# ALISON & BUSBY NEW TITLES JULY-DECEMBER 2018

## **BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS**

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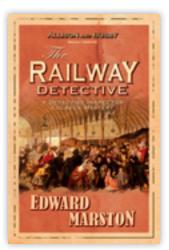
Three-Martini Lunch

ISBN 9780749020798 £7.99



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ISBN 9780749010720 £8.99



The Railway Detective

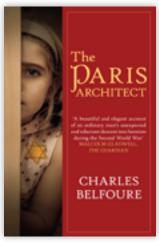
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YA/Fantasy

## SMOKE AND IRON

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#### RACHEL CAINE

#### 'A first-class storyteller' Charlaine Harris

The opening moves of a deadly game have begun. Jess Brightwell has put himself in direct peril, with only his wits and skill to aid him in a game of cat and mouse with the Archivist Magister of the Great Library. With the world catching fire, and words printed on paper the spark that lights rebellion, it falls to smugglers, thieves and scholars to save a library thousands of years in the making ... if they can stay alive long enough to outwit their enemies.

RACHEL CAINE is the author of more than fifty novels, including the bestselling Morganville Vampires series. She was born at White Sands Missile Range, which people who know her say explains a lot. She has been an accountant, an insurance investigator and a professional musician, and has played with such musical legends as Henry Mancini, Peter Nero and John Williams. She and her husband, fantasy artist R. Cat Conrad, live in Texas. rachelcaine.com

@rachelcaine

EAGLE CRANE SUZANNE RINDELL

£14.99 Royal format hardback ISBN 9780749023225 Also £12.99 Export only trade paperback ISBN 9780749023270 Rights: UK & Comm ex Can Fiction

## EAGLE AND CRANE

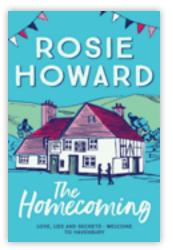
#### SUZANNE RINDELL

#### 'A magnificent novel from a great writer' Adriana Trigiani

Louis Thorn and Haruto 'Harry' Yamada – the Eagle and the Crane – are the star attractions of a daredevil aerial stunt team that traverses Depression-era California. The young men have a complicated relationship, thanks to the Thorn family's belief that the Yamadas – Japanese immigrants – stole land from them. This tension is inflamed when Louis and Harry are both drawn to the same woman, Ava. After the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbour, there are changes and harsh realities to face. And, when one of the stunt planes crashes with two charred bodies inside, the ensuing investigation struggles when the details don't add up and no one seems willing to tell the truth.

SUZANNE RINDELL's *The Other Typist*, has been translated into fifteen languages and Keira Knightley is producing and starring in the film adaptation. Allison & Busby published Suzanne's second novel, *Three-Martini Lunch*, to great commercial and critical acclaim.

suzannerindell.com @SuzanneRindell



B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022228

Rights: World English

Fiction

## THE HOMECOMING

ROSIE HOWARD

Love, lies and secrets. Welcome to Havenbury.

Busy with life and work in London, Maddy has put behind her the trauma which caused her to flee the Sussex market town of Havenbury. Or so she thinks. When she's asked to help run the slightly shabby Havenbury Arms after her old friend Patrick suffers a heart attack, how can she refuse? But that's when the panic attacks return worse than ever ...

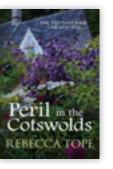
Psychologist Ben is sure he can help Maddy face her fears but, as he finds himself falling for her, he is also struggling with a recently uncovered family secret that heaps uncertainty on everything.

After obtaining a degree in music, ROSIE HOWARD pursued a career in PR, campaigning and freelance journalism but realised her preference for making things up and switched to writing novels instead. She lives in a West Sussex village with her husband and two children, in a cottage with roses around the door. rosiehoward.com

@RosieHWrites



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#### CRISIS IN THE COTSWOLDS COTSWOLD MYSTERIES 16

#### **REBECCA TOPE**

#### 'A compulsive series of rural adventures' Good Book Guide

Thea and Drew have been married for a year and are settled in the village of Broad Campden, but Thea is chafing at the domestic routines she is expected to devote herself to, missing the novelty and adventure that house-sitting used to bring. When a routine burial exposes the secrets of the deceased, Drew finds himself caught in the middle of a family feud in which he feels he is on the wrong side, and Thea's inquisitiveness and penchant for solving crimes draws her in too. With another crisis at Drew's business leaving him with a profound dilemma and Thea struggling against the charismatic charms of a new man, can their marriage survive this latest Cotswold drama?

**REBECCA TOPE** is the author of three bestselling crime series set in the stunning Cotswolds, Lake District and West Country. She lives on a smallholding in rural Herefordshire, where she enjoys the silence and plants a lot of trees, but also manages to travel the world and enjoy civilisation from time to time.

rebeccatope.com @RebeccaTope



B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022761

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**Crime Fiction** 

LOOK FOR HER KEENE AND FROHMANN 4

#### EMILY WINSLOW

#### 'A must-read' Lisa Gardner

The memory of Annalise Wood has haunted the town of Lilling near Cambridge for decades. She went missing in 1976 and, although her body was later found, the investigation went cold with no one held responsible. The grief and speculation surrounding her disappearance are engrained in the community.

Forty years on, another young woman stokes her obsession with Annalise, believing that sharing a name with the dead girl has forged a bond between them. When DNA evidence linked to the Annalise Wood murder comes to light, detectives Keene and Frohmann re-examine the case, picking apart previous assumptions and finding sinister connections to a recent drowning.

With her trademark skill in weaving together multiple perspectives and voices, Emily Winslow paints a complex and compelling portrait of a cold case that is far from dead and buried.

EMILY WINSLOW is an American living in Cambridge, England. She trained as an actor and has a master's degree in museum studies. In addition to writing her Keene & Frohmann crime novels, Emily has published a memoir, *Jane Doe January*, of her involvement with a real-life court case. Together, she and her husband homeschool their two sons in a house full of books. emilywinslow.com @emilycwinslow



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DISPLACED

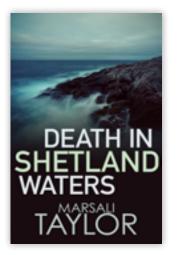
HAKIM & ARNOLD 6

#### BARBARA NADEL

#### 'Bleak, brutal and timely' Financial Times

Irving Levy is a man with few roots and, now that he is terminally ill, anxious to find anyone to whom he can leave his considerable property. When he learns that there may be more to the disappearance of his younger sister, who vanished when she was a baby, he engages the services of Hakim and Arnold to investigate. Unwittingly in mortal danger, the private detectives and Levy enter the world of Barking Park Fair and the secrets its brightly coloured attractions conceal. Secrets that lead them not just back to a crime committed in 1963, but to the chaotic world of post-war Europe where few people were what they seemed.

BARBARA NADEL was born and brought up in the East End of London. She has a degree in psychology and, prior to becoming a full-time author, she worked in psychiatric institutions and in the community with people experiencing mental health problems. She is also the author of the award-winning Inspector Ikmen series. Barbara now lives in Essex. @BarbaraNadel



B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022730

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Crime Fiction

## DEATH IN SHETLAND WATERS

#### MARSALI TAYLOR

## 'A stand-out in an overcrowded genre' *Mystery People*

Cass Lynch has achieved the post of third officer on board her beloved Norwegian sail-training ship, *Sørlandet*. The change from a largely solitary life aboard her own yacht to living cheek by jowl with more than twenty strangers will take some getting used to. They're sailing from Norway to Ireland and Cass is glad to be back at sea, but something doesn't feel right. An unnerving early morning encounter leads to suspicions that there's a stowaway aboard – yet a police search finds nobody. Then, as the ship heads for Scottish waters, one of the trainees goes missing ...

As tensions mount among the crew and Cass wonders whether more than one person is acting suspiciously, she and DI Gavin Macrae find themselves up against a ruthless killer. When faced with violence in a beautiful but extremely remote setting, Cass must follow her instincts to navigate the rising tide of mystery.

MARSALITAYLOR grew up near Edinburgh, and moved to Shetland to begin teaching. She is a qualified STGA tourist guide who is fascinated by history as well as a keen sailor who enjoys exploring in her own yacht. She currently lives on Shetland's scenic west side.

marsalitaylor.co.uk @MarsaliTaylor



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### THE CAMBRIDGE PLOT

#### SUZETTE A. HILL

## 'Wittily written, tightly plotted and fun to read' Simon Brett

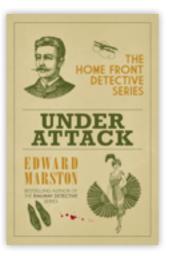
Rosy Gilchrist and her hesitant sidekicks, Felix Smythe and Professor Cedric Dillworthy, are visiting Cambridge: Rosy to attend a Newnham reunion, and Felix and Cedric to attend preparations for the unveiling of a statue of the latter's old tutor. But plans for the statue are far from set in stone, and the meddling Gloria Biggs-Boothby is determined to see it created by another artist. It's inconvenient, then, when he turns up dead ...

As Rosy and her associates become increasingly embroiled in events, they face a number of teasing questions: is the deaf and frail Emeritus Prof. Aldous Phipps, quite as benign as he seems? Is the Bursar a secret misogynist with a rooted aversion to large women (e.g. to Gloria)? And who is the unwitting husband that Dr John Smithers is so busy cuckolding?

SUZETTE A. HILL was born in East Sussex, and spent much of her childhood playing spies and smugglers on Beachy Head and picnicking at the foot of the Long Man of Wilmington. Hill worked as a teacher before retiring in 1999. She now lives in Ledbury, Herefordshire. At the age of sixty-four and on a whim, she took up a pen and began writing, and has since published over ten novels. suzetteahill.co.uk

## AUGUST

## AUGUST



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022006

Rights: World English

Crime Fiction

UNDER ATTACK HOME FRONT DETECTIVE 7

#### **EDWARD MARSTON**

#### 'Absolutely first-class entertainment' Books Monthly

June, 1917. While German Gotha bombers raid London from above, a man's body is fished from the Thames below. The man had been garrotted and his tongue cut out before he was left to his watery grave and, as the killer has taken care to remove identifying items and even labels, Detective Inspector Marmion and Sergeant Keedy struggle to name the victim before they can properly begin their investigation.

As family and business associates are found, the list of suspects grows ever longer and, as Marmion wrangles with the case, he and his family must also contend with their anxieties for his now-missing son Paul. The interminable presence of war and, closer to home, pitched battles in the East End between rival adolescent gangs, suggest the Home Front is more insecure than ever before. With great care, Marmion must pick his way along a twisting path that will lead him towards the killer.

EDWARD MARSTON has written well over a hundred books. He is best known for his hugely successful Railway Detective series and he also writes the Bow Street Rivals series featuring twin detectives set during the Regency, as well as the Home Front Detective series. He lives in Gloucestershire. edwardmarston.com



£8.99

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**Crime Fiction** 

### UNLEASHED

MATT HUNTER 2

#### PETER LAWS

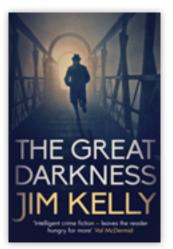
#### 'A devilishly cunning and creepily macabre murder mystery' *Peterborough Evening Telegraph*

Fifteen years ago, 29 Barley Street in Menham, South London became notorious as the scene of alleged poltergeist activity which led to the death of young Holly Wasson. The shadow cast by this episode is still felt in the town, and among the gang of friends who were caught up in the tragic events. That shadow looms larger than ever when one of the group dies in horrific and strange circumstances.

Matt Hunter, former minister and now professor of sociology, is called in to advise the police on the possible ritualistic elements of the death. And he is forced to ask himself, are forces beyond the grave at work or is a flesh-and-blood killer at large?

**PETER LAWS** is an ordained Baptist minister with a taste for the macabre. He writes a monthly column in the *Fortean Times* and also hosts a popular podcast and YouTube show which reviews thriller and horror films from a theological perspective. He lives with his family in Bedfordshire. **peterlaws.co.uk** 

. @revpeterlaws



B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022921

Rights: World

**Crime Fiction** 

#### THE GREAT DARKNESS NIGHTHAWK 1

JIM KELLY

#### 'Engrossing and wonderfully atmospheric' Booklist Starred Review

1939, Cambridge. The opening weeks of the Second World War, and the first blackout – the Great Darkness – covers southern England, enveloping the city. Detective Inspector Eden Brooke, a wounded hero of the Great War, takes his nightly dip in the cool waters of the Cam. The night is full of alarms, but in this Phoney War the enemy never comes.

Daylight reveals a corpse on the riverside, the body torn apart by some unspeakable force. Brooke investigates, calling on the expertise and inspiration of a faithful group of fellow 'nighthawks' across the city, all condemned, like him, to a life lived away from the light. Within hours, the Great Darkness has claimed a second victim. War, it seems, has many victims. But what links these crimes of the night?

JIM KELLY was born in 1957 and is the son of a Scotland Yard detective. He went to university in Sheffield, later training and working as a journalist on publications including the *Financial Times*. His first book, *The Water Clock*, was shortlisted for the John Creasey Award and he has since won a CWA Dagger in the Library and the New Angle Prize for Literature. He lives in Ely, Cambridgeshire.

jim-kelly.co.uk @thewaterclock



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## MURDER AT THE FITZWILLIAM

MUSEUM MYSTERIES 1

#### JIM ELDRIDGE

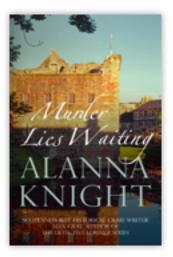
## The first in an exciting new historical crime series.

After rising to prominence for his role investigating the case of Jack the Ripper, former Detective Inspector Daniel Wilson is now retired. Known for his intelligence, investigative skills and, most of all, his discretion, he's often consulted when a case must be solved quickly and quietly. So when a body is found in the Egyptian Collection of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, Wilson is called in.

As he tries to uncover the identity of the dead man and the circumstances surrounding his demise, Wilson must contend with an unhelpful police inspector and, more alarmingly, Abigail McKenzie, the archaeologist who discovered the body and is determined to protect the Egyptian Collection. Can they find a way to work together to solve the mystery?

JIM ELDRIDGE has had numerous books published which, collectively, have sold over three million copies. He is also a radio, TV and movie scriptwriter and lives in Sevenoaks, Kent. jimeldridge.com

### AUGUST



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022198

Rights: World English

**Crime Fiction** 

## MURDER LIES WAITING

ROSE MCQUINN 9

#### ALANNA KNIGHT

#### 'Alanna Knight could hardly be better' Ian Rankin

1906. For Rose McQuinn, the invitation to holiday at a luxury hotel on the Isle of Bute is an unexpected delight, until she discovers the real reason is to investigate a twenty-year-old unsolved murder case.

With close links to a local family of ancient origin whose castle holds many dark secrets, Rose's involvement in this challenge unleashes a web of intrigue and sinister happenings, something she realises too late when someone decides she is close to the truth, and must not leave the island alive.

ALANNA KNIGHT has had more than seventy books published in an impressive writing career spanning over fifty years. She is a founding member and Honorary Vice President of the Scottish Association of Writers, Honorary President of the Edinburgh Writers' Club and member of the Scottish Chapter of the Crime Writers' Association. Born and educated in Tyneside, she now lives in Edinburgh. Alanna was awarded an MBE in 2014 for her services to literature. alannaknight.com



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Fiction

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ON A PARTICULAR SERVICE JOHN PEARCE 14

A CLOSE RUN THING

**JOHN PEARCE 15** 

**DAVID DONACHIE** 

#### **DAVID DONACHIE**

1796. Lieutenant John Pearce is going home aboard a hospital ship crammed with human cargo. But added to the difficulties of the heavy swells of the Mediterranean in midwinter, Pearce must also avoid capture by an Algerine warship. His problems are soon mounting when in attempting to steer his disparate band of friends, the Pelicans, clear of being pressed into service aboard a British frigate, the group risk being hanged for desertion once home. With so much deceit that Pearce does not know who to trust. All he can hope to do is survive.

1796. Hiding in the smugglers' hub of Gravelines with his

mysterious companion, known only to him as 'Oliphant',

Lieutenant John Pearce is trapped in French territory with no way out. Using his cunning to navigate back to England, he discovers

that an old enemy may stand accused of the wrong crime,

and his honour compels him to uncover the truth of the matter.

Meanwhile, being in his homeland brings him closer to Emily

Barclay and their young son, Adam, but their tumultuous past has

left their relationship fragile. When Pearce sets sail on another

daring mission he will reunite with past friends, but can he reach

his destination in time to prevent the dismantling of the coalition?

DAVID DONACHIE was born in Edinburgh in 1944. He has always had an abiding interest in the naval history of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as the Roman Republic, and under the pen-name Jack Ludlow has published a number of historical adventure novels. David lives in Deal with his partner, the novelist Sarah Grazebrook.



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| Romance               |



## THE GIRL FROM THE DOCKLANDS CAFE

#### JUNE TATE

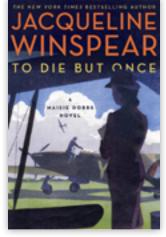
'Tate's books are always guaranteed to touch the hearts of her readers' *Lancashire Evening Post* 

Southampton, 1912. Jessie is made from tougher stuff. At just 19, after the death of her father, she opted to not follow her mother back to Ireland, preferring instead to take charge of her own destiny.

When Jessie marries an Irishman and takes over the running of the café she works in, it seems as though all the pieces are coming together. But when destiny and a pushy local businessman have other ideas, everything she has worked for is taken away, bit by bit. Will she find the strength to keep fighting for the life she wants in the face of personal loss, gang bosses and embezzlement?

JUNE TATE was born in Southampton. After leaving school she became a hairdresser on cruise ships the *Queen Mary* and the *Mauretania*, meeting many Hollywood film stars and VIPs on her travels. After her marriage to an airline pilot, she lived in Sussex and Hampshire before moving to Estoril in Portugal. June, who has two adult daughters, now lives in Sussex.

junetate.info



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022341

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**Crime Fiction** 

#### TO DIE BUT ONCE MAISIE DOBBS 14

#### **JACQUELINE WINSPEAR**

'A female investigator every bit as brainy and battle-hardened as Lisbeth Salander' Maureen Corrigan

Spring, 1940. With Britons facing what has become known as the Bore War – nothing much seems to have happened yet – Maisie Dobbs is asked to investigate the disappearance of a local lad, a young apprentice craftsman working on a hush-hush government contract.

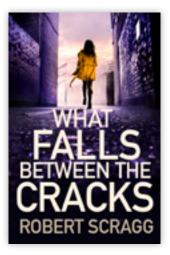
As Maisie's inquiry reveals a possible link to the London underworld, the country is bracing for a possible enemy invasion amid news of the British expeditionary force stranded along the French coast. And another mother is worried about a missing son – but this time the boy in question is one beloved by Maisie.

JACQUELINE WINSPEAR is the author of the New York Times bestselling novels featuring psychologist and investigator, Maisie Dobbs. She has won numerous awards for the series, including the Agatha, Alex, and Macavity. Originally from the UK, Jacqueline now lives in California.

jacquelinewinspear.com @maisie\_dobbs

## SEPTEMBER

## SEPTEMBER



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022945

Rights: World English

**Crime Fiction** 

### WHAT FALLS BETWEEN THE CRACKS PORTER AND STYLES 1

#### **ROBERT SCRAGG**

'I raced through this – Scragg's storytelling is first rate. We'll be seeing a lot more of Porter and Styles' William Ryan

When a severed hand is found in an abandoned London flat, Detective Inspector Jake Porter and his partner Detective Sergeant Nick Styles are able to DNA match the limb to the owner, Natasha Barclay, who has not been seen in decades. But why has no one been looking for her?

Delving into the details behind her disappearance and discovering links to another investigation, a tragic family history begins to take on a darker twist. And it seems Natasha's nearest and dearest are the people who can least be trusted. Hampered by a widespread fear of a local heavy, as well as internal politics and possible corruption within the force, Porter and Styles are digging for answers, but will what they find ever see the light of day?

ROBERT SCRAGG had a random assortment of jobs before taking the dive into crime writing; he has been a bookseller, pizza deliverer, Karate instructor and football coach. He lives in Tyne & Wear, is a founding member of the North East Noir crime writers group and is working on the second Porter and Styles novel.

robscragg.wordpress.com @robert\_scragg



## £8.99 B format paperback

ISBN 9780749022877 Rights: World English Crime Fiction

#### THE MAGPIE TREE CORNISH MYSTERIES 2

**KATHERINE STANSFIELD** 

#### 'An enticing adventure of a novel' Kate Hamer

Jamaica Inn, 1844. The talk is of witches. A boy has vanished in the woods of Trethevy on the North Cornish coast, and a reward is offered for his return. Shilly has had enough of such dark doings, but her new companion, Anna Drake, insists they investigate. Anna wants to open a detective agency and the reward would fund it.

They soon learn of a mysterious pair of strangers who have likely taken the boy, and of Saint Nectan who, legend has it, keeps safe the people of the woods. As Shilly and Anna seek the missing child, the case takes another turn – murder. Something is stirring in the woods and old sins have come home to roost.

KATHERINE STANSFIELD is a novelist and poet whose debut novel *The Visitor* won the Holyer an Gof Fiction Award. Allison & Busby published the first of The Cornish Mysteries, *Falling Creatures*, which was a great success. Katherine grew up in the wilds of Bodmin Moor in Cornwall and now lives in Cardiff.

katherinestansfield.blogspot.co.uk @K\_Stansfield

## SEPTEMBER

## SEPTEMBER



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749023058

Rights: World English

Fiction

## TAPESTRY OF WAR

#### JANE MACKENZIE

#### 'A novel of quiet intensity and deep emotion' Daily Mail

From the deserts of North Africa to the waters of Scotland, the Second World War touches the lives of two women from two very different worlds.

In Alexandria, Fran finds her world turned upside down as Rommel's forces advance on the idyllic shores of Egypt. The life of luxury and stability that she is used to is taken away as she finds herself having to deal with loss and heartache. Meanwhile, in the Firth of Clyde, Catriona struggles between her quiet rural life on the island of Islay with her dreams of nursing injured servicemen on the front lines.

As the war rages on, the two women's lives become intertwined – bringing love and friendship to both.

JANE MACKENZIE has spent much of her adult life travelling the world, teaching everywhere from the Gambia to Bahrain, and worked for two years at CERN in Geneva. She now splits her time between her self-built house in Collioure, France, and the Highlands of Scotland, where she has made her family home. janemackenzie. co.uk



£8.99 B format paperback

ISBN 9780749023461

Rights: World English

Romance

#### BAY TREE COTTAGE PEPPERCORN 4

#### **ANNA JACOBS**

#### The latest from the much-loved author.

The houses in Saffron Lane are starting to fill with artists and life, thanks to Nell and Angus's efforts in starting an artists' colony in the previously abandoned row. Even Ginger finds a place to call her own in the fledgling community, taking refuge from her bully of a son. When she meets lain, sparks fly between them; the first time she's felt attracted to anyone for years. But will her son succeed in spoiling it?

Emil is in town to open the small museum in Saffron Lane and run his father's business. This throws new opportunities in his path, new people, as well as new problems. Will the newcomers manage to build new lives or will selfish people destroy their attempts to find happiness?

ANNA JACOBS is the author of over eighty novels and is addicted to storytelling. She grew up in Lancashire, emigrated to Australia in the 1970s and writes stories set in both countries.

annajacobs.com

## SEPTEMBER

## SEPTEMBER



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749023508

**Rights: World English** 

Romance

## WHEN MIDNIGHT COMES

#### **BERYL MATTHEWS**

'Charming, captivating, fulfilling, and lively' Booklist

1856. Christine Banner is alone after her father's death, penniless but armed with an iron will. Determined to put London behind her and find a place to call home, her search takes her to the New Forest where she stumbles upon Lord Frenshaw's estate. Her skill at handling some of the large and difficult war horses bred there shines through and captures his attention. However, when his son Harry returns from the Crimea, battle-scarred and short-tempered, Christine's future looks uncertain, and Harry may find that home is not the safe haven to which he hoped to return.

In the face of grief, sadness and disappointment, Christine's intelligence and strength will be tested until she finds the place she can truly call home.

**BERYL MATTHEWS** was born in London but now lives in a small village in Hampshire. As a young girl her ambition was to become a professional singer, but the need to earn a wage drove her into an office, where she worked her way up from tea girl to credit controller. After retiring she joined a Writers' Circle and her first book was published at the age of seventy-one.



£8.99

B format paperback

ISBN 9780749023362

Rights: World English

Crime Fiction

## HUMAN FACE

#### **ALINE TEMPLETON**

#### 'The crime czar of the Scottish small town' Val McDermid

Beatrice Lacey is passionate about Human Face, the charity for Third World children she helped to found, and its co-founder Adam Carnegie. She has learnt to turn a blind eye to some strange goings-on, however: parties for donors who don't seem the philanthropic type and a merry-go-round of 'housekeepers'. But when the latest, Eva, suddenly disappears, the police and DI Kelso Strang are called in to investigate in their remote corner of the Isle of Skye.

Keen to move on from recent personal horrors, Strang revels in the responsibility the investigation affords. But when the inquiry evolves into a highly complex and ugly situation, and he and his team make some fatal errors, Strang has his work cut out to avoid the case ending in disaster and death.

ALINE TEMPLETON grew up in a fishing village in the East Neuk of Fife. She has worked in education and broadcasting and was a Justice of the Peace for ten years. Married, with two grown-up children and three grandchildren, she now lives in a house with a view of Edinburgh Castle. alinetempleton.co.uk

## **OCTOBER**

## OCTOBER



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£8.99 B format paperback ISBN 9780749021696 Rights: World English Crime Fiction POINTS OF DANGER RAILWAY DETECTIVE 16

#### EDWARD MARSTON

#### 'Told with great colour and panache' Sherlock Magazine

1861, East Anglia. Alone in a first-class carriage, the Swarbricks are robbed at gunpoint. But when the universally admired Jarvis Swarbrick fights back, the train robber takes more than money and jewellery, killing the man working to unify East Anglia's tangle of railway networks.

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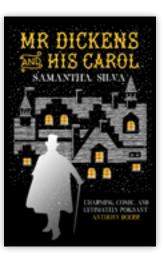
A CHRISTMAS RAILWAY MYSTERY RAILWAY DETECTIVE 15

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EDWARD MARSTON has written well over a hundred books. He is best known for his hugely successful Railway Detective series and he also writes the Bow Street Rivals series featuring twin detectives set during the Regency, as well as the Home Front Detective series. He lives in Gloucestershire. edwardmarston.com



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SAMANTHA SILVA is a writer and screenwriter based in Idaho. *Mr Dickens and His Carol* is her debut novel.

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JUDITH CUTLER, Birmingham's Queen of Crime, began her working life as a college lecturer. She has written nearly forty novels. Judith is married to fellow writer Edward Marston, whom she partners in the speaking duo 'Murder Ancient and Modern'. judithcutler.com



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Romance

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Sent to the workhouse as a child, all Ella Hathaway can remember is a voice whispering, 'Dearie, promise you will never forget what you saw. Your ma was killed deliberate ... and someone oughter pay for it.'

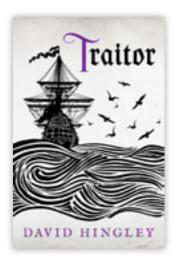
When young, wealthy spinster Letitia Fairchild witnesses Ella being ill-treated, she takes her in as a scullery maid. But as Ella grows up, she is determined to find the truth about her mother's tragic death and appeals to Letitia for help, revealing to her the contents of her only personal possession: a black silk purse. Intrigued, Letitia agrees to begin a quest to solve the mystery of Ella's past. But neither could have imagined the astonishing and dramatic consequences.

Born and educated in the Potteries in Staffordshire, MARGARET KAINE now lives in Eastbourne. She began writing short stories and her debut novel *Ring of Clay* won the RNA New Writer's Award and the Society of Authors' Sagittarius Prize.

margaretkaine.com @MargaretKaine

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May, 1665. With winter passed, Mercia Blakewood is at last headed back to England from America, hoping to leave behind the shadow cast by death and heartache. She expects a welcome from the King, considering her earlier mission on his behalf, but the reception she receives after her long voyage home could hardly be called warm.

With the country now at war with the Dutch, the Crown has decided that Mercia is an asset to be used once again. More manipulation lies ahead as Mercia must accept a clandestine role at the heart of the glittering and debauched royal court to unmask a spy and traitor.

Originally from the Midlands, DAVID HINGLEY worked in the civil service for eleven years before moving to New York, where he passed his days in Manhattan fulfilling his long-term ambition to write and penned his debut novel, *Birthright*. He now lives near Oxford. davidhingley.com

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A LAWLESS PLACE CONTRABAND SHORE 2

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#### 'Compulsively readable' Cambridge Evening News

Edward Brazier is enlisted by Prime Minister William Pitt to assist his investigation into smuggling activity in Deal. However, with his love Betsy now locked into a heartless marriage with Tom Spafford, a useless drunk, and living as a prisoner, Brazier is distracted from his mission. Having foiled Spafford's plan to steal Betsy away to her family-owned plantation in the West Indies, Brazier finds himself taken captive. Only his ingenuity will help engineer his escape and his cunning use of subterfuge will then allow him to infiltrate the smuggling gangs of Deal in a determined bid to unmask those in control. But with suspicion raised around him and his enemies banding together, can Brazier survive long enough to bring those responsible to justice?

DAVID DONACHIE was born in Edinburgh in 1944. He has always had an abiding interest in the naval history of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as the Roman Republic, and under the pen-name Jack Ludlow has published a number of historical adventure novels. David lives in Deal with his partner, the novelist Sarah Grazebrook.

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Fiction

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The new novel from the author of the million-copy bestseller, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* 

1909, Seattle. For twelve-year-old Ernest Young, a charity student at a boarding school, the chance to go to the World's Fair feels like a gift. But when he's there amid the exotic exhibits, the half-Chinese orphan discovers that he will actually be a prize, raffled off to 'a good home'. He is claimed as a servant by the flamboyant madam of a high-class brothel. There he forges new friendships and discovers a sense of family for the first time. Perhaps this is the home he's always wanted?

On the eve of the new World's Fair fifty years later, Ernest is juggling memories and the demands of his ailing wife as well as long-held family secrets which threaten to leak out.

JAMIE FORD grew up in Seattle's Chinatown and found professional success as an art director and copywriter before turning his attention to fiction, becoming an award-winning short story writer. His debut novel, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, became an international bestseller. It was inspired by the 'I am Chinese' button his father mentioned wearing as a child after the bombing of Pearl Harbour.

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Fiction

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Jude is the owner of a rather special antiques shop in Cambridge. She finds all of the joy in her life matching people with the special something that they are missing, a talisman that will help bring them just what their heart most desires. Although Jude's life is certainly not overflowing with the love she would wish for ... When she 'inherits' a niece that she never knew existed, doubling her meagre family overnight, life is set to get a lot less empty and a lot more interesting.

Viola is on a quest for perfection and the top job of Head Chef at one of Cambridge's most prestigious restaurants to the exclusion of all else. When her path continues to cross that of widower and food historian Mathieu, she starts to see that there's a lot to life beyond the kitchen that she's been missing out on.

MENNA VAN PRAAG was born in Cambridge and studied modern history at Oxford University. She lives in Cambridge and sets her novels among the colleges, cafes and bookshops of the city. mennavanpraag.com @MennavanPraag

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## PEACE COMES TO HONEYFIELD HONEYFIELD 3

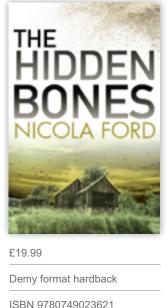
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Armistice Day, 1918. Fiercely independent Georgie is tired of being told what's best for her by men. When she defies her father's wishes by going out into the peace festivities, she encounters Patrick, a gallant wounded ex-soldier, looking for a new calling now that the fighting is done.

But the war isn't over for everybody. Enemy forces have infiltrated the bureau and sent her father into hiding. And they are coming for her too. Georgie knows there's only one place where she'll be safe: Honeyfield.

ANNA JACOBS is the author of over eighty novels and is addicted to storytelling. She grew up in Lancashire, emigrated to Australia in the 1970s and writes stories set in both countries. annajacobs.com



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HILLS AND BARBROOK 1

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NICOLA FORD is the pen-name of archaeologist Dr Nick Snashall, National Trust Archaeologist for the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site. Through her day-job, and now her writing, she's spent more time than most people thinking about the dead.

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DR JUSS KAUR has been a teacher and international education consultant for over four decades. In a recent TEDx talk, she spoke on the profound concept of Oneness that she conveys through her meditative artworks, which have been exhibited throughout Canada.



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VEE WALKER is a natural storyteller and an experienced museums and heritage consultant. The surprising discovery of an unknown family tragedy ultimately led her to spend seven years researching and writing this novel, which is based on her grandfather's war diary scrapbook.

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CHRISTY CAMPBELL is a prize-winning iournalist and author of several acclaimed investigative histories.



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RANA TS CHHINA is an authority on the former British Indian Army. He has authored several books on Indian military subjects and is a consulting historian for the Indian armed forces.



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After retiring from the North-Western Railway in 1918, CHARLES GREY moved to Lahore where he became an amateur scholar of early European interactions with Asia. HLO GARRETT was an eminent professor of history and a principal of Government College, Lahore.

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