

Charlotte rules the airwaves at the Beeb

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Up and coming star Charlotte Bardsley was a smash hit at the BBC 5Live studios as she took on Olympian Matthew Syed.

Charlotte, fresh from winning the Cadet National Cup in Preston, was invited to MediaCity in Manchester to record a match against Syed for a podcast also involving England cricket legend Andrew Flintoff and footballer turned pundit Robbie Savage.

The Flintoff, Savage and the Ping Pong guy programme is fast becoming a cult show on the station, and Flintoff and Savage had set up matches against Syed to see how many points they could take off him (in case you are wondering, the answer is 'not many)'.

Unbeknown to Syed, Charlotte had been watching in amongst dozens of BBC staff who gathered around the table, but Flintoff was in on the secret and invited Charlotte forward to take on his co-host Syed, who featured for Great Britain at the Barcelona 1992 and Sydney 2000 Olympics.

From the first knock-up rally, Syed knew he was going to be in a tough match against his 14-year-old opponent and they battled over the old-school 21-point format.

The match was put out live on the BBC Facebook page, which you can watch below.

The edition of the programme featuring the match is due to air at 10pm on Bank Holiday Monday and the podcast will be available to download by <u>clicking here</u> shortly afterwards.

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