Strand Ideas/ Adjustments for show

Culture of the week

Each week the show delves into a different culture from around the world. Exploring their encompassing language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music, and arts.

This could aim to help educate the British public on the different cultures around the world in order to help promote and build a better sense of tolerance within the older generation.

Interactivity on social media could help within this segment in an attempt to try and improve engagement with the show. For example, one week a Thai Buddhist could demonstrate the method of Dhammakaya meditation. The show could then ask for photos and videos of the audience partaking in said activity and then the presenters can go through of the social media activity the next week.

Young Activists

A way in which the show could slightly improve in order to reach a slightly younger audience could be through the use of younger representation within the debates. This can help achieve a sense of relatability for a younger audience that may have an interest in the show.

Youth Activists:

* Thandiwe Abdullah

Helped launch the next generation of Black rights activists—the Black Lives Matter Youth Vanguard. Now, Abdullah is sixteen and she’s hailed for playing a tremendous role in getting the BLM message around the world.

* Xiuhtezcatl Roske-Martinez

Youth director of Earth Guardians, a worldwide conservation organization (that he founded!) that brings together activists and artists with an environmental streak. He’s also taking his activism to court: he’s one of the 21 people who have sued the federal government and Donald Trump for failing to act on climate change.

* Sonita Alizadeh

Sonita Alizadeh has taken a slightly less traditional but no less effective route to fighting against the patriarchal policies of forced marriages in her home country of Afghanistan: rap. Alizadeh was almost married twice, once at 10 years old and again at 16, before she rebelled by releasing a rap video titled “Brides For Sale” about the experience of women being sold into marriage by their families.

* Payal Jangid

After escaping child slavery in India, Jangid became a children’s rights advocate, and is currently the leader of her village’s Child Parliament, an organization that holds meetings to discuss “various issues like lack of separate toilets for girls in schools and the need to stop child marriage.”

Rags To Riches

A motivational piece that shows a glimpse into the inspiring rise to become successful. Each week this can focus on a different case study such as athletes, entrepreneurs and celebrities.

Examples:

* Jo Malone - Jo Malone London

 Candle-making entrepreneur Jo Malone left school at just 13 to look after her mother who had just suffered a stroke. Dyslexic and uneducated, Malone worked as a florist and it was there where she discovered her passion for scent. She began creating her own homemade toiletry products to give away to clients for free, realising the business potential after a customer made an order for 100 bottles of bath oil.

 Malone’s husband quit his job to help her set up her shop in Chelsea selling luxury candles. In 2005, she sold the company in its entirety to Estee Lauder and turned her focus to a perfume range.

* Hilary Devey - PAll-Ex

The third and final woman in our list is also a well-known dragon. Hilary Devey left school at 16 to find a job to support her recently bankrupted father.

Working in logistics, Devey came up with a time and money saving business model. She had so much confidence in her idea, she sold her house to fund the venture. Devey’s company, PAll-Ex, now turns over £100 million a year.

Places of Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage, a journey undertaken for a religious motive. Although some pilgrims have wandered continuously with no fixed destination, pilgrims more commonly seek a specific place that has been sanctified by association with a divinity or other holy personage. This could be a way to teach the UK public about the different pilgrimages that are made within different religions every year. This part of the show could focus on a person partaking within one of the different pilgrimages every week.

Examples:

Vatican City

* Location: surrounded by Rome, Italy
* Religion: Catholicism
* Significance: home of the Pope and centre of the Roman Catholic Church
* Vatican City, or the Holy See, became an independent state in 1929, though it has been the home of the Pope, the leader of the Catholic Church, since 1378. St Peter’s Basilica houses the tomb of the first Pope, the apostle St Peter, who was crucified and buried there. Other attractions include the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican Gardens and the Vatican Museums.

Mecca

* Location: Makkah, Saudi Arabia
* Religion: Islam
* Significance: birthplace of the Prophet Muhammad
* Non-Muslims are not allowed inside Mecca, the holiest place in Islam, so this excursion is only for believers. Every year, millions of Muslims embark on a journey to Mecca, called the Hajj. The pilgrimage is meant to promote unity among followers of Islam. It is so central to Islam that one of the religion’s Five Pillars is for every able-bodied adult to carry out the Hajj at least once in their lifetime, providing they can afford to.
* Mecca is where Muhammad, the prophet who founded Islam, was born, and where he received the first revelation of the Qur’an. Pilgrims visit the Grand Mosque in order to praise Allah before the Kaaba, Islam’s most sacred building.

Badrinath

* Location: Uttarakhand, India
* Religion: Hinduism
* Significance: the most important site of the Char Dham, the four Hindu pilgrimage centres
* Nestled within the Himalayas, Badrinath is a sacred place of the god Vishnu. Some believe that the Vyas Caves, just outside this holy town, is where the Sanskrit epic the Mahabharata was written. The area’s main attraction is Badrinath Temple, built in the 9th Century by Garhwal kings.
* It is primarily a place to worship Vishnu, although other gods are also represented. After visiting the temple, take a spiritual cleanse in one of the area’s natural hot springs, Tapt Kund and Surya Kund.

Calling the Community

The focus of this programme will be to show the good deeds done throughout communities within the UK. This brings a sense of domestic awareness within the show by bringing focus to different communities that would not get any attention otherwise.

Examples:

The plumber challenging 'white van man' stereotypes:

* Plumber Martin Broer from Derby explains why he swapped his van for an electric cargo bike. He wants to challenge the "white van man" stereotype of tradespeople and become more environmentally friendly .

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/business-58929721>

Essex women help thousands live eco lifestyle:

* The founders of an eco-lifestyle social media group that now has thousands of members have said action on climate change needs to start at home. Hannah Dalton and Sam Pitman started Eco Essex three years ago with a small group of mums as a way of sharing environmentally friendly tips, and now run several groups with more than 4,000 members.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-essex-58914990>

Salford ice cream man makes sweet surprise deliveries:

* People living with dementia and their carers were given a sweet treat by ice cream man Peter Schiavo. Peter, from Salford, Greater Manchester, made some extra stops on his round running Vincent’s ice cream van which has been in the family for three generations. Peter's dad, also named Peter, is living with dementia, so he teamed up with Salford-based Six Degrees Social Enterprise for their Empowered Conversations project for national ice cream day.

<https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/salford-ice-cream-mans-makes-sweet-surprise-deliveries/>

Celebrities Childhood Memories: “Back in Our Day”

This will look to focus on the wholesome childhood memories of UK celebrities. This can bring focus on how the outlook of the world has changed within 2021 and how the ethics of the planet have changed over time through looking back at celebrities’ childhood stories.

Dame Judi Dench

* “I was born and brought up in York. One of my earliest memories is cycling with my father, mother and two brothers out to Castle Howard and learning to swim in the lake there. One fateful afternoon, I lost what I can only describe as my Jesus Christ sandal in the mud at the side of the lake. Strange thing is, we were never able to find it! My whole childhood consisted of picnics, swimming and collecting wild flowers, which I kept pressed in a book.” Today this is becoming less and less the case as the increase of technology within the digital age is ruining the brains and the childhoods of our children.

Kate Winslet

* Growing up people made out that being a part of the LGBT community was wrong. Today this outlook hasn’t changed as gay actors in Hollywood hide their sexuality amid a climate of “fear” that they will not be cast in straight roles, according to the Oscar winner Kate Winslet. The Titanic star knows “at least four actors” who have not come out because they believe it would kill their career. She attacked the “judgment, discrimination and homophobia,” in the film industry and said LGBT people in Hollywood needed a #MeToo-style movement.

The Sacred Sites of The World

This part of the show can focus on the sacred locations around the world according to the different religions and cultures from around the world. Again, this could aim to help educate the British public on the different cultures and religions around the world in order to help promote and build a better sense of tolerance within the older generation.

Examples:

Ghats of Varanasi, India:

* India's Ganges River, although notoriously polluted, is believed to have healing, purifying properties—a belief bolstered by tests conducted on the water. In Varanasi, one of the country's seven sacred cities, locals interact with the river via ghats—stepped platforms leading down into the water—and use them as sites for multiple ceremonies.

Western Wall, Israel

* Israel is acknowledged as the Holy Land in Judaism, Islam, and Christianity, and Jerusalem's Western Wall is its holiest site. The limestone structure has been a place of worship since the 11th century, as the closest place to Temple Mount (where it’s said God created man) from which worshippers can pray. It’s common practice for visitors to write their prayers, hopes, and wishes on slips of paper, then slide them into the cracks of the walls.

Lourdes, France

* Lourdes is a small market town in the Midi-Pyrenees region of south-western France. It gained fame amongst Catholics in 1858 when the Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared 18 times to a local 14-year-old girl, Bernadette Soubirous. Since then, Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage, with more than 200 million visitors since 1860, many of them hoping to be healed by spring water from the grotto.

Charities of the week

This will focus on the work that many charities do on a daily basis within the UK and around the world. By showing a different charity every week, this brings attention to the charity and helps promotes their cause.

Examples:

The Sheppard Trust - Housing for Elderly Ladies

* The Trust provides accommodation for elderly ladies living on small incomes and the aim is to give residents independence with security. The houses are in the Holland Park area of London and each resident has a small self-contained flat. The Trust is administered under a Charity Commission Scheme. Legacies and donations for our work would be greatly appreciated so that we may continue to offer a secure home to these elderly ladies.

 Camphill Foundation UK & Ireland

* Camphill Foundation UK & Ireland, established in 1984, is a charity supporting Camphill communities, which have been working for more than eighty years to enable those with learning disabilities, developmental disorders, mental health and other special needs to fulfil their potential. There are over 60 Camphill Communities in the UK and Ireland, including schools, colleges and training centres for children and young people, working communities for adults in need of special care, and a centre for the elderly.

 UK Islamic Mission Glasgow

* UKIM Glasgow is the branch of UKIM UK, in Glasgow. UKIM Glasgow serve the muslim community in Glasgow and other muslim charities around the world by providing them financial, moral and cultural support in every aspect of life.

 Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB): Northern Ireland

* RNIB recognises everyone’s unique experience of sight loss and offer help and support for blind and partially sighted people – this can be anything from practical and emotional support, campaigning for change, reading services and the products they offer in their online shop.