

five go mad in dorset

Five Go Mad in Dorset: An Unforgettable Adventure in England's Stunning County

Dorset, a picturesque county located in South West England, is renowned for its dramatic coastline, charming villages, historic landmarks, and lush countryside. Among the many adventures visitors can embark upon in this captivating region, the phrase *"Five Go Mad in Dorset"* evokes a sense of spontaneous exploration, fun, and discovery. Whether you're planning a family holiday, a group getaway, or simply seeking to immerse yourself in the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Dorset, this guide will help you navigate some of the most exciting activities and sights that make Dorset a must-visit destination.

Understanding Dorset: A Brief Overview

Dorset offers a rich tapestry of attractions that cater to diverse interests. From the iconic Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to medieval castles and tranquil gardens, Dorset provides a playground for adventurers, history buffs, and nature lovers alike.

Key Highlights of Dorset

- Jurassic Coast: 95 miles of stunning cliffs and fossils
- Corfe Castle: a medieval fortress with panoramic views
- Poole Harbour: one of the largest natural harbours in the world
- Dorset's charming seaside towns: Weymouth, Lyme Regis, and Swanage
- Beautiful countryside: the New Forest and Dorset Downs

Embarking on the Five Go Mad in Dorset Adventure

The phrase "Five Go Mad in Dorset" captures the essence of spontaneous, fun-filled exploration. Whether you're a group of friends, a family, or a mix of both, Dorset offers ample opportunities to indulge in outdoor activities, cultural experiences, and local cuisine.

Planning Your Trip: Tips for a Memorable Experience

1. **Choose your base:** Consider staying in Weymouth, Bournemouth, or a cozy village like Cerne Abbas.

2. **Plan a mix of activities:** Combine outdoor adventures with cultural visits.
3. **Check local events:** Dorset hosts festivals, markets, and special events throughout the year.
4. **Pack appropriately:** Bring walking shoes, weather-appropriate clothing, and a camera for capturing memories.

Top Activities for a Madcap Dorset Adventure

Dorset's diverse landscape lends itself to a variety of activities that can turn any trip into a memorable escapade.

1. Fossil Hunting Along the Jurassic Coast

The Jurassic Coast is famous worldwide for its rich fossil beds. Visitors can join guided fossil walks along beaches like Charmouth and Lyme Regis, hunting for ammonites, ichthyosaurs, and other prehistoric treasures. It's an exciting activity that sparks curiosity and offers a tangible connection to Earth's ancient history.

Tips for fossil hunting:

- Go during low tide for better access to fossils.
- Bring a small hammer and safety goggles.
- Join organized fossil walks for expert guidance.

2. Exploring Historic Castles and Heritage Sites

- Corfe Castle: A dramatic ruin set atop a hill, offering sweeping views and a glimpse into medieval England.
- Sherborne Castle: Built by Sir Walter Raleigh, surrounded by beautiful gardens and lakes.
- Portland Castle: A coastal artillery fort with fascinating history and coastal views.

3. Enjoying Seaside Towns and Beaches

Dorset's seaside towns are perfect for relaxation and entertainment:

- **Weymouth:** A lively resort with a sandy beach, promenade, and water sports.

- **Lyme Regis:** Known as the “Pearl of Dorset,” famous for fossil hunting and its charming harbor.
- **Swanage:** Gateway to the Isle of Purbeck, with scenic pier and coastal walks.

4. Outdoor Adventures in Nature

- Hiking and Walking: Trails along the Jurassic Coast, Dorset Downs, and New Forest.
- Cycling: Routes suitable for all levels, including the Jurassic Coast Cycleway.
- Water Sports: Kayaking, sailing, and paddleboarding in Poole Harbour and Weymouth Bay.

5. Participating in Local Festivals and Events

Dorset hosts numerous festivals, including:

- Weymouth Carnival
- Lyme Regis Fossil Festival
- Dorset Seafood Festival
- Poole Harbour Boat Show

Attending these events adds a lively and authentic flavor to your Dorset adventure.

Discovering Dorset’s Hidden Gems

Beyond the well-known sights, Dorset boasts many lesser-known treasures that can make your trip even more special.

Off-the-Beaten-Path Destinations

- **Abbey House Gardens:** A stunning terraced garden near Sherborne.
- **St. Aldhelm’s Head:** A rugged coastal promontory with panoramic views, ideal for a scenic walk.
- **Cerne Abbas Giant:** An ancient hill figure carved into the chalk hillside.
- **Brownsea Island:** A National Trust island in Poole Harbour, perfect for wildlife spotting and picnics.

Sampling Dorset's Local Cuisine

No trip is complete without experiencing local flavors. Dorset's culinary scene is rich and diverse.

Must-Try Dishes and Drinks

- **Dorset Apple Cake:** A delicious dessert made with local apples.
- **Fresh Seafood:** Oysters, crab, and grilled fish from the coast.
- **Dorset Blue Vinny Cheese:** A traditional cheese with a rich history.
- **Cider and Ale:** Enjoy locally brewed ciders and ales at pubs and cider farms.

Experiencing Dorset's Food Festivals

Attend events like the Dorset Seafood Festival or the Bridport Folk Festival for a taste of local culture and cuisine.

Practical Tips for Your Dorset Adventure

To make the most of your trip and ensure a smooth experience, consider these practical tips:

- **Traveling around:** Rental cars are recommended for exploring rural areas, but Dorset also has good train and bus connections.
- **Accommodation:** Options range from seaside hotels and cozy B&Bs to holiday cottages and camping sites.
- **Best time to visit:** Late spring (May-June) and early autumn (September-October) offer pleasant weather and fewer crowds.
- **Respect nature and heritage:** Follow local guidelines, especially when fossil hunting and exploring natural sites.

Conclusion: Embrace the Dorset Spirit

Whether you're seeking adventure, history, relaxation, or all three, Dorset offers a vibrant palette of experiences that can make anyone feel like they've gone "mad" in the best possible way. The phrase *"Five Go Mad in Dorset"* encapsulates the joy of spontaneous discovery and the thrill of exploring one of England's most beautiful counties. So pack your bags, gather your friends or family, and set off on a memorable journey through Dorset's stunning landscapes, historic sites, and lively towns. Your perfect adventure awaits!

Embark on the ultimate Dorset adventure today and create memories that will last a lifetime!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the plot of 'Five Go Mad in Dorset'?

'Five Go Mad in Dorset' is a comedy sketch show where the Famous Five are depicted in humorous and exaggerated scenarios set in Dorset, parodying their traditional adventures with a comedic twist.

Who are the main actors in 'Five Go Mad in Dorset'?

The show features actors such as Hugh Laurie, Stephen Fry, Emma Thompson, and other prominent comedians of the time, who bring the beloved characters to life through satire and parody.

How does 'Five Go Mad in Dorset' differ from Enid Blyton's original 'Famous Five' series?

While the original series is children's adventure fiction, 'Five Go Mad in Dorset' is a satirical, adult comedy that parodies the characters and themes, often exaggerating their traits for comedic effect.

When was 'Five Go Mad in Dorset' originally aired?

'Five Go Mad in Dorset' was first broadcast in 1974 as part of the BBC's comedy programming, marking its place as a classic in British comedy history.

What is the significance of 'Five Go Mad in Dorset' in British comedy?

It is considered a pioneering satire that played a key role in British comedy, showcasing the talents of writers and performers like Fry and Laurie, and influencing future comedic works.

Is 'Five Go Mad in Dorset' available for streaming or viewing today?

Due to its age and content, it may not be widely available on mainstream streaming platforms, but clips and episodes can sometimes be found on special archive or classic comedy platforms online.

What is the cultural impact of 'Five Go Mad in Dorset'?

'Five Go Mad in Dorset' is celebrated for its witty satire and for pushing boundaries in comedy, contributing to the careers of many British comedians and inspiring similar parody works.

Additional Resources

Five Go Mad in Dorset is a phrase that immediately conjures images of eccentricity, adventure, and the timeless charm of England's picturesque southwest coast. This phrase, rooted in British cultural history, encapsulates the idea of exploring Dorset in a spirited, sometimes unconventional way. Whether you're a seasoned traveler, a curious local, or a first-time visitor, understanding what makes Dorset so uniquely captivating—and how to make the most of your trip—can turn an ordinary holiday into an extraordinary adventure. In this guide, we'll delve into the history, key attractions, hidden gems, and tips for embracing the "madness" of Dorset in a way that's both memorable and meaningful.

The Cultural Roots of "Five Go Mad in Dorset"

The phrase "Five Go Mad in Dorset" originally stems from a 1970s British comedy serial, part of the popular "Five Go Mad in..." series, which showcased the comedic misadventures of a group of friends exploring various regions of the UK. It played on the idea that traveling in unfamiliar territory often leads to amusing, chaotic, and sometimes bizarre experiences.

In the context of Dorset, this phrase has taken on a more affectionate tone, symbolizing the county's blend of traditional charm and quirky local culture. Dorset has always been a place where the natural world and human eccentricity collide—a haven for artists, writers, and free spirits alike. From its rugged coastlines to its mysterious prehistoric sites, Dorset encourages visitors to embrace their sense of adventure, go a little mad, and discover its many surprises.

Why Dorset? The Appeal of the County's Unique Character

Dorset's appeal lies in its diverse landscape and its rich tapestry of history and culture. Here's what makes Dorset an ideal destination for those looking to indulge in a bit of "madness":

- **Dramatic Coastal Scenery:** The Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offers stunning cliffs, fossil-hunting opportunities, and breathtaking sea views.
- **Historical Mysteries:** From ancient stone circles to medieval castles, Dorset is packed with stories that invite curiosity.
- **Quirky Towns and Villages:** Places like Lyme Regis, Bridport, and Shaftesbury offer a mix of artistic flair, traditional markets, and bohemian atmospheres.
- **Literary and Artistic Heritage:** Dorset was home to Thomas Hardy, whose novels and poetry are inspired by its landscapes; the county continues to attract creatives.
- **Outdoor Adventures and Unique Experiences:** From coasteering and fossil hunting to quirky festivals and local traditions, there's no shortage of activities that encourage a bit of eccentric exploration.

Top Five "Mad" Experiences in Dorset

If you're ready to embrace the spirit of the phrase, here are five quintessentially Dorset experiences that promise a bit of madness, fun, and discovery.

1. Coasteering Along the Jurassic Coast

What is coasteering?

An adrenaline-pumping activity combining cliff jumping, swimming, scrambling, and exploring along the rocky shoreline. It's perfect for thrill-seekers and nature lovers alike.

Why try it in Dorset?

The Jurassic Coast's rugged cliffs and caves provide an ideal backdrop for coasteering, offering spectacular views and a sense of adventure.

Tips for participation:

- Book with a reputable local guide or adventure company.
- Wear appropriate wetsuits and safety gear.
- Be prepared for a bit of mud and saltwater.
- Suitable for a range of ages and fitness levels, but always check local provider requirements.

2. Fossil Hunting at Lyme Regis

A prehistoric treasure hunt

Lyme Regis, often called the "Pearl of Dorset," is famous for its fossils, dating back hundreds of millions of years.

How to get "mad" in Lyme Regis:

- Join a guided fossil walk, where experts help you spot ammonites, ichthyosaur bones, and more.
- Visit the Lyme Regis Museum to learn about its geological history.
- Try your hand at fossil hunting on the beach—some fossils are just lying on the surface, waiting to be found!
- Participate in fossil-related festivals or events, often held during peak seasons.

Pro tip:

Bring a hammer and chisel if permitted, but always respect local regulations and preserve the natural environment.

3. Participating in the Bridport Carnival & Quirky Festivals

A riot of color and eccentricity

Bridport hosts a variety of festivals, from the lively Bridport Carnival to arts and craft fairs that showcase local talent.

Experience the madness:

- Dress up in colorful costumes and join the parade during the carnival.
- Explore street performers, live music, and quirky stalls.

- Attend the annual Bridport Literary Festival or the "Dorset Knob Throwing" contest—yes, it's exactly what it sounds like!
- Embrace the local arts scene—many events celebrate Dorset's bohemian spirit.

Why it's special:

These festivals encourage playful experimentation, community engagement, and celebrating Dorset's eccentric traditions.

4. Exploring the Hidden Caves of Portland

A mysterious underground adventure

Portland, an island connected by bridges to the mainland, is dotted with caves, quarries, and tunnels.

Go mad underground:

- Take a guided tour of Portland's caves, which have been used historically for quarrying and storage.
- Discover secret passages, ancient man-made tunnels, and natural formations.
- For the brave, some tours include exploring abandoned quarries—definitely not for the faint-hearted!

Safety note:

Always go with experienced guides, as underground environments can be unpredictable and potentially dangerous.

5. The eccentricities of Shaftesbury's Gold Hill

A picture-perfect, slightly mad scene

Gold Hill, with its steep cobbled street and iconic view, has inspired countless artists, filmmakers, and photographers.

Get "mad" with creativity:

- Take a walk up or down the hill, capturing photos of the classic view that has appeared in numerous films and advertisements.
- Dress up in period costumes and recreate scenes, embracing Dorset's cinematic history.
- Host or attend local art workshops inspired by the landscape.
- Explore the town's quirky shops and cafes, each with its own character.

In essence:

Gold Hill encourages playful engagement with Dorset's historic charm—don't be afraid to indulge your creative or eccentric side.

Practical Tips for Embracing the Dorset "Madness"

While Dorset offers plenty of opportunities for spontaneous and eccentric exploration, a little planning can enhance your experience. Here are some tips:

- Research local events: Festivals, markets, and seasonal activities often have quirky or unusual

themes.

- Embrace local traditions: From cream teas to folk festivals, participating adds authenticity and fun.
- Be open-minded: Some of the best experiences come from trying something new or slightly outside your comfort zone.
- Respect nature and local customs: Dorset's landscape and communities are delicate; practice responsible tourism.
- Pack appropriately: Whether for coastal adventures or underground explorations, ensure you have suitable gear.

Conclusion: Going Mad in Dorset as a Celebration of Spirit

Five Go Mad in Dorset isn't just about wild adventures; it's about celebrating the unorthodox, embracing curiosity, and immersing yourself in a landscape that sparks creativity and eccentricity. Dorset's blend of natural beauty, rich history, and quirky traditions makes it the perfect playground for those who want to go a little mad—whether that's fossil hunting on the beach, exploring underground caves, participating in colorful festivals, or simply soaking up the sights with a sense of wonder.

So, whether you're seeking thrill, culture, or just a reason to let loose and indulge your whims, Dorset invites you to embrace its mad, magical, and truly unforgettable spirit. Pack your sense of adventure and get ready to experience Dorset in a way that's delightfully unconventional. After all, sometimes the best memories are made when you go just a little mad.

Five Go Mad In Dorset

five go mad in dorset: Comic strip presents: Five go mad in Dorset; War; etc A.
Edmondson, 1983

five go mad in dorset: *The Odditorium* David Bramwell, 2017-10-17 'I LOVE THE BOOK... A BRILLIANT READ' Chris Evans, Radio 2 Breakfast Show 'This book, that I approached with caution, turns out to be magnificent. Tested it with the Moondog entry. Passed A+' Danny Baker, Radio 5Live A CELEBRATION OF CURIOSITY AND OBSESSION Step into a world of gloriously unpredictable characters such as Ivor Cutler, Quentin Crisp, Joe Orton, Reginald Bray, Ken Campbell, Screaming Lord Sutch, Sun Ra, Buckminster Fuller, Timothy Leary and Ayn Rand. The Odditorium is a playful re-telling of history, told not through the lens of its victors, but through the fascinating stories of a wealth of individuals who, while lesser-known, are no less remarkable. Throughout its pages you'll learn about the antics and adventures of tricksters, eccentrics, deviants and inventors. While their stories range from heroic failures to great hoaxes, one thing unites them - they all carved their own path through life. Each protagonist exemplifies the human spirit through their dogged determination, willingness to take risks, their unflinching obsession and, often, a good dollop of eccentricity. Learn about Reginald Bray (1879-1939), a Victorian accountant who sent over 30,000 singular objects through the mail, including himself; Muriel Howorth (1886-1971), the housewife who grew giant peanuts using atomic energy; and Elaine Morgan (1920-2013), a journalist who battled a tirade of prejudice to pursue an aquatic-based theory of human evolution, which is today being championed by David Attenborough. While many of us are content to lead a conventional life, with all of its comfort and security, The Odditorium reminds us of the characters who felt compelled to carve their own path, despite risking ostracism, failure, ridicule and madness. Outsider artists,

linguists, scientists, time travellers and architects all feature in *The Odditorium*, each of whom risked ostracism, ridicule and even madness in pursuit of carving their own esoteric path, changing the world in wonderful ways. 'BRAMWELL CLEARLY HAS AN EYE FOR THE ODDBALL AND ARCANES' *The Guardian*

five go mad in dorset: Jennifer Saunders - The Unauthorised Biography of the Absolutely Fabulous Star Jacky Hyams, 2012-10-11 Jennifer Saunders is Britain's best-loved comedienne, screenwriter and actress. For the first time, author Jacky Hyams reveals the story behind Jennifer's rise to fame, her successful career as the Queen of Comedy and the highs and lows of her remarkable life. Born in 1958 in Sleaford, Jennifer's mother was a biology teacher and her father was a pilot in the Royal Air Force. In 1977 she attended the Central School of Speech and Drama where she met her comedy partner Dawn French. After graduating, Jennifer began her career at The Comedy Store in London, and it was during this time she was to meet comedian, actor and writer Adrian Edmondson, who she would later marry. In July 2010 Jennifer was to face her toughest challenge, after being diagnosed with breast cancer. Since her diagnosis she has made a full recovery. This is Jennifer's full, unauthorised story.

five go mad in dorset: Feminist History for Every Day of the Year Kate Mosse, 2025-09-18 *Feminist History for Every Day of the Year* by bestselling author and feminist champion Kate Mosse tells the story of women's and girls' history, sweeping across the world and through the ages. Discover something new every day in this brilliant gift for readers of all ages. From Mary Anning to Simone Biles, Billie Eilish to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Malala Yousafzai to Mary Wollstonecraft, discover the stories of 366 incredible women throughout history. Within these pages you'll find well known figures and unsung heroes, key cultural moments and forgotten stories, spanning across the world and through time, from ancient times to the modern day. With a piece of history for every day of the year, this is the perfect book to dip into time and time again. Full of quotes, poems, illustrations and pictures, *Feminist History for Every Day of the Year* is for all ages, celebrating and championing an inspiring history that is relevant to us all. What will you discover today? Who will you discover today?

five go mad in dorset: The Mastermind Quiz Book Richard Morgale, 2012-09-06 *Mastermind* is the ultimate test of knowledge, memory and nerve. Over four decades hundreds have tested their mettle in the famous black chair, and dared to put their intellect under the glare of the *Mastermind* spotlight. Now, can you rise to the challenge? The *Mastermind Quiz Book* poses over 3,500 questions, from fiendishly difficult general knowledge teasers to in-depth tests of specialist subjects. With topics ranging from Classical Mythology to Medical Science, by way of Famous Russians and The Works of Johnny Cash, only the finest minds will triumph. Whether you're playing in groups or simply testing your own brainpower, this collection of questions will challenge the very core of your mental strength - but when the clock runs down and the lights come up, will you emerge as the *Mastermind*?

five go mad in dorset: Soupy Twists! Jem Roberts, 2018-09-06 This first ever, officially authorised biography of Fry & Laurie takes us on their journey from insecure Footlighters to international comedy heroes. It is the tale of a true friendship, a deep affection between two very funny men which has long been reflected back from an adoring public. Jem Roberts, acclaimed chronicler of *Blackadder* and *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, covers everything from the excitement of being the first Perrier Award winners with *The Cellar Tapes* to the terrors of performing on *Saturday Live*, the collaborative warfare of *Blackadder* and the ultimate depiction of Wodehouse's most inimitable characters, Jeeves & Wooster. Beyond this, the trials and tribulations of their remarkable subsequent separate career paths, from *QI* to *House*, will be explored for the first time. With tantalising, never-before-seen titbits from the A Bit of Fry & Laurie archive, and interviews with Emma Thompson, Richard Curtis, John Lloyd and more, this history of Fry & Laurie is an overdue celebration, paying tribute to a legacy of laughter from one of the funniest double acts of all time.

five go mad in dorset: Cupid Stunts: The Life & Radio Times Of Kenny Everett David Stafford,

Caroline Stafford, 2013-05-29 On paper, Kenny Everett's qualifications did not look promising - with little in the way of education, physique or social skills. What he had was a gift for funny voices, an oblique imagination and a way with a tape recorder. Yet, the British radio revolution in the '60s and '70s needed these exact qualities. Ever a corporate player, Kenny was frequently fired, but still went on to reinvent television. Meanwhile, outside the studios, the challenge to 'get a life' brought moments of ecstasy, frequent bother and at least one suicide attempt. And at the exact moment when tabloid frenzy about the AIDS epidemic reached its peak, he came out. This new biography, based on intricate documentary research as well as interviews with colleagues, friends and enemies - including Alexei Sayle, Barry Cryer, David Mallet and Whispering Bob Harris - not only gets under the skin of the man, but also gives a taste of the times. *Cupid Stunts* covers the novelty and excitement of hearing all-pop radio for the first time, the terror and bluster of the high-ups, the brilliant blossoming of gay culture throughout the 70s and 80s, and the tragedy and vile hypocrisy that surrounded the AIDS epidemic.

five go mad in dorset: Independent Television in Britain P. Bonner, L. Aston, 2002-12-13 Success out of near disaster, finances taken to the edge of bankruptcy, resignations - this volume tells the dramatic stories of the major new commercial television developments in Britain between 1981-92. This is an authoritative account, from the people involved and from official documents, of the launches and first ten years of Channel 4 and TV-am, the expansion of cable television and early difficulties of satellite broadcasting.

five go mad in dorset: Channel 4 Dorothy Hobson, 2007-10-24 In November 2007, Channel 4 will be twenty-five years old. Today, such TV events as the 'Big Brother/Jade Goody Affair' have put the channel itself at the centre of public debate. Yet during its foundation years on British screens, Channel 4 was seen as more controversial and dangerous than this. Published for Channel 4's 25th anniversary, this book explores the channel's most important foundation period, under its inspirational first Chief Executive, Jeremy Isaacs. Charged by Parliament to be innovative, experimental, and educational, the new channel had to attract audiences and make a space for new voices. Did it fulfill its brief? It also assesses the legacy of the channel and asks: has it changed the nature of British television, and has the enfant terrible grown up, or is it still a youthful rebel? Dorothy Hobson had unique access to Channel 4 and the team involved in developing it, the ITV companies and fledgling independent producers over its foundation years. Accessibly written, her book uses the words and stories of those involved, and vividly reviews the new channel's successes, problems, adversities, as well as audiences' and press responses to television's new baby and its programmes.

five go mad in dorset: Life Keith Richards, 2010-10-26 The long-awaited autobiography of Keith Richards, guitarist, songwriter, singer, and founding member of the Rolling Stones. With The Rolling Stones, Keith Richards created the songs that roused the world, and he lived the original rock and roll life. Now, at last, the man himself tells his story of life in the crossfire hurricane. Listening obsessively to Chuck Berry and Muddy Waters records, learning guitar and forming a band with Mick Jagger and Brian Jones. The Rolling Stones's first fame and the notorious drug busts that led to his enduring image as an outlaw folk hero. Creating immortal riffs like the ones in *Jumpin' Jack Flash* and *Honky Tonk Women*. His relationship with Anita Pallenberg and the death of Brian Jones. Tax exile in France, wildfire tours of the U.S., isolation and addiction. Falling in love with Patti Hansen. Estrangement from Jagger and subsequent reconciliation. Marriage, family, solo albums and expensive Winos, and the road that goes on forever. With his trademark disarming honesty, Keith Richards brings us the story of a life we have all longed to know more of, unfettered, fearless, and true.

five go mad in dorset: Creativity in the British Television Comedy Industry Brett Mills, Erica Horton, 2016-10-14 What is it like to make television comedy? How do writers get their ideas made, and how do commissioners and producers decide what to make? How do members of the comedy industry work with large broadcasters and production companies, and what does it mean to be creative - and stay creative? Drawing on interviews with many key writers such as Sam Bain, Paul

Doolan, Graham Linehan, David Mitchell, Simon Nye and Sue Teddern, producers including Ash Atalla, Lisa Clark, Michelle Farr, Ali McPhail, Jon Plowman and Adam Tandy, and commissioners, the BBC's Shane Allen, Channel 4's Nerys Evans and Sky's Lucy Lumsden, *Creativity in the British Television Comedy Industry* explores the creative processes that lead to successful programme-making. With detailed discussion of the processes by which series such as *People Just Do Nothing* and *After Hours* came to our screens, this book examines how members of the comedy industry maintain careers, manage failure, develop their craft, and stay creative. *Creativity in the British Television Comedy Industry* is essential reading for students and researchers with an interest in comedy studies, television production, and the creative/media industries.

five go mad in dorset: All in the Best Possible Taste Tom Bromley, 2010-08-19 Television past, as LP Hartley might have once said, is another country. And, in the early 1980s it certainly was a different beast. There were still only three channels to watch; the evening's programmes finished with the playing of the national anthem; and the biggest prize on TV was not Chris Tarrant's million pounds but a speedboat on *Bullseye* . . . But as Tom Bromley suggests in this funny and warming memoir, all that was about to change: The 1980s saw the end of the original golden era of television, and the beginnings of TV as we know it today. In 1982, Channel 4 became the first new terrestrial channel for almost twenty years and by the end of the decade, Rupert Murdoch's Sky Television was vying to become Britain's first multi-channel provider. The result of all this was that slowly but surely, British viewers had more choice than ever before and the cost of this choice was the erosion of television as a shared national event. And no-one felt this change more deeply than Tom Bromley. Television played a large part in Tom's childhood. His first word was 'two', as in BBC Two, and his earliest childhood memory is seeing Johnny Ball at a church fete. With great humour and affection, Tom Bromley tells the story of a childhood spent with his three siblings and that other all-important family member; the television set.

five go mad in dorset: The Double Act Andrew Roberts, 2018-11-26 The double act has been at the heart of the British entertainment scene for over 150 years: from its start in the music halls, through radio shows such as Hancock's *Half Hour* playing in virtually every household and on cinema and television, from *Carry On* films to *Withnail and I*. Explore the influence of comedy duos on their audience and how their performances evolved over time, the importance of the subtle art of the straight man next to the comic and discover some acts who might have passed you by. This book is a tribute to the comedians who have entertained the public for so long, dedicating their lives to adding a bit of laughter to the mundane everyday. *The Double Act* will appeal to all lovers of British comedy as it takes them through the golden moments of its history.

five go mad in dorset: Women and Laughter Frances B. Gray, 1994

five go mad in dorset: The multicultural Midlands Tom Kew, 2023-01-17 The multicultural Midlands is a unique, interdisciplinary study of the literature, music and food that shape the region's irrepressible, though often overlooked, cultural identity. It is the first of its kind to give serious critical attention to a part of the world which is frequently ignored by readers, critics and the culture industries. This book makes a claim for the importance of the Midlands and evidences this with nuanced close reading of a multitude of diverse texts spanning so-called 'high' to 'low' culture; from the Black Country's 'Desi Pubs', to Leicester's 'McIndians' *Peri Peri* ('you've tried the cowboys, now try the Indians!'); Handsworth's reggae roots to Adrian Mole's diaries.

five go mad in dorset: The Routledge Comedy Studies Reader Ian Wilkie, 2019-10-10 The *Routledge Comedy Studies Reader* is a selection of the most outstanding critical analysis featured in the journal *Comedy Studies* in the decade since its inception in 2010. The Reader illustrates the multiple perspectives that are available when analysing comedy. Wilkie's selections present an array of critical approaches from interdisciplinary scholars, all of whom evaluate comedy from different angles and adopt a range of writing styles to explore the phenomenon. Divided into eight unique parts, the Reader offers both breadth and depth with its wide range of interdisciplinary articles and international perspectives. Of interest to students, scholars, and lovers of comedy alike, The *Routledge Comedy Studies Reader* offers a contemporary sample of general analyses of comedy as a

mode, form, and genre.

five go mad in dorset: Television's Strangest Moments Quentin Falk, Ben Falk, 2014-02-25 Ever since John Logie Baird first publicly demonstrated this now all-pervasive medium in his small Soho laboratory, the history of television has been littered with remarkable but true tales of the unexpected. Ranging from bizarre stories of actors' shenanigans to strange but true executive and marketing decisions, and covering over one hundred shows, series and episodes from both behind and in front of the camera in British and American television studios, 'Television's Strangest Moments' is the ultimate tome of TV trivia. Why did the quintessential English sleuth The Saint drive a Swedish car? What happened when Michael Aspel met Nora Batty on the set of the 1960s drama-documentary 'The War Game'? Why is the Halloween chiller 'Ghostwatch' still unofficially banned by the BBC? From live TV suicide to Ricky Martin's disastrous candid camera-style episode involving a young female fan and several cans of dog food, 'Television's Strangest Moments' will keep you hooked when there's nothing worth watching on the box.

five go mad in dorset: Hot Wired Guitar: The Life of Jeff Beck Martin Power, 2014-11-10 This new, revised edition of Hot Wired Guitar brings Beck's story bang up to date, from his adventures at The White House in December 2012 with Mick Jagger and US President Barack Obama, to touring the world with Beach Boy Brian Wilson and the 2014 release of Jeff's latest solo disc. The definitive account of Jeff Beck's journey from his childhood in 1940s South London to the world-wide success of 2010's album Emotion and Commotion and beyond. Author Martin Power has talked to former Yardbirds members Chris Dreja and Jim McCarty as well as manager Simon Napier-Bell and fellow musicians including Max Middleton, Stanley Clarke, Simon Phillips, Jimmy Hall, Mo Foster, Doug Wimbish and many others. Supported by full album reviews, rare photographs and an up-to-date discography, Hot Wired Guitar is the most complete and comprehensive account of the life and times of Jeff Beck, the man who took the electric guitar and showed the world just what could be done with just six strings and 'one hell of an attitude'.

five go mad in dorset: A Licence to be Different Maggie Brown, 2020-12-10 Traces the history and development of Channel 4, one of the UK's best loved and most controversial TV channels. Identifies key figures and signature programmes such as 'Brookside,' 'The Big Breakfast' and 'Wife Swap,' as well as successful American imports including 'Friends' and 'Sex and the City.'

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