



# Client List

## **RUPERT CREW LIMITED**

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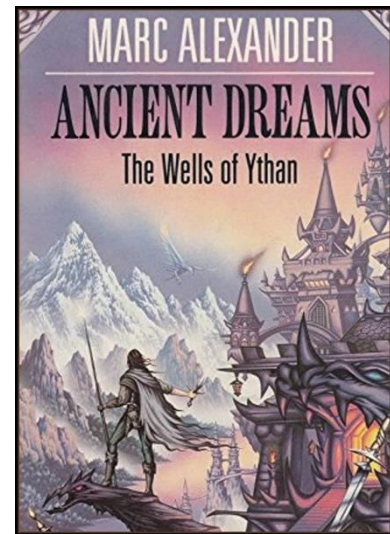
Caroline Montgomery



## The Late Marc Alexander

A former Fleet Street journalist and a consultant editor of Heritage Magazine. For many years Marc contributed a regular history column to Majesty magazine. A prolific author of both non-fiction and fiction, he wrote across a variety of styles including Western, Fantasy, Horror and Adventure.

His novels and some non-fiction titles are currently being reissued by Lume Books. Translation rights available.





### The Wells of Ythan Quartet

- *Ancient Dreams, Magic Casements, Shadow Realm and Enchantment's End*

**Category:** Fantasy

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Once, the Kingdom of Ythan was great and prosperous. But then, a Princess, the sole heir to the kingdom, disappeared.

As time passed many lost hope that their Lady Eloria could or would return. The Golden Age of Ythan crumbled in despair.

Now, Eloria has faded into legend. Ythan has fallen to the hands of the corrupt and the greedy. With its glory long gone, Ythan has become a place of terror and evil where every corner of this great land suffers under the tyrannical reign of the Regent. But amidst the darkness of the realm, there is a glimmer of hope.

Krispin Tommasson, an apprentice toymaker, together with his fellow companions are Ythan's only chance for salvation.

Together, they must quest to discover the whereabouts of the mythical Princess - or Ythan may perish forever...

### Plague Pit

**Category:** Horror

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Deep foundations are being dug on a City building site when some old brickwork is revealed. Part of it collapses, releasing a gust of air so foul that all the men nearby begin to choke and retch.

Finally, the nauseous stench disperses and they discover a burial crypt dating back to the Great Plague of London in 1665. But this pit should never be disturbed.

By opening this burial crypt has unleashed an infection on the nation that the authorities must prevail to control. Ignoring the threat, the Government warns of the spreading of a Super-flu, to attempt to contain the panic. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the fatal infection.

Charity, a local radio station presenter, and Paul, a scientist, are determined to unveil the truth, and save lives. But can they combine their talents to find a cure and save a nation or are the powers from above are too strong?



## Ghoul

**Category:** Horror

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Twenty-five centuries after its entrance was sealed, an ancient tomb in the fearsome Valley of the Jinn has been uncovered by an earthquake.

Soon afterwards a nearby graveyard is desecrated, and horribly mauled bodies are found. The mutilation is assumed to be the work of wild beasts, and no one dreams that the archaeologists opening the tomb are moving into terrible danger. But they will soon learn how wrong they are...

Lurking in the maze of tunnels and caves is a foul creature whose evil has survived for thousands of years, its age-old hunger newly awakened. Only a legendary piece of treasure has the power to protect them...

## Whispering Corner

**Category:** Horror

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Jonathan Northrop is a successful author - for the moment. His next deadline is coming due and the original brilliance that led him through his debut novel seems to have worn off. In other words, writer's block.

Newly but amicably estranged with his wife, Northrop decides to move out to a country house he had purchased on his first windfall while looking to live the storybook author's life - seclusion, country air, and inspired writing. Desperate to deliver a manuscript, Jonathan retreats to Whispering Corner in hopes of finding new inspiration for his horror novel. But soon he's about to get far more than he bargained for...

Strange whisperings and invisible presences begin to appear in the house. Jonathan gets wind of local legends about the house and land, telling gruesome tales of ethereal and supernatural occurrences. However, when life begins to imitate art in the most literal sense, Jonathan realises just what the kind of world he has walked into. He fears he may have awakened some ancient psychic presence.

Amidst increasing supernatural activity, real life and fiction begin to intertwine to lead to a horrifying climax.



### Harper's Folly

**Category:** Action/Adventure

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Harper has everything to look forward to, and plenty to forget...

Starting life over again after an unpleasant divorce, he lands on the exotic Seychelles ready for a large dose of independence, fulfilment and fun - eager to take the helm of his magnificent motor yacht Moon Wind.

He has invested everything he owns into creating an exciting new life for himself in paradise as skipper of his own boat.

Moon Wind is for hire by the jet-set, to explore the tropical waters of the Indian Ocean. But from the start it seems his fantasy could prove folly. Harper discovers Moon Wind's previous owner and crew were found brutally murdered on board. They had been secretly searching for pirate treasure.

Had they found an ancient fortune of gold lost beneath the waves or is Moon Wind jinxed by the gris-gris spells which terrify his crew? Undeterred, Harper lifts anchor to take glamorous Prince Syed on a voyage to discover the delights of the local wildlife. But the playboy prince is a pawn in a crucial Middle-East struggle for power. Ruthless mercenaries and armed terrorists want him dead - and anyone else who stands in their way.

Harper has never handled a gun or fought for his life. Now, at the centre of a bloody adventure, he must learn fast.

### Royal Murder

**Category:** True Crime/History

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** 'And tell sad stories of the death of Kings: How some have deposed, some poisoned by their wives, some sleeping killed, all murdered...'

So wrote Shakespeare in Richard II, and in Royal Murder Marc Alexander investigates the sad stories of the victims of royal murders.

Ignoring violent death by battle or political execution, this book is devoted to personal acts of jealousy and revenge which has stained the Crown with blue blood down the ages.



The subjects range from those murders one may vaguely remember from schooldays without being aware of their backgrounds of intrigue and mystery, to lesser known scandals such as the secret murder of Count von Konigsmarck, the lover of Princess Sophia of Zell, wife of George the First.

## The Outrageous Queens

**Category:** History

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** Outrageous means immoderate, extravagant, extraordinary, violent, furious, grossly cruel, immoral, offensive...

At least one of these words is descriptive of each of the dozen royal women whose lives are told in this book. All make fascinating psychological studies of women who wielded immense power in a world where liberty for women was an undreamed-of concept. Yet they proved that when it came to intrigue - sometimes up to the point of assassination - they were equal to any male monarch of their times.

Some played the role of warrior queens - red-haired Boudicca whose vengeance cost over a hundred thousand lives, the evidence of which is still to be found beneath the City of London; Eleanor of Aquitaine who took her "Amazons" on a crusade to Outremer; Henrietta Maria, the "generalissima" who led an army in the Civil War. The infamous Queen Mary who earned her epithet of "Bloody" through the Smithfield burnings, or the murderous Elfrida who changed history when she "trimmed and decked herself in the most costly and shewing apparel" to meet Edgar the Peaceful, or Isabella - the She Wolf of France - whose despised husband met one of the most horrific deaths in history.

But it is not only violence to be found in these pages. There are outrageous love affairs, such as those of Eleanor of Anjou, whose passions led to civil war, and the great Elizabeth. Although she was able to dance after she had sent her beloved Essex to the block, her true love was the scheming Duc d'Alencon described as a "hideous dwarf" who died of debauchery.

Above all the theme of The Outrageous Queens is intrigue. The women in this book ruled in their own right, others by manipulating their husbands - or lovers, but all have affected our history, and all of their extraordinary stories are fact.



## Michael Allaby

Michael has written, co-authored, or compiled more than 100 books, almost all of them on one or other aspect of environmental science. He is the editor of six science dictionaries and several of his books have won awards. A full list of his books can be found at his website.

Among his publications are: **DICTIONARY OF SCIENCE FOR GARDENERS: LONDON AND PORTLAND OREGON** published by Timber Press 2015; **OXFORD DICTIONARY OF PLANT SCIENCES** published by OUP 1991, 1998, 2012; **DISCOVERING THE EARTH: PLANTS, NEW YORK** (Facts on File 2010); **MAKERS OF SCIENCE** (with Derek Gjertsen) Five-volume set on the history of science, New York (OUP 2001)



**PLANTS AND PLANT LIFE.** A 10-volume series of which he wrote five volumes: **PLANT ECOLOGY; PLANTS USED BY PEOPLE; CONIFERS; FLOWERING PLANTS: THE MONOCOTYLEDONS; FLOWERING PLANTS; THE DICTYLEDONS** (Danbury CT, Grolier Educational 2001); **DK GUIDE TO WEATHER** (Dorling Kindersley 2000) (Winner of the Junior Prize of the Aventis Prizes for Science Books 2001); **THE CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY OF ECOLOGY** (Editor); **OXFORD DICTIONARY OF ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION** (OUP 2nd edition 2012).

Michael's latest book, **PLANT LOVE** was published by Filbert Press, and speedily garnered translation interest. Editions have been published in Holland, France, Germany and Russia. It received the accolade of being included in the Chicago Review of the Best Nature writing!

**Website:** [www.michaelallaby.com](http://www.michaelallaby.com)





## Mark Barratt

Born and bred in London and lives with his family on a leafy hill not far from the Thames. In a highly varied working career - some would say chequered - he has been an actor, theatre director, writer and teacher, while always spending as much time as possible fishing.

As an actor, Mark appeared at the National Theatre and in London's West End, as well as in such long-running TV hits as *When the Boat Comes In*, *London's Burning* and *Brookside*. A tall man, Mark's favourite memory as a screen actor is standing in a field in the German Alps, dressed in lederhosen and a Tyrolean hat, extolling the virtues of lager to a petite actress balanced on a large wooden box.



Mark has written drama for BBC Radio and the stage, books about history, **OUR AMAZING CENTURY**, and music, **THE KINGFISHER BOOK OF MUSIC**. He has also been a regular contributor to part-works on the subject of history and true crime and has written many magazine articles on a wide range of subjects as well as stories for children. His script for the audio play, **THE WIZARD'S SPELL**, won a prize for Best Entertainment at the New York Festival. His biography of **SIR IAN MCKELLEN**, was published by Virgin in February 2005 and is being reissued by Lume Books (Translation rights via RCL)

Mark's first novel, **JOE RAT**, an historical novel for children set in Victorian London, was published in March 2008 to critical acclaim, long-listed for the Waterstone's Children's Book Award the Brandford Boase Award and Short-listed for the Stockton Children's Book Award. It's sequel, **THE WILD MAN** was published in May 2009.





### Ian McKellen

**Category:** Non-fiction/biography

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Hugely readable and immensely entertaining, Mark Barratt's intimate biography gives a rare and informed insight into the life and work of one of Britain's best-loved actors.

### Joe Rat

**Category:** Children's Fiction 10+

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World rights to Random House Children's Books.  
US rights to Wm B Eerdmaans

**Synopsis:** This children's novel follows the adventures of Joe, a tosher, who lives by scavenging the sewers of Victorian Whitechapel. Beautifully illustrated with echoes of Oliver Twist.

### The Wild Man

**Category:** Children's Fiction 10+

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Random House Children's Books.  
US rights to Wm B Eerdmaans

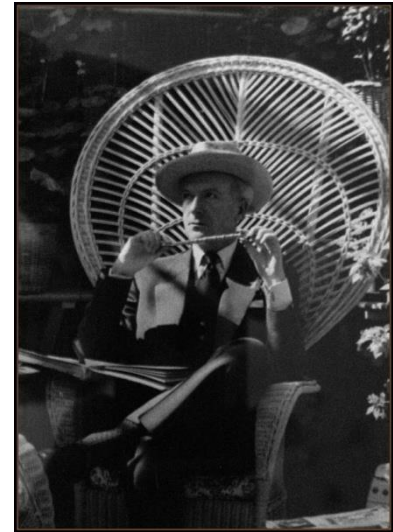
**Synopsis:** Sequel to the wonderfully evocative Joe Rat. Having escaped the clutches of the dreaded Mother, Joe Rat is back, now working as a sweeper in the up-market Lomesbury Square. But things aren't working out quite as he'd hoped and the appearance of a strange and dangerous "wild man" could change Joe's life for good.



## The Late Sir Cecil Beaton

*“Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against (...) the creatures of the commonplace.”*

Photographer, set and costume designer, illustrator, diarist, author and artist, Cecil Beaton, was a man of many parts. Born in Hampstead in 1904 to an affluent, Edwardian family, he was a total self-creation, escaping from the more mundane world of his parents into the heart of the 1920s Bright Young Things. An aesthete with an extraordinary sense of style and taste, his desire for fantasy, beauty and fame, would propel him into the upper echelons of British society, Hollywood and beyond.



A chronicler of the golden age of fashion for Vogue and Vanity Fair, there are few distinguished figures from the 20<sup>th</sup> century who have escaped his lens. The Royal Family, Garbo, Dietrich, Picasso, Chanel, The Rolling Stones, Diaghilev, Camus, Marilyn Monroe and Grace Kelly to name but few. He was also a renowned War Photographer and in 2012 The Imperial War Museum held an acclaimed exhibition of his Wartime Photographs, with accompanying book published by Jonathan Cape entitled, **CECIL BEATON - THE THEATRE OF WAR.**

His volumes of diaries were originally published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson and later editions introduced by Hugo Vickers, Sir Cecil's Literary Executor, The **UNEXPURGATED BEATON** and **BEATON IN THE SIXTIES** were published in 2002 and 2003 respectively.

The centenary of Cecil Beaton's birth was marked in January 2004 with a commemorative exhibition held at the National Portrait Gallery and another at Sotheby, each representing exquisite examples of Beaton's stature as a photographer. RCL is responsible to Sir Cecil's Literary Executors for his published literary archive. Translation rights in **THE UNEXPURGATED BEATON** and **BEATON IN THE SIXTIES** available from RCL.

Beauesert produced Fabrics and Wallpaper with Cecil Beaton designs.

Rizzoli USA published **THE GLASS OF FASHION.**

A beautiful, volume with comment from Hugo Vickers is published by Frances Lincoln, who acquired world rights. Its title, **PORTRAITS AND PROFILES.**

**LOVE CECIL** - a documentary film featuring the life and work of Sir Cecil, conceived and produced by Lisa Immordino Vreeland - A Dandy Production LLC - has been received to great acclaim.



More recently, Sapere has commenced the digital reissue of his diaries spanning from 1922-74. Cecil's eyewitness experiences give a frank and unique insight into a tumultuous period of English history.



### The Glass of Fashion

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL, French/Russian/Spanish

**Synopsis:** Gorgeously repackaged, this reissue of the classic book by Rizzoli presents the iconic photographer's expert and witty reminiscences of the personalities who inspired fashion's golden eras, and left an indelible mark on his own sense of taste and style.

The camera will never be invented that could capture or encompass all that he actually sees, Truman Capote once said of Cecil Beaton. Though known for his portraits, Beaton was as incisive a writer as he was a photographer.

First published in 1954, *The Glass of Fashion* is a classic—an invaluable primer on the history and highlights of fashion from a man who was a chronicler of taste, and an intimate compendium of the people who inspired his legendary eye.

Across eighteen chapters, complemented by more than 150 of his own line drawings, Beaton writes with great wit about the influence of luminaries such as Chanel, Balenciaga, and Dior, as well as relatively unknown muses like his Aunt Jessie, who gave him his first glimpse of the grown-up world of fashion.

Out of print for decades but recognized and sought after as a touchstone text, *The Glass of Fashion* will be irresistible to a new generation of fashion enthusiasts and a seminal book in any Beaton library. It is both a treasury and a treasure.

A beautiful new French edition was published by Segquier Editions.



## **The Unexpurgated Beaton**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Synopsis:** The list of people photographed by Beaton reads like a 'who's who' of the haute monde. Here, read for the first time his innermost thoughts and the truth behind his relationship with the rich and famous.

## **Beaton in the Sixties**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Synopsis:** Further diaries from Beaton. This selection opens in the sixties, as Churchill lies dying. We are shown the 'Swinging Sixties' - The Beatles, Rolling Stones and Mary Quant are All mentioned! Beaton also writes on his fascination with the new generation, who are as determined to test the boundaries of modern society as he was with his friends in the twenties.

## **The Beaton Diaries**

- *The Wandering Years, The Years Between, The Happy Years, The Strenuous Years, The Restless Years, The Parting Years*

**Category:** Non-Fiction, Memoir, social history

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** eBook and POD to Sapere, French rights in The Happy Years

**Synopsis:** A classic six-volume memoir of the twentieth century, spanning through the Second World War, the Golden Age of Hollywood and the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

## **Cecil Beaton's Fair Lady**

**Category:** Non-Fiction, Memoir, social history

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint, Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** Spanish (Hatari Books)

**Synopsis:** A classic account of the author's work on the celebrated film of My Fair Lady.



## Susan Bentley

Sue writes fiction for children, young adults and adults. During her 30 year career she has published over 80 books. She has written under five different pseudonyms but now writes all her books under her own name.

Sue currently lives in a house surrounded by a wildlife hedge so she can pretend she lives in the countryside. She has always had an overactive imagination and a love for learning new things which comes in handy when thinking up exciting storylines! When working on a novel Sue loves walking in nature, which helps her think, stay sane, and develop ideas and characters for her books. She also finds picking up scraps of conversations from people in cafes useful in creating great dialogue. Her favourite type of books to read are anything historical, particularly set in Victorian times and she likes a good gothic mystery, now and then!



**Website:** [www.suebentley.co.uk](http://www.suebentley.co.uk)



## Magic Kitten

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** (via publisher) Audio, Bookclub, Chinese, Bulgarian, Polish, French, US, Portuguese, Brazilian, Italian and Slovene/Croatian, German, Japanese, Hungarian

**Synopsis:** Bestselling series of children's books about Flame, a Magic Kitten which appears to the protagonist and changes their life.

## Magic Puppy

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** (via publisher) French, Italian, Portuguese, Brazilian, Polish, German and USA

**Synopsis:** Bestselling series of children's books about Storm, a Magic Puppy which appears to the protagonist and changes their life.



### **Magic Ponies**

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** (via publisher) French, Portuguese, Hungarian, Polish and USA

**Synopsis:** The enchantment continues! Join Comet, the magic pony, as he searches for his missing sister...

### **Magic Bunny**

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** (via publisher) French, Polish, German, Italian, Portuguese and USA

**Synopsis:** Join Arrow, the magic bunny, as he embarks on a series of enchanting adventures which sees him change the life of some special little girls.

### **We Other**

**Category:** Fantasy

**Rights via RCL:** Film/Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume Books.

**Synopsis:** Jess Morgan's Life has always been chaotic. When a startling new reality cannot be denied, it's clear that everything she believed about herself is a lie. She is linked to a world where humans - "hot-bloods" - are disposable entertainment. Life on a run-down estate - her single mum's alcoholism and violent boyfriend - become the least of her worries. Drawn into a new world of a rich darkness, she finds herself torn between love, family and a growing sense of a new, powerful identity.



### Second Skin

**Category:** Fantasy

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film and TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume

**Synopsis:** An exciting richly detailed fantasy/paranormal romance.

Aledra Jewel-Wing is a two-skin. Human in form she belongs to the Drakkoni, a race with the ability to transform into winged-beasts and who are hated by the indigenous native people of the continent of Esra.

When a good deed at a public feast goes tragically wrong, Aledra is branded a criminal and barely escapes with her life. After she rescues Jubal Crow - a native Esran - from drowning they form an uneasy alliance. For Jubal has witnessed the slaughter of many of his people by a rogue Drakkoni.

Against a background of war-torn Esra, they embark on a journey. But temple priests, who suspect Aledra holds the cure for a terrible disease afflicting the Drakkoni, have set an implacable bounty hunter on her trail.

With Jubal at her side, Aledra's journey to self-discovery will push faith, love and friendship to their limits.

Rich in diversity, and set against a background inspired by the early landscape of Native America, where colliding cultures battle for supremacy, Second Skin poses the question what is the shape of Love? Is it possible for love to flourish between two opposing races, when built on sorrow, lies and deceit?



## Emma Beswetherick

Emma worked at Mills & Boon, the Sunday Times and for a publishing agent before spending thirteen years at Little, Brown, where she became Associate Publisher at Piatkus fiction and published many bestselling authors. She now works as Editorial Director at Boldwood Books, publishing a wide range of adult commercial fiction.



Alongside Emma's career as an editor, she's fulfilled her lifetime ambition of becoming a children's writer, with 8 children's books published by Oneworld and another on the way.

One of Emma's favourite things about being a children's author is the time she gets to spend in schools, taking assemblies and workshops on creative writing and hopefully inspiring a whole new generation of book lovers.

Emma lives in Twickenham with husband and two children (who finally convinced her to give writing a go), her loopy ragdoll cat and mischievous cavapoo dog!





## Steve & Megumi Biddle

The husband and wife team described as “the undisputed champions of children’s origami.” They specialise in teaching, demonstrating and creating designs for advertising and commercial use. Their cabaret act is unparalleled (Megumi was a frequent guest demonstrator on The Generation Game with Bruce Forsyth) and much in demand.

Their work is highly successful and popular with teachers, pupils and audiences alike. Megumi creates designs for the Japanese art of Washi, (hand-made paper) stencils, origami, artificial flowers. Their first book - for children - **THINGS TO MAKE IN THE HOLIDAYS** was published as an original paperback by Beaver (Red Fox),

Summer 1988 and was followed by a raft of other books for children including **AMAZING ORIGAMI FOR CHILDREN** and **MAKE YOUR OWN GREETINGS CARDS. THE CHRISTMAS ORIGAMI BOOK, ORIGAMI SAFARI , ACTION DINOSAURS** came in Spring 1995. **HORRORGAMI** was an Autumn 1996 publication in the UK, USA and French Canada. **PLANET ORIGAMI**, was published in August 1998, and also with Red Fox, **UNDERWATER ORIGAMI**, was a January 2001 publication. **PAPER CAPERS** appeared in Summer 2002: US rights sold to Barrons. Red House acquired book club rights.



**THE CRANE’S GIFT OF GRATITUDE**, the retelling of a Japanese folk tale by Steve and illustrated in water-colour most beautifully by Megumi, was originally published by Barefoot Books and an ELT edition published (2001) by Penguin Longman.

Steve and Megumi’s first book for the adult market, **MAKING FLOWERS**, exquisitely illustrated by Megumi, who made all the flowers photographed in the book herself, is published by F&W Media. Their inaugural book on paper-folding for adult readership, **STEP BY STEP ORIGAMI** was a Spring 1991 publication from Ebury, followed in 1993 by **THE NEW ORIGAMI**.

The Metropolitan Museum Of Art published, in September 1998, a book specially conceived by Steve and Megumi for the Museum, featuring Origami relating to the Museum’s Japanese exhibits. It is called, **ORIGAMI INSPIRED BY JAPANESE PRINTS..** It has been a best-seller on both sides of the Atlantic. The Met commissioned a further book from Steve and Megumi entitled, **A BEGINNER’S BOOK OF ORIGAMI: BIRDS, BEASTS, BUGS AND BUTTERFLIES**, published July 2003. Viking are the American trade publishers of both titles. All rights via the Met.

A new edition of **ORIGAMI INSPIRED BY JAPANESE PRINTS** was published in the summer of 2011.

The British Museum Press’s own publication of Steve and Megumi’s specially prepared book, entitled **BEGINNING ORIGAMI**, was published in July 2001 to coincide with the Japan Exhibition in London.



October 2003 saw the publication of **ORIGAMI FOR HARMONY AND HAPPINESS** (Eddison-Sadd - Connections) in the UK and USA and has since reprinted. All rights via E-S.

Steve and Megumi signed with Eddison-Sadd again, to produce **ORIGAMI MAGIC**, for publication by Tuttle in North America and Connections in the UK. All other rights are with Eddison-Sadd.

The Biddles linked once more with F&W Media for their book - **PAPER CREATIONS - CARDS AND GIFTS**, publication Spring 2006. And a further title to add to their archive with F&W Media is **PAPER: FOLD IT!** published in 2008.

Continuing this successful publishing partnership, the Biddles published with F&W Media unique book, entitled **PEBBLE PETS** in Autumn 2009.

**Website:** [www.paper-magic.net](http://www.paper-magic.net)



## Daniel Blythe

Is the author of many books, including the acclaimed novels **THE CUT**, **LOSING FAITH** and **THIS IS THE DAY** and the bestselling **ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF CLASSIC 80s POP**. He has also written the light-hearted parenting guide **DADLANDS** and books on politics, nostalgia and collecting.

Dan wrote the Number One bestseller **Doctor Who: Autonomy** for BBC Books, featuring the tenth incarnation of the Doctor as played by David Tennant. **Shadow Runners**, his novel for younger readers, was first published in the UK by Chicken House and is now out in a new edition. It is also available in the USA (as **Shadow Breakers**), in Brazil and in Germany. He created the Emerald Greene books for young readers. And his latest novel is **Exiles**, a young adult sci-fi thriller.



Dan's work is published in several languages including French, German, Portuguese, Finnish, Turkish, Slovenian and Arabic. He lives on the edge of Sheffield, in the north of England. **EXILES**, an SF space thriller for the teen/new adult market will be relaunched in September 2022 by Spellbound Books.

Daniel has worked extensively in schools with pupils aged from 7 to 17, and also with organisations delivering extra-curricular writing experiences in a variety of locations. He has also taught on the M.A. in Creative Writing at Sheffield Hallam University and mentors, advises and edits writers of all ages through Cornerstones UK, Writing Ltd. and the Oxford Literary Consultancy.

He is a regular judge on the Sheffield Novel Slam for the Off The Shelf festival. Daniel lives with his family on the edge of Sheffield.

**Website:** [www.danielblythe.org](http://www.danielblythe.org)





### Exiles

**Category:** SF Adventure/older teen

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights Sold:**

**Synopsis:** In a war-torn galaxy, Bethany Kane has cheated death. Now, she has to fight for life.

Fleeing disaster on the great colony ship *Arcadia*, 15-year-old Chapter Sister Bethany Aurelia Kane, believer in the Great Power, makes landfall in an escape pod on a windswept world known as The Edge - a planet light years from civilisation. Battered and shaken, Beth soon finds she is not alone.

The Edge is a penal colony where, under the leadership of Zachary Tal, fifty juvenile criminals and reprobates have pulled together a kind of society. They are living and working together in Town, a converted scientific base in the shadow of their crashed spaceship. They have crops, fresh water and electrical power - and are assisted by a contingent of mechanised Drones.

Storms, power failure and illness are just a few of the challenges the teenage exiles battle. Five of them have already died in various ways. As Beth accustoms herself to her new life on The Edge, she has to overcome her fears, learn new skills and earn the respect of leader Zach, the arrogant Colm, the resentful Mia and the others.

But when a terrible, violent event shatters the colony's existence, it seems nothing will ever be the same. What secrets are the young prisoners keeping from one another? Who among them is a killer? And just how isolated are they really?...

As the clock ticks towards a final revelation, Beth needs all her resourcefulness to stop The Edge from plunging into anarchy. And she has her own secret too - one which will prove decisive in the battle for survival.



### The Cut

**Category:** Fiction (originally published by Penguin)

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV/Audio.

**Rights sold:** Turkish - now reverted; eBook and POD to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Bel is eighteen. She's a nice middle-class girl but she's got a sadistic streak and a worrying attachment to her blade. Damien lives off Daddy's money and lusts after Bel. Bel is in love with JJ, who has a dark side. Then there's Marcie, who's dying for a hit.

Together they escape their suburban lives in a seaside town by entering a nocturnal world of partying, drugs, violence and joyriding. No-one suspects the rich kids, but then one day someone gets in the way of the car and things get out of hand... Meanwhile, Bel is waiting. Waiting for the Cut.

She'll do anything to get her kicks, and killing may be the biggest kick of all...

### Losing Faith

**Category:** Fiction (originally published by Hamish Hamilton)

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/Audio

**Rights sold:** eBook and POD to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** They'd met a university in the twilight years of Thatcher and shared their various faiths. But then Mike had discovered the benefits of property speculation and Luke's devotion to God had been sorely tested in the high rises and villages of lovely England.

Faith was dark, disturbing, a Goth. And it was her sudden death, one summer's day in France, that began to unravel the mysteries surrounding them all.

### Dadlands

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation

**Rights sold:** Arabic, Finnish, French, Russian and Slovene

**Synopsis:** The alternative handbook for fathers. The guide that tells you what other dads won't. Learn the secrets, hints, dodges and wheezes of being a new father without having a nervous breakdown.

### This Is The Day

**Category:** Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV/Audio

**Rights Sold:** eBook and POD to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Tom and Ella Barclay seem to have it all: two perfect children at a private school, creative and interesting jobs and a lovely house. Then fate turns their lives upside down and forces Ella and Tom to recognise the cracks in their self-made façade.



## **X Marks the Box**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** World rights originally sold to Icon, now reverted

**Synopsis:** Daniel Blythe negotiates the political maze from the citizen's point of view. Why should we vote? What do politicians do and why does it make a difference. Whether you are disenchanted or a ballot-box regular, an activist or a floating voter, this is a book to amuse, inform and entertain. Irreverent, topical, sceptical and packed with useful facts and trivia, X Marks the Box takes you on a journey through apathy to activism and everything in between.

## **Emerald Greene and The Witch Stones**

**Category:** Children's series Fiction 12+

**Rights via RCL:** Translation TV/Film

**Rights sold:** World English Language Rights have sold to Acorn Books

**Synopsis:** There's a new pupil at St Agnes' school in the historic city of Meresbury. She's a mysterious, otherworldly girl called Emerald Greene. A girl without a past, without a family or friends. When Jess and Richie decide to befriend her, they're in for a few shocks - for Emerald lives in a mansion which doesn't exist, and can see things nobody else can see. Meanwhile, Meresbury becomes home to a series of strange events.

What is the secret of the tomb which the eccentric Professor Ulverston has unearthed in an ancient stone circle? Where does the talking cat come from? And why have Mr Courtney and his Special Measures operatives arrived in town? With unearthly apparitions stalking the land, Jess and Richie soon realise that their mysterious classmate might be the only one to know what's happening. But it seems Emerald Greene has her own secrets - and nobody is quite sure whose side she is really on...

## **Shadow Runners**

**Category:** Children's series Fiction 12+

**Rights via RCL:** All

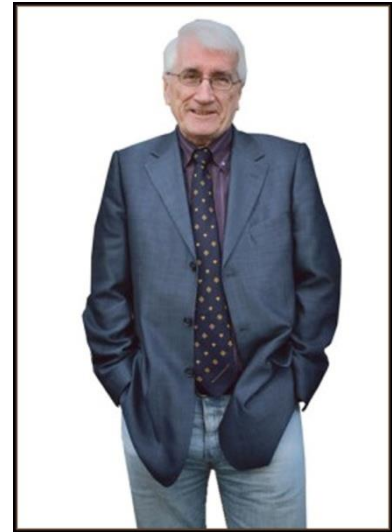
**Rights sold:** World Rights (now reverted) sold to Chicken House.  
Brazil/Germany/Audio

**Synopsis:** A 21st Century Famous Five meets an English X-Files, as ordinary children with extraordinary talents explore the mysteries of a world beyond the everyday.



## The Late Kevin Brophy

Kevin grew up in a military barracks on Ireland's west coast. Educated by the Patrician Brothers in Galway, a clutch of scholarships took him to the local university, where he wrote verse, was a pillar of Dramsoc, and edited the student newspaper. However, he later took an MA with Distinction at Bretton Hall, Leeds University: his thesis, published as *In the Company of Wolves*, is testament to his fatal attraction to the old-gold-and-black of Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club. His chequered career includes stints as postman and teacher, barman and businessman. He has lived in Ireland, England and Poland but felt most at home in Germany.



**THE BERLIN CROSSING** - a dramatic and literary tale of one man's journey to discover his roots after the collapse of the GDR - sold to Headline as part of a world rights, two book deal. The novel was published to critical acclaim in January 2012. The follow up, **ANOTHER KIND OF COUNTRY** made its appearance in January 2013.

Lume is currently reissuing his backlist novels, and his memoir, **WALKING THE LINE: SCENES FROM AN ARMY CHILDHOOD**.





## The Berlin Crossing

**Category:** Fiction/espionage

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film and TV

**Rights sold:** World Rights originally to Headline (now reverted). WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** In the East German city of Brandenburg, 30 year old schoolteacher, Michael Ritter feels his life is falling apart and he is wholly unable to come to terms with the changes that are taking place before his eyes: the carpetbaggers from the West have moved in and taken over the country that he loves.

Disenfranchised and disenchanted, Michael heads home to lick his wounds, ponder his future and care for his terminally ill mother. On her deathbed, she whispers that she wants him to seek out an evangelical priest, Pastor Bruck, to discover the truth about his father.

Michael dismisses her words as the fevered ramblings of a dying woman but, as the days pass, he starts to think about them more and more and when he does eventually visit the priest at Bad Sarrow, his dark discoveries turn his world upside down in ways he couldn't possibly have imagined.

In the vein of *The Lives of Others* and *Charlotte Gray*, *The Berlin Crossing* was inspired by the personal stories of disenchanted former citizens of the GDR.

## Another Kind of Country

**Category:** Fiction/espionage

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/ film and TV

**Rights sold:** World rights originally to Headline (now reverted). WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Santiago 1973: Pinochet has made his move and violence has erupted all over the city. Young, sheltered Rosa, with her socialist father the first to be seized, is forced to flee across the Andes, and finding unlikely refuge with a Stasi spy, is taken to Germany behind the Iron Curtain.

East Berlin 1989: Englishman Patrick Miller has crossed over and is working at the Secretariat for Socialist Correctness in Publishing. Dragged into a dangerous cynical world of shady dealings on both sides of the Wall, Patrick doesn't know what he believes in anymore. Until he meets Rosa.

As the Soviet Union starts to break up around them, the tide of change is too strong for even the much feared Stasi to hold back. But once the barriers are down and the rubble cleared, what kind of country will they be left with?



## Catherine Bruton

Catherine Bruton is a multi-award winning author of fiction for readers of all ages.

Her fiction for children and young adults, includes **NO BALLET SHOES IN SYRIA** (Winner of the Books Are My Bag Readers' Award 2020, The Sheffield Book Award and The Middle East Book Award), Carnegie nominated **WE CAN BE HEROES** (now a family feature, starring Alison Steadman and Phil Davies) **ANOTHER TWIST IN THE TALE** (Winner of the North Somerset Book Award) and Nero shortlisted **BIRD BOY**. Under the pen name Cate Shearwater, she also wrote the much-loved **SOMERSAULTS AND DREAMS** series.



Her Rom-Com **CONFESSIONS OF A HELICOPTER MUMMY** has been described as 'The most sparkling romantic comedy of the year' and 'Bridget Jones meets the Bad Moms via 'Sex in the City' for the Tik Tok Generation!'

**Website:** [www.catherinebruton.com](http://www.catherinebruton.com)





## I Predict A Riot

**Category:** Children's Fiction/Crossover  
**Rights via RCL:** All  
**Rights sold:** World English Language to Egmont (now reverted).  
 German rights to DTV

**Synopsis:** Inspired by the children the author worked with on an inner city project and the 2012 London riots, this is a hilarious and heart-breaking tale of three kids from very different backgrounds who set out to make a movie and end up involved in a riot.

Tokes is trying to make a break from his past, Winnie wants to escape from the present and Little Pea - well, he's just out to cause trouble. A story of a family, friendships, gangs, riots, new starts and tragic endings - this is a summer that will change all their lives for ever. I Predict A Riot is Frank Cottrell Boyce meets 'Pigeon English' via Youtube.

The novel has been long-listed for the Redbridge Teenage Book Award, shortlisted for the Essex Book Awards, the Wirral Paperback of the Year 2015 and hailed as one of the best YA novels of 2014.

## We Can Be Heroes

**Category:** Children's Fiction/Crossover  
**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation  
**Rights sold:** World English language rights sold to Egmont (now reverted)  
 German language rights sold to Baumhaus now reverted.  
 Film/TV sold to Heroes Productions/Thomasina Gibson

**Synopsis:** Heralded as "one to watch" in the Children's Bookseller, this wonderfully heart-warming and thought provoking read, explores what it means for kids from all different ethnic backgrounds to grow up in post 9/11 Britain.

Seen through the eyes of 12-year-old Ben, "The stuff in this book is not about 9/11. I suppose it's sort of a diary about the summer that my mum went away; the summer that me and Jed and Priti tried to catch a suicide bomber and prevent an honour killing; the summer that Stevie Sanders disappeared and we caused a race riot. There are some lists and doodles and other random stuff in here, too. Oh, and some Manga comic strips I drew - I wonder if it would make more sense if you read it backwards? -but mainly it's just stuff I wrote that summer: about how we built a tree house and joined the bomb squad; how I found my dad and Jed lost his; and how we both lost our mums then found them again.

'So, it's not really about 9/11, but, then again, none of those things would have happened if it hadn't been for what happened in New York on September 11th 2001. So I guess it is all back to front. Sort of... '



### POP!

**Category:** Children's Fiction/Crossover

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** World English Language to Egmont (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** Tapping into the current fixation for celebrity as an answer to all ills POP! is Billy Elliot meets the X-Factor meets Shameless! A powerful, moving and funny novel for readers of "11-111". I reckon we need a plan that's so massive it'll change our lives forever...

The first round of auditions was a bit mad. All these wannabe popstars sitting around trying to look wacky/soulful/tragic (delete as appropriate) to catch the attention of the TV cameras.

At least we had a cracking back story. The story of me, Agnes, Jimmy and baby Alfie too; the tears, the tragedy, the broken homes and feuding families, the star-crossed lovers. And only some of it was made up.

If I say so myself, it was genius: a sure-fire golden ticket to stratospheric stardom. Or at least that was the plan...

### Of Silence and Slow Time

**Category:** Historical fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film and TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language eBook rights to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** France, August 1914. War has begun, soldiers are marching and years of bloody massacre are lurking on the horizon.

In German-occupied France the locals are adjusting to the unnerving presence of their invaders, slowly learning to always be on their guard. Twelve-year-old Amèlie is without speech and so exists under the radar of the German troops. When she stumbles upon a wounded English soldier in the woods she knows she must help him. She is completely unaware of the impact James will have on her family and the danger he represents. James disappears in 1915.

Seventeen years later, Andrew, his son, yearns to know the truth behind his father's role in the war. Andrews goes to Arras and attempts to uncover the hidden secrets of his father's wartime past. But with James' death buried underneath the shadow of history and obscured by lies, Andrew is facing a hard challenge. He desperately seeks help that the locals are reluctant to give.



Will he be able to battle against the local townspeople and unearth the mystery of his father's past? 'Of Silence and Slow Time is a very good read, full of emotional shocks and tremors, an ill-fated love story packed with suspense and intrigue, set against the vivid backdrop of a small French village during the First World War.' - Kate Pullinger

### **No Ballet Shoes in Syria**

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:**

**Rights sold:** World to Nosy Crow. Film/TV under option to Tim O'Mara  
Dutch rights licensed to KokBoekencentrum Uitgevers;  
Japanese rights to Kaiseisha; Portuguese Rights to Ciranda Cultural Editora e Distribuidora

**Synopsis:** Aya is eleven years old and has just arrived in Britain with her mum and baby brother, seeking asylum from war in Syria.

When Aya stumbles across a local ballet class, the formidable dance teacher spots her exceptional talent and believes that Aya has the potential to earn a prestigious ballet scholarship.

But at the same time, Aya and her family must fight to be allowed to remain in the country, to make a home for themselves, and to find Aya's father - separated from the rest of the family during the journey from Syria.

With beautiful, captivating writing, wonderfully authentic ballet detail, and an important message championing the rights of refugees, this is classic storytelling - filled with warmth, hope and humanity.

### **Another Twist in the Tale**

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Nosy Crow.

**Synopsis:** You have heard, no doubt, the tale of Master Oliver Twist - that rags-to-riches boy; the parish orphan who became heir to the Brownlow fortune. But what few know is that was a second Twist - a girl, brought into this world moments ahead of her brother.

This is the story of Twill Twist - and her journey through the gambling dens and workhouses of London, as she attempts to make a life for herself, rescue her friends, and uncover the mystery of her past - while meeting some familiar faces along the way...



Re-discover the Artful Dodger, Fagin, and Oliver Twist himself, along with a host of fantastic new heroes and villains, in this brilliantly-imagined, rip-roaring sequel to Dickens' much-loved classic.

## Following Frankenstein

**Category:** Children's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Nosy Crow. - Danish rights Gads Borneboger

**Synopsis:** A brilliantly-conceived and hugely imaginative 'sequel' to Mary Shelley's masterpiece, *Following Frankenstein* is a hugely exciting and beautifully-written historical adventure, perfect for 9-12 year olds.

*Sometimes I was jealous of the monster of Frankenstein. I grew up believing my father cared more for him than he did for me. And was I wrong?*

Maggie Walton's father has dedicated his life to a single pursuit: hunting down the monster created by Victor Frankenstein. It has cost Maggie and her family everything - and now her father is staking everything on one last voyage to the Arctic, with Maggie secretly in tow, where he hopes to find the monster at last.

But there they make a shocking discovery: Frankenstein's monster has a son...

A breath-taking, epic adventure, spanning the icy wastes of the Arctic Tundra to the vaudeville circus of New York, from the award-winning author of *No Ballet Shoes in Syria* and *Another Twist in the Tale*.

## Somersaults and Dreams: Making the Grade

**Category:** Children's Fiction 8+

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** World - all languages to Egmont

**Synopsis:** Somersaults and Dreams is the first in a series about 13 year old Ellie's pursuit of her dream to follow in her aunt's footsteps and become an Olympic gymnast. A scholarship to a Gymnastics Academy in London, sees Ellie waving goodbye to her beloved family in Cornwall and heading for the bright lights in the big city and her new "gym" family. New friends and a punishing schedule see Ellie striving to make her mark and fit in, but something is missing and it takes a return to her roots to discover that key ingredient...

Inspired by books such as 'Ballet Shoes', 'Veronica at the Wells', 'Drina Ballerina' and other childhood favourites, this series is designed for girls aged 9+.



## **Somersaults and Dreams: Rising Star**

**Category:** Children's Fiction 8+

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** World - all languages to Egmont

**Synopsis:** For fans of Cathy Cassidy and Jacqueline Wilson, step in to the glamorous world of competitive gymnastics with Somersaults and Dreams.

The British Champs are looming and Ellie is desperate to qualify. But with her two best friends growing distant and a bright new star joining her squad, she is finding it hard to stand out. Will hard work be enough, or will Ellie find something more to make her performance shine?

Tumble into a world of friendships, rivalries and bright lights in this must-read new series - perfect for girls of 8+

## **Somersaults and Dreams: Going for Gold**

**Category:** Children's Fiction 8+

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** World - all languages to Egmont

**Synopsis:** For fans of Cathy Cassidy and Holly Willoughby's School for Stars - tumble into the world of competitive gymnastics - friendships, dreams, tears, and tumbles!

Ellie has reached the national gymnastics squad training camp. Now it feels like she is just a somersault away from her dream of competing in the Euros!

But with training harder than ever, rivalries even fiercer and a new coach who seems determined to make sure she fails, Ellie feels as though she has to do whatever it takes... including hiding a potentially-career ruining injury. How far is Ellie really willing to go for gold?



### **Bird Boy**

**Category:** Middle Grade

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Nosy Crow – Turkish, Japanese and Dutch

**Synopsis:** After the tragic death of his mother, Will is sent to stay with his uncle in the Lake District.

There Will discovers an osprey nest. But when one stormy night the smallest chick is knocked out of the nest, breaking a wing, Will is determined to save her.

As Will helps the Osprey to heal, he finds a new strength inside himself. Maybe, finally, Will can find a way to take flight, too...

### **Confessions of a Helicopter Mum**

**Category:** Women's fiction/romantic comedy

**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Spellbound Books.

**Synopsis:** *Fun-loving, intelligent, sexy journalist and single mum... seeks companionship (ideally), love (possibly), sex (definitely maybe!); laughter (compulsory)... with like-minded, clever, cute middle-aged single man (no 'still-married-but-my-wife-doesn't-get-me's need apply) Ideally based in the SW...*

Parenting journalist Anni is 46 and mum to teenage daughter, Cassie. It's two years since her philandering first (and only) love Joel walked out taking the last of her self-confidence with him and she has remained resolutely single ever since. Her friends decide it's high time she was back in the dating game; they set up a Tinder profile to encourage her to venture out of her slippers and comfort zone. But Anni is woefully unprepared for the virtual world of romance and trying to learn the protocols of social media might just be a Bitmoji too far.

*Why Mummy Drinks* meets *Sex and the City* with, perhaps a touch of *Bridget Jones*, **CONFESSIONS OF A HELICOPTER MUMMY** is uplifting, warm and hilarious. Readers will fall in love with the deliciously chaotic Anni as she navigates the road to love.



## The Late Mary Burchell

Romantic novelist of many years' standing in Mills & Boon List. President of the Romantic Novelists' Association until her death in 1986.

Particularly well-known for her romantic novels with an opera background and also collaborating with her friend, the famous operatic baritone, Tito Gobbi, on two volumes of his autobiography.

Her highly popular series, **THE WARRENDER SAGA** is currently being reissued by Lume.



Her seminal memoir, *We Followed our Stars* was published by Mills & Boon, as part of their 2008 centennial celebrations for which the British Museum created an exhibition for the occasion, featuring artefacts from the author's life, including her first-ever publishing contract. The book was reissued under a new title, **SAFE PASSAGE**, in the US/Canada and a further reissue appeared in 2020 under the title **THE BRAVEST VOICES: THE EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM OF SISTERS IDA AND LOUISE COOK DURING THE NAZI ERA**

In February 2010, the Wiener Holocaust Library commemorated Ida and Louise Cook's refugee work during the 1930s, by an event called "Rescue and Romance", with an illustrated talk given by the biographer, Anne Sebbe. The Yad Vashem testimonial to their work was shown, as well as the programme for "This is Your Life", when Eamonn Andrews held the "book". On 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010: 10 Downing Street - The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, honoured The British Heroes of the Holocaust, with awards of Silver Medals, bearing their names, for their actions in helping to save the lives of Jews hoping to escape from Nazi persecution. Ida and her sister, Louise, were - posthumously, alas - recipients of these Awards: among the total of twenty-seven Britons so honoured, only two are still living.

The sisters' story features strongly in **HEROES OF THE HOLOCAUST** by Lyn Smith (Ebury Press) spring 2012. January 2017. A blue plaque was placed on the house in Sunderland where the sisters lived as children, in acknowledgment of their selfless acts of bravery in Nazi Germany in the 1930s to help save Jewish lives.

In summer 2020 Sapere contracted for a further ten titles from the author's Mills & Boon backlist which are reissued as ebooks and POD editions.



### The Warrender Saga

**Category:** Romance

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** WEL eBook/POD to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Anthea Benton harbours dreams of being a singer but money is tight in the Benton home and with a sick father to care for, Anthea's dreams look set to remain on hold.

But, the answer to her prayers looks set to arrive when she sees an advertisement for a singing contest with a £500 first prize. At the contest, Anthea knows she is better than any of the other contestants and she ought to have won had it not been for Oscar Warrender, one of the most celebrated opera conductors in the world, who made sure of it.

So when a letter arrives informing Anthea that Warrender wants her to come to London and be his prize, and only, pupil, Anthea is shocked to say the least.

But this could be her big chance and she just cannot turn it down.

She will need every ounce of strength and intelligence she possesses to withstand the training and hard work to become a successful opera singer.

But will Anthea and Oscar's turbulent relationship ruin her chances for success?

And what else will she discover about herself along the way?

**A SONG BEGINS** is the first book in the charming Warrender Saga.



## **We Followed Our Stars**

**Category:** Memoir

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film and TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to HarperCollins Film. Italian rights - Newton Compton

**Synopsis:** This is the remarkable true-life story of Ida Cook, one of Mills & Boon's best-loved novelists... In this gripping memoir, Cook tells the story of how she and her sister, Louise, transported Jews out of Germany in the years before World War II.

As young women Ida and Louise became passionate about opera, and saved their meagre salaries so they could travel the world to see their favourite singers.

They befriended many of these stars, one of whom, in 1934, asked the sisters to help a Jewish friend escape Germany. In the following years, going "undercover"; as eccentric opera fans, and financing their mission using Ida's earnings from her romance novels, they were able to rescue dozens of people from the Nazis. For their bravery and heroism, Ida and Louise received the honour of "Righteous Among Nations"; from the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Authority, alongside such notable names as Oskar Schindler and Raoul Wallenberg.



## Patricia Caliskan

Following a childhood spent writing 'pretend' books, most notably, *Our Book about Jesus* - a self-help guide for young Catholics and, *The Sleepover* - a compelling tale of a midnight feast, shockingly intercepted by fictitious parents with badly-drawn hands, Patricia always liked playing with words.

Her stories explore family dynamics, office politics, and the divergent roles of women throughout their lives...

Patricia likes the colour grey; TV boxsets; movie stars; a nice, flouncy scarf; a good pair of boots, and laughter. Lots of laughter. Because without it life feels far too grown up for her liking.



**Awful By Comparison** her debut novel was followed by, **Girlfriend, Interrupted** a rom-com on the theme of blended families. **When We Were Us** is her latest romantic comedy, exploring mid-life relationships and second chances.



## When We Were Us

**Category:** Contemporary women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation and film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL Sapere Books

**Synopsis:** *'Life got things wrong. Life got things spectacularly wrong sometimes, and there wasn't too much you could do about it, not until, maybe one day, you decided you finally must.'*

Erika Forde is the wife of acclaimed novelist, David Daniel Forde, mother of first year student, Matt, and creative lead at an award-winning advertising agency. The thing is, Erika's been remembering who she used to be, and thinking about how she much prefers that person...

As David's latest novel receives mounting criticism, the return of childhood friend, Enzo Morelli, brings questions about the past and answers she never knew existed.

**When We Were Us is a second chance love story, that shows the ups and downs of family life with buckets of humour and wit.**



## Awful by Comparison

**Category:** Commercial women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** WEL eBook/POD to Sapere

**Synopsis:** Jennifer Taylor is home for the holidays - and the foreseeable future - as she loses her job, apartment, and boyfriend, a month before Christmas.

Her sister, Lara, a beautiful NYC-based model, is also coming home - to announce a whirl world engagement to a rich hotelier.

But when an anonymous, online Blog hits the headlines, both sisters find themselves at the centre of a dark secret, which will change their family forever.

Will Jennifer ever learn to live in the shadow of her sister's success? Preferably with a full-time job and a drawer full of matching underwear.

Can Lara ever find happiness in a world where appearances can be deceptive, and men usually are? Sisters, models, friends, or finances - sometimes a girl feels Awful By Comparison.

## Girlfriend, Interrupted

**Category:** Commercial women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film and TV

**Rights sold:** eBook and POD to Sapere; Czech rights to Albatross Media

**Synopsis:** *Brown-eyed, brunette, 25. Enjoys walking barefoot across shards of broken home. Likes loaded silences, resentment and insomnia. Dislikes romantic weekends, lie-ins and any chance of future happiness. Former GSOH. Developing PTSD.*

When the love of Ella's life turns out to be somebody else's dad, their love affair soon becomes a family affair.

Ready or not, Ella's joined The Step-family Robinson and getting it right for Dan's kids means getting it right for everyone but can Ella actually manage to include herself in this mix?

A funny and emotionally rewarding novel that will strike more than one chord for today's career women - particularly when families come in myriad shapes and sizes.



## Dr Nicholas Champion

Past President of The Astrological Association of Great Britain and The Astrological Lodge of London, adviser to the Association for Astrological Networking and the National Council for Geocosmic Research (USA). Member of the Association of Professional Astrologers.

One of the world's top astrologers, Nicholas Champion is Senior Lecturer in the School of Archaeology, History and Anthropology, at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, UK. He is course director of the University's MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology. Nicholas Champion was resident astrologer to the Daily Mail from 1986-92. His features have also appeared in Today and the Daily Mirror and his weekly and monthly features were published in Woman's Realm, Bella, Nineteen, Company, New Woman, Vogue, Harper's Bazaar and Zest and Eve. His daily, weekly and monthly forecasts are syndicated in India and Jamaica.



**Publications:** An Introduction To The History Of Astrology (ISCWA 1982); Mundane Astrology: The Astrology Of Nations And Organisations (Aquarian Press 1984, with Michael Baigent and Charles Harvey) The Practical Astrologer (Hamlyn 1987) relaunched as The Ultimate Astrologer (Rider 2002 - US rights sold to Hay House; Book Club rights to BCA); The Book Of World Horoscopes (Aquarian Press 1988); Cosmic Cuisine (Windward 1989, with Tom Jaine); Born To Reign: The Astrology Of Europe's Royal Houses (Orion 1993); The Great Year (Penguin-Arkana 1994); The New Astrology: The Art And Science Of The Heavens with Steve Eddy (Bloomsbury in the UK and Trafalgar Square in the US); Zodiac: Enhancing Your Life With Astrology (Quadrille 2000). What do Astrologers Believe? London: Granta 2005) His two-part work is published by Continuum - A History of Western Astrology: Vol 1 The Ancient World (2008) and Volume 2, The Medieval and Modern Worlds (2009). Astrology and Cosmology in the World's Religions, New York: New York University Press, 2012 and Astrology and Popular Religion in the Modern West: Prophecy, Cosmology and the New Age Movement, Farnham, Ashgate (2012).

Dr Champion's **ASTROLOGY AND COSMOLOGY IN THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS** published by New York University Press June 2012 and is critically acclaimed by Stephen McCluskey of West Virginia University.

A new work, entitled **THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT IN THE MODERN WEST** (Bloomsbury) was published in Autumn 2015.



Nicholas Campion is the most highly decorated astrologer in the UK. He received the prestigious Marc Edmund Jones Award (USA) for his innovative, comprehensive and meticulously researched work.

1995 brought further acclaim with the Prix Georges Antares, awarded by the Federation Astrologique Belgique and in 1999 he was awarded the Spica Award for Professional Excellence.

In 2002, he received the unique honour of being awarded the Marion D. March Regulus Award for Professional Image in the USA and the Charles Harvey Award for Professional Excellence in the UK, both awards presented after votes by his professional peers.

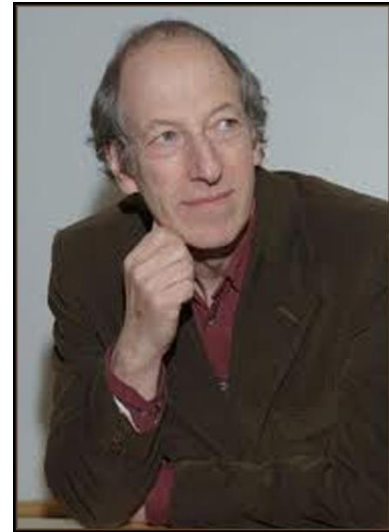
**Website:** [www.nickcampion.com](http://www.nickcampion.com)





## Professor David Canter

Emeritus Professor at the University of Liverpool, Director; International Research Centre for Investigative Psychology, The University of Huddersfield; President, International Academy for Investigative Psychology, directed the unique Centre for Investigative Psychology at Liverpool University, which he set up there in 1994 and is the pioneer and leading expert in psychological profiling. He is widely known outside academia for his best-selling book, **CRIMINAL SHADOWS - INSIDE THE MIND OF THE SERIAL KILLER** - which won the Golden Dagger and the Anthony Awards for non-fiction.



He is often quoted in the mass media and writes for national newspapers on matters relating to crime and the applications of psychology to issues in the news. His book, *Football In Its Place*, predicted the Hillsborough Stadium disaster and was influential on the Taylor enquiry into the design and management of football grounds. This book was a development of his text, *The Psychology Of Place*, a general exploration of the way places develop their personal meanings for people. His first book, **PSYCHOLOGY FOR ARCHITECTS**, published in 1974, has become a classic introduction to the topic.

Professor Canter's popular writing deliberately sits between a number of genres. He makes current ideas in the study of the mind accessible to a wide audience, whilst following "whodunit" trails. This draws on his own direct experience as an applied psychologist working for industry and giving guidance to well over 150 criminal investigations, which therefore always also gives his work an autobiographical twist.

Professor Canter's 6-part series, entitled **MAPPING MURDER** (for which he was writer, presenter and associate producer) was transmitted by Channel 5 and Virgin Books commissioned him to write a book on the subject, under the same title, which they published in Autumn 2003, the paperback edition appearing in 2005. An updated edition was issued in September 2007. Other television credits include his participation in the C4 *Dispatches* programme on Madeleine McCann and in *Crimewatch*.

Professor Canter publishes widely in the academic arena and gives lectures on his researches all over the world. Oxford University Press invited him to contribute a work on **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY** to their VSI series, published in Autumn 2010 and a leading seller internationally in the series.

He has also contributed to Wiley - **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY FOR DUMMIES** which has proved very popular



He contributes an ongoing blog to Sage Publications.

Professor Canter has published a revised, updated edition of **CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY** with Routledge.

His "Who's Who" entry lists his avocations as clarinet, composing, collage and cantering but that is because one of his hobbies is alliteration.

**Website:** [www.davidcanter.com](http://www.davidcanter.com)



## **Criminal Shadows**

**Category:** Factual/Psychology of Crime

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume Books; Turkish

**Synopsis:** Criminal Shadows won the CWA non-fiction gold dagger award. Every crime casts a unique shadow that may be interpreted to lead the police to the criminal responsible. This book looks at offender profiling that helps the police to identify and track individual criminals by the nature of their crime.

## **Mapping Murder**

**Category:** Factual/Psychology of Crime

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume Books;

**Synopsis:** 'Criminals reveal who they are and where they live not just from how they commit their crimes, but also from the locations they choose.'

So claims renowned criminal psychologist and profiler David Canter. Fully revised and updated, Canter's ground-breaking book leads the reader through the labyrinth psyches of serial killers, rapists and other violent criminals and takes us on the murderer's journey, in both the psychological and geographical sense.

From contentious cases such as Jack the Ripper and Jill Dando, to the murders of Fred West, Canter lifts the lid on geographical profiling and how this new approach to solving crime is changing the way police work and our understanding of the criminal mind.



## Tanith Carey

Tanith Carey is an award-winning writer and author of 14 books on parenting, psychology and social history. Her books are published in over 40 countries, including the US, Canada, France, Germany and China.

She is also a Gestalt counsellor, studying for a Masters in Gestalt Psychotherapy.

Recent publications include the "What's my Child Thinking?" series for DK. The fourth, 'What's my Baby Thinking: Practical Child Psychology for Modern Parents' will be published in October 2025.



As a Gestalt counsellor, Tanith wrote the first popular book on Anhedonia – the loss of joy in modern society and which brought together the neuroscience of what the modern world is doing to our brain's reward system – and how to fight back.

'Feeling Blah? Why Anhedonia has left you joyless and how to recapture life's highs', is published by Welbeck/Hachette, and is now available in an updated paperback edition.

Thanks to coverage of the book in The Guardian, The Times, The Daily Mail, Happiful, the i-paper, the BBC and dozens of podcasts, Anhedonia has now entered the mainstream mental health conversation.

All her work in this sphere aims to address the most pressing and emerging concerns in parenting and mental health and to crystallise the issues for a popular audience.

Hers was the first UK book to look at the social science behind children's friendship issues, 'The Friendship Maze: How to help your child navigate their way to positive happier friendships,' (Summersdale) the pressure exerted on children by the current competitive education system, 'Taming the Tiger Parent (Constable), the impact of premature adultification and internet p\*\*\*n on girls' emotional development: 'Girls Uninterrupted: How to Build Stronger Girls in a Challenging World' (Icon)

The thread that runs through all these books is that they join the dots and bring the research together in engaging, robust, and practical ways which readers can use in the moment.



As an experienced journalist and former newspaper US correspondent and editor, Tanith has always written for a wide-range of national and global publications, which contributes to the wide-spread publicity she achieves for all her titles.

A regular columnist on social history, culture and psychology for The Spectator, her social history books include a history of agony aunt advice; Never Kiss as Man in Canoe/ Words of Wisdom from the Golden Age of Agony Aunts (Boxtree/Vermillion) – named one of the Sunday Telegraph’s books of the year.

Tanith maintains an active social media presence for her books on her personal, therapy and book accounts across X, Instagram, Bluesky, Pinterest, Threads and Facebook.



## Where Has My little Girl Gone?/Girls Uninterrupted

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting

**Rights via RCL:** Remaining Translation

**Rights sold:** English language Reprint rights to Icon, Hungarian, Romanian, Arabic, Chinese (traditional script), Finnish, Korean, German, French (listed translations for original edition)

**Synopsis:** From every angle our daughters are bombarded by messages about looks and sexuality that they are too young to understand. From an early age, girls feel pressured to confirm to a thin, “sexy” ideal, leading to self-destructive behaviour, anxiety and low self-esteem.

But while girls are fast-tracked through childhood, parents are drowned out by the internet, retailers, media and peer pressure.

Now parenting author Tanith Carey, herself a mother of two young girls, has written the first hands-on guide for parents which will show you how to:

- Screen out damaging messages about body image and sex from the internet and media
- Build your daughter’s self-esteem so she is strong enough to deal with the pressure to behave older than her years.
- Say the right things at the right time so she is inoculated against the worst influences of our X-rated society.



Packed full of insights, experts' tips and real experiences, *Where Has My little Girl Gone?* Is an essential and timely guide to safeguarding your daughter's childhood, so she can grow into the confident woman she deserves to be.

### **Taming the Tiger Parent:**

*- How to put your child's well-being first in a competitive world.*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting

**Rights via RCL:** Documentary/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World rights to Constable Robinson who have sold Romanian, Hungarian, Vietnamese and Turkish rights

**Synopsis:** Mozart in the womb, Baby Einstein videos for newborns, French lessons for babies and iPad learning apps for toddlers.

From the moment the umbilical cord is cut, today's parents live in fear that they can never do enough to make their child the brightest and the best.

But while there is nothing wrong with nurturing our little ones, too much competition has become damaging not only to our kids - but also to our experience of parenting and family life.

Instead of loving our children for who they are, raising children has instead turned into a form of product development.

For children, the outcome is a rise in anxiety disorders, depression and self-harm - and a generation who believe they are losers if they fail or they've never done enough if they win.

For parents, the result is that they get caught in a miserable, on-going game of one-upmanship, constantly judging their worth by their children's achievements - and becoming so child-centric they jeopardize our adult relationships.

In this ground-breaking book, award-winning journalist and parenting author Tanith Carey presents the latest research on what competitive parenting is doing to our children and offers a way back to enjoying parenting again.



## The Friendship Maze

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Summersdale

**Synopsis:** Meanness among children has existed since the words, 'No, you can't play with us' were first uttered in the playground.

But the sad thing for today's younger generation is that pre-meditated nasty behaviour appears to be starting sooner than ever - even in nursery school, according to educators, parents and bullying charities.

From the other side of the school gates, parents feel they have to no choice but to leave their children to it. This is the book that will change that.

Here Tanith Carey analyses the social pressures which are changing the face of childhood friendship and offers clear, research-based steps for building your child's social IQ so they can navigate their social world and ultimately grow into kinder, happier people.

## What's My Child Thinking?

- *Practical Child Psychology for Modern Parents*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting/Psychology

**Rights sold:** All Rights to DK - foreign rights - Spanish, French, Hungarian, German, Danish, Swedish and Czech

**Synopsis:** Make every moment with your child count. Tap into the psychology behind your child's behaviour and respond with confidence.

Find out what your child really means when he or she says "Look what I've done!", "But, I'm not tired", or "You're embarrassing me" - and discover what's really going on when they can't express themselves at all. Taking more than 100 everyday situations, the book leads you through scenarios step-by-step, explaining not only your child's behaviour and the psychology behind it but also your own feelings as a parent. It then gives instant recommendations for what you could say and do to best resolve the situation.

Covering all your child's developmental milestones from ages 2 to 7 years, What's My Child Thinking? covers important issues - such as temper tantrums, sibling rivalry, and peer pressure. What's more, there is a bank of practical "survival guides" for critical times, such as travelling in the car and going online safely.

Rooted in evidence-based clinical psychology and championing positive parenting, What's My Child Thinking? will help you tune into your child's innermost thoughts and be the parent you want to be.



### What's My Teenager Thinking?

- *Practical Child Psychology for Modern Parents*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting/Psychology

**Rights sold:** All Rights to DK - foreign editions Italian, German, Danish and Dutch

**Synopsis:** As the teenage brain rewires, hormones surge, and independence beckons, a perfect storm for family conflict emerges. Parenting just got tougher. But help is at hand.

This uniquely practical parenting book for raising teenagers in today's world explores the science at work during this period of development, translates teenage behaviour, and shows you how you can best respond as a parent - in the moment and in the long term.

Taking over 100 everyday scenarios, the book tackles real-world situations head-on - from what to do when your teenager slams their bedroom door in your face to how to handle worries about online safety, peer group pressure, school work and sex.

Discover how to create a supportive environment and communicate with confidence - to help your teenager manage whatever life brings.

### What's My Tween Thinking?

- *Practical Child Psychology for Modern Parents*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Parenting/Psychology

**Rights sold:** All Rights to DK - foreign editions Italian, German, Danish and Dutch

**Synopsis:** Is the pull towards independence and the start of puberty bringing new challenges for you and your 8-to 12-year-old? The answers you seek are here.

This practical parenting handbook grounded in evidence-based psychology explores the changes in development during the "in-between years". Discover what your tween is really thinking.

Taking 75 recognisable scenarios, parenting author Tanith Carey and Child Clinical Psychologist Dr Angharad Rudkin address real-world concerns that parents of tweens face, from hearing "I hate you" and "just one more game", to friendship clashes, school concerns, body worries, and online safety.

Discover how to stay connected with your tween and lay the groundwork for the teenage years ahead



## Feeling Blah?

- *Why Anhedonia has left you joyless and how to recapture life's highs.*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Self-help

**Rights sold:** All Rights to Welbeck

**Synopsis:** Few people have heard of the term 'anhedonia' but far too many of us know what it is.

It's that familiar feeling of 'blah' or 'meh' as if your emotions have flatlined, along with your ability to enjoy life.

Yet while so many of us tend to blame ourselves, or think the novelty of life has just worn off, there are a host of biological and environmental reasons for feeling this way.

Because we've never identified this state, many of us spend lives in a fog where we feel neither happy, nor sad - but just not very much at all.

It's time to define the state of 'anhedonia', and find real strategies to address it. This is the book that will do that - and help you to regain pleasure in sex, food, socialising, loved ones, friends and... ultimately, life.

## Cherophobia - Overcoming self-sabotage trap

- *Life's good. Something's wrong!*

**Category:** Psychology/Self-help

**Rights via RCL:** All Rights

**Synopsis:** Even when life is going OK, do you sometimes wonder why you can never relax and enjoy it? Do you find yourself doing and saying things that make life harder for yourself, without really knowing why?

Even when you're in a good relationship, do you sometimes get the 'cringe factor' that makes you want to get up and run away?

If so, you're not alone – and there's a word for it: CHEROPHOBIA - the psychological term for 'fear of happiness.'

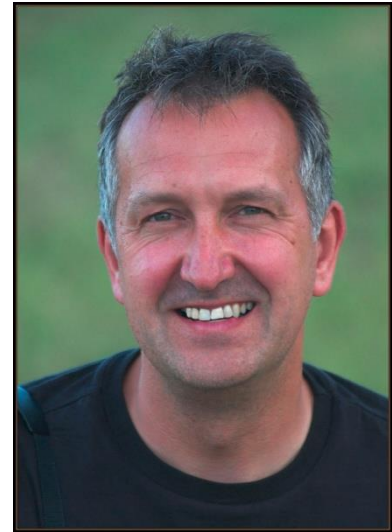
Written by psychology author and Gestalt therapy counsellor, Tanith Carey, this is the first book to name Cherophobia, look at why it makes us sabotage our lives, and find ways to overcome it.



## Mark Carwardine

**Mark Carwardine** is a zoologist, an outspoken conservationist, an award-winning and bestselling author, a TV and radio presenter, a widely published photographer, a wildlife tour operator and leader, a lecturer, and a magazine columnist.

He has appeared on a great many TV programmes over the years, narrated a variety of films, and co-presented two major six-part BBC-TV series: *Museum of Life* and *Last Chance to See*. He co-presented **LAST CHANCE TO SEE** with the comedian and actor Stephen Fry, in which the unlikely duo travelled the world in search of a motley collection of endangered species (following in the footsteps of a similar journey Mark made with Douglas Adams - of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* fame - 20 years earlier). Mark and Stephen have co-presented several other conservation programmes together.



Mark also presented the weekly half-hour radio programme *Nature* on BBC Radio 4 for six years, and has presented hundreds of other BBC Radio 4 series and programmes on a variety of wildlife, travel and conservation subjects.

He is the author of more than 50 books and has been writing a provocative monthly conservation column in BBC wildlife magazine since 2004 and is the contributing editor of *Wanderlust* magazine. He was selected as one of The Worlds most Influential Nature Photographers in *Outdoor Photography* magazine

**Website:** [www.markcarwardine.com](http://www.markcarwardine.com)





### **Last Chance to See... In the Footsteps of Douglas Adams**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Rights via HarperCollins

**Synopsis:** Mark's TV tie-in book for the 6-part TV series with Stephen Fry

### **Last Chance to See...**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Rights jointly controlled by Ed Victor Ltd and Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** Jointly written by Douglas Adams and Mark - original publication 20 years ago. Reissued as an Arrow paperback 2009. And an updated edition will be published in 2020.

### **Mark Carwardine's Ultimate Wildlife Experiences**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Foreign and subsidiary rights Rupert Crew Limited

**Rights sold:** Russia, Japan

**Synopsis:** Published in the UK in conjunction with Wanderlust, this superb book, written and illustrated by the author with his wonderful photograph, this is a book for anyone seeking to find new routes to an unforgettable holiday - or even just sitting in an armchair!

### **Whales, Dolphins & Porpoises**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights sold:** Rights via Bloomsbury

**Synopsis:** A new up to the minute guide.

### **Mark Carwardine's Guide to Whalewatching in Britain & Europe**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights sold:** World rights Bloomsbury

**Synopsis:** A new edition of this classic work prepared by the author was published by Bloomsbury, Winter 2016.



## **Mark Carwardine's Guide to Whalewatching in North America**

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights sold:** Rights via Bloomsbury

**Synopsis:** A new and exciting project which caters for the vast audience of whale-watch seekers in this territory is in course of production, published August 2017.

## **How to Photograph Garden Birds**

**Category:** Photography/Nature

**Rights sold:** All rights to Bloomsbury

**Synopsis:** This accessible, practical guide includes everything you need to know to capture fantastic photographs of birds on your doorstep.

In RSPB How to Photograph Garden Birds, celebrated photographer and wildlife writer Mark Carwardine shares his expert advice and insider tips and tricks for capturing the perfect photo. Whether you have a professional camera and a garden filled with birds, or a smartphone and access to a bird table, his guidance will improve your photography in leaps and bounds.

Packed with beautiful photographs, this book is a step-by-step masterclass on garden bird photography - from attracting different species to using artificial rain and capturing spectacular images of birds in flight.

Once you've mastered the basics, you can make garden bird photography as simple or as challenging as you like. A robin perched on a garden spade? Easy. A blackbird feeding among fallen leaves? No problem. A blue tit in flight? Might take some planning but still very achievable.

And there's more. Garden bird photography isn't only rewarding in its own right - it's also a sensational way to hone wildlife photography and field skills that you can then adapt to suit any subject anywhere in the world.



## Alastair Chisholm

Is an award-winning children's author and puzzle creator and has been published by Walker Books, Nosy Crow, Bloomsbury, The Fiction Desk, Buster Books, Hachette North and Barrington Stoke.

He is the author of the sci-fi adventures Orion Lost (Winner Salford Children's Book Award 2021);, Adam-2 (Blackwell's Children's Book of the Year), and The Consequence Girl (Winner of Biblio Buzz Award 2023). His Dragon Storm series of young fantasy novels has, to date, sold into 11 territories (all rights via Nosy Crow). His picture books including The Prince and the Witch and the Thief and the Bears (**Winner** of the St Helens 5+ Book Award), and Inch and Grub (winner of the Queen's Knicker's Award and the Bookbug Prize), amongst others.



2024 saw the publication of Book 1 in a new Trilogy – I AM Wolf (Nosy Crow) – a thought-provoking, unputdownable adventure. I AM Raven is scheduled for April 2025.

**Website:** [www.alastairc.com](http://www.alastairc.com)





### Orion Lost

**Category:** Science Fiction upper middle grade  
**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** All rights to Nosy Crow - foreign editions Chinese, Russian  
**Synopsis:** A stranded starship. A frozen crew. A deadly secret.

When the colony ship Orion becomes stranded in space and its adult crew incapacitated, thirteen-year-old Beth and her friends must find a way to get them all home. Headstrong and unprepared, Beth must learn how to become the captain they need; but with rivalries within her crew, a damaged ship, space pirates, mysterious aliens and a computer that she knows is lying to her, Beth has no idea who to trust...

### Adam 2

**Category:** Science Fiction upper middle grade  
**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** World rights (Nosy Crow)  
**Synopsis:** It's a new world - how can he save it?

Adam-2 has been locked in the basement of a lost building for over two hundred years - until he emerges into a world ruined by a civil war between humans and advanced intelligence. Hunted by both sides, Adam discovers that he holds the key to the war, and the power to end it - to destroy one side and save the other. But first, Adam must decide who - and what - he really is. A thrilling and unputdownable adventure.

### The Consequence Girl

**Category:** Science Fiction upper middle grade  
**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** World rights (Nosy Crow)  
**Synopsis:** The World of Colony is in Ruins. No one knows what caused society to begin tearing itself apart - but the secret may lie with Cora, a girl living on the mountainside, far away from others. Cora possesses an incredible ability - one that can change lives, in ways both good and bad.

But there are people looking for Cora, and she is forced on the run - and must decide who she is, what she can do... and how to fix the world.



### I Am Wolf

**Category:** Science Fiction upper middle grade

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World rights (Nosy Crow)

**Synopsis:** When you're fighting for survival, belonging is all that matters. Col Belongs to Wolf. In a savage world where huge technological constructs fight for territory, living on Wolf and being part of her crew is all he has ever known. But when Coll's life is suddenly changed forever, he finds himself questioning everything he thought he knew. Is Wolf the only Way?

### Reek

**Category:** Science Fiction YA

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World rights (Barrington Stoke)

**Synopsis:** Climate catastrophe leaves the people of Earth fighting for oxygen in this gripping dystopian thriller.

*To keep breathing, insert payment...*

Sparrow lives in the world after the Reek, a toxic pollution that covers the Earth. Only tech billionaire Axel Brodie knows how to make clean air, and Sparrow works every day to keep her family alive.

But when an inventor friend discovers a new way to survive the Reek, Sparrow's life becomes even more deadly. Someone doesn't want the world to learn what Sparrow knows – and they'll do everything in their power to stop her...

Who will win in this battle to breathe free?



## Louise Emma Clarke

Louise Emma Clarke is the British writer behind the award-winning blog **MUM OF BOYS & MABEL**, which she started from her sofa, (probably dressed in her pyjamas) shortly after the birth of her second baby.

She first discovered a love of writing at Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School, before graduating from University of Southampton in 2002 with a degree in English (definitely not dressed in her pyjamas).

Her career in magazines began in Camden Town, London that very same summer, when she landed the position of Editorial Assistant at Take a Break Magazine - and over the next six years, she worked at That's Life Magazine, Best Magazine, Full House, Woman's Weekly, and the Daily Express. Making the decision to go freelance in 2008 (now living with her boyfriend and their boxer dog puppy in a pretty garden flat in Blackheath), she decided to launch her very own website, which became an online magazine about beauty. It may not have set the world on fire, but it definitely wasn't a flop - and it was during this time that she learnt all there was to know about domain names, keywords, and social media followers.

It wasn't all good though, as the boyfriend suddenly announced he'd been offered a job in Dubai and flew off into the sunset - but the love story wasn't over, with Louise following after a pretty December wedding in the snow.

Fast-forward to 2018 - and Louise, her husband Charlie, and their three children; Stanley, Wilfred and Mabel are now back in the UK. It was after her second baby, that she felt inspired to write about her experience of motherhood, quickly building a tribe of followers who appreciated her spilling out her heart (or admitting she'd just put her kettle in the fridge after making the third coffee of the morning).

When Louise isn't blogging, vlogging, writing books, or contributing to publications across the UAE (including Gulf News, Friday Magazine, Sassy Mama Dubai, and Time Out), she is mainly picking up Cheerios from the rug, playing referee between two boys intent on rugby tackling each other, or being woken up at 4.45am by her baby girl. And that's the bit she likes the most (honest).

Rights in her debut novel, **FROM MUM, WITH LOVE**, were snapped up by Aria who published in February 2019 and the sequel **MUM'S BIG BREAK** was published in 2020.





## **The Mummy Blogger: From Mum with Love**

**Category:** Commercial women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Aria

**Synopsis:** "What were you doing at 9.35am Chris?" Jessica asked. "Having some breakfast leisurely at your desk? Making a coffee in the kitchen and comparing fantasy football results with John? Well I hope it was fun, because I was lying on a bed trying to get Bella to sleep, while being repeatedly whipped around the face with a cuddly bunny rabbit!"

"Sorry you had such a crap day, honey!" Chris called after her. "But do you know what?"

"What?" Jessica called back at him.

"I've told you this before, but you really should start a blog!"

Through a series of letters to her daughter, Bella, Jess' blog quickly attracts a devoted following - but she soon discovers there are downsides to popularity which a glass of wine with your girlfriends can't always fix...

Funny and heart-warming, **FROM MUM, WITH LOVE** is the debut novel from Louise Emma Clarke, the writer behind the award-winning parenting blog, Mum of Boys & Mabel.

## **The Mummy Blogger: Mum's Big Break**

**Category:** Commercial women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Aria

**Synopsis:** Life in the spotlight was never going to be easy...

Jess's life was turned upside down when her blog went viral. Now, with hundreds of thousands of followers, Jess is now navigating the trials and tribulations of a world online.

Being a mummy blogger was originally an escape, but now it seems to be turning into a career. And after one wrong post on her social media channels, Jess discovers that life in the spotlight isn't always peachy. With a new baby on the way, the possibility of starring in a reality TV show and a husband who's struggling with his wife's new-found fame, Jess has a lot going on.

Jess needs to decide whether this is everything she wanted it to be or whether this is all a bit too much for her? Can Jess persevere against the haters, rise up above the pettiness and find the perfect balance of life in the real world and life online?



## Lewis Cox

Romance writer, Euphrasia Emmeline Cox (1889 - 1983) who wrote under the name of Lewis Cox (and sometimes Bridget Parsons). She wrote around 100 novels, exclusively with Mills & Boon in the 1930s, and later published by Robert Hale.

Out of print for many years, a reissue programme is now under way with Sapere Books.

Translation rights are available.





## Peter Cunningham

Peter Cunningham is from Waterford, Ireland's oldest city. He says he grew up in an extended family of storytellers. Although he wrote continuously in school, in university and as a young adult, he also worked in a variety of other jobs, including accountancy, the sugar industry, and farming. He married Carol, a Jungian analyst, in 1973.



His first novels, beginning with **NOBLE LORD** in 1986, were thrillers. Following the death of his eldest son, also Peter, in 1990, the direction of the writing changed. He began to write contemporary fiction, based on life in Waterford, which he fictionalised as Monument, a port town in Ireland's south east. Beginning with **TAPES OF THE RIVER DELTA**, these novels have been widely acclaimed. **CONSEQUENCES OF THE HEART** was shortlisted for the Listowel Writer's Prize; **THE SEA AND THE SILENCE** won the prestigious Prix de l'Europe.

**THE TAOISEACH** was a controversial best seller, whilst **CAPITAL SINS**, for which Cunningham was described by the Irish Times newspaper as "the Hemmingway of the Celtic Tiger", was a satire set in the Irish economic meltdown.

**SISTER CARAVAGGIO**, conceived with his close friend, the late Maeve Binchy, and written as a collaborative novel with four other well-known Irish writers, was also a best seller.

**THE TROUT**, was published by Sandstone Press in the UK and in the USA by Arcade. And was followed by **ACTS OF ALLEGIANCE**, which was also published by Sandstone and Arcade. This novel was longlisted for the prestigious Dublin Literary Award. **FREEDOM IS A LAND I CANNOT SEE** also published by Sandstone, is an epic, life-changing story set in the cauldron of a country fighting for its right to exist.

Peter is now working on a series of cosy crime novels set in his fictional town of Monument.

He is a member of Aosdána, the Irish academy of arts and letters.





## **My Name is Annie Seaver**

**Category:** Mystery/Cosy Crime

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** Mid-1960s, early summer.

A body is discovered in the delta outside the ancient port town of Monument. The local guards cannot identify the deceased. They turn to Annie Seaver, and her brother Billy, who run a photography business from their home.

Perhaps there's a clue to the corpse in Annie's archive of old pictures.

But when Annie Seaver begins to search, she makes a grim discovery. And Monument, from that moment, will never be the same again.

## **Annie Seaver Mystery Book 2**

**Category:** Mystery/Cosy Crime

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** When accountant Henry O'Hagan is found stabbed to death on wasteland outside of Monument, the guards face a dilemma. O'Hagan had no family, friends or known enemies. Was his murder a random act? Or did someone have it in for him?

The clue may lie in the accountant's client files, which contain the personal financial details of much of the town's population. But opening these sensitive files to the guards' scrutiny would lead to public outcry.

District H.Q. could be invited in, but Insp. Fox would have to relinquish control of the investigation, something he'll never do.

Det. Dixie Chance has an idea. Ask someone trusted, from outside the police force, to examine the files. Someone who will know what to look for.



## Freedom is a Land I Cannot See

**Category:** Literary/thriller

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** Amidst tumultuous political upheaval, at a time when spies lurk in every shadow and life is extinguished on a whim, Ireland is born as a free nation.

In Sutton, a seaside village near Dublin, Rose, a beautiful young woman, must keep a dreadful secret. As the dark forces of a frantic government close in, Rose must somehow find the strength to keep true to her beliefs and to save those whom she loves.

*Freedom is a Land I Cannot See* is an epic, life-changing story set in the cauldron of a country fighting for its right to exist.

Told with gripping pace and lyrical intensity, this is a story that about a woman who defies all the odds, and a secret that has remained buried for generations.

## Acts of Allegiance

**Category:** Literary/thriller

**Rights via RCL:** UK& Comm, Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** US & Can (Arcade), Italian (SEM)

**Synopsis:** Senior Irish diplomat, Marty Ransom, is torn between duty to his country and loyalty to the Anglo-Irish tradition in which he was raised.

In a land divided into north and south, Planter and Gael, Catholic and Protestant, Marty's life has been spent walking a tightrope. When he meets Alison, a Home Office employee now transferred to the British embassy in Dublin, Marty's fidelities are once again split. Lured ever deeper into the lethal world of counter-espionage, he finds himself in fatal conflict with his cousin and childhood friend.

As this deadly endgame unfolds, Marty must choose between all which he loves and holds dear, and his allegiance to a past that remains just beyond his reach.



## The Trout

**Category:** Literary

**Rights via RCL:** UK & Commonwealth, Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** US & Canada (Arcade 2017); France (Joelle Losfeld, Gallimard 2016).

**Synopsis:** Alex and Kay began their relationship many years ago in Ireland. His father, a well-respected doctor, is immensely proud of him until the day Alex meets Kay, a meeting which changes Alex's life and his relationship with his father forever.

Rejected by his father and his friends, Alex and Kay eventually settle in Canada to lead a normal family life.

Normal life, however, is only a thin veneer covering a world of childhood secrets and lies and a letter arriving out of the blue triggers a long-buried guilt in Alex, leading him to risk all to track down its secrets. In a spellbinding story of one man's search for the crucial secret locked in his memory since childhood, *The Trout* bursts up through the conventions and falsehoods of the past and hangs, beautiful and shimmering, in the clear and vital light of truth.

## Sister Caravaggio

**Category:** Mystery (Co-Authored)

**Rights via RCL:** World English language excluding Ireland/Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** Ireland only, Liberties Press, 2014, Turkish Rights Ren Kitap

**Synopsis:** The small Caravaggio which hangs in the chapel of Doon Abbey in Kildare attracts visitors to the abbey from far and wide.

One night, however, the painting disappears. The Sister Superior is unwilling to cooperate with the police, as this would compromise the abbey's silent-order ethos.

Alice Dunwoody, a novice at the abbey who heard strange sounds on the night of the theft, persuades Sister Mercy Superior to allow her to investigate, with the help of the abbey's computer-savvy librarian, Sister Mary Magdalene.



## Capital Sins

**Category:** Thriller

**Rights via RCL:** All (originally published by New Island - Ireland Only 2010 - now reverted)

**Synopsis:** Ireland, 2006. Financial hysteria grips the nation. No one can speak of anything but the price of property - it is impossible not to make money. Developers gorge on massive loans. Bankers, egged on by politicians, trample over each other in the stampede to lend more and more. Millionaires are created every day as the stock market soars and Ireland audaciously becomes one of the world's wealthiest nations.

But at the heart of this unholy multi-billion Euro alliance between developers, politicians and bankers lies a hideous truth: the whole empire is built on sand. Two men face each other over the dark divide. One, Albert Barr, a developer, has everything to lose; the other, Lee Carew, a struggling journalist, suddenly realises that he has stumbled upon the story of a lifetime. And for the bankers, the developers and Ireland's Celtic Tiger, time is rapidly running out. With devastating accuracy and savage humour, Peter Cunningham's novel tells the story of the final year of the Celtic Tiger as it has never been told before.

In Ireland in the second half of the twentieth century, a corrupt circle of politicians and shadowy business figures control the levers of power.

Lucrative property deals involving the sale of government assets are secretly financed by Middle Eastern oil dollars in exchange for Irish passports. Planning corruption is practised as a matter of course. Political donations are rewarded with access to offshore bank accounts as the ordinary people are forced to tighten their belts.

## Who Trespass Against Us

**Category:** Thriller

**Rights via RCL:** All (originally published by Century 1993)

**Synopsis:** On May 17<sup>th</sup> an IRA bomb outside Paddington Station claims one victim, a beautiful teenage girl, and changes the life of two men beyond their most terrifying dreams.

Zoe Coleraine's death brings uncontrollable grief to her father Adam, a highly-placed civil servant at the Home office, who disappears two months later with a top-secret report on the IRA never meant to have been in London in the first place. Terrified of the consequences of Adam being captured and debriefed, the British Government plead with their Irish counterparts for help. Irishman Brian Kilkenny, author of the potentially lethal report, is sent to track him down.

*"The action is fast and furious, but there is much more to this thoughtful book... taut, tense, moving... one of the best books I've ever had the pleasure of reading"* - Evening Post

*"Tautly written... could not have been better timed...searing and painfully honest"* - Reuters



## **The Snow Bees**

**Category:** Thriller

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Synopsis:** Patrick Drake is ambitious. A high flyer who wants to get to the top of the corporate ladder - fast. And a business trip to sort out a fiasco of a French vineyard looks just like the fast track to promotion.

It isn't. He reports back to head office and then he's fired.

From muck-raking in a molehill of missing money, he steps on a minefield of murderous activity. In a tightening web of terrorism and violence he finds himself facing the naked savagery of the international cocaine trade. Fighting to clear his name - and to save his life - he unravels a threat of fear and fanaticism that runs from South Africa to Spain, from Ireland to the United States. And at any moment he may feel the fatal sting...

*"Everything a thriller should be"* - Publishing News

*"Ripping"* - Oxford Times

*"Gripping"* - Evening Standard.

## **The Taoiseach**

**Category:** Thriller

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation

**Rights sold:** Film rights optioned to Qwerty Media

**Synopsis:** At the heart of this web of deceit and intrigue is the Taoiseach, the Irish prime minister, Harry Messenger. A survivor of the political turmoil of the late 1960s, Messenger has now seized control and nothing is allowed stand in the way of his hold on power or his voracious lifestyle.

**THE TAOISEACH** is a powerful story and top-notch political thriller, which shows modern Ireland as never before. But it is the people who provide the greatest fascination. Trapped in a spiral of ambition, greed and loyalty to one man, their all-too-fallible lives are a compelling insight into the Ireland of our time. To read this novel is to understand how it all happened. And why.

Film Rights were acquired by London film producer Cameron Maxwell-Lewis's Qwerty Media. With a screenplay already in place by Hollywood screenwriter Graham Baker, Qwerty plan to make a six-part mini-series for television.



### The Sea and the Silence

**Category:** Literary

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** France (Joelle Losfeld, Gallimard 2012); Bulgaria (Amat-Ah 2016/7);  
Italian rights to SEM.

**Synopsis:** Ireland 1945. Young and beautiful, Iz begins a life on the south-east coast with her new husband. As she settles in to try and make her life by the sea, circumstances that have brought Iz to Monument are shrouded in mystery. The war in Europe is over, and change is about to brush away the old order. Soaring across the decades that follow Ireland's newly won independence, sweeping across the fierce class issues and battles over land ownership that once defined Irish society, *The Sea and the Silence* is an epic love story set inside the fading grandeur of the Anglo-Irish class.

*"A powerful novel from one of Ireland's best writers on the turbulent birth of a nation, and the lovers it divides. A terrific novel. Moving and hugely entertaining."* - Roddy Doyle

This novel won the Prix de l'Europe in 2015.

### Love in One Edition

**Category:** Literary

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** Originally published in UK, Ireland and Commonwealth:  
Harvill Press, 2001; USA and Canada: Gemma Media, 2012 now reverted.

**Synopsis:** When Jasmine joins the staff of the Monument Gazette, she finds herself falling in love with Kaiser, a man whose childhood is shrouded in mystery. She resolves to learn the truth about his origins. But as she delves into the history of Monument and the three generations of the Pender family who have owned and run the Gazette, she uncovers not only Kaiser's violent past, but also an appalling secret that threatens to shatter many lives, not least her own.

*Love in One Edition* is part of Peter Cunningham's acclaimed Monument series, stories set in Ireland's southeast, in which the lives and loves of people from the late nineteenth century to the present day are compellingly described.

The Monument series has been widely praised in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as in translation, and has won literary prizes.



## The Tapes of the River Delta

**Category:** Literary/thriller

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** Originally published by Century, 1995; Harvill Press 1998; USA and Canada: Gemma Media, 2012; Germany: Berlin Verlag, 1999.

**Synopsis:** Theo Shortcourse has always been overshadowed by his charismatic nephew, Bain Cross, who is three years older and the favourite of Theo's beautiful, manipulative mother, Sparrow. Now the corrupt Bain is the most powerful figure in the Irish Government, and Theo is sought for murder. As he hides from his pursuers in the river delta, he reflects on his life and his childhood in the town of Monument. There his fate became entwined with Bain, Pax Sheehy - to Theo the moral guardian of his time - and the dark secrets that govern all the characters in his damaged life, from generation to generation. Wrought in exquisite, ravishing detail, Tapes of the River Delta's themes of blood and tribe, law and politics, desire, betrayal, violence and guilt reflect the legacy of modern Ireland.

*"A highly exhilarating and engrossing work of fiction... truly wondrous."* - Irish Times

*"Cunningham paints a dark and compelling canvas that writhes with incest, betrayal, spiritual and political bankruptcy-and the blasted hopes of twentieth century Ireland."* -Publishers Weekly

*"...a skilful production, written in prose that has a trace of Irish lilt."* - Booklist

*"It is difficult to know what to admire most in this gifted and original novel. It is a subtle and perceptive study of the pains of adolescence, an eloquent meditation on recent Irish history, a powerful story of betrayal and corrupted political practice and lost dreams."* - Barry Unsworth, Booker Prize winner

## Consequences of the Heart

**Category:** Literary

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint, Translation, Film

**Rights sold:** Originally published in UK by Harvill Press, 1998; USA and Canada: Gemma Media, 2011. France: Calman-Levy, 2001. Germany: Berlin Verlag, 1996; Italy - SEM.

**Synopsis:** D-Day on a Normandy beach. A flip of a coin seals the destinies of two men in love and war. From one of Ireland's finest writers, Consequences of the Heart is an epic story of passion and fate, of cowardice and bravery, of adultery and of murder.

A work of powerful and sensual lyricism, effortless characterization and sparkling humour with brilliantly evoked wartime scenes.

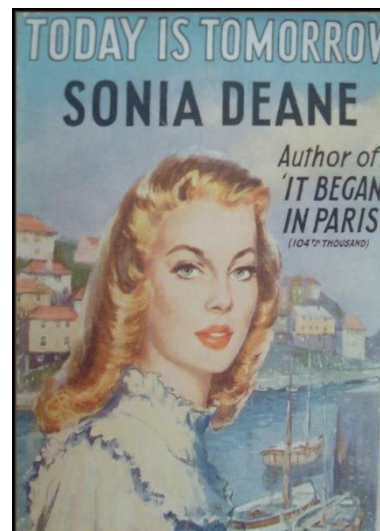


## The Late Sonia Deane

**Doyenne romance writer, she wrote over 120 romances during her lifetime.** Initially published by Hurst & Blackett, she moved to Mills & Boon, where she contributed medical romances under the Sonia Deane name, but also writing as Celia Laurence. Her novels were translated into a number of languages including French and German.

Having been out of print for some time, her books are currently being reissued by Lume Books.

Translation rights are available.





## Max Décharné

A writer and musician. He was born in Oxfordshire, grew up in Portsmouth and now lives in London. He is the author of the celebrated, **KING'S ROAD - THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HIPPEST STREET IN THE WORLD**, **HARDBOILED HOLLYWOOD - THE ORIGINS OF THE GREAT CRIME FILMS**, **STRAIGHT FROM THE FRIDGE**, **DAD - A DICTIONARY OF HIPSTER SLANG**, **A ROCKET IN MY POCKET**, **CAPITAL CRIMES**, **VULGAR TONGUES** and **TEDDY BOYS: POSTWAR BRITAIN AND THE FIRST YOUTH REVOLUTION**.



He has written about music regularly for Mojo magazine since 1998, prior to which he wrote extensively about film for Neon.

His work has also appeared in the Sunday Times Colour Magazine, the Observer, the Guardian and the TLS, among others.

Max has also enjoyed a long and varied music career. He played drums with his friend Nikki Sudden before joining Gallon Drunk in 1991, with whom he toured the world. He was the singer and principal songwriter with The Flaming Stars and has recorded numerous singles and albums, the latest being the critically acclaimed *Night Darkens the Streets*. He has also recorded nine John Peel Sessions and played shows all across the USA, Canada, virtually every country in Europe and also in Japan.

He is probably one of the only people currently writing about music to have played on the main stage at the Reading Festival, Madison Square Gardens and at the Hollywood Bowl.



### King's Road: The Rise and Fall of the Hippest Street in The World

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World (Omnibus Press)

**Synopsis:** Takes a look at the rise of the King's Road, which became popular in the mid-sixties, as a focal point for music, visual arts and fashion.



## **Straight From The Fridge, Dad**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (No Exit Press)

**Synopsis:** A dictionary of hipster slang.

## **Hardboiled Hollywood**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation rights

**Rights sold:** US rights to Pegasus

**Synopsis:** A look at the less than Hollywood origins of true crime stories. Removes the toothpaste grins from Bonnie and Clyde and looks at these criminals in a more realistic contrast. Takes you behind the scenes of the scene of the `crime!

## **I Got a Rocket In My Pocket - The Hipster's Guide to Rockabilly Music**

**Category:** Non Fiction/Pop Culture

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Serpent's Tail)

**Rights sold:** Italian, French

**Synopsis:** A book that sets the record straight on Rockabilly Music - a crucial slice of rock history, whose reverberations are still being felt, not just in music but in related arts such as fashion and film. It's a wild, rollercoaster ride!

## **Capital Crimes - Seven Centuries of London Life and Murder**

**Category:** Non-fiction/History/True Crime

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Random House Books)

**Synopsis:** Capital Crimes tells the shifting story of crime and punishment in London through vivid recreations of a series of murders that stretches from the killing of Roger Legett, a notorious "Questmonger" during the Peasants' Revolt in 1381, through to the hanging of Stella Christofi in 1954.

A fascinating sideways view of London over the centuries from the crime ridden alleyways of the Georgian capital to the supposedly respectable suburbs of Finchley where the notorious baby-farmers Amelia Sach and Annie Walters operated at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Illustrated throughout with contemporary engravings and photographs, this is an essential read for all devotees of London - and of crime.



## Vulgar Tongues

**Category:** Non-fiction/Pop Culture

**Rights sold:** All rights via Publisher (Serpent's Tail); US rights sold to Pegasus

**Synopsis:** This book tells the story of slang - how and why it happened, where it went, where it is going, which groups have developed and spoken it over the years, and how society viewed it. To bring it to life, put it in its social context, but above all to entertain. Not a list, not a dictionary, but a tale which can be read from beginning to end.

Tracing the threads over several centuries and across international borders, this is the story of how the English language of Shakespeare's day fragmented and twisted into all kinds of shapes, as people like pickpockets, beggars, sailors, musicians, gangsters, whores, politicians, gypsies, soldiers, gays and lesbians, policemen, rappers, cockneys, biker gangs and circus folk grabbed the King's or Queen's English by the throat and took it to places it would probably regret in the morning.

This is the story of a many-headed outsider language, which regenerates and mutates with every passing year; a kind of speech that side-steps ordinary means of communication, jumps your garden fence and writes a message in weed killer on your lawn.

Wisecracking, smutty, cynical, pessimistic, knowing... from the narrow alleys of Elizabethan London to the urban sprawl of 21<sup>st</sup> century L.A., Vulgar Tongues takes a long hard look at the way people really speak when the barriers are down.

## Teddy Boys

**Category:** Non-fiction/Pop Culture

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Serpent's Tail)

**Synopsis:** The Teddy Boy story is one of a fashion movement which went on to become inextricably linked with the first wave of Rock'n'Roll ushered in by Elvis, Gene Vincent, Little Richard and others.

A peculiarly British phenomenon - initially purely a London style - it has remained and survived over the succeeding generations, written through the story of youth culture like the lettering in a stick of seaside rock. Accused of virtually every crime in the book, up to and including murder, the Teddy Boys occupy a unique place in the history of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Although much hysterical nonsense has appeared in the media over the years, now is the time to redress the balance and tell the full story of the Teddy Boys movement's origins and their social and cultural impact.



## Maegan Dobson-Sippy

Maegan is a publishing project manager, writer and person with narcolepsy.

She spent most of the last decade living and working in India, where she co-wrote the Bengaluru edition of the Love Travel guidebooks, as well as several stories for children, including Farida plans a Feast and Rats bigger than Cats.

Maegan now lives as part of a multi-generational, cross-cultural family in Oxford, and has recently trained as an advocate for Project Sleep, a not-for-profit which raises awareness about sleep health, sleep equity and sleep disorders.



We are delighted to welcome her aboard with her new children's picture book ideas inspired by her own parenting experiences.

**WE BELONG TOGETHER** is about the universal bond between parent and child, touching lightly upon diversity like Sophy Henn's All kinds of families.

**A CREATURE CAME TO MY HOUSE:** a playful exploration of the emotional journey an older sibling goes on when a new baby arrives. It sits alongside titles like There's a house inside my mummy and Smriti Halls' Our gorgeous baby.

**SQUIGGLE STOPS THE GIGGLES:** while inspired by the experience of narcolepsy/cataplexy, it's a more universal story about overcoming obstacles with humour, grace, and creativity. Has the appeal of Giraffes can't dance and Rachel Bright's The Gecko and the Echo.





## Faith Eckersall

Award-winning journalist Faith Eckersall enjoyed 25 years as a regional news reporter, before going freelance. Along with fiction, she now writes for publications including the Daily Telegraph, Country Living and Waitrose Weekend. In 2015 she gained her MA in Creative Writing: The Novel, supervised by Bernardine Evaristo OBE, and in 2018 won the Grazia Women's Prize for Fiction First Chapter Award.



She wrote **THE BODY ON THE ROUNDABOUT** after accidentally leaving journalism for a job in PR and - missing her newsroom - decided to create one of her own. When she's not writing she can be found lurking in museums and art galleries, eating Fruit & Nut chocolate and purchasing criminal amounts of skin cream and Penelope Chilvers boots.



## The Body on the Roundabout – A Harry Hedges Mystery

**Category:** Mystery/Comedy

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** It's all kicking off in Piddlington Minster...

Harry Hedges is a desperate man. Desperate to be a journalist again. Desperate to pay off his overdraft. And desperate to find a decent coffee. In a paper cup. With a lid on.

There's not much chance of that in Dorset, where he's trying to revive an ailing weekly newspaper after losing his swanky London job. As Harry battles to get the paper out, he discovers the road back to journalistic civilisation is paved with bad intentions - especially when he's presented with the mother of all dilemmas.

To succeed, all he has to do is take on the town busybody, locate his proprietor's lost sister, and help solve the mystery of the body on the roundabout.

How hard can it be? The answer is... very...



## Suzi Eszterhas

California-based, award-winning, wildlife photographer, Suzi is best known for her work documenting newborn animals and family life in the wild. Suzi's unique ability to earn the trust of her subject leads to touching imagery including ground breaking work with tiger cubs at a den in India, newborn cheetahs on the African savanna, and brown bear cubs seeing the world for the first time in the Alaskan wilderness. Her photographs have been published in over 100 magazine cover and feature stories in publications such as TIME, Smithsonian, BBC Wildlife, GEO, Popular Photography, Ranger Rick, and National Geographic Kids.



Suzi has won awards in many competitions including the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition, National Wildlife Photo Contest, and Environmental Photographer of the Year Competition. She now serves as the jury chair for the prestigious Big Picture Natural World Photography Competition.

As an author, Suzi has thirteen books in print with another four in progress. **A FUTURE FOR CHEETAHS**, created in collaboration with Dr. Laurie Marker, is an intimate portrait of the cheetah's life and its race against extinction. Suzi's first series of children's books, **EYE ON THE WILD**, follows the lives of wild baby animals from birth to adulthood. Her second children's book series, **WILDLIFE RESCUE**, invites readers inside rescue centres around the world. Her third children's book series, **BABY ANIMALS**, debuts in the fall of 2017. Suzi's books have been featured on GoodMorningAmerica.com and TodayShow.com. **THE ADVENTURES OF DR SLOTH**, was published by Lerner US and this was followed by **OPERATION PANGOLIN**.

Suzi shares her knowledge and exclusive access to incredible locations in her wildlife photography tours. She has a loyal following of photographers of all levels who join her in expeditions to Brazil, Borneo, South Africa, Australia, Indonesia, and many other exotic destinations.

Having lived in a bush camp in Africa for three years and photographed wild animals on all seven continents, Suzi has accumulated scores of adventure stories during her prolific career. She has hugged a baby whale, swam with sloths, fended off curious grizzly bears, had hyenas chew on her engine, had insects lay eggs in her feet, was chased by a green mamba, and hand-raised and released an orphaned serval.

An engaging speaker, Suzi shares her stories and professional insights through lecturing at scientific institutions, major photography conferences, and on prestigious lecture series.



She also regularly gives presentations at schools and personally replies to letters from young children; having been an animal fanatic since early childhood, Suzi is a passionate advocate for connecting kids to the natural world.

Recognized as a conservationist in her own right, Suzi is a patron of the Sumatran Orangutan Society and actively supports the Cheetah Conservation Fund, Wildlife Conservation Network, TigerTime (David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation), Sloth Conservation Foundation, Orangutan Foundation International, Center for Animal Protection and Education, and other organizations.

Suzi's extensive image collection is represented by Minden Pictures, an agency of the world's best natural history photography, (as well as several other agencies throughout the world).

When not travelling, Suzi can be found hiking trails in northern California.

**Website:** [www.suzieszterhas.com](http://www.suzieszterhas.com)





## An Eye on the Wild

**Category:** Children's Non-Fiction/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via publisher (Frances Lincoln)

**Rights sold:** French, Japanese, Irish

**Synopsis:** Short, photographically illustrated books, evocatively describing in words and photographs, for young children, the life, from birth, of individual animals.

## The Adventures of Dr Sloth

**Category:** Children's Non-Fiction/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Lerner USA

**Synopsis:** This book introduces children to the exciting job of a sloth scientist. Becky Cliffe spends her days with some of nature's goofiest, most bizarre, most ancient, and most mysterious creatures: three-toed and two-toed sloths. Using photos and informative text, this book takes readers on a journey of adventure and discovery, as they follow Becky through thick jungles in Costa Rica and Panama to study wild sloths, and even climbs trees to catch them. Already loved by many child sloth fans around the world, Becky is an incredible role model to children, especially young girls.

In the past, very little was known about how sloths behave in the wild. This book will show children Becky's ingenious Sloth Backpack Project, in which she catches wild sloths, fits them with backpacks containing tracking devices, and then releases them into the jungle. She follows them through the forest every day, watching what they are doing and monitoring their activities. The book will also explain how Becky uses hair samples to learn about the effects of deforestation on sloths, how she uses sloth poo to learn about their territorial behaviour and thirty-day-long digestion, and how she is trying to discover the well-kept secret behind why sloths are so slow. The book includes information about how Becky's science ties into conservation and may even help hand-reared orphaned sloths be returned to the wild.

## Operation Pangolin

**Category:** Children's Non-Fiction/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Lerner USA

**Synopsis:** When Thai Van Nguyen was a young boy in a small village in Vietnam, he watched local hunters capture a pangolin and its baby. Thai had never seen a pangolin before. Heartbroken, and with tears streaming down his face, he went home and told his parents that when he grew up, he wanted to save all the pangolins in the world. He studied very hard in school and never lost sight of his dream. Now he runs the world's largest pangolin rescue operation and spends every day with the animals that he loves. Inspired by Thai's story, award-winning photographer and conservationist, Suzi Eszterhas explores the world of the pangolin.



## Linda Falco

Linda Falco was born in Forest Gate in the East End of London. She grew up in one of London's leafy suburbs, the second of four children, raised by wonderful parents following the best traditions of an Italian family - in a house full of love and happiness, respect and spaghetti.



She studied fashion design at The London College of Fashion and worked in partnership with her sister in a bespoke bridal wear business for some years before running away to live the dream in Lanzarote, making hay and carnival costumes in the sunshine. When she woke up, she returned to England and the theatre, supervising and designing for shows from Shakespeare to Pantomime and loving every minute.

She now lives in Hertfordshire with two gorgeous daughters and a scruffy dog.



## No Law, No Pity

**Category:** Women's Fiction/Crime Saga

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** Just how far will a woman go to protect her child?

For Donna Sorrentino life is contented. She has a wonderful family, she is safe and secure. But when her son disappears on his 13th Birthday, Donna's happy existence is thrown into turmoil. The police assure her that he'll be back when he is hungry but then the reports come through that Sandro was spotted getting into a car with three men, followed by another sighting of him at a Ferry terminal after which the trail appears to go cold.

Days pass and the word on the street is that Sandro is in Italy and, inconceivable though it is to Donna, his abduction is linked to the Camorra. Unable to stand the waiting, Donna embarks on a dangerous journey that will change her life forever; because Sandro's abduction is linked to the disappearance of another child from the back streets of Nola in 1940s Naples. And what Donna discovers is an incredible story of courage, sacrifice and the transforming power of love.



## Doreen Finn

Born in Dublin. She was educated at UCD, and holds a degree in English and Spanish, and a Master's in Education.

She has lived in Madrid, where she taught English in a language academy, and in Los Angeles, where she worked as a casting assistant, and later as a high school teacher.

She currently resides in Dublin, where she teaches English and Spanish in a girls' secondary school.

Doreen is an avid reader, and is also interested in art, photography, music and yoga.

She has always written, and is fascinated by the influence of childhood on adult lives, and by the relationships within families.

It is at the heart of such themes that she draws inspiration for her writing. Doreen lives with her husband and two small children.

**MY BURIED LIFE** is her first novel and was shortlisted for The Kate O'Brien Award. Her second novel, **NIGHT SWIMMING**, was published to critical acclaim by Mercier Press in May 2019.





## **My Buried Life**

**Category:** Literary Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** Eva Perry lives in New York, that vibrant city full of opportunity and hope. She left Dublin in her early twenties to escape her home life, and the vestiges of her brother's death when she was sixteen, an event which shattered her small family.

Eva is a university lecturer. She is also a poet with writer's block and an alcohol addiction. To her mother, Eva barely exists. Her letters go largely unanswered, her calls unreturned. Most of their life together has been beset by resentment and competition for her brother's affection. His death destroyed any chance of a normal mother-daughter relationship. Eva's mother's death has brought her home for the first time in eleven years.

Eva has questions she needs answers for. What happened to her father? Why did her mother resent her so much? Why can't she write any more? And why does she seem hard wired to repeat the same failures over and over in her own life?

At home in a Dublin she barely recognises, Eva accepts a short-term teaching post. She tries to find a focus to keep her from slipping into old habits. But Eva's personal ghosts accompany her, and the same complications that have her on hiatus from New York almost prevent her from confronting the truths behind her family's implosion.

## **Night Swimming**

**Category:** Literary Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** WEL to Mercier Press (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** I don't know if I can blame the heatwave, or if the Americans were the reason it all happened, but something occurred that summer that changed our lives. Even now, it's the only summer that really matters, the one I always turn to when anyone asks me about my childhood. It's my story, but it is also my mother's.

It's the summer of 1976 and for nine-year-old Megan it's a time of great discovery: violence in the North of Ireland, from which her mother and grandmother want to shield her; the Olympic Games in Montreal; a growing awareness of her father's absence.

Then the arrival of an American family tilts Megan's world on its axis. Chris, Judith and their daughter, Beth at first seem like a breath of fresh air but with these new additions, Megan soon begins to realise the confines of her own world, and with Beth's encouragement, she starts to test boundaries so carefully put in place by her family.



Megan's innocence is shattered by the events of that summer and most especially by one tragic night that changes everything.

## **To The End of Love**

**Category:** Contemporary Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Synopsis:** Kate is forty-six. A difficult age for any woman, but more so when you've lost your home, your business, and your marriage is in meltdown. Kate knows that life is meant to be about more than just keeping your head above water, but she can't seem to get out of the mire. Her husband has decided to go and live in the moment, rather than face the reality of what has happened, and their 12-year-old twins are too young to know fully the repercussions of their father's bad business deal.

Kate and her family are staying in the garden flat of their friend Tom's house. He insists they stay as long as they like, but Kate wants to get things moving, and their lives back on track. The problem is that Kate and Tom have history. A lot of history, some of which Tom doesn't even know about. And while Kate tries to re-establish herself as a photographer after a decade-long absence, keep a home together for her children, and battle hot flushes and insomnia, she and Tom keep bumping into each other, and Kate realises that no matter how deeply buried old secrets are, the past is persistent. And so is love.



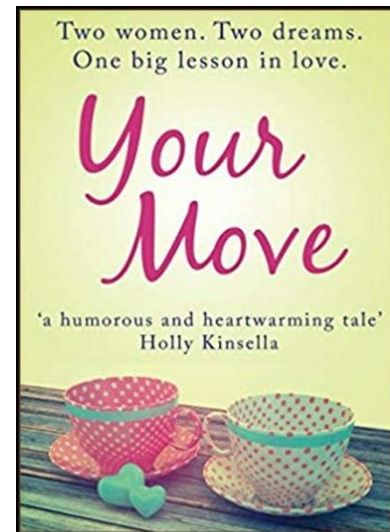
## Silvia Forrester

Despite a variety of incarnations in her professional life - researcher, teacher, painter of model villages - Silvia's first love has always been writing.

She enjoys creating past-paced, entertaining fiction that gets readers thinking, as well as smiling.

While writing **YOUR MOVE**, Silvia reminded herself that, 'If I write one page a day, in a year I'll have a book!'

She also had to remind herself that cutting and pasting the same page several days in a row didn't count.





### Your Move

**Category:** Romantic Comedy

**Rights via RCL:** Film/Translation/Audio/Large Print

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Two women. Two dreams. One big lesson in love.

With a passion for people and property, nothing gives newbie estate agent Gemma Cole more pleasure than matching buyers with their ideal homes. After a nomadic childhood with her ditzy mum, Gemma longs for nothing more than a place she can call her own. But with one modest income and meagre savings, will she ever be able to make her own home-owning dream come true?

When Marcus, the new photographer, arrives at the estate agency, he's the epitome of laidback, festival chic. Sexy, laidback, festival chic. But Gemma dismisses him as another commitment-phobic, eternal student, just like her ex. However, looks can be deceptive. Marcus is reeling from a shocking family tragedy, one that's left him as sole carer for an eight-year-old boy, as well as his scruffy dog. Will Gemma revise her opinion of Marcus, and will he trust her enough to reveal his family's painful past?

Pandora works at Perfect 10, a premier beauty and cosmetic clinic. Always effortlessly glamorous - with model-looks, bucket loads of confidence and bulging designer wardrobes - she appears to have it all. But Pan also has a spiralling spending addiction, a string of failed relationships, and still lives at home with her mum. Age thirty-three. After a particularly painful break-up, Pan has given up on love. She now sees relationships in terms of costs and rewards: rewards to her and costs to men. When her numerous credit cards are refused, Pan takes drastic action, and joins dating website MillionaireMen.com. Will a super-wealthy guy be the answer to all Pan's woes? And can she find one who's sane, honest and not old enough to be her grandfather?

**YOUR MOVE** is a lively romantic comedy which should appeal to fans of Sophie Kinsella and Jill Mansell



## June Francis

Blackpool-born but brought up in the working class area of Everton in Liverpool, June left school at sixteen, worked as a cash clerk but always harboured dreams of being a writer. Just before her 40th birthday, she began contributing to a local church magazine and subsequently joined a writers' group, eventually having articles published in My Weekly and short stories broadcast on Radio Merseyside. She then published four historical novels with Mills & Boon before embarking on a Liverpool-based saga which marked the start of a successful career in the genre.



Her Liverpool sagas were originally published by Piatkus and in paperback by Bantam. We were delighted to welcome her to our list with, **THE PAWNBROKER'S NIECE** (World English Language rights Allison & Busby). Since its publication in Summer 2002, Allison & Busby continued to publish her work and **STEP BY STEP** appeared in December 2003. This was followed by **A PLACE TO CALL HOME, A DREAM TO SHARE, LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING, WHEN THE CLOUDS GO ROLLING BY, TILLY'S STORY** and **THROUGH SUNSHINE AND SHOWERS. IT HAD TO BE YOU** made its appearance in March 2011.

Meanwhile, June was also reunited with Harlequin Mills & Boon, for the publication of a mediaeval romance, entitled **ROWAN'S REVENGE**. This was followed by **MACKILLIN'S REWARD, ENSLAVED BY THE WITCH'S DAUGHTER** and **PIRATE'S DAUGHTER, REBEL WIFE**. She contracted for two further novels with this publisher now delivered. Her latest saga set in 1950s Liverpool **MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS**, saw her change publisher to Severn House and the novel made its debut in January 2013. She then delivered **IT'S NOW OR NEVER, LOVE LETTERS IN THE SAND** and, most recently, **MANY A TEAR HAS TO FALL** which Severn House publish in March 2016.

A number of June's early novels are currently being reissued as eBooks by Endeavour Media and in physical and digital formats by Ebury Press. Canelo has now acquired rights a number of her backlist titles plus her latest novels, **SHADOWS OF THE PAST, FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE** and **HERS TO HAVE AND TO HOLD**. June lives on the outskirts of Liverpool with her husband. They have three sons.

**Website:** [www.junefrancis.co.uk](http://www.junefrancis.co.uk)





### **Backlist**

**Category:** Women's fiction - saga/romance

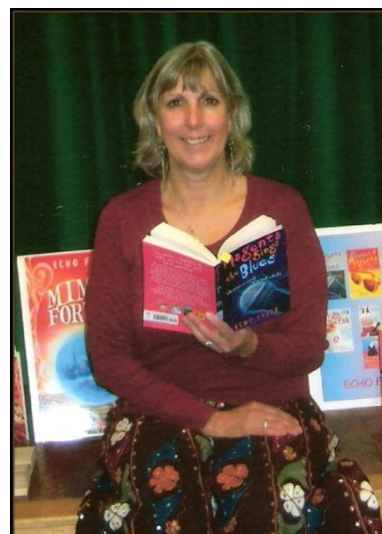
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Synopsis:** Liverpool-based, historical family dramas. Spanning the Edwardian period to the rock and roll years.



## Echo Freer

Echo was born and brought up in Yorkshire. After training to be a teacher she moved to London where she taught Special Needs in one of London's social priority areas. When her son was diagnosed as severely dyslexic, she completed a specialist training to teach and diagnose Specific Learning Difficulties. She now assesses and has taught under-achieving children in a special unit attached to one of London's teaching hospitals. She lives in London.



Echo's first young adult novel, **MAGENTA ORANGE**, was published by Hodder Autumn 2001 in their new teen list, Bite; the sequel, **MAGENTA IN THE PINK** was a summer 2002 publication. German, French, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, Swedish and Norwegian rights have been sold in **MAGENTA ORANGE**. French, Hungarian Swedish and Norwegian Rights in **MAGENTA IN THE PINK**. Translation rights via the publisher. TV/Film via RCL.

**BLAGGERS**, which features the daughter of an Essex Gangster, Mercedes Bent, was a highlight title for Hodder in May 2004 (translation And a follow up novel, **DIAMOND GEEZERS**, was published in March 2005 (Echo then contracted for two new projects with Hodder, one of which saw the return of **MAGENTA ORANGE - MAGENTA GOES GREEN** - French, Norwegian and Swedish rights have sold.

In fact, such has been the publisher's enthusiasm for this character that they contracted for two further Magenta novels, **SHADES OF MAGENTA**, and **MAGENTA SINGS THE BLUES**. The latter was published in June 2008. Norwegian and Swedish Rights sold in both titles, A further novel featuring a new character, **MIMOSA FORTUNE**, was published in the Autumn 2007. Film/TV rights via RCL.

**BLAGGERS**, **DIAMOND GEEZERS** and **MIMOSA FORTUNE** were released as eBook and POD editions by Acorn Books in 2014. Her dark, satirical novel **TOXIC TREACLE**, was published in a revised and updated edition by Acorn Books.

Since then, Echo has been working on new projects for the YA market including contributions to Badger's Teen reads series, **IN THE STARS**, which was published in January 2017 and **PLAGUE** which was a September 2017 publication.

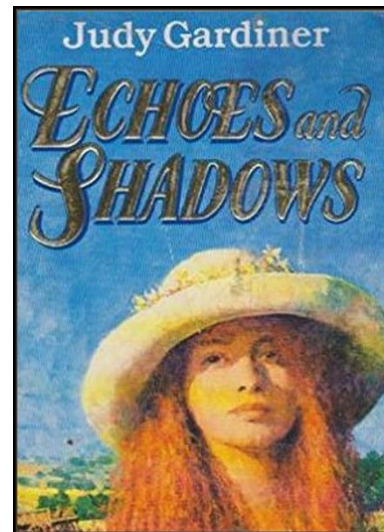
**Website:** [www.echofreer.co.uk](http://www.echofreer.co.uk)



## The Late Judy Gardiner

Innovative novelist, short story writer and television playwright. Published many novels with Random House including **MISS GATHERCOLE'S GIRLS; ECHOES AND SHADOWS; ALL ON A SUMMER'S DAY. THE ROSE BOWL** was published in 1993, paperback 1994. Her backlist is now being reissued by Joffe Books.

Judy contributed specially commissioned serials and short stories for the women's magazines and a number of short stories for Telstar's audio collections.



### Backlist

**Category:** Women's Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation  
**Rights sold:** WEL to Joffe Books



## Barbara Gibson

Barbara Gibson is an oral historian. She is a former Director of the Terrence Higgins Trust, former co-founder and facilitator of the bygone Positive Youth group, and one of the few people in the UK to have worked exclusively with boys and trans women who sold sex on the streets in the 1980s and 1990s. During her five years as HIV and health consultant for the original charity Streetwise Youth, her role grew to encompass work as a professional educator, counsellor, befriender and streetworker, establishing relationships of trust with this much-maligned sector of society.



**Website:** [www.spokenhistories.com](http://www.spokenhistories.com)



## Male Order

**Category:** Oral history, sociology, LGBTQ

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV/Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Lume

**Synopsis:** Originally published by Cassell in 1994 this is a unique collection of life stories from four boys and two young trans women who sold sex on the streets of London in the 1980s and 1990s.

Described in their own words, their experiences range from 'cardboard city' to a champagne lifestyle with the rich and famous, taking in drugs, violence, glamour, money, safe and unsafe sex, brothels and worries about HIV. By turns shockingly matter-of-fact, appalling, hilarious and often very moving, these stories convey above all the loneliness, isolation, disgust with sex and lack of self-worth of these individuals and their longing for love and security.

Their voices raise questions not just about buying and selling sex but about a society in which some teenagers learn to grow up as outcasts. Reissued with a new introduction and afterword.



## Cherry Gilchrist

Cherry has forged a strong reputation as a versatile, creative and communicative author of books centring on inner traditions, mythology, and social history. Themes include Russian folklore, alchemy, Tarot and family history. Her most recent books are **THE CIRCLE OF NINE**, for Weiser Books USA (2018), centring on feminine archetypes and an updated edition of **KABBALAH: THE TREE OF LIFE ORACLE** (Welbeck). Cherry's approach includes original research, personal experience and story-telling. Along with adult books, she has also written various children's books, including the best-selling **STORIES FROM THE SILK ROAD** for Barefoot Books. She won an UKRA award for **A CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS**, and has also written numerous EFL books for Penguin.



Cherry graduated from Cambridge University, with a degree in English and Anthropology, and more recently acquired a Post-Graduate Diploma from the University of Bath Spa in cultural history. Over the years, Cherry has also become well-known as a lecturer in topics relating to her books, and as a valued teacher of creative writing for the Universities of Oxford and Exeter. She was an Arts Society speaker for twelve years, and has given talks at venues such as the Royal Academy, British Council and the Temenos Academy.

She lives in Gloucestershire with her artist husband Robert Lee-Wade. Robert and Cherry have travelled widely together, including trips to Easter Island and Burma; Cherry herself made nearly sixty trips to Russia, as part of running a Russian Arts business, including one to Siberia where she met and consulted with shamans of the area. Her travels and her interests in ancient traditions, music and folk customs all feed into her work as a writer.

Cherry is known for her lucid prose, and an enthusiastic, informative style. She has proved herself a thoroughly reliable author who has worked with some of the leading publishers over the years - Penguin, Hay House, Piatkus and Harper Collins, among others. She is keen to continue her explorations as a writer, and as a guide to the wonders she discovers.

**Website:** [www.cherrygilchrist.co.uk](http://www.cherrygilchrist.co.uk)





## Lucy Gordon

Star in the American Silhouette Romance/Desire/Special Editions and Historicals Lists. She is several times winner of American Romantic Novel awards. Having joined the Harlequin Mills & Boon stable she has published over 80 novels including, **FOR THE LOVE OF EMMA**, shortlisted for a Rita, **HIS BROTHER'S CHILD** - nominated for 1998 Rita Award, **REBEL IN DISGUISE** and **DANIEL AND DAUGHTER**. Her joint venture novel with Anne McCallister entitled **BLOOD BROTHERS** was published as a Silhouette Desire Summer 2000 and was swiftly followed by a new Special Edition, **FOR THE SAKE OF HIS DAUGHTER**.



Lucy completed a "Sicilian trilogy" for Mills & Boon and her novel, **BEAUTY AND THE BOSS** won "Best Harlequin Romance" in the "Romantic Times" Reviewers' Choice Awards for 1999. **PRINCESS DOTTY** marked a further addition to the Silhouette Special Edition line and subsequently the very popular Calvani Trilogy for Harlequin's Tender Romance line. Her novel, **THE ITALIAN MILLIONAIRE'S MARRIAGE** won the National Readers' Choice award and **RINALDO'S INHERITED BRIDE** was a finalist in the 2006 category Romance contest. **THE MEDITERRANEAN REBEL'S BRIDE** was shortlisted for the 2008 RNA Romance prize. She continued to contribute to M&B Romance and Presents Lines - the most recent titles include, **THE ITALIAN'S PASSIONATE REVENGE** and **THE ITALIAN'S CINDERELLA BRIDE**; the latter was a finalist in the Booksellers Best Contest.

**A WINTER PROPOSAL** and **HIS DIAMOND BRIDE** made their appearance on the Romance list in Winter 2010 and Lucy then began working on a series of novels featuring the five Falcon Brothers; **RESCUED BY THE BROODING TYCOON**, **MISS PRIM AND THE BILLIONAIRE** and **THE MAN FROM HEAVEN** was shortly be followed by **FALLING FOR THE REBEL FALCON**. She has also delivered a Continuity novel, **THE SECRET THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING** and then **THE FINAL FALCON SAYS I DO**. **NOT JUST A CONVENIENT MARRIAGE** was a summer 2014 publication and **EXPECTING THE FELLANI HEIR** was a June 2016 publication. Lucy's final book was **A PROPOSAL FROM THE ITALIAN COUNT**.





## Brian Greenley

After being diagnosed with bowel cancer in 2010, Brian left his job at Price Waterhouse to focus on his treatment.

Although his cancer moved to Stage IV, and he was given only a 10% chance of survival, he received the all-clear in 2013. Throughout his treatment Brian received letters from a friend, written in the hope they would cheer him up.

This correspondence inspired him to keep a diary throughout his illness, as well as hosting a blog to let others know how he was getting on.



In 2016 he attended an Arvon writing course and, using his diaries as the basis for his work, he found that not only did he enjoy the writing process but that he was quite good at it, too. Inspired by his own experience of receiving letters, Brian set up the campaign **From Me to You** with Alison Hitchcock, the writer of those original letters.

From Me to You encourages people to write letters to friends, family and strangers who are suffering from cancer; keeping them connected at a time they feel most disconnected.





## Chris Hammacott

Born in 1960 in Hoxton, London, an uninspiring childhood was made a bit more interesting by a stutter and borderline dyslexia. Chris “unofficially” left school in 1975 and began working at an inner-city zoo, which caused her to become fascinated with sheep and also converted her to vegetarianism, which in 1977 was considered border line loony. An obsession with wool led her to start her own business on turning 20, teaching people to spin and later weave. The weaving took her to selling her own rugs and, after marrying, she became involved with the Rare Breeds Survival trust and the National Sheep Association where, along with her husband, she demonstrated weaving. She also judged sheep and wool.



Continuing to teach, Chris gradually extended her textile subjects to include embroidery and patchwork, eventually teaching these via distance learning from her own City & Guilds centre. She has also taught in Adult Education’s centres in Wales, Dorset and Sussex as well as running workshops for the Embroiderers’ Guild. Running textile workshops across Europe with master classes in stumpwork, a 17th century form of embroidery in which she specialises.

Writing and designing projects for magazines has always run alongside the teaching, and she had a monthly column for British Patchwork and Quilting for 8 years, only stopping at the end of 2017. She also had a bimonthly column for an online American quilting magazine, and felt honoured when her article on the Gee’s Bend quilters from Alabama, was requested by the archive of the Smithsonian.

Now living on a small croft in the Outer Hebrides, Chris and her husband are slowly setting up a weaving business, working with their own sheep, most of which are rescues and many are the indigenous breed from the Hebrides. The plan is to produce a no kill, organic tweed.

Their family extends to 9 dogs, 3 cats, 1 canary, hens, ducks, geese, quail, 27 sheep including rams Bob and Archie and a pig called Bonny.

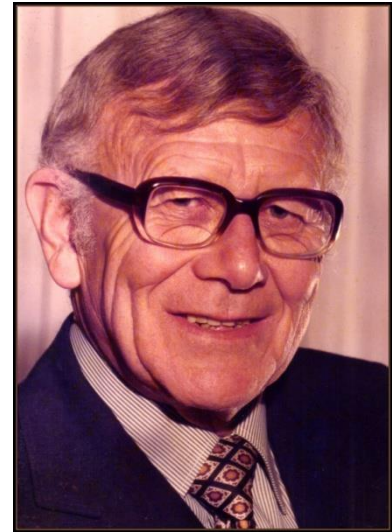




## The Late Robert Harbin

The Late Robert Harbin, the centenary of whose birth was celebrated by the Magic Circle in February 2009, Magician/Illusionist par excellence, and exponent of the Japanese art of Origami, in which he was exquisitely skilled.

His literary estate remains for the benefit of The British Origami Society, which he founded. His books include, **TY ORIGAMI** (TY Books), **HOW TO BE A CONJURER** (Sphere), **MORE ORIGAMI** (Coronet), **WADDINGTON'S GUIDE TO FAMILY CARD GAMES** (Elm Tree/Pan) **SECRETS OF ORIGAMI** (Octopus), **THE ILLUSTRATED TY ORIGAMI** (Hodder); his paperbacks on Origami were also published by Coronet, and four separate volumes of the craft have been published with great success, establishing without doubt the enormous popularity of the art of paperfolding, which Robert Harbin was responsible for bringing to the British public.



Dover Publications reissued **SECRETS OF ORIGAMI** (1997), and **ORIGAMI: A STEP BY STEP GUIDE** (1998).

TY Books have reissued (2010) **ORIGAMI** in their revamped series, under the title **GET STARTED WITH ORIGAMI**.





## Shirley Harrison

A witty and discerning author and journalist Shirley's books include **WHO IS FATHER CHRISTMAS?**, **A TASTE OF CIDER**, and, with her late, first husband, John, three titles in the Collins Welcome Guides series - Greece, Ireland, Austria & Switzerland. She wrote an evocative story of **The Channel**, which attracted wide and favourable notice and, in 1987 she wrote, for Century **New Approaches To Cancer**, which, again, earned her impressive comment, gaining strong medical support.



In May 1990, the acclaimed **CULTS: THE BATTLE FOR GOD** was published by Christopher Helm.

Her next book proved controversial and compelling and, to quote the author, "a once in a lifetime opportunity": **THE DIARY OF JACK THE RIPPER** was originally published by Smith Gryphon in the UK, by Hyperion in the US and over a dozen translations followed. New Line Cinema bought the film rights. In the meantime, LWT produced a new programme, in which Shirley took part, called *The Trial Of Jack The Ripper*, taking place before a live audience, who acted as the "jury". This was a Spring 2002 production and viewers unanimously voted James Maybrick as the "Ripper".

A new, wholly updated edition of **THE DIARY OF JACK THE RIPPER** was published in Autumn 1998, by Blake, with three reprints, since. And a further edition - sub-headed, *The American Connection*, was issued in November 2003, with new clues and associations with the Ripper in the USA.

9 May 2007, as part of Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture, saw Shirley Harrison's **THE DIARY OF JACK THE RIPPER** once again at the centre of controversy - 14 years after it was first published.

The Trial of James Maybrick was staged by the Liverpool Cricket Club, of which he was a member, and which celebrated its 200th anniversary that year. Visitors from many countries were there and descendants of those involved in the story gathered to hear the evidence, chaired by crime expert, the late Jeremy Beadle. There was a vintage bus tour of the Maybrick sites. Speakers included Shirley Harrison, Professor William Rubinstein of the University of Wales and Professor David Canter of Liverpool University. Once again, James Maybrick was pronounced the Ripper!



The latest edition of **THE DIARY OF JACK THE RIPPER** (John Blake) with a new Foreword from the author, appropriately titled *Tempus Fugit*, was issued in April 2010.

Her biography **SYLVIA PANKHURST - A CRUSADING LIFE** originally published by Aurum Press - was reissued by Sapere with a new introduction by Dr Richard Pankhurst, under the revised title **SYLVIA PANKHURST: THE REBELLIOUS SUFFRAGETTE**.

This was followed by the fascinating life story of the teddy bear who became Winnie-the-Pooh, **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE REAL WINNIE THE POOH** s published by Pen & Sword in the UK under their "Remember When" imprint and by Pelican in the States in celebration of the renowned bear's 90th birthday.





## Sylvia Pankhurst

*Updated edition, with Introduction by Dr Richard Pankhurst*

**Category:** Biography

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights Sold:** WEL and POD to Sapere

**Synopsis:** Harrison charts the life of Pankhurst from with her birth in 1882 into a radical politic family to her expulsion from the Suffragettes in 1915 and her life that followed as an ardent Communist and celebrated public figure to her life - and death - in Ethiopia.

## The Life & Times of the Real Winnie-the-Pooh

**Category:** Biography

**Rights via RCL:**

**Rights sold:** Japanese, US

**Synopsis:** Harrison has written the life story of the bear who became Winnie-the-Pooh, and who currently resides in the USA. US and Japanese rights sold.

## The Diary of Jack the Ripper

**Category:** True Crime

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Blake Publishing)

**Rights sold:** US, Spanish, French, Dutch, German, Italian, Finnish, Japanese, Bulgarian, Portuguese, Film.

**Synopsis:** New edition with new introduction of the best-selling book, telling the story of the Ripper murders, in relation to the Diary pinpointing James Maybrick as the infamous serial killer. Shirley Harrison provided a new introduction, evocatively headed, Tempus Fugit, which brings together an update of events since the last edition was published.



## The Late Ronald Healiss

Ronald "Tubby" Healiss was a Royal Marine who served as a member of a 4.7 gun crew on the HMS Glorious. His award-winning account is a true and terrible record of suffering, which uncovers one of the greatest undocumented naval stories of the second world war.



## Arctic Rescue

**Category:** Memoir/Naval History

**Rights sold:** WEL - Sapere

**Rights via RCL:** Translation film TV

**Synopsis:** On the 8th June 1940, the Nazi battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau opened their guns on the aircraft-carrier HMS Glorious.

Within minutes the Glorious was taking on water and the order was given to abandon ship.

Hundreds of men leapt into the icy waters of the Norwegian Sea. They hoped and prayed that nearby ships would have heard their distress signal and send help.

Yet, they did not come. Men were left to tread water, hold onto small inflatables or clamber onto overcrowded lifeboats. The situation looked bleak for the few who survived the first twenty-four hours; there was nothing to eat and men resorted to drinking saltwater and their own urine to slake their thirst, but the effects of hypothermia and delirium began to take their toll.

Over 1,200 men lost their lives as a result of this tragedy.



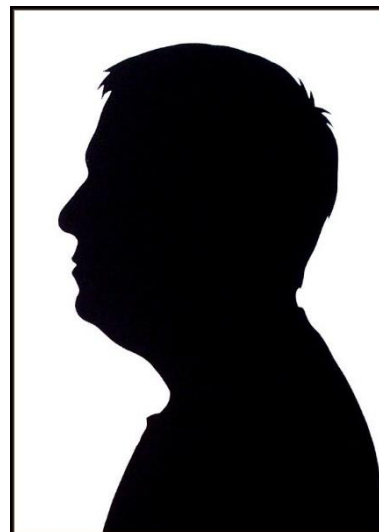
## Gerald Heys

After spending the summer with the National Youth Theatre, Gerald left school at sixteen to work in a bank.

He returned to education a year later, however, eventually completing a BA in English and drama at Goldsmiths College. While there, he emceed at a comedy club, introducing the likes of Vic Reeves, Jo Brand and Julian Clary.

After university, a brief time as a librarian was followed by work as an actor in London and Germany. To add a string to his bow, he took a TEFL course in the mid-1990s. His first job after qualification was in Prague, where he fell under its spell and stayed for sixteen years, teaching English language, English literature and history, mainly in secondary schools.

During this period, he also worked as a translator and studied for a master's in applied linguistics. He returned to England in 2011.



## The Practice of Fools

**Category:** WW2 Golden Age Crime series

**Rights sold:**

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Synopsis:** July, 1940. German refugee Albert Clutter is found with his throat slit in the sleepy market town of Marchton.

It looks like suicide. But why did he do it? Fear of a German invasion? Or because minor aristo and mystery writer Rachel Tripp wouldn't return his love? Rachel herself suspects foul play and is determined to prove it. But who is trying to stop her? And why?



## Alison Hitchcock

Alison had no idea how much she loved writing until she began to write letters to a friend diagnosed with cancer.

Her letters were only ever meant to cheer him up but they led Alison to leave her City career and pursue a Master's in Creative Writing at Birkbeck University.

From there she went on to work with short-story champion The Word Factory, was runner-up in the inaugural **SASH Writing Competition** and has had stories published in several anthologies.



In 2016, together with **Brian Greenley** (the recipient of her letters), she set up **From Me, To You**, a national campaign which encourages us to write letters to friends, family and strangers suffering with cancer - keeping them connected at a time when they feel most disconnected.

In 2017, with her life now full of letters, she received a **Point Of Light Award** from the Prime Minister in recognition of the work the campaign does to tackle social isolation.

**Website:** [www.frommetoyouletters.co.uk](http://www.frommetoyouletters.co.uk)





### From Me, To You

**Category:** Memoir

**Rights via RCL:** Translation film and TV

**Rights sold:** WEL Spellbound Books

**Synopsis:** Bridget Jones meets Alan Bennett, **FROM ME, TO YOU** is a true story of friendship and connection.

On discovering her then acquaintance, Brian Greenley, had been diagnosed with cancer, Alison Hitchcock made an unusual offer to write letters to cheer him up throughout his treatment.

She has no idea what possessed her to make such a proposal - she was no writer and doubted there was much humour to be had from cancer - but what started out as a thoughtful act marked the start of an extraordinary journey for both of them.

Through her letters and Brian's diary entries, *Dear Cosmic*, tells the story of the unique friendship which grew out of Alison's correspondence.

As Brian battled three bouts of cancer, was given a 10% chance of survival and struggled with the general unpleasantness of a colostomy bag, Alison was a 42-year-old woman in search of a new career, love-life and purpose, distracting herself with witty letters to a man she barely knew.

While the letters were only ever meant to amuse Brian, and his diary entries only ever for himself, together they tell a story of friendship, following a passion, battling to stay alive and, above all, seeing the funny side.



## Jane Isaac

Jane Isaac lives with her detective husband and their daughter in rural Northamptonshire, UK where she can often be found trudging over the fields with her dogs Bollo and Dignty.

Jane's debut novel, **AN UNFAMILIAR MURDER**, introduces DCI Helen Lavery and was nominated as best mystery in the 'eFestival of Words Best of the Independent eBook awards 2013.

**THE TRUTH WILL OUT**, the second in the DCI Helen Lavery series, was picked as 'Thriller of the Month - April 2014' by E-thriller.com and winner of 'Noveltunity book club selection - May 2014'. A third DCI Helen Lavery novel, **A Deathly Silence**, was published by Legend Press in October 2019.

Jane is also creator of the best-selling DI Will Jackman series, set in Stratford-upon-Avon, and the DC Beth Chamberlain (Family Liaison Officer) series, set in Northamptonshire which Aria has reissued with great success.

Jane's latest projects are something of a departure as she enters the world of standalone domestic noir. **ONE GOOD LIE** was published by Canelo in July 2021 and **ONE FATAL SECRET**, in June the following year.

When Jane is not reading or writing, she loves to travel and is always on the look-out for a new adventure.

**Website:** [www.janeisaac.co.uk](http://www.janeisaac.co.uk)





## **An Unfamiliar Murder (Helen Lavery series - Book 1)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
**Synopsis:** Some secrets just won't stay buried.

Arriving home from a routine day at work, Anna Cottrell has no idea that her life is about to change forever. But discovering the stabbed body of a stranger in her flat, then becoming prime suspect in a murder inquiry is only the beginning. Her persistent claims of innocence start to crumble when new evidence links her irrevocably with the victim...

Leading her first murder investigation, DCI Helen Lavery unravels a trail of deception, family secrets and betrayal. When people close to the Cottrell family start to disappear, Lavery is forced into a race against time. Can she catch the killer before he executes his ultimate victim?

## **The Truth Will Out (Helen Lavery series - Book 2)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
BOKFORLAGET LIND - Swedish  
Harlequin USA - US Print only  
**Synopsis:** Dark secrets have a habit of haunting you...

Eva is horrified when she witnesses an attack on her best friend. She calls an ambulance and forces herself to flee Hampton, fearing for her own safety. DCI Helen Lavery leads the investigation into the murder. With no leads, no further witnesses and no sign of forced entry, the murder enquiry begins.

Slowly, the pieces of the puzzle start to come together. But as Helen inches towards solving the case, her past becomes caught up in her present.

Someone is after them both. Someone who will stop at nothing to get what they want. And as the net starts to close around them, can Helen escape her own demons as well as helping Eva to escape hers?



### **A Deathly Silence (Helen Lavery series - Book 3)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
Oakhill Publishing - Audio  
FA Thorpe - Large Print  
BOKFORLAGET LIND - Swedish  
Harlequin USA - US Print only  
Albatros - Czech

**Synopsis:** Trust no one because everybody has their secrets...

When the mutilated body of a police officer is found in a derelict factory, the Hampshire police force is shocked to the core.

DCI Helen Lavery returns from injury leave and is immediately plunged into an investigation like no other. Is this a random attack or is someone targeting the force? Organised crime or a lone killer?

As the net draws in, Helen finds the truth lies closer than she could have imagined, and trusts no one. She is facing a twisted killer who will stop at nothing to ensure their secrets remain hidden. And time is running out...

### **Evil Intent (Helen Lavery series - Book 4)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
Harlequin USA - US Print only

**Synopsis:** When a series of women's bodies is discovered in the heart of rural Hampshire with a pentagram carved on their chests, DCI Helen Lavery is forced into a cat-and-mouse chase with a murderer who ultimately turns the tables and targets her.

Now in mortal danger, can Helen track down the serial killer and restore safety to the streets of Hampton?



## **In The Shadows (Helen Lavery series - Book 5)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
**Synopsis:** A new thread and an old enemy are closing in...

In the suburban town of Hampton, the peaceful night air is shattered with the sound of gunfire. Outside a local pub, five are feared dead and the murderer has fled the scene. DCI Helen Lavery works alongside the counter terrorism unit to investigate. Who is behind the mass-shooting? Why target this town?

Meanwhile, Helen is preparing for the trial of Chilli Franks, an organised crime boss who has a grudge against her family. But when Chilli's nephew befriends her son, and suggestions are made about Chilli's involvement in the shooting, past fears clash with the present.

Under the spotlight of the world's media, Helen finds herself in a race against time to solve the case, protect her family and track down the killer before they strike again.

## **Before It's Too Late (DI Will Jackman series - Book 1)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
RIGHTOL MEDIA - Chinese  
MONDADORI - Italian  
Harlequin USA - US Print only

**Synopsis:** "I concentrated hard, desperately listening for something familiar, the sound of life. I heard nothing. Just my own breaths and the wind, whistling through branches above... The thought made me shiver. I am buried alive."

Following an argument with her British boyfriend, Chinese student Min Li is abducted whilst walking the dark streets of picturesque Stratford-upon-Avon alone. Trapped in a dark pit, Min is at the mercy of her captor.

Detective Inspector Will Jackman is tasked with solving the case and in his search for answers discovers that the truth is buried deeper than he ever expected. But, as another student vanishes and Min grows ever weaker, time is running out. Can Jackman track down the kidnapper, before it's too late?



### **Beneath the Ashes (DI Will Jackman series - Book 2)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
RIGHTOL MEDIA - Chinese  
MONDADORI - Italian  
Harlequin USA - US Print only

**Synopsis:** "The floor felt hard beneath her face. Nancy opened her eyes. Blinked several times. A pain seared through her head. She could feel fluid. No. She was lying in fluid."

When a body is discovered in a burnt-out barn in the Warwickshire countryside, DI Will Jackman is called to investigate. Nancy Farraday wakes up on the kitchen floor. The house had been broken into and her boyfriend is missing. As the case unravels, DI Jackman realises that nothing is quite as it appears and everyone, it seems, has a secret.

Can he discover the truth behind the body in the fire, and track down the killer before Nancy becomes the next victim?

### **The Lies Within (DI Will Jackman series - Book 3)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/film TV  
**Rights sold:** DP Publishing UK - WEL  
Oakhill Publishing - Audio  
FA Thorpe - Large Print  
RIGHTOL MEDIA - Chinese  
Harlequin USA - US Print only

**Synopsis:** "Be under no illusions by her kind face and eloquent manner... This woman is guilty of murder."

Grace Bannister is distraught after her daughter's body is found in a Leicestershire country lane. With her family falling apart and the investigation going nowhere, Grace's only solace is the re-emergence of Faye, an old friend who seems to understand her loss.

DI Will Jackman delves into the case, until a family tragedy and a figure from his past threaten to derail him.

When the police discover another victim, the spotlight falls on Grace. Can Jackman find the killer, before she is convicted of a crime she didn't commit?



## **One Good Lie**

**Category:** Domestic Thriller  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV rights via RCL  
**Rights sold:** WEL to Canelo  
**Synopsis:** Her sister's boyfriend, her worst nightmare...

Ruby can't help but worry for her fragile younger sister, Sophie, who is wracked with guilt over their mother's death. Despite her misgivings about Sophie's boyfriend, Ewan, she is glad he is supporting her. He's been her rock, not only taking care of her, but her two little kids, too. So what if he doesn't like talking about his past?

## **The Other Woman (DC Beth Chamberlain series - Book 1)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV rights via RCL  
**Rights sold:** WEL to Aria  
**Synopsis:** You think you know him. Until he's dead.

When Cameron Swift is gunned down outside his family home, DC Beth Chamberlain is appointed Family Liaison Officer: a dual role that requires her to support the family, and also investigate them.

As the case unfolds and the body count climbs, Beth discovers that nothing is quite as it appears and everyone, it seems, has secrets.

Even the dead...

## **For Better, For Worse (DC Beth Chamberlain series - Book 2)**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV rights via RCL  
**Rights sold:** WEL to Aria  
**Synopsis:** Accident or murder?

The first victim - a prominent local councillor, killed in a hit and run - could be either, but the next bodies leave no doubt. A twisted killer is at large. And he's not finished yet.

DC Beth Chamberlain, Family Liaison Officer, has to support the victims' families, but before she can solve the crimes in the present, Beth needs to uncover the secrets of the past.

Meanwhile, the killer has her in his sights...

**The Silent Cry (DC Beth Chamberlain series - Book 3)****Category:** Crime Fiction**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV rights via RCL**Rights sold:** WEL to Aria**Synopsis:** When teenager, Jordan Unwin, stops off for a surreptitious smoke at a building site on her way to school, she spots the arm of a young child amongst the rubble.

The discovery sparks a police investigation that finds a baby, entombed in concrete, wearing an engraved silver bangle that links to the case of a child abducted from outside a supermarket 15 years earlier.

DC Beth Chamberlain is assigned as to the case as FLO to support the family in the event that the body is of baby Alicia Owen. But how many secrets were buried alongside her and what lengths will her abductor go to, to ensure that their identity remains hidden?

When news of another woman's murder spreads through their town like wildfire, Ruby is shocked to find herself with reason to suspect Ewan of the crime. But with one good lie driving a wedge between the sisters, it is hard for ruby to get Sophie to see what she sees. Ewan is keeping dangerous secrets.



## Mike Jay

Mike Jay is an author, historian and curator who has written widely about the history of science and medicine, and particularly about drugs, madness and the mind.

His books include **HIGH SOCIETY: MIND-ALTERING DRUGS IN HISTORY AND CULTURE**, which accompanied the exhibition he curated for Wellcome Collection in 2010-11, **THE INFLUENCING MACHINE: JAMES TILLY MATTHEWS AND THE AIR LOOM** (2003, revised edition 2012), **EMPERORS OF DREAMS: DRUGS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY** (2000, revised ed. 2011) and **THE ATMOSPHERE OF HEAVEN** (2009).



In 2014 he wrote **MINDCRAFT, A DIGITAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE UNCONSCIOUS MIND**, for Wellcome Collection and worked with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew as curator on their Intoxication Season. He writes regularly for London Review of Books and Wall Street Journal.

To accompany the exhibition (Sept 2016) at the Wellcome Institute, which he co-curated, Mike wrote **THIS WAY MADNESS LIES** which explores the big questions about madness, or mental illness, through the story of its proverbial home: the Royal Bethlem Hospital, or 'Bedlam'. It uses the history of Bethlem to trace the rise and fall of the asylum, and to consider the future that faces us in the wake of its disappearance. All rights via Thames & Hudson.

His next book **MESCALINE: A GLOBAL HISTORY OF THE FIRST PSYCHEDELIC** was published by Yale University Press in May 2019.

More recently Mike acted as an historical consultant on the final series of Poldark which featured Edward Marcus Despard - the subject of Mike's acclaimed biography *The Unfortunate Colonel Despard*, which Robinson reissued alongside the series. His latest work **PSYCHONAUTS: DRUGS AND THE MAKING OF THE MODERN MIND** is also published by Yale University Press. He is currently working on a new book for Yale.

**Website:** [www.mikejay.net](http://www.mikejay.net)





## The Unfortunate Colonel Despard

**Category:** Non Fiction/Historical/Biography

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV rights via RCL

**Rights sold:** World to Robinson

**Synopsis:** Originally published 2004. The tragic story of the last man condemned to be hanged, drawn and quartered.

Colonel Despard's execution for high treason on 12st February 1803 was witnessed by twenty thousand hushed onlookers. Their silence was ominous, for few believed he was guilty. His death would tear apart a Britain still reeling from the impact of the French Revolution and the Napoleonic wars.

But who was Edward Marcus Despard? Was he, as his comrade-in-arms on the Spanish main, Lord Nelson, believed, an outstanding British army officer of unimpeachable honour, courage and patriotism? Or, as the white slave-owners of the Caribbean claimed, a traitor not only to his nation but to his race, who had married a local woman and championed the rights of freed slaves?

And when Despard returned to London to answer these allegations, did he commit himself to the cause of political reform in Britain's best interests? Or did he join a shadowy international terrorist conspiracy dedicated to the murder of George III and the overthrow of the state? Despard's contested fate marked the sensational climax to a British revolution that never happened, but also presaged the birth of modern democracy.

*A gem of a book... was Despard a hero or villain? In answering this question, Jay has produced a powerful and energetic study of the political complexity of the 1790s*

**Sunday Telegraph**

*Compelling, absorbing and wide-ranging... Jay weaves a complex variety of themes, many with overtly topical resonances, into Despard's journey from hero to traitor*

**Sunday Times**

*A riveting account of the life and times of Britain's first terrorist*

**Independent on Sunday, Books of the Year**

*Beautifully crafted... as thrilling as any novel. The Colonel's fast-paced adventures are matched by Jay's equally breathless narrative*

**Good Book Guide**



## **The Influencing Machine: James Tilly Matthews And The Air Loom**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation rights via RCL

**Rights sold:** Italian

**Synopsis:** Confined in Bedlam in 1797 as an incurable lunatic, James Tilly Matthews' case is one of the most bizarre in the annals of psychiatry. He was the first person to insist that his mind was being controlled by a machine: The Air Loom, a terrifying secret weapon whose mesmeric rays and mysterious gases were brainwashing politicians and plunging Europe into revolution, terror and war.

But Matthews' case was even stranger than his doctors realised: many of the incredible conspiracies in which he claimed to be involved were entirely real. Caught up in high-level diplomatic intrigues in the chaos of the French revolution, he found himself betrayed by both sides, and in possession of a secret that no-one would believe...

Originally published as *The Air Loom Gang* (2003), the text has been fully revised and updated, with newly discovered source material and previously unpublished images.

## **Stranger Than Fiction**

**Category:** Non Fiction - collection of Essays

**Rights via RCL:** Translation film TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Daily Grail

**Synopsis:** This collection of Essays brings together, for the first time, Mike Jay's distinctive and immensely readable forays into the twilight zones of history, culture and the human mind.

Among them are his trademark investigations into the hidden histories of drugs, from the lotus eaters of Homer's *Odyssey* to the laughing gas escapades of the Romantic poets and Sherlock Holmes' cocaine habit; his reports from the disputed territories of mesmerism, brainwashing and mind control; fantastic beliefs from the birth of the Illuminati conspiracy to futuristic scenarios of human evolution; and global travel tales from megalith cultures of Borneo to ancient temples of Peru, the 'cargo cult' ceremonies of Melanesia to Britain's most anarchic bonfire night.

Beautifully designed and lavishly illustrated, **STRANGER THAN FICTION** is a unique compendium of forgotten histories, untold stories and unexplored worlds.



## Mescaline: A Global History of the first Psychedelic

**Category:** Non Fiction/History/Science

**Rights via RCL:**

**Rights sold:** World Rights all languages to Yale University Press

**Synopsis:** Mescaline first came to mass-media prominence in 1954 when Aldous Huxley published *Doors of Perception*, an account of his epiphany on 400mg of its crystalline salt 'one bright May morning' in Hollywood the previous year. In subsequent correspondence with him the doctor who had supplied it, Humphrey Osmond, coined the term 'psychedelic' to describe it.

This episode is fixed in popular memory as the starting-gun that launched the drug counterculture of the 1960s and beyond. But it can equally be viewed as the culmination of a sixty-year experimental spree during which mescaline had already been explored from every conceivable angle: botany, ethnography, pharmacy, medicine, magic, psychology, religious experience, the arts and popular culture.

Mescaline: A Global History of the first Psychedelic traces this journey - initially of the mescaline-containing peyote cactus, and then of the synthetic drug derived from it - from its roots in ancient Peru and tribal Mexico, via the peyote rituals of the Plains Indians, into the ferment of *fin-de-siècle* America and Europe and across the leading edges of science, medicine, art and culture through the twentieth century. At its centre is an experience that challenged and expanded the modern understanding of the mind: a novel state of consciousness and perception that raised, and continues to raise, fundamental questions about how we construct and interpret reality. The search for the meaning of this experience and the uses to which it might be put blazes a new trail through the history of the mind sciences and the visionary extremes of modernism.

**Psychonauts: Drugs and the making of the modern mind****Category:** Non Fiction/History/Science**Rights via RCL:****Rights sold:** World Rights all languages to Yale University Press**Synopsis:** A provocative and original history of the scientists and writers, artists and philosophers who took drugs to explore the hidden regions of the mind

Until the twentieth century, scientists investigating the effects of drugs on the mind did so by experimenting on themselves. Vivid descriptions of drug experiences sparked insights across the mind sciences, pharmacology, medicine, and philosophy. Accounts in journals and literary fiction inspired a fascinated public to make their own experiments—in scientific demonstrations, on exotic travels, at literary salons, and in occult rituals.

But after 1900 drugs were increasingly viewed as a social problem, and the long tradition of self-experimentation began to disappear.

From Sigmund Freud's experiments with cocaine to William James's epiphany on nitrous oxide, Mike Jay brilliantly recovers a lost intellectual tradition of drug-taking that fed the birth of psychology, the discovery of the unconscious, and the emergence of modernism. Today, as we embrace novel cognitive enhancers and psychedelics, the experiments of the original psychonauts reveal the deep influence of mind-altering drugs on Western science, philosophy, and culture.



## Rebecca Jenkins

Rebecca began her working life as right-hand woman to her father, David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham 1984-94. For ten years she was in charge of media relations for the Durham Diocese, through the Miners' Strike and the turbulent Thatcher Years. She was David Jenkins's writing partner and researcher on a range of book, newspaper, television and radio projects including *Free To Believe* (BBC Enterprises) a book tied in to an Everyman film for Easter 1991, *Resonances* a documentary series for Channel 4 and a short play performed at the Royal Court Theatre as part of Max Stafford Clarke's *May Days* series in 1991.



After David Jenkins's retirement she continued to work with him on two more books on economics and theology/philosophy - **MARKET WHYS AND HUMAN WHEREFORES** (Cassell 2000) and his autobiography, **THE CALLING OF A CUCKOO** (Continuum 2002/3).

A fan of Georgette Heyer's Regency romances and the Baroness D'Orzy's *Scarlet Pimpernel* tales, Rebecca began collecting diaries and journals from the Georgian period as a child. Her first job, aged 14, was as an usherette and then dresser at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester - an experience that ignited her interest in theatre and celebrity. Her biography of the nineteenth century actress **FANNY KEMBLE, THE RELUCTANT CELEBRITY** (Simon & Schuster 2005/6), was short-listed for the 2005 Theatre Book Prize.

We were delighted to welcome Rebecca to our list with a non-fiction proposal for the history of the **1908 LONDON OLYMPICS**. Piatkus under the Little, Brown aegis, published in Summer 2008 and the book was long-listed for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award. It was reissued as a paperback to coincide with the London Olympics. Film/TV via RCL.

A history graduate from Somerville College, Oxford, her first novel, introducing her Regency detective Raif Jarrett, **THE DUKE'S AGENT**, has been by Sapere Books, along with its sequel, **DEATH OF A RADICAL**.

Rebecca is now working on the third Raif Jarrett novel.

**Website:** [www.rebeccajenkins.com](http://www.rebeccajenkins.com)





### **1908: The London Olympics**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** All other rights via Publisher (Piatkus)

**Synopsis:** The 1908 Olympics were hugely different from today's. Everything was organised in two years and at far less expense. Jenkins looks at the competition between the nations, which led to arguments, disqualifications and boycotts!

### **The Duke's Agent - A Raif Jarrett Mystery**

**Category:** Historical/Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL and POD to Sapere

**Synopsis:** Set in the summer 1811, the protagonist, Raif Jarrett is sent to the County Durham town of Woolbridge by the Duke of Penrith to investigate the sudden death of the Duke's Agent.

An outsider in the closely knit provincial community, he is befriended by Ezekial Duffin, a poacher and countryman. Complications mean that Raif finds himself as the main suspect in a local murder. Will he be able to prove his innocence?

### **Death of a Radical - A Raif Jarrett Mystery**

**Category:** Historical/Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL and POD to Sapere

**Synopsis:** 1812; Raif Jarrett is settling into his role as the Duke of Penrith's Agent but as the Easter Fairs come to Woolbridge, the town readies itself for upheaval.

A group of Radicals begin to rail against the plight of the workers and when Raif's young cousin comes to stay and becomes involved in the uprising, Raif will be forced to act to keep his family safe and his town intact.



## **The Colour of Love - A Raif Jarrett Mystery**

**Category:** Historical/Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited - work in progress

**Synopsis:** It is harvest time in 1812. Jarrett is still coming to terms with the death of Favian, for which he blames himself, and his inclination is to leave the civilian difficulties of Woolbridge and escape back to the military & a life of adventure abroad.

By happy chance he receives a letter from an old comrade, Captain Robert Buck, asking for help. The Captain has unexpectedly inherited a baronetcy but is stuck fighting in the Peninsular. His young Scottish wife, Susan, having arrived at Hawkesworth Hall in order to set up home for her husband's return, has run into difficulties not least of which is an unwanted house guest, staff who ignore and indeed block the wishes of their new mistress and tenants who, in the midst of harvesting, are ignoring the landowner's wishes.

To cap it all, Susan appears to have acquired a stalker who is leaving unwanted notes in her workbox and other places where a stray male should not have access.

Jarrett arrives thinking of Hawkesworth Hall as an interlude - a refuge where he might paint. His reading of Captain Buck's letter is that all things will soon be smoothed over once there is an experienced man about to help the new mistress establish herself.

He is startled to discover that Susan has called in reinforcements of her own: Henrietta Lonsdale, an old school friend, who has brought as their chaperone, Lady Catherine. As the ladies settle to getting to the bottom of the household difficulties and Jarrett grapples with the unwanted male members of the household, between them they uncover a missing servant maid, a poisoning and more, as Hawkesworth Hall becomes a very dangerous place to be.



## Barbara (Babs) Kirby

MA, DFAstroIS, Hon RCASTrol, FAPAI, writer, astrologer and lecturer. Babs retired as a psychotherapist in 2011 after 30 years of private practice. She has lectured and run workshops throughout the UK and at conferences internationally.

Her books include **INTERPRETING SOLAR AND LUNAR RETURNS** (Cappall Bann), **LOVE AND SEXUALITY** (Element), **EXPERIENTIAL ASTROLOGY** (Wessex Astrologer) and **21ST CENTURY STAR SIGNS** (Arrow).

She was Vice President of the Faculty of Astrological Studies (1989-1998), a member of the Sophia Trust Steering Committee (1999-2011) and is currently a trustee of the Urania Trust.

Babs has an MA in Jungian and Post-Jungian Studies, her dissertation being Jung's View of Astrology - A Critical Enquiry into the Role of Astrology in Analytical Psychology (2001).

Babs is the long-time highly popular astrologer to the national weekly magazine, **TV CHOICE**.

**Website:** [www.babskirby.com](http://www.babskirby.com)





## Miranda Middleton

The UK's leading Dominatrix tells her story - intelligent and humorous, erotic yet with a moving, autobiographical story of triumph over family tragedy.

An attractive, articulate woman, who writes frankly about her own sexual adventures and those of the clients who visit her - but, Miranda *never* has sex with her clients.

Her work consists of a mixture of fetish-fashion, complex role-plays, bondage, and domination that has taken her to the top of her chosen profession.



World volume rights sold to John Blake Publishing.



## Mistress Miranda 50 Shades Of Domination The Autobiography of Britain's Foremost Dominatrix

**Category:** Autobiography

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via publisher

**Rights sold:** World

**Synopsis:** This is the story of Miranda, whose childhood was rocked on discovering that her 'parents' were, in fact, her grandparents, and her elder 'sister', her mother.

With incredible willpower, and against many odds, she overcame her problems, achieved her educational target, and found her role in life as The Bondage Mistress.

She is now Britain's foremost Dominatrix.

A candid, compelling and very human story.



## The Late Jordan Mooney

Jordan was the public face of Malcolm McLaren and Vivien Westwood's shops SEX and Seditious, inside which they plotted and unleashed Punk on the world. "The shop would never have worked without her," claimed filmmaker Derek Jarman, for whom she became a muse after he saw her on her way to work in 1975, wearing what he described as "art history as make-up".

She subsequently appeared in his film *Sebastiane* (1976), gave an iconic performance as Amyl Nitrate in *Jubilee* (1978) and was the subject of his Super 8 films *Jordan's Dance* (1977), *Jordan's Jubilee Mask*, (1977), *Every Woman for Herself* and *All for Art* (1978), and *Jordan's Wedding* (1981).



She has been described by both Jarman and author Jon Savage as "the first Sex Pistol" and was referred to as such in Savage's seminal history of the era, *England's Dreaming* (Faber & Faber 1991).

As well as taking a pivotal role in the story of The Sex Pistols, Jordan was also instrumental in the early career of Adam and the Ants, managing them from 1977-81 and initially appearing as a vocalist for the band. She continued to work front of house in Seditious as it became World's End, her appearance metamorphosing alongside the shop's collections into Modern Primitivism and New Romanticism, while also managing the band Wide Boy Awake. In 1984 she left the fashion and music business for personal reasons, returned to her native Seaford on the Sussex coast, where she began a successful career as a breeder of champion Burmese cats and veterinary nurse. While she stayed out of the spotlight, her legend grew.

Recently her image has appeared at the forefront Sheila Rock's hugely successful global photography show *From Punk to the English Sea* and on the front cover of *Punk's Dead* by Simon Barker and Derek (Dunbar Divus 2016). Her importance in pop's cultural history was further celebrated in *Music + Fashion: Creatives Shaping Pop Culture* by Kate Baron (Laurence King 2016). She has appeared in many major cultural events celebrating the impact of punk and its lasting influence during 2016, including talks at The British Library, The Museum of London and The BFI.

Interest in Jordan continues to grow both within the UK and on a global level following the anniversary of the 1977 Jubilee.



## Defying Gravity

**Category:** Autobiography/Pop Culture

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Omnibus Press – Japanese rights sold to Bungeisha

**Synopsis:** “Jordan created punk rock. She was selling it on the front line.” - Adam Ant

With her white beehive and Mondrian make-up, Jordan’s look that helped shape a revolution on the King’s Road is an iconic part of music history. With commentary from key players, including Vivienne Westwood, Paul Cook and her partner behind the SEX counter Michael Collins, Defying Gravity is the revealing story of a life at the eye of punk’s storm.

“Jordan was the original Sex Pistol.” - Derek Jarman

The image of Jordan in her white shards of beehive and Mondrian make-up is one of the most iconic in pop history. But nobody knows what was really going on behind those watchful eyes when Anarchy hit the UK. How did a ballet-mad girl from sleepy Sussex make her way, via the clandestine gay clubs of Brighton and London, to 430 King’s Road and the eye of punk’s storm? Help shape a revolution and deal with the consequences of being in the spotlight so young? Share hair-raising adventures with McLaren and Westwood; The Sex Pistols; Adam and his Ants; Derek Jarman and Andy Warhol - and then just disappear?

With commentary from key players including Vivienne Westwood, Paul Cook, Marco Pirroni, Holly Johnson and her partner behind the SEX/Seditionaries counter Michael Collins - plus a wealth of never-before-seen images from Simon Barker, Sheila Rock and Harri Peccinotti - Jordan, in collaboration with crime writer and former music journalist, Cathi Unsworth, finally reveals her outrageous life story.



## Linda O'Byrne

Former fiction editor of Bella, Woman's Weekly and Woman and Home, Linda has been writing fiction all her life, mostly for children and young adults.

A regular on the WI circuit, giving lectures on writing fiction, Linda lives in Kent and is a keen member of her local drama group. Directing and acting take up a lot of her time - she has been given the onerous task of writing the Christmas pantomimes - but she still needs to cope with a large garden, two ponds and keeping in touch with friends scattered all over the world.



Her love of romance and the endearing characters of Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*, has resulted in what she hopes will be a series of books that take us forward to the next generation. Spellbound Books has contracted for WEL rights in a ten book deal. Spellbound commenced their publication programme at the end of 2021. To date 6 titles have been published.



## The Cousins of Pemberley series

**Category:** Women's fiction/historical romance

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL Spellbound Books; German - DP Digital publishers; Audio - Soundings

**Synopsis:** Many years have passed since the dramatic events of *Pride and Prejudice*. A new generation of girls has grown up - cousins with lives as different and interesting as those enjoyed by their mothers.

We will meet them all in this series of stories that begins with Cassandra Wickham, Lydia's daughter. Quiet and serious, unlike her mother, at 18 her happy entrance into the adult world is shattered by betrayal, fear and despair. Fleeing from home she heads for the only people she believes can help her - the Darcys of Pemberley. But there are men determined to follow Cassandra, find her, return her to a life she cannot accept. Among them is one she thought she loved, and his betrayal hurts most of all...



## Donald Olson/Swan Adamson

Donald Olson is a novelist, playwright and travel writer. He has published seven novels including **THE CONFESSIONS OF AUBREY BEARDSLEY**, **THE SECRETS OF MABEL EASTLAKE** and **MY THREE HUSBANDS** (written as Swan Adamson). His recently completed collection of ghost stories, **THE GRAVE DIGGER'S DAUGHTER AND OTHER OTHERWORLDLY TALES**, will be published by Lume.

Donald's travel stories have appeared in The New York Times, National Geographic and many other publications. His best-selling travel guides include **THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST GARDEN TOUR**, **THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN TOUR** and **FROMMER'S PORTLAND DAY BY DAY**. His plays have been seen in London, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, New York and Portland. His new play, **OSCAR & WALT**, won the 2019 ALAP/West Hollywood Pride Festival Reading award.



### As Donald Olson:

## The Gravedigger's Daughter and other Otherworldly Tales

**Category:** Literary Fiction, short stories

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Ghosts gay and straight, living and dead, haunt the pages of this collection of tales set in four different locales and time periods. Victorian London is the background for *The Gravedigger's Daughter*, a novella-length thriller about an impoverished young woman raised in a cemetery and forced into the ghoulish life of a grave robber. In *Uncle Jack*, the penniless nephew of a 1950s film star inherits his dead uncle's mid-century modern house in Beverly Hills and gradually realizes that he is not the only one laying claim to the estate.

A restoration project on a 500-year-old manor in Provence draws antiques-dealer Michael Fischer, the title character in *Michael's St. Michael* into a terrifying encounter with a violent and unquiet past. And when a homophobic teenager named Slayde destroys his gay neighbour's cherished collection of garden gnomes, he learns to his horror that the gnomes in *Gnome Man's Land* are not the gentle creatures everyone thinks they are.



## **The Confessions of Aubrey Beardsley**

**Category:** Literary Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/TV/Film  
**Rights sold:** WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** Fictionalised diary of Aubrey Beardsley, illustrator famed for his explicit drawings and association with Oscar Wilde. Lost his fame just as quickly when he was outed as homosexual during Wilde's trial.

## **The Secrets of Mabel Eastlake**

**Category:** Crime Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/TV/Film  
**Rights sold:** WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** In 1939, a triple homicide occurs at the fabulous art deco mansion of actress Mabel Eastlake. It is said that her lover killed both her husband and her director-mentor in a fit of jealousy.

After the court case Mabel hides herself away in the mansion until an investigative reporter comes knocking, determined to discover the truth.

## **Queer Corners**

**Category:** General Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/TV/Film  
**Rights sold:** WEL Lume Books

**Synopsis:** A comfortable, middle-class town, Queer Corners, is turned upside down by the arrival of a homophobia bigot into a totally gay community. A hair-raising social commentary.



## Meghan Purvis

Meghan was born in California and received her MA and PhD from the University of East Anglia. Her translation of *Beowulf* published by Pened in the Margins Press in 2013, won the Times Stephen Spender Prize for Literary Translation, and was a Poetry Book Society recommended translation.

She now lives in London with an assortment of pets and is working on a new novel.

**THE WAGES OF DYING** is her first novel.



## The Wages of Dying

**Category:** Fiction/Crime

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint, Translation/Film/TV

**Synopsis:** It's 1931 and Prohibition may be ending, but the profits to be made on bootleg alcohol and back alley clubs are still flowing. And, in a business limited to the shadows, small wonder that the world of illegal liquor has become populated by creatures used to the night.

Ruby Davis, a young driver for a small-town moonshine operation, learns this all too quickly when her friends and family are slaughtered by what she thought was a big-city gangster. But what kind of gangster drinks blood? And why is he so repelled by hers?

After being rescued by a gangland doctor with secrets of his own, Ruby's search for answers will lead her from the glittering lights of Manhattan to the humid evenings of small-town Louisiana. Uncovering who and what Ruby is will mean confronting not just her own past, but the past - and future - of her whole world.



## Dr Russell Razzaque

Dr Russell Razzaque has been a Consultant Psychiatrist in the NHS for over twenty years now. He is also an Associate Medical Director in his NHS Trust, a Clinical Director and Head of Research and Development in North East London where he is based. Combining his clinical work with academia and managerial responsibilities, he has a high profile within the profession and beyond both nationally and internationally.



He is also a Visiting Professor at London South Bank University and his primary areas of research focus are around mindfulness, therapeutic relationships and new forms of systemic and relational treatment like Open Dialogue. He has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals and is considered an expert in the field of human relationships and emotion.

Dr Razzaque is the Presidential Lead for Compassionate and Relational Care at the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) in the UK and in 2022, he was nominated for President of the RCPsych by its national Council. He is currently also the Strategic and Clinical Director for the National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health (NCCMH) which works closely with NHS England and other treatment and policy authorities around the world to help devise guidelines, oversee reform and implement change in accordance with the most recent evidence base.

He has written 4 books, all in the area of human psychology. The first, **HUMAN BEING TO HUMAN BOMB**, was an exploration of the psychology of suicide bombing. This led to Dr Razzaque's formal role in advising the UK Home Office in these matters, which he continues to do to this day.

The second book, **OBAMA KARMA** catalogued some lessons in emotional intelligence, inspired by the 44th President of the United States and episodes in his life.

The third book, **BREAKING DOWN IS WAKING UP** is a highly acclaimed exploration of the extent to which mental health breakdowns have the potential to open up a spiritual connection for those who have experienced them.

His most recent book, **DIALOGICAL PSYCHIATRY** is an introduction to a person-centred and holistic way of working in mental health services, known as Open Dialogue, which Dr Razzaque has been pioneering within the NHS which, in turn, has invested several million pounds into the research and services Dr Razzaque has led and set up across the country.



Given the international interest in his pioneering work in this area, the book has been translated into 6 languages and is currently being translated into the 7th at time of writing.

Dr Razzaque has also written for a number of national and international popular and news outlets like Psychology Today as well as The Telegraph, The Guardian and The Independent and he has also appeared on a range of television news programmes like BBC News and at one point he was a regular newspaper reviewer for Sky News.





## Human Being to Human Bomb

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL eBook and POD to Lume Books

**Synopsis:** The author, a Muslim psychiatrist, investigates what causes intelligent young men and women to become human bombs, killing themselves and others.

In his research he uncovers many similarities between the bombers and shines a light on the real psychology involved in Islamic suicide bombers.

## Breaking Down Is Waking Up

**Category:** Non-fiction/Self Help

**Rights Sold:** Watkins

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via the Publisher.

**Synopsis:** The World Health Organisation estimates that approximately 450 million people worldwide have a mental health problem. It is time to look again at mental illness - its diagnosis and causes. Mental illness is defined as a disease of the mind. But what *is* the mind? Though psychiatry has made several strides in understanding some of the biochemical processes occurring during episodes of mental illness, substantial gaps in understanding still remain. Dr Razzaque, a London-based Consultant Psychiatrist, searches for the missing gaps in our knowledge of mental illness through his diverse clinical work.

Watkins snapped up this important work which was published in 2014. Dr Razzaque plans a further work in complementary vein.

He set up a Conference on the Mind, in central London, April 2015, the first of its kind which attracted great interest, with seats being at a premium!



## John Ruthven

John Ruthven writes, produces and directs audience-engaging and award-winning shows for BBC, Discovery, National Geographic, PBS and many other well-known broadcasters.

In 2015 he received an Emmy for best environmental film in the USA, producing and directing *Mysteries of the Coral canyon* for PBS, exploring how the lives of coral reefs and sharks are intimately connected.

He recently produced the widely acclaimed *Singapore Wild City*, commissioned for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Singapore and narrated by Sir David Attenborough, a series that won “best Asian TV documentary”, 2016, as well as making a film on the uninhabited islands of the British Indian Ocean Territory in the same year.



Trained in the BBC Science Unit and writing scripts on everything from vitamin deficiency to moon rock, John has great experience in communicating popular science ideas. The only producer to work on both the first and second *Blue Planet* series - he devised and wrote the film containing the now famous sequences on plastic ducks and the sad story of a dead pilot whale calf, likely poisoned by toxic plastic residues, and held tenderly in the mouth of its mother days after its death, which aired to over 14 million viewers in the UK, irreversibly changing the public perception of plastic pollution. He has made over fifty shows on marine life, science and history. His work ranges from directing actors inside a WW2 *U-boat*, reconstructing the Enigma code machine protocols, to devising optical illusion experiments, or following venomous snakes throughout Asia.

He has worked across media platforms from broadcast blue chip natural history, to drama, and presenter led science shows for TV and the web. His writing work includes commissioned stories for the producer of *Lord of the Rings*, Barry Osborne, background stories for a prestigious international exhibition at the London Natural History Museum, writing for ‘Dive Magazine’, ‘BBC Wildlife’ and ‘Brighthub’ as well as devising a BBC book on the origin of houseplants called ‘Potted Histories’. John curates a YouTube Channel on deep sea creatures with over a million views and has a wide range of social media connections.





## **The Whale in Your Living Room: Adventures of a Blue Planet**

### **Producer**

**Category:** Memoir, Science, Natural History

**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film, TV

**Rights sold:** WEL sold to Robinson; Chinese rights to Gold Wall Press

**Synopsis:** Two hundred miles off the coast of New Orleans, in the clear blue open sea, I'm starting to know what being in deep water means.

My dive computer is going nuts, beeping an alarm in rapid descent. 43, 44, 45 metres, soon I'll be deeper than a scuba diver on air can safely dive. I'm tumbling head over heels like an ostracod - one of the many strange creatures here that defy our imagination. It's hard to say what's up or down. I'm in freefall, an aquanaut lost in space.

The Whale in Your Living Room follows the thrilling adventures of BBC Blue Planet producer, John Ruthven, on a journey of discovery that helped the marine world flow into your living room via the TV.



## Silvia Sbaraini

Silvia has a background in academia and social science research and has published papers and articles in psychology, and joint-authored a book on social policy. She was a freelance editorial script advisor for children's television for seven years, and was commissioned to develop the series bible for a pre-school television series based on a lesser known Enid Blyton character.

Silvia's short fiction has been published in an anthology and she has given readings of her work; she has been highly commended, shortlisted and long-listed in a number of writing competitions. She is a member of the Society of Authors, has an MA in Creative Writing, and teaches at The Open University. While in progress, Silvia's novel - **GINA'S THERAPY** - was awarded an Arts Council England bursary.



Born in 1970 in northern Italy, Silvia was brought up in a seaside town on the south coast of England by her mother and grandmother; she now lives in Canterbury, Kent. Silvia has two daughters, two stepdaughters and three granddaughters. With an abundance of women and girls in her life, it's not surprising that female relationships, family and friendship are frequently the focus of her writing.





### **Gina's Therapy**

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** Mercier Press (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** It's April 2004 and Gina Jarvis - a disorganised, bohemian forty-eight-year-old - has enough to deal with for one week: a disapproving daughter, the ghost of her mother, her ex-psychotherapist living next door and a hopeless ex-husband she's still in love with, without a diagnosis of cancer to add to the mix.

Catapulted from her old existence into the unknown territory of surgery, treatment and support groups, Gina faces her predicament with strength, wit and a faithful pair of elasticated-waist trousers. With help, and hindrance, from her disjointed family, eclectic assortment of old friends and new 'cancer buddies', Gina finds herself re-evaluating everything and asking some surprising questions, not least will she ever be able to concentrate on what her oncologist is saying, without being distracted by his enormous moustache?

As she progresses through treatment, and uncovers secrets from the past, Gina begins to change her life for the better, embarking on her own form of therapy: storytelling. Through make-believe with her beloved granddaughter and the writing of a memoir, Gina transcends the harshest of realities.

Exploring themes of loss, acceptance and forgiveness, as well as the tenacity of the human spirit and the power of stories to transform our lives, Gina's Therapy is an uplifting and life-affirming novel which should appeal to fans of Jojo Moyes and The Big C.



## The Late Lesley Ann Sharrock

*aka Lesley Welsh*

Was a freelance writer whose work appeared in numerous UK magazines over several years, including *Cosmopolitan* and *Marie Claire*. She later teamed up with her editor partner to run their own London-based magazine publishing company *Moondance Media* until 2008.

She moved to Spain, where she began writing novels, and working as a publicist for a charitable organization that helps fund shelters for victims of domestic violence.



Her first novel, **THE SEVENTH MAGPIE**, was published in the USA in 2012.

She then changed genre and, as Lesley Welsh, her first crime novel **TRUTH LIES BURIED** was published to great acclaim by Thomas & Mercer in June 2016.

Lesley went on to write **THE SERIAL KILLER'S DAUGHTER**, which was published by Bookouture in June 2017. At her untimely death, Lesley had just completed a further novel, **IN THE BLOOD**, which was published by Bloodhound Books in 2018.





## Truth Lies Buried

**Category:** Crime/Thriller  
**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV/Translation  
**Rights sold:** WEL Bloodhound Books

**Synopsis:** Haunted loner, ex-soldier Sam Riley becomes embroiled in a plot to kill the husband of the beautiful, manipulative Monica Cohen. Double crossed by Monica and forced to turn informer by unscrupulous Detective Inspector Wendy Morrison, Sam is tempted to cut and run. But when ironic fate places Sam as guardian to street-smart and savvy ten-year-old Brando Cohen, they are forced to face their enemies together.

A motley crew of dangerous characters is set against them. Big Jim Carver, a gangster with a taste for pederasty; homicidal ex-pimp Gerard Fowley, Spanish drug-dealer Felipe Garcia, and Mr Swindley an enigmatic hit man. And behind them all, plotting the demise of both Sam and Brando is the woman who could prove to be most dangerous of all - Monica.

## The Serial Killer's Daughter

**Category:** Crime/Thriller  
**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV/Translation  
**Rights sold:** WEL to Bookouture

**Synopsis:** To the outsider, Suzanne Woods has all the trappings of a comfortable life: a steady job, a handsome, hardworking husband, a loving mother and stepfather, but still she is restless. More eager to fulfil her artistic ambitions than settle into cosy domesticity and motherhood, she wonders where that instrument of change will spring from.

But this is a lesson in being careful what you wish for. An out of the blue phone call from a woman called Rose Anderson informs her of the death of Don Tyler, her natural father; a man who'd figured little in her life, whom she hadn't seen for over a decade and, truth be told, had little wish to see again. But Rose's urgent insistence that they should meet and that she should have Don's "things" piques her interest and despite her mother's warnings not to get involved, she agrees to the meeting.

But this date with destiny is very far from what she expects and her father's worldly goods - a set of photographs, a suitcase full of cash and a collection of notebooks - are the contents of a modern-day Pandora's Box; for the dead won't lie down and they are driving Suzanne on a trail of far more pervasive secrets that could endanger everyone she has ever cared for...

This Best-selling novel has now sold over 90,000 copies in the English language.



### **In the Blood**

**Category:** Crime/Thriller

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV/Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Bloodhound Books

**Synopsis:** Grace Dobbs, 26, and a champion at her local gun club, has been living a quiet life in Western Australia running a gift shop with the woman she believes is her mother. A spree killing in the neighbourhood sees Grace come to the rescue of the local kindergarten, where she manages to shoot the perpetrator and catapult herself into the limelight as a local heroine. However, her fame spreads much further than the local town, bringing her to the attention of someone in the UK who is very keen to meet her.

But are their motives purely to rekindle a relationship believed lost for good? Or is there something much darker afoot as Grace travels to England to discover her true heritage...

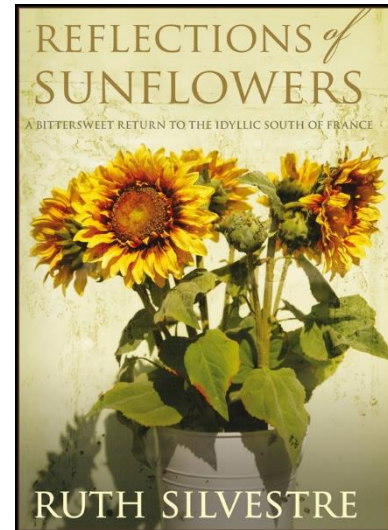
**IN THE BLOOD** is a worthy successor to Lesley's **TRUTH LIES BURIED**.



## The Late Ruth Silvestre

Actress, Singer, Writer. Born and brought up in Basingstoke, she originally trained as a teacher at Goldsmiths College but quickly decided against a life in academia, and left to become a chorus girl in the London production of Kismet! Leading roles in West End musicals - Man of La Mancha and Flower Drum Song - followed. As well carving out a successful career as a concert and cabaret performer.

Married to the children's author and illustrator, the late Michael Grater, she had two sons, Adam and Matthew.



In 1976 Ruth and her husband bought and restored a derelict farmhouse in SW France. Her experiences are evocatively recaptured in the critically acclaimed **A HOUSE IN THE SUNFLOWERS** and **HARVEST OF SUNFLOWERS** (both published by Allison & Busby).

The third part of the trilogy, **REFLECTIONS OF SUNFLOWERS**, was published in August 2004. Estonian rights sold in A House in the Sunflowers and translation rights in all three titles available via RCL.

A further memoir, **BEFORE THE SUNFLOWERS** was published by Endeavour Press (now Lume Books), Summer 2016.

Ruth also wrote four books for children, all of which were published by Scholastic.





## A House in the Sunflowers

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language, Estonian

**Synopsis:** A charming, funny and romantic book which imparts practical and useful information for those considering moving abroad. Ruth describes finding her dream home in the south of France as well as their move, renovation and eventual welcome by the townspeople.

## A Harvest of Sunflowers

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** Twenty years after first setting eyes on Bel-Air de Grezelongue, her dream house in south-west France, Ruth Silvestre brings us the sequel to her enchanting memoir "A House in the Sunflowers". Local friendships and bonds of loyalty that she and her family formed during the gradual restoration of their once derelict farmhouse have now deepened. The children, both hers and her neighbours', are now adults and the close-knit community celebrates and prepares for the new generation. The wedding festivities and banquets are beautifully described in mouth-watering detail and the tastes and smells of Lot-et-Garonne seem to float from the page. An unforgettable and enriching story of Ruth and her family, and their continuing love for their home in the sunflowers

## Reflections of Sunflowers

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** The final book in the "Sunflowers trilogy" sees Ruth Silvestre and her husband returning to Bel-Air de Grezelongue, their much-loved home in the Lot-et-Garonne region of south-west France. In 1976 their dreams of purchasing a peaceful summer home came true when they stumbled across this derelict farmhouse surrounded by fields and orchards, and saw what it could become. Renovating the primitive, rural house was a labour of love - and the love affair between house and owner has lasted over twenty-five years. There has been inevitable sadness, but also the joys of new grandchildren, anniversaries, village fetes, and splendid meals taken with their neighbours. And whilst the family has seen many changes during their time with the local farming community, the warm and welcoming atmosphere they first fell in love with has remained the same. Now they face their own personal tragedy, but through all their sorrows Bel-Air continues to be a place of hope and happiness, as well as extraordinary beauty.



### **Before the Sunflowers**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language, eBook and POD

**Synopsis:** What's a life without music?

Ruth Silvestre's childhood was marked by poverty - her mother counted out the budget in Oxo tins, whilst singing her daughters to sleep at night.

Now in her late eighties, Ruth looks back on her life from her holiday home in rural France, Belair.

Sitting with her son, she reflects on the changes that she experienced over the years.

Despite the outbreak of World War Two, Ruth heads to university and qualifies as a teacher, but what she really wants to do is sing.

Determined to follow her dream, she finds herself an agent who gets her work performing in cabarets, on cruise ships, and she eventually makes the big leap to the West End.

As Ruth tells her story, we hear of adventures about make-up lessons from Max Factor, being in the chorus of a West End show starring Juliet Prowse, and being called in to perform at the 11th hour, impressing the legendary Rodgers and Hammerstein with her performance.

But the greatest achievement in her life was still to come, in the form of her husband, Mike, and the life they shared together.

Filled with history and gentle memories of a time long gone, **BEFORE THE SUNFLOWERS** pays homage to a beautiful life, filled with laughter, music, songs and love. A beguiling final memoir to complete The Sunflower Series.



## Phoebe Smith

Hailed as “Wild camping’s chief cheerleader” by The Telegraph, (UK) adventurer Phoebe Smith likes to sleep wild. From caves to mountain tops, disused farmsteads and under giant boulders - if it's in a strange or extreme place, she'll want to take her sleeping bag and experience a wild night out.

Her love of wilderness takes her on solo adventures all around the world - from sleeping at Everest Base Camp, to portaledging in trees in the Bavarian Alps, spending the night on Australia's Great Barrier Reef and bedding down inside glaciers in Svalbard - the last stop before the North Pole.



She is an award-winning travel writer, photographer, presenter and broadcaster (specialising in adventure, walking, solo travel, gear and wildlife conservation). She regularly writes for The Guardian, The Telegraph, The Times (of London) and is a correspondent for BBC Radio 4's From Our Own Correspondent.

She is host of the monthly Wander Woman Podcast, an audio magazine which tells the tales from behind the scenes on her adventures as a travel writer.

Weaving together her passions for finding off-the-beaten track adventures, wild spaces in unlikely destinations, wildlife encounters and the unsung heroes behind conservation efforts, it includes celebrity interviews, gear reviews, travel tips and a featured Wander Woman of the month - a kick-ass travel pioneer from history.

She is also Sleep Storyteller-in-Residence at Calm where her stories have not only been narrated by Stephen Fry, Joanna Lumley, Jerome Flynn, Bindi Irwin and Danai Gurira, but have been listened to over 15 million times.

Phoebe is the author of 10 books to date including the newly released **TRAVEL WRITER'S FIELD GUIDE** and the **WILDERNESS COOKBOOK**. She also wrote **EXTREME SLEEPS: ADVENTURES OF A WILD CAMPER** (a Guardian Bestseller), **WILDERNESS WEEKENDS: WILD ADVENTURES IN BRITAIN'S RUGGED CORNERS** and the first guide book to British bothies - **BOOK OF THE BOTHY**.

Passionate about inspiring young people and helping those who don't get to choose to sleep wild for fun, she is an ambassador for Centrepoin (the young people's homeless charity).



To date she has raised over £42,000 for them in her Extreme Sleep Outs, sleeping on portaledges suspended from cliffs, skyscrapers and trees.

In 2022 she embarked on an expedition with her teammate Dwayne Fields to take a group of underprivileged young people to the White Continent through her #WeTwo Foundation.

She the first person to camp at all the extreme points of mainland Britain, solo, on consecutive nights, has slept the 3 Peaks and walked across Britain, sleeping rough while dressed as Wander Woman.

Since 2016 she has been an Ordnance Survey #GetOutside Champion for her work encouraging everyone into the great outdoors. She's also ambassador for the annual Big Canopy Campout and supporter of the World Land Trust, Wild Night Out.

She is also proudly president of the Long Distance Walkers' Association.  
*"Phoebe Smith is a splendid writer and an inspiring traveller"* - **Bill Bryson**

Phoebe's own journey of self-discovery - **WAYFARER: LOVE, LOSS AND LIFE ON BRITAIN'S ANCIENT PATHS** was published by HarperNorth in Spring 2024 and has been shortlisted for the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Award. The paperback is a January 2025 publication.

**Website:** [www.phoebe-smith.com](http://www.phoebe-smith.com)





## **Wayfarer: Love Loss and Life on Britain's Ancient Paths**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film TV

**Rights sold:** WEL HarperNorth

**Synopsis:** On an assignment to walk the most famous pilgrimage in the world – the Camino de Santiago, in northern Spain – Phoebe Smith somehow lost her way.

Having spent a lifetime exploring unfamiliar places, she quit her dream job, ended her long-term relationship and headed home to North Wales to discover the point to... everything. In her search for answers, she found herself - quite by accident - walking some of Britain's oldest pilgrim paths. And by following these old ways, she ended up confronting past traumas that she thought she had laid to rest.

But while it follows holy trails, this is not a book about religion. From losing her mother as a teenager to surviving toxic relationships, Phoebe offers an unflinchingly honest look at her battle with an eating disorder, depression, and the pitfalls of newfound singledom.

Skilfully weaving together Phoebe's own story with those of countless travellers past and present, *Wayfarer* reveals how nature and place can heal past wounds, offering a pathway to salvation she'd never thought existed.



## Mary Stanley

Born in London and is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin. She has lived and worked in Italy, Germany, Malta and England and now resides in Dublin with her dog, George.

She is the author of the novels **RETREAT** (2001), **MISSING** (2002), **REVENGE** (2003), **SEARCHING FOR HOME** (2005), and **THE LOST GARDEN** (2006).

She has two novellas in the celebrated prize-winning Open Door Series, **An Angel at my Back** (2008) and **Bruno Peanut and Me** (due 2009).



She has short stories published in the Anthologies, Moments and Party Animal.

Her novels have been translated into Danish, Turkish, Dutch, Serbian and German, and Missing is on the curriculum in the University of Karlsruhe in Germany.

Mary is also a journalist whose work regularly appears in various newspapers. She is a frequent guest on radio talk shows and also reads her own work on radio as well as for audio books.

Her most recent novels include **THE UMBRELLA TREE** and the **HIJACKING OF CASSIE PETERS** both of which are published by New Island.

**Website:** [www.marystanley.com](http://www.marystanley.com)





## Searching for Home

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** Turkish and Serbian (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** Ireland, 1944. In a violent storm, a German plane heading for Britain is blown west, far off course. When it plunges down on a family in the Wicklow mountains, a father and his young daughter are lost.

The children who survive that terrible night try to leave the past behind, but it will not let them go. And as Mattie and Amelia search for a place to call home, they accidentally uncover the cruellest secret of all...

## Revenge

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** German, Dutch and Danish (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** The McHarg family may be unconventional, but Millicent, an eccentric and forthright novelist, is adored by her three granddaughters and her daughter-in-law Maria.

With Millicent's son working abroad, the three generations are very close, and the girls, from quiet, talented Plumpet to her adopted sister, Maya, rescued as a baby from the danger of her Eastern homeland to become part of the family, are protected and happy.

But on the Christmas morning Plumpet is found assaulted and dazed in her own bed. In one night the McHargs' lives are irrevocably changed as Plumpet's pain brings out their hidden emotions and deepest fears.

## Retreat

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** Danish, German, Turkish (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** As usual, leaving the Sister Chapel and its grounds is forbidden and, of course, Sutherland Square is expressly out of bounds.' ... but for the teenage boarders at St Martin's convent school in Dublin some rules are made to be broken - as sixteen-year-old Mary Oliver discovers to her horror during a confessional. With the help and support of her best friends, Mary survives - but only just.

Mary, Kitty, Bernadette, Bridie and Treasa are five girls from very different backgrounds, united by their need to break out from the often-cruel constraints of convent life - and by an experience too awful to talk about until they are adults.



## Missing

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** Danish & German (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** To the outside world we were this perfectly contented happy family - a mother, a father and three little girls. And the truth? Really it was a conspiracy of silence - everyone living a life on the surface while underneath reality bubbles away - until the day that it blows up...

John and Elizabeth Dunville believe they have the ideal family. Their three daughters - beautiful, vivacious Baby, clever, industrious Becky, and lively, if mischievous, Brona - attend Dublin's most prestigious convent school, and all have bright futures.

But denial and deception go hand in hand, and one night, one of the girls slips out into the December fog, and doesn't come home...

## The Lost Garden

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** The face Esme Waters presents to the world is not the face she sees in the mirror. Even her three daughters, Lily, Rose and Jasmine, don't know the truth behind her careful smile.

But a chance Parisian meeting with a fascinating psychiatrist opens the first crack in Esme's mind, and suddenly the past is pursuing her.

And once again she is running, just as she has always run from lovers, friends, and the truth of what she lost in Dublin more than twenty years ago.

## The Umbrella Tree

**Category:** Women's Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** From her home in County Wicklow, as Helena Wolff looks back on her childhood growing up in Kenya, she recalls with affection the stories of animal behaviour that her brother Horace told her all those years ago as they played together beneath the umbrella tree. Far away from the world of her childhood, she struggles to come to terms with her traumatic past, as the normal life she has constructed threatens to fall apart. In a novel that spans two continents, The Umbrella Tree is a compelling and moving story which is full of surprises.



## **The Hijacking of Cassie Peters**

**Category:** Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** On her eighteenth birthday Cassie Peters is on a plane, hijacked as it leaves Athens. In the unfolding story Cassie loses connection with reality.

Her father is a Classics professor, and Cassie finds herself lost in a mythological world where the hijacker is the Minotaur, the pilot on the plane is Charon, the ferryman who brings the dead to Hades.

While she lives through the terror on this flight, her father and sisters are in Germany, and the past unfolds - the story of what brought them. All to this point in time; her German father; her Irish mother; her early childhood in Seapoint in Dublin with her two older sisters; her mother leaving them when Cassie was eight years old; her move to Germany with her father and sisters and the start of a new life.

When the hijacking is finally over, Cassie disappears and her family spend the next two years looking for her.

Meantime Cassie is now living in a myth she has created, and is being treated for amnesia in a clinic.

It is a story of love; the love between three sisters and the love they find as they grow up. It is also a story of the damage inflicted by violence and terror.



## Dr Penny Stanway

Paediatrician, writer, lecturer and counsellor, has a solid background both in medicine and as an author. She writes and lectures on a variety of topics including child care and health, women's health, family life, and nutrition and she works, part time, as a psychodynamic counsellor. She was Woman's Weekly's regular Health columnist for fifteen years



Apart from the books written in collaboration with her husband, Dr Andrew Stanway, she has herself written **THE MOTHERCARE BOOK OF CHILD HEALTH** for Conran Octopus and **DIET FOR COMMON AILMENTS** (Gaia for Sidgwick). Her book, **GREEN BABIES** was packaged by Eddison Sadd for Century's publication in September 1990. She was general Editor to the new **MOTHERCARE NEW GUIDE TO PREGNANCY AND BABYCARE** with Conran Octopus, and with Orion published **COPING WITH A PREMATURE BABY** and **FIRST BABY AFTER 30... OR 40**.

She acted as General Editor to supervise (and in some instances to contribute) the entries in the new work **Curing Everyday Ailments The Natural Way**, to be produced by Gaia for Reader's Digest USA. Dr Stanway has also written an important work for Element Books - now transferred to HarperCollins for Thorsons, entitled **NATURAL WELL WOMAN** (October 2001 publication) and for Kyle Cathie, published **THE FEEL-GOOD FACELIFT** - issued in the USA by Ulysses Press - Spring 2000. With Hamlyn (September 2000) she has published, **GOOD FOOD FOR KIDS** - established as a best-seller - with a spin-off, **THE GOOD LUNCH BOX BOOK**, to follow. Penny published a further book with Kyle Cathie, entitled **LIFELIGHT**, Autumn 2001.

Penny, once again contracted with Kyle and a further important work, entitled, **NATURAL SOLUTIONS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH - COMBINING NATURAL AND MEDICAL CURES FOR GYNAECOLOGICAL AILMENTS** - was published in May 2003. With Inge Relph, Penny Stanway wrote **CHRISTMAS: A COOK'S TOUR**, a lead title from Lion in Autumn 1991.

Penny's book, **FREE YOUR INNER ARTIST** - reflecting the pleasure and therapeutic effect of taking up painting - illustrated with Penny's own artwork, is published by Stobart-Davies, who control World Rights.

Penny has published **THE MIRACLE OF APPLES, CIDER & CIDER VINEGAR** with Watkins following this by **THE MIRACLE OF LEMONS**. Also published are **THE MIRACLE OF BICARBONATE OF SODA**, **THE MIRACLE OF GARLIC**, **THE MIRACLE OF HONEY**, **THE MIRACLE OF TEA** and **THE MIRACLE OF SPICES**.

**Website:** [www.pennystanway.com](http://www.pennystanway.com)



## Robert J. Strange

Trained as a newspaper journalist, became a crime reporter and news-desk executive for leading national newspapers, before transferring to television more than a decade ago: he is now scriptwriter and executive producer for major British and International broadcasters.

His films are regularly broadcast on the Discovery Channel, National Geographic Television and the History Channel - and he was the 2012 winner of Columbia University's prestigious Du Pont Award, America's broadcasting equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize, as well as of the National Association for the Advancement of Science's 2011 Kavli Science Journalism Award, for in-depth reporting.



A former commissioning editor at C4 Television, he has produced and directed films in the Cutting Edge and True Stories documentary strands for Channel 4, for BBC's Panorama and numerous other BBC and ITV series. A recent work was an award-winning Channel 4 documentary about the science behind the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan.

Wearing his author's hat, he wrote a book about the missing British Earl, Lord Lucan, **LOOKING FOR LUCAN**. More recently extensively researched the surviving RMS Titanic archives, investigating the cause of the deaths of 1500 passengers: for the first time, he names the group of guilty men, who all contributed, in various ways, to this disaster. His resulting book, commemorating the centenary, **WHO SANK THE TITANIC? THE FINAL VERDICT**, was published by Pen & Sword in March, 2012.

Robert Strange has also aided Miranda Middleton to write **50 SHADES OF DOMINATION**. (John Blake - published Spring 2014).

Most recently Robert collaborated on a history of women in the police force with **Jennifer Rees** a retired Metropolitan Police Officer and Scenes of Crimes officer with more than 30 years of experience. She joined as a WPC in 1969, when women police were still part of an entirely separate department and rose to become a Senior Forensic Training Manager at the Metropolitan Crime Academy in Hendon.





## **Voices... Out of the Blue**

**The story of 100 years of women police officers**

**Category:** History

**Rights via RCL:** TV/Film

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Robinson

**Synopsis:** Tells the story of the 100 years of service of the women police within the Metropolitan Police: through the voices of the women who fought their way towards equality and the respect of their colleagues and the public.

The authors have interviewed hundreds of former and serving policewomen and with the co-operation of the Metropolitan Police and the Women's Police Association now have access to the files and stories of thousands of former officers who served over the past 100 years.

Those police archives, together with material held by the National Archives and private libraries, craft a detailed 'oral history' of the challenges women faced through the years. A story that is rich with fascinating human tales.

Although loosely following the chronology of the century, each chapter of the book will develop specific policing themes whilst putting each woman's account into the context of its own era. The whole will demonstrate how women officers have gone from being resented and often-bullied members of the Metropolitan Force to a position where they now hold the highest positions of authority in the police service, both in London and on the national stage.



## The Late Patience Strong

Whose prose-poems have been an inspiration to her readers from the publication of her first poem in the Daily Mirror in 1935, died in August 1990, but her work and the help and support it gives, lives on.

Her poems continue to appear on greeting cards and calendars from the Findel and Hallmark UK Groups, and from time to time, new collections of her verses are published in book form. In Spring 1991, Muller issued the first in a new series of collected poems, under the heading **THE PATIENCE STRONG TREASURY**, subtitled, **TAPESTRIES OF TIME**.



A further volume, **YESTERDAYS AND TOMORROWS**, appeared in the Spring of 1992, followed by other compilations. Muller also published her autobiography, **WITH A POEM IN MY POCKET**, and other titles, including **THE PATIENCE STRONG OMNIBUS**. Her poems have appeared regularly in the quarterly journal, *This England*, and in *Grace Magazine*: the publishers of the latter have also reissued early collections of her poems.

My Weekly republished Patience Strong's Poems, weekly, for a number of months under the heading *The Quiet Corner* during 1997, a title synonymous with her work. A Patience Strong poem was proposed for inclusion in the BBC's National Poetry Week (October 1997).

Carousel are currently publishing Patience Strong calendars.

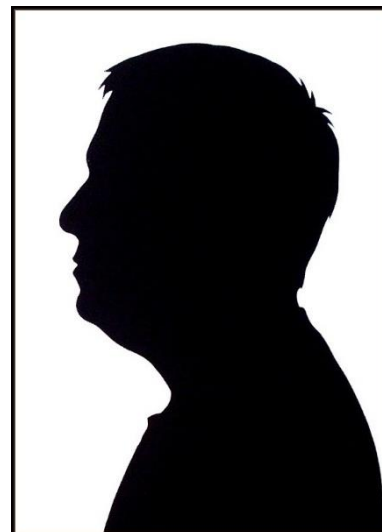


## Ben Tomlinson

Ben lives in London, and has loved writing stories from a very early age. He is a graduate of Sussex University and the Creative Writing MA at the University of East Anglia.

He worked for many years as a theatre facilitator, leading workshops and directing youth theatres with young people of all ages.

When he is not reading and writing he loves watching football, street-dancing, people-watching and exploring London.



## Loverboy

**Category:** YA Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film

**Rights sold:** World to Andersen Pres

**Synopsis:** Alfie thinks Maya might be the One. They both love the same band, and they've known each other for years. Yet when he makes a move, things go disastrously wrong.

Crushed, Alfie starts hanging out with Maya's shy best friend, Gwen – and again catches feelings. But Gwen's got secrets of her own.

Can Alfie find the girl of his dreams – or is he doomed to be single forever?



## Sue Tompkins

Practising Homoeopath and Astrologer. Consultant, teacher and writer of astrology for over twenty years, she lectures widely at home and abroad. Founder of London School of Astrology.

Fellow of the Faculty of Astrological Studies and author of the best-selling, **ASPECTS IN ASTROLOGY** originally published by Element Books and re-launched by Rider in August 2001. US rights have since sold to Inner Traditions International.

**SUE TOMPKINS' CONTEMPORARY ASTROLOGY** is published by Flare Publications.



Her professional qualifications include: BA (Hons) Psychology/History of Ideas; D.F.Astrol.S; Cert. Counselling, Southwark College; LCH - College of Homoeopathy. Post-graduate course in Homoeopathy with Jeremy Sherr.

Awards: Hon.R.C.Astrol.S - honorary qualification in Astrological Counselling; Fellowship of Faculty of Astrological Studies.

**Website:** [www.suetompkins.com](http://www.suetompkins.com)



## The Estate of Doreen Tovey

Born in Bristol in 1918 and raised by her grandparents Doreen's love of animals was fostered by her grandmother who was an inveterate rescuer of anything in need. The family shared its home with cats, dogs and an owl called Gladstone.

Having attended Grammar School she had a couple of boring jobs before joining Imperial Tobacco as a typist/secretary before graduating to their public relations department.

It was here that she met her future husband, Rene (called Charles in the books).



Doreen was the author of more than a dozen books about the life she and her husband shared with their Siamese cats and other animals in Somerset, England. The books have sold more than 120,000 copies in ten countries. They are currently being reissued by Sapere.

She was president of the Siamese Cat Club, President of the West of England Cat Club and President of the RSPCA for North Somerset.



### Backlist:

- **Double Trouble**
- **The Coming of Saska**
- **A Comfort of Cats**
- **Cats in the Belfry**
- **More Cats in the Belfry**
- **The New Boy**
- **Cats in May**
- **Raining Cats and Donkeys**

**Category:** Memoir

**Rights via RCL:** Translation Film/TV

**Synopsis:** "If you love cats... you'll enjoy every chapter of each book in this witty, warm-hearted collection." Your Cat Magazine



## Cathi Unsworth

Cathi Unsworth is a novelist, writer and editor who lives and works in London. She began her career on the legendary music weekly Sounds at the age of 19 and has worked as a writer and editor for many other music, film and arts magazines since, including The Guardian, Financial Times, Fortean Times, Bizarre, Melody Maker, Mojo, Uncut, Volume and Deadline.

Her first novel **THE NOT KNOWING** was published in 2005, followed the next year with the award-winning short story compendium **LONDON NOIR**, which she edited, and in 2007 with the punk noir novel **THE SINGER** - recently named in The I's list of 25 classic but lesser known crime novels to read during lockdown.



Her third novel, **BAD PENNY BLUES**, inspired by the unsolved 'Jack the Stripper' murders of 1959-65 was published in 2010 to great critical acclaim. This novel was also nominated a top Lockdown read by BBC Radio London's Robert Elms show in the summer of 2020. A new edition of this work, with an Introduction from Greil Marcus and an Afterword by Cathi will be available shortly from Strange Attractor Press.

Her 2012 book **WEIRDO**, a tale of teenage trauma and female transgression set on the Norfolk coast was translated into seven languages, shortlisted for the 2013 EDP-Jarrolds East Anglian Book of the Year and longlisted for the 2014 Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year, 2014 Grand Prix de Littérature Policière, 2013 Gordon Burn Prize and the 2013 New Angle Prize for Literature. **WEIRDO** was further picked as one of the Top Ten Crime Novels of the Last Decade by The Times this summer.

Two novels set in WWII followed: **WITHOUT THE MOON**, based on two true crimes that occurred during the dark days of February 1942, was also longlisted for the 2016 Gordon Burn Prize and made The Times' Crime Book of the Month on publication. **THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC**, inspired by the Hagley Woods Bella mystery and the trial of Helen Duncan for witchcraft and set between 1941-

In 2018 Cathi was approached by punk icon Jordan to collaborate on a book of her memoirs, **DEFYING GRAVITY**, which was published to great critical acclaim by Omnibus Press in May 2019.

Her latest work of non-fiction is an homage to her beloved Goth Music. **SEASON OF THE WITCH: THE BOOK OF GOTH** was published by Nine Eight books in May 2023.



As well as working on her books Cathi has appeared on TV and radio including reviewing for BBC2's The Culture Show. She regularly takes part in live events, has given screen talks at The Barbican Centre in London and organised walks, talks and spoken word gigs for The Zabłudowicz Collection, The Bishopsgate Institute, The London Adventure and The Sohemian Society. She is currently teaching novel writing for Curtis Brown Creative's online platform.

**Website:** [www.cathiunsworth.co.uk](http://www.cathiunsworth.co.uk)



### **Season of the Witch: The Book of Goth**

**Category:** Non-fiction; Pop Culture, social history

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film

**Rights sold:** World to Nine-Eight Books - Spanish, Croatian, US.

**Synopsis:** 1979. Months of industrial action throughout the winter have left the dead unburied and mountains of rubbish piling up in the streets.

After ten brutal homicides and the biggest police hunt in history, the Yorkshire Ripper is still at large and preparing to strike again.

Punk has reached its bleak climax with the fatal heroin overdose of Sid Vicious while awaiting trial for the murder of his girlfriend.

Unlikely alliances of outsiders prepare to seize power, set the political agenda and write the soundtrack for the years to come. Their figureheads are two very different kinds of dominatrices...

As Margaret Thatcher enters 10 Downing Street, four bands born of punk - Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, the Cure, and Magazine - find a way to distil the dissonance and darkness of the shifting decade into a new form of music. Pushing at the taboos the Sex Pistols had unlocked and dancing with the fetishistic, all will become global stars of goth.

By the time Thatcher is cast out of office in 1990, the arrival of goth will have imprinted on the cultural landscape as much as the Iron Lady herself.

Now, forty years since its inception, author Cathi Unsworth provides the first comprehensive overview of the music, context and lasting legacy of goth.



This is the story of how goth was shaped by the politics of the era - from the miners' strikes and privatisation to the Troubles and AIDS - as well as how its rock 'n' roll outlaw imagery and innovative, atmospheric music cross-pollinated throughout Britain and internationally, speaking to a generation of alienated youths.

A fascinating social history, *Season of the Witch* tells the tale of an enduring counter-culture, one that steadfastly refuses to give up the ghost.

### The Not Knowing

**Category:** Crime/Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film and Reprint all other translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language (now reverted), German, French

**Synopsis:** London, March 1992. Nearly a year after the release of Brit noir sensation, *Bent*, the capital is still in the grip of its cultural and stylistic impact. Diana Kemp, journalist on the alternative arts magazine *Lux*, is dismissive of the film's cult following but admires the technique of its debut director, Jon Jackson. In fact, some of her admiration has a more personal nature and when Jon disappears following a triumphant Guardian lecture, she feels the loss, acutely. Two weeks' later, Jackson's body is found in a condemned lock-up in the arches behind Camden market. A victim of his own success? Perhaps - the murder site resembles the particularly bloody final scene of *Bent*. But why would anyone want to destroy the golden boy in such a way? Attempting to put a lid on the past, Diana buries herself in work. But an assignment, at the ICA's Crimewave festival, leads her on a voyage of discovery where not knowing might be the only thing that saves her.

### The Singer

**Category:** Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film, Reprint and some translation

**Rights sold:** UK (now reverted), French

**Synopsis:** The legend goes like this: Vincent Smith met bandmates Stevie Mullin and Lynton Powell at a Sex Pistols concert, where he tried to kiss Sid Vicious' guitar and got a bloody nose. Together they formed Blood Simple, and for a while they made a lot of noise, a bit of money and caused a sensation wherever they went. Then Vincent eloped with Sylvana, singer for the ethereal Mood Violet, and it all went wrong. Six months later Sylvana committed suicide, the band fell apart, and Vincent disappeared.

That was 1981 and twenty years on, journalist Eddie Bracknell hopes the story of Blood Simple will be the making of him.



He's got a book contract and the right contacts, it's just that he can't get the different stories he's heard to fit together, never mind trying to work out what happened to Vincent. A compelling crime novel and a very modern fable, *The Singer* brings the intoxicating days of punk back onstage, with all its noisy creativity and explosive violence.

### Bad Penny Blues

**Category:** Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film, translation non-exclusive

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Strange Attractor -, French

**Synopsis:** PC Pete Bradley has one year done in the force and dreams of moving up the ladder. He is working a routine nightshift when he stumbles across a woman's body. She was a working prostitute when she was strangled and dumped by a riverbank. Pete's search for her killer brings him deep into Soho's underbelly, as more bodies are found. Meanwhile Stella, a young fashion designer, is woken by terrifying nightmares that echo the last hours of the dead women.

1960s London explodes in all its ferocious colour, with fascists and Teds, migrants and hippies living in close proximity. *Bad Penny Blues* grips and chills, a thriller with a twisted mystery at its heart.

### Weirdo

**Category:** Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film, Reprint and translation

**Rights sold:** UK (reverted), US, German, French, Italian, Swedish

**Synopsis:** Corinne Woodrow was fifteen when she was convicted of murdering one of her classmates on a summer's evening in 1984. A year when teenagers of Ernemouth ran wild, dressing in black and staying out all night, listening to music that terrified their parents.

Twenty years later, new forensic evidence suggests Corinne didn't act alone.

Private Investigator, Sean Ward - whose promising career as a detective with the Met was cut short by a teenage gangster with a gun - reopens the case, and discovers a town full of dark secrets, and a community that has always looked after its own.

**Without the Moon****Category:** Crime Fiction**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film, translation and reprint**Rights Sold:** US**Synopsis:** Hush, hush, hush... Here comes the Bogeyman...

London during the long, dark days of the Blitz: a city outwardly in ruins, weakened by exhaustion and rationing.

But behind the blackout, the old way of life continues: in the music halls, pubs and cafes, soldiers mix with petty crooks, stage magicians with lonely wives, scandal-hungry reporters with good-time girls - and DCI Edward Greenaway keeps a careful eye on everyone.

Out on the streets, something nastier is stirring: London's prostitutes are being murdered, their bodies left mutilated to taunt the police. And in the shadows Greenaway's old adversaries in organised crime are active again, lured in by rich pickings on the black market.

As he follows a bloody trail through backstreets and boudoirs, Greenaway must use all his skill - and everything he knows about the city's underworld - to stop the slaughter.



### That Old Black Magic

**Category:** Crime Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film, reprint and translation

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Serpent's Tail (now reverted)

**Synopsis:** *If you go down in the woods today,*

*You'd better not go alone*

*It's lovely down in the woods today,*

*But safer to stay at home...*

April 1943: the body of a woman, her mouth stuffed with a length of cloth, is found in an enormous elm tree. Mysterious graffiti starts appearing across the Midlands: 'Who put Bella in the Wych Elm?'

To police officer Ross Spooner, the messages hold a sinister meaning. He's been on the track of a German spy ring who have left a trail of black magic and mayhem across England, and this latest murder bears all the hallmarks of an ancient ritual.

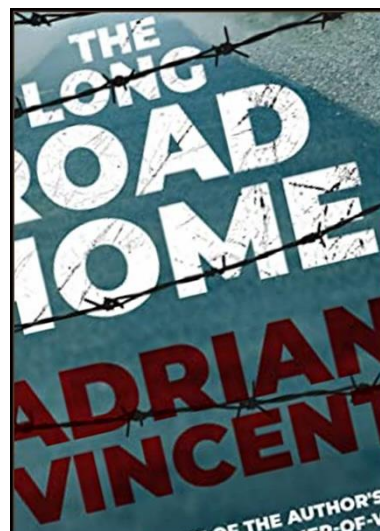
At the same time, Spooner is investigating the case of Helen Duncan, a medium whose messages from the spirit world contain highly classified information. As the establishment joins ranks against Duncan, Spooner must face demons from his own past, uncover the spies hiding beneath the fabric of wartime society - and confront those who suspect that he, too, may not be all he seems...

This sequel to *Without the Moon*, is a pitch-black murder mystery from the Queen of Noir.



## The Late Adrian Vincent

Involved with Victorian Water-colours and general antiques for many years, he decided to put some of his wide knowledge of these fields into book form. He published **ANTIQUES FOR ALL** and two volumes on Victorian Water-colours, one featuring **VICTORIAN CHILDREN** and the other, **VICTORIAN RURAL LIFE**. **NINETEENTH CENTURY MARITIME WATERCOLOURS** was published in by David & Charles, followed by **TRADITIONAL BRITISH PAINTERS 1889/1989** and **A COMPANION TO VICTORIAN & EDWARDIAN ARTISTS**.



Wearing another literary hat, Adrian Vincent was a respected novelist, and also published compilations of true crime stories. Little, Brown published his **FATAL PASSIONS** and **A GALLERY OF POISONERS** and Headline, **KILLERS IN UNIFORM**. Long out of print these were recently reissued by Lume, while his prisoner of war memoir, **THE LONG ROAD HOME** was published by Sapere. Translation rights are available in all titles.



### Fatal Passions

**Category:** Non fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Lume

**Synopsis:** An inconvenient wife, a suspicious husband, a lover who refuses to leave - the flip-side of love can all too easily turn out to be murderous hatred.

In trunks, under floorboards, in remote ravines - even in their own beds - the bodies of those for whom their lovers' passion proved fatal have been found, and often through the stench of decay. In sixteen fascinating case histories, *Fatal Passions* tells the true stories of those who have literally loved someone to death.



## **Killers in Uniform**

**Category:** Non fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Lume

**Synopsis:** These are the true stories of murderers who were beyond suspicion...

A person in uniform is automatically seen as someone who can be trusted, their clothes a symbol of responsibility and authority. Yet here are over thirty true stories of real life murderers who abused the trust of the public, their patients, their friends and their colleagues, indulging in chilling killing sprees

## **A Gallery of Poisoners**

**Category:** Non fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Lume

**Synopsis:** Here are thirteen cases of fatal passions, unfortunate acquaintances and gruesome endings.

The thirteen killings-by-poison revisited in this book were committed by some of the most infamous murderers in British and American history. Presenting infamous cases from 1857 - 1972, Adrian Vincent recounts their sinister tales and reveals the lure of money, lust and deviancy that drove them to pure evil.

## **The Long Road Home**

**Category:** Memoir/Military History

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Sapere

**Synopsis:** The honest account of one prisoner-of-war's struggle to survive through five years of Nazi imprisonment. An essential book for readers of Horace Greasley, Alistair Urquhart and Heather Morris.

On a cold May morning in 1940, Adrian Vincent arrived in France with his battalion.

His war didn't last long. Within five days the Siege of Calais was over and nearly all his comrades were killed, wounded or, like him, taken prisoner.

After a brutal journey across the breadth of Germany, Vincent and his fellow survivors began their life in Stalag VIIIIB, set to work in terrible conditions down a Polish mine.

For the next five years they waged a war not against enemy soldiers, but instead versus monotony, disease, cruelty, starvation and hopelessness.



## Ruth Wade

A novelist and creative writing lecturer. Combining her love of researching the lives of ordinary people in extraordinary times and her life-long fascination with society between the two world wars, her books explore individual dilemmas in an historically accurate milieu of the 1920s.

Writing as B.K. Duncan, her first novel, **FOUL TRADE**, was published by Oak Tree Press and was shortlisted for The People's Book Award 2016. This is the first in a series of crime novels set in London's East End and featuring May Louise Keeps, Officer to the Poplar Coroner. Rights to this reverted earlier this year and the novel will be reissued in December 2017, alongside its follow-up **FOUND DROWNED** in February 2018 by Bloodhound Books.



Writing as Ruth Wade her novels, **A FATAL RHYTHM** and **DANCING WITH DEATH** were released as eBooks by Endeavour Press but rights have now reverted. She went on to complete the psychological novel, **WALLS OF SILENCE** which has just been published by Bloodhound Books. Her writing credits include: contributing articles to Living Spain magazine, collaborating with Cambridge Arts Theatre on a writers' mentoring programme, writing book reviews and articles for Mystery Women magazine, being commissioned by Working Partners Ltd to write a psychological crime novel.

She has moderated panels of internationally best-selling crime authors, contributed to the Harrogate International Crime Writing Festival, coached aspiring and established authors, run an after-school writing club for primary school children and memoir writing sessions in an old peoples' day centre, and delivered numerous creative writing workshops.

Ruth's proudest moments have been when she went pot holing in the Pennines (despite her fear of cold, dark, water), and learning to ride a motorbike at the age of forty. Not far behind is the achievement of weeding around every one of the 1,500 vines in her vineyard clinging to the slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Spain. And her greatest claim to fame - so far - was having the good fortune to be born on Sheffield Park station in East Sussex, in the railway house that is now the headquarters of the Bluebell Steam Railway.

When not engaged in all of the above, Ruth is primarily occupied with the unceasing demands of living in an old cottage - shinning up scaffolding to re-point the flint walls, chopping logs and heaving coal, and wrestling with a third of an acre of brambles. But, somehow, she always finds the time to laugh with friends.



## Walls Of Silence

**Category:** Fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** *"The patient has a story that isn't told and which no one knows of. It is the secret, the rock against which he is shattered."* Carl Jung

The Great War is over and the collective memory is conspiring to pretend that life can return to a more innocent time. Nowhere more so than in the small agricultural village of Fletching, nestled in the Sussex Downs. Only, for one of its inhabitants, an equally devastating conflict is about to begin.

The first skirmish came with Dr. Potter's death at the hands of an intruder. Released from the stultifying burden of being her father's carer, Edith mourned little and looked forward to a middle age of good works, intellectual pursuits, and tending her prize roses. But try as she might to be accepted in her new role, the villagers persist in regarding her as aloof, too clever by half, and disturbingly different. And they're not far wrong. Because Edith Potter has a secret, one so terrible that her conscious mind doesn't acknowledge she possesses it. Fed by the energy of her new-found activity it festers and grows until the day comes when events conspire to explode the truth into the world and Edith's only option is to retreat into catatonic withdrawal.

But it is 1927 and, from the study and treatment of shell-shock victims, the new science of psychoanalysis has emerged. Dr. Stephen Maynard is a clinician with pretensions of being the best and so it is inevitable that, from his first meeting with Edith in the lunatic asylum, he won't allow her to remain in blissful ignorance for much longer. But not only has he underestimated the depth of disturbance in Edith's mind, he also doesn't bargain for there being someone equally determined she should maintain her silence. His very existence depends upon it and he is prepared to use whatever weapons he can to ensure the Doctor does not succeed.

Walls Of Silence is a profound, disturbing and compelling portrait of one person's battle for acceptance and survival



## A Fatal Rhythm

**Category:** Fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Lume

**Synopsis:** It's 1925. Thirty-year-old Cora Grenville, daughter of The Rt Honourable Henry Fitzsimons MP, is emerging out of mourning for her husband.

Although recognised as a society beauty and philanthropist, neither her marriage nor her life to date has fulfilled her.

Longing to find something to ignite her passions once more, she decides to spend the summer in Granada; writing a book about the Gypsies of Andalusia might be just the tonic she needs.

Unable to persuade her friend Hermione to travel with her, Cora flouts convention by taking a working class girl, Violet Brown, as her maid and companion.

Long, lazy days in the sunshine, the charming house on the Alhambra Hill, and the attentions of an enigmatic and handsome Spaniard all lead her to believe she has successfully recreated the world of the Romantic Traveller.

But dark forces are at work to rob her of this illusion: the Gypsies connive to steal her fortune; anarchists want her as a hostage for their cause; and the man she thought was her protector, has sinister designs of his own.

*A Fatal Rhythm* is an intriguing and thrilling mystery set against the backdrop of the Spanish sun.

## Dancing with Death

**Category:** Fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film and TV

**Rights sold:** WEL Lume

**Synopsis:** Havana in 1925 thrills to the heartbeat of the sensuous rumba but it is also a place of corruption, state oppression, and rum...

Gangs of racketeers smuggling liquor into Prohibition America protect their operations with sprays of Tommy Gun bullets, providing political militants with the excuse they need to galvanise ordinary Cubans into fighting to regain control of their country.

Girardo Ramos, a cleaner in a racketeer-owned casino, is one such would-be hero.



An informer for the agitators, they persuade him to make himself indispensable to the rum-runners who, in turn, blackmail him into operating as one of their own spies.

The streets of Havana are dark and dangerous places and Girardo finds it impossible to know whom to trust.

Being framed for a murder he didn't commit, a gun battle in the baking hot sugar fields, and torture at the hands of the secret police all test his resolve.

However, it is when he falls in love with Adel, the girlfriend of the racketeer boss, that Girardo faces choices that put at risk not only his own future but also that of the revolution.

*Dancing with Death* is a gripping thriller, rife with emotion, suspense and intrigue set in sunny Cuba

### **Foul Trade (as B.K. Duncan)**

**Category:** Fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation, Film/TV

**Rights sold:** Large Print, Audio

**Synopsis:** A new series set in London in the 1920s featuring May Keaps, officer to the Poplar Coroner. Investigating the death of a young woman, draws May into the dark heart of the Chinese underworld and their drug gangs bringing danger much closer to home than she could possibly have foreseen. A vivid and compelling slice of East End life that will appeal to all fans of the genre.

### **Found Drowned (as B.K. Duncan)**

**Category:** Fiction - Crime/Historical

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** On streets where poverty and exploitation walk hand-in-hand, everyone has a price. And some are more valuable dead than alive, but to whom? The discovery of a body in the River Thames leads May Keaps to believe that when children go missing, the answer is to follow the money. Except she has underestimated the corrupting influence of power...

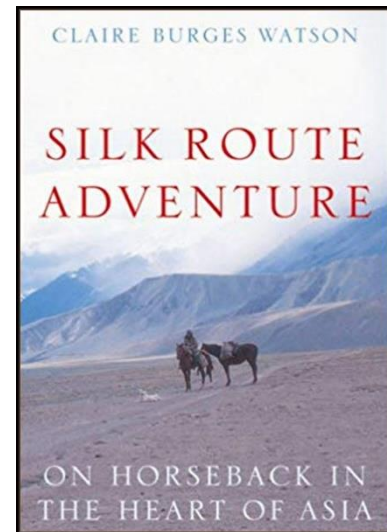


## Claire Burges Watson

Daughter of a diplomat, graduate of Magdalen College, Oxford, high-flying trader with a leading stockbroking company in Hong Kong, Claire gave it all up to follow her dream of embarking on a solo, four-thousand mile horseback ride across Central Asia.

Funding it all herself, she raised in excess of £40,000 in aid of an orphanage she had already funded in Burma, and other charities in the area.

The story of her journey, which took her through the inhospitable terrain of Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, is graphically told in her book, entitled **SILK ROUTE ADVENTURE: ON HORSEBACK IN THE HEART OF ASIA**, illustrated with her own photographs taken throughout her months away.



Originally published by Robert Hale, **SILK ROUTE ADVENTURE** is now being reissued by Lume.





### **Silk Route Adventure**

**Category:** Travel/Memoir

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English eBook and POD to Lume

**Synopsis:** Rebelling against the predictability of banking life, and with only her wits to equip her, Claire sets off on her own on an eighteen-month, 6,000-kilometre horseback adventure across Central Asia.

"Silk Route Adventure" takes you through rolling Mongolian prairie lands, monotonous Kazakh steppes, scales 4,000-metre passes in Kyrgyzstan, and crosses the black sands of the Karakum Desert in Turkmenistan. Throughout the journey, the author overcomes numerous obstacles and dangers, such as drunken and sometimes violent guides, hostile border police, raging rivers, snow-bound passes and seemingly endless stretches of desert. She fights to keep her horses alive and supplied with fodder in the bitter Kazakh winter and the unbearable heat of the Fergana Valley.

In contrast to her remote and often harsh surroundings, coupled with the brutal realities of life in Central Asia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, she encounters the warm tradition of nomadic hospitality, witnessing a way of life largely untouched by modernity. Woven into the story of her adventure, Claire sets Mongolia and the 'Stans' in their historical context tracing their history from the height of Genghis Khan's time to their absorption into the Soviet Union when they were largely forgotten by the West.

Illustrated with 100 superb colour photographs and an immensely detailed map of the route, "Silk Route Adventure" is an enthralling account of a seemingly impossible journey completed by a determined and eminently resourceful woman.



## Mark Westmoquette

After a traumatic childhood and adolescence, at the age of 18 Mark decided to bury his head in studies and escape to the farthest reaches of the universe - he went to university to study Astrophysics.

After receiving his PhD in 2007, he went on to become a research astronomer.

However, in response to a feeling that he wanted to do something more people-based, and oriented around his developing Zen Buddhist practice, in 2013 he quit his research job and took up teaching yoga and mindfulness.



In 2015 he underwent a short training period as an ordained Zen monk that included a 4-week pilgrimage walk through the UK, and in 2016 was given permission to teach in the Rinzaï Zen lineage of Julian Daizan Skinner Roshi.

He was regularly teaching classes, courses and workshops in yoga, mindfulness and Zen in London but in 2019, he and his wife moved to the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic for 2 years for an adventure - and to concentrate on writing. Now returned to the UK, Mark is exploring new ideas and enjoying fatherhood.





## Zen and the Art of Dealing with Difficult People

**Category:** Self Help

**Rights sold:** World (Watkins) – Spanish, Portuguese and German

**Synopsis:** This is a unique guide to coping with challenging people using practical Zen and mindfulness tools. It helps readers explore their reactions, break free from knee-jerk response patterns and see if these people may in fact prove to be useful teachers in life - troublesome Buddhas.

This is a guide to applying the teachings of mindfulness and Zen to the troublesome or challenging people in our lives. Perhaps you can see there's often a pattern to your behaviour in relation to them and that it often causes pain - perhaps a great deal of pain. The only way we can grow is by facing this pain, acknowledging how we feel and how we've reacted, and making an intention or commitment to end this repeating pattern of suffering.

In this book, Mark Westmoquette speaks from a place of profound personal experience. A Zen monk, he has endured two life-changing traumas caused by other people: his sexual abuse by his own father; and his stepfather's death and mother's very serious injury in a car crash due to the careless driving of an off-duty policeman. He stresses that by bringing awareness and kindness to these relationships, our initial stance of "I can't stand this person, they need to change" will naturally shift into something much broader and more inclusive. The book makes playful use of Zen koans - apparently nonsensical phrases or stories - to help jar us out of habitual ways of perceiving the world and nudge us toward a new perspective of wisdom and compassion.