sitcoms) decided to finance a local version of the show.

Mortimer and Cooke scripted the opening episode which saw Patrick temporarily moving to Sydney to write his new novel. Accompanied by Nanny, he is to stay with a previously unmentioned brother Jeffrey who, like Patrick, happens to have two teenage daughters (Liz and Sue). Soon after arrival though, Jeffrey's work sends him to London and Patrick must take charge of the girls (played by Sally Conabere and Sigrid Thornton). And so, for a further thirteen episodes, the generation gap misunderstandings continued as before.

☆Episode Guide☆

All scripts for UK editions by Johnnie Mortimer and Brian Cooke.

Series 1: ITV November 5 to December 17 1968 (7×25 min, b/w)

1. *The Proposal*

Patrick feels the girls need a mother's guidance and decides to marry again.

2. *Pussies Galore*

When Anna and Karen mind a pregnant cat, their secrecy causes Patrick to think one of them is expecting.

3. *The Return Of The Mummy*

Patrick's ex-wife has had an argument with her new husband and decides to take up residence with the Glovers until things blow over.

4. *Publish And Be Damned*

Karen writes a steamy novel with characters based on the Glover household and creates a furore in publishing circles.

5. *It Won't Be A Stylish Marriage*

Anna decides to wed Cyril, but Patrick thinks it is Nanny who wants to marry.

6. *I Should Have Danced All Night*

When Patrick sneaks out every night to take dance lessons, the girls think he must be the person molesting women on the beach.

7. *Lost Weekend*

Patrick misunderstands Georgie's invitation to Brighton for the weekend then has to get out of going to Anna's play.

Series 2: ITV May 27 to July 1 1969 (6×25min, b/w)

1. *Unhappy Birthday*

When his doctor secretly phones about a surprise birthday party for Patrick, the birthday boy thinks he is at death's door.

2. *We Can't Afford A Carriage*

The girls can't get Patrick to buy them a car so they try to raise cash by modelling and bunnywork

3. *Show Me The Way To Go Home*

Anna moves to a decrepit bedsit, but Patrick thinks she is living with a man in the luxury apartment downstairs.

4. *Thinner Than Water*

Owing to a mixup with his blood donation card, Patrick thinks he can't be Anna and Karen's real father.

5. *Baby Won't You Please Come Home*

Patrick's brother Philip arrives unexpectedly with a baby that he presumes to be his.

6. *Divorce - English Style*

Owing to a legal technicality, it appears Patrick and Barbara's divorce may be null and void.

* All-Star Comedy Carnival: ITV December 25 1969

a short Father Dear Father segment was featured

Series 3: ITV May 12 to June 16 1970 (6×25min, colour)

1. *This Is Your Wife*

To ensure a film deal goes ahead, Patrick must appear married.

2. *One Dog And His Man*

The girls go on a hunger strike when Patrick gives H.G. away because he chewed up a manuscript.

3. *It's Never Too Late*

Karen is to be christened but the vicar believes he is to perform a marriage ceremony between Patrick and Barbara.

4. *Nobody's Indispensable*

The Glovers try to convince Nanny they can manage without her so she will accept a marriage proposal.

5. *A Suitable Suitor*

Patrick decides he has found the ideal husband for one of his daughters, but the young man's mother thinks he has romantic designs on her.

6. *A Man About The House*

While Patrick is in Europe, the girls let a young artist with marital troubles move into his room.

* All-Star Comedy Carnival: ITV December 25 1970

a short Father Dear Father segment was featured

Series 4: ITV June 15 to July 27 1971 (7×25min)

1. *The Last Of The Red-Hot Mommas*

Because of her age, Patrick thinks his mother should move in with them.

2. *An Affair To Forget*

Patrick becomes involved when his accountant is thought to be having an affair with his secretary.

3. *Housey-Housey*

Patrick is incensed when he hears of a council plan to build a flyover across their garden.

4. *The Reluctant Runaway*

Responding to a dare by Anna, Karen runs away from home.

5. *Come Back Little Sheba*

A pet hamster being minded by the Glovers goes missing.

6. *A Domestic Comedy*

While Patrick is looking for a temporary housekeeper to fill in for Nanny, Anna has a computer dating service sending round prospective partners for him.

7. *The Naked Truth*

The girls want to make sure Patrick won't see Anna's nude balcony scene in an amateur production of Romeo And Juliet.

Series 5: ITV September 13 to October 18 1971 (6×25min)

1. *Proposed And Seconded*

Patrick believes he may have accidentally proposed to Georgie during a party.

2. *The Life Of The Party*

When Patrick plans to be away for the weekend, the girls see it as the perfect time to have a party.

3. *Nothing But The Tooth*

Karen's clumsy boyfriend doesn't help Patrick's toothache.

4. *An Explosive Situation*

After accidentally buying some army surplus at auction, Patrick finds himself holding a grenade.

5. *A Book For The Bishop*

Patrick's old schoolmate is now a Bishop who leads a crusade against pornography.

6. *A Case For Inspector Glover*

Patrick tries to discover who has sent him poison pen letters.

* Mike And Bernie Winters All-Star Comedy Carnival:

ITV December 25 1971

a short Father Dear Father segment was featured

Series 6: ITV June 13 to July 25 1972 (7×25min)

1. *The Cardboard Casanova*

Patrick thinks he is about to be cited in a divorce but his remedy to the situation makes matters worse.

2. *Brother, Dear Brother*

Patrick has an accident whilst visiting Philip in hospital and ends up a patient himself.

3. *The Opposite Sex*

Patrick's expectations of a peaceful week free of the girls evaporates when circumstances result in the house being overrun with womenfolk.

4. *Unaccustomed As I Am*

An incapacity interferes with Patrick's speech at his old school.

5. *Feud Glorious Feud*

Anna's new boyfriend, Timothy, makes an unfortunate first impression on Patrick, who thinks he's a layabout.

6. *The Engagement*

Timothy causes confusion when he asks Patrick for permission to wed Anna.

7. *Father Of The Bride*

Timothy's stag party leaves him in no fit condition for his impending nuptials.

* All-Star Comedy Carnival: ITV December 25 1972
a short *Father Dear Father* segment was featured

Series 7: ITV January 2 to February 6 1973 (6×25min)

1. *Flat Spin*

Patrick finances Anna and Timothy's flat-hunting in the guise of a deceased relative, who arrives to dispute his death.

2. *Home And Away*

Patrick finds Bill philandering with a blonde in Barbara's country cottage.

3. *It's In The Book*

Patrick must try to fix the situation when his career advice to Timothy gets him sacked.

4. *The Right Hand Man*

Patrick accidentally gets handcuffed to Timothy just as a film producer is about to arrive for an important meeting.

5. *Pop Around The Clock*

Patrick thinks Karen and Howard's impending trip to a pop festival is in fact a plan to get married.

6. *In All Directions*

It's time for the annual Glover family discussion on where to go for the holidays.

Father Dear Father In Australia

Series 1: Seven Network June 25 to August 6 1978 (7×25min)

1. *Once More With Feeling*

Patrick takes up residence at his brother's house in Australia while writing a book.

2. *A Home From Home*

Patrick feels homesick for London's bleak weather.

3. *The Floating Housekeeper*

A strange woman takes over the running of the household.

4. *Novel Exercise*

When Patrick and Nanny act out a scene from his book, the neighbours call police.

5. *It Never Rains*

Patrick is visited by a woman who runs his fan club.

6. *Finding Your Feet*

Patrick is worried Nanny's new miniature Japanese garden will attract creepy-crawlies into the house.

7. *The Lost Sheep*

Patrick is curious about Nanny's absent minded behaviour.

Series 2: Seven Network May 24 to June 28 1980 (6×25min)

1. *Straight From The Horse's Mouth*

Liz tries to convince Patrick she should have a horse.

2. *Father, Dear Father's Day*

The girls plan a party to combat Patrick's homesickness.

3. *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*

Fifty year old letters belonging to previous residents of the house cause confusion.

4. *The Wisdom Of Patrick*

Patrick isn't keen on Liz and her boyfriend spending a holiday in the mountains.

5. *I Talk To The Trees*

The beneficial effects of talking to plants leads to a misunderstanding with the lady next door.

6. *Thrupping Thursday*

As an excuse from having to attend a function, Patrick invents a strange old English custom.



★Film★

Father, Dear Father

Rank/Sedgemoor/MM Films 1973 (99 minutes)

reworks plots from b/w episodes 1/1, 1/3 and 2/3

features the tv cast (with Jack Watling as Bill and Jill Melford as Georgie), plus Beryl Reid and Richard O'Sullivan.

★Records★

Patrick Cargill Sings "Father, Dear Father"

RCA Victor LP SF 8060 (1969)

Father Dear/Old Man Autumn/Nothing Is The Same Anymore/Out On A Sunday/On Art/Alone On The Telephone/Walking With Old H.G./Always Young/Songs Of Yesterday/Weight Watchers Guide/Holiday/Women/Television

Father Dear Father (Patrick Cargill vocal) / **Father Dear Father Theme** (instrumental)

Hit 45rpm single HIT 16 (Nov 1971)

★Videos★

Father Dear Father

Thames/Pickwick video TV9976 (1987)

This Is Your Wife (3/1)/One Dog And His Man (3/2)

Father, Dear, Father

Clear Vision video SIT006/DVD SITDVD006 (2002)

This Is Your Wife (3/1)/One Dog And His Man (3/2)/It's Never Too Late (3/3)/Nobody's Indispensable (3/4)/The Suitable Suitor (3/5)/A Man About The House (3/6)

Comic Relief

by Peter Tatchell

IN 1976 John Cleese gathered together the cream of the British Oxbridge comedy performers for a series of fundraising concerts in aid of Amnesty International, paving the way for subsequent events *The Mermaid Frolics* and the various *Secret Policeman's Balls* (see LAUGH #8 for details).

In 1981, the cast of *Not The Nine O'Clock News* and performers from London's Comic Strip standup venue appeared in *The Fundamental Frolics* (in aid of Mencap) and, some years later, Stephen Fry organized the first of several *Hysteria!* concerts to raise money to fight HIV/Aids.

The largest ongoing comedy fundraiser has been *Comic Relief*¹, which began as a comedy equivalent to Bob Geldof's *Live Aid* to help those suffering from famine in Africa. (In subsequent years, the project has also offered financial support to young people in crisis in Britain). One of the co-founders was scriptwriter Richard Curtis, of *Blackadder* and *Four Weddings And A Funeral* fame.

In April 1986 Curtis persuaded his friend Rowan Atkinson, along with Lenny Henry, The Young Ones and many others to take part in three all-star concerts at London's Shaftesbury Theatre. Highlights from the performances were screened on BBC1 three weeks later.

In the years since, the B.B.C. itself has been the focal point for biennial telethons, under the title of Red Nose Day (usually staged in mid-March). Leading comedy, musical and drama performers appear live during the show or in character in specially-produced segments of their original programmes. Others can be seen on the spot in Africa, showing how the money is being spent.

Henry, along with Griff Rhys Jones and Jonathan Ross, were hosts of the marathon programming in the early years, whilst Atkinson can usually be seen in one of the segments (as either *Blackadder*, *Mr. Bean* or one of gallery of Doctors Who). Victoria Wood, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders have made regular appearances as well (with French's *Vicar of Dibley* team taking part on more than one occasion).

For the 1999 Red Nose Day telecast, Victoria Wood took over as editor of the *Radio Times*, which also included contributions from Dawn French, Rowan Atkinson, Richard Curtis and a number of other *Comic Relief* luminaries.

Apart from the professional entertainment offered during the appeals (as enticement for phone donations from viewers), members of the public are encouraged to wear plastic red noses or take part in a lunatic array of sponsored stunts, such as idiotic dressing or crazy sporting events.

Cash is also raised by the production of books and audio and video highlights of the original concert and the telethons. There follows an itemisation of the events to date and the merchandising...

¹ The U.S. also has a version of *Comic Relief*, where funds are raised for the homeless. Since 1986, H.B.O. has telecast a number of telethons hosted by Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg and Robin Williams, featuring a galaxy of comedy performers. Merchandising of CDs and videos also contributes to the project.



Comic Relief Presents Utterly Utterly Live!

concert at the Shaftesbury Theatre April 4, 5 & 6 1986
(90min highlights special on BBC1 10-15pm, April 25 1986)
with Afrodiziak, Joan Armatrading, Rowan Atkinson, Chris Barrie, Rory Bremner, Frank Bruno, Kate Bush, Graham Chapman, Eric Clapton, John Cleese, Carole Cleveland, Sebastian Coe, Billy Connolly, Ray Cooney, Ronnie Corbett, Ian Davidson, Angus Deayton, Malcolm Dixon, Paul Eddington, Ade Edmondson, Ben Elton, Michael Fenton-Stevens, Dawn French, Stephen Fry, Bob Geldof, John Ghavan, Terry Gilliam, Gary Glitter, Louise Gold, Howard Goodall, Lenny Henry, Jeffrey Holland, Howard Jones, Roy Kinnear, Neil Kinnock, Hugh Laurie, Leslie Lawton, Alfred Marks, Rik Mayall, Steve Overt, Michael Palin, Nigel Planer, Philip Pope, Chris Ryan, Raw Sex, Cliff Richard, Jennifer Saunders, Cathy Staff, Ringo Starr, Jim Steinman, Pamela Stephenson, Bonnie Tyler, Midge Ure, Wanda Ventham, Timothy West, Paul Young

A Night Of Comic Relief

BBC1 Friday February 5 1988 (7-35pm - 3-35am)
hosted by Lenny Henry and Griff Rhys Jones
with contributions by ...

Rory Bremner, Cannon & Ball, Jasper Carrott, Robbie Coltrane, Phil Cool, Ronnie Corbett, Jim Davidson, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, French & Saunders, Matt Frewer, Stephen Fry, Hale & Pace, Rod Hull, Barry Humphries, Hugh Laurie, Little & Large, Warren Mitchell, Michael Palin, Jimmy Perry, Jonathan Ross, Alan Simpson, Pamela Stephenson, Emma Thompson, Julie Walters, Ernie Wise, Victoria Wood and the segments ...

A Question Of Sport Meets Spitting Image
(with David Coleman, Mike Gating, Barry McGuigan and Daley Thompson)

Blackadder - The Cavalier Years
(with Rowan Atkinson, Tony Robinson, Warren Clarke and Stephen Fry)

Alan B'stard Closes Down The B.B.C.
(with Rik Mayall, Celia Imrie and Hilary O'Neill)

A Night Of Comic Relief 2

BBC1 Friday March 10 1989 (7-30pm - 2-30am)

hosted by Lenny Henry, Griff Rhys Jones and Jonathan Ross, with contributions by ...

Dave Allen, Jane Asher, Rowan Atkinson, Bananarama, Rory Bremner, Frank Carson, Julian Clary, Phil Collins, George Cole, Robbie Coltrane, Billy Connolly, Sue Cook, Jimmy Cricket, Paul Daniels, Les Dennis, Ken Dodd, Jason Donovan, Harry Enfield, French & Saunders, Fry & Laurie, Hale & Pace, Rolf Harris, Nigel Hawthorne, Peter Howitt, Celia Imrie, Penelope Keith, Little & Large, Simon Mayo, Barry McGuigan, Laurie McMenemy, Kylie Minogue, Jimmy Nail, Nanette Newman, Paul Nicholas, Barry Norman, Joan Rivers, Kate Robbins, John Sessions, Mel Smith, Pamela Stephenson, Emma Thompson, Terry Wogan, Mike Yarwood, and the segments ...

The Last Waltz

(with Nerys Hughes, Jean Boht, Felicity Kendal, Polly James, Caroline Blakiston, Linda McCartney and Kim Wilde)

'Allo 'Allo from the Palladium

(with Gordon Kaye and company)

The Night Of The Comic Dead

(with Phil Cool, Frank Carson)

Hot Metal - The Satellite Years

(with Robert Hardy, Geoffrey Palmer, Peter Snow and Mike Gating)

Hamlet

(with ? and Harry Enfield as Stravros)

Comic Relief — 1991

BBC1 Friday March 15 1991 (7-25pm - 2-30am)

hosted by Lenny Henry, Griff Rhys Jones and Jonathan Ross, with contributions by ...

Russ Abbot, Bad News (Ade Edmondson, Rik Mayall, Nigel Planer and Peter Richardson), Jean Boht, Melvyn Bragg, Rory Bremner, Richard Briers, Julian Clary, Ronnie Corbett, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, French & Saunders, Hale & Pace, Bob Hoskins, Glenda Jackson, Tom Jones, Nicholas Lyndhurst, Roger Mellie, Barry Norman, Vic Reeves, Tony Robinson, Phillip Schofield, Mel Smith, Chris Tarrant, Paul Whitehouse, Victoria Wood, Steve Wright, Bill Wyman, and the segments ...

Blind Snog

Four Birds Of A Feather

(with Pauline Quirk, Linda Robson, French and Saunders)

Mr. Bean's Red Nose Day

(with Rowan Atkinson)

Whose Jackanory Is It Anyway? (BBC1 4-05 - 4-20pm)

(with Rory McGrath, Jimmy Mulville, Clive Anderson, Chris Langham, Angus Deayton, Bill Oddie, Tony Slattery)

Total Relief

BBC1 Friday March 12 1993 (7-00pm - 2-35am) and BBC2 (9-00 - 9-30pm)

with Jo Brand, Frank Carson, Angus Deayton, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, French & Saunders, Stephen Fry, Roy Hattersley, Lenny Henry, Joana Lumley, Newman & Baddiel, Right Said Fred, Jonathan Ross, Griff Rhys Jones, Tony Robinson, Lisa Stansfield, Zoe Wanamaker, Paul Whitehouse, and the segments ...

The B.B.C. Banned Audition Tapes

(with Peter Sissons, Terry Wogan and others)

Have I Got Sports News For You

(with Angus Deayton, Ian Hislop, Paul Merton and Bill Beaumont)

Mr. Bean On Blind Date

(with Rowan Atkinson and Cilla Black)

One Foot In The Grave

(with Richard Wilson)

A Night Of Comic Relief — 1995

BBC1 Friday March 17 1995 (7-00pm - 2-30am) and BBC2 (9-00 - 9-30pm)

with Jo Brand, Eric Clapton, Julian Clary, Phil Collins, Robbie Coltrane, Billy Connolly, Steve Coogan, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, Chris Evans, French & Saunders, Lenny Henry, Mick Hucknall, Reeves & Mortimer, Jonathan Ross, Smith & Jones, Ruby Wax, Wet Wet Wet, Richard Wilson, Victoria Wood and the segments ...

Oliver 2: Let's Twist Again

(with Jeremy Irons, Diana Rigg, Pauline Collins, Alan Cumming, Timothy Spall, Angus Deayton, Ron Moody, Oliver Reed, Michael Palin, Stephen Fry, Kathy Burke, Richard Briers)

Torvill And Bean

(with Rowan Atkinson and Jayne Torvill)

Comic Relief — 1997

BBC1 Friday March 14 1997 (7-00pm - 3-20am) and BBC2 (9-00 - 9-30pm)

with Jeffrey Archer, Bjork, Frank Bruno, Kathy Burke, Caprice, Billy Connolly, Steve Coogan, Angus Deayton, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, John Fashanu, French & Saunders, Luella Gideon, Sally Gunnell, Lenny Henry, Jimmy Hill, Barry Humphries (as Dame Edna), Ulrika Jonsson, Lulu, Desmond Lynam, Mystic Meg, Jeremy Paxman, Griff Rhys Jones, Jonathan Ross, Peter Sissons, The Spice Girls, Susan Tully, Julie Walters, Victoria Wood and the segments ...

BallykissDibley

(with Stephen Tomkinson, Dawn French and company)

Father Ted And His Faithful Friends

(with Dermot Morgan, Ardal O'Hanlon and company)

The Great Big Stupid Celebrity Sketch Show

Men Behaving Very Badly Indeed

(with Martin Clunes, Neil Morrissey and Kylie Minogue)

Only Fools And Horses Red Nose Exclusive

(with David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst)

Prime Cracker

(with Helen Mirren and Robbie Coltrane)

Comic Relief — 1999

BBC1 Friday March 12 1999 (7-00pm - 2-30am) and BBC2 (9-00 - 9-30pm)

with Zoe Ball, Boyzone, Paul Bradley, Julian Clary, Jack Dee, Ben Elton, Harry Enfield, Chris Evans, Dawn French, Paul Gascoigne, Lenny Henry, Mick Hucknall, Simon Mayo, Davina McCall, Ewan McGregor, Graham Norton, Griff Rhys Jones, Tony Robinson, Jonathan Ross, Jennifer Saunders, Peter Snow, Johnny Vaughn, Ruby Wax, Steve Wright and the segments ...

The Vicar Of Dibley

(with Dawn French and company, Johnny Depp and Sarah Ferguson)

Doctor Who

(with Rowan Atkinson, Jonathan Pryce, Julia Sawalha, Richard E. Grant, Jim Broadbent, Hugh Grant and Joanna Lumley)

Wetty Hainthrop Investigates

(with Victoria Wood, Julie Walters, Judith Chalmers, Gary Wilmot, Matthew Kelly, and stars of Coronation Street)

Men Behaving Badly - The Very Special Sketch

(with Martin Clunes)

Alan Partridge Live (on BBC2)

(with Steve Coogan and Bryan Ferry)

Have I Got Buzzcocks All Over

(with Angus Deayton, Nick Hancock, Phill Jupitus and guests)

Comic Relief: The Debt Wish Show

concert at the Brixton Academy June 4 & 5 1999

(50min highlights special on BBC1 10-40pm, June 12 1999)

with Rowan Atkinson, David Baddiel, Steve Coogan, Angus Deayton, Happy Mondays, Lenny Henry, Lee and Herring, Big Train cast, The League Of Gentlemen cast, Goodness Gracious Me cast, Smack The Pony cast

Comic Relief Presents: Big Red Nose Night

BBC1 Friday March 16 2001 (7-00pm - 3-05am) and BBC2 (10-00 - 10-30pm)

with Zoe Ball, Jenny Bond, Billy Connolly, Steve Coogan, Cat Deeley, Lenny Henry, Harry Hill, Gloria Hunniford, Samuel L. Jackson, Davina McCall, Graham Norton, Dermot O'Leary, Jonathan Ross, Robbie Williams and the segments ..

The Ant And Dec Extravaganza: CR: TV

(with Mel Smith, Harry Enfield and The Eastenders cast)

Super My Hero

(with Ardal O'Hanlon, Mo Mowlam, Matthew Pinsent and Steve Redgrave)

The Final Fast Show

Popsters

(with Rowan Atkinson, Lenny Henry, Kate Winslet, Robbie Williams, Emma Bunton and Anthea Turner)

One Foot In The Grave

(with Richard Wilson, Annette Crosbie, Eric Sykes)

Goodness Gracious Me

(with Phill Jupitus)

Kiss Me Kate

(with Caroline Quentin, Chris Langham, Tamzin Outhwaite, Ronnie Corbett and Des Lynam)

Have I Got Buzzcocks All Over (on BBC2)

(with Angus Deayton, Nick Hancock, Sean Hughes, Stephen Fry, David Gower, Phill Jupitus and Roison Murphy)

The Big Interview

(Ali G, Victoria and David Beckham)

Smack The Pony

The League Of Gentlemen

Gimme, Gimme, Gimme

(with Kathy Burke and James Dreyfus)

Skinner And Baddiel Unpaid

(with Frank Skinner and David Baddiel)

Outrageous M-Pegs And J-Pegs

Rock Profile Special

(with Jamie Theakston, Matt Lucas and David Walliams)

☆Recordings☆

Comic Relief Presents Utterly Utterly Live!

WEA LP WX 51 (1986)

highlights from the Shaftesbury Theatre concerts

Spitting Image's Royal Address (Chris Barrie and Louise Gold)

Big Love (Lenny Henry as Theophilus P. Wilderbeest)

A Dangerous Place (Billy Connolly)

Breathing (Kate Bush)

Romeo And Juliet And Harry (Lenny Henry and Frank Bruno)

Living Doll (Cliff Richard with The Young Ones)

A Bit Of A Downer (Nigel Planer as Neil)

The Train Set (Ben Elton)

Life In One Day (Howard Jones and Afrodiziak)

Merchant Banker (Stephen Fry, Bob Geldof and Midge Ure)

Do Bears ... (Rowan Atkinson and Kate Bush)

Friendly Advice (Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders)

Fatal Beatings (Rowan Atkinson and Angus Deayton)

Feed The World (Bob Geldof and Midge Ure)

Living Doll/(All The Little Flowers Are) Happy

WEA 45rpm single YZ 65 (1986)

Living Doll (Cliff Richard and The Young Ones)

(All The Little Flowers Are) Happy (The Young Ones)

Mel & Kim

10 Records 7" single TEN 2, 12" single TEN 212 (1987)

Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree (Mel Smith & Kim Wilde)

Deck The Blooming Halls (The Mel Smith Yuletide Choir)

Help!

FFRR/London 45rpm single 886 492-7 (1989)

Help! (Banarama with French & Saunders and Kathy Burke)

Help! (Banarama only)

The Stonk/The Smile Song

London 45rpm single LON 296 (1991)

The Stonk (Hale & Pace)

The Smile Song (Victoria Wood)

The Big Red Tape

Our Price Music cassette STONK 1 (1991)

hosted by Smashie & Nicey (Harry Enfield & Paul Whitehouse)

Smashie And Nicey Say Happy Red Nose Day

Brogues (Smith And Jones)

Wearing Daft Shorts For Charity!

News Update Round-Up Type Stuff (Spitting Image)

Hidden Message! & Nige Mileage

Abba (French & Saunders and Raw Sex)

Suffering

Elton Ben And His Whirling Chopper (Ben Elton)

Time Check & Mr. Fall-Down-The-Stairs

Blues At Ten (Spitting Image)

Mr. Not-Very-Good-At-Funny-Voices

In The Thinking Corner With The Reverend Fry (Stephen Fry)

Sob Story

Big Love (Lenny Henry as Theophilus P. Wilderbeest)

Mr. Ansaphone

Smashie Says A Wap Bob A Loo Bop A Loop Bye Bye!

(I Want To Be) Elected

London 45rpm single LON 319 (1992)

Rowan Atkinson (as Mr. Bean) and Smear Campaign

Smear Campaign (solo version)

Love Can Build A Bridge

CD single COCD1 (1995)

Love Can Build A Bridge (*Cher, Chrissie Hynde, Neneh Cherry*)

Help! (*Bananarama with French & Saunders and Kathy Burke*)

Can't Get Enough Of Your Love (*Tom Jones & Lenny Henry*)

What A Relief!

BBC double-cassette ZBBC 1959, 2CD ZBBC 1959CD (1997)

Romeo And Juliet And Harry (*Lenny Henry and Frank Bruno*)

Gold Bland Coffee Ad (*Peter Howitt and Celia Imrie*)

Restaurant (*Gorden Kaye and Penelope Keith*)

Do Bears ... (*Rowan Atkinson and Kate Bush*)

Washday Blues Ad

Divorce Service (*Rowan Atkinson*)

Friendly Advice (*Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders*)

Barry White And Prince (*Lenny Henry*)

Police Briefing (*Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones*)

Missile Launch (*Nicholas Lyndhurst*)

Vicar

Margery And Joan (*Victoria Wood and Julie Walters*)

The New Statesman At Number 10 (*Rik Mayall*)

One Foot In The Grave - Victor In The Bath (*Richard Wilson*)

Silent Order (*Penelope Keith and Emma Thompson*)

Football Result

Dawn (*Dawn French and Victoria Wood*)

Phone Ad

Brian Walden Interviews Gasman (*Jim Broadbent*)

Alan Partridge (*Steve Coogan*)

Comic Relief Stunts (*Ben Elton*)

The Train Set (*Ben Elton*)

A Dangerous Place (*Billy Connolly*)

Living Doll (*Cliff Richard with Ade Edmondson, Rik Mayall,*

Nigel Planer and Chris Ryan as the Young Ones)

Motor Insurance Claim Forms (*Jasper Carrott*)

Ken Dodd

Willie Rushton and Barry Cryer

Greek Tragedies (*John Gordon-Sinclair*)

Griff Rhys Jones and Angus Deayton

Play It Again Sam (*Les Dennis*)

The Two Rons (*Gareth Hale and Norman Pace*)

Griff Rhys Jones and Lenny Henry

The Wrong Good Friday (*Bob Hoskins*)

Head To Head (*Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones*)

The Funniest Thing I Ever Heard

B.B.C. double-cassette ISBN 0563 535555 (2001)

* *Comic Relief has also released non-comedy recordings by Boyzone, Westlife, The Spice Girls, Right Said Fred and others.*

Books

The Utterly Utterly Merry Comic Relief Christmas Book

Fontana paperback 1986

The Utterly Utterly Amusing And Pretty Damn Definitive Comic Relief Revue Book

Penguin paperback 1989

What A Comic Relief! The Incredibly Naughty Survive At School Handbook

compiled by Huw Tristan Davies

Puffin paperback 1989

Comic Relief by Julia Brown

Heinemann 1997

Videos

Comic Relief — Live

Virgin Video VIR 183 (1986)

highlights from the Shaftesbury Theatre concerts

Introduction (*Rowan Atkinson*)

Spitting Image's Royal Address (*Chris Barrie and Louise Gold*)

Friendly Advice (*Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders*)

Life In One Day (*Howard Jones and Afrodisiak*)

Caná (*Rowan Atkinson*)

Living Doll (*Bob Geldof with Ade Edmondson, Rik Mayall,*

Nigel Planer and Chris Ryan as the Young Ones)

Spitting Image Address (*Chris Barrie*)

Merchant Banker (*Stephen Fry, Bob Geldof and Midge Ure*)

Big Love (*Lenny Henry as Theophilus P. Wilderbeest*)

Schoolmaster (*Rowan Atkinson*)

Breathing (*Kate Bush*)

A Bit Of A Downer (*Nigel Planer as Neil*)

Nudist Beach (*Ben Elton*)

Do Bears ... (*Rowan Atkinson and Kate Bush*)

Romeo And Juliet And Harry (*Lenny Henry and Frank Bruno*)

A Dangerous Place (*Billy Connolly*)

Feed The World (*Bob Geldof and Midge Ure*)

Exclusive Relief

BBC Video BBCV 4617 (1991)

Very Short Intro From Africa

The Night Of The Comic Dead

Blackadder - The Cavalier Years

The New Statesman At Number 10

The Young Ones - Summer Holiday

Livin' Doll (*Cliff Richard and The Young Ones*)

Red Nose Day Spending Report

Blackadder Goes Forth - Goodbye

Very, Very Short Outro From Africa

Mr. Bean And Comic Relief

London Video 084 990 3 (1992)

(I Want To Be) Elected (*Rowan Atkinson & Bruce Dickinson*)

Mr. Bean's Red Nose Day (*Atkinson and Angus Deayton*)

The Pick Of The Nose!

B.B.C. Video BBCV 5963 (1996)

The Best Of Comic Relief

PG Tips promotional tie-in video (199?)

Short Serious Bit About Where Comic Relief Spends Your Money

Blackadder - The Cavalier Years

Four Birds Of A Feather

Mr. Bean On Blind Date

One Foot In The Grave

Casualty - Interactive Version

Comic Relief Red Nose Round-Up Of Comedy

Hula Hoops promotional tie-in video (199?)

incl. Mr. Bean, Only Fools And Horses, BallykissDibley,

Casualty, The Spice Girls & The Sugar Lumps

Doctor Who — The Curse Of Fatal Death

B.B.C. Video BBCV 6889 (1999)

features 1999 segments, plus assorted other Doctor Who spoofs

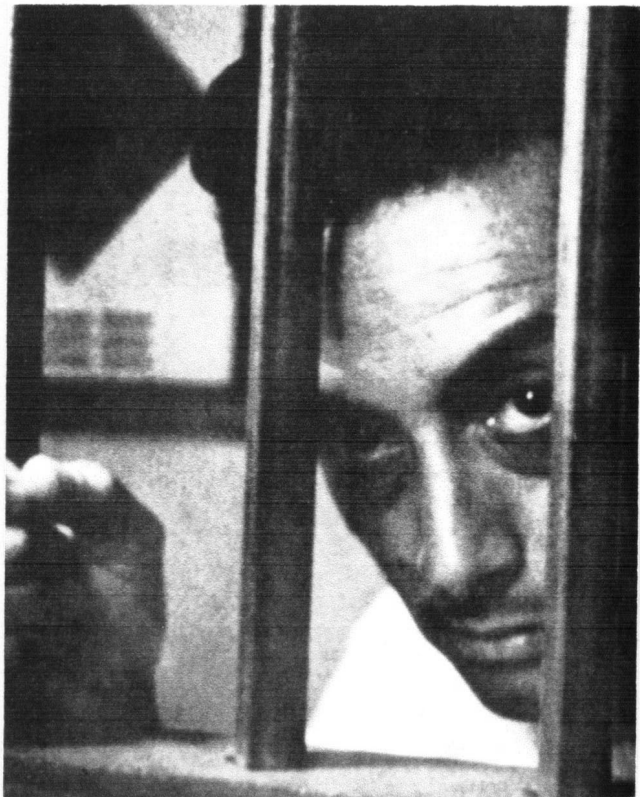
Rude For A Reason — Live

B.B.C. Video BBCV 6910 (1999)

highlights from the Brixton Academy Debt Wish concerts

Lenny Bruce

by Danny Mitchell



LENNY Bruce changed the face of stand-up comedy in America forever, replacing streams of “mother-in-law”-type jokes with insightful observations of American society, and making it possible for comedians like Bill Hicks, Richard Pryor, and even George Carlin to perform. As a reward for his insight and concern, American society treated him like a criminal, denying him his legal and constitutional rights and destroying his life.

Leonard Alfred Schneider was born on 13 October 1925 in Mineola, New York to Myron (“Mickey”) and Sadie (“Sally”) Schneider, who divorced eight years later. He changed his name to Lenny Bruce because “Leonard Alfred Schneider sounds too Hollywood”. He joined the U.S. Navy at the outbreak of hostilities in 1941 and saw action as a shell-passer on the U.S.S. Brooklyn in four (or five) major invasions. After the war his applications to leave the Navy were rejected, so he started wearing a WAVE’s uniform. After a panel of psychiatrists had failed to establish that he was a homosexual, the Navy gave him an honourable Section 8 discharge.

About a year later at the Victory Club in Brooklyn, where his mother was dancing, Lenny got his introduction to show business when he was asked to stand in for the M.C. After performing in various amateur nights in nightclubs for about five months in 1946 and 1947, he appeared on a CBS Radio and TV simulcast, *Arthur Godfrey’s Talent Scouts*, on the 18th April 1949, performing a routine based on his experiences with theatrical agents, which he later developed into *Adolph Hitler and the M.C.A.* The result was a tie between Lenny and a singer named John Connolly, but it led to more radio and TV appearances.

After a few short shows in New York, he opened at the China Doll Club, New York, in February 1950, in a show that ran for five weeks. A year later, while performing at the Club Charles, he met a stripper named Honey Harlowe (Harriet Jolliffe.) He had by this time committed himself to a three month tour of duty as deckhand on a merchant ship, but on his return he and Honey moved into an apartment together.

In April 1951, in New York, he and “a battery of lawyers” set up a charity called the *Brother Matthias Foundation for Lepers*, whose stated aim was the support of a leper colony in British Guiana. In his autobiography, Lenny makes no bones about the fact that this was just a way to make a lot of money: “Of course it was dishonest and corrupt, and I don’t fool myself by saying there are degrees of corruption...” He kept half of what he collected for his efforts: “It was no more—and certainly much *less*—than the majority of charitable organizations take out for *their* efforts.” A few days later, while “fund-raising” in Miami, he was arrested for vagrancy and panhandling. Despite being able to produce the charter for the foundation, he was taken to court the next day, where he was acquitted.

On 16th June 1951 Lenny and Honey were married in Detroit. For the next three months they performed together in clubs and on TV, but that September they were involved in a car accident in which Honey was horrifically injured, and Lenny received head injuries. He immediately stopped “fund-raising”, believing that God was punishing him for his dishonesty.

After a few years working clubs mostly in Los Angeles, including an eighteen month engagement at a club called Strip City, Lenny and Honey finished up in Hollywood, working on Lenny’s father’s chicken farm. In 1954, on the recommendation of fellow comedian Buddy Hackett, Lenny was approached by Twentieth Century Fox and offered work as a script writer; they gave him details of a film they were planning called *McCluskey Strikes a Blow*, which Lenny developed into *The Rocket Man*. Although this film was not a success, Lenny was given a writing contract, with *Dream Follies* (starring Lenny and his mother, Sally) and *Dance Hall Racket* (starring Lenny, Honey, and Sally) following later in the same year. While researching a film to be called *The Leather Jacket*, Lenny dressed as a tramp and went to talk to Catholic priests in various parts of Los Angeles. Instead of the stereotype priest who’d offer support and assistance to anyone, regardless of their circumstances, he found that priests didn’t want to talk to a tramp, and casually brushed him off. From these and similar experiences of hypocrisy in the organised churches he developed the routines *Religions, Inc.* and *Christ and Moses*.

Lenny and Honey’s daughter Kitty was born on 7th November 1955, though the marriage was by now under strain, with Honey going back to stripping. Lenny filed for divorce in March 1956, though Honey went with Lenny to Hawaii three months later. While in Hawaii Honey was arrested for possession of marijuana, and Lenny took Kitty back to Los Angeles. They were finally divorced in January 1957. Lenny said that he got “about an hour’s worth of material [out of the divorce]. Not bad for an eight year investment.”

Lenny continued to perform for the next few years, developing a more outrageous style (he appeared on stage naked several times, and was fired after his first night in one venue for doing “blue material”), appearing on *The Steve Allen Show* on NBC, and *Playboy’s Penthouse* on WBKB-TV, Chicago,

and releasing several records. Then in April 1960 he gave a performance at the New York Town Hall, which sold out. According to Don Friedman, jazz pianist and long-time friend of Lenny, “[The] Town Hall [was] upset because of copies of Paul Krassner’s *Realist* placed in back of seats to greet Sunday morning churchgoers, who did not appreciate the magazine, or us. This was the start of the anti-Lenny campaign.”



By mid-1961 Lenny was riding high on a wave of popularity, with four LP’s, a short booklet, *Stamp Help Out*, and several films to his name, and filling venues across America. On 29th September of that year, though, he was arrested in Philadelphia for illegal possession of drugs. The police confiscated several medicaments, but analysis by the police chemist confirmed that they were drugs for which Lenny had valid prescriptions, and the case was dropped. The following week, in San Francisco, Lenny was arrested for obscenity for the routine *A Pretty Bizarre Show*, in which he used the word “cocksucker”. He was acquitted in March 1962, but used his experiences in court for the routine *Blah Blah Blah*.

In April 1962 he went to London at the invitation of Peter Cook, owner of The Establishment nightclub, where he enjoyed success with over fifty performances, then in September went to Australia. The Australians were apparently less impressed with him than Londoners; he was booked at Aaron’s Hotel in Sydney for a week, but was banned after one performance. The ABC had booked him to appear on its program *People*, but they cancelled the booking on the previous day. Press reports were unfavourable, and Lenny returned to the USA after less than two weeks down under.

Three weeks later, in Los Angeles, he was arrested again for illegal possession of narcotics. On his conviction in May 1963, the judge could have sentenced him to two years imprisonment; instead he had him “assessed” by two doctors who (apparently on the basis that Lenny had been arrested on a possession charge, and the hypodermic needle marks on his arms) testified that he was a heroin addict. Lenny’s doctors and one of America’s most experienced and respected experts on narcotics addiction, Dr. Joel Fort, disagreed. However the judge ruled that Lenny *was* an addict and ordered that he be confined for treatment for ten years. Lenny appealed, and three years later was given a suspended sentence. (By a curious coincidence, the arresting officer in this case was subsequently imprisoned for “illegal importation of narcotics”.)

Two weeks after this, Bruce was again arrested for obscenity and then again a week later (on two successive nights.) This case was dismissed in July 1963, but seemed to set the pattern for what was to come. For the remainder of his life he was repeatedly arrested, once on a narcotics charge (which was thrown out of court) but otherwise for obscenity. That these arrests had more to do with suppressing Lenny’s scathing analyses of American society and less to do with the language he used can be amply illustrated:

- after Lenny was arrested in Chicago’s *Gate of Horn* nightclub, a police official visited the venue and warned the manager that the police would have someone watching every show, and that “I’m here to tell you that your license is in danger” (this conversation was recorded, without the police official’s knowledge)
- Lenny was never successfully convicted on any obscenity charge (a 1963 Chicago conviction was overturned in 1964, and a New York one a year later was voided in Feb. 1967.) In spite of this, he became known as “the dirty comedian”... *Time Magazine* called him “the sick comic”. The police started arresting him before his shows, holding him long enough to force the shows cancellation, and then releasing him without pressing charges
- this quote from the *San Francisco Sunday Examiner and Chronicle*, October 31, 1971, p. 30, in an article titled “The Irony Of Lenny Bruce”, is perhaps the most telling: “As one of the New York assistant district attorneys remorsefully told Bruce’s lawyer, Martin Garbis: ‘We drove him into poverty and bankruptcy and then murdered him. We all knew what we were doing. We used the law to kill him.’”

As would be expected, Lenny’s shows from this time become more concerned with the law and the legal system, though, to his credit, he never had anything derogatory to say about them or the police, even offering his ideas about why we *need* a police force in a routine called *The Craphouse*.

Lenny was invited back to The Establishment in 1963. He was refused entry to Britain, but flew to Ireland a few days later and entered England from there, but was deported the next day and barred from future visits.

In April 1964 at the *Cafe Au GoGo* in Greenwich Village, he was again arrested for obscenity; two months later, during his trial, a petition signed by some of the leading actors, comedians, writers, philosophers, theologians, and editors of the time (including Woody Allen, Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, Joseph Heller, Lillian Hellman, Walt Kelly, and Allen Ginsberg) was delivered to the mayor of New York, stating that his trial was a violation of the first and fourteenth amendments of the US Constitution. This was the case in which he was convicted.

By October 1965 Lenny had spent so much time and money defending himself that the day after his fortieth birthday he was declared a legally bankrupt pauper. He continued to perform, but on 3rd August 1966 he was found in the bathroom of his home in Hollywood, having died from a morphine overdose.

In an ironic twist, within five years of Lenny’s death there were two stage plays based on his life story being performed in New York (one of which was made into a film!)

☆Discography☆

Interviews Of Our Times

Fantasy 7001, United Artists UAL 29076 (UK)
The Interview / Djinni in the Candy Store / Enchanting Transylvania / Interview with Dr. Sholem Stein / The March of High Fidelity / Maria Ouspenskaya Interview / Father Flotski's Triumph / All Broadway Musicals Sound The Same, Especially The Baritones / Shorty Patterstein Interview

My Werewolf Mama / I Don't Make Money

Fantasy single 542X (1958)

Psychopathia Sexualis

single (1959)

The Sick Humor Of Lenny Bruce

Fantasy 7003, Demon Verbals VERB 2 (UK)
Non Skeddo Flies Again / The Kid in the Well / Adolph Hitler & the MCA / Ike, Sherm & Nick / Psychopathia Sexualis / Religions, Inc.

I Am Not A Nut, Elect Me! (also known as Togetherness)

Fantasy 7007
White Collar Drunks / The Defiant Ones (with Eric Miller) / The Phone Company / The Steve Allen Show / Esther Costello Story / Bronchitis / My Trip To Miami / The Tribunal / The Palladium / Our Governors

Lenny Bruce: Carnegie Hall

United Artists UAS-9800

also released as:

Lenny Bruce United Artists, UAL-3580

Lenny Bruce In Concert Demon Verbals VERB 5

The Midnight Concert United Artists UAS-6794

Introduction - Don Friedman / Miracle on 5th Street / The Airlines / Sound / The Kidnap / Point of View / Ku Klux Klan / A What's It Mean / Kennedy Acceptance Speech / On Humor / Nightclubs / Dykes & Faggots / Girl Singing / The Flag & Communism / Dear Abby / Las Vegas Tits & Ass / The Clap / Christ & Moses / Equality / Internal Revenue / Pills / Burlesque House / Judge Saperstein Decision / On Contemporaries / Shelley Berman / The Operation / The Joke / The End

Recording Submitted in Evidence In The San Francisco Obscenity Trial, March 1962

Lenny Bruce Records LB 9001/9002

A Pretty Bizarre Show / Dirty Toilet / C.E. Hoxie / To Come

Live at the Curran Theater

Fantasy, 34201

subsequently re-released as:

The Legendary Lenny Bruce Murray Hill M52952

Critics / Definitions / San Francisco Bust / Courts / Juries / Cops / Philadelphia Bust / Corruption / Obscenity / Jewish & Goyishe / The Lie / Courtroom Fantasy / George Shearing & Guide Dogs For the Blind / Tropic of Cancer / Cops & Bad Toilet Training / Philadelphia Hotel Room Raid & Ride to Jail / Jails & the Philadelphia Lower Courts / Shirley Beck Letters / Blue Suits / Bobby Kennedy / Russians / Integration / Juries / Humor / Fantasy with the Judge / Las Vegas / Paradox of Obscenity / Tits & Ass / Nuns / Paul Robeson / Adolph Eichmann / Christ & Moses / Legalisation of Pot / Hillbillies / Judy Garland's Farewell

Lenny Bruce — American

Fantasy 7011

Lima, Ohio / Airplane Glue / Shelley Berman / Chicago / Nightclub Owners / How To Relax Your Colored Friends At Parties (with Eric Miller) / The Lost Boy / Marriage, Divorce & Motels / Don's Big Dago / Three Message Movies (Narcotics, Truth, Tolerance) / Commercials / Father Flotski's Triumph (unexpurgated)

Live! Busted!

Vipers Nest Records CD VN-178

also known as:

The Legendary 1962 Concert When Lenny Was Busted

Intro / King Kong Routine / Paul Molloy & Christianity / Entrapment by Cops / Sex is Dirty? / Imprisonment / War Criminals / Infidelity / How to relax colored people / Talks to lady in Audience / Jewish Theater / Christ & Moses / The Milwaukee Gig / Cops, Flashlights & Bottles / Who's a fag / Drugs / The Bust

To Is A Preposition, Come Is A Verb

Douglas 2

also released as:

What I Was Arrested For Douglas 2 KZ 30872

Lenny - What I Was Arrested For Casablanca NBLP 7013

I Just Do It & That's All / To Come / Hubert's Museum / The Perverse Act / Tits & Ass / Completely Exposed / A Pretty Bizarre Show / Blah Blah Blah / Dirty Toilet / Would You Sell Out Your Country / A White White Woman & A Black Black Woman

The Essential Lenny Bruce: Politics

Douglas SD 788

Johnson, Nixon, The Competitive System & Communism / The American Image / Black Democracy & Liberals / Would You Sell Out Your Country? / Law Enforcement / The Bomb / Pot Will Be Legal

Lenny Bruce Is Out Again

Lenny Bruce Records LB 3001/3002

They're Moving In / Guess What I Got Manny (The Clap) / Come On Down (Christ & Moses) / Neck To Neck (Bela Lugosi) / Waving The Flag / A Whelk By Any Other Name (Tarzan) / Fat Boy / A Violation is a Moving Thing / Jewish Husbands (Deny It) / The Hang Up / Don't Paint God / Thank You Masked Man / Nay Nays (Tits & Ass) / A Man's Man (Would You Sell Out Your Country?) / I Tried It Once, It Just Gave Me A Headache (Marijuana)

The Law, Language & Lenny Bruce

Warner Bros. SP 9101, Phil Spector 2307 001 SUPER (UK)
The Law / Tits & Ass / Ballbreakers / Chicken / Language / Ruby / Get Even / Religion / How the Negro & Jew got into Show Business / Crime & Punishment / Goering was a Transvestite / Eichmann

The Lenny Bruce Performance Film

Rhino Home Video & CD RHVD 2949 (video details below)
Christians And Jews / Craphouse / New York Trial / Tits & Ass / Would You Sell Out Your Country / Jackie Kennedy Hauling Ass / Don't Paint God / Ruby / Guys Don't Cheat On Girls / The Perverse Act / Guys Exposing Themselves / Art Critics / Shelley Berman / Barney / Father Flotski's Triumph / How The Negro & Jew Got Into Show Business / To Come / Deny It

Lenny Bruce Is Out Again

Philles PHLP-4010

Craphouse / Obscenity / The Law / Marijuana / Midgets / Guys Exposing Themselves / Dating Advice / Guys Don't Cheat on Girls / Get Even / Thank You Masked Man / Orphan Annie

The Berkeley Concert

Bizarre ZXS 6329, Transatlantic TRA 195 (UK), Enigma Retro/Bizarre CD 73395-2, Bizarre/Straight CD RZ 70355, Demon Verbals CD VERBCD 7 (UK)

also released as:

The Legendary Berkeley Concert

The Comedy Club cassette GAGMC010 (UK)

Craphouse / The Law / Marijuana / Lyndon Johnson / Ruby / Obscenity / Guys Exposing Themselves / Midgets / How The Negro & Jew Got Into Show Business / Postman / Mark Eden / Dating Advice / Guys Don't Cheat On Girls / Get Even / Deny It / Ralph Gleason / Alaska

Thank You Masked Man

Fantasy 7017

The Sound / Tarzan / Thank You Masked Man / Tokyo Rose / Fat Boy / The Comics / Heshie The Monster / Captain Whackencracker

There was also a flexi-disc distributed free with the May 1973 issue of National Lampoon Magazine; this was recorded at The Purple Onion Club, Los Angeles, in March 1963.

☆Films☆

The Rocket Man

(1954, Twentieth Century Fox) 79 min, B&W

script by Lenny, starring James Coburn

Dance Hall Racket

(1954, Screen Classics, Inc) 60 min, B&W

script by Lenny, starring Lenny, Honey, and Sally Marr

Dream Follies

(1954, Tab Picture Corp.) 61 min, B&W

script by Lenny, starring Lenny and Honey

The Leather Jacket

(1956) approx. 18 min, B&W and colour

script by Lenny and Sally, starring Lenny and Sally.

Thank You Mask Man

(1963) 7 min, animated

Lenny provides all the voices.

script by Lenny, Jeff Hale, and George W. Trendle (creator of the Lone Ranger), directed by Lenny and Jeff Hale.

The Lenny Bruce Performance Film

Rhino video RNVD 2014, 58 min

also released as:

Lenny Bruce - Live Performance Virgin video VIRV 005B

This is a recording of a complete show from Basin Street West, San Francisco, recorded August 1965. Thank You Mask Man follows the main presentation. A box set with the soundtrack on CD with Christians And Jews added was released by Rhino, RHVD 2949.

Lenny Bruce Without Tears

(1972) 72 min documentary

Lenny

(1974) 107 min B&W

starring Dustin Hoffman as Lenny, Valerie Perrine as Honey, script by Julian Barry, directed by Bob Fosse.

A dramatisation of Lenny's life.

A Toast To Lenny

(1984, HBO) 58 min

a compilation of clips, presented by Steve Allen.

Lenny Bruce: Swear To Tell The Truth

(1998 Whyaduck Productions for HBO) 94 min

written and directed by Robert B. Weide

Documentary of Lenny's life. Contains many clips, some not seen before. Narrated by Robert De Niro. Nominated for Best Documentary Oscar, 1999.

☆Books☆

Stamp Help Out

by Lenny Bruce (Published by Lenny, 1961) After a dispute over ownership of the material in the booklet, Lenny ordered all unsold copies destroyed.

How To Talk Dirty And Influence People

by Lenny Bruce (Playboy Press, 1965, reissued by Simon and Shuster, 1992, with an introduction by Eric Bogosian.) Originally published in serial form in Playboy magazine between 1963 and 1965. Lenny's autobiography.

Ladies And Gentleman LENNY BRUCE!!

by Albert Goldman, from the journalism of Lawrence Schiller (Ballantine Books, 1974)

The Essential Lenny Bruce

edited by John Cohen (Ballantine Books, 1967, reissued by Panther, 1973)

Transcripts of most of his routines.

The Unpublished Lenny Bruce

From the collection of Kitty Bruce (Running Press, 1984)

Lenny Bruce: The Comedian as Social Critic and Secular Moralist

by Frank Kofsky (Pathfinder Press, 1974)

Lenny Bruce: The Making Of A Prophet

by William Karl Thomas (Archon Books, 1989)

☆Internet Resources☆

<http://www.lennybruce.tk/>

This is probably the best. It has links to other good resources, audio clips, copies of press reports from Lenny's September 1962 visit to Australia, and a comprehensive (if occasionally misleading) biography.

<http://www.CelebrityMorgue.com>

Contains photographs of Lenny lying dead in his bathroom.

Ted Ray

by Mark McKay

In a 1973 interview, the late Barry Took submitted to Ted Ray that he must have made more radio broadcasts than anyone else in comedy. Such a claim would be virtually impossible to prove, but given that Ted had appeared in over six hundred episodes of *Ray's A Laugh* and *Does The Team Think?* alone, it could well have been true¹.

This achievement is all the more impressive considering he did not neglect the other media — films, television and the variety theatre stage were all successful platforms for the Ray wit and charm.

Ted was born Charlie Olden in Wigan, but spent most of his childhood in that comics' breeding ground, Liverpool. His father — in turn, a small-time Lancashire comedian, pub landlord and ship's steward — clearly had a great influence on young Charlie, who was inspired to follow in his old man's footsteps and take up the violin.

His prowess with the fiddle would eventually lead to his first showbusiness bookings, when he joined a local dance band which entertained cinema audiences during the interval between films. As well as scraping the cat-gut, Ted occasionally loosened up the larynx with a spot of crooning, and his little party piece of improvising lyrics to *The Farmer Took Another Load Away* was very well received by the punters.

With characteristic confidence, it wasn't too long before Ted was treading the boards as a solo performer. For his first engagement, he decided to adopt the whimsical name "Hugh Neek", a decision that immediately backfired when a cloth-eared theatre manager introduced him as "Mr. Hush Week". Patiently waiting in the wings, clad in an old mac, tatty scarf and bowler, Ted was not amused. Later, he toured in musical revues as "Nedlo², the Gipsy Violinist", sporting a sash made from an old table runner and with brass curtain rings dangling from his ears.

But real success still eluded him until he made the momentous decision to discard all the funny clothes and do his act dressed in an ordinary suit. Although practically the norm these days, to see a stage comedian looking like he'd just wandered in from the street was then still a novelty.

Having adopted this everyman character, Hugh Neek soon picked up gigs in London and then acquired an agent, who urged him to take on a new name. Oddly, the snappy one he chose — Ted Ray — already belonged to a former celebrity, namely the winner of the 1912 British Open golf championship.

In the years that followed, Ted's act (a mixture of violin playing and joke telling, which he dubbed "Fiddling and Fooling") improved and he slowly worked his way up the billing and into larger theatres. In 1932 he made his debut at the London Palladium, where much later he was to help his friend Danny Kaye take Britain by storm.

For contractual reasons Ted had to wait until 1939 to make his first broadcast³ and the ordeal almost turned him off radio for life. He put everything he had into his routine for the BBC's *Music Hall* and had just returned to his dressing room, when the producer John Sharman delivered the bad news.



Apparently the recording equipment had broken down during his performance and so Ted was forced to face the audience for a second time and repeat his piece verbatim.

Shortly afterwards Ray was awarded his first weekly wireless show, entitled *Just Fooling*, but the outbreak of war put an end to its run after only one episode. It was ten years before his next series, but this one fared considerably better.

Ray's A Laugh, as it was somewhat cornily christened, was devised by BBC producer George Inns, and featured a talented cast including Kitty Bluett (who had just arrived from Australia) playing his wife, Patricia Hayes (the cockney character actress later better known as Edie Grimthorpe in *The Benny Hill Show* and Mrs. Cravatte in *Hancock's Half Hour*) and a young, recently demobbed impressionist named Peter Sellers.

Beginning with a record-breaking initial series of sixty-five episodes, *Ray's A Laugh* ruled the airwaves for an amazing twelve years. Early programmes consisted of Ray's short introductory stand-up (or 'patter' in 1940s parlance) routine, a domestic scene with Ted, Kitty and her brother Nelson (played by Fred Yule) written by Eddie Maguire, and finally, the adventures of 'George, The Man With A Conscience', featuring a host of funny voiced two-dimensional characters and catchphrases by the ton. Musical interruptions came from *The Beaux and The Belles* (basically *The Keynotes* from *Take It From Here* rebadged) and sibling harmonists Bob and Alf Pearson ('We bring you melody, from out of the sky — my brother and I').

¹ Although his *Does The Team Think?* colleague, Jimmy Edwards, must have been a serious contender

² His own surname (Olden) reversed

³ Curiously he had appeared in the film *Radio Parade Of 1935* four years earlier

By 1953 the format had altered significantly. All the oddball characters were insinuated into the middle domestic spot, and the show metamorphosed into an uninterrupted half-hour sitcom. Peter Sellers left after the sixth series (retitled *Ted Ray Time*) to pursue film and television aspirations, and most of the funny voices were taken over by future *Carry On* star, Kenneth Connor. Sellers even pinched a couple of Connor's characters for *The Goon Show*, namely wheezing geriatric Herbert Toil ('you're very rude, ain't ya?') and nasal shop proprietor Sidney Mincing ('do you mind?').

Regrettably there is little pleasure today to be gained by listening to an episode of *Ray's A Laugh*. The over-reliance on catchphrases and scene-setting monologues from the star ('Here I am stranded at Bletchley...') is highly reminiscent of Tommy Handley's old *ITMA* shows and sounds just as dated. In addition, there is something about Ted and Kitty's manner which is more apt to irritate than to amuse.

During the 1950s, Ted appeared in many other programmes, often in the role of compere. For seventy consecutive weeks he hosted *Calling All Forces*, a prodigious variety show aimed at the troops, with film star guests and scripts by bright new boys, Bob Monkhouse and Denis Goodwin. Coronation year saw him presenting special broadcasts featuring the cream of the profession on both radio and television (the latter with co-host Terry-Thomas).

After *Ray's A Laugh*, Lawrie 'Navy Lark' Wyman wrote an interesting series for Ted, incorporating various sketches centred around a different object each week. As well as delivering one-sided conversations in the Bob Newhart style, Ted played an assortment of unusual character parts, including a mouse, a reindeer and even a ventriloquist's dummy. Later he co-starred with Kenneth Williams (friend of his actor son, Andrew) in *The Betty Witherspoon Show*, a fast-paced pot-pourri of cross-talk, sketches and songs.

But the radio series which occupied most of his time during the sixties and seventies was *Does The Team Think?*. In this show, devised by Jimmy Edwards as a comic alternative to *Any Questions?*, queries posed by members of the audience or a guest celebrity goaded a panel of funny men into a frenzy of improvised gag-cracking. *DTTT* clocked up over three hundred editions in its twenty year run, and even made a brief transfer to television.

Ted's first major small screen venture was an eponymous series of Saturday 'spectaculars' for the BBC. This mixture of jokes, song, star turns, dancing girls and sketches (co-starring Kenneth Connor as his brother-in-law) was soon competing with Val Parnell's big variety productions over on ITV. By the 1970s he was appearing regularly as a panellist on *Jokers Wild* and as a judge on the talent quest, *New Faces*.

Ray also enjoyed a modestly successful film career, however this failed to really take off due to a stroke of bad luck. In 1959 he starred as the headmaster in the third *Carry On* movie, *Carry On Teacher*. Later that year he took the lead role in *Please Turn Over*, playing a businessman whose daughter writes a spicy novel featuring the whole family. Peter Rogers, producer on both pictures, hoped that Ted would become a regular in subsequent *Carry On* productions. Sadly this proved impossible since he was under contract to another studio. A replacement was sought and so it was that Tony Hancock's sidekick, Sid James, joined the series.

In 1975, returning home from a day of golfing and alcohol (two of his favourite passions), Ted was involved in a very bad car accident. The injuries sustained in the crash had a

debilitating effect on his body and left him dependent on crutches to get about. On 8th November 1977 he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Asked to supply his own obituary in a 1971 edition of *Does The Team Think?*, Ted had suggested the following: "Ted Ray died peacefully in his sleep at 95 years of age in a Brighton hotel. A blonde is helping the police with their inquiries."

In reality, it was left to other great British comic talents to pay homage. Kenneth Williams acknowledged an admiration for his geniality and wit, stating "He was a true craftsman and it's a shame he only appeared in one of the *Carry Ons*." Interviewed for a radio tribute programme, Peter Sellers maintained "Whatever I know about timing I learned from Ted."

"Always exit with a good gag" was a golden rule of Ted's, which he applied to life both on and off stage. After his death, a card was found in his top pocket which left the following instructions: "Cremated, and ten percent of ashes to be scattered over my agent."

◉Films◉

1934: Radio Parade Of 1935

1950: A Ray Of Sunshine

1952: Meet Me Tonight (*The Red Peppers* segment)

1954: Escape By Night

1956: My Wife's Family

1959: The Crowning Touch; Carry On Teacher; Please Turn Over

• Excerpts from some of these films appear in *That's Carry On* and *To See Such Fun* (both 1977)

◉Recordings◉

Fiddling And Fooling (Parts 1 & 2)

Decca 78rpm F-7317 (1939)

Dearie/Count On Me (both with Kitty Bluett)

Columbia 78rpm DB-2698 (1950)

Let's Put Out The Lights (And Go To Sleep)/An Ordinary Broom (Reminds Me Of You) (both with Kitty Bluett)

Columbia 78rpm DB-2760 (1950)

Jack The Giant-Killer/When Daddy Was A Boy (both with Andrew Ray)

Columbia 78rpm DB-2774 (1950)

Easy Come, Easy Go/What A Cute Little Hat (both with Kitty Bluett)

Columbia 78rpm DB-2921 (1951)

Derek Roy's Star Party (with Derek Roy, Richard Murdoch, Jon Pertwee & Jimmy Wheeler)

Oriole 7" EP CB1415

Ted Ray Says 'Be My Guest!'

Lyntone 7" flexidisc LYN 937

Ray's A Laugh

BBC Radio Collection double cassette ZBBC 1117 (1990)

contains four complete broadcasts: 8 Nov 1949, 22 Nov 1949, 6 Dec 1949 and 21 Sep 1950

A World Of Variety

Emporio CD EMPRCD 778 (1997)

contains the track: Talks To Gerry

The Comedy Greats

BBC Radio Collection double cassette ZBBC 1852 (1998)

contains an excerpt from *Calling All Forces*

Ray's A Laugh

Sketch show/sitcom with Ted Ray, Kitty Bluett (series 1-5,8-12), Patricia Hayes (series 1-5), Peter Sellers (series 1-6), Kenneth Connor (series 5-12).

script by Ronnie Hanbury (series 1), Eddie Maguire (series 1-5), Ted Ray (series 1-6), George Wadmore (series 1-7), Sid Colin (series 6-7), Talbot Rothwell (series 7), Charles Hart & Bernard Botting (series 8-12)

Series 1: Home Service, Mondays, 4 April to 30 May 1949 & Tuesdays, 7 June 1949 to 27 June 1950 (65×30mins)

Series 2: Home Service, Thursdays, 21 September 1950 to 26 July 1951 (45×30mins)

Special: **Ted And Kitty's Christmas**

Home Service, Monday, 25 December 1950 (30mins)

Series 3: Home Service, Thursdays, 1 November 1951 to 31 January 1952 & 21 February to 17 July 1952 (36×30mins)

Series 4: Home Service, Thursdays, 25 December 1952 to 25 June 1953 (27×30mins)

Special: **Ted And Kitty's Easter Outing**

Home Service, Monday, 6 April 1953 (30mins)

Special: from National Radio Show

Home Service, Thursday, 3 September 1953 (30mins)

Series 5: Home Service, Thursdays, 1 October 1953 to 29 April 1954 (31×30mins)

Series 6: **Ted Ray Time**

Home Service, Mondays, 25 October 1954 to 18 April 1955 (26×30mins)

Series 7: Home Service, Thursdays, 13 October 1955 to 5 April 1956 (26×30mins)

Series 8: Light Programme, Thursdays, 25 October 1956 to 18 April 1957 (26×30mins)

Series 9: Light Programme, Fridays, 4 October 1957 to 28 March 1958 (26×30mins)

Series 10: Light Programme, Fridays, 26 September 1958 to 20 March 1959 (26×30mins)

Series 11: Light Programme, Fridays, 11 September 1959 to 4 March 1960 (26×30mins)

Series 12: Light Programme, Fridays, 2 September 1960 to 13 January 1961 (20×30mins)

Music Hall

Variety show

Home Service, Saturdays 8.00pm, 24 September 1949 to 15 July 1950 (43×60mins)

Calling All Forces

Variety show

script by Bob Monkhouse & Denis Goodwin

Light Programme, Sundays, 3 December 1950 to 23 December 1951 (1.00pm, then 9.00pm from 13 May) & Mondays, 31 December 1951 to 7 April 1952 (9.00pm) (71×60mins)

My Wildest Dream

Panel game with Ted Ray, Tommy Trinder, Jimmy Edwards
Light Programme, Mondays 8.30pm, 3 October to 12 December 1955 (11×30mins)

The Laughtermakers: The Art Of Ted Ray

Home Service, Friday 13 July 1956 (30mins)

The Spice Of Life

Variety show with Ted Ray, June Whitfield, Deryck Guyler
script by Gene Crowley

Home Service, Mondays 8.15pm, 8 October 1956 to 1 April 1957 (26×45mins)

Variety Playhouse

Variety show with Ted Ray, Ronnie Barker, Patricia Hayes, Cicely Courtneidge, Jack Hulbert

Home Service, Saturdays 8.00pm, 5 October 1957 to 29 March 1958 (26×60mins)

Home Service, Saturdays 8.00pm, 27 September to 20 December 1958 (continued to 4 July 1959 with Vic Oliver) (13×60mins)

Does The Team Think?

Panel game with Jimmy Edwards, Ted Ray (from 2/4), Tommy Trinder, Cyril Fletcher, Arthur Askey and others

Series 1: Light Programme, Sundays 9.15pm/9.30pm, 29 September to December 22 1957 (13×30mins)

Series 2: Light Programme, Sundays 7.00pm, 1 June to 24 August 1958 (13×30mins)

Series 3: Light Programme, Sundays 7.00pm, 19 July to 11 October 1959 (13×30mins)

Series 4: Light Programme, Thursdays 9.00pm, 10 March to 18 August 1960 (24×30mins)

Series 5: Light Programme, Tuesdays 8.00pm, 3 January to 16 May 1961 (20×30mins)

Series 6: Light Programme, Tuesdays 8.00pm, 2 January to 27 March 1962 (13×30mins)

Series 7: Light Programme, Mondays 9.00pm, 21 January to 22 April 1963 (not 25 February) (13×30mins)

Series 8: Light Programme, Thursdays 8.00pm, 14 November 1963 to 19 March 1964 (19×30mins)

Series 9: Light Programme, Sundays 2.00pm, 22 November 1964 to 4 April 1965 (20×30mins)

Series 10: Light Programme, Saturdays 12.00pm, 15 January to 9 April 1966 (13×30mins)

Series 11: Light Programme, Sundays 5.00pm, 1 January to 16 April 1967 (16×30mins)

Series 12: Radio 2, Tuesdays 8.45pm, 3 October 1967 to 27 February 1968 (some in Friday repeat slot only) (22×30mins)

Series 13: Radio 2, Sundays 2.00pm, 18 August to 6 October 1968 (8×30mins)

Series 14: Radio 2, Sundays 9.00pm, 4 January to 29 March 1970 (13×30mins)

Series 15: Radio 4, Tuesdays 6.15pm, 6 October to 29 December 1970 (13×30mins)

Series 16: Radio 4, Saturdays 1.15pm, 10 July to 4 September 1971 (9×30mins)

Series 17: Radio 2, Tuesdays 8.00pm, 5 October to 28 December 1971 (13×30mins)

Series 18: Radio 2, Sundays 2.00pm, 3 September 1972 to 4 March 1973 (not 31 December) (26×30mins)

Special: for the troops in Northern Ireland

Radio 2, Sunday 2.00pm, 28 October 1973 (30mins)

Series 19: Radio 4, Tuesdays 12.25pm, 16 April to 6 August 1974 (17×30mins)

Series 20: Radio 4, Mondays 6.15pm, 24 March to 19 May 1975 (9×30mins)

Series 21: Radio 4, Mondays 6.15pm, 24 May to 19 July 1976 (9×30mins)

Once Over Lightly

Topical sketch show with Ted Ray, Dick Bentley
script by Maurice Wiltshire & David Climie
Light Programme, Wednesdays 7.30pm, 4 October 1961 to
10 January 1962 (15×30mins)

Ted Ray And The...

Sketches with Ted Ray, Paul Whitsun-Jones, David Nettheim
script by Lawrie Wyman
Light Programme, Thursdays 7.30pm, 4 October to 20 December 1962 (12×30mins)
Tuba/Elephant/Rabbit Suit/Fence/Squeak/Square/Cat's Whisker/Frame/Trailer/Fiddle/Dummy/Card

Let Bye-Laws Be Bye-Laws

One-off in series *Star Parade* with Ted Ray & Charlie Chester
Light Programme, Thursday 8.00pm, 9 May 1963 (30mins)

How's Your Father?

Sitcom with Ted Ray, Thora Hird, Eleanor Summerfield, Robin Ray; script by Denis Goodwin
Pilot in series *Star Parade*: Light Programme, Sunday 2.30pm, 22 September 1963 (30mins)
Light Programme, Fridays 7.30pm, 10 April to 5 June 1964 (9×30mins)

Ted Ray says Be My Guest

Radio 2, Tuesday, 3 December 1968 (30mins)

The Betty Witherspoon Show

Sketch show with Ted Ray, Kenneth Williams, Miriam Margolyes, Nigel Rees
script by Michael Wale & Joe Steeples
Radio 2, Saturdays, 20 April to 22 June 1974 (10×30mins)

★Television★

The Ted Ray Show

Variety show with Ted Ray, Kenneth Connor, Nicolette Roeg, Jane Hilary, Diane Hart
Series 1: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 21 May, 18 Jun, 16 Jul & 13 Aug 1955 (4×60mins)
Series 2: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 28 Apr, 26 May, 23 Jun & 21 Jul 1956 (4×60mins)
Series 3: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 19 Jan, 16 Feb, 16 Mar, 13 Apr, 11 May, 8 Jun, 6 Jul & 3 Aug 1957 (8×60mins)
Series 4: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 25 Jan, 15 Feb, 15 Mar, 12 Apr & 10 May 1958 (5×60mins)
Series 5: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 27 Sep, 25 Oct & 22 Nov 1958 (3×60mins)
Special: Segment in **Christmas Night With The Stars**
BBC-TV, Thursday, 25 December 1958
Series 6: BBC-TV, Saturdays, 31 Jan, 28 Feb, 28 Mar, 2 May 1959 (4×60mins)

Hip Hip Who Ray

ATV, Saturdays, 25 August to 29 September 1956 (6×45mins)

Ray's A Rat

BBC-TV, Sunday, 22 September 1957 (30mins)

Friday The 13th

BBC-TV, Friday, 13 December 1957 (30mins)

Laugh Magazine

It's Saturday Night

Variety show with Ted Ray, Robin Ray
BBC-TV, Saturdays, 19 Sep, 17 Oct, 14 Nov, 12 Dec 1959 (4×45mins)

Does The Team Think?

Panel game with Jimmy Edwards, Ted Ray and Bernard Braden
BBC-TV, Sundays, 28 May to 13 August 1961 (12×30mins)

One Good Turn

BBC2, Wednesday, 10 March 1965

I Object

Parlour game with Ted Ray, Charlie Chester, Jimmy Edwards.
BBC1, Wednesdays, 14 April to 16 June 1965 (10×30mins)

Happy Family

BBC1, Friday, 18 June 1965 (25mins)

Ted's Turn Again

BBC2, Saturday, 20 November 1965

Hooray For Laughter

ABC, Sunday, 12 March 1967

Suddenly It's Ted Ray

BBC2, Monday, 28 August 1967

Jokers Wild

Yorkshire Television panel game with Ted Ray, Arthur Askey, Les Dawson, Barry Cryer and others.

Series 1: YTV, Wednesdays, 9 July to 12 November 1969 (19×30mins)

Special: Segment in All Star Comedy Carnival

ATV, Thursday, 25 December 1969

Series 2: ATV, Saturdays, 4 July to 26 September 1970 (13×30mins)

Series 3: ATV, Saturdays, 12 December 1970 to 23 January 1971 (not 26 Dec) (6×30mins)

Series 4: ATV, Mondays, 24 July to 4 September 1972 (not 28 Aug) (6×30mins)

Series 5: Thames, Thursdays, 19 October 1972 to 22 March 1973 (23×30mins)

Special: Thames, Tuesday, 26 December 1972 (30mins)

Series 6: Thames, Thursdays, 17 May to 13 September 1973 (not 24 May, 28 Jun, 16 Aug, 23 Aug, 6 Sep) (13×30mins)

Series 7: Thames, Mondays, 19 November 1973 to 24 June 1974 (not 15 Apr, 27 May) (30×30mins)

Series 8: Thames, Wednesdays, 25 September to 20 November 1974 (not 2 Oct, 9 Oct) (7×30mins)

★Books★

Ray's A Laugh by Ted Ray and Eddie Maguire (Broadcast Books pbk 1950)

Raising The Laughs by Ted Ray (Werner Laurie hbk 1952)

My Turn Next! by Ted Ray (Museum Press hbk 1963)

Golf — My Slice Of Life by Ted Ray (W.H.Allen hbk 1972)

These books contain a chapter on Ted Ray:

Funny Way To Be A Hero by John Fisher (Muller hbk 1973)

Look Back With Laughter: Volume Three by Mike Craig (MFP Design & Print pbk 1998)

Anna Russell

by Matthew K. Sharp

“I’m not making this up, you know!” The lecturer seems slightly taken aback. The audience is rolling about in laughter, having just been told the obvious fact that, near the start of Part Four of Wagner’s “The Ring Of The Nibelungs”, the hero Siegfried has for the first time in his life met a woman who isn’t his aunt. Fortunately, the lecturer in question is Anna Russell (comedienne, soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, pianist, guitarist and autriculatrix extraordinary), and that’s exactly the response for which she was looking.

Anna Claudia Russell-Brown was born on 27 December 1911, and raised in London. After her schooling was completed, she went on the Royal College of Music, of which she later said: “If you go there with a tin voice, you’ll come back with a loud tin voice.” Despite being denied permission to broadcast on the BBC by the College, she slipped in singing folk songs on the BBC Overseas Service.

In Canada during World War II, Anna worked for the CBC, where she progressed from folk songs to old music hall tunes, and finally began writing comedy monologues. After touring with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Russell appeared solo at the New York Town Hall in February 1948.

A further show in November 1951, led RCA-Victor to offer her a recording contract. However they wanted a studio recording, so Russell switched to Columbia who were willing to record a live concert version (at New York Town Hall). That first album, *Anna Russell Sings?* presented a range of tunes for singers, whether they be untrained, loud but with no brains, or just plain tone-deaf.

The following year, a further LP included longer parodies. In addition to *Analysis of the Ring Cycle* (which compressed twenty hours of opera into twenty minutes), there was a satire on the kind of introduction one was likely to receive performing to women’s musical clubs, and a guide to writing new Gilbert And Sullivan operas.

Anna released her *Guide To Concert Audiences* in 1954, which aimed to demonstrate to the musical amateur what exactly they were listening to. She explained, “An interesting thing is that when you start this experiment you will find that the things that strike you as being the most utterly ghastly are invariably the ones considered by the experts to be the most artistic.”

A year later, Russell recorded her *Square Talk On Popular Music*, demonstrating that pop singers had undergone a mental breakdown over the previous thirty years; from the optimistic 1920’s style *I’m Feelin’ Fine* through mania and depression to schizophrenia (*Maladjusted*, featuring a spot-on Johnny Ray parody) and finally descending into complete raving insanity. Never one to be musically biased, the other side of the LP dealt with madrigals and opera with similar venom.

In 1955 Anna also became an author with *The Power Of Being A Positive Stinker*, conceived as an antidote to the self-help books then flooding the market. However, by following the Russell method, one could end up destitute or in prison. The book included a bonus record which contained two studio tracks hitherto unissued (a third cut from the same session, *Noisy Neighbors*, finally saw the light of day in 1998 on CD).



A tour of South Africa yielded her next LP, *Anna Russell In Darkest Africa* (recorded at the Johannesburg Music Festival). It features a methodical deconstruction of Verdi’s *Hamlet*: “As you know, Verdi has made operas out of many of the Shakespeare plays. He has not, as a matter of fact, made one out of Hamlet, but I’m not for a moment going to let that stand in my way.” Highlights included a Jimmy Durante impression in the “To be or not to be” soliloquy, a demonstration of various types of folk songs, and a lecture on how to assemble and play a set of bagpipes.

The main item from Russell’s final Columbia LP (in 1958) was a spurious talk to a convention of banana growers on how to make the public more “banana-prone” through song; also included was a guided tour around the French Horn and a pointed look at beatnik poetry.

Anna continued touring the world, and whilst in the UK in 1962, took a small role in the Terry-Thomas/Eric Sykes film *Kill Or Cure* (her only other film credit was for providing voices in a 1954 puppetry version of *Hansel & Gretel*). In 1965, she performed in the comic opera *Arcifanfano* (and featured on the cast recording).

In the late 1960s Russell moved to Australia and virtually gave up performing for a few years, restricting her appearances to TV chat shows and occasional guest roles. In 1973 she was asked to write a parody of Mozart’s Masonic opera, *The Magic Flute*, in conjunction with the opening presentation at the Sydney Opera House. The resultant LP became the first recording made at the venue. Verdi’s Babylonian *Nabucco* also came in for similar treatment.

The success of this concert rekindled Anna’s enthusiasm for performing, and she left Australia to begin touring again. After a year travelling the world with her Farewell Concert, in 1985 Russell wrote her autobiography — naturally titled *I’m Not Making This Up, You Know* after her famous catchphrase. Anna then retired to live in Canada, in the appropriately named Anna Russell Way.

CDs of her classic performances are still available fifty years after being recorded. As long as there are music lovers in the world, there will always be a subversive element who long to hear the unearthly voice of the self proclaimed “prima donna of the Ellis Island Opera Company”.

And I’m not making that up, you know.

☆Discography☆

Anna Russell Sings?

Columbia ML 4594 (USA, 1952)/Philips BBL 7008 (UK)/Philips B07031L (Aust)

Coloratura Aria "Canto Dolcemente Pipo" from the opera *La Cantatrice Squelante*/British - Pure But Dull: "I Love The Spring"/Russian Folk Song: "Da, Nyet, Da, Nyet"/For Loud Singers With No Brains: "Ah, Lover!" (from the operetta *The Prince Of Philadelphia*)/For Singers With Tremendous Artistry But No Voice: "Schlumph" & "Je N'ai Pas La Plume De Ma Tante"/Contemporary Music For Tone-Deaf Singers: "My Heart Is Red"/For The Untrained Singer: "I Gave My Love A Cherry"/For The Dramatic Soprano: "Schreechenrauf"
(Also issued in the USA as a 3 EP set on *Columbia A-1061*)

Anna Russell Sings Again?

Columbia ML 4733 (USA, 1953)/Philips BBL 7033 (UK)/Philips B072028L + CBS Coronet KLP763 (Aust)

Introduction To The Concert/How To Write Your Own Gilbert And Sullivan Opera/The Ring Of The Nibelungs - An Analysis

Anna Russell's Guide To Concert Audiences

Columbia ML 4928 (USA, 1954)/Philips BBL 7093 (UK)/CBS Coronet KLP524 (Aust)

La Donna Nannetta/Nacht And Tag/Trink/Oh! Night, Oh! Day!/The Tender Snowdrop/I'm Only A Faded Rose/La Danza/Je Ne Veux Pas Faire L'Amour/Bergerette/Les Cigarette/Spanish Polite: Bagga Bagga Bona/Spanish Rude: Guarda La Bella Tomato/Habanera Hoe Down
(This LP has not been re-issued on CD.)

A Square Talk On Popular Music

Columbia ML 5036 (USA, 1955)/Philips BBL 7071 (UK)/CBS Coronet KLP 755 (Aust)

A Square Talk On Popular Music or The Decline And Fall Of The Popular Song (including: Feeling Fine/Red-Hot Mamma/Chlorophyll Solly/End Of The Line/Two Time Man/Maladjusted/Please Santa Clause/Mad)/Survey Of Singing > From Madrigals To Modern Opera (including: Let Us Hang The Holly/Come Lovely Death/Wir Gehen In Den Automaten/Yesteryear/O Gentle Bird With Feathered Breast/Anemia's Death Scene/Aria from "The Psychiatrist")

Anna Russell In Darkest Africa

Columbia ML 5195 (USA, 1957)/Philips BBL 7174 (UK)/CBS Coronet KLP 621 (Aust)

Hamletto, or Prosciuttino/Backwards With The Folk Song (including: A Lily Maid Sat Making Moan/Old Mother Slipper Slopper/Ricky Ticky/I'm Sittin' In The Bar All Alone/Jolly Old Sigmund Freud)/How To Enjoy Your Bagpipes

How To Enjoy Your Bagpipes

EP: Philips NBE 11122 (UK)/CBS Coronet KEP 240 (Aust)

A Practical Banana Promotion

Columbia ML 5295 (USA, 1958)/Philips BBL 7271 (UK)/CBS Coronet 741 (Aust)

A Practical Banana Promotion (including: Eta Banana/Come Let's Sing/Alas, What Should I Do)/The French Horn/Poetry From The Cellar (including: My Ear/The Rubens Woman)

Arcifanfano, King Of Fools

Video Arts International #1010 (double CD)

Opera by Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf; recorded live in 1965. Features Anna Russell amongst the cast.

The Anna Russell Album

Columbia MG 31199 (USA, 1972)/CBS 61665 (UK)/CBS 9048 (Aust)

A two-disc set comprising all of "Sings?" and "Sings Again?" *Fineline FLCD 9048 (1989)* (CD - excludes "Ah, Lover!", "Schlumph" & "Je N'ai Pas La Plume De Ma Tante" and "Schreechenrauf")

Sony MDK 47252 (1991) (CD - excludes "My Heart Is Red" and "I Gave My Love A Cherry")

Anna Russell "Live" At The Sydney Opera House

EMI Australia OASD 7581 (1973) (Australian only release)

Introduction/Nabucco/The Magic Flute

(An extract from "The Magic Flute" was issued on a 7-inch disc number *AO2* with the program for an actual production of "The Magic Flute" at the Sydney Opera House in 1973)

* This LP has not been re-issued on CD

Anna Russell Encore?

Sony Classical CD: SFK 60316 (1998)

Poetry In The Cellar/Backwards With The Folk Song/The French Horn/How To Enjoy Your Bagpipe/Hamletto, or Prosciutto

Anna Russell Again?

Sony Classical CD: SFK 60317 (1998)

A Practical Banana Promotion/Dripping With Gore/A Square Talk On Popular Music/Noisy Neighbors/Survey Of Singing From Madrigals To Modern Opera/Miserable

(These two CDs comprise a re-issue of the three LPs "A Square Talk On Popular Music", "In Darkest Africa" and "A Practical Banana Promotion" plus the tracks from the "Power Of Being A Positive Stinker" disc.)

☆Videos☆

Anna Russell - The First Farewell Concert

Video Artists International VAI 69019, dvd VAI DVD 4208

How to Become a Singer/Wind Instruments I Have Known/On Pink Chiffon Drag/How to Write your Own Gilbert And Sullivan Opera/The Ring Of The Nibelungs - An Analysis/Backwards with the Folk Song

Anna Russell - Clown Princess Of Comedy

Video Artists International VAI 69402

☆Books☆

The Power Of Being A Positive Stinker

Citadel Press (1955)

Includes a 45rpm disc containing: The French Horn/Dripping With Gore/Miserable

The Anna Russell Songbook

Citadel Press (1960)

Lyrics and scores for: I Gave My Love A Cherry/Ricky Ticky/Jolly Old Sigmund Freud/Old Mother Slipper Slopper/Je N'ai Pas La Plume De Ma Tante/I'm Only a Faded Rose/Two Time Man/How to Write Your Own Gilbert and Sullivan Opera

Includes 4 LP's: Sings, Sings Again, Guide To Concert Audiences, A Square Talk On Popular Music

I'm Not Making This Up, You Know!

(An Autobiography Of The Queen Of Musical Parody)

Continuum Publishing (1985)

Slightly Out To Lunch

by Peter Tatchell

with thanks to Brian Allanson

IN its seventy year history, A.B.C. radio has not been a font of local comedy productions. From the 1940s to 1970s it was content to air dozens of B.B.C. classics from *I.T.M.A.* and *Much-Binding-In-The-Marsh* to adaptations of *Steptoe And Son* and *Dad's Army*.

When it occasionally indulged in bursts of creativity they were often clones of successful British offerings (see LAUGH #22 for an itemisation). The launch of 2JJ in the mid-1970s resulted in several comedy serials and the groundbreaking *Naked Vicar Show* (see LAUGH #14) but by the 1980s, apart from short contributions by such performers as John Clarke, things had returned to the status quo.

In 1984, however, Aunty's decision-makers gave the green light to a project combining the genres of comedy and nostalgia to form *Slightly Out To Lunch* (the name referring to the proposed Sunday lunchtime timeslot). A series of thirteen episodes was commissioned, offering a mix of contemporary television and movie satire, Pythonesque surrealism, several regular characters and a couple of serials. It was all brought together with a flavour of 1930s music supplied by musical director Arthur Greenslade and his Bondi Broadcasters.

The cast and writing team was headed by nostalgia buffs Tony Baldwin (one-time host of A.B.C. radio's Saturday night 78rpm-fest *Sentimental Journey*) and Kevin Daly, whose extensive recording collection of the era would later be used by a number of CD labels. From the acting fraternity came such performers as Peter Whitford, Drew Forsythe and Lance Curtis, along with the writing and performing talents of Angela Webber, Adam Bowen, Jane Harde and others.

Regular segments of *Slightly Out To Lunch* included the "Cooee Newsreel", anachronistic and often bizarre parodies of those featured on cinema screens before the era of television and "Great Moments From The Cutting Room Floor" with supposed out-takes from film classics like *Casablanca* and *Gold Diggers Of 1934*. Also harking back to movie origins were the serials "It Came From Widgiemooltha" (about a mutant merino which runs amok across Australia) and the *Star Wars*-inspired "Luke Jaywalker And Imperial Echo".

Television commercials and programmes like *Towards 2000*, *60 Minutes* and the various other current affairs and lifestyles shows of the day were prime target for satirical treatment, as was the programming lineup of the creatively-impaired Channel 14. Another occasional feature of the series was an incongruous linking of the A.B.C. Sport commentary team heard covering historical events like the Battle of Trafalgar or interviewing Long John Silver.

Perhaps the show's most popular regular was resident vet, Bruce Losis (played by Peter Smalley), whose responses to mundane queries about animals, birds and reptiles often went off into strange psychological flights of fancy. Other characters appearing were radical right wing politician Sir Horace Tuckerbox, interviewer Gillian Cross and arts guru Terry Legiron. And on a number of occasions the musical numbers would feature a newly-written George Formbyesque vocal.

Unlike most comedy shows, *Slightly Out To Lunch* was recorded without the presence of a studio audience¹, which meant it could utilize a large cast of players not all of whom needed to be present at the same session. Unfortunately this lack of response tended to work against the overall success of the series which would have benefited from the contagious effect of audience laughter.

Slightly Out To Lunch also suffered at the hands of A.B.C. programmers (long notorious for their cavalier treatment of imported TV comedies) who would drop occasional editions in certain states when this conflicted with weekend sporting coverage of test cricket or the like. Possibly to make amends for these annoying pre-emptions, five specially-compiled highlight editions of the show were broadcast four months after the conclusion of its first season of programmes.

Six weeks later, on Christmas Day, a special festive edition called *Slightly Out To Christmas Lunch* was aired across the nation with targets being Prime Minister Bob Hawke, the Three Wise Men and Santa's elves. The Cooee Newsreel covered yuletide activities around the globe and Pet's Corner received a plaintive plea from one young listener trying to save his turkey from ending up part of the Christmas dinner.

The merchandising arm of the A.B.C. then decided to get into the act by releasing an LP of first season highlights as a prelude to a second series of programmes, which began in March 1985.

Thirteen episodes later (in some states, anyway) and *Slightly Out To Lunch* had run its course. Though never achieving the acceptance or financial success of its predecessor *The Naked Vicar Show* in being adapted for television, it possessed an interesting degree of wit and creativity.

By the mid-1980s Australian TV comedy was being aimed at a much younger demographic than something relying on the nostalgic echoes of 1930s music and movies ... it was an era that would increasingly depend on university graduates and observational standup from comedy clubs.

¹ Other examples of audience-free comedies included a handful of 1950s B.B.C. radio shows like *Bedtime With Braden*, *In All Directions* with Peter Ustinov and Peter Jones, and Eric Barker's *Just Fancy*. Later attempts include Ronnie Barker's *Lines From My Grandfather's Forehead*, most of the Monty Python LPs and Stephen Fry's *Saturday Night Fry* in the late 1980s.

★Record★

Slightly Out To Lunch

A.B.C./Festival LP L 38267 (1985)

Springtime/Racehorses/Pisceansexual/Emphyeemo Cigarettes/Body Hair/Griffith N.S.W./Language Course: Ross Smokes.../Our Veterinary Consultant: Wombats/Danger Deli/Paris - Not My World/An Eskimo In Paris/Existentialist Rugby/Holycard/The Party/The True Blue Surfie/Hijack/In The Library/Great Moments From The Cutting Room Floor/What's Sex Daddy?/Sports Extra - Trafalgar/Channel 14: Tonite - The Dog & Goat Act/Click Go The Shears/Our Veterinary Consultant: Snakes/The Cooee Newsreel No. 9/Michaelangelo's David/Spycharge Cabs/Mr. Wu's A Secret Agent/Eskimos/Gallileo

☆Episode Guide☆

Cast: Tony Baldwin, Kevin Daly, Lance Curtis, Angela Webber, Adam Bowen, Peter Smalley, Peter Whitford, Jane Harde, Bill Conn, Jill McKay, Bruce Spence, Drew Forsythe, Jeff Watson, David Morrow and Arthur Greenslade And The Bondi Broadcasters

1/1 March 18 1984

Great Moments From The Cutting Room Floor (Casablanca) / Equal Opportunity Employment / King Kong Song / Composer Interview / Luke Jaywalker And Imperial Echo / World Cinema / Spy / Cooe Newsreel (Skiing In Austria / Japanese Chefs) / Sports Extra - Long John Silver / Pets Corner (Headless Chooks) / Ned Kelly (incl. song Kelly Couldn't Help It) / John Cleese Message

1/2 March 25 1984

German Car Ad / Pub Conversation (incl. song Too Many Parties And Too Many Pubs) / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 1: Tourists Encounter Monster Sheep) / Pet's Corner (The Bite Of The Blue Tongue Lizard) / song: Mr. Wu's A Flying Doctor / Ghostly Defence Of Swagman / Cooe Newsreel (Talking Chocolate Frog / Arabian Sand / Saturn) / Support Smog vs. Trees (incl. song: The Ballad Of The Bush) / The End Of The World

1/3 April 1 1984

Joke Classics In Stereo / Aussie Movie In French / Door To Door Jacques Cousteau / Sexist Corner (Ding Dong Song) / Pets Corner (Tortoise Or Doberman?) / Luke Jaywalker And Imperial Echo (ep 43: Insect Repellent) / Drive-In (incl. song: Young Love) / Conway's Carnival (The Story Of Australian Jazz) / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 2: Mutant Merino Reaches Perth) / The Beatles In Adelaide / song: Crazy People / Customs Welcome

1/4 April 8 1964

Restaurant Auction / Phone Tap Competition / Spycharge Cabs (incl. song: Mr. Woo's A Secret Agent) / Pet's Corner (Cats At Night) / Cooe Newsreel (Japanese In Queensland / Tutan-khamen's Stomach / Italian Prime Ministers / Dick Smith In Switzerland) / In The Library / song: Remember Boozing In The Sand / Existentialist Rugby / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 3: WACA Pitch Invasion) / Cutting Room Floor (GoldDiggers Of 1934, incl. song: Upstairs At The Waldorf) / Restaurant

1/5 April 15 1984

Native Bearers / Comic Frank Filth / Towards 1500 - The Printing Press / Grandma's Got To Go (incl. song: Happy Couples Everywhere) / Sir Horace Tuckerbox / Employment Ad / Luke Jaywalker And Imperial Echo (ep 20: Princess Starwine Wants A Drink) / Pet's Corner (Sneezing Budgies And Disguised Rodents) / Dob 'Em In For Australia / What's Sex Daddy? / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 4: Geoffrey The Mutant Merino Terrorizes Perth) / Sir Horace Sings (song: I'm Off To Long Bay) / I Can't Go On

1/6 April 22 1984

Torturous Weather / Pom Trying To Be Aussie / Mozart On New Faces / Pet's Corner (Pony Won't Eat) / Empeysem Cigarettes / Cooe Newsreel (Underground Golf / Antique Instruments / Hunting In Canada) / Coal Face Restaurant (incl. song: Fanlight Fanny, The Nightclub Star) / Corporate Management Courses / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 5: The Army Confronts Geoffrey) / Shakespearean Dry Cleaner / Reggae Bush Scene / Cats Eating Garbage / Cheesecake Cookery

1/7 April 29 1984

Boing / Naturalisation / Harpsichord Maintenance / Servants At Party / Immigrant's Feral Pets / Chomp For Happy Gran-nies / Pet's Corner (Snakes) / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 6: Barlap, The Movie Merino) / Fish Lures / Luke Jaywalker And Imperial Echo (On Breath Star) / Great Art Through Suffering / song: Am I So Repulsive To You / Surgical Truss And Nose Straightener Advert / Anniversary Celebration / Kiddies Corner

1/8 May 6 1984

Hijack / Animals For The Ark / Country Recipes / Paris, The City Of Frogs (incl. song: I'll Be Frank) / Airline Complaints / Pet's Corner (Wombats) / The Revenge Of The Winger Advert / Cooe Newsreel (No-Engine Boat / Poet Bowler / Wee Dullard Aussie Movie) / Japan Subway (incl. song: Tokyo Boogie) / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 7: The Search For Geoffrey) / Haunted Castle

1/9 May 13 1984

Application / Fire Sale At Pet Shop / Channel 14 Programme Highlights (I'm Witless News / 60 Morons / Thunderjacks) / Pet's Corner (White Rabbit) / song: Knees Up For Aussie Surfers / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 8: Shearing Geoffrey) / Join A Cultural Minority Of Your Choice / song: Down On Jollity Farm / Radio Helicon's Macbeth / Hooked On Silence / Lifeboat Job / Holycard / Sex Change (incl. song Men Are Men) / I've Got A Lovely Bunch Of Coconuts / Gallileo

1/10 May 20 1984

A.B.C. Mono / Comedian Sentenced / The Precise Meaning Of Words / Cooe Newsreel (Aussie Mannequin / Hopping Over Tanks / Fatal Fall Of A Jockey) / Unusual Pets / song: I Put The Muse Back Into Music / Language Course: Ross Smokes ... / Pet's Corner (Kangaroo Or Goanna?) / Commonwealth Bank Advert / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 9: Geoffrey Terrorizes Adelaide) / Club Head Tahiti / The Curse Of Abdul's Mummy (incl. song: Ella, The Dancing Girl Of Egypt) / Whale Meat Again

1/11 May 27 1984

Marital Obedience School / Timmy's Pet Shark (incl. song: That's Junior) / Pet's Corner (White Mice) / Cutting Room Floor (Son Of Flicka) / Channel 14 Programme Highlights (That's Disgusting / The Piano Tuners / The Renovators) / Words / Moon Landing - Take 27 / Competition Shopping / song: Have A Drink On Me / Pilot Sold Plane / Pimple / It Came From Widgiemooltha (ep 10: Geoffrey Reaches Sydney) / Radical Stress Therapy / Minority Radio

1/12 June 3 1984

song: Every Time It Rains, It Rains / Racehorses / Auntie Helen's Stories / Pet's Corner (Cane Toad) / song: Griffith, New South Wales / Bus Concessions / da Vinci's The Mona Deirdre / Cooe Newsreel (Antarctica / Wales Eisteddfod / Banana TV Antennas) / song: Ba-Ba-Ba-Ba-Ba-lamb / Video Thief / Towards 1788 - Disastrous Wheat Harvest / Playschool Themes / Mammoth Droppings / Peasants Revolting

1/13 June 10 1984

Ordering Toscas And Puccinis / Pet's Corner (Yowies) / Cutting Room Floor (Oklahoma) / Boy Adolph / Pub Air / song: Sad All Over / Sports Extra - The Battle Of Trafalgar / The Electric Screws / That's Inedible / Cooe Newsreel (Barry Manilow Hunt / Loglifting In Sri Lanka / Oil Rigs Stranded On Beach / Santa Claus In London) / Henry Lawson's Beer Mat Ballad / Michaelangelo's David / Beehive / Lone Sailor Talks To Seagull

Slightly Out To Christmas Lunch December 25 1984
Christmas Rhyme / Bob Hawke Visits Santa / Only Once A Year / North Pole Christmas Sale / Snuffit Jewellery Insurance / Dinky-Di Aussie Presents / Cooee Newsreel (Santa In Drag In Antarctica / Crocodile Roundup / Costigan Hotel Refurbishment) / song: Our Love Affair Was Less Than Perfect / Three Wise Men At Customs / Chorus / No Room At The Inn / Shopping / song: Merry Christmas, You Suckers / Three Wise Men Lost / Pet's Corner (Turkey) / Santa Reserve Advert

2/1 March 10 1985

Pet's Corner (Emu) / Orient Express Traveller's Cheques / Leonardo And Mona / Sweet F.A. Advert / Rockslide (incl. song: The Bastards's Gone Away) / Cheese Positions / Cutting Room Floor (The Cruel Sea) / 60 Minutes Clock Stops / Hell's Stockbrokers Bikies vs. Young Liberals / Cooee Newsreel (Climbing Himalayas By Canoe / Miniature Sheep / Weatherman Rain Dance / Swimming From England To Australia) / Nagging Wife In Restaurant / Formby song / Coronation

2/2 March 17 1985

Laughing Championships / Ballet Coach / Pet's Corner (A Pet That Protects) / Spanish Lesson / Body Hair ep. 27 / Salmon / Japanese Film Festival / song: Back In Nagasaki / Adventure Holidays / Cooee Newsreel (Swiss Navy / Philippines Festival / Madagascar Cross Breeding / Tour De France) / Arrest Of Jack And The Beanstalk / Danger Deli / All-Fish Rugby Team / song: When The Clock Strikes One

2/3 March 24 1985

Prison / Pet's Corner (Cat With Three Legs) / Artist Western / 2002 News / Young Flying Doctors / I Changed My Life / Cooee Newsreel (Melbourne Carnival Of Boredom) / World Of Whines / song: In Bondi Beach / Operation / Thelma Moody Profile

2/4 March 31 1985

Eating Problem / To Kill A Dragon / Cutting Room Floor (Hans Christian Andersen) / Italian Programming / Pet's Corner (Echidna) / Scratch And Win Contest / Corporate Tax Deductions / song: An Irish Colleen Wants A Washing Machine / Vampire Aid / Curio Talkback / Cooee Newsreel (Snail Hunt / Leg Knotting / Plummeting Cyclist / L.A. Movie Premiere) / Ad For Sex / Terry Legiron Hour / Sports Extra - Columbus / The Heterosexuality Phenomenon / After We're Married

2/5 April 7 1985

Mayor Of Penrith / Stand-In Groom / Ethel Streisand Record / Budgie Show / Stains On Tennis Dress / Maralinga Comment / Movie Based On Telephone Directory / Bird Exporting / Pet's Corner (Miniature Giraffe) / German Vocabulary / Julio's Used Foods (incl. song: I Wish I'd Eaten Up My Beans) / Pizza Order From Space Station / Apology / Cooee Newsreel (NZUS Defence Treaty / Eye Wrestling / Exploring For Inca Cave) / Marriage Guidance

2/6 April 14 1985

Dear Mum / Fargo Creek Festival Invitation / Cooee Newsreel (Underwater Song And Dance Man / New Harvesting Technique / Kangacraft / Wooden Clothes) / Winetaster At Communion / Renaissance Expert / The Wild Colonial Boy (reggae version) / Exploration Souvenirs / Ballroom Dancing Advert / Pet's Corner (White Ants) / Castrating Sex Offenders / Cutting Room Floor (High Noon) / song: Up On A Surfboard / Aqua Radium Drink / River Cruise Operator / Nose Hair Transplant

2/7 April 21 1985

Ad For 60 Minutes / German Visits Soft Toys / The Boss Is Back In Concert / Pet's Corner (Kitten) / Mururoa Body Splash / Mousetrap Testing / song: Desperate Dan / Reluctant Nobel Prize Winner / Passage To India / Paying By Phone / Phone Home For An Argument / song: Let Me Come And Bash Those Drums / Surprise Party For Safe Cracker / Cooee Newsreel (Motor Racing Driver / London Backslappers Choir / Grass Creek Storm / Canadian Giggles Contest) / Play For Me Jose

2/8 April 28 1985

Bert Newton In The Twilight Zone / How To Start A Coven / Sound Of Silence / Gardening Talkback / Megaton Man / Ape Job / Cooee Newsreel (Siberian Yeti / Stick Smuggling / Simpson Desert Head Trek / Belch Heard 10km Away) / The Tragic News / Pet's Corner (Irish Wolfhound) / Mururoa Nervosa / Slap And Tickle Insurance (incl. song: The Man Who Sells Insurance) / Ad Lib News / Stains / Hippo Blind Date / ASIO Phone Message

2/9 May 5 1985

Driving With Bad Vibes / Petrov Affair Comment / Snuff It Jewellery Insurance / Flower Arranging / song: You Were Always For Home Use Only / Cave Estate / Mr. Wong And Mrs. Marsh / Surgery On The Roast / Cooee Newsreel (Underwater Test Match / Super Inflation In La Paz / Mud Power / Antarctic Reporter Accident) / Hamlet, This Is Your Life / Pet's Corner (Giant Sand Worm) / Assertive Training Course Advert / Heart Transplant Application

2/10 May 12 1985

Shared Suicide / Post Office Training School / Chocolate Advert / Pet's Corner (Wart Hog) / Off Key Auditions / Disorganized Crime / Duck-Ectomy / song: A Friend Of A Friend Of Mine / Parliamentary Boxing Tactics / Cooee Newsreel (Experimental Ravioli / Alice Springs Struthing Contest / Vegemite Presentation / Banana Skin Vehicle) / Prison Officer Escape / song: The Elephant Gun / Godzilla At Premiere / Accountancy Virgin Sacrificing / 60 Minutes - George Best

2/11 May 19 1985

The Price Of Poverty / Quiche Addiction / song: Countdown Rockarena / Chatting Up Ex-Wife / Amazing, Fantastic & Incredible / Pet's Corner (Indonesian Giant Dragon) / Elephant Graveyard (incl. song: Down At The Elephant's Ball) / Become A Vegetable / Toothpaste Ad / Cooee Newsreel (Butterfly Shoot / Idaho Potato Centre / Leaping Goats / Rotten Egg Tennis) / Icecream Truck Tragedy / song: Then You're Drunk / Tale Of Two Cities / TV promo: More Bloody Doctors / Cruise Missile

2/12 May 26 1985

Sponsored A.B.C. Weather / 39th Loan Application / Mirage Advert / Arrested For Poor Literary Taste / song: Kangaroo From Bangaloo / Pet's Corner (Mastiff) / Flying Piglets Concert / Funeral Fault / Kings Cross Language / The Sale Of Ayers Rock / Cooee Newsreel (Head Burying / Beaming Thought Patterns / Touring Via Coffin / Motorized Shoes) / song: I'm A Mesa Star / Do-It-Yourself Philosophy / Why I Chose Rugby / song: Get Jogging / Substitute Chess Pieces

2/13 June 2 1985

Scottish French / Union Opposition To Home Computers / Pet's Corner (Australian Wild Animal) / Attractions Around Town (Disease Catching / Living Sculpture) / Penguin Waiter / Greengrocer Protest / Cutting Room Floor (Captain Blood) / Elementary School Drug Theft / song: You Pot Red, Black, Red, Black / Cooee Newsreel (Royal Siam Foot Regiment / Yowieville Name Change / Cheese Hunt / Surgically Implanted Stereo) / song: Chicken Rhythm / Sponsored Cyclone

BACK ISSUES

LAUGH #1
Barry Humphries/Jack Benny/Monty Python/The Young Ones/Band Waggon

LAUGH #2
Steptoe & Son/Not Only But Also/The Marx Brothers On Disc/Police Squad/George Wallace/Craig Ferguson

LAUGH #3
The Goodies/Roy Rene, 'Mo'/Tom Lehrer/The 'Doctor' Movies/Eddie Cantor

Issues 1 to 3 are now out of print, but photocopies are available at the same price.

LAUGH #4
Norman Gunston/Doctor on TV/Bob Newhart/Not The Nine O'Clock News

LAUGH #5
The Black Adder/Take It From Here/Victor Borge/Yes, What?/Abbott & Costello

LAUGH #6
Lenny Henry/Dad's Army/Jimmy Durante/John Clarke/Steve Martin

LAUGH #7
Ronnie Barker/Stan Freberg/Billy Connolly/Graham Kennedy

LAUGH #8
Amnesty Concerts/Danny Kaye/Aussie Britcoms/Jasper Carrott/Phyllis Diller

LAUGH #9
Paul Hogan/The Honeymooners/Allan Sherman/The Rag Trade/Beyond Our Ken

LAUGH #10
Sid James on TV/Shelley Berman/The Burkiss Way/Flanders & Swann/1980s Aussie TV Comedy

LAUGH #11
Mae West/Spike Milligan On TV/On The Buses/The Mavis Bramston Show/"Weird Al" Yankovic/Much-Binding-In-The-Marsh

LAUGH #12
Peter Cook/Burns & Allen/Rising Damp/My Name's McGooley/The Goon Show on Disc

LAUGH #13
Marty Feldman/Round The Horne/At Last The 1948 Show/Burns & Allen 2/Dick Bentley/Allen & Rossi

LAUGH #14
George Burns/Rutland Weekend Television/Steven Wright/The Naked Vicar Show/Life With The Lyons

LAUGH #15
Rik Mayall & Adrian Edmondson/Kingswood Country/Don Adams/Whack-O!

LAUGH #16
Hope & Crosby/Please Sir!/Max Miller/Willie Rushton/Kevin Bloody Wilson

LAUGH #17
WC Fields/St. Trinian's/Joyce Grenfell/Mother & Son/Family Ties/Woody Allen

LAUGH #18
Terry-Thomas/Radio Active/KYTV/The Jack Benny Program/Gerard Hoffnung/The 2000 Year Old Man/Acropolis Now

LAUGH #19
Rowan And Martin's Laugh-In/ITMA/Man About The House, George And Mildred, Robin's Nest/George Carlin/Hey Dad!

LAUGH #20
Frankie Howerd/Up Pompeii!/George Formby/All Together Now/Jonathan Winters

LAUGH #21
Eric Sykes/Flip Wilson/Ward Leopold/Victoria Wood/To The Manor Born

LAUGH #22
Benny Hill/Will Hay/Yes Minister/Richard Pryor/Aussie Radio Imports

★ ★ ★

Please make all cheques payable to P. Tatchell and send to the addresses listed on Page 2

★ ★ ★


only
\$5 or £2.50
a copy



BIG SCREEN FUN - BIG SCREEN LAUGHTER
THE BIG SCREEN
'FATHER DEAR FATHER'!

THE RANK ORGANISATION PRESENTS

PATRICK CARGILL



ALL NEW

FATHER DEAR FATHER

NATASHA PYNE ANN HOLLOWAY NOEL DYSON
with LINDA HOGGELLs KYLE CARROLL BILL WELFORD
& ROBERT O'SULLIVAN & THE TRIO
GUEST STARS BERYL REID & DONALD SINDEN

NRC
A SLEDGEMOOR M.M. FILM PRODUCTION
COLOR **BBB**

