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CrimeFest



11-14 May 2023

Featured Guests

Mark Billingham
Elly Griffiths

Gala Dinner Toastmaster

Peter Guttridge

Ghost of Honour

Ian Fleming

with Simon Brett,
Charlie Higson,
Kim Sherwood
and Corinne Turner

Participating Authors include

Andrew Child	Antony Johnston
Will Dean	Vaseem Khan
Sabine Durrant	Jónína Leósdóttir
Martin Edwards	Alex North
Ruth Dudley Edwards	Liz Nugent
Barry Forshaw	Kate Rhodes
Felix Francis	Robert Thorogood
Janice Hallett	Sarah Ward
Lisa Jewell	David Heska Wanbli Weiden

Gala Dinner Presentations for:

Specsavers Debut Crime Novel Award
eDunnit Award
H.R.F. Keating Award
Last Laugh Award
Thalia Proctor Memorial Award for Best
Adapted TV Crime Drama
Award for Best Crime Novel for Children
Award for Best Crime Novel for Young Adults



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A word from our Sponsor

DAME MARY PERKINS

Co-founder of SpecSavers

Bringing sponsorship into focus

As proud sponsors of CrimeFest 2023, Specsavers is delighted to be supporting a literary event which caters for both occasional readers and avid fans of the crime genre. With a host of established and up and coming authors, it's sure to be a fantastic four days.

There's no denying the draw of a crime novel; full of intrigue, suspense and multiple plot twists, it's no surprise that the genre is so popular around the world. To have a convention that is dedicated to crime fiction and which attracts fans from across the world is testament to its popularity. The fact that it's here in Bristol is even more special.

Literary links

The city has a special affinity with Specsavers co-founder Dame Mary Perkins. As well as being a proud Bristolian, Dame Mary is an avid reader and passionate about anything that can be done to engage people in literature, celebrate the power of imagination and reward literary talents.



Specsavers has been a champion of the written word for many years through various sponsorships. These initiatives, together with its sponsorship of CrimeFest 2023, make perfect sense as good eyesight is essential for reading and you can't enjoy an audio book without good hearing.

Community optical and audiology care

A partnership of almost 2,000 locally-run businesses throughout the world, Specsavers is committed to delivering high quality, affordable optical and audiology care in the communities they serve. This includes thirteen stores in the Bristol area, all of which are part-owned and managed by its own joint venture partners.

More than one in three people who wear glasses in the UK buy them from Specsavers, with 36 million customers registered in total. A champion of the National Health Service, of the 22.2 million UK Specsavers customers, 55% are from the NHS. A home visiting service is also available for those who cannot get to the store unaccompanied.

Looking after your eyes

The importance of making sure you get your eyes tested regularly should not be underestimated. As well as an essential vision check, your eyes can also reveal a lot about your general health. Unless your vision has changed though, you might not have given this much thought.

Many conditions have few or even no noticeable symptoms in the early stages. A regular eye test can help identify and monitor a whole host of issues, including macular degeneration, cataracts, glaucoma, diabetes, and even brain tumours.

Using the very latest technology, your optician will be able to carry out a thorough examination and identify any problems that might need attention. Early detection is crucial which is why you should make sure you have a regular check.

A thorough check

Every eye test at Specsavers is performed to the highest standard. An experienced and highly-trained optometrist will not only check your prescription and level of vision, but also examine the areas around the eyes to look for signs of abnormality, injury or disease.

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Specsavers recommends that you have an eye test every two years. However, in some circumstances, your optician might suggest you have an eye test more frequently if you:

- have diabetes
- are aged 40 or over and have a family history of glaucoma
- are aged 70 or over

Dame Mary Perkins is attending CrimeFest, and she will be announcing the Specsavers Debut Crime Novel Award at the Gala Dinner..

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Credits

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We remember Heather Cressy, Bill Gottfried, and Thalia Proctor.

CrimeFest's stated aim is to give all delegates the opportunity to celebrate the genre in a friendly, informal and inclusive atmosphere. Attendees are asked to respect commonsense rules for public behaviour, personal interaction, common courtesy and the rights of others. CrimeFest supports diversity and free speech, and all attendees are expected to be considerate of others. Comments and views expressed by interviewers, interviewees, moderators and panellists during CrimeFest are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the organisers.

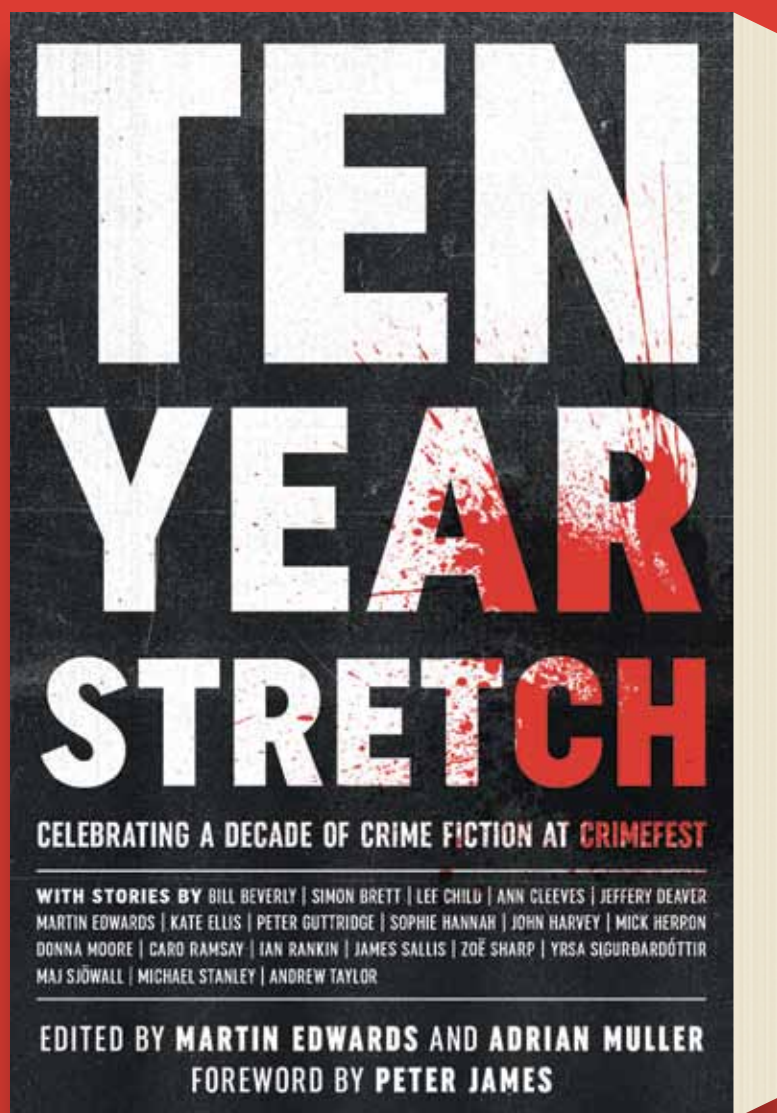


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Welcome

from the Co-Hosts

Donna Moore and Adrian Muller

If you weren't invited to last week's coronation hullabaloo, don't worry, you've come to the real party! CrimeFest is celebrating with crime fiction royalty (and revolutionaries) past and present, as well as up-and-coming successors. Our regal ranks feature two of the biggest names of the genre: Mark Billingham and Elly Griffiths. Mark hit the ground running in 2008 with his first DI Tom Thorne novel, *Sleepyhead*. The instant bestseller received rave reviews, and twenty-two years on the amazing sales and notices haven't slowed down. Adding to his award-winning novels – which include several standalones – Mark is moving to the lighter side of crime with *The Last Dance*, which introduces a new series character, Detective Declan Miller. Fellow crime writer Vaseem Khan will be quizzing Mark about his work.



Elly is no stranger to awards either. *The Stranger Diaries* won the prestigious Mystery Writers of America (MWA) Edgar Award, and both she and Mark are recipients of the Crime Writers' Association's Dagger in the Library. The latter is no surprise, as Elly has put enough books on their shelves: at least two books a year with three active series for adults and one for children. (Elly's *The Spy in the Window* is shortlisted for CrimeFest's Best Crime Novel for Children Award.) Rumour has it that her much loved mysteries featuring archaeologist Ruth Galloway may be ending, but a new time travelling character is on its way. Journalist and author Barry Forshaw will be finding out more in his interview with her.

2022 saw the introduction of a new feature at CrimeFest: Ghost of Honour. Our inaugural spectre, with 'Ghost host' Simon Brett, was Dick Francis. This year we have a licence to thrill with Ian Fleming, and what a year it is turning out to be! 2023 is the 70th anniversary of the publication of *Casino Royale* and our introduction to James Bond. In addition to sponsoring the pre-Gala Dinner Reception, Ian Fleming Publications are celebrating in style by publishing new editions of all of Fleming's books; expanding the '00' universe with *Double or Nothing* – the first of three books by Kim Sherwood; and commissioning Charlie Higson to write *On His Majesty's Secret Service*, a new Bond book to commemorate the coronation. We're shaken and stirred to welcome Kim, Charlie, and Corinne Turner from Fleming Publications.

Peter Guttridge has hosted our pub quiz since we began. Back in 2006, he won our award for best humorous crime novel with the last in his Nick Madrid series. In 2010, he began his Brighton series, featuring Robert Watts, that's now about to become an ennealogy. It is therefore a gross miscarriage of justice that it has taken us this long to realise we have been overlooking a perfect Toastmaster. We are massive fans of Peter's, and are happy to rectify that error this year, with CrimeFest's co-host Donna Moore interviewing him on Sunday.

(A brief aside, the CrimeFest team is immensely proud that Donna was shortlisted for an MWA Edgar Award for her short story in Maxim Jakubowski's Cornell Woolrich-inspired anthology *Black is the Night*.)

If that wasn't enough, the ever-popular Authors Remembered returns, and the aforementioned Pub Quiz is back with prizes to be won!

With Specsavers' sponsorship and the support of Max Minerva's Marvellous Books, CrimeFest continues its outreach and literacy programme with local school visits from authors of crime fiction for children. Max Minerva and publishers also help us with our annual distribution of thousands of pounds' worth of books to local school libraries. This year we highlight the genre with a panel called 'Children and YA Crime Fiction: Thrilling the Next Generation'. After the success of last year's screening of the Eurovision Song Contest final, we couldn't not show it again this year. The final will be shown on a big screen in the Ballroom where the bar will be open throughout the broadcast.

Closing the convention with bravura is the CrimeFest Criminal Mastermind Quiz, with Inquizitor Maxim Jakubowski, D.V. Bishop (defending his 2022 title), and a fresh set of victims participants. Do attend because one audience member will win two CrimeFest 2024 passes!

Crimetime.fm joins CrimeFest as our official podcaster. Paul Burke and Victoria Slotover will broadcast from the convention, allowing delegates to relive the experience, and tempting those who weren't able to attend to come next year. We wouldn't be here if it weren't for our valued delegates, all our wonderful panel participants and moderators, our headline sponsor Specsavers, H.W. Fisher, and Free@LastTV. We also want to thank Agile Marketing's Rob Garraway for bringing a fresh look to Bill Selby's Skeleton Bob; to Cause PR for providing the exciting revamp of the website; and Sue Trowbridge, our webmistress, for implementing it. We are immensely grateful to all of you!

You would have thought that organising CrimeFest would get easier after fourteen years, yet every year brings different challenges. But we were bolstered by Dame Mary's words at last year's Gala Dinner: CrimeFest is more than the wonderful crime fiction community, it's family. Knowing that we will get to see many of our crime fiction family again keeps us going. So, to the newcomers, we can't wait to meet you. We've already forgotten that this is your first time and, by Sunday, so will you.



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FEATURED GUEST AUTHOR

Mark Billingham

By Vaseem Khan

What can I say about Mark Billingham that isn't already the stuff of legend? A man who once made his mark on the small screen in a pair of green tights, Mark now bestrides the world of crime fiction like a Levis-clad colossus. His Tom Thorne series, beginning with the mega-selling *Sleepyhead* has, rightly, secured him a place in the pantheon. Since then, Mark has written a further seventeen Thorne police procedurals – most recently the smash hit *The Murder Book* – and stretched himself with standalone chillers, psychological noir, and, now, with his first foray into the world of 'cosy crime', *The Last Dance*. (Though, like me, Mark isn't a fan of the word 'cosy' being applied willy-nilly to a subgenre that now boasts such a broad range that it's high time someone updated the term.)



Mark gained early fame as a stand-up comic, before spreading his wings into acting. During that early period, he played a plethora of low-rent villains including some less than salubrious roles in law enforcement – 'racist copper, bent copper, nasty copper' – and perhaps this later inspired his love of police-based crime fiction. He finally found acting fame as a likeable 'evil' guard in *Maid Marian and her Merry Men* – a British family-friendly reworking of the Robin Hood myth – starring and later co-writing with English comedic royalty Sir Anthony Robinson (better known as *Baldrick* from the iconic British TV series *Blackadder*). *Maid Marian* became a cult hit and ran for four series on BBC1. The show saw Mark extend his skills in the screenwriting arena; in due course that fetish for literary creation found its way to novel writing, specifically, crime fiction, of which he had long been a self-confessed fan.

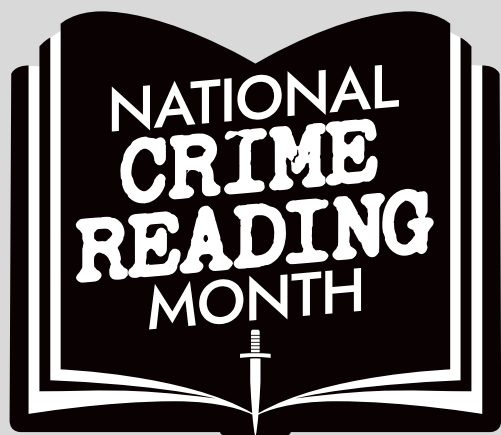
Following the success of *Sleepyhead*, Mark hasn't looked back. His books have sold millions of copies around the world. Mark's trademark gritty style – cut through with a sardonic eye for human nature and the world in which we operate – has won rave reviews from critics. In due course, Tom Thorne found his way to the small screen. Mark has won numerous awards – a CWA Dagger, the Theakston's Crime Novel of the Year (twice) – but wears such accolades with the nonchalance of a French artiste. A hugely popular event speaker, Mark has wowed audiences the world over – wherever he goes, hordes of Billingham groupies follow. He is a raconteur, a musician, a stand-up comedian, a lovable maverick; the sort of Renaissance man that, had he been born in an earlier era, might have made Leonardo da Vinci give up in disgust.

Among the many myths about Mark, here's what I know for a fact. He is the most genial and generous of men. Mark is one of those hugely successful writers who still has time for the little guy. Almost a decade ago, when I made my debut, one of my first ever panels was with Mark. I was, of course, delighted to be put on the same stage as such a well-known writer, but I'd be lying if I said I wasn't a little nervous. Would I humiliate myself by fan-boying Mark or by not being able to hold my own as he effortlessly wooed the crowd with his rakish charm and beguiling moustache? I needn't have worried. Mark took me aside backstage and said, and I quote, 'Just be yourself. We're going to have a laugh on stage!' And that's exactly what we did and exactly what we've been doing ever since. At this year's CrimeFest I'll be interviewing Mark – as a Featured Guest – on the big stage and I can promise you it's going to be a laugh riot. We'll be discussing his career, focusing particularly on *The Last Dance* – you can bet that for Mark this is just the opening waltz in what will, no doubt, prove to be another smash hit series. Do not miss it!

Vaseem Khan is the author of the *Baby Ganesh Agency* and *Malabar House* novels, two award-winning crime series set in India.

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FEATURED GUEST AUTHOR

Elly Griffiths

By Barry Forshaw

I was in a quiet, largely guest-free hotel by the River Mersey in what had been my home city decades ago. I was checking my notes for the Perfect Crime festival and wondering when anyone I knew was likely to arrive. My phone rang: 'Barry? This is Domenica! I'm in the hotel – wasn't this your home as a boy? Where shall we eat tonight?'

That welcome phone call was from Domenica de Rosa, better known as one of Britain's most industrious (and gifted) authors, Elly Griffiths. As 'Elly' she has been responsible for two crime novels per annum (always absolutely top notch), along with the YA Justice series. I'd long been a fan of her addictive Dr Ruth Galloway series and of the ebullient Domenica herself – and had covered her work in such papers as the Financial Times and the Guardian along with entries in several of my books on crime fiction. After that phone call, however, it wasn't to be me interviewing her in Liverpool – a wrong righted in Bristol at CrimeFest.

Elly/Domenica read English at King's College London and, after graduating, worked as a librarian, in the magazine world, and then at the publisher HarperCollins. For the latter, she eventually became Editorial Director of children's books, a career move that put her own writing on the back burner until (on maternity leave in 1988) she began what became her first published novel, *The Italian Quarter*. Her earlier books were all about, as she said, 'Italy, families and identity'. But on holiday in Norfolk with her archaeologist husband Andy, she was walking across Titchwell Marsh when he mentioned that prehistoric man had considered that marshland was sacred – neither land nor sea but something in between. This sentence prompted the entire plot of *The Crossing Places*, which appeared fully formed in her head. And walking out of the mist she 'saw' Dr Ruth Galloway.

When he read it, her agent told Domenica that she needed a 'crime name' – thus was born Elly Griffiths. And the career that followed has been stellar indeed (Elly was a popular winner of the CWA Dagger in the Library in 2016). And in 2023, we have *The Last Remains*, the latest of the novels featuring her tenacious forensic archaeologist. But is this the last in the series? The answer may be revealed in my interview with Elly!

Elly Griffiths places us in an almost tactile Norfolk, and she never neglects the demands of satisfying plotting; while luxuriating in the texture of her books, the reader is always kept on tenterhooks as Ruth begins her customary examination of old bones and modern murder. In *Dying Fall*, Ruth is shocked to learn by phone that a college friend of hers has died in a fire in his Lancashire home. And when, two days later, she receives a letter from the dead man, she finds a frantic plea for help along with information about a discovery that will alter the field of archaeology. Elly has managed to sustain a remarkably high standard across many books, with a fascinating mixture of ancient relics, Anglo-Saxon culture, a nostalgia for the trappings of Catholicism, and blood shed for the most contemporary of reasons. The malign currents from the past that seep into modern life, however, still deliver a considerable charge.

While Elly Griffiths' idiosyncratic work has often dealt with the collision of the ancient and the modern, and although such novels as *The Vanishing Box* are set in a well-evoked Brighton of the early 1950s, we see things through her very modern sensibility. In the Stephens and Mephisto series, the death of a flower seller, which is somehow connected with the Hippodrome Variety Theatre, has Detective Inspector Edgar Stephens involved with a charismatic man he knew in the war, the magician Max Mephisto, as well as his daughter and co-star Ruby. And Elly herself dispenses several acts of prestidigitation, invigorating the format of the police procedural with a piquant mixture of humour, period detail (including the church-baiting nude tableaux of the day that play a key role in the narrative) and truly beguiling characterisation. *The Vanishing Box*, featuring the unlikely duo of Stephens and Mephisto, is part of a series that has proved to be as successful as the Ruth Galloway novels.

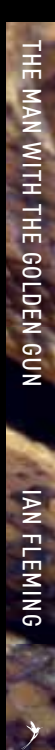
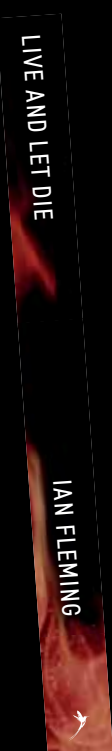
But whatever protagonists Elly chooses to write about in the future, we dedicated admirers will follow her without hesitation.



Barry Forshaw is the author of *Crime Fiction: A Reader's Guide*

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GHOST OF HONOUR

Ian Fleming

By Simon Brett

For people of my generation, Ian Fleming was the master. There had been thriller writers before, some very good ones, but in James Bond Fleming created a completely new kind of hero. And that is one of the many reasons why he is being celebrated this year as CrimeFest's Ghost of Honour. Another might be the fact that worldwide sales of Ian Fleming's books have topped one hundred million.

His iconic hero has reverberated in so many areas of our lives that there's a danger of prioritising his other manifestations over the books in which the character appeared. And, in part because of their creator's premature death, the oeuvre is a relatively small one – twelve novels and two collections of short stories. Yet, outside the works of Shakespeare, Dickens and Conan Doyle, it is hard to think of a character who has cast a longer shadow than James Bond.

He has received the accolade of being infinitely parodied. The catch-phrases from the movies are internationally recognised and the character has proved an endless source for comedy writers. Who can forget Russ Abbott as Basil Don Bond in sketches such as *The Man With The Golden Labrador*? Or indeed James Bond's appearance with the late Queen Elizabeth at the Olympics Opening Ceremony in 2012? That is about as iconic as a fictional character can get.

As a boy, Fleming devoured Sapper's Bulldog Drummond adventures and the Richard Hannay books by John Buchan. But he updated their heroes into someone completely different, a man who dealt in a world of post-war uncertainty, international distrust and the developing Cold War.

At a time when Britain's influence in the world was demonstrably declining, James Bond was mounting a defiant rearguard action. Usually acting alone, he was more than a match for those who threatened the values of a fading imperial power. Tough, sometimes to the point of brutality, and unsentimental, his heart was still in the right place.

His lifestyle, too, was a refreshing change from the drabness of fifties austerity Britain. He moved in a world of fast cars, luxury hotels and casinos, of which most of his countrymen could only dream.

And dream we did. I read some of the books in my teens and I remember being particularly impressed by Ian Fleming's ability to describe action in a nail-biting way. Then, at Oxford University in 1965, I first became aware of the scale of the Bond phenomenon. I went to the cinema to see the latest movie, *Thunderball*, and I couldn't get in. It was rare in those days for any movie to be that popular.

Back then, though, it was impossible not to know about James Bond. As a young man, I was a little shocked – he was quite daring for the time – but also ineluctably drawn to him. Here was someone of my gender who was unthinkingly brave, effortlessly cool, infinitely knowledgeable about cars, weapons and all other technology. To cap it all, he was fatally attractive to women. He was, in fact, everything that the twenty-year-old Simon Brett was failing to be at the time. I'm not sure that I aspired to be James Bond, but he certainly made me aware of my inadequacies.

The continuity of the Ian Fleming legacy has been remarkable. *The Keepers of the Flame* have been family members and the highly efficient professionals at Ian Fleming Publications. There have been sanctioned new Bond novels written by such luminaries as Kingsley Amis, Sebastian Faulks, William Boyd and Anthony Horowitz, whose latest, *With A Mind To Kill*, demonstrates very well how to carry the franchise into the post-Me Too era.

Now there are further skilful adumbrations of the legacy, like Kim Sherwood's first of a series of Double O adventures, *Double or Nothing*, in which the primary focus is not on Bond but on the varied cast of agents also in the team. And Charlie Higson's latest update of the character, *On His Majesty's Secret Service*, is to be published to coincide with the Coronation of King Charles III, with all proceeds going to the charity, the National Literacy Trust. It is clear that James Bond's future is in good hands.

So, we can be confident that Ian Fleming, celebrated at this 2023 CrimeFest, will remain a benign Ghost who continues to haunt our cultural life for many years to come.

Simon Brett is the author of over a hundred books, including the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter, Fethering, Blotto & Twinks and Decluttering series



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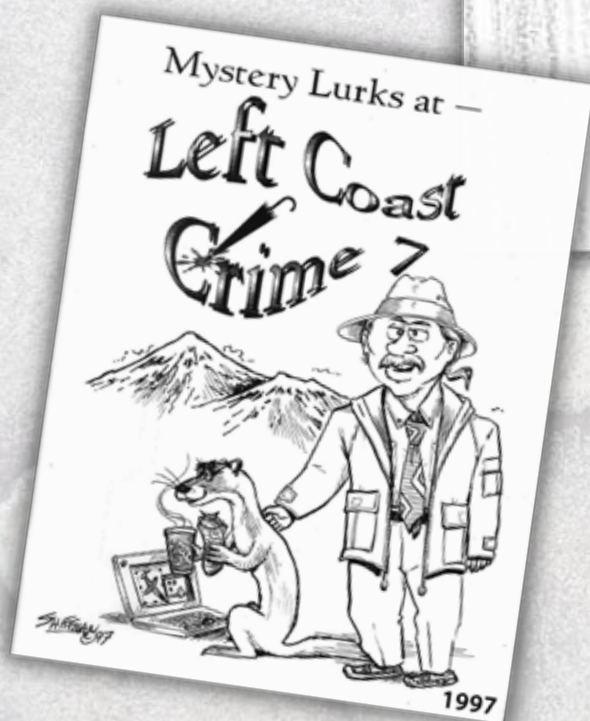
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TOASTMASTER

Peter Guttridge

By Donna Moore

Peter Guttridge is a novelist, journalist, interviewer, creative writing tutor and all-round top bloke. Early on in his journalism career he wrote articles for a magazine which sent him off to experience touring Scandinavia with a rock band and performing in Soho as a male stripper, before turning to more serious journalism. He was The Observer's crime fiction critic for eleven years, as well as being a freelance journalist, writing thousands of articles not only on books and film, but also on topics as diverse as yoga, finance, travel and business, including writing for companies such as Hertz, Royal Mail and British Airways. He's the former Director of the Brighton Literature Festival and Books By The Beach in Scarborough and is in high demand as interviewer and chairperson at book and film festivals across the UK and beyond, conducting fascinating interviews with writers, actors and film directors. He's taught creative writing in prisons, for the Arvon Foundation, and in locations as far flung as Greece, Cuba and Thailand. If that wasn't enough, he's been Royal Literary Fund Fellow at the Universities of Bradford, Leeds Trinity and Southampton. Phew.



Peter is a big friend of CrimeFest and we couldn't do without him. Not only is he a fantastic interviewer and panel moderator, of course, but he's also our charming Quiz Master for the long-running CrimeFest Pub Quiz. I'm so delighted he's going to be our Toastmaster this year. He's funny, entertaining, knows a lot of stuff about a lot of stuff and is genuinely interested in people. Those last two attributes not only make him such a great interviewer, but also a fabulous person to chat to in the bar.

My first introduction to Peter, though, was through his books. I picked up his first book, *No Laughing Matter*, back in 1997. The book's very first line is: "I was trying to figure out how to scratch my nose when the naked blonde flashed past my window." Given that the book's protagonist, journalist Nick Madrid, is in a fourteenth floor hotel room at the time, and that the reason he's trying to work out how to scratch his nose is that he's in a yoga posture that involves balancing on his hands with his ankles crossed at the back of his neck, I was hooked from that moment and have continued to be hooked on Peter's writing ever since.

The Nick Madrid series features the charming but hapless protagonist solving crimes with settings such as comedy festivals, haunted houses, fencing competitions, rock concerts in South America, Arthurian theme parks and low budget pirate films. Nick is supported (and hindered) by his journalist friend Bridget Frost – the Bitch of the Broadsheets. They make a wonderful wisecracking duo and the books are funny, fast-paced, and entertaining, as well as being full of suspense. If you like a good comedy thriller, these are among the very best. To be quite honest, I was a bit miffed with Peter when the series stopped after six books.

However, then came the Brighton Trilogy and I forgave him. And, luckily for us Guttridge fans, there are currently eight books in the series. The Brighton mysteries show a whole new dimension to Peter's writing. The series is much darker and grittier (although with touches of lightness) but still has a well-drawn cast of characters whom you really get to care about, intricate and intriguing plots that interweave threads of the past into Brighton's brilliantly depicted present, and the books are full of the rich colour and detail which make this series really special.

As if all that wasn't enough, Peter has also written some cracking short stories, including his tale *Normal Rules Do Not Apply* which is a lot of fun and, I am delighted to say, not only features Nick Madrid and Bridget Frost, but is also set at CrimeFest with guest appearances from the CrimeFest team. I am, however, still waiting patiently for Nick Madrid number seven, Peter.

Thank you, Peter, for over twenty-five years of memorable reading experiences, and I look forward to many more books and CrimeFest chats yet to come.

Donna Moore is an Edgar nominated and award winning author, and the co-host of CrimeFest.

THE PANELLISTS



Kia Abdullah is a best selling author and travel writer. Her novel *Next of Kin* won the Adult Fiction Diverse Book Award 2022, was longlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger and named *Times* Book of the Month. Kia has written for *The New York Times*, *The Times*, *The Guardian* and the BBC among others and has received a JB Priestley Award for Writers of Promise. Her new novel, *Those People Next Door*, is out now. Website: www.kiaabdullah.com



Cathy Ace writes the amazon #1 internationally bestselling cosy WISE Enquiries Agency Mysteries and the traditional Cait Morgan Mysteries. Her psychological standalone, *The Wrong Boy*, and her Cait Morgan Mysteries have been optioned for TV by Free@LastTV (Agatha Raisin). She's won a Bony Blithe Award (the Agatha Awards' Canadian cousin), IPPY & IBA Awards, and has been twice shortlisted for both the Crime Writers of Canada Awards of Excellence and CrimeFictionLover's Best Indie Novel. Website: www.cathyace.com



Graham Bartlett was a police officer for thirty years during which he was a homicide senior investigating officer and a strategic firearms and public order commander. He is now an award-winning author with two non-fiction books to his name and two novels, *Bad for Good* and *Force of Hate*, from the C/Supt Jo Howe series. He is a police procedural and crime advisor/tutor, helping authors and TV writers achieve authenticity alongside their drama. Website: www.policeadvisor.co.uk



Mark Billingham is one of the UK's most acclaimed and popular crime writers. He has twice won the Crime Novel of the Year Award and every one of his twenty-three novels has been a *Sunday Times* top ten bestseller. In 2021 he received the award for Outstanding Contribution To Crime Fiction at the Harrogate Crime Writing Festival. His latest novel is *The Last Dance* – the first in a new series featuring DS Declan Miller. Website: markbillingham.com



David Beckler writes the Sterling & Mason and Antonia Conti series, pacy thrillers with character and a social conscience. He was born in Addis Ababa, and after a convoluted journey, which took in Bristol in the late 70s, he now lives in Manchester. *Brotherhood* and *The Profit Motive* are set in Manchester and China. His most recent books, *A Long Shadow*, *A Stolen Memory* and *A Nuclear Reaction* are set in a dystopian London. Website: www.davidbeckler.co.uk



D.V. Bishop writes award-winning historical thrillers set in Renaissance Florence during the reign of the murderous Medici. His first Cesare Aldo mystery, *City of Vengeance*, won the NZ Booklovers Award for best adult novel, was shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize, and longlisted for the 2022 CWA Gold and Historical Daggers. His next novel is *Ritual of Fire*, a scorching tale of burning injustice and revenge, published this June by Pan Macmillan. Website: <https://dvbishop.com>



Cara Black is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the Aimée Leduc series and WW2 historical thrillers. She's received the Medaille de Ville de Paris for contributions to French culture. Her latest book is *Night Flight to Paris*. Website: <https://carablack.com/>



David Brawn has been Publisher of Estates at HarperCollins since 1995, managing more than a dozen extensive backlists including Agatha Christie, J.R.R. Tolkien, Alistair MacLean, Desmond Bagley, Patrick O'Brian, Ngaio Marsh, Edmund Crispin and C.S. Lewis. In 2015 he relaunched Collins Crime Club to bring more classic authors back into print and to publish new books, including the acclaimed *Bodies from the Library* anthology series and Martin Edwards' award-winning *Howdunit* and *The Life of Crime*.



Simon Brett has published over a hundred books, including the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter, Fethering, Blotto & Twinks and Decluttering series. A *Shock to the System* became a feature film, starring Michael Caine. Bill Nighy plays Charles Paris in the books' Radio 4 adaptations. In 2014 Simon was

presented with the Crime Writers' Association's highest award, the Diamond Dagger, and he was made an O.B.E. in the 2016 New Year's Honours 'for services to literature'. Website: simonbrett.com



James Buckler is the author of *The Simple Truth* and *Last Stop Tokyo*. He currently lives in London and has also lived in both the USA and Japan. He has worked in the film and television industry for many years, most notably for MTV and BBC Films. He is both an

avid longboard surfer and the drummer in a local rock band. His favourite writing snack is miso soup with crisps. Website: jamesbuckler.com



Alison Bruce is the creator of the DC Gary Goodhew (Cambridge Blue) series and author of two non-fiction crime books and two standalone novels including *The Moment Before Impact*. She has twice been shortlisted for the CWA Dagger in the Library. Alison has a BSc (Hons) in Crime and Investigative Studies

and works with police forces in the East of England. Her next novel will be published in 2024. Website: www.alisonbruce.com.



Elizabeth Chakrabarty's debut novel, *Lessons in Love and Other Crimes* (Indigo, 2021), inspired by experience of race hate crime, was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize and shortlisted for the Polari First Book Prize in 2022. Other publications include stories shortlisted

for the Dinesh Allirajah Prize for Short Fiction 2022 and the Asian Writer Short Story Prize 2016, in *Crime Stories* (Comma, 2022) and *Dividing Lines* (Dahlia, 2017), and writing in Wasafiri and Gal-Dem. Website: www.elizabethchakrabarty.com



A.A. Chaudhuri is the author of *The Scribe* and *The Abduction*, and two psychological thrillers published by Hera, *She's Mine* and *The Loyal Friend*. Alex recently signed with Hera for three more psychological thrillers; *The Final Party* will be published in May 2023. After gaining a degree in History at UCL, Alex

trained as a solicitor and worked for several City law firms before turning to thriller writing. She lives in Surrey with her family. Website: <https://aachaudhuri.com/>



Fliss Chester writes in the cosy crime genre and is the author of the Hon Cressida Fawcett Mysteries series, published by Bookouture. She also wrote the Fen Church Mysteries series, one of which, *Night Train to Paris*, reached number one in the Amazon Australia

chart. Website: www.flisschester.co.uk

Andrew Child – see Andrew Grant



L.M. Chilton is a journalist who started his career penning true crime stories for weekly supermarket magazines, before working for newspapers such as *The Times* and *The Mirror* and TV shows like *This Morning*, *Loose Women* and BBC's *The One Show*. He lives in London,

thinking of twists for murder mysteries and practising the banjo (much to the annoyance of his cat and the neighbours). *Don't Swipe Right* is his first novel.

Website: www.lmchilton.com



Tammy Cohen is the author of seven bestselling psychological thrillers, the latest of which is *The Wedding Party*, recently optioned for TV. Previously she wrote dark women's fiction as Tamar Cohen debuting with *The Mistress's Revenge*, which was translated all round the world. In addition, she has written

four historical novels under the pseudonym of Rachel Rhys. The first, *Dangerous Crossing*, was a Richard and Judy book club pick. Website: www.tammycohen.co.uk



Stephen Collier is a crime fiction author, retired police officer and businessman. He has three independently published books, *Blind Murder*, *Driving Dead* and *Crimson Dragon*. He's currently working on a screenplay for *Blind Murder* and his third

novel in the Jake Jordan series, *In a Field of Bones*, is close to completion. Stephen also has a collaborative work in production, *Let The Grass Grow Green*, due in Autumn 2023. Website: www.stephen-collier.com



Tana Collins is the Edinburgh based author of the popular Jim Carruthers detective series set in the picturesque East Neuk of Fife. Her debut novel, *Robbing the Dead*, published in February 2017, was followed swiftly by *Care to Die*,

which was described by Peter Robinson as 'A finely plotted mystery.' In 2018 she became an Amazon Top 10 bestseller. Her fifth novel in the series, *In Deep Water*, was published, also to critical acclaim, in August 2020. Website: tanacollins.com



Jane Corry is the *Sunday Times* best selling Penguin author of *My Husband's Wife*, *Blood Sisters*, *The Dead Ex*, *I Looked Away*, *I Made A Mistake*, *The Lies We Tell*, *We All Have Our Secrets*, and *Coming To Find You* (June 2023). She trained as a journalist and interviewed celebrities (David Essex etc) besides writing for *The Daily Telegraph* and *My Weekly*. Initially a romance novelist, she turned to crime after working in a high-security prison. Website: www.janecorryauthor.com



Harriet Crawley has been a journalist, writer, and art dealer, worked in television and radio, and stood for the Westminster and European Parliaments. A fluent Russian speaker, Harriet was married to a Russian and sent her son to state school in Moscow, where she worked for almost twenty years in the energy sector. She speaks five languages and *The Translator* is her fifth book.



Heather Critchlow is a crime writer and business journalist. Her debut novel *Unspoken* will be published in May 2023 by Canelo and is the first in a three-book series featuring true crime podcaster Cal Lovett. Her short stories have been featured in the *Afraid of the Light* anthologies, collections of stories written by crime writers. She lives in St Albans, UK. Find her on Twitter @h_critchlow. Website: www.heathercritchlow.com



Mason Cross is the author of the Carter Blake series published by Orion. *The Killing Season* was published in 2014 and followed by *The Samaritan*, *The Time to Kill* (Winterlong in the USA), *Don't Look For Me* and *Presumed Dead*. *What She Saw Last Night*, his first standalone novel, was published in 2019. He writes standalones as Alex Knight, including *Hunted* and *Darkness Falls*. Mason Cross lives in Glasgow with his wife and three children. Website: <https://masoncross.net/>



Chris Curran has published six novels with Harper Collins (including *The Guesthouse* as Abbie Frost). She is also a prolific short story writer and has twice been shortlisted for the CWA Margery Allingham award. A huge fan of Daphne Du Maurier, Barbara Vine and Patricia Highsmith, Chris writes dark psychological suspense. Her latest novel, *When the Lights Go Out*, is set in the atmospheric Forest of Dean and inspired by her spectacularly unsuccessful acting career. Website: chriscurranauthor.com



Tracy Darnton is the author of three Young Adult psychological thrillers set in the UK: *Ready or Not*, *The Rules* and *The Truth About Lies*. A former solicitor, she has an MA in Writing for Young People from Bath Spa University and enjoys teaching creative writing and mentoring. She's mad about board games and escape rooms. Tracy lives in a quiet village near Bath where she dreams up unusual deaths and her killer endings. Website: <https://tracydarntonauthor.wordpress.com/>



Neil Daws retired from the civil service after 30 years, 20 spent in security and counter-terrorism, and lives in his adopted county of Kent. *A Perfect Time to Murder*, the third in his WW2 crime series featuring D.I. Jonathan Kember and Air Transport Auxiliary pilot (and criminal profiler) Lizzie Hayes, follows *A Quiet Place to Kill* (2021) and *A Silent Way to Die* (2022). He also contributed to the CWA anthology *Music of the Night*. Website: www.neildaws.com



Mark Dawson is the bestselling author of the Beatrix Rose, Isabella Rose and John Milton series, and has sold over six million books worldwide. The first two books in a gripping new Wiltshire-set series featuring police detective turned private investigator Atticus Priest, *A House in the Woods* and *A Place to Bury Strangers*, are published in paperback in April 2023. Mark was born in Lowestoft and now lives in Wiltshire with his family. Website: <https://markjdawson.com/>



Judi Daykin is a working actor who has turned to crime! Yorkshire born, she has lived, worked and made theatre in Norfolk for over forty years. She completed her MA in Creative Writing (Crime Fiction) at the UEA in 2019 and joined Joffe Books in 2020. There are currently five DS Sara Hirst novels set in Norfolk amongst the villages and special venues that Judi loves. She also writes ghost stories for Hobeck Books. Website: <https://judidaykin.co.uk/>



Will Dean is from the Midlands. He later settled in Sweden where he built a house in a boggy clearing at the centre of a vast elk forest. His Tuva novels have been selected for Zoe Ball's Book Club, *Daily Telegraph* Book of the Year, and shortlisted for the Theakstons Old Peculier Award. *The Last Thing to Burn* was nominated for every major thriller award and named a *Daily Express* and *New Statesman* Book of the Year.



James Delargy was born and raised in Ireland but has called South Africa, Australia, Scotland, and now England his home. His thrillers, *Vanished* and *55*, set in Western Australia, were published in 2021 and 2019 respectively by Simon & Schuster and various publishers internationally. He incorporates this diverse knowledge of towns, cities, landscape and culture picked up on his travels into his writing and would like to complete a round-the-world series of novels. Website: www.jamesdelargy.com



Candy Denman spent most of her life as an NHS nurse but now concentrates on writing full time. She has written extensively for television programmes such as *The Bill*, *Doctors* and *Heartbeat* and now writes medical thrillers, featuring a police doctor in Hastings and also writes psychological thrillers under the name Annie Payne. Website: www.candydenman.co.uk



Teresa Driscoll is a former BBC TV news presenter whose psychological thrillers have sold more than two million copies in twenty languages. Her first thriller *I Am Watching You* has sold more than a million copies in English alone. Her sixth thriller *Tell Me Lies* is published by Thomas & Mercer in April 2023. Website: <https://www.teresadriscoll.com/>



Antony Dunford is from Bradford in West Yorkshire. He has been writing for as long as he can remember, but his writing has only recently started being published. His debut novel, *Hunted*, was published by Hobeck Books in January 2021. His second novel, *Born the Same*, is due out before summer 2023. He also writes short stories, and children's stories. He is currently working on his third novel, *Endangered*. Website: www.antonydunford.com



Sabine Durrant is a former journalist who has written for many newspapers and magazines. In a previous life she was a features editor at the *Guardian* and a former literary editor at the *Sunday Times*. Her third psychological thriller, *Lie With Me*, was a Richard and Judy Bookclub selection and a *Sunday Times* bestseller. She lives in south London with her husband, one dog, two cats and a varied assortment of children.



Paul Durston finds that the biggest hindrance to writing crime fiction is his thirty years' service in the Metropolitan Police. His debut novel, *If I Were Me*, is about PC Charlie Quinlan who experiences memory issues following a traumatic incident. When she's incriminated in murder and interviewed under caution, a cash withdrawal she doesn't remember making turns out to be a watertight alibi. When not writing, Paul explores the UK's inland waterways on his narrowboat.



Stephen Edger is the prolific author of psychological thrillers including *Snatched*, *Little Girl Gone* and *Till Death Do Us Part*. Under the pen name M.A. Hunter he has written the popular *Missing Children Case Files* series and *Mummy's Little Secret*. His next highly anticipated novel *Adrift* is a locked-room mystery set on a yacht in the Balearics and will be published in May 2023. Website: www.stephenedger.com



Ruth Dudley Edwards is an historian and journalist. The targets of her satirical crime novels include academia, the civil service, the House of Lords, the Church of England, literary prizes and political correctness. She won CrimeFest's Goldsboro Last Laugh Award for *Murdering Americans* (2008) and *Killing the Emperors* (2013), as well as the CWA Non-Fiction Gold Dagger for *Aftermath: The Omagh Bombings* and *The Families' Pursuit of Justice* (2010). Website: www.ruthdudleyedwards.com



Martin Edwards is the author of 21 novels, including the Lake District Mysteries and the Rachel Savernake books, and also an acclaimed history of crime fiction, *The Life of Crime*. He received the CWA Diamond Dagger for the sustained excellence of his work. He has also won the Edgar, Agatha, CrimeFest H.R.F. Keating and Macavity awards, the Short Story Dagger and Dagger in the Library, plus the Poirot award for his contribution to the genre. Website: martinedwardsbooks.com



Kate Ellis was born and brought up in Liverpool and she was awarded the CWA Dagger in the Library in 2019. The third novel in Kate's trilogy set in the aftermath of the Great War (*The House of the Hanged Woman*) is now available. However, she is best known for her crime series featuring archaeology graduate DI Wesley Peterson, the latest of which is *Serpent's Point*. Website: www.kateellis.co.uk



Mark Ellis is the author of the acclaimed DCI Frank Merlin series set in World War Two London. Four books have been published so far and a fifth will be out in May. His third book, *Merlin At War*, was nominated for the CWA Historical Dagger Award. He is a member of Crime Cymru and Treasurer of Gŵyl Crime Cymru Festival. Website: www.markellisauthor.com



Caroline England, known as the 'Duchess of dark domestic noir', is the CWA Dagger shortlisted author of psychological suspense novels *Beneath the Skin*, top ten bestseller *My Husband's Lies*, *Betray Her*, *Truth Games* and *The Sinner*. *The Stranger Beside Me* follows in August. As CE Rose she has written gothic-tinged psychological thrillers *The House of Hidden Secrets*, *The House on the Water's Edge*, *The Shadows of Rutherford House* and *The Attic at Wilton Place*. Website: carolineenglandauthor.co.uk



Pascal Engman is the bestselling author of *Femicide* and is one of his generation's most read authors in Sweden. His books can be read in over 20 countries and have sold over 1 million copies worldwide. Website: <https://www.pascalengman.com/>



Jen Faulkner, after fifteen years as a teacher, completed an MA in Creative Writing at Bath Spa University, where she was shortlisted for the Janklow and Nesbitt Prize. When she is not writing she can usually be found in the kitchen baking, or out walking her dog. *Keep Her Safe* is her debut, and she's currently writing her next novel, about how a shared traumatic event can affect two people in very different ways.



Helen Fields is a million copy best-selling author whose work has been translated into more than 20 languages. She is the author of the Perfect series, set in Scotland, and a psychological profiling series featuring Connie Woolwine - *The Shadow Man* and *The Institution*. She is the author of legal thriller *Degrees of Guilt* as H S Chandler. Helen was formerly a criminal barrister, and now spends her time moving between West Sussex, Scotland and California.



Paul Finch is an ex-cop and journalist turned best selling author. He first cut his literary teeth penning episodes of *The Bill*, and has written extensively in horror and fantasy, including for *Dr Who*. He is best known for his crime/thriller novels, of which there are twelve to date, one of which, *Strangers*, made the *Sunday Times* Top 10. Paul lives in Lancashire with his wife and business-partner, Cathy. Website: <http://paulfinch-writer.blogspot.com/>



Trish Finnegan is the author of *Blue Bird*, *Blue Sky* and *Baby Blues* (due out later this year), published by Burning Chair. She comes from the Wirral Peninsula, and is a former police officer and a serving magistrate. She is married to Paul whom she met at the police station where they were both serving. She has three children, six grandchildren, and an overactive imagination.



Heather J Fitt was born in Scotland and raised across Europe. An avid reader as a child, her dreams came true when her debut novel, *Open Your Eyes*, was published in 2022. Described as Agatha Christie on a plane, *The Flight* followed a few months later and her third book, *The Boat Trip*, will be published in June 2023. You can find Heather on Twitter at @HeatherJFitt, Instagram as heatherjfitt, or visit her Facebook page heatherfittauthor.



Barry Forshaw is a leading expert on crime fiction and film. He is the *Financial Times*' crime critic, and his books include *Crime Fiction: A Reader's Guide*, the CrimeFest H.R.F. Keating Award-winning *Brit Noir* (plus Nordic, American, Euro and Historical Noir). Other work: *Death in a Cold Climate*, *British Gothic Cinema*, *Detective*, *British Crime Writing: An Encyclopedia* (also a Keating winner), *Sex and Film*, *Italian Cinema* and *Simenon*. He edits *Crime Time* (www.crimetime.co.uk) and provides Blu-ray extras. Website: www.barryforshaw.co.uk



Nev Fountain is an award-winning writer, chiefly known for his work on the BBC sketch show *Dead Ringers* and *Private Eye* magazine. He has also worked for many programmes, including *Have I Got News for You*, *2DTV* and *Newzoids*. Nev has written three humorous detective novels, *The Mervyn Stone Mysteries*, and a serious one, *Painkiller*. He is currently writing a new series of novels for Titan and a graphic novel for B7E.



Felix Francis took over writing the Dick Francis novels from his father. He has recently finished *No Reserve*, which will be published in September 2023. It will be his seventeenth novel. Felix lives in Oxfordshire with his wife, Debbie, and two dogs. A keen cricket supporter, he is a member of MCC and the Lord's Taverners, as well as of the Crime Writers' Association, the International Thriller Writers, the Detection Club and The Garrick. Website: www.felixfrancis.com



Jo Furniss spent much of her adult life living in Cameroon, Switzerland and Singapore. She's now back home, beside the seaside near Brighton. Her novels include the thriller, *All the Little Children*, an Amazon Chart bestseller. Her next is *Dead Mile* - a murder mystery set on a gridlocked motorway - out in 2024. A former BBC journalist, Jo also writes for the award-winning 'Short History Of' podcast. Visit Instagram or Twitter @jofurnissauthor. Website: JoFurniss.com



David J. Gatward is the author of the DCI Harry Grimm series, set in the Yorkshire Dales. He had his first book published aged 18. A qualified primary teacher, David has worked as an outdoor pursuits instructor and a fish farm operative, held various publishing roles, written for children and teenagers, and provided writing support for Andy McNab and Aled Jones. He writes full time, drawing on his own life in Wensleydale. Website: www.davidjgatward.com



Paul Gitsham is a former research biologist now writing alongside his day job as a science tutor. Along the way, Paul spent time working for a major high-street bank, ensuring that banned individuals, such as international terrorists and other n'er do wells, weren't squirreling their ill-gotten gains into child trust funds. Paul writes the DCI Warren Jones series. The latest is *Web of Lies*, out now. Website: www.paulgitsham.com



Ava Glass (@AvaGlassBooks) is the author of the espionage series *Alias Emma*. A former civil servant and journalist, she once worked closely with spies, and that experience fuels her writing. *The Chase*, book one in the series, is out now (Penguin/Century). Book 2, *Game of Spies*, comes out in August. The series is currently being developed for television by The Ink Factory. Join Ava's bookclub and win free books on her website: www.AvaGlass.co.uk



Dolores Gordon-Smith's latest book is *The Chapel in the Woods*, eleventh in the Jack Haldean Golden Age Detective series. Other books include *The Murder of Charles Bravo*, *Serpent's Eye*, *Frankie's Letter* and *The Price of Silence*. A regular speaker at the British Library's Bodies from the Library, Dolores is married with five daughters and various dogs and cats. Dolores has been a teacher, a civil servant and a shaker-out of Christmas puddings in a jam factory. Website: www.doloresgordon-smith.co.uk



Andrew Grant was born in Birmingham, England. He graduated from the University of Sheffield, ran an independent theatre company, then worked in the telecommunications industry for fifteen years before establishing himself as a critically-acclaimed author. He published nine novels under his own name then – writing as Andrew Child – began a collaboration with his brother Lee to continue the internationally-bestselling Jack Reacher series. He is married to novelist Tasha Alexander and lives in Wyoming, USA. Websites: andrewgrantbooks.com and jackreacher.com



Caroline Green is an award-winning and *Sunday Times/USA Today* bestselling author for both adults and young people. She has published twelve books; under her own name, as Cass Green and as CS Green. Her latest book is the supernatural thriller *The Whisper House*. Caroline is the Writer in Residence at East Barnet School and Pentonville Prison. She also runs courses for City University and Writers and Artists Yearbook. Website: <https://carolinegreenwriter.co.uk>



Elly Griffiths is the author of the bestselling Dr Ruth Galloway series, the Brighton Mysteries and three stand-alone crime novels. She won the 2020 Edgar Award for *The Stranger Diaries* and, in 2016, was awarded the CWA Dagger in The Library. The 15th Ruth book, *The Last Remains*, published in January 2023, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller. Elly also writes the Justice Jones mystery series for children. Website: www.ellygriffiths.co.uk



Peter Guttridge has written 18 crime novels and reviewed countless others for the posh and not-so-posh newspapers (remember newspapers?). He currently has a two book deal for mystery thrillers about 18th century smugglers in Sussex and Kent, the first of which will be published at the end of 2023.



Jonathan 'J.M.' Hall lives in Yorkshire, where he juggles the twin careers of writing and being a Primary Deputy-Head. Most of his work has been for stage and radio, the most recent being the R4 series *Trust* starring Julie Hesmondhalgh. His first novel, *A Spoonful of Murder*, introduced readers to the unlikely crime-solving trio of retired teachers, Pat, Liz and Thelma. *A Pen Dipped in Poison* was published in March and a third is well underway.



Janice Hallett studied English at UCL, and spent several years as a magazine editor, winning two journalism awards. She is the bestselling author of *The Appeal* (a *Sunday Times* bestseller, Waterstones' Thriller of the Month, the *Sunday Times* Crime Book of the Year and winner of the CWA Debut Dagger Award) and the *Sunday Times* bestseller *The Twyford Code*. *The Mysterious Case of the Alperton Angels* is her third novel. She lives in West London. @janicehallett



Charlie Higson is an author, actor, comedian and writer for television and radio. His five phenomenally successful Young Bond books sold over a million copies in the UK and have been translated into over 24 languages. All entered the top five in children's bestseller charts. His most recent books for adults are the thriller *Whatever Gets You Through The Night* and, commissioned for the coronation, *On His Majesty's Secret Service*, Charlie's first adult Bond book.



A.J. (Andy) Hill is a former Customs and Police Officer, who now works in the property field. His Jack Lunn series is set in the New Forest, with *Dead Drift* and *Bloody Butcher* already published by SpellBound Books. Jack Lunn III is currently in production. An avid reader across the genre and reviewer for *Shotsmag*, he has been a long-time attendee at Crimefest. A lifelong Spurs fan, he's used to disappointment.



Tom Hindle originally hails from Yorkshire, although he now lives in Oxfordshire with his wife, a rather demanding cat and two surprisingly cunning tortoises. Inspired by the likes of Agatha Christie and Anthony Horowitz, he is the author of two locked-room whodunnits, with a third on the way in 2024. His debut novel, *A Fatal Crossing*, was Waterstones' Thriller of the Month in August 2022.



Sam Holland has always been fascinated with the dark and macabre. Studying psychology at university, she then spent the next few years working in HR, before quitting for a full-time career in writing. A self-confessed serial killer nerd, her debut novel, *The Echo Man*, shocked and enthralled readers and reviewers alike with its depiction of a serial killer copying notorious real-life murderers of the past. *The Twenty* is her second novel. She is on Twitter and Instagram at @samhollandbooks.



Samantha Lee Howe is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Stranger In Our Bed* published by HarperCollins in 2020. The book is now a major feature film, available to stream all over the world. Samantha's explosive spy trilogy – *The House of Killers*, *Kill Or Die* and *Kill A Spy* – was published in 2021. She is currently working on her seventh thriller novel as well as several other screenplays. Website: www.samanthaleehowe.co.uk



Maxim Jakubowski is an established novelist, ex-publisher, critic and translator, owner of London's erstwhile Murder One bookshop, and is currently the Chair of the Crime Writers' Association. His more recent books are the *Black is the Night* anthology and his short story collection *Death Has A Thousand Faces*. He is an Executive Producer on the forthcoming Factory TV series from Fox/Disney, based on the novels of Derek Raymond. Website: www.maximjakubowski.co.uk



Lisa Jewell's first novel, *Ralph's Party*, was published in 1999 and was the best-selling debut novel of the year. Since then, she has published another sixteen novels, including *The Girls* and *Then She Was Gone*. Lisa is a top 10 *New York Times* and #1 *Sunday Times* author who has been published worldwide in over twenty-five languages. She lives in north London with her husband and two teenage daughters.



Antony Johnston is a *New York Times* bestseller and the creator of *Atomic Blonde*, the blockbuster movie starring Charlize Theron. Following the success of this and his acclaimed Brigitte Sharp thrillers, this year sees the launch of his new cosy crime series, *The Dog Sitter* Detective mysteries. Antony is a former vice chair of the Crime Writers' Association, and a Shore Scripts screenwriting judge and mentor. Website: antonyjohnston.com



Jackie Kabler is a former TV news reporter turned psychological thriller writer. Her novels, which include *The Perfect Couple*, *Am I Guilty?*, *The Happy Family* and *The Murder List*, have sold nearly a million copies, hit the Amazon number one spots in the UK and Canada, been translated into eight languages and made the USA Today bestseller list. Jackie also works as a TV shopping channel presenter and, to relax, loves running ultramarathons. Website: www.jackiekabler.com



Lesley Kara is a *Sunday Times* Top Ten and Amazon #1 bestselling author of psychological thrillers. Her debut, *The Rumour*, was the highest selling print crime fiction debut of 2019 and has been optioned for TV by Cuba Pictures. Subsequent novels include *Who Did You*

Tell, *The Dare* and *The Apartment Upstairs*. Website: lesleykara.com



Valerie Keogh is the bestselling author of crime and psychological thrillers. From Dublin, she currently lives in Wiltshire. When she's not writing, editing, or planning her next book, she enjoys walking, travelling, and a glass of wine. Books: *The Dublin Murder Mysteries*, *Secrets Between Us*, *The Housewife*, *The*

Three Women, *The Perfect Life*, *The Little Lies*, *The Lies He Told*, *The Couple in the Photograph*, *A Taste of Deceit*, *The Lodger*, *The Widow*, and *The Trophy Wife*.



Vaseem Khan is the author of two award-winning crime series set in India. His debut, *The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra*, was a *Sunday Times* 40 best crime novels published 2015-2020 pick. In 2021, *Midnight at Malabar House*, the first in the Malabar House novels set in 1950s Bombay, won the Crime Writers' Association Historical Dagger. Vaseem co-

hosts the popular crime fiction podcast, *The Red Hot Chilli Writers*. Website www.vaseemkhan.com



T.E. Kinsey (Tim) was born in the 1960s. He grew up in London in the 1970s and went to university in Bristol in the 1980s. He worked in magazines in the 1990s, and for IMDb in the 2000s. He still lives near Bristol. He's responsible for the popular historical cosy series *The Lady*

Hardcastle Mysteries and *The Dizzy Heights Mysteries* (Thomas & Mercer) but he does occasionally play the drums. Website: www.tekinsey.uk



Michael Kurland – author of over forty published books – lives on California's central coast with novelist Linda Robertson, a dog, two cats, and several dozen fruit trees. His books have been translated into Chinese, Czech, French, German, Italian, Japanese,

Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, and some alphabet with little pothooks and curlicues that he doesn't recognise. His latest, *Whatever the Cost*, is a sequel to the espionage thriller *The Bells of Hell*. Website: michaelkurland.com



Jake Lamar is the award-winning author of a memoir, seven novels and a play. His most recent work, *Viper's Dream*, is a crime novel set in the jazz world of Harlem between 1936 and 1961. Born and raised in the Bronx, New York, Jake Lamar has lived in Paris since 1993. He is

a professor of creative writing at one of France's top universities, Sciences Po. Website: <http://jakelamar.com/>



Neil Lancaster is the author of the Max Craigie series. The first two novels, *Dead Man's Grave* and *The Blood Tide*, were longlisted for the 2021 and 2022 McIlvanney Prize, and *The Blood Tide* was also shortlisted for the best New Series at the Dead Good Reader Awards. His latest book is *Blood Runs Cold*. Neil

served for 25 years in the Metropolitan Police as a detective, investigating serious crimes throughout the UK. Website: www.neillancastercrime.co.uk



John Lawton has been forced – thanks to the idiot Boris – to live a cliché and now 'divides his time' (waagh!) between an eyrie atop an Etruscan necropolis and a spud farm in the north of England. He now counts Schengen days instead of sheep. His latest novel is believed to be *Moscow Exile*, book 4 in the Joe

Wilderness series, published this week by Grove Press and available to all discerning readers. Eat the rich.



M.J. Lee is a writer of contemporary crime, historical and genealogical mystery novels. His latest novel in the DI Ridpath series, *What the Shadows Hide*, was published in March 2023. When he's not writing, he splits his time between the UK and Asia, taking pleasure in playing with his daughter, researching

his family history, singlehandedly solving the problem of the French wine lake and wishing he were George Clooney. Website: www.writermjlee.com



Pam Lecky writes historical crime/espionage for Avon Books UK, a division of Harper Collins, and is represented by Thérèse Coen at Susanna Lea Associates, London. Her WW2 espionage series comprises: *Her Secret War*, *Her Last Betrayal*, and *The Last Letter from London*, which will be published in August 2023. Pam is currently writing a murder mystery set during the Blitz. Pam also independently publishes a popular Victorian mystery series, *The Lucy Lawrence Mysteries*. Website: www.pamlecky.com



Jónína Leósdóttir has written 20 books, in different genres, and several plays. *Deceit*, the first book in her new crime series, is published by Corylus Books. It features Icelandic detective, Soffía, and her ex-husband, Adam, an English psychologist. Jónína was instrumental in establishing The Icelandic Women's Literary Prize, and she has published a memoir about her relationship with Jóhanna Sigurdardóttir, former PM of Iceland, the first openly LGBT+ leader in the world. Website: www.joninaleosdottir.com



John Lincoln is the transparent pseudonym of John Williams, the novelist, biographer and crime fiction reviewer for the *Mail on Sunday*. His books include the American noir travelogue *Into The Badlands*, a true crime account of a notorious miscarriage of justice, *Bloody Valentine*, and the Cardiff Trilogy of novels. *Grey In The Dark* is the second instalment in a crime series set in south Wales.



Chris Lloyd lived and worked in Catalonia for over twenty years. He writes the Occupation series, featuring Eddie Giral, a French police detective in Paris under Nazi rule. The first book – *The Unwanted Dead* – won the HWA Gold Crown Award for best historical novel of the year, was shortlisted for the CWA Historical Dagger, and was Waterstones' Welsh Book of the Month. The second in the series, *Paris Requiem*, was published in February 2023. Website: <https://chrislloydauthor.com>



Bonnie MacBird's witty Sherlock Holmes series for HarperCollins has been lauded by the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Independent*, the *Sun* and more for their pitch-perfect voice, excellent plotting, and balance of cerebral deductions, camaraderie, and daredevil adventure. Meticulously researched, these historical thrillers include *Art in the Blood*, *Unquiet Spirits*, *The Devils' Due*, *The Three Locks*, and her illustrated Christmas novella *What Child is This?* Underway is her sixth, *A Serpent Under*. Website: www.macbird.com



Gilly Macmillan is the internationally bestselling author of psychological thrillers. Gilly's books have appeared on the *New York Times*, *Sunday Times*, *Globe & Mail* and *Der Spiegel* bestseller lists and have been translated into more than 25 languages. She lives in Bristol and is currently working on her ninth novel. Website: www.gillymacmillan.com

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Louise Mangos writes award-winning suspense fiction and short stories. Her novels, *Strangers on a Bridge*, *The Art of Deception* and *The Beaten Track* are set mostly in Switzerland, with the latter taking the reader additionally to a multitude of global locations. She holds a Masters in Crime Writing from UEA and lives in the foothills of the Swiss Alps. You can find links to some of her work and connect to her novels on her website: www.louisemangos.com



Lucy Martin is an ex-solicitor turned teacher and thriller-writer - now on her third novel in the DS Ronnie Delmar series. Lucy was born in Cheshire, grew up in Brussels and London and now lives with her partner, dog and step-dog in Wimbledon, where her three adult children also make an occasional appearance. She tutors French and Spanish and her hobbies include obsessively trawling through Rightmove and playing frisbee. Website: www.lucymartinbooks.com



Linda Mather is the author of the Zodiac Murder Mystery series: *Forecast Murder*, *A Sign for Murder*, *Murder as Predicted*, *The Hanged Man* and *A Future Murder* with a 6th book out later this year, all published by Joffe Books. Jo Hughes is the private investigator who is also an astrologer, and whose tenacious inquiries lead her to twisty resolutions. Linda is currently writing a police thriller. Follow her on Twitter @LindaMather and Instagram @lindamather.writer



Nadine Matheson was born and lives in London and is a Criminal Solicitor. Nadine is also the winner of the City University Crime Writing Competition. Her debut crime novel, the bestselling *The Jigsaw Man*, has been translated into 15 languages. *The Binding Room* is Nadine's second novel featuring DI Henley and the Serial Crime Unit. The third novel in the series, *The Kill List*, will be published in 2023. Website: www.nadinematheson.com



Luke McCallin's experiences working for the UN inspired a historical mystery series with an unlikely protagonist: Gregor Reinhardt, German intelligence officer and former Berlin detective. *The Man From Berlin* and *The Pale House* were set in Sarajevo during WWII. *The Ashes of Berlin* follows Reinhardt's return home to Allied occupation. His new novel, *Where God Does Not Walk*, sees Reinhardt as a young officer during WWI faced with an investigation in the trenches. Website: www.lukemccallin.com



Chris McDonald is the author of the Erika Piper series, *The Stonebridge Mysteries* and *Little Ghost*. He is a script writer; husband; father; lover of dogs and heavy metal, and host of crime-writing podcast, *The Blood Brothers*. Website: www.chrismcdonald.org



Tina Orr Munro's debut crime novel, *Breakneck Point*, was published last year by HQ Stories. Set in North Devon, *Breakneck Point* is the first in a series that follows the adventures of CSI Ally Dymond and draws on Tina's own experience as a former Scenes of Crime Officer. *Slaughterhouse Farm* will be published in May 2023.



Rachel McLean is an award-winning crime author who writes UK-based police procedurals. She is best known for the Dorset Crime series and the DI Zoe Finch series set in her home city of Birmingham. Book 1 in the Dorset Crime series, *The Corfe Castle Murders*, won the Kindle Storyteller Award 2021. Her new McBride and Tanner series is set around Loch Lomond in Scotland. Website: rachelmclean.com



Andrew Hunter Murray is the author of two high-concept thrillers - the *Sunday Times* bestseller *The Last Day* and *The Sanctuary*. *The Last Day* was one of the top ten bestselling fiction debuts of 2020. When not writing books, he works at *Private Eye* magazine and co-hosts the podcasts *No Such Thing As A Fish* and *Page 94*. He is currently working on his third and fourth novels.



Liz Mistry moved from her small village in Scotland to Bradford almost forty years ago. Liz uses her experiences of living and working in the inner city to flavour her writing. Her gritty crime fiction police procedural novels set in Bradford embrace the city she describes as 'Warm, Rich and Fearless', whilst exploring the darkness that lurks beneath. Website: <https://www.lizmistry.com/>



Leonora Nattrass pursued her enthusiasm for late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth century literature and politics to PhD level, and lectured in English for nearly ten years. She now lives in a seventeenth-century Cornish farmhouse with seventeenth-century draughts, writing historical fiction and spinning the fleeces of her traditional Ryeland sheep into yarn. <https://leonoranattrass.co.uk/>



Nicola Monaghan is the author of the Sian Love mystery series including the critically acclaimed *Dead Flowers* and, upcoming this summer, *Wish You Were Here*. Her debut novel, *The Killing Jar*, won a Betty Trask Award, the Authors' Club First Novel Prize and the Waverton Good Read. She taught creative writing for many years and is currently writing a thriller about that experience, as well as studying for her PhD at the University of Nottingham.



Alex North's first novel, *The Whisper Man*, was a *Sunday Times*, *New York Times* and international bestseller, a Richard and Judy pick, and is currently being adapted for film. It was followed by *The Shadow Friend*. His most recent thriller is *The Half Burnt House*. Alex is the pseudonym for an award-winning crime novelist, and he lives in Leeds with his wife and son.



Guy Morpuss writes speculative crime fiction: twist one aspect of the real world, add a dead body, and play with the consequences. His debut novel, *Five Minds*, is about five people sharing one body, one of whom is trying to murder the others. His second novel, *Black Lake Manor*, is a locked room murder mystery with a killer who can unwind time. Before taking up full-time writing Guy worked as a barrister in London. Website: guymorpuss.com.



L.C. North studied psychology at university before pursuing a career in Public Relations. Her first book club thriller - *The Ugly Truth* - combines her love of psychology and her fascination with the celebrities in the public eye. L.C. North is currently working on her second novel, and when she's not writing, she co-hosts the crime thriller podcast, *In Suspense*. L.C. North lives on the Suffolk borders with her family. Website: www.Lauren-North.com



Liz Nugent worked in film, theatre and television before becoming a full-time writer. Her four novels - *Unravelling Oliver*, *Lying in Wait*, *Skin Deep* and *Our Little Cruelties* have each been Number One bestsellers and she has won four Irish Book Awards, as well as the James Joyce Medal for Literature. She lives in

Dublin. <https://www.liznugent.com/>



Stella Oni's debut police procedural, *Deadly Sacrifice*, featuring detective Toks Ade, was shortlisted for the SI Leeds Literary Prize. She has contributed to various anthologies including *Midnight Hour* published by Crooked Lane. Stella was a runner-up for the

inaugural CrimeFest bursary for writers of colour in 2022. She is writing book two of the Toks Ade Mystery series, and the first of her contemporary crime cozy, The London House Mystery series. Website: <https://stellaonithewriter.com/>



B.A. Paris is a Franco/British author of psychological thrillers. Her debut, *Behind Closed Doors*, was a publishing phenomenon, selling over 3.5 million copies worldwide. Her second novel, *The Breakdown*, was adapted into a film in 2022, due to be screened in 2023. *Behind*

Closed Doors has been optioned for a film, and a screenplay for *The Therapist* is currently being written. Her books have been translated into 40 languages. Website: baparis.com



Adele Parks is the author of twenty-two bestselling novels including the hits *Both of You* and *One Last Secret*. 4.5 million UK editions of her work have been sold and she is translated into 31 different languages. Her *Sunday Times* number one bestsellers *Lies Lies Lies* and *Just My Luck* were both shortlisted

for the British Book Awards and are optioned for TV development. In 2022 she was awarded an MBE for services to literature. Website: <https://www.adeleparke.com/>



Nell Pattison is the author of the Silent series, featuring BSL interpreter Paige Northwood, and standalone thrillers *Hide* and *Friends Don't Lie*. Her first novel, *The Silent House*, was a USA Today bestseller, and the series has been optioned for TV by Hot Coals and Yellow

Bird UK. Nell's novels all feature d/Deaf characters, and she is passionate about disability representation in fiction.



Biba Pearce is a British crime writer and author of the DCI Rob Miller, Kenzie Gilmore and Dalton Savage series. Biba grew up in post-apartheid Southern Africa. As a child, she lived on the wild eastern coast and explored the sub-tropical forests and surfed in

shark-infested waters. Now a full-time writer, Biba lives in leafy Surrey and when she isn't writing, can be found walking through the countryside or kayaking on the river Thames. Website: www.bibapearce.com



David Penny is the author of the Thomas Berrington Historical Mysteries set in the chaotic final years of Moorish al-Andalus in Spain and early Tudor period. After being traditionally published in his 20s with four science fiction novels, he chose to publish independently on his return to writing.

David's work is available in eBook, print and audio, as well as translations into Spanish and German. David's latest title is *The Hidden Dead*. <https://davidpenny.com/>



Heidi Perks – a *Sunday Times* bestseller – has sold over half a million copies worldwide of her novels *The Other Guest*, *The Whispers*, *Three Perfect Liars*, *Come Back For Me* and her debut *Now You See Her*, which was selected for the Richard and Judy Book Club and optioned for TV by BBC One's 'The

Miniaturist' production company. Graduate of the inaugural Curtis Brown Creative Online Novel Writing Course, she lives with her family in Bournemouth.



Brian Price is the West Country-based author of the DC Mel Cotton series and of a guide for authors on the scientific aspects of crime such as poisons, knockouts and DNA. A chemist and biologist, he has worked for the NHS, the Environment Agency, as an environmental consultant and was an OU

tutor for 26 years. Website: brianpriceauthor.co.uk



Caro Ramsay was born in Glasgow and started writing The Anderson and Costello series during a long spell in hospital but recently started a new series with Severn/Canongate featuring DCI Christine Caplan. To aid her crime writing she studied for a diploma in

Forensic Medical Science. With Douglas Skelton and Michael Malone, Caro Ramsay is part of the Carry On Sleuthing crime writers' acting troupe who take performance art to totally new depths. Website: www.caroramsay.com



Kate Rhodes is a bestselling author of the Isles of Scilly mysteries and Alice Quentin series. Her novel *Hell Bay* was nominated for the Crime Novel of the Year award. She has also been shortlisted for a Dagger in the Library Award. Website: www.katerhodesbooks.co.uk



Michael Ridpath used to work as a bond trader in the City of London. After writing several financial thrillers, which were published in over thirty languages, he began a crime series featuring the Icelandic detective Magnus Jonson, the latest of which is *Death in Dalvik*. He has also written five standalone historical thrillers. He lives in London. Website: www.michaelridpath.com



Mike Ripley appeared on the crime scene thirty-five years ago with his award-winning Angel series of comedy thrillers. He was crime critic for the *Daily Telegraph* for ten years, a scriptwriter on BBC's *Lovejoy* and, as editor for Ostar, republished almost 100 out-of-print crime novels. His history of British thrillers, *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, won the H.R.F. Keating Award and he is currently the 'continuation' author for Margery Allingham's Golden Age hero Albert Campion. Website: www.shotsmag.co.uk



L.F. Robertson has written three novels, *Two Lost Boys*, *Madman Walking*, and *Next of Kin*. Like her protagonist in her novels, Janet Moodie, she is a practising lawyer who represents death row inmates in their appeals and in her spare time tends a struggling garden and orchard. She lives in San Luis Obispo, a quiet college town on the central coast of California. Her badly neglected website is www.lfrobertson.net.



Leigh Russell has written nineteen books in her Geraldine Steel series. The 20th, *Without Trace*, will be published in August 2023. Leigh launched a new cosy series in March 2023 with *Barking up the Right Tree*. This is followed by *Barking Mad* in July 2023. Shortlisted for two CWA Dagger Awards, Leigh has twice been a Finalist for The People's Book Prize. She is Chair of the CWA Debut Dagger judges, and a Royal Literary Fellow. Website: <http://leighrussell.co.uk>



Vanessa Savage is the author of three thrillers published by Sphere: *The Woman in the Dark*, *The Woods*, and *The Night They Vanished*, and she is currently writing her fourth novel. Her work has been shortlisted for numerous prizes, including the Caledonia Fiction Prize. As well as writing crime novels, Vanessa is a graphic designer and illustrator. She lives by the sea in South Wales with her husband and two daughters. Website: www.vanessasavage.co.uk



Zoë Sharp spent her childhood living aboard a catamaran on the northwest coast of England. She opted out of mainstream education at twelve, and wrote her first novel at fifteen. She began writing crime thriller fiction after receiving death threats in the course of her work as a photojournalist, and has been nominated for numerous awards. She is currently writing a new mystery thriller series for Bookouture, which began with *The Last Time She Died*. Website: www.ZoeSharp.com



Alex Shaw spent the late 1990s in Ukraine, teaching and running his business before joining Siemens to work across the former USSR, and the EMEA. An ITW and CWA member, his Aidan Snow, Jack Tate and Sophie Racine thrillers are published by HarperCollins and Luzifer Verlag. *Total Blackout* was shortlisted for the 2021 Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Award – Best Published Novel. Alex and his family divide their time between homes in Ukraine, England and Dubai. Website: www.alexwshaw.co.uk



Jane Shemilt is the internationally published bestselling author of psychological thrillers including *Daughter*, *The Drowning Lesson*, *How Far We Fall*, *Little Friends* and *The Patient*. *All Her Secrets* publishes with Harper Collins on 17 August 2023. Following a career as a GP, Jane completed an MA in Creative Writing (distinction) at Bath Spa University. *Daughter*, a *Sunday Times* top 5 bestseller, shortlisted for the Edgar Award, became the bestselling debut of 2014. Website: www.janeshemilt.com



Kim Sherwood is the author of *Testament* (2018) – which won the Bath Novel Award and Harper's Bazaar Big Book Award – and *A Wild & True Relation* (2023), called 'a rarity' by Hilary Mantel. Her novel, *Double or Nothing* (2022), is the first in a trilogy commissioned by the Ian Fleming Estate to expand the world of James Bond. In 2019, she was shortlisted for *The Sunday Times* Young Writer of the Year Award.



Abi Silver draws on her years of experience as a lawyer to craft her contemporary legal thrillers. Set in London, they feature Judith Burton and Constance Lamb, brought together in *The Pinocchio Brief* when lie-detecting software is introduced into their schoolboy client's trial. In her sixth and latest offering, *The Ambrosia Project*, she delves into the delicious world of food. Linking these topical whodunnits is mankind's constant quest to replace the old with the new. Website: www.abisilver.co.uk



Kate Simants' writing draws on her experience in the television industry, where she specialised in undercover investigations and police shows. Her latest novel, *Freeze*, centres on a reality TV show shot on an Arctic ship. She was shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger for *Lock Me In*, and won the 2019 Bath Novel Award with *A Ruined Girl*. Kate also ghostwrites memoirs, and is the script editor of the chart-topping Short History Of... podcast. Website: <https://katesimants.co.uk/>



Dave Sivers grew up in West London and has been writing all his life. His books include two popular crime series featuring the Aylesbury Vale detectives, DI Lizzie Archer and DS Dan Baines, and Hertfordshire DCI Nathan Quarrel. His latest book, *In Ice*, is the second in the DI Nathan Quarrel series. Dave lives in Buckinghamshire, where he is co-founder of the BeaconLit book festival.



Eve Smith writes speculative thrillers. Eve's debut, *The Waiting Rooms*, set in an antibiotic resistance crisis, was shortlisted for the Bridport Prize First Novel Award. *Off-Target* imagines a world where genetic engineering of children is routine. *One* will be released in July 2023. Eve's previous job at an environmental charity took her to research projects across the world, and she has an ongoing passion for wild creatures, wild science and far-flung places. Website www.evesmithauthor.com



Fiona Veitch Smith writes Golden Age murder mysteries. She is best known for her Poppy Denby Investigates series (book 1, *The Jazz Files*, was shortlisted for the CWA Historical Dagger 2016). Fiona is launching a new series about a lady forensic scientist who inherits a detective agency in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, set in 1929. The Miss Clara Vale Mysteries are published by Embla Books (Bonnie UK). The first, *The Picture House Murders*, will be out in September. Website: www.fiona.veitchsmith.com

Michael Stanley – see Stanley Trollip



Alex Stone was an accountant from the West Midlands who uprooted her life to pursue her dream of living by the sea and becoming a writer. She is proof that, if you stick at it, anything is possible. Alex is now based in Dorset and is the author of bestselling psychological thrillers, *The Perfect Daughter* and *The Other Girlfriend*. Her latest novel, *The Good Patient*, was published in March 2023. Website: AlexStoneAuthor.com



Linda Stratmann is the author of three crime fiction series with Victorian settings. Linda's current series, *The Early Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, shows a youthful Holmes, before he knew Watson, becoming the legendary detective. In the Bayswater mysteries, Frances Doughty combats wily criminals and prejudice against lady detectives. In Brighton, diminutive Mina Scarletti exposes fraudulent spirit mediums. Linda's 32 books also include biography and true crime, notably a history of nineteenth century poison murder. Website: www.lindastratmann.com



Emma Styles writes Australian noir about young women taking on the patriarchy. She grew up in Western Australia and lives in London. Her debut road trip thriller, *No Country for Girls*, was published by Sphere in 2022. Described as 'Thelma & Louise meets The Tourist' it won the 2020 Little, Brown UEA Crime Fiction Award and featured in Val McDermid's New Blood panel for outstanding debuts at the 2022 Theakston Old Peculier Crime Writing Festival. Website: <https://emmastylesauthor.com>



Tim Sullivan is an acclaimed screenwriter, whose credits include *A Handful Of Dust*, *Jack and Sarah* (which he also directed) and *My Little Pony – A New Generation*. He is also a television director whose credits include *Sherlock Holmes* and *Cold Feet*. He has now embarked on a series of crime novels – *The Dentist*, *The Cyclist*, *The Patient*, *The Politician* and *The Monk* – set in Bristol featuring the eccentric and socially-awkward, but brilliantly persistent, DS George Cross. Website: www.timsullivan.co.uk



Jacqueline Sutherland is the author of *The Coffin Club* and *Twin Truths*. Jacqueline has a long career in Marketing and PR and has always wanted to write creatively. She wrote her debut novel, *The Coffin Club*, whilst on the Faber Academy 'Write your novel' course. She writes psychological thrillers and loves a twist. She is known

at home for watching horror films from behind cushions and always burning the garlic bread.



Tasha Sylva is the author of *The Guest Room*, a debut novel about whom we can trust, grief and the nature of obsession. She is also an aspiring small-scale farmer, with a focus on regenerative agriculture, community and localisation. For her, the power of story is fundamental. She regularly asks:

How can we foster curiosity and imagination? And, importantly, human connection – to each other, soil, plants, and all threads of our environment.



C.L. Taylor is the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of nine gripping standalone psychological thrillers including *The Guilty Couple*, *Her Last Holiday*, *The Missing* and *Sleep*, a Richard and Judy pick in 2019. Her award-winning books have been published in twenty-one countries and sold nearly two

million copies in the UK alone. She has also written two young adult thrillers. Cally lives in Bristol with her partner and son. Website: www.cltaylorauthor.com



Karen Taylor is a UEA alumna crime writer whose thriller *Fairest Creatures* was longlisted for the 2020 Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger. Based in Penzance, *Fairest Creatures* covers the reappearance after 23 years of the Sleeping Beauty Killer, a murderer who macabrely 'immortalises' his beautiful

victims. Before turning to crime, Karen wrote children's books and short stories. Karen is also a journalist and editor, and now spends her time between London and Penzance.



Teri Terry is an award-winning, international bestselling author of young adult thrillers, including *Slated* and *Contagion*. Her latest is *Scare Me*, a ghost story out with Hodder in the UK in June 2023. She is also turning her hand to adult psychological thrillers and news there will be coming very soon! Website:

www.teriterry.com



Nicki Thornton writes a 'wickedly funny and wildly original haunted whodunit' crime fiction series set in a magical world. Her books have sold in 15 countries and have received award nominations including the Carnegie Medal, the CrimeFest Best Crime Novel for Children and Specsavers National

Book Awards. Her debut was Waterstones' book of the month. She was a bookseller for over 10 years and is a huge supporter of anything that promotes reading for pleasure. <http://www.nickithornton.co.uk/>



Robert Thorogood is the creator of the hit BBC One TV series, *Death in Paradise*, and he has written a series of spin-off novels featuring DI Richard Poole. He was born in Colchester, Essex. When he was ten years old, he read his first proper novel – Agatha Christie's *Peril at End House* – and he's been in

love with the genre ever since. He now lives in Marlow in Buckinghamshire with his wife, children and two whippets called Wally and Evie. Follow him on Twitter @robthor



Simon Toyne's first book, *Sanctus*, was translated into 29 languages, published in over 60 countries and was an international and *Sunday Times* bestseller. As well as being the author of six other thrillers, including the Solomon Creed and Laughton Rees series, he is

also the presenter of *Written in Blood* on ITVX, a true crime show where bestselling authors investigate the real crimes that have inspired their fiction. Website: www.simontoyne.net



Stanley Trollip writes with Michael Sears as Michael Stanley. Their Detective Kubu novels are set in Botswana. The 8th, *A Deadly Covenant*, was released in 2022. They wrote

a thriller about rhino poaching, *Dead of Night*, set in South Africa and featuring investigative journalist Crystal Nguyen. Stanley also wrote a Crystal Nguyen thriller, *Wolfman*, set in Minnesota. Michael Stanley won a Barry Award and were finalists for other awards including an Edgar and an ITW award. Website: www.michaelstanleybooks.com



Corinne Turner is Managing Director of Ian Fleming Publications Limited, the Fleming family company that owns and manages Ian Fleming's novels. She also owns and manages the literary estate of Canadian-born children's author Willard Price and helps authors with their literary legacy planning. Beginning her career at Radio Luxembourg, Corinne has worked with children's publisher Walker and was Chief Executive of Booker Authors' Division, looking after a number of estates including Agatha Christie and Georgette Heyer.



D.E. White writes crime fiction. After numerous jobs, including being a flight attendant, a 999 call handler for the ambulance service, and a healthcare assistant in A&E, she started writing full time in 2017. She lives with her family on the Sussex coast, UK but dreams of living somewhere a bit warmer, preferably with palm trees. Her titles include the bestselling Detective Dove Milson series for Joffe Books, The Bermuda Mysteries for Blue Pier Books and two standalone psychological thrillers for HQ Digital (HarperCollins).



Bridget Walsh's PhD in Victorian murder and an obsessive interest in the weirder elements of nineteenth-century life have led to a series of crime novels set in a down-at-heel Victorian London music hall. *The Tumbling Girl* is Bridget's debut novel, and won the UEA Little Brown Award for Crime Fiction in 2019. She lives in the fine city of Norwich with her husband and two dogs. Website: www.linktr.ee/bridgetwalshwriter



S.W. Williams is a long-time writer, and the editor of the online crime fiction magazine, Crime Fiction Fix (www.crimefiction-fix.com). Her non-fiction, *How To Write Crime Fiction* (Little, Brown), came out in 2015. A new edition is due out in 2024. Her first crime fiction novel, *Small Deaths*, was published in autumn 2017, while *Blood Cuts*, the first in a new series, is due out next year. Sarah is a Royal Literary Fund Fellow. Website: www.swwilliamsauthor.com.



Sarah Ward is a contemporary crime novelist who writes gothic historical thrillers as Rhiannon Ward. *The Birthday Girl*, the first book in her new Welsh based series, will be published in April 2023. She has also written *Doctor Who* audio dramas. Sarah is on the Board of the Crime Writers' Association and Friends of Buxton Festival, is a member of Crime Cymru, and a Royal Literary Fund fellow at Sheffield University. Website: www.crimepieces.com



Catherine Yaffe is an Amazon bestselling author of the DI Ziggy Thornes series. Her first novel, *The Lie She Told*, was released to widespread acclaim in 2020. This was followed with *The Web They Wove* in 2021, and the third in the series, *When We Deceive*, was published in April 2023. Website: www.catherineyaffe.co.uk



Roz Watkins is the author of the acclaimed DI Meg Dalton series. The first book in the series, *The Devil's Dice*, was shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger award, and was *The Times* Crime Book of the Month. *The Red House*, a standalone thriller, is her fourth novel, and will be published in June 2023. Roz lives in Cornwall with two demanding cats, and likes to walk by the sea, scouting out good murder locations. www.rozwatkins.co.uk



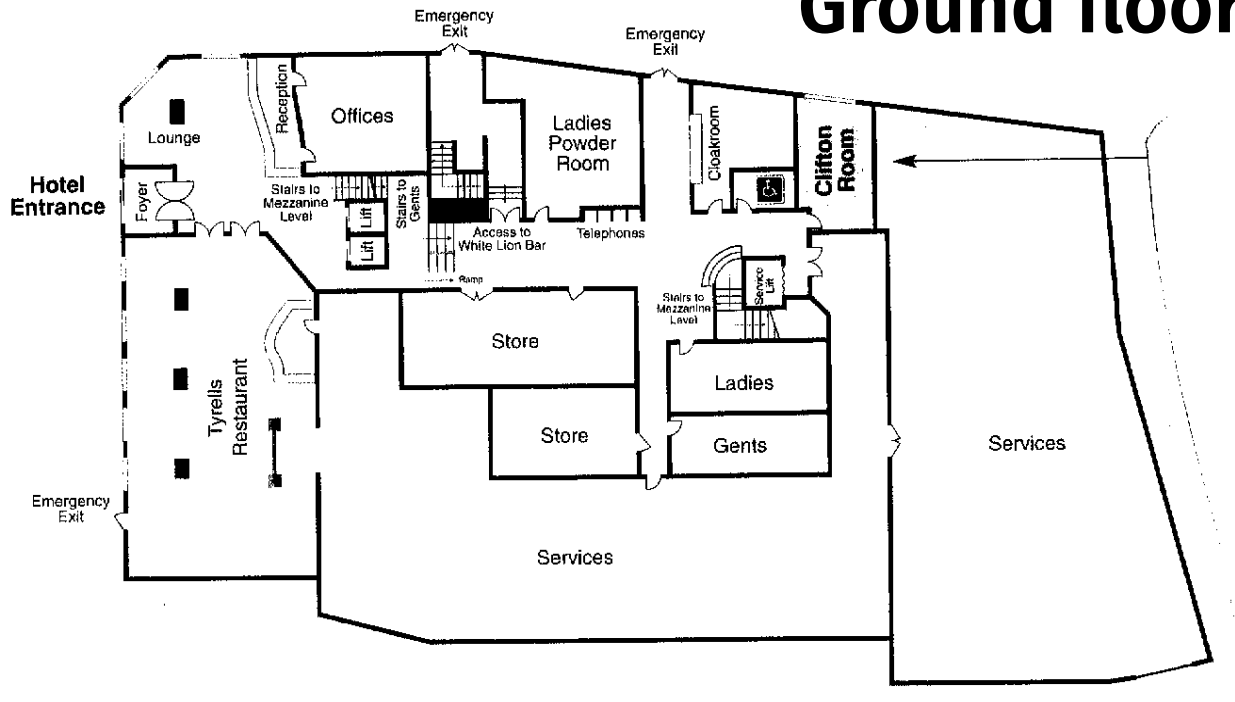
Ovidia Yu is a Singapore-based writer of Singapore-based mysteries who'll be travelling to the UK just for CrimeFest. Her 'tree' books, *The Mimosa Tree Mystery*, *The Mushroom Tree Mystery*, *The Yellow Rambutan Tree Mystery* etc are history mysteries and her 'Aunty' books, *Aunty Lee's Delights* and *Aunty Lee's Chilled Revenge* etc are contemporary foodie mysteries. She loves reading, dogs, plants and is trying to learn yoga. Website: www.ovidiayu.com



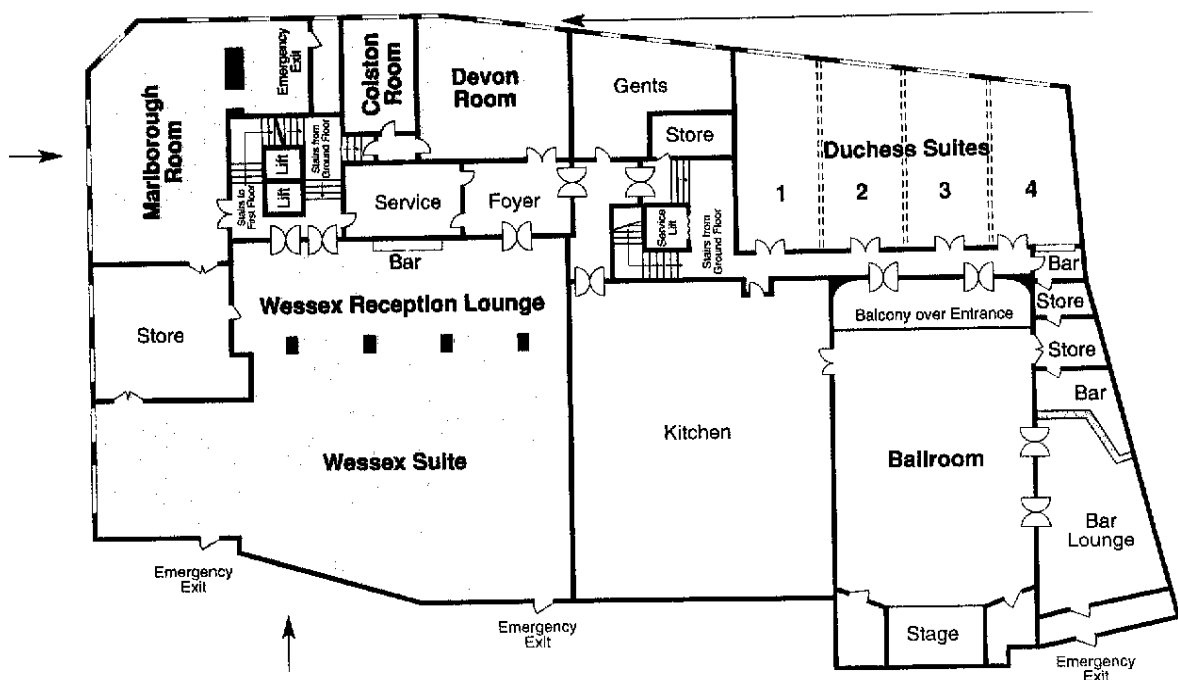
David Heska Wanbli Weiden, an enrolled citizen of the Sicangu Lakota Nation, is the author of *Winter Counts* (Ecco; Simon & Schuster UK) nominated for the Edgar Award, and winner of the Anthony, Thriller, Lefty, Barry, Macavity, Spur, High Plains, CrimeFest's Specsavers, and other awards. The novel was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and named a best book of the year by *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal*, the *Guardian*, and other magazines. Website: www.davidweiden.com

CONVENTION ROOMS

Ground floor



Mezzanine floor



12.00 – 18.00: REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

	DUCHESS 1 - 2	DUCHESS 3 - 4
13.30–14.20	<p>POLICE PROCEDURALS: GETTING IT RIGHT AND MAKING IT REAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Ellis • Chris Lloyd • Tina Orr Munro • Leigh Russell <p>Participating Moderator: Alison Bruce</p>	
14.40–15.30	<p>PROTAGONISTS UNDER PRESSURE: PUTTING YOUR CHARACTERS IN DANGER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kia Abdullah • A.J. Hill • Heidi Perks • Caro Ramsay <p>Participating Moderator: Louise Mangos</p>	<p>TELLING TALES: KEEPING SECRETS AND TELLING LIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D.V. Bishop • A.A. Chaudhuri • L.F. Robertson • Linda Stratmann <p>Participating Moderator: Tracy Darnton</p>
15.50–16.40	<p>HIGH OCTANE: A THRILLS AND SPILLS RIDE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Child • Paul Finch • Nadine Matheson • Alex Shaw <p>Participating Moderator: Zoë Sharp In Association with International Thriller Writers</p>	<p>PARTNERS IN CRIME: WHEN TWO (OR MORE) HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Brett • J.M. Hall • Robert Thorogood • Bridget Walsh <p>Participating Moderator: Kate Ellis</p>
17.00–17.50	<p>AUTHORS REMEMBERED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Beckler (on Friedrich Dürrenmatt) • Chris Curran (on Vera Caspary) • Peter Guttridge (on Donald Hamilton) • John Lawton (on Stanley Ellin) <p>Participating moderator: Martin Edwards (on Margot Bennett)</p>	<p>A TWIST IN THE TALE: TURNING THE PLOT ON ITS HEAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Durston • Lisa Jewell • Adele Parks • Simon Toyne <p>Participating Moderator: Lucy Martin</p>
	BALLROOM	
20.00–21.30	CRIMEFEST Pub Quiz, with crime writer and critic Peter Guttridge as your quiz inquisitor. Prizes to be won!	

Panel and Events Schedule Thursday, 11 May 2023



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THE CRIME WRITERS' ASSOCIATION

DAGGERS

The Crime Writers' Association invites all **CrimeFest full pass holders** to a reception at **6.30pm** in the Ballroom on **Friday 12 May**, where we will announce:

The 2023 CWA Daggers Shortlists

— and —

The 2023 Margery Allingham Short Mystery Competition Winner

Our thanks to CrimeFest for hosting this event.



*Congratulations to our 2023
Diamond Dagger recipient, Walter Mosley*

The CWA is the UK-based organisation for **professional crime writers**, as well as the **agents, editors, reviewers** and **publishers** who work alongside them.

FIND OUT MORE AT **THECWA.CO.UK**

8.30 – 18.15: REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

	DUCHESS 1 - 2	DUCHESS 3 - 4	MARLBOROUGH
9.00–9.50	KEEPING IT COSY: THE GIFTED AMATEUR • Antony Johnston • Leigh Russell • Fiona Veitch Smith • T.E. Kinsey Participating Moderator: Dolores Gordon-Smith	ALL IN THE MIND: PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLERS • N.J. Fountain • Jo Furniss • Jackie Kabler • Lesley Kara Participating Moderator: Kate Rhodes	
10.10–11.00	DARK TIMES: CRIME FICTION SET IN AND AROUND WWII • Cara Black • Mark Ellis • Chris Lloyd • Ovidia Yu Participating Moderator: Luke McCallin	THIS IS A MODERN WORLD: CRIME IN THE DIGITAL AGE • L.M. Chilton • Heather Critchlow • Pascal Engman • Abi Silver Participating Moderator: Ava Glass	Ghost of Honour: IAN FLEMING • Kim Sherwood • Corinne Turner • Charlie Higson Participating Moderator: Simon Brett
11.20–12.10	MORE THAN ONE: SERIAL KILLERS AND MULTIPLE MURDERERS • Sam Holland • Neil Lancaster • Nadine Matheson • D.E. White Participating Moderator: Jackie Kabler	A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE: LOCKED ROOMS AND LIMITED SUSPECTS • Helen Fields • Tom Hindle • Guy Morpuss • Kate Simants Participating Moderator: Sarah Ward	THE ONES YOU LEAST EXPECT: KEEPING THE READER GUESSING • Elly Griffiths • M.J. Lee • Gilly Macmillan • C.L. Taylor Participating Moderator: Cara Black
12.30–13.20	HUMANITY IN THE DARKNESS: FINDING HOPE IN CRIME FICTION • Michael Ridpath • Zoë Sharp • Jane Shemilt • Jacqueline Sutherland Participating Moderator: Maxim Jakubowski	NEW GOLDEN AGE? TODAY'S MYSTERY FICTION • Mark Billingham • Martin Edwards • Janice Hallett • Vaseem Khan Participating Moderator: David Brawn	KEEPING THEM CLOSE: HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR FRIENDS? • Chris Curran • Caroline England • Lauren North • Alex Stone Participating Moderator: B.A. Paris
13.40–14.30	UNSPEAKABLE: WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN • Alex North • Stella Oni • Nell Pattison • Simon Toyne Participating Moderator: Elizabeth Chakrabarty	SCIENCE FACT AND SCIENCE FICTION • David Beckler • Heather Fitt • Nicola Monaghan • Andrew Hunter Murray Participating Moderator: Eve Smith	GUILT AND INNOCENCE • Graham Bartlett • James Buckler • John Lincoln • Abi Silver Participating Moderator: L.F. Robertson
14.50–15.40	LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION: THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING • Mark Dawson • Antony Dunford • Sabine Durrant • David Heska Wanbli Weiden Participating Moderator: Michael Stanley (Stanley Trollip)	JOB TITLES: CHOOSING WHAT YOUR PROTAGONIST DOES FOR A LIVING • Neil Daws • Felix Francis • Valerie Keogh • Linda Mather Participating Moderator: J.M. Hall	A LITTLE BIT SPOOKY: ADDING A SPRINKLE OF THE SUPERNATURAL • C.S. Green • David Penny • Teri Terry • Sarah Ward Participating Moderator: Linda Stratmann
16.00–16.50	HISTORICAL CRIME FICTION: TODAY REFLECTED IN HISTORY? • D.V. Bishop • Jake Lamar • Luke McCallin • Bonnie MacBird Participating Moderator: Vaseem Khan	IT'S PERSONAL: THE PRIVATE LIVES OF POLICE PROTAGONISTS • Paul Finch • Biba Pearce • Stella Oni • Kate Rhodes Participating Moderator: Sam Holland	SPYING FOR A LIVING • Ava Glass • Michael Kurland • John Lawton • Pam Lecky Participating Moderator: Samantha Lee Howe
17.10–18.00	CAT AND MOUSE • Alison Bruce • Tana Collins • Harriet Crawley • Antony Johnston Participating Moderator: D.E. White	A BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL?: PROTAGONIST VS ANTAGONIST • Liz Mistry • Liz Nugent • Tim Sullivan • Robert Thorogood Participating Moderator: Alex Shaw	
	BALLROOM		
18.30–19.30	CRIMEFEST hosts the Crime Writers' Association's Dagger Announcement Reception		

Panel and Events Schedule Friday, 12 May 2023



PROUD TO BE THE OFFICIAL PODCAST PARTNERS OF
CrimeFest 2023

Crime Time FM brings household names and lively discussions to its listeners via 4 podcast shows:

On the Sofa with Victoria: Panel based discussions led by Victoria Selman — *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Truly Darkly Deeply*

In Person with Paul: Author interviews with critic and *Dagger* judge, Paul Burke

Heads Together: Crime fiction chat show with Victoria, Paul and *Financial Times* critic, Barry Forshaw

The Review Show: Book reviews and recommendations hosted by Paul Burke



8.30 – 17.00: REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

	DUCHESS 1 - 2	DUCHESS 3 - 4	MARLBOROUGH
9.00–9.50	DEBUT AUTHORS: AN INFUSION OF FRESH BLOOD • L.M. Chilton • Megan Davis • Jen Faulkner • A.J. Hill • Bridget Walsh Moderator: Barry Forshaw	CLOSE TO HOME: MURDER IN THE FAMILY • Tammy Cohen • James Delargy • Vanessa Savage • Roz Watkins Participating Moderator: Kia Abdullah	
10.10–11.00	KICKING AGAINST THE PRICKS: FIGHTING POWER, INJUSTICE AND INEQUALITY • Antony Dunford • Jónína Leósdóttir • Emma Styles • David Heska Wanbli Weiden Participating Moderator: Stephen Edger	CHILDREN AND YA CRIME FICTION: THRILLING THE NEXT GENERATION • Tracy Darnton • Elly Griffiths • Teri Terry • Nicki Thornton Participating Moderator: C.S. Green	A QUESTION OF GENRE: WHAT DO WE WRITE AND WHO IS IT FOR? • Judi Daykin • Paul Gitsham • John Lincoln • Leonora Nattrass Participating Moderator: Nicola Monaghan
11.20–12.10	HIGH STAKES: RISKING IT ALL • Felix Francis • Paul Gitsham • Lucy Martin • B.A. Paris Participating Moderator: Helen Fields	BLACK IS THE NIGHT: CORNELL WOOLRICH • Mason Cross • Martin Edwards • Samantha Lee Howe • Vaseem Khan • Donna Moore Participating Moderator: Maxim Jakubowski	HISTORICAL CRIME FICTION: CHOICES, RESEARCH AND MAKING IT WORK • Fliss Chester • Kate Ellis • Dolores Gordon-Smith • Pam Lecky Participating Moderator: S.W. Williams
12.30–13.20	*WESSEX ROOM* FEATURED GUEST AUTHOR: ELLY GRIFFITHS Interviewer: Barry Forshaw		
13.40–14.30	A STRANGER IN OUR MIDST: THE DANGER OF THE OUTSIDER • Will Dean • Sabine Durrant • Stephen Edger • Tasha Sylva Participating Moderator: Jane Corry	GREED, POWER, MONEY, REVENGE... MOTIVES FOR MURDER • Andrew Child • Jake Lamar • Louise Mangos • L.C. North Participating Moderator: Alex North	EVENING ALL: THE ENDURING ALLURE OF POLICE PROCEDURALS • Trish Finnegan • Peter Guttridge • Michael Ridpath • Michael Stanley (Stanley Trollip) Participating Moderator: Caro Ramsay
14:50 – 15:40	*WESSEX ROOM* FEATURED GUEST AUTHOR: MARK BILLINGHAM Interviewer: Vaseem Khan		
16.00–16.50	HUMOUR: WHEN MURDER MAKES US LAUGH • Ruth Dudley Edwards • T.E. Kinsey • Mike Ripley • Ovidia Yu Participating Moderator: Simon Brett	SOCIETY: WHAT CRIME FICTION SAYS ABOUT US • Graham Bartlett • Elizabeth Chakrabarty • Pascal Engman • Brian Price Participating Moderator: Cathy Ace	ENGLISH RIVIERA: IT'S NOT ALL SUNSHINE AND ICE CREAM • Jane Corry • Candy Denman (aka Annie Payne) • Teresa Driscoll • Karen Taylor Participating Moderator: Tina Orr Munro
WESSEX ROOM			
17.30–18.15	Pre-Gala Awards Dinner Reception – with thanks to Ian Fleming Publications – All full pass holders welcome		
18.15	Gala Awards Dinner – Gala Dinner ticket holders only		
BALLROOM			
TBA	Eurovision Song Contest Final Screening - Everyone Welcome		

Panel and Events Schedule Saturday, 13 May 2023



BLOODY SCOTLAND

15—17 SEPT 2023

SCOTLAND'S INTERNATIONAL
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9.00 – 13.15: REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

	DUCHESS 1 - 2	DUCHESS 3 - 4
9.30–10.20	DEBUT AUTHORS: AN INFUSION OF FRESH BLOOD • Heather Critchlow • Paul Durston • Emma Styles • Tasha Sylva Moderator: Barry Forshaw	THE INDIE ALTERNATIVE • Stephen Collier • David Gatward • Rachel McLean • Dave Sivers • Catherine Yaffe Participating Moderator: Zoë Sharp
10.40–11.30	TOASTMASTER: PETER GUTTRIDGE Interviewer: Donna Moore	TIGHT KNIT: WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR BUSINESS • Cathy Ace • Tana Collins • Will Dean • Chris McDonanld Moderator: Barry Forshaw
11.50–12.40	CRIMINAL MASTERMIND QUIZ • D.V. Bishop (on the Harry Palmer movies starring Michael Caine) • Paul Gitsham (on Michael Connelly’s Lincoln Lawyer novels) • Zoë Sharp (on the Slow Horses television series) • Elly Griffiths (on Agatha Christie's Miss Marple novels and short stories) Inquizitor: Maxim Jakubowski (Win a pass to CrimeFest 2024!)	

Panel and Events Schedule

Sunday, 15 May 2022

CRIMINAL CALENDAR 2023-2024

THEAKSTON OLD PECULIER CRIME WRITING FESTIVAL

20-23 July

Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate

<https://harrogateinternationalfestivals.com/crime-writing-festival/>

ST HILDA’S CRIME & MYSTERY WEEKEND

11-13 August

St. Hilda’s College, Oxford

<https://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/content/2023-crime-fiction-weekend>

NOIRWICH CRIME WRITING FESTIVAL

8-9 September

Norwich

<https://noirwich.co.uk/>

BLOODY SCOTLAND

15-17 September

Stirling

www.bloodyscotland.com

BOUCHERCON WORLD MYSTERY CONVENTION

30 August - 3 September

San Diego, California, USA

<https://bouchercon2023.com/>

ICELAND NOIR

15 - 18 November

<https://icelandnoir.weebly.com/>

LEFT COAST CRIME

11-14 April 2024

Bellevue, Washington, USA

<https://leftcoastcrime.org/2024>

CRIMEFEST

16-19 May 2024

Bristol

www.crimefest.com

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Awards

THE 2023 CRIMEFEST AWARDS SHORTLISTS

Winners will be announced at the CrimeFest Gala Awards Dinner on Saturday 14 May

SPECSAVERS DEBUT CRIME NOVEL AWARD



In association with our headline sponsor, CrimeFest is honoured to present its award for a crime novel by a debut author first published in the United Kingdom in 2022. Previously unpublished authors bring vital fresh blood to the genre, and CrimeFest and Specsavers aim to highlight that contribution with this award.

The winning author receives a £1,000 prize (courtesy of headline sponsor Specsavers), a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award, and a complimentary pass and panel appearance at the next CrimeFest.

Specsavers Crime Fiction Debut Award nominees:

- Amen Alonge for *A Good Day to Die* (Quercus)
- Graham Bartlett for *Bad for Good* (Allison & Busby)
- Nita Prose for *The Maid* (HarperCollins)
- Oriana Rammuno (translator: Katherine Gregor) for *Ashes in the Snow* (HarperCollins)
- Joachim B. Schmidt (translator: Jamie Lee Searle) for *Kalman* (Bitter Lemon)
- Hayley Scrivenor for *Dirt Town* (Macmillan)
- John Sutherland for *The Siege* (Orion Fiction)
- Stacy Willingham for *A Flicker in the Dark* (HarperCollins)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers votes to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

eDUNNIT AWARD

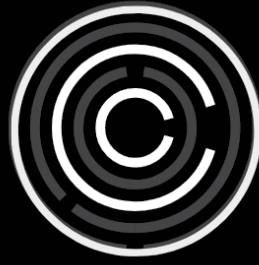
The eDunnit Award is for the best crime fiction ebook first published in both hardcopy and in electronic format in the United Kingdom in 2022.

The winning author receives a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award, as well as a complimentary pass and panel appearance at the next CrimeFest.

eDunnit Award nominees:

- Chris Brookmyre for *The Cliff House* (Abacus)
- Michael Connelly for *Desert Star* (Orion Fiction)
- M.W. Craven for *The Botanist* (Constable)
- Sara Gran for *The Book of the Most Precious Substance* (Faber & Faber)
- Ian Rankin for *A Heart Full of Headstones* (Orion Fiction)
- Peter Swanson for *Nine Lives* (Faber & Faber)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers votes to establish the shortlist and the winning title.



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Awards

THE 2023 CRIMEFEST AWARDS SHORTLISTS

Winners will be announced at the CrimeFest Gala Awards Dinner on Saturday 14 May

H.R.F. KEATING AWARD

The H.R.F. Keating Award is for the best biographical or critical book related to crime fiction first published in the United Kingdom in 2022. The award is named after H.R.F. 'Harry' Keating, one of Britain's most esteemed crime novelists, crime reviewers and writer of books about crime fiction.

The winning author receives a commemorative Bristol Blue Glass award.

H.R.F. Keating Award Nominees

- J.C. Bernthal & Mary Anna Evans for *The Bloomsbury Handbook to Agatha Christie* (Bloomsbury Academic)
- John le Carré (edited by Tim Cornwell) for *A Private Spy: The Letters of John le Carré 1945-2020* (Viking)
- Martin Edwards for *The Life of Crime: Detecting the History of Mysteries and their Creators* (Collins Crime Club)
- Barry Forshaw for *Simenon: The Man, The Books, The Films* (Oldcastle Books)
- Sian MacArthur for *Gender Roles and Political Contexts in Cold War Spy Fiction* (Palgrave Macmillan)
- Lucy Worsley for *Agatha Christie: A Very Elusive Woman* (Hodder & Stoughton)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers votes to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

LAST LAUGH AWARD

The Last Laugh Award is for the best humorous crime novel first published in the United Kingdom in 2022.

The winning author receives a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award, as well as a complimentary pass and panel appearance at the next CrimeFest.

Last Laugh Award Nominees

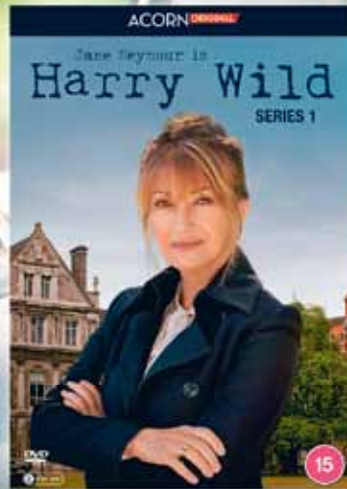
- Christopher Fowler for *Bryant & May's Peculiar London* (Doubleday)
- Elly Griffiths for *The Locked Room* (Quercus)
- Mick Herron for *Bad Actors* (Baskerville)
- Cara Hunter for *Hope to Die* (Viking)
- Mike Ripley for *Mr Champion's Mosaic* (Severn House)
- Antti Tuomainen for *The Moose Paradox* (Orenda Books)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers votes to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

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Babylon Berlin is not available on Acorn TV.

Awards

THE 2023 CRIMEFEST AWARDS SHORTLISTS

Winners will be announced at the CrimeFest Gala Awards Dinner on Saturday 14 May

THALIA PROCTOR MEMORIAL AWARD FOR BEST ADAPTED TV CRIME DRAMA

This award is for the best television crime drama based on a book, and first screened in the UK in 2022. The winning author and production company each receive a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award.

Thalia Proctor Memorial Award for Best Adapted TV Crime Drama nominees:

- *Babylon Berlin* (series 4), based on the books by Volker Kutscher. Produced by X-Filme Creative Pool, ARD Degeto Film, Beta Film, Sky Deutschland, Westdeutscher Rundfunk. Shown on Sky Atlantic.
- *Grace* (series 2), based on the books by Peter James. Produced by ITV Studios. Shown on ITV.
- *Karen Pirie*, based on the books by Val McDermid. Produced by ITV Studios. Shown on ITV.
- *Magpie Murders*, based on the books by Anthony Horowitz. Produced by BritBox and Eleventh Hour Films. Shown on BritBox.
- *Reacher*, based on the books by Lee Child. Produced by Amazon Studios, Blackjack Films, Paramount Television, and Skydance Television. Shown on Amazon Prime.
- *Shetland* (season 7), based on the books by Ann Cleeves. Produced by Silverprint Pictures. Shown on BBC.
- *Slow Horses* (seasons 1 & 2), based on the books by Mick Herron. Produced by See-Saw. Shown on Apple TV+.
- *Vienna Blood* (season 3), based on the books by Frank Tallis. Produced by Endor Productions, Seven. One Studios. Shown on BBC.

Eligible titles were collated from the Radio Times, and CrimeFest newsletter readers establish the shortlist and the winning title.



Awards

THE 2023 CRIMEFEST AWARDS SHORTLISTS

Winners will be announced at the CrimeFest Gala Awards Dinner on Saturday 14 May

BEST CRIME NOVEL FOR CHILDREN (ages 8–12)

This award is for the best crime novel for children (aged 8-12) first published in the United Kingdom in 2022.

The winner receives a commemorative Bristol Blue Glass award.

Nominees for the CrimeFest Award for Best Crime Novel for Children:

- Elly Griffiths for *A Girl Called Justice: The Spy at the Window* (Quercus Children's Books)
- Anthony Horowitz for *Where Seagulls Dare: A Diamond Brothers Case* (Walker Books)
- Sharna Jackson for *The Good Turn* (Puffin)
- M.G. Leonard for *Spark* (Walker Books)
- Robin Stevens for *The Ministry of Unladylike Activity* (Puffin)
- Sarah Todd Taylor for *Alice Éclair, Spy Extraordinaire! A Recipe for Trouble* (Nosy Crow)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and reviewers of fiction for children and young adults vote to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

BEST CRIME NOVEL FOR YOUNG ADULTS (ages 12–16)

This award is for the best crime novel for young adults (aged 12-16) first published in the United Kingdom in 2022.

The winner receives a commemorative Bristol Blue Glass award.

Nominees for the CrimeFest Award for Best Crime Novel for Young Adults:

- Holly Jackson for *Five Survive* (Electric Monkey)
- Patrice Lawrence for *Needle* (Barrington Stoke)
- Finn Longman for *The Butterfly Assassin* (Simon & Schuster Children's)
- Sophie McKenzie for *Truth or Dare* (Simon & Schuster Children's)
- Ruta Sepetys for *I Must Betray You* (Hodder Children's Books)
- Jonathan Stroud for *The Notorious Scarlett and Browne* (Walker Books)

Eligible titles are submitted by publishers, and reviewers of fiction for children and young adults vote to establish the shortlist and the winning title.



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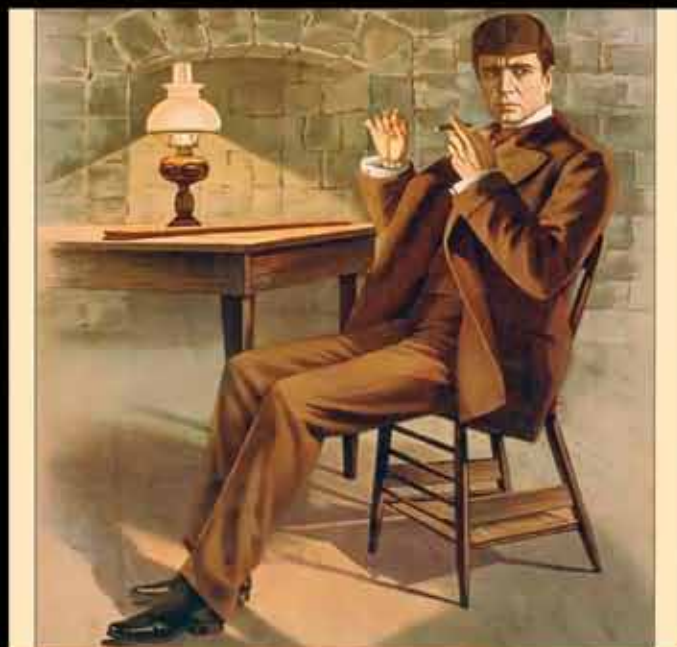
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