

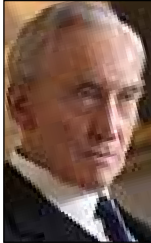
CHARLES IS 'NOT POSH'

THE Crown star Charles Dance says he only gets posh roles because of the way his looks.

He says it is not because he had a swanky family background like some people think.

The 73-year-old, who played Lord Mountbatten in *The Crown*, said: "It's just the way my face is put together. There's nothing posh about me."

Dance was taught by two retired actors. He said: "I worked as a labourer and I would go and see them one or two evenings."



LOOKS: Dance

RADIO'S A LOCKDOWN DIVERSION

Dis-track-tion Jockeys rule!

ALDI

THE MIKE WARD INTERVIEW Mark Radcliffe & Stuart Maconie DISC JOCKEYS

IT hasn't exactly been business as usual for 6 Music's Mark Radcliffe and Stuart Maconie. But it's been close.

Throughout lockdown, they've still been playing great music.

They have still been writing excellent books. And they've still been in the studio for their weekend show together, just sat a bit further apart.

"It's kind of funny that we're classed as key workers," Mark says. "Obviously we're not like people on the NHS frontline."

"But we do take the role of entertaining people, distracting them from what's going on, seriously. In some ways we feel we're key workers in that sense."

Parks

"I'm not suggesting we're more important than nurses. Clearly not."

"I'm just saying that as part of the patchwork of things available to people in these times, distraction and entertainment are important."

The weirdness of these times is also very much on Stuart's mind as he works on the revised edition of his latest book, *The Nanny State Made Me*.

Published in March, it's a passionate argument in favour of the state playing a central role in our lives. It's a hymn not just to the NHS but to everything from public parks ("they're so important for people's wellbeing...") to council estates ("we've had this false notion forced on us that they're grim places full of ignorant serfs").

Obviously it's an argument that's since taken on a significance even Stuart hadn't anticipated.

So the book's revision, post-covid, will mean writing quite a chunk of new material. Still, Stuart doesn't mind. He loves writing. Always has.

"Absolutely," he says. "There will come a point when people won't want me on the radio, but I'll be bashing out words for someone until I'm physically incapable."

For Mark, on the other hand, writing "still feels a bit like doing my homework. I like writing music, but I could happily live without writing books. I don't know why I do it, really!"

He does it, I remind him, because people enjoy them. His most recent, *Crossroads*,



KEY JOB: Mark takes role seriously

looks at moments that changed music history. For example, heavy metal was invented by accident, Mark reminds us, when Black Sabbath's Tony Iommi sliced off the tops of his fingers on a guillotine press, forcing him to detune his guitar. "It gave it that lower, growling sound."

Talking of music, this weekend is the 50th anniversary of Glastonbury, though there's no festival this year.

Bales

Mark's disappointed, being a regular there. But he is still part of the BBC's Glastonbury Experience, replaying memorable moments.

As for Stuart, he's not that big a festival fan. "They're not my idea of fun. Wellies and hay bales and all that."

Despite their differences, Mark and Stuart have one vital thing in common - a healthy attitude to fame.

"I remember what Terry Wogan said," says Mark. "Thirteen million people love me. Probably the same number hate me. And 80% of the population couldn't give a toss."

The Glastonbury Experience is across BBC TV and radio, iPlayer and BBC Sounds until Monday.

Radcliffe and Maconie are on BBC 6 Music every Saturday and Sunday from 8am to 11am.



WRITE ON: Stuart has a new book