



SENT OFF Sue Barker
Sue's 'sad' at her Question of Sport axe

BY PATRICK HILL

SUE Barker says she is "sad to say goodbye" to quiz show A Question of Sport after being axed as host.

The former tennis player, who films her last episode this month, said she understands "the BBC want to take the show in a new direction".

But added: "I've absolutely loved my 23 years fronting A Question of Sport, it's my dream job."

Fans accused bosses of ageism for replacing Sue, 64, in the planned revamp.

Team captains Matt Dawson, 47, and cricket's Phil Tufnell, 54, are also getting the boot.

Ex-rugby union scrum-half Dawson told well-wishers: "Thanks. I'm not sure how to respond."

The show began in 1970, hosted by David Vine, and Barker replaced David Coleman in 1997.



BOOK LOVER The Duchess
E-library in a royal launch from Camilla

BY AMY-CLARE MARTIN

THE Duchess of Cornwall spoke of her love of books at the launch of a virtual school library aimed at disadvantaged children.

The National Literacy Trust launched its Virtual School Library after research revealed one in four children had no access to books during the lockdown period.

It provides all primary school children with a free weekly ebook or audio-book, an exclusive video and activities from a children's author or illustrator.

In a video recorded at Ivydale Primary School in South East London, Camilla said: "I love libraries. They are absolute treasure troves of knowledge, wisdom and hope."

"What a fantastic idea it is: a library that allows us to read books online."

My girl has lived with eczema since an infant but help is out there

Mum says support group has been a lifeline for Miya, 12

BY ORLAITH CLINTON

THE family of a girl with chronic eczema has hailed an outreach group for helping their daughter feel comfortable in her skin.

Miya Galloway, from Ballynahinch, Co Down, was diagnosed as an infant and has severe chronic eczema, covering most of her body and particularly affecting her hands.

Now 12, Miya has been under the care of the dermatology team at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children from just four months old.

She has to moisturise with heavy emollients throughout the day and at times wear special cotton gloves.

Mum Lindsey said: "When Miya was four weeks old she developed a rash on her face and we started off with usual treatments.

"At four months old we got a diagnosis - chronic eczema - and thought we just get the right medication and it will stop but it's been far from the case.

"Her skin has affected every aspect of Miya's life. She didn't sleep through the night until she was 10 as she would wake with hot, flared skin.

"She will scratch herself raw in her sleep, so her dad and I loosened the fittings in her bed so it would make a noise when she started to attack her skin and we could wake and stop her.

"By the time she was in primary school she started to notice she was different and other children wouldn't want to hold her hand.

UNDERSTANDING

"A teacher who didn't know about her condition told her to remove her 'silly gloves'. The skin was infected and removing them caused the skin to rip off."

But a trip to Disneyland Paris helped Miya become proud of her eczema gloves. Lindsey said: "She said 'they wear gloves like me' and she told all her friends she was like a Disney princess with her gloves.

"The team said we had exhausted all other options but there had been good results with dupilumab.

They wrote to the governing body and it was agreed that Miya could be the case study in Northern Ireland and was the first child to be put on it."

Miya has seen positive results and today although she still needs to moisturise throughout the day, she now uses steroid creams much less frequently.

The family found out about Eczema Outreach Support through when Lindsey told the doctors how isolated she felt.

She said: "It has been a life line, having eczema to the severity that Miya has it isn't common and I felt like I was going through it alone. But there are lots of other families going through it, and it's been a great support."

Today is World Atopic Eczema Day - a campaign to boost understanding of the condition and improve treatment.

Eczema Outreach Support is a registered charity for families with children under the age of 18 who are struggling to cope.

It is celebrating a £500,000 Lottery grant allowing it to roll out activities across the UK. The cash will also fund new partnership work to improve the lives of sufferers through better health-care and school support.

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BRIGHT FUTURE
Miya Galloway meets others kids with eczema



FAIRYTALE Miya at Disneyland Paris

“She didn't sleep all night until she was aged 10**”**
LINDSEY GALLOWAY
CO DOWN

LITTLE FIGHTER
Miya born with chronic eczema

