

DJ Nights

'Hi, late night Listeners, Jinty T on Radio Jingles Glasgow. As we approach the midnight hour it's time for this week's Fifteen Minutes of Fame slot. Cris Cockroach is here with us on line two, calling in from New York. So, feel free to ask questions on the phone-in number line.'

'So, Cris, tell our Avids about your recent success in Poland? How did it all come about, we need to know!'

'Hi Peoples, I'm thirty-three now and I've been DJ-ing since I was six. It started at a Brownies Christmas Disco and went on from there. Mostly I was DJ-ing around Glasgow with a few ventures up north and down south, nothing to write home about, not really. Just keeping the Big Bad Money Wolf at Bay, you know? But yes, the Polish thing was amazing.

'Of course we had a huge influx of Poles here in Glasgow about twenty years ago but most of them have gone back home. Well, there's an amazing guy who was here for a while and he remembered me. He's called Marek "Maro" Wysocki. Maro organises weekend-long discos around Warsaw, usually outdoors, a bit like T in the Park but with DJs like me from all over Europe and the States.

'Because Maro knows me and my reputation for endurance, he asked me to headline at the link. I was on stage for 54 hours straight. Maro's website Grapevine were streaming us to clubs all over Poland and they put up an amazing YouTube which went viral. I mean world-wide, right? My big break at last. Now I'm booked solid for the next year, more or less. I've enough in the bank to think about a new flat for Mum and maybe get her a better car. Fame is the Name of The Game, right?'

'Okay Cris, here's Danila coming in on line three.'

'Cristina, you won't remember me but I used to be in that same Brownie pack.'

'Hi Danila, of course I remember you. Amazing bright green eyes and ginger-red hair.'

'Cristina, why are you called Cris Cockroach?

'I mentioned *endurance*. Well, when I was about ten, I was in a car accident. It took me months to get back to normal. While I was laid up with endless days and nights to fill, my Uncle Bobby gave me an aquarium already set up with a pair of Madagascar Cockroaches, a male and a female. He had named them Basie and Ella after Count Basie and Ella Fitz. Madagascars are harmless to humans and easy to handle. They live in wood chips and leaf mould and are cheap to feed and easy to care for. I had a wee business going for a while, selling their babies, set up in aquariums which were 'leakers', no longer any use for keeping

DJ Nights

fish. All cockroaches are such clever and very persistent creatures. Worldwide there are around 4,600 species but only about ten or so in the UK. But stick with Madagascars, right? They make fascinating pets. So, Danila, go check them out on *YouTube*.'

'So Peoples, that's why I'm Cris Cockroach because I'm all about persistence and endurance, right?'

'Thanks Cris, now we have Hank joining us on line four with a question.'

'Cris, I'm a nurse and I've heard there are lots of cockroaches in hospitals. But we never see them. Why is this?'

'Yes, you almost never see them because cockroaches are 99% nocturnal. If it's very quiet they may come out even if the lights are on but they scuttle away quickly at the slightest sound or movement. They are totally brilliant at hiding.'

'How many kinds are therein hospitals?'

'In hospitals there are three kinds. The smallest is the German Cockroach, a light brown colour about the length of a fingernail. The Oriental Cockroach is blackish and glossier, slightly bigger, about the size of a mini pen drive. The biggest you might see is an American Cockroach which is a lovely orangey brown colour and can be as big as a full sized pen drive.'

'Cristina, how big is a Madagascar Cockroach?'

'Good question Danila. They're quite a bit bigger, from about two to three inches. I had one which grew to nearly four inches.'

'Hank here again. Do any cockroaches in the UK carry diseases?'

'Not the Madagascar Cockroach. It's vegetarian and does not carry or transmit diseases harmful to humans. They don't live wild in the UK. However, the hospital ones eat almost anything and do carry diseases and must be eliminated as pests, like flies and other creepy-crawlies. In nature, in the wild, cockroaches are brilliant scavengers, clearing up what other animals leave behind.'

'The Witching Hour approaches, Listeners. Time for one last call from Ziggy in East Kilbride on line five. Go ahead Ziggy.'

'Cris, why don't you have a website?'

'I did have one until the Poland gig but now I work full-time for Maro so go on his Grapevine website and you can track where I'll be DJ-ing over the weeks ahead. Okay?'

'Right Listeners, that's all for this week's Fifteen Minutes of Fame slot and now we have an old favourite, a request from Angelina in Castlemilk.'

DJ Nights

'David Bowie with Space Oddity from 1983.'

'Go Dee-Bee'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_M3uw29U1U