

The Chronicle

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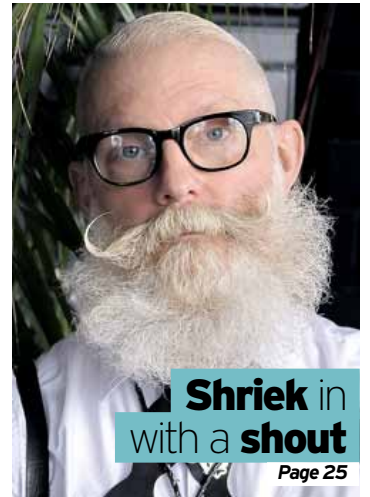
Guest list to be **proud** of

Page 3



Lascelles' rallying cry

Captain thinks United will stay up - and the bookies agree: **SPORT**



Shriek in with a **shout**

Page 25



OFF THE HOOK... AFTER 8 YEARS

Burglar who skipped bail 'forgot' about arrest **Full story: Page 7**



What's cooking in Cheryl's kitchen?

Page 8



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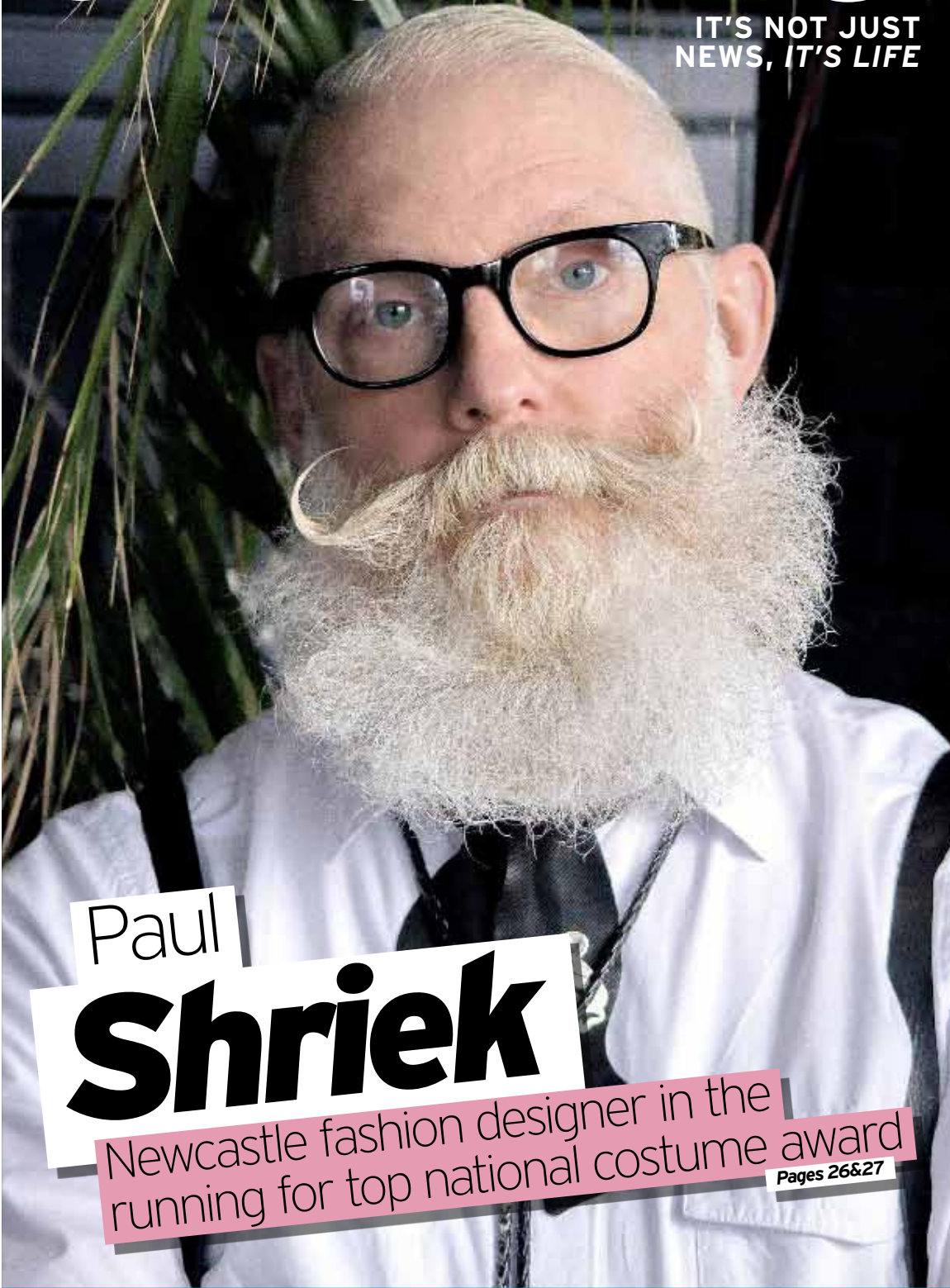
Page 33

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IT'S NOT JUST NEWS, IT'S LIFE



Paul

Shriek

Newcastle fashion designer in the running for top national costume award

Pages 26&27



Mother's
Day
magic

Pages 29, 32 & 33



Your **4**
pages of
TV listings

Pages 35-38



Are **YOU**
in the
picture?

Party City

Page 28



Savvy
supermarket
shopping

Page 30

What's On

Paul Shriek Timeline

1959

He was born Paul Graham in Rothbury in 1959, but grew up in Ashington. His father George was a mechanical engineer who taught at Ashington Tech, while mother Trudi was a seamstress and dressmaking teacher. "Between the two of them they created this monster," laughs Paul, who changed his surname as it "was not a memorable name for a fashion designer".

1976

Paul studied at Newcastle's College of Art and Technology and dreamt of being a theatre designer until he heard of someone working in the West End who didn't earn much money. "I loved theatre but I decided to pour all my energies into fashion."

1977

Training at Newcastle Poly-

technic for four years gave Paul a grounding in the fashion industry that was invaluable.

"It also gave me the safety net to explore my design creativity and develop my skill base. But above all the encouragement and confidence to create the alter ego I named Paul Shriek with the tag line 'Fashion that screams of the woman of the Eighties!'"

He graduated with a First Class Honours Degree.

1980S

In 1980 Paul established Paul Shriek Limited Edition as a label. In 1981 he embarked upon his journey as a designer based in a studio on the Quayside.

Fresh from the Polytechnic his designs were sold in Topshop and became the brand's top-selling concession in the country.

His haute couture pieces were snapped up. His other accolades include fashion consultant for television music show, *The Tube*.

He opened his own shop in Newcastle in 1982. "I sold a sweater dress that was £14.99 and a lady flew over in her private jet from Jersey just to buy the dress."

The economic disruption of the mid 1980s made Paul rethink and he moved into the world of further and higher education.

1990S

Leaving full-time employment as a course leader in Fashion, having established a National level of achievement at Newcastle College, Paul relaunched himself into the fashion industry with a new label, Paul Shriek Couture. He also worked as presenter on the ITV *Tonight* programme.

2000 ONWARDS

In 1999 he designed costumes for *Sleeping Beauty* at the Tyne Theatre in Newcastle. He's now internationally recognised as a couture costume/set designer.

Costume drama as designer Paul's up for award. Oh yes he is!

WHAT'S ON EDITOR **GORDON BARR** HAS NEWS ON A TOP NEWCASTLE DESIGNER BEING IN THE RUNNING FOR NATIONAL AWARD

RENOWNED fashion, costume and set designer Paul Shriek has been announced as one of the nominees for Best Costume Design in The Great British Pantomime Awards 2018.

Paul, who has been the creative force behind the costume and stage designs for the South Shields Customs House pantomime for nine seasons, will travel to London's Wimbledon Theatre in April for the awards ceremony.

There, he will face competition from four other nominees in his category, including the mighty force of The London Palladium.

Paul works with long-time collaborator Matt Fox – their company Fox and Shriek is committed to creating visually stunning, unique and exciting theatrical

productions.

"I am thrilled to have been short-listed for best costume design in The Great British Pantomime awards 2018 and to be nominated alongside the biggest and the best has left me speechless, something that many would say is a first!" said Paul.

"Fox and Shriek is a team that is continually learning and developing new processes and techniques that stand upon decades of refined experience, and our collaboration on The Customs House pantomime has gone from strength to strength in the last nine years.

"After a 38-year career to date of doing what comes



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Paul Shriek and Matt Fox join the cast of The Lambton Worm, the 2017 pantomime at South Shields Customs House that featured their costumes

naturally to me - making 'frocks' and drawing - this is now a lifestyle I enjoy every day.

"Hard work, a sense of humour and respect for my ever-developing ability to realise, with the help and support of Matt Fox and our special team, ideas from within the 'Mr Shriek' brain, has given me the platform to be recognised for my craft."

Ray Spencer, MBE, Executive Director of The Customs House and award-winning panto dame, added: "Fox and Shriek have that rare gift of visioning truly innovative dreams and ideas.

"However wild and wacky the brief, exciting ways of tackling the challenges presented are always found and the outcome is

breath-taking show stopping designs. Whether for print, digital media, set or costumes, the results really are in a class of their own."

Paul, whose costumes were last seen in the 2017 Customs House pantomime The Lambton Worm, has also enjoyed success as a designer with a variety of theatre companies including the National Dance Company of Wales.

The Great British Pantomime Awards recognise and celebrate the great effort that goes into

the yearly pantomime season throughout the UK.

There are more than 20 awards in total, including Best Comic, Best Male and Female Baddie, Best Ensemble as well as awards for Lighting, Design and Direction.

Awards co-founder Sam Munday-Webb said: "We want pantomime makers to aspire to innovate as well as celebrate the wonderful traditions we have seen across the whole country."

Co-founder Daniel Dawson added: "Judges saw well in excess of 200 shows with up to six judges seeing each show. The variety of talent that we have seen has made it clear that pantomime is as alive as ever.

"With so many talented actors so well-supported by back-of-house teams it has made the judging very difficult, but that can only be

good for audiences and the future of pantomime."

The winners will be announced on Sunday, April 15, at London's Wimbledon Theatre.

Christopher Biggins, last year's Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, will host the awards, and will be joined by other

guests from pantomime and beyond to celebrate the season.



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