# Voice of the Listener & Viewer

Working for Quality and Diversity in Broadcasting

Summer 2013

**Bulletin Issue 112** 

#### MOVING TOWARDS A COMMUNCATIONS BILL?

The DCMS has published *Connectivity, content and consumers: Britain's digital platform for growth* which highlights the Government's priorities for the media and telecommunications sectors. It sets out the legislative changes the Government will make - and the issues it expects industry to address, focussing on world-class connectivity and digital inclusion; world-beating content; consumer confidence and safety (including nuisance calls) and helping to keep the cost of living down by ensuring consumer choice.



Culture Secretary Maria Miller said: "The communications industry has undergone change at an unprecedented pace over the last decade. In this digital age we must ensure the needs of the consumer are not lost in the dash for progress and the changes we are making will put the British public at the heart of

the sector. The government will ensure consumers are protected from potentially harmful content, soaring costs and contracts that don't meet their needs." Danny Alexander, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced £250 million investment to ensure that superfast broadband gets to 95% of UK homes and businesses by 2017. The money will come from existing TV licence fee funds and it is expected that it will be match funded locally to bring the total extra public investment to £500 million.

Additionally DCMS has opened a consultation on How should we measure media plurality? It seeks views on fundamental questions about how media plurality should be measured, to ensure the media landscape is not dominated by too few The consultation starts from Lord organisations. Leveson's report. It will inform the commissioning of a framework for measuring media plurality, which will be used to produce the first market analysis of plurality in the UK. The consultation seeks views on: the types of media that should be assessed; the genres it should cover; the types of organisation and services to which it should apply; the inclusion of the BBC and the audiences with which it should be concerned. You can read the full document on the DCMS website at https://www.gov.uk/government/ consultations/media-ownership-and-plurality. Responses have to be submitted before 22 October 2013.

VLV'S 30th ANNUAL AUTUMN CONFERENCE Policy and Programmes: Ensuring Quality and Diversity in British Broadcasting Wednesday 27 November 2013 The Geological Society, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG 10.30 am - 3.30 pm

The rate of change is so rapid in our industry and, as can be seen by the DCMS publication on *Connectivity, content and consumers,* the debate about the future of all media will be wide-ranging over the autumn. VLV will certainly make sure that its voice is heard and will be contributing its views. The debate, according to some reports, may well lead into the BBC Charter Renewal process.

VLV celebrates its 30th anniversary later this year, and our conference title reflects the roots of the organisation - that quality and diversity in British broadcasting should be preserved, cherished and enabled to flourish. But now we are moving into a world where each of us is able to choose what we watch, when and how. There are many issues which this 'viewers' lib' raises both for us the viewers and listeners, and all those who produce, schedule and broadcast programmes. Watch VLV's website for further details of the conference and other special anniversary events.



VLV Award winners - see page 4

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#### Voice of the Listener & Viewer

Working for Quality and Diversity in British Broadcasting

VLV President Mrs Jocelyn Hay CBE

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#### The Voice of the Listener Trust

(registered. charity 296207) Trustees: Mr Michael Barton (Hon. Secretary) Mr John Clark (Acting Chairman) Mr Paul Findlay Professor Sylvia Harvey Lady Solti Dr Andrew Taussig

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VLV is on Twitter! @vlvuk

Voice of the Listener & Viewer (VLV) represents the citizen and consumer interests in broadcasting and works for quality and diversity in British broadcasting. VLV is free from political, sectarian and commercial affiliations. VLV is concerned with the issues, structures, institutions and regulation that underpin the British broadcasting system and in particular to maintain the principles of public service broadcasting.

VLV does not handle complaints.

Registered Address: The Old Rectory Business Centre, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8HN.

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#### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Although I am writing this in glorious summer sunshine, there seems to have been no slackening in the pace of developments in broadcasting or in our own organisation.

It has been a busy time for us in responding to consultations affecting the future development and regulation of public service broadcasting. Thanks are due to the excellent work of the volunteers who put together these responses, which

are of a consistently high quality: this activity is core to the purposes of VLV. As a charity, we are highly dependent on our volunteers; if you would like get involved in any way, do get in touch.

Following our very successful Spring Conference, we are already planning our Autumn Conference, which will be on 27 November. We are aiming for something special, as this autumn sees the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of VLV.

It has also been a busy time for the BBC and its senior management, often for the wrong reasons. The size of the pay-offs for departing executives has caused real shock and anger and reflects the extent to which aspects of remuneration had escalated out of control. The new Director-General, Lord Hall, seems determined to get to grips with this issue and we will be watching closely to see whether he – and the BBC Trust – are able to deliver.

I am happy to say that VLV has received the approval from the Charities Commission to complete the merger of VLV Ltd and The Voice of the Listener Trust (VoLT). VLV is now fully accredited as a charity. The unitary structure will help us to keep our overheads to a minimum. I am very grateful for all the hard work put in, in particular, by our Treasurer, Toni Charlton, and VoLT Trustee John Clark, ably supported by our Secretary Robert Clark, to make this happen.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at future events – and do please put 27 November in your diary. **Colin Browne, Chairman** 

#### **VOICE OF THE LISTENER TRUST**

It is very welcome news that we have succeeded in converting VLV Limited into a charitable company under updated charity legislation. One outcome means there is no longer a necessity to continue with The Voice of the Listener Trust, and it is anticipated that The Trust will be wound up from the end of its financial year on 31 August 2013.

The Trust, as a separate organisation, has made many contributions to VLV over the years since its founding in 1987. These have provided the support for VLV's educational activities by dispensing revenues from legacies and donations whilst giving them the benefit of charitable status. The opportunity was taken to invest reserves favourably and also provided prudent financial management. VLV, as a charitable company, can now assume these roles and benefits.

There have been costs in running this separate organisation and these will now be saved at a critical time for overall VLV finances. The Trustees have also provided valuable experience and advice and are grateful for the cooperative spirit of VLV in ensuring a constructive joint approach to the establishment of a charitable VLV.

The current Trustees, Michael Barton, John Clark, Paul Findlay, Sylvia Harvey, Lady Solti and Andrew Taussig, have been intimately involved in every step of the reorganisation. Whilst retiring as Trustees, they have all offered to continue to serve VLV where it is deemed appropriate and VLV warmly welcomes the continuity that this will give to the organisation.

John Clark, Acting Chairman

# VLV RESPONSE TO BBC TRUST'S CHILDREN'S SERVICE REVIEW

VLV submitted a comprehensive response to the BBC Trust's review of service for children. Led by VLV board member Jeanette Steemers, it drew on the expertise of other VLV members. Jeanette is Professor of Media and



Communications at the University of Westminster. Her research interests include media policy and children's media.

In summary VLV said BBC services for children especially television - stand out from the content shown on other broadcasters because:

• They broadcast high proportions of domestic content – between 70 and 80% of transmissions

• They broadcast a greater variety of live action formats and different genres including much less animation than their rivals (less than 30%)

• They broadcast a greater range of content in terms of themes and issues addressed, including themes and issues that are of direct relevance to British children

• There is no advertising and no commercial imperative (although many shows are supported by extensive licensing and merchandising campaigns)

• The dual role of continuity presenters as show presenters reinforces the range of UK accents that is unique to BBC Children's channels (although more diversity in accents used to voice animation is necessary)

• The embedded approach to 'learning through play' (particularly on CBeebies) is distinctive from the more formal pedagogic education formats originating in the US.

VLV has three main concerns:

• CBBC has an upper age limit of 12, possibly even

younger. This seems to be self imposed. "The remit of CBBC is to provide a wide range of high quality, distinctive content for 6 to 12 year olds" (from the CBBC service licence). Effectively, the



BBC does not serve or represent a developmentally



very important period in young people's lives, 13 to 14, the time when they are beginning to grow up, but are not yet grown up, and hence a period of dramatic

change and potentially fertile for programme makers.

• There appears to be a significant reduction in the role of sustaining citizenship and civil society. For example, in the case of CBBC this is met through the provision of news and current affairs with programmes such as *Newsround* and *Blue Peter*. However, *Blue Peter* is now only shown once a

week and *Newsround* appears to have been curtailed to short bulletins, which might suggest that this type of content is under pressure from other programming priorities.

• In radio the BBC has reduced its commitment to distinctive children's radio to a substantial degree, relegating it to a reduced presence on the digital channel BBC Radio 4 Extra. VLV wonders whether BBC Radio 4 Extra is really the best place for encouraging 'family listening'.

#### **RENEWAL OF CHANNEL 4'S LICENCE**

A key role for Ofcom is the renewal of licences to broadcasters. The Channel 4 licence expires at the end of 2014 . Ofcom is now consulting on its proposals for the appropriate licence conditions and licence duration. The licence imposes on Channel 4 a range of obligations including:

- Channel 4 has a specific public service remit to demonstrate innovation, experiment, and creativity; to appeal to the tastes and interests of a culturally diverse society; to make a significant contribution to include programmes of an educational nature and of educative value and to exhibit a distinctive character
- Quotas for a minimum proportion of qualifying original production to be commissioned from independent producers and out of London
- Quotas for a specific minimum proportion of programming to be originated for the channel and
- Requirements to include an appropriate volume of UK news, current affairs and schools programming.

VLV will be responding to this consultation in detail and would value your comments and views, especially to the four points above. You can read the full detail of the consultation on Ofcom's website аt http:// stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/consultations/ renewal-c4-licence/. Please send any comments to VLV's office or email info@vlv.org.uk by 12 September 2013.

#### VLV OFFICE ADDRESS

Please note that VLV no longer has a P O Box and so all mail should be sent to:

The Old Rectory Business Centre Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8HN Office hours are Tuesday to Thursday 9.30 am to 3.30pm. Tel: 01474 338716 Administrator: Sue Washbrook Sue.washbrook@vlv.org.uk

# VLV AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN **BROADCASTING 2012**

The VLV Awards for Excellence in Broadcasting 2012 were presented - not as billed by Jon Sopel, whose flight was delayed from Dubai, but by Sandi



Toksvig - standing in brilliantly at half an hour's notice. She and Lewis Rudd made a great team with much laughter throughout.

Everyone was especially delighted

that Andrew Marr was able to be with us to collect

the Best Radio Programme Award for Start the Week. The ceremony took place VLV's Spring durina Conference at the Geological Society in London at the end of April.



VLV Awards (nominated and voted for by VLV members only) Best Radio Programme: Start the Week BBC Radio 4 Best New Radio Programme: The Listening Project BBC Radio 4 Best individual contribution to



Radio: James Naughtie

Best TV Programme: Great British Train Journeys BBC Two Best New Television Programme: The Secret History of our Streets BBC Two Best Individual Contribution to Television: Jon Snow

VLV Special Awards (in the gift of the Board of VLV and The Voice of the Listener Trust)



VLV Naomi Sargant Award: **Dan Snow** 

VLV Multiplatform Award: **BBC Olympics London 2012** 

The VLV Roberts Radio Special Award (in the gift of Roberts Radio): Sandi Toksvig

VLV is grateful to Roberts Radio and to The Voice of the Listener Trust for their support of the Awards.

#### THE IMPACT OF CONVERTING TO **DIGITAL RADIO**

In June DCMS published the results of a trial undertaken to look at the issues and possible barriers for converting to digital radio, particularly for potentially vulnerable consumers such as the elderly and people households were with disabilities. 250 monitored over a 12 week period to see how they coped without their analogue radios and using digital sets. The headline conclusions were:

Most households had а positive conversion experience

A minority encountered difficulties regarding conversion

There was a limited understanding of digital radio in comparison to analogue

The main drivers to the take-up of digital radio are direct experience and heightened awareness of how it compares favourably with analogue.

VLV is member of the Consumer Expert Group which monitored the trial and has asked for more research into the impact on vulnerable groups.

#### **4G IMPACT TESTS**

Tests are continuing to assess the potential for new 4G phone signals to interfere with viewers' TV reception. Digital UK say that initial pilot schemes in the West Midlands and London have generated few reports of problems but have not yet covered all necessary scenarios. The tests are being carried out by at800, which has been set up by the mobile phone operators to monitor and resolve any interference.

Ilse Howling, Managing Director of Freeview, said: 'We are encouraged that the pilots appear to have caused little inconvenience to Freeview viewers so far. However, more tests are necessary to ascertain the impact of 4G in a variety of geographical areas and under different test conditions. We will continue to work with at800 and ensure any disruption to Freeview viewers is kept to a minimum.' Further tests are now being carried out in Brighton and York.

#### MORE BBC HD

The BBC will launch five new subscriptionfree BBC HD channels early in 2014 - BBC News HD, BBC Three HD, BBC Four HD, CBeebies HD and CBBC HD will be offered to all digital television platforms that carry HD channels.

#### VLV PILOTS A NEW MEMBERSHIP SCHEME IN BRISTOL

When Bristol City Council announced а Celebrating Age Festival, VLV was invited to run a stall and to organise some of the events - the highlight of which was on Saturday 29 June. The magnificent City Hall was awash with stallholders of every description - from cycling groups to



Shiatsu. VLV member Rachel Bramble (left) - keen to launch Voice of the Listener & Viewer VLV activities in the Bristol area found a great deal of enthusiasm for studio visits and meeting programme makers. Helped by Jean Northam, they now have enough feedback to form a profile of visitors to their

stand along with their television and radio preferences. Bristol is full of media activity - not only from the major broadcasters but large numbers of independent production companies are based there as well. And the BBC has developed major productions in Cardiff, which is easily accessible from the Bristol area. If you are interested in joining VLV Bristol please contact Rachel Bramble on 0117 967 3951 or rachelbramble@yahoo.co.uk.

As part of VLV's contribution to the festival a media literacy session in the council chamber was



presented by long time VLV member Sandy Chalmers (left) It was an attempt to persuade older audiences that the internet can be an invaluable tool and

not something to fear. And as viewers and listeners, the computer is increasingly where we go to catch up on missed programmes.

#### **TODAY PROGRAMME**



Mishal Husain joins the Today programme team in the She autumn. currently presents Sunday's BBC News at Ten and is the main host of Impact, a flagship 90-minute daily programme on BBC World News. James Naughtie

will be playing a key role in the BBC's coverage of the independence referendum run up to the vote on 18 September 2014 which will decide Scotland's future. The BBC is investing £5m to boost its coverage of the Scottish independence referendum. which will include specially commissioned documentaries and a series of debates. VLV will be monitoring the referendum coverage provided by other broadcasters.

## **OFF THE SHELF IN SHEFFIELD** Professor Jean Seaton to deliver VLV Lecture

VLV is delighted that Jean Seaton, Professor of



Media History at the University of Westminster and the Official Historian of the BBC, will give a VLV Lecture during the Off the Shelf Festival of Words in Sheffield on 24 October 2013. The lecture will be introduced by Ian Soutar, Arts Editor of Sheffield Telegraph. Tickets £5 (£4

concessions) available locally in Sheffield or via VLV's office.

Jean Seaton has just completed the next volume of the BBC's story, The BBC Under Siege, taking Asa Briggs' history of broadcasting in the UK forward from 1974 until 1987. This involves everything the BBC did in a tumultuous decade from the conflict in Northern Ireland and the invasion of the Falklands, to Not the Nine O'Clock News, the Proms, the early music revolution, devolution, Dennis Potter's greatest plays, David Attenborough's great series and Radio 1's most influential moment. It also includes the role of women in the Corporation, programmes for children and a tense and complicated relationship with the government. Professor Seaton is Chair of the judges of the Orwell Prize for outstanding political writing.

#### **NEW LICENCES FOR ITV, STV, UTV AND CHANNEL 5**

Ofcom has set out the terms that will apply to new public service broadcasting licences for ITV, STV, UTV and Channel 5. These obligations are designed to provide benefits for TV viewers across the UK, while being financially sustainable for the new licence period. Ofcom has approved proposals for a more localised Channel 3 news service across England. This will see ITV provide regional news in 14 separate news regions compared to the current eight news regions it operates. In all but two of ITV's licences, the requirement for a weekday regional news bulletin in the early evening will be reduced from 30 minutes to 20 minutes but ITV has told Ofcom that these bulletins will continue to be 30 minutes long. Ofcom rejected its proposal to apply a reduction to the two largest regions - London and North West England - these will remain at 30 minutes.

#### **BBC HD REGIONAL OPTIONS**

The BBC will present a proposal to the BBC Trust covering the technical options and timetable to launch English Regional variants of BBC One HD and variants of BBC Two HD for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Over 50 % of homes in the UK are already HD enabled.

#### **PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES AT OFCOM**



Office The o f Communications (Ofcom)

was established by the 2003 Communications Act bringing together a wide range of regulators covering all aspects of broadcasting and telecommunications including commercial broadcasters and mobile telecommunications including spectrum use. The regulation of the BBC is shared with the BBC Trust.

The 2003 Act was the outcome of a period of consultation and close scrutiny by both Houses of Parliament. VLV was very involved in the process. DCMS wishes to make changes to the role of Ofcom but has only engaged in a limited consultation prior to the laying of a regulation. This is a significantly reduced level of public involvement for some very significant changes.

VLV has an overriding concern that if these proposals are implemented, significant monitoring of Public Service Broadcasters (PSBs) will be determined at the whim of the Secretary of State or Ofcom rather than by an Act of Parliament. VLV has two specific concerns:

1. The 2003 Act requires that Ofcom reviews PSBs every five years. The new regulation would only require reviews to be conducted at the discretion of the Secretary of State, who will also determine the scope of the review. This is a significant alteration. If it goes forward a major monitoring of broadcasting will allow a politician to control what should be an independent, apolitical process. This could mean reviews happening as a result of short term concerns of either politicians or powerful media operators.

2. The 2003 Act determines the number of advisory bodies that Ofcom should establish. VLV considers these consumer-led groups central to the role of Ofcom in furthering the interests of citizens and consumers. The proposed regulation would permit Ofcom, with the consent of the Secretary of State, to establish and maintain such advisory committees or consultation mechanisms as Ofcom 'thinks best' enable it to deliver its key functions. VLV considers essential consumer input should best be this determined by the Act not by 'what Ofcom thinks besť.

VLV does not oppose all the changes. After ten years there is need for some, but this total redirection from legislation-determined to permissive guidance potentially places too much control into the hands of politicians. It is VLV's view that these changes are not suitable to be made by regulation but should be part of a Communications Bill when the legislative process will ensure a full scrutiny.

You can read VLV's submission to DCMS on the website at http://www.vlv.org.uk/information/ consultations.html.

#### DR LYNN WHITAKER JOINS VLV

Dr Lynn Whitaker has been coopted onto the VLV Board, replacing **Dr Matthew Hibbard**, who had to resign due to his extensive work and travelling commitments. VLV is most grateful to Matthew for all the work he has done over the



years, especially the VLV events he initiated in Scotland. Lynn teaches at the University of Glasgow and is visiting a scholar at CAMRI at the University of Westminster. Lvnn's research interests centre on children's media and media production industries, particularly broadcasting. Particular areas of interest are the future of public service media; the sustainability of Scotland's production sector and the relationship between audience and producer. Overarching these interests is a preoccupation with issues of convergence.

THE FA CUP RETURNS TO THE BBC The BBC and BT Sport have secured a fouryear shared rights deal that will see them both become home to The FA Cup from 2014. This will see the return of the most famous club competition in world football free to view on BBC One and on BT Sport, which is free with BT broadband. All of the action will be available on TV, online, mobile and tablet with live streaming across all devices.

#### **BBC PEOPLE**

James Harding is the new Director, BBC News and Current Affairs, Danny Cohen has been appointed as Director, BBC Television and in turn has appointed Charlotte Moore as the new Controller of BBC One. Former Olympics supremo Roger Mosey is to become master of Selwyn College, Cambridge.

#### Letter to the Editor

We don't have TV. We get our news and entertainment from Radio 4 and Radio 3 and from the internet. I think the need is greater than ever for whatever pressure can be applied to encourage broadcasters, and especially the BBC, to maintain a high standard and traditional values while pushing forward the frontiers of quality in the face of commercial competition; listeners and viewers and internet users must keep supporting the work started by Jocelyn Hay those years ago and pursued so ably since, with her able team James Hood (VLV member) of helpers.

Letters do not necessarily represent the views of VLV and may be shortened for publication. Deadline for next issue: 1 October 2013. Write, fax or e-mail your letters to the Editor at: info@vlv.org.uk and confirm you are happy for your letter to be published.

#### TALKING POINT: NO DRAMA ON FOUR Bob Usherwood



In 2010 the BBC was, to all intents and purposes, forced by the government's late and secretive addition to the Comprehensive Spending Review to accommodate £700m of cuts. As VLV said

at the time, the Coalition wrongly treated the BBC as just another Whitehall department. "Licence payers were excluded from choices about how their money [was] spent" and "decisions were taken behind closed doors, despite the promises of 'the big society'."

We are now starting to see the impact of this on the quality of our viewing experiences. A major casualty will be BBC Four's home produced dramas as the channel implements its quota of the cuts. It is difficult to see how the axing of the channel's drama budget contributes to one of the DQF guiding editorial priorities to "provide ambitious British drama..." or indeed the station's service licence which states "BBC Four's primary role is to reflect a range of UK and international arts, music and culture." An ambition which is somewhat limited by a statement later in the document which, in its only use of the word, observes, "*Drama* should occasionally feature on the channel..."

Occasional drama is not enough for a station which promises to reflect UK and international culture. Many BBC Four dramas were excellent. However, the Burton and Taylor biopic shown on July 22 was the last home-grown production for the channel. Moreover, it is unlikely that any of the "occasional" works will feature the writing of modern British dramatists such as Edward Bond, Caryl Churchill, John Osborne, Dennis Potter, Harold Pinter, Arnold Wesker et al. There is even less chance of seeing "high quality, original, challenging, innovative and engaging" plays by Jez Butterworth, Sarah Kane, Joe Penhall, Polly Stenham and others who have come to the fore in recent years. Such work is rarely presented on television. It could and should be given a platform on BBC Four.

BBC Four has already formed successful partnerships with cultural organisations, such as the British Library. Perhaps it could now work with (say) the Royal Court and similar theatres in London and the regions to telecast high quality drama. This would give people outside the major centres an opportunity to share something of the

theatrical experience and also contribute to the channel's promise to provide a "broad range of culturally enriching and innovative programming..." Only the BBC can do this without demanding a subscription or including advertisements which so often ruin serious plays. Sky Arts requires a subscription and, on searching the web site of the newish Drama Channel for my favourite playwright, I was informed "we're sorry, we couldn't find anything for 'Harold Pinter', try searching again." OK. perhaps searching a new channel's website for Pinter was a little unfair; he is only a Nobel Prize winner. I tried something else, but unfortunately, a search for the Bard also resulted in "we're sorry, we couldn't find anything for 'William Shakespeare', try searching again."!

Back in the old days, ITV's *Armchair Theatre* together with BBC's *The Wednesday Play* and *Play for Today* introduced viewers to Bleasdale, Pinter, Potter and many more who extended the horizons of the audience and stirred the conscience of a nation. Today that should, in part, be what BBC Four is for.

Bob Usherwood is a VLV Trustee but these views are personal and do not necessarily represent those of VLV. He is Emeritus Professor, The University of Sheffield.

#### **BBC WORLD SERVICE**

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office has announced an unexpected £1.7m net cut in its current-year grant to the BBC World Service, which has stated that this will not affect output or staffing. The BBC Trust has said that the World Service will receive £245m in the first year of Licence Fee funding (2014/15), over £5m more that its current FCO grant.

The BBC Trust is presently consulting on the service licence for BBC World Service. VLV is preparing its response. You can read the full details on the Trust's website. http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbctrust/have\_your\_say/world\_service.html. If you have any comment or views please write to VLV before 31 August.

#### COMMONWEALTH CLASS

The BBC, British Council and Commonwealth Secretariat have launched *Commonwealth Class*, a new initiative to enable up to 100,000 schools, 300,000 teachers and 17 million 7-14 year olds to take part in online exchanges, work on collaborative projects in cross-Commonwealth teams and access themed resources to learn about the Commonwealth in the run-up to the Glasgow 2014 Games.

# Advertisements

Please refer to VLV when responding to advertisements. VLV Ltd cannot accept any liability or complaint in regard to the following offers. The charge for classified ads is 30p per word, 20p for members. Please send typed copy with a cheque payable to VLV Ltd. For display space please contact Sue Washbrook on 01474 338716.



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# Summer Competition



Win a copy of David Starkey and Kate Greening's Music and Monarchy from their BBC Two series. Which sport event has the BBC just signed up, and with which partner, to be available on TV, online, mobile

Replies to Summer and tablet? Competition, VLV, The Old Rectory Business Centre, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8HN or by email to info@vlv.org.uk by 1 October 2013. The Editor's decision is final. The Spring Competition was won by Ken Hawkins from Norfolk.

# VLV Office Address

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The Old Rectory Business Centre Springhead Road Northfleet Kent DA11 8HN

Office hours Tuesday to Thursday 9.30 am to 3.30 pm Tel: 01474 338716

Administrator: Sue Washbrook Sue.washbrook@vlv.org.uk

### **Diary Dates**

#### Thursday 24 October 2013 The BBC: Lessons from history

Lecture by Professor Jean Seaton within the Off the Shelf Festival, Friends' Meeting House, St James Street, Sheffield at 7.00 pm

#### Wednesday 27 November 2013 VLV's 30th Annual Autumn Conference **Policy and Programmes: Ensuring Quality and Diversity in British Broadcasting**

The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG 10.30 am - 3.30 pm Speakers to be announced

#### The conference will be followed by VLV Ltd's Annual General Meeting at 3.45 pm and VLV Members' Forum

For tickets and enquiries please call Sue Washbrook on 01474 338716 or email: sue.washbrook@vlv.org.uk

Visit www.vlv.org.uk for latest news and information about VLV events

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