

tom bennett - c.v.

comedy writer and performer

tom bennett, 72 dalling road, london, w6 0ja

mail@tom-bennett.com | 07736941820

www.tom-bennett.com

born: 25 may 1982



4Talent award winning comedy writer and performer Tom Bennett started off with comedy group Straitjacket. The group had many local and national screenings of their work and after two successive runs at the Edinburgh Festival and contributing to E4 sketch show Dogface and BBC Radio One's Milk Run, Straitjacket were noticed by American comic Bob Odenkirk with whom they developed a pilot sketch show together, "REEL LIFE." Soon after, Straitjacket's sketches were screened at the Montreal Comedy Festival and the group picked up a 4TALENT award for UK's most exciting young creative talent in 2006.

Since the decision of the group to pursue solo projects, Tom has written numerous TV sitcoms with co-writers David Maughan and Ben Ellis, and two solo TV sitcom scripts. Tom also created popular, long-running fictional internet vlogger KARL DALY who amassed a large support from the YouTube community with videos topping 100,000 views. This led to a regular spot in E4's TV show, "Unanimous - The Fallout" - a spin-off show to the Channel 4 reality gameshow, Unanimous, produced by FOX, culminating in a live appearance on the final show.

Currently Tom is working on a sitcom for radio called BACK TO THE NEST, which follows the relentless attempts of recently retired parents Ivor and Joan to rid their house of their children who, due to one reason or another, have all been forced to move back home. Tom is also developing a TV sitcom about a transvestite's attempts for acceptance, and also collaborating on another sitcom for TV; THE HOME, about residents' struggles to keep their home open.

mail@tom-bennett.com | 07736941820 | www.tom-bennett.com

work to date

Title/Date	Summary
<p>'The Home' (TV Sitcom)</p> <p>(Due early 2012)</p>	<p>This affectionate sitcom focuses on the residents, their families and the staff of Claremont Lodge, a nursing home threatened with closure due to budget cuts. However, they won't take it lying down and management and residents alike set about finding ways to make money to keep the place open. From speed dating to bingo, tombolas to wet t-shirt competitions, they will stop at nothing to get the cash they need. But will they come up with the big money-spinning idea in time, and what does the future hold for all those involved at Claremont Lodge? Co-written with Sam Drury.</p>
<p>'Back To The Nest' (Radio Sitcom)</p> <p>(Due early 2012)</p>	<p>In these credit-crunch days, getting rid of the kids from the family home is hard enough, but just when you think they've all gone - this house in Mitcham has a surprise in store. Ivor and Joan were enjoying their early retirement when peace activist and OTT anti-racism worker Lizz was forced back home after her engagement went pear-shaped. And when her older sister, bubbly nurse Catherine, leaves her husband in Yorkshire, she returns too (even if it is with a bizarre Barnsley/London accent combo). Then, just when the morning queue for the bathroom was manageable, ever the pessimist and youngest child Chris returns after running into financial difficulties with his Driving School business. Ivor and Joan once more don the responsibility of being doting parents but not for long, as between them they plan on putting their kids' lives back on track.</p>
<p>'Todd' [Working Title] (Sitcom)</p> <p>(2011)</p>	<p>An exploration into a completely unique style of sitcom writing. This black comedy pushes the boundaries of the conventional sitcom. Raw and naturalistic in its presentation with minimal set-pieces and plots - it will be the closest thing to real life imaginable. And Todd and his friends and families storylines provoke a shocking insight into the realities of suburban life, from Todd's catastrophic suicide attempts, his alcoholic mother's unthinkable attempts to get booze and his father's interest in wholly unnatural and illegal material on the internet.</p>
<p>'davidhallam79' (3 X 5min Video)</p> <p>(2011)</p>	<p>A short mockumentary piece featuring David Hallam, a psychic whose chance predictions made him a Youtube sensation. Predicting the arrival of Gazza at the scene of Raoul Moat's stakeout in Rothbury made him a hit and a documentary crew are sent to unearth the truth behind the psychic glitz and pretense. Idea co-developed with Brad Atwill. Produced by DayDott productions.</p> <p>Due to complete early 2011 – <i>Production postponed.</i></p>
<p>'The Site' (Sitcom - Treatment)</p> <p>(2010)</p>	<p>Set on a building site, this series follows the efforts of site manager Bob and his attempts at controlling his eclectic team. When he lands a massive contract to build a new mental health wing of a hospital, the pressure takes its toll. A slight Gavin and Stacey feel to this more dramatic sitcom, developing relationships with Bob and his assistant, Den, and exploring young scaffolder Joe's attempts at trying to track down his real father. Co-written with Bob Campbell.</p>

Title/Date	Summary
<p>'Tom and Dave' (Sitcom – Pilot Episode) (2010)</p>	<p>When Tom's boring and monotonous life gets the better of him, he decides to do something about it. With his friend Dave, they together outline two main areas to improve themselves. The sitcom outlines the pair's unsuccessful attempts at realising these goals, highlighting the true reasons behind their failing lives - from buying a flat, to getting a girlfriend, nothing goes right. Coupling an ensemble cast from their jobs at Newland College, this show follows the ups, the downs and the epic fails that plague these two friends throughout.</p>
<p>'For Pete's Sake' (Sitcom – Pilot Episode + 1hr version) (2009)</p>	<p>Peter's northern roots don't match his cosmopolitan background and his ambitions to move away from his nagging Mother and Grandmother with whom he (still) lives. Juggling between the grim reality of a working class background and the central idea of escaping the grey world of Pete's upbringing, this sitcom elevates the simple story of life's ambitions to an hilarious tale of misfortune, misunderstandings and sometimes downright misery. Co written with Ben Ellis.</p>
<p>'Hell on Earth' (Sitcom – Pilot Episode) (2009)</p>	<p>At the pub, God lost two good souls in a bet whilst playing pool with The Devil. The Devil uses these souls in a gameshow based in Hell where the contestants are forced to influence the lives of each other's families and friends on earth. The studio audience decides the winner of each show based on the most embarrassing, cringe worthy and unfortunate circumstances they create and the winner of the series' soul is allowed to go free whilst the loser's soul is incarcerated forever. Welcome to Hell on Earth. Co-written with David Maughan.</p>
<p>Straitjacket (Sketch Group) (2003 - 2008)</p>	<p>Comedy duo - written for BBC, E4, finalists in Super Shorts Film Competition, winner of Channel 4's 4Talent creative artists award, twice completed successive runs at the Edinburgh Festival and work screened at the Montreal Comedy Festival. Produced pilot for America with Bob Odenkirk (Mr. Show, SNL) having had work successfully screened across the U.S.A. and Canada and had 3 sketches commissioned for Atom.com. "Would grace any TV sketch show" (Henry Normal).</p> <p>http://il.youtube.com/user/StraitjacketUK (selected sketches)</p>
<p>'The Misadventures of Will and Clark' (Sitcom – Pilot Episode) (2007)</p>	<p>The premise of the sitcom chronicles the lives of four underachieving friends who are on a quest to realise their potential and survive 21st century expectations. Unfortunately, they manage to struggle with ordinary everyday situations which result in them becoming embroiled in extraordinary situations. Welcome to the Misadventures of Will and Clark. Co-written with David Maughan.</p>
<p>'Neighbourhood Watch' (Sitcom – Pilot Episode) (2006)</p>	<p>Sitcom built around a local neighbourhood watch group, bringing together clashing personalities and unusual situations. The claustrophobic environment acts as a pressure cooker for the diverse characters – forcing them to confront deep, personal issues with one another. Co-written with David Maughan.</p>
<p>Karl Daly (youtube character) (2006 - 2009)</p>	<p>An ongoing sequence of videos on YouTube generating a following and interest in the whacky and surreal world of unusual Bristolian character; Karl Daly. Karl Daly was invited to feature in 7 episodes of the weekly show "Unanimous: The Fallout" on E4, produced by FOX in 2006.</p> <p>http://www.youtube.com/user/karldaly81</p>

referees

Referee Name / Role	Contact Details
Lisa Clark (Producer, Pett Productions)	lisaclark@pettproductions.co.uk (UK) 01737 646841
Bob Odenkirk (Comedian)	bodenkirkla@yahoo.com (LA) 001 323 4632997

Supplies of any scripts, treatments or video will be willingly supplied electronically or by post on request.