

The Curious Case of ...

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... no, not Benjamin Button, but Chris De Burgh, Live Television, Horse Racing and the 6 Nations.

So what on earth has the recent Rugby Union championships got to do with a site dedicated to music, I hear you cry? Well, read on.

It started like any other Saturday for me. I got up around 7:45 to watch The Morning Line, a preview of the day's racing on Channel 4. Now, I must admit that I'm not much of a betting man, but just love the sport and, at times, this show is incredibly funny, especially when John McCririck gets on his high horse - excuse the pun.

But this particular Saturday just happened to include the final 3 games of the 6 Nations 2009 and Ireland had a great chance of the grand slam for the first time in 61 years. Italy and France were up first and the latter won by 50 points to 8, so quite a thrashing there. Next up, a rejuvenated England beat Scotland by 14 points.

Now here's where my weekend went belly up. I'm always a bit reluctant to record a live event, but I needed to go to the supermarket for the weekend shopping and lottery, etc, so really didn't have much choice in the matter. All I needed to do was to try and not see or hear the score.

The shopping trip went without a hitch and I was back home none the wiser as to the outcome of the game. So all I needed to do now was avoid my home page on the internet, the news and teletext. Easy Peasy! Not!!

Now I'm not a regular viewer of Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, but it was on when I went into the lounge, so I sat down, trying my best to ignore it. Only the night before, my daughter and I had been watching the comedian Bill Bailey, who had discussed his hatred of Chris De Burgh during one of his routines, so it was a bit hard to believe to see the singer walk out on the set of the Ant and Dec show. My daughter and I just cracked out laughing, only for the smile to be wiped cleanly off my face when De Burgh revealed how over the moon he was at Ireland winning the 6 Nations 2009! Gee, thanks, mate!!

Kevin Petch