DVD '65-1

The Town of No Return

Mrs Peel is called away from her fencing practice by Steed's arrival

Something's very fishy in the small North Sea village of Little Bazeley... and it's something to do with the local fisherman. Ministry agents have gone missing on assignment there, so Steed and Emma step in to uncover the mystery.

Joined on the train trip by the burly Jimmy Smallwood, they are greeted coldly by the stone-faced locals at the pub. By morning, Smallwood is missing, hounded down and killed overnight while trying to locate his brother.

On the surface, all is quiet, but the Avengers find Smallwood's body on the beach. They then proceed to discover that every person in the village is an impostor - the parish records have been destroyed, and the old air raid bunkers under the primary school are being stocked with arms and soldiers, ready to invade Britain.

Having trapped the invaders underground (<u>sound familiar?</u>), the Avengers return to London on a motor scooter.

DVD '65-1

The Cybernauts

Someone is killing the great industrialists of England, someone with extraordinary strength and determination.

The Avengers investigate, and find that every victim has had his fountain pen smashed. All had been competing for a new electrical circuit from Harachi Corporation, a Japanese multinational, and the Avengers set out to investigate the remaining bidders.

Mrs Peel also investigates a karate dojo for a possible link, and is surprised to discover one of the industrialists is a karate champion.

Steed investigates a wheelchair-bound automation fanatic, and is set up to be the next victim. Suspecting foul play, he returns to the factory, leaving the deadly pen he was given with Mrs Peel. She narrowly escapes death by coming to Steed's aid, but it is he who rescues her when cornered by the robot. He clips the pen on a more advanced robot and they destroy each other. Stuck on a crossword, Steed breaks his pencil, but turns down Mrs Peel's kind offer of one of Armstrong's pens.

DVD '65—2 Castle De'ath

A diver is found dead in a Scottish loch, six inches taller than when he was alive, and the Avengers descend on the castle in a variety of disguises; Mrs Peel as a tourism consultant and Steed as a Scotch historian.

Suspicion is immediately directed at the protective and unwelcoming Laird of the Castle, he wants the castle to remain private and remote while his money-oriented brother wants to encourage tourists.

Local fishing grounds have become strangely depleted and the Avengers discover a submarine pen below the castle, with the minisubs being used to herd fish into holding bays. The Avengers escape the clutches of the minions but run into lan, the Laird and his brother Angus upstairs. Mrs Peel believes lan to be the villain but is quickly disabused when Angus kills him then tries to kill her and Steed - he then dies when the door in the back of an Iron Maiden jams.

The Avengers drive off, across the loch, in an amphibious car.

DVD '65-1

The Gravediggers

One of Britain's early-warning radar stations has suffered a technically impossible glitch, and the Avengers are sent to investigate.

When they discover that the man who developed the system died the week before, and was buried in the likely source of the glitch, things begin to look suspicious. Even more so when Steed spots the dead man walking around a hospital for retired railwaymen.

Emma finds him, definitely dead this time, a while later in an undertaker's office, and is sent to the hospital in the guise of a nurse. The senior medical staff have hoodwinked the hospital's benefactor into funding their plot to destroy and invade Britain by pretending to be destroying the motor car, which he considers to be the killer of his beloved railways.

Mrs Peel is tied to the railway tracks, with a silent movie soundtrack playing, and dashing Steed rescues her from the clutches of the dastardly villains.

The Avengers depart on Sir Horace's model train, presumably only as far as the house.

DVD '65-2

Death at Bargain Prices

Moran, a ministry agent investigate strange goings-on in a large city department store is found dead in an alleyway in the possession of a receipt from the store dated on the Sunday (no Sunday trading back in the sixties remember).

The Avengers investigate, Mrs Peel gaining employment as a shopgirl, Steed rambling around as a nosey customer cum efficiency expert. Emma befriends the house detective and learns that none of the staff know what they're doing, and management keep having late night meeting during which they steal food and disarrange in-store displays. Steed befriends the delicatessen girl and discovers one particular food that goes missing was the favourite of vanished nuclear scientist Professor Popple.

Breaking into the store, Steed overhears the management talking about Mrs Peel, who they've rolled up in a carpet. Steed overpowers her guard and rescues her and they they then locate the professor and discover the store owner is building a bomb, hidden in the store. After a fruitless search they realise the store is the bomb, and manage to overpower the goons and stop the detonation mechanism, at the bottom of a lift shaft, in the nick of time.

DVD '65-2

The Master Minds

A prominent and distinguished member of society is found wounded, having been shot by an accomplice when he tripped an alarm in a robbery they were committing.

the Avengers arrive to investigate, and hopefully question the man, who remains in a coma, but before he reveals very much he is killed by his doctor, who was acting as if hypnotised when he struck. Sir Clive's diary has been destroyed as well - the only link between the men is the MENSA-like society RANSACK. Mrs Peel is immediately accepted into their ranks because of her scientific background, and she gets Steed in by faking his exam papers, then supplying him with the answers for the next day's test.

At a retreat for the egg heads, Steed wakes in the night to find the other members trooping like zombies down to the gymnasium to watch a film, then disappearing into the night, returning with sand on their boots and in possession of military hardware.

The Avengers discover that the sports mistress from the school is brainwashing the genii with the dormitory radio and picking their highly developed minds for the best way to carry off audacious crimes.

DVD '65-3

The Murder Market

A businessman meets a woman for a blind date and she immediately shoots him.

He's not the only one though, and the Avengers are called in to investigate a spate of similar deaths which seem linked to an introduction agency.

The plot's a bit like "Strangers on a Train" - the agency facilitates the murder of inconvenient relatives for its members, while providing alibis for them by making sure they're seen elsewhere at the time of death, the attractive Barbara Wakefield being their chief assassin.

The Avengers fake Emma's death at Steed's hand, then defeat the members of the agency in their offices. Steed and Mrs Peel depart in a hearse.

DVD '65-3

The Hour That Never Was

Steed has been invited back to RAF Hamelin, scene of some of his wartime antics, when the camp is being closed down and the staff posted worldwide.

Just outside the camp a dog hurtles across the road and Steed crashes his beloved Bentley into a tree. Proceeding on foot, he and Emma enter an eerily deserted camp, almost Marie Celeste like - drinks on the table, music playing, electric razor still on. They witness a milkman being shot, but don't see the killer, but are then affected by ultrasonic sound waves. When they stop, Mrs Peel has vanished and Steed is shortly afterwards knocked out by a boom gate.

Coming to in his car, he sees it's still the same time as when he left. Has he dreamt it all? It certainly seems to be the case when he reaches the camp and finds the party in full swing and Mrs Peel sending apologies, but Mrs Peel's watch and a dead tramp alert him to the truth and he's quickly rescuing Mrs Peel from the dentist's chair and quashing the villains who'd hoped to put a sleeper in every overseas British post around the world. The Avengers depart on the back of a milk float, and then realise neither of them are driving it.

DVD '65-4

Man-eater of Surrey Green

All over England, leading botanists are going missing from their research stations.

When the latest is a personal friend of Mrs Peel, the Avengers step in to investigate. All clues point towards Surrey Green, a small village near the house of Sir Lyle Peterson. Steed discovers all the missing botanists are working for him, seemingly of their own volition, but the household and staff are acting strangely. Mrs Peel discovers that Sir Lyle has been buying inordinate amounts of fertiliser and polyethylene. Sir Lyle has also purchased oil rigs for two sites, but cancelled the

They investigate the second site and discover a crashed spacecraft, its astronaut still inside, and a large space-borne seedpod attached. Dr Sheldon, a leading botanist who did not heed Peterson' summonses examines it and declares it a creeper with brain tissue and a digestive tract requiring chemicals only found in human on Earth.

They rush to Śurrey Green with extremely potent herbicide, only to find the village deserted and the house besieged by an enormous plant. Hearing aids are proof against the plant's hypnotic influence, so donning some they enter the house, giving one to Peterson when he tries to attack them. Mrs Peel loses hers in a tussle with the plant and attacks Steed, but a clash of heads leaves her unconscious. Steed puts her jacket around a mannequin and douses it with the weed killer, and the beast is defeated.

DVD '65—3 A Surfeit of H₂O

A poacher is found dead in a field, drowned by a sudden downpour

The locals are nervous, and one is building an Ark, convinced that the final flood is coming. The Avengers investigate, and discover extraordinary climactic conditions around a winery that produces vegetable-based wines - cucumber being their tour deforce.

Steed investigates, disguised as a wine merchant and finds the chief vinologist doesn't know the difference between wine and spirits. A meteorology expert is also drowned, along with the poacher's brother, and Mrs Peel is captured and put in a wine press by the diabolical mastermind* Dr Sturm.

Steed and Jonah affect a rescue and a tussle in the pouring rain ends with the villains vanquished and Sturm dead by his own machine.

DVD '65-4

Dial A Deadly Number

City gents - luminaries of British industry and bankers - are dropping dead of sudden heart attacks and someone's making a lot of money in the process.

The Avengers step in to investigate, Steed playing a young millionaire and Mrs Peel an inquisitive first-time investor. They discover that all the men have been using a new paging device promoted by prominent banker Henry Boardman. After a dinner at Boardman's house Steed is attacked, and suspicion increases. Boardman is an unknowing patsy, however, and his partners - both business and marital - are the real villains. A last desperate fight in the bank's cellars leads to the defeat of the criminals and the Avengers emerge with some of the spoils, eagerly consumed in the taxi home.

DVD '65—4

Two's A Crowd

The Ministry are tipped off that the shadowy Colonel Psev is about to arrive in Britain, his entourage installing itself in their embassy. The bumbling ambassador, Brodny, unintentionally spills the beans to Steed then returns to the embassy to puzzle over how to get inside an upcoming top military conference. Imagine Brodny's surprise when he sees a double of Steed at a fashion catwalk - a sleazy model and actor called Webster. All the information checks out, so Webster's brought to the embassy and persuaded, with a large sum of money, to betray his country. A test run of his imposture, with Mrs Peel as the acid test, almost works but Mrs Peel is onto it and incarcerated when she tries to tell the authorities. She has to endure hearing the sounds of Steed and his minder being assassinated by the double, who then proceeds to the conference.

He returns, but insists on only giving the microfilm to Psev himself, and the entourage reveal that they collectively are Psev, the name coming from their initials **P**udeshkin-**S**chverdloff-**E**lena-**V**ogel. Webster skips off with Mrs Peel, revealing himself en route to be the real Steed, and in fact Webster never existed, it was Steed all the time.

Psev tumbles to the trick - even before Mrs Peel believes it - and attack them with model aeroplanes, but Steed turns their bomber against them with a military radio.

The Avengers depart on horseback after Mrs Peel refutes her own identity.

DVD '65-4

Too Many Christmas Trees

Steed, given the assignment of tracking down a colleague and good friend who's spilling vital secrets has a series of nightmares, culminating in the man's death. The next day the man turns up dead, and Steed begins to worry.

Emma whisks him away from it all to a house party given by Brandon Storey, a noted collector of Dickensia. the dreams intensify however, and Steed seems to be under some form of telepathic control. He dreams of Madame guillotine, and she promptly turns up in the form of Janice Crane, a noted psychic who try to enter his mind during a parlour game.

Mrs Peel comes to the rescue, having disposed of the suspicious Dr Teasel only to discover Steed resister the villains by singing loudly - and her reveals that Teasel was on their side. The villains are trounced in a hall of mirrors and Storey is unmasked as the evil Santa.

Exit the Avengers on a surrey, under a sprig of mistletoe...

DVD '66-1

Room Without A View

A missing scientist suddenly turn up at his home and attacks his Chinese wife, apparently fearful of anyone oriental.

He appears to have been incarcerated in a North Korean prison camp for the last few years, and has regressed mentally, barely able to remember anything except the number "621".

As the Avengers investigate, a Chinese Laundry truck turns up and the occupants abduct Dr Wadkin again.

His old colleague Dr Cullen dismisses Wadkin as a traitor, and the Avengers follow him to a hotel in town, also following him is a shadowy character called Pasold. Cullen also vanishes in the night, and Steed observes an impostor checking out in his name.

Mrs Peel gets a job as a receptionist and Steed poses as M. Gourmet to infiltrate the hotel, run by the lugubrious Max Chessman. Mrs Peel is captured after she stumbles across Pasold in the laundry, having recognised the laundrymen as the assailants who made off with Wadkin.

Steed and Varnals interrupt a meeting between a Russian agent and Chessman and proceed to rescue Mrs Peel and the missing scientists from the replica of the prison camp on level seven of the hotel, where the fake room 621 is located.

Steed transports Mrs Peel away in a rickshaw.

DVD '66—1 Silent Dust

All the birds in a remote corner of Cornwall are vanishing - dropping like flies from the skies, or moving away. Last time this happened, there was a major ecological disaster caused by a fertiliser gone wrong.

The Avengers investigate, and discover a link between the inventor's daughter and a Master of Hounds in the affected area. Unbeknownst to her, he's using a supply of the banned chemical and plans to hold the country to ransom, destroying county after county until his demands are me. In with him on the plot are other local landholders, the meagre returns from farming no longer enough for them.

After a rollicking cross-country hunt - with Steed and Mrs Peel as the quarry - the villains are dispatched and england can rest easy.

The Avengers depart by hot-air balloon.

DVD '66—1

Small Game For Big Hunters

A farm labourer is found on the Great South Road in a coma, dressed in tropical kit, sporting a deep tan and with a native arrow in his back.

The Avengers investigate, and discover that the arrow is of Kalayan design, and the tropical clothes were sent to a Colonel Rawlings in Kalaya, back in 1929.

Everything points to the Kalayan Ex-servicemen's club, a stones' throw away from where the man was found. The doctor who found him also succumbs to the mysterious coma, which the visiting expert Professor Swain declares to be of Kalayan voodoo origin.

Steed infiltrates the club and discovers some disaffected excolonial settlers planning to bring Kalaya to its knees with a new strain of tsetse fly. A Kalayan secret service agent is killed by one of the plotters, but the Avengers manage to quash the plan. Exit the Avengers downstream, in a canoe.

DVD '66-2

The Girl From Auntie

Mrs Peel is leaving an all-night revel of the most entertaining kind - men in masks, women in deshabillé when she sees an old lady fall off her bicycle. going to her aid, she is surprised when the old lady turns on her and injects her with a fast-acting tranquiliser...

Steed returns from a quick jaunt around the continent to find an actress impersonating Mrs Peel, claiming complete innocence. Steed and the actress team up to find out what's going on, as they discover all the people involved with her employment are being killed by knitting needles.

The needles prove a valuable clue - they can only have come from Arkwright's Knitting Circle. Georgie join the circle but Steed learns some needles were recently stolen. Next door is the suspicious 'Art Incorporated' who make the bold claim of being able to obtain the unobtainable, whatever the cost. Steed breaks in and finds them in the possession of the Mona Lisa, priceless Renaissance sculptures by Cellini and various other exceptional items. Sprung by the owner, Steed gives a false name and a correct address, and is promptly visited by a little old lady who notices the original Goya he had arranged a loan of from the National Gallery to establish his bona fides.

Steed asks the organisation to acquire Mrs Peel for him, but is told they are already holding her for another client - the Russian agent Ivanoff. Steed has Ivanoff arrested, they have him killed, and steed is invited to an auction of unclaimed merchandise - including Mrs Peel.

He wins the auction, but is recognised by the old lady - who turns out to be a man in disguise. After a wild fight, Mrs Peel is freed from her gilded cage.

The Avengers depart, squashed into a little bubble car, while Georgie drives away in Steed's Bentley.

DVD '66-2

The Quick-Quick Slow Death

A man pushing a pram through heavy traffic stops to make a 'phone call, then is aghast to see the pram start rolling away - he chases it but after a contretemps with a sports car it's upturned, and a man's corpse rolls out.

The Avengers arrive to interrogate the man, an enemy agent called Fehr, but he won't talk. They trace the man, courtesy of a tattoo on his wrist and the suit he'd hired, but the menswear hire assistant and the tattooist are quickly killed by the villains. Nonetheless, the trail leads to a dance studio and Mrs Peel gets herself hired as an instructress.

Steed realises that he studio is used as a means of acquiring identities for infiltrating agents - they dispose of dance students that have no family or friends and replace them with similar-looking sleepers.

Reeling around the ballroom, the Avengers manage to thwart their plan to replace Steed with one of their own, and close down the operations of the studio staff.

The Avengers dance away into the darkness as the lights go down...

DVD '66-2

The Thirteenth Hole

A Ministry agent is shot as he approaches the 13th hole, slain by a leading member of the club and his caddy.

The Avengers investigate his flat - Mrs Peel encountering the caddy ransacking the apartment as she arrives. they discover that he'd recently taken up golf, but none of his scorecards go past the 12th hole. they identify the club by their custom-made balls.

Arriving at the club, the club secretary tells them it's members only, as there's a tournament on, and seems disconcerted to discover they joined up yesterday.

hoping to make a foursome with the two leading suspects, they are brusquely told to stand aside as they tee-off, but when they get to the 13th hole Reed and Dr Adams have vanished. Fearing that Dr Adams has been abducted, they're surprised to find him in the club house.

Reed tries to bribe the club pro into having him play with Adams in the tournament, but is dismayed to find he's playing Steed instead. Meanwhile, Mrs Peel encounters the pro, Collins, at the 13th hole and discovers he too is trying to discover what's going on on the links. He's killed by an errant golf ball, launched by the caddy, Jackson, from a special gun.

Steed and Mrs Peel conspire to make sure Steed wins his match with Reed, thus foiling Reed's plans to play alongside Dr Adams in the afternoon - a Russian satellite is at the heart of the matter, and it orbits over England at 12pm and 5pm every day. Dr Adams has been broadcasting his technical knowledge to the other side from a bunker under the 13th hole every day, but the Avengers have got in the way.

Steed escapes a nasty death and enters the bunkers, rescuing Mrs Peel and destroying the communications equipment. The Avengers leave in a golf cart.

DVD '66-3

The Danger Makers

General 'Woody' Groves' life comes to a premature end, having collided with a lorry while 'chicken running' at a crossroads. The Avengers meet a Ministry psychiatrist, Dr Long, who tells them of similar cases that have cropped up. Steed visits Groves' regiment and discovers him to have been well-regarded by his troops, and a distinguished soldier. He suspects Major Robertson of covering tracks, and sends Mrs Peel in as an auctioneer's valuer, instructing he to display an interest in phrenology and danger - two things dear to the Major. Steed's contacted by a junior officer, Stanhope, who's discovered some papers Robertson was burning, but he's shot before Steed can get to him. Mrs Peel is invited to a meeting of a special club by Robertson, and finds Steed there - the burnt photograph in Stanhope's hand having lead him there. Wearing a black rose. Steed is taken for a member and sits in on Mrs Peel's initiation. The gang leader - Dr Long - turns up and the Avengers are locked up, while the gang plan their coup the theft of the Crown Jewels from the Tower of London. He's discovered some ex-soldiers thrive on danger, so the probability of dying in the attempt to steal the jewels eggs them on, rather than deterring them as it would ordinary people. Steed and Mrs Peel escape and round up the gang, Dr Long dying in the final fight.

The Avengers depart on mini karts.

DVD '66-3

A Touch of Brimstone

Britain's international standing, and trade relations, are being damaged by a wave of practical jokes, aimed at visiting dignitaries. when one joke results in the death of a VIP, the avengers step up their hunt for the perpetrators.

Lord Darcy, an unwitting dupe of a group called the Hellfire Club spills the beans to Steed and then rushes around to the home of the Hon. John Cleverly Cartney, the prime suspect. Mrs Peel is there, being entertained in the Hellfire Club's rooms when Darcy bursts in, demanding a special meeting of senior members. the next day, his corpse is dragged from the river.

Mrs Peel nominates Steed for membership, and he passes the induction tests with flying colours, then overhears them planning an action that will have the whole country up in arms.

That night they attend the Club's gala, a debauched orgy, but notice a sedan chair filled with explosives heading for the basement. Steed learns that the tunnels go to clarendon house, where parliament is sitting that night. The plan is revealed - the killing of the government, and the installation in their place of the Hellfire conspirators.

Mrs Peel is mildly drugged and dressed up as a dominatrix, corset, boots, dog collar and snake, and offered to the club members as a plaything. Meanwhile, Steed is recognised by Darcy's butler, another club member, and is challenged to a duel by their fencing champion, Willy Frant. Mrs Peel slips away from the fight, followed by Cartney, and descends to the basement to stop the villains. Having defeated the goons downstairs, she is confronted by Cartney wielding a whip, who lashes her, but dies when his whip entangles the mechanism for a trapdoor. Steed has meanwhile subdued Frant and locked away the other club members.

The Avengers depart, driving a four horse carriage.

DVD '66-4

The House That Jack Built

An escaping prisoner evades his guards, making off with the shotgun of one of them. climbing over a wall, he finds a deserted country house and enters, only to be confronted by a charging lion...

Mrs Peel drops round to Steed's flat as he's developing some holiday snaps, but she won't stay to see them, she's off to look at a legacy recently bequeathed her. Steed discovers the impression of the key on the photos and suspects a trap, a quick 'phone call confirms that her solicitor knows nothing of any Uncle Jack. He calls a friend for help...

Mrs Peel is joined by a suspicious Scout Master called Withers, who leaves her at the house. Entering, she finds evidence of the forgery of her solicitor's signature, and then discovers the house has turned into a maze of twisting passages, all alike.(1) Being a seasoned adventurer, she marks a strange machine with lipstick, only to discover that it is to the passages as Rome is to all roads. Getting desperate, she tries running through the passages but to no avail. Eventually she finds herself back in the room she started in, or another copy of it, and discovers the mechanism for moving the rooms. That achieved, she descends a stairway to the control room, only to find an exhibition of her life, dedicated to the late Emma Peel.

Years ago she had sacked an automation expert, sure his plans would result in society's collapse - this house is his revenge, a huge machine designed to ensnare her, then drive her mad to the point of suicide.

She encounters the escaped prisoner, now a gibbering wreck, and a wayward shotgun blast from him reveals the location of the control room. Making a makeshift bomb with the key to the house and gunpowder from a shotgun shell, packed down with a hairpin, she destroys the machine and is released, Steed having arrived just after the nick of time.

The Avengers leave on a tandem bicycle.

DVD '66—3 What The Butler Saw

A butler give notice to his employer, who rings for his replacement. The new man comes in bearing a silver salver with a gun on it, and the man is dismissed in the most final manner. Steed visits a barber who deals in government secrets, and learns that the current leak is coming form one of the men, one RAF, one Navy and one Army. Seconds later, the barber is dead, stabbed by another customer.

Steed investigates all three in turn, and sets Mrs Peel to seduce the most obvious suspect, Group Captain Miles of the RAF. She discovers him to be innocent, and Steed discovers a coincidence of missing butlers for all three men. He enrolls in a butling school, run by Miles' butler, and is approached by Benson, another teacher there, who has seen through his phoney credentials, but takes him for criminal material rather than security.

Going along with the plan, he discovers miniature tape recorders sewn into the officers' jackets, by which the secrets were being stolen. Sergeant Moran from Miles' squadron is revealed to be the villain, embittered by his post-war rôle of barman. Steed and Mrs Peel leave the scene in a helicopter.

DVD '66—4 A Sense of History

A leading economist on his way to a meeting with a man opposed to his views is stopped by students involved in Rag Week antics - all dressed as Robin Hood's merry men - he pays the toll for the road but turning his back is shot by an arrow from behind

Steed and Mrs Peel discover a thesis from St Bode's College in his papers, clearly the work of someone who would have stopped at nothing to foil Groom's plans for "Europia". Mrs Peel joins the faculty of St Bode's as a new lecturer and Steed accompanies Groom's offsider, Carlyon, who takes up residence in a caravan near the college.

Investigating the university archives for the author of the thesis apparently causes the death of the archivist, Grindley, and the Avengers suspect the brilliant young fascist Duboys, who rules the university with insolence.

An attack on Carlyon's caravan leaves Steed with a hole in his bowler, and in the possession of a photo of one of the female students. Confronting her, she denies knowledge, but her boyfriend Petit admits to its ownership. Steed coerces him into helping him, but Duboys discovers them - Petit is killed that night, while searching the archives for Steed.

All being invited to the Rag Week party - a fancy dress occasion with a Robin Hood theme - Steed and Emma learn the ring leader will be dressed as Friar Tuck, but after dispatching two Friars, it is the third who abducts Carlyon and is on the point of killing him when a rescue is effected. Grindley - his death having been faked - is the author of the fascist dogma, and the man who wanted the "Europia" plan stopped.

The Avengers depart in a BSA motorcycle and sidecar, Mrs Peel in control

The Avengers Emma Peel DVD Series

DVD '66-4

How to Succeed At Murder

Executives from all manner of mid-sized companies are being killed, ten at the last count when he's blown up by his secretary. In every case, the secretary has stepped in as head of the firm, the accounting system too complex for anyone else to be able to make head or tail of. Steed and Emma investigate, but can find no link between the firms. Steed visits Joshua Rudge, chartered accountant to some of the men but learns nothing.

Mrs Peel investigates the perfume used by one of the latest killers, still lingering in the car where the man was slain. It's identified immediately by its inventor, J.J. Hooter, but his secretary claims the paperwork was sent to the warehouse that morning. Returning in the afternoon, Mrs Peel finds Hooter dead and the secretary refusing to help, unwittingly revealing the plot to her.

Mrs Peel gains employment in one of the firms recently taken over by the secretary, and follows her to a keep-fit class in the suburbs while Steed employs one of the other girls - found ensconced in Rudge's chambers - using the ruse of a £4,000,000 business run by himself alone.

Mrs Peel is inducted into the group after having voiced a preference for being her own boss and discovers the apparent leader is a puppet - seemingly controlled by a woman hiding behind the curtains. She is uncovered as a spy by Hooter's secretary, Gladys. Meanwhile, Steed is battling his secretary, Sara, and another of the group, Liz, who had blown her boss up. Defeating them with a tickling, he rushes to the studio and finds Rudge, but knocks over a radio transmitter and alerts the gang. Entering the studio, he reveals the leader of the female power group to be the timid Henry, trying to get his revenge on the businessmen who ruined his dead wife. Mrs Peel disposes of the gang while Steed deals with Henry.

The Avengers practice their ventriloquism, sitting in a moving caravan.

DVD '67-1

From Venus With Love

Mrs Peel is called away from her fencing practice by Steed's arrival.

They have to investigate when astronomers start turning white while observing Venus. Have the Venusians invaded earth, as Primble suggests to Steed? Are aliens killing the rich patrons of the British Venusian Society?

Steed is unconvinced and when they discover a tape recording of the aliens is in fact a laser warming up it's clear that Primble is behind it all. A deadly fight ensues and Emma is strapped in for corrective eye surgery.

The Avengers are invited to "have dinner on Venus", after dispatching Primble with his own laser, but Steed worries about his Claret not travelling well.

DVD '67-1

Escape In Time

Mrs Peel's Grand Hunt Ball invitation turns out to be a summons from Steed, and they set out to discover what's become of the world's most wanted criminals.

They're on the trail of Josino and follow him as he acquires a stuffed toy and a shaving cut. Steed takes the same path and ends up going through time to 1790! Emma follows, much to the gang's surprise and confusion, and finds herself in the Tudor era after the mastermind cottons onto her. A leap across time saves Emma from the stocks and exposes Thyssen's fraud.

Exit the Avengers in a veteran taxi - Emma in the drivers seat and Steed with a face full of soot.

DVD '66—4 Honey for the Prince

Two Ministry agents investigating an Eastern salon are machine-gunned by a man in black, one of the agents falls against a window through which we see Big Ben...

The other agent makes it to Steed's flat and dies, warning the Avengers of an uncertain peril. Steed goes to search the other man's flat while Mrs Peel organises disposal of the body, but a postman turns up with a parcel from the other agent and she follows this lead to a honey purveyor by the name of Bumble. Steed meanwhile tangles with the machine-gunner at Reed's apartment, who escapes and visits the honey shop as Mrs Peel enters. Steed follows a new lead to Quite Quite Fantastic Ltd. when a man called Hopkirk rings for Reed, and discovers a nice line in customised fantasies. Mrs Peel drops Reed's name and one of the villains follows her murderously to her flat, but he dies in the attempt on her life.

The surviving killer returns to report to Arkadi, an Eastern European diplomat who seeks the Prince dead so he can get the oil concessions off his cousin. Coming to the conclusion that the plot involves an attempt on the life of an Arab prince visiting London, Steed ingratiates himself at the embassy by means of a decent leg spin, but is denied access to the hareem where he's convinced the assassin lurks.

That evening, he presents Emma dancing the dance of the six veils (Steed alleges she can't count), and she is handed over as a new wife for the Prince. She searches the man-sized honey pots in the hareem, finding one with air holes but no occupant, and is just about to search for him when the Prince enters. the assailant shows his arm and Emma pounces, vanquishing the man who reveals Arkadi as the plotter.

The Avengers leave on a flying carpet - attached to the roof of a small van.

DVD '67-1

The Fear Merchants

A man awakes in the middle of Wembley stadium and goes mad, but he's not the only one.

Chocolates - but the box is empty except for a card from Steed declaring they're needed.

All of Jeremy Raven's business rivals are going mad or dying, through one fear or another. The Business Efficiency Bureau have a motto: "our merchandise is fear" - they discover people's fears and frighten them to death. Steed, determined to get to the bottom of their plot, enrols as a client and Mrs Peel becomes his business rival. The Avengers close down the B.E.B. by discovering the evil doers are afraid of the dark.

Mrs Peel discovers that Steed is afraid she may have run out of champagne.

DVD '67—2

The See-Through Man

Mrs Peel is surprised to find a message on one of her microscope slides, saying she's needed to investigate an apparently invisible man.

Ambassador Brodny is convinced that Major Vazin, a top agent recently arrived in England, has acquired the secret of invisibility. A front for their government, The Eastern Drug Corporation, recently purchased the formula from Quilby - a mad professor expertly played by Roy Kinnear. It is all a plot to fool the British government into diverting much needed resources into pointless research but the Avengers see through the scheme.

They dispatch the villains, and flummox Brodny, before going out for something to eat, if they can catch up to the old Rolls which has a will of its own!

DVD '67-2

The Bird Who Knew Too Much

Steed eschews the telephone for more primitive communications means, and Emma gets an arrow in her wall. Steed and Mrs Peel investigate the deaths of two agents, killed by Robin and Verret. Strange photographs taken in a no-flying exclusion zone of sensitive government installations lead them to Sam, a pretty model and the photographer she works for. First Steed, then Emma pose for the camera, before Mrs Peel is captured and placed in a lethal booby trap. Steed's continued preference for entering by the window saves her, and they're back on the trail. The key clue rests in the mind of Captain Crusoe, a prize parrot that has disappeared. Twitter is dispatched but Cunliffe proves to be the real culprit. With the gang trussed up, Steed proposes they meet a bird, basted in red wine. but he has to shoot it first.

DVD '67-3

The Living Dead

Steed's been tampering with the traffic lights in order to tell Mrs Peel she's needed.

The ghost of Rupert, 15th Duke of Benedict, has arisen from his coffin and haunts the local church. Kermit the Hermit swears he didn't see anything by the time they arrive, but he's been got at by Masgard, the game keeper of the new Duke, who doesn't seem to know any old English customs. It transpires the old Duke had escaped from a vast underground city that has been built below a local mine shaft. A foreign army is gathering there, awaiting a nuclear holocaust of Britain. Emma rescues Steed from the execution squad, and the Avengers escape with Rupert and his remaining companions, leaving the villains trapped below

Mechanic Emma, in a scene from a Modern Pygmalion, tells Steed he has "ghosts in the engine" of his Bentley.

DVD '67-3

The Correct Way To Kill

A couple of dapper city gents meet a foreign agent and dispatch him coldly, if politely.

Mrs Peel's is summoned by a doctored newspaper headline -Steed needs her to help him discover who's killing enemy agents.

When Ivan, the enemy's top man tries to kill Steed, thinking he was behind it, they team up to discover the third party. Steed pairs up with Olga and Emma goes with Ivan to investigate who is the real killer of the agents. Both sides are being double-crossed by Nutski, Olga's employer, who has set up a private army masquerading as a school for gentlemen. Following crates of umbrella and bowlers, Olga and Steed catch up to the gang, but are discovered. Emma to the rescue with her trusty foil, and a fencing bout finds Emma and Olga the victors, Nutski impaled on a sword.

Emma finds Steed wearing a Cossack hat the next morning at breakfast, the souvenir of a date with Olga.

DVD '67-2

The Winged Avenger

Mrs Peel is busy painting when she's distracted by discovering Steed has just signed her masterpiece.

Ruthless businessmen are being killed by a comic-strip character come to life.

Good on him, I say.

The illustrator, Arnie, has turned fiction into fact using special climbing boots invented by Professor Poole - with them, you can walk up the side of a house. A battle ensues on the ceiling before Steed uses Batman tactics to bring the Winged Avenger down to earth. **POW! WHACK! BLAM!**

Back at Mrs Peel's apartment Steed draws dinner, then serves it with a **ping!** of tureen lids.

DVD '67-3

The Hidden Tiger

Redecorations are interrupted by Steed's message, hidden under the wallpaper.

The Avengers have to track down a vicious cat on the rampage, killing people and animals near an experimental farm. Ronnie Barker plays Cheshire, the innocent proprietor of PURRR, excellently - patting his own head and lapping milk in my favourite scene. One by one, the members of the board of PURRR are being killed by cats - the killers are ordinary cats who are being driven wild by brain-wave modulators implanted in their collars. Steed signs up Emma as his beautiful bronze tabby, and Mrs Peel responds by joining her missing Little John, who's very grumpy before his first glass of champagne in the morning.

Dr Manx and Angora, from PURRR, plan to unleash every domestic cat on England, using radio waves to make them primeval beasts. Steed is tied to a chair, surrounded by cats, but Emma arrives in time to free him and disable the transmitter. Seeing a now placid cat in his van, Manx panics and dies in a car accident.

Mission accomplished, Mrs Peel can return to her redecorating but Steed puts his foot in it.

DVD '67-4

Never, Never Say Die

Steed interrupts a television broadcast, because he needs Mrs Peel's help with a corpse that will not die.

The body keeps on walking off and destroying radios. Professor Frank N. Stone of the Neoteric Research Unit is a dead ringer for the body, and Steed's suspicions are aroused. Mrs Peel and the local doctor are abducted and trapped within Stone's laboratory - but Steed detects the fake doctor and rushes to the rescue. The replicant of the Professor is discovered to be the genuine article by his three day growth, and the Avengers attempt to fight their way out. Dr James uses Steed's transistor radio to disable the replicants, and the Avengers discover doubles of themselves, Steed's being marked **REJECT**. The Avengers return to their television - and discover you would never be able to tell a plastic politician from a real one.

The Avengers Emma Peel DVD Series

DVD '67-4

Epic

A man resembling Steed is auditioned for a non-speaking part - a corpse.

Mrs Peel is already needed before Steed can get in the door, summoned to a remote country lane by an anonymous telephone call. Steed tags along, fearing a trap, but only an old priest on a bicycle disrupts the blustery calm of the country. The priest is in fact an old actor, who has just filmed Mrs Peel for a screen test as the star of a film, "The Destruction of Emma Peel". Mrs Peel is kidnapped by the villains, Von Schnerk, Syn and Kirby - played wonderfully by Peter Wyngarde, who was so excellent as the villain in A Touch of Brimstone. Chased around the set, shot at and attacked with swords and tomahawks, then finally tied to a circular saw, Mrs Peel looks set to have her dying moments filmed... Steed makes himself the understudy for the actor playing his corpse and finishes Von Schnerk's plans to make the epic of the century. Emma decides she would rather not see an old Stuart Kirby film at the Plaza, and the Avengers decide to stay in for the night.

DVD '67-5

A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Station

Emma finds a toy train in her living room - a summons from Steed.

They're needed to meet an agent who's discovered foul things afoot on the trains, and it's not the food for a change. When the agent fails to show, and Steed discovers his briefcase, they investigate the disused station of Norborough. Dissidents are passing on information through the ticket inspector on the train, one of them being Salt, a clerk in the Admiralty. They plot to explode a bomb under the Prime Minister by remote control, when they pass by on another train. As the minutes tick towards 8.57pm, Emma and Crewe, the owner of Norborough station (played very humourously by John Laurie from *Dad's Army*), tackle the train's unfriendly passengers and staff. Steed get the enemy all steamed up, and they're dispatched in the fog. Crewe, however, finds himself unable to stop the train.

The Avengers, having discovered neither of them actually voted for him, avoid the P.M.'s long speech of thanks by pretending they're out.

DVD '67-5

The Joker

After a fall down the stairs in his apartment, Steed barely has the strength to tell Mrs Peel she's needed - to care for him! She has already arranged to spend a weekend in Devon with a bastion of the Bridge world - Sir Cavalier Rusicana. Steed is told an old nemesis of the Avengers, Max Prendergast, has escape gaol in Germany and heading their way. Realising that his injury was no accident, Steed sets out for Devon, sure that Max is trying to kill them. Alone in a country manor, Emma is terrorised by the strange housekeeper and a disturbed young man, then nearly murdered by Prendergast, but Steed plays the joker - finishing the criminal's plans.

A relaxing game of solitaire interrupted by Mrs Peel, the Avengers trade card tricks - Mrs Peel not wanting to ruin the trick that produces a bottle of Bolli.

DVD '67-4

The Superlative Seven

Mrs Peel summons Steed with a rubber duck; he is needed to attend a fancy dress party - somewhere above the south of England!

Stranded on an unknown island, Steed and the other guests are told that one of their number is a killer. The scenario has been staged by Jessel to convince Kanwitch that his agent is unbeatable. Charlotte Rampling shines in the rôle of Hana Wild, despite unfortunately knocking out Steed, whom she suspects to be the killer. Mrs Peel drops in to expose that the agent is actually a pair of identical twins and Jessel loses a shoot-out with Mrs Wild.

Steed drops in on a Mrs Peel's duck shoot, just as she bags a brace of teddy bears - but she missed the bottle of Bollinger!

DVD '67-5

Something Nasty In The Nursery

Mrs Peel is roused by a toy merry-go-round - another of Steed's quirky summonses.

Military bigwigs are returning to the nursery and divulging sensitive secrets in their childlike state. The Avengers are led to the Guild of Noble Nannies, formerly run by the official's old Nanny, now under the guidance of Goat who, disguised as Nanny Roberts, has been visiting her old charges and using a drugged bouncing ball to make them spill the beans. Steed's on the spot at the last attack, but the villains don't notice his gloves and think him back in the nursery also. In the ensuing fight, Goat loses his hair and Wilmot shoots the fraud.

The Avengers retire to gaze into a crystal ball, revealing that viewers should tune in the same time next week. Steed's visions are too much for Mrs Peel, who demurely covers the ball.

DVD '67—6 Who's Who???

by the department, then escape to find Krelmar and his machine so as to reverse the process. Switched back just before Major B forces the door, the Avengers seem still unsure who they are. It being Mr's Peel's birthday, her apartment is full of flowers from the grateful surviving agents, and Steed plans a surprise weekend in Paris... but finds that Emma has already packed.

DVD '67-6

Return Of The Cybernauts

Paul Beresford, while becoming friendly with Steed and Mrs Peel, resurrects his brother's most dangerous invention - the Cybernaut. Using the robot to kidnap important scientists he gives them a task: kill the avengers! Professor Chadwick creates a watch that contain circuitry to control the mind through the salt on the victim's skin. Steed leaves his at home and isn't affected when Mrs Peel suddenly drives off, her gaze completely blank. Steed gives chase, but is captured. While trying to put a new watch on Steed, Beresford is overpowered and Steed slips it on the Cybernaut, causing it to go awry. After killing Beresford, the Cybernaut shorts out, and Mrs Peel tips it over with a single finger.

Steed show less electronic skill later when, trying to repair Mrs Peel's electric toaster, he put two toast-shaped holes in her ceiling.

DVD '67-7

The £50,000 Breakfast

A puppeteer is injured in a car accident, and his x-rays show a stomach full of diamonds - "High on carat, low in protein.", as one of the doctors says.

The Avengers are called in to examine, but before they can question the puppeteer, Dusty Rhodes, he is killed in his hospital bed by a man masquerading as a doctor. Steed does, however, stumble onto a slick smuggling operation. Alex Litoff died some weeks earlier, but his staff have hidden the truth to give them time to liquidate the millionaire's assets. Litoff's body was buried in place of one of his Borzois at the Happy Valley Resting Place for pets, the dog - supposed to have been killed now residing with the widow of Rhodes. She tries to blackmail the smugglers and is killed for her trouble. The authorities exhume Litoff's body just as the villains plan to leave and Miss Pegram decides to kill the Avengers to stop them catching up with them. After a short fight, the crooks come quietly. Steed is left with two Borzois and a bright yellow tie with a dalmatian on it but being an Englishman means he likes dogs and ties, but not dogs on his ties.

DVD '67-7

You Have Just Been Murdered

Millionaires are being intimidated by blackmailers staging mock murder-attempts - each time receiving a card that reads "You have just been murdered"

One is actually killed, then Unwin pretends to agree terms and sends a bomb instead, not knowing that Steed and Emma are on the case - and Mrs Peel has now gained possession of the suitcase. She is kidnapped by Needle and his gang, whose hideout is, naturally enough, in a hay stack. Emma is rescued from destruction by the timely arrival of Steed, but Needle escapes with the briefcase, only to end up at the top of a tree. Steed is distraught to discover he is one short of a million, saying no-one has ever heard of a nine-hundred-and-ninety-nine-thousand-nine-hundred-and-ninety-niner-aire, but Mrs Peel offers to supply the missing money, making him a millionaire - in halfpennies!

DVD '67—6 Death's Door

Government officials trying to attend a peace conference have been having disquieting dreams, which become reality with fatal results.

The Avengers are called in to ensure they do finally attend, but the next official tells Steed of a missing button on his butler jacket, and seeing a lion before he died, all of which come true. The Avengers babysit the next man to fill the post, but all three feel a sting on their necks and fall asleep, troubled by nightmares. It's all a plan of Becker, an Eastern European observer at the conference, and his cohorts, but Steed and Emma individually find the storage area where the delegates have been drugged and brainwashed. Stapley is exposed as the inside man, the bandaid on his cheek covering no wound and he dies by one of the of deaths predicted in the dreams - crushed by a chandelier.

Mrs Peel predicts a visit to the theatre.

DVD '67-7

Dead Man's Treasure

Danvers, badly wounded by enemy agents, hides his despatch box inside a treasure chest that is the prize in a forthcoming car rally, and sends Steed an invitation to enter the rally. Steed and Emma do so in order to retrieve the box, but Danvers' killers pursue them. Stranger things are afoot, however, when the host of the rally is unexpectedly murdered, and contestants are shot at. Emma is surprised by her navigator, Mike, who also wants the box and straps her into a racing simulator that gives lethal shocks to the driver if they make mistakes - the same way he had killed Sir George.

Steed arrives to deliver her from peril. The Avengers recover the box, and the champagne, but Miss Peabody makes off with the prize money.

Mrs Peel is alarmed to discover that the 'reverse' setting on Steed's new razor gives her a bushy moustache.

DVD '67-8

The Positive Negative Man

Government scientist formerly associated with Project 90 at Risley Dale have been suffering shocking deaths - the force of which has forced them into wall and cabinets. Someone has perfected the ability to broadcast electricity, with deadly results. Steed and Mrs Peel traces the culprit: Creswell,the Project's instigator. In one of the most obvious episodes ever produced, the obvious villain is in fact behind it all.

Mrs Peel is abducted by being shocked unconscious, but Steed rescues her, having thoughtfully worn rubber soled shoes. Creswell is brought down to earth, and Hawthorn catapulted into the ceiling by an earthed Steed.

Free again, the Avengers find themselves inseparably magnetised to Steed's Bentley - "Don't fight it, Mrs Peel."

DVD '67-8

Murdersville

The sleepy hamlet of Little Storping In-The-Swuff has its calm disrupted by a man coming out of the pub and gunning another man down. The villagers, however, carry on regardless. Mrs Peel goes to the village with Croft, an old school friend who has quit the Army and retired to the country. His butler has disappeared, leaving all his objets d'art smashed around his house. Croft disappears, and Emma finds his butler's body, and is then knocked out by an unseen assailant.

When she recovers, she is told she had a car accident, but she notices Paul's watch on the wrist of one of the men in her car. She discovers she has stumbled upon a village of murderers when she finds bodies at the doctor's house, but is captured. After a dunking Emma is forced to ring her 'husband', John, and manages to pass on a message to Steed unbeknownst to the villagers. He turns up in time to rescue her from the local museum and Mrs Peel craftily pelts the villagers into submission

Mrs Peel has found her knight in shining armour when Steed becomes trapped in the helmet she has just escaped from.

DVD '67-8

The Forget-Me-Knot

Mortimer turns up outside Steed's apartment, not knowing where he is, who he is or why he's there. He recovers sufficiently to tell Steed that there is a traitor in Mother's organisation, the shadowy "Ministry" but he cannot remember who.

Mrs Peel also forgets what she learns, shot by the same amnesia-drug gun as Mortimer, when the goons recapture Mortimer. Steed is taking the forgetful Mrs Peel to Mother when they are ambushed - Mrs Peel kidnapped and Steed pumped full of the drug. His only clue to his identity when he regains consciousness in a hospital is Tara's 'phone number, hidden in his boot.

He seeks the help of the new recruit, Tara King, and together they trace two thugs to their hideout. The real traitor is George Burton who has defected to a country which has developed memory-killing darts. With confusion reigning at the Ministry, Steed overpowers the gang with the help of Tara and Mrs Peel, though no one is quite sure why.

Peter Peel, Emma's missing husband, has been found alive in the Amazon jungle and she leaves Steed in the capable hands of Tara King, telling her to stir his tea anti-clockwise. Looking out his apartment window as the Peels drive away, Steed is astounded to discover that Peter Peel is the spitting image of himself.

DVD '67-8

Mission... Highly Improbable

Professor Rushton has invented a miniaturising ray, but his assistant Chivers uses it for unpatriotic activities. First he shrinks the minister who had come to examine their finances, then a snooping Captain, and finally to steal the new Saracen FV603 armoured car. The buyer - Shaffer - is unaware that Steed was inside the armoured car when it was shrunk, and has come along for the ride!. Rescued by Mrs Peel, they escape and Steed is returned to normal size, only for Emma to be shrunk. Emma then frees Steed, the Professor and his daughter, and is in turn returned to normal - "Everything? Everything!" Shaffer and Chivers are then shrunk and collected in Steed's bowler. With rain expected, Steed offers Emma his still shrunken umbrella...

The Avengers episode synopses are the property of Dissolute Technologies (www.dissolute.com.au/avweb).