Formula 100

Some time, last year, our science teacher asked us if anyone wanted to take part in a competition, a few of us said yes, and were intrigued by the challenge, invent the future. Simple, come up with an invention that would make the world a better place. We were all full of ideas, from luggage trackers to medical items, but in the end, I chose a roof box… It wasn’t your ordinary Halfords deluxe extreme spacious 4000 model though (plus, I doubt that is real), no, no, this was the Sun Box Roof Box Solar Box Thing That Needs a Better Name, catchy, I know. Aside from its silly name it was a genuinely good idea. It would use the sun to generate energy, using solar panels, and use that energy to charge your phone or at a push run your aircon, permitting it was a sunny day… Now the idea was there I just had to make a video on it, so one night I grabbed a camera and went outside, only to find it was dark, and went straight back inside, to animate something on my laptop instead. The next morning it was complete and after sending it back to our science teacher, I waited, and waited some more, until I got an email, saying I had been shortlisted out of thousands, down to three of us. The other two were from England and around the same age as me and had, well frankly terrible ideas, a pill you inject into your gran to keep track of her, eh..., no thanks. Anyways now I was shortlisted I had to make another video, this time sadly with my face… I basically said what I said first time round, it is a box, on your car that gives you energy, in fact it is still on YouTube if you want to see it, just search for Your Life. The video was used as a judging tool, depending on who had the most likes would win, but this only counted for twenty percent of the final decision, meaning the judges, the likes of Dyson and some other big companies had the last say. After the video went live I was on STV’s Live at Five show getting people’s attention and on the Radio, where I sounded like Andy Murray, but hay. Some time passed and the video was still getting likes and I was in the lead, but then an email appeared in my inbox from Your Life, they had invited me down to London for a prize giving ceremony, more specifically the Olympic Velodrome. At this point I then spoke to Your Life who told me the outcome so I didn’t find out on the day, but I will save that for later. The time approached for my trip to London and as we arrived at the velodrome we were flooded by other school children there for the event and then we were shown inside to the private area for *important people,* a place I definitely didn’t belong. At this point I decided to enjoy a cake and was then told to head down to the floor, where we were meeting companies like Google. Who gave me a free Google Cardboard, but that story is for another day… The time arrived to find out who had won, and none other than Beth Tweedle was presenting the awards, it was time, did I win. No. Well I just wasted your time, you were expecting a story about me winning, well sorry to say, I didn’t win, but I didn’t lose either, they never mentioned it, so in my mind, I came second.

Callum Sergeant, S2