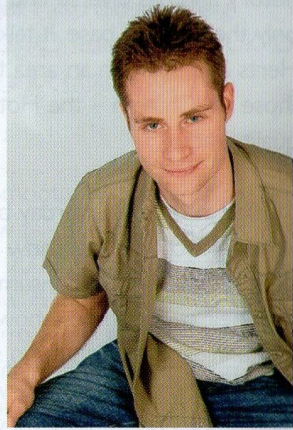


This week's guest has a black belt in Bujinkan Ninpo Taijutsu and please don't ask me to say (write) that again, he is the mystery voice of a community radio station while being a star on Touch FM, he would like to be a programme controller one day and once got fashion advice from Will Smith (the 'A' list star, not the tailor on King Lane around the corner from the chip shop at the top of my street). This week's guest can say that he has presented in every time slot there is to present (a bit like Dr Who but without the Tardis) in his time on local and now Touch Radio, please welcome Mr **Chris Kaye**.



**Thanks for taking time out to have a chat, I have been doing my homework and found out that you used to record DJs talking inbetween the songs during the chart show and not the music, is this true and why?**

Like many other DJs and presenters I started out in my bedroom. I would listen to Kid Jensen (we had him in the column a couple of weeks back, check it out at my website, oops sorry Chris for putting that in) on the Network Chart and record all of his links onto cassette (and I still have the cassettes). For any normal person it would be the other way; you press pause when the DJ starts talking, but not me. Although, I have to say you develop a good knack of knowing when a song ends, otherwise you clip the start of the

link and you don't want that. It was a great way to learn how radio should be done. I would listen back to the links and see what the DJ was talking about, how it was being said, and how the show fitted together. I would then host my own shows in my own bedroom studio.

**Some people may say that's a bit of a geeky thing to do. So what were you like at school and could you have done something else if you didn't get into radio?**

I did the annual disco at my primary school when I was eleven. My mum bought me a mixer, some turntables, a couple of speakers and a rope light and I played the music for my friends. It was nerve wracking to start, but felt great by the end of the evening. When I was thirteen I started doing hospital radio in

Wakefield (which went onto become Ridings FM). My passion has always been radio, so everything I've done has been geared towards that. Even the subjects I chose for my A-levels I selected to benefit a radio career. So when I was growing up I was very single minded about what I wanted to do.

**Women probably say that's because men cant multi-task, which I think is a lot of rubbish as I can watch TV, drink and ignore the wife all at the same time. When you where growing up who were the presenters you listened to and why?**

I used to love listening to Steve Wright in the Afternoon on Radio 1. It's was fun, topical, it had sketches and was full of content. Paul Conroy on Radio Aire was hilarious. He was off the wall and you never knew what he was going to do next. I enjoyed Dave Lee on Minster FM because of the interaction with the audience. He would always get loads of callers on picking out songs, and not just playlist stuff. Warren Moore, Richard James, Chris Rogers & Mark Goodier were a great listen too. Nowadays I love listening to American radio. Especially Scotty Davies, Billy the Kid, Stick, Paul "Cubby" Bryant, George McFly and Dave Ryan. In the UK: Simon Hirst, Big John, Dave Kelly, and Nick

Jackson.

**Sounds like a line up for a rumble at the W.W.E, will try and get one of them in the magazine some time. Let's get down to when you got advice from Will Smith, how did that come about?**

Will Smith was fantastic, such a pro. He'd been sat in Wise Buddah for two days doing radio interviews and by the time I spoke to him he must have been so bored of the same questions, but he was still upbeat and enthusiastic. We spoke about his music and about the movie Hitch. He also gave me some fashion advice and jokingly told me not to wear the pink t-shirt I had on again.

**Sitting in Wise Buddah, that sounds very painful! Any way you're on Touch FM, what are your shows all about then?**

It depends what shift I'm doing. At breakfast time there is a lot of content with news, travel, showbiz, phoners and topical stuff. During the day it is more music driven with a heavy emphasis on local. The advantage Touch and the rest of Quidem stations have over their competitors is their localness. So there is a focus on what is happening in the area, where is the cheapest place to fill up the car, charity events and that sort of thing.

**Sounds a great place to work! What would you say are the best parts about working at Touch FM?**

Steve Hyden does a great job of programming Touch. The music is where it should be, they have an on-air line up who work really hard, and they get out into the TSA. The problem at smaller stations is fewer resources, and the team do excellent work despite that. Touch does punch above its weight and that is certainly reflected with their recent industry award successes.

**I can tell that you have ambition and drive, where would you like this to take you in the future?**

I'd love to programme a radio station in the future. I've done every single on-air shift there is from breakfast through to overnights and even specialist shows. I've selected and scheduled music in the past. So at some point I'd like to put those skills and all that knowledge I've gained to use by coaching talent, shaping the on-air sound and getting the music spot on.

**Let me know when you do and I'll definitely come and work for you! You must have some great advice for new presenters, what would you say?**

Just get your foot in the door. If you have to make tea, do work

experience, or work on the street team first that is what you have to do. If you really have the passion and desire to be on-air just being around the radio station will lead to other opportunities. Get as much experience as you can. Present shows on internet, hospital or community stations and keep all of our best links. Then you can create that exceptional demo that really makes you stand out. Perseverance is so essential. If it is really what you want to do – keep at it! You may get knocked back at first, but don't give up after some little set back.

Great advice, I've been knocked back more times than a fat bloke

with red hair at an Ann Summers model training party! What are the 5 things people don't know about you?

I am the voice of community radio station Penistone FM, The first record I ever played on FM was Melba Moore – This Is It. I am a Level Two Gym Instructor I hold a black belt in Bujinkan Ninpo Taijutsu, I produce a martial arts podcast called The Denshow.

**Chris, you're a talent and hopefully a programme controller of the future we'll all have to look out for you and we all wish you the best for the future. To help people out there get a hold of you, why not let us know**

where we can find you with my great shameless plug?

The Denshow podcast is available to download from iTunes or at [www.thedenshow.com](http://www.thedenshow.com)

*Thanks Chris you're a star. Now I'm looking for help with my ultimate interview, if you have any contact with Tony Blackburn I would love to know if you're reading this Tony, please be a guest on the Hot seat! I have been chasing him since I started travelling my hot seat round the world of radio and it would be a milestone to get the BURN in the hot seat some day, get in touch if you can help, till next week this is Jordy fading out.*