



Jimmy Tarbuck

The son of a bookmaker, Jimmy was born in Liverpool. He left school at 15 & started work as a garage mechanic but was sacked from this & many subsequent jobs for '*fooling around*'. At 18 he joined a touring rock 'n' roll show which set him firmly on the showbusiness ladder of success, after which he became a Redcoat for Butlins holiday camp. It was at this time that he was spotted by the late Val Parnell & made his TV debut on **Comedy Bandbox** & went on to make several guest appearances on **Sunday Night at the London Palladium** for Val until he became the resident compere in September 1965.

He was soon headlining top variety shows throughout the country as well as making his London cabaret debut at **The Talk of the Town**. Apart from **Sunday Night at the London Palladium**, his other hit series were **The Jimmy Tarbuck Show**, **It's Tarbuck & Tarbuck's Luck**.

At Christmas he could be found starring in pantomime & performing during the summer at leading English resorts. He also found time to visit Australia & Hong Kong to appear in cabaret & in 1975 had his own television game show, **Winner Takes All**. This ran until 1986 & was quickly followed by **Tarby's Frame Game**.

In the late 1970s Jimmy appeared as a guest several times on **The Parkinson Show** & these appearances were to cause a resurgence in his popularity as one of England's leading television comedians. However, as a keen golfer, his golf was not neglected & was honoured to play in **The Bob Hope Classic** in America.

The 1980s found Jimmy signing a five year contract with London Weekend Television to present **Live From Her Majesty's** followed by **Live From the Piccadilly** & culminating with **Live From the London Palladium**. During this period he also had two very successful television series; **Tarby & Friends** & **Tarby After Ten**.

Jimmy was honoured by an hour long special of **This is Your Life** & went on to find time to write two books; **Tarbuck on Golf** which went to the top of the best-sellers followed by **Tarbuck on Showbiz** which was equally as successful. He has received the top Variety Club of Great Britain Award for *Showbusiness Personality Of the Year* & has been made an *Officer of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem* for his charity work.

Jimmy's love of golf has never wavered, holding **The Jimmy Tarbuck Golf Classic** annually in either Spain or Portugal. He regularly plays in charity golf matches throughout the country & is a life long supporter of Liverpool F.C.

His TV special for London Weekend Television, **An Audience With Jimmy Tarbuck** was aired in October 1994 & received top ratings & critical acclaim.

As a direct result of **An Audience With...**, LWT gave Jimmy a late night talk show, **Tarbuck Late**. This was in addition to Jimmy appearing on programmes such as **Fantasy Football, Room 101, Schofield's Quest & The Des O'Connor Show**. He also found time to make a comedy golf video, **Jimmy Tarbuck's Nightmare Holes of Golf**.

Jimmy presented a series for BBC1 called **Full Swing** whilst also appearing on numerous quiz shows including **Talking Telephone Numbers & The Greatest Sport in Question**. Jimmy was given the prestigious task of presenting the *Lifetime Achievement Award* to Cilla Black at the British Comedy Awards.

Jimmy appeared alongside Julie Walters & Robert Lindsay in a television film for BBC2, **Brazen Hussies**. He's also acted as host on the BBC's **National Lottery Live!** & released a further golf video, **Nightmare Holes of Golf II**.

Jimmy hosted an LWT special, **Happy Birthday Shirley** as a tribute for Dame Shirley Bassey's 60th Birthday. He also released a single with Kenny Lynch & Bruce Forsyth called *Winter Wonderland* under the name *The Three Fivers* which gained notoriety in the news after it was reported that The Three Tenors were contemplating legal action! The year ended with Jimmy being honoured by the Guild of Professional Toastmasters with *The Ivor Spencer Best After Dinner Speaker Award*.

Jimmy continued with his numerous corporate engagements & also appeared as a guest on **TFI Friday, The Clive James Show** & hosted *The Police Bravery Awards* for The Sun newspaper. His further TV appearances included **The Mrs Merton Show, Call My Bluff & The Dale Winton Christmas Special**. Jimmy also presented a six-part series for BBC Radio 4, **Funny Bones**. In November 1999, Jimmy filmed his cameo role in the film, **Strictly Sinatra**. His appearances continued as a guest on **Parkinson** & also presenting a new television special, **Life's A Pitch**.

Jimmy hosted the *New Comedy Awards* for the BBC which took place in Edinburgh. He continued with his many corporate functions & charity commitments including his appointment as *President of Diabetes UK*, a role he took over from his much loved & much missed friend, Sir Harry Secombe. He was also asked to be a guest host on **The Terry & Gaby Show** & was such a success returned again in September.

Jimmy continues to tour the country's theatres with his one-man show & is regarded as one of England's leading after dinner speakers & hosts.

**For more information on Jimmy Tarbuck,
Contact: 0113-239-2222**