

Hasselhoff quits Doctor Who film

The set of the new Doctor Who film was reeling with shock last night after lead actor David Hasselhoff stormed out of the studio, vowing never to return.

Hasselhoff, 45, star of Baywatch, had only recorded three minutes worth of footage for the movie Last Of The Time Lords before a furious row with co-star Eric Roberts blew up. Roberts, playing the Master for the second time, allegedly made an off-the-cuff remark about Knight Rider, one of Hasselhoff's old programmes, which led to a bit of pushing and shoving. Stunned technicians attempted to stop the brawl, but it became even more nasty when Hasselhoff made an obscene comment about Julia Roberts, and how she was much more famous than her brother. English actress Nicola Bryant, starring as Peri in the film, told us exclusively: "Eric was stunned by this comment, as he hates being reminded that Julia is more popular than he is. He called David an 'asshole' and demanded an apology." Hasselhoff then apparently told director Robert Zemeckis, who had just arrived, that he could "stick the film" up his "ass", and stormed out of the studio.

Paramount Pictures have refused to discuss the incident, saying there are "one or two internal disputes", but they are "nothing that cannot be sorted out". Hasselhoff's agent, however, has confirmed that his client has quit the film. "It was always his dream to play the Doctor", he said, "But I can confirm that David has resigned from Last Of The Time Lords. He is sorry to let down his fans in this manner, and he wishes them all the best."

Rumours are now circulating in Hollywood as to who will replace Hasselhoff as the Doctor. There will be more news on Last Of The Time Lords in next month's Newsletter.

THE NEWSLETTER

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EDITED BY RICHARD SCHLICKER

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Look WHO's Talking!

This month, we present an archive recording of the late, great Jon Pertwee and Nicholas Courtney, discussing their time as the Doctor and Brigadier....

Nicholas Courtney: "We've seen some times, eh Jon? The Axons, the Daleks, Omega...."

Jon Pertwee: "And the Master. Don't forget Roger Delgado."

NC: "As if I could!"

JP: "And the terrible Spiders...."

NC: "Who?"

JP: "Oh of course, you stayed on Earth. It was dear Lizzy Sladen who met them. It was in Planet Of The Spiders, 1974."

NC: "Jon, you're right."

JP: "I usually am. Do you remember where you were when you heard I was leaving the show?"

NC: "As a matter of fact, yes I do. I was a bit thirsty on the set, and I'd gone with Richard Franklin to fetch some cocoa."

JP: "I see. So you'd.....fetch a tin of WHAT?"

NC: "Jon, I'm not following you."

JP: "No, it is a little confusing, isn't it? Oh well, I....look out, AUTON!"

NC: "For Christ's sake, Jon! You scared the living daylights out of me. Lets talk about some of your favourite misspellings of your name."

JP: "OK. My favourite has to be Jan Putrid. It always makes me chuckle. Now then, Nick, what about the filming of Inferno? Did anything happen....involving....eyepatches?"

NC: "Doh!"

**NICHOLAS COURTNEY
and JON PERTWEE**

William Hartnell in swearing furore

The Doctor Who world was shocked last week when some archive footage of William Hartnell using obscene language in character as the Doctor was unearthed in an attic in Bedford. Hartnell, who died over twenty years ago, was always seen as quite a gentlemanly figure, but out-takes from The War Machines (1966), show a different side to the man. At one point, he tells Michael Craze (Ben Jackson, a sailor) to "fuck off", then a few seconds later calls Jackie Lane (Dodo) a "dirty little whore." Later, he fondles Anneke Wills' breasts and refers to "wanking". Other incidents include Hartnell breaking wind and laughing about it, calling Innes Lloyd a "fat bastard" and trying to write the word "bollocks" on the door of TARDIS. Fans of the programme have been terribly shocked by this footage. "It is heartbreaking", says Griff Rhys Jones, a lifelong Who fan and Hartnell aficionado. "I always saw him as a true gent, but this recording of him swearing has shown him in a new light. I'm really upset about it." However, Russell Enoch, who played Ian Chesterton in Doctor Who, says that the footage is actually a brilliant forgery, and that Hartnell is being lambasted for something he didn't do. "Those tapes are crap", says Enoch. "I have studied them, and it is quite clear that someone has overdubbed Bill's voice with that of someone else swearing. He could never say those words, particularly in front of women. And all that alleged fondling and stuff, well...it's all TV trickery." The tapes have been passed on to experts for their opinions, and one has already denounced them as a "cheap, and particularly nasty, trick." However, whether they are fraudulent or not, it will be difficult to look at William Hartnell in the same way in the future.

Your Letters

Angry, or unhappy, or perhaps elated by something you've seen or read in the Doctor Who world? If so, why not write in to us, and share it? The address for all your letters is.....

THE NEWSLETTER,
23 CHANEY SQUARE, LONDON W127RJ.

Dear Sir,

I have just finished reading the letter from last month concerning The Eight Doctors by Terrance Dicks, and I have to say a pattern is emerging involving Who adventures with the word 'Doctors' in the title. Think about it - The Three Doctors was a lot of backslapping with some terribly unrealistic aliens, the Brigadier's pompous buffoonery and Bill Hartnell's illness; The Five Doctors was dreadful, with Richard Hurndall and Philip Latham going way over the top; The Two Doctors was terrible, particularly the 'gourmand' gag, and now this: The Eight Doctors is a book so lightweight I could stuff my elderdown with it, and the character of Sam is a dire mistake. Even the bloody telemovie was better than this! Come on BBC - Buck your ideas up!

Yours Sincerely, Eric Luskin, Ohio

Wise words, Mr. Luskin. Any complaints about The Devil Goblins From Neptune, which says that the Pertwee era takes place in a parallel universe where the Beatles are still going, with Klaus Voorman on bass instead of 'Fab Macca'?

Dear Sylvester McCoy,

I am writing to say that I am shocked by your revelation in last month's Newsletter that you had been over indulging in alcohol during your brief appearance in the Doctor Who film. What in God's name were you thinking of, revealing this to your young audience? Even worse, you used the word 'p---ed', a shocking heathen phrase meaning drunk. In the current sad state of the world, actors such as yourself should be setting a moral example, not drinking heavily and breaking wind. Surely as a Time Lord, you should be able to make the world a better place. Yours Sincerely, Francis Drake, London EC5. **Sylvester McCoy replies: "I apologise to Mr. Drake if he was offended by my remarks in the last edition of the Newsletter. I might have miscalculated, but I have to explain to him that I am not a Time Lord. I am far more than just a Time Lord."**

Dear Sir,

Ever since the Newsletter split up with DWAS, I have noticed that some rather obscene language has crept onto its pages. Please let us have no more of this rudeness, which is absolutely disgraceful, particularly to gentlemen of the cloth like myself.

Yours sincerely, The Right Reverend Reverend Wright, KYTV, Canary Wharf, London S2.

We would like to assure all readers that we print the occasional cuss word to provide a strictly accurate report of what people have said, and in now way print them for any crude titillation.

The Doctor's Choice!

In this special edition of The Doctor's Choice, David Troughton, son of the late Patrick Troughton, chooses what he thinks would be his father's favourite Doctor Who stories.....

Doctor	Favourite memory
Bill Hartnell	Dalek Master Plan
Pat Troughton	All of them!"
Jon Pertwee	The Three Doctors
Tom Baker	Warriors Gate
Peter Davison	Mawdryn Undead
Colin Baker	The Two Doctors
Sylv McCoy	n/a
Paul McGann	n/a
Peter Cushing	Dr Who & The Daleks

David Troughton's selection of what he remembers his father liking: "Dad always loved Bill's comedy films, and he really enjoyed it when he wished everyone a merry Christmas. I couldn't select one that he liked most of all out of his own work, as they're all great, and I know he loved every single one of 'em! He never really got on with Jon Pertwee. He thought that he was a bit arrogant, so he would have chosen the Pertwee adventure that he starred in, The Three Doctors. He didn't really watch much of Tom's tenure, due to acting commitments, but I do remember him loving the one with K9 and Romana leaving in a big white void. Brilliant, as he used to say. Now he really found Peter quite adorable, and I worried about his sexuality for a while, but my mother explained it was just part of some research he was doing for a film where he played a gay role. Dad was a great student of the method, after all. He particularly enjoyed Mawdryn Undead, seeing Nick Courtney in role as the Brigadier again. Now there really was only one Colin Baker story for Dad, and that was what Bob Holmes called The Toe Doctors. Loads of fun, and a free holiday for Dad. Brilliant! Now of course, Sylvester McCoy and Paul McGann came along after Dad passed on, and I don't know what he would think about David Hasselhoff playing the Doctor, but he would like another Who film! He liked Doctor Who and the Daleks immensely, although he thought Peter Cushing was not masculine enough in Daleks: Invasion Earth 2150 AD. I'd like to thank all Who fans for their continued devotion to the memory of my father, and their very generous contributions to the Troughton Foundation, which is making a healthy profit. Thanks."

.....AN APOLOGY.....

IN LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER WE PRINTED A STORY CONCERNING ANTHONY AINLEY BEING ARRESTED FOR DRUNK AND DISORDERLY BEHAVIOUR. WE NOW ACCEPT THAT MR. AINLEY WAS NOT INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT IN ANY WAY, SHAPE OR FORM. OUR REPORT CAME FROM A PREVIOUSLY RELIABLE SOURCE, WHO HAS NOW BEEN MADE REDUNDANT BY MAGNUS AND LUXOR PUBLISHING. WE APOLOGISE TO MR. AINLEY AND HIS WIFE FOR ANY DISTRESS WE MAY HAVE INADVERTENTLY CAUSED.

The Greatest Show In The Galaxy to appear on video this Autumn

Popular 1988 Doctor Who adventure The Greatest Show In The Galaxy may finally be released on video this Autumn, after five years of protracted legal wrangling.

The final story in Sylvester McCoy's second season as the Doctor was originally intended for video release in March 1992, but a lawsuit from Michael Grade, former head of BBC1, prevented this. Grade alleged that the whole story was an attack on his way of running the BBC. In an affidavit dated January 1992, he claimed that the Psychic Circus which featured in the story, was meant to be BBC1, and its owners, the evil Gods of Ragnarok, were meant to be him and Head of Serials Jonathan Powell. The Gods were cruel tyrants, who killed anyone who failed to entertain them. However, an independent adjudicator has ruled that there is no parallel between Grade and the Gods, so a video release is now tentatively pencilled in for October. Jonathan Powell, now retired from the BBC, is furious. "Those cheeky bastards have stitched us up", he says. "It was all a piss take of me and Michael, and was hated by all the fans, because of Whizz Kid [a parody of anally retentive fans]. It will flop on video." Doctor Who fan and TV critic Sam Brady disagrees. "The whole of fandom has been waiting for this for years", he says. "It finally shows that the Beeb agrees that Grade was the worst thing to happen to the corporation for years. Look at what he did for us. Bloody Neighbours, EastEnders, and all that nonsense. What is the country coming to? A far better person to run the BBC would have been Brett Anderson of Suede, who understands the heritage of England's television."

My Favourite *Who*: Morrissey

This month, the former lead singer of the Smiths and noted Stretford bard Morrissey takes time out from his busy schedule to announce his favourite episodes of Doctor Who:

1. THE HIGHLANDERS (1966)

"Well, you know, this one had some wonderful cross-dressing from Patrick Troughton, which was rather lovely. It was such a shame when he died. I was sad, and envious. I think that Doctor Who fans should have a voice, and not suppressed. But what do I know? I'm not some yokel who lives in a mud house eating straw, you know."

2. THE AWAKENING (1984)

"This was quite quaint, really. It was set in this English village and it came out around the same time that the Smiths' first LP was released. It was quite frightening, particularly when they were in that underground passage escaping from the Malus. I remember thinking, that tunnel will collapse....."

3. THE INVASION OF TIME (1978)

"I still had my lucky lisp when this story came out, so I had only a few mates. One of them told me to watch this. There speaks a true friend, thought I. It had some Sontarans in it, but I don't think that the Vardans and the Sontarans will ever really get along. This was quite a good Sontaran story, but The Time Warrior wasn't. It should never have come out. It was very badly mixed. I didn't like it at the time, but Johnny (.that's Johnny Pertwee, of course) did. Have you ever made love on a rubber mat whilst smeared in custard? It's a terrible yawn."

Morrissey's new album, *Maladjusted*, is available now from Mercury Records.

Competition

Have you ever wondered what it's like to walk into your local pub dressed as a Cyberman? Or perhaps go shopping wearing the fearsome costume of the Raston Warrior Robot? If so, you're in for a treat! The winner of this month's competition will get a Who costume of their choice to wear for the day. And it's just so simple. Answer the following question, and send it to our usual address.....

Question: What is the Christian name of the Doctor's companion Turlough?

THIS COMPETITION IS ONLY OPEN TO READERS AGED EIGHTEEN OR OVER. THE EDITOR'S INDECISION IS FINAL. CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 25/4/98.

Tom Baker in recording studio fracas

Tom Baker was last night facing charges of criminal damage and threatening behaviour after trashing a BBC recording studio in South London.

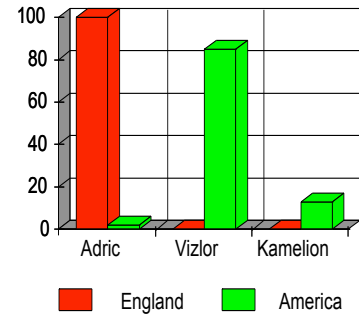
Baker, who along with Elisabeth Sladen and Nicholas Courtney was recording the latest Doctor Who radio adventure, *Destination: Pescaton*, had apparently been drinking heavily prior to the recording session.

"Things started well", says our BBC insider. "But Tom had started quaffing whiskey to help his voice, and soon he became incapacitated. Nick and Liz were a bit concerned, but they were used to eccentric studio behaviour from Jon Pertwee so they ignored it. Then, for no reason, Tom erupted and began smashing things, bellowing something about 'the heartbeat of a killer' and 'my dears'. It was frightening to watch. He was like a maniac."

Barry Letts, producer and writer of *Destination: Pescaton*, was slightly injured in Baker's drunken rampage. "I tried to stop Tom urinating on some sensitive microphones", he explains. "But Tom pushed me out of the way, saying something about 'Logopolis' and 'the sports car'. I slipped and hit my head on the floor. I was lucky." The rampage, which lasted little over three minutes, caused over £50,000 pounds worth of damage. Baker passed out in a drunken stupor a few moments later. When he awoke, he claimed to have no memory of the wanton destruction, and managed to carry on with the session. The BBC are considering pressing charges, although Nicholas Courtney has put in a personal plea for Baker, saying that he was "tired and emotional" after a fight with his wife Sue Jerrard. *Destination: Pescaton*, a sequel to Victor Pemberton's classic 1976 adventure *Doctor Who And The Pescatons*, is due for broadcast in early 1998. Other guest stars due to appear in the story include Sean Bean, John Scott Martin, and Hugh Laurie as the King Pescaton.

Doctor Who Survey

Peter's Friends



Who was the best male companion to accompany Peter Davison in the TARDIS?

The results, as you can see, were quite a shock. The American results, with a staggering victory for Vizlor Turlough, are predictable enough, but the one hundred percent victory for Adric in the English voting system is almost unbelievable. The Newsletter will be looking into this matter very carefully, to see if there has been any foul play.

THE NEWSLETTER

SEVERAL READERS HAVE WRITTEN IN ASKING WHY WE NO LONGER PRINT THE EXTENDED LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE NEWSLETTER. THE TRUTH IS THAT VERY FEW OF THOSE PEOPLE EVER ACTUALLY WROTE FOR THE NEWSLETTER, AND THE WHOLE THING WAS A SPOOF. UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NOW BEEN THREATENED WITH LEGAL ACTION FOR USING THEIR NAMES, AND HAVE HAD TO RETRACT THIS FEATURE PERMANENTLY. WE APOLOGISE TO ALL READERS FOR THE SAD DEMISE OF THIS FEATURE. PRINTED BY MAGNUS & LUXOR PUBLISHING, (C) 1997.

"I WONDER, SIR CHARLES, DO YOU SUPPOSE.....? NO. I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU DO."