**Billy Stainthorpe**

**Billy Stainthorpe.** I was the taxi driver that took ABBA from Brighton to London.

When we went to pick them up, I took my wife and my two daughters, just to show them ABBA. Nicky was about 6? Yeah. And she got her autographs of them and away we went.

**Nicky – Billy’s daughter:**

I just remember being really excited to see these women that we'd seen. I mean, we were, my mum and me, we were obsessed with the women really because they were so glamorous, so pretty. And the way they sung and their movements and everything. When we watched it the night before we were just, I just remember us being completely in awe and, and knowing it was going to be the winning song. So when Dad came home and, I must have been in bed, and the next morning, Mum said, 'oh, we're gonna go meet those ladies today'. And I was like 'what ladies?' ‘Those ladies off the telly last night’ and we were like, 'Oh my gosh’.

**Billy:**

They played Waterloo on the radio, and they were singing to Waterloo, and I'll always remember sitting in the driver's seat and them tapping on the, on the back of the seat. So I've had somebody sing Waterloo to me.

**Interviewer**: You've had your own private, your own private concert!

**Billy:** They were very good. They all seemed happy, all singing, and the lady with the blonde hair sat next to me on the way up and that was the bonus!

When we stopped for refreshments and all that, and there's a few people walking around who recognised them. And then there's a few more and then there was maybe about half a, a dozen or so people looking in the cab.

Björn asked me to go in and have a coffee and a sandwich before I came back to Brighton. So I took the car round the back and then somebody met me, brought me back through and I stood at the back of the hall while they were being interviewed and all that.

When taxi fares, when they first started, the fare was 21 pence, when you put the metre on you got in the taxi it was 21 pence, and Björn, he gave me over £30, so well worth it!