

# RALF LITTLE



Actor, writer, producer, Ralf Little has carved a successful career for himself as one of Britain's most enduring stars. His face has been on our TV screens for two decades in well-known roles and he is an Olivier nominated regular at the Royal Court Theatre, National Theatre, and West End. He started on what is still considered one of the country's most beloved sitcoms, *The Royle Family* - which earned thirteen BAFTA nominations and two wins - before going on to star as Jonny in the long running and popular hit sitcom *Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps*. He has also appeared on numerous other popular TV series, including *Our Zoo* (2014), *Lewis* (2015), *The A Word* (2016), and *Doctor Who* (2016) to name a few.

In 2002, Ralf penned and hosted his own BBC3 chat show, *The Ralf Little Show*, whose guest list featured Martin Freeman, David Walliams, Matt Lucas, Mark Gatiss and Reece Shearsmith. Following its success, Ralf decided to try his hand at more writing. His first online novel *The Golden Generation* (co-written with Stephen Morris) was published in 2007, and the proceeds were dedicated to Shelter, a charity focused on ending homelessness. He went on (alongside Michelle Terry) to write, create, and star in Sky One's comedy *The Cafe* (2011) as well as the hugely popular one-off episode 'Space Age' for *Playhouse Presents* (2014), which broke ratings records for its transmission slot.

Starring alongside the likes of James Corden, Simon Pegg and Kevin Spacey, Ralf's film credits encompass Michael Winterbottom's *24 Hour Party People* (2002), *The Waiting Room* (2007) and *Telstar* (2008), all of which have achieved great critical acclaim. He is a London theatre regular from the National Theatre to the Royal Court to recent West End shows, *Dead Funny* and *Lady Killers*. He earned an Olivier Award nomination for Most Promising Actor for his portrayal of the young George Harrison in *Presence* at the Royal Court Theatre and has been called a "National Treasure" by *Fabric Magazine*. Little is a much sought after voice over artist who has vast experience in commercial, narration, and performance voice over. Ralf is a UK Citizen with papers and based between London, NYC, and LA.

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POWER OF PLANTS

**THE ART  
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INSPIRATION

## NATIONAL TREASURE

RALF LITTLE ON TAKING TO THE STAGE AT THE NATIONAL

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# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Print Press)

Total TV

# The next wave

Ralf Little takes over the lead, playing DI Neville Parker, the new cop on the Caribbean island of Saint Marie

**DRAMA** BBC1 • THURSDAY  
**DEATH IN PARADISE**  
Episode five

Long-time fans of the show will have spotted you in 2013! No, that was somebody else! That was not me. It was an extremely handsome actor, who looks a bit like me, and sounds a lot like me, but it was definitely not me, so you don't need to worry about that. Somebody said, 'Oh so you were in it before. Same character?'; I went, 'No a

different character, and my friend was like, 'How are you going to deal with that?' I'm just going to pretend it didn't happen. Peter Capaldi was in *Doctor Who* before he was The Doctor, so if they can do it, we can do it. It's fine.

**Did that mean you knew what to expect and was that helpful in making your decision?**

Well, you say making my decision - it took about half-a-second. 'Do you want to be the lead in

*Death in Paradise*?' 'Yes please!' There was no agonising over that one. But it did help, actually. It was useful to not be landing into the unknown, to know the landscape a little. That said, that was series two, back in 2013, and a lot has changed since then. It's amazing what they've achieved, because now there's a whole infrastructure there. This time around it was sort-of like arriving into a well-oiled machine.

**Did you have to be super-secretive about landing it? Absolutely. I had to be very**

careful with who I told. I couldn't even tell my friends. I told my mum. Obviously I told my other half because we needed to plan what on earth we were going to do with five months of our lives. When we announced it they showed a picture, but from the back. So it was like, 'Who's our new detective?' After a couple of days two or three people were independently putting it on Twitter and

Instagram. I thought it might be Ralf Little so I checked out the name of his other half, checked out her Instagram, she's been posting pictures of the Caribbean for the last month, he's only just joined Instagram, he only follows five people and one of them's Shyko Amos [who plays Officer Ruby Patterson], so it's definitely him. I was like, 'You should be running the show - that's unbelievable!' It was very impressive.

**How would you describe DI Neville Parker?**

Neville's thing is focusing slightly obsessively on an inconsequential detail that everybody else thinks is irrelevant, and using that as the kind of hook to go, 'Wait a second, if this is like this, then surely that has a ripple effect for everything else?' He's also a man who doesn't get on with being on the island. Neville loves the island

but the island doesn't like him very much. He's allergic to everything. The sand brings him out in a rash, he can't swim in the sea because there's a certain type of acidity, the sun plays havoc with his scalp, and so on.

**Was there lots of make-up to bring these allergic reactions to life?**

There were a few rashes and mosquito bites and sunburns that I had to deal with. We had a great make-up team. They've painted almost every inch of me one way or another, on some level. We had to get to know each other very quickly.

**Were you a fan of the show?**

Not only was I a fan, I'd already watched it before I was in it the first time, so I was delighted to go and do it. I knew Ben Miller a little bit and then I got to know him really well doing the show. I've watched it throughout all the Kris Marshall and the Ardal O'Hanlon years. Kris is a friend and I know Ardal. So it was

amazing when I got cast. I was able to ring them all up and go, 'Look, have you got any tips for me? Have you got any ideas?' Ardal told me about all the best places to eat and things to do at the weekend, all the best hikes to go on. Ben's main tip was to make sure they don't have you in a three-piece woollen suit!

**Were you homesick?**

In my line of work you're always prepared to just go, 'I've got to be in Leeds for 12 weeks' at a drop of a hat or whatever, so you kind of get used to building your life as and where you need to. Obviously it's far away. It also happens that my girlfriend's American and lives and works in America, so the last two, three years I've been spending a lot of time in New York, LA, and Florida where she's from. Florida particularly helped with the heat as well. I don't have any kids here, I don't have responsibilities like that. The truth is I just loved it. I didn't even look back.

Nick Fiacca

*'The island doesn't like him very much'*

Photos: BBC



Inspiration strikes: DI Neville gets down to work



Island life: Ruby (Shyko Amos) and Madeleine (Aude Legastellois) return (below), while guest stars this series include Samantha Bond and Steve Pemberton (left)



# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Print Press)

Daily Mirror

## I'd like this role for 20 years, but it's not just one big party



ISLAND COP Ralf in show

**EXCLUSIVE**  
By MARK JEFFERIES  
Showbiz Editor

**RALF LITTLE has joked that he hopes his lead role in crime series *Death in Paradise* lasts at least two decades.**

The actor reckons he'd like to stay longer than previous stars such as Kris Marshall and Ardal O'Hanlon. But he insisted filming in the Caribbean was not all about parties in the sun.

Ralf's best scenes as DI Neville Parker were screened last night. The 40-year-old said: "I mean

**Ralf on *Death in Paradise* job**

my missus might have an opinion on this, but I'd be happy doing it for 20 years."

The BBC show is filmed on the hot and humid island of Guadeloupe. Ralf added: "I irritated a lot of the crew on the last series, because I only arrived halfway through."

"I arrive and I'm like, 'Hey, how great is this? Aren't you lucky. Aren't we the luckiest people in the world?' It's hard because it's

self-confidence. He added: "When I was younger I was like, 'I'm brilliant. I can do anything.'"

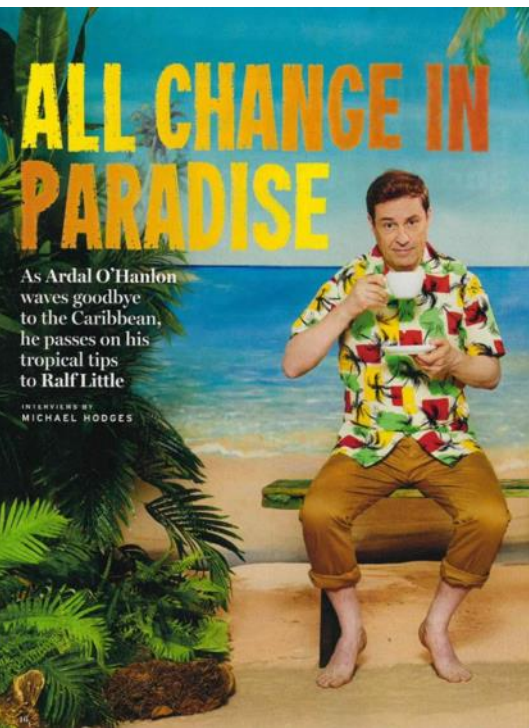
"Now, I'm like, 'Can I? Oh, was that OK? And, the last thing you want is to be racked with this constant self-evaluation."

"I stopped enjoying watching myself a few years ago. I used to watch everything I was in."

Of his *Death in Paradise* role, Ralf said: "I'll probably watch the first one. And cringe through it."

The full interview with Ralf is on Series Linked, out now.

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## ALL CHANGE IN PARADISE

As Ardal O'Hanlon waves goodbye to the Caribbean, he passes on his tropical tips to Ralf Little

INTERVIEW BY MICHAEL HODGES

It was a tough gig, physically draining. You're working in incredible conditions and you're outside the whole time. And I wanted to go back to stand-up."

O'Hanlon first gained fame in the 1990s as a hapless cleric in the sitcom *Father Ted*, but he has been a highly regarded live comic. "I'd left it another year, all my changes as a stand-up would have gone. I announced I was doing stand-up and then I have the writing was on the wall for *Death in Paradise*. Something has to go."

Ralf says he's been changed by the show. "I've been physically drained. I don't know how to go about it. But having done a sitcom and now a night drama, my instinct is to do another drama."

He says the BBC have chosen his replacement wisely. "I know Ralf from meeting him here at night in a dress in London. He's a great bloke and a really smart actor with lots of charisma." What will be the key to Little's survival on the island? "Preparation," O'Hanlon explains. "Not just knowing the lines but knowing the story inside out so when you're in the middle of it, you can go on autopilot."

"I remember Kris Marshall selling me *Death in Paradise* to staff when we finished *Father Ted*. He doesn't think he's at the time. You have experience in it, it's a different life to what I did. I did



## Stay cool, literally and metaphorically

ARDAL O'HANLON

OFFERING CAN PREPARE you for the role, the show's co-creator on the island," says Ardal O'Hanlon, sitting tea in a gloomy winter's day in London, evidently very happy to be out of the tropics. "The sun goes down at six o'clock and then the frogs and the crickets kick in. They don't stop for 10 hours, it gets louder and louder. Then the wild dogs start barking and start chasing the wild ferns. It is show and time, mate."

O'Hanlon has played DI Jack Mowsey in three and a half series of *Death in Paradise*. "That's four summers, 24 episodes and at least 24 murders," he says. "Most of what I solved with very little help from anybody else. From the second of it, the lead actor is lucky to have got back alive from Guadeloupe in the Caribbean, where the show is filmed. "The heat and humidity when you first step off the plane are astonishing," he says. "You're not in the morning, you're in the night, you're in your costume, you're in your hair. You're doing the mousetheatre."

He doesn't look like he's been through hell. He has plenty of hair and no sign of a pimple, pretty good for it. "I had to make a compromise effort to get much fitter and lose about ten stone. Within ten days of landing I couldn't touch it enough for the job. It was a big wake-up call. I needed to stop my gym and have more energy. I started to stretch and breathe and not drink so much."

"I also learnt to be pretty good at making out complex"

"It's hot and uncomfortable," he says. "But so what? You finish work and jump into the sea then go and practice French with the locals or play your guitar or hang out with friends. It was an absolute joy to make. Before I went, I called up Kris and Kris said I spoke to Ardal. All three were great. I thought they might say, 'Mate, it will drive you mad.' But they all said, 'Congratulations, you'll have a great time.'"

MILLER FAMOUSLY, PROLOGUED in the Caribbean heat, though it was partly his own fault, Little claims. "In the pilot episode, Ben has a three-ginger dark woad and a tie on." The segment adds, "So, if you're hot, why don't you take your jacket off?" Ben replies, "I can't do that. I'm a member of the British police force." That line killed him for three years because it's the tone, he could never take his jacket off. He said to me, "Just make sure if there are any lines about your costume in the first episode, you see your lines, it's got great headlines."

"I think I'm the luckiest person in the world, to be included out of nowhere into being in a bit of TV history. I can't believe I was fortunate enough to be among that true talent and genius. There's no parallel universe where being in *Death in Paradise* was anything other than my great achievement ever."

It's because of his experience on the show that Little thinks he'll handle the attention that *Death in Paradise* will bring. "I've been the subject of quite intense scrutiny before. I've run that quest. I'm older and wiser now and kinder. I don't go out at nightclubs any more anyway. I'm having fun, so it's so much more straightforward. I'm really so and there's very little of that sort of nastiness to anyone, unless it's, 'Oh, Ralf Little spotted playing the Xbox again.'"

He's been known for making quite a bit of noise and getting attention for his campaigning on Twitter, however. In 2017, his complaints about NHS mental healthcare understanding what his health secretary Jeremy Hunt said to be sent Little 27 tweets. Last November, Twitter suspended him after he rebranded his account as the fake "Conservative Press Office" in protest at the Tories releasing their own Twitter account as "Narclock UK."

He says, "Nobody from the BBC [production company] had Planet or *Death in Paradise* had said anything other than, 'What you want to do? You're a spokesperson for the BBC, in the same way as Gary Lineker isn't. I'm pretty careful. I don't go out of my way to seek any publicity. But we can all just get along!'"

"Usually, I'm not that. He's so hard to come by and I've always been very laid-back. Working on *Death in Paradise*, which is already a very popular and beloved show, is a massive thing for me."

Little was born in Othman, Lancashire, one of five children. His older sister Corbin was killed to fall on a sleeping trap when Little was nine. His grieving parents, both accountants, sacrificed evening and weekend to send their children to clubs and writing classes, where he was in youth theatre productions. "They sacrificed their lives for us," he says. "But I'm left me with this real girl. A natural attitude that I can do anything and I will be good at anything."

He was taking a medical degree at



## Life on the island is a terrifying ordeal!

Ralf Little could give him, other than preparation, to stay cool, literally and metaphorically, when things go wrong. Because they will go wrong."

He has three children: Emily, 22, Rebecca, 16, and Rufus, 12. "Talking to the family was a touchstone for me. I take my parental duties very seriously. If I come in from work at half six and talk to them before they want to bed (I know I do). That was really important. Their lives are busy. Nothing there for me to connect me to. On my last day of work on the island I really did feel a sense of, 'Wow this is an amazing show but it's over now and I'm kind of relieved.' I couldn't wait to go home and see my family."

And what will be mine when the next series starts filming this May? "The relationship you develop on the island. When you're working on a show on the island, when you go home at the end of the day, and there's no social dimension to it. It's not like that on *Death in Paradise*. There are three people at the same time. The crew, not 100 people, are all there, and you're not just looking at each other for emotional support and sympathy. It's very real."

"Actually, when I said that I was being really, that might have been an exaggeration. The man is very cheap. I'd miss that."

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## IAN HYLAND on last night's telly

**Death in Paradise, BBC1**  
★★★★

I didn't take long to work out who Ralf Little was channelling as he made his debut as *Death in Paradise*'s new detective last night. He may have been wearing a crumpled tweed jacket instead of a crumpled rain mac, and he may have raised his arm and said "Except..." instead of raising his arm and saying "Just one more thing..." but the clues were all there.

Ralf has gone from being the Lurcio of The Royle Family to the Columbo of Saint Marie. Still, if

these little character quirks will still be around in a few episodes' time remains to be seen.

Likewise with Neville's various allergies and ailments, which made his first week on the Caribbean island such an itchy misery.

I have a feeling that, rather like the Queen Vic's pool table in *EastEnders*, those health problems will magically disappear overnight.

Luckily, viewers don't watch *Death in Paradise* for its gritty realism, well-planned story arcs or unimpeachable continuity.

We just want the sun to keep shining and the killers to keep killing.

**'I'LL DO THIS FOR 20 YEARS': PAGE 25**

you're going to pay homage to a TV detective, I guess it makes sense to pick one of the greatest of all-time.

For a minute or two, I thought Ralf was also paying tribute to another American great.

As his character, Manchester CID officer Neville Parker, right, poked around for clues at the scene of Saint Marie's latest bizarre murder mystery, he muttered "Uh-huh" so many times, I thought he was about to launch into a full-on Elvis impression. Whether

# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Print Press)

Love TV (Cover)

**LOVE TV**

One dad's search for a missing daughter in Baghdad Central

Plus... Corrie celebrates 10,000 episodes with a nostalgic trip to Blackpool

Ralf Little is the new detective solving murders in **DEATH IN PARADISE**

**Sun, sea & sleuthing**

**profiles** You could never picture person, which might Metropolitan Police were and the stuffy-suited cop in the first place

**Departures** After two series of crime-solving, the tetchy 'too was himself murdered as he attended a university reunion. "It was a magical time in my life," says Ben of his stint on the show. "The only thing I found tough after a while is that living on holiday is not the same as going on holiday."

**Methodology** While Humphrey frequently forgot things or had nothing to take notes on, he had a talent for solving murders and ignoring speed.

**Arrivals** Sent from London to investigate Richard's murder.

**Character profiles** Humphrey was socially awkward, disorganised and clumsy. But he fell in love with the island - and DS Corneli.

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**Arrivals** Having assisted Humphrey in London, Jack was suggested as his replacement, and the recently widowed cop thought Saint Marie could be the fresh start he needed.

**Departures** Soul-searching led to Jack leaving. He was tempted by an offer to work with his wife and daughter in London with daughter Siobhán. "It's a tough old station out there, being away from family for so long admits Ardal about quitting. "There's only so much you can do, no matter how much you love it - and I really do love it."

**DEATH IN PARADISE** Thur 9pm BBC One

**NEW**

**Character profile** Life on a tropical island is not an obvious choice for Neville, who's allergic to pollen, gets heatstroke and is a magnet for mosquitos.

**Methodology** He spots the tiny details that a lot of people would miss, and that's what helps him crack cases and catch killers.

**Arrivals** Neville's from Manchester and is sent to Saint Marie to solve the murder of a woman from his home city.

**Departures** After so many changes over the past few years, the Saint Marie police will no doubt be crossing their fingers that Neville settles in the Caribbean. Let's hope he doesn't miss rainy Manchester too much! We shouldn't expect to see a brocaded Ralf striding out of the sea on to the beach, though... Neville doesn't go in the sea as the saltwater irritates his skin. And I am so pale I look like a ghost. Make-up artists have to travel on the foundation just to make me look alive!

**Jack Mooney (Ardal O'Hanlon) 2017-2020**

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**POOLE (Ben Miller) 2011-2014**

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Saturday Magazine (Cover)

**YOUR ESSENTIAL SEVEN-DAY TV GUIDE**

**SATURDAY**

DAILY EXPRESS  
FEBRUARY 1, 2020

DAVID JASON CELEBRATES HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

SECRETS FROM THE VAULTS OF THE V&A

Ralf Little

**FISH OUT OF WATER**

'When I got the lead role in *Death in Paradise* my mum told me not to ruin the show!'

**DEATH IN PARADISE** Thur 9pm BBC One

We half expect Ralf Little to stouch through the door in a baseball cap and shiny 'trousers. So successful was the actor in two of his early roles as sweetly dim Anthony in *The Royal Family* and equally sweetly dim Jimmy in *Two Pints of Lager And A Packet of Crisps* - he's cemented in our psyche as a dippy leviathan. But even though he's teaming up with his former *Two Pints* co-star Will Meller for *Two Pints With Will And Ralf* - a twist on the original format - 20 years have passed since then. Ralf has constantly worked on stage and screen, written his own sitcom, and proved via Twitter spats that he's no political slouch either. But behind Ralf's articulate, charming and witty. Wearing a peach polo-neck, there's a hint of a tan beneath his smiling of murder. "This is better, he gestures at his face. "I'm normally the colour of death, not even warmed up - I look like a ghost in photos."

Back in the UK after filming in Guadeloupe, Ralf's latest role is as new detective DI Neville Parker in the BBC's whodunit *Death in Paradise*. The actor - who is dating American playwright Lindsay Ferrelle - splits his time between the UK, America and the French Caribbean.

Love TV

**Little at large!**

**NEW** **DEATH IN PARADISE** Thur 9pm BBC One

'Farewell' Jack... 'Hello' Neville! Ralf Little takes over from Ardal O'Hanlon as top cop in the sun-kissed murder mystery

It's all change on Saint Marie this week. Following the departure of DI Jack Mooney (Ardal O'Hanlon), DI Neville Parker (Ralf Little) becomes the island's new chief of police. Like his predecessor, Neville arrives as something of a fish out of water. But we reckon it won't be long before he's seduced by the island's charms. Here's a reminder of some of the detectives who've pondered 'Whodunnit in the Caribbean?'

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**Departures** Soul-searching led to Jack leaving. He was tempted by an offer to work with his wife and daughter in London with daughter Siobhán. "It's a tough old station out there, being away from family for so long admits Ardal about quitting. "There's only so much you can do, no matter how much you love it - and I really do love it."

**HUMPHREY GOODMAN (Kris Marshall) 2014-2017**

**Character profile** Humphrey was socially awkward, disorganised and clumsy. But he fell in love with the island - and DS Corneli.

**Methodology** While Humphrey frequently forgot things or had nothing to take notes on, he had a talent for solving murders and ignoring speed.

**Arrivals** Sent from London to investigate Richard's murder.

Humphrey had no reason to head home after his wife Sally refused to join him on Saint Marie.

**Departures** After former crush Martha visited the island, Humphrey decided to go to London with his new love, Kris. "It was time to give someone else a chance to enjoy the sun. But sometimes I think, "Why am I not in flip flops on the beach!"

**JACK MOONEY (Ardal O'Hanlon) 2017-2020**

**Character profile** Unlike the detectives that went before, Jack had a natural Irish charm. He's friendly and unassuming - but underestimate him at your peril.

**Methodology** At crime scenes, Jack's arrival and methods left his colleagues baffled. But when it came to cracking cases, he was a natural.

**Arrivals** Having assisted Humphrey in London, Jack was suggested as his replacement, and the recently widowed cop thought Saint Marie could be the fresh start he needed.

**Departures** Soul-searching led to Jack leaving. He was tempted by an offer to work with his wife and daughter in London with daughter Siobhán. "It's a tough old station out there, being away from family for so long admits Ardal about quitting. "There's only so much you can do, no matter how much you love it - and I really do love it."

Saturday Magazine

**'I've turned 40 and I'm finally playing a grown-up'**

Death in Paradise's latest recruit **Ralf Little** on adulthood, long-distance love and not disappointing his mum...

**DEATH IN PARADISE** Thur 9pm BBC One

**W**e half expect Ralf Little to stouch through the door in a baseball cap and shiny 'trousers. So successful was the actor in two of his early roles as sweetly dim Anthony in *The Royal Family* and equally sweetly dim Jimmy in *Two Pints of Lager And A Packet of Crisps* - he's cemented in our psyche as a dippy leviathan. But even though he's teaming up with his former *Two Pints* co-star Will Meller for *Two Pints With Will And Ralf* - a twist on the original format - 20 years have passed since then. Ralf has constantly worked on stage and screen, written his own sitcom, and proved via Twitter spats that he's no political slouch either. But behind Ralf's articulate, charming and witty. Wearing a peach polo-neck, there's a hint of a tan beneath his smiling of murder. "This is better, he gestures at his face. "I'm normally the colour of death, not even warmed up - I look like a ghost in photos."

Back in the UK after filming in Guadeloupe, Ralf's latest role is as new detective DI Neville Parker in the BBC's whodunit *Death in Paradise*. The actor - who is dating American playwright Lindsay Ferrelle - splits his time between the UK, America and the French Caribbean.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ROLE. WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THIS HIGH-PROFILE, WELL-PAID JOB IN A BEAUTIFUL LOCATION THAT APPEALED TO YOU?**

I know, I agonised over it for all of two seconds! I really wanted this, so when my agent told me I'd get it, I thought, "Yes!" down the phone. I wasn't cool. You often get asked as an actor what attracted you to the job, when in reality it's simply because you auditioned and they offered it. I bought myself a very nice designer watch to celebrate, which was also a 40th present to myself.

**DEATH IN PARADISE IS MASSIVE. DO YOU FEEL AN EXTRA PRESSURE COMING INTO AN ESTABLISHED SHOW?**

I found it comforting that it's popular because some things aren't a fad, they just don't catch fire. It's lovely to be in a show that's acted and new million people watch it. I said to my mum, "I'd get to come into a show that so many people love, there's no pressure." And she said, "I see you run it for them." Thanks for that, Mum.

**DO YOU HAVE TO HIT THE GYM AND USE TAKE-INS IN ANTICIPATION OF ANY BEACH SCENES?**

Neville doesn't go in the sea as the saltwater irritates his skin. I did some gym work just to ease I saw a line in the script when Neville gets out of the shower, or Neville stumbles out in his undershorts. "But there wasn't! Damn. And I am so pale in real life make-up artists have to powder on the foundation just to make me look like I'm actually alive."

**THE OTHER ACTORS WHO HAVE STARRED IN THE SHOW GIVE YOU ANY ADVICE?**

I spoke to all of them before I started - Ben Miller, Kris Marshall and Ardal O'Hanlon. Without hesitation, they all said, "Congratulations, mate, you're going to be great," which is a very un-actorly thing to do. We're not known for wishing each other well. We rate the idea of our contemporaries succeeding! But I think they all found the physical challenge of being in the heat and away from home a struggle. I had a small role in the show a few years ago so I knew what to expect a little.

**WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A FILM OF YOUR LIFE?**

She came out to Guadeloupe for a month while I was filming and wrote three films out there. She's doing amazingly well. I see we were going to be a power couple. I'd have to annually go to my grave, her career is exploding in a way that makes me both incredibly proud and obviously jealous. She's my best friend.

**YOU'RE FILING A NEW SHOW WITH YOUR FORMER TWO PINTS COSTAR WILL MELLER. DO YOU EVER SEE SHIRLEY BASSON. WHO DOES SHE DO?**

I haven't seen Shirley for a while, she's insanely busy and successful. I look back at that show with pride now. At the time, I thought it was deeply unorthodox. We must have been a nightmare to work with, all aged 18-22, in a hit show, ages all over the place.

**WHERE'S THE WILDEST PLACE YOU'VE BEEN ASKED FOR A SELFIE?**

I was in Maldives and said, "Give me a selfie." He was next to me trying to shake my hand. I was thinking, "Not until you've washed your hands, thank you very much."

**WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A FILM OF YOUR LIFE?**

It would be nice if it was Johnny Depp but, let's be honest, it would be Basil Henson from *The Inbetweeners*. We got mistaken for each other all the time. It could change one thing about my appearance. I would be more like a power couple. I'd have to annually go to my grave, her career is exploding in a way that makes me both incredibly proud and obviously jealous. She's my best friend.

**WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?**

Come off it - it goes in about four different directions!

**INTERVIEW**

**The Royal Family**

**With his former Lindsey**

**Two Pints of Lager...**

**'I agonised over this role for all of two seconds!'**

**INTERVIEW**

# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Print Press)

**TV Times Drama**

# Stranger in Paradise

Death in Paradise's new leading man, **Ralf Little**, on how Ardal O'Hanlon helped make island life plain sailing

**DEATH IN PARADISE**  
THURSDAY / BBC1 / WPM / EPIS 6 / DRAMA

There's a changing of the guard in our much-loved BBC1 crime drama *Death in Paradise* this week, as *The Ripper* family star Ralf Little makes his much-anticipated debut as Detective Inspector Neville Parker.

The alky-jones Manchester actor arrives on the fictional island of Saint Marie after he's sent to investigate the death of Tamsin Lewis (Thelma's Chanté Crowell), a woman from his home city. The inquisitive guest cast includes *Julian* (No. 2's Steve Pemberton) and *Domestic Abuse's* Samantha Bond as Tamsin's developer dad, Neil Henderson, and his wife, Joanne, who are on the island to launch a luxury resort. Neville thinks it's the flying visit but instead he ends up staying to replace DI Jack Mooney (Ardal O'Hanlon), who departed last week. After filming finished on series nine, *TV Times* met up with Ralf.

**How would you describe Neville?**  
He's a bit of a mess. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself.

**What brings Neville to the island?**  
He's there to solve a murder. I'm not at all sure of myself. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself.

**Does he enjoy island life?**  
Neville loves the island, but the island hates him! One of his main things about him is he lives his life

**DEATH IN PARADISE is previewed on pages 76-77**

**NEVILLE LOVES THE ISLAND, BUT THE ISLAND HATES HIM!**

**"DON'T WEAR A JACKET, RALF!"**

**DEATH IN PARADISE'S**

**BEFORE NEVILLE...**

**DI Richard Poole**  
2017-2018  
Sent to Saint Marie to investigate the murder of a woman, Poole's return to the island is a little more complicated than he expected.

**DI Humphrey Goodman**  
2014-2017  
Drafted in to solve Poole's murder, Goodman quickly made the most of his time on the island.

**DI Jack Mooney**  
2017-2020  
Ardal O'Hanlon's character was recently killed off, but he's still a part of the island.

**TV WEEK**

# Death in Paradise

Ralf Little joins BBC crime drama *Death in Paradise* as Saint Marie's latest detective

**CRIME DRAMA**  
**Death in Paradise**  
Thursday, BBC1, 9pm

It's been described as the best job on television and this week Ralf Little wins the golden ticket when he joins the cast of BBC1's murder mystery series *Death in Paradise* as the show's new lead detective Neville Parker.

The Manchester cop is dispatched, somewhat reluctantly, to the fictional Caribbean island of Saint Marie in this week's episode when a woman from his home city is murdered.

Little's opening episode is a star-studded affair with Steve Pemberton and Samantha Bond among the suspects. Chanel Capowell plays victim Tamsin who has been found dead in the bath, alongside a hairdresser, in a locked hotel bathroom.

The Ripper family actor Little takes over from Ardal O'Hanlon, who played DI Jack Mooney, and in the fourth series he'll investigate murders on Saint Marie, following in the footsteps of Neil Miller's Richard Poole and Kris Marshall's Humphrey Goodman.

Little, who turns 40 on 8 February, guest starred in a 2013 episode — playing a widowed murder suspect — and says he was thrilled to be asked back.

"I was being in the show as a guest star, but I think that might preclude me from ever being considered for a main role," he admits. "So when I was offered the part, I was absolutely delighted."

We met up with Little on set in Guadeloupe, where the series is filmed, to hear more...

**How would you describe the island?**  
It's a lovely place. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience.

**Does he enjoy being on the island?**  
Neville loves the island, but the island hates him! He's very allergic, so the usual aggression his skin and every animal is a problem for him and he also needs to rub in sun cream obsessively.

**Can he get used to the island?**  
Neville loves the island, but the island hates him! He's very allergic, so the usual aggression his skin and every animal is a problem for him and he also needs to rub in sun cream obsessively.

**What's the cast like on set?**  
It's a lovely place. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience.

**What's the crew like on set?**  
It's a lovely place. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience.

**There's one scene where I come out of the sea like Ursula Andress!**

**DETECTIVES MURKIN**  
(Ardal O'Hanlon) and Jack O'Hanlon

## Notebook (Cover and Feature)

**THE SUNDAY MIRROR MAGAZINE ONLINE**

# Notebook

Valentine's Lesson

**CONFESSIONS OF THE HOPELESSLY ROMANTIC**  
Joel Dommett, Nadia Sawalha, and Love Island's Maera share their secrets

**THE FOOD OF LOVE**  
Rich & indulgent chocolatey recipes

**EXCLUSIVE** Ralf Little

# 'I'm engaged!'

The *Death in Paradise* star has finally found The One!

**Death in Paradise star Ralf Little** 40, on growing up, meeting the love of his life and his big romantic moment

**W**hat's the best aspect of Ralf Little's month through the deal? Writing a beautiful card and wearing a beautiful suit. The actor is two of his early roles — as sweetie boy Anthony in *The Ripper* and equally sweetie boy Jimmy in *Two Pints of Lager and a Player of Crisps* — it's as if he's been conceived to be in a movie. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself. He's got a sense of humour, but he's not at all sure of himself.

**'Yes, I got down on one knee otherwise it's not a proposal!'**

**the big interview**

It's been an exciting year, what with your role in *Death in Paradise* and turning 40...  
I've enjoyed it very much. I've enjoyed it very much. I've enjoyed it very much.

**How did you first see the show?**  
I saw it on TV. I saw it on TV. I saw it on TV.

**What's the best part of the job?**  
The best part of the job is the best part of the job.

**Do you get down on one knee?**  
I got down on one knee. I got down on one knee.

**How would you describe the island?**  
The island is a lovely place. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience.

**What's the crew like on set?**  
It's a lovely place. I was a guest star in the second series, and I thought that might provide me some experience.

**There's one scene where I come out of the sea like Ursula Andress!**

**DETECTIVES MURKIN**  
(Ardal O'Hanlon) and Jack O'Hanlon

# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

Click Below

(DIP February 2020 Online Press)

Digital Spy FORUMS

## Death in Paradise's Ralf Little makes his debut as DI Jack Mooney's replacement Neville Parker

And the viewer verdict is in.

BY MEGAN DAVIES 06/02/2020



Daily Mail Femail

## Death In Paradise viewers praise arrival of Ralf Little as 'Brit abroad' D.I. Neville Parker, saying he's already made 'everything funnier' in his 'Mr Bean' suit

By Stephanie Linning For Mailonline  
06:04 EST 07 Feb 2020 , updated 06:16 EST 07 Feb 2020



whatsonTV

## Death in Paradise new boy Ralf Little praises 'magnificent' Ardal O'Hanlon as he takes over


David Hollingsworth  
Fri, January 31 4:57pm



RadioTimes

## Meet Ralf Little's DI Neville Parker – the Death in Paradise detective who's "allergic to everything"

Here are five things you need to know about the new Detective Inspector, from his crime-solving style to his previous guest star role



The Telegraph

## Death in Paradise, episode 5 review: Ralf Little may just give this sleepy crime drama a new lease of life


★★★★★



METRO NEWS SPORT ALL

## Ralf Little hopes Death in Paradise fans won't notice he's been in the series before – but as a different character

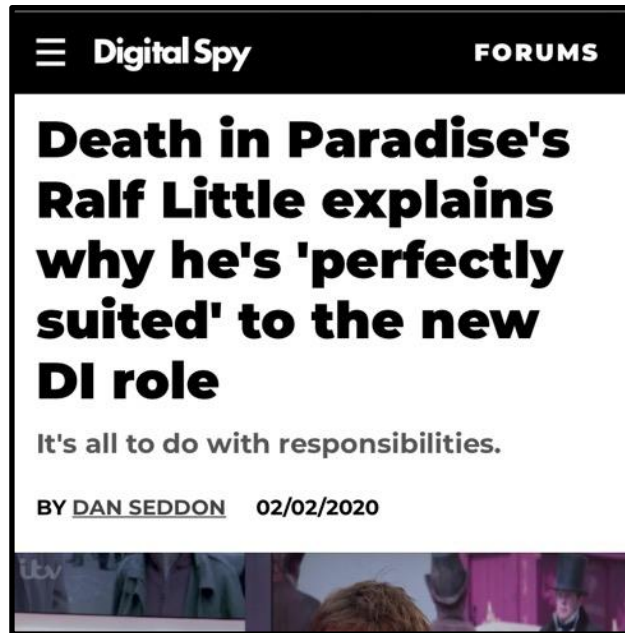
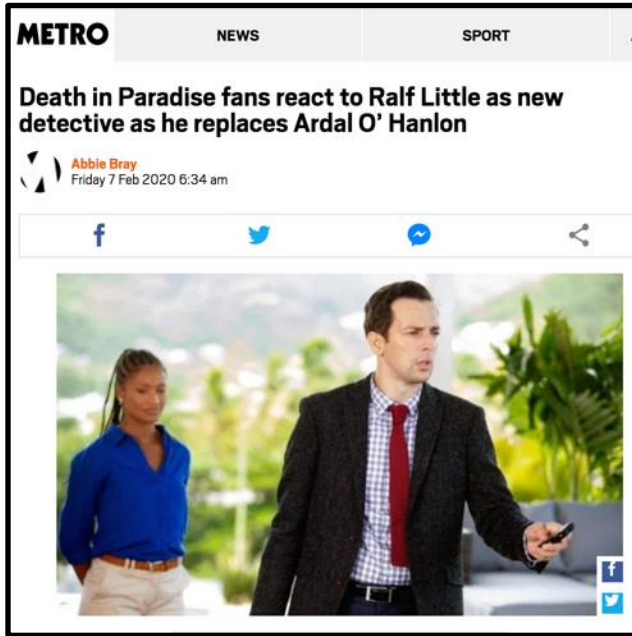
Abbie Bray  
Tuesday 4 Feb 2020 4:44 pm



# Currently Starring in *Death in Paradise* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Online Press)

Click Below









# Currently Starring in *Inside No. 9* on the BBC

(DIP February 2020 Online Press)



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## Inside No 9, review: 'The Referee's a W\*\*\*er' is something of a classic

★★★★★

The hit black comedy anthology series by Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith returns for a fifth series

Sean O'Grady | @\_seanogrady | Monday 3 February 2020 19:49 |



They've made no changes to the core team. The club's management (Steve Pemberton, Reece Shearsmith) is the same, and they're keeping the formation that has been so successful for them in the last four series. So it is a delight that *Inside No 9* (BBC2) is "coming home" to BBC2 and that they have kicked off their run of six episodes in excellent form, too: "The Referee's a W\*\*\*er" is something of a classic.

Funnily enough, given that it's about football, we never see a ball being played, and the action takes place entirely in the match officials'

**RadioTimes**

TV GUIDE NEWS TV ON DEMAND FILM

## Ralf Little plays Phil



Monday 30/08/18

**Padded headbands**  
Fergie-style icon  
page 2

**Bob Mackie**  
Sequin supernova  
page 4

**Seven ways**  
How to run further  
page 6

**The best in life and culture coverage every weekday**

The Guardian

## A right Royle rage How **Ralf Little** stuck it to the establishment



## 'I've always had a superhero complex'

At 18, he found fame with *The Royle Family*. Today, Ralf Little is celebrated for taking on Jeremy Hunt and Nigel Farage on Twitter. He talks to **Simon Hattenstone** about ambition, arrogance and social media angst

Photography **Linda Nylind**

**F**our pm, Friday afternoon in the pub, and we start with a beer. "I'm an actor, therefore a chronic narcissist," Ralf Little says. "I'm excellent at talking about myself." Seven hours later, he has proved his point. Little is famous for two comic roles he played early in his career - sweet, slobbish working-class Anthony in *The Royle Family*, and sweet, slobbish working-class Jerry in *Two Pints of Lager and A Packet of Crisps*. The funny thing is, he couldn't be more different from either of these characters - eloquent, middle-class, academic and fiercely combative. It is 20 years since he first appeared in *The Royle Family*. Aged 18, and since then he has written his own sitcom for Sky TV, played semi-professional football and acted on stage and screen. But perhaps now, at 38, he is becoming best known for his Twitter spats, the voice of protest telling it straight to the politicians.

Most recently it was Nigel Farage. Last month, after the former Ukip leader tweeted: "I'll have no choice but to return to frontline politics if Brexit is delayed," Little replied. "And I will have no choice but to return to the International Space Station, where I also have never been." Last year, he took on the then health secretary Jeremy Hunt with data, logic and humour. After Hunt boasted that the NHS had overseen "the biggest expansion of mental health provision in Europe", Little said: "This is what it looks like when a man goes on TV and knowingly lies to the public. If I'm wrong @jeremyhunt, sue me. I double dare you." The exchange quickly escalated, with Hunt replying: "Isn't it a bit to find a major European country that's done better and faster rather than make assertions you can't support?" Little responded with a blistering 42-tweet takedown of Hunt that concluded: "It may be difficult to categorically state we are doing 'better' than other European countries, but it's pretty straightforward to say that we are doing considerably WORSE than we were in 2010."

Today, Little says he is in the midst of an existential crisis, partly fuelled by social media. He loved Twitter in the early days. "It was this amazing democratising thing.

Then it just became toxic. I have a very complicated relationship with Twitter. It's mostly miserable, and it makes me extremely unhappy because it just reveals to me that many people have a capacity to be deeply unpleasant."

The scrap with Hunt took him back to his roots, and the future that had been planned for him. Little grew up in Bury, Greater Manchester, with accountant parents who told their children they could achieve anything if they wanted it enough. He was a keen schoolboy actor, and his headteacher at the prestigious Bolton School allowed him to take time out for professional performances from the age of 13. He told his parents he fancied acting as a career. They said he had to follow his dream. They also told him it would be a relentless slog that was likely to end in failure. "I remember thinking: 'Oh right, that doesn't sound like that's for me then. What's the other thing I want to do? Be a doctor. It was as simple as that.'"

But four weeks into medical school, *The Royle Family* came along, and he quit. His younger brother Ross did end up becoming a doctor, and Little's interest in health politics was rekindled at the time of the junior doctors' dispute.

He used Twitter to state what he thought was the bleeding obvious. "I was going, we must support the junior doctors, obviously. This is terrible. If ever there was a demographic you knew you could trust, who aren't selfish and who are intelligent, it's junior doctors. Then suddenly this vitriol came back my way, going: 'They're greedy, it's a vocation, they shouldn't ask for more money.'"

There is a touching innocence to Little - a keenness, desperation even, to work out publicly how he feels about the world. He says he still doesn't know if he considers himself truly political or on the left, and admits that for a long time he lived in a liberal bubble where he assumed everybody shared the same moderate values.

In the past he has suggested that he had led a blessed, untroubled

**'I was perceived in the industry as a bit lightweight, frivolous'**



"My interviews used to be so funny - what happened to me?" - Little

# Space Age featured in Vanity Fair



VANITY FAIR PROMOTION

## *The Senior Spacemen*

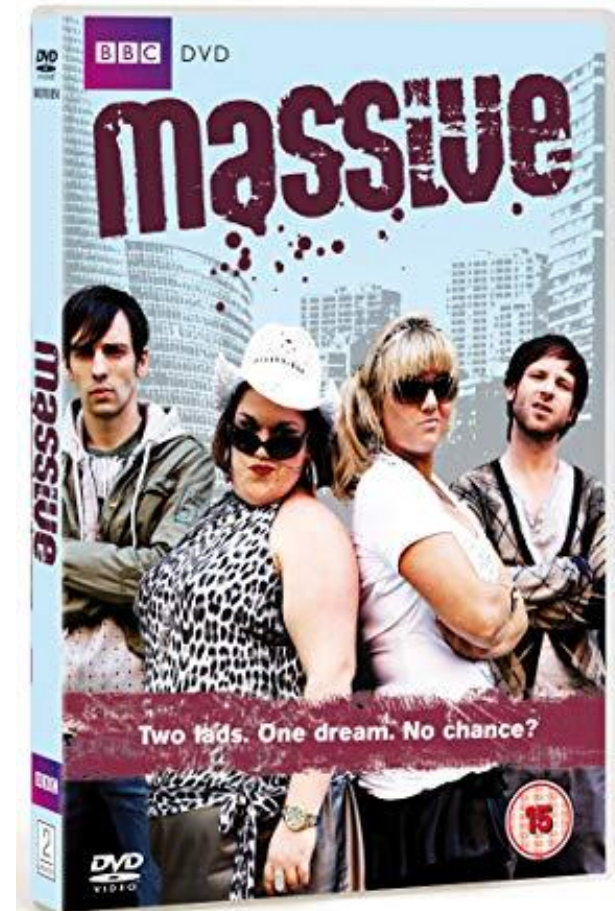
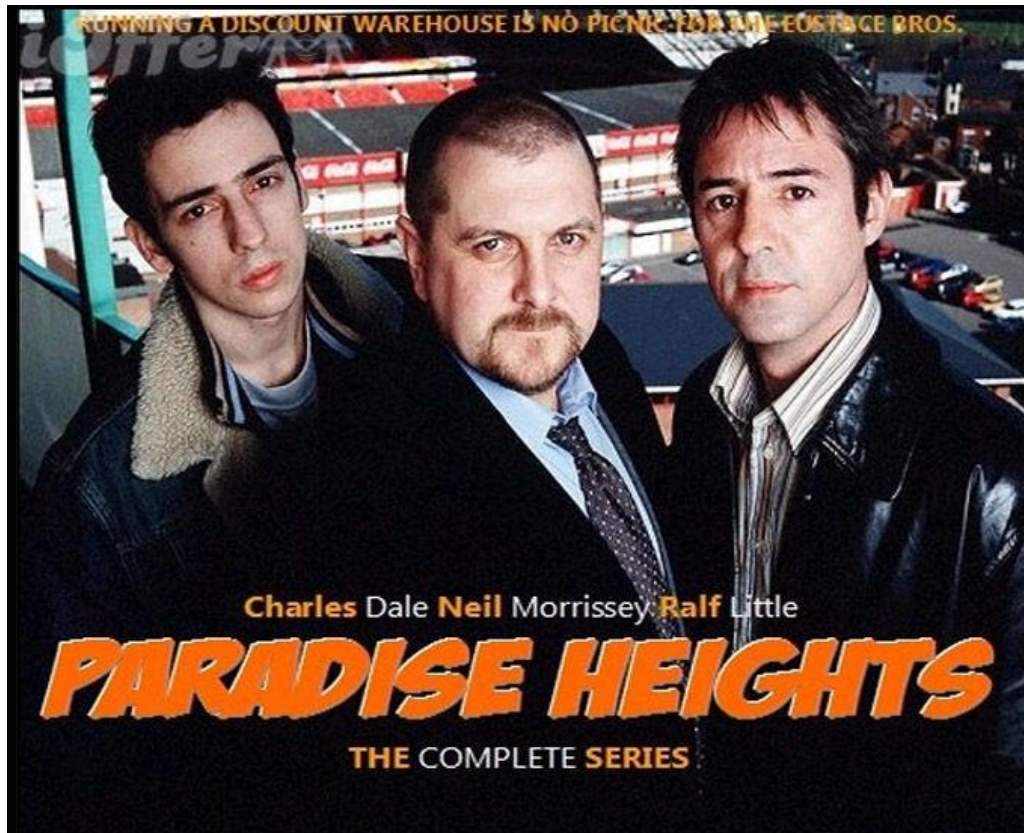
**RALF LITTLE • NICK MORAN • SIMON CALLOW • RICHARD WILSON**  
*Playhouse Presents... Space Age*

"Of course I *could* tell you the whole story," says Simon Callow, in his uniquely conspiratorial way—all perfect Shakespearean vowels and insinuating eyebrows—of *Space Age*, his latest project, for Sky Arts Playhouse Presents. "But I don't think it would be to the advantage of viewers to know the story in advance. They need only know that it concerns a spaceship manned by elderly people. Which in itself is a rather interesting idea." His costar, and indeed copilot, Richard Wilson, agrees. Though the programme, written by Ralf Little and Nick Moran, is barely half an hour long, the story manages to take in not only an epic journey from Earth to a distant planet but also considerations of human mortality, the politics of colonisation and Einstein's theory of relativity. "I said yes to it immediately when I read the script," says Wilson. "It's very clever." Might his enthusiasm for the part have anything to do with fulfilling a childhood dream of becoming an astronaut one day? "No, no! I wasn't interested in that at all. Go to Mars? Pah! They can keep it!" Nor, he admits, was he especially stirred by the thoughtful manner in which the programme addresses questions of ageing and death. "At 77, you do that yourself anyway, on a daily basis," he says with a great snort of laughter that could be heard in outer space.

*Playhouse Presents... Space Age* on Sky Arts at 9pm on Thursday, June 5, 2014.  
Photographed by John Wright at the King's Head, Dalston, on Friday, March 7, 2014.

# Additional Film/TV Covers





anne-marie duff  
ralf little

# the waiting room

a film by roger goldby

Don't let love pass you by...

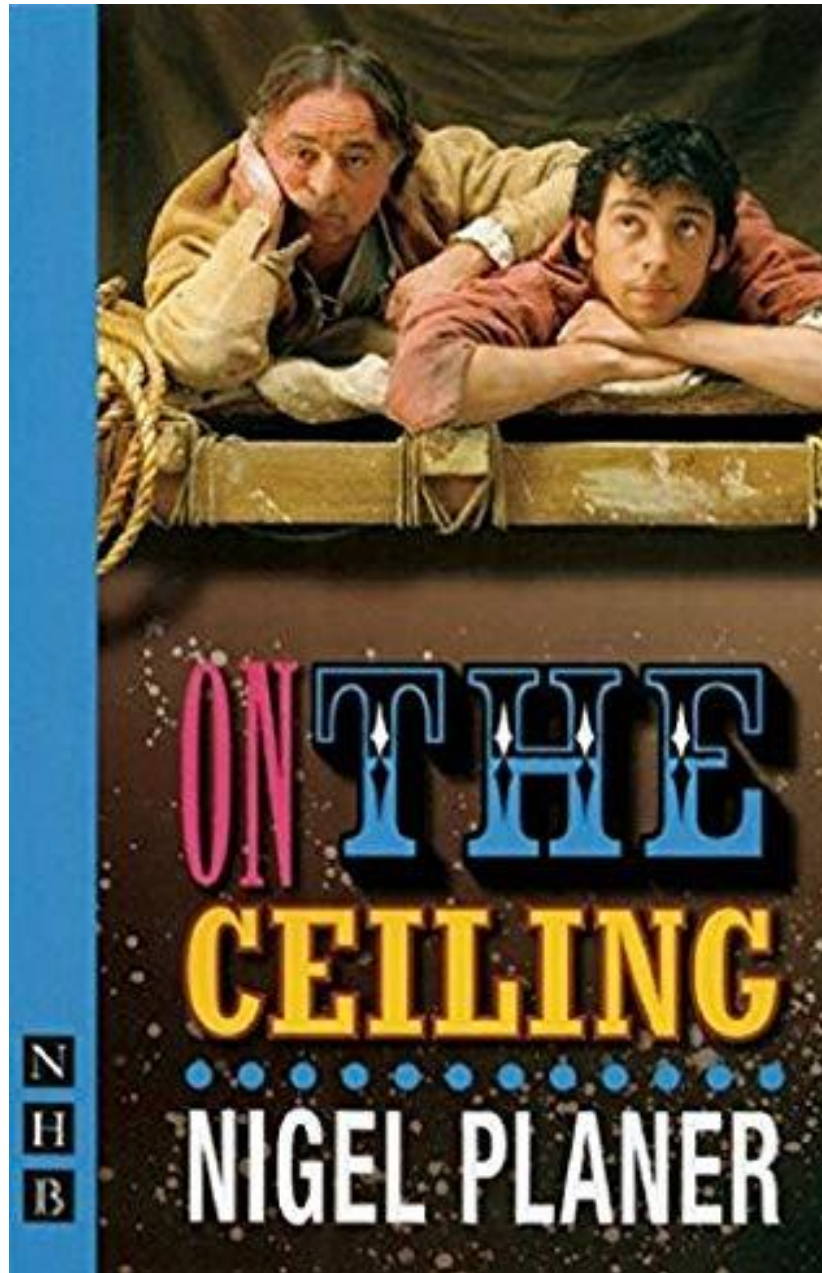
MARC WARREN  
WYSTY MITCHELL  
AL SAPPENZER  
RALF LITTLE  
RICKY TOMLINSON

# AL'S LADS

DON'T MESS  
WITH LIVERPOOL

15

# Theatre Covers

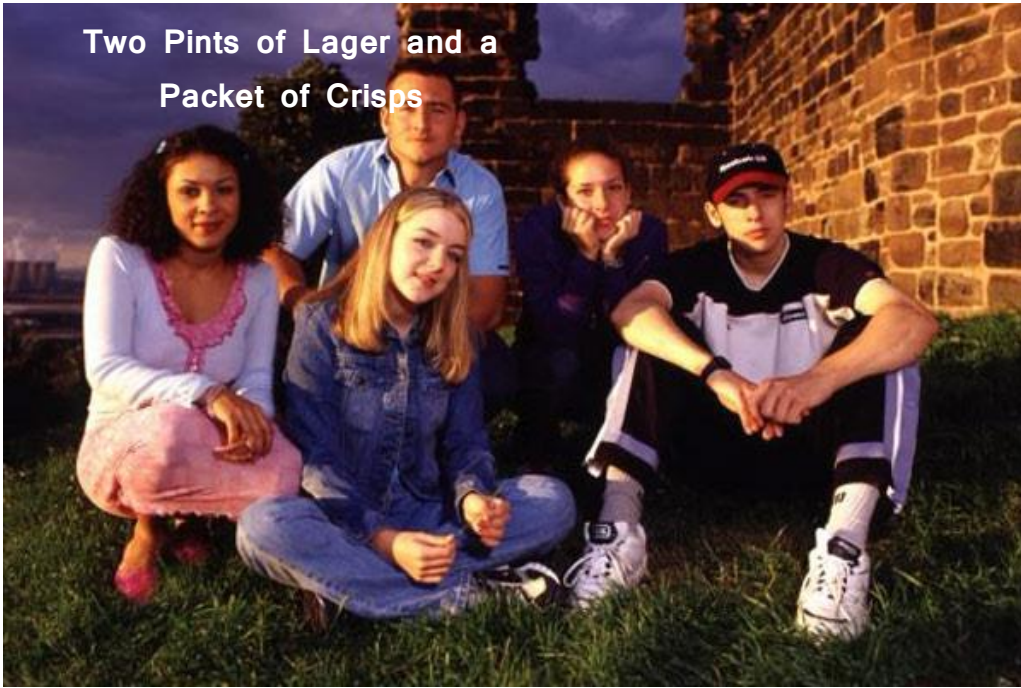


# Film/TV Stills





Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps



Two Pints of Lager and a



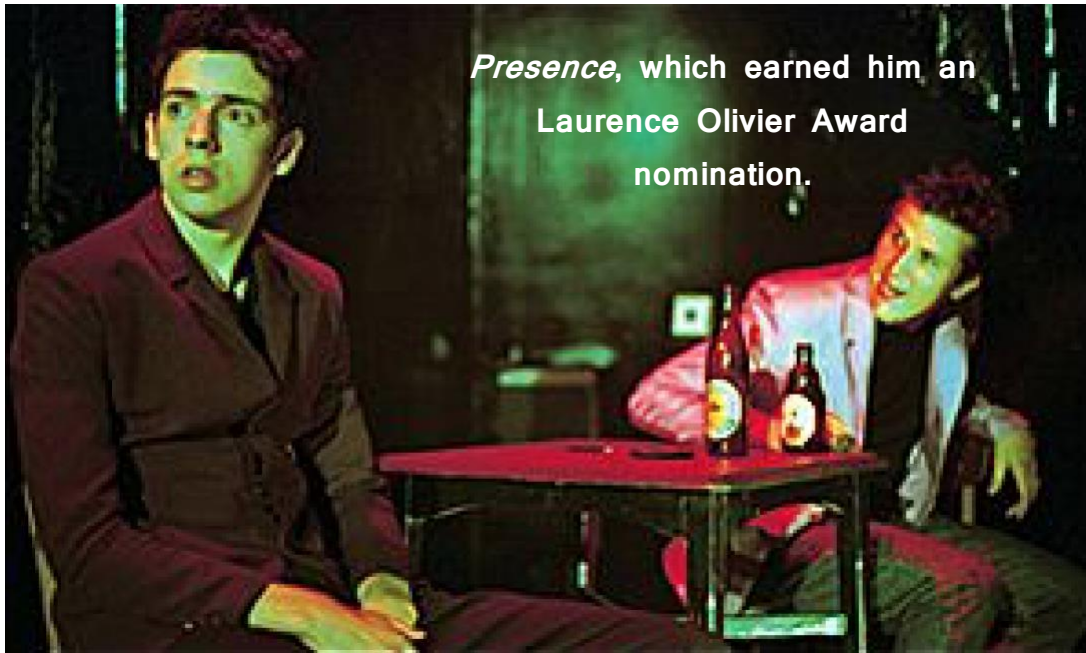
The Royle Family

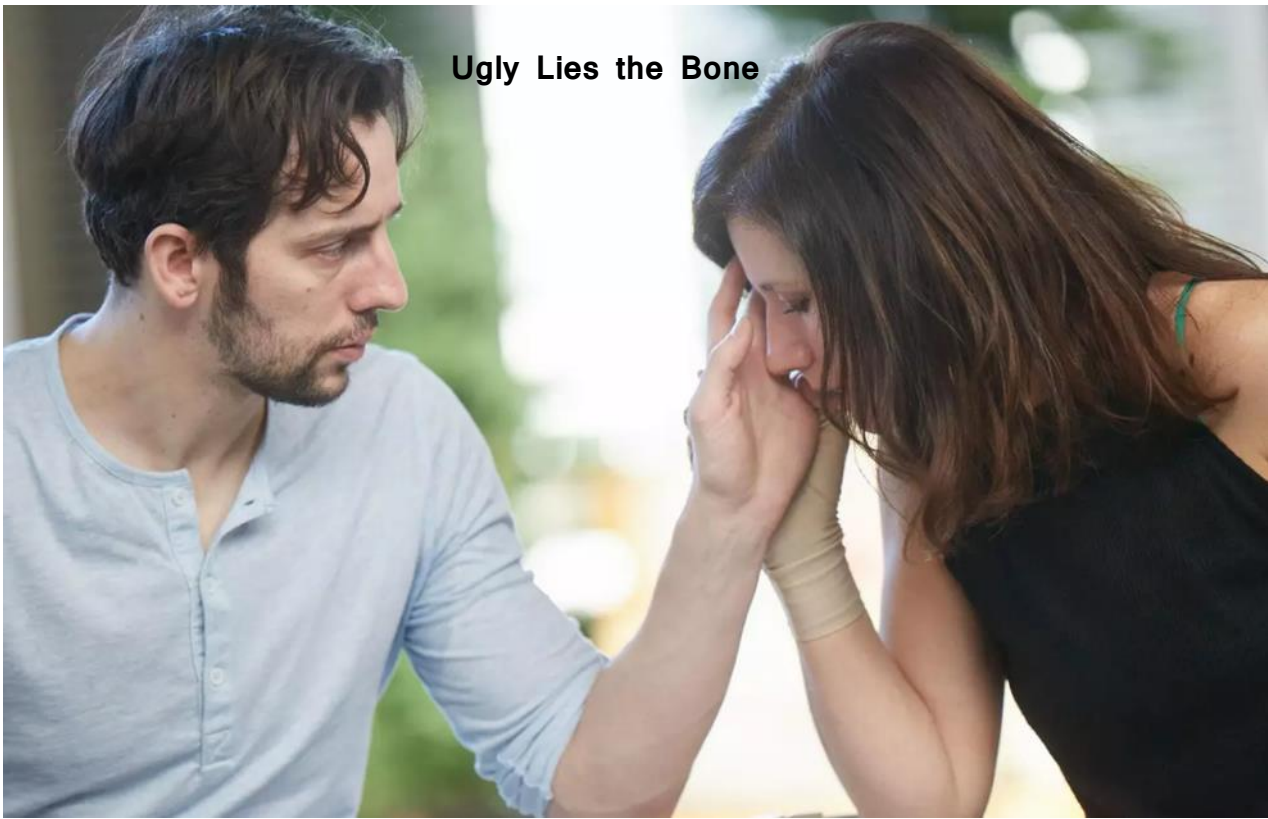


Our Zoo



# Theatre Stills

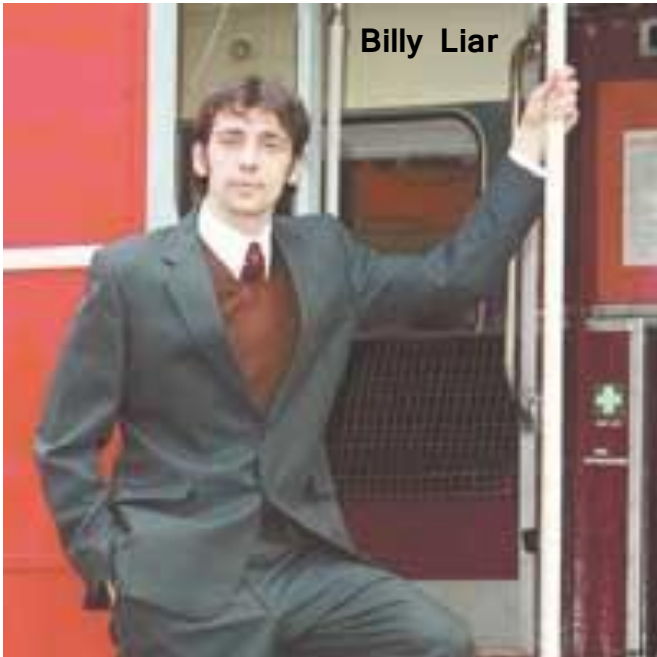




Ugly Lies the Bone



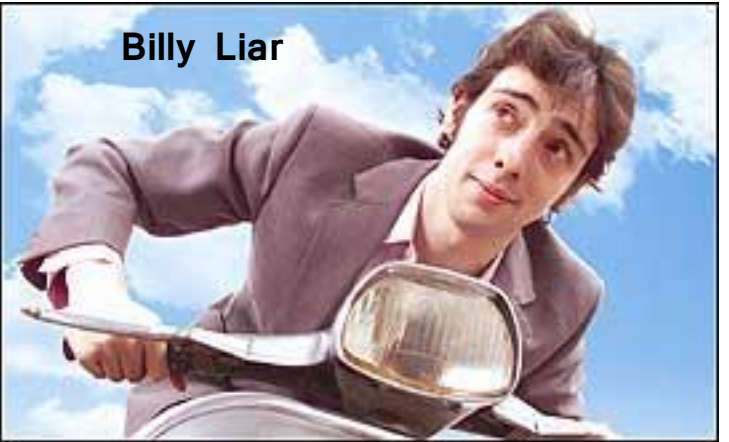
Ugly Lies the Bone



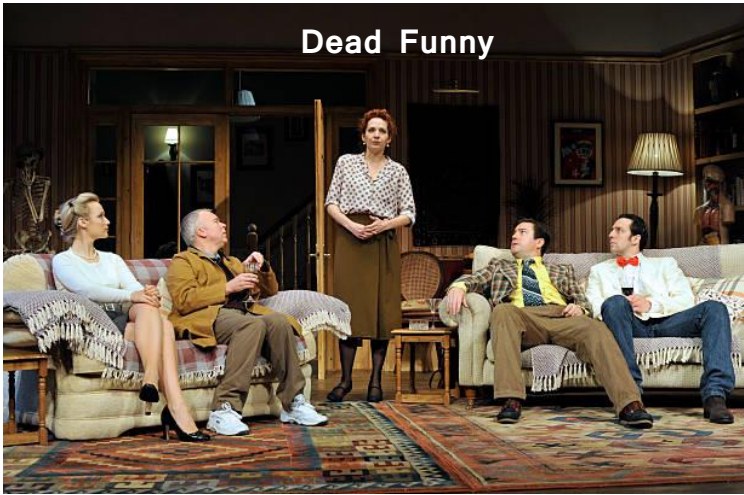
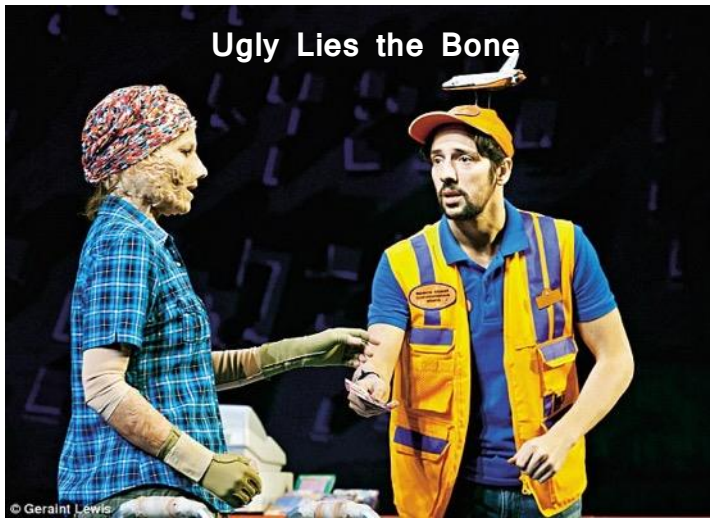
Billy Liar

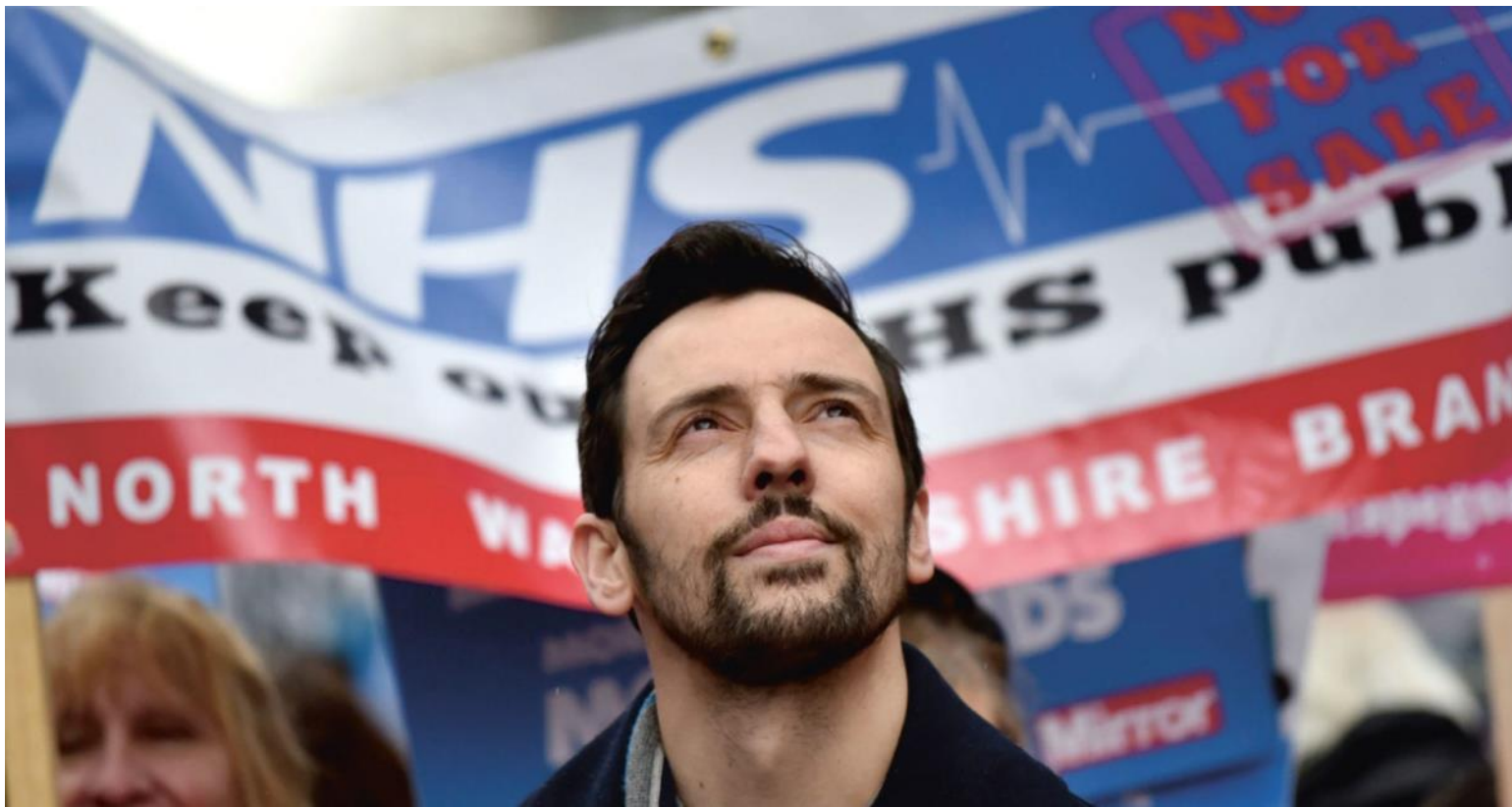


Dead Funny



Billy Liar





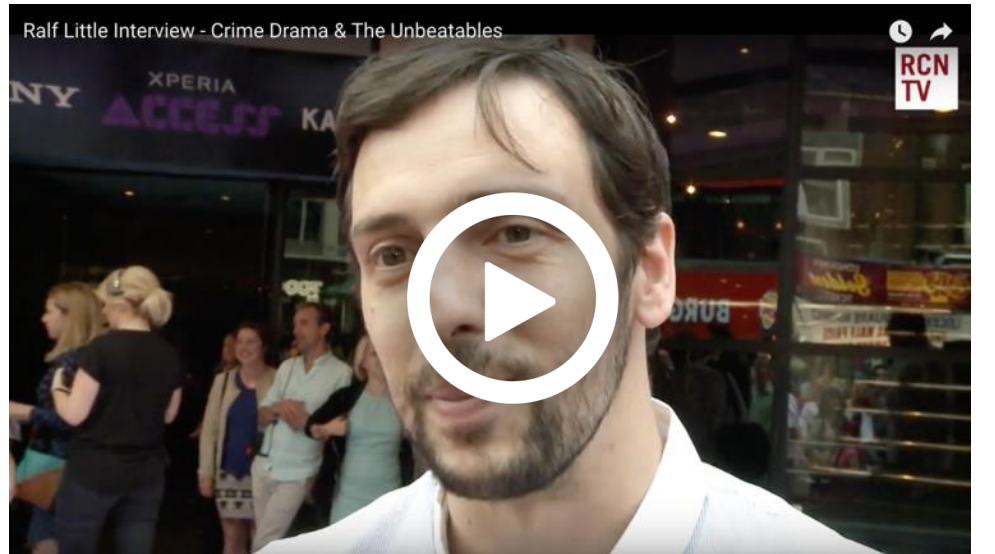
# Reel



Click Below



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## Ralf Little goes a long way in his new film *The Waiting Room*

Every day in every way, the actor Ralf Little gets closer to a Bafta or Hollywood stardom - even both

Kevin Maher

May 29 2008, 1:00am, The Times

A cold autumn day on a film set in South London. Ralf Little, the 28-year-old star of the TV comedy staples *The Royle Family* and *Two Pints of Lager (and a Packet of Crisps)* is waiting

BRITISH COMEDY GUIDE

The Café Menu



In this interview Ralf Little talks about the process of creating *The Café*, the gentle, warm-hearted sitcom he has co-written with Michelle Terry.

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### INTERVIEW: Ralf Little

The famous British 'nice guy' - who is probably best known as Jonny from *Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps* or Anthony (a.k.a. the son) on the *Royale Family* - chews the fat about *Gremlins*, *Tron*, his new film... and cheese.

f SHARE | TWEET

Michael Edwards recently caught up with Ralf Little, star of *The Waiting Room*, which hits the UK box office today. You can read Mike's review [here](#).

The famous British 'nice guy' - who is probably best known as Jonny from *Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps* or Anthony (a.k.a. the son) on the *Royale Family* - chews the fat about *Gremlins*, *Tron*, his new film... and cheese. I'm just going to come straight into this interview with the question I really want to ask you: if I ever get the budget sorted to make a

THE BIG ISSUE | THE BIG ISSUE | THE BIG ISSUE | THE BIG ISSUE

Royle Family actor Ralf Little reflects on the audition that changed his life, lining up against Zinedine Zidane, and the influence of his grandfather

f | TWEET | PRINT | EMAIL | +



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**WHATSONSTAGE**

### Ralf Little: 'I was too sensible to consider being an actor'

As the actor Ralf Little opens in the West End comedy *Dead Funny*, he talks about *The Royle Family*, the future and why videos of people falling over are really funny

Daisy Bowie-Sell | London, West End | 03 November 2016



**VICE** More VICE



*This is the VICE Interview. Each week we ask a different famous and/or interesting person the same set of questions in a bid to peek deep into their psyche.*

**Daily Mail tv** 2PM & 2:30PM ON PIX11 NEW YORK'S VERY OWN PIX11

As a lifelong member of The Royle Family, Ralf Little, who played gangly teenager Antony, feels fully qualified to discuss the more outré habits of the other Royals.

'I am 100 per cent behind the future King of England dancing at a Verbier disco,' the 37-year-old declares. 'Why shouldn't William be throwing a few shapes on the dancefloor? He's a human being after all.'

Every time you see William and Harry being interviewed, they seem really cool and it's good to know that they can get down to some old-school hip-hop when the occasion arises.



### Ralf Little webchat - your questions answered on football, The Royle Family and Caroline Aherne

The actor and producer joined us live from the National Theatre to weigh in everything from his most-coveted role to which packet of crisps goes best with two pints of lager



### Actor Ralf Little will give this year's Tillotson Lecture at Bolton School

By Saiqa Chaudhari | [saiqa2](#)



### Ralf Little Explains The Twitter Row Between Him, Jeremy Hunt And Stephen Hawking

8 December 2017, 15:49

After Stephen Hawking Turned Down Jeremy Hunt's Debate, Ralf Little Has Taken Up The Torch

"Hold my beer."



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