

So we set about founding a programme whose title was to last for some decades at BBC Wales. Bevan wanted new blood, and although Brian Hoey and James Tucker were still in the market as freelancers he decided to hold auditions. As a result we hired some untested folk for a first run. The presenter was to be Huw Charles Jones, son of the then Carmarthen County Council's archivist Francis Jones. Clive Gammon, an expert on fishing, would do interviews and look light-heartedly at the week. There was also the ultra-confident Brian J. Ford, who was quite proud of failing to finish a science course at University College, Cardiff, ran his own research laboratory in Penylan, could play the piano and was a great mimic and showman.



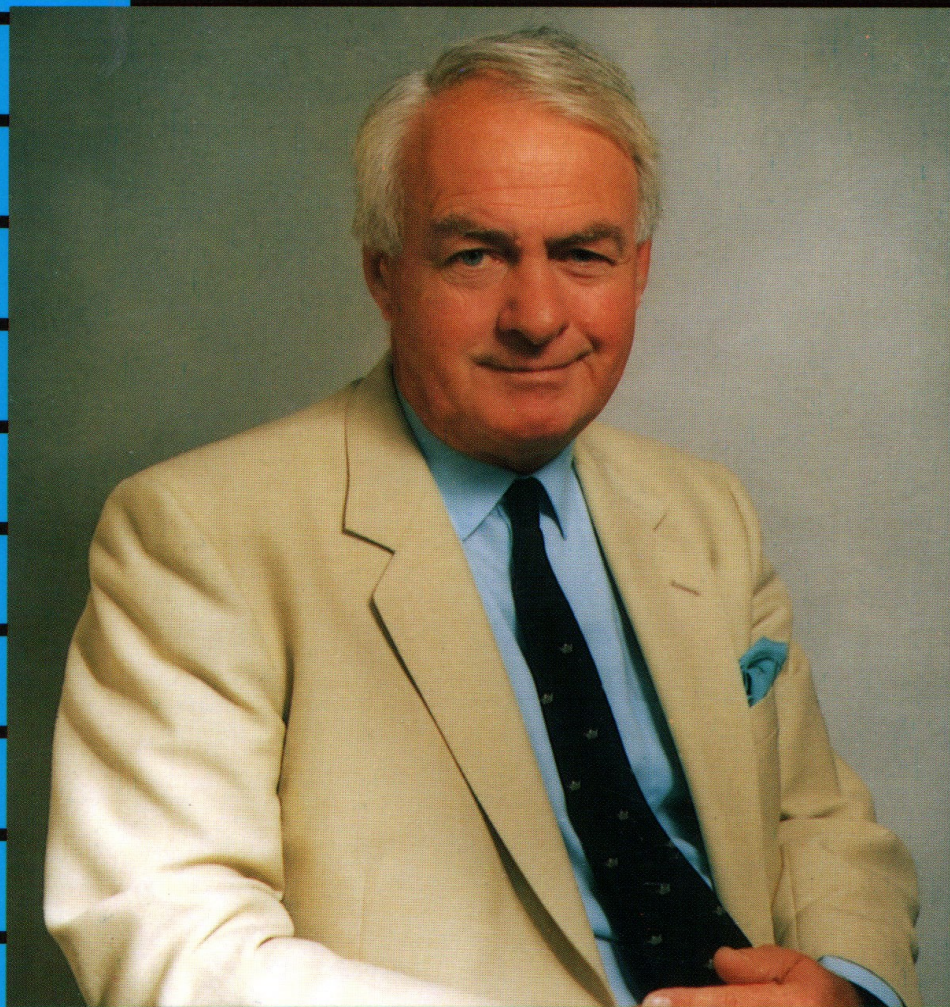
An early *Week In Week Out* planning meeting. Producer David Bevan and I listen as the ebullient Brian J. Ford develops an idea. Evidently check jackets and tipped cigarettes were 'in'.

Hywel Davies had said to us, 'I want something mischievous—don't worry about the consequences—I'll keep the critics off your backs.'

So we took him at his word and produced a weekly mixture of 'hard' and 'soft' items. In the wake of *That Was the Week That Was* and the launch of *Private Eye*, satire was enjoying a boom, and *Week In Week Out* tore into a few Welsh targets bringing not a little inventiveness to the process. Inevitably we enraged a few people. Once Brian Ford dressed up in flowing white robes and donned a beard to impersonate St David giving his view of the week in Wales, twanging a harp tunelessly as he spoke. Hywel Davies told us sternly that this was 'in the worst of taste' but there was a twinkle in his eye.

Action

REPLAY



A MEDIA
MEMOIR

DAVID PARRY-JONES