

Keith Chegwin

Titles: 2 Sources: 1 Stills: 3
Born: c1958

Keith Chegwin does not rate a mention in *The Moving Picture Boy*, but he made at least two films for the Children's Film Foundation - "**EGGHEAD'S ROBOT**" ('70, alongside brother Jeffrey) and "**ROBIN HOOD JUNIOR**" (75) – as well as playing Banquo's son Fleance in Polanski's "**MACBETH**" (71), for which he had to serenade Lady Macbeth at Duncan's feast. From his late teens he was on TV as an affable sidekick of Noel Edmunds, and later made a name of sorts in knockabout gameshows and self-deprecating laddish fare, such as LWT's "**Davro**" and "**Give Us a Clue**", both in 91. He guested on "Are You Sitting Comfortably?", a (radio?) quiz show "probing the childhood memories of celebrity panellists" with Leslie Crowther, and many more. By the late nineties he had not progressed far - as co-presenter of "**The Big Breakfast**" (children's TV for adults) and a revamp of the awful "**It's a Knockout**" (Britain's contingent of "**Jeux Sans Frontieres**"), but the nadir of his career (so far at any rate) must have been as nude presenter of TV's "**Naked Jungle**" (2000), a late-night obstacle course gameshow in which all the contestants were naturists. Even for the crass British television market this proved too squalid a concept, and died quickly. Chegwin the adult has regrettably proved an unofficial torchbearer for the asinine Sun-reader culture which is so delighted with its own loud mundanity, a Gazzer of the TV world.



Age approx 17 Source: indeterminate TV guide

Sunday Times (?) profile:

"It was not a pretty sight. Dressed only in a pair of short black socks and clinging desperately to two alarmingly inadequate balloons, Keith Chegwin shuffled on stage at Amnesty International's 30th birthday party in 1991 to perform a balloon dance with three other similarly clad men. It seems that men have caught on to what women have known

for ages - that stripping off is a surefire way to get publicity.

Unfortunately, Chegwin looked as if he had seen better days. He had. In the late 1970s Keith Chegwin was the cheeky chubby scouser of children's television. He began his career at 13 with his big-screen debut as Banquo's son in Roman Polanski's "**MACBETH**". At 19 he was the roving swapper for the "**Multi-Coloured Swap Shop**", and at 21 he had a show of his own. "**Cheggers Plays Pop**" was described by Keith as a "chance to have a good laugh and a joke".



With Noel Edmunds in **Multi-Coloured Swap Shop**

Somewhat surprisingly, Chegwin became a pre-pubescent heart-throb and apparently broke a million hearts when he announced his engagement to Maggie Philbin, his fellow Swap-Shopper. But things gradually began to slide downhill for Cheggers. By the mid-1980s his irrepressible good humour began to grate and in 1988 he left the BBC to host "**Star Search**" on Sky, a show he later described as "crap". In 1991 he admitted to having checked into a clinic for stress problems. The following year his marriage broke up; then came the revelations about his drinking. His greatest fear, he said, was that he would never work again, but he had not counted on "**The Big Breakfast**".



Behold the man Source: TV Quick 97

Chegwin's career has now gone full circle. Having made his name as the prince of outside broadcasts, he is now back outdoors, presenting "Down Your Doorstep" for "**The Big Breakfast**". Despite everything he has been through, "having a good laugh and a joke" is still what Cheggers does best."



FILMOGRAPHY

<i>Year</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Role</i>
70	12	EGGHEAD'S ROBOT with (younger brother?) <i>Jeffrey Chegwin</i>	
71	13	MACBETH with <i>Mark Dightam</i>	as Fleance
75	17	ROBIN HOOD JUNIOR	in title role
77	19	Multi-Coloured Swap Shop	UK ch TV magazine
79	21	Cheggers Plays Pop	UK ch TV pop magazine