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<u>Soaps</u>

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ITV Studios releases an official Birthday Portrait of actress, Barbara Knox, ahead of her 90th Birthday celebrations with cast and crew this weekend.

Barbara has played 'Rita' in Coronation Street for over 50 years after an initial one-off appearance as exotic dancer, Rita Littlewood, in 1964.

Well known as the owner of 'The Kabin', which Rita took over in 1973, her many sidekicks include other 'Corrie' legends Mavis Riley (Thelma Barlow) and Norris Cole (Malcolm Hebden).

Rita has had 3 husbands - Len Fairclough, Ted Sullivan and Dennis Tanner - and holds the record for receiving more marriage proposals than any other character,

a whopping 15 from 12 different men!

ITV has confirmed as part of the celebrations a documentary 'Barbara Knox at 90' will air next month on ITV1 and ITVX.



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