



Sunday
Life

Colin Jackson and Louise Minchin present new Sunday Morning show on BBC One

Former Olympic athlete **Colin Jackson CBE** will join BBC News presenter **Louise Minchin** to host BBC One's new Sunday morning show *Sunday Life*.

Together, Louise and Colin will get under the skin of the news stories and issues that Britain cares about.

"There are real people at the centre of every story. Sunday Life is in a great position to pose the questions thrown up by those stories, and find answers to them. The show is about understanding how every story and decision affects everyone in Britain differently."

Colin Jackson

"Sunday Life is about the people affected by the news. I really want to look behind the stories that I report on every day in the news, so we can understand how those stories happened and how people's lives have been changed as a result."

Louise Minchin

Starting on BBC One on Sunday 20th April at 10am, *Sunday Life* will be broadcast live from a converted Victorian mill near Bradford - the heart of multicultural Britain.

The series reflects topical events, and aims to set the week's agenda by exploring the issues of faith, belief and ethics that affect us all.

"I'm a very spiritual person and that helps me appreciate all religions. I think there are a lot of people like me who don't necessarily go to church, but who live a spiritual life"

Colin Jackson

"I'm really interested in the moral decisions we all face - how do we make those decisions and how do we decide they're the right ones? On Sunday Life we'll really investigate the issues that people in Britain think are important."

Louise Minchin

"I'm really looking forward to working with Colin. He's a superstar with amazing enthusiasm (and I'm hoping I'll get a few dancing lessons thrown in too!)"

Louise Minchin

The series swaps the familiar studio setup in favour of a vibrant converted loft apartment, where the walls are real, and the guests feel at home. Each week the apartment will play host to a lively mix of news, chat, debate and conversation with the people at the heart of every story.

The first few editions of the 24-part, weekly series will feature a wide range of unique and compelling stories, including:

- **Emmerdale Actress Georgia Slowe visits Auschwitz to uncover the story of her mother's escape from the Nazis.** Georgia's mother was 4 years old when Nazis raided her Jewish convent in Budapest, leaving just two young girls behind. One of those girls was Georgia's mum, who went on to survive the war and was reunited with her father. Georgia has only recently begun to investigate her family history, and the trip to Auschwitz was a very poignant and emotional one for her. Alongside Georgia's journey, the film also asks questions about whether children should be taught about the holocaust in schools.
- **In the wake of a spate of suicides in Bridgend, Wales, *Sunday Life* visits Belfast to mark the fifth anniversary of a cluster of thirteen suicides in the Ardoyne area of the city.** The film discovers the lessons Bridgend can learn from the Ardoyne, and follows one bereaved father's mission to help support other families whose lives were touched by the suicide of their loved ones.
- **Colin Jackson meets Archbishop Desmond Tutu.** *Sunday Life* has secured exclusive and intimate access to film one of the world's most distinguished church leaders in the Cape Town cathedral which was the focus of his struggle against the apartheid regime. The film will form part of a wider discussion on the importance of faith, peace and reconciliation in the world in 2008.
- **And, in the first programme, Louise Minchin tells the inspirational story of Gill Hicks, the last survivor pulled from the wreckage of the first tube train bombed in the 7/7 bombings on London.** Gill's story of survival is a miraculous one, not least because she was standing just feet away from one of the bombers, Germaine Lyndsay. Despite being clinically dead for 25 minutes and having had both her legs amputated, Gill has recovered and is now making it her life's work to try to bring communities together, and to prevent what she sees as the colossal levels of misunderstanding that led to the bombings. *Sunday Life* has exclusive access to Gill's ground-breaking and inspirational work to forge closer links between Britain's multi-faith communities.

As well as reflecting the news, *Sunday Life* will produce investigations that get the nation talking; and complement those with quirky and intelligent short films.

More than anything else, the show is about what the audience *really* thinks and what real people believe: the issues at the centre of our homes on a Sunday morning.

Real People, Real Stories, Real Life
10:00 – 11:00am, from Sunday 20th April, BBC One

***Sunday Life* is a True North production for BBC One.**

Executive Producer for the BBC: Jacqueline Hewer
Executive Producer for True North: Dave Stanford
Executive Producer for True North: Andrew Sheldon
Series Producer: Adam Purver

True North Productions is the biggest factual independent production company in the north, and was named the eighth biggest factual indie in the UK in the 2008 Broadcast Indie Survey.

The company's credits include *Animal 24:7* for BBC One, *Animal Rescue Squad* for Five, and *The Way We Worshipped* for ITV1, alongside a number of BBC ONE *life* documentaries including *The Woman Who Can't Stop Lying*, *The Ripper Murdered My Mum* and *Getting Away with Murder*.

For further details on the series, or on any of the items mentioned above, please contact Chris Walker

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