



ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

STEED, PURDY AND GAMBIT ARE STILL SHOVING SKELETONS IN CLOSETS...

TAKE ONE middle-aged English chap, who is oh-so terribly British with bowler hat and brology.

Put him with a dashing and handsome young man who's quick with his wit and quick with his fists.

Add a beautiful, sexy, intelligent blonde, who can knock you down with her elegance and charm, or knock you through a plate-glass window with a thrust of her hip.

Mix them together and you have *The New Avengers*, three super-cool agents

dedicated to fighting for Her Majesty's Secret Service.

The *New Avengers* stars Patrick Macnee as Steed, Gareth Hunt as Gambit, and Joanna Lumley as the beautiful Purdey.

Patrick Macnee has played the role of the dapper John Steed since the show's inception in 1961.

Gareth Hunt as Gambit is a newly-created role. In the original *Avengers* series, Steed was assisted solely by a female companion.

Joanna Lumley is the latest in the lush female line.

Author of *The Avengers*, Brian Clemens, has written for all the *Avengers'* girls.

"I think we were always ahead of our time with the liberated ladies, such as Cathy Gale and Emma Peel," he says.

"The next extension to *Women's Lib*, I thought, was the woman like Purdey, so sure of herself that she can put her bra back on again.

"To find Purdey, I investigated about 700 girls. I actually interviewed 200, read scripts with 40, and screen-tested 15.

"I knew Joanna was the right one. She is good to look at, and is witty, charming, feminine and elegant."

Last year, after *The Avengers* had been on the shelf for seven years, Clemens formed *The Avengers* (Film and TV) Enterprises Ltd.

It was backed by more than \$5-million of French money after the British film industry declined to support it.

The New Avengers is setting new precedents. Three episodes of the series were filmed in the chateau country around Paris, and four in Canada. #



• ABOVE: Gareth Hunt plays Gambit, a handsome young secret service agent quick with his wit . . . and his fists.

• LEFT: British Intelligence's three super cool super sleuths — Gambit (Gareth Hunt), Purdey (Joanna Lumley) and Steed (Patrick Macnee).

• RIGHT: Joanna Lumley as Purdey shows the style that has made her one of the sexiest *Avengers* to date.