

Replied 5/7

20th May 2005.

Dear Sir,

Your BBC, My Say

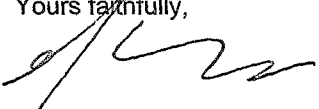
At last an opportunity to offload my dislikes of your news programmes, as these are generally the only programmes which I consider worth watching or hearing.

Firstly the good news – Radio Cornwall is good for local news, weather and traffic, also their Sunday Gardening ‘phone-in is fine, until the presenter insists on deviating to include ‘music’ etc.

Now for the criticism:-

1. Let me deal with Snooker, it being the only non-news item upon which I feel qualified to comment. Too many presenters (COST) are used, and some could be better employed in keeping quiet – their comments are superfluous and often inane.
2. News on TV – ONE presenter is ample, (COST again). To have two puny voices saying over each other ‘thank you’ to weather forecasters is worse than play school, and as for ‘Bye- Bye’.
3. Why have so many hand-waving reporters walking to camera on location? (COST again). Most visits could easily be ditched. Louisa Baldini is excellent – keeps her hands in the correct place.
4. The sending of Tom, Dick and Jim to Rome for the death of the Pope was overdone (COST again), when you have an excellent man there full –time normally. Yes, provoke another cost-cutting strike and reap the cost benefits, and a better, efficient news bulletin.
5. Spotlight (South West) would also benefit from this regime, plus the elimination of the female presenter’s emphasis on ‘millions’, and every other word that she considers makes the sentence longer.
6. Regrettably this fault seems to be creeping up on the National presenter.
7. Weather forecasts – glad that I left my response until the introduction of these. Only one word is enough to describe –DISASTROUS.
8. One all embracing point –IMPARTIALITY.
9. The recurring theme of COST- yes the licence fee must be better used, and reduced, e.g. by cutting out superfluous channels, and other savings (the Chancellor has already lowered my income, now it’s YOUR TURN).

I did say that the news programmes were the ones in which I had interest, but I should not forget my enjoyable listening whilst typing this - Radio 2’s ‘Friday Night is Music Night’, nor their Sunday evenings from 7pm to midnight.

Yours faithfully,

Colin J Coomber.

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