

Baishey Shraavan Special

Recalling Tagore

by Prof Roushan Ara Hoque



message of world peace and universal brotherhood. Still when the World War II broke out he became mentally ill. After prolonged illness he died in 1941, on the 22nd day (baishey) of Bengali calendar month Shraavan.

Tagore was a versatile genius. All branches of our mother-tongue have not only been enriched by him. He added a new dimension to the cultural field by his types of creations. He wrote dramas, plays and musicals, seasonal songs, social dramas, tragi-comedies and romantic plays as well to convey the message of wisdom.

Therein he condemned the destructive influence of technology in the name of modernity on human civilisation and gifts of nature. Still he was optimistic that such undesired domination cannot continue for long and ultimately wisdom would help to humanity survive and humanism to reign supreme.

Tagore was the first Asian to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 as the greatest poet of that year. The British Government conferred on him the title of 'Sir' and 'Knighthood' which he surrendered in 1919 as a protest against the massacre of Indians in Jallianwalabag. The University of Dhaka and Calcutta have conferred on him the degrees of D.Lit. The students of the University of Dhaka have honoured him with a grand reception at the S M Hall.

Beside being one of the greatest poets of all times, Tagore was also a great novelist. Of his romantic novels, Naukadubi, Rajarshi, Bauthakuranir Hat are most interesting. In Chokher Bali the love of widow Binodini has of course been depicted as untenable by the society but is mind-stirring. 'Gora' perhaps is his best. And Tagore was a real great short-story writer. His short stories have been published in three volumes of Galpaguchha and also some in Tin Sangi. Of them Kabiwala, Khudita Pashan, Thakurda, Kankal, Chhuti and also some others are like treasures of literature.

One great contribution of Tagore to the society is the international standard Bishwabharati University for the education of world students where they can study in natural surroundings, both students and teachers living together and learning all the subjects under direct supervision. He had utilised all the money received from the Nobel Prize in that university which was first started as a spot dedicated to the memory of his father with the residential school of Shanti-Niketan inside it.

Thus the Poet Laureate has left behind for us a world treasure of learning which we can never comprehend in full. His famous song Amar Sonar Bangla Ami Tomay Bhaibobashi is our national anthem. Most befitting the sweet tune of the song would always reverberate in our minds and remind us of the great treasure left behind by the Poet Laureate. And on this occasion we, of course, gratefully recall his contributions.

THE name Shelaidah where Rabindranath Tagore spent much of his precious time during the period of Zamindari was derived from two words: Shell and Daha. Mr. Shell, an Englishman, used to reside in the area. He was, in fact, an indigo planter whose Nikuthi (indigo house) had been washed away by the erosion of the river Padma. 'Daha' means a big pool of water. The name of the village, therefore, means Shell's pool, nay an abode formed on the pool.

Shelaidah, which is now located under Kumarkhali police station of Kushtia district, belonged to Birahimpur Pargana (cluster of villages) in Nadia district. The formation of Birahimpur Pargana was perhaps not very old as no reference had been made in the Statistical Account of Bengal by WW Hunter or the Nadia Kahini by Babu Kumar Nath Mullick.

However, instead of going through the details of the Pargana we may look at the background which ultimately contributed to the establishment of Tagore estate at Shelaidah. Pargana Birahimpur was a part of Zamindaries of Natore Raj family and remained as such for quite some time. Prince Dwarakanath Tagore, grandfather of Rabindranath Tagore, had purchased the Zamindari of Natore Raj in an auction in 1800. The area of this estate was spread up to Patisar of Rajshahi, Shahadpur of Pabna and Birahimpur of Nadia district. The Tagores of Jarasanko were distinguished as a powerful and rich family of that time under the dynamic leadership of Prince Dwarakanath Tagore. Dwarakanath also bought huge Zamindari in Orissa. Prior to that Nilmani Tagore, grandson of Panchanan of Jessore had the privilege to buy property in Orissa and his eldest son Ramlochan also added some property to the estate. Panchanan, it may be noted, was the descendant of Piral Brahmin and settled in Calcutta in 1860. Prince Dwarakanath Tagore, in fact, was the second son of Rammani, who was the second brother of Ramlochan, and Dwarakanath Tagore was adopted by Ramlochan. Apart from a fleet of cargo boats for trading between India and England, Dwarakanath could amass a huge wealth by obtaining high offices under the British Administration. Story goes that Dwarakanath became a favourite of Queen Victoria and a courtier of Paris.

After the sad demise of Prince Dwarakanath, his eldest son Maharshi Devendranath Tagore, who also had developed sort of spiritualism, took over the responsibility of looking after the estates. The Maharshi had a towering personality, and himself supervised the Zamindaries. When Devendranath decided to retire from active supervision, the responsibility was devolved on Dwijendranath, his eldest son. Some time in the process

Shelaidah and Rabindranath

by Mohammed Amjad Hossain

Sarodprashad Gangopadhyai, eldest son-in-law or Jyotindranath, the eldest son of Dwijendranath, was assigned the look-after job.

Meanwhile, Maharshi Devendranath received series of complaints against state members of the Tagore estate and occasionally complaints by tenants against the oppression of Zamindar appeared in the Grambarta Prakasika which Harinath Majumdar (Kangal Harinath) of Kumarkhali used to edit. It was reported that Maharshi Devendranath used to subscribe Grambarta Prakasika, which was revealed from the accounts book maintained by the Maharshi.

As a consequence of the complaints, Maharshi Devendranath became disenchanted

planted by Tagore himself on two sides of the pond. The pair of trees still hold the fragrance the poet loved so much. But Padma and Gori, which were the source of inspiration to the poet, are practically dead now. The whole area has become a semi-desert. Rabindranath built a road connecting Shelaidah with Kushtia.

At the Kuthibari, Rabindranath Tagore wrote profusely and so enriched the Bengali literature. It may be noted that his English Gitanjali, which he believably wrote at Kuthibari of Shelaidah, brought him laurel at home and abroad. It was published by Macmillan Company on behalf of London Indian Society in 1912 while Tagore was on a tour in America.

a Zamindar) as manager of Tagore estate.

It is reported that Tagore's Kutcharyabari was sold off in an auction in the recent past. It would have been better had the Kutcharyabari been included in the protected monument under Ancient Monuments Act of 1906 during the Chief Ministership of late Aatur Rahman Khan.

During the period of Tagore's Zamindary, Shelaidah looked vibrant and young with the on going hubbub in the two full-flowing rivers— Padma and Gori.

Tagore's house boat 'Padma' remained stationed at Shelaidah. He used to travel by

the poet was planning to set up his Shantiniketan there, but he abandoned the idea because Shelaidah estate unfortunately went to Surendranath Tagore, eldest son of Rabindranath's second brother, in 1922, following apportionment of the assets of the Tagore family. But Rabindranath paid a visit to Shelaidah, being the last in 1922. Rabindranath Tagore was given a heartfelt rousing farewell reception by the people of Shelaidah during his last visit. He was presented with an embroidered quilt by local Muslim women. CF Andrews and Surendranath Tagore accompanied the poet. While he decided to stay at Jorasanko he must have felt the pang of separation from Shelaidah. Rabindranath reported to have commented that Padma had divorced him and he really missed the Padma which was darling to him once.

Following a financial crisis, Tagore estate at Shelaidah was sold. The estate went to Sreemati Shyamrangini Roy Choudhury Trust. Babu Nandlal Roy and Babu Pulin Krishna Roy of Choudhury Trust purchased Tagore estate in mortgage sale in 1937. Babu Nandlal Roy and Pulin Krishna Roy were Zamindars and bankers of the Bhagyakul family which Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal, in a darbar held at Munshigang, described as great.

That Rabindranath Tagore being a poet distinguished himself as a successful benevolent Zamindar by dint of his sheer perseverance, intelligence and honesty has been reflected in the following stanza which was recorded in Rajshahi district Gazetteer in 1916 by O. Malley, ICS: 'It must not be imagined that a powerful landlord is always oppressive and uncharitable. A striking instance to the contrary is given in the settlement officers' account of the estate of Rabindranath Tagore, the Bengali poet whose fame is worldwide. It is clear that to the poetical genius he adds practical ideas of estate management, which should be an example to the lord Zamindars.'

The Kuthibari at Shelaidah has been renovated and it has been noticed, of late, that pictures of Tagore's visits to different parts of the world and his paintings were pasted on a framed Shitapati (a kind of mat) by Bibi Russell by the courtesy of Bangladesh Biman. A rest house was also built near the Kuthibari for the visitors. By now Shelaidah has come to pass a long way to become Stratford-up-Avon, Warwickshire or Salzburg. This place has become a symbol of nation's pride. It is high time that proper attention should be given to make Kuthibari of Shelaidah and its surrounding areas a unique museum precinct for those who love and nurture culture. This could perhaps be a museum in line with the Art Museum in Victoria which would generate income by itself.



Tagore's Kuthibari at Shelaidah

with his supervisors and decided to devolve the responsibility on his youngest son, who by now established himself as a poet. Yes, Rabindranath Tagore took over the administration of Tagore estates in 1891.

Shelaidah in those days was between the Padma and the Gori and enjoyed the status of a river port. Steamer and river craft of all sizes used to call at the port and a brisk business existed.

The existing magnificent Kuthibari at Shelaidah where Rabindranath Tagore had spent a considerable part of his life was built by the Tagore family. The elegant three-and-a-half storied building stands in the middle of a large courtyard which includes one pond, a mango grove, a host of other blossoming trees and a tennis court. The Kuthibari has 17 rooms. Rabindranath Tagore used a room in the second floor for his creative writing. Two bokul trees were

Peaceful pastoral surroundings along the river Padma and visits by a Vaishnavi, a female devotee of Vaishnav sect, there must have created an impact on Tagore in selecting poems for his English Gitanjali.

Kuthibari — the great poet's resort built on a plot of 13 bighas of land — was visited by renowned personalities like Dwijendral Roy, known as DL Roy, scientist Jagadish Chandra Bose, historian Akshay Kumar Maitra, Maharaja Jagadindranath of Natore, CF Andrews, a Christian missionary and a teacher at St. Stephen College in Delhi who later joined Santiniketan, Sister Nivedita, Mohitlal Majumdar, Pandit (in French literature) Jatindranath, first Indian Civil Servant Satyendranath, artist Nandalal Bose during Tagore's lifetime while famous essayist Pramoth Chaudhuri, who is known by his pseudonym Birbal, had spent a considerable time of his life at Kutcharyabari (office building of

boat to inspect his Zamindary. Tagore's famous poem Sonar Tori was written in Padma boat at Shelaidah.

There is hardly any second opinion about the saying that Shelaidah, Kushtia and luminaries of Kumarkhali like Laloo Shah (mystic poet), Gagan Harkara (a postal peon-cum-folk poet), Harinath Majumdar (journalist-writer) had contributed to Rabindranath's literary bent of mind. Rabindranath Tagore presented a number of poems, short stories and plays while staying at Shelaidah. Apart from Gitanjali and Sonar Tori, his Manash Shundari, Urbashi, Chitra, Khamika, Chirokumar Shave etc. — all master pieces of Bengali literature — were written at Shelaidah. Rabindranath Tagore, therefore, was more a man of Bangladesh than of India because of his long association with this part of the sub-continent. Shelaidah and Padma were so close to his heart that once

B AISHE (22nd) Shraavan coinciding with 6th August '96 is the 55th anniversary of death of Poet Laureate Rabindranath Tagore who by his literary genius has enriched all the branches of Bengali literature and thus raised its status to that of a world literature along side others so great. He enhanced the prestige of not only the then India but also of Asia by being the first winner of the world's most coveted Nobel Prize for Literature from this part of the world. He was not only a great poet but a great short story-writer, a dramatist, a novelist, a travelogue writer, an essayist and a great song-writer and composer. He was also an artist, an actor, a singer and an educational reformer. He was a great humanist and a dedicated ambassador of world peace. On this day of his sad demise we recall with gratitude his great contribution to our existence.

us which we shall cherish for eternity. The literary life of Rabindranath had passed through various stages of transformation affected by the happenings in his personal life as well as in the life around. During the experimental stage he wrote Provat Sangeet, Sandhya Sangeet, Chhabi-O-Gaan, Kori-O-Komal, Manashi etc. expressing his deep love for men and the beauties of nature. In the next stage he expressed more confidence and wrote innumerable poems eulogising the beauties of different elements of nature. He felt so much attraction for them that he did not aspire to depict the beauty of utopia the abode of gods in any preference to this world the abode of all human beings where he would be happier to live in. Between the years 1902 and 1910 the poet lost many of his near and dear ones and he became rather pessimistic about mortal life and began to compose poems expressing deep attachment towards God, Gitanjali and Nabdedy are the products of that stage. When he was about 60, he gradually regained mental strength and again began to write songs expressing youthful vigour. Purabi Mahna, Banabas are poems of that period. During the last stage the sad thought of death engulfed his mind and he composed poems expressing his deep love for truth and reality.

The sufferings of the humanity during the World War I had greatly saddened his mind. In an essay entitled, 'Crisis of Civilisation' he strongly condemned extreme nationalist feelings of all superpowers which ultimately led to the destruction of civilisation. Therefore as an unofficial ambassador of peace he visited Europe, America, Japan, Russia, Iraq, Iran and the whole of Asia to deliver his

Born in 1861 and brought up in a rich zamindar family of Zorashanko, Calcutta, the literary faculties of Rabindranath began to develop at a very early stage of his life. Rather disgusted with the formal education system he studied English literature under his Tutor Henry Moly in Brighton, England and developed aptitude for writing in his own language. Since his early solitary boyhood he developed special attraction towards nature and its objects and began to write poems depicting the beauties of nature. He tried to find out its inner beauties and moved from one type of creation to another composing thousands of songs and poems, writing hundreds of short stories, dramas, essays, novels and travelogues which could not be completely accommodated even in 26 vols. Many of his songs and poems are still unpublished. His contributions are great unique treasures for

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Tuesday 6th August (All programmes are in local time. We recommend programmes printed in bold. There may be changes in the programmes.)

BTV 3:00 Opening Announcements 3:15 Quran Programme Summary 3:18 Recitation From the Gesta 3:19 Documentary Film: Cinema Europe 4:00 News in Bangla 4:15 Pithu Para Shikhi 4:45 Cartoon Series: The animals of Partingwood 5:00 News in Bangla 5:20 Sangeeta: Modern Songs 6:00 News in Bangla 6:05 National Television Debate Competition: 7:00 The News 7:05 Open University 7:25 Comedy Series: Seinfeld 8:00 News in Bangla 8:40 Drama Serial: 10:00 News in English 10:30 Ghare Baney 10:55 Mini Series: 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Wednesday's programme 11:40 Close down

day 1:00pm BBC World News 1:15 Panorama 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out. The Con Jenders 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 6:00 BBC World News 6:15 The Money Programme 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC News Show Asia & Pacific: Inc World Olympic Report 8:30 Time Out: Summer Holiday 9:00 BBC World News 9:15 Panorama 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out: Building Sights 11:00 The World Today 1:00 BBC World News 1:05 Panorama 1:45 Stephen Hawking: The Big Questions 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: Airport 3:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 4:00 BBC Newsroom Inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 5:00 BBC World News 5:10 Newswatch

STAR PLUS 6:30 Vajray 7:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 7:30 G I Joe 8:00 Sabar Rider And The Star Sherri 8:30 The Adventures Of Black Beauty 9:00 Aerobics Oz Style 9:30 Nanny and the Professor 10:00 Mr Belvedere 10:30 Yan Can Cook 11:00 E! For Your Entertainment 11:30 Gabrielle 12:30 Santa Barbara 1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 2:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 3:00 Remington Steele 4:00 Yan Can Cook 4:30 Thailand Panorama 5:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 5:30 The Adventures Of Black Beauty 6:00 Lost In Space 7:00 Home and Away 7:30 Charles in Charge 8:00 MASH 8:30 The Flying Doctors 9:30 The Extraordinary 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful

Remington Steele on Star Plus, Today at 3:00 pm Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara 12:00am The New Twilight Zone 12:30 Baywatch 1:30 Krikket! 2:30 E! For Your Entertainment 3:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 4:00 Hooperman 4:30 Home and Away 5:00 The Sullivan's 5:30 Gabrielle

STAR Sports 6:30 Umbro Int Football Chelsea v Nottingham Forest Fm Nottingham, UK Cut to 1.5 hours 7:30 Trans World Sport 8:30 World Superbike Championship 1996 Europe Grand Prix From Brands Hatch 10:00 1996 Pro Beach Soccer Tour De Pame, Belgium 11:00 Umbro International Soccer 3rd Place Playoff 12:30 Formula Nippon Fm Sportland SUGO, Japan 2:00 Asia Sports Show 2:30 Sports India 3:30 ATP Tennis Legg Mason Tennis Classic 2nd Sem Final 5:30 Gillette World Sport Special 6:30 Formula Nippon Fm Sportland SUGO, Japan 7:30 1996 World Motorcycle Championship Austrian Grand Prix Highlights 8:00 Indian Football Kalyan Black Label Federation Cup Sem Finals Fm Calcutta (H) 10:30 Indian Football Kalyan Black Label Federation Cup Sem Finals Fm Calcutta (H) 11:00 Inside PGA Tour 11:30 Championship Boxing G'Raids Jr Featherweights, Wayne McCullough vs Julio Cesar Cardona 1:30 Thai Kickboxing Highlights

Nirma Asha 12:00 TMKB 12:30 Mr. Minto 1:00 ZED 1:30 Assan Sky Shop 2:30 Tara 3:00 Film Chhikar 3:30 Jaika Ka Safar 4:00 Norelat Aashyama 4:30 Rana Spread ek Minute 5:00 ZED 5:30 Cartoons 6:00 Positive Health Show 6:30 Through The Gears 7:00 Captain Cook Shaahs Dawat 7:30 Gaane Anjane 8:00 TBA 8:30 Hum Paanch 9:00 Salaab 9:30 Tara 10:00 Hastraton 10:30 The News 11:00 Gharoonda 11:30 Dastaan 12:00 Daraar 12:30 TVS Sa Re Ga Ma 1:30 Galaxize 2:00 Love Stories 2:30 TMM 4:00 Index 4:30 Hum Zameen 5:00 Jagran

Khabran 8:45 Beauty Care 9:10: Dhank & Health Tips 10:05 Har Tan Hely Deepak 10:30 English Film #Home Improvement 10:55 Milli Naghma 11:00 Khabran 11:10 Anita (Serial) 12:00 Sports Hour 12:55pm Duran-e-Hakaam 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 The Science Show 2:00 Yeh Jahan Music video 2:25 Animated Classics 3:15 Geography & Samraj School 4:20 Mitti Sonu 5:00 Allah Huma Labbaik 5:25 Dabhi Mem sochta Hum (Drama Serial) 6:25 Albu Courses 7:00 Dhank 8:45 English News 8:15 UN Out: 8:45 Job (Drama Serial) 9:00 Break for Health News 10:00 Khabarama 11:20 VCD Top Ten (Pakistan Video Countdown) 12:30 Dr. Qaim: Medicine Women (Jean Szymon) 1:35 Khas Khas Khabran Close down

SONY ET 8:30am Gane Jabbe Maane 9:00 The Three Stooges 9:30 Dennis The Menace 10:00 I Dream Of Jeanne 10:30 Public Keys Bola 11:00 Pehchan 11:30 Cine Matrie-Hindi Feature Film 2:30 Kismet 3:00 Zameen Asman 3:30 Mere Message Meri Goet 4:00 Surf Wheel Of Fortune (Game Show) 4:30 Jai Bir Hanuman 5:00 10 Civil Lines 5:30 The Three Stooges 6:30 More Message Meri Goet 8:30 Dennis The Menace 7:00 Princy 7:30 I Dream Of Jeanne 8:00 Surf/Wheel Of Fortune 8:30 Cine Prime Hindi Feature Film: 11:30 Chamarika 12:00 Aene Jasee Types 12:30 Siddh 1:00 Sunday Ki Sunday 1:30 Mere Message Meri Goet 2:00 Khoya Khoya Chand

DD7 10:30 Janmadin 10:35 Classical Music: 11:00 Ghare Bare 12:30 Prachi 1:00 Jpani 1:30 TBA 2:00 TBA 2:30 Batayan 3:00 TBA/Nirjan Dupure Premier Gann 3:30 Dik Darshan 5:05 Science Prog. Bigyan Prasange 5:30 News 5:20 Employment News/Lalrikala 6:00 Palk Kaha 6:30 Chitrangali 7:00 Amake Dekhun 7:30 Bangla Sambad 7:55 Dandan 8:00 Param Purush Ramkrishna 8:30 Naari 9:00 Janani 9:30 Jeetab Setu 10:00 Bengali Movie Club Film Show 1:00 Closed

EL TV 00:30am Jugal Jodi 01:30 Nasir Hussain Special 02:30 Party Time 03:30 Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi 04:30 Mohammed Rafi Special 05:30 Jugal Jodi 06:30 Nasir Hussain Special 07:30 Party Time 08:30 Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi 09:30 Mohammed Rafi Special 10:30 Awaz Nayi Andaz Warhi 11:30 Newsline 12:00 Men Marzi 12:30 Kamaal Combination 1:00 Dil Deke Dekho 2:00 Bes Of The Best 3:00 Kare 3:30 Abhinetri 4:00 Khal Bhi Aaj Bhi 4:30 Upanyas: 5:00 It's My Choice 5:30 Jhoomo Nacho 6:30 Men Nashe Men Hoon 7:30 Daane Anar Ek 8:00 Godey Storvel Film Cheat 8:20 Hasen Pal 8:30 Number 1 9:00 Ortem Hi The Hit Hai 9:30 Instruct Purush Kshetra 10:30 Stand by 10:40 Sista 11:00 Moov Usha Uthup Show 11:30 Fit Tene Chalo Cinema 12:00 Akanksha

BBC 6:00 BBC Newsroom Inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Panorama 10:00 BBC News

CHANNEL V 7:00 Revised VJ Sophiya 8:00 Jugg Start VJ Tray 9:00 Frame by Frame 11:30 The Vibe VJ Luke 12:30noon By Demand VJ Tray 1:30 Revised VJ Sophiya 2:30 First Day First Show 3:00 The Indian Top 10 4:00 Planet Ruby 4:30 By Demand VJ Tray 5:30

STAR MOVIES 7:30 Romance: Creator 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Western: Lone Wolf Mocado 12 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Family: The White Balloon PG (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Comedy: Based On An Untrue Story 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Classic: The General PG (Silent) 5:30 Comedy: Harry And Son 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 7:30 Family The Dog Who Stopped The War PG (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 Hollywood 1 On 1 9:30 Action: The Terminator 18 (Hindi Subtitles) New Contract 10:00 2245 The Bullshit 11:30 Comedy: Married To The Mob (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Action: Blue Tiger 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 3:30 After Dark: The Big Easy 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Film Club Jail Bait: The Director's Cut 12 (Arabic Subtitles)

ZEE TV 5:30 Sansi Sansi 6:00 The News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED 8:30 Hum Hunge Kaamyaab 9:00 Insight 9:30 Gaane Anjane 10:00 Namaste India 10:30 Unseed 11:00 Close Up Antakshi 11:30

STAR Plus' New Saturday Line-up STAR Plus presents a fantastic new line-up of programmes on Saturdays starting August 10th. The common theme of beautiful, intelligent and resourceful women will feature in three new series that offer the viewer drama, action suspense and nostalgia — a complete night's entertainment only on STAR Plus! Tune in to classic, kitsch series of the 70's, Charlie's Angels at 10:30 (BST). Produced by Aaron Spelling who has had phenomenal syndication success with Dynasty in the 80's and recently Beverly Hills 90210, Charlie's Angels stars Farrah Fawcett-Majors, Kate Jackson and Jaclyn Smith as three gorgeous young women — all bright, athletic and police-trained, who work as private detectives for a wealthy, pie-

sure-seeking boss, Charlie (never fully seen on camera), who delivers assignments by phone or through his aide Bosley (David Doyle), incidentally, the voice of 'Charlie' was supplied by John Forsythe, perhaps best known for his portrayal of Blake Carrington on Dynasty. It's back to the sunny beaches of California for a brand new season of the world's most popular series, BAYWATCH AT 20:30 (BST). Returning to their jobs as life-guards are David Hasselhoff as Lt. Mitch Buchannon, Pamela Anderson Lee as C.J. Parker, David Charvet as Matt Brody and Alexandra Paul as Lt. Stephanie Holden (now with short hair). Joining the Baywatch team are newcomers Yasmine Bleeth as Stephanie's younger sister Caroline and Jason Simmons as new bad-boy-on-the-block Logan Fowler. It's all sun, all action, all drama

and an all new season. To round out the excellent line-up, Sirens premieres on STAR Plus at 21:30 (BST). Three female Rookie cops hit the mean streets of the city in this new, Emmy-nominated drama series. Gone are the practice sessions and simulated situations — now it is the real thing! For these three newly graduated female-police officers (led by Molly (Liza Snyder), Lynn (Adrienne-Joi Johnson) and Sarah (Jayne Brook) — each radio call brings them face-to-face with the emotional drama and unexpected peril of the city's tough streets. For the first time, their lives will be in danger, for the first time, they will have to draw their guns. This is also the story of their personal lives, which they try to balance with their demanding gritty careers as police officers. Don't miss this exciting new line-up every Saturday, starting 10 August.

James Bond BY IAN FLEMING DRAWING BY MORAK AT THE BRIDGE. A SECOND KICK KNOCKS RAMON GOLD. HATE TO DO THIS AGAIN... BUT I MUST! NOW... IF I CAN JUST GET HIS KNIFE... WHILE UNLOADING THE BRIDGE IS A CHARGE OF EXPLOSIVE PLANTED BY LEITER!

TOM and JERRY I STILL THINK THAT FLOWERPOT WOULD MAKE A SUPER HOUSE! FORGET IT, MOUSE! I ALREADY LIVE HERE! ...I THOUGHT ONLY APPLES HAD WORMHOLES! YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY.

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