

"Working for quality
and diversity in
British broadcasting"



PO Box 401, Gravesend, Kent DA12 9FY
Telephone: 01474 338711 / 01474 338716
Fax: 01474 325440

Founded in 1983 by Jocelyn Hay CBE

E-mail: info@vlv.org.uk
Web: www.vlv.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE:

06/12

Embargoed until 12 noon Monday 30 April 2012

Voice of the Listener & Viewer Awards for Excellence in Broadcasting 2011 – new special award to mark 20 years

Now in their 20th year, the **Voice of the Listener & Viewer Awards for Excellence in Broadcasting** have created a new **VLV Multiplatform Award**. This recognises a programme or series which utilises the best elements of the various platforms now available to broadcasters. The Board and Trustees have selected the BBC's series of programmes **SYMPHONY** as the 2011 prize winner – for so interestingly and entertainingly exploring the classical symphony, from Haydn to Shostakovich, across BBC Radio 3, BBC Four and BBC Online.

The **VLV Awards for Excellence in Broadcasting** are always especially valued by their recipients as the programmes and broadcasters have been nominated and voted for by VLV members, the viewers and listeners who have enjoyed their work. On Monday 30 April 2012 the Awards were presented by well known broadcaster and campaigner Esther Rantzen during VLV's Spring Conference. The Awards are supported by The Voice of the Listener Trust (VoLT).

The **VLV Naomi Sargent Educational Award** is in the gift of the Trustees and Board. Naomi was a distinguished adult educator who believed passionately in life-long learning. She was Vice Chancellor of the Open University and was Channel 4's first commissioning editor for educational programmes. A former Trustee of VoLT, she recognised how television could be used to promote adult education and she ensured that VLV became actively involved in adult education and media literacy. This year the award goes to **Andrew Graham-Dixon** for so enjoyably enlightening viewers on art history.

The **VLV Roberts Radio Award** has been won this year by the well-known broadcaster **Peter White**. Leslie Burrage, Chief Executive Officer of Roberts Radio says "Peter White currently presents Radio 4's *You and Yours, In Touch*, a programme for the blind and partially sighted, and regularly contributes to other science, news and educational programmes to talk about disabilities. It is for his extensive work to address the challenges of the blind and partially sighted and for his ongoing commitment to The British Wireless for the Blind Fund that we select Peter for this year's **VLV Roberts Radio Award**. In addition, he is in training for the 100 km walk across the Kaisut Desert in North Kenya to raise awareness of individuals in Africa losing their sight to diseases like glaucoma. A truly well-deserved award."

The full list of awards is:

VLV Awards (nominated and voted for by VLV members)

Best Radio Programme: *From Our Own Correspondent*, BBC Radio 4

Best New Radio Programme: *Saving Species*, BBC Radio 4

Voice of the Listener & Viewer Ltd. A not for profit private company limited by guarantee registered in England No. 4407712.
Registered office: Unit 9, The Old Rectory Business Centre, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8HN

Honorary Officers: Jocelyn Hay CBE President Hugh Peltor CBE Treasurer Robert Clark Secretary

Best Individual Contribution to Radio: Stephanie Flanders

Best TV Programme: *Countryfile*, BBC One

Best New Television Programme: *Frozen Planet*, BBC One

Best Individual Contribution to Television: Gareth Malone

Best Children's Television Programme: *Shaun the Sheep*, CBBC

VLV Special Awards (in the gift of VLV Board and the VoLT Trustees)

The VLV Naomi Sargent Award: Andrew Graham-Dixon

The VLV Multiplatform Award: *Symphony*, BBC Radio, BBC Television and BBC Online

The VLV Robert Radio Special Award (sponsored by Roberts Radio): Peter White

For all press and media enquiries please call:

Linda Forbes or Sue Washbrook (Monday to Thursday during office hours)

VLV Office 01474 338711/338716; email: info@vlv.org.uk or

Dinah Garrett (Friday to Sunday and out of office hours)

0208 994 7252 or email: ddinahg@supanet.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

Voice of the Listener & Viewer (VLV) is an independent, non-profit-making association, free from political, commercial and sectarian affiliations, working for quality and diversity in British broadcasting. VLV represents the interests of listeners and viewers as citizens and consumers across the full range of broadcasting issues. VLV is concerned with the structures, regulation, funding and institutions that underpin the British Broadcasting system. VLV does not handle complaints but is in touch with Members of Parliament, Government, media regulators and broadcasters; publishes briefings, responses to public consultations and a quarterly newsletter; holds conferences and other events in different parts of the UK, open to the public at affordable prices; organises visits for its members to broadcasting centres and holds annual Student Essay Competitions and Awards for Excellence in Broadcasting.

VLV responds to all relevant consultations from government, regulators and broadcasters and spokespersons comment on current issues. Recent submissions have included responses to the BBC Trust, Ofcom, DCMS and parliamentary committees on a range of topics including *Delivering Quality First*, media plurality, Local TV, BBC Local Radio, Party Political Broadcasts, Ofcom's Annual Plan and the BBC's complaints procedure. VLV is currently responding to Ofcom's consultation on coexistence of new services in the 800 MHz band with digital terrestrial television. VLV is run by a board of directors. Jocelyn Hay, who founded VLV in 1983, remains its president.

Diary Date

Autumn Conference – Monday 26 November 2012,

Keynote Speaker: Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes CH, Chairman, BBC Trust

VLV Ltd, P O Box 401, Gravesend, DA12 9FY www.vlv.org.uk Twitter @vlvuk

2