

SUPER AVENGER

Steed and Co. ride in with a new Gambit

By CHRIS KENWORTHY

THE AVENGERS are back. And they have everything the old ones had—but more of it.

There are more of them, to start with. Where the previous series, which ended seven years ago, had only two stars, the latest series, called The New Avengers, has three.

JOHN STEED: An original Avenger. Steed dates from 1962. The part has always been played by Patrick Macnee.

Macnee, now 54, still looks as though the word immaculate was invented especially for him.

But his life in California, where he has made his home, had put a good deal of girth on the old trim-line shape.

Training

Macnee says: "I have my own method of losing weight. I eat nothing cooked—just raw vegetables and fruit. I don't drink tea or coffee.

"And I cut out sugar altogether. Which means no alcohol, either."

PURDEY: The New Avengers girl is Joanna Lumley, 30.

Joanna, a former model, is blonde, and a slim 34-24-35. Like Purdey, she had ballet training—and grew too tall to be a ballerina.

Joanna's big problem in making the series has been fear.

She says: "I have no head for heights. So, of course, I seem to spend my time on rooftops, trying to look cool while screaming inside."

MIKE GAMBIT: Gambit could well be a Steed of the future. He's well-dressed, tough as old boots, and has a nice line in witty quips.

Doctor

Gareth Hunt, 33, the National Theatre actor who plays Gambit, has already endeared himself to female fans as the glamorous footman in *Upstairs, Downstairs*.

In the first episode of *The New Avengers*, Steed and his assistants follow a German doctor, who specialises in resuscitating coma victims, after he is kidnapped by a strange sect of monks on a Scottish island.

Harlech viewers will see *The New Avengers* on Sundays, starting tomorrow.

It will be shown on Tuesday in the London and Anglia regions, and on Friday in the rest of the country.



PATRICK MACNEE: Original



GARETH



JOANNA LUMLEY . . . the new girl with no head for heights



8.0

Suave John Steed does battle with a formidable half machine. Patrick Macnee, Robert Lang in scene from *The New Avengers* story, *The Last*

8.0 The New Avengers

PATRICK MACNEE GARETH HUNT
JOANNA LUMLEY in

The Last of the Cybnauts . . . ?

BY BRIAN CLEMENS

John Steed has met the Cybnauts before—10 years before, when Emma Peel was his assistant. Steed has almost forgotten the robot missiles which nearly killed them, and he has almost forgotten, too, the double agent who, only a few months ago, was horribly burned in a car crash, trying to escape Steed, Purdey and Gambit.

Now the Cybnauts reappear . . .

John Steed
Mike Gambit
Purdey
Kane
Malow
Dr. Marlow
Prof. Mason
Goff
Fitzroy
Laura
Mrs. Weir
Second guard
Terry
First guard
Cybnaut
Tricia

Patrick Macnee
Gareth Hunt
Joanna Lumley
Robert Lang
Oscar Quitak
Gwen Taylor
Basil Hoskins
Robert Gillespie
David Horovitch
Sally Bazely
Pearl Hackney
Martin Fisk
Eric Carte
Ray Armstrong
Rocky Taylor
Davina Taylor

DIRECTOR SIDNEY HAYERS

ANGERS!



PATRICK MACNEE: Original **GARETH HUNT: Tough**



John Steed does battle with a formidable opponent—half man, half machine. Patrick Macnee, Robert Lang in an action-packed scene from *The New Avengers* story, *The Last of the Cybernauts*

New Avengers
PATRICK MACNEE **GARETH HUNT**
JOANNA LUMLEY in
of the
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 Rocky Taylor
 Davina Taylor

NEY HAYERS



8.0 Exhibition hall curator (Robert Mill, left) discusses protocol for visit with diplomat Vann (Ed Devereaux) and Professor Turner (Swift). But death, not diplomacy, is their aim in *The New Avengers*

8.0 The New Avengers

PATRICK MACNEE
GARETH HUNT
JOANNA LUMLEY in
The Midas Touch
 with **JOHN CARSON**
ED DEVEREAUX

Meet a man who bleeds gold, a man whose merest touch spells death—and it's Purdey he's grabbing for. And Gambit fights a Chinese monster, while Steed saves a Princess from assassination.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| John Steed | Patrick Macnee |
| Mike Gambit | Gareth Hunt |
| Purdey | Joanna Lumley |
| Freddy | John Carson |
| Vann | Ed Devereaux |
| Hong Kong Harry | Ronald Lacey |
| Turner | David Swift |
| Lieutenant | Jeremy Child |
| Curator | Robert Mill |
| Garvin | Ray Edwards |
| Midas | Gilles Millinaire |
| Sing | Pik-Sen Lim |
| Doctor | Chris Tranchell |
| Tayman | Lionel Guyett |
| Simpson | Geoffrey Bateman |

WRITER BRIAN CLEMENS: DIRECTOR ROBERT FUEST

8.0 The New Avengers

PATRICK MACNEE
GARETH HUNT
JOANNA LUMLEY in
Cat Amongst the Pigeons

BY DENNIS SPOONER

A bird couldn't kill a man. Or crash planes and have Gambit for cover. A bird couldn't attack or tear Purdey to pieces. Could The lovely Miss Lumley—fighting stardom: page 4 and 5

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| John Steed | Patrick Macnee |
| Mike Gambit | Gareth Hunt |
| Purdey | Joanna Lumley |
| Zarcardi | Vladek |
| Turner | Matthew |
| Rydercroft | Basil |
| Waterflow | Peter |
| Lewington | Hugh |
| Bridlington | Gordon |
| Hudson | Jo |
| Foster | Patrick |
| Tomkins | Kevin |
| Merton | Andrew |
| Controller | Brian |

DIRECTOR JOHN HOUGH

How Fred the footman dunnit



EVER SINCE, as Frederick the Footman, he walked out of *Upstairs, Downstairs* "to find fame and fortune", actor Gareth Hunt has done just that.

He went straight into the National Theatre for 10

AH, show business... German-born actor Frederick Jaeger started out in the leading role of Bradshaw in *Target*, this week's episode of *The New Avengers*, sat around for two weeks in pouring rain, and ended as little more than an extra! His contract limited him to two weeks' work, so when the rain came to ruin the schedule of location filming, he only had enough time left to play the minor role of a character called Jones. Roy Boyd took over the Bradshaw part. "Circumstances beyond our control," explained *Avengers* executive Brian Clemens. "Sometimes you can't beat the English weather."

8.0

Exhibition hall curator (Robert Mill, left) discusses protocol for a royal visit with diplomat Vann (Ed Devereaux) and Professor Turner (David Swift). But death, not diplomacy, is their aim in *The New Avengers*

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The New Avengers

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JOANNA LUMLEY in
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Mike Gambit	Gareth Hunt
Purdey	Joanna Lumley
Freddy	John Carson
Vann	Ed Devereaux
Hong Kong Harry	Ronald Lacey
Turner	David Swift
Lieutenant	Jeremy Child
Curator	Robert Mill
Garvin	Ray Edwards
Midas	Gilles Millinaire
Sing	Pik-Sen Lim
Doctor	Chris Tranchell
Tayman	Lionel Guyett
Simpson	Geoffrey Bateman

WRITER BRIAN CLEMENS: DIRECTOR
ROBERT FUEST

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EVER SINCE, as Frederick the Footman, he walked out of *Upstairs, Downstairs* "to find fame and fortune", actor Gareth Hunt has done just that.

He went straight into the National Theatre for 10 months in *Hamlet* (playing Guildenstern), won a coveted feature role in the new series of *The Avengers*, now being made, and is a panelist in *Whodunnit?* on Monday.

"Yes, my career has cartwheeled in unexpected directions since *Upstairs, Downstairs*," he said. "I never really envisaged spending three nights a week learning karate to further my career, as called for in *The Avengers*."

8.0 The New Avengers

PATRICK MACNEE
GARETH HUNT
JOANNA LUMLEY in

Cat Amongst the Pigeons

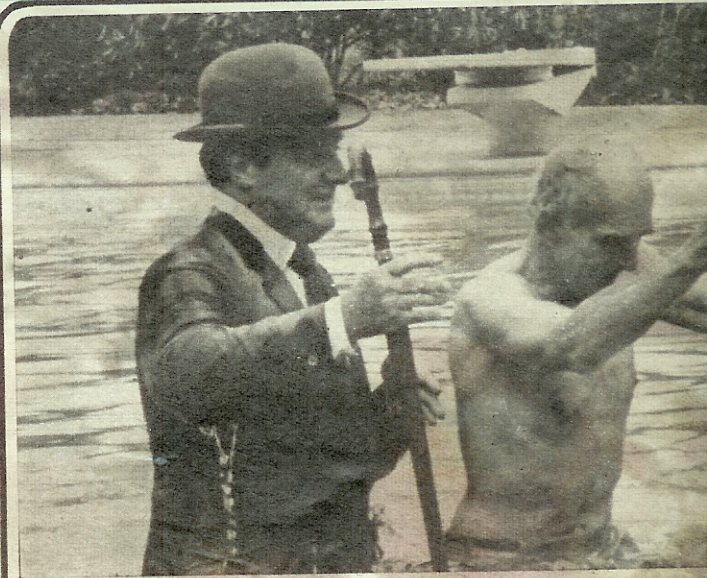
BY DENNIS SPOONER

A bird couldn't kill a man. Or steal, spy, crash planes and have Gambit running for cover. A bird couldn't attack Steed or tear Purdey to pieces. Could it?

The lovely Miss Lumley—Avenger fighting stardom: page 4 and In View

John Steed	Patrick Macnee
Mike Gambit	Gareth Hunt
Purdey	Joanna Lumley
Zarcadi	Vladek Sheybal
Turner	Matthew Long
Rydercroft	Basil Dignam
Waterflow	Peter Copley
Lewington	Hugh Walters
Bridlington	Gordon Rollings
Hudson	Joe Black
Foster	Patrick Connor
Tomkins	Kevin Stoney
Merton	Andrew Bradford
Controller	Brian Jackson

DIRECTOR JOHN HOUGH



8.0

Damp, but never dowdy, John Steed escorts Professor from a swimming pool after saving them both from an attack by Patrick Macnee and Peter Copley in *The New Avengers*

AH, show business . . . German-born actor Frederick Jaeger started out in the leading role of Bradshaw in *Target*, this week's episode of *The New Avengers*, sat around for two weeks in pouring rain, and ended as little more than an extra! His contract limited him to two weeks' work, so when the rain came to ruin the schedule of location filming, he only had enough time left to play the minor role of a character called Jones. Roy Boyd took over the Bradshaw part.

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Joanna Lumley—*The New Avengers*' Purdey—is the target that retaliate on the shooting range. She's the hunter . . . hunted. She has to be fast . . . very fast, and very sure

cardboard targets that fight back. Only Gambit can save them . . .

Joanna Lumley's years of champagne, nudity and tears: see page 10 and In View

John Steed
Mike Gambit
Purdey
Draker
Ilenko
Bradshaw
Jones
Myers
Klokoe
Kendrick
Lopez
Talmadge
Palmer

Patrick Macnee
Gareth Hunt
Joanna Lumley
Keith Barron
Robert Beatty
Roy Boyd
Frederick Jaeger
Malcolm Stoddard
Deep Roy
John Paul
Bruce Purchase
Dennis Blanch
Robert Tayman

PRODUCERS ALBERT FENNELL, BRIAN CLEMENS

8.0 The New Avengers

PATRICK MACNEE
GARETH HUNT
JOANNA LUMLEY in

Target

BY DENNIS SPOONER

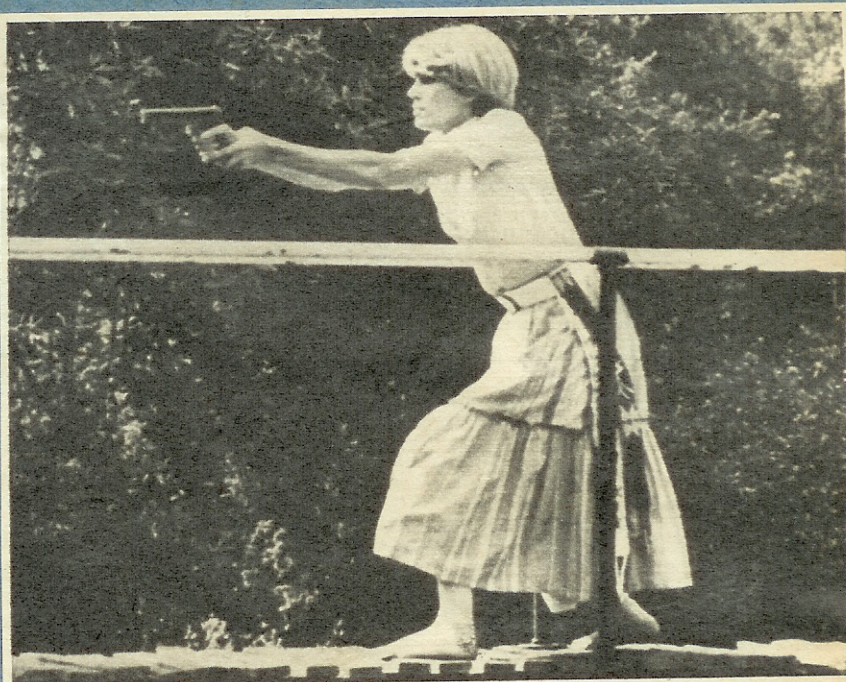
Five top agents die, apparently of natural causes, in a matter of weeks. Draker, a man in the shadows, gloats.

Steed's suspicions lead him and Purdey to a shooting range . . . and



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Damp, but never dowdy, John Steed escorts Professor Waterflow from a swimming pool after saving them both from an attack by birds. Patrick Macnee and Peter Copley in *The New Avengers*



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