

# Thursday 1



## PICKS OF THE DAY



### DOCUMENTARY

#### Frank Skinner on Muhammad Ali BBC1, 9pm

Lifelong boxing fan Frank Skinner presents an affectionate portrait of the boxer known as "the Greatest". It's a pretty straightforward trawl through Ali's life enlivened by some lovely touches, most notably the interview with bare-knuckle fighter Paddy Monaghan who campaigned in support of Ali and became a close friend.

### DOCUMENTARY

#### Catching a Killer Channel 4, 9pm

This harrowing, important film starts from a very simple premise as we follow the police investigation into the 2016 murder of Natalie Hemming, from the moment the

call is first made about her disappearance right through to her body being found. What emerges is a devastating picture of domestic abuse and violence.

### DOCUMENTARY

#### The Great Village Green Crusade BBC4, 9pm

Red Dwarf actor Robert Llewellyn AKA Kryten is on a mission: to convert the tiny

village of Temple Guiting, where he lives, to renewable technology. He is passionate about his cause but can he convince others? Cue some very funny village meetings filled with the ranks of the hard to impress.

### FILM

#### The Wizard of Lies Sky Atlantic, 9pm (Barry Levinson, 2017)

Veteran director Barry Levinson (*Bugsy*, *Sleepers*, *Diner*) is an astute choice for this intimate if occasionally remote take on the life and crimes of Bernie Madoff. Madoff (Robert De Niro on his best form in years) was convicted of running the biggest Ponzi scheme in financial history. Sentenced to 150 years in jail, he gave no real explanation for his motivation, although this film draws on a lengthy interview with journalist Diana Henriques (who plays herself). Perhaps sensing Madoff's inability to feel guilt, Levinson shoots *The Wizard of Lies* very much like a mob movie with Bernie as its amoral heart. There are strong performances from Michelle Pfeiffer as his

deluded wife and Alessandro Nivola as the son unable to live with his father's guilt, but the film would have benefited from allowing Madoff's many victims a clearer voice.

**Sarah Hughes**

### RADIO

#### Slipping Through Time Radio 4, 2.15pm

Ellie Kendrick from *Game of Thrones* and BBC1's *The Diary of Anne Frank* is utterly convincing as Izzie, a new mother frustrated by her seizures, in Louise Monaghan's warm, engrossing play inspired by her own epilepsy. Written from a place of knowledge, the drama shows exactly