

# Freelance Market News

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January 2009

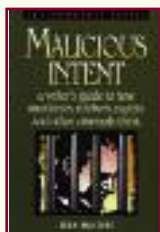


**Angela Cox**  
Editor

**Inside: Creating Your Own Website**

Happy New Year to all our readers. We hope you enjoyed the festive season and that you have a successful 2009. Please keep us informed of your writing successes this year as they do cheer us up and we know they inspire your fellow readers.

I braved the New Year sales this year as I do love a good bargain, especially in this economic climate. So, for my fellow bargain-hunters, I have decided to start FMN's year with a book sale. We have limited numbers of the following books for sale. And, you don't have to elbow your way through a hoard of handbag-wielding shoppers to get hold of one! Just give me a ring or send an email to check if copies are still available. I will then get back to you to take your order.



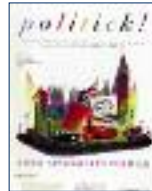
Each book is priced £8 (UK) or £11 (overseas). These prices include post and packing.

*Angela Cox*

## New Markets

### politick!

This is a new quarterly magazine with the strapline, *A new cross-party magazine of political gossip, discussion, interviews and opinion for the new generation of politicians!* It will be edited by Laura-Jane Foley whose aim is to get young people (aged 18 to 35) interested in politics. She says, "We're totally independent of any political party. We're not interested in telling you who to vote for or what to think. We're purely concerned with presenting politics in a fresh and engaging way."



The launch issue included articles on people who work in warzones, Amnesty International, The Countryside Alliance, plus interviews with Lembit Opik, David Blunkett and Charles Kennedy.

Address: Laura-Jane Foley, Editor, politick!, P.O. Box 50480, London W8 9EE.  
Tel: 020 7727 4430  
E: info@politickmagazine.co.uk  
www.politickmagazine.co.uk

### ecoyou

This is a new magazine covering green issues and sustainable living. It will be available in Tesco and Sainsbury's. They say, "ecoyou magazine will bring a green perspective to all the things its readers are interested in already, served up with wit, flair and just enough glamour."



"Each issue will be graced with celebrity interviews - names that have aligned themselves with green causes. The magazine will road test new products,

explore new green ways of doing things and advise readers on best buys from an ethical viewpoint. It will provide ideas on greening up all aspects of life from the food we eat to the clothes we wear, from where we invest our money to the type of car we drive. It will look at the financial benefits of going green, suggest ways to reduce our carbon footprint and provide inspirational examples that will galvanise even the most reluctant reader to dip their toe into the world of greener living."

Address: Joanna Yarrow, Editor, ecoyou, Big Spark Limited, Bury Business Centre, Kay Street, Bury BL9 6BU.  
Tel: 0161 909 0909  
Fax: 0161 909 0919  
www.ecoyoumagazine.co.uk

### Cruise International

This is a new bi-monthly magazine which is aimed at those new to cruising and devotees. The launch issue included: destination features (The Eastern Caribbean, Malta, Rio de Janeiro); articles on how to choose a cabin, cruising with teenagers, new ships, tips for new cruisers and cruise reviews. Regular contents will include news, shopping, readers' questions and a look at liners of the past.



Contact the editorial department in the first instance to discuss your ideas and payment.

Address: Philippa Howard, Editor, Cruise International, 26-30 Old Church Street, Chelsea, London SW3 5BY.  
Tel: 020 7349 3150  
Fax: 020 7349 3160  
E: info@cruise-international.com  
www.cruise-international.com

# Competition News

## **The Kelpies Prize**

Prize: The author of the winning manuscript will receive £2,000.

Stories must be set wholly, or mainly, in present-day Scotland and be suitable for children aged between nine and twelve years old. They should incorporate contemporary settings and subject matter to which today's children can relate. There is no entry fee. Manuscripts must be 40,000 to 60,000 words in length.

Send entries, with an application form, to: Kelpies Prize 2009, Floris Books, 15 Harrison Gardens, Edinburgh EH11 1SH.

[www.florisbooks.co.uk/kelpiesprize](http://www.florisbooks.co.uk/kelpiesprize)

**Closing Date: 28th February 2009**

## **FLAIR 21st Birthday Short Story Competition**

Prize: The winner takes all the entry fees.

Entry fee: £3 per entry. Cheques should be made payable to Cass and Janie Jackson.

Short stories should be no longer than 1,000 words and must be on the given theme: The Birthday Party.

Send a sae for further details to: Flair for Words, 14 Leonard Hackett Court, St Winifreds Road, Meyrick Park, Bournemouth BH2 6PR.

**Closing Date: 16th March 2009**

## **Rider Haggard Society Competition**

Prizes: There is a first prize of £200 and a year's membership to the Society. Five runners-up will each receive a year's free membership.

Entry fee: £10 per entry. Cheques should be made payable to Roger Allen.

You are not asked to write like Haggard but you are asked to meet the following two criteria:

- a) a story that reads as if it is being narrated to a group of friends
- b) one element which fits: Have we met in another life? Or, Even today the jungle can reveal hidden ruins.

Stories should be a maximum of 4,000 words.

Address: Roger Allen, 27 Deneholm, Whitley Bay NE25 9AU.  
[www.riderhaggardsociety.org.uk](http://www.riderhaggardsociety.org.uk)

**Closing Date: 30th March 2009**

## **River & Rowing Museum**

### **Wind in the Willows Short Story Prize**

Prizes: 1st £500, 2nd £200, 3rd £50.

Entry fee: £4 per story. Cheques should be made payable to River & Rowing Museum Foundation.

This competition is to celebrate the centenary of 'The Wind in the Willows' and is inviting submissions of river-related stories for young people (aged 5 to 16). Stories should be no longer than 4,000 words.

Send entries with an entry form to: RRM, 'Wind in the Willows' Centenary Short Story Competition, Education Department, River & Rowing Museum, Mill Meadows, Henley-on-Thames RG9 1BF. [www.rrm.co.uk](http://www.rrm.co.uk)

**Closing Date: 15th March 2009**

## **Writers' & Artists' Yearbook Short Story Competition**

Prize: The winner will receive £500, plus a place on an Arvon writing course worth up to £575.

Short stories should be no more than 2,000 words and be on the theme of Conflict. Writers may submit one entry only.

There is no entry fee but it is a requirement of the competition organisers that all entrants be registered on [www.acblack.com/registration](http://www.acblack.com/registration)

Entries should be emailed to: [competition@acblack.com](mailto:competition@acblack.com) with 'WAYB09 competition' in the subject line.

**Closing Date: 14th February 2009**

## **Keele University Short Story Competition**

Short story prizes: 1st 300, 2nd £100, 3rd £50.

Micro story prizes: 1st £100, 2nd £50, 3rd £25.

Entry fee: £4 for the first story and £2.50 for each additional entry. Cheques/postal orders should be payable to Keele University.

The competition is open to anyone living in Staffordshire, Cheshire or Shropshire.

Stories must be no more than 2,500 or 250 words. Entries must be accompanied by an entry form.

Address: Short Story Competition, John Rhodes, Arts Development Officer, Marketing, Keele University, Staffordshire ST5 5BG. [www.keele.ac.uk](http://www.keele.ac.uk) (Click on the "What's On" link.)

**Closing Date: 14th February 2009**

## **Slough Arts Festival Poetry & Short Story Competition**

Prizes: Trophies and medals are awarded to prize-winners.

There is an additional prize for the best collective entry from a writers' group.

Entry fee: £4 per entry. Cheques should be made payable to Slough Arts Festival.

Stories should be no longer than 1,500 words and poems a maximum of 40 lines.

Address: Slough Arts Festival Poetry & Short Story Competition, 10 Spring Lane, Slough, Berkshire SL1 5BQ.  
[www.slough-arts-festival.co.uk](http://www.slough-arts-festival.co.uk)

**Closing Date: 14th February 2009**

## **Chapter One Promotions Short Story Competition**

Prizes: 1st £2,500, 2nd £1,000, 3rd £500.

Entry fee: £10 per story. Cheques should be made payable to Chapter One Promotions.

Short stories should be no longer than 2,500 words. They say, "We are on the lookout for stories that capture the imagination in a beguiling and original manner. Present us with short stories that are not only wonderfully crafted but give an insight to a sliver of human frailty, a moment highlighted in time, or a traditional tale told with an unusual twist."

Address: Chapter One Promotions, 19-35 Sylvan Grove, London SE15 1PD.

**Closing Date: 28th February 2009**

# Drop Us A Line

## Star Letter

**Dear Editor,**

I have to confess that I was reluctant to subscribe to FMN at the outset. Having paid the fees for the Writers Bureau course and invested in copies of several other magazines and publications by way of research, it seemed another expenditure that I could do without. However, I am pleased to report that almost every penny that I have earned through writing is as a result of a 'lead' or idea generated by the magazine. I have more than tripled my 'stake' through articles, letters and fillers and recently achieved my first fiction success with third prize in a short story competition promoted in 'Competition News'. I have absolutely no hesitation in renewing my subscription as the time arises.

**Theresa Gooda, West Sussex**

I have just received the following information via email from *My Weekly* magazine regarding submissions of short stories. Short story submissions will start being accepted again from 10th January 2009 when the new submission guidelines will also be available.

Also, anyone who has not had an acceptance before must make the story category very clear and include a very short summary of the story on the front cover of the manuscript.

I hope this information is helpful to your readers.

**H. Brand, France**

I look forward to receiving my copy of *Freelance Market News*, in particular reading the competition winner's contribution. Indeed, I have entered the competition several times.

Mr. Clarke's letter to Sherlock Holmes was, in my opinion, the best winning entry I have ever read. It was witty, wonderfully constructed and had me laughing long after reading it.

None of my entries have been up to this standard. Yet rather than being disheartened, it has made me more determined to write with more flair.

Congratulations to the high flying John Clarke for such a superb piece. A well-deserved winning entry.

**J.A. Staple, Leeds**

As a budding writer I try to present my submissions to editors in a professional way. It is probably a reflection of the buyer's market that not all feel the need to respond in a similar vein.

My first rejection 'letter' was from a well-known women's magazine. It was poorly set out on copy paper. The one sentence was merely followed by: 'The Editor', with no specific name. I found this approach more disheartening than the rejection itself.

In contrast, I have been cheered by a recent response from Norah McGrath of *Take A Break*. Although still a rejection, my returned work (date-stamped on receipt) was accompanied by a polite,

professional letter printed on quality paper with contact information.

I cannot believe that the *Take A Break* office is less busy than the other magazine, but to me, being treated with respect mattered as much as the outcome. It can be done.

**M. Chaplin, Oxon**

You often publish letters from writers struggling to motivate themselves or finding that getting financial rewards for their work is slow in coming. It appears then, that I am one of the lucky ones and recently I had extra reasons to celebrate. In the same week, I gave birth to my second son and attended my first editorial meeting for a magazine I am going to be contributing to.

Since starting the WB course five months ago my notepad is brimming with ideas. I am contributing regularly to two local magazines and have had several readers' letters published. In terms of motivation and inspiration I am raring to go. With two small children, all I need to do now is find the time to spread my wings even further... I'm sure I'll get there!

**S. Husselmann, London**

### We want to hear from you

Share your views and opinions with us. The writer of the best letter each month will receive £10 in cash. As we would like to include more letters in each issue, please keep them as short as possible (less than 150 words is ideal).

Send your letters to: Drop Us A Line, Freelance Market News, Sevendale House, 7 Dale Street, Manchester M1 1JB or email: [fmn@writersbureau.com](mailto:fmn@writersbureau.com) Type Drop Us A Line, in the subject field and include your full name and address at the end of your email.

# Market Notes

## **Bike**

This is a monthly magazine aimed at all motorcycle enthusiasts. The editor, Steve Rose, welcomes interesting or unusual items and illustrated features on touring and bike personalities. Articles are usually between 1,000 and 3,000 words.

Address: Steve Rose, Editor, Bike Magazine, Bauer Automotive, Media House, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6EA.

Tel: 01733 468180

E: [steve.rose@bauermedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.rose@bauermedia.co.uk)

[www.bikemagazine.co.uk](http://www.bikemagazine.co.uk)

## **Country Smallholding**

This is a monthly magazine which gives practical advice on smallscale poultry and livestock keeping, country crafts, gardening and cookery. They say, "Articles for consideration are welcomed. Much of the magazine is written by outside contributors, many of them regulars.

"First study the magazine to see the sort of material we publish. If you have a good story to tell, it will almost tell itself. Just write a straightforward account, preferably on a subject of widespread, rather than purely personal, interest. Humour is particularly welcome. Articles should not be too long. Short,

concise features are far more likely to be accepted than long rambling accounts.

"If you are sending hard copy, with no electronic version available, then it should be typed, with single line spacing, wide margins (at least an inch), and single-sided. Please do not fax us manuscripts. Text contained on a CD is welcome in addition to the manuscript. PC or Macintosh discs are acceptable. We work in Microsoft Word. If your word processing software is not Word, please include a copy of your text as a plain text file. Your disc should bear your name and address.

"Where applicable, supply a generous selection of slides, or prints, (preferably glossy) in colour, from which we can make our choice. Good photos make or break many articles. Put your name and address on every slide mount and print. Number each photo clearly and attach or provide a separate sheet of succinct factual captions. It is important that digital photos are high resolution (300 dpi) for magazine use.

"We buy full UK Rights, plus the Rights to include the article on the *Country Smallholding* website."

Address: The Editor, Country Smallholding, Archant South West, Fair

Oak Close, Exeter Airport Business Park, Clyst Honiton, Near Exeter, Devon EX5 2UL.  
Tel: 01392 888481  
Fax: 01392 888499  
E: [editorial.csh@archant.co.uk](mailto:editorial.csh@archant.co.uk)  
[www.countrysmallholding.com](http://www.countrysmallholding.com)

## **Commando**

*Commando* publishes war stories which are told in pictures. Eight *Commando* books are published each month. Four are new stories and four are reprints. They say, "They are principally aimed at boys from nine to sixteen year of age, but stories should not be too youthful in treatment for they are also bought by many older readers, including young men in the Armed Forces.

"World War II is the setting of most stories, but stories from any other major conflicts throughout history will be considered. The main character should be young and attractive, so that the reader will readily identify with him. He can be a tough type or a studious type, but he must be interesting. Exciting action is required, but this alone is not enough. Emotional conflict between characters fighting side-by-side is important, and conflict with the enemy is frequently secondary to this. *Commando* stories should be about adventures

occasioned by the war, not just about warfare. No horrific scenes are ever used.

“Stories do not have to be about Commandos. Any branch of the Army, Navy or Air Force may be used. A synopsis of roughly 1,000 words is required before we commission the script. Scripts should contain about 135 pictures. Payment is on acceptance, at the rate of £233 per script.”

Address: Calum G. Laird,  
Commando, D.C. Thomson  
& Co Ltd, Albert Square,  
Dundee DD1 9QJ.  
Tel: 01382 223131  
Fax: 01382 322214  
E: claired@dcthomson.co.uk

### **Family Tree Magazine**

This is a monthly magazine covering all aspects of genealogy. They say, “*Family Tree Magazine* articles vary from essential guides on a subject (around 2,400 words, including captions, panels etc), to mini series of 600 words. A typical two-page article would be no more than 1,400 words in length. 700 words is the maximum for a single-page article. We accept copy by email or on disc.

Our readers tend to be aged 50 to 80. The aim of your article is to inspire the reader to undertake the next step in their family history, and to give them information on how to go about this. Some articles will be more factual and others more ‘tales’, but all

must retain a mix of human interest/story-telling and informative copy. Please use panels to explain ancillary information. Panels may be used for case studies, websites, contact details, time-lines etc.

“If you are able to include some form of relevant illustration, please do so. Please don’t send valuable originals but copies or photographs. These may be sent on disc or emailed and need to be saved as high resolution JPEG files (300dpi). Our current payment rate is £45 per 1,000 words, including photographs.”

Address: Family Tree  
Magazine, ABM Publishing  
Limited, 61 Great Whyte,  
Ramsey, Huntingdon,  
Cambridgeshire PE26 1HJ.  
Tel: 08707 662272  
Fax: 08707 662273  
E: abm@family-tree.co.uk  
www.family-tree.co.uk

### **Medal News & Coin News**

These monthly magazines welcome freelance contributions on military history, especially if concerned with medals, and articles on coins and tokens. Articles should be no longer than 2,000 words, in electronic format and accompanied by photographs or illustrations. As their readers are very well-informed, all contributions should be pitched at a knowledgeable level. The payment rate is £30 per 1,000 words.

Address: Token Publishing  
Ltd, Orchard House, Duchy  
Road, Heathpark, Honiton  
EX14 1YD.  
Tel: 01404 44166  
Fax: 01404 44788  
E: info@tokenpublishing.  
com  
www.tokenpublishing.com

### **Ski & Board**

This is the official magazine of the Ski Club of Great Britain. It is published four times a year and is sent free to members or to paying subscribers. They welcome well-illustrated, general articles on skiing and snowboarding, particularly if you can write well about adventure skiing. Payment is by negotiation.

Address: Arnie Wilson,  
Editor, Ski & Board, The Ski  
Club of Great Britain, The  
White House, 57-63 Church  
Road, Wimbledon, London  
SW19 5SB.  
Tel: 0845 45 807 80  
Fax: 0845 45 807 81  
E: editor@skiclub.co.uk  
www.skiclub.co.uk

### **The People’s Friend**

*The People’s Friend* has a new section entitled *My Favourite Things*. They say, “If you would like to share those things that make you the happiest, we’d love to hear from you.” They pay £10 for each item published in this section.

Address: The People’s  
Friend, D.C. Thomson & Co  
Ltd, 80 Kingsway East,  
Dundee DD4 8SL.

# Market Notes

## CBW

*Coach & Bus Week* welcomes freelance contributions. They say, "CBW will consider for publication articles or stories on almost any subject connected to the industry.

"Length is not important, but probably should be not less than 800 words. Write for a single issue or for a series. There is no upper limit but please contact us first should you want to write more than 2,000 words. An outline may be needed before writing if you have a lot to say.

"Please tell us why this is a good topic for you to write about and why you feel qualified to write it.

"Content may be controversial but must not contain misrepresentation, be misleading or make defamatory statements about people, businesses or institutions.

"Material presented as statements of fact must be carefully checked for authenticity and accuracy. Illustrations may be included but to be published in *CBW* consent from the owner is needed in advance.

"Submissions can be as hard copy or as a Word document. Illustrations can be hard copy or in PDF format. *CBW* will accept most methods or formats from paper through the post to email or online via our website."

Address: Rupert King, CBW,  
3 The Office Village, Forder  
Way, Cygnet Park, Hampton,  
Peterborough PE7 8GX.  
Tel: 01733 293482  
E: rupert.king@rouncy  
media.co.uk  
www.cbwonline.com

## Choice

This is a monthly magazine for those aged over 50. It includes articles on hobbies, relationships, travel, nostalgia and finance. They welcome and pay for work from freelancers but say that anyone interested in contributing should read several back issues of the magazine to get a good idea of the type and style of material they use.

Address: Choice, 1st Floor,  
2 King Street, Peterborough  
PE1 1LT.  
Tel: 01733 555123  
E: editorial@choicemag.co.uk  
www.choicemag.co.uk

## Clocks

*Clocks* is the world's leading independent horological magazine. Published monthly, it covers clock collecting, profiles on clock makers of the past 300 years, clock repair, restoration, clockmaking and news.

They say, "Splat Publishing Ltd welcomes articles for publication in *Clocks*. These are accepted on a non-binding basis, for possible

publication in a future issue. Payment, where appropriate, will be made on a strictly retrospective basis following publication in *Clocks*."

Address: Clocks Magazine,  
Splat Publishing, Elizabeth  
House, Royal Elizabeth Yard,  
Kirkliston EH29 9EN.  
Tel: 0131 331 3200  
www.clocksmagazine.com

## Community Care

This is a weekly publication aimed at anyone involved in social care. They welcome contributions for the following sections:

*The Diary column* – for social care practitioners to write about their typical working week. A Diary has to be 600-words long and each day should cover what they would usually do. The writing style should be short and snappy and include anecdotes that other readers can identify with.  
Email to Keith Sellick at:  
keith.sellick@rbi.co.uk

*The Big Picture* - an opinion column for people to write a focused piece on one particular social care issue they feel strongly about. The columns are 390 words long.  
Email Mark Ivory at:  
mark.ivory@rbi.co.uk

*Good Practice* - features schemes, projects or ideas that have recently improved in some way. This might be following some user consultation or involvement,

a complaint, research, or just the result of wanting to do things differently.

Email Derren Hayes at:  
derren.hayes@rbi.co.uk

*Book reviews* - send in your details and your areas of specialism and interest, and they will get in touch.

Address: Community Care,  
Reed Business Information  
Limited, Quadrant House,  
The Quadrant, Sutton,  
Surrey SM2 5AS.  
Tel: 020 8652 3500  
Fax: 020 8652 4739  
www.communitycare.co.uk

### **Poetry Wales**

This is a quarterly magazine with an international outlook and a long-standing reputation for excellent poetry, critical features and reviews. They say, "If you would like your work to be considered for publication, please send copies of no more than six poems, on plain paper.

"Include a SAE/IRCs for a reply. *Poetry Wales* does not accept email submissions."

Payment is by negotiation.

Address: Dr Zoë Skoulding,  
Editor, Poetry Wales, School  
of English, Bangor  
University, Gwynedd  
LL57 2DG.  
Tel: 01656 663018  
www.poetrywales.co.uk

### **Psychologies**

This is a monthly magazine which welcomes all new ideas from writers. They say,

"*Psychologies* covers relationships, family and parenting, personality, behaviour, health, well-being, beauty, society and social trends, travel, spirituality and sex. All feature ideas should fit into one of these areas, and suggestions should offer a combination of psychological insight and practical advice. We also publish a First Person story each month, which is an in-depth account of an emotional experience the writer has gone through, and what they feel they have learned from it.

"Feature suggestions should be one to two paragraphs long, well researched, with a clear working title, and should refer to any relevant experts or recent research or findings about that topic. Please always send outlines rather than completed articles, and include details of other publications you write for, as well as any press cuttings that can be accessed online. Feature ideas should be emailed to the Editorial Assistant, Sarah Neish at: sarah.neish@hf-uk.com.

"Health, well-being and beauty ideas should be emailed to the Executive Editor, Sarah Maber at: sarah.maber@hf-uk.com"

Address: Psychologies,  
Hachette Filipacchi UK Ltd,  
64 North Row, London  
W1K 7LL.  
www.psychologies.co.uk

### **Your Cat**

*Your Cat* is a monthly magazine which includes practical advice and news

about the care of kittens and cats. They issue the following guidelines: "Most of the articles are written in-house or commissioned and written by experienced journalists and experts.

"We do, however, use true-life stories written by readers about their experiences with their cats. We look for tales that are a little bit unusual, entertaining or contain information which will benefit other readers. The word length for such stories is a maximum of 800 words. There are a large number of these stories on file, so if accepted, you may have to be patient in waiting for yours to be published.

"We do not currently accept fiction or publish poems or stories as written by the cat. Our requirements are pretty much standard. Manuscripts should be typed using double line spacing, on one side of the paper only. If a true-life tale, photographs are appreciated although it is possible we may send a photographer or commission an illustration.

"Payment is made on publication. The amount can vary according to the individual article, although there is a flat rate of £40 for True Cat Tales."

Address: Sue Parslow, Editor,  
Your Cat, Roebuck House,  
33 Broad Street, Stamford,  
Lincolnshire PE9 1RB.  
Tel: 01780 766199  
Fax: 01780 766416  
E: s.parslow@bourne  
publishinggroup.co.uk  
www.yourcat.co.uk

# Fillers & Letters

**Glamour's** letters page says, "We want to hear about you - about *Glamour*, your life, anything." A recent issue published six letters ranging from 45 to 110 words in length with the star letter writer winning a Nikon camera, worth £130.  
Address: Glamour Mailbag, 6-8 Old Bond Street, London W1S 4PH.  
E: letters@glamourmagazine.co.uk

**Grazia** welcomes readers' letters about articles previously printed in the magazine. A recent issue printed six letters ranging from 95 to 135 words in length. The writer of the Letter of the Week won a set of Guerlain creams, worth £170.  
E: feedback@graziomagazine.co.uk

**Guitarist** magazine recently published eleven letters and six "quick comments" ranging from 30 to 120 words in length. The star letter writer received a complete set of Digi Tech effects pedals, worth £407.  
Address: Guitarist, Future Publishing Limited, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.  
E: guitarist@futurenet.com

**Pick Me Up** has a letters page which says, "Send a heart-warming tale or a funny photo and make us smile. Tell us what you think of our stories, dazzle us with a poem, just drop us a line today!" A recent issue printed nine letters and one poem along with six photos. Letters including photos received £25, while the poem and letter writers received £15.  
Address: Pick Me Up, Come On In, IPC Media, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 OSU.  
[www.pickmeupmagazine.co.uk/come\\_on\\_in](http://www.pickmeupmagazine.co.uk/come_on_in)

*Pick Me Up* also has a tips page which pays £25 for a tip with a photo and £15 for just tips. All tips must be original. The tips in a recent copy ranged from 30 to 60 words in length.  
Send to Tip-Offs at the above address or via the website: [www.pickmeupmagazine.co.uk/tip\\_offs](http://www.pickmeupmagazine.co.uk/tip_offs)

**Practical Parenting** magazine welcomes readers' tips, views and stories for the letters page, *Inbox*. A recent star letter writer received an overnight spa break for two at Ragdale Hall in Leicestershire.  
Address: Inbox, Practical Parenting, Magicalia Publishing Limited, 8-10 Knoll Rise, Orpington, Kent BR6 0EL.  
E: pp-letters@magicalia.com

**Spirit & Destiny**, the monthly mind, body and spirit magazine, welcomes readers' letters. A recent issue included six letters and the star letter was around 150 words on how the magazine had helped the writer through some challenging times. They pay £25 for every letter printed and the star letter writer receives skincare products, worth £60.  
Address: Enlighten Us, Spirit & Destiny, 24-28 Oval Road, London NW1 7DT.  
E: spirit.destiny@bauer.co.uk

**Active Life** magazine is now published quarterly and is edited by Fiona Webster who welcomes readers' letters. The star letter writer in a recent issue received four Oxford University Press reference books, worth over £50.  
Address: Mailbox, Active Life Magazine, Windhall Manor, Leeds Road, Shipley, West Yorkshire BD18 1BP.  
E: mailbox@activelife.co.uk

**Take5**, the *Daily Star's* Sunday supplement, pays £25 for readers' tips.  
Address: Take5 Tips, The Northern & Shell Building, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN.  
E: take5@dailystar.co.uk

**Now**, the weekly celebrity and fashion magazine, welcomes emails and texts from its readers. A recent issue included five emails which all referred to celebrities regularly covered in the magazine. The sender of the email of the week received a Nintendo Wii games console.  
E: nowletters@ipcmedia.com  
You can also text: **NOWLETTERS** followed by your message to 86611.

# Overseas Markets

**FRONT** is a Canadian journal of contemporary art and culture. They say, "We will consider submissions of prose, poetry, fiction, performance documents etc. Each issue is given a theme, which will be published in the preceding issue and on the website. We encourage you to interpret the theme freely, but to bear in mind that we will give preference to material that engages the theme in an interesting way."

"We usually pay \$25 per page, the rate for photography and original art varies between \$50 and \$100. Manuscripts can be up to 2,500 words and should be submitted by email, either in the body of the email, or as an RTF or Word attachment. The author's contact details and a short biography should appear on the first page of the text."

Address: FRONT Magazine, 303 East 8th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5T 2S1, Canada.  
E: [frontmagazine@front.bc.ca](mailto:frontmagazine@front.bc.ca)  
[www.front.ba.ca/frontmagazine/submissions](http://www.front.ba.ca/frontmagazine/submissions)

**Rock** is an Australian rockclimbing and mountaineering magazine. The majority of material is Australian-based. They cover places to climb, accounts of unusual climbs, profiles of prominent climbers, equipment, technique, training and health. Articles are between 2,000 and 3,000 words. They pay \$100 per published page. They prefer to receive a query in the first instance.

Address: Megan Holbeck, Editor, Rock, Wild Publications Pty Ltd, P.O. Box 415, Prahran, Victoria 3181, Australia.  
E: [editorial@wild.com.au](mailto:editorial@wild.com.au)  
Guidelines are available at: [www.rock.com.au](http://www.rock.com.au)

**History Magazine** is published six times a year. Their guidelines are: "*History Magazine* strives to feature articles that are interesting rather than academic. We prefer our articles to be wrapped around a particular phenomenon, achievement or occasion, rather than around a profile of a 'great man' most closely associated with the subject: we'd rather carry an article titled 'Early Telephones' than an article titled 'Alexander Graham Bell'. We are currently expanding our focus to include battles, wars and biographies. The battles must have world significance – like Waterloo – and the accounts must keep in mind that many of our readers are interested in what led up to the battle and its impact, not detailed manouvers of

the soldiers. Also the personalities must have had an impact on society. Unrecognized personalities like engineers or inventors who have shaped the world we live in are just some of the people we want to feature. Our articles generally focus on the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the start of WWII.

"We prefer queries instead of full-length articles. Our typical article length is 2,000 to 3,000 words. Email is preferred and text should be sent either as plain text or RTF. Please include suggested captions with any photographs or illustrations submitted, and credit the source. Our rate for articles is \$55CDN or \$55US per published page (this includes visuals provided by the author, if any)."

US address: P.O. Box 194, Niagara Falls, NY 14304, U.S.A.

Canadian address: 505 Consumers Road, Suite 312, Toronto, ON, M2J 4V8, Canada.

Email the deputy editor, Victoria King at: [victoria@moorshead.com](mailto:victoria@moorshead.com)

[www.history-magazine.com](http://www.history-magazine.com)

**Horse Illustrated** is an American magazine which promotes responsible horse ownership, from providing tips to owners on better horse care and training, to alerting horse lovers about pertinent issues in the equine community. They say, "We need informative, in-depth, upbeat articles (limited to 2,000 words) that will help readers better care for and enjoy their horses. They may be about such topics as training (for both horse and rider), management or horse-related activities. Do not send fiction, personal essays, tributes to deceased horses, poetry or breed profiles."

"We prefer to review completed manuscripts on speculation. Articles are paid upon publication. Rates of payment are based on quality, not length. We pay between \$300 and \$425 for feature articles. Smaller items receive \$50 to \$100 per piece. Articles accompanied by high-quality photographs or illustrations earn the highest rates."

Address: Elizabeth Moyer, Editor, Horse Illustrated, P.O. Box 8237, Lexington KY 40533, U.S.A.  
[www.horsechannel.com/horse\\_magazine/horse\\_illustrated](http://www.horsechannel.com/horse_magazine/horse_illustrated)

# Conquering The Web

**Keith Gregson shows how he conquered his fear of the mighty web and has sallied forth with confidence ever since.**

I left teaching in disarray some five years ago and one of the reasons for my departure was an innate inability to cope with modern technology. It frightened me. I couldn't keep up and even the slowest of youngsters seemed to be years ahead of me.

Now, thanks to a little bit of help from my wife, and a new found sense of bravery, I have managed to make an advance in at least one area of modern technology – with considerable advantages to my work as a freelance writer, musician and educational facilitator.

Since leaving teaching I have tried to set up a balanced life, spending half my time writing books and articles and the other half in working on special music, history and literacy based projects with children of primary school age.

I have a laptop and the family has a PC and broadband. Since typing up my own postgraduate thesis in the seventies, I have been a reasonable typist so soon developed the courage to conquer the two machines by seeing them simply as hugely effective typewriters. I also learned to store stuff on what my boys called 'floppy discs' – although they all seem pretty solid to me!

Now I wander around confidently with a couple of memory sticks in my pocket.

The next stage was to familiarise myself with the internet. I'm reasonably confident now but certain that I don't know the purpose of half the buttons and could probably access material more rapidly if I did. I'm happy to use a number of the better known search engines and regard the internet as a massively useful encyclopaedia usually capable of answering any question you ask it – as long as you eventually get that question right.

Then, one day, came the observation I had been dreading.

'Keith, you need your own website'.

Now I was frightened again. While I was standing in for IT teachers I had seen pupils creating their own websites and it seemed to involve something called programming and giving instructions to the machine in a language reminiscent of ancient Serbo-Croat.

'No way!' I replied to all and sundry.

Then came Christmas and my wife's Christmas present – a 'Do It Yourself Website'.

What was it that Ricky Gervais' character said in *Extras?* – 'Are you having a laugh? Is she having a laugh?'

I said, 'Thank you' and hid it under the bed when she wasn't looking. A few weeks later, in a fit of remorse, I opened up the box and read the instructions. (For somebody of supposedly reasonable intelligence, I have always been useless at reading,

following and understanding instructions.)

I managed to follow the instructions carefully in this case and, a few days later, had my own website up and running; I haven't looked back since.

The first joy was the website address. The site organisers suggested some possibilities; I chose a few in a pecking order, sent them back and, fortunately, ended up with: [www.keithgregson.com](http://www.keithgregson.com).

This has been an absolute godsend. Now, at meetings if someone wants my details or more information it's so easy. I say, 'It's just my name and dot com' and even if they forget it, the details come up first when my name's put into most search engines. I only have a soil scientist in Nottingham and a pastor in the United States to challenge me when it comes to named internet fame.

From the minute I set it up, I decided that the site was going to be straightforward. I'm a simple soul myself and more interested in substance than in presentation (you should see some of my clothes).

The idea, therefore, was to have as the running theme – 'Hi there, I'm Keith Gregson the writer (but not the pastor or soil scientist) – this is what I've done, this is what I do and this is what I'd like to do. If you think we can work together, please contact me.'

This has worked. I don't get many 'hits', maybe a handful a day but many of these get into

contact – my telephone number and email address are on each page.

I even managed to upload a photograph of myself although it is likely to stay there for some time as I've forgotten how I got it the right shape and size.

At least folk know that I'm reasonably photogenic and look like a cross between Kevin Keegan, Bill Clinton and Billy Connolly.

Joking apart, I have found my website to be utterly invaluable. Sometimes, you can be asked for examples of your writing. I have done a number of travel articles over the years and many of them can now be viewed on websites. I just put a number of relevant website addresses on my own site and suggest that the editor or sub-editor look up one or two. Some may bother and some may not – agreed – but 'twas ever thus.

On occasions, while sending a piece to a new publisher I have just added in, 'If you want to find out more about me just look at my website' – and I know that a number of interested parties have taken me up on that one.

On my site, I have pages on my writing and an important 'Newsflash' or update page which I do constantly update and refer folk to as a first port of

call. Here I note my most recent activities and publications.

I also have pages listing the academic work I still manage to carry out, my educational pedigree, my educational CV and a list of projects I enjoy doing the most (enjoyment is important at my stage of life).

I also have a page dedicated to my writing CV and a couple of pages given over to my most recent book and booklet publications – including some reviews.

My website has been especially useful with the schools, museums and libraries work. Interested parties are able to see the exact projects I have already prepared and also to appreciate that I am happy to develop new ones or come in like 'a fresh piece of blotting paper' (how old is that one?) and prepared to soak up youngsters' ideas on the hoof.

The site itself cost relatively little about three plus years ago (£40) and there is a small annual maintenance fee. Now I really would not be without it. As I noted above – I'm a simple soul and get easily confused with complexities so, as it stands, it serves my purpose.

## DIY Websites

- ◆ There are many sites offering packages which enable you to build your own website. Keith operates his website through Mr Site at: [www.mrsite.com](http://www.mrsite.com)
- ◆ A quick Google search will come up with thousands of websites offering DIY websites, packages and help with where to begin.
- ◆ Some simply charge for the software to help you set up your own website while others will charge a small maintenance fee.
- ◆ Do be careful though as there are also many sites which offer a free trial period but after this time they will apply a monthly charge to host your site and keep your domain name.

If you are a computer buff, you will probably be appalled at the presentation of the site but that's the way it is. Just have a look. Hopefully you now know where to find me and if the same approach suits you then go for it!

After many years as a history teacher and part time writer, Keith Gregson took the plunge and entered full-time writing via a WB course in 2003. Since then, he has enjoyed considerable success thanks to his following WB's advice and heading for specialist niche markets covering history (naturally), traditions, sport, music and travel.

He was one of WB's Writers of the Year in 2007. A book published in the same year, *Tracing Northern Ancestors – a Beginner's Guide to the North East and Cumbria* (published by Pen and Sword) topped the Amazon family history book sales on a number of occasions. His latest publication is *The Bluffer's Guide To The Olympics* (Oval Books 2008).

Naturally you can catch up with Keith on [www.keithgregson.com](http://www.keithgregson.com)

# Editorial Changes

The editor of **Maxim**, Michael Donlevy, has left the publication. Ben Raworth has taken over as editorial director.  
Address: 30 Cleveland Street, London W1T 4JD.  
www.maxim.co.uk

**IPC Media** has sold three of its titles: *Land Rover World*, *4x4* and *Volkswagen Golf+* to Kelsey Publishing Ltd.  
Address: Kelsey Publishing Ltd, Cudham Tithe Barn, Berry's Hill, Cudham, Kent TN16 3AG.  
Tel: 01959 541444  
Fax: 01959 541400  
www.kelsey.co.uk

**RIBA Journal**, the monthly magazine of the Royal Institute of British Architects, is now published by Atom Publishing Ltd. Hugh Pearman remains as editor. He welcomes well-illustrated articles from those with the relevant knowledge. The new address is: 45-47 Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0BE.  
Tel: 020 7490 5652  
E: hugh@atompublishing.co.uk

Stephen Pullen is the new editor of **Heritage Commercials**, the heritage vehicle magazine, following the retirement of David Craggs.  
Address: Mortons Heritage Media, P.O. Box 43, Horncastle LN9 6JR.  
Tel: 01507 529300  
Fax: 01507 529490

Sheena Harvey has taken over from Kevin Wilmot as the new editor of **Bird Watching Magazine**.  
Address: Media House, Lynchwood, Peterborough PE2 6EA.  
Tel: 01733 468419  
E: sheena.harvey@bauermedia.co.uk

Pam McVitie has become the first female editor of **The Daily Sport** newspaper.  
Address: 19 Great Ancoats Street, Manchester M60 4BT.  
Tel: 0161 236 4466  
Fax: 0161 236 4535

Neil Long is the new editor of **Official Nintendo Magazine**.  
Address: 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.  
www.officialnintendo magazine.co.uk

**More**, the fortnightly magazine aimed at 18 to 24 year old women has undergone a revamp. There will be a stronger emphasis on relationships and high street fashion.  
Address: Lisa Smosarski, Editor, More, Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG.  
Tel: 020 7208 3397  
Fax: 020 7208 3397  
www.moremagazine.co.uk

**Restaurant** magazine has changed its frequency from fortnightly to monthly. Its readership stretches across the trade from food-led pubs to fine dining restaurants, focusing specifically on chefs, owners and restaurant managers.  
Address: Paul Wootton, Editor, Restaurant, William Reed Business Media Ltd, Broadfield Park, Crawley RH11 9RT.  
www.william\_reed.co.uk

Joanna Tubbs is acting editor of **Go Girl** magazine until Emma Prosser returns from maternity leave.  
Address: Egmont Magazines UK, 239 Kensington High Street, London W8 6SA.  
Tel: 020 7761 3500  
E: gogirlmag@euk.egmont.com  
www.gogirlmag.co.uk  
**SA Times** has been bought by

TNT Publishing Ltd and has a new address and website: 14-15 Childs Place, Earls Court, London SW5 9RX.  
Tel: 020 7373 3377  
Fax: 020 7341 6600  
www.satimesonline.com

The monthly gay magazine **AXM** has ceased print production and will now only be available online at: www.axm-mag.com

**Heritage** magazine is now based at: Archant House, Oriol Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1BB.  
Tel: 01242 216050  
www.heritagemagazine.co.uk

Tracy Tran is currently the Junior Editor of **Guiding Magazine**, the official monthly publication of Girlguiding UK.  
Address: 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.  
Tel: 020 7834 6242  
Fax: 020 7828 5791  
www.girlguiding.org.uk

**Digital SLR Photography** has been taken over by Dennis Publishing. Daniel Lezano remains as editor. The new address is: 6 Swan Court, Cygnet Park, Hampton, Peterborough PE7 8PD.  
Tel: 01733 2939105  
Fax: 01733 352650  
E: daniel.lezano@digitalslrphoto.com  
www.digitalslrphoto.com

## Going, going, gone...

The following titles have ceased publication:

Belfast Pulse, Buzz, Nottinghamshire Living.

# Competition Winner

Thank you to everyone who entered our 'New Beginnings' poetry competition.  
Congratulations to the winner, Michael Scully.

## A Time There Was

A time there was, when my own time that was,  
Was infinitesimal, weighing upon my  
Few years lightly as in meagre ounces  
Whereas my time to come was in tons of.  
A time when a parental soon meant an  
Elasticated stretch to happening  
And a wait a minute squirmed on forever.  
The tic of the clock was in treacled time  
And its unheeded toc life lost and gone.

Michael says, "I have written poetry since early childhood – my first being about Father Christmas! Most of my poems have been in rhyming verse and usually triggered off by some emotional event in my life. 'A Time There Was' breaks both those driving factors in that it is in loose form and created for the competition.

"The given theme made me think back to starting out in life and how unoccupied time dragged whereas today the fast-forward button seems to be locked down permanently. Or, to put it another way, you start out in the slow lane of childhood, move to the centre for middle age before accelerating along in the outside."

## This Month's £50 Competition

This month we would like you to write a limerick on the theme of Work.

A limerick is a quintet (composed of five lines) with the rhyme scheme AABBA. It uses a basic pattern of three feet in the first, second and last lines, and two feet in the third and fourth lines.

As usual, the winning entry will be published in FMN and the winner will receive £50 in cash. We will also print the two runners-up who will receive £10 each.

### Competition Rules

1. Any number of entries may be sent.
2. All material must be in English. The limerick must be on the subject stipulated, must be original and should not have been previously published.
3. The writer's name, address and telephone number should not appear on the entry but on a separate sheet of paper.
4. Copyright remains with the author but prize winners must agree to assign First Publication Rights to Freelance Market News. The winning entry may be published on the FMN website.
5. Unfortunately, entries cannot be returned; so please keep a copy.
6. The closing date is 31st January 2009.
7. Please send a 50-100 word "author bio" with your entry.
8. The address for entries is: Limerick Competition, Freelance Market News, 7 Dale Street, Manchester M1 1JB.  
Fax: 0161 228 3533.  
E: [fmn@writersbureau.com](mailto:fmn@writersbureau.com)  
Type 'Limerick Competition' in the subject line.

# Credit Crunch Fillers

## By Mary Cook

**The Sun** newspaper regularly features a page by *Captain Crunch*. The “Captain” invites readers’ money-saving tips. Typically, letters are 20 to 30 words long. Payment is £50.

Send letters to: Captain Crunch, The Sun, 1 Virginia Street, London E98 1SN.

E: captaincrunch@the-sun.co.uk

**The News of the World** has welcomed back, after an absence from its pages, *Captain Cash*. The Sunday paper’s superhero has announced he will share reader’s crunch-busting tips and pay £50 for each one published in the paper. The “Captain’s” editorial content is a good indication of which topics will be favourably received.

Submit online at: [www.notw.co.uk/go/captaincash](http://www.notw.co.uk/go/captaincash)  
Payment is in vouchers, though neither the paper nor the website specifies what the vouchers may be used for.

**Chat** magazine says “Blimey! That’s clever” in response to tips contributed by readers. Payment is £65 for tips with photos and £15 for those without pics. A recent edition carried nine tips, three of which had been submitted by text.

Write to: Tips Page, Chat, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU.

E: chat\_magazine@ipcmedia.com

Text: CHATMAG followed by a space, your message, name, house number and postcode to 86611.

**That’s Life** carries around half a dozen *Tightwad Tips*. Payment is £50 if accompanied by a photo; £20 without. *Tightwad Tips* features some of the simplest money-saving ideas you’re likely to come across.

Send letters to: Your Hot Mail, That’s Life, 3rd Floor, Academic House, 24-28 Oval Road, London NW1 7DT.

E: yourhotmail@thatstlife.co.uk

**Take a Break** and visit the magazine’s *Brainwaves Roadshow* which features as many as 10 tips per issue. Payment is £60 with a photo; £30 without pic.

In general, *Take a Break’s* tips tend to be quite detailed, though a recent one was only 13 words long. A more typical length is 40 to 50 words.

Write to: Brainwaves, Take a Break, FREEPOST LON12043, H. Bauer Publishing, London NW1 1YU.

E: tab.brainwaves@bauer.co.uk

**Essentials**, the women’s monthly magazine, carries a number of tips, many of which tend to be of the money saving variety. A typical edition has readers’ tips dotted throughout the magazine. Topics include fashion, beauty and cookery. Payment is £30.

Send letters to: All About You, Essentials, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU.

E: essentials\_feedback@ipcmedia.com

**Full House** is home to the *Cleverclogs* page. Tips must be accompanied by a photo illustrating the tip or by a photo of the contributor. Each week a reader poses a problem and others are invited to provide the solution. Photo tips earn £25 while the “Readers to the Rescue” answers earn £10. Tips are usually two or three sentences long while reader solutions can be as short as one sentence.

Send letters to: Cleverclogs, FREEPOST FULL HOUSE!

E: cleverclogs@fullhousemagazine.co.uk

**Real People** has a page headed *You Clever Lot!* Payment is £15 per tip; £25 if accompanied by a photo. The number of tips used is about 10 to 12 per page. Word length ranges from around 20 to 50.

Send letters to: Real People, 33 Broadwick Street, London W1F 0DQ.

E: tips@realpeoplesmag.co.uk

Mary Cook is a freelance writer and former journalist who enjoys writing about the writing craft. Publishing credits include: Funds for Writers, Writer’s Weekly, Writing World, Writing for Dollars, Writers’ Forum, Heritage Writer and Writelink. Her poetry collection, *Collywobblers: Perverse Verse for Guys and Ghouls*, awaits publication by Inkspotter Publishing.

# Advertisements

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P.O. Box 60, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 2ZR.

E: [admin@thenewwriter.com](mailto:admin@thenewwriter.com)  
[www.thenewwriter.com](http://www.thenewwriter.com)

## Quantum Leap Poetry Magazine

Quantum Leap now has a four-page Information Leaflet – including full submission guidelines, competition details, details of payment, available back issues and subscription form. Send a stamped addressed envelope or 2 IRCS to:

Guidelines, Quantum Leap,  
York House, 15 Argyle Terrace,  
Rothesay, Isle of Bute,  
PA20 OBD, Scotland, U.K.

## FLAIR FOR WORDS

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Web: [www.flair4words.co.uk](http://www.flair4words.co.uk)

How to  
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# New Markets

## Unfiltered

The Scotch Malt Whisky Society has re-launched its newsletter, *Unfiltered* as a monthly glossy magazine. It has been sent to Society members who are at the forefront of single malt whisky appreciation. Edited by Kai Ivalo, the first issue included news from around the world, how Glenglassaugh Distillery has been brought back to life, a debate about 'new world' whiskies and an interview with Alex Salmond.

E: [unfiltered@smws.com](mailto:unfiltered@smws.com)

You can view the latest issue online at: [www.smws.co.uk](http://www.smws.co.uk)



whose work engages with contemporary life in Britain, who take risks with language and dare to reinterpret post-industrial landscapes, landmarks and lost accents, among many other things. Whilst we're very partial to modern poetry, it's also worth mentioning that we are also interested in short stories and fiction, an avenue we hope to explore a bit further down the line.

"*Under the Radar* is a lively mix of the best up-and-coming and established poets, reviews and articles. It promises what we like to think of as 'serious frivolity' – serious about poetry, with an undeniable whiff of joie de vivre. We welcome submissions with open arms. Please send us no more than six poems, or a maximum 2,500 to 3,000 words of fiction. For reviews, articles and artwork, please contact us first for further details."

## Under the Radar

This is a new poetry magazine from Nine Arches Press. They say, "Though we have a firm foot in the Midlands, we have a national outlook and are interested in meeting poets from both near and far. We're particularly interested in poets

Address: The Editors, Under the Radar Magazine, Great Central Studios, 92 Lower Hillmorton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 3TF.

E: [utr.magazine@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:utr.magazine@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.ninearchespress.com](http://www.ninearchespress.com)

# Book Of The Month

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Please note this is an American book.

*From First Draft to Finished Novel* is normally priced £14.99 but as a FMN subscriber you can save 25% by ordering today!

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Angela Cox, Editor, The Association of Freelance Writers, Sevendale House, 7 Dale Street, Manchester M1 1JB.

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