



# Channel 4 Christmas Press Pack 2024

Listings, programme announcements, press packs and more can be found on the [Channel 4 Press site](#)

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# WEEK 51

14 DECEMBER – 20 DECEMBER



# Chateau DIY at Christmas

Ever dreamt of what it would be like to have Christmas on a Chateau Scale? Join us this December where Chateau DIY gets festive as we prepare to supersize the magic of the festive period with joyous experiences at some of our most stunning castles. Whether up at the Normandy Coast or down south in the Pyrenees Mountains, our talented chateau owners will be tackling everything from last minute bedroom renovations in time for guests, and hallway makeovers in preparation for Santa. An enchanting series that will also celebrate how to decorate these enormous buildings and put on the ultimate festive event and intimate family gatherings. Chateau DIY at Christmas will be sure to get you into the holiday spirit with stunning renovations and beautifully creative festive treats.

**TX:** Monday 16 December 2024, 4pm on Channel 4 (Stripped Mon-Fri)

**Production company:** Spark Media North

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries





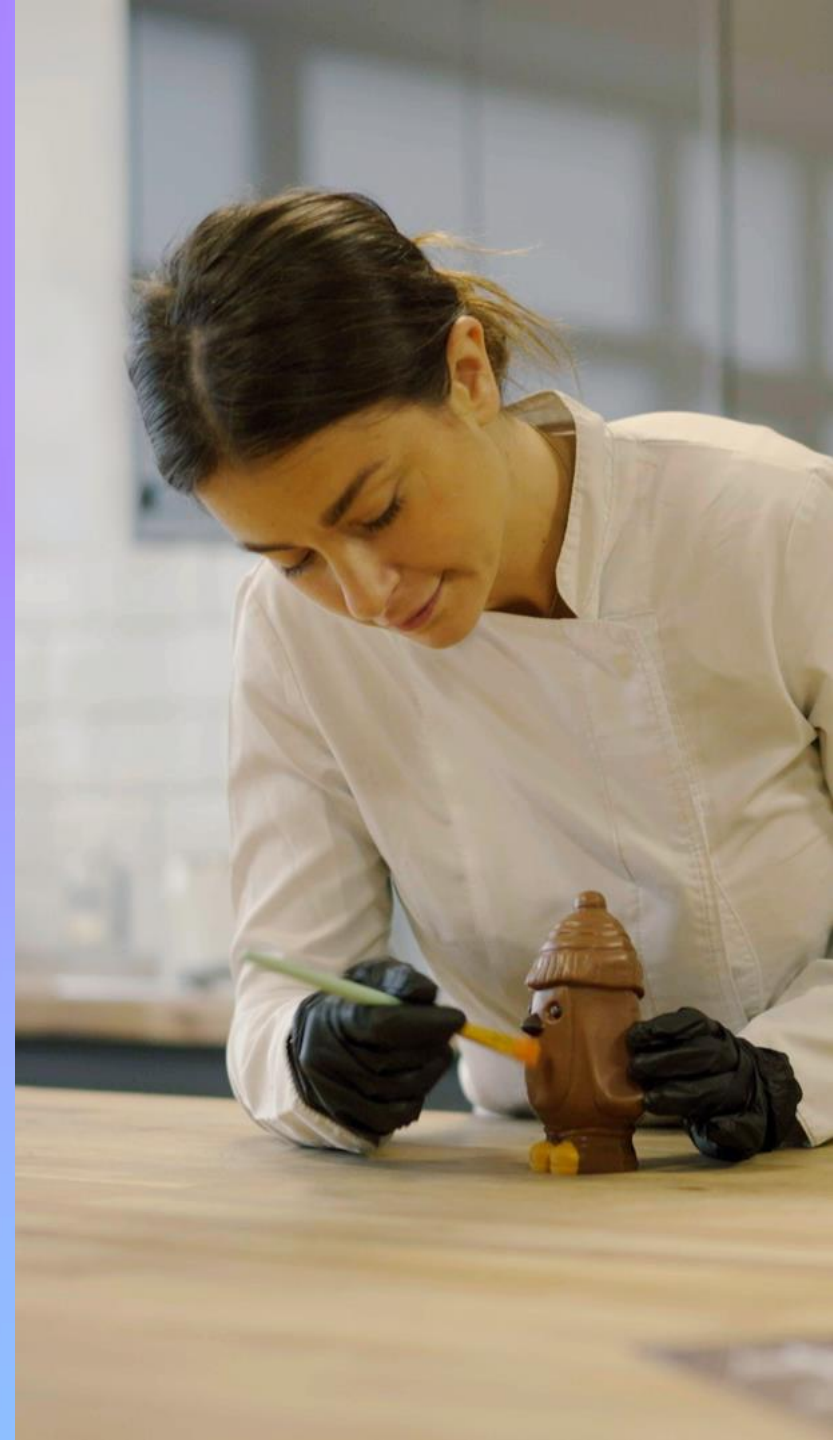
# Hotel Chocolat at Christmas

Access to Hotel Chocolat from the factory to the shop floor, we go behind the scenes of their biggest Christmas yet.

**TX:** Tuesday 17 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Big Circus

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries







# Popmaster TV: Festive DJ Special

Everything stops for PopMaster – even Christmas! Ken Bruce hosts a special festive TV edition of the legendary radio quiz as he welcomes five superstar DJs into the studio who really should know a thing or two about music.

The brave DJs stepping up to put their reputations on the line in our PopMaster TV festive special and hoping to come out as the Christmas number one are: Bob Harris, Katie Thistleton, OJ Borg, Jenny Powell and Rickie Haywood-Williams.

Which of our DJs will be a Christmas PopMaster and who will be a festive flop?

**TX:** Tuesday 17 December, 9pm on More4

**Production company:** 12 Yard Productions

**Press contact:** Gemma Bareham



# The Dog House at Christmas

Channel 4's *The Dog House* returns for more matchmaking at Woodgreen Pets Charity this festive season. The team make their abandoned dogs feel extra special at this time of year...cuddles, presents and their very own doggy Christmas dinner! But will they find them a perfect home in time for Christmas?

The Griffiths family hope Gigi the Labrador cross will help dad Dave get into the festive spirit. But will old habits die hard?

Mona the Lurcher only has one thing on her list this year, a new friend. She's introduced to Georgia the Saluki cross, but it takes them a while to work out if they think each other are naughty or nice.

And Lady the Cocker Spaniel stray has to overcome her shyness when she meets Elizabeth, sister Sarah and her Afghan Hound Florence.

**TX:** Wednesday 18 December, 8pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Five Mile Films

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries





# A Very British Hotel At Christmas

For the very first time, Brown's, London's oldest luxury hotel, invites viewers behind the scenes as it gears up for its busiest and most magical season: Christmas.

Nestled in the prestigious Mayfair district, Brown's has long been a symbol of elegance, class, and impeccable British service, attracting royalty and celebrities for nearly 200 years. Now, as the holiday season approaches, the dedicated staff faces the daunting challenge of upholding the hotel's storied reputation.

With rooms starting at £750 a night and a cocktail priced at an eye-water £7,500, it's no wonder guests expect an experience fit for royalty. However - high expectations bring big pressure and high stakes.

To meet their needs, Brown's has assembled an elite team focused on crafting a truly world-class Christmas. They work their magic overnight, transforming the hotel into a festive wonderland. From bespoke packages for VIP guests and their pampered pooches to lavish room displays that turn a luxury suite into a winter paradise, every detail is designed to impress. The team hosts a vibrant charity Christmas fayre, creates imaginative festive pastries, and concocts a signature holiday cocktail, all aimed at delivering the Christmas feast of a lifetime.

But in a world where only the very best will do, will these extraordinary efforts be enough to wow even the most discerning visitors?

Along the way, we'll meet guests celebrating special occasions and delve into the inspiring stories of the staff, uncovering why making the season perfect for their guests holds such profound meaning for them.

**TX:** Wednesday 18 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Proper Content

**Press contact:** Harpreet Gill







# Tapped Out Prank Stars

Tapped Out Prank Stars is a supersized celebrity special inspired by the hit Channel 4.0 YouTube series. Hosted by Nella Rose and Harry Pinero, this chaotic comedy prank show challenges three celebrity – rapper ArrDee, comedian Fatiha El-Ghorri, and JLS star Aston Merrygold – to take on a series of cringe-worthy tasks in front of unsuspecting members of the public.

The goal? To withstand the pranks as long as possible without “tapping out.” The celebrity who lasts the longest will be crowned the fearless Tapped Out Champion, while the loser faces a final humiliating forfeit on the streets of London.

Nella and Harry are joined by a rowdy studio audience, watching and reacting to all the antics live from a stylish underground bar. Who will have the nerve to push themselves past the point of embarrassment to be crowned the winner, and who will tap out?

**TX:** Wednesday 18 December, 11:05pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Wall Of Entertainment

**Press contact:** Nick Walker





# John Lewis at Christmas

Thanks to the anticipation around their annual festive advert, few other high-street chains have become as synonymous with Christmas as John Lewis. As more than 50 per cent of their annual profits are made in the last quarter of the year, John Lewis's preparations need to start early.

This iconic British brand, for millions, has become a one-stop shop for all festive needs. But it doesn't just happen - it takes months of meticulous planning, a team of research and development experts, a small army of staff and of course what has become an iconic Christmas advert campaign.

John Lewis is under pressure though. Shopping habits are changing, online is undercutting and the battle for business has never been so tough. That's why this year's Christmas ad has never had such high expectations and is more important than ever.

We'll go behind the scenes as it's filmed to see how they capture their audience, we'll witness first-hand how much creativity, planning and sheer hard work goes into making thirty seconds of television... In today's crowded market it will come under huge scrutiny and cannot fail.

We'll peek behind the curtain at John Lewis's busiest time of the year, meeting the shop floor staff who are the public faces of the brand as well as the buyers who are responsible for travelling the world, gauging the national mood and sourcing over fifteen hundred decorations and edible treats that we will be filling our houses with this Christmas - have they got it right?

Santa's Grottos will be built, decorations will go up and stores will be transformed - all in order to create a magical Christmas wonderland that attracts customers the world over.

**TX:** Wednesday 18 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Big Circus

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries





# Secrets of the Christmas Market

Follow behind the scenes at Belfast's much loved annual festive market (the largest on the Irish Isles) to meet the people who bring Christmas to life in its 20<sup>th</sup> and grandest year ever.

Starting from scratch a team 50 have just 2 weeks to transform the empty grounds of Belfast City Hall into a magical winter wonderland, ready for 1.2 eager million visitors from across the globe. With over 100 chalets to construct, Santa's grotto to design, beloved local pubs to recreate, and a giant Christmas tree to decorate the team must battle the Northern Irish winter weather in time for the grand opening.

Then once open, come behind the curtain to meet stallholders from over 30 countries and local traders as they attempt to outdo one another to create the finest handmade treats. How will competition heat up as they contend for customers on an annual pilgrimage to drink mulled wine, buy unique treasures, and soak up a Northern Irish Christmas?

**TX:** Thursday 19 December, 8pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Afro Mic Productions

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries



# First Dates Christmas Special

It's the most wonderful time of the year and what better season to find love than Christmas? Fred and his team of Cupids are opening the restaurant doors in the romantic city of Bath to festive singletons all hoping to find the greatest gift of all this Christmas... love!

The first dater searching for her dream Christmas romcom moment is 21-year-old true romantic, Tee. She's looking for a fellow romantic who can rival her celebrity crush, Anthony Joshua. Kicking off his mission to find love this Christmas is Tee's date- 29-year-old martial arts instructor, Kyroe. He's on the hunt to find a wife and hopes to meet the Beyoncé to his Jay-Z.

Hoping she's on Santa's good list this year is 57-year-old Louise, who is 6ft 1 and has never dated a man taller than her. Cue Justin, a 6ft 6 Glaswegian straight from Louise's Christmas wish list. *Can the loveable duo reach the heights of romance this December, or will they fall short of finding love?*

Returning to the restaurant and hoping for a year of new beginnings is 29-year-old semi-competitive Pokémon player, Isaac. His date is 27-year-old Rhiannon, a professional Princess at Warwick Castle, who's searching for her very own Prince Charming to spend Christmas with.

30-year-old firefighter, Matt has grown tired of hose related jokes on dating apps and is looking for someone to rescue his love life. Matt's date is Felix, a Personal Assistant in need of some assistance in finding a "dreamy hunky guy" to unwrap this festive season.

With the Christmas karaoke in full flow and mistletoe swinging, this is a First Dates Christmas to remember!

**TX:** Thursday 19 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Twofour

**Press contact:** Isabelle Martin, Multitude Media



# WEEK 52

21 DECEMBER – 27 DECEMBER





# Alpine Train at Christmas

Climb aboard for a Christmas treat, as Channel 4 takes a ride on one of the most picturesque trains in the world. Narrated by Hugh Bonneville, this seasonal special books a ticket on the illustrious Bernina Express and experience some festive magic along the way. Follow the journey as the train travels from Chur, Switzerland's oldest town, through some of the most spectacular, steep and stunning Alpine landscapes in Europe, ending in the beautiful town of Tirano in Italy. En route, the programme visits some of the people who live and work with the mountains of the Alps as their backdrop.

**TX:** Sunday 22 December, 7pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** King Of Sunshine

**Press contact:** Nick Walker





# Sounds Like It's Christmas

It's the most wonderful time of year and nothing gets us in the festive mood more than the songs that soundtrack Christmas. Now, Ken Bruce is here to curate decades of Yuletide melodies and put together the ultimate Christmas playlist.

In this one-off seasonal special, we hear from some of the stars behind the hits as they share the stories behind their own Chrimbo classics, as well as choosing their favourite tinsel-covered tracks of all time.

Jona Lewie tells us about stopping the cavalry, Boney M's Liz Mitchell reminisces about Mary's Boy Child, Roy Wood wonders whether he still wishes it could be Christmas every day and Tony Mortimer recalls the poignant story behind East 17's number one smash, Stay Another Day.

Also adding their picks to the Yuletide mix are The Darkness' Justin Hawkins, ska legend Pauline Black, pop producer supremo Pete Waterman, radio presenter Lauren Layfield and Walking in the Air icon Aled Jones. Plus, Paul Young recalls one of the most iconic moments in pop history.

**TX:** Sunday 22 December, 8pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Gold Walla

**Press contact:** Gemma Bareham





# Christmas at Lapland UK

Did you know that a Lapland exists in Britain? and it's the hottest ticket this Christmas. Deep in the woods of Royal Berkshire, here's an opportunity to go for the very first time behind the scenes of a magical place where the traditional spirit of Christmas is still alive and kicking. It sells out at the speed of Glastonbury and welcomes the likes of the Princess of Wales and family and the Beckhams.

The Battles, a husband-and-wife team, along with their sons, are trying their utmost to bring back and retain the magic of the season. They have created a vivid story world of elves and reindeers - and of course, the big man and his wife - which has proved a massive hit with families the length and breadth of the country. Every year a total sell-out and the visitors all leave touched with that old school belief in the enchantment of it all.

With Hollywood set builders and costume designers brought in to create a top quality experience, thousands of talented performers rehearsing their socks off, and amazing attention to detail right down to the ice-encrusted personalised invitations, the team strives to make the pretty pricey tickets worth every penny in these straightened times. We'll see what the punters' verdict is...

**TX:** Monday 23 December, 8pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Doc Hearts

**Press contact:** Press Enquiries







# The Great Christmas Bake Off 2024

It's Christmas time in the Bake Off tent! Father Christmas himself, Paul Hollywood, is joined as always by Prue Leith and their festive helpers Noel Fielding and Alison Hammond. Celebrating with them in the tent are stars from *EastEnders*, *Coronation Street*, and *Emmerdale*, who will battle it out for the coveted Festive Star Baker. But before that happens, they must impress the judges with three Christmas-themed challenges.

The Signature Challenge asks the bakers to put their own spin on the traditional yule log, while the Technical challenges their meringue skills as they create delicate Christmas trees. No Christmas would be complete though without a dramatic Soap ending, as the bakers showcase one of their famous soap storylines...in biscuit form.

The soap icons competing for Star Baker will be Chris Bisson, Natalie Cassidy, Dean Gaffney, Shobna Gulati and Sheree Murphy.

**TX:** Tuesday 24 December, 8pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Love Productions

**Press contact:** Amanda Console, Shelagh Pymm





# The Alternative Christmas Message

First airing in 1993, Channel 4's Alternative Christmas Message has served as an alternative to the monarch's annual televised address to the nation to bring viewers a thought-provoking message that is pertinent to the events of the past year.

The message has previously featured an illustrious and varied selection of presenters, including the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad; whistle-blower Edward Snowden; Afghan war veteran Major Andrew Stockton; William Pooley, the British nurse who survived Ebola; Katie Piper; Quentin Crisp; the Reverend Jesse Jackson; Doreen and Neville Lawrence; children who survived the Grenfell Tower disaster; The Simpsons; 9/11 survivor Genelle Guzman; a 'deepfake' digitally created depiction of Her Majesty The Queen, Ameca, one of the world's most advanced robots, who delivered a speech generated entirely by AI, and most recently, in 2023 Stephen Fry spoke about the rise in anti-Semitism.

**TX:** Wednesday 25 December, 4:50pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Channel 4

**Press contact:** Kate Conway



# The Piano at Christmas

Channel 4's BAFTA-nominated series celebrates Christmas at Battersea Power Station in London. Join Claudia Winkleman, Mika and Lang Lang for a special festive get-together as they're joined by some of the stars of series two who perform seasonal favourites including *Walking in the Air*, *O Holy Night* and *River*. Series two's Brad Kella also returns with a show-stopping performance, plus Mika and Lang Lang duet on a Beatles' classic.

**TX:** Wednesday 25 December, 7:05pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Love Productions

**Press contact:** Gemma Bareham/ Rachel Gordon







# The Festive Pottery Throw Down

Novice celebrity potters, Babatunde Aleshe, Martin Kemp, Rachel Riley and Tom Rosenthal roll up their sleeves and brave the clay, as they attempt to become champion of the Festive Pottery Throw Down. With Siobhán McSweeney hosting, Judges Keith Brymer Jones and Rich Miller set the celebrities two festive challenges, a hand building Winter Wonderland and a surprise second challenge where speed is of the essence as the celebrities take to the wheel to see who can throw the most festive wine coolers.

**TX:** Thursday 26 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Love Productions

**Press contact:** Shelagh Pymm



# Big Fat Quiz of the Year

What did Rishi Sunak say he went without as a child? What did Andy Murray post online after his retirement? What music trend dominated the summer, and why were people looking for a man in finance? All these questions and more will be answered in The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2024.

Question master **Jimmy Carr** is joined by **Richard Ayoade**, **Katherine Ryan**, **Rob Beckett**, **Judi Love**, **Chris McCausland** and **Maisie Adam** as they battle it out to see who knows the most about the year that's been.

Helping Jimmy ask the big questions are Charles Dance, the children of Mitchell Brook primary school and a whole host of celebrity question setters looking back at 2024.

**TX:** Friday 27 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** BFQ Ltd.

**Press contact:** Nick Walker







# WEEK 1

28 DECEMBER – 03 JANUARY



# Taskmaster's New Year Treat

Gathering an eclectic mix of well-known faces from all corners of the entertainment world, **Alex Horne** and **Greg Davies** will put a new intake of celebrities through their paces in the name of festive cheer.

Stepping up to compete are: former England and Liverpool footballer **David James MBE**, mathematician, science presenter and academic **Professor Hannah Fry**, singer-songwriter and *All Saints* star **Melanie Blatt**, Money Saving Expert **Martin Lewis CBE**, and actor and *Royle Family* star **Sue Johnston OBE**. Which of these stars, each renowned in their fields, will impress the *Taskmaster* the most and ring in the new year grabbing Greg's golden eyebrows, the most coveted prize in all of showbiz?

**TX:** Sunday 29 December, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Avalon

**Press contact:** Kate Conway & Florrie Sheehan





# The Last Leg of the Year

The Last Leg of the Year is set to be a gloriously irreverent send-off to 2024. Special studio guests Chris McCausland, Sandi Toksvig, Guz Khan, AJ Odudu, Natalie Cassidy and Josh Pugh will be joining Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe, and Alex Brooker in looking back at the highs and lows of the past year. Featuring hilarious VTs (including a special appearance from Craig David himself), joyously raucous debate and special musical performances, together they'll take a good-natured look back at the absolute circus that was 2024, all while squinting at the looming promise (or is it?) of 2025.

With their trademark blend of acerbic wit, awkwardly insightful commentary, and the occasional festive gesture, they'll dive into the year's most ridiculous headlines, aided by the ever popular #isitok hashtag. Expect a night of the unmatched humour that has made The Last Leg a multi-award-winning favourite.

**TX:** Tuesday 31 January, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Open Mike

**Press contact:** Kate Conway



# The Big Fat Quiz of Everything

Who were Henry VIII's Grooms of the Stool? What did the very first meme say? What do Cilla Black, Pete Tong and Nelson Mandela have in common?

All these questions and more will be answered in The Big Fat Quiz of Everything.

Question master **Jimmy Carr** is joined by **Harry Hill**, **David Mitchell**, **Roisin Conaty**, **Sophie Willan**, **Josh Pugh** and **Fatiha El-Ghorri** as they battle it out to see who knows the most about...everything!

Helping Jimmy ask the big questions are Charles Dance, the children of Mitchell Brook primary school and a whole host of celebrity question setters.



**TX:** Thursday 2 January, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** BFQ Ltd.

**Press contact:** Nick Walker





# The Great New Year Bake Off

Grab a dram and don your tartan as The Great British Bake Off celebrates Hogmanay!

Judges Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith, along with presenters Alison Hammond and Noel Fielding, are joined by a bevy of Scottish bakers from across the years.

The trio of traditional Scottish bakes begins with a Signature featuring an old-fashioned dish that some might say is an acquired taste. The Technical Challenge tests the bakers on a Scottish staple; shortbread.

And in the Showstopper, the bakers showcase their national pride with a celebratory cranachan creation. Who will ring in the bells victorious and be crowned Star Baker of this New Year's Bake Off special.

**TX:** Friday 3 January, 7:40pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Love Productions

**Press contact:** Amanda Console, Shelagh Pymm





# WEEK 2

04 JANUARY – 10 JANUARY





# Patience

Patience is a groundbreaking six-part crime drama set in the beautiful historic city of York. Our heroine Patience Evans is an autistic woman who works in a clerical role filing police records. Her existence is structured, ordered and her routine never alters. But her life is about to change dramatically as she comes to the attention of the brilliant and instinctive Detective Inspector Bea Metcalf.

Patience has a special interest in solving puzzles and a secret fascination and talent for criminology – she can read a case file or a crime scene and make connections that others can't. Detective Bea recognises Patience's unique insight and takes her under her wing, she wants her working with her team on the frontline of policing. As they start to become more closely involved professionally, however, it soon becomes clear that they may have a more profound and lasting impact on each other's lives.

Throughout the series, Patience, Bea and her partner Jake, tackle intriguing cases involving murder, terrorism and disappearing bodies all against the backdrop of this spectacular, medieval city. Each case is an intricate puzzle which only an unconventional mind can solve. Patience demonstrates how neurodivergence can bring many skills and benefits, as well as challenges, and celebrates how our differences as people make us stronger, and should never be hidden away.

The series stars internationally acclaimed actor Laura Fraser of Breaking Bad fame as Detective Bea and introduces a luminous new talent, Ella Maisy Purvis as Patience.

**TX:** Wednesday 8 January, 9pm on Channel 4

**Production company:** Eagle Eye Drama

**Press contact:** Harriet Wilson, [Iain McCallum](mailto:Iain.McCallum@channel4.com)



# FILMS





# Festive & Family

- **Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (2011)**
- **Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip (2015)**
- **Home Alone (1990)**
- **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004)**
- **Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street (1994)**
- **Monsters vs. Aliens (2009)**
- **Ron's Gone Wrong (2021)**
- **Shrek Forever After (2010)**
- **The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (2015)**
- **Stardust (2007)**
- **Tad, the Lost Explorer, and the Secret of King Midas (2017)**

# Action Adventure, Sci-Fi & Thriller

- **Cast Away (2000)**
- **Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977)**
- **The Green Mile (1999)**
- **The Guns of Navarone (1961)**
- **The Hunt for Red October (1990)**
- **Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008)**
- **Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989)**
- **Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984)**
- **Lawrence of Arabia (1962)**
- **Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1987)**
- **Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)**
- **Zulu (1964)**



# Comedy & Drama

- **Bohemian Rhapsody (2018)**
- **Boxing Day (2021)**
- **Dad's Army (2016)**
- **East is East (1999)**
- **Father Goose (1964)**
- **The Godfather, Parts I – III (1972, 1974, 1990)**
- **Groundhog Day (1993)**
- **Hidden Figures (2016)**
- **Notting Hill (1999)**
- **Paul (2011)**
- **Rocketman (2019)**
- **Slumdog Millionaire (2008)**
- **The Ten Commandments (1956)**



**Thank you**