

## Where the money went

### Claims from the top five executives 2008-09

#### Mark Thompson

Became Director-General in June 2004 after three years as the CEO of Channel 4. Joining the BBC in 1979 as a production trainee, Thompson has previously held various key roles within the corporation including head of factual programmes, head of BBC Two and head of television



**£2,236.90**  
flight home from holiday to deal with the Jonathan Ross/Russell Brand affair

Business calls	£253.48
External hospitality	£5,612.35
Flights	£2,510.20
Hire cars	£55
Hotels	£3,169.89
Internal hospitality	£2,428.38
Other	£865.11
Taxi	£219
Other travel	£3,954.49

#### Jana Bennett

Director of BBC Vision, in charge of the largest multimedia production, commissioning and broadcast group of its kind in the world. Originally from the US, she was educated at Oxford and joined the BBC the same year as Thompson. She now oversees creative leadership for BBC One, BBC Two and the digital channels



**£500**  
Insurance claim for theft of handbag. BBC paid half of the cost

External hospitality	£2,275.20
Flights	£99.44
Hotels	£1,778.79
Internal hospitality	£1,742.34
Mileage	£135.49
Other	£1,905.54
Rail	£66.17
Subsistence	£122.07
Taxis	£318.30
Other travel	£34.85

#### Tim Davie

After leaving Cambridge, Davie worked for Procter & Gamble and became a brand manager in 1991 before beginning work for the BBC. He is now director of BBC Audio and Music with direct responsibility for all national and digital BBC networks as well as their three concert orchestras



**£354.49**  
Staff entertainment: acknowledgment of outstanding work

External hospitality	£2,096.71
Hotels	£69
Internal hospitality	£3,122.28
Other	£352.60
Rail	£49
Subsistence	£46.14
Taxis	£386.95
Other travel	£567.20

#### Ashley Highfield

Now head of Project Kangaroo, a cross-network video-on-demand service, Highfield was Director of Future Media and Technology at the BBC, and at 34, was the youngest member of its executive board. He has a background in computing that helped as he oversaw the development of many digital innovations at the BBC, including the iPlayer



**£1,430.08**  
Las Vegas, Bellagio Hotel, meal for 29 people who had worked for 11 hours

External hospitality	£2,005.95
Hotels	£312.156
Internal hospitality	£2,527.77
Rail	£11
Subsistence	£1,606.52
Other travel	£34.85
Taxis	£65.85

#### Zarin Patel

Chief financial officer for the corporation since 2004 after joining the BBC in 1998. Her business background is rooted in 15 years' working for the accountancy firm KPMG after graduating from the LSE in 1982. She reports directly to Mark Thompson, Director-General, and oversees the development and handling of financial strategy



**£637.66**  
To introduce new KPMG team to senior finance team

External hospitality	£1,563.22
Hotels	£1,334.69
Internal hospitality	£2,660.54
Subsistence	£46.82
Taxis	£533.11
Other travel	£15.40

### Top executives' total expenses 2008-09

The BBC has an executive board made up of ten people. They are Director General, Deputy Director-General, Director of People, Director of Marketing, Communication and Audiences, Director of Vision, Director of Audio and Music, Director of Future Media and Technology, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Executive of BBC Worldwide and Chief Operating Officer.

In addition there are six non-executive directors



Business calls  
**£289.79**

External hospitality

**£19,726.77**

Flights  
**£3,903.52**

Car hire  
**£1,884.70**

Internal hospitality

**£20,991.06**

Hotels

**£11,215.05**

Mileage  
**£538.90**

Rail  
**£1,304.47**

Subsistence  
**£2,220.77**

Taxis  
**£4,070.05**

Other travel  
**£5,614.07**

Other  
**£3,869.33**

#### Talent entertainment league table

Party to celebrate Terry Wogan's knighthood

**£1,137.55**

Meal with Sir David Frost

**£142.31**

Meal with Michael Palin, to discuss future projects

**£123.40**

Flowers for Jonathon Ross

**£100**

Meal with Huw Edwards, BBC News presenter

**£82.23**

#### Favourite octogenarian



Bruce Forsyth received a birthday gift of a bottle of Krug Grande Cuvée champagne, for which Mark Thompson claimed

**£99.99**

#### Where they went

- Davos World Economic Forum
- The Proms
- Edinburgh Festival
- Edinburgh Television
- Oxford Media

#### Spending on political events\*

from 2004-09  
Eight Labour Party events totalling

**£861.83**

Six Liberal events totalling

**£165.48**

Two Conservative events totalling

**£38**

\*Claims by Mark Thompson and Mark Byfield specifically relating to political-party-related activity

#### Strange claims

- Most executives claimed for just one *Who's Who*. John Smith must have wanted to read it twice: £198 for two copies in July 2006
- The cost of a meeting about the licence fee amounted to ... the cost of an annual licence fee. Caroline Thomson, £48.66 in December 2006



- Flowers for June Brown (Dot Cotton in *EastEnders*, above). Mark Thompson: £45
- Although Ashley Highgate was responsible for one of the more generous claims (£1,430.08 for a Las Vegas dinner for 29 people), he also excelled at the other end of the scale. 24p for mileage in March, 2004