



Actor, John Nettles Announces his Departure from Midsommer Murders

The cast and crew of ITV's top rated drama, Midsomer Murders dropped in for lunch this week at the Bricklayers Arms in Flaunden, Hertfordshire after filming in the village for the next series.

During a break from filming, actor John Nettles, who plays DC1 Tom Barnaby in the popular ITV1 drama, took the opportunity to announce his departure from the programme. He will retire from the series in 2010 after clocking up more than 75 episodes. His final episode will be screened in 2011.

"It's the end of an era for me" says John Nettles. "Whilst I'm very sad to be handing in my police badge, I wish my successor, whoever he or she is, the very best."

Series Producer, Brian True-May says: "Although the departure of John Nettles will inevitably mean the end of an era, we're looking forward to a long and successful future for the series. The Midsomer Murders brand is so strong that I am confident of its continued success with a new actor and work is now underway on eight new episodes in our 13th series."

John Nettles is pictured here with the owners of Bricklayers Arms, Alvin Michaels (centre) and son, Adam Michaels. Says Alvin: "I am sorry to hear of John's departure from Midsomer Murders and delighted that our village of Flaunden is being featured in the next series." Alvin and his wife, Sally, took over ownership of Bricklayers Arms in 2003. Since then they have carefully maintained the beautiful Grade 11 listed country pub and with the help of Michelin trained chef, Claude Paillet (his recipes are featured in the July issue of OK!) have transformed Bricklayers Arms into an award-winning gastro pub, with recognition from the Michelin Guide, AA, Hardens and The Good Pub Guide ('Dining Pub of the Year 2009') to name but a few.

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