

FROM THE SILKMEN TO FOYLE'S WAR

Many of us know Trevor Griffiths for his work as a commissionaire in the Mclroy Lounge on match days but how many supporters know about his work as a television extra?

Trevor has been a life-long Manchester City fan, but when he moved house from Stockport to Poynton, wanting to pass on his enthusiasm for football to his son he decided that Maine Road was too big a club and initially considered supporting Stockport but with Macclesfield Town FC the local club for Poynton, he made the decision to bring his son to the Moss Rose. So an association with the Silkmen started in 1993, but disappointingly his son did not show any interest, however, his daughter did.

His first voluntary role within the club was in the former 'Blues Bar', the Supporters' Club bar where he checked membership entry, a role he enjoyed as he was meeting and talking to people on a regular basis. When the entertainment facilities in the Moss Lane stand (then the McAlpine stand) were to be opened at the start of the 2001-02 season, Life President Roy Higginbotham asked Trevor if he would like to work as a commissionaire, Trevor accepted the role and has remained in that capacity ever since. There is always a friendly and cordial welcome to everyone entering the Mclroy Suite, whether they are sponsors, regular supporters or visitors with Trevor ensuring that everyone has a positive and enjoyable match day experience. His responsibilities include all announcements such as birthdays and other celebrations, and the 50-50 winning number when he always lets everyone know before he announces the number that he has not won. What will he do when he is the winner? As a former maths teacher he loves it when the winning number is a palindrome. One of his other responsibilities is to arrange for the nomination of the Man of the Match award by a sponsor or where there is no sponsor by a supporter, advise the stadium PA announcer and arrange the presentation of the award in the Mclroy Lounge.

But there is another interesting side to Trevor. When he retired some three years ago he signed up with a television casting agency and has been involved in several productions including the latest series of Foyle's War. In this production he is a MI5 agent whose office is opposite to Foyle's Office, Foyle is played Michael Kitchen who he has met along with Honeysuckle Weeks. Trevor's working day was from seven in the morning to seven in the evening with this series filmed in various locations in Liverpool: an old bank, Sefton Park and the ventilation building of the Mersey Tunnels. One scene was shot in a Gentlemen's Club full of ex-public schoolboys and gentlemen with the group of extras, including Trevor, over egging their role and at one stage received a telling off for laughing too much.

Other series in which he has taken part include The Mill set at Quarry Bank Mill, Tatton Park and Adlington Hall, Coronation Street, Emmerdale, In With the Flynns and, more recently, a period fantasy 'Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell' where he plays the part of an MP in the House of Commons.

Like all actors, Trevor suffers from the director's cuts and some of his work is never screened which included Utopia and Peaky Blinders.

The following three photographs show Trevor in character depicting the wide range of parts which he has been asked to play.



Special Agent



Member of Parliament



Mill Worker

This article was written by Geoffrey Knights and first appeared very briefly on the Macclesfield Town Football Club official web site during the 2014-2015 season. It is included here in recognition of Trevor's work for the club and in his unique position as the only supporter who is a television extra.