



Club News
Stay in the Know!

Christmas Lunches









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Christmas Lunches 14th December











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Music was my First Love... continued

Classical music played quite a part of my introduction to music. From nursery rhymes and carols, church services, school assembly hymns and music festivals I, like I'd imagine so many of you, was exposed to the unlimited boundaries of the classical genre.

The early LP's, EP's and 45's I remember well and still have some included Serge Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf and Walt Disney's Mother Goose. One particular favourite was a recording of the Vienna Boys Choir. I was truly mesmerised by the audio experience. Throw in some Gilbert and Sullivan in particular the Mikado and then some Leonard Bernstein, Gustavia Holtz the Planets, Swan Lake, Peer Gynt etc and I was exported to a whole new world.

Piano lessons with Mrs Stumph followed, well as far as grade four. I'd turned my hand at violin trumpet, clarinet and more. Solo singing 'oh for the wings of a dove' before the voice dropped. There's no surprise I'm still taken to listening to the early composers. Although rock became more my passion the early influences continue to shine their light.

In recent years I've found a lot of enjoyment watching and listening to the Vienna New Years Day concert. Started in 1939 and run continually from 1941 it is nowadays usually shown on BBC2 at 10.15 am.

The other day a friend in Finland who loves sending me some weird and some wonderful videos introduced me to Thomanerchor: "Jauchzet frohlocket" by Johann Sebastian Bach.

The link is here so do have a look and maybe you will enjoy the next four minutes as much as I did.

Happy New Year

Mark x

https://youtube.com/watch?v=MVewzMm1uts&feature=share







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Humour

Dave, A political cartoonist from the US



Dave Granlund was born in Ware MA and spent his early years on a farm. Both parents were good at sketching and his father was also good at woodcarving. For family entertainment, Dave began drawing cartoons of his world on a dairy farm in the 50s, and in the 1960s for his school newspaper and yearbook. At The age of 16, he freelanced with the local Ware River News (weekly) and has been published in daily newspapers and magazines since 1977.







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Humour











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Editorial

I was very sad to hear that my old Liverpudlian friend Janice Long has passed away. Janice was a fun-loving lady and she always had a twinkle in her eye. And if you talk about music, she was always very knowledgeable and she loved it. So whenever we met, it was a great pleasure and we would always have a real good laugh. So my sympathy goes out to her family and friends. We've all lost a great Scouse girl, but I will always have fun memories of her and of the time we spent together. Love you, Janice.

Paul McCartney



Janice Long Remembered - 1955 - December 25 2021

Janice Long started her trail blazing radio career in 1979 as an assistant and then the much respected presenter of 'Streetlife' on Radio Merseyside with a budget of £10. The actor David Morrissey remembers visiting her on air when he was a new member of the Liverpool Everyman theatre and Holly Johnson describes the start of a lifelong friendship when she became the first person in the world to interview Frankie Goes To Hollywood. Jane Garvey remembers going up to her room and shutting herself away from her family for special times listening to Janice on Streetlife. It gave Jane hope that it wasn't impossible for young woman to get into radio. She also talks about Janice taking things seriously, but wearing her expertise lightly and gaining respect from musicians.

Janice was then recruited to Radio 1 from 1982-1987, after Paul Gambaccini recommended her as the best interviewer he had encountered on a nationwide book tour. Janice continued to rewrite the record books when she was the first woman to be given a national daily show and fellow Radio 1 pioneer Annie Nightingale remembers Janice making her mark as the first female presenter of Top Of The Pops, in an often hilarious partnership with her friend John Peel.

Andy McCluskey of OMD talks about Janice, live on Top Of The Pops, shouting across the studio "tuck in your shirt, McCluskey" and always hunting for new music in the Liverpool venues and clubs when they were both starting out on their careers. Adam Clayton of U2 thanks Janice for her support and for introducing one of their first performances of Top Of The Pops. Steve Wright remembers Janice often just popping in to his afternoon show and making him laugh. He regards Janice as the kindest, most relatable and natural person. Tina Campbell read the news for Janice when she co-presented the GLR Breakfast show and worked with her at Radio 1 and 2.

We hear about Janice wrapping her arm literally and metaphorically around new radio recruits and inviting hard up musicians to stay in her spare room after a gig. Sara Cox remembers Janice welcoming her into the Radio 2 studios when she first covered for Alex Lester. Chris Hawkins treasures her 20 minute programme handovers.

Sean Dixon of The Soup Dragons says her name appearing on his phone screen, through thick and thin, meant he was in for a wonderful chat. Pete Wylie talks about a heart as big as Liverpool and the fact that Janice was ultra-professional – not, by her own admission, slick, but always in the moment, listening eagerly to the latest releases and the classics and most importantly answering every question in a well researched interview. She was the soundtrack to his life.



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Nell Bryden recorded her first session with Janice, who she tells us was the David Bowie of DJs, only funnier and that she marched to the beat of her own drum and became an "instant hang" both on and off air for her.

Writer and broadcaster Pete Paphides remembers Janice being like a big sister sharing her record collection in the room and a vital aid to procrastination when he was supposed to be doing his homework. He loved the fact that musical correctness had no place in her shows, she didn't care if an artist or act was cool or uncool, it was just something she liked and wanted to share.

Carol Kirkwood says the nightly Radio 2 weather forecasts were the highlight of the week and jokes that she laughed so much she thought she might lose her job.

Elvis Costello talks about Janice, more recently, coping with technical difficulties and still conducting a masterclass in interviewing on BBC Radio Wales.

Brian Nash, formerly of Frankie Goes To Hollywood, is now a Funeral Celebrant in Liverpool and conducted Janice's funeral and wake. He talks of Janice as being a legend who is known to all the musicians and songwriters in Liverpool by just one name, Janice, there are lots of people who share the name, but these artists only meant one person when they talked of Janice.

We should also highlight Janice's sense of mischief and irreverence and her support for so many musicians, giving the first airtime and sessions to many who are now huge stars, such as Adele, The Smiths, Primal Scream, Amy Winehouse and the Manic Street Preachers. Her enthusiasm for brand new artists was unparalleled.