

Portraits Untold – Video Transcript

Artist: Tanya Raabe-Webber

Sitter: Neil Baldwin

Venue: Stoke City Football Club, Stanley Matthew Lounge

Date: Monday 19th September 2016

Ambitious live portrait project with artist Tanya Raabe-Webber, exploring and celebrating our common humanity – the beauty and strength of humanity lies in the diversity of its people.

This stream features Neil Baldwin - more information can be found at -

<http://portraitsuntold.co.uk/sittings/neil-baldwin-stoke-city-fc/>

This video stream was filmed at Stoke City Football Club on Monday 19th September 2016.

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[#PortraitsUntold](#)

[Transcript Starts]

Adrian: Hello and welcome to the Bet365 Stadium. I'm really delighted that a few of you come along today to this interactive art session, portraits setting that we've got on today I'm really looking forward to it. I've got good close personal friends to the left of me here we've got Mr Neil Baldwin we go back a long way don't we.

Neil; Yes, we do.

We got some good stories that we are not going to repeat for this session today this is about this lady here to my right Tanya really delighted you could join us at the Bet365 stadium today

Tanya: Thanks

Adrian: This is an absolute first that we have been able to get an artist of your calibre into this stadium, and with the way that we are performing at the minute off the pitch we could probably do with you to give some inspiration to the guys on the pitch I think if I'm been honest with you. But no, we are really delighted to host the portraits untold, well the 3rd portraits untold sitting, 4 all together and I am really delighted that you have all joined us today see some wonderful pieces of art been produced, I'm going to hand over to Mandy Fowler who will now provide some additional information.

Mandy – Thank you very much and thank you we are very delighted to be here at Stoke City football club with Neil Baldwin today. As Adrian just said yes this in the 3rd sitting in a national project that's been going on now since July, so were number 3 in our sittings. Portraits untold just to tell you a little bit about it it's a national project, it's an ambitious and unique project that explores and celebrates the diversity of our common humanity through a series of live portrait sittings taking place in 4 venues across the country. We would like to thank art's council England who have funded this project not just in terms of funding but they have also supported us as well and Tanya and I are both based in the Midlands actually so this is second one in Midlands, we've had one in London and one to come up in Yorkshire as well. The project has been a truly collaborative experience to be able to pull together, not just working with the venues and the sitters but also, we've been working with Dr Chris Creed at Birmingham City University along with Lara Acknoraga there who's a freelance consultant as well they have been undertaking some research and helping us with the digital drawing aspect of this. We've also had fantastic support from our PR company as well, I would also like to say thank you to our technical guys Hatch and Twine who are streaming this live today so they have been busy behind the scenes making that happen. It's also a project that aims to be as participative as possible so that's for you guys who are live here in the audience and for everyone who's at home watching the live stream. Just a few bits and pieces around that Tanya will talk you through that inviting you to make your own drawings whether that's using pen and paper or crayons or pastels or whatever you are using but also through using digital apps as well. So for that there's a variety of digital drawing apps out there you can use, a few that Tanya has been using on her tablet, sketch book pro or pro create and when you've created those if you send them to us via social media using the hash tag portraits untold we can pick those up and Tanya will be incorporating those into her own drawings later in the day for those of you who are in the room creating those drawings if you grab one of us in the team we can help you with that, we can take photographs of them and we can send them through to our social media stream through that. We also have Lane here with us today who's our BSL interpreter so if anybody requires her services if you want to sort of sit where

you can see Lane that would be great. Throughout the day there are going to be moments of natural silence as well so Tanya and Neil are going to be chatting but when there are moments of quiet it will be because Tanya is probably concentrating on some of her drawings or we are watching you guys out there drawing as well so that's okay we don't have to keep talking all the way through the whole day. We've got 3 sessions so we are starting now until 1.30 then we are back with you again 2.30 until 4 and then the final session is 5 till 7 this evening. Now a few words about Neil Baldwin our sitter and why he's here with us today. So, when Tanya and I were first thinking about people we could involve in this project, the people that Tanya wanted to paint and to put on her canvas, we wanted to think about people that had achieved greatness in their life, who had a commitment to representing and presenting the diversity of our identity to the themes of Tanya's work. So, within that naturally Neil Baldwin came to mind. Now I've got a few words about you Neil, your best described as a national treasure, your well known through the BAFTA award winning BBC televised drama Marvellous of which Neil will talk about today. Neil has achieved remarkable things throughout his life in a range of areas and he can boast some famous friends as well, which I'm sure you will tell us about during the day.

Neil: Yeah

Mandy - Including I'm told the arch bishop of Canterbury

Neil: Yeah

Mandy - That's fantastic. So, a bit about Neil as a young man he had a job in the pottery industry in Stoke. You were in the circus as Nelo the Clown which I think you're going to talk us through today as well and you even went on to be the kit man here at Stoke City Football Club for whom he once played briefly in a friendly match I understand

Neil: Yeah

Mandy – Fantastic, so Neil's going to be talking to us about throughout the day we look forward to hearing those stories. Neil is seen as a role model what an achievement with his unfailing approach to life to overcome any obstacle so we look forward to hearing what he has to say about that. So, we are delighted to have Neil with us today I think this is going to be a fantastic day so stay with us come back in on the 2nd and 3rd session as well and I think at that point I'm going to hand you over to Tanya who's going to lead you through the day. Thank you very much.

Tanya: Here we are then Neil

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Here we are at our, I can see a few people with pens and pencils armed. We've got some visitors from Scotland in the audience from projects ability that's all very exciting, we got camera man on the right here who's doing a drawing already, we got a roving mic somewhere, Mandy is in charge of the roving mic so if anybody wants to ask some questions we need to have the mic because we are on the internet. So here we are Neil again.

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: I've got a table full of like gorgeous colours here already done a warm up painting haven't we Neil.

Neil: yes, we have

Tanya: when did we do that

Neil: At Keele University

Tanya: I think that was in, when did we do that now?

Neil: I would say about May, wasn't it?

Tanya: I think it was, yeah. And you have brought a table full of things with you.

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: You've got the painting of the Neil Baldwin, what's the painting of? Tell me what the paintings of.

Neil: My football club

Tanya: Your football club which is?

Neil: Neil Baldwin Association

Tanya: Cool. And who's in the line-up in the painting?

Neil: Aled Jones sitting next to me and it was great to get on songs of praise that day I was on songs of praise

Tanya: I was watching that this morning your debut

Audience: How you doing in the league?

Neil: we are doing alright, we haven't started yet until next Wednesday but we should be having a great team

Audience: When's your first match?

Neil: 28th of September

Audience: who you playing?

Neil: Staffordshire University

Audience: Oh yeah, down here?

Neil: Yeah

Audience: Okay best of luck

Neil: Thank you

Tanya: I remembered that your favourite colour was green

Neil: yes

Tanya: Is that right? So, I've brought all my greens with me today Neil. In fact, I'm starting off with a green, a nice dark hookers green I'm just putting the paints out on the palettes here. Have you always lived in Stoke on Trent?

Neil: Yes

Tanya: Yeah, this is where you were born

Neil: 70 years ago

Tanya: 70 years ago, blimey. Born and bred. Okay, I'm going to get started with the old painting. Now then I'm going to do a big Neil Baldwin or a small Neil Baldwin do you think?

Neil: A big one I hope

Tanya: What's going on over there you have to tell me

Neil: Just drawing I think, I hope they are anyway

Tanya: I guess it was Marvellous that first brought me to you, the film

Neil: yeah

Tanya: What was that like?

Neil: It was a great film, best film ever made

Tanya: Yeah. It hides you under a bushel that's what he said.

Neil: I always have been.

Tanya: So what was Toby Jones like Neil?

Neil: Toby Jones was a great person

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: It shows you what he's done in his films what he has done

Tanya: So when you watch it back does it remind you of yourself when you're watching?

Neil: I've seen it 63 times now

Audience: Neil, his careers picked up a bit since he's worked with you hasn't it

Neil: Oh yes it has

Audience: Has he bought you anything?

Neil: Oh aye he sent me a lovely birthday present

Audience: Oh did he

Neil: Of me and him in a picture, he signed it for me

Audience: Very nice, nothing monetary like?

Neil: We are still good friends

Audience: Okay then

Tanya: We don't need money do we Neil

Neil: No, if we have money give it to charity that's the best thing

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: In life

Tanya: Which scene in the film do you like the most?

Neil: Especially the Scottish one, in a kilt

Tanya: What did you do with that scene, tell me about that scene.

Neil: I was a new signing from Scotland but I wasn't from Scotland, so it was a great time to do that, it's been a great film, especially with underpants as well because when you have underpants on it's a lot to do.

Audience: Heard you were pretty big down under Neil

Neil: Thank you very much

Tanya: Okay

Audience: What was Tony Benn like Neil?

Neil: Tony Benn was a very good friend it's a shame he's gone, he was a great friend because of his son, who played football for my team so.

Audience: was he any good?

Neil: Very good player. And next year is my 50th anniversary of my football team

Tanya: How many games has your football team played?

Neil: 340

Tanya: Blooming heck

Neil: At the moment

Audience: How many you won out of that?

Neil: Quite a lot

Audience: I bet.

Audience: You didn't actually score in that film did you Neil?

Neil- No but I'll tell you why I didn't score because

Audience: Go on then

Neil: Because that stupid fool Tony Kelly he used to play for Stoke a coloured one he wouldn't let me score, but I had a great time it was nice to be on that pitch with David Platt, I had his shirt after so but it was a great time to be on that pitch the on-kip man who's played for Stoke

Audience: That says it all Neil doesn't it

Neil: Yep

Audience: They could do with somebody now

Neil: I wouldn't mind doing it for them

Audience: You wouldn't be quick enough now Neil

Neil: I still could do it

Audience: Alright then

Neil: Because this year or start of last season I had 19 penalties scored 19 so that's it

Audience: They were in goal then?

Neil: Goalkeepers

Audience: Was he facing the right way Neil or what?

Neil: Course they were because I tell them I'm going that way and...straight in

Audience: I bet they believe you as well though

Neil: They do.

Tanya: So in your football team then Neil, do you play?

Neil: I only come on for penalties yeah, every other penalty

Tanya: Okay, where does your play football? Do they play here?

Neil: They play at Keele, I have played on here and won 6-2 when we played on here at the end of the season

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: So I was very happy

Tanya: I don't know anything hardly about football so you will have to teach me

Neil: Yeah, it was a great day and I'm always happy when we win

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: December 6th we are playing house of commons MP's team in London on the 6th of December

Tanya: Oh are you so you're going to be in London again

Neil: so I've got to be in London again, and a week on Monday I'm in London again so I keep going to London all the time. There's always another day as well

Tanya: There's always another day

Neil: there's not only 1 day in a week its carry on

Adrian: Neil whilst your sitting there and Tanya's just having a look at doing her business I want you to have a think about your favourite 1-11 stoke city team we will have a discussion with some of the old guys in the room here and see if they change anybody

Audience: Going on than Neil who you sticking in goal

Neil: Gordon Bams for one

Audience: Can anybody remember Kennel

Neil: Yeah George

Audience: he was one of the best wingers they had, I saw him in goal and he hit it was never lost height of it at all

Neil: Number 2

Audience: was absolutely brilliant

Neil: Number 3 first Tony Alan

Audience: he went abroad didn't he

Neil: yeah. Number 2 would be

Audience: how many times did he play for England Tony Alan once or twice

Neil: no he's played about 5 or 6 I think

Audience: Paget played once didn't he

Neil: Ah Paget would be mine as well because I've got to stick up to peget because he comes from same place as I do and that Chester. Number 5 I would have Neil Franklin because I was named after Neil so I have number. Andy Stewart, eddy clam, Number 6 would be George Kennel. Number 7 would be the man himself Stanley Matthews

Audience: He didn't play when Kennel was on though did he

Neil: He played a bit. Number 8 would be one we have go now Joe Allen. Number 9 would be my great friend jimmy greenoff number 10 would be john richon and number 11 would have been terry bridgewood. And I can't give you any subs because we didn't have subs in them days.

Audience: what about harry budhas and all that

Neil: Ah yeah him as well, because I met him every Tuesday morning

Audience: Did you have a walk round

Neil: Yeah and have a coffee every week

Audience: and who pays for that Neil?

Neil: I pay some weeks the others pay

Audience: well that's fair enough then Neil

Neil: Should give it Terry he should pay

Audience: Is he a bit tight?

Neil: Oh aye been an Irish man

Audience: what's his wife's name Neil?

Neil: Sue

Tanya: I can see some very good drawings already from here

Neil: you would think look like the hunch back of Notre dam

Tanya: I need to find that blue again for your eyes don't I. Have you got any football things on your table there Neil? What have we got on there?

Neil: Not football no only this

Tanya: We will keep going on with the football a bit then

Mandy – Actually we've got a question and a comment that's come in from someone who's watching online on the live stream. Neil is looking very smart for his portrait today.

Neil: I thought when you sent me a letter I would have to be smart

Tanya: I did I wrote a letter to you didn't I Neil

Neil: So I've got to be smart and been a personality that I am. And I can say it now, before that film was ever made I said that were going down to London and due 2 Baftas and we said don't be a fool so I said wait and see and what happened, we won two baftas

Audience: Clever Boy you are Neil

Neil: Thank you

Audience: No worries

Mandy – I think you've got a bit of a special tie on today haven't you

Neil: Yes

Mandy – Do you want to tell us what that is

Neil: One of stoke Cities ties and it's my favourite club in any case, so I just hope we can win a game on Wednesday and start winning every other game then

Mandy – The question that we've got is how do you celebrate when your team wins?

Tanya: You raise your arms up like that Neil

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Is that right, in that film and that I've seen you running on the pitch

Audience: you say you put your hands up when you celebrate how can you remember it's such a long time ago

Neil: It's not all that long ago, it was last season

Tanya: who is that person saying all them meany things

Audience: what do you put the dep and form to Neil?

Neil: We had so many bad referees for a first thing, the first game when we played Man City Joe Alan was brought down referee never gave it, the second game against Everton that was not a penalty at all but we lost 1 0 because of the referee. And these referees today are really bad I tell you.

Audience: You want to get a referee license you do Neil and come referee a few games for us you know what I mean

Neil: I'd give it Stoke all the time

Audience: Well you do surprise me Neil

Neil: But I've got a very good friend who is a referee and his names Uriah Ren and Uriah does a lot of games for me now and he's a great friend so I'm glad he was the best referee. I always thought Martin Atkinson was a miserable man but I met him in form against Cambridge and Oxford Universities and he's lovely chap. Because the FA can't find me but they can find Mark Hughes but

it's wrong but we lost again yesterday as well. He gets away with it every time. Just because he's England captain he thinks he's it.

Audience: He never should be that either

Neil: No he shouldn't

Mandy – We got another question that's come in online, someone's asking, they want to know a bit more about your time in the circus.

Neil: Oh, I had a great time in the circus, it's what I wanted to do after I was terrified of a clown. When I was a young boy I use to cry when a clown came near me but I thought if I'm going to be a clown I've got to do it so that's what I did and I'm very pleased that I did that as a job. Because it's made me famous it's made Nelo famous and it's been a great day and I still do a bit of Circus now.

Tanya: What was the circus called you went to?

Neil: Robert Fosses. It was the oldest circus in Great Britain

Tanya: Oh

Neil: I've just had a week in the circus at Newcastle, so that was a great week because it was an American circus that came so I went nearly every day but I only do that because I know them.

Tanya: Is that Nelo the circus wig on the table there?

Neil: Yes, it is

Tanya: Yeah. And you had your own caravan?

Neil: yes

Tanya: That your mum bought you is that right

Neil: Yes that's right

Tanya: Yeah. What did your mum think you running off to the circus?

Neil: She let me do it so that was it

Tanya: What was your act that you did?

Neil: I use to have an egg and threw it right up in the top of the tent and it always came down on my head and never missed

Tanya: So what is it about making people laugh that you like?

Neil: Because in this world today

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: there's a lot of sadness and I always thought make people happy in my film I said that and now that thing that I said to be happy a school in South Africa have got my motto to be happy in life. And one little boy his mum died and he got in touch with me last Christmas and said I would like to meet you sometime I said that's wonderful so one day I'm very proud to say to people be happy in life, life is too short and its always happy to be alive and living.

Tanya: You've dressed up as other things haven't you as well

Neil: Oh yes

Tanya: What about the chicken I'm hearing a lot about the chicken?

Neil: Yeah, I've done a chicken

Tanya: Tell us about the chicken

Neil: We went to Bournemouth to play in a game and I had a chicken on from this old ground, not this one but the old one, all the way to Bournemouth and I didn't have my head off it was that warm they thought it was a roast chicken that was there. So, but was happy to do that. And I enjoyed been a Scotsman

Tanya: A Scotsman

Neil: Because don't forget there's only Scottish who make people laugh.

Audience: You must be joking

Tanya: We've got some Scottish people in here today

Audience: Ay! If you what the only Scotsman and two of them play tennis and they got the biggest mouths on them

Neil: There good players. Without Murray, you wouldn't have won any gold medals he won a gold medal as well so he's done what I wanted.

Audience: Murray won a gold medal for Scotland

Neil: Great Britain

Audience: Not Great Britain, I'm not British I'm English

Neil: So am I

Audience: Right, I'm not proud to be British

Neil: And I'm proud to be English. But not when you've got a prime minister what you had named David Cameron.

Audience: I'm English not British but what did David Cameron do. He came out of Europe you can't even see him in house of commons now he's that gone.

Audience: I tell you what I was in Holland last year, I'd just come out and the first thing he said English, Scottish Welsh welcome to Europe and the Dutch can't wait to get out neither can half the Germans. I just said my piece.

Neil: Thank you very much

Tanya: Now then, oh look we have the Quantt Forternity in the house

Neil: Where from?

Tanya: The village Quantt

Neil: Oh from your village

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: Very nice to meet you

Tanya: Our friends, they make good cakes

Neil: I hope you've brought some

Audience: I was frisked at the door

Tanya: She was frisked at the door Neil, they weren't allowed to bring the cakes in, what a shame

Neil: Is it

Tanya: Because they are the queen of cakes. Well I think the portrait is coming on already

Neil: Is it

Tanya: Have we got any drawings yet?

Audience: if you want to see this one yeah

Tanya: Yeah, hold it up let's have a look

Audience: You can't see much of it

Tanya: well it's an animal

Audience: well you got a mouth like that and a nose

Tanya: what is it a leopard

Audience: it's going to be a tiger when its ready

Neil: Oh

Tanya: What about the drawing next to it, the guy in the blue, let's have a look at that one, hold that one up

Audience: I've done a couple of stoke supporters one with his hair raised and one

Tanya: Is that one Neil on the right with the tie on?

Audience: Yeah

Tanya: Cool. And who's the little figure with the stripy

Audience: That one?

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: It's a stoke city mascot

Tanya: Oh is it, I see I need to know more about football

Neil: Very good

Tanya: Anybody else on the row behind? Is there any more drawings coming through? I'm liking that one with the glasses

Neil: Thank you

Audience: That's a good one

Tanya: Oh let me have a look lets have the camera. I've taken a photo I'm going to tweet that. The two artists on the left and right are working hard I can see. We will have a look in a minute though shall we Neil when they're ready. How's the camera man?

Audience: Still a fair bit to go

Tanya: Still a fair bit to go. Steven how is it going on that side?

Audience: Is Neil going to judge these or what?

Tanya: Is Neil going to judge them?

Audience: Yeah

Tanya: Oh no, what we are going to do with your drawings I'm going to project them and draw them into the portrait

Audience: Oh

Tanya: Oh. Technical

Audience: 21st Centaury

Tanya: How do you think it's, how do you think my portrait is coming along?

Audience: It's looking very nice

Tanya: Is it looking alright? Does it look like Neil?

Audience: It's too long in the face and the bone in that chin, he's a bit rougher then that is Neil

Tanya: Do you think? I'm making him look more distinguished. That's the bottom chin that's the first chin, how many chins do we need Neil?

Neil: Only two I think

Tanya: Only two I think, twos enough

Audience: I've got one of my granddaughter on my phone

Tanya: have you

Audience: Neil, when your Scottish friends here as manager did you ever win any big money of his tips?

Neil: Sometimes I did

Audience: That I'm glad to hear because he spent a lot of time down bookies yard the I'm lead to believe

Neil: I know he did

Audience - is that why he was the third division in them days

Neil: Could have been.

Audience: Don't give no secrets away Neil

Neil: Right, but he's still a good friend and what he's done in the wholeness I'm very pleased

Audience: Oh yeah

Neil: Because I've helped him on that and me and Lew were out on Friday night talking, and what a great night it was, we locked us car in a car park we couldn't get out at first but we found a way to get out

Audience: Do you go up vale park very often Neil?

Neil: Nope only when....

Audience: Only when you have to

Neil: Stoke old players playing. Who wants to up there as comedian in a chairman never mind anyone else. Would make a good circus ground that one

Audience: Did you go that game against Middlesbrough?

Neil: When the roof blew off?

Audience: yeah what was the score?

Neil: 1-0 weren't it

Audience: it was yeah, right at the death weren't it when they scored

Neil: Yeah

Audience: Who's manager of Middlesbrough?

Neil: I don't know

Audience: Jack Charlton

Neil: Oh yeah of course yeah

Audience: Jack Charlton, I remember him storming off

Neil: as he always does. Because I saw Jack the other week when the world cup had a party and he kept staring at me all night, I thought, he must know me

Audience: He knows you're a stoke supporter

Neil: Aye

Audience: I'm getting Gilbert Harding here in this picture of you Neil, do you know who I mean?

Tanya: who's that Gilbert Harding?

Audience: a celebrity

Tanya: who is he Neil

Neil: He was like a, what did he do?

Audience: He was a broadcaster

Neil: He was a broadcaster, BBC broadcaster

Audience: A big chap

Tanya: is that a good thing then that I'm making him look

Neil: I don't mind because I've got to get my OBE sometime so I better get it shortly you know

Tanya: I better get mine as well Neil, I'm waiting, maybe we could get it together

Neil: Yeah after this is done

Tanya: After this, and after we have seen it in the National Portrait gallery, that's it we are on a winner. What's it like having your painting, having your portrait painted Neil

Neil: It's great to be done and I'm very pleased that you asked to do it and what you've done

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: Had his done a time or two hasn't he Neil

Neil: Yes. But when you have got a free man of Stoke on Trent and a free man of Newcastle on the line

Audience: Did you get that as well Neil

Neil: Yes. So not many people have got two, even Banksy has only got one and that was the night when I had mine at stoke as well

Audience: He's got cancer now hasn't he

Neil: He's alright

Audience - when they gave you the stoke they said well ought to have one from Newcastle as well

Neil: Yeah but I can say Gordon is in good health, he's lost his cancer

Audience: Has he?

Neil: So he's alright

Audience: Great

Neil: And I'm pleased for him because he's a great man

Audience: Oh yeah does a lot for charity doesn't he. Shame when he lost that eye

Neil: It was

Audience: And we lost a good goalie

Neil: Ah yeah

Neil: That's why I hope Jack Butley gets place back in England team

Audience: if he doesn't break his ankle again

Neil: and Shaken as well get him back we should be alright

Audience: Should get 40 points before Christmas I should think. Are you there Saturday Neil?

Neil: No I'm away on Saturday at Litchfield

Audience: Where?

Neil: Litchfield Cathedral

Audience: Okay

Neil: I've got a new bishop so I'm going there. I don't want to see Tony again I've had enough of him, because he was at West Brom he's got 3 of our players sent off and its only through him that's why

Audience: how do you think will do Saturday Neil?

Neil: think we can beat West Brom because we have been waiting for that player to come from West Brom and he still hasn't come

Tanya: Neil you just mentioned that you've got a new bishop coming in at Litchfield is he a friend of yours?

Neil: He is now I met him on Saturday night and he's heard about me and my film as well I'm seeing him again tomorrow

Tanya: I'm interested in this friendship you've got with the arch bishop of Canterbury as well

Neil: And York as well

Tanya: Fantastic

Neil: I was in Blackburn doing a mission in Blackburn Cathedral and it was a great week so I was very happy

Audience: Was it Robert Ronsee that you met

Neil: Yeah as well

Audience: How many arch bishops of Canterbury have you met Neil?

Neil: I met Michael Ramsey, Donald Cogin, Carey, Williams the last one Justin as well.

Tanya: Neil we've had a question come in via you tube a lady called Anne Young would like to know what places you visited when you were in the circus?

Neil: All over England all over Scotland, Wales, Ireland and some foreign countries as well.

Audience: Oh what foreign countries did you go to Neil?

Neil: Switzerland, Germany I've seen a lot of good shows in foreign countries as well

Tanya: So in England what towns did you go to can you remember?

Neil: All the big ones

Tanya: Like the cities?

Neil: London, I did a real performance for Princess Margaret once

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: So that was good

Tanya: A royal performance for Princess Margaret and where was that?

Neil: In London itself Clappen Common

Tanya: Oh. So, I asked my mum and dad about the circus and they were in a German circus but to be honest I can't remember the name of it they told me

Neil: Was it All Top

Tanya: yes, I think that was it, was it the one, it had 3 stages in it is that the one? So, what's it called?

Neil: All top. I've got some programmes

Tanya: Have you? Can we have a look?

Neil: That's one of them

Tanya: Yeah. Jackie, can you come and sit on the floor here and show me. Oh, my mum sat on an elephant once, my mum was in the circus and she played a bit of a clown but this one time the ladies

Neil: I've got that one but I didn't bring all of them in

Tanya: The ladies that had the elephants Neil, one of them went down sick so my mum had to take this role of sitting on one of the elephants on the elephant's head and she said she cried all the way round because she was scared of heights

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: and she had to wear this big head dress, it was really heavy she said she didn't like it much so the next day she went back to been a clown. Look at that it's got big horses in, my dad use to train horses. My mum and dad were in this circus. Where did they go Neil?

Neil: All round Germany

Tanya: I think my mum was, eh she might be in this brochure

Jackie – That's not her, is it?

Tanya: No she did a 3 a Wilson Keplin and Betty thing but she did have a friend who's a trapeze artist, let's turn it round and have a look at that. Have we got another one?

Neil: There's another

Tanya: How long have you been collecting all these Neil?

Neil: Ages, I've got

Tanya: Is that since you were a little boy or

Neil: I've got 2550

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: And I'm away at the end of the month when I go to Switzerland for a week's holiday so I'm looking forward to it

Tanya: So have you ever seen this circus Neil

Neil: No I haven't but some of the artists give me some sometimes

Tanya: Do they, oh there's a clown here look at that Neil

Neil: He's English as well

Tanya: Is he do you know this clown?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: What was his name?

Jackie – Just says a clown in German

Tanya: She can read German she's very multi-talented is my assistant. Look at this one this one is probably something that my mum played, she played this act it was called the Wilson Keplin Betty it was an old Egyptian sand dance. Oh, look at that trapeze lady show it round. And then when they came back to England they spent some time in Billy Smart Circus

Neil: Oh yeah

Tanya: But I think they much preferred the bigger one. That might have been it. Il have to take some photos of these before I go Neil

Jackie – Shall I hop out?

Tanya: Yeah hop out. What else have you got on there Neil?

Neil: Some English, Switzerland one, another swiz one, an English one a Norway one

Jackie – Do you want to have a look at any of these?

Tanya: The Norway one, the Norway one looks good. So, when you go abroad, when you go to Switzerland are you going to visit a circus?

Neil: Yeah and it's the bosses 70th birthday

Tanya: wow

Neil: So I've got someone in Stoke painting a horse and his wife

Tanya: Wow so you're getting a picture painted

Neil: the black one is one of the French circus

Tanya: That's a French circus

Neil: yeah, look at the programme inside

Tanya: Oh let's have a look at that one

Neil: And that's the same again another French

Tanya: so have you got any brochures from the circus you were in?

Neil: At home but I didn't want to bring all those

Tanya: Have you got loads and loads Neil?

Neil: Yeah 2550

Tanya: 2550? Blimey okay that's enough Jackie thank you

Neil: And I've put them all in a big draw

Tanya: So there all kept nice

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: So you know the egg that you had on the show have you still got that, with your face on it?

Neil: yeah somewhere at home yeah

Tanya: Did you design that?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: You did

Neil: And that's why I had it in the film as well

Tanya: So what was your clown outfit Neil?

Neil: It was like a Scottish thing but, I had a yellow one and black and red all in one. I had a big red one as well, I had about 4 or 5 but when our caravan got stolen in Scotland by gypsies had all my costumes

Tanya: So you lost them

Neil: So it was a sad day

Audience: Neil was your clown make up because aren't they all different

Neil: Yes, they are, I had a red nose of course and white round there and red and black but it was a good one. But I'll tell you one thing if you don't wash it off you get all pimples all on your face

Tanya: Do you think you could draw it Neil if we gave you a bit of paper?

Neil: Yes I could

Tanya: You could that would be cool, could you get Neil some paper and what would you like to draw with Neil? A pencil? Or do you want some colours?

Neil: Colours if I could

Tanya: Colours

Neil: Make it better

Tanya: maybe some oil pastels. Because you use to do drawing didn't you Neil?

Neil: yeah. I still do

Tanya: do you, what do you draw now?

Neil: Anything usually.

Audience: You use to do a lot of birds didn't you Neil

Neil: Yeah and I've brought the book with all the pictures in so you can have a look at it

Audience: Yeah ill have a look. Have you still got birds Neil?

Neil: Oh yeah, I've got 4 canaries and 9 budgies

Tanya: Where do they live Neil?

Neil: In my flat

Tanya: In the aviary?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: That's in your house?

Neil: yeah

Audience: are you still in that same flat Neil?

Neil: Yes

Audience: like in the film where you're a few doors away from your mum's house

Neil: Yes because where we did live we couldn't do it because it was all new inside so we wanted an old place so that's what we did. Pencils broken. In Westlands near Dick Turpin pub if you know that.

Audience: Its posh up there isn't it

Neil: Oh yeah it is, very nice as well. I've heard Brad Roads closing

Audience: when?

Neil: very shortly I've heard. When I had my hip operation I had to go Brad Road for 30 days and it's a horrible place because they have got a big window in the roof, and it was that light you couldn't go sleep at all and I was suffering but I'm glad I got out of it

Audience: Left or right

Neil: This one but Mr Roberts who did it said might have my other one done as well but he said if it's not hurting don't bother

Tanya: What did Mr Roberts look like?

Neil: He was a lovely surgeon

Tanya: What does he look like, did he have a beard or

Neil: No but he was lovely

Tanya: I've got a surgeon called Mr Roberts I'm just wondering whether it was the same one

Neil: Where's he been

Tanya: He's in Nosworth Street

Neil: It might be same one

Tanya: Might be, but he's got a big white beard like a father...

Neil: No its not him

Audience: what's your hip made of Neil?

Neil: I don't know

Audience: Can you ask?

Neil: It was a nuisance having it done. I'm much better now because that was 2010

Audience: Mines stainless steel titanium

Neil: Must be the same

Audience: yeah

Neil: I've done my picture now

Tanya: That is cool Neil, brilliant so I think what we might do afterwards is might give you the iPad and you can draw it on the face. Jackie's, photographing it now Neil. We are going to show the people who are on the live stream.

Neil: Has anybody else got questions?

Tanya: Anybody else got questions before our break

Neil: Its coming on that

Tanya: Anymore questions on the old internet? Stevens done a good drawing other there

Neil: yes

Tanya: who's that of Steven? Is it Neil or me?

Steven – Neil

Neil: Oh thank you

Tanya: Of course it is, get somebody to photograph that in a minute. Well I think it's looking all right
Neil

Neil: That's great number 1

Tanya: Marvellous

Neil: Il give you 100 out of 100 for that one

Tanya: That's good for me that, have you had your portrait done by anybody else?

Neil: No

Tanya: Never?

Neil: Oh yeah, a lady in Warrington did a painting of me and sheep when I got freedom of the city

Tanya: Have you got that in your house?

Neil: Yeah its quite big, too big to bring

Tanya: You've got that painting there that you're in so you have had your portrait done a few times

Neil: And it's on side of stoke ground when you come around the back there's me and lewton that's when we won the baftas

Tanya: we've got 5 minutes left Neil until we have a break. Any more questions? No not yet

Audience: how long were you in hospital when you had your hip done?

Neil: just a week but I had to go to Bradwell for 30 days because they didn't want me to go back home because I was on my own but I'm glad it's been done and its horrible when they do it. Horrible thing when you have it done, they put your leg right up

Audience: you don't know anything about that though do you

Neil: But when I came around Mr Roberts said you have been emptying my other doctors but when your asleep you don't know if you're doing it

Audience: you might have been swearing as well

Neil: I don't think I would. And after Lew wanted one done but he can't have it done.

Audience: Why not, not old enough?

Neil: That's right yeah

Audience: When I had mine done when I was 60 and they said well you're a bit young. They only last 15 years

Neil: I know

Audience: So if you live until your 75 you will want another one but when I was in there having mine done there was a guy in there who had one done and he had it 25 years so that knocks that's theory into touch doesn't it

Neil: It does who did it for you?

Audience: I can't remember now it might have been that Robert

Neil: he's very good

Audience: it might have been him I don't know. There all good

Neil: Its marvellous now that you can have a new leg

Audience: Marvellous you can have a new leg, a new face

Neil: I think you can yeah

Audience: Not like that you can't

Neil: But before you couldn't even have a hip done

Tanya: Well we don't want any more Neil Baldwin's or the first Neil Baldwin wouldn't be as special

Neil: No that's right

Tanya: So where did you get the name Nelo? How did you come up with that?

Neil: Because my names Neil

Tanya: That's true

Neil: I thought it would be nice to have a 'O' on the end to make it Nelo now there was another Clown called Neilo

Tanya: Was there

Neil: But he's dead now

Tanya: He wasn't in your

Neil: No he was always in foreign circus's he was in Blackpool

Tanya: Okay we are ready for a break, thank you for that so far, see you in an hour lots more to come, going to see Neilo projected into the painting

Mandy – Welcome back to Portraits Untold Part 2 live from Stoke City FC with Neil Baldwin and Tanya Raabe-Webber apologies for our slight delay in starting the second half, getting some groups that have now joined us into the room and also some press aspects happening so now we are ready to go. We had a lot of conversations going off in the first section about football, about his time in the circus and some of his famous friends he has, just to remind you we are using the hashtag portraits untold and you can send through your own drawings you are doing whether that's digital drawings or more traditional methods send them through so Tanya can project them against her canvas and any questions that you may have for Neil or Tanya. I'm going to hand you over to Tanya now to take you through the next part.

Tanya: Okay here we are again Neil

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Paintings looking good isn't it

Neil: Great

Tanya: Great I'm going to do some drawing on here now

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Which is the iPad its doing some technical things on me, we've got some new people in the audience I can see some people over on the left give us a wave, did we get a picture, wave again, where you from?

Audience: Sandaun Meridian Academy

Tanya: Have you heard of that one Neil

Neil: Oh yes

Tanya: Cool. And we've got some people over on the right here

Audience: Hiya we are from Regent Collage in Carlton

Tanya: Yeah, can you do one? Give us a wave everybody. Yay cool. You've all got pens and paper as well. So, your all going to get busy drawing, we've still got the quotters in the front here, my husband's there on the left and then project ability are back with us. So, I'm going to do a quick drawing of you now and it's going to be projected on there. Where should I start Neil?

Neil: This side, do your husband first

Tanya: Okay I'll do a quick draw he won't thank me though

Neil: His names Neil so

Tanya: It is. Can you see that on there? Then we've got a Mr quot on the front here got your pen and paper there armed and ready, Mrs quot on the front there, we have some people in the background there. Yeah you sit back and relax Neil.

Mandy – To kick off the questions we've got one that come in whilst we were on break this has come from Beningborough Hall where we are next with Portraits Untold, and this has come from the conversation we were having this morning about the circus. The question is if Tanya had chance to join the circus for a day what role would she take on?

Neil: Trapeze Artist

Tanya: You know what Neil that was exactly what I was going to say

Mandy – Because the next part of the question was and what advice would Neil give her?

Neil: I would give you great advice, get up there and do it

Tanya: Get up there and do it, on the high trapeze yeah?

Neil: But don't fall down it's a long way

Tanya: is there a net?

Neil: Oh yes

Tanya: What would be my outfit Neil?

Neil: A performance dress, and I could be a clown on the trapeze

Tanya: and you could be the clown in there as well because if something goes wrong doesn't the clown step in

Neil: Yes it does

Tanya: See I know these things about the circus

Mandy – We've got a question from someone in the audience at the back of the room just bear with us a second

Audience: Hi Neil

Neil: Hi

Audience: You've done some great jobs in your time been a circus clown been a kit man in a professional football club you have been a manager of a football team if you were to choose one of job to do that you've not done so far what would it be?

Neil: Prime minister

Tanya: And as prime minster what would you first job be?

Neil: Look after people who are homeless

Tanya: Okay. That's the first one we've got there you can make that big. Let's have a look. See if we can find some drawings from...photos. There's one, that's a good one.

Mandy – We have another question from someone in the room for Neil

Audience: Neil obviously, we've got some young people here from the academy and school life, when you were in school what was your favourite subject?

Neil: R.E

Audience: and why?

Neil: Because of my religion today I think it's a great subject and it taught me a lot, respect old people and bring up the new with happiness and life

Mandy – We've got a room full of people with heads down drawing would anyone like to. Does drawing make you feel happy what do you think Neil?

Neil: I think what I said in the film if you're not happy in life try to be happy because life is only short I know I'm 70 now but it's made me go older and I'm glad I'm still fit to do that you know

Tanya: and is drawing part of that Neil

Neil: I think it is

Tanya: when your drawing your birds, I've got this shirt on today with all my birds on

Neil: I know you have

Tanya: special

Neil: Its lovely

Tanya: Its lovely isn't it nice bright colours, hummingbirds. So, when you do your drawing does that make you feel good?

Neil: Yes it does because it gives you time to rest and time to talk to people

Tanya: Yeah gives you time to have a think

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: And have a rest from the busy world

Neil: Very busy world yes.

Tanya: Does it make you feel calm

Neil: yes it does

Tanya: So when you do your drawings of your birds what kinds of materials are you using?

Neil: Paints and paintbrushes

Tanya: Are you drawing on little bits of paper or

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: How many birds have you got at the moment?

Neil: I've got 9 budgies and 4 canaries

Tanya: Have you still got some birds that people have given you rescued from the circus

Neil: yes, I had two from Norman Barrett it was great to have them because I know they can do trips as well as.

Tanya: Is it noisy in your house then?

Neil: It is

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: Until I go to bed

Tanya: I think my dad use to have budgies I remember when I was a little girl

Neil: and I'm very pleased regent college is here today because I do a lot of awards and I've done yours for last few years and I want to do more so anytime you want me just give me a ring

Audience: Yeah thank you for that Neil it was really inspiring what you said to our learners when you came in and handed out our awards last year it was nice took a lot of good things from that

Neil: Yeah because it's always happy to be living a good life

Audience: Thank you for that

Neil: every year I use to go to the hospital every Christmas day as a clown seeing baby children in the wards and I always left my Christmas dinner until later because I always thought the children come first and that's what I always think of every day because its lovely to see children happy and its always great to see people happy because life is great if you can live it and live it as a good person

Audience: Is that one of the enjoyable things you found about been a clown making people happy

Neil: Yes because if your ill one day your still got to be a clown you go in that ring and still do it and I never forget when I was in Ireland doing a show I was really ill but I did it still and after the show I had to go to hospital and I just collapsed it was too much

Audience: Dedication that is as well

Neil: You've got to life day by day

Audience: one of our learners here he's very passionate about punch and Judy

Neil: so am I

Audience: so are you, he absolutely loves making people laugh and doing a lot of work on that

Neil: Because Punch and Judy has been going on some time and it's always good to see that you know. Especially when punch is hitting Judy all the time.

Audience: what part of punching Judy is funny?

Neil: it is funny because when he gets that stick and hits him it makes you laugh and cry sometimes but punch is always good. Last week I saw some puppets in a show.

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: and they were really lovely it was in a church in Blackpool area and they had puppets and it was really good to see puppets working and I wish I had some puppets, but I haven't. But it's always lovely to see.

Audience: I've got some puppets

Neil: Have you.

Audience: Got my own punch and Judy

Tanya: You've got your own puppets

Audience: yeah

Tanya: what kind of puppets are they

Audience: punch and Judy puppets

Tanya: and have you got a box where they play

Audience: yeah

Tanya: where they act

Audience: yeah

Neil: you should have brought them today we could have had a punch and Judy

Audience: Oliver has a full-size punch and Judy

Tanya: a full size one brilliant. I'm liking that table there I'm having that table there.

Neil: I'll tell you what you could take a picture of

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: My clown wig

Tanya: your clown wig, oh that's cool isn't it let's have a picture. That is a good hat Neil

Neil: It is

Tanya: I need my camera Jackie. Right then Neil going to take a photo whilst you got your wig on because you never know where this painting is going to

Neil: It might go to Buckingham palace you never know

Tanya: you might have your wig on it you might not I don't know what will happen. Brilliant. So, if you're going to do a Nello what kind of face does Nello. When you got your make up on and costume on and your trying to make people laugh how does that feel inside

Neil: Its great inside

Tanya: Is it

Neil: Because it makes you happy as well of doing it sometimes we had to have 3 shows a day and that's right tiring

Tanya: Because it's so funny

Neil: yeah because you do one and you know you got to do another 2 afterwards its always great to do

Tanya: Brilliant. I might ask you to draw Nello again in a minute

Neil: Right

Tanya: Because I'm going to show you how to do it on this machine, on my iPad and then we are going to draw it together. How's those drawings coming along? Are they coming? Yeah? There all doing their drawings Neil

Neil: very good

Tanya: I've put a few drawings of other people's drawings on there now can you see that, put that there, yeah, I'm liking that. Do you think we could draw Nello's face again?

Neil: yeah course

Tanya: Jackie can you bring the iPad over. If we just draw it in black first, if you draw it out first and I'll pick your colours for you in a minute. Now then what colours is what Neil?

Neil: A red nose

Tanya: What red? A bright red

Neil: yeah. The eyes a bit black inside

Tanya: I'll put the colour on as you've done the drawing how's that

Neil: Yeah that's done

Tanya: So if you point to on your screen if your pencil where does the colour go.

Neil: The nose first

Tanya: Okay I'll do that bit first.

Neil: Black across there

Tanya: Black across top of the eye, do I leave this bit and the inside of that is white is, that, right?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Okay this is black but we are actually using dark green, I'm just going to do the face. Those bits just under the face the eyebrows is that black as well. What about in the eye?

Neil: Just white around

Tanya: The inner bit of the eye that's your eye isn't it shall I do that blue?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: I've got that line there, that's your nose there what you've done I'm going to draw that in. Do you normally have a black circle around your nose?

Neil: yeah, black round the mouth

Tanya: Could we have some clean water Jackie. I need a bit of red for the mouth. So, we don't have any colour round the eyes? Where's the other drawing you did. I'm missing a bit of chin, did we run out of space shall I improvise and draw it on

Neil: Yeah please. Any more questions?

Tanya: Anymore questions guys?

Audience: can I ask you something Tanya, at the start of this session it was a very traditional portrait we were looking at and suddenly its becoming quite abstract so when your setting up these sittings and incorporating media is that the intention

Tanya: All of the portraits they have this kind of traditional feel to the central figure and then it becomes a contemporary feel so it's like bringing the old and the new and with Neil's story it's like bringing 70 years of life so we kind of want to bring that all in. I'm liking that. I think we need... could you find the drawing we did, oh there it is, we have forgotten the hair.

Neil: Can we do orange hair I use to be ginger

Tanya: Orange hair okay I'll just get some white on here I think we need a creamy colour skin so we will have that. You got black bits on the bottom there I missed those out. I might add that in. I like the way you got it quite smudgy. Was it a big wig Neil?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: It was, maybe I need it a bit bigger then. Any more questions?

Neil: Please?

Tanya: from anywhere

Audience: what's your next project then Neil

Neil: I don't know I know I do a lot of things in my spare time as well but I always want to do opening new things when Newcastle had a new Oxfam they asked me would I open it when I got my honouree degree from Keele and people kept saying what you doing in the community so I went to Staffordshire Police Quarters had a good look round and every year police asked me to go to their awards ceremony and I've done it for last two years and it's a great night, the police look after me. After that I went to Staffordshire Fire Service to have a look at their headquarters when I got back home they said have got a fire alarm, I said no not yet, they came and did it that night really good.

Audience: you have to keep your ambassadors safe don't you

Neil: Oh yeah and keep famous people safe

Audience: Exactly

Audience: We have a question on you tube from a guy called Philip Hickman, he asks is Neil's wig a good luck wig and may be Mark Hughes could borrow it

Neil: yes, he could

Tanya: he could

Audience: were you at the match at the weekend Neil

Neil: No I couldn't make it at the weekend

Audience: is that why they lost

Neil: No not really, they had a bit of bad luck and they must get out of it.

Tanya: Okay let's have a look, I think that looks good Neil

Neil: Yes it does

Tanya: We've put him in there

Neil: Very good

Tanya: I'll move this to the side now. What if we put Neil's drawing on top of Neil? Oh, look it nearly fits look at that. That's your Nello yay. Now then. What shall we have in that bottom bit now.

Neil: Do some animals

Tanya: Some birds

Neil: No a lion, a tiger or elephant or

Tanya: A elephant?

Neil: make it as a circus good idea, that man did an animal in the beginning

Mandy – Neil we have another question from you tube someone would like to know are you enjoying the experience? Do you feel self-contagious at all or are you finding it quite fun?

Neil: Its great fun and its always great to do things I'm always out doing different things so it's always good to have people out who are handicapped and everything.

Tanya: It's good to do stuff and not just sit at home. Who wants to join me I need a volunteer who's going to draw me a circus animal?

Steven - I will

Tanya: Yes Steven are you going to come and join me. You sit there. Do we need a picture from one of Neil's?

Neil: Do you want to do that one first?

Tanya: Do we want tiger or an elephant what animal do we want?

Neil: That's nice

Steven – A tiger

Tanya: A tiger

Neil: I've got a tiger here

Tanya: oh what about those because those are proper in the circus

Steven – Yeah that's right good

Jackie – can you see it there

Steven – yes

Tanya: all excited now, going to move this over to you a little bit, I bet you've never drawn on one of these before of you

Steven – No

Tanya: have you used one of these at project ability

Steven – no

Tanya: We will have it about there is that okay Steven I'm going to draw it as you draw it, you go for it. What colour do I need Steven?

Steven – I think it's a kind of brown

Tanya: I think it's an orangey brown colour

Neil: Tigers are orange

Tanya: Think I've got just the colour. Can I interfere I just need to move it? Going to make it smaller. It's harder than you think. Okay. What is it a Tiger?

Steven – Yeah

Tanya: You have just been doing cats haven't you up at projects ability

Steven – Been doing more than

Tanya: more than cats

Steven – Crazy animals

Tanya: This is good. I think the way he's coming in here, Nello is coming in because the tigers gone AWOL

Steven – Oh no

Tanya: So Nello's had to sort it out so there's no mishaps going on. Were there other clowns as well?

Neil: Yes of course

Tanya: In your...

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: I'm liking his teeth Steven. Who use to have one of those etcher sketchers when they were little? That's a generational thing isn't it. It's a bit like having one. Oh, it's got ears, little eyes anymore? Is it done Steven? Its brilliant isn't it I'm loving him. More stripes. Il have to put them in later Steven is that alright?

Steven – Yes

Tanya: Is he done? Brilliant Steven thank you let's have a look at him

Steven – That looks cool

Tanya: I could make a whole series I could add more later on

Steven – Yes

Tanya: Yes Steven I like that that's good. Thank you for that Steven. Okay who else wants a go. Cameron, do you want a go?

Cameron – Il have a bash

Tanya: Yeah. What we going to draw first Cameron? This is the circus that my mum and dad were in

Cameron – Was it I'm going to try and do that

Tanya: I think that would be brilliant okay we can have that one if we have it there. Is that close enough

Cameron – Yeah

Tanya: when you draw a trapeze lady it will be there on the left-hand side is that okay?

Cameron – That looks okay

Tanya: What colour do you think I should use?

Cameron – Probably a silver

Tanya: a silver colour like a sort of greyish

Cameron – Yes

Tanya: Cameron's drawing a trapeze artist shall we describe what it is

Cameron – It's a metal bar and he's balancing on it

Tanya: Looks like he's on a high wire

Cameron – Yes

Tanya: On top of like a lamp stand and he's standing on the back wheel

Cameron – yes

Tanya: Is it a man?

Cameron – I think it's a bloke

Tanya: It's a bloke this is looking good. I'm going to use a silver-grey green is that alright

Cameron – Yeah

Tanya: There must be loads going on, I mean lots of drawing going on

Neil: Anymore questions?

Tanya: Any questions from the internet from our you tube or

Mandy – We've got a question from Anne Young on You Tube again, You Tube has proven really popular today

Neil: It is

Mandy – Neil do you have a favourite comedian and what is it that makes you laugh?

Neil: My favourite comedian is Ken Dodd. Because he's a big friend of mine as well and every time he goes anywhere he always gets me in to see the shows. And when he's 88 he's doing well for his age.

Tanya: You've moved it on my canvas Cameron

Cameron – Sorry

Tanya: Did you run out of space at the top

Cameron – I ran out of space

Tanya: Okay I'll tell you what we will do, have you finished this bit here

Cameron – I've still got one or two bits here

Tanya: Hang on then, we will finish this bit and then start a new one we won't fit him in though, we will have to. Let me catch up. So, what is it about Kenn Dodd that makes you laugh?

Neil: The jokes he comes out with, the singing he does and what a great comedian he is he's not like some comedians who are always swearing I think that's really bad.

Tanya: Do you like Ken Dodd Cameron?

Cameron – He's alright I've seen him on the TV he's not my favourite

Audience: Stevens a big fan of Ken Dodd

Neil: I never forgot coming to Glasgow once coming to a sports personality of the year just after my film came out and was great to be one of top guests there, and when I had to walk on a red carpet it was very good

Tanya: Il put a new one on for you now, okay you have got a big one now, I quite like it though, what you going to do? Finish drawing the man

Cameron – Il leave it like that it looks quite good

Tanya: we could put trapezes on that side. You put it on there and I'll do it when you've done

Cameron – How do I rub it out?

Tanya: there's a rubber there. 10 minutes already Neil gosh. I'm liking this. What about the background Neil shall I go with the circus theme and make it quite dark?

Neil: Yeah and put circus on it as well

Tanya: Shall we have the name Nello written on it?

Neil: Yeah Nello Circus

Tanya: Okay. I think we will have.... I want Nello written here somewhere. Is it double L

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: So if you were going to run your own circus Neil what kind of acts would you have in your circus?

Neil: Trapeze, a big wheel, a motorbike act, clowns

Tanya: What would a motorbike act be?

Neil: Goes around in a circle

Audience: Wall of death

Neil: Yeah like what we've had in the circus at Newcastle last week it's a good act and I've got a picture, should have

Tanya: brilliant let's have a look. I think would look good in that top corner

Cameron – Yeah

Neil: That's a picture of it, the motorbike, a big cage you know

Tanya: Oh that's it. We got 5 minutes now until the next break. Have you done a drawing over there?

Cameron – This is the second one

Tanya: Lets have a look, ah that's brilliant

Neil: Yeah that's good

Tanya: That's a good one Cameron, can we spin it round so our online audience can see,

Cameron – Looks alright

Tanya: I like the red background and the pencil on there, what do you like about it Neil?

Neil: I like it all very good

Tanya: Signed it as well, I think you have got his tie good. We are having another little rest now coming back at 5pm so don't forget to tune in still more to come

Mandy – Welcome back to Portraits Untold, live this evening from Stoke City FC with Neil Baldwin. We've been having a fantastic day here and we have had fantastic conversation going on both in the room and online as well with you tube and twitter and we've had people's drawings coming through online and people having been taking part in the room as well its fantastic and we have some new faces in the room with us for this evening, I can see pens and paper at the ready. Don't forget we are using the hash tag portraits untold so you can join in the conversation online and also send us your drawings, you can see Tanya has been incorporating those into her canvas. So, we would like to be adding more to that. We are here now until 7 o'clock what a day for Tanya and Neil they have been at it all day, keep at it guys two hours left. Il, leave you with Tanya now for some more amazing conversation and what else Neil's got to tell us about his marvellous life.

Tanya: Marvellous aye Neil

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Life is very marvellous isn't it I do like that word. I've picked another drawing that somebody has done a pencil drawing, I'm protecting it in the corner there. You've got some very smart glasses in this picture. So, I'm going to quickly put that one in and its coming together it's kind of becoming the Neil Baldwin Circus

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Or maybe we should call it the Neil Baldwin and Tanya Circus

Neil: Yes that's right

Tanya: Maybe. We have got some new faces I can see some new people with some drawing boards. If anyone feels like asking a question there is a mic somewhere Mandy here on the right-hand side, raise your hand. So, Neil what haven't you shown me on your table there.

Neil: I think I've shown you everything

Tanya: Have you, well you have got the marvellous folder there. Get hold of the marvellous folder and let's see what's in there. Pick us something out in the marvellous folder that we need to know about

Neil: That's the first page. The second page is me and Peter Verita, me and peter again, me and the ladies and another one, the sheep were just born in Keele village where we were having our office and it was lovely to see all the sheep there.

Tanya: Aww

Neil: So that would be nice if you put a sheep on.

Tanya: Shall I put a sheep on?

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Have you ever had sheep in the circus?

Neil: no sheep in the circus no

Tanya: We could have sheep in our circus

Neil: I want sheep yeah. That's me doing some paintings in the office at keele, in my clown trousers, bigger than anything else

Tanya: How do you keep them on?

Neil: Two lots of braces to hold them up

Tanya: Two lots of braces

Neil: That's me as a star, tv star and I'm glad it happened

Tanya: Yeah, why you glad it happened Neil?

Neil: Because it's made my life more famous

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: Everywhere I go now everybody knows who I am so it's a great life

Tanya: Do you know on this drawing I think you look like the ring master we are turning you from a a clown...

Neil: That's us on the team didn't over work on the team

Tanya: On the marvellous film

Neil: Yeah, and more pictures that are good. It was very funny when Toby came to meet me first because I didn't even know him

Tanya: No

Neil: And was Freddy Jones's son that was great because Freddy was a great actor and I thought Toby was a great actor as well and we've been friends ever since. Since he's done me he's been in Dad's Army he's been on other films but the last film I saw him in was a spy one and his wife's murdered him

Tanya: Aww

Neil: And what a funny do that was. Saw all the blood on the floor and I thought oh so he's dead at last, but the lady who played mum Gemma Jones died twice in 2 films, she died in mine and she died in another one but she's still living strong

Tanya: Oh. Well that's film for you isn't it

Neil: Yeah. But it's great to have a book called Marvellous because that was always my famous word to be marvellous in life so I'm glad everything's happened so it was good to have Norman Barrett the ring master of a famous circus he's given me some of his budgies that I've still got

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: Il never forget he came, he rung me up and he said I'm coming down to see you, I'm coming from London but I'll stay the night in Stafford so next morning he came knocking on my door when this cage with two budgies and it was great because we are still happy now. So, I was very pleased. And its lovely to be an ex clown. I wish I was still doing it because it's a good life it made my life look happy when I was a clown. Especially when I was going round different schools instead of pulling a tent down so I was very lucky doing that and my friend Ryan Ren he's on this picture still does a lot of games for me still so it's always good to see him and it was great that Toby played at Clown very good but the ring master was horrible because he didn't pay me the right money what I should have and Toby wasn't very happy about that because he had a right go at him. So, it's been great to have this book done, I forgot I had it. But this is the next chapter now so I hope it's going to be marvellous two next.

Tanya: Marvellous two, can't wait

Neil: I'm going to Hollywood as I said after the film but I said before the film ever started that we going to win 2 BAFTAS, they said don't be a fool Neil we won't win any so I said you wait and see. So, we did and we won two BAFTAS so I must be a famous man now I was very pleased to do that

Tanya: I think you are a famous man

Neil: any more questions?

Mandy – It's not a question but to add to that in terms of how famous Neil is we are trending on twitter at this present moment in time

Tanya: yay

Mandy – So there are lots of people paying attention to portraits untold

Tanya: That means everybody on twitter is watching us Neil

Neil: Yes I know

Tanya: That's because were marvellous

Neil: and even the prime minister I hope because we got another woman prime minister haven't we

Tanya: We have

Audience: What would you say to her Neil if she was on twitter today

Neil: If she can do her job right let her do it right but we are still in a mess and NHS I feel really sorry for Junior doctors today because we should be paying for it what a mess this government made.

Tanya: This is a good one

Audience: In marvellous I think Toby really portrayed your warmth in the film was it funny seeing yourself been played by somebody else?

Neil: It was very funny yeah, I tell you I thought there can't be two Neil Baldwin's there's only one, and that's me so I thought it was very funny what they did of Toby playing me. But when he got married last year when we did a film I said can I come and he said no you can't and I kept doing that every day for a week but were still good friends.

Audience: Like looking in a mirror when he was playing you

Neil: Yeah. But I know when we were having arty stuff done in a caravan I even had a lady that did my hair, she did my shave every day and I thought that was great because it saved me doing it.

Tanya: Now then where's Jackie gone, oh there she is. New faces in the audience here Neil and I see some familiar ones in the back there.

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: The lady who makes my legs at the back, give us a wave. Okay I think we have finished with the iPad. Sheep we wanted that in there Neil

Neil: Yeah please

Tanya: Can you hold picture of sheep out

Neil: If I can find it again yeah

Tanya: They look like mini ring masters don't they

Neil: Well what happened there was 3 of them and like a bath and they all got in the bath what a noise they made but it was great to hear it every day

Tanya: Where was that then? That was on the production?

Neil: Yeah outside the Keele office what we did

Tanya: Just stick a sheep here maybe. Il just do a sheep head shall I?

Neil: yeah

Tanya: I'm not very good at sheep. Sheep are not really my thing Neil. It's a pink sheep

Neil: That's good

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: I've got another thing about sheep

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: Now that Neil has been given the freedom of the City Stoke on Trent

Neil: And Newcastle

Audience: and Newcastle yeah one of the things he's entitled to do

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: Is take a flock a sheep through the city centre

Tanya: Oh

Audience: So I think a sponsored walk of Neil with his sheep through the middle of stoke would be entirely appropriate

Tanya: I think that would. I'm glad we have got a sheep in there now.

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: I'm going to have to take a photo of that sheep so I can build it in later when I get back to my studio, can I have the camera? We haven't got a flock though only got one

Neil: That's enough

Tanya: That's enough isn't it. Okay. Hold the book up straight Neil. A bit lower perfect. Brilliant. Now then the main portraits disappearing a bit now Neil I might have to pull it out a little now. Any questions on the line or anything?

Audience: Got a question for Neil about his drawing, Neil do you enjoy painting and drawing?

Neil: Yes I do

Audience: and what do you like to paint and draw?

Neil: Anything

Audience: Any favourites?

Neil: Any good pictures or sheep a church and a pub next and I think it's always good to do that you know.

Tanya: How about doing a drawing of me Neil?

Neil: Yes, I could do that

Tanya: Could you do that, could you get him some paper and, what would you like to draw with Neil a pencil what would you like?

Neil: Coloured pen or pencils

Tanya: Have a look

Audience: Neil we have another question from Gina

Neil: Oh yeah

Audience: Has the Neil Baldwin FC ever played at Wembley or any other famous stadiums?

Neil: We haven't played at Wembley but I hope one day we could do, and win the FA cup if we could.

Audience: Okay

Neil: But we play a lot of non-league clubs

Audience: Where?

Neil: a lot of non-league cups we played at so

Audience: where's your favourite apart from Stoke

Neil: Cambridge

Audience - Cambridge

Tanya: We have got a nice bit of sunlight coming in here now

Neil: Yes, we have

Tanya: That's giving me a good bit of light

Neil: Yeah should be alright

Audience: Got a question Neil but its requesting some information

Neil: Yes

Mandy – We are sitting in the Stanley Matthews lounge at Stoke City FC and believe or not there might be some people who are watching us especially online that might not know that much about Stanley Matthews. Can you tell us about him Neil?

Neil: Yes Uncle Stan as I always call him was always a great winger number 7 and he came from Stoke on Trent, from Hamlin and he was a great man. He was a footballer who deserved what he did and especially I know his daughter and I know young Stan as well so it's always great to see pictures of Stan. In my film, I even had a picture of him running on the pitch it was great so I'm very proud to be Stoke City Stanley Matthew.

Tanya: Because we are in this room its Stanley Matthew room isn't it

Neil: Yes

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: Right I've done a good picture

Tanya: Have you done it already

Neil: I think

Tanya: Oh you have yeah, hold it up so we can all see it, you need to sign that Neil.

Neil: I've put best wishes Neil Nello Baldwin good luck for 2017

Tanya: That's brilliant thank you Neil, we will have that Jackie do you want to take that

Neil: Thank you

Tanya: Well you do yours loads quicker than I do mine

Audience: Tanya I have a question for you actually

Tanya: Oh question for me

Audience: after portraits untold because obviously, this is the 3rd one, only one left in October

Tanya: Yeah

Audience: what's next for Tanya?

Tanya: what's next for me? Well what's next for portraits untold that's what we want to know really. I think we got lots of things we are working with the big draw who are an organisation who celebrates drawing that I've just been made an ambassador of, the big draw, would like to do some portraits internationally so we will have to get our thinking hats on for that one. We've got the exhibition tour of these paintings, don't know what else we got, conferences celebrating disability arts. We've got a big draw event at quot village hall yay! When are doing that?

Jackie – 15th October

Tanya: The 15th of October, we have, we are going up to Manchester this week to have an exhibition called outside exchange which is a collaborative contemporary art project, adventure arts. We will be exhibiting in the Manchester Contemporary, that's very exciting. I may need a little wee rest at some point. I think it's coming now Neil.

Neil: Lovely

Mandy – What about you Neil what have you got coming up in the next few couple of months?

Neil: at the end of September I'm flying out to Switzerland for a nice week's holiday so that's going to be good and next Sunday I'm down at Rovers Club giving a talk on my religious faith and bishop of Birkenhead and next Monday I'm down in London in DHL for a conference, Tuesday I'll be back at Keele signing new football player's I hope

Audience - So Keele University that's quite special in your life as well do you want to tell us a bit about Keele and what you do?

Neil: Yes Keele University is a great place, the best university in England because I've been there 58 years now and it's been a great time and I'm really happy what I've done at Keele. Especially in 2013 they gave me an honouree master's degree which was wonderful and great speech what I gave it would have been my dad's 100th birthday that day as well so it's been a great time and I know Malcolm had his share but Peter Balcombe the writer had his last year so it's coming in threes all the time so I'm very pleased.

Mandy – and this time of year at Keele University must be very busy for you then

Neil: Yes, it is because we have had more students this year and I'm very pleased that we have more students coming in each year so I'm very proud of been a Keele man and good luck to all the new faces that come this weekend

Tanya: Tell us more about the chapel because you showed me round didn't you

Neil: Oh yeah

Tanya: when you came last time

Neil: Oh yeah of course. Its 50 years old now and I'm very pleased to be there every Sunday if I'm not anywhere else it's always a great for me, as a place of god and a place of my living because I have always gone to church since I was that high and it's great to be a Christian as well because I know

every day is different and will always be different. When I get up in a morning I always like to do my bible readings first and rest of the day doing what I can

Tanya: Is that every day you do that

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: So what's your favourite hymn?

Neil: Old great valour

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: it's always been my favourite because as I've said Ken Dodd use to sing it and I've started singing it now and it's been a great hymn and I did it in Victoria hall not long ago when I was on a show where I was star of the show. When I walked in Victoria Hall

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: They said your dressing rooms upstairs so I went up there, it was great. Any more questions?

Tanya: anymore questions?

Audience: It's not so much a question Neil, we've talked about Stanley Matthews of course, and you are named after another great Stoke City player, do you want to tell us?

Neil: Yes, I'm named after Neil Franklin who was a centre at Stoke and what a great man he was as well he got my name Neil so that's happened because Neil Franklin scored a goal on one Saturday when I was born so my mum and dad said that's his name, and what a great man he was as well. We got another Neil in here tonight as well

Tanya: We have, the other half Neil

Neil: Yeah, your other half

Tanya: Has Neil done any drawings?

Neil: No he hasn't

Tanya: Oh he has

Neil: a very good one

Tanya: Keep holding it up Neil turn it this way, we got it, do you want to have a closer look Neil

Neil: No I've seen it its good I thought it was Winston Churchill

Tanya: Oh dear

Mandy – Neil we do have a question on you tube from someone called Maz,

Neil: Yeah

Mandy – So Maz says Hi Neil I sometimes don't try stuff because I'm worried I will fail. You seem to just get on with stuff can you give me some advice to help me get through some of that attitude

Neil: Yes just keep smiling and be happy in life and if you're not there's always a chance to change.

Tanya: Do you like giving advice Neil

Neil: Oh yeah of course

Tanya: You do. I can hear scratching pencils going on

Mandy – I think we have got another question from the audience for you

Audience: Tanya you have been painting lots and lots of famous people in the portraits untold but if you had to have a famous artist paint you who would it be?

Tanya: Who would it be? I'd have them lined up, no id quite like I keep forgetting his name he's just done a portrait David Hoknee I would like to sit down with David Hoknee and sort of like you know sort of paint with him, I don't think I could ever just sit and have my portrait painted id have to be painting at the same time so it's like a 2 way stream but I would of like David or Freud that would have been a good one, who else Maggie Hamlin sounds like a good one, who might talk to David Hoyle about that

Audience: Because you did a self-portrait as well fairly recently didn't you

Tanya: Yeah, well I've always done self-portraits but I haven't done any for a while I don't think, can't remember now. Coming on. It's quiet isn't it.

Mandy – I think we have got another question from the audience

Audience: Question for Tanya out of all the people you have done portraits of who's most easy or hard to do drawing of.

Tanya: Neil makes a very good subject because one Neil looks at me quite a lot which is good I think some people find it quite hard the eye contact, Neil's got a good charismatic face there's lots of life in there and you sit quite still for me Neil, you're doing a good job. Everyone's different, each portrait has its own battle and its own joys so you kind of do your research so you know who your subject is and then when you meet them you have to kind of go with what you've got there and then and you just respond to that. I think with this portrait overall it really feels like a sort of joyous moment of Neil's many stories and the interaction Neil has with people on a daily and a lifetime. So, that's what I'm getting in there. Looking good. I'm liking it anyway. The other ones, I don't know if you have seen any of the other portraits we have done, they are all online you can see what we've done. Evelyn was an interesting one, we did lots of playing canvases and instruments, she was facing the audience quite a lot so it was quite difficult to, she is very physical very animated and that's the way she communicates so that was a challenge. With John, again that was quite nice and easy because John was a very kind of face to face conversation that we had so that was an easier portrait as well. We've got that immediateness and intimacy you've got doing this kind of portrait there seems to be quite a lot of barriers that lower with people they let their guard down because it's quite a intermate thing even though you have got people watching you and you got the internet audience as well it's not quite the same as doing an interview because you have this other thing going on. Your drawing there, let's have a look. Cool.

Neil: Very good

Tanya: How do you feel about this portrait?

Audience: full of character, just like Neil

Tanya: and what do you think of the process of your doing the drawing as well, how is that working for you

Audience: well it doesn't compare to yours

Tanya: given you have got the choice of the piece of paper to do a drawing how is that? What's it like?

Audience: It's just a matter of where do you start I think

Tanya: Yeah, do you normally do drawing?

Audience: No

Tanya: Never so it's just something you have come here to experience brilliant. When is, a painting finished Neil? I don't know

Neil: When it's done

Tanya: When it's done yeah exactly I like that

Mandy – I noticed Neil one of the things you have got on your table that don't think we have had a story about yet is the hat

Neil: Yes this is my clown hat so it's always good to have it on sometimes but sometimes it falls off so I always keep it on straight so that's always good. So, I'm very pleased that this has been great today. An I'm just looking forward to seeing it on TV tonight so hope it's good.

Tanya: So that's a different hat so sometimes you wear the hat and not the wig when you're playing Nello

Neil: I always have it on as I'm playing Nello so.

Tanya: Yeah. I think we will have the camera now Jackie for a bit.

Mandy – Neil we have got another question from Maz via you tube she wants to know aside from the football ground what's your next favourite thing about Stoke?

Neil: It's a lovely city I had freedom of the city as well, I always think Stoke is a lovely place to live. It doesn't get flogged like some places do I'm very pleased that I'm from this area and proud to be.

Tanya: Was I reading in your book that your mums from Shropshire though, is that right?

Neil: She lived in Shropshire but she came from Birkenhead

Tanya: Oh. So where in Shropshire did she live?

Neil: Wem

Tanya: Oh that's not far from us

Neil: The smallest name 3 letters

Tanya: Nearly as small as quot, centre of the universe. Yeah so. Beavering away. We might have the iPad back in here Jackie

Jackie – Yeah

Tanya: I feel I need to do some drawings of the audience as the audience has been drawing me. We are doing lots of drawings today. I'm going to have to draw you guys now. I'll start at this side. What I'm going to do with these drawings later on when I get back to the studio is embed some of these

drawings into the painting. I get some fluid ink on a really thin brush and I'll project them on there. And then I'll paint them really quickly on there so I've got the audience.

Neil: Anymore questions?

Audience: Myself, Steven and Cameron just have a couple of hours in the morning to explore the town, we don't have very much time so I was wondering if there's somewhere in particular that you would recommend to see.

Neil: Trentham Gardens

Audience: Where?

Neil: Trentham Gardens

Audience: Oh right

Neil: It's a lovely place, there's a monkey forest park there as well but it's a great place to visit.

Audience: Is that near the train station

Neil: It's not too far away you could get a bus there. Outside the station there's a bus 21 that takes you right to Trentham Gardens and back

Audience: Thank you

Neil: So that be great plenty of lovely shops even Scottish shops as well

Audience: if you don't mind Neil seen as though it's the potteries that you visit the potteries museum and I know that Cameron is a very very clever potter he makes lovely things out of clay and I think the potteries museum would be absolutely brilliant in Hanley

Tanya: You use to work at the potteries

Neil: Yes, I did, and it's all closed down now and knocked down

Tanya: What did you do at the Potteries Neil?

Neil: In a glaze department

Tanya: Doing?

Neil: Dipping and all that you know

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: But I saw that the potteries weren't going to be any good now so that's why I left to become a clown and I'm glad I did

Audience: Question to Neil, if you look at the 4 great institutions which have been so important to you the church, Heele University, the circus and Stoke City which would you put as the most important to you? Or would you put them all equal?

Neil: All equal because it's always been a good life and I want to carry on in life doing what I'm doing because when I became a film star it was a great day and as I was at the BAFTA's I said I thank the lord for everything and at the end I said about the Queen she's still doing marvellous things at 90 she's doing great and one day I hope I get my OBE. That's what I'm going for.

Audience: Why just the OBE Neil what about the knighthood?

Neil: Get a knighthood as well but one of them has got to come. Not like David Cameron giving everyone one who don't deserve it.

Audience: Question for Neil there's obviously a love of Stoke City and football what other sports do you like? What other sports do you follow?

Neil: I love a boat race in Cambridge and Oxford I like any sport it hasn't just got to be football and there's a lot of sports that I love to do. This year I started boxing and it was great I put my boxing gloves on and I hit someone in the face, cut his lip open but I love doing any sport

Audience: Have you been watching any of the Paralympics?

Neil: yes and I think all them Olympic people some of them haven't got any legs at all, they have done wonders for this country and I'm glad we have won more gold medals than ever before.

Tanya: So Neil if you were going to do a Paralympic sport what would it be? What would your sport be?

Neil: rowing

Tanya: Oh yeah because you went to the rowing club didn't you

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Tell us about the rowing club

Neil: I've had a lot of good friends in the Cambridge crew but I know there's an Oxford member who was in the Olympic games and was when Steve Redgrave and what a great man he was because he wanted to come on my film and he did and it was a great thing to do. I know when we were doing a film I was there every day for 5 weeks and what a tiring job it was sometimes because when we were in Wexham we didn't finish until 1 o'clock at night and good job I had a hotel in Wexham instead of coming back home but it was great.

Tanya: I call this an Olympic sport you know standing up here doing this all day, how many hours are we doing it for? 7 or something.

Neil: 12 o'clock we started and its 6 o'clock now

Tanya: Well that's 6 hours now, I'm inventing it as an Olympic sport

Neil: Oh yeah it is

Tanya: I may get blades to do it in

Neil: I might as well

Tanya: Il see that woman at the back there see if she can manage it for me

Neil: But one thing I would like to say

Tanya: yeah

Neil: it was wicked when this government tried to cut handicapped people in this world. They never think about themselves they just think about what they want to do. An there was a MP Duncan Smith who brought this bedroom tax in this country it's a disgrace.

Tanya: It's a disgrace

Neil: The government have been one of the worse governments I have ever known. And I want to make it right so people in country live a good life. And always will. Thank you.

Mandy – We've got another question for Tanya

Tanya: Oh, go on then

Mandy – This has come in by text actually reaching all digital platforms today. They would like to know once you get the portrait back to your studio how many more hours will it take you and will you work on it straight away or will you go away and come back to it?

Tanya: Well I've got two in the studio at the moment from the last two sittings and I keep going in the studio and I'm just looking at them at the moment so what I'm going to do is I'm going to take this one back and one another portrait sitting to do in about 2 weeks' time so I'm going to wait until I've got all 4 of them in the studio and then I'll work on them together as a collection, I want them to have a collective feel enough though they are individual pieces and I shall work on each one of them. Each one of them is so different that it will probably take 3-4 days on each of them. But it's not full days it more like half days here and there it depends on how my feet are doing. My feet are killing me at the moment. So, I'll need a new leg.

Neil: And tonight you can have a good sleep

Tanya: I can have a good sleep

Neil: So Neil when you're in bed tonight wake up early in the morning

Tanya: Yeah so, we are going to work on them for another 5 or 6 days or something. Probably. I don't know it's like how long is a piece of string really. I might have this one, Neil's is long way forward so this portrait here might take me less time. Because it feels like it's well on its way this one.

Neil: The BBC are back

Tanya: The BBC are back midlands today. Okay now then. Maybe we will have one more volunteer, who wants to volunteer to come and do a drawing on the iPad to be projected?

Neil: I think you let the Scotsman do it again

Tanya: he's been up once anybody else? Any Stokey person? No. Nobody. Do you want to come? Yay

Neil: you know what they say in Stoke? Because you kick a ball against the wall and bossed it

Tanya: Might have to take the camera back out Jackie. Okay what's your name?

Adrian – Adrian

Tanya: Adrian. Cool bring your chair forward a little on to the mat

Adrian – Ok

Tanya: Have you ever drawn on an iPad before?

Adrian – I've never drawn on an iPad

Neil: first time for everything

Tanya: I'm going to put it down here, and give you this pencil, this is a special pencil designed to draw on this machine. So, when you draw the lighter you press the thinner the line the heavier you press the thicker the line. Draw our subject Neil

Adrian – Are you ready for this Neil?

Neil: Of course

Tanya: You draw it and I'm going to draw it as you draw it

Adrian – No pressure then

Tanya: no pressure. Cool.

Adrian – I'll tell you know I'm more of a cartoonist rather than an artist

Neil: That's alright

Adrian – If it looks a bit out of proportion

Tanya: coming up here

Adrian – sorry

Neil: don't worry it's alright

Adrian – I'm actually from the other university

Tanya: are you

Neil: Staffs

Adrian – Yes

Neil: I'll let you come from Staffordshire

Adrian – Thank you

Tanya: Is that near here?

Neil: Yeah, it's not too far

Adrian – You had your marvellous film shown there didn't you

Neil: I did yeah when the tv came down as well. So, what year are you at?

Adrian – I'm not I'm a manager there, thank you very much for saying I look young enough to be a student

Tanya: what do you teach there

Adrian – I teach a cartoon course I have some of my students in the audience there all looking shy sitting at the back

Tanya: There all shy sitting at the back

Neil: oh their students are they

Tanya: what made you come today then

Adrian – we just heard about it and thought it would be something different because always after something different to draw

Tanya: yeah

Adrian – and different environments to draw it in, and there's a couple of football fans, not of stoke city I think ones a Bristol boy, there's a Liverpool fan

Neil: on the 28th of November 28th of September my football team at Keele are playing staffs

Adrian – at staffs or

Neil: At staffs yeah 2 o'clock kick off

Tanya: how is it drawing on there then? If you've never drawn on one. I can't believe you're a cartoonist and never drawn on an iPad on a digital

Adrian – I have done an iPad we had wakeam tablets so this is something completely new

Tanya: I started off on wakeam tablets but I don't really like them I like the touch. If you want a rubber

Adrian – Oh no we don't mistakes do we

Tanya: We don't make mistakes we love all lines

Adrian – I want to ask you how did you get into rowing?

Neil: Just going to see Cambridge boat club and

Adrian – Cambridge boat club bet that was a bit of a trek weren't it

Neil: yeah but I was staying down there

Adrian – Oh right okay

Neil: I went there in the winter and I went down and stayed with them for a week and it was very good, very frosty in a morning mind. When I was in the circus we did Cambridge and all the Cambridge Boat Crew came to see me appearing in the circus that's how it first started

Tanya: We are hoping your voice is going to have been picked up on my mic

Adrian – Oh right sorry

Tanya: Lean towards me

Adrian – All over a sudden I feel dead nervous

Tanya: Sorry

Adrian – it's like your looking over my shoulder

Tanya: I'll look at these beautiful people, look at the lovely lady with the blonde hair round the back that is a good hair cut

Adrian – Have you ever wrote then Neil?

Neil: A little bit. I did a little bit one day that's all

Audience: Can I just say thank you very much for accommodating us at midlands today obviously, this is going out live on air but you can catch the edited package on our Facebook page it should be uploaded and Neil it's always a pleasure meeting you and talking to you hopefully I'll see you doing something else with your escalated fame in a few months' time again

Neil: Course

Tanya: Thank you

Neil: I would like to go on Grand Chester

Audience: Okay can't promise that

Neil: No but they promised me that I would go on it and I still haven't yet

Audience: Okay I'll feed that back to the powers that be, thank you very much to Tanya and Neil

Neil: Thank you

Tanya: We got a bit more in there now. Is that done?

Adrian – Yeah

Tanya: don't go over the sheep we will leave him in there. So, there's your drawing. Not too heavy in there so we can still get the Neil. Il probably put some washes over these figures to pull them out and merge them in again.

Adrian – great yeah thank you for that thank you for letting me use iPad and that

Tanya: Thank you brilliant. You know what I'm going to sit down Neil

Neil: You need a good sit down

Tanya: I'll keep this going, shall I? Does anyone want to join us as a talker as a conversational person come and have a chat with us.

Mandy – Or if your too shy you can do it from your seat I can pass you the microphone. Has anybody got any questions for Neil and Tanya? Now is the time to ask them you have only got this evening to do it.

Tanya: Anymore? What stories can we tell Neil?

Neil: We could do yeah

Tanya: what could we tell a story about now?

Neil: When I first became a clown it was one of my best days of my life.

Tanya: Yeah

Neil: But the best day of my life was when we won the BAFTA's because me and Malcolm went down and it was great to sit in the theatre royal at Drury lane and when they said marvellous had won I couldn't believe it but we had done it and I was very pleased to that. Because who expected me to be a film star I didn't.

Audience: I did

Neil: So it was great to do that in life and it's been better ever since. I usually go up to Hanley some Saturdays when Stoke aren't playing and everybody knows me everywhere and it's great to know people. I even went to Hull and on Hull Station there was a student who says are you Neil Baldwin? I said it could be and I'm glad I made a lot of people happy in life especially young children and handicapped people because I know what it's like to go around this setting and all round England talking about my life. I didn't expect all this publicity when I became a TV artist. But I knew Lord Sugar said to me one day that your film was the best thing ever on TV so was Greg Dyke, Greg Dyke was working for the BBC at Wembley when I went with Malcolm to see England and I even met the prime minister of Estonia that night and he signed a book. And I was very pleased because it's great to know what I've done in my life anybody can if they think about it. And when I became a TV star everybody kept asking are you going to be famous? The word I said was I hope one day I am and I'm glad I've been born in this area. I know Stan Matthews was a famous man in his time but somebody said to me the other day that you are the famous man in Stoke on Trent now. And aren't I proud of that, I'm really happy. Because if you're not happy you've got to try to be. And that meant in a school in south Africa a young boy who's mum died spoke to me on video last Christmas and said Mr Baldwin I want to meet you and we had a chat and it was great to see that boy happy in his life. And the school where he is have got that as a school motto now to be happy in life. I'm proud what I've done in my life. I know some years ago, I had a hip operation and I thought what a great thing to have an operation but I suffered for it because I was in hospital 30 days and I came out and I was fit as a fiddle but was always nice to get back home so you can have black curtains at night not like the hospital where I was because they had a window in roof and you couldn't sleep at night at all. But I was happy to be back home with my birds and happiness because you can't beat happiness in life. And even these Scottish people have come up its great to meet you because I've been to Scotland a couple of times and I was there for sports personality of the year when I sat next to Andy Murrays mum and she was very pleased to meet me as well. So, go out there and proclaim what you can do in life because you can.

Audience: Neil, you have talked about been happy and a lot of people decide they want to be happy or unhappy as you rightly quote in order to be happy some people feel the need to get married has that ever come close to you?

Neil: Not yet there's always plenty of time but I'm happy because my life has just become happiness to win at BAFTA's and you get all people in marvellous saying we won't but we did so.

Audience: There's never been a close Mrs Baldwin?

Neil: Not yet no

Tanya: have you got anybody in mind in the pipeline Neil?

Neil: If a girl wants me she can have me. I been to Gretna Green once but I didn't I came away.

Tanya: I'm just drawing Nello on top of your portrait here look at that, I quite like that

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: Have you got that drawing on their Neil? Your paper drawing of Nello?

Neil: No

Tanya: Oh no its here let me look I didn't get the eyes right did I, I need to do the eyes

Audience: Question for Neil, what do you think your mum Mary would have made of all this? Because she was always very keen to let you do what you wanted to do but always sometimes a bit worried about it

Neil: She would be proud I know she's looking at me now and its been wonderful to have a great mum a great dad I was happy in my life with my mum and dad you only have one so I'm glad everything's gone, after mum died I didn't know what I was going to do but I've made it to the top

Tanya: if your mum had been here we could have had your mum in the portrait too couldn't we

Neil: Yeah. I always remember these people who have been flooded since the rains began because it's a horrible mess, I always feel sorry for the people who are flooded at home. What did Mr Cameron say? Oh, the floods just come but it's wrong what they have done because people are living like that and its horrible the rain that we had last Tuesday that was bad as well, so always remember there's people in worse needs than we are. So always think about them. That's why I've got a good faith. Without Christ, you've got nothing. And I'm glad I've had a Christian faith brought up and its great.

Audience: Neil would you have preferred the Keele University of today or the of 50 years ago, when you and I first met because there quite different

Neil: Keele has always been my university and always will be, I know it was different in them days but it's still the same university today. And all the people I've met at keele all through the years, it must be millions of them and still some of them keep in touch.

Tanya: So how did you two first meet? Could you tell us a little bit?

Neil: Yeah you can do that

Tanya: You do that Neil, you tell us how did you meet Malcolm.

Neil: I just met him and that was it

Malcolm – It was pretty well as it was shown in the film I was 18 and I was away from home for the first time and Neil only 3 months older than me but actually I think when he was 18 he looked a bit older than 18 really

Neil: Thank you

Malcolm – Yeah and he was wearing a dog collar so he came up and welcomed me to Keele and I thought he was the university Chaplin not an entirely unreasonable assumption when somebodies like that and there we are. But I'm not the only person go on Neil tell us about when you first met George Eastern

Neil: The same thing happened to George Eastern he just moved in to Stoke on Trent from Arsenal and I knocked on his front door wearing a dog collar as well he says come in vicar, are you the local vicar? I said I could be. But what I had in my bag them days were autograph books so when I sat down I had a cup of coffee I pulled my dog collar off and said can you sign these books please? And he did. So, that's always been a happiness with me you see.

Malcolm – Would you have rather been a footballer or a vicar Neil?

Neil: I don't mind, I know I'm doing a lot in the church just lately but I'm doing what I can and somebody at Keele is a roman catholic Chaplin says you be seeing Neil in another 50 years so that's good if I can carry on. Any more questions?

Malcolm – What about the time you once fought the local vicar in Birkenhead?

Neil: Its made more better stories now because I'm doing a lot in Birkenhead just lately when I was there a week ago, so I was very pleased to stay at the bishops that night. That's my Phone.

Malcolm – It will be the arch bishop of Canterbury

Neil: Hello, hello Andrew, how are you? I'm just having my painting done my portrait but don't worry that's alright. I know you have that was very nice of you. Yeah. Did you go to the show? It was a good show so. Oh, did you. Did we have a programme or not? Oh. Right thank you very much. Right. Cheers. Bye. Sorry about that.

Tanya: Was it somebody famous Neil?

Neil: Somebody from the circus

Tanya: from the circus? Yay

Neil: Illusionist called Andrew he does a lot with me

Tanya: well that was good because I'm just drawing you as Nello quite liking that. Could you get a picture Jackie? I've got 5% left. Does it look like scary clown? What nightmares are made of. Do you want to have a look Neil?

Neil: Lovely

Tanya: let's see what it looks like. Does that show on the live streams? I think my gadgets going to die now Neil so we will be back to normal.

Mandy – We've had another message from You Tube from Maz firstly she wants to show it does show up on the live streams

Tanya: Oh brilliant

Mandy – So don't worry and she's also said I don't know if you have already answered this earlier to Neil, I find you really inspiring she said who would you say has been your inspiration?

Neil: Everybody.

Tanya: Everybody that you've ever met?

Neil: yeah

Mandy – have you not got a favourite?

Neil: Malcolm is one

Tanya: Have you known Malcolm the longest?

Neil: I think so

Tanya: yeah

Malcolm – I'm sure there's people you have known longer then me

Neil: Oh aye

Malcolm – What about your mum

Neil: Oh yeah

Mandy – What about you Tanya, who would you say is your inspiration?

Tanya: Neil is my inspiration for today but generally it depends if I'm an artist I would say Freda Carlow who painted herself and people but I think like Neil people generally who I find fascinating on a day to day basis. Marvellous.

Mandy – Tanya you are known as a portrait artist is there anything else you like to paint?

Tanya: I paint cats

Mandy – will you paint my cats for me?

Tanya: I will yes, get me a good photo

Mandy – I've got lots we will talk later

Tanya: Yeah, no I like cats and animals generally I try to do landscapes but I can't connect with the landscapes in terms of painting it, people are my fascination but I would say I was a painter of people rather than a portrait artist for me it's more about the essence in the life of the person. Cool anything else?

Mandy – we have time for 1 more question this is your last chance Tanya or Neil before we finish off this fantastic day

Tanya: I've got a question, how's the audience enjoyed it today? What have you liked best?

Cameron – Seeing you again Tanya

Tanya: Thank you Cameron, good to see me again, thank you guys for coming from Scotland. I've enjoyed painting your portrait Neil and all the other portraits that have come in from everybody else. It's a real circus picture I think.

Neil: Yeah

Tanya: What have you enjoyed today most?

Neil: all day, when I got up this morning I thought it won't be long enough and it would be lovely to see it on TV

Tanya: Yeah, well we will be seeing it later on wont we. Cool. Thanks to everybody for coming today thanks to everyone on our live stream social media. It's been a brilliant day. Thank you to Lane for doing signing. Thanks to Neil for sitting. Thanks to the audience for drawing and participating.

Mandy – and also Neil and Tanya you've sat through today and it's been an amazing day a marvellous day hearing about your life and after today it's going to be up on you tubes so you can watch the whole thing over again so you can watch yourself Neil as well see how many times you can watch this because I hear you have watched marvellous an awful lot of times.

Neil: 63 times

Mandy – Fantastic. See if you can get 63 viewings of your portraits untold in the next couple of years that would-be amazing

Tanya: So far Evelyn has got 909

Audience: Over a thousand

Tanya: John was 500 and something last time I watched so who knows how many people are going to watch yours Neil

Neil: Yes

Mandy – we would like to say thank you so much Neil it's been an amazing day and what better venue than Stoke City FC it's been fantastic

Tanya: I will be writing a blog all about today that will be on our portraits untold website soon and we have got one more sitting left which is on the 1st of October at Beningborough Hall in York which is a national trust property and we have got the performance artist David Hoyle with us there for the day so that will be another amazing portrait and the stories of his life. And that's also the beginning of the big draw month as well so a whole month of activity happening across the country. And then opportunity to see Tanya's final canvas when she's spent those 5 or 6 days she was talking about finalizing them all the canvas's will be shown on the 1st of December so that's an evening event so keep your eyes out for that one. And we will have the sitters there. So, you will be able to see Neil and his portrait and the national portrait gallery. Thank you very much that's a wrap.

Tanya: Thank you

[Transcript Ends]