

BBC Charter Review Consultation
 Department for Culture, Media & Sport
 2-4 Cockspur Street
 London, SW1Y 5DH

23rd March 2004

Dear Sirs,

The BBC IS NOT an independent body - organisation: if it were, the many BBC Local Radio stations would not merely present us day in and day out with just more - a plethora, of 'pop' type music - 'records', all of which are to be heard on many other radio stations.

As previously mentioned, the BBC are so closely linked to the pop record industry in the UK that they are inseparable: one promoting the other, the other relying on the ongoing exposure it enjoys, boosted by the only one regular weekly programme on BBC Television specifically to promote this one, 'cheap' class of so called 'music', Top Of The Pops. No other 'light' music enjoys a place in the stuffy BBC Television 'menu': a menu that is formulated in some secret back room and without any input - preferences, being sought from 'customers', viewers/listeners all.

However, it is Local Radio that fails - certainly here in Cornwall, to provide us with a truly worth'while, useful, service. Local news, weather, traffic, bulletin's apart plus an excess of 'phone-ins' - mainly about trivial subjects, it is on a more serious note that 'local radio' could and should, provide 'us' with that that would include not only more OB's (Outside Broadcasts) taking in - as and when, coverage of both public and Council meetings (about whatever), matters of concern to most of us living/working in the County, but which - for various reasons (not least lack of public transport) many are unable to attend in person.

This then leads to a complete lack of 'live' public participation in the Truro Studio: debates, question and answer programmes involving local councillor's etc, i.e. public INVOLVEMENT in County affairs - matters.

Appropos the specific question - the 'Review', as to how the BBC should - in future, be funded.

The short answer is certainly not by the 'blackmail' system that is currently the TV Licence.

The BBC having enjoyed this public subsidy for far too long, I contend it would not come amiss that - from whatever prescribed date, the BBC might see fit to provide 'a service' (reduced if need be) FREE OF CHARGE to viewers and listeners alike, given its long standing COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS world'wide and not least whatever it might then care to charge Parliament, for those services it provides: the BBC World Service.

It is however imperative that, once and for all, the BBC and/or Parliament cut the link that has for so long joined them together and insensitively, denied the British public that unbiased, unfettered reporting and information - on all subjects (not least about the EU), but which due to political reasons, have been suppressed, withheld, censored.

Yours faithfully,


 Peter Mahoney

** BY FAX **

BBC Charter Review Consultation
Department for Culture, Media & Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London, SW1Y 5DH

18th March 2004

Dear Sirs,

The BBC IS NOT an independent body - organisation, if it were, it would not be 'connected' (as it is) to Parliament or, via its Royal Charter, the monarchy.

If the BBC were a truly independent communications' company, it would report without any bias on all facets of world'wide, public interest matters - uninhibited.

A good example being the fact that, whilst we - the UK, are Members of the European Union (EU) the BBC - since our joining this ' Club ', have patently failed to provide us with any in-depth, ongoing, programmes about those other EU Countries that are our fellow Members.

Nothing, absolutely nothing, about these other countries that would inform and educate us as to how they deal with those day-to-day issues, matters etc that are common to all of us; companies, as to how these other countries - their people, pay for public utility services (Council Tax ?), purchase their homes, education, health provisions etc etc.

That no such information has ever been made available to us here in the UK cannot - by any stretch of the imagination, be down to mere coincidence but rather some secretive edict stemming from Parliament and/or indeed, the monarchy: i.e. it is not deemed ' prudent ' to enlighten ' us ' about ' them ' albeit that again and at the behest of those mentioned, this country, all of our Government's and of course the BBC, have turned their backs on Europe per se and only direct our gaze toward America in respect of that countries political affairs, crime and plethora of trashy, violent, films so beloved by the BBC.

Europe was the birth'place of culture, science, art 'good' music etc, those very subjects so obviously despised by the BBC that rarely do programmes of such nature appear on their television channel's.

The best this Government influenced organisation is seemingly allowed to provide vis-a-vis Europe being sporting events ad nauseam and the European (including Israel, for political reasons) Song Contest!.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Mahoney

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 Department for Culture, Media & Sport
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21st March 2004

Dear Sirs,

The BBC IS NOT an independent body - organisation; it is the mouthpiece of its joint Master's, linked together by an umbilical cord that is as evident as is the fact that it is also part of 'The Establishment': the clique who really run our country.

The BBC or more specifically, BBC Television, is only for 'nice people': not personality or status-wise, but physically!. In these few programmes that allow participation of the general public be it studio audiences or up-front in front of camera's i.e. on panel's, quiz contestants or whatever, how often (if ever) do we see anyone with a visible, personal, disability? A missing limb apart (not apparent), certainly no one with a facial imperfection or speech impediment is allowed to 'blight' our small screens. To catch sight of a wheelchair, crutch, walking stick, bandage etc is as much of a taboo as Her Majesty being seen handling coins of the realm!.

Culture, tradition, 'quality': these first two obviously send shock-waves thro' the Corporation, again - mainly apropos television.

'Culture', can perhaps be defined, manifested, in the form of ART, these aspects of all visual arts that stem mainly from the past and thus, also embrace QUALITY: as opposed to 'modern art' that seemingly embraces a plethora of piles of bricks, un'made beds etc.

As far as music & 'good' music, is concerned, the once-a-year 'dolly' in the form of the The Prom's, is not good enough. It is however with regard to one specific artform - OPERA, that the BBC stubbornly persist in presenting this to us merely on the Radio(3)!. So set are the BBC in their antiquated medus operandi that those who give us opera in this form only perceive this entertainment as an AUDIO one - which it is not. For whilst orchestral concerts such as The Prom's are indeed a purely audio event and in truth the televising of these is really a misguided/wasteful exercise, OPERA is both a visual and audio form of entertainment.

In other words, opera on the radio is but one side of a coin: a cheap and nasty presentation.

In conclusion but on the same aspect; television, now makes it possible for providers to give us programmes of these natures mentioned, direct from theatres, opera houses etc - world'wide, pre-packaged stagings of plays, operas, ballets and the like. Too much television (sporting events apart) is either coming from UK studie's or out of 'cans', i.e. videos and films. More OB's, live programmes not least from Europe, are absent from our screens: TV Licence payer's are being short'changed, cheated by what is one of the biggest, commercial, communications companies in the world, the British Broadcasting Corporation!.

Yours faithfully,


 Peter Mahoney

** BY FAX **