

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

27th May 2005

Dear Sir

I have had your 'advertisement' for some time and was not going to bother writing as no-one ever takes any notice of anything, but last Saturday's offering from you was appalling.

A ghastly 'foo-ball' (yes I do mean foo-ball because that is what you all say) in the afternoon – which could have been decided in a Penalty kick off (as it was) thus saving us hours of boredom. Followed by Eurovision Song Contest all the evening. Come on where is your respect for people who pay their licence?

I suppose there must be people who like these things, but certainly no-one I know, not even young people.

You ask if I am a News Junkie. Well I like to know what is going on in the world in an unbiased way. I like to know what the weather is to be, but the South East is rarely mentioned. If you want to know what it will be like in some obscure Scottish Village, it will no doubt be mentioned by name (I do have Scottish connections) as will Northern Ireland and Wales.

I think 'Little Britain' is total rubbish.

I do happen to like Tennis - and Snooker, within reason. I fully understand and respect people who do NOT want to watch these, but it is for a very limited time each year whereas Football is thrust upon us each and every day throughout the year.

Repeats, repeats, repeats ad nauseam. Boot fairs and like programmes, house makeovers, gardening, moving to other places - there are far too many. I do enjoy Antiques Roadshow, I used to enjoy one or two gardening programmes, but now Friday evening BBC 2 is 'wall to wall' gardening so I don't watch any. It seems to me you have a good idea – occasionally, but then 'do it to death'. Any sort of 'reality' programme is rubbish – I know this is not necessarily your domain.

You had one of the best programmes in years which was enjoyed by young and old – The Dancing programme compered by Bruce Forsyth (past his sell-by date) which was excellent. You have demeaned even that by having some AWFUL fiasco now.

No BBC, you DO NOT deserve your Charter until you can produce something worthwhile. With delight I welcomed new Channels they don't start until 7pm and then are pretty poor in content.

I do not qualify for a free licence. If I did, I would not be writing this letter, but it is high time you did something to make it worthwhile.

I am happy to discuss my comments with anyone!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana Barker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Diana Barker (Mrs)