

5 talent needed then was to be a good screamer. 'That's why I got the part,' she says, 'because I could scream well. In those days, *Dr Who* was regarded as an educational programme and we had to have one story of the future, one of the past. I was with William Hartnell and enjoyed the series but had to leave because they wouldn't let me grow up. I was getting older and older but had to stay 15.'

Carole Ann, who hasn't been able to exterminate Susan from her life ('I still get called Susan, and asked for pictures from the series'), feels very jealous of the modern girls.

'Those lovely, sexy, independent parts weren't dreamed of in those days. I had to be childlike and terrified.'

Screaming Susan was followed by Victoria, a demure damsel



also desperately in need of protection. **Deborah Watling**, who took over as the girl assistant, agrees that the part is a much better bet now.

'I was about 17 and had to scream all the time,' she recalls. 'And I managed to terrify one youngster in real life. I called one day at a girlfriend's house and her five-year-old brother opened the door. As soon as he saw me he shot up to his bedroom in terror and wouldn't come down until I'd gone. It took him six months to get over that experience. It brought home to me how real the series must seem to a child.'

Debbie left the series after a year, afraid of becoming typecast. 'But I found I already had,' she said. 'The *Dr Who* tag took years to get rid of. I think I've just about lost it now.'



The last of the big screamers was **Wendy Padbury**, now married to Melvyn Hayes. She was thrilled to get the part, but a little bit disappointed afterwards.

'I was Zoe, an astrophysicist found on a wheel in space,' she says. 'I was supposed to be brainier than the other two, but after three episodes I was screaming as hard as the rest. I was meant to be fairly trendy, but had no sex appeal at all in the series. I was just a young, terrified girl,



the last of the naive ones. They are much better now.'

After Zoe, the producers decided to inject some glamour into the girl assistant. She came in the shape of Liz Shaw, a mini-skirted, false-eyelashed and blonde-wigged scientist down from Cambridge. 'I was



excited at first to be a brainy girl,' says **Caroline John**, who landed the part. But all the directors really wanted was a sexy piece. It wasn't very realistic, looking back, because I'd never have

worn a tiny mini-skirt to go into those dark caves. I wasn't allowed trousers, and it was such an effort looking glamorous on cold clay-pits and rubbish dumps. I enjoyed the series but found it restricting after a time. After all, there's a limit to the number of different ways you can say: "What are you going to do now, Doctor?"



Caroline left to have a baby, and then came a girl who is perhaps best remembered of all past *Dr Who* girls - **Jo Grant**. **Katy Manning**,

who played her for three years, is still referred to as the ex-*Dr Who* girl. When her twins were born three months ago, they were immediately labelled Katy's Time Twins.

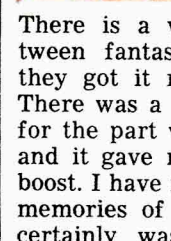
But Katy doesn't mind. She feels the series was the most marvellous thing that ever happened to her. Now on tour in *The Monkeywalk* with Lionel Blair, plus her entourage of twins and their father, Katy said: '*Dr Who* was only my second job in the business. I couldn't believe it when I was offered the part. At first, I was so nervous I learned everybody else's lines as well as my own. Perhaps I was lucky enough to

The good companions: Dr Who (Tom Baker) and the Time Lady 'Romana' (Mary Tamm). Just what the Doctor ordered?

be on when *Dr Who's* impact was at its greatest, and that's why I'm so well remembered. It is nearly six years ago now. As Jo, I had no super brains or powers and was very ordinary and a little bit dim - just like I am anyway. I loved the series, I loved the people and I didn't want to leave. But it was time for a new type of girl.'

The soft, sexy, unrealistic types were by now going out of fashion and a New Woman was needed. She was a well-dressed,

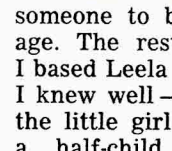
independent, no-nonsense career girl, and, as it turned out, a great success. **Elisabeth Sladen** became Sarah Jane Smith, the journalist. She says: 'I may be biased, but I think my series was the best!'



There is a very fine line between fantasy and fear, and they got it right in my time. There was a lot of competition for the part when I auditioned and it gave my career a great boost. I have nothing but happy memories of the series - but I certainly wasn't the Doctor's

equal. I had to look attractive - and be a sounding-board for his plans.'

Back into fantasy for the next, and first non-terrestrial, assistant, Leela. **Louise Jameson** loved this part because, she says, she did it how she chose. 'All they knew at first was that they wanted



someone to be a kind of savage. The rest was up to me. I based Leela on two characters I knew well - Bosi my dog and the little girl upstairs, making a half-child, half-animal. It

seemed to work. I did the series for 18 months and am still known as Leela. When kids ask me for my autograph they say: "Put your real name in, write Leela". Though I had to have a lot of make-up to look right for the part, I'm recognised everywhere now.'

They have all gone their separate ways since starring in the series and have had varied careers. **Carole Ann Ford**, **Wendy Padbury** and **Caroline John** are now taking time off to bring up their families and are hoping to ease back into careers later. **Liz Sladen** is doing a series for Yorkshire Television, and **Katy** is happily ensconced in theatre work. But two, also both back in the theatre, are friends from years back. **Debbie Watling** and **Louise Jameson** were at school together.

Now it's the turn of **Mary Tamm**. All the past girls say they will be watching the series to see how the next assistant shapes up. There's no doubt, they all agree, that *Dr Who* does something for a girl.

Mary Tamm reckons that as 'Romana' the Time Lady she will be the Doctor's intellectual equal. She said: 'I'm supposed to be bright, sophisticated and cool, but as I've only just qualified from the Academy, I have a lot to learn.'

Watch out for fireworks at first, though. The Doctor is very wary of his new assistant and is not too sure whether he likes 'Romana' all that much. Maybe she's just that bit too clever for him.

Tom Baker, the current and very famous *Dr Who*, has now had to cope with three quite different girl assistants.

'You get used to the way of working with one assistant,' he said, 'and it's always a bit of a worry when a new girl takes over. But all the roles seem to have been successful. I've enjoyed working with both Liz and Louise - as now I'm enjoying working with Mary.'

Only one thing doesn't change. However attractive the girls may look, the Doctor is never even slightly susceptible to their charms. No flash of thigh or fluttering of eyelashes can summon an appraising glance from the Time Lord.

'It would be an absolute disaster to have an emphasis like that. The Doctor must be above any emotional involvement. His only task is to stamp out evil and fight for good.' ●

6.25-6.50

Dr Who



starring **Tom Baker**
in *The Armageddon Factor*
A six-part story by

BOB BAKER and DAVE MARTIN

1: The Doctor and Romana arrive on Atrics to search for the final segment of the Key to Time. They find themselves in the middle of a major nuclear war, but who is fighting whom – and why?

Heroine.....SUSAN SKIPPER

Hero.....IAN LISTON

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Romana.....MARY TAMM

Merak.....IAN SAYNOR

Marshal.....JOHN WOODVINE

Shapp.....DAVYD HARRIES

Princess Astra.....LALLA WARD

Guard.....JOHN CANNON

Voice of K9.....JOHN LEESON

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ANTHONY READ

Designer RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Directed by MICHAEL HAYES

**Theme tune on BBC Space Themes,
record (REH 324) or cassette (ZCR 324),
from record shops**

6.25-6.50

Dr Who

starring Tom Baker

in The Armageddon Factor

A six-part story

by BOB BAKER and DAVE MARTIN

2: The Atrian defences are finally exhausted and the Marshal enlists the Doctor's help in fighting off the Zeon attack. But who are the Zeons? Why has no one ever seen one?

Dr Who.....	TOM BAKER
Romana.....	MARY TAMM
Merak.....	IAN SAYNOR
Voice of K9.....	JOHN LEESON
Marshal.....	JOHN WOODVINE
Shapp.....	DAVYD HARRIES
Princess Astra.....	LALLA WARD
Guard.....	HARRY FIELDER

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ANTHONY READ

Designer RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Directed by MICHAEL HAYES

**Theme tune on BBC Space Themes,
record (REH 324) or cassette (ZCR 324),
from record shops**

6.25-6.50

Dr Who

starring Tom Baker
in

The Armageddon Factor

A six-part story

by BOB BAKER and DAVE MARTIN

**3: The Doctor discovers the
bizarre truth about the Zeons.
The Marshal, faced with total
defeat, sets out on a terrible
mission.**

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Romana.....MARY TAMM

Merak.....IAN SAYNOR

Marshal.....JOHN WOODVINE

The Shadow.....WILLIAM SQUIRE

Shapp.....DAVYD HARRIES

Voice of K9.....JOHN LEESON

Princess Astra.....LALLA WARD

Technician.....IAIN ARMSTRONG

Pilot.....PAT GORMAN

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ANTHONY READ

Designer RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Directed by MICHAEL HAYES

6.25-6.50

Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**

in *The Armageddon Factor*

A six-part story

by **BOB BAKER** and **DAVE MARTIN**

4: Can the Doctor find a way to hold back the onset of Armageddon? As the seconds tick away it seems that nothing stands between the Shadow and his terrible purpose.

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Romana.....MARY TAMM

Shapp.....DAVID HARRIES

Merak.....IAN SAYNOR

Marshal.....JOHN WOODVINE

Princess Astra.....LALLA WARD

The Shadow.....WILLIAM SQUIRE

Voice of K9.....JOHN LEESON

Pilot.....PAT GORMAN

Incidental music by **DUDLEY SIMPSON**

Script editor **ANTHONY READ**

Designer **RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH**

Producer **GRAHAM WILLIAMS**

Directed by **MICHAEL HAYES**

Theme tune on BBC Space Themes, record (REH 324) or cassette (ZCR 324), from record shops

6.20-6.50

Dr Who

starring

Tom Baker

in *The Armageddon Factor*

A six-part story

by BOB BAKER and DAVE MARTIN

5: As the time loop continues to stretch, the Shadow gains control of K9. Meanwhile, the Doctor discovers an unexpected ally, but is he to be trusted?

The Shadow.....WILLIAM SQUIRE

Voice of K9.....JOHN LEESON

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Romana.....MARY TAMM

Princess Astra.....LALLA WARD

Drax.....BARRY JACKSON

Mute.....STEPHEN CALCUTT

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ANTHONY READ

Designer RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Directed by MICHAEL HAYES

*Theme tune on BBC Space Themes,
record (REH 324) or cassette (ZCR 324),
from record shops*

6.30-6.55

Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**

in *The Armageddon Factor*

The last of a six-part story

by BOB BAKER and DAVE MARTIN

With total obliteration only seconds away, the truth about the sixth segment is discovered and the Doctor faces the final struggle for control of the Key to Time.

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Drax.....BARRY JACKSON

Shapp.....DAVYD HARRIES

Merak.....IAN SAYNOR

The Shadow.....WILLIAM SQUIRE

Romana.....MARY TAMM

Princess Astra.....LALLA WARD

Voice of K9.....JOHN LEESON

Marshal.....JOHN WOODVINE

The Guardian.....VALENTINE DYALL

Pilot.....PAT GORMAN

Mute.....STEPHEN CALCUTT

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ANTHONY READ

Designer RICHARD MCMANAN-SMITH

Producer GRAHAM WILLIAMS

Directed by MICHAEL HAYES