

GARETH HUNT

The ex-*Avenger* and star of TV's newest soap on his short fuse, naturally curly hair and tendency to weep

Where do you live and why?

I live in Surrey, it's convenient. It's close to London and near to the boys' school. There are enough trees to make you think of woods and enough roads to make you think you're in London.

Your house is on fire. What two things would you rescue?

I'd get the kids and pets out, then it would have to be my fire insurance policy and a family photo album that my son made for me. There's nothing else to take, as the burglars took it all last year.

What single thing would improve the quality of your life?

World peace and understanding different cultures.

What is your worst habit?

According to my wife, it is spitting out the husks of popcorn. And I agree with her.

What most annoys you?

People who spray graffiti over sheds and windows of trains. That really annoys me.

What is your most loathsome characteristic?

I've got a short fuse when I'm driving. I try to curb it, tell myself that everything is OK and try to keep calm, but when the white van man has cut you up for the eighth time, it's hard.

Do you think it is better to have suffered unrequited love than to have never loved at all?

I was going to pass on this one but I've decided that you should suffer some unrequited love - why not?

Has it happened to you, then?

I think it's happened to everyone. When I was about 12 I had the first pangs of infatuation for a girl who lived round the corner. I gave her a plastic purse - or something dreadful - and she sent it back. I was devastated.

What is your favourite drink and why?

A cold real ale in the summer because it's thirst-quenching, and mulled wine in the winter. Drinking it is like wrapping a scarf around yourself when you're cold; it's very comforting.

Tell us about last time you got drunk?

I get very verbal when I'm drunk. About three or four months ago I had a huge drunken discussion about world affairs. It's always topics like religion or politics that you tend to talk about when you're drunk. But if it was played back to you in the morning it would make no sense.

What last made you cry?

I get really weepy when I watch films. *Saving Private Ryan* did me in like a kipper. I'm an old softie; tears come to my eyes quite easily.

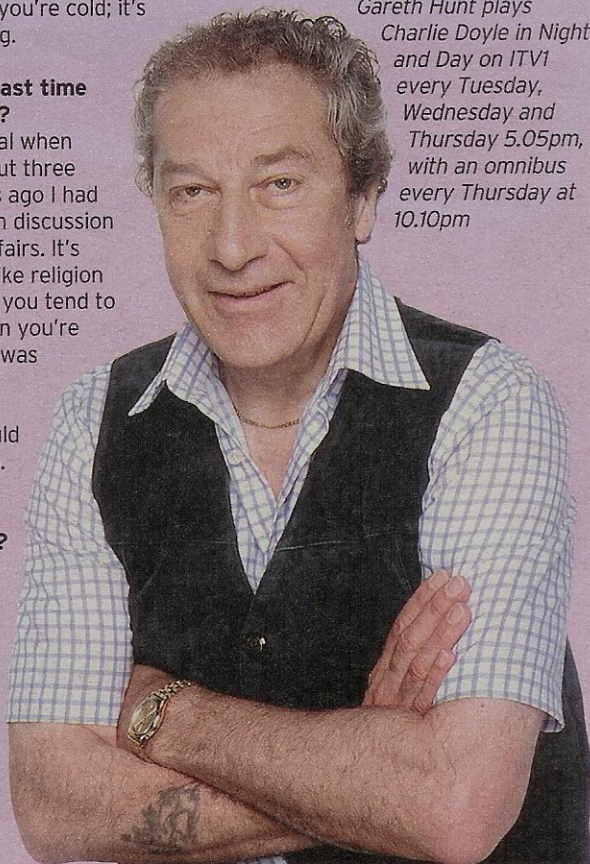
What's the biggest lie you've ever read or heard about yourself?

People have said that my hair is permed, but it's naturally curly.

If you were only allowed one film, one CD and one book for the rest of your life, what would they be?

The original version of the film *All Quiet on the Western Front*, some Presley and any of the orchestral movements and the complete works of Shakespeare as I haven't ever read them all.

Gareth Hunt plays *Charlie Doyle in Night and Day* on ITV1 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 5.05pm, with an omnibus every Thursday at 10.10pm





HUNT, Gareth
Actor, b. 7 February 1943 London.
Trained at the Webber Douglas
Academy of Dramatic Art.
Worked in rep, RSC and the
National Theatre. Stage incl:
Conduct Unbecoming; Alpha Beta;
Deathtrap; Run For Your Wife. Films
incl: *Licensed To Love And Kill, The*
World Is Full Of Married Men; The
House On Garibaldi Street. TV incl:
Upstairs, Downstairs; The New
Avengers; That Beryl Marston...!; A

Hazard Of Hearts, Shaping Up. m.
(1st) Carol (dis), (2nd) Anette; 2 s.
Gareth (from 1st m.), Oliver-Leigh
(from 2nd m.) Address: c/o ICM,
London Birthsign: Aquarius.
Hobbies: golf, keep-fit, squash,
cricket. **Most Cherished**
Possession: My father's ring'
Favourite Memory: 'Being
present at the birth of Oliver.'