

The Real and Only INSIDE STORY of Last of the Summer Wine!

Roy Clarke's *Last of the Summer Wine* was the longest running TV comedy series in the world, largely due to the passion, dedication and creativity of its producer/director – ALAN J W BELL. In this book, Alan takes us on the set and into the studio to get up close and personal with the series and its actors. You will laugh out loud, cry in places and also guffaw as your jaw drops at reading these astonishing anecdotes, all told as only Alan can – from the inside!

Despite being one of the most-watched BBC shows with huge international sales, the programme was unceremoniously dropped by sending Alan an email! A torrent of public protest ensued, only to fall on deaf BBC ears. *Last of the Summer Wine – From the Director's Chair* provides a powerful critique of BBC management style from the man who was the very last in the long line of traditional comedy producer/directors who made programmes with little or no executive interference.

What was so special about a TV series that was the favourite of the Queen; a TV series that was shown for over 36 years in more than 25 countries? Alan J W Bell remembers the series with the passion and emotion he brought to each episode. The series is finished, but in this memoir we can still relive that little bit of Yorkshire held so dear to the viewing public.

Alan produced and directed Last of the Summer Wine for 29 years, and his account of that time is a MUST READ for all Summer Wine Lovers. Alan's knowledgeable direction and ability to discover so many beautiful locations in Yorkshire created a great atmosphere in which to work.

June Whitfield

It was a privilege to work with such a wise and creative director as Alan Bell. His work was a joy to watch – great fun for all ages. Thank you Alan. I would say you were "The Best of the Summer Wine".

Russ Abbot

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Last of the Summer Wine From the Director's Chair Alan J W Bell

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From the Director's Chair



by Producer and Director
Alan J W Bell