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SURFING THE WAVES OF POPULAR CULTURE
BY MICHAEL GILTZ & FRIENDS

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Major Cast Member Leaves "EastEnders"

Wendy Richards will be leaving the iconic British primetime soap "EastEnders" after 22 years. This would be like Susan Lucci leaving "All My Children" -- if "AMC" played in primetime and had the ratings of "American Idol." Indeed, "EastEnders" and "Coronation Street" have dominated British TV for decades. (I had no idea "EE" began in 1985; I just assumed it had been around forever. My even bigger shock was the day I realized this full-figured gal had played the sexpot on the silly sitcom "Are You Being Served?" in the Seventies. She was on that show for some 13 years.) I love that Richards said she felt it was time to move on. After 22 years? What was the first hint -- realizing kids out of college had been born AFTER the show began?

POSTED BY MICHAEL IN NEW YORK AT 2:29 PM



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