



Rodney Cocotrip (above) appearing as Ray Stubbs in *Football Focus*

Rodney Cocotrip was born Erotic Randycoop in 1943 and again two years later, in Sainsbury's, the son of a Methodist butcher.

His upbringing was comfortable despite growing up in a coal shelter as his father claimed there was no room in their 37-bedroomed house for fear of depriving his conjoined twin of space for his Scalextric.

Traumatised by never having met his mother who ran away to the circus several months before he was born, his mis-spent youth led to a brief dalliance with crime during which he served three years of an eighteen month sentence for committing lewd acts upon himself without his consent.

During a later bout of alcoholism during which time he lived in a pile of boxes in the doorway of Dolcis, his boxmates taught him to violently wave around whichever hand was not clutching a can of Tennants Extra, and to be rudely aggressive to commuters using a torrent of mumbled words about second hand travel cards.

On later investigation he discovered that in 1983 his mother married a character from a Mills and Boon

Rodney Cocotrip

A LIFE IN THEATRE

novel called Captain Hargreaves but the marriage ended a year earlier when it became evident that he existed but she didn't. In truth, she had been having a sordid affair with the Forestry Commission.

Rodney's entrepreneurial exploits came to an abrupt end when his vegetarian restaurant had to close down after customers complained about his boast that their vegetarian sausages were made with "Only the finest vegetarians".

In his late teens, Rodney applied to the council to become a lesbian but failed the written test. However, whilst assaulting gypsies in the cafeteria he was spotted by the casting director of the Lee Van Cleef epic 'Snow White and The Magnificent Seven Dwarves' and cast as a cactus. So began a long and distinguished career in films highlighted by his roles in the critically acclaimed 'Rubber Librarians in Brine' and 'Sellotape Virgins meet Mr Dangley,' and culminating in his appearance as Timothy Dalton's fringe in 'The Living Daylights'.

But Cocotrip's first love was always the theatre. A cameo appearance as the young lead role in 'Alistair Kennard - The Gigolo Years' led to an illustrious theatrical calling. West End credits include an appearance as Max Moseley in the George Cooney farce "Whoops, No Matron, That's My Trousers" at the Royal Michael Hall.

It was upon joining CODA that he reached the pinnacle of his

professional career, starring in such hits as Barry Manilow's 'Cocotripcabana' and the Seventh Day Adventist classic 'Seven Brides for One Brother' during the rehearsal of which he met the love of his life, Latvian truck driver Slobodan, whom he later wed at the Las Vegas Church of Chesney Hawkes.



Cocotrip (right) with Keith Robertshawtaylor in Sergio Leone's 'Spaghetti Hoops Western'

Renaissance man Cocotrip is also renowned as a recycling guru, responsible for collecting the discarded bits of abbreviated words at posh people's parties and donating them to struggling authors, and more recently making pigs from the DNA in bacon flavour Wotsits and selling them back to farmers.

Rodney lists his hobbies as making Spanish galleons out of logarithms and tarring and feathering Belgians.

A renowned philanthropist, he recently set up a helpline for battered haddock.

When we asked the kind hearted Cocotrip what he most wanted for Christmas, he replied "the lingering death of Noel Edmonds during an edition of Deal or No Deal."