

**[TRACK 1]**

TONY WRIGHT:

*It's the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2011 and we're talking to Charlie Boyce, and it's Year 5 pupils from Riverside School.*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Did you have any brothers or sisters?*

CHARLIE BOYCE:

No I didn't. I had a sister who died a long long time before I was ever born, so I never knew her.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*How long have you lived in Hebden Bridge?*

CB:

I moved to Hebden Bridge in 1997, so...fourteen years.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you have any children and how old are they?*

CB:

Two children. Isobel who's in Year 4 at your school and Evie who is in Year 8 at Calder High.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*How old are they?*

CB:

Well Issie will be a year younger than you, so she's eight, nearly nine and Evie is twelve.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite place?*

CB:

.....my favourite place of all, that's a difficult question, I mean.....I like the valley where my mum and dad lived; she's up in Cumberland, one of my favourite places, and I like Hebden Bridge.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Which school did you go to when you were younger?*

CB:

I went to a school down in Bedford which is just north of London, and that was called Bedford Modern School.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you think where you lived was good for a kid?*

CB:

Where I lived? Well where I lived when I was a child from about the age of four to seventeen, there was a village called Silsoe which is in Bedfordshire which is fifty miles north of London. It was alright but the school was about ten miles away and I used to get the public service bus back and forth from school, and it was a bit of a waste of time doing that to be honest, catching buses [laughing] so I was a bit isolated. A lot of my friends lived in the town and I lived in this village which was ten miles away.....so it was nice in the countryside but I think I would have preferred to live in the town.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What is your most prized possession?*

CB:

.....cats. Two cats. Tom and Daisy.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite holiday that you've ever been on?*

CB:

My favourite holiday is to.....some of the islands of the west coast of Scotland - Outer Hebrides - and I've been lucky enough to go there a few times when it's not rained amazingly enough and I've really enjoyed them; nice beaches and get the right time of year, they're lovely.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite country?*

CB:

The country I like living in is Britain or the UK and I've enjoyed visiting Turkey, and I've enjoyed going to places like Majorca.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Did you have a successful job?*

CB:

Well I've still got a successful job; I do a job and I'm a nurse and I work at Calderdale Royal Hospital, I've been there for about seven years. I've been a nurse for the last eighteen years and touch wood it's going okay at the moment.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Have you had any other jobs?*

CB:

Yes, I used to work in Manchester at a music venue putting on live bands in Manchester for about five or six years, before I did my nurse training.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What would be your dream job?*

CB:

Dream job.....my dream job would be to be retired and not to have a job.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite food?*

CB:

My favourite....well I've just had a very nice cheese and grape and was it walnut sandwich from the deli down the road, that was very nice.....but I like roasted vegetables made with roasted olives – very nice.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What do you do in your spare time?*

CB:

In my spare time I do quite a bit of running and I do cycling and I do bird watching and I enjoy visiting houses, big houses like National Trust sort of places with the family, and we go to art galleries. I've just been to see a film at the cinema this morning which was not bad but not brilliant.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you have a hobby, like what's your favourite hobby?*

CB:

Well probably running; I go running, this morning I went for a run up on the fells, up on the hills just above Old Town where I live now.....High Brow – High Brow Knoll.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite place for running?*

CB:

Favourite place.....I very much enjoy running round here but I like it when I occasionally get the chance to possibly go and run up in the Lake District or North Wales; Scotland even sometimes.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*If you didn't have this name and you had a chance of choosing it, what would your favourite name be?*

CB:

Favourite name? My first name?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Yeah.*

CB:

.....oh I've never thought about that, I don't think about things like that; I'm just happy with what I've got actually! I quite like my name.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What has changed in Hebden Bridge while you've lived here?*

CB:

What's changed....I think there's less local industry; a lot of the mills have been converted into houses. There's probably more people and the population I would imagine of Hebden Bridge town has probably gone up.....so there's a bit less industry than there used to be when I first came here. More of the land has been built on – all the flat bits have all been built on since I've been here; there's very few spare bits to be built on. There's probably less public services in Hebden, so there's no fire station now, there used to be an adult education centre – I don't know if you.....probably before your time. Between here and.....what's the school next door.....Central Street, there was a building which has now been turned into a couple of houses or flats but there used to be a swimming pool in there; it was only a little swimming pool. Do you remember?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*I used to go there*

CB:

Yeah you were probably one of the last, yeah, cos I think.....you went there did you? Yeah it was only a little pool wasn't it but it was always very warm; probably about half the size of this room, so a lot of like local services like that have gone or have moved to Halifax or to.....Todmorden.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you like it where you live?*

CB:

Yes, yeah. I moved here because I thought I might like it and....I do like it, although it's a bit poor in the winter; winters are a bit long and a bit dark....

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you like art and what's your favourite language?*

CB:

I do enjoy art. My wife is an artist, so I sort of get exposed to art through her.....and she's particularly into some potters at the moment whose names are eluding me, and my favourite language is.....well I'm afraid it's English cos that's the language I know; I can speak a little bit of French but not much.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your wife's name?*

CB:

It's Kate; Kate Boyce.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What is your favourite shop in Hebden Bridge?*

CB:

Probably the bike shop or the book shop.....they're my favourite shops, yeah.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Why are they your favourite shops?*

CB:

Why?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Yeah.*

CB:

Because it's.....they're both owned by local people, they're both slightly different from a run of the mill shop you might get in Bradford or Manchester; they're convenient, got a certain character about them, they've got things in I enjoy reading; I like bikes, I quite like the Co-op as well because it's handy.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What do you think's the best thing in Hebden?*

CB:

The best thing in Hebden is probably the people in Hebden; a variety of people and.....the fact that it has a lot to offer entertainment wise and socially and also its location, and the fact that we're so lucky to be in the countryside but also one of the best things about Hebden, it's only forty-five minutes to Manchester which is a great city and Leeds as well, so it's sort of got a bit of everything hasn't it?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite like special occasion like Easter or.....birthday or Christmas...*

CB:

You're asking me now. I'm not that much into special occasions, but I do enjoy my birthday when it comes round.....but I'm growing as I get older to like Christmas a bit more.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite thing that's happened to Hebden Bridge?*

CB:

.....favourite thing that's happened to Hebden Bridge, oh I think pedestrianisation of the main street was a good thing, and I think putting twenty mile an hour speed limits was a good thing.....I think sort of the....the change in population; we've had a lot of people moving in like myself. I don't think it's a good situation that a town only has a static population doesn't ever change, and I would hope that, you know, when you grow up, maybe you go and live somewhere else for a bit instead of staying in Hebden Bridge because there's more to life than Hebden Bridge as well.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What would be your favourite Christmas present?*

CB:

A new bicycle.....

ONE OF PUPILS:

*.....what do you like most about bicycle.....cycling*

CB:

A sense of freedom, the fact that you can just set off; you don't have to wait for any buses or trains and the fact it doesn't make much pollution. You can often get quicker from here to Halifax, well as quick virtually on bicycle as you can by driving; by the time you've parked the car, so it's....it's convenient, it makes you feel good when you get there, it's rubbish in the rain though!

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you like going abroad to hot places to the beach, and what would be your favourite hot place?*

CB:

My favourite hot place would be.....well we went to Majorca last year, lucky enough to go to Majorca and we went to a place called.....Stoller I think it was.....Soller is it? And there was a lovely beach there, right in the town and....but it was also surrounded by mountains as well so you have the best of mountains and beaches all together.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you like the restaurants there?*

CB:

Oh yes, we had some very nice meals there.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Okay....so you like bird watching. What would be your favourite bird.....the most interesting?*

CB:

Well once I've seen a....well I've seen it more than once, but I've seen a red kite which you might have heard of; have you ever heard of red kites?

PUPILS:

*Yeah.*

CB:

Birds of prey, and they're sort of buzzardy sort of things, about the same size as a buzzard, and they are a very reddish brown colour but they've got amazing tails, they've got sort of V shaped forked tails like a swallow has, but they're massive and I saw one up Crimsworth Dean, you know where Crimsworth Dean is, just above Hardcastle Crag? Perched up on a tree there; they were nearly extinct in the in the

UK and they were re-introduced, and they're not normally known for coming around this area but it was quite unusual to see one around here.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What would your favourite pop star be?*

CB:

Favourite pop star....well I've always been into pop music, and one of my favourite pop stars would be Bob Dylan I think.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite thing that's been passed down to you by your family?*

CB:

Well I haven't got much things that have come to me by my family, but I have a little model of Eeyore that my mum gave to me because as a teenager she said 'you're a bit like Eeyore aren't you?' – I've still got that now.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What is favourite thing about yourself?*

CB:

[laughing] The fact that I'm not much like Eeyore, no! My favourite thing about myself.....that I've got good health and I'm lucky to have a lovely family and live in a nice place, I've got some good friends, I've got a job.....that sort of thing really – basic stuff like that, yeah.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What would your favourite child programme be when you were younger?*

CB:

Oh right.....well actually I used to love *The Clangers*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*I used to love Will O' The Wisp*

CB:

*Will O' The Wisp?* I haven't heard of that. Is that.....that new sort of cartoony type of thing?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*No it's an old one.*

CB:

It's an old one....*Will O' The Wisp*; sounds familiar, but yeah I liked *The Clangers*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*She used to like Winnie the Pooh*

CB:

*Winnie the Pooh*.....don't think it is really a programme; it was a book – I did read it when I was little.....but I used to like *Blue Peter* a lot, that's always been around and we used to get *Blue Peter* annuals, well my cousins used to get *Blue Peter* annuals every year and we used to read those.....and children's programmes.....*Jackanory* I used to watch; never liked *Play School*, you know, a bit babyish [laughing]

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite artist?*

CB:

My favourite artist.....there are so many and I like a lot of artists. I'm trying to think who my favourite one.....probably my wife.....

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Do you like your wife's paintings?*

CB:

Yep, very good. They're of local.....local landscapes, a lot of them are based on

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's one of her best ones?*

CB:

Well.....some.....the best ones I think are really the local landscapes of around here, but she's done lots of good ones. Every year she changes her style slightly and it always surprises me....very good.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Does she sell her paintings?*

CB:

Yep, she sells paintings and she sells prints, and she's got a studio in Hebden Bridge and she sells them through the internet, and she has them in a few galleries round the country as well.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite colour?*

CB:

Blue, definitely.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite thing about Christmas?*

CB:

.....a couple of days of work; I don't get many, but I won't got on about that...yeah, a couple of days off work and a bit of time to spend with wife and children.....and also some nice presents for myself, but I quite like giving presents as well.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What type of dog do you like the most?*

CB:

.....probably those ones.....you get little ones, medium ones and big ones

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Jack Russells?*

CB:

Airedale....no, what were you gonna say?.....Is it an Airedale?

TW:

*They're a larger version of like a Fox Terrier.*

CB:

Yeah, I think, yes it's an Airedale, Airedale, a medium size Airedale. You can get toy ones and medium ones and big ones, and I like the medium sized one.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What type are your cats?*

CB:

They're just moggies. One of them's from Rochdale RSPCA and one's from Halifax RSPCA; a big fat ginger one and a slim skinny black tom cat called Tom.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What are your favourite animals?*

[whispering]

CB:

What did I say?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Cats....you said cats..*

CB:

Did I?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Yeah.*

CB:

I'll stick with cats then.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Why do you like cats then? What is it that.....why do you like them?*

CB:

Because they're quiet. They sort of keep themselves to themselves but you can pat them if they're nicely natured when you want; I always find them to be sort of clean animals even though some people don't, and I like them to sit on my knee, I like looking at them. The family's always had cats; everybody in my family has always had cats.....sort of just sort of something I was always brought up with and always been used to.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What are your allergies?*

CB:

*Allergies oh.....I get...how do you know I've got any allergies?.....Has everybody got allergies?*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*I haven't.*

CB:

Do you?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*No.*

CB:

No, no, no. Actually I do have an allergy and that's I get hay fever. I started getting hay fever when I was about your age and I've had it ever since, but do you know I've started thinking it's just wearing off but it's taken a long time to wear off, but every summer, May, June, July, I'm sneezing away and I have to take tablets and sprays to put up my nose and put drops in my eyes.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What would your favourite like stone or crystal, a diamond a ruby?*

CB:

I've never really got into that sort of thing at all I'm afraid.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What's your favourite type of paintings?*

CB:

I like some abstract...I like abstract and I like realistic and I like paintings that tell stories. The best thing about paintings is.....is finding out more about them. You can look at a painting but then you're just looking at the surface; it's what's behind the painting that gives it meaning and gives it depth, and lots of painting you might think at first are quite boring can turn out to be more interesting than you think when you find out a bit about them.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Who's your favourite author?*

CB:

My favourite author.....Iain McKinnen.....I don't know if you've ever heard of him.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*No.....What was your best subject.....the goodest subject you were?*

CB:

At school?

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Yeah.*

CB:

Well I used to think I was good at Geography but it turned out that I was rubbish at it and I didn't get any exams in it whatsoever.....and I found I could do Maths and I could do Physics, but when I left school I went to college and did some Maths and I found out I'd reached the limit so it was no longer my favourite subject, but I quite like Economics.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What was it about that subject that made you like it?*

CB:

I could do it; I was quite good at it at that level, and I felt at the time it taught me something about the way the world worked.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Who are your favourite people in your life?*

CB:

My family.....and my friends.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*I think that's it.*

TW:

Is that it? Well

ONE OF PUPILS:

*No no no, Chloe's got a question.*

TW:

*Oh, go on then.*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*No, no, sorry.*

TW:

*Okay. When you were talking about food earlier, you mentioned roast vegetables and things like that. I'm sort of guessing you might be a vegetarian.*

CB:

Well more or less – an occasional lapse

TW:

*And I'm just wondering if that was true, why.....why are you like that? Is it for health reasons or because you're interested in environmental issues or cruelty to animals?*

CB:

It's environmental links to the way that animals are kept and sort of modern farming techniques

[whispering]

TW:

*So modern farming techniques*

CB:

Modern farming techniques, environmental reasons and health, so all three of those.

TW:

*Okay.*

ONE OF PUPILS:

*If you had.....what is your favourite thing about all the things we've just asked?*

CB:

My favourite thing.....well you've sort of asked me an awful lot of things and I had to think about what you might ask me, and you've sort of covered it all. I sort of guessed lots of things that you might ask but I didn't think you'd ask me about my favourite stones and crystals.....there is no favourite thing; I'm sort of quite not into picking individual things out.

ONE OF PUPILS:

*Would you like to think that you're quite cheerful and happy, a cheerful happy kind of person?*

CB:

I can be sometimes, but not always. [whispering] I can be very miserable if required [laughing]

ONE OF PUPILS:

*What do you do for your job?*

CB:

I'm a nurse at Calderdale Royal and I work in the hemodialysis department there.

TW:

*Okay. There's just one other thing I want to ask. Do you think Hebden Bridge is a good environment for creative activities?*

CB:

It can be, but.....it has to be seen as part of a wider context.

TW:

*Okay, I'd like to thank the children for taking part and I thank you for letting us*

CB:

Thank you - very vigorous that was

TW:

*Yeah, so.....so thank you very much*

CB:

Okay

ONE OF PUPILS:

*You're welcome.....bye!*

**[END OF TRACK 1]**