# HOT FUZZ ... ghost-fill ... **JOHN**

Rolf Harris Saves the World... was the title of my first amateur film. I was 14, and the film **was based on** _____ my best mate **at the time**, Graham, did a _____ Rolf Harris **impression.** I've been fascinated by cop movies _____. The idea **for** Hot Fuzz came _____ up in dreary Somerset and **stacking** _____ **as** a teenager in the _____ Somerfield, and watching violent movies like Dirty Harry on late-night television.

**As opposed to** countries _____ Hong Kong, France and, of course, America, there's no tradition of great cop movies in Britain. We're one of the few nations in the world that **doesn't have** ____. We're **used to** _____ gangster movies but British films with policemen as heroes **are hard to** _____. The British bobby just isn't **cool enough**; he wears a helmet and an itchy jumper and _____ **big-time** criminals would _____ **think of** him _____ a real **threat to** their interests.

_____ were **amused by** the idea _____ **the mold** and making our lead character a London cop who's sent to the picture-postcard English countryside, a place where the _____ are about hedge-trimming **rather than** drug-trafficking.

The writing process took us 18 months. It was a painful process, too. It's never fun sitting in front of a _____ screen waiting **for** the ideas and jokes _____. For the first time in my writing career, I found out what **it was like** to 'do research'. First, before _____ written a word, Simon and I watched an **unbelievable** _____ of cop - and action - movies - 138, **to be precise**.

_____ I **became** quite _____ and **would** watch obscure Korean thrillers and 1970s B-movies alone _____ night. What we discovered was that all cop films - the **sophisticated** _____ as well as the **trashy** ones actually _____.

**Even** when we'd _____ the script, whenever we got **writer's block**, we'd _____ not **by making** tea or surfing the net, but by watching another movie. _____ we felt we were actually **achieving** something, _____ **becoming** more _____ the genre rather than simply wasting our time.

**Once** we had the basic _____ we **moved on to** the second part of our preparation and research: chatting with real police officers. We even spent a couple of weeks _____ with police in Gloucestershire to **get an insight** into their work.

The officers were all _____ but many were **understandably** _____ **at first** that we were there just to collect material _____ **to mock** the police. But we _____ that what we really wanted was to understand the reality of their job, **however** _____ it **might** be sometimes.

_____, much of the humor in Hot Fuzz came from the **red tape** that most policemen have to _____. **Quite a few** stories from officers also _____ **way into** the film. _____ the London policeman who needs a translator to understand a Wiltshire farmer, these were **real-life** _____ that we **slipped into** our script.

I hope I'm not _____ **by saying** that, _____ the film, it's **become clear** that Sandford isn't _____ it first appeared. The **upstanding** villagers all _____ police **suspects** and _____ **get** pretty complicated _____.

# HOT FUZZ … ghost-fill … MARY

Rolf Harris Saves the World... was the title of my first amateur film. I was 14, and the film _____ **the fact that** my best mate _____, Graham, did a **decent** Rolf Harris _____. I've been fascinated by cop movies **ever since**. The idea _____ Hot Fuzz came **from growing** up in dreary Somerset and _____ **shelves** _____ a teenager in the **local** Somerfield, and watching violent movies like Dirty Harry on late-night television.

_____ countries **such as** Hong Kong, France and, of course, America, there's no tradition of great cop movies in Britain. We're one of the few nations in the world that _____ **one**. We're _____ **producing** gangster movies but British films with policemen as heroes _____ **come by**. The British bobby just isn't _____; he wears a helmet and an itchy jumper and **most** _____ criminals would **hardly** _____ him **as being** a real _____ their interests.

**Simon and I** were _____ the idea **of breaking** _____ and making our lead character a London cop who's sent to the picture-postcard English countryside, a place where the **disputes** are about hedge-trimming _____ drug-trafficking.

The writing process took us 18 months. It was a painful process, too. It's never fun sitting in front of a **blank** screen waiting ____ the ideas and jokes **to come along**. For the first time in my writing career, I found out what _____ to 'do research'. First, before **we'd even** written a word, Simon and I watched an _____ **number** of cop - and action - movies - 138, _____.

**At one point** I _____ quite **obsessed** and _____ watch obscure Korean thrillers and 1970s B-movies alone **late at night**. What we discovered was that all cop films - the _____ **ones** as well as the _____ ones actually **have a lot in common**.

_____ when we'd **started on** the script, whenever we got _____, we'd **procrastinate,** not _____ tea or surfing the net, but by watching another movie. **That way** we felt we were actually _____ something, **namely** _____ more **knowledgeable about** the genre rather than simply wasting our time.

____ we had the basic **plot,** we _____ the second part of our preparation and research: chatting with real police officers. We even spent a couple of weeks **on the beat** with police in Gloucestershire to _____ into their work.

The officers were all **approachable,** but many were _____ **wary** _____ that we were there just to collect material **to use** _____ the police. But we **made it clear** that what we really wanted was to understand the reality of their job, _____ **dull** it _____ be sometimes.

**In fact**, much of the humor in Hot Fuzz came from the _____ that most policemen have to **deal with**. _____ stories from officers also **found their** _____ the film. **Like** the London policeman who needs a translator to understand a Wiltshire farmer, these were _____ **events** that we _____ our script.

I hope I'm not **giving too much away** _____ that, **part-way into** the film, it's _____ that Sandford isn't **as sleepy as** it first appeared. The _____ villagers all **become** police _____ and **things** ___ pretty complicated **for a while**.