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CRIME**

16-19 MARCH 2006

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WHERE CRIME PAYS

CONTENTS

Welcome to Left Coast Crime 2006	4
European Guest of Honour: Boris Akunin.....	6
American Guest of Honour: Jeffery Deaver	7
British Guest of Honour: Anne Perry.....	8
Toastmaster: Lee Child	9
Fan Guests of Honour: Donna Moore and Toby & Bill Gottfried	10
British Confusibles	13
The Panellists	15
Floor Plan.....	32
Programme Schedule	33
Awards	37
Book Dealers.....	37
Left Coast Crime Honourees	38
Left Coast Crime By-Laws	39

LEFT COAST CRIME 16 CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CREDITS

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WELCOME FROM THE CO-CHARS

Welcome to Left Coast Crime 16. Between the two of us we have attended Bouchercons and Left Coast Crimes in the United States, as well as a Bouchercon, Crime Scenes, Dead on Deansgates, Harrogate Crime Writing Festivals, Shots in the Darks, and St Hilda's Mystery Weekends in the United Kingdom. Many of you also have been to one or more of these events, so this convention will be a party for old friends. For those of you who are new to all of this, grab a chair and join in. We've already forgotten this is your first time, and by Sunday so will you.



Some of the Left Coast Crime veterans may still be wondering why it isn't being held on the left coast: it is. It just happens to be the left coast of England, the United Kingdom, Europe! And even though it is not being held on the Left Coast of the States this year, Bristol has plenty of links to the 'new world': in 1497 John Cabot, sailing from Bristol, discovered Newfoundland, and almost 350 years later Isambard Kingdom Brunel set a new standard of luxury travel to New York with his ss Great Britain, the world's first large iron ship and the first to be driven by a screw propeller. Today, the feats of both men are still recognised by landmarks throughout the city, so why not visit them if you want a reprieve from crime for a little while.

Oh, and speaking of Brunel, he has a walk-on cameo in the short story Andrew Taylor has written for Left Coast Crime 16. We were able to ask Andrew to write the story thanks to a grant from Brunel 200, the body responsible for the celebrations of the life and work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel in the 200th anniversary of his birth in 2006. All delegates will find a limited edition of the story in their convention bag.

In recognition of the British and European setting, joining Jeffery Deaver, as the traditional US Guest Author, are Anne Perry and Boris Akunin as the UK and mainland European Guest Authors respectively. We also wanted to honour Lee Child, but as a Brit writing 'American' crime fiction in the States it took us a moment to figure out in what role. Then it struck us: as a bridge between the two continents he would be perfect as the Toastmaster! We also decided to add a UK Fan to the US Fan Guest line-up, and you will find more about all of our featured Guests in their appreciations.

Now for some household announcements:

- Please join us at the Left Coast Crime reception on Thursday at 8.30pm in the Kings Room. This will be our opportunity to welcome you in person. Also, to get the fun started in a true British fashion, Peter Guttridge and Laura Wilson will be hosting a criminally entertaining pub-quiz with prizes for the winners.
- As part of your registration, whether you are staying at the Marriott or not, you are welcome to enjoy the complimentary breakfast on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of March. It will be served from 7.00 until 8.30am in the Kings Room.
- We are excited to welcome the International Thriller Writers, Inc. (ITW) for their European launch. As you will see, they have organised a number of panels, and publisher MIRA are sponsoring ITW's cocktail party to mark this, their first international event, as well as to announce their first ever shortlist for the ITW Thrillers awards. Scene of the crime is the Kings Room on Friday at 6.30pm.
- For those of you who registered for the Gala Dinner on Saturday, please bring your tickets and join us at 7.30 pm in the Kings Room. The winners of the Lefty and Bruce Alexander Awards will be announced at this event.
- Please also bring your tickets for the Buffet Dinner in the Kings Room on Sunday at 6.00pm. Those of you who are staying on past Sunday may still be able to get a ticket to see Simon Brett. He is the after-dinner speaker and it will be his only appearance at Left Coast Crime 16!
- After their panels you will have the opportunity to have your books signed by the authors in the Windsor, Hanover, and York rooms. These signing rooms are on the same floor as the Book Room and Kings Room.
- For those of you who do not want to carry your books back home with you, Mail Boxes Etc will be on hand on Saturday and Sunday to handle all your shipping needs at regular British UPS prices.

If you have any questions, then please approach us, or anyone else wearing the black Left Coast Crime T-shirts. That's it for now. So, go off and have a great time.

Cheers,

Myles Allfrey & Adrian Muller

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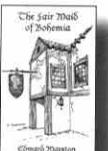
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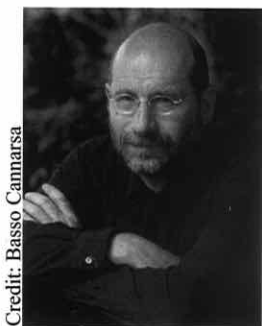
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PUBLISHING EXCELLENCE IN MYSTERY

EUROPEAN GUEST OF HONOUR: BORIS AKUNIN BY PETER GUTTRIDGE



Credit: Basso Camnarsa

With just four novels in translation, Russian author Boris Akunin has become one of Britain's best-selling authors. *The Winter Queen*, *Murder on the Leviathan*, *Turkish Gambit* and *The Death of Achilles* have established Akunin and his 19th century Tsarist secret service agent, Erast Fandorin, in the mainstream of British AND European crime fiction.

What is extraordinary about Akunin's work is the zest with which he plays with crime conventions. So, for instance, *The Winter Queen* is an adventure novel with romance thrown in; *Turkish Gambit* is a spy thriller; and *Murder on the Leviathan* is an Agatha Christie pastiche, down to the suspects being gathered in the first class dining room of a luxury train for the denouement.

He writes well-plotted, vividly realised historical fiction with a cosmopolitan cast of intriguing characters. What is depressing for other crime writers is that he takes only around six weeks per novel to do it. Even worse, he has said that he wrote his first novel, *The Winter Queen*, in the spare time he would normally have spent playing computer games.

However, the fact that a Russian author is writing crime fiction at all is surprising. Before the fall of communism, only high falutin fiction was considered proper. The story goes that even after the fall, in the Nineties, Akunin was inspired to write crime fiction by seeing his wife read a detective novel in a plain wrapper because she was in public and didn't want other people to look down on her. "That's when I got the idea: someone has to write detective novels that ladies such as my wife wouldn't be ashamed to read in public."

He might have got the idea but that didn't mean he wanted to put his real name to what he wrote. B. Akunin is a pseudonym of Grigori Chkhartishvili, a distinguished literary figure and translator of Japanese fiction. Akunin means 'bad guy' in Japanese and Bakunin was, of course, a famous Russian anarchist.

Akunin's protagonist, Erast Fandorin, is a chameleon figure, as much at ease in an adventure as in a whodunnit. He's a member of the Tsar's secret police, which puts him on the right of the political spectrum: 'I am opposed to democracy in general,' Fandorin says at one point. He insists: 'If you live in a state, you should either cherish it or leave it - anything else is either parasitism or mere servants' gossip.' However, the way he acts always conflicts with his purported views. He is morally rigid and wholly incorruptible.

According to Akunin, Fandorin is made up of 70% invention and 30% a mix of Bolkonsky from *War and Peace*, Prince Mishkin from *The Idiot*, and Lermontov's Pechorin. "At the beginning," Akunin said once, "Fandorin looked like a Frankenstein, a homunculus. Then, miraculously, he came to life, for me at least, and started not doing what I wanted him to do. Now for me he is more alive than most of the people I know."

The books Akunin has already written that British and US readers are waiting to have translated include *Jack of Spades* and the *Decorator*, in which Jack the Ripper comes to Moscow, and the first of a series featuring Sister Pelagia, a crime-solving nun.

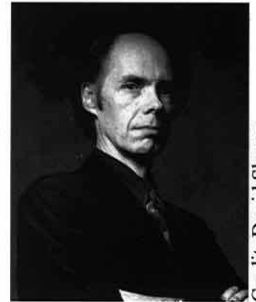
Akunin's appearance at Left Coast Crime is a treat for his many readers – and something he wouldn't do if the festival were in Russia. There, he avoids his public at all costs. "I never meet readers in Russia because there is always someone who stand ups and says: 'What is the meaning of life?'... Russians are used to looking at the writer as a teacher of life. This longstanding tradition irritates me greatly, because I don't want to be a teacher of life. I want to be an entertainer. It's enough for me."

US GUEST OF HONOUR: JEFFERY DEAVER

BY BARBARA PETERS

It seems not so much mysterious but miraculous that one man could be so prodigiously talented and produce such sterling work in various formats and media: novels, short stories, music, poetry, journalism, even the ever-boring legal brief. Legal brief? Yes, Jeff, eager to become a legal correspondent during his years with newspapers, enrolled at Fordham Law School and then practiced with a large Wall Street firm. How often do we hear stories about how lawyers whiled away long commutes by writing fiction?

Surprisingly often, actually. The distinguished British crime writer Michael Gilbert wrote his novels on the train. Sheldon Siegel of San Francisco takes dictation from his muse on the ferry. I haven't heard Jeff's precise story but I do know that in 1980 he felt secure – or brave enough – to embrace the writing life full time. I caught up with him in 1989 when I opened *The Poisoned Pen* and remember those paperback originals, the pseudonym, the success of *The Bone Collector* and the film, and all the kudos that followed.



Credit: David Sharpe

It certainly has paid off for him and for his zillion readers. The author of 20 novels with the 21st, *The Cold Moon*, to publish in June (2006), he's been nominated for five Edgar Awards from the Mystery Writers of America – make that six, one is just in for the 2006 Edgars; an Anthony award, and is a three-time recipient of the Ellery Queen Reader's Award for Best Short Story of the Year. In 2001 he won the W.H. Smith Thumping Good Read Award for his Lincoln Rhyme novel *The Empty Chair*. In 2004 he scored a double Dagger win with the Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award for *Garden of Beasts* and the Short Story Dagger. His books have been translated into 25 languages. And let's not forget his collected short stories in *Twisted, Vol. I*. They appear in many anthologies as well as in EQMM and AHMM (you're mystery fans, figure it out).

How does he do it? He says 'I write pretty much anywhere – on planes, in hotel rooms, anywhere in my house. (My office sometimes gets so cluttered I end up working in the kitchen. When the kitchen goes, it's up to my bedroom. And so on and so on. I wish I had a bigger house.) I like the writing area to be silent (or with jazz or classical accompaniment occasionally) and either windowless or shaded.' Then he can sit in the dark and picture the scene before plunging into putting it onto paper.

Does this process come easily? Depends on how you define it. Jeff obviously has a fertile mind for invention, a craving for asking 'what if?', and a well honed facility for breathing life into characters who then behave in startling ways to make his fast-paced plots, usually compressed into a very tight frame, work. He's been known to quote Mickey Spillane: 'People don't read books to get to the middle. They read to get to the end.'

I do know this about Jeff since he said it to me once in front of a large audience: he's the king of revision. 'If my publishers would let me,' said he, 'I'd hang by my heels from a trapeze over the roaring presses and continue to edit each page as it flies by.' I love this image and what it says about how dedicated this writer is to perfection.

And he's terrific fun besides being immensely generous to other writers and book people. When I needed a quote for a novel I loved, one that involved jazz and noir, Jeff raised his hand to read and blurb it (*Chasing the Devil's Tail* went on to win the Shamus Award). And how cool is this – now I get to be his publisher. He's a contributor of an original piece of music and a story to *A Merry Band of Murderers* to publish in August (2006) from Poisoned Pen Press. A great thing about a life in books is that you gain such great and talented friends and good company – a man like Jeffery Deaver.

UK QUEST OF HONOUR: ANNE PERRY

BY NATASHA COOPER



Anne Perry made her name with her Thomas Pitt novels, which are set in late-nineteenth-century London. Particularly popular in the United States, where they are *New York Times* best-sellers, these novels tackle issues of class, social responsibility and – increasingly as the series progresses – politics. She has invented a group of powerful but disaffected men, whom she calls the Inner Circle. Its members are prepared to commit the most violent crimes in order to protect their own interests. They represent the bad in this series, just as Pitt, with the help of his upper-class wife, Charlotte, her sister and their aunt, Lady Vespasia Cumming-Gould, represent good.

In 1990 Perry began a second series, writing one of each every year. The new novel was set some forty years earlier than the Pitt stories and features William Monk. He is a more ambiguous character and first appears after an accident that has left him without memory. His searches into his past and himself reveal much that he dislikes. Perry has said: ‘All I wanted to do was to write a book allowing me to speak with a different voice. I didn’t know it was going to be a series. In fact, in my first draft Monk was guilty, but the publishers wouldn’t have that because they wanted more Monk books.’

Now she has moved on again, embarking on a quintet set during the First World War. Three novels in the sequence have now been published: *No Graves as Yet*, *Shoulder the Sky*; and *Angels in the Gloom*. Leading the narratives are members of the Reavley family. Joseph, a Cambridge academic and Church of England priest, becomes a chaplain on the Western Front, where his sister Judith is a volunteer driver for one of the generals. Their brother, Matthew, works in intelligence. Here, too, the good characters are set against a group of shadowy conspirators. This time, the leading villain is known as The Peacemaker. Were his intention only to promote peace between Germany and Britain, no one could object, but in fact his aim is a British surrender and he is therefore a traitor. In *Shoulder the Sky*, Perry writes that Matthew’s father warned him ‘in their last brief conversation, that the conspiracy touched even as high as the Royal Family, and he could trust no one.’

The fruits of Perry’s research into the facts of the 1914-18 war are many vivid scenes. She describes how men at the front had to live in mud, surrounded by corpses and rats, eaten by fleas and lice. Cold and hungry, they were reduced to drinking lukewarm tea made from brackish water ‘heated’ over a candle flame. But what is particularly interesting about these novels is Perry’s uncompromising moral judgment. Even here, amid the shambles of war, with men being condemned to death for evading their duty to shoot the enemy, all private killing is wrong.

As so often in her novels, those who do commit the ultimate crime are driven by conviction, but she shows again and again that this is no excuse. At one moment, she describes a character who killed his victim and then himself: ‘Joseph’s favourite student at St John’s College, passionate, idealistic and terrified of the destruction, not only to life but to the very spirit of civilization that war would bring. He had believed the Peacemaker’s plan to be the lesser evil. Then, after he had committed double murder in its cause, and seen with horror the reality of violent death, he had found he could not live with it.’ Later, there is more: ‘...neither of them had been evil – he knew that as clearly as he saw the sunlight on the grass. They had been deceived and destroyed by others, and, in the end, crucified by shame.’

Later still a man of the utmost courage and integrity kills a despicable individual, who has caused great harm. Here Joseph Reavley says: ‘I can’t even tell you that you were wrong, only that the army will see it that way. They have to.’

Moral choices made by people who do not know whether they will live or die tomorrow are the very stuff of drama, and Perry makes the most of them.

A TOAST TO THE TOASTMASTER: LEE CHILD

BY SIMON KERNICK

‘Jack Reacher ordered espresso, double, no peel, no cube, foam cup, no china, and before it arrived at his table he saw a man’s life change forever.’

So go the first words to Lee Child’s latest thriller, *The Hard Way*, and for me, they sum up the appeal of his writing. Lee doesn’t waste words. He doesn’t beat about the bush. He takes his readers by the scruff of the neck and pulls us straight into his stories with hooks that are impossible to resist. We have to know what happens, how this man’s life changes forever, and what the hell it’s got to do with Jack Reacher. All we know for sure is that, where Reacher’s concerned, it’s going to spell some sort of trouble.

And that’s the thing with Jack Reacher. He attracts danger like a magnet. The central protagonist of all Lee’s nine novels, he’s a true enigma. A former Military policeman and West Point graduate, a six foot five inch man mountain who’s harder than any of the many villains who’ve come up against him, he swapped the structured army lifestyle for one that is the polar opposite, and now wanders the backroads of middle America in a lonely, self-imposed exile, rejecting all ties and never staying in one place too long, but always prepared to right wrongs when they occur.

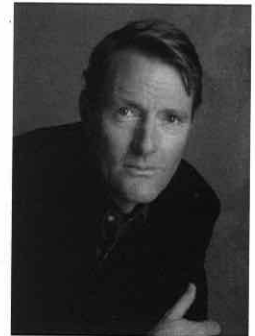
I don’t know if he can be described as a ‘hero’, as such. He’s certainly fearless enough to warrant the sobriquet, and one of the enduring and intriguing themes of the books is the fact that whatever danger he faces, we always know that Reacher will pull through, because defeat, like nervousness, is simply not in his mindset. However, there is something vaguely one-dimensional about the term ‘hero’ in contemporary literature, and it doesn’t do a character like Jack Reacher justice. There’s a lot more to him than that. He might be a man of few words, and – on the surface at least – fewer emotions, but beneath the façade there are plenty of hidden depths. He’s sensitive in his treatment of the women he becomes involved with over the course of the books (always a different one each time), and you suspect, something of a romantic at heart. At the same time, though, he’s also a killer many times over who’s never afraid to use extreme violence when he deems it necessary, and who, again, you suspect, never loses sleep over it. He can also terminate whatever romantic relationship he’s having and disappear off into the sunset at the end of each book in a way that is selfish, believable and almost tragic, all at the same time.

But even a character as interesting as Reacher needs a good story, and Lee’s knack for creating irresistible first lines to his novels is matched by the way he can keep the narrative thundering along to a climax that is both exciting and unpredictable. There is also an important investigative element in each of the books as Reacher hunts down the clues that will bring him towards the inevitable confrontation with the people he’s up against, and this is a theme that’s occasionally overlooked. Reacher is an intelligent man, and a methodical thinker – a product of his background in the military police – and he uses these skills as much (if not more so) than the more physical ones he’s normally associated with.

In the Reacher books, Lee has created stories that are escapist in nature and relentlessly pacy reads, but which also say something about the transient nature of Western, and particularly American, life at the turn of the 21st Century. The series is still developing, the books getting better with each new outing, and it’s no exaggeration to say that in Lee Child we now have a writer operating at the top of his game.

At the moment, I consider him one of the best British thriller writers around. He’s also one of the best American ones.

It’s a testimony to his skills that he can be both.



US AND UK FAN GUESTS OF HONOUR APPRECIATIONS

BY ADRIAN MULLER

From attending numerous crime fiction conventions over the years, it seemed to us that too many Fan Guests are more than just fans alone: booksellers and dealers, independent publishers, etc. God knows they aren't in it for the money, but most of them would pride themselves on their professional involvement with crime fiction. My co-host, Myles Allfrey, and I wanted to honour some people who are fans for the love of the genre alone, and we feel that we have succeeded admirably.

US FAN GUESTS OF HONOUR: BILL AND TOBY GOTTFRIED



Two conventions that set the standard for organisers were the 1997 Bouchercon and the 2004 Left Coast Crime, both held in Monterey. Bill & Toby Gottfried were closely involved with both of them: programming the Bouchercon (one of the largest in its history!) and co-chairing the Left Coast Crime. They were also involved with Left Coast Crimes 1 and 2 in 1991 and 1992 respectively. Whilst it is with some trepidation that we follow in Bill & Toby's impressive footsteps, it is both fitting and with pleasure that we turn the spotlight on these two devotees as our US Fan Guests of Honour. Both Bill & Toby were readers of the genre before they met, but they have been partners in crime ever since their marriage in 1960. They have amassed and catalogued some 13,000 crime novels together despite busy careers as a paediatrician (Bill) and a bio-chemist (Toby) – some day, when they retire, they hope to finish reading them all. In an effort to play catch-up with their library they participate in Janet Rudolph's Mystery Readers' International reading group, and also moderate their own reading programme: Mystery Addicts. Oh, and should you be in conversation with either of them, and they point and shout, "A Northern Shoveller", don't worry, they are not insulting anyone, they are just indulging in their other pastime: 'twitching'. (For the uninitiated: that's bird watching.)

UK FAN GUEST OF HONOUR: DONNA MOORE



Often the Fan Guest of Honour title focuses on people who have made bold statements by, for example, publishing fanzines, or setting up reading-groups. For our UK Fan Guest of Honour we are pleased to have someone who is big in personality, yet quietly effective in her support of crime novelists and the genre as a whole. Spreading word-of-mouth recommendations and writing insightful, and often hilarious postings to newsgroups are just some of her promotional tools. It is time to recognise the 'invisible' fan. Our UK Fan Guest of Honour for Left Coast Crime 2006 is Donna Moore. Crime came early to Donna. She started at 7 with Enid Blyton's The Famous Five, moved on to Carolyn Keene's Nancy Drew, and hasn't stopped reading since. Thousands of books later, she now attends approximately three crime fiction conventions a year - the majority of them in the States - and goes to umpteen book launches of authors, many of whom have become good friends. In between sending copious emails to those newsgroups, such as DorothyL and 4_Mystery_Addicts, she finds time to work as a pensions consultant.

And, for real dedication to crime, she managed to get mugged three-and-a-half times! (How do you manage to get mugged half a time?)

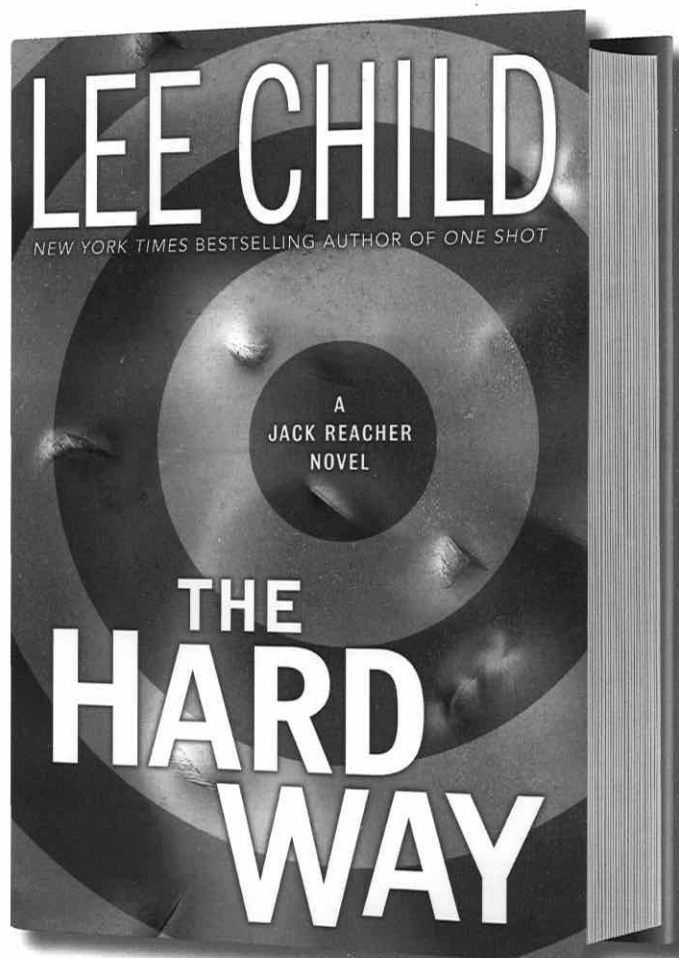
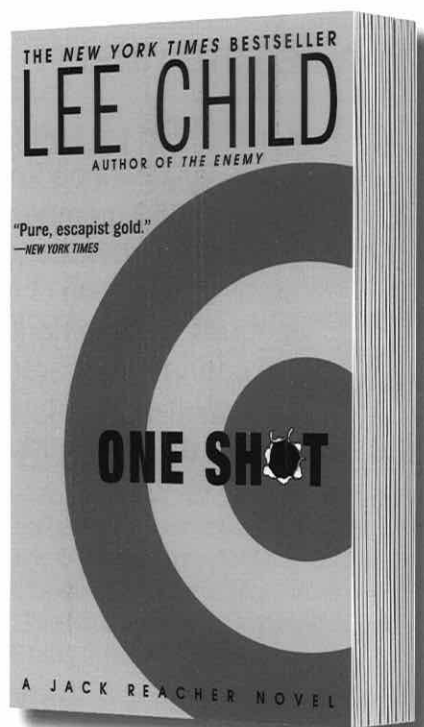
Since inviting our fans to be Guests of Honour, one of them has become tainted with the 'professionalism' we mentioned in this introduction. Bill & Toby have assured us that they prefer reading to writing. Donna on the other hand, having amused many friends with her crime fiction send-ups, is now unleashing her prose ("no cliché left unturned," she warns) on an unsuspecting public. PointBlank Press publish ...*Go to Helena Handbasket*, very appropriately, on the 1st of April. For more information visit www.pointblankpress.com

Bantam Dell Publishing salutes
Left Coast Crime 2006 Toastmaster

LEE CHILD

“Not for nothing do reviewers tell readers to disconnect the phone
when the latest Reacher knockout comes along.”

—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*



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Seattle, Washington
February 1 - 4, 2007

LEFT COAST CRIME

17th Annual Western Mystery Fan Convention

Pro Guests of Honor



Dennis Lynds
(aka Michael Collins)
1924-2005



Gayle Lynds

LOCATION:

Renaissance Seattle Hotel
Seattle, Washington

COST:

\$175 (when paid by 10/2/06)
\$190 (when paid after 10/2/06)

Fan Guests of Honor



**Diane Kovacs &
Kara Robinson**

Toastmaster



Gary Phillips

WHY REGISTER EARLY?:

Membership for Left Coast Crime 2007 will be limited. The first 450 members are guaranteed attendance at the all-convention banquet; those who join late cannot be guaranteed a banquet seat but will receive all other perks of the convention.

TO REGISTER OR FOR INFORMATION:

on the web: www.LeftCoastCrime2007.com
email: info@LCC2007.com
mail: LCC 2007
P.O. Box 30805
Seattle, WA 98113-0805

A SMALL HELPING OF BRITISH CONFUSIBLES FOR FIRST-TIME US VISITORS BY TONY BROADBENT

George Bernard Shaw once said that we were two countries separated by the same language. After more than twenty years on both sides of the Atlantic, I'd wager we still are. But do I bet you my bottom dollar or bet you a pound to a penny? Should I bet the farm or the shop? Do I bet a Jackson or a Franklin? A monkey or a pony? It can be a mite confusing. So let me offer up a few words and phrases – and the odd safety tip – as regards some of the more confusing confusibles you may have to contend with during your stay here.

As you might've noticed, people in Britain drive on the left-hand side of the road as opposed to the right, but whereas Americans drive on 'the pavement', the British prefer to walk on it. So beware of wayward pedestrians – especially ones wearing football scarves, carrying cans of lager, and chanting "I'm blind, I'm deaf, I wanna be a ref," whether or not they happen to be blowing a whistle or sporting a policeman's helmet.

Also, when you venture forth as a pedestrian and attempt to cross the road, do always remember to look all about you for any traffic, and listen very carefully as you do. For in this extremely overcrowded and tiny island, traffic can come at you from all directions, and most often from behind or from out of your blind spot. (Indeed, UK statistics show that during the height of the tourist season one US visitor gets knocked down every 57 minutes. And yes, he's getting very tired of it. And yes, the old jokes are still killers.)

Another pointer when out on the Queen's highway is that the 'middle finger' used with such dexterity in the US, translates into a 'two fingered salute' using first and second fingers in the UK. It's also a handy mnemonic for remembering that every British pound you spend costs two whole US dollars.

But you shouldn't let a little thing like the exchange rate 'brown you off,' as Britain has far more taxing things in store for you. In this country, a 'rubber' is something you erase pencil marks with, and is of little use for avoiding sexually transmitted diseases. For that you'll need to find a chemists – pharmacist – and loudly ask for "a packet of Durex, please." Also, the term 'fag' does not denote a person's sexual inclination, but refers either to a cigarette or the practice of institutionalised serfdom as was once the custom at many of the nation's finer 'public' (for which read 'private') schools. And should a person in café or restaurant ever ask: "Black or white?" – it's not your ethnicity that's in question, it's simply to inquire whether or not you take milk or cream in your tea or coffee.

On the other hand, if someone should ask if you'd like 'a bevy', 'to wet your whistle' or 'go down the local' – you're being invited to go for a drink down the pub. And then when you're told "it's your shout" it means it's your round, it's your turn to buy the drinks. Just remember, never simply ask for 'a beer,' you ask for 'a half' or 'a pint' of whatever it is you're drinking. Also should you inadvertently bump into someone and spill his or her drink, it's very wise to smile and offer to pay for another. That way, you'll avoid being called 'a tosser' or 'a wanker' – pejorative terms applied to people afflicted with what's sometimes been called Portnoy's Complaint.

That aside, if you're told you're wanted on 'the blower' or 'the dog and bone' it means there's a telephone call for you. 'Blimey', 'blinder', 'blotto', 'bonking', 'bottle', and 'bloke' refer to an exclamation of disbelief, a brilliant bit of footwork, being blind drunk, having sex, having courage, and a man of your acquaintance whose name you've temporarily forgotten; all pretty easy stuff. Far more difficult to master is the declension of 'bugger.' 'Bugger' can be modified as 'big bugger' or 'little bugger'; the former referring to a very large gentleman who may or may not be friendly, the latter to a child who's being a bloody nuisance. 'To bugger something up' means to spoil it or ruin it, but 'to bugger' is to approach carnal knowledge very gingerly, and in reverse fashion. But then while 'bugger off' is a simple request for you to 'get lost' or 'depart you hence, and quickly', 'bugger all' means nothing at all, as in "I care bugger all about what you think."

As a fall-back, you can also use 'knickers' to say "I don't give a bugger's," but 'knickers' is more often used to refer to women's panties and not short pants as in the US. Here, 'frock' means dress, 'tights' means nylon pantyhose, and 'trousers' stands for pants. A 'vest' is not a waistcoat, but what some gentlemen wear under their shirts – it's like a T-shirt without sleeves and sometimes wholly made of knotted string (not a very pretty sight).

A 'jumper' is what you call a sweater. 'Wellies' are rubber boots. And Doc Martens are a brand of heavy rubber-soled work boots or shoes much favoured by soccer hooligans and Adrian Muller. 'Trainers' on the other hand – or foot – simply refer to any and all brands of gym shoes, tennis, and jogging shoes. The cry to "Give it some Wellie" suggests you need to put a little more energy into whatever it is you're doing, while "Keep your pecker up" simply suggests you remain cheerful through difficult times.

Then there are the rather more ticklish words and phrases such as 'Bristols', 'knockers', 'nooky', 'how's yer father', 'talent' and 'get your kit off'. These refer to a woman's breasts; ditto; having sex; ditto; an attractive person with whom you'd like to ditto; and a request that you remove your clothes for some ditto. So it might come as a relief to learn that 'doing a bunk', 'cock-up', 'spotted dick', 'feeling peckish', 'fish fingers', and 'smellies' are the equivalents for leaving without paying, a screw-up, suet pudding with currants and raisins, feeling hungry, long strips of fish covered in breadcrumbs, and scented toiletries. And while we're at it, here, 'a joint' means a cut of meat suitable for roasting, and the only thing you inhale is the steam from the Bisto-flavoured gravy that's served with it.

Then, of course, there are the ever-useful Sellotape, TCP, spanner, crisps, and Marks and Sparks that translate to Scotch tape, antiseptic lotion, a wrench, potato chips, and Marks & Spencers (a nation-wide, high street chain that sells high quality clothes and food at very reasonable prices). And talking of money, a 'monkey' is five hundred pounds sterling, a 'pony' is twenty-five quid, and a 'quid' is another term for one pound sterling, just like you use a 'buck' to mean a dollar.

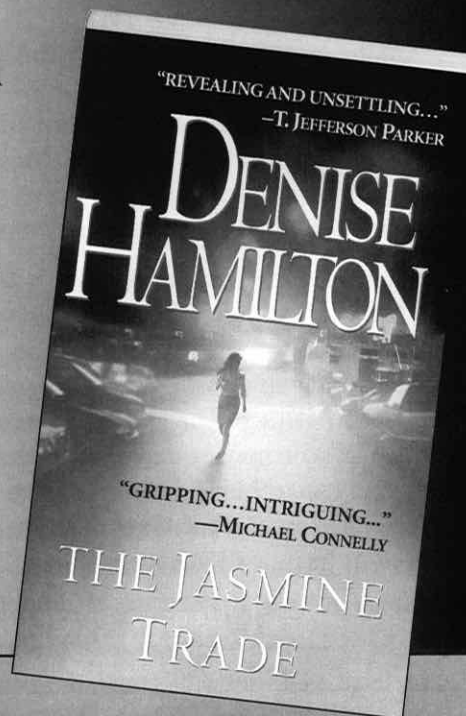
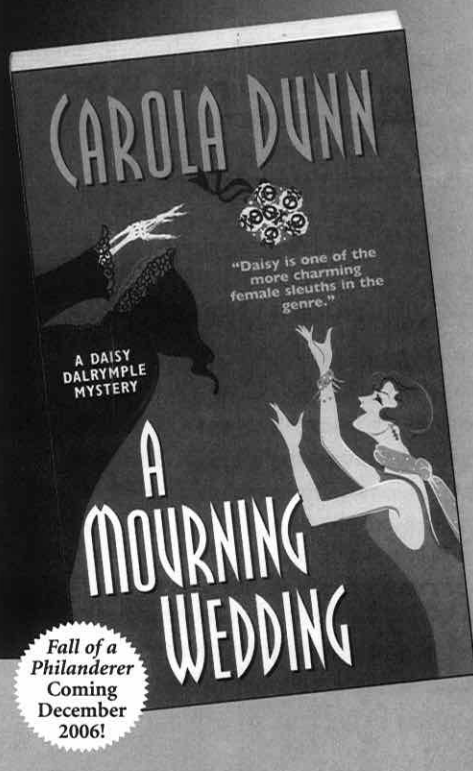
Finally, there's the always-handly 'Bob's yer uncle' because that says the job's done, a good result can be expected. 'Ta', 'tara' and 'tata' mean thanks, au revoir, and goodbye. So in closing, 'just have a bash', 'give it a go', 'try giving it some Wellie', and try out all you've learned on all your new British friends. You'll be amazed at the response, especially if you always remember to pay for 'your shout'. Mine's a double, by the way. 'Tara.'

Tony Broadbent is the author of a series of mystery novels set in austerity ridden, black market-riddled, postwar London. There's an extensive glossary of London underworld slang inside every copy.

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THE PANELLISTS



Lin Anderson's first novel *Driftnet* became a Scottish bestseller in 2003 and was recommended by the *Scotsman* newspaper in December 2005 as one of 'The 20 Scottish books everyone should read'. *Driftnet* introduced Glasgow based forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod and was followed by *Torch* and *Deadly Code*, all published by small

Scottish publisher Luath Press. Lin recently signed a six book deal with Hodder for the first three Rhona titles and a further three in the series. www.lin-anderson.com



Donna Andrews writes two award-winning mystery series. *Owl's Well That Ends Well* (April 2005) is the sixth in her series from St. Martin's, featuring blacksmith Meg Langslow. *Delete All Suspects* (November 2005), is third in her "technocozy" series from Berkley Prime Crime, featuring artificial intelligence personality Turing Hopper. www.donnaandrews.com



Lindsay Ashford is the author of three crime novels featuring half-Indian, half-Welsh forensic psychologist Megan Rhys. Lindsay is a graduate of Cambridge University's Institute of Criminology and got the idea for her first novel *Frozen* while carrying out research with prostitutes. Her second novel *Strange Blood* was selected as Crime Book of the Month for

April 2005 by Ottakars UK. She recently sold the American rights for her books to St Martin's Press.

www.lindsayashford.co.uk



Deborah Atkinson, author of *Primitive Secrets* (2002) and *The Green Room* (2005), lives in Honolulu, Hawaii with her husband and two sons. A zest for adventure and a deep interest in native myths and lore surrounding Hawaii's rich and varied cultures contribute to her books. In her free time, Debby enjoys surfing, Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling, and scuba diving

with her husband and sons. She is working on her third novel.

www.debbyatkinson.com



Marian Babson was born in Salem, Massachusetts, but has lived in London for the greater part of her life. She has worked as a librarian, managed a campaign headquarters, and was co-editor of a machine knitting magazine, despite the fact that she can't knit. She also served as a secretary to the Crime Writers' Association.

Marian Babson is now a full-time writer and her many interests – theatre, cinema, art, cooking, travel, cats, etc – are reflected in her books.



Ray Banks was born in the Kingdom of Fife, but currently lives in North East England. He is the creator of Leith-born Manchester PI Callum Innes who features in two forthcoming books – *Saturday's Child* and *Donkey Punch* – due from Polygon in May and September respectively. He is also the author of *The Big Blind*, which is out now. www.thesaturdayboy.co.uk



Alex Barclay was born in Dublin, studied journalism in college and went on to work as a freelance journalist and copywriter before writing her debut novel *Darkhouse*. She lives outside Dublin. www.alexbarclay.co.uk



Aileen G. Baron has a Ph.D. in archaeology. Her career includes twenty years teaching archaeology at California State University, Fullerton; numerous seasons of archaeological fieldwork in the Middle East; a year at the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem as NEH scholar; and director of the overseas campus of California

State Universities at the Hebrew University. *The Torch of Tangier* is the second mystery in the Lily Sampson series, featuring an American archaeologist working in the Middle East in the 1930s and 40s.



An insatiable traveller, occasional scuba diver and hopeless saxophone player, **Charles Benoit** works in advertising, creating ads that drive consumers into a buying frenzy. His Edgar- and Barry-nominated debut novel, *Relative Danger*, earned both a Franklin and a Glyph Award for Best Mystery of the Year. His new novel, *Out of Order*, is a curry-hot mystery that sends a paper-pushing office worker on an Indian quest.

www.CharlesBenoit.com



John Billheimer, a native West Virginian, lives in Portola Valley, California. He holds an engineering Ph.D. from Stanford University and is the author of the 'funny, sometimes touching', Owen Allison mystery series set in Appalachia's coalfields. *The Drood Review* voted his first book, *The Contrary Blues*, one of the ten best mysteries of 1998. Three subsequent novels, *Highway Robbery*, *Dismal Mountain*, and *Drybone Hollow*, explore road-building scandals, strip mining, and fraudulent insurance claims.

www.angelfire.com/ab6/ab664/index.html

FOR A BLOODY GOOD TIME!



Cara Black lives in San Francisco with her husband, a bookseller, and teenage son. Her first book, *Murder in the Marais*, was nominated for Macavity and Anthony awards for Best First Novel. Her third in the series, *Murder in the Sentier*, was nominated for an Anthony award as Best Novel. *Murder in the Bastille*, her fourth book, was a national best-seller. Her books have been written about in *USA Today*, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and the *LA Times*.
www.carablack.com



Stephen Booth is the creator of young Derbyshire police detectives Ben Cooper and Diane Fry, who first appeared in *Black Dog*. Twice winner of the Barry Award for Best British Crime Novel, Stephen has eight other nominations to his credit, including the Dagger in the Library, presented to the author whose books give readers most pleasure. The *Sunday Telegraph* describes him as 'one of our best story-tellers.' An ex-journalist, Stephen lives in Nottinghamshire.
www.stephen-booth.com



Rhys Bowen is a transplanted Brit living in California. She writes the Constable Evans mysteries, set in North Wales. The latest, *Evan's Gate*, was a nominee for this year's Edgar award. She also writes the Molly Murphy mysteries, set in 1901 New York and featuring a feisty Irish immigrant. This series has won six awards, including the Agatha and the Anthony. Her short story, *Doppelganger*, also won last year's Anthony award. Rhys is a past president of the Norcal Chapter of MWA.
<http://jqh.home.netcom.com>



Chaz Brenchley has been making a living as a writer since he was eighteen. He is the author of nine thrillers, most recently *Shelter*, and two major fantasy series; his most recent book is *Bridge of Dreams*. His novel *Light Errant* won the British Fantasy Award in 1998. He lives in Newcastle upon Tyne with a lopsided cat and a famous teddy bear.



Steve Brewer's 13th book, *Bank Job*, was recently published by Intrigue Press. A new standalone, *Whipsaw*, will be out soon, and next fall will see the publication of the seventh novel in his comic Bubba Mabry private eye series. Steve also writes a weekly humour column, *The Home Front*, that appears in dozens of newspapers in the United States. He lives in Northern California with his wife, Kelly, and two sons.




Tony Broadbent. British; born Windsor, Berks; local grammar school; London art student; copywriter and creative director in advertising agencies in London, New York and San Francisco. Brown eyes, eyebrows; grey hair; cruel, sardonic wit; warm, inviting personality; loves animals, especially cats; 'likes birds best'; tallish, a hair's-breadth short of six foot; married. Writes about a cat burglar and jewel thief, named Jethro, at large amongst the fog-shrouded, soot-encrusted rooftops of austerity ridden, black-market-riddled postwar London. www.tonybroadbent.com



Toronto born, **Jane Burfield** was educated in Toronto and London, England. She has worked in journalism, writing instruction and corporate directorship before getting serious about fiction writing. Jane learned to like short stories after winning in the last four Bloody Words short story contests. She is currently working on a novel. Other interests include travel, Egyptology, bridge, and piffle. Jane and her three daughters live in a 4th generation family home in North Toronto.

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Jan Burke is the author of eleven novels and a collection of short stories. Her novels include *Bloodlines*, *Nine*, and *Bones*, which won the Edgar for Best Novel, her stories have won the Agatha, Macavity, and other awards. Simon & Schuster will publish her next book in October. She is the founder of the Crime Lab Project and a member of the board of the California Forensic Science Institute. www.janburke.com



Caroline Carver's debut novel, *Blood Junction*, won the prestigious Crime Writers' Association's Debut Dagger Award, and was named one of the Best Mystery Books of 2002 by *Publishers Weekly*. Caroline is half English, half New Zealand. She lived in Australia for 10 years before taking up long distance rally driving - she has driven London to Saigon and London to Cape Town. Caroline lives just outside Bath. www.carolinecarver.com



Richard Burke was born in London, but grew up in Oxford from the age of ten. After a short stint working as a bond trader in the city, he left finance for a career in television. He is an award-winning producer and director of TV science programmes. His credits include the series 'Space' for the BBC, and Discovery's hit series 'Raging Planet'. His first novel, *Frozen*, was published by Orion in 2003, and his second, *Redemption*, came out in January 2006.



Kate Charles, a past Chairman of the Crime Writers' Association, is an Ohio native who has lived in England for twenty years. Best known for her Church of England-based *Book of Psalms* mysteries, she also published three stand-alone suspense novels, and has now launched a new series set in the 21st century Church. *Evil Intent*, published in the US and UK, explores issues of homophobia and misogyny through the eyes of newly-ordained Callie Anson. www.katecharles.com



James Calder has written three novels in the Bill Damen series. The most recent, *In a Family Way*, deals with a fertility doctor who tinkers with the very essence of a child. Calder lives in San Francisco's Mission District. In addition to the novels, he writes neuroscience computer games. His training is in History and History of Science, and he's especially interested in how science, culture, and religion influence one another. www.jamescalder.net



Ann Cleeves worked as a probation officer, bird observatory cook and auxiliary coastguard before she started writing. Now she promotes reading for Kirklees Libraries and as Harrogate Crime-Writing Festival's reader in residence. Many of her books are based in Northumberland, the county she considers home, but her most recent, *Raven Black*, is set in Shetland. It introduces Jimmy Perez and is the first novel in a Shetland quartet. www.anncleeves.com



Colin Campbell is the author of nine novels and a novella. He has written numerous short stories and is also a full time police officer in West Yorkshire, tackling crime on the streets of one of the UK's busiest cities. Two books have been published in the UK, one of which is being adapted for TV as a six-part drama. A further four will be published shortly and all are being considered for US publication.



Barbara Cleverly was born in the north of England and is a graduate of Durham University. Her first novel, *The Last Kashmiri Rose*, was named by the *New York Times* as 'a notable book of 2002', and in 2004 she won the CWA Ellis Peters Historical Dagger for *The Damascened Blade*. www.barbaracleverly.com



Maureen Carter is creator of the series of gritty and exciting crime novels, featuring Birmingham detective, Bev Morriss. Bev, the DS with attitude, made her debut in 2004 in *Working Girls*. *Dead Old* was published last August and the third in the series - *Baby Love* - is out in June. Published by Crème de la Crime, Maureen Carter is a former BBC TV reporter, presenter and producer. When not writing about Bev, she still works occasionally as a freelance journalist. www.maureencarter.co.uk



Liza Cody is author of the Anna Lee private detective series and the Eva Wylie trilogy. She began her crime-writing career in 1980 when *Dupe* won Britain's John Creasey Memorial Prize for a first crime novel. It was also nominated for an Edgar Award by the Mystery Writers of America. Her work, including Edgar and Anthony nominated short stories, has been published in over a dozen countries. Liza Cody was born and brought up in London.



Born in London, **Natasha Cooper** was convent-educated to be a nice girl. Crime writing has taught her how much more fun it is being powerful. Her gripping and well-reviewed novels feature barrister Trish Maguire, who battles not only to restore justice but also to understand the mysteries of human behaviour. When she is not writing novels, Natasha reviews for many publications such as *The Times*, *Times Literary Supplement* and the *Toronto Globe & Mail*. www.unusalsuspects.co.uk



A year after being approached for recruitment by the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), **Charles Cumming** moved to Montreal where he began working on his debut novel, *A Spy By Nature*, based on his experiences with MI6. He published a second novel, *The Hidden Man*, from Madrid in 2001. Earlier this year, *The Spanish Game*, the sequel to *A Spy By Nature*, was published. Charles is currently working on a contemporary thriller about China.



Thomas Rendell Curran was born in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1939. He was educated at Memorial University of Newfoundland and the University of Toronto. For twenty three years he was a Senior Researcher and Writer at the Library of Parliament in Ottawa. He has published two novels in the Inspector Stride Mystery series: *Undertow* (2002) and *The Ros-siter File* (2005). Both novels are set in post-war, pre-confederation St. John's, and draw heavily on Newfoundland history. He currently resides in Ottawa. www.ericstride.com



Prize-winning short-story writer **Judith Cutler** is the author of over twenty novels, including two acclaimed crime series set in the murkier depths of Birmingham. Her latest standalones show there's no escaping crime in the countryside, either. Judith has taught Creative Writing at Birmingham University, and run writing courses elsewhere, including a maximum-security prison and an idyllic Greek island. Having nurtured colleagues as the Secretary of the Crime Writers' Association, she now devotes her free time to growing organic vegetables. www.judithcutler.com



Lindsey Davis, past Chair of the CWA, has eighteen novels in print. Her long-running series, featuring laid-back First Century detective Marcus Didius Falco and his partner Helena (plus friends, relations, pets and bitter enemy the Chief Spy), is published in Britain and America, has been translated into many languages, and serialised on BBC Radio 4. She has won the CWA Historical Dagger, the Dagger in the Library, and a Sherlock for Falco as Best Detective. www.lindseydavis.co.uk



After having had several Mills & Boon romances published, **Penny Deacon** turned – with relief – from love to crime. She grew up in Sri Lanka, the USA and England, and has lived on a yacht and sailed the Atlantic, dredged for oysters in the Solent, taught English, written management workbooks (the shame!) and been a school librarian. Her books are set a little distance in the future, but are definitely mean streets crime, not sci-fi.



Vicki Delany lives in Oakville, Ontario, where she is employed as a systems analyst, but her first love is the wilds of northern Canada where her stand-alone novels of psychological suspense are set. Her debut novel, *Scare the Light Away*, is published by Poisoned Pen Press. *Burden of Memory* is due in June, 2006. Vicki has been called 'one of Canada's most promising new practitioners of the crime genre.' (Dick Adler, *Chicago Tribune*). www.vickidelany.com



Margaret Dumas began her career as a technical writer, but she finally came to her senses and turned to writing fiction. Her first novel, *Speak Now*, was shortlisted for the 2003 CWA Debut Dagger award. The adventures of Charley and Jack Fairfax will continue this spring, with *How To Succeed in Murder*, published by Poisoned Pen Press. Dumas's first non-mystery, *The Balance Thing*, will be available in 2006 from HarperCollins. www.margaretdumas.com



Carola Dunn's Daisy Dalrymple series is set in England in the 1920s. Born and bred in England, she now lives in Oregon. Before tackling her first mystery, Carola worked in market research, childcare, construction, building design and proof-reading textbooks, besides writing definitions for a sci-&-tech dictionary and over 30 Regencies. Her only preparation for a career in historical fiction was failing history at school. Her latest mystery, the 14th, is *Fall of a Philanderer*. www.geocities.com/CarolaDunn



Martin Edwards has twice been nominated for a CWA Dagger and his latest Lake District Mysteries are *The Coffin Trail* and *The Cipher Garden*. He has written seven books about Liverpool lawyer Harry Devlin and the suspense novel *Take My Breath Away*. His eight non-fiction books included *Urge to Kill*, a study of homicide investigation, and he has edited 14 crime anthologies and published a collection of short stories, *Where do you find your ideas?* www.murdersquad.co.uk



Barry Eisler's thrillers, featuring the half-Japanese, half-American freelance assassin John Rain, have won the Mystery Ink Gumshoe Award for Best Thriller of the Year; have been included in numerous 'Best Of' lists, including those of Amazon.com, *Deadly Pleasures*, *News-Press*, *Publishers Weekly*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the *San Jose Mercury*

News; have been translated into nearly twenty languages; and have been optioned for film by Barrie Osborne, Oscar-winning producer of the Lord of the Rings trilogy.

www.barryeisler.com.



Kate Ellis was born and raised in Liverpool and now lives in Cheshire, England. Keenly interested in history and archaeology, Kate is the author of nine crime novels featuring DI Wesley Peterson, which combine historical and present day detection. Her eighth novel, *The Plague Maiden*, was nominated for the Theak-

stons Old Peculiar Crime Novel of the Year in 2005 and she has twice been shortlisted for the CWA Short Story Dagger.

www.kateellis.co.uk



In 1992, the *Sun* voted crime writer **Ron Ellis** as the 'Man with the most jobs in Britain'.

Currently, Ron is football correspondent for the *Non League Paper*, an after dinner speaker, owns a property company, lectures on Popular Music and runs his own publishing company. He writes two series: the acclaimed DCI Glass mysteries and the Johnny Ace series. Both are

noted for their black humour and music references.

www.ronellis.co.uk



Former English professor, **Nancy Fairbanks** wrote seven historical romances as Elizabeth Chadwick and seven police procedurals as Nancy Herndon. Under her maiden name Nancy Fairbanks, she now writes a culinary series about a food columnist who solves murders, domestic and foreign, while travelling and eating sumptuous meals. Each mystery has

a different setting and local recipes. *Mozzarella Most Murderous* and *Three-Course Murder* are the most recent. *Bon Bon Voyage* is upcoming in April. <http://nancyfairbanks.com>



Jane Finnis was born in Yorkshire, and has been fascinated by history since as a child she marvelled at York's ancient city walls. She has been a freelance radio journalist, a computer programmer, and a shopkeeper. Now she and her husband Richard live near the Yorkshire coast, and she writes mysteries set in 1st-century Roman Britain, during the turbulent

years following the Roman conquest. When not writing or researching, Jane enjoys travelling, occasional broadcasting, and playing the guitar. www.janefinnis.com



Bill Fitzhugh is the award-winning author of seven novels, including *Pest Control* and *Cross Dressing*, in development at Warner Brothers and Universal Studios respectively. The *New York Times* has said, 'Fitzhugh is a strange and deadly amalgam of screenwriter and comic novelist. . . in a league with Carl Hiaasen and Elmore Leonard.' His latest novel,

Highway 61 Resurfaced was recently nominated for the Best Fiction award by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.

www.billfitzhugh.com



Barbara Fradkin is a child psychologist with a fascination for why we turn out bad. Her gritty short stories haunt numerous publications, including the Ladies Killing Circle anthologies, and her four detective novels feature the quixotic Ottawa Police Inspector Michael Green, whose passion for justice and love of the hunt often conflicts with family, friends, and police protocol. The latest, *Fifth Son*, won the 2005 Arthur Ellis Best Novel Award from Crime Writers of Canada.

www3.sympatico.ca/family.fradkin



Margaret Frazer is the award-winning author of the nationally best-selling, Edgar Award-nominated Dame Frevisse series of late medieval history mysteries, as well as the new, best-selling Joliffe series of medieval theatre mysteries, and short stories in numerous anthologies. She lives outside Elk River, Minnesota, USA, with cats and a great many books.

www.margaretfrazer.com



An American uprooted to England, **Meg Gardiner** writes thrillers set in her native California. Her books have been called 'Great stuff' and 'a conspiracy theorist's must-have' by the *Independent on Sunday* and 'a fast-paced ride through some of the more dubious nooks and crannies of the American dream' by the *Guardian*. Meg previously practiced law in

Los Angeles and taught at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She lives with her family outside London.

www.meggardiner.com



Christine Goff is a two-time Willa Literary Award Finalist for Best Original Paperback. *Death Takes a Gander*, the fourth novel in her 'Birdwatcher's Mystery' series, features a US Fish and Wildlife Special Agent, an eclectic group of birdwatchers, a Canada goose die-

off, and environmental disaster in the making. A 'backyard birdwatcher', Goff lives in Colorado with her husband, three children, three dogs, and assorted wildlife – her inspiration for murder. www.christinegoff.com



Paula Gosling came to England from the US in 1964 for a 'short visit', but is still here! One night she dreamt a mystery and woke up before the end. She had to write it herself - and the result was the award winning *A Running Duck* (*Fair Game* in the US). Paula has since published 17 mysteries which have been translated into over twenty languages. She has

two daughters and two granddaughters, and presently resides in Bath.



Pip Granger grew up in Soho during the 1950s. She travelled in Europe and Asia in the 1960s and '70s, and worked as a Special Needs teacher in Hackney in the 1980s, before pursuing her long cherished ambition to write. Her first novel, *Not All Tarts are Apple*, won the Harry Bowling Prize for fiction. She has also

written *The Widow Ginger*, *Trouble in Paradise* and *No Peace for the Wicked* (all set in 1950s Soho). She now lives in the West Country with her husband and pets. www.pipgranger.com



Kerry Greenwood has written thirty two novels and six non-fiction books, and has worked a variety of jobs including folk-singing and translating. She works part time for Victoria Legal Aid as a public defender and is currently working on her sixteenth Phryne Fisher book. She holds the Crime Writers' Australia Lifetime Achievement Award. She is not married, has no children and lives with two cats and an accredited Wizard. In her spare time she stares blankly out of the window.

www.phrynefisher.com



Maggie Griffin Creative Enterprises provides full-service author management, website promotion and book publicity. Her clients include Lawrence Sanders, Lee Child, Steve Hamilton, T. Jefferson Parker, Laurie R. King, Greg Rucka and Chris Mooney. Maggie is also a co-owner of Partners & Crime Mystery

Booksellers in Greenwich Village, New York City.



Allan Guthrie lives in Edinburgh where he works in a bookshop and writes dark fiction on his days off. His debut novel was published in the US by PointBlank Press in July 2004 and in the UK by Polygon in September 2005. His sophomore novel, *Kiss Her Goodbye*, was published in March, 2005 by Hard Case Crime in the US and the Polygon edition will follow in

the UK in April 2006. www.allanguthrie.co.uk



Peter Guttridge is the crime fiction reviewer for the *Observer*. He has written six satirical crime novels, the most recent of which is *Cast Adrift* (Allison & Busby). He has been called 'the King of Crime Comedy' - proof positive that bribery works. www.peterguttridge.com



Patricia Hall (aka Maureen O'Connor) was born in Bradford, started writing stories at seven and by 13 had decided to be a journalist. She was the first editor of the *Guardian's* education pages, and also worked for the BBC. Her first novel, *The Poison Pool*, set like its successors in her native Yorkshire, was published in 1991. The third, *Death by Election*, was the first in her series introducing reporter Laura Ackroyd and DCI Michael Thackeray. She has published a novel every year since.

www.patriciahall.co.uk



Denise Hamilton writes the Eve Diamond series set in contemporary Los Angeles. Her books have been shortlisted for the Edgar, Macavity, Anthony and Willa Cather awards. Her debut, *The Jasmine Trade*, was shortlisted for the CWA's Creasey Dagger. Prior to writing novels, Denise was a *L.A. Times* staff writer.

During the Bosnian War, she lived and taught in Yugoslavia as a Fulbright Scholar. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband, two boys, a large unruly dog and an elderly diabetic cat. www.denisehamilton.com



Lyn Hamilton is the author of a series of archaeological mysteries published by Berkley Prime Crime featuring antique dealer Lara McClintock. Each book is set in a different exotic location as Lara travels the world, finding much murder and mayhem along the way. *The Magyar Venus* was nominated for an Arthur Ellis award for best crime novel in Canada.

The tenth in the series, *The Orkney Scroll*, is out in April 2006. www.lynhamilton.com



David Harrison is a writer and consultant. He is married with two children and lives in Brighton. His debut novel, *Sins of the Father*, is published by Crème de la Crime. The book will be launched here at Left Coast Crime on Friday 17 March.



Cynthia Harrod-Eagles is the author of over 60 successful novels, including 28 volumes of the historical Morland Dynasty series, and the ten internationally-acclaimed Inspector Bill Slider mysteries. She was born and educated in London and had a variety of jobs, ranging from circus hand to pensions officer, before becoming a full-time writer in 1979.

She lives in London, is married and has three children.

www.cynthiaharrodeagles.com



Lizzie Hayes has been an avid reader of crime fiction since she first discovered *The Man in the Brown Suit* by Agatha Christie when she was thirteen. Since 1997 she has run the Mystery Women group, whose aims are primarily to promote female crime writers and in particular the lesser known ones. The group

has grown considerably in the last eight years and continues to do so. www.mysterywomen.co.uk



David Hewson's series featuring the young Roman detective Nic Costa have been translated into many languages around the world, including Chinese, Russian and Japanese, and this year will appear in Italy too. A former journalist with the *London Times*, *Sunday Times* and *Independent*, he now writes full time. The fourth novel in the Costa series,

The Lizard's Bite, appeared in the UK in March 2006. His first book, *Semana Santa*, was filmed with Mira Sorvino.

www.davidhewson.com



Kathleen Hills spent the first forty years of her life in rural Minnesota before leaving for the real world and a career in speech and language pathology. After determining that ten years in the real world should be all that is demanded of anyone, she turned to writing. She is the author of *Past Imperfect* and *Hunter's Dance*, mysteries set in 1950s Michigan featuring

John McIntire, township constable. Kathleen divides her time between northern Minnesota and Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The third McIntire novel is due this month.



Lesley Horton's break came at the Winchester Conference when an agent read the first page of her manuscript, took the rest home and by the following Wednesday had agreed to represent her. That novel, *Snares of Guilt*, was published by Orion in 2002. It was followed in 2003 by *On Dangerous Ground*. The third, *Devils in the Mirror*, came out in 2005 and

her fourth, *The Hollow Core*, is due out in December this year.

www.lesleyhorton.co.uk



Declan Hughes worked for twenty years as artistic director and playwright with Rough Magic, Ireland's most important independent theatre company, and with the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. His award-winning plays include 'Digging for Fire', 'Love and a Bottle', 'Twenty Grand' and 'Shiver'. *The Wrong Kind of Blood*, his first crime novel, introduces Dublin-based private detective Ed Loy. John Murray/William

Morrow will publish the second Ed Loy novel in 2007.



Jane Jakeman's *In the Kingdom of Mists* (Transworld), set during Monet's visit to London in 1900, has been republished in the USA by Berkley Prime Crime, who are also republishing the Lord Ambrose novels: *Let There Be Blood*, *The Egyptian Coffin* and *Fool's Gold*. A sequel to *In the Kingdom of Mists*, set in Venice, is in preparation, forthcoming 2006. Born

in Wales, Jane lives in Oxford with her Egyptologist husband and two cats, Philosopher and Explorer.

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Peter James, author of fourteen mystery novels, is also a film and television writer and producer. His most recent film, 'The Merchant Of Venice', starred Al Pacino, Jeremy Irons and Joseph Fiennes. His first crime novel, *Dead Simple* was published in 2005 and has been sold to eighteen countries, including the

USA, Germany, France and Italy. His second, featuring the same Detective Superintendent Roy Grace, *Looking Good Dead*, is published in the UK in June, 2006.

www.peterjames.com



Russell James - named by best-selling Ian Rankin as 'The Godfather of British Noir' - is a British crime writer known for his hard-hitting, low-life thrillers, mainly set in south east London. He has written ten crime novels plus a number of short stories and writes a regular column for the magazine *Crime Time*. In 2001

he was elected Chairman of the Crime Writers Association.



H.R.F. Keating (Harry Keating) is best known for his creation, Inspector Ghote of the Bombay CID, beginning in 1964 with *The Perfect Murder* (Gold Dagger), 21 books in all if you count *The Murder of the Maharajah* (Gold Dagger) in which Ghote is no more than

a twinkle in his father's eye. Among his many subsequent books there is *Sherlock Holmes, the Man and His World*; *Crime and Mystery*; *the 100 Best Books* and a crime novel in verse *Jack, the Lady Killer*.



Jim Kelly is a journalist and lives in Ely. He has published three novels with Penguin: *The Moon Tunnel*, *The Fire Baby* (chosen by Booklist magazine as one of the top ten crime novels of 2003) and *The Water Clock*, which was shortlisted for the CWA John Creasey Award. He was also shortlisted for the CWA Bodies in the Library Award 2004. His new novel, *The*

Coldest Blood, will be out in July.



Simon Kernick is the critically acclaimed author of a loose series of four London-based crime thrillers featuring corrupt cops, violent hitmen, and mercenaries with murky pasts. And they're the good guys! His fifth novel, a standalone thriller called *Relentless*, is released in June 2006. www.simonkernick.com



Janet Laurence is the author of ten culinary mysteries featuring Darina Lisle, cordon bleu cook, and her detective partner, William Pigram; three historical mysteries with the eighteenth century painter Canaletto as the sleuth during his time in England in the late 1740s; and one suspense mystery. Janet also writes general fiction and cookery books. She

lives in Somerset but occasionally visits Tasmania, where she has served as a Writer in Residence at Jane Franklin Hall, part of the University of Tasmania.



David Lawrence is the pseudonym of the poet David Harsent. His ten crime novels have appeared in the UK and USA and been translated into fourteen languages. His most recent work has featured Detective Sergeant Stella Mooney; the latest in the series, *Cold Kill*, was issued in paperback in March this year. *Legion*

won the Forward Prize for Best Poetry Collection 2005 and David's collaboration with composer Harrison Birtwistle continues with an opera, *The Minotaur*, commissioned by the Royal Opera House.



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Simon Levack won the Debut Dagger award for *Demon of the Air*, the first in a series of mysteries set in Mexico a few years before the Spanish conquest, featuring the wily slave Yaotl as an unconventional amateur sleuth trying to survive in the dying days of the glittering, bloodthirsty Aztec empire. His second novel, *Shadow of the Lords*, is out in paperback

in the UK in February 2006. He lives in London.

www.simonlevack.com



Marianne Macdonald was born in Canada, came to England as a student, and never left. A former academic, she has also written, directed and acted in fringe plays, and published children's and crime fiction. She lives in London, setting of the Dido Hoare series about an amateur detective/antiquarian bookseller/single parent who, like the author,

avoids housework and makes trouble. *Three Monkeys* is Dido's most recent outing. www.marianne-macdonald.com



Michael Z. Lewin's latest novel, *Eye Opener*, features Indianapolis PI, Albert Samson, who first appeared in 1971. Since then Mike has written another twenty mysteries and many short stories. Most of the novels are set in Indy, where he grew up, but other recent novels and stories are about a family of private

detectives in Bath, where he lives now. A three-time Edgar nominee, Mike also writes radio and stage drama. He is rarely spotted at events in Britain. www.MichaelZLewin.com



Heidi Mack is the owner of xuni.com, which specializes in website development, particularly for mystery authors. xuni.com provides management, design and maintenance of websites, as well as online author promotion.



Peter Lovesey is responsible for more crimes than he cares to remember, starting in 1970 with the prize-winning *Wobble to Death*, the first of the Sergeant Cribb series set in Victorian London. His most recent books are set in modern Bath and feature Superintendent Peter Diamond and the latest is *The Circle*. Peter has a small armoury of gold and silver daggers

as well as the 2000 Cartier Diamond Dagger.



The Dead Don't Get Out Much is the latest in **Mary Jane Maffini's** five Camilla MacPhee series, based in Canada's capital. Her comic mystery, *Lament for a Lounge Lizard*, was short-listed for the Crime Writers of Canada Arthur Ellis award for best mystery of 2003. Berkley Prime Crime will launch her new series, The Charlotte Adams mysteries, starting in 2007. She's a former President of Crime Writers of Canada and an

award-winning short story writer. www.maryjanemaffini.ca



New York Times bestseller **Gayle Lynds** is the author of eight international espionage novels which are published in some 20 countries. Her books have been *People* magazine 'Page-Turner of the Week' and 'Beach Read of the Week' and have won such awards as 'Thriller of the Year' (*Mosaic*) given by *RT* magazine. With Robert Ludlum, she

created the Covert-One series. Gayle is co-founder and co-president of International Thriller Writers, Inc. Her next novel, *The Last Spymaster*, will be released in the US in June.

www.gaylelynds.com



Adrian Magson is a freelance writer. Shortlisted in the CWA Debut Dagger 2001, he has been published around the world, including in the *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*. He currently writes a monthly column for *Writing Magazine*. His debut crime novel *No Peace for the Wicked*, (*Crème de la Crime* 2004), and *No Help for the Dying* (September 2005) both feature crime fighters Riley Gavin and Frank Palmer. Adrian lives in Oxfordshire with his wife, Ann. www.adrianmagson.com



For **Stuart MacBride**, the path to becoming a published author has not been as straightforward as it might have been: he has scrubbed toilets offshore, flunked out of university, set up his own graphic design company, worked for some really nasty marketing people, got dragged into the heady world of the internet, drunk heaps of wine and created the perfect

recipe for mushroom soup. He lives just left of the back of beyond in north-east Scotland with his wife Fiona and enough potatoes to feed an army. www.stuartmacbride.com/en



Mike Marshall (Smith) is a novelist and screenwriter. *Only Forward* won the August Derleth and Philip K. Dick awards. *Spares* and *One of Us* were optioned for film by DreamWorks and Warner Brothers. *The Straw Men* was an international bestseller. He is a three-time winner of the BFS Award for short fiction,

and his stories are collected in two volumes: *What You Make It* and *More Tomorrow and Other Stories*. His latest novel, *The Lonely Dead*, was published in May 2004.

www.michaelmarshallsmith.com



Edward Marston is author of the Domesday Books; the Nicholas Bracewell series set in the Elizabethan theatre; the Christopher Redmayne novels about the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire of 1666; and the Robert Colbeck series, featuring a railway detective in Victorian England. Under the name of Keith Miles, he is the author of

six golf mysteries and two architectural mysteries that involve Frank Lloyd Wright. He's the former Chairman of the Crime Writers Association in the UK. www.edwardmarston.com



Priscilla Masters is the author of eight successful Detective Inspector Joanna Piercy novels set in the moorlands of Staffordshire. She is also the creator of coroner Martha Gunn, set in the medieval town of Shrewsbury and four medical standalones dealing with such

issues as the arrogance of a surgeon, the vulnerability of a female GP, the blurred line between sanity and insanity and the dilemma of a psychiatrist whose psychopathic patient may go on to commit a crime. www.joannapiercy.com



Keith McCarthy was born in Croydon, Surrey. Educated at Dulwich College and then at St George's Hospital Medical School. He began practising pathology in 1985 and has done so ever since. At present Keith is a consultant histopathologist in Gloucestershire. He is currently working on his third novel featuring ex-pathologist Dr John Eisenmenger.

www.keithmccarthy.co.uk



Iain McDowall was born in Scotland, but is a resident alien in the English Midlands where his fictional town of Crowby is also located. Iain worked as a philosophy lecturer and as a computing specialist before turning to crime (writing). His latest novel, *Killing for England*, the fourth in the Crowby series, explores the disturbing themes of racism and racially-motivated murder.

www.crowby.co.uk



Dreda Say Mitchell's first novel, *Running Hot*, a crime thriller set against London's urban landscape, has been awarded the CWA's John Creasey Memorial Dagger for best first crime novel 2005. She is the first black British writer to have been honoured with this award. Born into London's Grenadian community in 1965, Dreda grew up in the East End. She has

a Masters degree in education studies. She has also been published in the anthology *Uncut Diamond*.



Professional jazz drummer **Bill Moody** has played and/or recorded with Jr. Mance, Maynard Ferguson, Jon Hendricks, Annie Ross, and Lou Rawls. He lives in northern California, where he teaches creative writing at Sonoma State Univ., and is active in the Bay Area jazz scene with the Terry Henry Trio and Dick

Conte's trio and quartet. He is the author of five Evan Horne novels: *Looking for Chet Baker*, *Bird Lives!*, *Sound of the Trumpet*, *Death of a Tenor Man*, and *Solo Hand*.

www.billmoodyjazz.com



David Morrell is the award-winning author of *First Blood*, the 1972 novel in which Rambo first appeared. Co-president of the International Thriller Writers organisation, he has written numerous *New York Times* best-selling novels, including *The Fifth Profession* and *The Brotherhood of the Rose* (the basis for a top-rated NBC mini-series). His latest novel is *Creepers*.

www.davidmorrell.net



One of the up and coming crime writers of the new generation, **Margaret Murphy** is the author of nine highly-acclaimed psychological crime novels, published in the UK, USA and in translation across Europe. Her Liverpool-based series, featuring Chief Inspector Jeff Rickman and Detective Sergeant Foster, evokes the gritty reality of crime in one of Britain's most

vibrant and brutal cities. 'An adept stylist with skin-chilling style.' *New York Times* (starred review)

www.margaretmurphy.co.uk



Known for her Auguste Didier novels, **Amy Myers** has just finished the third of a new series, in which ex-cop Peter Marsh investigates cold crimes with daughter Georgia. After some years in publishing, she began her life of crime eighteen years ago. Her short stories appear in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, and a collection, *Murder 'Orrible Murder*, is due

from Crippen & Landru in April. Married to an American, Amy Myers lives in Kent, UK. www.amymyers.net



Barbara Nadel writes two crime fiction series, one set in Turkey featuring Inspector Cetin Ikmen of the Istanbul Police Department and the other set in 1940s London based around an undertaker's business. She has a degree in psychology and worked with people with mental health problems before becoming

a full time writer in 2003. In November 2005 she won the CWA Silver Dagger for Fiction for her 7th Cetin Ikmen novel *Deadly Web*.



Sharan Newman is the award-winning author of the Catherine Levendeur series, set in twelfth century France. She recently had fun writing *The Real History Behind the Da Vinci Code*, for which she got to use footnotes again. www.sharanneuman.com



Michael Newton has published 187 books since 1977, with 14 more pending release from various houses through 2007. While most of his work is fiction – 149 novels and counting, including thrillers, police procedurals and Westerns – he’s best known for reference books in the realm of true crime. His latest non-fiction work is an *Encyclopedia of Conspiracies and Conspiracy Theories*. www.michaelnewton.homestead.com



Ayo Onatade has been reading crime and mystery fiction since she was ten years old. She is the clerk for a senior judge in the UK, and when not dealing with solicitors and barristers, she spends her spare time reading as much crime fiction as possible. She helps run the group *Mystery Women*, does reviews for *Reviewing the Evidence* and *Shots*, an online magazine, and interviews many authors. She also writes articles for *Crime Spree Magazine*.



Ann Parker earned degrees in Physics and English Literature before becoming a science writer - a career she pursues by day while writing historical mysteries at night. Her Silver Rush mysteries, featuring saloon owner Inez Stannert, are set in the 19th-century silver mining boomtown Leadville, Colorado. *Iron Ties*, sequel to the award-winning *Silver Lies*, will be released in June 2006. Ann resides in Northern California and escapes semi-regularly to Colorado’s Rocky Mountains. www.annparker.net



Stuart Pawson started crime writing after a long career as a mining engineer and a shorter one with the probation service, and has just published his eleventh novel in a series featuring Detective Inspector Charlie Priest (‘A sleuth that lightens his dark work with wit’ – *Poisoned Pen*). His hobbies are painting and fell walking - two activities he has imposed upon Charlie, together with a love of the music of Bob Dylan. He lives in Yorkshire. www.meanstreets.co.uk



Barbara Peters is the owner of The Poisoned Pen in Scottsdale, Arizona, opened in 1989, and the US’s largest mystery bookstore. In 1997 she cofounded Poisoned Pen Press where she serves as Editor. www.poisonedpen.com
www.poisonedpenpress.com



Cathy Pickens’ first mystery, *Southern Fried*, won St. Martin’s Malice Domestic Award for Best Traditional Mystery. Set in a small Southern town, it was called an ‘assured debut, a cozy with some sharp edges’ by *Publishers Weekly* and was named one of 2004’s top five best new mysteries by *RT BookClub* magazine. In *Done Gone Wrong*, attorney Avery Andrews wrestles with the puzzle of a new drug, a dead doctor, and a missing prostitute. www.cathypickens.com

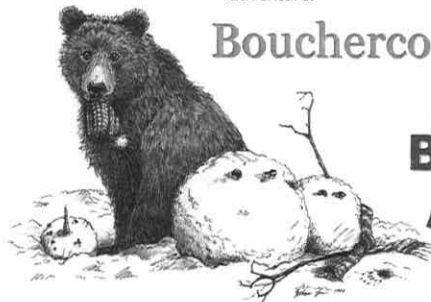


Christine Poulson was a lecturer in art history at a Cambridge college before she began writing fiction. Her first novel, *Dead Letters*, published in 2002, features literary historian and accidental sleuth, Cassandra James, and is set in Cambridge. *Stage Fright*, the second in the series, came out in 2003 and her third, *Footfall*, appears in 2006. Her short story, ‘The Lammergeier Vulture’ was published in the 1905 CWA anthology, *Crime on the Move*. www.christinepoulson.co.uk

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When **Sheila Quigley** got her first book deal she was jobless, living on benefits and had recently been told her council house was to be demolished. Her book *Run For Home* was published in April 2004 and in August that year she was the subject of a BBC TV documentary. She is also the author of *Bad Moon Rising* and her new novel *Living On a Prayer* is published in April 2006.



Liz Rigbey used to run the world's longest-running radio show, a drama set in an almost crime-free English village. She worked on aid programs in Russia, Afghanistan and Africa until in 1995 *Total Eclipse* was published in most countries apart from France. In 2003, *Summertime* was published almost everywhere and sold especially well in France. Rarely out of print, *Total Eclipse* is being re-issued in April 2006. *The Hunting Season*, will appear in May 2006.



B. J. Rahn teaches English at Hunter College in New York. She has been teaching, researching, and writing about crime fiction for over two decades. She has published articles in journals and reference books such as *The Armchair Detective*, *St. James Guide to Crime and Mystery Writing*, Scribner's *Mystery and Suspense Writers: The Literature of Crime, Detection, and Espionage*, *The Dictionary of Literary Biography* and the *Oxford Companion to Crime and Mystery Writing*.



Rick Riordan is the author of six mysteries featuring Texas private eye Tres Navarre. The series has won the Edgar, the Anthony and the Shamus Awards. His most recent novel is *Mission Road*. Riordan also writes the Percy Jackson series for young readers. His first, *The Lightning Thief*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book for 2005 and has been optioned for film by Twentieth Century Fox.
www.rickriordan.com



Danuta Reah/Carla Banks lives in Yorkshire. The settings of her books range from urban South Yorkshire to new Europe and beyond. Crime – or at least dissent – runs in the family. Her father was a refugee from Stalin's Belarus; one of her ancestors, John Woodcock, was hanged, drawn and quartered in 1646 for his religious beliefs. Her latest book, *The Forest of Souls* (written as Carla Banks) came out in paperback in March.
www.danutareah.co.uk



David Roberts was educated at Eton and McGill University, Montreal. He was a publisher for thirty years, and partnered with his friend Michael O'Mara at O'Mara Books where he published among other bestsellers *Andrew Morton's Diana: Her True Story*. *Sweet Poison*, the first in his Lord Edward Corinth/Verity Browne series set in the 1930s, was published in 2001 both in the UK and US. The sixth book in the series, *A Grave Man*, was published in October 2005.



Richard Reynolds has been a bookseller for the last 26 years, all bar two years at Heffers Academic bookshop in Cambridge. He is a specialist in Biography, Narrative Travel and Detective Fiction. Until recently he's been a judge on the CWA Ian Fleming Steel Dagger panel. Each year he organises a varied programme of crime fiction events for Heffers, including the ever-expanding 'Bodies in the Bookshop'. This year 'Bodies' will be on July 18th (contact him for details on literature@heffers.co.uk).



Lora Roberts mingled real and fictional Victorians in writing her most recent book, the well-regarded *Affair of the Incognito Tenant*, a mystery featuring (fictional) Sherlock Holmes. Charlotte Dodson, who narrates the book, was inspired by (real) Isabella Beeton, prolific authoress of *Mrs. Beeton's Book of Household Management*. Roberts has lived in California for 30 years and has written eight other mysteries, including the contemporary *Another Fine Mess*, set on the California coast near Santa Cruz.
www.nmomysteries.com/lora



John Rickards is the 28 year-old author of the New England-set psychological thrillers *Winter's End* and *The Touch of Ghosts*, although he'll do just about anything for money. He lives on the south coast of the UK, mostly on caffeine, where he feeds his terrifying internet addiction. His third book, *The Darkness Inside*, will be published by Penguin in August. www.johnrickards.com



Internationally bestselling author **M.J. Rose** graduated from the School of Visual Art at Syracuse University and spent the next ten years in advertising. She is the author of six novels, including *Lip Service*, Anthony Award nominated *The Halo Effect* and *The Delilah Complex*. She's also the co-author of two nonfiction books on marketing, teaches an online marketing class, and runs Buzz, Balls & Hype, the publishing industry's only marketing blog. Rose is on the board of directors of the International Thriller Writers. www.mjrose.com

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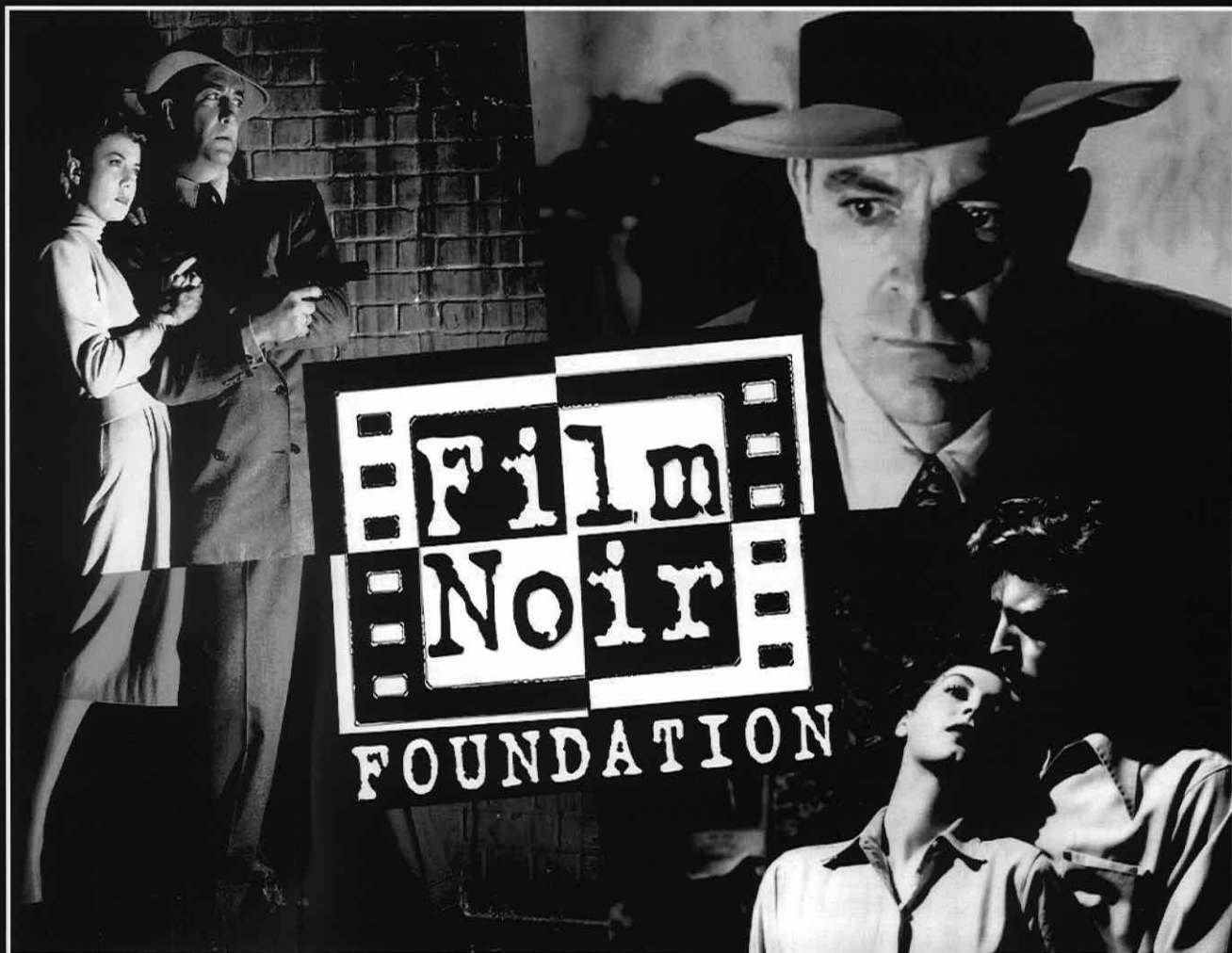
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In 1988, **Betty Rowlands** won the *Sunday Express/Veuve Clicquot Crime Short Story of the Year* competition. Since then she has had 19 crime novels published, 12 of which are village mysteries featuring Melissa Craig, herself a crime writer and amateur sleuth. The first title in a new series featuring Scenes of Crime Officer Sukey Reynolds appeared in 1997. The

seventh title in this series, *Party to Murder*, was published in October 2005.



Greg Rucka is the author of 11 novels, five featuring bodyguard Atticus Kodiak, and two featuring Tara Chace, assassin for her Majesty's Secret Intelligence Service. His latest Tara Chace novel is *Private Wars*. In comics, he's written for some of the world's best-known characters – *Superman*, *Batman*, and *Wonder Woman* – and penned graphic

novels, such as *Whiteout* and *Queen & Country*. Greg resides in Portland, Oregon, with his wife, author Jennifer Van Meter, and their children. www.gregrucka.com



Mary Saums lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Her books feature Willi Taft, a background singer and fledgling private eye. Mary studied voice in college but decided she was too short to become an opera star. Instead, she worked as a recording engineer in Muscle Shoals on albums by Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, Jimmy

Buffett, and many other fine artists. Her next book, a cosy thriller, comes out in 2007. www.marysaums.com



Barbara Seranella is the nationally best-selling author of crime novels featuring Munch Mancini, a woman mechanic with a past. Seranella was born in Santa Monica, California and grew up in Pacific Palisades. She retired from wrenching in 1993 to pursue the writing life. Seranella is a member of the Orange County, Los Angeles, and San Diego chapters

of Sisters in Crime (although she is probably one of the few members who was actually ever a criminal), and the Mystery Writers of America. www.barbaraseranella.com



Zoë Sharp spent most of her childhood living aboard a catamaran on the northwest coast of England. She opted out of mainstream education at the age of twelve and became a freelance photo-journalist in 1988. *First Drop*, book four in her acclaimed crime thriller series featuring ex-soldier turned bodyguard heroine, Charlie Fox, was shortlisted for a Barry award. Book five, *Road Kill*, will be published in

paperback in April. www.ZoeSharp.com



Stav Sherez is the author of *The Devil's Playground*, shortlisted for the John Creasey CWA Dagger. He is also a music critic and journalist. He has written for *Zembla*, the *Daily Telegraph*, *Comes with a Smith* and the *Catholic Herald*. He is 35 and lives in West London.



David Skibbins won the St. Martin's Press 2004 Best Traditional Mystery Contest with *Eight of Swords*. Book two in the Tarot Murders series, *High Priestess*, is coming out April 2006. A psychotherapist for twenty years, he's now a life coach. David lives on the Northern California coast with his brilliant wife and his frisky Portuguese Water Dog. Go to

www.davidskibbins.com to get a free Tarot reading from his sarcastic protagonist, Warren Ritter.



Michelle Spring is the author of five Laura Principal, P.I., novels, the most recent of which – *In the Midnight Hour* – won the Crime Writers of Canada's Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel. A frightening incidence of stalking in her own life triggered Michelle's writing career and chimed through her debut novel, *Every Breath You Take*. In the newly-completed standalone, *The Night Lawyer*, she focuses

again on stalking for the first time. www.unusualsuspects.co.uk



Cath Staincliffe is the author of the acclaimed Sal Kilkenny mysteries. *Looking For Trouble* launched single-parent private eye Sal onto Manchester's mean streets. It was short-listed for the CWA best first novel award and serialised on BBC Radio 4's Woman's Hour. Cath is also a scriptwriter and creator of ITV's hit police series, 'Blue Murder', starring

Caroline Quentin as DCI Janine Lewis. Cath writes the Blue Murder novels. She is a founder member of Murder Squad.

www.murdersquad.co.uk



Jason Starr is the Anthony- and Barry Award-winning author of seven crime novels which are published in ten languages. His new novel, *Lights Out*, is published by Orion in the UK and St. Martin's Press in the US. He has also co-written (with Ken Bruen) a novel called *Bust* for Hard Case Crime, and is editing a horse racing anthology called *Bloodlines* for

Vintage Books. Born and raised in Brooklyn, Starr now lives with his wife and daughter in Manhattan.

<http://members.aol.com/Jasonstarr>



Nick Stone was born in 1966. His father is the historian Norman Stone, and his mother descends from one of Haiti's oldest families, the Aubrys. Nick spent his early years in Haiti, before returning to England in 1971 to finish his schooling. As a teenager, he took up boxing, but gave it up when he won a place to read history at Cambridge. Nick's debut novel, *Mr Clarinet*, is published by Penguin. He is married and lives in London.



Andrew Taylor's novels include *The American Boy* (US: *An Unpardonable Crime*), a Richard and Judy Book Club selection which won both the Historical Dagger and the Audie. Other books include the Dougal Series, the Lydmouth Series and the Roth Trilogy. He won the CWA's John Creasey Award with his first novel, *Caroline Minuscule*; he is a double winner of the Historical Dagger and has also been shortlisted for the Gold Dagger and Edgar. www.andrew-taylor.co.uk



Aline Templeton has written eight crime novels, mainly for Hodder. *Cold in the Earth*, the first in a new series, was high on the *Independent's* list of Top Summer Reads and the paperback is to be Ottakar's Crime Novel of the Month in January. The second in the series appears in May. Aline's books have been published in America, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark and Norway. She is Chair of the Society of Authors in Scotland.



First published in 1999, **Rebecca Tope** now has ten crime novels under her belt. The most recent are *A Cotswold Ordeal* and *The Tree of Death*, both based on the popular ITV programmes *Rosemary and Thyme*. Third titles in each of these series are due to be published this spring. Rebecca also manages a smallholding, with rare breed pigs, cattle and sheep, and works occasionally on dairy farms. She is Membership Secretary of the UK CWA and runs her own small press, Praxis Books. www.rebeccatope.com



James Twining started writing after a career in investment banking and running his own business, during which he was named as one of the eight 'Best of Young British' Entrepreneurs in the *New Statesman* magazine. James writes international thrillers set in the art world and featuring retired art thief, Tom Kirk. His critically acclaimed first novel, *The Double Eagle*, has been translated into ten languages. Its sequel, *The Black Sun*, will be published in April. www.jamestwining.com



Louise Ure spent a quarter of a century in advertising and marketing in the United States, Singapore and Australia before finding her true love: writing crime fiction. Her debut novel, *Forcing Amaryllis* (2005 from Mysterious Press), features Arizona jury consultant Calla Gentry, who becomes embroiled in a world of buried lies and violent rage when she tries to uncover the truth about her sister's rape. Ure currently lives in San Francisco. www.louiseure.com



Martyn Waites is the author of six novels: *Mary's Prayer*, *Little Triggers*, *Candleland*, *Born Under Punches*, *The White Room*, which was one of the *Guardian's* books of the year, and *The Mercy Seat*. His next, *Bone Machine*, will be released in 2007. He was nominated for a CWA Dagger in 2005. He has held two writing residencies, one at Huntercombe YOI and one at HMP Chelmsford. He currently runs arts-based workshops for socially excluded teenagers and adults.

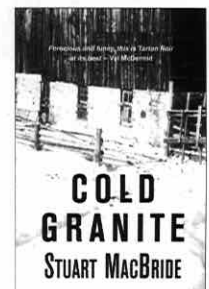
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Sue Walker is a television journalist. She has worked at the BBC and across all the UK networks. Her work has been primarily on documentaries, specializing in crime investigative work, including miscarriages of justice. Born in Edinburgh, she now lives in London. She is currently working on her third thriller.



Charlie Williams was born and raised in Worcester, England. He has lived in Wales, London, and France but is now back in the Worcester area. He has published a trilogy of novels (*Deadfolk*, *Fags and Lager*, and *King of the Road*, all Serpent's Tail) set in the fictional West Country town of Mangel and featuring unstable doorman Royston Blake. Translations are due in French, Spanish, Italian, and Russian. www.charliewilliams.net



David Walks-As-Bear is a Shawnee Indian. In addition to other books, he writes the Ely Stone series – novels with a Native American protagonist based on true, unsolved mysteries. He's been a US Coast Guard Reserve photojournalist for 23 years. His career has been evenly divided between law enforcement and journalism. Today he works

as a game warden/private investigator and is a newspaper columnist. His latest novel is an Ely Stone book entitled *Old Money*. www.Walks-As-Bear.com



British author **Laura Wilson's** psychological thrillers have been critically acclaimed. Her fifth novel, *The Lover*, was shortlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger for Fiction and the Ellis Peters Award, and won the French Prix du Polar European. Her most recent book, *A Thousand Lies*, was published in the UK by Orion in February. She is currently working on the first book in a series featuring DCI Ted Stratton. www.unusalsuspects.co.uk



Sarah Weinman reviews crime fiction for the *Baltimore Sun*, co-edits the publishing industry blog Galleycat, and is the proprietor of *Confessions of an Idiosyncratic Mind*, dubbed 'a respected resource for commentary on crime and mystery fiction' by *USA Today*. This year, her short fiction will appear in several anthologies, including *Dublin Noir* (Akashic Books), *Baltimore Noir* (Akashic Books) and *Damn Near Dead* (Busted Flush Press) and *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*. She lives in New York. www.sarahweinman.com



Robert Wilson started his career with four noir novels set in Africa before winning the 1999 Gold Dagger for *A Small Death in Lisbon*. Lately he has embarked on the Falcón Quartet; four books set in Seville featuring the tortured detective Javier Falcón. The quartet started with *The Blind Man of Seville* followed by *The Silent and the Damned*. His new novel *The Hidden Assassins*, a comprehensive look at terrorism, will be published in July.



Francesca Weisman studied English at Oxford and worked as a secretary, tutor and mental health worker before becoming a lawyer. For the past ten years she has specialized in criminal defence work, dealing with cases ranging from petty theft to international fraud and murder. She is the author of two crime novels published by Penguin, *Nowhere's Child* and *The Shape of a Stranger*. She lives in North London with her partner and young son.



Jacqueline Winspear's first novel, *Maisie Dobbs*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book 2003, a Booksense Top Ten Pick and was listed as a Top Ten mystery by *Publishers Weekly*. *Maisie Dobbs* received seven award nominations, winning Agatha, Alex and Macavity Awards. The sequel, *Birds of a Feather* received four award nominations and won the Agatha Award for Best Novel. Jacqueline's third novel, *Pardonable Lies*, has just been published in the UK by John Murray. www.jacquelinewinspear.com

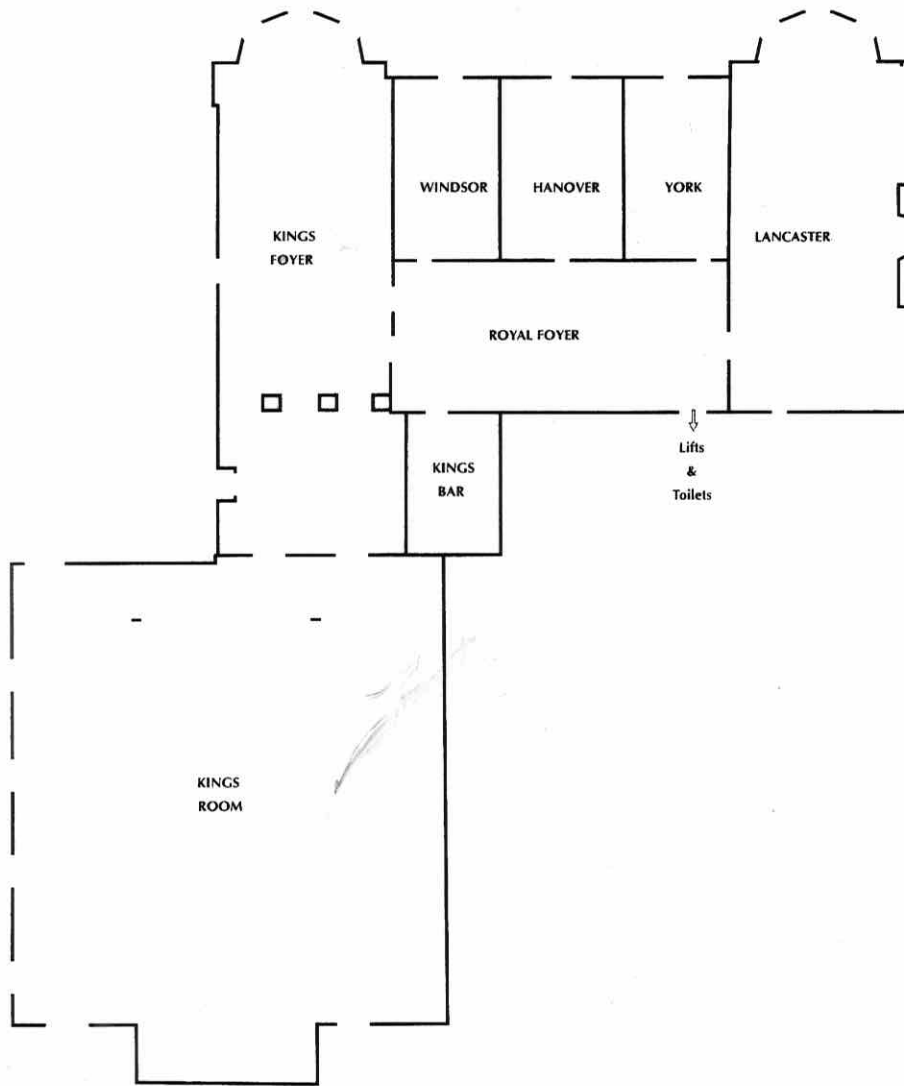


As owner of Prime Crime Books in Ottawa, Canada, **Linda Wiken** gets the best of the mystery world – she gets to buy them and write them, too. Her short stories have appeared in the six *Ladies' Killing Circle Anthologies*, including the most recent, *When Boomers Go Bad*, *Mysterious Intent* magazine, and *Over My Dead Body*. She was shortlisted for an Arthur Ellis Award for Best Short Story in 2003 from Crime Writers of Canada.

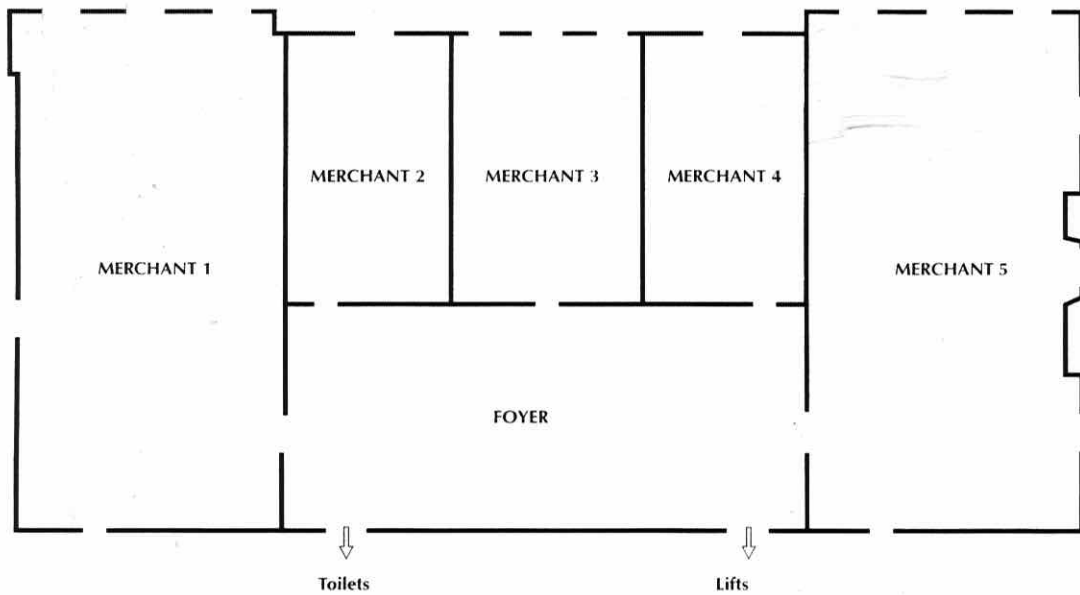


Valerie Wolzien writes two mystery series. Susan Henshaw, the protagonist of her first series, is a suburban housewife with a husband, children and a dog. Susan has solved more than fifteen fictional murders. Valerie's second series stars Josie Pigeon, single mom and owner of a contracting company located in an island resort community. There are seven books in that series. www.nmomysteries.com/valerie

1ST FLOOR



2ND FLOOR



PANEL AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, 16 MARCH 2006

10.00am: FIRST FLOOR LOBBY (Above the ground floor!) – REGISTRATION

1.00 – 6.30pm: LANCASTER – BOOK ROOM

	KINGS ROOM	MERCHANT 1	MERCHANT 5
2.00 – 3.00	A FRIEND IN NEED - SIDEKICKS & PARTNERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Booth Ruth Dudley Edwards Adrian Magson David Roberts Moderator: James Calder	THE MURDER SQUAD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chaz Brenchley Ann Cleeves Martin Edwards Margaret Murphy Stuart Pawson Cath Staincliffe 	FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nancy Fairbanks Janet Laurence Amy Myers Cathy Pickens Moderator: Janet Rudolph
3.30 – 4.30	WRITING A SERIES – HOW DO YOU KEEP IT FRESH? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cara Black Iain McDowall Michael Newton Zoë Sharp Moderator: Barbara Seranella	DIGGING UP THE PAST: SLEUTHS STEEPED IN HISTORY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aileen Baron Kate Ellis Lyn Hamilton Sharan Newman Moderator: Toby Gottfried	WHY DID I DO THAT? MISTAKES I WISHED I HAD NEVER MADE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara Cleverly Judith Cutler Paula Gosling Marianne MacDonald Moderator: Mary Jane Maffini
5.00 – 6.00	HOME AWAY FROM HOME: PLOTTING AT A DISTANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cara Black Tony Broadbent John Rickards Jacqueline Winspear Moderator: Greg Rucka	BORN TO DIE: PERFECT VICTIMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret Dumas Ron Ellis Christine Poulson Mary Saums Moderator: Lizzie Hayes	COPS & CONS: CHARACTERS FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE LAW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russell James H. R. F. Keating Stuart MacBride Ann Parker Moderator: Michael Z Lewin

8.30pm: KINGS ROOM – WELCOME, AND THE LEFT COAST CRIME PUB QUIZ

Do you know your PD James from your PJ Tracy or your Hiaasen from your Hammett? Your Rebus from your Renko or your Wimsey from your Warshawski? Match your mystery wits with your fellow delegates over a drink or two in this entertaining quiz which covers everything from cosies to crime on the silver screen. Your quiz inquisitors: psychological thriller writer Laura Wilson and comic writer and critic Peter Guttridge. Big prizes to be won. (Well, big-ish ...)

CRIME TIME

The Journal Of Crime Fiction

Crime Time offers a unique, cutting-edge vision of the defining fictional form of the 20th (and 21st) century. Featuring reviews of all current fiction, features, articles and coverage of fictional crime in all media (from page to screen), **Crime Time** also showcases the best writing on crime fiction of the past.

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Crime Time is a 96 page book format magazine and is sold through bookshops, newsagents and on subscription.

Subscriptions:

www.crimetime.co.uk or

**Crime Time Subscriptions, Oldcastle Books
Ltd P O Box 394 Harpenden, AL5 1XJ**

£20 for 5 issues (Euroland – £30; Rest of World – £40 (US: \$75))

PANEL AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 17 MARCH 2006

7.00 – 8.30am: KINGS ROOM – **BREAKFAST**

9.00am – 6.00pm: LANCASTER – **BOOK ROOM**

12.00 – 1.00pm: MERCHANT 3 – MJ Rose: **BUZZ YOUR BOOK: DOES ONLINE MARKETING WORK? AND HOW!**

3.00 – 4.00pm: MERCHANT 3 – Maggie Griffin & Heidi Mack: **EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT WEB SITES (BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK...)**

	KINGS ROOM	MERCHANT 1	MERCHANT 5
9.00 – 10.00	ITW: TRACKING DOWN A STORY - REPORTERS IN THRILLERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan Burke Caroline Carver Peter Guttridge Denise Hamilton Moderator: Mike Stotter	SHORT STORIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane Burfield Keith McCarthy Sarah Weinman Linda Wiken Moderator: Ayo Onatade	WHEN PAST MEETS PRESENT - WHEN EVENTS FROM THE PAST COME BACK TO HAUNT THE CHARACTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richard Burke Vicki Delany Liz Rigbey Francesca Weisman Moderator: Barbara Franchi
10.30 – 11.30	WHEN FICTION MEETS FACT - USING REAL PEOPLE & EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ron Ellis Denise Hamilton Janet Laurence Bill Moody Moderator: Ann Cleeves	ITW: THE THRILL OF THE ODD JOB - UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS IN THRILLERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allan Guthrie MJ Rose David Skibbins Louise Ure Moderator: Christine Goff	HAD I BUT KNOWN - CLICHÉS IN CRIME FICTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donna Andrews Steve Brewer Kate Ellis Stuart MacBride Moderator: Jan Burke
12.00 – 1.00	ARE WE THERE YET? LET THE AUTHORS BE YOUR TOUR GUIDES TO THEIR HISTORICAL LOCATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lindsey Davis Simon Levack Sharan Newman Anne Perry Moderator: Mel Hunt	IS THAT A TRUNCHEON IN YOUR POCKET? DIFFERENCES IN POLICE PROCEDURALS EITHER SIDE OF THE POND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patricia Hall Kathleen Hills Barbara Fradkin David Walks-As-Bear Moderator: Cynthia Harrod-Eagles	SERIAL KILLERS & PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLERS: YOU SCARE YOUR WAY & I'LL SCARE MINE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kate Charles Keith McCarthy Michael Marshall Danuta Reah Moderator: Bill Gottfried
1.30 – 2.30	LEE CHILD Interviewed by Simon Kernick	OFF THE BEATEN TRACK: EXOTIC LOCALES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara Nadel Danuta Reah Stav Sherez Nick Stone Moderator: Charles Benoit	NICHE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT: THE 14TH CENTURY INVISIBLE AARDVARK ACTUARY SLEUTH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marian Babson Nancy Fairbanks Betty Rowlands Valerie Wolzien Moderator: Lizzie Hayes
3.00 – 4.00	LINDSEY DAVIS & PETER LOVESEY In conversation with Richard Reynolds	BRITAIN: CITY VS COUNTRY-SIDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesley Horton Marianne MacDonald Dreda Say Mitchell Aline Templeton Moderator: Stephen Booth	LIFE OF PI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declan Hughes Rick Riordan Cath Staincliffe Michelle Spring Moderator: Bill Fitzhugh
4.30 – 5.30	BORIS AKUNIN Interviewed by Peter Guttridge	FLAPPERS VS KICK ASS HEROINES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liza Cody Kerry Greenwood Barbara Seranella Jacqueline Winspear Moderator: Richard Burke	IT'S GOOD TO TALK - THE IMPORTANCE OF DIALOGUE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cynthia Harrod-Eagles Peter James David Lawrence Greg Rucka Moderator: Charlie Williams

6.30 – 8.00pm: KINGS ROOM – **INTERNATIONAL THRILLER WRITERS COCKTAIL PARTY, SPONSORED BY MIRA, AND THRILLERS SHORT-LIST ANNOUNCEMENT.**

PANEL AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 18 MARCH 2006

7.00 – 8.30am: KINGS ROOM – **BREAKFAST**

9.00am – 6.00pm: LANCASTER – **BOOK ROOM**

1.00 – 5.30pm: MERCHANT 3: Penguin's **SCENE OF CRIME** room: www.penguinmostwanted.co.uk

1.00 – 2.30pm: MERCHANT 4: Sharan Newman: **RIGHTS & WRONGS IN THE DA VINCI CODE – AN ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATION**

3.00 – 4.00pm: MERCHANT 4: Barry Eisler & Jason Star: **MAXIMUM EXPOSURE: HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MARKETING BUDGET.**

	KINGS ROOM	MERCHANT 1	MERCHANT 5
9.00 – 10.00	FRESH BLOOD FIRST - 8 GOOD REASONS TO GET UP EARLY (PLUS LAURA WILSON!): Alex Barclay, David Harrison, Dreda Say Mitchell, Stav Sherez, Nick Stone, James Twining, Louise Ure, and Sue Walker. Moderator: Laura Wilson	SCIENCE VS SUPERNATURAL: THE EXPLAINED & THE UNEXPLAINABLE IN CRIME FICTION • Lin Anderson • Jay Calder • Colin Campbell • David Skibbins Moderator: Donna Andrews	YOUR PATCH OR MINE; HOW DOES LOCATION AFFECT THE CRIME? • Caroline Carver • Meg Gardiner • Simon Kernick • MJ Rose Moderator: David Hewson
10.30 – 11.30	ANNE PERRY Interviewed by Natasha Cooper	WALKING THE MEAN STREETS • Ray Banks • Allan Guthrie • Jason Starr • Charlie Williams Moderator: Donna Moore	ITW: SWITCHING GEARS - WHEN DO MYSTERIES BECOME THRILLERS? • Debby Atkinson • Christine Goff • Debbie Mitsch • Michael Newton Moderator: David Morrell
12.00 – 1.00	JEFFERY DEAVER Interviewed by Barbara Peters	HOW DO YOU KEEP THEM STRAIGHT? AUTHORS WHO WRITE MULTIPLE SERIES • H. R. F. Keating • Mary Jane Maffini • Edward Marston • Priscilla Masters Moderator: Paula Gosling	NOSTALGIA OR HISTORY? WHEN DOES NOSTALGIA END & HISTORY BEGIN? • Thomas Rendell Curran • Pip Granger • Andrew Taylor • Robert Wilson Moderator: Tony Broadbent
1.30 – 2.30	PLOT IS A RENTAL CAR • Cara Black • Barbara Seranella • Zoë Sharp • Jacqueline Winspear Moderator: Lee Child	WHY WE READ CRIME FICTION • John Billheimer • Jan Burke • Jane Jakeman • Cathy Pickens Moderator: Martin Edwards	COP, PI, AMATEUR, PROFESSIONAL: WHAT DOES EACH ONE BRING TO THE SOLUTION? • Natasha Cooper • Thomas Rendell Curran • Jim Kelly • John Rickards Moderator: Ray Banks
3.00 – 4.00	THE IDEAS EXPERIMENT • Liza Cody • Michael Z. Lewin • Peter Lovesey	TRAVELLING FIRST CLASS IN THE 20TH CENTURY - CLASS & HISTORY • Rhys Bowen • Carola Dunn • Kerry Greenwood • Lora Roberts Moderator: David Roberts	THE UNUSUAL SUSPECTS: HOW FAR CAN YOU GO? SEX & VIOLENCE IN CRIME WRITING • Natasha Cooper • Michelle Spring • Andrew Taylor • Laura Wilson
4.30 – 5.30	BIAS IN HISTORICAL MYSTERIES: WRITING HISTORY FOR A 21ST CENTURY AUDIENCE • Boris Akunin • Jane Finniss • Margaret Frazer • Edward Marston Moderator: Mel Hunt	ITW: IN FROM THE COLD - THE SPY THRILLER TODAY • Barry Eisler • Gayle Lynds • David Morrell • Pat Mullan Moderator: Ali Karim	MURDER: IT'S A FUNNY OLD GAME • Steve Brewer • Ruth Dudley Edwards • Bill Fitzhugh • Stuart Pawson Moderator: Peter Guttridge

7.30pm: KINGS ROOM – **LEFT COAST CRIME GALA DINNER**

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PANEL AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

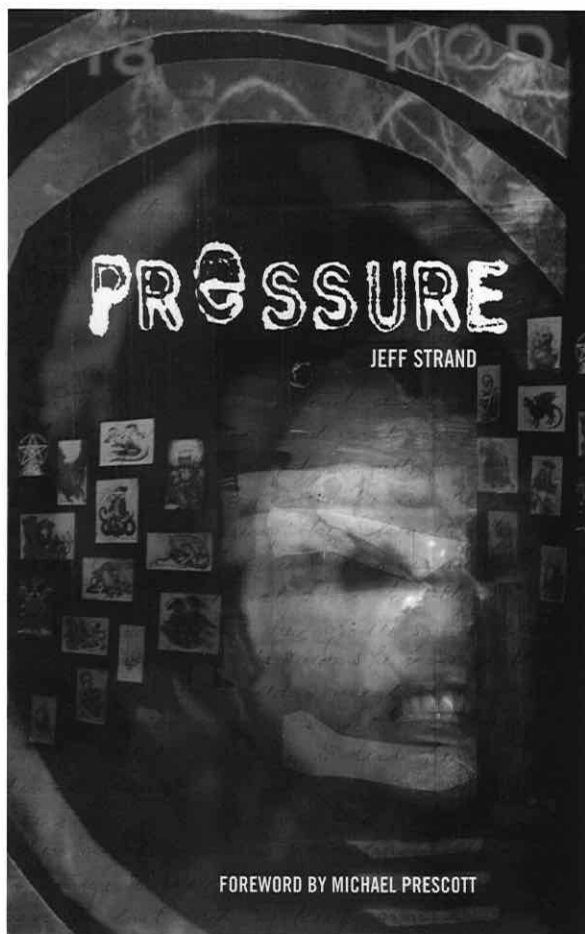
SUNDAY, 19 MARCH 2006

7.00 – 8.30am: KINGS ROOM – BREAKFAST

9.00am – 1.30pm: LANCASTER – BOOK ROOM

	KINGS ROOM	MERCHANT 1	MERCHANT 5
9.00 - 10.00	MY CHARACTER NEVER SAID THAT: DRAMA ADAPTATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeffrey Deaver • Peter James • Cath Staincliffe • Rebecca Tope Moderator: Jason Starr	RESEARCH & REALITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Benoit • Charles Cumming • Sheila Quigley • Martyn Waites Moderator: John Billheimer	CENTURIES OF MURDER - CRIME FICTION SET IN THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judith Cutler • Penny Deacon • Margaret Frazer • Ann Parker Moderator: B. J. Rahn
10.30 – 11.30	BRAIN VS BRAWN: SHOOTING OR THINKING YOURSELF OUT OF TROUBLE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay Ashford • Meg Gardiner • Greg Rucka • Laura Wilson Moderator: Barry Eisler	ITW: THE HAUNTS OF THE PAST - THRILLERS & HISTORY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aileen Baron • Tony Broadbent • David Hewson • James Twining Moderator: Gayle Lynds	THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CRIME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex Barclay • Priscilla Masters • Liz Rigbey • Francesca Weisman Moderator: Margaret Murphy
12.00 – 1.00	STUMP THE EXPERTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barry Eisler • Peter Guttridge • Gayle Lynds • Zoë Sharp Moderator: Rhys Bowen		

6.00pm: KINGS ROOM: LEFT COAST CRIME BUFFET DINNER – WITH SIMON BRETT AS AFTER DINNER SPEAKER



WHAT IF YOUR BEST FRIEND WAS A KILLER?

"Jeff Strand's *Pressure* is an ominous, disturbing study of two lives closely interwoven from childhood onward in an elaborate tapestry of vengeance, paranoia, and death. A chilling, flesh-crawling experience. I read it in one sitting and haven't been the same since!"—MICHAEL PRESCOTT, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mortal Faults* and *In Dark Places*

"*Pressure* is superb. I read it over a feverish 24 hours, snatching it up whenever I got the chance in order to devour just those few pages more. On this evidence, Strand should be up there with the likes of Ketchum and Lansdale. His characters are achingly, touchingly real, his dialogue laugh-out-loud witty and his horror almost impenetrably black."—MARK MORRIS, author of *The Immaculate*

"This dark and mesmerizing novel left me shaking. From its amazing opening line to its nerve-wracking final chapters, *Pressure* is a raw nerve, an open-wound of a narrative wherein Strand deals with some of the bleakest and most disturbing aspects of the human psyche. One of the richest, most compelling, and memorable novels I've read in the past 5 years."

—GARY A. BRAUNBECK, Stoker Award-winning author of *Keepers*

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LCC AWARDS

Left Coast Crime 16 will be awarding the **Lefty** and the **Bruce Alexander History Mystery Award** at the Gala Dinner.

The Lefty is the award for best humorous crime novel published in the English language in 2005.

The Bruce Alexander History Mystery Award is for best historical crime novel (set anytime, anywhere before 1956 – fifty years before LCC16) published in 2005. This award honours the memory of historical crime novelist Bruce Alexander (aka Bruce Cook).

The awards are sponsored by Bristol Blue Glass.

LCC BOOK DEALERS

The book room is located in the Lancaster room on the first floor.

Hours: Thursday 1.00 – 6.30pm; Friday & Saturday 9.00am – 6.00pm; Sunday 9.00am – 1.30pm

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**HONOUREES:
PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE**

YEAR	PLACE	GUESTS OF HONOUR	FAN GUESTS OF HONOUR	TOASTMASTERS	LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
1991	San Francisco, CA	Marcia Muller, Bill Pronzini			
1992	San Francisco, CA	J.A. Jance, Earl Emerson		James Lee Burke	
1993	Anaheim, CA	Susan Dunlap		Ann & Evan Maxwell	
1994	Anaheim, CA	Aaron Elkins		Carolyn Hart	
1995	Scottsdale, AZ	Tony Hillerman		Judith Van Gieson	
1996	Boulder, CO	Kinky Friedman	Maggie Mason	Nevada Barr	
1997	Seattle, WA	Faye & Jonathan Kellerman		Lia Matera	
1998	San Diego, CA	Elizabeth George	Willis Herr	Alan Russell	Bob Wade
1999	Albuquerque, NM	John Dunning	Tasha Mackler	Deborah Crombie	
2000	Tucson, AZ	Sue Grafton	George Easter	Harlan Coben	
2001	Anchorage, AL	Michael Connolly, Lindsay Davis	Andi Schechter		
2002	Portland, OR	Steven Saylor, Laurie King	Don Herron	G.M. Ford	
2003	Pasadena, CA	Robert Crais	Sue Feder	Jerrilyn Farmer	
2004	Monterey, CA	Sharan Newman, Walter Mosley	Bryan Barrett, Thom Walls	Gillian Roberts	Richard Lupoff
2005	El Paso, TX	Paco Ignacio Taibo II S.J. Rozan	Ernie Bulow	Rick Riordan	
2006	Bristol, UK	Boris Akunin Jeffery Deaver Anne Perry	Bill & Toby Gottfried (US) Donna Moore (UK)	Lee Child	
2007	Seattle, WA	Dennis & Gayle Lynds	Diane Kovacs & Kara Robinson	Gary Phillips	

LCC BY-LAWS

The "Left Coast Crime Convention," the "Western Regional Mystery Conference" hereto referred to as "LCC," is an event sponsored by fans of Mystery Literature, for fans of Mystery Literature. LCC is an annual convention. The intent is to provide an event where fans of the Mystery genre can gather in convivial surroundings to pursue their interests in the genre.

LCC is a non-profit enterprise which must be incorporated locally by each LCC volunteer-based committee for the duration of the event. Sponsorship by existing non-profit organizations is encouraged as long as they adhere to LCC bylaws.

Past, present and future LCC are not responsible for the debts incurred by any previous or subsequent LCC events.

LCC will feature a Guest(s) of Honour (GoH), who is to be treated as a literary treasure. All expenses within reason incurred by the the GoH will be the responsibility of that year's LCC. In the event that LCC has more than one GoH, at least one GoH must reside or have novels set in the Western Region.

Fan Guest(s) of Honour are to be treated in the same manner as author GoHs.

Any LCC may create any new guest designation other than Lifetime Achievement.

LCC will do its best to extend hospitality to its entire membership.

A standing committee shall be established to:

- a. Register and maintain the name Left Coast Crime and the Western Regional Mystery Conference with continuing trademark protection.
- b. Maintain the LCC mailing list.
- c. Maintain the continuity of LCC.
- d. To review and oversee the site selection for future LCC.
- e. To select the site for upcoming LCC conferences, based on bids from viable bidding committees.
- f. To act as executive committee to represent the membership should an emergency arise.
- g. To remove accreditation from any site committee that imperils the viability of future LCC. This includes failure to secure a venue one year in advance, violation of LCC bylaws or the appearance that the committee will be unable to properly stage the event.
- h. To review the financial report prepared by each LCC committee. LCC is the "Western North American Regional Mystery Conference" as defined by the Mountain Time Zone and all time zones westward to Hawaii.

The LCC rotates north to south on an annual basis. Conventions held in the Northern Region are held in even-numbered years, Southern Region in odd-numbered years.

Regions defined as follows:

Northern Region

Canada: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon

United States: Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, California (north of Santa Clara County), Nevada (north of Las Vegas)

Southern Region

United States: New Mexico, Arizona, Texas (El Paso only), Hawaii, Nevada (south of Lake Tahoe), California (Santa Clara county and southward), Mexico

LCC will held in the first quarter of the calendar year.

LCC will not be held for more than two consecutive years in the same region if at all possible.

Bidding For Future LCCs

Bids for future LCCs must be submitted to the standing committee no later than 45 days prior to the commencement of the current year's LCC.

Bidding committees must:

- a.. Submit a resume of its committee members with its bid
- b.. Submit a site for the event
- c.. Submit a letter of intent from event site

Bids for future LCC maybe accepted up to 3 years in advance.

If no bid is received, the standing committee may solicit bids.

The awarding of LCC locations to a bidding committee shall be made by majority vote of the standing committee.

In case of a tie vote in the standing committee, the bids will be put to a vote of the general membership at the current LCC.

"None of the Above" will be an option placed on any such allot. If "None of the Above" wins, all competing bids are excluded from consideration. The standing committee will solicit alternative bids, and from those choose the one they feel most qualified.

The current LCC committee will provide the LCC in the immediate year following the minimum by way of support:

- a. One page of advertising in program book
- b. A space to sell memberships at current event
- c.. One free attending membership to current event

Extending this support to other future LCC concoms would be commendable but is not mandatory.

Name Badges

It is the intention of LCC to be an egalitarian gathering of mystery fans that does not create a distinction between fans of the mystery genre professional and otherwise. Therefore:

- a.. Names printed on badges should be readable at 5 feet.
- b.. The only designations allowed on badges are - Dealer, Exhibitor, Staff/Committee and Program Participant. (This is done for security reasons only.)
- c.. Ribbons or other items that differentiate participants are prohibited.

continued on next page...

FOR A BLOODY GOOD TIME!

Acceptance to the book room is based on seniority.

Acceptance of other dealers is at the discretion of current committee after obligations to Legacy Dealers have been taken care of. (A Legacy Dealer is someone who has done 7 of the last 10 LCCs.)

Hours: The dealers' room will open to the membership no earlier than 9 AM local time. The room will be open a minimum of twenty hours over the course of the event.

A dealers' room contains more than one bookseller or exhibitor.

Each exhibition space will include a membership to the event.

LCC must receive a hold harmless agreement from exhibitor in order to participate in LCC.

Tables for non-profit literary fan groups should be provided free of charge, if possible.

Awards

The Lefty, an award for the best humorous mystery, is to be awarded at each Left Coast Crime. Books eligible for the award must have been published for the first time in the United States in the calendar year preceding the convention. Books which appeared in other countries in earlier years are still eligible as long as they meet the American publication requirement.

Nominations are to be solicited from registered members of the convention beginning on Jan. 1 of the year in which the convention is held. The short list shall consist of the five books receiving the most nominations. All registered members of the convention are eligible to vote. Final balloting and tabulation shall be conducted at Left Coast Crime with the winner announced during the convention, preferably at the banquet.

The physical properties of the award are left to the discretion of the each host Left Coast Crime committee.

Furthermore, up to three other awards may be awarded at the discretion of individual Left Coast Crime conventions in categories to be chosen by the current organizing committee. Subsequent committees may but are not required to continue any of these awards.

Membership on the Standing Committee shall include:

The immediate past year's chair, the current chair and accredited future chairs.

To maintain the continuity of LCC, the Standing Committee will contain a maximum of 5 permanent committee whose qualifications are:

- Having attended a minimum of 5 non-profit mystery conventions, of which at least 3 must be LCC;
- Worked on at least 3 previous non-profit literary events, and in a committee position on at least two of those events.

Permanent Membership on the standing committee is for the lifetime of LCC or until formal resignation.

It is the responsibility of the Permanent Standing Committee to deal with site selection of future LCCs.

The permanent members of the standing committee are the court of last resort in disputes arising from site selection.

The permanent committee members are the living memory of LCC. They provide a resource and recourse for future LCC committee. (The wheel need not be reinvented.)

Member at large:

Any person with interest in LCC may submit their name for consideration for membership on the standing committee to the standing committee.

If accepted by standing committee, the term is for 2 years.

The standing committee will approve new members by a majority vote.

The member(s) of at large will be full voting members of the standing committee.

The Current LCC Committee:

- 2005: El Paso - Mary Sarber
- 2006: Bristol, UK - Myles Allfrey and Adrian Muller
- 2007: Seattle - Andi Shechter

The Permanent Committee:

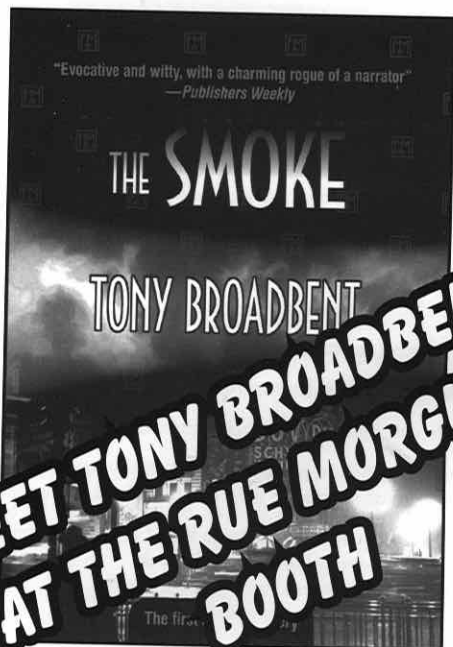
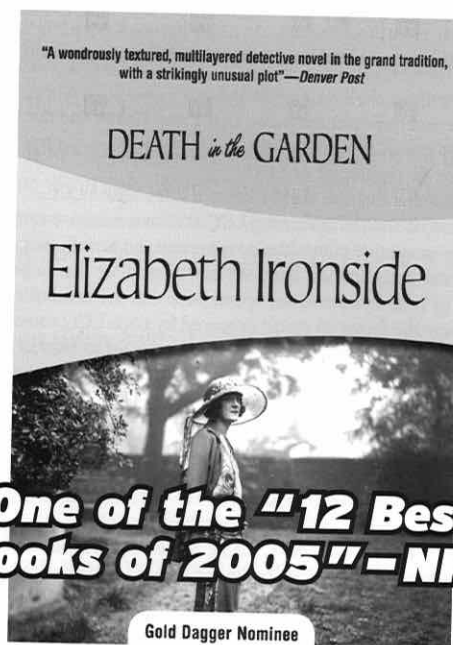
- Tom Schantz
- Thom Walls
- Bryan Barrett

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www.harrogate-festival.org.uk/crime

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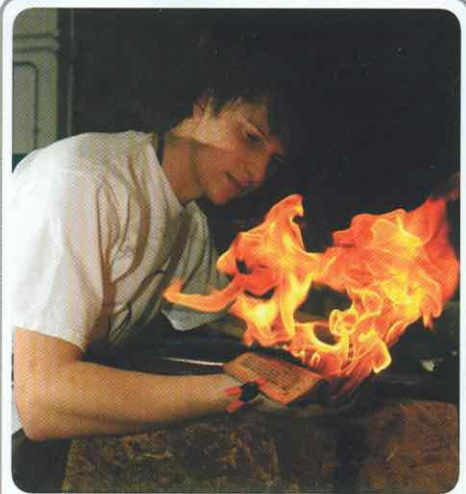
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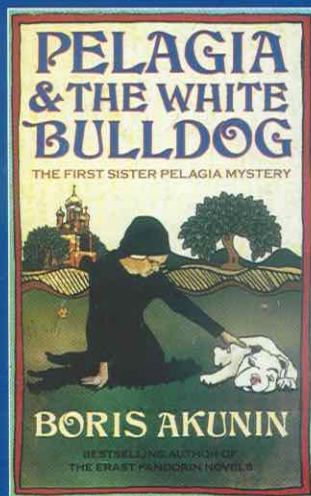
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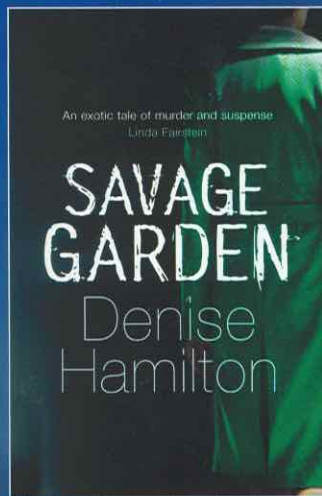
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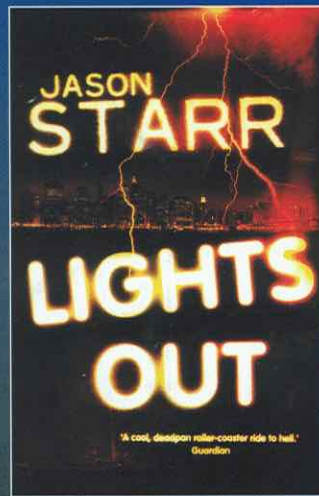
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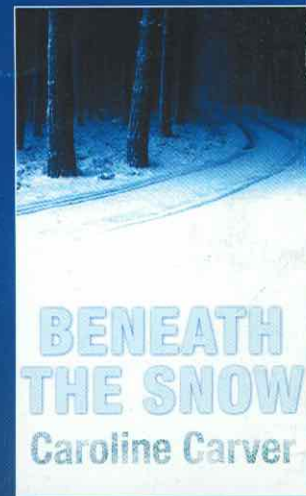
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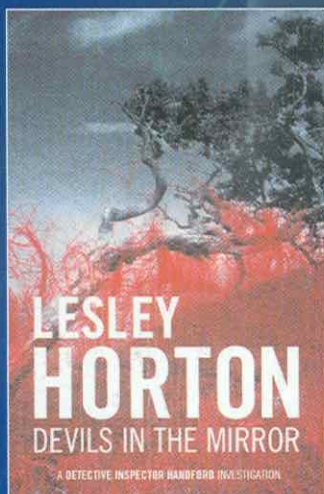
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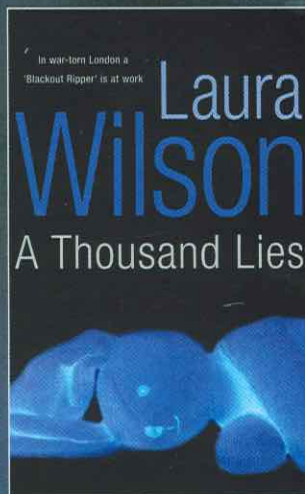
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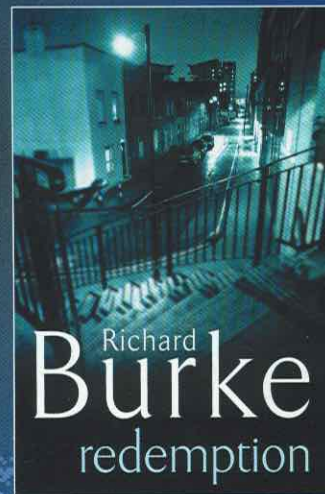
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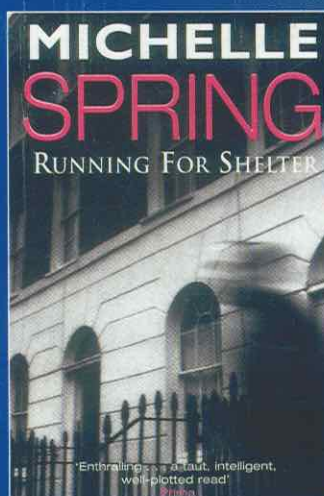
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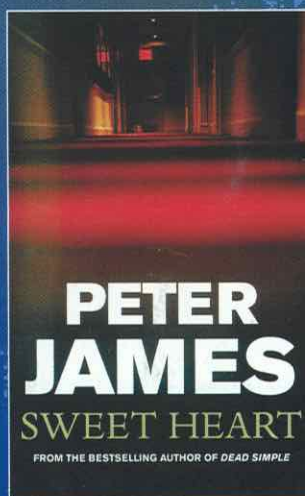
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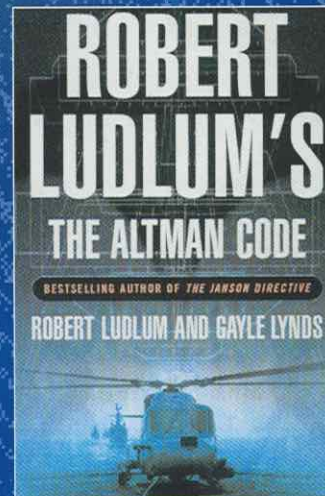
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