# Charles Hanson and Catherine Southon spark controversy with bidding war on Antiques Road Trip



Recently, an episode of Antiques Road Trip showcased a lively auction between two notable figures in the antiques world, Catherine Southon and Charles Hanson. The pair embarked on an adventure across Sussex, culminating in a high-stakes bidding war in Kent that drew attention not only for its competitive nature but also for the underlying tensions that erupted during the auction. According to reports, suspicions were raised when Catherine insinuated that Charles may have solicited support from others to bid on his items, casting a shadow over the integrity typically associated with such events.

As the bidding unfolded for a black forest desk stand that Charles had originally purchased for £75, his exuberance turned the auction into a spectacle. The opening bid of £100 signalled the beginning of a frenetic exchange, with Charles enthusiastically encouraging potential buyers. Tim Wonnacott, the show’s narrator, set the scene, and amidst the competitive atmosphere, Charles's jubilance was palpable. His call to “Hello America” served as both a rallying cry to bidders and a reflection of his buoyant spirit despite Catherine's sceptical commentary.

Catherine's reactions were steeped in irony and disbelief, with her comments suggesting that she viewed Charles’s success with both awe and criticism. As the price soared to £250, her incredulity was evident — “How do you? Charlie! I'm amazed” — and her quip about needing a kiss in response to Charles’s triumphant moment underscored a mixture of camaraderie and rivalry.

The backdrop of this auction took on additional significance given Charles Hanson's recent legal troubles, which had previously led to a hiatus from the screen. Last year, he faced serious allegations of domestic violence, including claims of coercive control and assault against his wife, Rebecca. After a tense court case that left many in the public eye speculating about his future in television, Hanson was ultimately acquitted of all charges, a verdict he described as a long-awaited relief. Speaking to reporters outside the courtroom, he expressed profound gratitude for the ruling, stating, “I can finally live my life again,” underscoring the emotional toll the ordeal had taken on him.

The fact that Charles has since resumed his career on shows like Bargain Hunt, following his acquittal, signals a public readiness to accept his return and a broader societal tendency to move forward after significant controversy. Yet the close confines of Antiques Road Trip revealed the lingering tensions and complexities of their professional relationships, especially in light of recent events.

As the episode aired, viewers could not help but reflect on the interplay between personal turmoil and public personas. The lively auction hall underscored a blend of rivalry and professionalism, while the subtext of Charles’s past added a layer of poignancy to the typically light-hearted competition. Both Catherine and Charles are seasoned experts in their field, yet this encounter highlights how personal life challenges can intersect with professional pursuits, prompting a reevaluation of what underlies the glimmering façade of televised antiques appraisal.

In a world where exaggeration and theatrics frequently serve as entertainment, the raw emotions displayed in this episode reminded audiences that beneath the humour and bidding frenzy, real lives and stories unfold, sometimes marked by hardship and recovery. Whether future episodes of Antiques Road Trip will continue to capture such authentic moments remains to be seen, but the lively exchanges between Charles and Catherine ensure that the series will retain its charm, even amid the complexities of the individuals involved.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Paragraphs 2, 3
3. Paragraphs 2, 3
4. Paragraphs 3, 4
5. Paragraphs 4, 5
6. Paragraph 4
7. Paragraph 4

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/tv/bbc-antiques-road-trip-experts-31684834> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://news.sky.com/story/bargain-hunt-auctioneer-charles-hanson-cleared-of-coercive-control-and-assault-allegations-related-to-his-wife-13318790> - Charles Hanson, a prominent auctioneer known for his appearances on 'Bargain Hunt' and 'Antiques Road Trip', was acquitted of coercive control and assault allegations related to his wife, Rebecca. The charges, which included assault occasioning actual bodily harm and controlling behavior over an eight-year period, were dismissed after a four-and-a-half-hour jury deliberation. Hanson denied all allegations, claiming he was the victim of his wife's controlling behavior. Following the verdict, he expressed relief and a desire to move forward with his life.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-derbyshire-67932552> - Charles Hanson, a TV auctioneer featured on 'Bargain Hunt' and 'Antiques Road Trip', denied charges of assault and coercive behavior against his wife, Rebecca. The allegations included assault occasioning actual bodily harm and engaging in controlling and coercive behavior. Hanson appeared at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates' Court, where he pleaded not guilty to all charges. The case was transferred to Derby Crown Court for further proceedings.
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-derbyshire-67783755> - Charles Hanson, a TV antiques expert known for 'Bargain Hunt' and 'Antiques Road Trip', was charged with actual bodily harm after a domestic incident in Derbyshire. The charges included two counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm, two counts of assault, and engaging in controlling and coercive behavior. Hanson was released on bail and was scheduled to appear at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates' Court on 10 January.
5. <https://www.stratford-herald.com/national/charles-hanson-cleared-of-domestic-assault-allegations-after-four-hour-jury-wait-140546/> - Charles Hanson, a celebrity auctioneer known for 'Bargain Hunt' and 'Antiques Road Trip', was unanimously cleared of coercive behavior allegations made by his wife, Rebecca. The jury deliberated for approximately four and a half hours before acquitting Hanson of two assault charges and a charge of controlling and coercive behavior. Hanson expressed relief after the verdict and stated his intention to move forward with his life.
6. <https://metro.co.uk/2024/01/10/bargain-hunt-star-charles-hanson-pleads-not-guilty-assault-20091877/> - Charles Hanson, a star of 'Bargain Hunt', pleaded not guilty to charges of assault and coercive behavior against his wife, Rebecca. The charges included assault occasioning actual bodily harm and engaging in controlling and coercive behavior. Hanson appeared at Derby Magistrates’ Court, where he denied all allegations. The case was transferred to Derby Crown Court for further proceedings.
7. <https://www.nationalworld.com/culture/celebrity/charles-hanson-bargain-hunt-star-cleared-of-coercive-control-and-assault-allegations-against-wife-rebecca-5012598> - Charles Hanson, a 'Bargain Hunt' auctioneer, was unanimously cleared at Derby Crown Court of coercive control and assault allegations related to his wife, Rebecca. The charges included assault occasioning actual bodily harm and engaging in controlling and coercive behavior. Hanson denied all allegations, claiming he was the victim of his wife's controlling behavior. Following the verdict, he expressed relief and a desire to move forward with his life.