

Dear Iris,

6/3/04

In reply to your leaflet re The BBC Charter Review. You say that my views matter. Well for what they're worth, here they are. Firstly there's far too much sport.

As far as I'm concerned, sport should be kept to results after the event, with highlights at the very most.

The only sitcom worth watching, since it's the only one that's funny, is 'Last of the Summer Wine'. 'Open All Hours' was just passable and 'Porridge' in the same category, though both of these are no longer current.

As for 'soaps' - Well, I'm still waiting to see a good one. They are all in the 'Rubbish' category, including 'The Office' which you seem to think so highly of.

The latest drama - 'Hustle' - 10 minutes was enough for my wife and I. - We hear enough foul

language in the street without bringing it into  
our living-room

I would love to watch 'The Sky at Night'  
which I used to watch when it was on  
at an earlier - (or later) time depending on  
how you look at it, but certainly not  
at 1-30 in the morning!

The current quiz show "I don't they do well."  
should be re-named 'The latest Bruce Ego Vehicle'  
I'm sure there must be a dozen better quiz-  
masters/presenters to choose from who could present  
such shows without hogging the camera in such  
an obscene manner.

You will notice that musical programmes are  
prominent by their absence on my list. - This is  
because they are completely absent in BBC  
T.V. I can recall the many wonderful  
musical programmes screened on TV in days  
gone by. 'The Black & White Minstrels' and  
'Old Doomed' spring to mind - But these  
days now seem to be gone alas! It's all  
these dreadful pop-groups, pandering to

the younger viewers. — This seems entirely inconsistent with the 'ageing population of this country' that we hear so much about.

'Reality' shows may be cheaper to make, but, to my mind, they are certainly not entertainment and should be filed under 'R' for rubbish.

Most of the educational/scientific/religious programmes are usually interesting and enjoyable and if BBC commercial services can help provide cash for more of these then I am all for this.

As for the internet and digital TV I think more consideration should be given to those like us who do not have these things, nor have any interest in such.

BBC News bulletins are the best on Television, but politics/political programmes should be kept to a minimum, since they are boring and usually a tonne of lies anyway!

I've calculated our average viewing time over a week for the 4 channels which we receive and it comes to 16½ hours overall, including news bulletins

Yours sincerely,

Mr Walter Blacklaw (age 73)