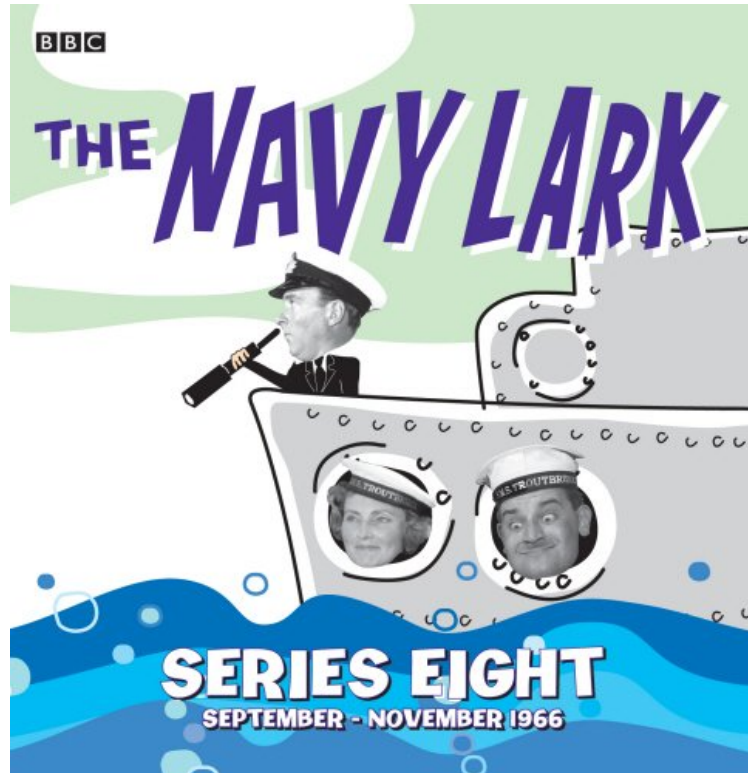


[FREE] The Navy Lark Collection: Series 8: September - November 1966

The Navy Lark Collection: Series 8: September - November 1966

Laurie Wyman

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Laurie Wyman : The Navy Lark Collection: Series 8: September - November 1966 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Navy Lark Collection: Series 8: September - November 1966:

All aboard HMS Troutbridge for Series Eight of The Navy Lark! This classic BBC radio comedy, written by Laurie Wyman (with George Evans from the twelfth series onwards) starred Jon Pertwee, Leslie Phillips, Stephen Murray, Ronnie Barker and Tenniel Evans. This box set contains the episodes: Where Is Troutbridge?; The Float a Peddle Fiddle?; A Sticky Business; Buoys Will Be Buoys; Steamship Day; Farewell to HMS Varsity; The Army Lark; Just the Ticket; Mr Phillips Promotion; Pertwee and the Tratvian Beer; The PM Papa; Getting Rid of Pertwee and Off to Sea at Last. Also included in this collection is a 26-page PDF booklet containing a detailed history of the development of this series of The Navy Lark, cast biographies and an episode guide. Bonus material includes The Embassy Lark episode National Grumpshnog Week and Episode Five from Series One (broadcast 12 April 1966).7 CDs. 6 hrs 55 mins.

About the AuthorThe Navy Lark is the second longest-running comedy in British radio history (the topical Friday

night show, *Week Ending*, which ran from 1970 to 1998, is currently the longest). In 1958, writer Laurie Wyman announced that he wanted to build a series around talented comic actor Jon Pertwee. Having secured Pertwee as the lead, he looked for other main characters and is quoted in the *Radio Times* as saying 'I felt we needed an idiot, and there was no one better at playing idiots than Leslie Phillips - so we got him.' The first episode of the series went out on 29 March 1959 and, from the start, the light-hearted and affectionate spoof on the Senior Service won many fans - some of the highest order! On the occasion of the show's 21st anniversary, for example, the crew was asked by WRNS to put on a special performance. They duly obliged, and in the audience that night at the Royal Festival Hall was Her Royal Highness the Queen Mother. Sir Charles Lambe, who was the first Sea Lord at the time, had also visited the studio during rehearsal. The crew of HMS Troutbridge was a motley bunch: Jon Pertwee, who actually served in the Navy during the Second World War, played the conniving Petty Officer and was established as a household favorite by the series. Leslie Phillips was the vague chinless wonder Sub-Lieutenant. His parrot cry of 'left hand down a bit' has passed into *A Dictionary of Catch Phrases*, whose author Eric Partridge writes 'within two years, it was a standard piece of Navalese'. The young Ronnie Barker (long before attaining fame as a television comedy actor) also appeared in the series, playing two parts: (Un) Able Seaman Fatso Johnson and Lieutenant-Commander Stanton. The *Navy Lark* gripped the nation for the best part of twenty years. Its signature tune, composed by Tommy Reilly and James Moody, was the jaunty Trade Wind Hornpipe and did much to contribute to the popularity of the series. The key to the show's popularity, though, was its irreverent but essentially gentle humor and, most of all, the many-voiced talents of its stars. As Leslie Phillips remarked in 1987, 'I caused more damage to Naval property than the Navy had done in two world wars'. The final episode was broadcast on 18 January 1976. However, the crew all jumped on board one last time for a Jubilee Special on 16 July 1977.