Simon Pegg

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Simon Pegg

Pegg at the San Diego Comic-Con International in July 2010.

Simon John Beckingham

Born
14 February 1970 (age 42)
Brockworth, Gloucestershire, England

Occupation
Actor, comedian, writer, producer, singer, director

Years active
1995–present

Spouse
Maureen McCann
(2005–present)

Children
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Simon Pegg (born Simon John Beckingham; 14 February 1970) is an English actor, comedian, writer, film producer, and director. He is best known for having co-written
and starred in various Edgar Wright features, mainly *Shaun of the Dead*, *Hot Fuzz*, and the comedy series *Spaced*. He also portrayed Montgomery "Scotty" Scott in the 2009 *Star Trek* film, Benji Dunn in *Mission: Impossible III* and its sequel *Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol*, and Thompson in *The Adventures of Tintin*. Much of his major work has been in collaboration with some combination of Wright, Nick Frost, Jessica Hynes, and Dylan Moran. He also starred in and co-wrote *Paul* (with Frost) and *Run Fatboy Run* (with Michael Ian Black).

He will reprise his role as Scotty in *Star Trek Into Darkness* and will star in Wright's next film *The World's End*.

Early life

Pegg was born in Brockworth, Gloucestershire, England, the son of Gillian Rosemary (née Smith), a former civil servant, and John Henry Beckingham, a jazz musician and keyboard salesman. His parents divorced when he was seven and he took on the surname "Pegg" after his mother re-married. He attended many schools, including Castle Hill Primary School, Brockworth Comprehensive Secondary School, The King's School, Gloucester, and later Stratford-upon-Avon College to study English literature and Theatre. He studied drama at the University of Bristol and wrote his undergraduate thesis on "A Marxist overview of popular 1970s cinema and hegemonic discourses". At Bristol he appeared in a Drama Society production of Howard Barker's *Victory* alongside Sarah Kane and David Greig.

Career

Early appearances in TV series and films include *Asylum*, *Six Pairs of Pants*, *Faith in the Future*, *Big Train* and *Hippies*. Between 1998 and 2004, Pegg was regularly featured on BBC Radio 4's *The 99p Challenge*. In 1999, he created and co-wrote the Channel 4 sitcom *Spaced* with Jessica Stevenson. For this project Pegg brought in Nick Frost. For his performance in this series, Pegg was nominated for a British Comedy Award as Best Male Comedy Newcomer. Pegg co-wrote (with *Spaced*
director Edgar Wright) and starred in the "romantic zombie comedy" film *Shaun of the Dead*, released in April 2004. At George A. Romero’s invitation, Pegg and Wright made cameo appearances in Romero’s film, *Land of the Dead*. In 2004, Pegg also starred in a spin-off of the television show *Danger! 50,000 Volts!* called *Danger! 50,000 Zombies!*, in which he played a zombie hunter named Dr. Russel Fell.

Pegg at a premiere for *Star Trek* in April 2009

Pegg's other credits include the World War II mini-series *Band of Brothers*, guest appearances on *Black Books, Brass Eye Special, I'm Alan Partridge, The Parole Officer* and in the *Factory Records* story *24 Hour Party People*. He also played the mutant bounty hunter Johnny Alpha, the Strontium Dog, in a series of Big Finish Productions audio plays based on the character from British comic *2000 AD* and featured in *Guest House Paradiso*, a film based on the sitcom *Bottom*. 
Pegg appeared in the Big Finish Productions *Doctor Who* audio story *Invaders From Mars* as Don Chaney, and portrayed the Editor in the 2005 *Doctor Who* episode "The Long Game". He also narrated the first series of the documentary series *Doctor Who Confidential*.

Upon completion of *Shaun of the Dead*, Pegg was questioned on whether he would be abandoning the British film industry for bigger and better things, to which he replied "It's not like I'm going to run off and do *Mission: Impossible III*!" However, he then went on to play Benji Dunn, an I.M.F. technician who assists Tom Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt. In 2006 he played an American character, Gus, in *Big Nothing* alongside David Schwimmer.

In 2006, Pegg and Wright completed their second film, *Hot Fuzz*, released in February 2007. The film is a police-action movie homage and also stars Nick Frost. Pegg plays Nicholas Angel, a London policeman who is transferred to rural Sandford, a fictional village situated in Pegg's home county of Gloucestershire, where grisly events take place.

In 2007, Pegg starred in *The Good Night* (directed by Jake Paltrow) and *Run Fatboy Run* directed by David Schwimmer and co-starring Thandie Newton and Hank Azaria.

In 2008, Pegg wrote the dialogue for an English language re-release of the cult 2006 animated Norwegian film, *Free Jimmy*. Pegg received screenwriting credit for this, and Pegg also voiced one of the main characters in the English language version, which has an international range of actors including Woody Harrelson.

Pegg co-wrote the script for a film called *Paul*, about two young men who encounter a comedic extraterrestrial alien during a road trip across the US. The completed script appeared on the 2008 Black List, a film-industry-compiled list of the best unproduced screenplays. *Paul* received two votes. The was later produced, and was released in 2011.
Pegg also announced that he and Wright had the idea for "the concluding part in what we are calling 'The Three Flavours Cornetto Trilogy" (the first two being *Shaun of the Dead* and *Hot Fuzz*). It is provisionally called *The World Ends*.\[^{10}\]

In those films and in *Spaced*, Pegg typically plays the leading hero while Frost plays the sidekick. However *Paul* reverses this dynamic.\[^{11}\]

Pegg in New York City

Pegg played engineer Montgomery "Scotty" Scott in the eleventh *Star Trek* film,\[^{12}\] released 8 May 2009. In 2010 he appeared as William Burke in *Burke and Hare*, a film directed by John Landis about the Ulster men who were notorious murderers and bodysnatchers in early 19th-century Edinburgh. His likeness was also used for the character of Wee Hughie in the comic book series *The Boys*; while this was done without Pegg's permission, he quickly became a fan of the title, and even wrote the introduction to the first bound volume.\[^{13}\] He also voiced Reepicheep, the heroic mouse in *Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader*.\[^{14}\]

Pegg reprised the role of Benji Dunn in *Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol*, making him the third actor in the film series, after Tom Cruise and Ving Rhames, to appear in more than one of the films.\[^{15}\] Despite having a minor role in his first appearance, Pegg became a member of the main cast in this film.
Personal life

Pegg married Maureen McCann on 23 July 2005.[16] On 21 February 2009, Pegg announced his wife was five months pregnant with the couple's first child.[16] They daughter Matilda[17] was born circa early July, 2009.[18] Pegg has stated on his personal Twitter feed that he is an atheist.[19]

Along with Jonny Buckland, Pegg is godfather to Apple, daughter of close friends Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow.[20] In return Martin is godfather to Pegg's daughter.[21] Pegg's parents and sister briefly appeared in Spaced while his mother alone appeared in both Shaun of the Dead and Hot Fuzz.

Pegg was awarded an honorary fellowship by the University of Gloucestershire on 4 December 2008.[22]
Nick Frost

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For Australian Olympic swimmer, see Nic Ffrost.

Nick Frost

Frost at the San Diego Comic-Con International in July 2010.

Nicholas John Frost

Born 28 March 1972 (age 40)
Dagenham, East London, England

Occupation Actor, comedian

Years active 1989–present

Spouse Christina Frost

Nicholas John "Nick" Frost (born 28 March 1972) is an English actor, comedian and screenwriter. He is best known for his work with Edgar Wright in the role of Mike Watt in the television comedy Spaced, as well as Ed in Shaun of the Dead, Danny Butterman in Hot Fuzz, Clive Gollings in Paul, and drug dealer Ron in Attack
the Block. He is also well known for his various roles in the sketch show Man Stroke Woman.

Early life and career

Frost was born in Dagenham, East London, the son of office furniture designers. He attended Beal High School in Ilford. He worked as a waiter and appeared in corporate training video clips such as Chris Carter and the Coverplan Challenge, a Dixons sales video, before gaining fame as Tim's army-obsessed best friend Mike in the British comedy series Spaced, which was written by Simon Pegg and Jessica Hynes and aired on Channel 4 for two series. In 2001, Frost played a small role in a one-off episode of Victoria Wood's Acorn Antiques. This was a specially written episode shown during the series called "The Sketch Show Story" that Victoria narrated, in which Frost played an armed robber who shot dead Acorn Antiques' most lovable character, Mrs Overall.


Frost and Pegg appeared in a second Pegg-Wright feature film called Hot Fuzz, an action and cop genre homage, set in Gloucestershire. Frost plays bumbling Constable Danny Butterman, who partners up with Pegg's dynamic Nicholas Angel after the latter is transferred from the Metropolitan Police in London. The pair teamed up again for the 2011 sci-fi film Paul, whose storyline concerned a fugitive alien. The two also starred in Steven Spielberg's The Adventures of Tintin: Secret of the
Unicorn as Thomson and Thompson. Frost narrates the Channel 4 reality show Supernanny and has made fleeting appearances in the Channel 4 surreal medical comedy series Green Wing, as "just a man" in pub scenes (when Boyce asks who he is, he responds, "just a man").
Paul (2011/I) More at IMDbPro

ad feedback

Two sci-fi geeks take a pilgrimage to America's UFO heartland. While there, they accidentally meet an alien who brings them on an insane road trip that alters their universe forever. For the past 60 years, an alien named Paul (voiced by Seth Rogen) has been hanging out at a top-secret military base. When he discovers he's been taken prisoner, the space-traveling smart ass decides to escape the compound and hop on the first vehicle out of town - a rented RV containing Earthlings Graeme Willy (Simon Pegg) and Clive Gollings (Nick Frost). Chased by federal agents and the fanatical father of a young woman that they accidentally kidnap, Graeme and Clive hatch a fumbling escape plan to return Paul to his mother ship. And as two nerds struggle to help, one little green man might just take his fellow outcasts from misfits to intergalactic heroes. Written by Universal Pictures

Graeme and Clive are English sci-fi nerds, on holiday in the U.S. After Comic-Con in San Diego, then rent an RV and head for places where UFOs have been sighted. Near Roswell, they witness a car crash and come face to face with a small green creature, who calls himself Paul. He wants their help to escape the pursuit of government agents, who have held him captive for more than 60 years. Thus begins an odyssey peppered with alien movie clichés; the story includes a one-eyed fundamentalist Christian and her gun-toting dad, inept FBI agents and their implacable supervisor - plus his control. All roads lead to Wyoming where the story started in 1947. Written by <jhailey@hotmail.com>

British nerds and aspirant comic-book writers Graeme Willy and Clive Gollings travel to the Comic-Con in San Diego, California, to see their idol, Adam Shadowchild, among other sci-fi attractions. While driving to the Area 51, Nevada, on a road trip through UFO-land, they meet alien, Paul, who asks for help to reach Area 51. They learn that Paul was captured by the military in 1947, in Wyoming, and kept prisoner in a base as part of a top-secret project. Paul has contacted his spacecraft that will rescue him, but now he is being chased by federal agents, led by Agent Zoil. When they stop in a trailer area, they abduct the religious Ruth Buggs, who changes her religious perspective to the scientific point of view and decides to join Graeme and Clive to help Paul. But their journey to Nevada with the agents chasing them is dangerous. Written by Claudio Carvalho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

In 2009, Graeme Willy and Clive Gollings (Simon Pegg and Nick Frost) are two English comic book nerds and best friends who have travelled to America to attend the annual Comic-Con convention in San Diego, California. Afterwards, the two take a road trip in their rented RV to visit all the sites of major extraterrestrial importance in the southwest USA. At one stop in Arizona, Graeme and Clive visit the Little A'Le'Inn where two hunters confront them, assuming they might be homosexual. In a hurried leave, Clive accidentally reverses the RV into the hunters' truck, leaving a dent.
Later that evening, Graeme and Clive see headlights racing up behind them and, believing it to be the hunters, they speed off in their RV. Eventually, the vehicle catches up and they realize it's just a car. However, the car suddenly wrecks up right in front of them, and rolls off the highway. When Graeme and Clive investigate the crash, they meet and discover an alien named Paul (voiced by Seth Rogen) who is in desperate need of their help.

Although shocked by the appearance of Paul, Graeme agrees to give Paul a ride, but Clive is not happy about the idea. Later, Lorenzo Zoil (Jason Bateman), a shady government agent, arrives at the site of the crashed car and informs his mysterious female superior over the radio that he's closing in on Paul, and she recommends using local law enforcement as back-up. Zoil then recruits two inept FBI agents, Haggard (Bill Hader) and O'Reilly (Joe Lo Truglio), to aid in his mission, without telling them the nature of their target.

Graeme, Clive and Paul pull into a motor park run by Ruth Buggs (Kristen Wiig), a creationist Christian, and her abusive and controlling father, Moses (John Carroll Lynch). The trio bond around their campgrill, and Paul reveals that, ever since he was captured by the government, he had been advising them in all manner of scientific and sociological achievements, including giving Steven Spielberg the idea for E.T. and inventing the character of Fox Mulder. However, he discovered that he had outlived his usefulness as a receptacle of knowledge, and the government was now intending to surgically remove Paul's brain in an attempt to harness his abilities. With help from a friend inside Area 51, Paul sent an S.O.S. to his home planet, and his people are now en route to pick him up. The government pushed up the schedule for Paul's surgery, however, prompting his rapid escape.

The next morning, Paul inadvertently reveals himself to Ruth, and the trio are forced to kidnap her and make a hasty escape. Paul then shatters Ruth's faith by sharing his knowledge of the universe via telepathic link; at first horrified, Ruth suddenly becomes eager to sin, which her father had raised her to fear doing. She initially doesn't trust Paul, but he heals her eye, as she has been blind in it since the age of four.

Meanwhile, Zoil, Haggard, and O'Reilly talk to Ruth's father, who claims she was abducted by a 'demon'. Haggard finds a drawing of Paul that Graeme did, and becomes suspicious of Zoil's motives, especially after he accidentally overhears Zoil reporting to his mysterious supervisor over the radio. When Graeme, Clive and Ruth encounter the same pair of hunters from earlier, and are saved by Paul, Haggard later has his suspicions confirmed by showing the hunters Graeme's drawing, which elicits a fearful response.

Whilst stopping in a small town, O'Reilly accidentally encounters Paul in a comic book shop, prompting the foursome to flee. When Haggard and O'Reilly tell Zoil what they saw, he pulls a gun on them, and orders them to return to headquarters, before going after the RV on his own. Contrary to his orders, however, the two FBI agents follow Zoil in the same direction.
Eventually, Paul reveals his intention to return to the girl whose dog he crashed his ship on in 1947 and who subsequently saved his life, who is now an old woman, Tara Walton (Blythe Danner). After spending her life being ridiculed for what she said she saw, Tara seems grateful to see that Paul simply exists. She turns her gas cooker on to make tea, but is interrupted by Haggard and O'Reilly on one side of the house, and Zoil on the other. As the motley crew escapes and drives off with Paul, O'Reilly shoots at them, and the gas ignites, destroying the house. A winded Zoil tries to follow, but Haggard takes off first, running Moses (who'd also been tracking the RV) off the road, and catching up to the RV. However, thanks to an error of judgement, Haggard accidentally drives off a cliff, and is killed, leaving Zoil in hot pursuit. He reassures his superior that he'll have Paul within an hour, but she declares herself tired of waiting, and informs Zoil that she's ordered a military response, prompting Zoil to shoot his radio.

When Paul, Graeme, Clive, Ruth and Tara arrive at the rendezvous, they set off a signal and wait. Eventually, eerie orange lights show up over the surrounding trees, and everyone believes that it is Paul's race. However, it is an army helicopter, with 'the Big Guy' (Sigourney Weaver) on board, Zoil's shadowy superior. As she and three troops move to shoot Paul, Zoil arrives, and it's revealed that he was Paul's inside contact who had helped him to escape. Zoil disarms the men, but is shot in the shoulder. Tara punches out 'the Big Guy', but Moses appears with a shotgun and shoots Graeme dead. Paul heals him, but inflicts the damage to himself (a possible side effect of his healing powers mentioned earlier in the film). Paul then collapses, exhausted. For a while, the other characters stand around his apparently lifeless body sprawled on the grass. Then, coughing, Paul props himself up, having healed himself. 'The Big Guy' regains consciousness, but is immediately crushed by the arriving alien ship. Paul begins to depart and informs Tara that she is going with him to live a better life and bids farewell to his friends hoping to meet them again one day.

Two years later. Graeme, Clive, and Ruth are shown again at a comic convention, promoting their new mega-successful comic book, "Paul". O'Reilly is also shown to have survived the house explosion.