RadioTimes

UPFRONT

CONTENTS

ruckers	8
ScreenPlay: Next	13
You Must Be the Husband	14
Dear John	15
Hear This!	16
Films	19
Peter Sellers	19
PROGRAMMES	20
Yours Locally	70
The Great Philosophers	72
Info, Frequencies	76
Recipe Times	78
Letters	80
Roger Woddis, Crossword	81

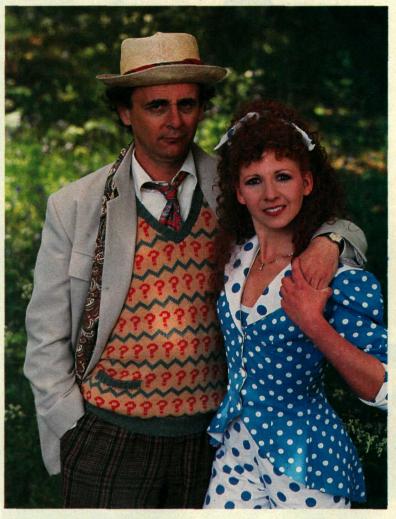


The Happy Valley	
Vanity Fair	85
John Craven's Rack Panes	26

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Lofty's dahn yer way

'This is a chance for me to introduce Radio 4 listeners to a very old friend of mine,' says Tom Watt, alias Lofty of *EastEnders*. Tom is the first of several guest presenters to be going **Down Your Way** (Sunday, re-broadcast Monday) and the 'old friend' he can't wait to introduce this week is the city of Manchester, where he went to university and started out as an actor.

Says Tom, who comes from north London: 'There are a lot of misconceptions about Manchester in the south. Yes, it has its social and environmental problems – but it's a great place full of great people, whose sense of humour and belief in the future haven't been dented.'

Who's the real McCoy

'He's not as tall as the other ones,' quips Sylvester McCoy (who's all of 5ft 6in) when asked what's going to be different about *his* new Doctor (Doctor Who, Monday BBC1). It seems people have been telling him for years that he should play the part: 'I don't really know why maybe it's because I've got a slightly mad quality. Perhaps it was just a way for producers to get rid of me!'

But it's not all change for the Doctor – he'll still have Mel (Bonnie Langford) to lean on. See page 87.



The prints and the showgirl

'If you did that well with Marlene, can you imagine what you could do with me?' Marilyn Monroe said to photographer Eve Arnold after seeing a book of her Dietrich studies. Eve took hundreds of Monroe pictures, and most of those in her new book Marilyn Monroe: an Appreciation have never been seen before. In Eve and Marilyn (Tuesday BBC2) Eve speaks revealingly about Monroe – but who's going to believe her claim that the goddess had 'little fat chubby legs'? » > 4

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