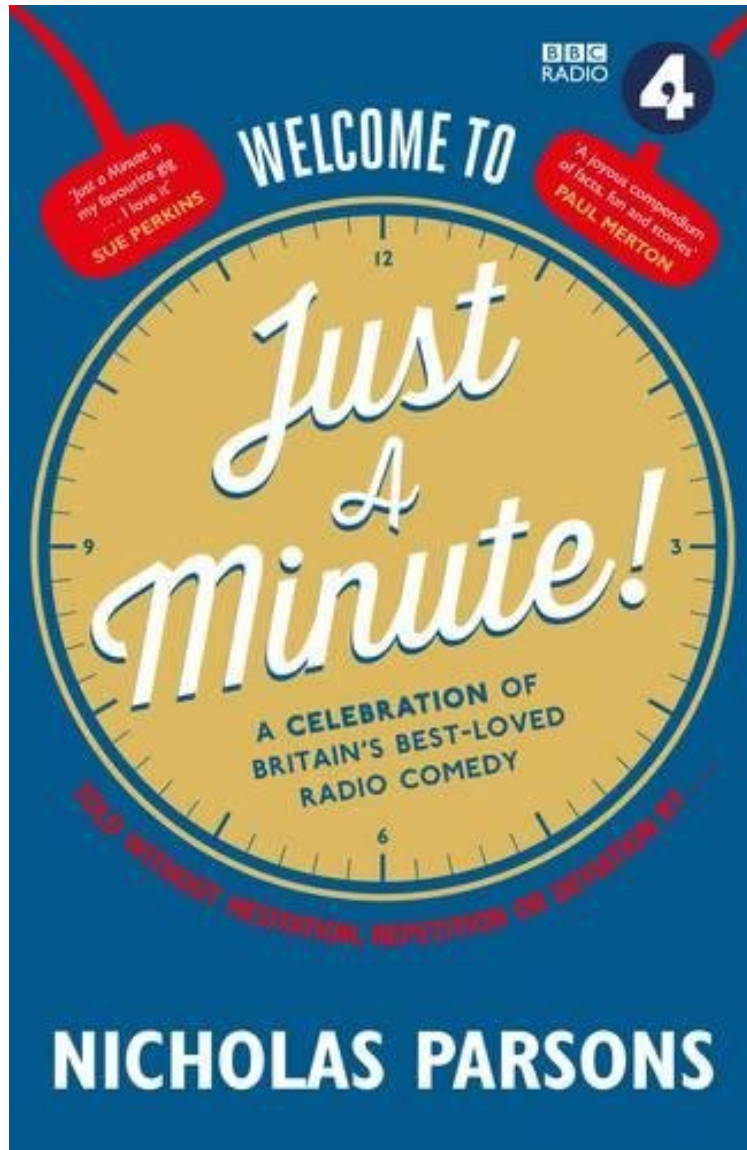


(Download) Welcome to Just a Minute: The Official Companion to Britains Best-Loved Radio Comedy

## Welcome to Just a Minute: The Official Companion to Britains Best-Loved Radio Comedy

*Nicholas Parsons*

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**Nicholas Parsons : Welcome to Just a Minute: The Official Companion to Britains Best-Loved Radio Comedy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Welcome to Just a Minute: The Official Companion to Britains Best-Loved Radio Comedy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Just the Ticket for Ardent Just a Minute FansBy Portfolio

Manager1A fun retrospective by Chairman Extraordinaire, Nicholas Parsons... I'm a New Yorker who first enjoyed JAM broadcasts when they aired on the BBC World Service over twenty years ago. In recent years, I've rediscovered the show thanks to Internet availability of the BBC Radio 4 feed, and quickly turned my wife and young daughters into fans as well. When I learned that Nicholas had penned this book, I purchased the electronic-version promptly, and have enjoyed reading it immensely. If you're not a JAM fan, this book will probably not hold much interest; however, if you're among the broadcasts' "many listeners from around the world," I'm quite sure you will find Parsons' nostalgic effort most satisfying. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. JAM fans will find a lot to like! By Joshua O'Connell A loving reflection and tribute by the man who's been there for every episode. Great anecdotes, quotes from the show and essays from some of the longer-running panelists. For fans of the show, a great read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. For Lovers of "Just a Minute" and the British Sense of Humor By George McAdams As someone who had to endure waking-up at all hours in the past to listen to "Just a Minute" over the shortwave, WELCOME TO JUST A MINUTE! A CELEBRATION OF BRITAIN'S BEST-LOVED RADIO COMEDY is a utterly delightful book that provides fans with a complete and thorough history of the program. Unfortunately, in 2005 or so, the BBC decided to stop broadcasting the show over shortwave, and one was forced to listen to it, when available, by a computer. While this was disappointing, as you didn't get the feeling of listening to it as it was being broadcast, If you have ever listened to the broadcast, or are just a fan of British humor, you will enjoy reading about the show, as it gives a rich history of how the BBC has evolved over the years. Nicholas Parsons begins by telling the development of the concept of the show by Ian Messiter from a previous show Mr. Messiter developed titled "One Minute Please!" No part in the development of the show is spared as we are given whole sections of the BBC's style-type guide, called "The Little Green Book," in-house reviews of those first programs, and the thoughts behind the "tweaking" of the program as it is changed to its current format. The reader learns why changes were made, and the book truly gives one insight into the creative process at the BBC, which for me was fascinating. Included in the book are whole sections discussing the panelist's thoughts on the program and throughout are pages in which most of the panelists who have appeared on the show are discussed, with many of their appearances on the program detailed in word-for-word exchanges. Years ago, I found somewhere on the Internet a site devoted to episodes of "Just a Minute" listed as mp3 files. Playing those individual audio program files as I read the exchanges in the book added another dimension to my reading. Another way I have found to listen to the show is through a phone app called TuneIn Radio. One just searches for "Just a Minute," and it plays non-stop. The book progresses on a linear time-line through the 47 years, with each decade in which the program has been broadcast being a separate section. Each decade includes a remembrance written by one of the panelists, and I found each of these fascinating. In the preface Mr. Parsons writes, "These are the people, who throughout 47 years and counting, have propelled "Just a Minute" forward with panache and style," it is clearly evident that it is his panache and style that has made "Just a Minute" the comedic institution it is. (Just a minor disclosure. In the UK version of this book, on page 428, there is a "George McAdams" referenced. That is me. I still am upset that one must have a computer or telephone to listen to "Just a Minute," and it is no longer on shortwave, even though shortwave broadcasts to the States have been curtailed, also, but life goes on.)

The much-loved Radio 4 quiz show Just a Minute has been delighting listeners for over 46 years. According to BBC figures, 2.51 million listeners tune in every week 015115.6% of the radio audience. The show's chairman, Nicholas Parsons, has featured in every single episode since it was first broadcast in December 1967. In this first and only official Just a Minute book, endorsed by the BBC, Nicholas will guide us through the highs and lows of Britain's longest-running radio comedy, reliving the funniest moments, re-introducing us to the exceptional panellists, old and new, genial and combative, and marvelling at the linguistic contortions that have held a captive audience for so long.

\* A joyous compendium of facts, fun and stories. This hilarious and informative guide is destined to become the companion to radio's most enduring panel game -- PAUL MERTON \* Just a Minute is my favourite gig ... It is as global as it is timeless. It is forever refreshed and unpredictable. I love it -- SUE PERKINS About the Author Nicholas Parsons is one of Britain's best-loved entertainers. As well as presenting Just A Minute, he has presented his comedy chat show at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the past 13 years.