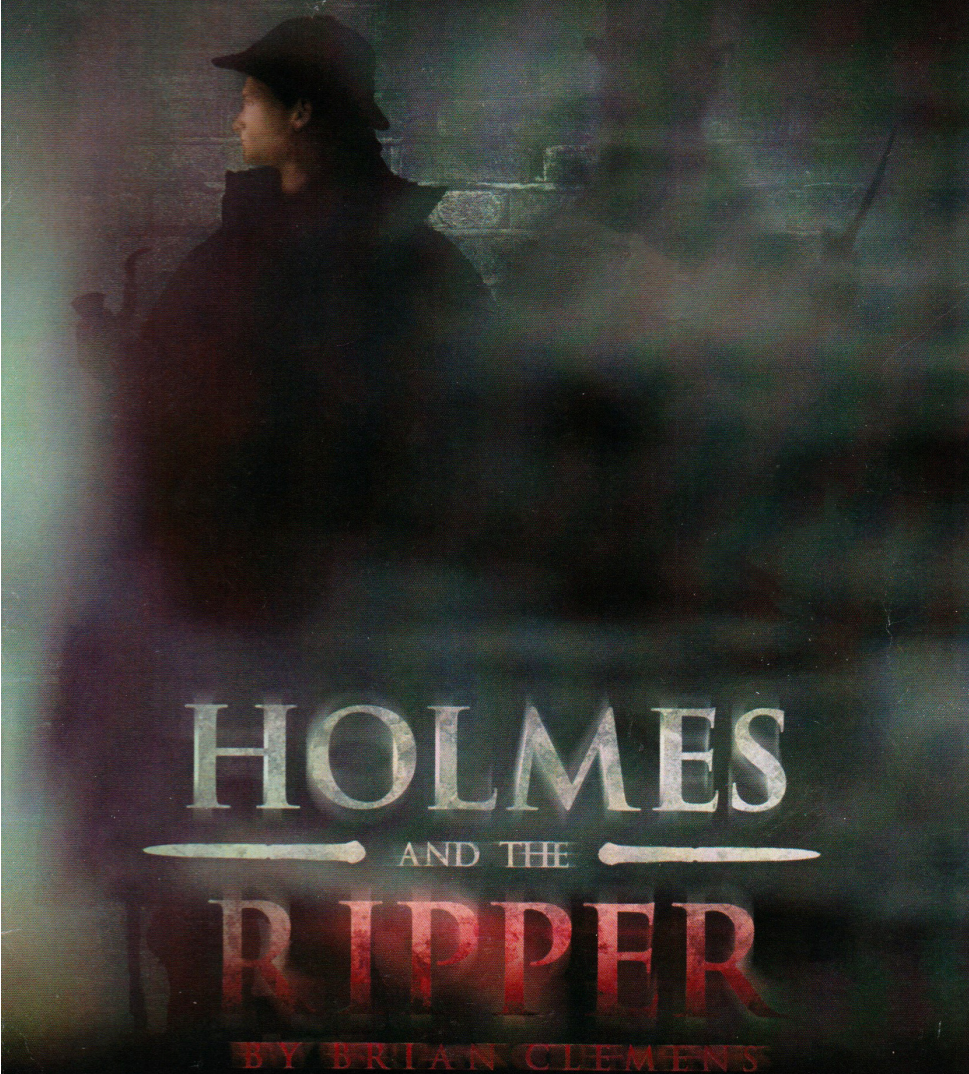




Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre  
sponsored by  
Steven J. Mountford Financial Services

£1



HOLMES

AND THE

RIPPER

BY BRIAN CLEMENS

© Sophie Green

18th & 19th and 22nd to 26th January 2013 at 7.30pm

Matinee: Sat. 26th at 2.30pm

(An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.)

# WELCOME

Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre is supported and run by volunteers who regularly give up their time and without whom we could not deliver the standard of production and customer service which our patrons have come to expect. Some of these people you will encounter tonight, others fulfil a less visible, but no less vital role.

Backstage Crew, Front-of-House, Bar and Coffee Bar, Members, Friends, Young Rep and all other helpers - we are deeply indebted to everyone involved - **Thank You.**

Some information which you may find helpful:

**The Bar** is open from 6.45 until 11.00pm on performance evenings and drinking-up time is 20 minutes afterwards.

**Coffee, tea and confectionery** are available in the foyer from 6.45.

**All interval refreshments may be ordered before the performance to avoid queuing later.**

**The car park** is open from 6.30. until 11.00pm on performance evenings; overspill parking is available in the Staffordshire University car park further along Leek Road.

**Neither the Rep nor Staffordshire University can accept responsibility for damage to, or loss of vehicles.**

**Please note that smoking is not allowed in any part of the theatre building.**

**We hope that you enjoy your evening with us.**



**PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOBILE PHONES ARE SWITCHED OFF DURING THE PERFORMANCE.**

# BOOKING INFORMATION

Our box office is open from the Monday preceding each Rep production through until the last night of the show from 5.00 to 8.00pm.

**Tel: 01782 209784**

Book tickets during opening hours from Music Mania, 4/5/ Piccadilly Arcade, Hanley.

**Tel: 01782 206000**

## **Why not join our free MAILING LIST ?**

Simply complete a mailing list form, available in the bar and leave in the box situated at the Box Office.

**[www.stokerep.org.uk](http://www.stokerep.org.uk)**

- Find out 'What's On' and 'What's News' by visiting the Rep's website.
- Online booking, information about current and forthcoming productions, shows, concerts and activities is available at the click of a mouse.
- Join our emailing list and keep up to date with the latest news.
- Catch previews of forthcoming Rep productions by checking out the Rep's channel on



- Have your say (and find out what others are saying) at **[www.Facebook.com/stoke.rep.theatre.players](http://www.Facebook.com/stoke.rep.theatre.players)**



or





## Nick Bailey Master of Ceremonies

Weddings, formal dinners,  
family celebrations

From organizing ushers and photographers,  
to ensuring that every aspect of the  
reception runs smoothly,  
a professional Master of Ceremonies will  
ensure that everyone can relax  
and enjoy the special day.

*'Nick was so helpful  
and made sure everyone felt  
so at ease.'*

Tailored to each client's requirements

Telephone: 07812 414625 or email: [nicholas.bailey2@sky.com](mailto:nicholas.bailey2@sky.com)

**Professional** ✧ **Friendly** ✧ **Organized**

# All Around The House



**THE COMPLETE HOME REPAIR  
& INSTALLATION SERVICE**



PLUMBING  
ELECTRICS  
HEATING  
GUTTERING

KITCHENS  
BATHROOMS  
BEDROOMS  
EXTERIORS



Reg.No. 135180

**Ring: Paul Findley (01782) 644376,  
Mobile: (07785) 785120**

*Coming Soon from  
the Stoke Repertory Players . . .*



*8th & 9th and 12th to 16th March 2013  
at 7.30pm*

*Matinee: Saturday 16th at 2.30pm*

## **84 Charing Cross Road**

**by Helen Hanff** (Adapted by James Roose-Evans)

A gentle story of a relationship which develops by letter just after World War II  
between an American author and the staff of an antiquarian bookshop in London.

A film version of this story was made in 1987  
starring Anthony Hopkins and Anne Bancroft.

# THE CAST

Sherlock Holmes:	John Collier
Dr John H. Watson:	Nick Proud
Sir William Gull:	Martin Alcock
John Netley:	Andy Bell
Kate Mead:	Sarah Stockdale
Mrs Hudson:	Ann Williams
Catherine Eddowes and Streetwalker:	Kate Lindsay
Mary Kelly and Annie Crook:	Samantha Rushton
'The Stranger', Bradbury and Beggar:	Matt Newton
Robert Anderson, William Saunders and Lord Salisbury:	Richard Morrey
Lamplighter, Young Man, Policeman and Drunk:	James King
News Seller, Young Man and Potter:	Paul Orry

**DIRECTED BY: GEOFF LEGAN**

**CO-DIRECTED BY: DIANA HALSTEAD**

*Period: 1888*

*Setting: 221b Baker Street*

*and various locations in and around London.*

*There will be a twenty minute interval between  
Act One and Act Two*

## Bradwell Lodge Community Centre



## ROOM OR HALL HIRE?

Good quality and economical rooms available to hire with:

Efficient Booking System  
Beautiful Listed Building  
Modernised Facilities  
On-site Parking  
Meeting Rooms

**Prices from £10 per hour**

Phone for more details on 07722 124176

or visit us online at : [www.bradwell-lodge.co.uk](http://www.bradwell-lodge.co.uk)

## PCHS - PC HomeService the convenient home computer service

PCHS offers a convenient reliable home computer maintenance and repair service. Whether you are experiencing sluggish performance or intermittent problems with your computer, PCHS can help resolve the problem.

Repairs, installations & upgrades  
Performance enhancements  
Internet security audits and advice  
Virus removal  
Broadband installations  
Personal Tuition

**Call Howard Goodall on 07776 196552  
or visit [www.pc-homeservice.co.uk](http://www.pc-homeservice.co.uk)**



# THE CREW

<b>Stage Director:</b>	<b>Richard Masters</b>
<b>Set Designer:</b>	<b>Brian Hadley</b>
<b>Stage Manager:</b>	<b>Richard Masters</b>
<b>Scenic Artist:</b>	<b>Brian Hadley</b>
<b>Set construction:</b>	<b>Mike Adams, John Beeston Adam Davis, Brian Hadley, Bill Hancock, Peter Logan, Chris O'Shaunessy, Richard Masters, Luke Shaw, Liam Smith, Lewis Roberts</b>
<b>Lighting Design &amp; Operation:</b>	<b>Malcolm Rushton</b>
<b>Sound Operator:</b>	<b>Mike Adams</b>
<b>Props:</b>	<b>Margo Bloor</b>
<b>Costumes:</b>	<b>Birmingham Costume Hire</b>
<b>Wigs designed and supplied by:</b>	<b>John Cumberlidge</b>
<b>Programme design:</b>	<b>Janet Smith</b>
<b>Company Photographer:</b>	<b>Peter Croft</b>
<b>Flyman:</b>	<b>Peter Logan</b>

**Music by Jamie Robertson from the audio dramatisation  
*Holmes and The Ripper* by Brian Clemens, starring  
Nicholas Briggs and Richard Earl, produced by Big  
Finish Productions and available at [bigfinish.com](http://bigfinish.com)**

## THANK YOU

**We are indebted to the St John Ambulance Brigade,  
whose members attend all our performances.**

## NOT ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR WATSON...!

### A Note from the Director

“A journalist once asked Comedienne, Joyce Grenfell which of the different media she had worked in (television, radio, film, stage) that she preferred. Her reply was: ‘Radio, because the pictures are clearer.’ A few years ago, I was given a copy of an excellent audio dramatisation *Homes and the Ripper* by a work colleague and Miss Grenfell was, of course, correct.

Rather than seeing the brutal and barbaric results of Jack’s exploits we are left to create in our own minds the dark and foggy streets of London’s east end and nothing is more powerful than the imagination for heightening the thrill of such a perennially puzzling tale. Thus, when I came to consider directing the play I looked on it as if I was directing a radio drama and let you, the audience, assist me in my endeavours, much like you would in the superb stage adaptation of Susan Hill’s *The Woman in Black*.

Despite being a contemporary of The Ripper, Conan Doyle never put Sherlock Homes’ formidable brain and powers of deduction to solving this most puzzling and intriguing of crimes. Many writers since have put the two together in the same story and thus we have the Brian Clemens version that you are witnessing now.

In creating this world where fact meets fiction I am indebted to a dedicated and hard working cast and company for indulging in my directorial whims and helping to breathe new life into a well known tale. Also the creative team at The Rep for bringing my vision to life with the set, lighting, sound and visuals that make theatre happen.

No spoilers here but I would hope that you are shocked, surprised and satisfied with our dénouement which, though now widely thought not to be a credible solution to the Ripper murders, is nevertheless a fascinating and plausible explanation that sees Homes take on the establishment and fight for justice for the women who fell foul of this mysterious assassin known as Jack. If you wish to discuss it more, see me in the bar after the play.

And finally to the title of this missive; I have to correct the long standing misapprehension that Homes ever said ‘Elementary, My Dear Watson’. In the writings of Conan Doyle he never did and therefore neither shall we.”

**Geoff Legan 2013**

# BRIAN CLEMENS

Born in Croydon, Clemens left school at the age of fourteen and following National Service in the British Army at Aldershot, where he was a weapons training instructor in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, he had ambitions to become a journalist, but decided he was insufficiently qualified. Searching around for alternative employment opportunities, he was offered a job with a private detective agency, but this involved taking a training course in Leeds and, as he had been away from home in London for two years, he decided he didn't want to go away again so opted instead to start working as messenger boy at the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency. Despite his lowly start in the company, he eventually worked his way up to the position of a copywriter and managed to get his script for a thriller screenplay *Valid for Single Journey Only* (1955) accepted and filmed by the BBC.

The success of this production brought him to the attention of independent, low-budget movie producers the Danziger brothers, whom he joined, and from the mid-1950s onwards he was a staff writer for the Danzigers, churning out dozens of 'quickie' scripts for assembly-line 'B' movies and half-hour television series. He was also a writer for ITC Entertainment's thriller series *The Invisible Man* (ITV, 1958–1959), *Sir Francis Drake* (ITV, 1961–1962), and *Danger Man* (ITV, 1960–1961; 1964–1967). Indeed, his output was so prolific during the late 50s and throughout the 1960s that he frequently used the pseudonym 'Tony O'Grady.'

Many of his early television series are still fondly remembered today, such as *The Avengers*, for which he wrote the original pilot episode in 1961, and then went on to be the script editor, associate producer and main scriptwriter for *The Avengers* series (ITV, 1961–1969).

The wry, tongue-in-cheek humour which characterised the series, was noted in the British Film Institute's profile of him which commented that he "brought this spirit of burlesque to his other series - most notably with *Adam Adamant Lives!* (BBC, 1966-1967) and also with *The Baron* (ITV, 1966-1967), *The Persuaders!* (ITV, 1971-1972), *The Protectors* (ITV, 1972-1974), and *The Adventurer* (ITV, 1972-1974) - resoundingly poking fun both at the genre they were imitating and the sources of their inspiration."

It was Clemens himself who cast Diana Rigg to replace original star Honor Blackman in *The Avengers* and he was later quoted as saying: "I didn't do Diana a very good service. It made her an international star but I think I could have done more for her as far as the script was concerned. She was rather a stooge to Patrick Macnee's Steed."

In 1972, he created (but left the scriptwriting to Richard Waring) the BBC TV sitcom *My Wife Next Door* which won a BAFTA Award.

Building on his previous successes, his company, The Avengers (Film and TV) Enterprises Ltd., created *The New Avengers* (ITV 1976-1977) which cost £125,000 an episode to produce and was a huge commercial success, selling to 120 countries.

To cast the central female role of Purdey, Clemens considered "about 700 girls", interviewed 200, read scripts with 40 and screen-tested 15 before finally choosing Joanna Lumley.

His company, Avengers Mark One Productions, went on to produce *The Professionals* (ITV, 1977–1983).

Following on from this success, he worked on the BBC TV's *Bergerac* (1981–1991), the anthologies *Hammer House of Mystery and Suspense* (ITV, 1984–1986) and *Worlds Beyond* (ITV, 1984–1989) and adapted Gavin Lyall's espionage thriller *The Secret Servant* as a three part drama for BBC TV (1984).

Back in the US he worked on the *Father Dowling Mysteries* (NBC, 1989; ABC-TV, 1990–1991) and as executive script consultant for the feature-length revival series of Raymond Burr's *Perry Mason* (CBS, 1985–1995) and also wrote for the Dick Van Dyke mystery series *Diagnosis: Murder* (CBS, 1992–2001).

Clemens and his wife Brenda were divorced in 1966 and from 1967 he was with the actress Diane Enright, who was Diana Rigg's stand-in as Emma Peel during the 1965-1967 Avengers seasons, until her death in 1976.

Clemens' outstanding contribution to scriptwriting was officially acknowledged in 2010 when he was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Queen's 2010 Birthday Honours list.



## **Garden Centre**

Cemetery Road, Silverdale,  
Newcastle under Lyme.  
(just off the A525 near Keele University)

**Telephone: 01782 636428**  
[www.garnersgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.garnersgardencentre.co.uk)

Open daily 9.00am - 6.00pm including Bank Holidays - FREE & EASY PARKING

Situated close to Newcastle town centre and with over 100 years of experience, Garners Garden Centre is still a family run business with friendly staff who can provide expert advice.

**Indoor plants**

**Outdoor Plants, Shrubs and Trees**

**Craft Dept.**

**Pet Dept.**

**Garden Furniture and Water Features**

**Outdoor Dept.**

**BBQ's**

**Regatta Outdoor Clothing**

**Tools & DIY**

**PLUS**

## **The Barn Restaurant**

**Delicious cream cakes  
with freshly made coffee & tea**

**Breakfast**

from 9.00am to 11.30am

**Freshly Prepared Home-Made Hot Meals**

from 11.30am to 3.00pm

**Sunday Lunches**

**Roast Beef, Lamb, Chicken or Pork**