

Stay Safe, Stay Alert, Stay Writing! 
Issues 1 and 2 2019

WRITES

The visible hand of friendship

Mark Thompson 'Dust'

Literature Festivals

July Author Profile:
Peter Pleydell

Gimborn 2019!



*IPA Section UK Writers Group
and The Global Writers Forum*
www.globalwritersforum.co.uk





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The editor writes...retrospectively...



You may be wondering why we have produced this retrospective copy of 'Writes' editions 1 and 2? And why the retro-photo of your smiling editor in his working prime? It is simply because we have been persistently asked to 'fill the gap' of the missing two copies in the series of magazines so far published. The first two editions were in fact, simply newsletters and by adding them as originally published would have given a false picture of who we are and what we are seeking to do as a publication quality!!). Hence the answer was to reproduce the content in the same format as the later editions, (which started with Issue 3) and in an even newer format as it happens, so that there is a degree of recognisable content and interest in all that follows thereafter. Simple really?

Here we go then, retro-lovers. What was in those first two editions, now incorporated as the one single publication? 'Issue 1' came out in April 2019 and the headline was 'We Need a Title!' and 'Issue 2', under the existing title, 'Writes' in July 2019.

In reproducing them I have kept the exact copy but laid it all out in the style we are more used to; it was actually fun to re-read pieces written nearly five years ago and I nurture a hope that those appearing in these early editions will respond to the retrospective with suitable updates or comments. How strange that the very first article was on 'serendipity', the word choice by Helena, our secretary, for the April 5th Zoom gathering of this year? But also included are pieces on our founding ethos and purpose, book reviews, AGM notices, 'member round ups', details of the second Gimborn seminar, 'The Good Old Days of Policing', biographies of members, John 'Peter' Farmery in Australia and Peter Pleydell ('John Haldane') in the UK.

I hope you enjoy seeing how far we have come in the past five years as much as I have and may we continue to thrive!

With very best wishes to us all, writers, and friends.

David



We Need A Title



‘We Need a Title!’

by the editor, D.B. Lewis

(To give you a clue as to how poor the first issue really was, amongst the numerous errors that occurred, I appeared under the name D.S .Lewis, a typo, not any wish for detective status...)

Welcome to the first edition of the IPA (UK) Writers' Special Interest Group Newsletter incorporating the latest news and views from the IPA International Writers' Forum.

‘Serendipity?’

Why a Special Interest Group? Why now? Serendipity raising a pleasant hand amidst the chaos of confused thinking over anything European? Perhaps. The 'fortuitous occurrence of events in a happy and beneficial way' was certainly behind the launch of the First IPA 'Writers' Cultural Seminar' at IBZ Gimborn in September 2018. This was Vice President (Culture) Sean Hannigan's brainchild and a great success, bringing together as it did the perfect mix of established IPA writers, complete novices, and just about every level of experience in between in just about the perfect writer's venue. From there the Special Interest Group was born.

There are three main benefits we, as writers, can gain from this initiative. Firstly, as a mutually supportive collective of writers; exchanging views, knowledge, writing tips, access to publishers and

proof-readers, news of events and of course, as in all IPA-centric activities, a sharing of friendship - a hugely important and increasingly vital part of life. No-one should ever feel alone out there, should they? To 'belong' is a fundamental human need for most of us, and especially for us as writers. We all have a part to play in achieving such ideals. Secondly, the group can be a market-place for the outputs we as writers seek to place before our readers. By advertising, reviewing, promoting, and generally discussing our writer's works we can help to bring them to a wider audience. So please send us details. Of you - the IPA writer, and of your published works; the title, publisher, year published, the genre and a two line description of its content. Please add a photo of the book cover and any review comments you might have. We will do our very best to build up a comprehensive library of our member's works over time.

The third, and perhaps most interesting of the reasons for existence, is to fulfil what could be described as the 'writer's legacy'. As people in and around the police, we all collect stories, many stories; great stories. Every day of our life has been full of stories. And every night. These stories need to be teased out, recorded, and crafted into a readable medium for the long-term enjoyment of our friends, our families, and our wider audiences. It could almost be said that we as a writers' collective have a responsibility, a duty even, to those around us to leave them some insight into the world as we see it; to describe as humanely as we can just some of the pathos, the heroism, the trauma, the valour, the humour, the excitement, the sacrifice and the sheer adventure of our lives for those who have shared our journeys, usually from the outside. What stories they are! As so many have found, their stories never fail to gain a readership or an audience. Police people are social history-makers. We should also be social history recorders.

I was proud to be asked to take on the role of the first chair of the group from its inception. I look forward to helping establish it as an important aspect of IPA's life and work in the UK and an encouraging influence for our partner groups across the world.

No doubt we will be guided by the policies and processes of the IPA as we continue to develop, but for now the group committee has

been established as; Chair: D.B. Lewis, Vice-Chair: Ann Cumberland, Secretary: Mike Baker, Treasurer: Mike Masson, Publicity: Sean Hannigan, Marketing: Brian Dilwyn Roberts. All parts of the UK are thereby represented, at least in some way, by this volunteering commitment. The committee will also be available to act as the editorial board for this publication; in itself we hope, a place for our members to be 'published' to seek inspiration, and to feel a sense of belonging as a writer. Please join us in this exciting adventure by sending publishable material in for consideration. All you need to be is an IPA member or associate and of course a writer, either novice or established. You will all have a fair hearing.



The Making of a Top Seller

Readers probably fall into two main groups; those who primarily immerse themselves in the story, the setting, the characters and the resolution of the plot's

central conflicts; in short, all those who love a good tale. Then there are those who perhaps read because they love the style, the way the book is written, the craft of the word itself; those to whom the plot and the resolutions are secondary. Top sellers, such as SIG member Mark Thompson's debut novel 'Dust', will tend to meet the demands of both groups of readers fairly equally. Already translated into Chinese and German (where it launched under the title 'El Greco und Ich' to considerable acclaim) 'Dust' has what many publishers consider the vital 'third element' in achieving book-sale success; the author.

According to this year's 'Writers' Year Book', (an essential volume for all us writers by the way) there are over 400 main stream book

publishing houses in the UK, each receiving somewhere in the order of 3,000 unsolicited manuscripts each year. Of these around five works from each will eventually reach the bookshelves. If you are lucky. The remaining publishing output is from solicited, carefully market-positioned works the authors have been invited to write by the publishing houses. That makes about 118,000 manuscripts, all well written, often correctly proofed, and even well-edited that will never see the light of day. If you do maths the odds-on chance of publication by this route is therefore nearly 60 to 1. In racing terms, you have your shirt on a rank outsider.

So why did 'Dust' a book from a previously unknown author strike a chord with the publishers 'Red Door'? Well, firstly 'Red Door' are a 'hybrid' publisher; they not only identify those books they think will sell well but they identify those authors they consider have the necessary qualities that can ensure the best possible marketing chances for the book. Mark Thompson is eminently saleable, engaging, generous, gregarious, an 'alive' sort of person with the necessary energy and enthusiasm for his work. In short, a writer who believes in himself as an author, justifiably by the work itself, and who is prepared to do all it takes in the modern competitive world to promote his own efforts. Including an up-front investment. In effect the book and the author of 'Dust' are a publisher's dream.

But the book itself has to be more than simply 'sound'. It has to have some definable qualities that will put it into the 'top seller' class. Note the avoidance of the term 'best-seller'; there is an old writer's saying, somewhat cynical, that 'nothing recedes like success' and it may be far better to have a debut book amongst the top-ranking sellers rather than a 'smash hit' best-selling blockbuster which may be hard to follow and bring well-known second novel demand difficulties in its wake.

What, then, are the definable qualities that 'Dust' possesses? As in any good novel the major criteria have to exist in a highly refined form; the plot, the setting, the point of view, the characters, the theme, the essential conflict and its resolution together with the style or tone with all its craftful use of available literary devices. In 'Dust' it is the young JJ Walsh's point of view throughout, with significant insights into the view of his friend Tony 'El Greco'

Papadakis . The setting is a road trip through small town Southern America in the 1960s; the plot a carefully crafted 'growing up' story of two 10-year-old boys influencing, and being influenced by, the dramatic effects of everyday American life unfolding all around them. All this is set against the implied threat that some sort of 'test', as yet unknown, is about to be unleashed upon them. We only discover what this is, shockingly, right at the very end of the story. The book is full of the conflicts of early adolescence; the resolutions satisfying. But it is the style, the tone and the brilliant, unrelenting, use of literary devices in all their variety that sees 'Dust' rise as a contemporary novel of distinction. There is a simplicity in the dialogue; the descriptions precise and colourful; those of Savannah and Charleston for example are both magical and memorable.

'If I was in love with Charleston, I was unfaithful with Savannah... a city of hues, tints, tones. A city of the Seven Veils. Suspicious, moody, dark, mysterious. A city of nuance, of gradation and degradation, mute, yet poetic, a tease who, after so much hidden promise, might yet strip to nakedness.'

Many books are picked up in the bookshop where readers wish to see if the snippets entice the rapid turning to the next page; with 'Dust' the reader is persuaded to turn the pages back; to re-read and to capture the seductive wordplay for the sheer pleasure it brings. For those aspiring to the craft of 'good writing' this is definitely a book to live with.

Literature Festivals:

There are now so many of these across the country it is impossible to advertise them all here. It is suggested that we carry only those festivals in which our members are taking part or who are hosting fringe events or which are subject specific to our member's fields of crime, policing or associated genres. If you are a speaker at a festival, please do let us know and we will carry the details for you in the newsletter. Also reviews of any festival events you have attended that are relevant to us in the SIG are very welcome.

For full details of all book and literature festivals go to:
www.literaryfestivals.co.uk or to www.thewordtravels.com



Here is one of the forthcoming top national festivals which may be of interest:

Theakston's 'Old Peculiar' Crime Writing Festival Harrogate 19-22 July 2019 www.harrogatefestival.org.uk

A must for crime fiction fans with big names such as Ian Rankin, Peter James and with Jo Nesbo in conversation with Radio 4's Mark Lawson, on Sunday 22 July, and 'Dragon's Pen' - where you can pitch to four publishing professionals - on Thursday 19 July. Stay at: The Old Swan Hotel, where Agatha Christie holed up in 1926. Doubles from £100, www.classiclodges.co.uk

Member News Round Up

'Police World' and a new Robin of Loxley Adventure

Neil Hallam writes,

The IPA in-house member's magazine 'Police World' is by far the easiest way for any of our Writers' Group to get into print, as Sean Hannigan and I make the decisions on what goes in. So please submit 'Police World' articles to me. mail@neilhallam.com (Newsletter material to David Lewis).

My current work in progress is a second 'Robin of Loxley' adventure. All the same modern day Robin Hood characters are back, this time fighting bio-terrorism, which is my day job speciality. I have set it around the sport of Triathlon and it will be titled: Swim, Bike, Die.

Just after my return from Gimborn, we moved to a tiny Derbyshire village called Loscoe. Doing some local history research showed that the copper, iron and coal found under our village gave it a much bigger place in history than it might have enjoyed.

Our archers were at Agincourt, we made weapons for the Napoleonic Wars, Ann Boleyn's Lady in Waiting lived here and might have played a small part in Henry 8th's dissolution of the monasteries and Churchill had his fortune told by a local phrenologist. Every lead I follow leads to something else of interest, so next year's project



is a historical novel, tracing my village's development from 1066 onwards.

The Poet Within

Ann Cumberland writes:

'I am busy exploring various aspects of writing, especially poetry and have completed poems for friends locally. I also have some children's stories under way based on my various travels and adventures of late.'

Cruise Control

Mike Masson:

Mike is working up a fantastic crime thriller plot set on a cruise ship which is looking to be a really gripping read. He is about half way through with a synopsis complete; the characterisation seen so far has a very exciting feel to it and this could be a real winner. Keep going Mike through thick and thin and we look forward to hearing more.

Hospital Drama

Sean Hannigan:

Sean is well into his novel despite illness and a very hectic IPA schedule. As he says; 'The (hospital) stay did give me a raft of character sketches from staff, patients and visitors.' This is a great point; every experience is of use to a writer so keep those notebooks close to hand and jot down all you can; especially overheard dialogue; one of the most difficult challenges in writing to make convincingly realistic.

Schools In

Peter Pleydell:

Peter reports slow sales on his books at the start of the year but plenty of schools work to keep him busy. The development of the

SIG may help here; part of the reason for our existence is to help with marketing member's work following for the future newsletters: Book covers, a brief description of content and plot, details of publisher or outlet (or from the author) and the cover price plus a brief biography and photo of the author including all published work. Many thanks; we will; do our best to publicise your books.

Armadillos for Ever

David Lewis ('D.B.Lewis') writes:

My new book 'Great Aunts and Armadillos; A Glimpse into Dementia' was published by the Hamburg self-publishing platform 'tredition' in March when it was voted their 'Book of the Month'. Using this platform was an illuminating experience on which I will report more fully in an article in the next newsletter. My next book is being published in May entitled 'One Day in December', a specialist local history book on the effects of the First World War on the town of Scarborough. This is aimed at local school English and drama departments and lays out some of the processes of utilising 'Community Theatre' in local history studies.

All is Well in Mazatlan

John 'Steve' Cherne writes:

All is well in beautiful Mazatlan, I have been working on my memoir and hope to have it completed in April and ready for submission! I also have three novel plots jotted down for my next projects. Only one is a crime novel. Sorry about the weather. Back at our home in Wisconsin they are having a horrible winter, massive amounts of snow, temperatures all the way down to minus 54 F without the windchill. I'm glad we winter in Mexico! I do hope to see you again either when we travel to the UK or at Gimborn. I don't know yet if I can make Gimborn this year but we will see.'

*Do try and make Gimborn guys - you were a very great part of it.
(Ed.)*

Going to Gretna?

Eric Haworth:

Eric sends greetings and offers members a coffee if passing anywhere near Carlisle or travelling to Gretna Green for certain reasons. Nice one Eric but you might regret this if we all turn up.

'The Good Old Days of Policing?'

The 3 Region IPA-owned 1968 Morris 1000, 'Stan' being used for story writing purposes in the Scarborough area.' Do you have an IPA story to tell?

Please join the SIG and send it to us for inclusion in future publications.'



All Zoomed Up: News from the Steering Group

The Special Interest Group is now officially recognised and a founding 'steering group' has been operating behind the scenes to have everything set up constitutionally. The 'officers' at present are; Chair; David Lewis, Vice-Chair: Ann Cumberland, Secretary: Mike Baker, Treasurer: Mike Masson, Marketing & Publicity: Sean Hannigan, Roving Portfolio: Bryan Dilwyn Roberts. Meetings are held via 'Zoom' which is hosted by the IPA on-line meeting room and is really proving its worth. These positions are up for election at the AGM in May.

NOTIFICATION OF THE SIG 2019 AGM:

The Annual General Meeting of the IPA (UK Section) Writers' Special Interest Group will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 22nd May 2019 at 10.00 a.m. All members are encouraged to join us at that time; log in details will be circulated **shortly before the meeting but please ensure you have 'Zoom' downloaded to your device well beforehand.**



Gimborn 2019!

Following the successful Writers' Seminar held at Gimborn last year you are invited to join us on this second week-long course. It is being held at the beautiful castle location of the IPA Study Centre in Schloss Gimborn, just outside Cologne in Germany. There are still places available.

Included amongst the presenters are well-established authors: Neil Hallam, Gerard Brennan, Clare Christian, Colin Mclean, Peter Pleydell, Mark Thompson.

Chaired by the IPA's UK Vice President, Sean Hannigan, delegates

will enjoy a packed programme involving a panel of established crime and fiction writers who will cover crime fiction, magazine article writing, children's writing and poetry along with many aspects of publishing and much more.

You will have access all week to a leading publisher from Red Door Publishing, Clare Christian. Then, turning your attention to your own ambition of becoming a writer; we will take you through a series of workshops, developing your own ideas through putting pen to paper.

The course is also open to non-members of the IPA

COST FOR IPA MEMBERS IS - €350 AND FOR NON-IPA MEMBERS
- €450

'Writes'

*The newsletter of the IPA Writers Special Interest Group
and Global Forum*

Issue 2 July 2019

From the editor

Writes? Writers? Are Writing? Have Written? Will write...?

The summer is well upon us with all those new distractions to prevent the flow of ink. I know. Been there. Lost the 'T' shirt. Lots of them. Thankfully many of you are writing and have written. Although you may not have, as yet, shared that with us all. Please do! In this issue we have: author reviews from London, book reviews, event news, Gimborn news, member news from as far away as Australia, more. What we would really like is some more lovely pieces from our members. Ideally, I would like to publish an anthology magazine from us all at some stage of the future: but without copy...

'Please keep in touch' is the message.

Good writing to us all!

David



‘Police World’ Rocks the Antipodes

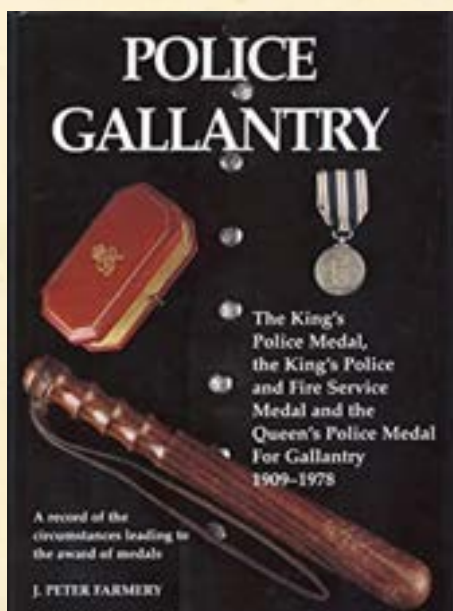
by John Farmery

Who says the printed world won’t travel? I have recently received this lovely mail from ‘John’ Farmery. (Ed.)

I have just read the article in the Police World magazine (Vol 64 No 2), and to advise you that I retired from the Met in 1987 and now live in Australia. I have written two published books relating to the award of the King’s Police Medal for Gallantry, (KPMG), the first recording the awards to officers in the UK, and the second to officers in Australia and New Zealand.

This leaves the third volume, which is almost complete, that is the awards to members of the rest of the ‘Empire and Dominions’ meaning India, Burma, Canada, and British South Africa the all the smaller territories of the old empire. I am also writing a novel, working title ‘Caught in the Act’ which is part way through, but I have got stuck! Mainly due to time factors.

I have written many articles over the years, which have been published in various magazines, including the Medal News, and the Police History Society Magazine. I am just making an initial contact with you and hope to continue the correspondence over the coming months or so.’



Regards J Peter Farmery (ex-PS Met. Police 1958-1987)’

Thanks John (as he is usually known.) In his own words:

I joined in 1958, serving at West End Central from 1958 to 1962, when I was transferred to Peckham. There I studied for promotion, and was successful, and went to Croydon in 1965 as a new Sergeant. I was the first sergeant posted there for several years, and was treated with suspicion by the relief, until one day I gained 'credibility' when I hauled a man over the counter for causing a disturbance in the station. It surprised the old PC who was the Station officer's assistant. In 1972, I was selected for the SPG and to form the newly created 6 unit based

at Gipsy Hill. I was there during the IRA bomb attack on London (March 1973) and spent time in Winchester on security detail for the trial of the bombers. In 1976, I returned to general duties and was soon selected as an Instructor at Hendon. I was involved in recruit training, then went out to division where I was an instructor for CTC (Continuous training of probationers) during which time along with my Inspector we created a new form of examinations by replacing the rote learning with 'knowledge and reasoning' type questions. This was accepted by the hierarchy, and adopted. I was also involved with four other Sergeants, in the creation of the "Street Duties Course" and training the divisional teams of Instructors. I ran the first such course at Brixton in 1981 but now, about the writing?

My father had received the Military Medal for bravery during WW1, and I have his medals, and during my career I had served with officers who had been rewarded with bravery medals. Michael Hills at West End Central who had been awarded the King's Police Medal for Gallantry whilst a Constable in Palestine in 1944, several officers who had received the BEM for gallantry, and in particular the officers involved in the Craig and Bentley incident in 1952, in



particular I knew Fred Fairfax (George Cross) and Norman Harrison (George Medal).

All this prompted my curiosity, and I found that although many books had been compiled detailing all the military awards, there was none detailing gallantry specifically by police officers, so I started to research the circumstances of the award. The King's Police Medal and it's successors the King's Police and Fire Service Medal and the Queen's Police medal for Gallantry. I spent a total of 8 years, part time, researching at the National Archives, and in old newspapers, and writing to police forces throughout Britain. Finally, I collated it all, then found that no-one was interested in publishing the results. In the meantime, my wife and I had retired and emigrated to Australia to join the family.

I then met someone who suggested self-publishing the book. After some enquiries I did, and the first book detailing the awards to officers in the UK (721 recipients) was published in 1995. Then much later in 2010, I produced a smaller book for consumption in Australia, detailing the awards to Australian and New Zealand recipients (84 officers). The final book, detailing the awards to officers of the rest of the British Empire including Canada, India, Ceylon and South Africa, and all the other territories of the old empire, a total of over 2000, this is in its final stages. Just a few more to trace (war time awards for India, the records are everywhere!)

In addition to this I am trying to write a novel, the usual type (crime, intrigue etc).'

Well done John on a magnificently lived life and career followed by your authorship: if we can help, we will! (Ed.)

July Author Profile: Peter Pleydell

Peter Pleydell writes under the pen name of John Halden. Peter (or John to his readers) served as a Special in the Met for 27 years, rising to the rank of Special Sergeant. He is a keen IPA member who has travelled with the Association to Austria, Germany, Denmark and Norway. He also has a small collection of overseas

police insignia. Some of you may possibly have read Peter's article The Special Constabulary in Walthamstow, 1940-43 in the Journal of the Police History Society No. 8 (1993). Peter was born in Brentwood, Essex. Whilst serving as a Special, Peter pursued his civilian career as a secondary school teacher. Writing for children has been a retirement dream for



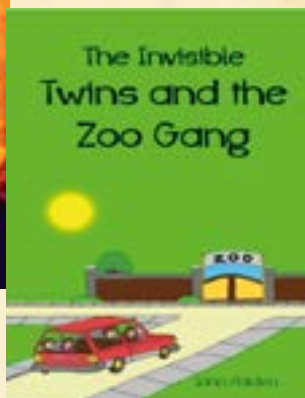
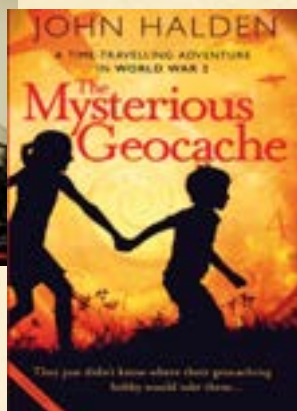
Peter, and *School Out of Time*, his first novel aimed at readers aged 9 – 14, has received considerable acclaim.

Peter tells us that he is grateful to the children in the local primary school where he volunteers. 'They are a very critical audience,' he tells us. 'Full of praise when my ideas are working, and full of suggestions when they are not.' This led to several re-writes of *The Invisible Twins* and *the Zoo Gang*. More recently, Peter has written a World War 2 novel – again for 9 – 14-year-olds. 'The Mysterious Geocache': a time-travel adventure set in World War 2 is the story of two children who find themselves taken back in time to 1941. Peter hopes that these two characters – Sophie and Oliver – will appear in future adventures. (Indeed, he has already embarked upon such an adventure set in back in the Viking period).

As well as volunteering in school, Peter continues his association with the Police service by volunteering as an 'Appropriate Adult' in Essex.

To find out more about Peter and his writing visit his website:
www.johnhalden.co.uk





‘Two Cops, Two Writers, Two Ways...’

by Brian Dilwyn Roberts (SIG Committee member)

What are the chances of three crime novelists coming from one police station in one era? Well, at least two and a wannabe! It's been my pleasure over the past few months to read eight books by two authors who have a lot in common (not only with each other but also with me). Jonathan Cox and Matt Johnson both served at Stoke Newington Police Station in the late 1980's, early 1990's and like me they survived to tell the tale. Also like me, they appear to have enjoyed the experience and cherish the memories of 'the Job' as it used to be. Now, every generation says 'the jobs f.....d' but in those days 'Stokey' was a punishment posting and could well be the end of you. Not only of your police career, but land you behind bars or even in a premature grave.

Jonathan's first stories tell of one such cop; Chris Pritchard.



Jonathan Cox – in Court mode!

Chris joins the Met in 1983 and after training school he's posted to GN – Stoke Newington where he gets teamed up with WPC Dawn Matthews (his parent constable or 'puppy walker'). The books follow his career from 'green' probationer where he gets shot at (giving him his nickname of 'Nostrils'), fitted up, blown up and loses his best friend. He then experiences heroin addiction, kidnap and near murder, to being an experienced hand as DS on the Murder Squad at Arbour Square in Stepney. It's said that the stories are penned with a deference to realism. This is obviously born of

personal experience and I can vouch for the realism having been a Detective in East London for 25 years including 3 Area Major Incident team at 'HA'. Mind you, if my career had been as 'interesting' as his, I think I would have written my book a lot quicker.

Jonathan Cox retired from the Metropolitan Police in 2013 and within days he published 'The Blue Trilogy', a series in which he captured the atmosphere and attitudes of policing in a by-gone (but not forgotten) age. 'From Green to Blue' covers Chris' first few months service. From 'Black to Blue' tells of his next couple of years and his life in the Section House at Stokeley. 'From Blue to Brown' sees Chris four years later, promoted to Sergeant and into the Complaints Investigation Bureau. Something of a 'poacher turned gamekeeper'; but it's a convincing tale which keeps you enthralled. No to make too much of a spoiler but the 'brown' involved is heroin and it dogs our hero for a few more books.



In December 2017, Jonathan published two sequels - 'When you wear the blue' and 'We don't call them raids.' First of these tales concentrates on DS Chris Pritchard's post CIB transfer to Tottenham (YT) where he takes charge of a CIPP team (basic CID team to you and me) and covers up one of his DC's OTS activities and subsequent crime. I won't spoil your read with too much detail but there is a sting in the tail. The second book sees him posted onwards and upwards to the Murder Squad where his cover ups nearly find him out. Jonathan actually served on the Murder Squad in West London but his general awareness of the work (and for that matter the area) convinced me.

I'm not surprised that the books have become a something of a cult read for serving and retired officers. When I spoke to Jonathan he said he'd had some feedback which suggested that the realism is just too much for a mainstream audience. Personally, I find that hard to believe when I've ploughed my way through Lynda Le Plante's inaccurate accounts of the early life of Jane Tennison in Hackney. If the general public can absorb the detailed but quite false version she portrays why can't they cope with the real facts? I think it's more to do with exposure and publicity and I have no doubt that Jonathan's five books will become modern day equivalents to 'The Choirboys' if only they get in front of enough readers and possibly picked up by TV? Sadly, as Jonathan self-published and has to do all promotion work himself it'll take a publisher's clout to get him noticed. His writing is akin to Jake Arnott and his East London noir.



The old and the new: Stoke Newington Police Station.



Coming Soon: Forthcoming Publications:

If you have a book due for release please let us know and we will help publicise it - I attach my latest to give an idea of what we need:

My next one for instance(!) :

‘One Day in December’

Publication Date: 9th

August...all about the First

World War in sunny

Scarborough based on a

school and youth group

drama production I produced

in 2014. Published by

‘tredition’ RRP £12.99. The

book blurb:

In this work, Scarborough based author D.B. Lewis, working together with local Queen Victoria's Unit Theatre, has uniquely drawn together several aspects of the First World War that affected the North Yorkshire town of Scarborough between 1914 and 1918. These include the 1914 Scarborough, the war just and author William Lewis wartime visit to the town and the writing of the Scarborough Fishing Fleet Using Community Theatre techniques suitable for discussion, school or community group. The background history of these events is covered through a new and play together with a final chapter on the message of internationalism that was Lewis's lasting legacy.





and the author blurb...

D.B. Lewis is a full-time writer and lecturer living in Cloughton on the North Yorkshire coast of the U.K. His interest in Wilfred Owen was kindled by a Workers' Education Association programme at Scarborough concentrating on Owen and the 'War Poets' from which he went onto become a member of the Wilfred Owen Association. David specialises in biography, reminiscence and all forms of memoir. He is particularly

involved in writing support to emerging and established authors and is the current chair of the International Police Association's Global Writers' Forum. David is an Associate Lecturer with the London Policing College and travels extensively in the UK and abroad. He holds degrees in Creative Writing and Adult Education, is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and a member of the Institute for Leadership and Management. He is a former Fulbright Fellow at the Pennsylvania State University and runs an inspirational literacy project for young people of all ages called 'Stories for All' which uses a 1968 Police Morris Minor called 'Stan' to encourage creative story writing. David is a 'Literacy Champion' for the National Literacy Trust.

Calling all for Gimborn; Sign Up Soonest Please

If you are intending to go to the seminar in November please sign up as soon as possible: it is imperative we meet the minimum attendee number. If you know likely writers please let them know: this is amazing value for money and well worth attending to help you on your way to publication.

Following the successful Writers' Seminar held at Gimborn last year you are invited to join us on this second week-long course. It



is being held at the beautiful castle location of the IPA Study Centre in Schloss Gimborn, just outside Cologne in Germany. There are still places available.

Included amongst the presenters are well-established authors:
**Neil Hallam, Gerard Brennan, Clare Christian, Colin McLean,
Peter Pleydell, Mark Thompson**

Chaired by the IPA's UK Vice President, Sean Hannigan, delegates will enjoy a packed programme involving a panel of established crime and fiction writers who will cover crime fiction, magazine article writing, children's writing and poetry along with many aspects of publishing and much more. You will have access all week to a leading publisher from Red Door Publishing, Clare Christian.

Then, turning your attention to your own ambition of becoming a writer; we will take you through a series of workshops, developing your own ideas through putting pen to paper.

Annual General Meeting: This took place via Zoom on Wednesday 22nd May 2019 and your committee were duly elected into place: so now we are legal!! Thanks to everyone who attended; great to see you! There was no other vital business but the minutes have now been circulated. Some interesting ideas for sure. Full report in the August newsletter. It's late, I'm tired, England are through to the World Cup Semi-finals (that's cricket Mike, not rugby; keep your hair on!)

COPY, COPY, COPY, COPY AND MORE COPY!!!

No copy: no newsletter. (Well I'm always happy to write away; a real joy.) Please send your pieces to me: closing date is mid-August; just send and we will publish as soon as we have enough of interest for the month.

Please let us know how your projects are faring?

Best wishes for July

David
(Editor; 'Writes') July 2019

The background of the top section is a photograph of a library. It shows several white bookshelves filled with books of various colors. On the left, a person in a white dress with blue vertical stripes is seen from the back, looking at books. On the right, another person in a white shirt is partially visible, also looking at books. The shelves are filled with books, some standing upright and some lying flat. The overall atmosphere is quiet and studious.

The Global Writers Forum

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