



DAVID COLLINGS/GETTY

# Patten: I'll keep five other jobs

**L**ORD PATTEN is used to keeping plenty of balls in the air. But new questions are being asked about his bid for the chairmanship of the BBC Trust after he admitted he would combine the role with five corporate jobs paying hundreds of thousands of pounds a year.

Patten, 66, who, despite concern from fellow trustees about his pro-Britain views, is the Government's preferred candidate for the £110,000-a-year post — says he is intending to carry on with all but one of his six private-sector jobs if he joins the BBC.

They are none of them particularly high profile, he says. One has two meetings a year, one has three, one has four, one has four meetings a year. But I thought I should give you an or two of them. I would be well out of most of his 32 unpaid positions, some of which see with charities. The things which really see time-consuming are the pro homo things. I've been doing like the International Orthodox Group and The Healing Foundation," he says. "I set out in my application what I was going to give up."

**HE IS** one of the most successful racehorse trainers of all time. So when Lord Patten's grandmothers and great-grandmother by taking a greater interest in the sport of kings (and queens), people tend to listen.

At the launch of his autobiography *Looney Bunch* at *Thomas Pook's Jermyn Street Boutique*, Nicholas tells me: *The Queen and the late Queen Mother were terrific supporters of racing both on the flat and over the hedges. They were great ambassadors for the sport. I really feel the younger generation*

with Kris, her husband of 11 years — Jake, seven, and Matilda, four. Says a friend: "Kris and Claudia were ecstatic when they discovered there would be a new addition to the family. I think it was always part of Claudia's plan to have a large brood."

The arrival of Claudia's baby will be cause for a double family celebration, as her half-brother, Oliver Lloyd, plans to marry this summer.

**PS** *THOUGH* almost completely blind and deaf, veteran comic Kristie Sukess has put his semi-reclusive lifestyle on hold to publicise a DVD of his TV shows with *Hattie Jacques* and *Tommy Cooper*. Sukess, 87, has been writing a novel about the Boer War, titled *The Curse Of*



PICTURE: ALAN EDWARDS

## Winkelman expecting baby no.3

WHEN she was photographed looking gaunt and without her wedding ring, talk spread of marital trouble between TV presenter Claudia Winkelman and her film producer husband Kris Thybier. But with their storied patch now behind them, I learn that the couple are expecting a third child.

Film 2011 host Claudia (pictured), 39, is four months pregnant. She already has two children

*The Vanderbilts*. He says: "People in London, but easy to see what I've written. Thankfully, my secretary can decipher it and help up the manuscript."

The other day, I gave her four football pages to type up. She was very embarrassed. The pages were blank... my pen had run out of ink!

# Richard Patten



PICTURE: STEPHANE SPANIER

Royal duty: Dickie Arbiter and his daughter Victoria

being an adviser to energy firms BP and EDF, telecoms giant Hutchison and private equity group Bridgepoint. He will also continue as non-executive director of headhunters Russell Reynolds.

He plans to quit a sixth post, as adviser to investment company BMB Group, later this year.

Labour culture spokesman Ivan Lewis says Patten must be scrutinised over whether he will have time to carry out his duties.

Any prospective Trust chairman must demonstrate that he can give leadership, time to provide the strong support of the BBC executives as it faces the challenges of the future, says Lewis. It is also essential there is no conflict of interests.

Patten promises to say how much he has earned from his 3878 between £25,000 and £50,000 a year.

It is not as interested. It would be good for the sport if William and Harry and some of the other younger royals were more enthusiastic about racing. It would help raise the profile and encourage others to take an interest.

Pati, 48 — who has had nearly 2,000 winners since switching from riding to training, and who will saddle more than 30 horses for next month's Cheltenham Festival — adds: "I know William and Kate Middleton have been to Cheltenham and Zara Phillips is a regular, but it would be good to see more royals at more race meetings."

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## Arbiters of the Royal Wedding

AS A child, she tuned in when her father, Dickie Arbiter, reported on the big royal events. Later when he went to work at Buckingham Palace as press secretary to the Queen, Victoria would get a glimpse of the royal landmarks, such as Prince William's first public speech.

Now, father and daughter are rivals across the airwaves as they report on William and Kate Middleton's wedding. While Dickie, 70, who returned to broadcasting after retiring from the Palace ten years ago, has been signed up as a commentator for Sky News, his 39-year-old daughter has been sent to London by U.S. network CBS.

Victoria — who lives in New York with her novelist husband, Ryan Brown, and their son, Dylan, seven — says the rivalry won't be too competitive, because she's moved back in with her father and she covers the hospital.

Since they sack their own royal family, Arbiter and daughter have been fascinated with the British monarchy. Zimbabwe-born Victoria told her father is great, excellent, superb, and during the wedding, not least because Prince William remains many an aristocrat of his mother, Princess Diana, whom they love and adore. They want William to have the happiness they didn't find in her marriage.

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