

Weekly Highlights

Week 51/52 - Saturday 23rd - Friday 29th December 2023

Royal Carols: Together at Christmas Sunday, 7.45pm

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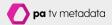
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The Voice UK Saturday, 8.10pm 23rd December ITV1

This reality talent show allows thousands to audition, but only one can win as the search is on for the next singing superstar - who will win an incredible record deal?

Emma Willis returns to host the semi-finals as the superstar coaches need to take one of the three singers that each of them have left through to the final - however, the choice is possibly the toughest that they have faced so far. Whose dreams will be kept alive?



Fletchers' Family Farm at Christmas Sunday, 11.25am 24th December ITV1

Join actor and first-time farmer Kelvin Fletcher, his wife Liz, and their four children as they open their home and hearts to share an intimate insight into their rural life!

In this special festive episode, everyone is in high spirits as Kelvin surprises Liz with baby alpacas for the farm, Marnie helps look after a rescued pony in desperate need of a good home, and pressure mounts as Kelvin and Liz prepare for a huge Christmas event.







Royal Carols: Together at Christmas Sunday, 7.45pm 24th December ITV1

The Duchess of Cambridge hosts a special carol service at Westminster Abbey, supported by The Royal Foundation, to recognise and celebrate incredible work.

Attended by His Majesty The King, 2023's service is linked to Her Royal Highness' Shaping Us campaign and sees the world-renowned Westminster Abbey choir perform carols alongside performances by star guests including Jacob Collier and Freya Ridings.

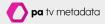


Britain Get Singing Sunday, 9pm 24th December ITV1

This unmissable TV event sees a number of groups comprised of stars from TV's biggest shows go head-to-head in a spectacular sing-off with a whole lot of sparkle.

Roman Kemp hosts as Jonathan Ross joins will.i.am, Alesha Dixon, and Adam Lambert to judge a spectacular sing-off between TV's biggest shows in aid of ITV's Britain Get Talking campaign - however, only one group can be crowned as champions in the end.







The Jonathan Ross Christmas Show Sunday, 10.15pm 24th December ITV1

A festive edition of the chat show where Jonathan Ross employs wit and fun to chat to celebrity guests and ask questions that everyone wants to know the answers to.

Guests include Katherine Jenkins - the biggest-selling classical artist this century - who will be chatting and performing, Spider-Man, Platoon and The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou star Willem Dafoe, and comedians Romesh Ranganathan and Kevin Bridges.

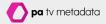


Christmas Carols on ITV Sunday, 11.30pm 24th December ITV1

Jane McDonald hosts a traditional Christmas Eve celebration from St Elisabeth's Church in Greater Manchester that includes an appearance by Jodie Prenger.

Singer-songwriter Jerub, West End leading lady Marisha Wallace, Anna Lapwood and the Pembroke College Chapel Choir, and multi-platinum-selling operatic pop quartet G4 also join Jane for the event as she herself gives two incredible festive performances.







Ainsley's Festive Flavours Monday, 2pm 25th December ITV1

Join Ainsley Harriott in the kitchen for a fun-filled Christmas feast with guests Joe Pasquale, Jane McDonald, chef Angela Hartnett and drinks expert Andy Clarke.

They'll all be dropping in for a chat and enjoying dishes that include turkey tinga tacos served with pinto beans and avocado crema, a crowd-pleasing clementine, white chocolate and ginger tiramisu, and a sprout okonomiyaki with its inspiration from Japan.



In For A Penny: Christmas Crackers Monday, 3.45pm 25th December ITV1

Stephen Mulhern is back with a bonkers Christmas special - get ready for lots of festive funnies as Stephen surprises unsuspecting members of the public in the UK!

This episode features a festive Weigh to Go, a hilarious Get Your Skates On, and a mystery Celebrity Santa Claus in Santa Who Who Who - there's all of that plus some players getting absolutely covered in gravy as they attempt to win a cool £1,000 prize!







The Masked Singer: Christmas Special Monday, 7.30pm 25th December ITV1

A festive edition of the surreal and surprising singing show where celebrities compete undercover in elaborate costumes and keep their true identities hidden.

Joel Dommett hosts and is joined by panellists Jonathan Ross, Rita Ora, Davina McCall, Mo Gilligan and special guest panellist Leona Lewis as Partridge (In a Pear Tree), Decorations, Reindeer and Sprout battle it out to be crowned as Christmas number one.



The 1% Club Christmas Special Monday, 9pm 25th December ITV1

Lee Mack hosts a festive edition as 100 contestants compete to win up to 100,000 pounds by answering a question that only one per cent of the nation can get right.

All of the questions are Christmas-themed and the contestants will be hoping to make the holiday season even more special by winning up to 100,000 pounds - find out if any of them manage to take home the perfect Christmas present and join the elite 1% Club.







Barry Humphries: The Last Laugh Monday, 10pm 25th December ITV1

Following the death of the performer in April 2023, this documentary aims to offer an intimate, personal, and honest look back at the life and work of Barry Humphries.

Featuring incredible timeless footage, the film sees Barry's friends including Nick Cave, Jason Donovan, Jonathan Ross, Sharon Osbourne and Alison Hammond pay tribute to a legendary comic trailblazer and a man who proved to be as complex as he was funny.



Tipping Point: Lucky Stars Christmas Special Tuesday, 5.45pm 26th December ITV1

Ben Shephard hosts a special seasonal edition of the quiz in which three celebrities take on a magnificent machine in the hope of winning 20,000 pounds for charity.

Gracing Ben with their Christmas presence are comedian Julian Clary, legendary actress Stephanie Beacham, and reality TV favourite Jamie Laing - all of them are eager to land their charities a Christmas gift to remember, but who will achieve their festive dream?







Vera Tuesday, 8pm 26th December ITV1

A special festive episode of the crime drama following DCI Vera Stanhope, who is obsessive about her work and tackles each new case with unparalleled enthusiasm.

It may be the run-up to Christmas, but the apparent suicide of scandal-hit television personality Rick Kelasall sees Vera's boss insist that she personally take a look into the case - it's a high-profile death on Holy Island, and it has occurred in Vera's home patch.

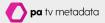


Nolly Wednesday-Friday, 9pm 27th-29th December ITV1

Drama based on real events. Noele Gordon, or Nolly to her friends, is a legend in her lifetime until the fateful day in 1981 when she is axed from the hit soap Crossroads.

As flame-haired widow Meg Richardson in one of the nation's favourite programmes, Nolly is one of the most famous people in Britain - however, her sacking is summarised by television bosses in one dismissive sentence: 'All good things must come to an end'.







The Big Quiz: Coronation Street vs Emmerdale Thursday, 8pm 28th December ITV1

The casts of Coronation Street and Emmerdale go head-to-head in an annual battle to be quizzed on the biggest events and the funniest moments from both shows.

Stephen Mulhern hosts as Coronation Street team captain Jack P Shepherd is joined by Channique Sterling-Brown and Tony Maudsley to face off with an Emmerdale side made up of Natalie Ann Jamieson, Kevin Mathurin, and their team captain Mark Charnock.



The Real Nolly Friday, 10.20pm 29th December ITV1

Narrated by Helena Bonham-Carter, this companion documentary to the drama series Nolly explores the life of Noele Gordon with exclusive access to her archives.

A star on the stage in the 1940s, Noele, who played Meg Richardson in Crossroads, was also the first woman ever to be broadcast in colour and became a television executive who pioneered daytime TV - this documentary is a love letter to a much-missed star.









There's Something About Mary Sunday, 9pm 24th December ITV2

Cameron Diaz and Ben Stiller star in this memorable gross-out comedy about a man who had an awful date with his dream high school girl but gets another shot at love.

Ted was a geek who was going to go to the prom with Mary, one of the most popular girls in high school - however, the prom date never happened because Ted had an unusual accident, so he decides some 13 years later to hire a private detective to find her again.



Pitch Perfect 3 Tuesday, 9pm 26th December ITV2

Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson and Brittany Snow star in this musical comedy as the separated Bellas reunite for one final singing competition at an overseas USO tour.

After the highs of winning the World Championships, the Bellas find themselves split apart and discovering that there aren't job prospects for the joys of mouth vocalisation... however, they come together to make some music - and poor choices - one last time.







Love Island: Australia Monday, 11pm Tuesday, 10.45pm Wednesday-Thursday, 10.30pm 25th-28th December ITVBe

This version of the hit relationship-based reality show follows a group of gorgeous young and single Australian contestants as they experience the holiday of a lifetime.

The countdown is on as the end of the fifth series is in sight - as the Islanders enjoy flirting, fun, jealousy, rejection and romance in an emotional feast of lust and passion in the sun, they must also prepare to learn which pairing has triumphed in Thursday's final.



The Real Full Monty: Jingle Balls Wednesday & Thursday, 9pm 27th & 28th December ITVBe

The show where Ashley Banjo, Coleen Nolan, and a team of celebrities bare all to highlight the importance of checking your body and raise cancer awareness returns.

As well as facing the physical challenge of learning the dance routine, many of the celebrities in this edition - including Julia Bradbury and Paul Burrell - are also facing their own personal hurdles... will they still be able to pull off a spectacular show in the end?









Agatha Christie's Why Didn't They Ask Evans? Tuesday, 8pm, 9.15pm, & 10.35pm 26th December ITV3

Based on Agatha Christie's 1934 tale, this is a story of deceit, betrayal and murder that lures two young detectives from rugged north Wales to the Home Counties.

Bobby Jones and his childhood friend Frankie Derwent, who are reunited after a decade apart, vow to answer a dying man's final question: Why didn't they ask Evans? The young couple sleuth their way across England and risk life and limb until they meet the killer...

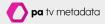


One More Audience with Dame Edna Sunday, 10pm 24th December ITV3

Australia's favourite housewife Dame Edna Everage - also known as the late Barry Humphries - proves that her popularity and bare-faced shame have not dwindled.

The Dame is in fine form as she applies her razor-sharp repartee to questions asked by Sir Yehudi Menuhin and Bill Wyman among others - appearing in her record-breaking third An Audience with..., Edna shows that her megastar status lives on in this show.









English Football League Highlights Saturday, 9pm 23rd December ITV4

All the highlights, action and talking points from the latest English Football League matches as the season enters the critical Christmas and New Year's fixture period.

Leicester City and Ipswich Town have some breathing space over their rivals in the Championship, Bolton Wanderers and Portsmouth are battling near the top of League One, and Stockport County are impressing in League Two... but everything could change.



ITV Racing: Live from Ascot & Kempton Saturday, 1.10pm Wednesday, 12.45pm 23rd & 27th December ITV4

Ed Chamberlin presents coverage of racing from Ascot, Haydock, Kempton and Chepstow over two days of electrifying action taking place over the festive period.

Highlights include the Long Walk Hurdle and Betfair Handicap Hurdle at Ascot and the Tommy Whittle Chase at Haydock on Saturday, and they're followed on Wednesday by the Desert Orchid Chase at Kempton and the prestigious Welsh National at Chepstow.



