

MISSING BELIEVED WIPED 25TH BIRTHDAY BONANZA
FEATURING NEW DOCTOR WHO ANIMATED MINI-EPISODE
'LOST' MORECAMBE AND WISE, CITIZEN JAMES,
BASIL BRUSH, VINCE HILL, THE KINKS



Top Row Left to Right: Doctor Who 'The Wheel in Space', Citizen James 'The Day Out',
Bottom Row Left to Right: The Basil Brush Show, The Morecambe and Wise Show

Embargoed until 5 November, 10:00 2018, London.

The **BFI** celebrates **Missing Believed Wiped (MBW)**'s **25th birthday** on **15 December** at **BFI Southbank** with a treasure of television riches. Reflecting on the initiative's successes from the last 25 years in tracking down and screening rediscovered 'lost' television classics. The 15 December event will present newly discovered material including top-quality music, comedy and variety titles as well as welcome repeats for much-requested items taking place across two sessions.

We're thrilled to announce the premiere of the much anticipated **Doctor Who** animated mini-episode based on the now lost first part of the 1968 **Doctor Who** story, 'The Wheel in Space', starring **Patrick Troughton**. We are delighted to be joined by a number of special guests including the Indiana Jones of lost archival television **Philip Morris**, who will be presenting some of the rare television gems he's recently unearthed, including missing episodes of **Morecambe and Wise**, **Sid James**'s sitcom **Citizen James** and children's television favourite **Basil Brush** including the **only surviving live performance of The Kinks performing their hit Days**. Pop star and songwriter **Vince Hill** looks back over his distinguished 60+ year career in music plus we also feature a rare performances by **Aretha Franklin** on British television.

The BFI National Archive has grown to become one of the largest and most important collections of British television in the world. This special anniversary edition of Missing Believed Wiped offers a chance for reflection, looking back at some of the success stories and achievements from the last 25 years, which have deepened our understanding of British TV heritage.

Missing Believed Wiped has been spearheaded by **Dick Fiddy, BFI Archive Television Programmer**, commenting on this milestone he says, *“Over the last 25 years our events have showcased some of the most important finds to have been located and returned to official archives. Tracking down these ‘lost’ treasures has been a joint effort between the BFI, many individuals and organisations. One of our most impressive discoveries in recent years consisted of 100 hours of very important missing single UK plays, including the 1965 version of Orwell’s 1984, and now held by the BFI National Archive. Such finds energise the quest and inspire us to continue the search to plug more gaps in the British television archives”*

Session 1:

‘Music and More’ 15:15, NFT1, BFI Southbank

Celebrating his **60th year in showbiz**, **Vince Hill**, the multi-million selling recording artist and star of BBC TV and radio, best known for his 1960s mega-hit **‘Edelweiss’**, will introduce **Vince Hill at The Talk of the Town** (BBC 1969), the prime time BBC TV special filmed at the popular ‘Talk of the Town’ nightclub at London’s Hippodrome. Unseen for nearly 50 years since its original transmission, the 16mm film came from Vince’s personal collection. He made the discovery when searching through metal canisters in his lock up. This special affords a snapshot of Vince Hill's live show of the time, when he was performing sell out shows up and down the UK, as well as starring in his own BBC Radio series, and appearing as a regular star at London's Palladium. Vince had already made his name with several big UK chart hits and *Vince Hill at The Talk of the Town* features the only surviving performance of ‘Edelweiss’ on BBC TV. Vince Hill kindly **donated the 16mm film to the BFI National Archive**.

On rediscovering the film and presenting it at BFI Southbank **Vince Hill** said, *“I’m thrilled that my 1969 BBC TV special at the legendary Talk of the Town is to be screened at the BFI’s Missing Believed Wiped, performing at such an iconic venue was a career highlight. I was surprised to rediscover the original film earlier this year in my lock up. I feel immensely proud that a new audience will have a chance to see the film after all this time and that the BFI have taken the film into their prestigious archive for safe keeping.”*

Alongside this we are thrilled to announce the **premiere of a brand new 10 minute animated Doctor Who mini-episode** based on the now lost first part of the **1968 Doctor Who story, ‘The Wheel in Space’**, starring **Patrick Troughton as the Doctor and Frazer Hines as Jamie**. This newly announced mini-episode, produced by **Charles Norton** and directed by **Anne Marie Walsh** who will introduce the BFI Southbank screening, will be included on a future BBC DVD release next year.

Back by popular demand, the **infamous Stars and Garters** segment that proved such a huge hit at our 2016 event. We also sneak in a **very special – once missing – clip** from **It’s Lulu** (BBC 1970), having previously screened the full episode at MBW in 2007, it is included here as a tribute to The Queen of Soul, **Aretha Franklin** singing ‘Spirit in the Dark’.

Session 2:

‘Philip Morris Presents’ 17:45, NFT1, BFI Southbank

Helping the BFI celebrate the Missing Believed Wiped's special anniversary we're delighted that the **legendary CEO of Television International Enterprises Archives (TIEA), Philip Morris**, is able to join us at BFI Southbank to introduce a specially selection of rediscovered classics drawn exclusively from the TIEA Archive holdings. An archive television archaeologist who has traveled the world to track down missing episodes, Philip's never say die attitude has helped him over the years recover a wealth of 'lost' British Television, many found in small television stations in far flung places and return them to television archives in the UK. TIEA also assists television stations around the world to preserve their archives and digitise their back catalogue for future generations.

Among the clips and shows featured in this session are appearances from MBW favourites, **Morecambe and Wise**. In 2011 Morris discovered a badly deteriorated early missing episode from the first BBC series of **The Morecambe and Wise show** (1968) in Nigeria. Sadly unplayable, the BBC and researchers at Queen Mary University of London were able to recover some images through cutting edge lasers and X-Ray microtomography. There was existing evidence that two other shows from the first series had been sent to Sierra Leone as audition prints from London, however research found that all Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) holdings had been destroyed during the civil war in the 1980s and they were long thought lost. The **'lost' episode** from the first BBC series of **The Morecambe and Wise Show** (Series 1, Episode 5, BBC TX 30/09/1968) which MBW are screening was recovered by **Philip Morris**, who found the two episodes in a **derelict cinema in Sierra Leone**.

The programme also features **Basil Brush** in the earliest surviving episode from the first series of **The Basil Brush Show** (Series 1, Episode 3, BBC TX28/06/ 1968). Located in Nigeria a few years ago, the last five minutes, featuring a barnstorming performance from **The Kinks**, was missing until recently. Now restored and complete, this episode contains **the only surviving live performance of 'Days'**, as The Kinks Top of The Pops performance had been wiped by the BBC. Missing Believed Wiped are also excited to screen a rare episode, 'The Day Out', from the third and final series of **Citizen James** (Series 3, Episode 6, BBC TX 05/10/1962). **Sid James's** hilarious BBC sitcom ran from 1960-1962, following the exploits of Sid's scheming charmer, guest starring **Liz Fraser**, the late Carry On actor who recently died in September, as the object of Sid's wandering eye. This **'lost' episode was recovered from Monaco Television**, in an old store room during a clear out of their premises.

On the news of this recent discovery of **Citizen James**, **Reina James**, **Sid James's daughter** said, *"It's wonderful that Missing Believed Wiped is giving audiences a chance to see Sid as Citizen James again in this 'lost' episode. And Liz Frazer too – they're fantastic together. It's a real treasure"*

Tickets for both *Missing Believed Wiped* sessions on 15 December go on sale to BFI members on 6 November and the general public from 13 November, with joint ticket option available for both sessions.

– ENDS –

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About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK - investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

The BFI is a Government arm's-length body and distributor of Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role which covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK. It delivers this role:

- As the UK-wide organisation for film, a charity core funded by Government
- By providing Lottery and Government funds for film across the UK
- By working with partners to advance the position of film in the UK.

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter.

The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £12.10, concs £9.70 including Gift Aid donation. Members pay £2.00 less on any ticket - www.bfi.org.uk/southbank.

Young people aged 25 and under can buy last minute tickets for just £3, 45 minutes before the start of screenings and events, subject to availability - <http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under>.

About the BFI National Archive

The BFI National Archive was founded in 1935 and has grown to become the one of the largest and most important collections of film and television in the world with over 180,000 films and 750,000 television programmes. For over 80 years the BFI has been an international leader in film preservation and guardian of Britain's unparalleled film and TV heritage. The BFI is an innovator in presenting films to audiences in new and dynamic ways, from cinemas to film festivals, outdoor events to online video-on-demand. At the heart of all its activities is the BFI's central aim to ensure that everyone in the UK has access to the widest possible range of film and their own film heritage.

That heritage includes all time great British directors Alfred Hitchcock, David Lean and Powell and Pressburger; and the rich vein of documentary filmmaking, in which Britain led the world, including the lyrical work of Humphrey Jennings. The archive also boasts a significant collection of filmmakers' papers as well as extensive stills, posters and production and costume designs along with original scripts, press books and related ephemera.

Expert teams undertake the time-consuming and complex task of restoring films at the BFI John Paul Getty Jr Conservation Centre in Hertfordshire. The BFI's most precious film materials are kept in optimum conditions in the world-leading Master Film Store in Warwickshire.

About Missing Believed Wiped

The UK's National Collection, the BFI National Archive, is the most significant collection of TV and film in the world. Missing Believed Wiped was launched by the BFI in 1993 with the aim of tracking down and screening material long missing from the official TV archives. Finds over the years have included material from television programmes such as *The Avengers*, *Till Death Us Do Part*, *Dad's Army*, *Armchair Theatre* and *Top of the Pops*. In the last 20 years over 2,000 items, once thought missing, have been recovered (by various people through various sources), the most important of these finds have been screened at the BFI's annual Missing Believed Wiped events at BFI Southbank.