

28/3/2004.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Hope this is not too late, but I discovered a year ago your BBC magazine leaflets were not available at our library.

- 1) I most value the BBC as an independent impartial, world wide voice of accurate news coverage; a source of absolute dependable news coverage in times of national & world crises, and wide ranging established source of excellent documentaries. I have worked abroad in several countries & was & still am proud of its output.

The recent "Hutton Report" illustrated that for the most part the BBC was right & our government more at fault. It is a font of goodwill for our nation and a source of pride in times of national pageantry, sports coverage, rational events from music in the park, to quirky hobbies and pleasures.

- 2) Not all of us can afford the latest technology, so the BBC broadcasts must always span the range of pockets from the poor to the richest in the land.
- 3) The licence fee seems the best way to finance it. Commercial companies have sufficient resources from adverts. The BBC is the only advert free zone, indeed it should central some of its self advertising on TV & Radio. The press & magazines give sufficient details & reviews

- 4) It should maintain its remit to entertain, educate & inspire, and to continue to sell commercially its own programme output, in videos, cassettes, DVD. but all profits must be ploughed back into its programmes & public services.
- 5) There needs to be a stronger output of light entertainment, of skilled variety & music shows. Such as the old "More Music & Wise" & George Mitchell singers, including Music OLD & NEW so that younger generations are exposed to the wealth of talents past, in order to foster talent for the future. No longer do we hear big brass, silver or dance bands. More comedy progr. violence, crude language
- 6) Cut back on violence, crude language & abuse in all programmes.
- 7) One or 2 soaps a week is enough. NO MORE reality TV, it is thrash.
- 8) More documentaries, more detailed travelogues. linked with the art & life styles of the region.
- 9) Retain its wonderful Natural History content. Our BBC is fine its our politicians who are a mess!
- 10) There needs to be an independent Board of governors. No serving politicians permitted. Perhaps 8-10 members of professional & public mix.
- 11) The Director General must be an appointee of the governors & some internal BBC input. NOT a government choice.
- 12) The present structures of accountability seem adequate so long as committees are cross-party.
- 13) The public, as always, write in to programme presenters, Points of view & Radio Talk shows. But the BBC mailing addresses, updated in the Radio Times & public libraries, e-mail & phone nos should be available. A. Louise.