

Vicar breaks arm after stumbling on bride's train... but still manages to finish service

With this sling... I thee wed

THE vicar at a couple's wedding tripped over the bride's dress and broke his arm.

The Rev Roger Scoones left his congregation fearing he had suffered a heart attack after landing face down on the floor. But he managed to clamber to his feet and finish the ceremony – in spite of his fractured limb.

Groom Jon-Paul Stoddard, 31, said: 'The wedding was almost over, and we were just getting organised to walk down the aisle to the Wedding March as husband and wife.

'I think Roger must have thought he was about 20 years younger than he is because he tried to jump over the train

by **JESS GALLEY**

of Katie's dress, but he tripped and fell. I was wondering why no one else was laughing – I couldn't help myself. I pulled him to his feet and he just carried on as if nothing had happened. He is a real trooper.'

After marrying Mr Stoddard and bride Katie, also 31, at St Mary's Church, Stockport, Mr Scoones went to hospital. His arm is in plaster and he must wear a sling for six weeks.

'It is a shame it wasn't caught on camera otherwise I would have sent it in to You've Been Framed,' the 66-year-old said.



Trailing train: The happy couple and, top, bridesmaids holding Katie's dress PICTURES: MERCURY PRESS



Oh, my Lord: Mr Scoones can see the funny side after taking a tumble at the altar put him in plaster



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