



Paul smiles on-stage and his fans

quite theatrical families. One sort just goes to the theatre. The other has gone so far, done so much work that it's daunting for the children," he says.

"It's a burden being a name. One son had to put up with jibes of 'here comes the actor's son' when he was at school.

"But he never complained - otherwise I'd have sorted it out."

His children obviously coped. Dominic is a theatre

carpenter, Hugo an accountant who manages some of the family property, and Gemma is a director.

She has directed her father and gave a master-class with him last week to students.

To his pride, he was recently made professor of theatre at Sheffield University.

"When I was a drama student, teachers were teachers rather than actors," says Paul.

"They knew a great deal but had no practical experi-

ence. I got excited about being visited by practising actors.

"You wouldn't learn anything specific from them, but you would absorb the feeling."

Today, his appearance is deceptive. Slowly walking around Piccadilly Circus he is easily lost in the crowd, a tired figure almost dwarfed by the strapping son at his side.

Yet the enthusiasm for drama has never dimmed. You can see it in his eyes. And you wonder how Toby wasn't drawn into it all before now.



Toby aims to follow in his father's footsteps



Eddington with his wife, actress Patricia Scott

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