

Mr. G. Earl,

B.B.C. Charter Review,  
Dept: for Culture, Media & Sport,  
2 - 4, Cockspur Street,  
London SW1Y.5DE.

8th April, 2005.

Dear Sirs,

I have been a listener to B.B.C. Radio programmes since my father built his own "Crystal" set in the early 1920s. From station 2EO Savoy Hill, London, later to come from Daventry 5XX with a stronger signal.

Around 1970, local Radio Brighton was set up, later to become Radio Sussex, giving wider news coverage across the county. In due course, this became Southern Counties Radio which is a poor description as it could be anywhere between Kent and Cornwall, although still broadcasting from the Brighton studio and giving Sussex News.

When the station was moved from the Marlborough Place to Queen's Road studios in Brighton, I had hoped that it would revert to its former name of Radio Sussex, but this was not to be. We have other "County" stations - Kent, Norfolk and I believe Berkshire, Oxford and Gloucester to name a few, so one feels rather envious <sup>and</sup> does not take its true local identity.

When the programmes are combined with Surrey and North East Hampshire from the Guildford studio, I have no objection to the Southern Counties title.

The traffic reports given are I am sure most useful to listeners, but train information, particularly weekend Engineering Works from Southern trains is often lacking and I have written to them to feed you with information.

The pronunciation of Seaford is often given as Seafurd or Seafird. It should end as in OR, FOR, FORD. Please train the staff.

One has recently seen reports of the B.B.C. trying to reduce costs. Between Television programmes, there are often adverts for forthcoming broadcasts, often up to a week ahead. Surely this is not necessary, as the Radio Times as well as other magazines give full coverage of future listings. Daily programmes appear in the newspapers.

When Television programmes are running late, it is particularly annoying to sit through the adverts, waiting for the next programme to start, when without them, there is the possibility of catching up on time. For those who have pre-set videos, it is particularly annoying to record the end of the previous programme, then find that the end of the following play or drama is missed, when the final solution is given to the mystery, that they have recorded!

The infantile prelude to each B.B.C. programme is particularly annoying and should be eliminated. The B.B.C. logo is already shown in the lower right hand corner of the screen confirming the identity being watched.

I trust you will consider these points and thus make B.B.C. Radio and Television programmes more attractive in the future.

Yours faithfully,

