



Amanda Mealing



Amanda Jane Mealing was born on April 22nd 1967 in London. She now lives in Lincolnshire with husband Richard Sainsbury and their two sons, Milo and Otis.

At the age of three, she began attending the Italia Conti Stage School on Saturday mornings. After attending dance classes she became a full-time student by the age of nine. Amanda's first taste of fame came at age six, appearing in a Julie Andrews Christmas Special at Elstree studios where she now films *Holby City*.

Whilst filming the drama *G.B.H.*, Amanda struck up a friendship with the writer Alan Bleasdale and later starred in *Requiem Apache*, *Blood On The Dole* and *Jake's Progress* penned by Bleasdale. Starring roles also came in *Anglo Saxon Attitudes* as seductress Elvira Portway, in the film *The Girl With Brains In Her Feet* as single mother Vivienne Jones and the second series of the controversial drama *The Lakes* as lesbian schoolteacher JoJo Spiers.

Amanda has also guest-starred in popular dramas such as *The Bill*, *Midsomer Murders* and *In Deep*. She also appeared as an ex-girlfriend of surgeon Alex Adams in *Holby City* before taking up her regular role as Connie Beauchamp; 'a super confident ballbreaker with a ferocious appetite for life'.

However before taking the role in *Holby*, Amanda faced a tough time as she was diagnosed with breast cancer just days after the birth of her second son. After a mastectomy and reconstructive surgery Amanda is cancer free and a year after the surgery she bared her scar in a set of pictures for *Modern Amazons* and *The Guardian*.

Other than her relentless schedule on *Holby City*, Amanda is part of a Celebrity Book Group reviewing the latest novels for *Eve* magazine along with four others. She is also involved with various charities, loves music and spending time with her family and friends, including Paul O'Grady; who she calls 'Savage', Davina McCall and her co-stars on *Holby City*, Tina Hobley (Chrissie Williams) and Tish Potter (Diane Lloyd).