

## MOVIE REVIEW: HOT FUZZ!

Written by Dave Howard

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Originally written for [FILM RADAR](#). [ALSO: Read the Interview with director Edgar Wright](#) and [CRACKPOT PRESS](#) and [FILM RADAR](#) sit down with the stars of *HOT FUZZ*



“Bad Blokes, Bad Blokes.. watcha gonna do?”

Kick some arse, of course!

The “Bad Blokes” who brought you “Shaun of the Dead” are back in action with a new cop laugher. The team of Edgar Wright, Simon Pegg and Nick Frost tackle the cop comedy with their trademark quick cuts and hysterical graphic violence. The fans of “Shaun,” will not be disappointed. It’s an excellent follow up to the zombie-romantic comedy or “zom-rom-com,” as they like to call.

Lt. Angel (Pegg) is one tough cop. Too tough, in fact. His stellar arrest record, 400% higher

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than his peers, embarrasses the force and gets him kicked out of London. His new assignment is in Samford, a picturesque village in the countryside and the safest city in England.

Angel is partnered up with Danny Buttermen (Frost), a good hearted buffoon with a love of action movies, particularly POINT BREAK and BAD BOYS- 2. Buttermen is full of questions for his new big city hero; "Is there a place you can hit the head and it will explode?" and "Have you ever shot two guys whilst jumping through the air?" Initially, Angel's assignments are curtailed to finding lost swans and speaking to high school students.



After a series of grisly, and I mean GRISLY, "accidents," Angel realized that there may be a bit more under the skin of this town than first apparent. The only real solution is to leave "The Bobby" behind and become a full fledged American action hero, complete with a white horse and a TON of ammo.

This flick runs on an infectious enthusiasm for the subject matter. Unlike the "Naked Gun," the sledgehammer has been replaced with a nod and a wink. This movie never tries to spoof--

it relies on absurdism. Two people find themselves in an absurd situation and the only way to straighten things out is join this parallel universe they have discovered. The team pays brilliant homage throughout that will take some hardcore film geek knowledge. When was the last time you saw a hat tip to

*Straw Dogs*

or

*The Wicker Man*

(the good one)"?

This is one of those rare films where you can truly tell that everyone involved is just having a

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blast and you can't help but get caught up in it.

Wright's directing style refuses to hold back and is extremely fast paced. HOT FUZZ is so jam-packed with details, several viewings are required times just to make sure you are catching everything. Wright's flair for very "over-the-top" violence is true winner.

At heart, HOT FUZZ is a character piece. Wright has assembled a top-notch cast of British character actors who each have amazing credits under their belts. They include Jim Broadbent (*Moulin Rouge*, *Time Bandits*),

Paul Freeman (Belloq, the guy who ate the fly, from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*) and former Bond Timothy Dalton.

Most of the actors involved have very serious Brit projects and it's a treat to watch them lighten up.

Notable, the chemistry between real-life best friends Pegg and Frost is true movie magic. Reminiscent of a Matthau/Lemmon teaming with a Vaughn/Favreau flair; I'm sure we will be seeing a lot more of them together.

At 120 minutes, the film does seem a bit long but it is so jam packed; you just want to see more.