



# Client List

## **RUPERT CREW LIMITED**

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Caroline Montgomery



## 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 has written across a variety of styles including Western, Fantasy, Horror and Adventure.

His novels are currently being reissued by Endeavour Media. Translation rights available.

Marc lives in London.



## 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...



## **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...

## **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..?



## **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 he 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.



## 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 appears at his website where he publicises and promotes his work.



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 and Germany. It received the accolade of being included in the Chicago Review of the Best Nature writing of 2017!

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





## **The Plant Apostles**

**Category:** Science

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – book proposal available

**Synopsis:** The Plant Apostles, in a work of about 70,000 words, will tell the story of the plant scientists sent forth by Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) as his 'Apostles' to travel the world in search of specimens of plants previously unknown in Sweden. Michael's book will relate their work to the Linnaean project of classification, and, more widely, to the search for plants that could be grown for food, raw materials, medicine, or ornament, as garden plants. A fascinating, colourful story, not without its problems in the 18<sup>th</sup> century!

## **The Cabbage Bites Back**

**Category:** Science

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – book proposal available

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** Plants feed the planet. Every animal on earth, including you and me, depends on them. Even the meat-eaters among us eat animals that ate plants prior to their unfortunate demise. This arrangement may seem perfectly right and proper to us, but in this book prize-winning author Michael Allaby tries looking at the relationship from the plants' point of view. After all, what's in it for them? We can grin happily at the pile on our plates, but you can't possibly think being eaten does the plants any good.

You won't be surprised to learn, then, that plants go to great lengths to avoid being eaten and *The Cabbage Bites Back* lists them. Did you know, for example, that when people first started eating cabbages they thought of them as medicine and were careful not to overdose? Or that before you can eat tapioca or quinoa you need to remove the poisons with which they try to protect themselves? Then there are the tough hides, thorns, prickles, stinging hairs, and other devices plants have acquired over the generations.

But animals are cunning, too, not to say downright sneaky, and they've found ingenious ways to bypass the defences or, in many cases, to exploit them, turning a plant's defence into a vulnerability. Try to poison us, would you? We'll harvest your poison and use it to cure ourselves. Hide beneath a thick skin? That skin is just the thing for sealing our wine bottles.



## Richard Allport

Richard qualified from the Royal Veterinary College in London in 1973. Shortly after setting up his own veterinary practice in Hertfordshire in 1980, he became interested in a holistic approach to health for pets. He began training in Acupuncture and Homeopathy and was one of the first few vets to become a Veterinary Member of the Faculty of Homeopathy.



Richard has extended his interests in holistic medicine into other areas, including Bach Flower essences, Herbal treatment, Nutrition and Crystal therapy. He is the first veterinary surgeon to become qualified to practice Electro Crystal Therapy.

He is a member of the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors and Vice President of the British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons. Richard lectures widely on natural medicines for pets and writes for magazines such as Cat World and Dogs Today. He also broadcasts regularly on radio and television.

In 1997 Richard Allport published two books with Mitchell Beazley - **NATURAL MEDICINE FOR DOGS** and **NATURAL MEDICINE FOR CATS** paperback editions published Spring 2000. Natural Healthcare For Pets - was a Thorsons Autumn 2001 publication.

Richard combines writing and broadcasting with running his busy natural veterinary medicine practice. He lives in Hertfordshire with his wife, their two children, five guinea pigs and a Bedlington Terrier.

His book, **HEAL YOUR DOG THE NATURAL WAY** has been republished under the Pen & Sword Remember When imprint.

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



## The Late Juliette Alvin

Music Therapist and the earliest 20th Century exponent of the therapeutic effects of music for the autistic and mentally-impaired.

Founder of the British Society for Music Therapy, her book **MUSIC THERAPY**, originally published by John Baker in 1966, has continued publication through a number of editions, issued respectively by Hutchinson, John Clare Books and more recently by Stainer and Bell.

The book is also published in several translated editions, but expressions of interest in rights are warmly welcomed.



### Music Therapy

**Category:** Non fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Reprint  
**Rights sold:** Spanish (rights now reverted in Japanese, Italian, German, editions)



## Mark Barratt

Born and bred in London and lives with his wife and three children 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. (Translation rights via RCL)

Mark's first novel, **JOE RAT**, an historical novel for children set in Victorian London, is the first of two titles, commissioned and contracted by Random House Children's Books. The publisher controls world publishing rights. Film/TV via RCL. **JOE RAT**, published in March 2008 to critical acclaim, was long-listed for the Waterstone's Children's Book Award and, more recently, was long-listed for the Brandford Boase Award and Short-listed for the Stockton Children's Book Award.

His second novel, **THE WILD MAN** was published in May 2009. He has also undertaken a commission for Hothouse Fiction.





## **Ian McKellen**

**Category:** Non-fiction/biography

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language to Virgin 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.

Option for the legitimate stage rights in Cecil Beaton's books has been secured by Robert Trachtenberg's US production company. Beaudesert are producing Fabrics and Wallpaper with Cecil Beaton designs.

Rizzoli USA (who published **THE GLASS OF FASHION** in September 2014) have also been granted an option to contract for **CECIL BEATON'S NEW YORK**.

A beautiful, new 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 just been completed.



Finally, we are delighted to announce that Sapere is now commencing 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 this year 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 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

**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.



## Thea Bennett

Thea Bennett grew up in South London but also spent many of her formative years in rural South Wales. After reading Classics at London University, she took a postgraduate acting course and embarked on a career in the theatre and television. She has been seen on the small screen in *The Bill*, *EastEnders*, *Casualty* and Stephen Poliakoff's *Perfect Strangers*, taking a variety of roles from tragic to comic - she worked with Paul Merton on his own TV series.



Alongside her acting work, Thea has taken on all kinds of other jobs while "resting". She has worked for the Police answering 999 calls, helped out a lambing time on a local farm and worked as a research assistant to Barry Turner when he was writing his book about the Kindertransport.

Currently Thea mostly works as an actor in the business world, as a role-player on training courses for management development and she is also taking a MA in Creative Writing at Birkbeck.

As a writer, Thea has published two novelisations of children's TV serials: **A LITTLE SILVER TRUMPET** for the BBC, and **THE GEMINI FACTOR** for Thames Methuen.

Having contributed **MURO THE RAT MONSTER** to Working Partners Beast Quest series, Hothouse Fiction commissioned two books for their **CITY FARM** series and further commissions for another of their series **THE FAIRY ANIMALS OF MISTY WOOD**. She has worked with Awesome Media and Entertainment, as well as exploring her own projects for the young adult market.

On the adult front, Thea contracted with WP2 to contribute to their Martha Ockley Crime Series with **A SAINTLY KILLING**.

On the non-fiction front, Thea has written a **HISTORY OF LONDON GIN** for Golden Guides Press which was published Autumn 2013. The rights are now controlled by the author who is planning an updated edition, as 'interest' in Gin increases!

When she is not writing, she loves to potter about her 18th century cottage, read and spend time with her parrot!

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



## Susan Bentley

Former librarian and established novelist, has enjoyed a phenomenal success with her Magic animal series for Puffin. **MAGIC KITTEN**, launched with four titles in July 2006, and was followed by eleven more! Translation rights via publisher.

The books were such a success that a spin-off series featuring a **MAGIC PUPPY** made its appearance in April 2008- there were fifteen titles, here, too.

**MAGIC KITTEN** was chosen to represent Puffin for World Book Day 2008, going into the Best Seller listings.



**MAGIC PONIES** entered the field - cantering in during March 2009 with two titles, **A SPECIAL WISH** and **A NEW FRIEND!** A further six titles followed and Sue was then commissioned to write a new series featuring Arrow the Magic Bunny, who made his first appearance in Spring 2010.

She was also accorded the great honour of contributing to Puffin's 70th birthday celebratory Pocket Money Puffin list, with a book about a magic Puffin!

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of publication, Puffin is reissuing the series in 2016.

Sue was a regular contributor to the Animal Ark and Animal Ark Pets series under the Lucy Daniels pseudonym and, writing as Daisy Meadows, to Working Partners' Rainbow Fairies series, with **SAFFRON: THE YELLOW FAIRY**; **SKY: THE BLUE FAIRY** and **PLUM: THE VIOLET FAIRY**, as well as three titles in their Weather Fairies series. These were followed by two S Club novels for Puffin. All rights via publisher.

Sue contributed to another children's series, for Stripes Publishing, called the **FAIRIES OF STARSHINE MEADOW**. The first four titles were published in September 06 as part of the Stripes Launch list. And, despite her hectic schedule, the author has written two further titles for this series. This series has enjoyed overseas success with translation rights selling to France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Brazil and Turkey.

Her YA urban fantasy novel, **WE OTHER**, originally published by Everything with Words is now available for reprint and translation.

Sue has just completed another YA fantasy novel provisionally entitled **SECOND SKIN**.

**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:** YA/Crossover Fantasy

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:** World to Everything With Words

**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 - "ho-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:** YA Fantasy

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** an exciting richly detailed fantasy/ para-normal 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.

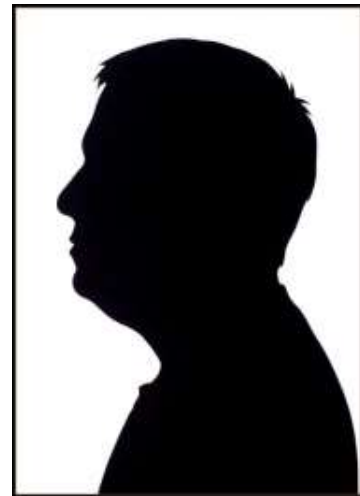
Rich in diversity, and set against a background inspired by the early landscape of Native America, where colliding cultures battle for supremacy, Second Skin poses the question what is the shape of Love? Is it possible for love to flourish between two opposing races, when built on sorrow, lies and deceit?



## Shyam Bhatia

Shyam Bhatia is an award winning British journalist and author of books about nuclear weapons proliferation, South Asia and war reporting in the Middle East. He was Commonwealth and Africa correspondent, Middle East correspondent and Diplomatic Editor of the Observer.

He was subsequently posted to Washington DC as US correspondent of the Deccan Herald newspaper in India. One of his earlier ground-breaking stories about the plight of the Marsh Arabs of southern Iraq won him the International Reporter of the Year prize in the annual British Press awards.



The prize followed earlier commendations for his reports from Lebanon, Sudan and Palestine. Some of the political leaders he has interviewed from the region include Yasser Arafat, Iran's Hashemi Rafsanjani. Kuwait's Sheikh Nasser, Sudan's Omar Bashir, Israel's Yitzhak Shamir, Shimon Peres and Binyamin Netanyahu.



### Bullets and Bylines

**Category:** Non-Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All excluding South Asia

**Synopsis:** This is his first-hand account of life as a foreign correspondent, one of the lucky few who has lived to recall and recount unique survival stories, including his eyewitness experience of a mini massacre on the Kabul to Kandahar highway, followed by his own detention, torture and daily threats of execution by the mujahidin.



## Steve & Megumi Biddle

The husband and wife team who specialise in teaching, demonstrating and creating aspects and items of their expertise in the Crafts area. Steve is British, Megumi, Japanese and their combination is truly a tour de force.

Steve is a teacher of Origami, who practises his craft, with his wife, in schools, on television etc., and in Cabaret. (Megumi thrice appeared with Bruce Forsyth on the 'Generation Game'). 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. She and her husband have produced origami designs for commercial use (advertising, etc.) and their first book - for children - **THINGS TO MAKE IN THE HOLIDAYS** was published as an original paperback by Beaver (now Red Fox), Summer 1988. This was followed by **NEWSPAPER MAGIC**, **THE PAINT AND PRINT FUN BOOK**, **CAT'S CRADLE AND OTHER STRING GAMES**, **AMAZING FLYING OBJECTS** and the Autumn 1990 success, **AMAZING ORIGAMI FOR CHILDREN** and **MAKE YOUR OWN GREETINGS CARDS** was their Red Fox Summer 1992 creation. Then came **THE CHRISTMAS ORIGAMI BOOK** (Red Fox 1993) with **ORIGAMI SAFARI** a Spring 1994 publication. **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.



Eddison-Sadd Edition/Connections (published Autumn 2003) Steve & Megumi's book, titled: **ORIGAMI FOR HARMONY & HAPPINESS**.

The Biddles have been described in the media as "the undisputed champions of children's origami."

Their books are illustrated by Megumi, (who is also interested to illustrate the work of other authors and to provide jacket illustrations,) and additionally illustrated **THE BEST CHRISTMAS** for ELT Pearson. (A portfolio of her work is available.)

**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.

W. H. Smith have been most enthusiastic about the Biddles and their work and have supported promotional activities at their shops to stimulate book sales.



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**. The work is published in the UK by British Museum Publications (October 1998). It has been a best-seller on both sides of the Atlantic. A French translation edition has also been published. 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. All rights with the publisher.

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

Dover Publications contracted to reissue, in November 2013, two of the Steve and Megumi's earlier books, **MAKE YOUR OWN GREETINGS CARDS** and **PAPER CAPERS**.

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





**Origami Magic**

**Category:** Craft

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Eddison-Sadd)

**Rights sold:** USA Publish (Tuttle)

UK Publish (Connections)

**Synopsis:** New book focusing on the “magical” elements of Origami.



## Daniel Blythe

Daniel is an acclaimed writer of novels for children and adults - as well as a writer of non-fiction on subjects as diverse as popular music, politics, collecting gadgets and games, parenting and the history of robotics.

He has written several of the official Doctor Who books licensed by the BBC. Daniel's first book with a teenage narrator was 1999's **THE CUT** (Penguin).

In 2012 his first supernatural fantasy novel for young readers, **SHADOW RUNNERS**, was published. **EMERALD GREENE AND THE WITCH STONES** (for age 9-12) was published in 2014 and a sequel **EMERALD GREENE: INSTRUMENTS OF DARKNESS** in 2017.

Daniel's first Badger Learning novel **NEW DAWN** (for reluctant readers) came out in Autumn 2015, and his further reluctant reader books are **I SPY** (nominated for the Leicester Reading Rampage Award 2018) **FASCINATION**, **KILL ORDER**, **HOPE AND TRUTH** and **KISS THE SKY**.

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 in Sheffield, with his wife and their two teenage children.

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





## Exiles

**Category:** SF Adventure/older teen

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**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 Endeavour Media

**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 Endeavour Media

**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 Endeavour Media

**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.



## **Dr Hartley Booth OBE**

Educated at Cambridge and Bristol Universities, Hartley qualified as a Barrister and was in practice between 1970 and 1984.

The first Barrister to be appointed as Special Advisor to the Prime Minister working in 10 Downing Street between 1984 and 1988, he gave policy advice on law and order and the environment, ending up as the senior advisor in the Prime Minister's Policy Unit.



In 1988 he was appointed as first Chief Executive of British Urban Development Ltd., a company launched by the Prime Minister with the backing of the eleven largest companies in Britain's civil engineering and construction industry with combined capitalisation of £16 billion with the aim of rebuilding Britain's declining inner cities. He was also appointed as the first Chairman of the British Urban Regeneration Association.

In 1991 Hartley was selected to follow Margaret Thatcher in her Parliamentary Seat, Finchley. Elected to Parliament the following year, he was among the first handful to join the Ministerial team of the Government. Chairman of a range of Parliamentary Committees, he held two Ministerial positions in the Foreign Office and the Department of Education and Employment through the following five years, when the constituency was removed by the "Boundary Commission".

In 1998 the Labour Government appointed him to be Chairman of the Uzbek-British Trade & Industry Council - a position he held until July 2012.

Until recently, Hartley was an adviser to one of the largest global law firms in the world, Dentons. He is currently a Consultant to Gregg Latchams Solicitors of Bristol and London.

Founder & Former Chairman of three National Charitable Bodies: the British Urban Regeneration Association the British Uzbek Society & Resources Autism. He is also a Trustee of a Sainsbury Charitable Trust. Awarded an OBE in 2010, he was also awarded the Order of Knighthood (Dostlik) in Uzbekistan in 2011.

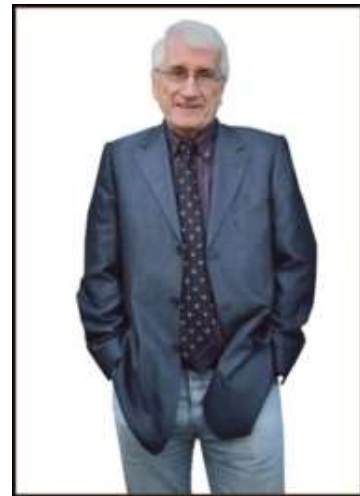
Hartley has written and edited a number of books, including a standard text book on extradition. He was a former periodic feature writer for the Daily Telegraph and also wrote a book of illustrated nonsense poetry.

Married for 40 years with three children, his hobbies include restoring ancient buildings and planting trees.



## 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 feels 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.

Kevin recently contracted with Endeavour Quill for a new detective series set in East Germany entitled *Kandler's Way*. And Endeavour Media will reissue his memoir, **WALKING THE LINE: SCENES FROM AN ARMY CHILDHOOD**.





## **The Berlin Crossing**

**Category:** Fiction/espionage

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World Rights sold to Headline who have already concluded a deal for Polish translation rights

**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:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Headline

**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 off 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?



## **Kandler's Way**

**Category:** Crime Fiction

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

**Rights sold:** World English language rights to Endeavour Quill

**Synopsis:** June 1961: At the summit in Vienna, Soviet Premier Nikita Krushchev and President John F Kennedy trade nuclear threats.

In Berlin, at the Cold War frontline, tensions run high. East German boss, Walter Ulbricht, assures assembled reporters that the GDR has no plans to build a Wall in the city.

In the Soviet sector of the city, Sergeant Karl Kandler of the Volkspolizei faces a personal and professional dilemma. Kandler, orphaned survivor of World War II, has so far refused to join the ruling Socialist Party, and so finds his way barred to promotion. Kandler is prepared to accept his lot but, when he learns that his 18-year old half-sister, Lori, will be denied a place at university because of his attitude, Kandler gives in. Reluctantly he applies for membership of the Party.

Kandler is immediately taken off traffic duty and returned to detective work.

His first assignment, however, seems to Kandler a poisoned chalice. A so-called suicide is obviously the victim of a violent killing; Kandler discovers concealed photographs which may link the dead girl to an eminent Party member, Matthias Friedland. Herr Friedland is the father of Lori's friend and classmate, Christa, the beautiful teenager for whom Karl Kandler has formed a deep but undeclared infatuation.

The way to safety - and to promotion - is for Kandler to rubber-stamp the 'findings' of the Vopo suicide inquiry. Karl Kandler's way is his own obstinate way.

Conscious of the dangers to himself and Lori, Kandler undertakes a personal quest for the truth. His way leads him through a world of corruption which spans all levels of East German leadership and straddles all sectors of occupied Berlin.

Just weeks later, despite Ulbricht's denials, the Wall mushrooms out of a dark night and Kandler's task is made tougher: now he must find his way through the corruption of a city that is divided by the Berlin Wall.



## Catherine Bruton

Catherine studied English at Oxford then worked for some years as a teacher at St Paul's Girls School in London before accidentally becoming a journalist after the birth of her son. Six years on, she returned to teaching and continues to contribute regularly to The Times' feature supplement 'Times 2' mainly on parenting, education and health topics, as well as for a variety of other parenting and pregnancy magazines. She lives just outside Bath with her husband, Jonny, and their two young children.



Her first novel **OF SILENCE AND SLOW TIME** was published in 2004 and we were delighted to welcome her to our list with a new novel for the young adult market, **WE CAN BE HEROES**. World English Language rights sold to Egmont as part of a 2-book deal and it became a summer 2011 publication. The novel was nominated for the Centurion Award, the Redbridge Children's Book Award, The Carnegie Medal and the Branford Boase Award. And a film of the book, starring Alison Steadman and Phil Davis is now in post production and due for release later this year.

**POP!**, Catherine's second novel published in July 2012, and was followed by **I PREDICT A RIOT** Summer 2014.

Following her contribution to Badger's Teen Reads series with **S/HE** (published January 2017) Catherine has contributed two further titles for the Badger list - **ME<sup>2</sup>** and **Refugee Kid**.

We are now delighted to announce that she has signed a two book contract with Nosy Crow. The novels are provisionally entitled **NO BALLET SHOES IN SYRIA** and **THE OTHER TWIST GIRL**. The Publisher holds world rights.

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





## **I Predict A Riot**

**Category:** Children's Fiction/Crossover  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film and TV  
**Rights sold:** World English Language to Egmont.  
Film/TV optioned to Thomasina Gibson  
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 heartbreaking 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:** Translation/Film and TV  
**Rights sold:** World English language rights sold to Egmont  
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:** Translation/Film and TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language to Egmont

**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 Endeavour Media

**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



## Wendy Buonaventura

Wendy is a contender to be reckoned with in the world of dance. Her book, **SERPENT OF THE NILE**, was selected as an Observer Book of the Year and is regarded as the classic work on the subject of Women and dance in the Arab world. It has sold over 20,000 copies in the English language editions alone, and continues to sell well.

In, **I PUT A SPELL ON YOU**, the author takes a broader spectrum showing how, throughout the ages, social and theatre dance has been banned for its sexual content, the women discouraged from performing in public. She explores the revolution of dancers against constraining conventions of female behaviour and attempts to control women's sexuality. The book examines the perceived threat of dancers to society, as well as the historic fascination accorded them. Saqi Books published in August 2003, with a special launch in the foyer of the National Theatre. Published by Da Capo Press in the US. All rights with the publisher.



Wendy has also written and presented programmes for the radio, including **DANCES WITH THE DEVIL**, a series of three programmes transmitted on BBC Radio 4.

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



## 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 (**THE WARRENDER SAGA**), and also collaborating with her friend, the famous operatic baritone, Tito Gobbi, on two volumes of his autobiography.

A number of her highly popular novels are currently being published in large print by Magna.



Film/TV rights in Mary Burchell's memoir **WE FOLLOWED OUR STARS**, written under her real name of Ida Cook, have just been optioned to House Productions. And a new edition of her book was published by Harlequin Mills & Boon, as part of their 2008 centennial celebrations and the British Museum created an exhibition for the occasion, which featured 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 the UK.

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".

9 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.

2016 Marked the start of Endeavour's digital republishing of the classic romance series set in the world of opera, **THE WARRENDER SAGA** Translation rights available



## **The Warrender Saga**

**Category:** Romance

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

**Rights Sold:** WEL eBook/POD to Endeavour Media

**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

**Rights sold:** Film option on We Followed Our Stars to House Productions.

**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

Patricia Caliskan began her writing career as an entertainment journalist, before graduating with honours in English and Communication Studies.

She then joined Trinity Mirror newsgroup as a lifestyle magazine editor, before joining Bauer Media as a commercial scriptwriter based at Radio City 96.7.

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** is her first novel and she has just completed a second, **GIRLFRIEND, INTERRUPTED** another rom-com on the theme of blended families.



## 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

**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 Campion

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 Campion 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 Campion 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 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 throughout the regional press and in India, Jamaica and Malaysia.

**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 Campion'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. The publishers control world rights in this ground-breaking volume and, to date, Korean and Italian rights have been sold.

Other television credits include his participation in the C4 Dispatches programme on Madeleine McCann and in *Crimewatch*. He is currently discussing proposals for television series dealing with Crime, with leading producers.

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 is proving very popular

He contributes an ongoing blog to Sage Publications.

Professor Canter has published this year 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)





## Of Human Kindness

**Category:** Psychology/Self-Help

**Rights via RCL:** All Rights via Rupert Crew Ltd.

**Synopsis:** Are you a **Big-Hearted Rebel**, an **Unsung Hero** or maybe, **Virtue's Maiden**? Or perhaps you're a **Bold Musketeer**, a **Popular Crusader** or even a **Lady or Lord of Justice**? If you are none of these your personal narrative may need strengthening.

Drawing on their work with over a thousand people Dr Youngs and Professor Canter show how your **Kindness Quotient (KQ)** and your particular Kindness personality profile can now be measured.

Your KQ score tells you precisely how you compare with the rest of the population. They reveal the way in which this determines the underlying life narrative that shapes your destiny. By enhancing particular Kindness Personality tendencies, a person will essentially rewrite the story of their own life. Psychopaths tend to do well initially then come to a sticky end. It is not 'snakes in suits' who survive and thrive. It is angels in anoraks.

Now, for the first time it is possible to measure Human Kindness. The instrument developed by Professor Canter and Dr Youngs will show you your real level of Human Kindness: your Kindness Quotient (KQ). Your KQ score tells you precisely how you compare with the rest of the population. Dare you take the test?

Of Human Kindness is a new proposal from Professor Canter and his colleague, Dr Donna Youngs, Reader in Psychology at the University of Huddersfield, where she helps Direct the International Research Centre for Investigative Psychology.

Dr Youngs is internationally known for her work in Applied Psychology, often being invited to give keynote presentations around the world, having published widely in academic journals and books. She is also well established as a psychological commentator for many television documentaries, most notably being the Investigative Psychologist in residence for the **Hunted** programme series.

She has appeared on various prime time television shows as **The One Show** and **Crimewatch**. Her work on Kindness draws on her many years of experience in studying all aspects of human behaviour.

## Criminal Shadows

**Category:** Factual/Psychology of Crime

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Rights sold:** WEL to Endeavour Media; Turkish

**Synopsis:** Criminal Shadows won the CWA non-fiction gold dagger award.



## Tanith Carey

Tanith Carey writes books which aim to set out achievable strategies for how to tackle the most pressing challenges faced by today's parents.

Her books include **TAMING THE TIGER PARENT - HOW TO PUT YOUR CHILD'S WELL-BEING FIRST IN A COMPETITIVE WORLD** (Constable Robinson) which was called 'a critique to re-orientate parenting' by Steve Biddulph. It attracted huge range of press coverage in publications and outlets ranging from the New Statesman to the Daily Telegraph, Radio Four and NBC's Today show, among many others. Her analysis of the culture which has created competitive parenting, based on the findings in the book, for the Guardian, has been shared more than 22,000 times.



Tanith's book **GIRLS UNINTERRUPTED: STEPS FOR BUILDING STRONGER GIRLS IN A CHALLENGING WORLD** (Icon) was described as 'brilliant' by the Huffington Post and 'excellent' by parenting guru Noel Janis Norton.

Her latest book, **LET'S BE FRIENDS**, has just been delivered to Summersdale and she is now hard at work on a commission for Dorling Kindersley, **WHAT IS MY CHILD THINKING?**

Tanith's books have been translated into 13 languages. Her other books included the first biography of Russell Brand, and the social history book **NEVER KISS A MAN A CANOE - WORDS OF THE WISDOM FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF AGONY AUNTS**, described as one of the best humour books of the year by the Telegraph.

An award-winning journalist, Tanith, is a well-established national newspaper feature and opinion writer contributing to a broad range of national newspapers, both in the UK and around the world. She's a regular contributor to the Daily Telegraph and Daily Mail and also appears frequently on TV and radio both in the UK and internationally, in countries ranging from China to Australia and the USA.

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





## **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.



## **Let's Be Friends**

**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.

## **Me, Myself And I**

*The rise of narcissism and what it's doing to our lives.*

**Category:** Non-fiction/Psychology

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – proposal available

**Synopsis:** Narcissism is a word that is freely used these days.

But although many of us sense that self-obsession is on the rise, what does it really mean to our lives and our wellbeing?

**ME, MYSELF AND I** offers a lucid analysis of how narcissism - fostered by social media, celebrity culture and a loss of values - is changing everything from the way we talk to interact and what words we use, to what kind of parents we are and how emotionally healthy our children turn out to be.

It will address questions like why older people no longer get wiser, why we never queue anymore and why more people want to win Britain's Got Talent than the Nobel Peace Prize.



## **The Late Dame Barbara Cartland DBE D St J**

Internationally acclaimed, best-selling, Romantic Novelist. Translated worldwide. Well-known television personality, lecturer and biographer. She also published successful works of non-fiction, including:



**Biography: RONALD CARTLAND, POLLY: MY WONDERFUL MOTHER, BEWITCHING WOMEN, THE OUTRAGEOUS QUEEN (CHRISTINE OF SWEDEN), THE SCANDALOUS LIFE OF KING CAROL, THE PRIVATE LIFE OF CHARLES II, THE PRIVATE LIFE OF ELIZABETH: EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA, JOSEPHINE: EMPRESS OF FRANCE, DIANE DE POITIERS, METTERNICH: THE PASSIONATE DIPLOMAT.**

**Autobiography: THE ISTHMUS YEARS 1919-1939, THE YEARS OF OPPORTUNITY 1939-1945, I SEARCH FOR RAINBOWS 1946-66, WE DANCED ALL NIGHT 1919-1929, I SEEK THE MIRACULOUS.**

**Historical: A YEAR OF ROYAL DAYS, ROYAL JEWELS, ROYAL LOVERS, ROYAL ECCENTRICS.**

**Sociology: YOU IN THE HOME, THE FASCINATING FORTIES, MARRIAGE FOR MODERNS, BE VIVID - BE VITAL, LOOK LOVELY - BE LOVELY, VITAMINS FOR VITALITY, HUSBANDS AND WIVES, ETIQUETTE HANDBOOK, THE MANY FACETS OF LOVE, BOOK OF CHARM, LIVING TOGETHER, WOMAN - THE ENIGMA, THE YOUTH SECRET, THE MAGIC OF HONEY, MEN ARE WONDERFUL, BOOK OF BEAUTY AND HEALTH.**

**Cookery: HEALTH FOOD COOKERY BOOK, FOOD FOR LOVE, MAGIC OF HONEY COOKBOOK, RECIPES FOR LOVERS, THE ROMANCE OF FOOD.**

Although Dame Barbara sadly died just prior to her 99th birthday, she left a considerable number of new manuscripts, which will satisfy her vast, devoted, international readership, for a long time to come. These are now being published in paperback, as **THE BARBARA CARTLAND PINK COLLECTION**, and **THE BARBARA CARTLAND ETERNAL COLLECTION** launched in June 2012 - eBooks of her classic novels, are available via her website.

Foreign language eBook editions are being planned.

Her work continues to be published (and reprinted) by the French paperback imprint, J'ai Lu, and throughout many other countries, including Italy, Russia, Estonia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, The Czech Republic, Poland, etc., On St Valentine's Day 2011, the first Barbara Cartland eBooks were issued in the UK.



In Japan, MANGA editions of Barbara Cartland's romances are being successfully published and this is a medium that could be available for their publication elsewhere in the world.

Autumn, 2008, saw the republication of Barbara Cartland's Etiquette Handbook in hardback, with the paperback Autumn, 2009, from Random House Books. French language rights sold to J'ai Lu and the book has attracted great media interest in France.

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



### **The Pink Collection and backlist titles**

**Category:** Romantic Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Reprint

**Rights sold:** France, Russia, Turkey, Estonia, Czech, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Italy,  
Romania, Thailand, Vietnam and Philippines

**Synopsis:** Translation and reprint rights available across backlist titles. Translation rights also available for new Manga editions.



## Mark Carwardine

Zoologist, writer, photographer and broadcaster, born in England in 1959. He worked for several international conservation organisations (the World Wide Fund for Nature, in England; the United Nations Environment Programme, in Kenya; and the World Conservation Union, in Switzerland) before going freelance in 1986.

Mark was engaged on a 16-month filming project, during 2008-9 about endangered species, co-presenting with Stephen Fry for BBC2, a six-part series, titled, **LAST CHANCE TO SEE... IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF DOUGLAS ADAMS**. He was also contracted to write the TV tie-in book, for HarperCollins, published to coincide with the showing of the series, in Autumn 2009. A further programme, with Mark and Stephen accompanying White Rhinos back to their African homeland, was shown in 2010.



Mark has written more than 50 books on a variety of wildlife, conservation and travel subjects - including the best-selling **LAST CHANCE TO SEE** (with the late Douglas Adams) - a new Arrow paperback edition published in Autumn 2009; **Wildlife In The News** (with John Craven); the best-selling field guide to whales, dolphins and porpoises ever published; the award-winning **SHARK WATCHER'S HANDBOOK**; **SHARK**, published by BBC Books; and, most recently, **NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM: ANIMAL RECORDS**. His books have been published in more than 24 languages and have sold millions of copies worldwide. He has also written monthly columns in BBC Wildlife and Wanderlust magazines for many years, and writes regularly for a variety of other newspapers and magazines in the UK and abroad.

Mark is an acknowledged world authority on whales, dolphins and porpoises (he is Senior Consultant to the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society) and on sharks. He also advises other international conservation bodies on a variety of conservation and development issues and is an active conservationist in a voluntary capacity.

He was a founding director of the wildlife travel companies Discover the World, Wild Oceans and Ocean Wanderers (which now forms part of Wildlife Worldwide), and still leads whale-watching trips to Baja California, in Mexico, every year.

He presented the weekly half-hour programme Nature on BBC Radio 4 for more than six years and currently presents occasional programmes and mini-series for BBC Radio. He also provided the daily Environment News bulletin for Steve Wright in the Afternoon on BBC Radio 1 and is a frequent contributor to many other radio and television programmes about wildlife and conservation. He lectures widely on his own travels and on a variety of wildlife and conservation subjects.



With an edited collection of more than 120,000 photographs taken in more than 100 countries around the world, Mark has been photographing wildlife and wild places for nearly twenty years. He spends more than half the year travelling around the world in search of wildlife and exploring wild places and is continually adding to his image collection. He is also Chairman of the Judging Panel of the prestigious BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition - the largest competition of its kind in the world.

### **Background**

Zoology Graduate: Bedford College, London University.

Conservation Officer, World Wildlife Fund (now World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF) in UK (six years). Responsibilities included representing WWF at local, national and international meetings and conferences; formulating WWF policy on a variety of wildlife and conservation issues; liaising with the press and acting as conservation spokesman; lecturing on WWF activities; writing and editing the members' magazine; management of field projects and advice on grant-giving etc.

Science Writer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya (six months). Responsibilities included writing press releases, reports, articles, speeches for the Executive Director and other key staff, and a variety of other material.

Consultant to the World Conservation Union (IUCN) in Gland, Switzerland (1 year). Responsibilities included first-hand evaluation of field projects around the world; writing and editing technical reports on conservation and development issues; writing and editing popular publications on IUCN activities; and editing a newsletter on conservation and development issues.

The WWF Environment Handbook; Macdonald Optima 1990; detailed introduction to all the key environmental issues in the news, from whaling and elephant poaching to the greenhouse effect and the threat of nuclear war; written for WWF; several foreign editions.

**BIRDS IN FOCUS**; Salamander 1990; foreword by David Bellamy; a lavishly illustrated introduction to birds, with details on some 300 species and many photographs by MC; several foreign editions.

**LAST CHANCE TO SEE**; Heinemann 1990; co-author Douglas Adams (author of 'The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy'); based on seven expeditions to find endangered species: Komodo dragon in Indonesia, kakapo in New Zealand, Amazonian manatee in Brazil, Yangtze river dolphin in China, Juan Fernandez fur seal in Chile, northern white rhino in Zaire and Rodrigues fruit bat in Mauritius; many foreign editions; best-seller in the UK, USA and Australia.

**WHALES, DOLPHINS AND PORPOISES**; Dorling Kindersley 1992; a title in the 'Windows on the World' series; artwork by Martin Camm; many foreign editions.



**EYEWITNESS HANDBOOKS: WHALES, DOLPHINS AND PORPOISES;** Dorling Kindersley 1995; the best-selling field guide to finding and identifying cetaceans ever published, with a great deal of information never published before; illustrated with MC's own photographs and artwork by Martin Camm; many foreign editions; nearly a million copies in print.

**THE GUINNESS BOOK OF ANIMAL RECORDS;** Guinness Publishing 1995; written and photographed by MC, covering thousands of records ranging from the world's most dangerous shark and the largest anteater to the rarest snake and the earliest dinosaur; many foreign editions.

Presenter of the weekly half-hour programme Nature for six years on BBC Radio 4, as well as many other 30-minute and 40-minute programmes and mini-series for BBC Radio 4.

Writer of daily slot on BBC Radio 1's Steve Wright in the Afternoon show, called the Environment News, during 1994/95. Later provided a weekly feature called Wildlife Watch.

Researcher/scriptwriter of various natural history and environment films for BBC, Thames Television, Channel 4 etc.

Many hundreds of TV and radio interviews around the world, including John Craven's Newsround, John Dunn Show, Countryfile, Gloria Hunniford Show, Saturday Superstore, The Nine O'Clock News, The Really Wild Show, and in Iceland, USA, Kenya, New Zealand, Pakistan etc, and occasional reports for The Animal Zone on BBC 2 and Inside Out on BBC 1.

**LAST CHANCE TO SEE...** researching, jointly writing and jointly presenting six-part series for BBC Radio 4, with Douglas Adams (as part of same project described above). Selected for Radio 4's Pick of the Year.

Lecturing in the UK and abroad on a wide variety of wildlife, conservation and travel subjects. Lecture titles include: Travels & Tribulations of a Zoologist, On the Trail of the Whale, Desperately Seeking Dolphins, In with the Sharks, Bear Watcher on the Loose, To the Ends of the Earth. and a great many others. Venues and events include the Royal Geographical Society; conferences organised by the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, Marine Conservation Society, etc; BBC Wildlife readers' evenings; and many others. Typical annual audience in the UK 10-15,000. Active conservationist in a voluntary capacity and has held a wide variety of official (unpaid) positions, including Conservation Adviser to The David Shepherd Conservation Foundation and Senior Consultant to the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society.

**MARK CARWARDINE'S ULTIMATE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES,** Foreword by Stephen Fry, is now available. Translation rights via RCL Russian Rights and Japanese rights have already sold.

**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.

### **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 photographs, this is a book for anyone seeking to find new routes to an unforgettable holiday - or even just sitting in an armchair!

### **How to be a great Wildlife Photographer**

**Category:** Photography/Non-Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** Improved technology has helped to raise the bar to previously unimaginable high levels. Here is everything you need to know, in one book, from a World-renowned Wildlife photographer.

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

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Rights via Bloomsbury

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

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

**Category:** Travel/Conservation

**Rights via RCL:** Rights via 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 via RCL:** 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.



## Alastair Chisholm

Alastair describes himself as a children's writer, puzzle creator and computer geek.

He has written several internationally published books of Sudoku, Kakuro and other puzzles from his website and he is the author of the upcoming children's books **INCH AND GRUB** illustrated by David Roberts and **THE INTERRUPTED PRINCE** illustrated by Jez Tuya both to be published by Walker Books.

Alastair is currently working on a YA novel **ORION'S WATCH** and a middle-grade adventure project **THE IRON PYRATES**



He lives in Edinburgh with his wife, two children and cat; his wife is lovely, his children are lovely but very loud and his cat is continually annoyed with him for no obvious reason.

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



## Orion's Watch

**Category:** Science Fiction 12+

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**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...



## 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).

She is currently working on her first novel, **LETTERS TO MY DAUGHTER – THE MUMMY BLOGGER DIARIES**





## **The Mummy Blogger: Letters to my Daughter**

**Category:** Commercial women's fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All

**Rights sold:**

**Synopsis:** What were you doing at 9.35am Chris? Having some breakfast leisurely at your desk? Making a coffee in the kitchen and chatting to John about the football?

Well I hope it was fun, because I was lying on a bed trying to get Bella to go 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 yelled back at him, making her way to the fridge to pour a very large wine.

"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 in the world of competitive parenting there are definite downsides to popularity which a glass of wine with your girlfriends can't always fix.

Funny and heart-warming, Letters to my Daughter is the debut novel from Louise Emma Clarke, the writer behind the award-winning parenting blog, Mum of Boys & Mabel.



## Ronny M. Cole

Ronny M. Cole, holds a BA in Psychology from State University of New York. He is a corporate trainer and personal life coach, who has created and delivered a number of programmes including: Superreading; The Chrysalis Goal Achievement Programme; Lessen The Stressin'; How to Remember Names; How to Win at Any Sport.



He has also published Zany Knock-Knocks (Sterling). His first book project was **HOW TO CREATE GREAT BEDTIME STORIES**, a parents' guide for creating interesting, valuable bedtime stories to tell their children. The book shows how to get children involved and willing, perhaps eager, to go to bed. A comprehensive coverage for all who want high-quality time with their children and remove the stress of getting them to bed.

It also provides a venue for imparting wisdom and values to children. Hay House acquired World Rights in this work which they published in March 2008. Mass market paperback edition will be published in July 2010 under the slightly changed title of **CREATING STORIES FOR CHILDREN**.

Ronny has other, significant, projects in the course of preparation, including **HOW TO BE A SUPER READER** was commissioned by Piatkus/ Little, Brown, and published in Autumn 2009. US edition published by Tarcher, October 2012.





## **Creating Bedtime Stories for your Children**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Rights sold:** Czech, Korean and Slovene, Bulgarian

**Synopsis:** A guide to creating bedtime stories for children with morals, creativity and values.

## **How to be a Super Reader**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via the publisher (Piatkus)

**Rights sold:** US, Poland

**Synopsis:** This book will help you overcome poor reading habits which hold back your ability to read at high speeds with good comprehension and recall.

It includes tools and techniques that come from the author's 14 years of experience teaching professionals and students of all ages. The book includes memory training and information on learning, attitude and achievement.

The techniques in the book could save you up to ten hours a week and are a must for students and anyone who has to deal with the sea of emails and reports that are part of our working day. Using unique exercises, you will learn to mentally process multiple words at a glance, thus increasing reading speed, comprehension and accuracy.

The results are quick, sustainable and grow over time with minimal effort.



## Cleo Cordell

Popular author of women's erotica with Virgin "Black Lace" series. **THE CAPTIVE FLESH** (reissued 2002); **THE SENSES BEJEWELLED**; **JULIET RISING** (reissued 2002), **VELVET CLAWS**; **PATH OF THE TIGER** and **CRIMSON BUCCANEER**. **OPAL DARKNESS**, her eighth title in the series was published in Autumn 1995 (translation rights available from Virgin).

Cleo has embarked on a mainstream career with a dark erotic fantasy, **THE FLESH ENDURES**, published by Penguin in December 1996. This novel won the Erotic Novel of the Year Award and US rights sold to Carroll & Graf, who published under the title of **TEMPTATION AND TORMENT**.



A companion novel, **THE FLESH CONSTRAINED**, was also published by Carroll & Graf. Rights in both titles subsequently reverted and English language Electronic reprint rights have been licensed to Constable & Robinson.



### The Flesh Endures

**Category:** Fiction - Erotica

**Rights via RCL:** Film and Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** Sensual and mysterious Lord Rakka was no stranger to intrigue. Endowed with an arcane knowledge of alchemy, he had achieved a dark immortality. But he yearned to acquire a partner as unusual as himself. And so fate laid fair, angelic Garnetta in his path, and he knew had found a willing victim for his unholy experiment. The Flesh Endures is a shocking story of faith and love, and the bonds of desire from which there is no escape.

### The Flesh Constrained

**Category:** Fiction - Erotica

**Rights via RCL:** Film and Translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**Synopsis:** Lord Rakka's sexual prowess is exceeded only by his mystical power. Using his talent of alchemy, he and his perfect love, Garnetta, travel back through time to 900BC. There they encounter a tribe whose lusts know no bounds and who understand that Rakka possesses the secret of immortality, a secret they will do anything to control. The sequel to The Flesh Endures is a spellbinding story of faith and betrayal, of love and decadence.



## 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.

He has expressed a wish to write for the stage and is developing a comedy loosely based on **CAPITAL SINS**.

**THE TROUT**, was published by Sandstone Press in the UK and in the USA on July 4 by Arcade. His latest novel, **ACTS OF ALLEGIANCE**, is a September publication for Sandstone Press. US rights have sold to Arcade; film rights are under option.

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





## Acts of Allegiance

**Category:** Literary/thriller

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

**Rights sold:** UK & Commonwealth (Sandstone Press) US & Can (Arcade)

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** UK & Commonwealth (Sandstone Press 2016)  
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 novitiate 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 to Qwerty Media; Italian rights to SEM.

**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)

**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.



## 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**, published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson 2005 ; **HARDBOILED HOLLYWOOD - THE ORIGINS OF THE GREAT CRIME FILMS** and **STRAIGHT FROM THE FRIDGE, DAD - A DICTIONARY OF HIPSTER SLANG**.



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.

In his musical career, Max has released eleven albums and something in the region of thirty singles since 1989. He played drums with his friend Nikki Sudden before joining Gallon Drunk in 1991, with whom he toured the world. Since 1994, he has been the singer and principal songwriter with The Flaming Stars. In a long and varied career in the music business, 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.

An updated edition of **STRAIGHT FROM THE FRIDGE** was published by No Exit in 2009 to critical acclaim, while a US edition of **HARDBOILED HOLLYWOOD** appeared from Pegasus in January 2010.

Max's history of Rockabilly - **A ROCKET IN MY POCKET** was published by Serpent's Tail in June 2010 and was quickly reprinted; the publisher has secured a deal for Italian rights with Elliot Edizioni and French rights have sold to Rivages (All rights via the publisher).

Max also contracted with Random House Books for a volume of social history entitled **CAPITAL CRIMES** which was published in Autumn 2012. His alternative history of English slang, **VULGAR TONGUES**, was published to great acclaim by Serpent's Tail in November 2016. (all rights via the publisher).

Max is now hard at work on his latest book for Serpent's Tail, **THE RISE OF THE TEDDY BOYS**.





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

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**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.

## **The Rise of the 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.



## 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.

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.

## **Sloth Scientist**

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

**Rights via RCL:** All rights

**Synopsis:** Proposed new children's book illustrated and written by wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas. For ages 7-10

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 will conclude with information about how Becky's science ties into conservation and may even help hand-reared orphaned sloths be returned to the wild.

Proposed format is 16-18 spreads, with 1-3 photos on each spread.



## 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.



## Women of Honour

**Category:** Women's Fiction/Saga  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** World English language to Williams & Whiting  
**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. She has just completed her second novel, **NIGHT SWIMMING**, which will be published by Mercier Press





## **My Buried Life**

**Category:** Literary Fiction

**Rights sold:** World to New Ireland

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL to Mercier Press

**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.



## 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 Endeavour Media  
**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 ditzzy 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 acquired digital rights in six backlist titles which were issued in 2017 and they are currently contracting for two more. 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

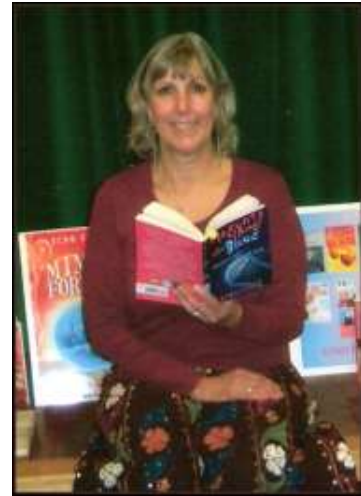
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV

**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 and film rights have been optioned to Thomasina Gibson.

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 is a September 2017 publication.

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





## **Magenta Orange Series**

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

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** French, Danish, Spanish, German, Hungarian, Italian, Norwegian, Swedish

**Synopsis:** Series of books charting the adventures of Magenta Orange - our bright, sassy young heroine. Terribly accident prone and seen as a jinx by her friends, she will risk anything, even total humiliation for a date with the boy of her dreams.

## **Blaggers**

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

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

World English language rights via Acorn Books

**Synopsis:** Mercedes Bent has just discovered that she comes from a long line of gangsters and crooks. When she finds out that her brothers are planning to rob the bank where she is doing work experience she realises she must stop them: by whatever means.

## **Diamond Geezers**

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

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

World English language rights via Acorn Books.

**Synopsis:** Modesty de Mise is on a mission to save the local cemetery next to her house. Its set to be developed that will cause problems for her parent's business: an undertakers! It soon becomes apparent that local gangsters are in cahoots with the property developers. Modesty realises she must take action!

## **Mimosa Fortune**

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

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

World English language rights via Acorn Books.

**Synopsis:** Mimosa has travelled the world with her clairvoyant mother - and now she is travelling through time! Having recently set up home in Whitby Mimosa is looking forward to making new friends, especially the drop-dead gorgeous Quill Newton.

The problem is, Quill is a ghost who lived over two hundred years ago. But he needs her help - and he needs it now...



## **Toxic Treacle**

**Category:** Teen Fiction

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

**Rights sold:** WEL, film/TV optioned to Thomasina Gibson.

**Synopsis:** Set sometime in the not too distant future, the world has become a very different place from the one we know today.

Following the 'Oil Wars', a new matriarchal society has emerged which governs by operating a system called T.R.E.A.C.L.E (Training and Resources for the Education of Adolescent Children in a Loving Environment). Deprived of male role models, feral gangs of youths roam the streets at night, making it unsafe to go out after dark, waiting for the day they turn 16 and can join the Breeder ranks, drink keg, sire the requisite three children and thus fulfil their duty to the Distaff party. It's a way of life that Michael "Monkey" Gibbon has never sought to question - until now.

Just weeks away from his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday he cannot understand why his best friend, Tragic, seems far from keen to graduate to the Breeding Zone. When Tragic fails to turn up for school, Monkey sets out to investigate his friend's mysterious disappearance. Drawn into the shadowy world of a resistance group called P.A.R.E.N.T., everything he has been brought up to believe is turned on its head.

Will Monkey come round to their way of thinking? And, if so, can he stay out of the clutches of the Security forces long enough to bring down the insidious T.R.E.A.C.L.E. regime?

This is a compelling novel, set in a dystopia that is as recognisable as it is frightening.



## 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 was reissued in promotional paperback format by Myriad Books and in 2012 as eBooks on the Piatkus Entice list.

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 Titles

**Category:** Women's Fiction  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation, Film/TV





## Cherry Gilchrist

Cherry has an enviable track record as a versatile, creative and communicative author of books on subjects ranging from the Kabbalah, alchemy and divination to social history, biography and children's stories. She has a special interest in myths and symbolism, in ancient wisdom traditions, and in Russian culture and art. A contributor to national journals and magazines such as *Good Housekeeping*, and to published anthologies. Included in her repertoire are original stories for children and adults, and Cherry is skilled at re-telling traditional stories and legends. She was also a regular adapter of novels for Penguin English.



For several years, Cherry ran a business called Firebird Russian Arts, arranging exhibitions and sales of Russian traditional arts and crafts, especially lacquer miniatures, a highly-developed and unique art form which depicts Russian fairy tales and legends (Cherry travels to Russia frequently, and even owned a dacha there).

Her promotion of this art in the UK caused widespread interest and she now lectures widely on the subject, is an approved lecturer for NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies), and arranges demonstrations from visiting artists. She also leads specialist art tours to Russia and has published an illustrated book, entitled *Russian Lacquer Art*. In 2008 Floris published her book, *The Soul Of Russia: Magical Traditions In An Enchanted Landscape*, which has attracted favourable attention. (All rights, Floris)

Cherry Gilchrist is well-known as a lecturer in other fields, too, especially in alchemy, astrology, mythology, and other themes connected with her writing. She has given workshops, courses and seminars in the UK and abroad: venues include New York Open Centre Conference in Prague, British Council in Florence, study group in San Francisco, Great Missenden Abbey, Exeter Festival and Douai Summer School.

Cherry is an experienced creative writing tutor for the universities of Oxford and Exeter, as well as an established, award-winning author. She also has a long-standing involvement with practices of meditation and mindfulness, which contribute to her approach in teaching and writing.

Other interests include travel, especially related to ancient civilizations; she has made two trips along the Silk Road, and has visited Turkey, Crete, Egypt, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. She is also experienced as an early music singer.



Publications include:

**PLANETARY SYMBOLISM IN ASTROLOGY** (Saros Foundation/Astrological Association), **ALCHEMY - THE GREAT WORK** (Thorsons), **THE ELEMENTS OF ALCHEMY** (Element - English language rights newly available) - also Portuguese, Italian, German and Japanese translations), **DIVINATION** (Dryad), **THE CIRCLE OF NINE** (Dryad, reprint Arkana), **THEOSOPHY - WISDOM OF THE AGES** (HarperCollins). Titles published with Batsford Educational: **ASTROLOGY, PEOPLE AT WORK, LIFE IN BRITAIN IN THE 1930s, LIFE IN BRITAIN IN WORLD WAR ONE** and **SHOPS. INDUSTRY IN THE 20TH CENTURY** (Wayland). Children's stories include: **MARKETS AND A VISIT TO THE LIBRARY** (both Cambridge Dinosaur books) and by Barefoot Books - **PRINCE IVAN AND THE FIREBIRD, SUN-DAY, MOON-DAY, A CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS**, and **TALES FROM THE SILK ROAD**. Contributions to **TALES FROM THE TAROT** (Legend) and **WORLD ATLAS OF DIVINATION** (Headline). Other titles include Penguin English Readers: **THE STREETS OF LONDON** and **PRINCESS DIANA** (a highly successful publication) and **THE ROYAL FAMILY** (published August 1999). She produced a retrospective text on the New Millennium for this publisher which was issued in Autumn, 2000). Cherry also contributed a further work of three stories for them, entitled **THE WATERS OF LIFE**.

She has also published, again with Penguin English Readers, **AESOP'S FABLES** and **SINDBAD**.

Rider published Cherry's **EVERYDAY ALCHEMY** in 2002 and in the States, her publisher is Ulysses Press. Translation rights available RCL.

Eddison-Sadd and Connections are her publishers for **THE TREE OF LIFE ORACLE** (written in collaboration with Gila Zur.)

**LOVE BEGINS AT 40: AN INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE TO STARTING over:** is a timely book by the dual authorship of Cherry with Lara Owen. Hay House UK published with great enthusiasm, and a special promotion. All rights with Publisher.

Cherry's publication, is on another timely theme, **YOUR LIFE, YOUR STORY**, and, a subject on which she is currently lecturing and discovering immense interest. In view of the great success on television series such as *Who Do You Think You Are?* this project from Cherry was snapped up by Piatkus/Little Brown and published February 2010.

Cherry has followed this with a further title, complementary in theme, entitled **GROWING YOUR FAMILY TREE: FINDING YOUR ROOTS AND KNOWING WHO YOU ARE**, also published by Piatkus/LittleBrown.



Cherry's book, **THE CIRCLE OF NINE**, is an account of nine aspects of feminine nature, nine archetypes, found both in mythology and in daily life. It was originally published by Dryad Press in 1988 and when they ceased to exist, the title was taken up by Arkana, and republished in 1991. It went out of print in about 1999, the rights reverting to the author.

It has stood the test of time, and several groups and individuals have contacted the author in the years between to say how they have worked directly from the book, and that this has unlocked both creativity and a deeper understanding among the women participating. It is therefore a classic text of feminine, but not feminist, mythology, relevant now to women in the 21st century, just as it was to those in the late 20th century.

Red Wheel Weiser agreed and contracted with Cherry for an updated edition, which was delivered to the Publisher in August 2017 - publication is planned a year hence.  
All rights via RWW.

**ALCHEMY** Cherry's book, originally published by Element/HarperCollins has been republished by Weiser

Cherry's latest book, on the Tarot, entitled **TAROT TRIUMPHS**, illustrated by her artist husband, Robert Lee-Wild, was published Autumn 2016 also by Red Wheel Weiser. All rights via the publisher.

**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 has 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 latest book is **A PROPOSAL FROM THE ITALIAN COUNT**.

**Website:** [www.lucy-gordon.com](http://www.lucy-gordon.com)



## 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**.



## John Hare

John spent much of his early life in Africa and was the last recruit to join the Colonial Service in West Africa. He served in Northern Nigeria and the Cameroons and spent four years on the remote and roadless Mambilla Plateau travelling throughout the mountainous district with head carriers by foot or on horse. He was involved in Plebiscites, elections, census campaigns and inter-tribal strife and after independence was seconded to the Nigerian Government to carry on his work as a District Officer.



He later followed a career with the BBC and in publishing before returning to Africa to work for the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi. While in Kenya he undertook many safaris with camels into the remote Northern Frontier Districts before being selected to join a joint Russian/Mongolian Scientific expedition to the Mongolian Gobi. This led to his current preoccupation with the wild camel in the Gashun Gobi, one of the most hostile and little-known regions on earth. He has written over thirty children's readers, mostly for Africa. His first non-fiction book for adults, **THE LOST CAMELS OF TARTARY: A JOURNEY THROUGH FORBIDDEN CHINA**, hardback edition of which spearheaded Little, Brown's new travel list, August 1998. An eBook edition has been agreed with Little, Brown and this and new print version will be issued in April 2015.

The paperback was published, Summer 1999, and the German language edition has been published by Scherz Verlag AG. A Chinese edition has also been published, and Estonian rights have been sold. Other rights currently available.

Mr Hare's work has attracted worldwide interest, and the Chinese Government has now, uniquely, set aside a large area of the Gobi as a sanctuary for the Bactrian camel.

John Hare, still pursuing his adventurous bent, followed the Saharan footsteps of his hero, Hanns Vischer, who, in Edwardian times, trod this same inhospitable terrain and who was subsequently knighted.

And his experiences are encompassed in a further book comparing Vischer's expedition with his own, entitled, **SHADOWS ACROSS THE SAHARA WORLD** English Language rights sold to Constable. Publication June 2003.

His book, **THE MYSTERIES OF THE GOBI** is published by I. B. Tauris.



John received the honour of being asked to speak to the Royal Geographical Society about his voyages of exploration. (March 2003).

On November 15 2004, John received The Royal Society for Asian Affairs Lawrence of Arabia Memorial Medal, from their Patron, HRH The Duke of York.

He has spoken twice at the Hay on Wye Festival.

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



### **The Lost Camels of Tartary**

**Category:** Travel  
**Rights via RCL:** Translation/Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** Estonian and German

**Synopsis:** In 1992, John Hare talked himself into taking a Russian-Mongolian adventure across the Gobi desert. During the course of his journey he became resident 'expert' on the Bactrian camel and after several more journeys eventually convinced the Chinese authorities to set up a Bactrian camel sanctuary in one of the most unforgiving landscapes of this world!

### **Shadows Across The Sahara**

**Category:** Travel  
**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation/Film/TV  
**Rights sold:** German

**Synopsis:** John sets out on his beloved camel from Lake Chad to follow an ancient camel caravan route to Tripoli. The expedition took three and a half months, and along the way led to many chance encounters with a wide variety of people.

### **Religion And Revolt - The Historical Background To Boko Haram**

**Category:** Social History/Politics  
**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – proposal available

**Synopsis:** A timely new book proposal that will show that radical groups like Boko Haram are not new to Northern Nigeria. The author knows the territory well, having worked in an administrative capacity for both the British and Nigerian governments, in the 1960s.



## Shirley Harrison

Author and journalist. Witty and discerning, she can always be relied upon to evolve a 'different' approach to her subject.

Contributor to the National Press and author of **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. For Collins, too, in 1986 she wrote an evocative story of The Channel, which attracted wide and favourable notice. In 1987 she wrote, for Century New Approaches To Cancer, which, again, earned her impressive comment, gaining strong medical support.



She published, in May 1990, an important work involving comprehensive research internationally for Christopher Helm, entitled **CULTS: THE BATTLE FOR GOD**.

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 currently in over a dozen translations. 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 Shirley Harrison, appropriately titled *Tempus Fugit*, was issued in April 2010.

Mrs Harrison has specialised in travel features for newspapers and magazines and her material has appeared, among other journals, in *The Times* and *The Independent* and *Bella*. She was involved as consultant and writer for *The White Cliffs' Experience* sponsored by Dover Council to encourage tourism and, with researcher, Sally Evemy, has formed *The Word Team*, aimed at presenting history, written or audio-visual, in human, evocative fashion.

They worked on *The Pride Of Jersey* and their further joint venture, *Rochester Upon Medway; The Tale Of A City*, attracted great interest and sold well. They have also prepared *Colourful Characters from Southwark Past*, with the backing of the local authority.

Shirley Harrison's important work of biography, **SYLVIA PANKHURST - A CRUSADING LIFE** originally published by Aurum Press - was reissued with a new introduction by Dr Richard Pankhurst, under the revised title **SYLVIA PANKHURST: THE REBELLIOUS SUFFRAGETTE**, by Golden Guides Press Spring 2012.

Shirley Harrison's fascinating life story of the teddy bear who became Winnie-the-Pooh, **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE REAL WINNIE THE POOH** is 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! A real page-turner. All rights with Pen & Sword.

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





## **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:** All Rights via Publisher (Remember When/Pen & Sword)  
**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 (John Blake Publishers)  
**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.



## Jackie Highe

Jackie has spent more than two decades working in the media, for national newspapers and magazines and been top of her profession for the last sixteen years, first as editor of Parents magazine and, for fourteen years, Editor-in-Chief of Bella, Britain's biggest-selling women's weekly magazine.



During her first eighteen months with Bauer, she also devised and brought to launch, Take A Break, a combined puzzle and real-life story magazine, now selling 1.5 million a week. At this point she spent two years in New York, editing a new monthly launch for Bauer, then returned to Britain to continue with Bella. Jackie does a lot of TV and radio work and recently did a current affairs series with Anglia TV. She is a regular contributor to BBC radio, plus commercial stations. Because of her successful, high profile career, her huge network of media contacts is fascinated by Jackie's 'other' life - that of jazz singer/songwriter. They know her as a professional journalist who has reached the top in one notoriously tough industry but who, instead of thinking about downsizing to play with her grandchildren, is actually starting a brand-new career in another tough area - the music industry. It's a story that has a lot of editorial appeal - there is a life after kids; it's never too late to fulfil your dreams.

BBC's Woman's Hour has already made a fly-on-the-wall documentary about the process Jackie has gone through finding a music producer - Two Camels - and making a demo, recording the sessions as they happened and interviewing Two Camels. BBC 1 have made a documentary about Jackie's life change.

However, in addition, Jackie is intending to pursue writing commissions and has several timely book and series proposals, which RCL will be handling. UK & Commonwealth Volume rights in her first book, **NOW, WHERE HAVE I PUT MY GLASSES?, CARING FOR YOUR PARENTS - A PRACTICAL AND EMOTIONAL LIFELINE** - were snapped up by Simon & Schuster. for publication in April 2007. The Daily Mail bought first serial rights, publishing three major extracts, over a three-week period. All other rights RCL.

Jackie makes regular broadcasts speaking on timely, personal issues, and answering listeners' questions, on Three Counties Radio. And she was also invited on to the lecture circuit, via the organisation, Parents Matter.

Jackie was commissioned by Piatkus (Little, Brown) to write a book on Grandparents, published in 2008 under the title, **THE MODERN GRANDPARENTS' GUIDE**. Once again, Jackie's skills as a writer come to the fore as she covers the many facets of grandparenting. (Translation rights via RCL.) The mass market paperback edition was issued in Autumn 2009.



In February 2010, Jackie was invited to be the Spokesperson for the website company BE.GRAND.net set up to look after and review the interests of grandchildren and grandparents. Jackie has spoken on radio and television, and contributed special features to the website and subsequently Agony Aunt” for the website grannynet.com.

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



### **Now, Where Did I Put My Glasses?**

**Category:** Non Fiction/Self Help

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Synopsis:** A practical guide, diffused with humour, on how to look after your aging parents. The subject matter covers all emotions the carer may feel as well as offering advice from others with first-hand experience. Jackie conducts seminars on the subject for a number of leading organisations in the banking and legal world.

### **The Modern Grandparents' Guide**

**Category:** Non Fiction/Self Help

**Rights via RCL:** Translation

**Synopsis:** A warm and empathetic book helping anyone who is or expects to be a grandparent come to terms with their role. Also discusses the importance of grandparents in a world where so many parents will be working long hours. Jackie was Spokesperson for the official Be.Grand website (Spring 2010-2011) and latterly agony aunt for Grannynet.com



## 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)





## Dear Cosmic

**Category:** Memoir (partial ms available)

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** Bridget Jones meets Alan Bennett, Dear Cosmic 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.



## 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.

He is now working a book exploring the cultural history of Mescaline, provisionally entitled **BRILLIANT VISIONS** (YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS).

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





## **The Unfortunate Colonel Despard**

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

**Rights via RCL:** Reprint/Translation and Film rights via RCL

**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

**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.

## **Brilliant Visions**

**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.

Brilliant Visions 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.



## 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**, will be reissued by Sapere Books, shortly to be followed by 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.



## Andrea Jutson

Thriller writer, was born and raised in Auckland she has worked as a journalist, bookseller and librarian but is currently working as a buyer for Scholastic New Zealand

To date, Andrea has published two psychic thrillers featuring reticent medium James Paxton, an English immigrant to Auckland: **SENSELESS** and **THE DARKNESS LOOKING BACK**, and is now working on a third novel in the series.

In the Sunday Star Times, her writing was compared to that of Ruth Rendell and Jeffery Deaver.



### **Senseless**

**Category:** Crime Fiction

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

**Rights sold:** WEL to Williams and Whiting

**Synopsis:** A darkly gripping crime novel with an other-worldly twist. A small park in a nice Auckland suburb is the least likely spot to stumble across a body.

The discovery of a man recently bludgeoned to death shatters the illusion of mid-winter calm. But unfortunately for James Paxton, death is nothing out of the ordinary to him.

Suspicion falls all too easily on Paxton, who's hiding a secret. Not only did he find the dead man - he spoke to him, too. Gifts he wished he never had are called into play when Mark Bradley begs him to track down his killer, for the sake of his daughter.

Paxton's carefully constructed new world threatens to crumble as he is sucked into the hunt for a predator, while the police snap close at his heels and the corpses keep mounting up, one by one...



## **Darkness Looking Back**

**Category:** Crime Fiction

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

**Rights Sold:** WEL to Williams & Whiting

**Synopsis:** A gripping murder mystery that asks: who will listen to the dead?

Across Auckland, deliveries are failing to reach their targets - because the intended recipients are dead. What starts as a grisly murder without a motive turns into something more sinister, as another body is discovered. Someone wants them found; someone who wants to send a message.

A serial killer is once more at work in the City of Sails, and his victims are women with too much love to give. To track down the avenging Cupid, Detective Constable Andy Stirling needs all the help he can get from medium James Paxton.

When the media get wind of Paxton's involvement, however, the manhunt rapidly becomes a circus. As pressure mounts from all sides, Paxton and Stirling must find the killer before he strikes again.



## Barbara (Babs) Kirby

MA, DFAstrology, Hon RCAstrology, 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)



## Love and Sexuality (with Janey Stubbs)

**Category:** Astrology

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** An exploration of Venus and Mars. (Originally published by Element Books)



## Laura Lamont

Laura Lamont is a qualified Nutritional Therapist and weight loss specialist with an Advanced Diploma in Applied Science and Nutrition. She runs the diet coaching clinic Glow Nutrition Zero Foods in London, where she advises clients on healthy eating and weight loss. She has contributed to several lifestyle magazines and is a diet specialist for Natural Health magazine.

Laura also launched “Zero Noodles”, a healthy low-calorie, high-fibre alternative to pasta, which sells in outlets throughout the UK, including the Holland & Barrett group.



## The New Lo-Carb Diet Cook Book

**Category:** Self-help

**Rights sold:** World rights to Watkins Publishing

**Synopsis:** Low-carb diets work - if the international success of the Dukan and Atkins diets has taught us anything, it's that. But they're usually hard to stick to and often unhealthy.

Laura Lamont, a qualified nutritional therapist, who introduced us to the revolutionary “Zero Noodles”, here brings us a healthy new take on low-carb dieting.

Laura explains how eating a nutritionally sound combination of controlled amounts of complex carbohydrates, protein and “good” fats (in foods such as avocados, salmon and flaxseed) at the right times of day can bring about healthy, long-lasting weight

Laura's book includes information on the nutritional science behind the diet, as well as practical charts to help you identify which foods you should be eating, and meal plans. Each of her recipes comes with a nutritional analysis. Successfully tried and tested and drawing on the latest research, **THE NEW LO-CARB DIET COOKBOOK** is the 21<sup>st</sup> century way to eat well, lose weight and feel healthier than ever.



## 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. (Publication February 2014).



## 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.



## Jordan Mooney

Jordan was the public face of Malcolm McLaren and Vivien Westwood's shops SEX and Seditonaries, 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 Seditonaries 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 as the anniversary of the Jubilee year of 1977 comes around.



## **No Smoking Pistol - Jordan's Story**

**Category:** Autobiography

**Rights via RCL:** Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World to Omnibus Press

**Synopsis:** Jordan Mooney, rebel pioneer, feminist icon, counter-cultural Goddess and radical gay pin-up, is the very essence of the Punk Rock Revolution.

You might not instantly recognise her name but you'll know her face as hers was the image which adorned thousands of T-Shirts, posters, magazine covers and books. She's the ballet-mad girl from Seaford who came to London in time to take her place at the eye of the storm of the last real youth revolution, when the Seventies hurtled to their dystopian conclusion.

In collaboration with crime writer and former music journalist, Cathi Unsworth, Jordan will, for the first time, tell her story in her own words.



## Teresa Moorey

Motivational speaker and life coach.

Teresa has written over fifty books on paganism, mythology and related subject, including the best-selling **WITCHCRAFT, A BEGINNER'S GUIDE**, and **THE FAIRY BIBLE**. She is regularly interviewed for radio and television and writes for several magazines, including Woman, Chat, It's Fate and Spirit & Destiny.

She holds an MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology and is a Wiccan High priestess. Teresa is also a counsellor and hypnotherapist.



For her entire adult life, she has explored the mysterious and the mystical, immersing herself in the mythology of many lands and celebrating the sacred cycles of Nature. She believes that enchantment enriches our experience of life, and that we can all create a little magic through having the right attitude.





## Natural Weddings

**Category:** Mind, Body, Spirit

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – book proposal available

**Synopsis:** Making a life-long commitment to your chosen partner is a momentous and beautiful occasion. Solemn yet joyful, personal yet public, your wedding day is certain to be one of the most important events in your life, and one during which your beliefs and preferences will be on show every bit as much as your clothes and catering. You will often hear the phrase 'It's your day', and yet your wedding is a community matter - otherwise why not slip away and hold a ceremony in private? As a culture we need weddings, not simply to witness the joining of two people, but also because of the attendant symbolism. Marriage signifies balance and unity, hope for the future but also a continuation of links with the past. As the bride and groom are bonded so we can believe for a while in the power of love, the possibility of peace in the world, and within the hearts of each of us.

The marriage ceremony used to be dictated by the established religions, but for the Twenty-first Century more often than not something different is required - something that is profound yet non-dogmatic, natural yet choreographed, answering a very ancient need for a ritual to unite two souls. Couples want to put their unique stamp on the occasion, and choosing from the alternatives offered by the vicar or registrar may not be satisfactory. In increasing numbers people are turning to pagan ways, to non-denominational spirituality and to humanistic styles. However, these approaches are fluid, and guidelines difficult to establish.

If nothing 'feels' quite right, if you are searching for something meaningful, something that chimes with your own spirituality and values, something that will be really 'yours' as you embark on your life together, then this book is for you. In these pages you will be led to clarify what you want and then guided to achieve it. Although specific alternatives will be explored - for instance 'Druid Wedding' or 'Goddess Wedding' - there is nothing to stop you from mixing and matching, to include words that you like and create the atmosphere that you imagine.



## **Natural Funerals**

**Category:** Mind, Body, Spirit

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – book proposal available

**Synopsis:** When someone dies there is so much of a practical nature to do, just at a time when you may feel least able to do it. You may also feel thrust into the realm of ultimate questions about the meaning of life, and its ending. The established religions used to provide answers - of a kind - for these, but in recent decades such approaches have found less and less favour with many people, who may find them shallow, glib, unrealistic and even absurd.

This book aims to be a practical and emotionally reassuring resource for anyone who wants to grant their nearest and dearest an appropriate 'goodbye', but isn't quite sure how to tackle this. Mainly nature-based, the approach is gentle, lending itself to all forms of paganism, 'New Age', vague belief in 'something', and agnostic, humanistic attitudes. A 'good' funeral can help in the grieving process, but it could be all too easy, at this vulnerable time, just to go along with something that seems superficially acceptable, only to feel unsatisfied and live with regret.

## **Practical Paganism**

**Category:** Mind, Body, Spirit

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited – book proposal available

**Synopsis:** Practical Paganism offers an insight into the paganism of today, essentially a modern phenomenon, and while most declared pagans believe they are involved in something ancient, this is adapted to present-day needs and is arguably a reaction to our current alienation from Nature.

The book's purpose is to explain modern paganism from as many angles as possible, evoking the spirit of the system and giving practical instruction for anyone who wants to develop within it.

It is also intended to be used in a 'self-help' capacity, enabling pagan attitudes to be applied to expand self-knowledge and make life better.



## Deirdra Morris

Deirdra was born in London of Irish parents. Between school and university she was a librarian's assistant, a theatre booking agent, a waitress, a nanny, a shop assistant and an unsuccessful travelling salesman.

From 1972-1976 she attended Trinity College Dublin, where she took a BA in English and French. It was in Dublin that she began her acting career. She has worked extensively in theatre in England, America and Japan. In 1983 she co-founded a Dublin based theatre company, Smock Alley, which performed in Ireland and America.



For the 1992 Edinburgh Festival she co-wrote and performed in **REVELATIONS** at the Traverse Theatre. In 1993, **PLAY WITH COCAINE**, her adaptation of a 1920s Russian novel, was produced on the London fringe. Her first contributions to the Penguin ELT list were, **MY JOURNEY TO SCHOOL** and **EDDIE AND THE MAGIC POTION**.

Deirdra, who is currently writing scripts for Children's TV series, **SNOWSTRUCK WILSON**, also has plans for further works of fiction for children and an adult novel set in and around the theatre.



## Jayne Netley Mayhew

Jayne lives within the Dartmoor National Park in Devon. A successful wildlife artist who has illustrated two books with author Leslie Jackman entitled: **OBSERVING THE COUNTRYSIDE AND SEASHORE** (1990) Webb & Bower and **THE WILD BIRD GARDEN** (1992) Souvenir Press. In 1995 David & Charles published her title with Nicki Wheeler, **ANIMALS IN CROSS STITCH**, and she and Nikki Wheeler published **FOUR SEASONS IN CROSS-STITCH** with David & Charles in March 1997. Their work, **WATER'S EDGE IN CROSS STITCH**, was published Autumn 1998, and **CATS OF THE WORLD IN CROSS STITCH** in 1999.



Her first - solo - book entitled, **CROSS STITCH ANIMAL COLLECTION**, published by David & Charles, and successor for this publisher, **JAYNE NETLEY MAYHEW'S FLOWERS IN CROSS STITCH**. Jayne's latest title, - **JAYNE NETLEY MAYHEW'S CROSS STITCH SAFARI**, resulting from a research visit to Kenya. **CROSS STITCH JUNGLE** - also for David & Charles, followed.

Jayne first started embroidery designing in 1989, leading her to sell several design kits. She has worked on designs for the journal, Dennis Publications' **CROSS STITCH COLLECTION** and for a Dutch design journal. Her CDs produced by Joanna Sheen are very successful.

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



## Sara Paston-Williams

Initially a buyer for a well-known chain of menswear stores, she left the rat race to seek peace and tranquillity in Cornwall. Began working for the National Trust, and after developing an interest in cooking - was offered the chance to run the NT restaurant in Lanhydrock House, Bodmin. Books - **THE NATIONAL TRUST BOOK OF CHRISTMAS AND FESTIVE DAY RECIPES, TRADITIONAL PUDDINGS, ETC.**

She has prepared a special book for Sainsbury's - **POULTRY AND GAME**, and inaugurated a regular series on Traditional Cookery in Heritage. Her **NATIONAL TRUST BOOK OF PIES** (David & Charles) 1987.



The first ever National Trust book to be commissioned by the Trust for its own publication. **THE NATIONAL TRUST BOOK OF FISH COOKERY** was published in September 1988. Her C4 Television series (with Sir Roy Strong) on the History of Food was transmitted in January 1989. Sara's **CHRISTMAS FAYRE** was published by David & Charles in September 1989 and **THE BEATRIX POTTER BOOK OF COOKERY** from Warne in Autumn 1991.

A comprehensive work, **THE ART OF DINING**, was published by The National Trust, in 1993, to great acclaim both in the UK and USA, followed by the equally successful spin-off Historical Recipes. The National Trust has re-launched the updated, **THE COUNTRY KITCHEN STORE CUPBOARD**.

Sara's work, a sumptuous volume, published by the National Trust summer 2005, returned to the theme of Fish. An up-date of Traditional Puddings, the National Trust (Anova) was published (October 2007) in illustrated form, under the new title, **GOOD OLD-FASHIONED PUDDINGS**.

Her book, **CELEBRATING APPLES**, also for the National Trust (Anova) was published in 2009 and her, **HOME BREW** from Pavilion in 2010.





## **Home Brew**

**Category:** Cookery

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via publisher (Pavilion)

**Synopsis:** How to make your own home brews from available fruits.

## **The Art of Dining**

**Category:** History/Food

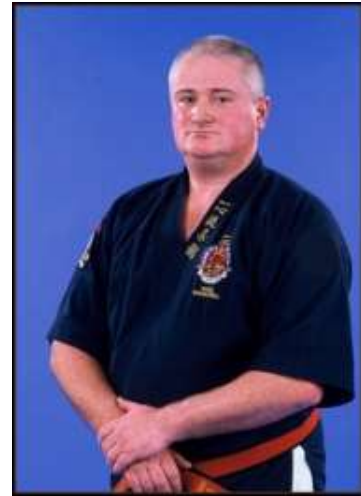
**Rights via RCL:** All rights via publisher (National Trust)

**Synopsis:** This is a unique volume and a joy to behold and read. A gem of a book!



## Soke Kevin Pell

Kyoshi Black belt 7th Dan is the founder of Ishin Ryu Ju-Jitsu - a worldwide organisation with currently over 5,500 students. A full-time international instructor, Kevin has now been training for over 35 years. He has been featured on the cover of both Combat and Martial Arts Plus magazine and was inaugurated into the prestigious Combat Black Belt Hall of Fame last year. In his extensive military career, Kevin has served with the Royal Marine Reserve and the Royal Military Police. In 1996, he was personally invited to join the elite Close Protection Service, a team drawn from Britain's Special Forces and responsible for the personal security of heads of state within the United Arab Emirates. Kevin also runs SAS Survival School weekends and is a specialist in tactical and defensive knife training.



His custom-built Dojo headquarters in Caston, Norfolk, is fast becoming recognised as an international centre for the practice of Ju-Jitsu. The first international conference was held this year and attracted over 100 delegates.

He is one of the few senior coaches in Great Britain to be honoured to carry the title 'Soke' (head of the 'family' or 'style.')

His first book was packaged by Eddison-Sadd, and also sold in America. All rights with Eddison Books.

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



## Nicola De Pulford

Nicola was born in Oxford and brought up in a farming family in Wiltshire. At an early age she started to work on the farm with her father and with her younger sister ran the farm from the age of seventeen. Her great love of the countryside, seen and unseen, led her to capture it on film for local press and magazines and to accompany those pictures with words.



Her first book, **THE BOOK OF SPELLS** published in 1998, was a best seller for Simon and Schuster, followed by **SPELLS AND CHARMS** in 1999, illustrated with her photographs, for Godsfield.

She also published the first farmers' calendar in 1999 - a publication which has been going strong ever since! Nicola has three children and now lives on a working organic small-holding.

Nicola's latest book is called **BEHIND THE HEDGE**, (co-written with John Hitchens) with the sub-head "Where our food comes from: a pocket guide to British farming". This offers an easy to follow guide showing the different ways in which our food is produced and how this shapes the nature of the British countryside.

It is a "must-have" handbook for anyone walking or driving through the countryside. Never again will the reader mistake a field of wheat for one of barley, or an Aberdeen Angus cow for a Hereford!

Published by Sigma Press 2012.



### **Behind The Hedge (with John Hitchens)**

**Category:** Farming/Education

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Publisher (Sigma Press)

**Synopsis:** How to recognise the habitat and the animals to be found in our countryside.



## Martin Pullen

Embarking on a career in animation, Martin has directed many children's TV favourites, including Paddington Bear, The Wombles and Postman Pat, receiving a number of BAFTA Award nominations.

Until recently moving to Surrey, Martin spent nearly thirty years living in London, exploring the capital's narrow, cobbled streets and abbeys, watching it evolve as new buildings reshaped the skyline, soaking up the trivia on guided London walks and visiting places never to be found in any tourist guide.



Feeling it was time to share his voyage of exploration, Martin has now written and illustrated his first book, **THE COMPLETELY USELESS GUIDE TO LONDON**. Packed full of obscure facts, brought to life with fun and quirky illustrations, we are delighted to have this compulsively entertaining guide at the agency

World Rights have sold to John Blake: Martin has also prepared **A COMPLETELY USELESS GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS** for the same publisher. The latter was published in Autumn 2013 and London in early Summer 2014.

Martin is available for freelance illustration work.



### **The Completely Useless Guide to London**

**Category:** Humour/Non Fiction

**Rights sold:** All rights via publisher

**Synopsis:** Animator Pullen has directed many children's TV favourites, and now has turned his attention to bringing to life with words and quirky illustrations, obscure facts about England's capital city. A compulsively entertaining guide.

### **The Completely Useless Guide to Christmas**

**Category:** Humour/Non Fiction

**Rights sold:** All rights via publisher

**Synopsis:** Pullen turns his attention to Christmas, once again, with all sorts of facts and anecdotes, with quirky drawings, brings a new perspective on the Christmas experience!



## 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 currently lives in Raleigh, where she has just finished her MFA at North Carolina State University.

**THE WAGES OF DYING** is her first novel.



## The Wages of Dying

**Category:** Fiction/Crime

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**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 Razzaque trained as a psychiatrist, and is now a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Additionally, he trained in psychotherapy and, in 1998 gained a worldwide reputation for becoming the first psychiatrist to offer a counselling service over the Internet. A great deal of coverage was achieved for the service in the national and international media and served as good experience for his subsequent media appearances. Currently he works as a Consultant in Acute Psychiatry, spending most of his working life in East London, and recently working with charitable and community organisations, establishing counselling, leisure, outreach and recreation projects for young Muslims, locally.



Dr Razzaque has been a writer since University and in recent years began writing screenplays. Having written and directed six short films, he wrote his first feature film - Halal Harry - about a white Londoner who falls in love with a Muslim woman and, in order to win her parents' approval, tries to convert to Islam.

In the wake of the London bombings, he has written articles on the issue for The Independent, with which he has an ongoing relationship, and also appeared on radio and TV.

He published a timely book, with Icon Books, (February, 2008) entitled **HUMAN BEING TO HUMAN BOMB - THE CONVEYOR BELT TO TERROR**, the first work that combines coverage of the suicide bombings in Madrid and London and the parallels between the events and their perpetrators.

Moreover, no books have been written from the psychological perspective and Dr Razzaque's position and background provides him with a unique understanding of the subject. He experienced theocratic Islam himself for the first time as a student at The Royal London Hospital Medical College and saw what this can do to otherwise promising young men - how it can suck away their life's potential.

He became determined, early on, to comprehend this phenomenon - a study he commenced several years before September 11th 2001.





## **Human Being to Human Bomb**

**Category:** Non Fiction (originally published by Icon)

**Rights via RCL:** All rights RCL

**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.





## **Plastic Tides: The Message Is The Bottle**

**Category:** Science, Natural World (Book Proposal)

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**Synopsis:** 1500 miles from nowhere I find myself landing on what seems an idyllic tropical island that has been uninhabited for fifty years. I wade ashore through a tangle of nylon fishing gear, plastic bottles up to my knees, flip flops, Crocs, syringes, food packaging, plastic bags and disposable razors. I wonder if any of the brilliant chemists who invented this material ever considered this after-use nightmare.

This is the story of our Plastic Planet, and in particular the ocean broth of plastic which we have created in the last fifty years. It is aimed at the 300 million of the Blue Planet II audience, people who want to know more about the 70% of our world that is ocean and want to understand in detail why we must know more about plastic in its after-use life. Author, John Ruthven, the only one to work on both Blue Planet series, has a unique first-hand view to offer, travelling and diving in the most remote parts of the ocean over the last thirty years.

On this journey we discover that the first concerns of plastic in the ocean were raised by scientists studying floating seaweed in the ocean in 1972, that plastic as a complex organic compound has similarities to DNA, and that the father of mass produced plastic, Leo Baekeland, inventor of Bakelite, loved nothing better than to enjoy the ocean sailing in his 120-foot yacht, Ion.

Safely contained in the domestic habitat, plastic is one of the most useful products humanity ever invented. But at the end of its life, plastic goes wild. This book traces its journey to freedom and what happens to it when it escapes. It's *the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* of plastic; who and what it harms in the field, and why.



## 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:** All

**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

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Thomas & Mercer

**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...



## **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**.



## Cate Shearwater

Cate Shearwater lives in a tiny village on the Helford River in Cornwall with her husband and their two children.

The idea for her new series came to her while watching Beth Tweddle and Rebecca Tunney compete in the London 2012 Olympics.

Cate herself was always gloriously bad at gymnastics as a child, but loved classic stories like 'Drina Ballerina', 'White Boots', 'Ballet shoes', 'Anne of Green Gables' and the 'Sadlers' Wells' series, all of which inspire her writing, as does the beautiful Cornish landscape where she lives.



## 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?



## 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 has 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 have recently 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, Summer 2016.

Ruth has also written four books for children, all of which were published by Scholastic.

She enjoys giving illustrated talks about her French home and her interests include music, history, dance and travel.





## **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

Phoebe Smith is an adventurer, author, editor, presenter, broadcaster, speaker and filmmaker.

She is award-winning Editor-at-Large of *Wanderlust Travel Magazine*, a travel writer, correspondent for BBC Radio 4 and presenter, and an extreme sleeping adventurer who thrives on heading off to the wildest locations she can find to sleep in the strangest places she can seek out.



She was the first person to sleep at all the extreme points of mainland Britain – including the centremost point – which she did solo, on consecutive nights in 2014. In 2017 she gave up her Christmas to 'Sleep the 3 Peaks', garner substantial media attention and raising over £8,000 for Centrepoin the young people's homeless charity. She is now an ambassador for their annual Sleep Out. As of 2016 she has been an Ordnance Survey #GetOutside Champion for her work encouraging everyone into the great outdoors.

She is the author of 8 books including the bestselling **EXTREME SLEEPS: ADVENTURES OF A WILD CAMPER**, **WILDERNESS WEEKENDS: WILD ADVENTURES IN BRITAIN'S RUGGED CORNERS** and the first ever guidebook to Britain's free-to-stay-in mountain shelters – **BOOK OF THE BOTHY**.

She is passionate about access rights, wildlife and wild land conservation and travel as a force for good. It's her ongoing mission to prove that you don't need to be a beard-sporting, ruffy-tuffy, I'll-eat-a-dead-sheep-carcass Bear Grylls type to have an adventure!

*"Phoebe Smith is a splendid writer and an inspiring traveller"* - **Bill Bryson**

**Website:** [www.phoebe-smith.com](http://www.phoebe-smith.com)





## **I, Pilgrim**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited - book proposal available

**Synopsis:** Now more than ever there is a growing interest in pilgrimages. Spain's Camino de Santiago is reporting record numbers, the USA's first 'Pilgrim Path' has just been created and in 2017 Norway decided to try to bring back the ancient St Olaf's Way after it had seemingly been lost for decades.

In the UK pilgrimages are experiencing a real resurrection too, with the newly created British Pilgrimage Trust re-establishing (among others) The Old Way in 2018, a 240-mile route from Southampton to Canterbury, a lost pilgrimage trail from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. So why is this happening?

Perhaps it's because people like to walk more, but perhaps - as Phoebe Smith proposes, as has been shown with the Brexit vote, election of Donald Trump and seemingly increased threat from terrorism - people are more lost now than ever before, seeking answers to some truly unanswerable questions and looking to find their way with this, the emergence of a new kind of 'self-help' - mindful walking.

Her need to explore Britain's pilgrim paths - from the pre-Christian to the modern day 'resurrected' trails started when Phoebe was sent on an assignment to walk the last 100km of the most famous pilgrimage in the world - the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Phoebe found that the experience that helps others she met 'find themselves' actually made her doubt everything about her own life. In short: she lost her way on the Spanish pilgrimage, and now follows its trail back to Britain in the footsteps of the saints (and sinners) in the hope of re-finding it once more...

## **Between The Cracks: The Untold Story Of Women In The Outdoors**

**Category:** Non Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited - book proposal available

**Synopsis:** There is no single book that looks specifically at women in the outdoors and how they engage with it differently from men, how the world reports it and how they are acknowledged (or not) for their achievements compared with their male counterparts.

There's the odd book about women climbers or big books on mountaineering or cycling where there's a small section dedicated to women (the rest to men), and individual autobiographical accounts about a single woman's experience but nothing that covers the subject of women specifically, looking more closely at how they interact with the natural world that provides the arena for their activities.

This book would do just that at a time when women in adventure is becoming increasingly prominent.



The text would be part narrative and part historical. Rather than merely a dry account of women's achievements, Phoebe proposes to undertake each of the activities described per chapter, to give first- person accounts of them to help demonstrate her interaction with them and the surrounds - sometimes by herself, sometimes with a key figure in that field, but she would weave into this narrative key historical facts and anecdotes about this particular outdoor pursuit, bring in quotes and experiences from women both in the present (and from the past) to give the activity some context and background and sense of where it's been, where it's at and where it's going.

She proposes to cover activities such as climbing, mountaineering, rowing and running, but then some other less traditional activities to create a whole picture of why, when it comes to the outdoors, women cannot help but gravitate towards it, because out there is perhaps the best place where we can truly be free of gender politics.

#### **Why Now?**

There is a growing interest in women in adventure - there're women in adventure expos popping up, networks of women in adventure and special categories in film festivals dedicated to women's film, not to mention the This Girl Can campaign and others like it specifically targeted towards women. Just last month she was asked to help compile and host a film for an Adventure Travel Film Club in London with the theme of 'Superwomen'.

But is it helpful to segregate women into a category of their own? Instinctively, Phoebe would argue that it isn't but when she started researching, she found that not only were women's achievements hard to find, but also those happening right now were, all too often, overlooked. Picking films for that night was difficult because there really weren't many to choose from. Look at the regular list of 'top 10 British adventurers' - last time it only included a single woman.

Given that there are women whose achievements in the outdoors have been great but they have thus far gone uncelebrated and looking at the lack of women seen to be doing adventurous things vs. the number of women actually doing them, she believes that there has never been a better time to highlight this important issue.



## 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). These backlist titles have recently been issued as eBooks on Piatkus' Entice list.

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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language Turkish and Serbian

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language German, Dutch and Danish

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language, Danish, German, Turkish

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language, Danish & German

**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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language

**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 Andrew Stanway

Highly regarded medical writer with many best-selling books to his credit including: **TAKING THE ROUGH WITH THE SMOOTH**, **THE COMPLETE BOOK OF LOVE AND SEX** (with Dr Philip Cauthery), **THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO SEXUAL FULFILMENT**, **PREVENTION IS BETTER, LOVE AND SEX OVER 40**, **PREPARING FOR LIFE** (Viking), **WOMAN'S GUIDE TO MEN AND SEX** (Century), **INFERTILITY: A GUIDE FOR CHILDLESS COUPLES** (Thorsons), **A DICTIONARY OF OPERATIONS** (Grafton), **TRACE ELEMENTS** (Thorsons), **A GUIDE TO BIOCHEMIC TISSUE SALTS** (Thorsons), **THE PEARS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHILD HEALTH** (Pelham), **THE NATURAL FAMILY DOCTOR** (Consultant/Editor), **THE ART OF SENSUAL LOVING, SEXUAL FANTASY AND SEXUAL INTIMACY** (Eddison Sadd for Headline).



Dr Stanway scripted and presented the innovative bestseller videos from Lifetime, *The Lover's Guide*, now on sale worldwide. His innovative work entitled **A NEW GUIDE TO LOVING** is published in the UK by Cassell and in the US by Carroll & Graf (Autumn 1998).

Dr Stanway was self-employed in the fields of medical publishing, commercial, advisory and consultancy work and his psycho-sexual and marital practice for over twenty-five years. During this time he wrote widely, appeared on television regularly in his own medical spot and advised many companies on commercial projects. His features on all aspects of medicine appear in the national and women's press and he has also written as an 'agony aunt'.

Past medical editor of 'Here's Health' magazine. With his wife, Dr Penny Stanway, authors of the classic **BREAST IS BEST\*** (over 250,000 sales) **CHOICES IN CHILDBIRTH, THE BABY AND CHILD BOOK**.

*\*Breast is Best has recently been updated and republished by Sigma Press.*

Andrew Stanway entered the realms of fiction for the first time with his debut novel, **VAXXINE** (Smith Gryphon) in September 1996, attracting strong media attention. The paperback of *Vaxxine* appeared in May 1997: translation rights available from RCL

Dr Stanway returned to the subject area in which he has achieved such monumental success, with **MESSAGE SECRETS FOR LOVERS** published by Quadrille in November 2002. (Rights with the publisher and US, Dutch and Polish editions have already been sold.

He also contracted to write another important book, this time for Vermilion, entitled **INTIMATE SOLUTIONS**. (Subsidiary rights with the Publisher.) Publication April 2004.



An unexpected side to Andrew's professional interests emerged - arising from his lifelong 'hobby' of building. He comes from a construction background and, from the age of 12, worked at weekends in a chain of hardware and DIY shops - very quickly feeling at home with the practical side of building and building materials.

Starting from building and renovating houses on a serious, albeit amateur, scale, he has now managed several re-builds and renovations and tackled projects as varied as period barn conversions, modern house extensions, new-builds, a swimming pool complex, a tennis court construction, and various substantial landscaping projects - including a major lake. He now spends all his time on property matters and also advises property investors and manages building projects.

Over the past few years Andrew has been project managing and specifying new-builds in West Cork. He has lectured at a professional Forum for Specifiers and Architects in London and contributed to Self-Build Magazine.

Andrew's timely first book in the field, **THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE PROPERTY LADDER**, was published (February 2009) by Stobart Davies followed by a major new work, **MANAGING YOUR BUILD**, also for this publisher. All rights with Stobart Davies.



## 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).

Robert is now working 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:** All rights via Rupert Crew Limited

**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.



## 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 appear 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 (ex-Jarrolds) are currently publishing Patience Strong calendars and calendars are also available via the catalogue company, Express Gifts, who also offer Christmas Cards, in their catalogue and website.

On September 3rd 2007, Peggy Reynolds presented a Radio 4 tribute to Patience Strong, entitled Thinking in Rhymes.

February 2011 saw a new avenue for presenting Patience Strong's poems, when Joanna Sheen launched a first CD of a collection of her work, on The Shopping Channel. A beautiful production! Enthusiastically received! In 2012, a second collection, illustrated by flower paintings by Jayne Netley Mayhew, was successfully promoted by Joanna.



## 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 about to be 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 Titles:

- **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 the author of five highly acclaimed pop-cultural crime novels, **THE NOT KNOWING** (2005), **THE SINGER** (2007), **BAD PENNY BLUES** (2009), **Weirdo** (2013) and **WITHOUT THE MOON** (2015). Translated into seven languages, **WEIRDO** was 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. **WITHOUT THE MOON** was also longlisted for the 2016 Gordon Burn Prize. Merging her crime and music credentials, Cathi also edited the short story compilation **LONDON NOIR** (2006, part of Akashic Books' Noir series), featuring contributions from both noted crime fiction authors and leading figures of punk.



Her next novel, a follow-up to **WITHOUT THE MOON** called **THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC** which is based on two intriguing and true stories of witchcraft in the midst of World War II, as published in March 2018. All her novels are published in the UK by Serpent's Tail. She is currently working with punk legend Jordan Mooney to produce Jordan's memoir, **NO SMOKING PISTOL** for Omnibus Press, scheduled for 2019.

Cathi studied fashion design at Gt Yarmouth College of Art and then the London College of Fashion, from where she got her first job on the legendary music weekly Sounds at the age of 19 in 1987. She has since worked as an Editor on *Bizarre* magazine and the arts journal *Purr* and written on music, film, fashion and the arts for *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *Fortean Times*, *Melody Maker*, *Mojo*, *Sight & Sound*, *Neon*, *Uncut*, *Deadline* and *Volume*. Her writing has appeared in the anthologies *London Fictions*, *Punk Fiction* and *Getting Naked With Harry Crews* and she wrote a new introduction to the London Books reissue of Arthur La Bern's *It Always Rains on Sunday* in 2015.

Cathi has appeared regularly to give talks on literature, film and aspects of pop culture at The Barbican, The Museum of London, The National Portrait Gallery, The Bishopsgate Institute, The Horse Hospital and for The Sohemian Society. In 2007 she scripted and presented a six-programme noir fiction/pop culture series *The Dark End of the Street* for London's alternative culture radio station, Resonance. She has devised literary walks for The London Adventure, The Zabludowicz Collection and Notting Hill Local History Society.

Cathi will be teaching the Arvon course *Walk on the Wild Side* with Jake Arnott in April 2018. She taught the 2013 Arvon course *Using Location in Literature* with Patrick Neate, and mentored for the Writers' Centre Norwich Escalator programme 2013. In 2015 she co-curated and co-presented the one-day literature and music event *Dragnet* at the Village Green Festival in Southend-on-Sea with fellow authors Travis Elborough and Syd Moore.



Travis and Cathi have recently been programming the Literary Laboratory in Shoreditch House with Strange Attractor publisher Mark Pilkington and more Dagnet and Sohemian events are currently being scheduled.

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



## The Not Knowing

**Category:** Crime/Fiction

**Rights via RCL:** TV & Film and all other translation

**Rights sold:** World English Language, 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 and some translation

**Rights sold:** UK, French (Serpent's Tail controls French German and Eastern European rights)

**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

**Rights sold:** World English Language, 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

**Rights sold:** UK, US, German, French, Italian, Swedish, film rights optioned to Picture Palace North.

**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

**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

**Rights sold:** World Rights to Serpent's Tail

**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.



## 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:** Translation/Film/TV

**Rights sold:** WEL - Bloodhound Books

**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:** All

**Rights sold:**

**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:** All

**Rights sold:**

**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:** Translation, Film/TV

**Rights sold:** World English Language to Bloodhound Books, 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:** Translation/Film/TV

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

**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...





## Carole Zucker PhD

Carole has a wealth of experience and knowledge of theatre and film. She received her MA and PhD from New York University, in Cinema Studies, and since 1978 has since taught film studies at Concordia film studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, where she developed the first course in North America on film acting.

She has published three books, including a book of interviews, **FIGURES OF LIGHT** (Plenum/Da Capo, 1995), with an outstanding list of American film actors and directors, including Tommy Lee Jones, Richard Dreyfuss, John Lithgow, Sydney Pollack, Bob Rafelson, Christine Lahti and John Sayles.



Her other two books are **MAKING VISIBLE THE INVISIBLE: AN ANTHOLOGY OF ORIGINAL ESSAYS ON FILM ACTING** (Scarecrow, 1990), and **THE IDEA OF THE IMAGE: JOSEF VON STERNBERG'S DIETRICH FILMS** (Associated University Presses, 1988). Zucker has written for journals and anthologies in North America and Great Britain, and has also lectured at international conferences on many subjects, including performance.

Dr Zucker's book **IN THE COMPANY OF ACTORS: REFLECTIONS ON THE CRAFT OF ACTING**, is a further tour de force with the cream of the UK acting profession in dialogue with her. English language volume rights sold to A & C Black, who published autumn 1999, with Routledge in the USA in January 2000. Serial rights were sold to The Times and Translation Rights are available via RCL.

**Website:** [www.actingworkshops.info](http://www.actingworkshops.info)