

SALFORD INTERNATIONAL MEDIA FESTIVAL

NATIONS & REGIONS MEDIA CONFERENCE

Meet The Radio Commissioners - Tue 18 Nov 2014

Put forward an idea to a high profile radio commissioner, book your slot at the Conference during registration

Piers Bradford

Piers has worked for the BBC since graduating from Edinburgh University in 1997. In December 2010, he was appointed as the first ever Commissioning Editor for Radio 1 and Radio 1Xtra, responsible for all of the network's dealings with the Independent Radio production sector. His commissions have won numerous Gold Awards at the Radio Academy Awards and the New York Radio Awards over the past 2 years. He is currently managing the launch of a Radio 1 branded space in the BBC iPlayer. For the past three years he has overseen all of the Social Action, Outreach and Campaigns on the networks, including the Radio 1 Academy. Between 2007 and 2010, he was Executive Producer for Chris Moyles and Fearne Cotton, as well as launching Greg James, Dev and Matt Edmondson onto Radio 1. He was also responsible for the launch of the platinum selling Live Lounge albums.



Steve Carsey

Steve is the Director of Original Programming (UK) for Audible (an Amazon company). In this role he commissions content across all genres for Amazon's spoken word and audio entertainment division – and oversees their recently established English language original programming strategy. “From epic multi-cast dramas to daily showbiz content, Audible won't rest until we're the global home for audio entertainment as well as audiobooks.”

However, Steve actually started his media career on Channel 4's seminal *GamesMaster* in 1990. And is still a bit of a geek. In a career spanning more than twenty years, he has been responsible for many successful formats, as well as managing the creative strategy and development process for some of the UK's largest independent television production companies.

Most notably he led the creation and production of three of the UK's most successful and highest rated shows of all time on their respective channels, *Robot Wars* (BBC), *Britain's Worst Driver* (Channel 5) and *The Match* (Sky One). He also oversaw the development of the reality hit *Paradise Hotel* (Fox), which remains one of the most valuable US network commissions ever for a UK producer.



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Matthew Dodd

Matthew Dodd is Head of Speech Programmes and Presentation at BBC Radio 3 where he oversees programmes such as The Sunday Feature, The Essay, Between the Ears, Drama on 3, The Verb and Free Thinking. Prior to his current role he was editor of Night Waves and an Executive producer making documentaries, and in his time at the BBC has worked at BBC Radios 2, 3, 4 and 5Live.



Robert Gallacher

Graduate of The National Broadcasting School, Robert began his BBC career in the Gramophone Library in 1985. Since then he has worked as a programme producer at BBC Radio Leeds and BBC Radio 2. He ran the BBC's Corporate Radio Promotions unit in the early 90s, and has also spent time as a Promotions Director in BBC Television. Winner of three Radio Academy Awards and five PROMAX Awards, he is 'Commissioning Editor' for both BBC Radio 2 and BBC 6 Music, responsible for recent programming for World War One, Britpop, The Guitar and D-Day.



Liam Fisher

Liam Fisher is the Programme Director for talkSPORT (both UK and international), having risen up through the ranks of the production team over thirteen years. He first started at the station in 2000 as a phone operator and quickly became producer of afternoon show Hawksbee and Jacobs before being promoted to Head of Production in 2008.

Since becoming Programme Director early last year, Liam has brought in several new and different voices for the Alan Brazil Sports Breakfast including Brian Moore & Danny Murphy. He also signed Colin Murray for the weekday mid-morning slot and put a new weekend show The Warm Up in place with Johnny Vaughan and Max Rushden, as well as adding Stuart Pearce and Jim Proudfoot to the World Cup team earlier this year. During his tenure the station has twice broken their reach record, most recently during the 2014 World Cup.



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Richard Maddock

Richard Maddock started off his career as a freelancer in the news room of Radio City in Liverpool in 1991. After working his way across a variety of departments he soon rose through the ranks to join the programming team as Head of Production and Head of Music, and in 1999 Richard became the youngest Programme Director in the country (taking the reins of Radio City 96.7 and Magic 1548). In 2008 Richard then launched 'City Talk 105.9', the UK's only commercial talk radio station outside London, whilst 'Station Director' at Radio City.

During his time at the helm, Richard led Radio City to unprecedented success, producing record audiences and receiving the highest industry recognition. In his ten year tenure in charge of programming, the station was regularly awarded the industry's highest possible honour, winning 7 Gold Sony awards, including being crowned the 'UK's Radio Station of the Year' four times (beating all UK commercial and BBC stations). The station was also named the 'World's Best Top 40 Format Radio Station' and due to his personal contribution, Richard himself was recognised as the 'UK's Radio Programmer of the Year'.

In 2013, after 8 months as Regional Director of Programming for Bauer Media's NW portfolio of stations in Liverpool, Manchester and Lancashire (including Radio City, Key 103 and Rock FM), Richard left commercial radio to join the BBC. He is currently the Commissioning Editor at BBC Radio 5 live & 5 live sports extra.



Kerry McGeever

Now Assistant Editor Speech, BBC Radio Wales, Kerry started her broadcasting life as a researcher at the station before producing the Welsh contribution to the late night schedule on Radio Five (before they put the 'Live' bit in). Her presenter – Rob Brydon – went on to find his fortune in London while she moved to Network Features in Bristol and oversaw the final years of 'Down Your Way' whilst also being Sony nominated for a feature about condoms. She returned to Wales some years later to run the features output for Radio Wales. Her portfolio now includes the morning show, the lunchtime Phone In as well as the in house and Indie features.



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Ynyr Williams is Series Producer *Pobol y Cwm* – the BBC's longest running TV series which has just celebrated its 40th anniversary. He is also Executive Producer BBC Cymru/Wales on 'HINTERLAND' and BBC Cymru/Wales' National Eisteddfod productions.

Before joining the BBC he was an independent producer for almost twenty years. He has won many awards including best documentary for Johnny Owen – *The Long Journey*, best documentary film for *Dal, Yma/Nawr*, best childrens programme for *Uned 5*.

He was Executive Producer on *Olympic Stories* for the European Broadcasting Union – 9 country co-production with partners including Ireland, Finland, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Croatia, Greece, Slovenia and Wales.

He has worked extensively throughout Europe and with companies in the US. He is board member of Skillset Cymru and Taikabox and in his spare time he likes to write poetry, play golf and watch rugby.



Jeff Zycinski

Jeff Zycinski is Head of Radio for BBC Scotland. He was appointed to this post in January 2005. Jeff commissions and schedules programmes for BBC Radio Scotland and is responsible for the production teams working for BBC Network Radio based in Scotland. His portfolio now includes online and multi-media content including podcasts and themed audio streams. Jeff started his career as a news journalist in 1989 and, in 1992, joined BBC Scotland as Senior Producer in Selkirk. A year later he moved to the BBC in Inverness to launch the Tom Morton morning programme.

Jeff was promoted to Editor, *Topical* in 1998 and returned to Glasgow. He launched both the lunchtime Lesley Riddoch programme (which won a Sony Silver Award in 2001 and again in 2002) and the Gary Robertson mid-morning programme in Autumn 2000. In the 2006 Sony Awards, Jeff was nominated as Station Programmer of the Year. In 2008 BBC Radio Scotland was nominated as Station of the Year at the Celtic Media Festival.

Other awards as Editor include a Sony Silver for *Asking For You* (2003) and Sony Bronze awards for *Old Firm Day* (2002) and *Life Stories* (2005).

The SoundTown project was launched by Jeff in 2003 and involved a year-long partnership with Doon Academy in Dalmellington where a radio studio was built in the school. The SoundTown project has continued in Grangemouth, Elgin, Kelso and Dundee.

