

SHEET ①

28TH MARCH 2004

DEAR SIRS,

PLEASE FIND BELOW OUR VIEWS, AND OBSERVATIONS, FOR THE REVIEW. WE ARE 70 AND 67 YEARS YOUNG, PENSIONERS, WHO ARE NON COMPUTER OWNERS.

THE BEST POINTS OF BBC SERVICES.

- ① THE ABSENCE OF IRITATING ADVERTISEMENTS, (UP TO 4 IN A 1 HOUR PROGRAM OF THE COMMERCIAL CHANNELS). (WHICH IS MOST ANNOYING DISRUPTION TO THE FLOW OF PROGRAMS), VERY IMPORTANT TO ANY PROGRAM WITH A COMPLICATED PLOT.
- ② YOUR EXCELLENT HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS (IN THE MAIN BEFORE THE 9PM WATERSHED). OUR FAVORITES ARE, HISTORY PROGRAMS, "TERRY JONES MEDIEVAL LIVES", "ANTIQUES ROADSHOW", "BARGAIN HUNT", "FLOG IT", "BILL ODDIE'S WILDLIFE", AND OTHER WILDLIFE PROGRAMS. THE EXCELLENT "YOUR LIFE IN THEIR HANDS", "A SEASIDE PARISH", "INSPECTOR LINLEY" AND OTHER MYSTERIES, "DOWN TO EARTH", "BORN AND BRED" EXCELLENT.
- ③ WE LOVE YOUR OLDER STYLE COMEDIES FOR FAMILY VIEWING, "THE LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE", "OPEN ALL HOURS", "DADS ARMY", "PORRAGE", "ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES", "KEEPING UP APPEARANCES", AND OTHERS OF A SIMILAR NATURE. THE BBC IS BEST AT GOOD FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT, AND FACTUAL INFORMATIVE PROGRAMS, "NEWS", "NEWSNIGHT", "PANORAMA", "HORIZON", "QUESTION TIME", AND QUALITY "DOCUMENTARIES".
- ④ WE HIGHLY VALUE AND PREFER THE EXCELLENT "CEEFAX" SERVICE, AS A USEFUL SOURCE OF INFORMATION, NEWS, VIEWS, AND DISCUSSIONS.
- ⑤ THE BBC SHOULD RETAIN FINANCING BY THE LICENCE FEE, AS MOST O.A.P.'S AND OTHERS ON LOW INCOMES, COULD NOT AFFORD SUBSCRIPTION TYPE TV TV SERVICES, AND THOSE O.A.P.'S ENTITLED TO A FREE TV LICENCE, WOULD BE PRECLUDED FROM TV RECEPTION. DEFINITELY NOT COMERCIAL, BY ADVERTISING FINANCE, SEE NOTE ① ABOVE.
- ⑥ YES OF COURSE THE BBC SHOULD RUN COMERCIAL SERVICES, IT IS AFTER ALL A BUSINESS AND SHOULD CAPITALISE ON ITS ASSETS, IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF ITS EXCELLENT PROGRAMS TO GENERATE INCOME, AND YOUR VERY GOOD "RADIO TIMES" MAGAZINE.
- ⑦ THE RADIO SERVICES ARE ALSO EXCELLENT, ESPECIALLY LOCAL RADIO SERVICES, OUR "RADIO LANCASHIRE" IS A CASE IN POINT WITH INFORMATIVE LOCAL ISSUES, GOOD CHAT, TOPICAL, WITH A TOUCH OF COMEDY, VERY HUMAN AND HOMELY. WHERE WOULD THE RADIO SERVICE BE WITHOUT LICENCE FUNDING,

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CONT →, SURELY NOT BY ADVERTISING, OR SUBSCRIPTION. THE NON BBC COMMERCIAL RADIO CHANNELS, ARE NOT A PATCH ON BBC RADIO, FOR CONTENT, AND BROKEN UP BY ADVERTISING.

⑧ JUST A THOUGHT, WHY NOT CONSIDER USING SAY BBC 3 OR ANOTHER SPECIFIC CHANNEL, DEDICATED TO ALL SPORTS, AND REPEATS, AND DISCUSSIONS. THIS WOULD THEN LEAVE BBC1 AND BBC2 TO MAINTAIN A SET PATTERN OF PROGRAMS, AND SCHEDULE TIMES, NOT BEING DISRUPTED WITH OVERUNS OF SPORTS COVERAGE. PLEASE NOTE NOT ALL VIEWERS HAVE ANY INTEREST IN SPORT COVERAGE, AND FIND THE ABOVE, MOST ANNOYING. WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO RELY ON UN-DISRUPTED VIEWING ON THE MAIN BBC 1 AND 2 CHANNELS.

BAD POINTS

① A MOST ANNOYING, HIGHER INCREASE IN VOLUME FOR PROGRAM ADVERTISING BETWEEN PROGRAMS, OFTEN WITH IRRITATING MUSIC AND DRUMMING, DEFINITELY NOT WANTED!

② GENERALLY WE DO NOT WATCH DRAMAS AND SO CALLED COMEDY SHOWS AFTER 9AM. WE ARE SURPRISED BY THE OFTEN OBSCENE LANGUAGE, AND DISTASTEFUL SCENES CONTAINED IN MANY OF THESE TYPE OF PROGRAMS, CLASSIFIED AS ADULT ENTERTAINMENT. WHY FOLLOW THE OTHER CHANNELS? WITH THESE TRASHY PROGRAMS, AND THE AWFUL UNFUNNY MODERN COMEDY PROGRAMS. THESE TYPE OF PROGRAMS ARE NOT REQUIRED, AND ONLY SERVE TO DEBASE THE BBC'S PREVIOUSLY EXCELLENT REPUTATION. PLEASE LEAVE THE RUBISH PROGRAMS TO THE COMMERCIAL AND OTHER COMPANIES, WHO KNOW BETTER!

③ COMMENTS ON DIGITAL TV. WE DO HAVE DIGITAL FREEVIEW RECEPTION, BUT RARELY USE THE BBC3 AND 4, WHICH ARE GENERALLY REPEATS OF 1 AND 2 PROGRAMS. AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE POOR COMEDY PROGRAMS ARE OF NO INTEREST TO US.

YES WE ENJOY "BBC NEWS 24", WITH ITS EXCELLENT IN DEATH COVERAGE, SUPERB! OUR GRANDCHILDREN. LOVE "CBEEBIES", AND "CBBC", ESPECIALLY "BALAMORY".

④ ON BOTH SYSTEMS, THERE ARE FAR TOO MANY CHANNELS, BBC AND COMMERCIAL, TO MAKE AN EASY CHOICE OF WHAT IS OF INTEREST TO SELECT TO WATCH. MANY INTERESTING PROGRAMS ALSO CLASH, A CONFUSING STATE OF AFFAIRS.

THE INCREASED TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY OF DIGITAL TV, IS DIFFICULT FOR SOME OLDER PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND AND OPERATE, (JUST LOOK AT ALL THE CONTROLS ON THE REMOTES)!

FINAL COMMENT. WE WOULD EXPECT THE BBC TO REMAIN INDEPENDANT, (DO NOT IN THE POCKET OF FINANCIERS, OR GOVERNMENTS), TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT QUALITY PROGRAMS, SUITABLE FOR FAMILY VIEWING, SETTING THE STANDARDS WHICH OTHER CHANNELS CANNOT HOPE TO MATCH.

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT, AND LET OFF STEAM.

Yours. Faithfully
Donald and June Hall