



# MY HAVEN – PIERS MORGAN

The journalist and chat show host, 49, in the 'man cave' bar at his Beverly Hills home

## 1 KIM'S ROUND!

I inherited this bar when I bought the house so I turned it into my 'man cave' filled with enough fine wine and crates of Jack Daniel's to keep even Johnny Depp happy. Most men I know would happily have Kim Kardashian in their cave. She gave me this cardboard cut-out of herself after a TV interview we did, and scrawled, 'Piers, Thanks for taking it easy on us' across it. The cut-out is 5ft 3in tall, which is both Kim's exact height – and the approximate width of her legendary derriere!

## 2 ELECTRIFYING!

I found this Underwood typewriter in a bookshop here – coincidentally it's the same as the one used by Kevin Spacey's character Frank Underwood in House Of Cards to write the fall-on-his-sword letter to the President that, ironically, saved him from the chop. I used a typewriter for my first shifts in Fleet Street in the 80s before computers took over. There was something electrifying about the way they clattered in a busy newsroom, and this will always remind me of those first steps.

## 3 THE OTHER PIERS

I was named after Piers Courage, the charismatic racing driver and heir to the Courage brewing dynasty, because my mother liked the name, and this is a rare first edition of a book about him. He was renowned for being a brilliantly talented but often wild and erratic driver both on and off the circuit. Tragically, he was killed in a crash at the Dutch Grand Prix in 1970 when he was just 28. I know some of his family and they still talk about him with awe and a twinkle in their eyes.

## 4 I'M MARMITE

My mother had this made for me when I took over Larry King's talk show on CNN in 2010 – the silver lid is embossed with the title of my show, Piers Morgan Live. Mum knows I love Marmite, but she also accepts that not everyone shares the unconditional love she has for her eldest son! So this pokes fun at my image, akin to Marmite's 'You either love it or hate it' slogan. My family all subscribe to my grandmother's maxim: 'One day you're cock of the walk, the next a feather duster.'

## 5 HE DID IT HIS WAY

I bought this ukulele for the multi-billionaire American businessman Warren Buffett when he appeared on my old CNN show because I knew he could play it – then persuaded him to sing My Way on air with it. It was poignant to hear such a great man, nearing the end of his life – he's 84 – crooning about having to face the final curtain. He signed the ukulele, 'To Piers, a great partner, best wishes, Warren.' Of course, if we ever had been partners I'd be worth about £25bn!

## 6 BULLDOG SPIRIT

This is a vintage Huntley & Palmers biscuit tin I found at a Santa Monica flea market. The photograph was taken during World War II and I love Churchill's demeanour in it: scowling, defiant, belligerent. I keep Montecristo No.2 cigars in it. On the wall to my left I have a series of framed original San Francisco Chronicle front pages reporting the Battle of Britain. I like to sit beneath them with a whisky and a cigar, summoning the Churchillian spirit when things get tough.

As told to Rob McGibbon. A new series of Piers Morgan's Life Stories airs on ITV in spring.

## LOOK WHO'S 34

It's Holly Willoughby's birthday this week, but how well has she aged compared with her peers?



**IDO** Queen Victoria married Prince Albert 175 years ago on Tuesday – the first reigning Queen of England to marry since 1554