

Things you didn't know about...

Daniel Craig

We pull out the top-secret file on the latest actor to step into the shoes of that licensed-to-kill super-spy, James Bond...

Something fishy

Daniel Wroughton Craig was born on 2 March 1968, to parents Tim and Carol. He is 38 and a Pisces. A happy Piscean is imaginative, sensitive, compassionate, selfless, intuitive and sympathetic but, on a darker note, they can also be escapist and idealistic, secretive, vague, weak-willed and easily led.

The wanderer

Although born in Chester, Daniel grew up in Liverpool, but moved to London when he was 16. There he began his thespian training, first at the National Youth Theatre and later at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Many parts

He debuted in *The Power of One*, and has gone on to star in *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* and *Sylvia*, the biopic about poet Sylvia Plath, as well as *Road to Perdition*, Brit gangster flick *Layer Cake* and Spielberg's latest, *Munich*. He first shot to stardom in the gritty TV series *Our Friends in the North*.

The name is...

Daniel is currently filming the latest Bond film, *Casino Royale*, having taken over the role of 007 from Irish actor Pierce Brosnan. He says that his portrayal of Bond will be more human and fallible – but some fans think he could be taking things too far.

James burned

Daniel is reported to have asked the crew for such pampering products as wet wipes and baby lotion while filming *Casino Royale*. He suffered with heat rash while on set.

Odd balls

But he can't be that much of a wimp, as he's a really big rugby fan. He's also a keen supporter of Liverpool FC.

Camera tricks

Although Daniel's a strapping 5ft 11in, the equally tall actress, Gwyneth Paltrow, had to remove her shoes when filming scenes in *Sylvia*, so that her Sylvia Plath appeared shorter than his Ted Hughes.

Aerophobia

Don't sit next to him on a plane, as he has a fear of flying – and you don't want him freaking out on you.

Award winner

He's picked up many nominations and awards in a short space of time, including the Best British Performance category at the Edinburgh International Film Festival in 1998, three Best Actor nominations (1999, 2000, 2004) at the British Independent Film Awards (he won it in 2000) and a nomination for Best Actor in the 2002 *Evening Standard* Theatre Awards.

Leading ladies

He's always played down rumours of a romance with infamous pal, Kate Moss. He was also rumoured to have had an affair with his *Layer Cake* co-star Sienna Miller, at the same time as her then on-off beau, Jude Law, was also hitting the headlines for putting it about with his children's nanny.



SUITS YOU SIR
With *Sylvia* co-star Gwyneth Paltrow



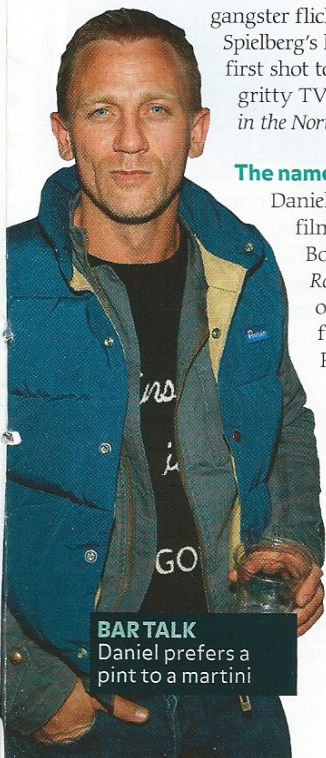
JUST FRIENDS?
With *Layer Cake* co-star Sienna Miller

Hate male

Hard-core Bond fans launched a website to protest against Daniel taking on the part, after it was alleged that he doesn't like guns, can't drive a manual car, suffered from prickly heat while filming in the Bahamas, lost two front teeth in a fight scene and said that he never wanted to play 007 anyway. Daniel has hotly denied the claims, saying: "I'm focused on making this film." He says that he has given the role "100 per cent from the beginning".



ACTION HERO
Daniel says he doesn't like guns



BAR TALK
Daniel prefers a pint to a martini

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES, WIRE IMAGE