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Programme Information / Television &amp; Radio

**Saturday 1 – Friday 7 November 2008, Week 45**BBC Scotland Press Office  
bbc.co.uk/pressoffice**THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS****TELEVISION & RADIO WEEK 45****MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER**Westside Wrens ★ **NEW**

BBC Radio Scotland

**TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER**A New Beginning: The Opening of the  
Scottish Parliament ★ **ARCHIVE SERIES**

BBC Radio Scotland

**WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER**The Choir ★ **NEW**

BBC Radio Scotland

**THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER**No Going Back ★ **NEW**  
Fowlis and Folk ★ **NEW**BBC Radio Scotland  
BBC Radio Scotland**Sunday 2 November****Television & Radio Highlights 2008 / Week 45****Scottish Rally Championships Highlights 2008**Sunday 2 November  
BBC Two Scotland, 6.00-6.50 pm

John Beattie and Rhona McLeod present the highlights from the second half of this year's Scottish Rally Championship. Catch all the thrills and spills from the RSAC Scottish Rally in Dumfries, the Gleaner Oil & Gas Speyside Stages in Elgin and the Merrick Forest Stages in Newton Stewart. The action finishes off with the spectacular all star event in Perth as 15 World Rally Championship elite drivers took on the regular SRC challengers in the Colin McRae Forest Stages Rally. Going into the last four rallies former SRC champion Jimmy Girvan from Inverness led the pack but rising junior star David Bogie from Dumfries was biting at his heels. John and Rhona go behind the scenes to discover the crucial roles of some of the unsung heroes of Scottish Rally including the mechanics and the clerk of the course. Leader Jimmy Girvan's co-driver Kirsty Riddock gives an insight into the exacting job. Current drivers and the World Rally Championship stars of yesteryear give their views on the twists and turns of the tough competition. The McRae Stages were a fitting tribute to the late Colin McRae a year after the death of the rally legend.

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**Westside Wrens** 📺 **NEW**

Monday 3 November

BBC Radio Scotland, 11.30-12noon

[bbc.co.uk/radioscotland](http://bbc.co.uk/radioscotland)

Sheila Michael was at school when she decided to join the Wrens, persuaded by how smart the officers looked in their uniforms. She and a friend borrowed clothes from their older sisters, fibbed about their age and presented themselves at the recruiting office.

Torpedo assessor, Ailsa Stewart, served in Machrihanish on the Mull of Kintyre. She describes the long journey it took to get there from London; and Margaret Harris was the first Wren to serve in Oban, but was then posted to Greenock where she worked as a cypher officer.

Mary Ann Kennedy meets the *Westside Wrens*, who still get together once a month, and hears their stories of hard work, humour and heartache. The Wrens served all along the West coast of Scotland from Stornoway to Largs, Oban to Greenock, and Machrihanish to Faslane, undertaking a variety of jobs and contributing substantially to the effort in the Second World War.

Margaret Harris recalls the pressures of working on top secret projects and remembers one occasion when a convoy was mistakenly sent to Gibraltar instead of Oran in North Africa. She also talks about being lucky enough to cross the Atlantic on the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth.

Meanwhile, Sheila retained her fondness for the uniform but instead of wearing the standard thick black stockings, would persuade the sailors to bring back the more attractive silk stockings with seams up the back.

Ailsa recollects involuntarily crying when she arrived in Machrihanish believing she'd come to the end of the earth, however 66 years later she's still there.

*Westside Wrens* is a journey to a bygone era, an opportunity to learn about the significance of the work they did which is little-known today; and it's a chance to hear how the lives, and perception, of women at that time changed considerably.

**FC****River City**

Tuesday 4 November

BBC One Scotland, 8.00 – 9.00pm

[bbc.co.uk/rivercity](http://bbc.co.uk/rivercity)

When the ceiling in *Versus* collapses, it only brings Heather and Ewan closer, each unable to resist the obvious chemistry between them. Suspicious that Ewan may be seeing someone else, Jo is shocked to catch him getting passionate with her pal. Determined to hold onto her boyfriend at all costs, Jo tells Ewan she thinks she may be pregnant.

Elsewhere, Raymond is saddened by the thought of giving up the Tall Ship. Irritated that Jimmy and Scarlett seem to be taking over already, he reminds them that he is still landlord until he leaves for Spain.

Manu struggles to look after baby Eilidh and asks Gina for help, much to Scott's disapproval. And it's business as usual for Ruth who, having walked out on her own baby, finds herself the hot topic of local gossip.

Heather is played by Jenni Keenan Green, Ewan by Chris Brazier, Jo by Lisa Gardner, Lenny by Frank Gallagher, Raymond by Paul Samson, Jimmy by Billy McElhaney, Scarlett by Sally Howitt, Manu by Hosh Kane, Gina by Libby McArthur, Scott by Tony Kearney and Ruth by Morag Calder.

**Please note, this programme can also be viewed on Sky Channel 971 and is available on the BBC's iPlayer service - [bbc.co.uk/iplayer](http://bbc.co.uk/iplayer)**

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## A New Beginning: The Opening of the Scottish Parliament, Prog 1/4

### 🕒 ARCHIVE SERIES

Tuesday 4 November

BBC Radio Scotland, 11.30-12noon

[bbc.co.uk/radioscotland](http://bbc.co.uk/radioscotland)

To mark the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BBC Radio Scotland, *The Opening of the Scottish Parliament* is the first of four scheduled repeats, and presents highlights taken from Radio Scotland's coverage of the opening of the Scottish Parliament.

Further programmes from the archives include *One Night in Cardiff* which recalls the evening when joy turned to tragedy after Jock Stein suffered a fatal heart attack following Scotland's triumph in reaching the play off stage for the 1986 World Cup Finals.

*Scotland's Century* offers a chance to hear again Colin Bell presenting the first episode of the landmark series which explored the Scots from all generations and backgrounds, sharing intimate and surprising memories of the changes they have experienced since 1900.

The anniversary broadcasts conclude with an opportunity to listen again to the Sony Gold winning programme *Stark Talk* in which Edi Stark meets Joe Simpson. The climber and writer describes to Edi how falling off the face of Siula Grande nearly killed him, but changed his life, and explains why love is an emotion he's less happy to discuss.

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Wednesday 5 November

Television & Radio Highlights 2008 / Week 45

### The Choir 🕒 NEW

Wednesday 5 November

BBC Radio Scotland, 11.30-12noon

[bbc.co.uk/radioscotland](http://bbc.co.uk/radioscotland)

The Parsonage Choir have performed with Rod Stewart, sung for The Flaming Lips front man, and have just brought out their first EP.

Paul English presents *The Choir*, a new programme for BBC Radio Scotland which offers an insight into life as a singer in a 50-strong body which is rapidly making its mark on the Scottish music scene.

Named in honour of Gram Parsons, The Parsonage was formed at the beginning of 2006. Their music includes a variety of country, folk and blues with influences ranging from Hank Williams to Nick Cave to Bruce Springstein.

Enjoying very distinct personalities and a range of singing abilities, life in *The Choir* is never dull.

Using a mix of music, stories and anecdotes the programme introduces some of the group's quirky characters.

There's Lesley whose involvement has led to a role in a local girl group; Rebecca has a three month old baby, loves the grown-up company and time out; and of course Paul English, blessed with a short attention span which means he is always being pulled up for chatting.

The programme catches *The Choir* during their ups and downs; listens to them rehearsing; and follows them in the run up to their tribute concert for American song writing legend, Hank Williams, on 1 November at Glasgow University.

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## SCOTLAND'S HISTORY

TELEVISION RADIO ONLINE EVENTS

### **No Going Back** **NEW**

Thursday 6 November

BBC Radio Scotland, 11.30am-12noon

[bbc.co.uk/radioscotland](http://bbc.co.uk/radioscotland)

[bbc.co.uk/scotlandshistory](http://bbc.co.uk/scotlandshistory)

Part of *Scotland's History*, this new series for BBC Radio Scotland delves into the past to see how certain communities have been affected by a major event or change.

In *No Going Back*, Charles Kennedy MP examines the influence which the aluminium industry had on Lochaber in the west Highlands.

Inverlochy was purpose built in the 1920s to house incoming workers for the newly built British Aluminium Company. Charles Kennedy was born and brought up in the shadows of the smelter there, and listened to stories of his grandfather who worked as a foreman on the construction of the hydro schemes.

As the story unfolds the programme paints a picture of community life forever affected by a changing population, and describes the harsh brutality of working in the smelters which breathed life into the Highland glens.

Modernisation was inevitable and efficiencies were made in the late 20th Century. *No Going Back* considers the consequence of progress on a region previously reliant on one industry, and questions whether de-population, halted nearly a century ago, would return to leave homes, shops and playgrounds empty in once vibrant villages.

The programme weaves personal testimony together with stories and memories from a specific occurrence in living memory, and reflects on the impact that event had on a particular community.

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### **Fowlis and Folk, Prog 1/9** **NEW SERIES**

Thursday 6 November

BBC Radio Scotland, 8.00pm-10.00pm

[bbc.co.uk/radioscotland](http://bbc.co.uk/radioscotland)

Mark Radcliffe hailed her voice and songs as "enchanting, beguiling and fascinating", and KT Tunstall describes her as "formidable and amazingly rhythmic". The personality they are describing is Julie Fowlis, a talented singer and instrumentalist from Scotland.

Julie represents the vibrant and iconic face of modern folk and acoustic roots music. Currently BBC Radio 2's Folk Singer of the Year, in a few short years she has taken the music scene by storm, gathering a small army of fans around the world.

Winner of the Gaelic Singer Of The Year and Album Of The Year (Cuilidh) at the 2007 Scots Traditional Music Awards, Julie spends her time touring the world bringing ancient songs from the Hebridean Islands to new audiences.

*Fowlis and Folk* marks Julie's own bespoke series. The shows will feature a mixture of Julie's favourite traditional, roots and acoustic tracks and she'll be joined for music and conversation by a range of artists from far and wide, including up and coming as well as established talent.

The programme is repeated on Saturday evenings from 10.00pm.

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**Dear Green Place, Prog 3/6: Goats**

Friday 7 November

BBC One Scotland, 10.35pm-11.05pm

It's the start of another working day for the dedicated parkies. Woody and Wallace take two cashmere goats for a walk but lose them to a knife wielding ned.

Henderson grounds his alcoholic wife after discovering she has gone back on the bottle.

Embarrassed, and wanting to keep her drinking a secret, he locks Alice in the house, but then spots the goats and goes to their rescue.

Riordan and McAllister are on drain cleaning duty, which they are not happy about. However, they help out an alcoholic woman by pointing her in the right direction of the local off licence, unaware she's Henderson's wife escaped from captivity.

Later they have to rescue Toner who is being chased by the same alcoholic woman, while Henderson becomes suspiciously quiet.

Gavin, meanwhile, has a hospital appointment with a consultant. Sitting anxiously in the waiting room he recalls significant moments from his past: a conversation with his careers officer in school; playing the clown in an old folk's home; and facing up to a colleague on the post office sorting desk.

Back in the park, Woody and McAllister are reunited with the cashmere goats. A trip to the barbers is called for when Michelle lets slip they're worth a lot of cash. Toner is on the receiving end of an empty bottle from the alcoholic woman who chased him earlier; and Henderson's guilty secret is finally, and humiliatingly, let out the bag.

This episode of *Dear Green Place* is repeated on Monday 10 November on BBC Two Scotland at 10.00pm.

Woody is played by Johnny Austin; Wallace by Martin Docherty; Henderson by Ford Kiernan; Alice by Kathryn Howden; Riordan by Paul Riley; McAllister is played by Paul Blair; Toner by Michael MacKenzie; Gavin by Gavin Jon Wright and Michelle by Jenny Ryan.

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**Landward**

Friday 7 November

BBC Two Scotland, 7.00pm-7.30pm

**[bbc.co.uk/Scotland/outdoors](http://bbc.co.uk/Scotland/outdoors)**

The high cost of diesel and the rising value of scrap metal have led to a number of Scottish farms being targeted by thieves. Nick Nairn visits a farm with a risk assessor from one of Scotland's main rural property insurers to discover the steps that can be taken to deter potential crooks.

Sarah Mack continues her look at the fortunes of Scotland's tourist industry. This week she discovers that the credit crunch has led to a boom in business for providers at the lower end of the tourism market. Campsites, campervan and caravan providers have been rushed off their feet meeting the increasing demand from families holidaying at home.

Also on *Landward*, in the run-up to Remembrance Sunday, Euan McIlwraith visits one of many military aircraft crash sites on Scotland's hills. He relates the story of a US Air Force flight which came down in bad weather at the end of the Second World War. It had been carrying servicemen home.

Sixty years on many of those crash sites remain intact because of their remote location. Now campaigners hope to prevent people from pilfering the wrecks for souvenirs, and wish to encourage respect for the spots as formal memorials.

The Loch Arthur Community in Dumfries and Galloway is one of the largest organic farms in the country providing accommodation and employment for dozens of people with a range of learning difficulties. This week *Landward* meets some of its residents and finds out how their hard work has created a growing and profitable business.

**Please note this programme can be viewed on Sky Channel 990.**

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