

Benidorm S10 Interviews
Embargo 20th February 2018

CAST

Sherrie Hewson (Joyce)

Josh Bolt (Rob)

John Challis (Monty)

Jake Canuso (Mateo)

Tony Maudsley (Kenneth)

Shelley Longworth (Sam)

Benidorm is celebrating its 10th series. What has been your favourite moment to date on set?

Sherrie – In the last series it was probably when Monty asked Joyce to marry him and she said yes. I thought that was one of the loveliest moments but there have been so many. Another favorite moment from the new series is Lesley's outfit for Joyce's wedding...I'll just leave it there!

John - For Monty, it was Joyce eventually saying 'I do'.

Josh – I've had so many great moments on set over the years. Madness was good at the end of series 9. For me personally, knocking Shane Richie out at the end of series 8 was a highlight. To be honest every day working with the Dawsons is a laugh because you have Steve Edge, Julie Graham and Kate Fitzgerald, who are brilliant and funny. It's difficult trying to stifle the laughter in-between takes with them.

Shelley – One of my favourite moments on set was at the Dinosaur Park in series 9 doing a massive stunt fight with Adam Gillen who plays Liam, that was so much fun.

Jake – Oh I have so many but one that sticks out in my mind is the Matador scene early on in the series, it's just a moment that I loved that has stayed with me over the years.

Tony – That has to my first series, which was series 4 - we had Bananarama in and I was so excited when they turned up on set.

Do you remember your first day on set and any specific memories?

Sherrie - I remember my first day on set because I felt like the new girl at school and I was very nervous and everybody was so sweet. Seeing Tim Healy dressed as Lesley for the very first time was just unbelievable with that make-up and hair. I did kind of make a boo-boo and said; 'you don't make a beautiful women do you?' and I think he was quite upset because I think he thought he did.

John - My first day was in series 7 and I didn't know what I was coming in to. I'd never been to Benidorm before and my god it hits you straight between the eyes. My first day was

working with Nadia Sawalha who was great fun. What struck me was the jollity – everyone was so welcome. It was just a happy day and I actually remembered all my words. I think.

Josh - I remember watching little Honor Kneafsey, who plays my on screen sister Jody, doing her first take. The director gave her a note and she took herself away, listened to what she had been told and came back and did it in one take. I remember thinking this little 10-year-old girl has got more talent in her little finger than all of us.

Shelley – On my first day on set I was thrown in the deep end, quite literally. Into the deep end of the swimming pool by Siobhan Finneran who played Janice Garvey and that was really fun.

Jake – Yes I do, I arrived two days later than the rest of the cast who'd already been out rehearsing. I arrived at the hotel where we film the series and the entire cast was sitting at various tables eating lunch and I was so nervous. I remember Siobhan Finneran was there, Steve Pemberton, Janine Duvitski etc and I was just petrified, I just froze and did this kind of bizarre smile. I was also very excited about doing the series but at that moment we had no idea how big the show would become.

Tony – My first day was really scary as I'm sure it is for everybody but especially being dressed as Kenneth as I'd never played a character like that before in shorts and swimwear. The execs were not keen on the original shorts he was in so I mentioned I had a pair of tight denim shorts from H&M, which I pulled out my bag, and they said lets give them a try. They looked like hot pants and that's how Kenneth's hot pants were born and I think I wore that same pair for the next four series, they were a bit whiffy at the end!

Benidorm is known for its guest stars who would be your ideal guest star and who would they play?

Sherrie – We have had the most incredible guest stars and of course we have my on screen boss Dame Joan Collins. I think Judi Dench would be very funny because she is a funny lady and she would just love the humor of Benidorm and the silliness of it. She would be a great karaoke Queen and would love Neptunes. She would be up on that stage. I think she would just love every second of it.

Josh - Lorraine Kelly said she wanted to be in Benidorm and she'd be so good. Ant and Dec would be great too.

Shelley – I'd love to see Tom Jones shaking his hips in Benidorm

Jake – I've said it before and I'll say it again, David and Victoria Beckham should crash their yacht on the beach in Benidorm and every hotel is full apart from the Solana. Victoria needs her hair done so goes into Blow and Go and meets Kenneth and then Mateo would try it on with her. They both love the show so it would be great.

Tony – Kenneth has been reading the same Tom Daley book by the pool for the past few years so I'd love it if Tom Daley rocked up by the Solana pool and offered Kenneth diving

lessons. My other favourite would be Take That playing in Neptunes, it would be the best night ever.

What can viewers expect from your character in the new series?

Sherrie - Monty has asked Joyce to marry him and there is a wedding in the first episode but in true Benidorm style will it actually happen?!

John - For Monty he has been chasing after Joyce like a puppy for some time and finally he catches up with her and he must have something going for him otherwise I'm sure she wouldn't have said yes.

Josh – I'm really excited for viewers to see Rob in the new series. During series 8, Rob was a young boy who was quite preppy and into his books, looking after his little sister and excited to go to university. In series 9 he'd discovered girls and drinking and that was a lot more fun to play. It's really exciting because this year in series 10 he is going to be a man. He's in a relationship and you will see a more grown-up version of Rob.

Shelley – Well Sam but the C in Scam and one of my favourite pleasures in the new series is I get to play Kenneth's wife, it was so much fun.

Jake – Mateo's doing much of the same, flirting his way through everyone. He has his eyes on Rob's new girlfriend and is also best man at Joyce's wedding.

Tony – In the new series Kenneth gets a boyfriend for the first time ever, as you can imagine it doesn't end well but he actually has a boyfriend and he's bigger than Kenneth plus he has size 17 feet! Costume had to buy in special shoes from America for the actor who plays him as they couldn't find anywhere that sold shoes that size.

Describe the 10th series in three words?

Sherrie - Funny, emotional - a joy.

John - Fun, outrageous, unmissable.

Josh - Mental, hysterical and emotional.

Shelley - Fabulous, funny and fruity.

Jake – Funny, funny and hilarious.

Tony – Funny, brilliant and joyous.