McNidder & Grace, established in 2011 by Publisher Andy Peden Smith, is an independent publishing house which publishes high-quality non-fiction and fiction titles. With a particular emphasis on popular culture it is the home of vibrant books on music, biography, photography and art. We publish popular, engaging and beautiful books of the highest quality.

**Highlights of current and future titles include:**

**Music:** *Top of the Pops: 50th Anniversary Edition* with Foreword from Sir Cliff Richard by Patrick Humphries and Steve Blacknell

For over 40 years, between 1964 and 2006, the BBC’s *Top of the Pops* was the television pop programme. For every act, from The Beatles to Beyonce, it set the seal that you had arrived! During the programme’s 1970s peak, an estimated 15 million viewers were tuning in to see who was in the charts that week – 25% of the entire population of the UK. This book, **published in collaboration with the BBC**, tells that incredible story…

*Review:* ‘While *Top of the Pops* itself is now gone, you can still relive those classic moments on the internet and repeats on the BBC. Though, if pressed, my vote would still be to bring *Top of the Pops* back to our television screens, where it belongs. But if that doesn’t happen, then this 50th anniversary book, will tell you all you need to know about a genuine television institution.’ **Sir Cliff Richard**

**Biography:** *The Tin Ring* by Zdenka Fantlová

Zdenka Fantlová is one of a handful of Holocaust survivors still alive today.

*Reviews:* ‘An incredible story’. **BBC Breakfast**

‘*The Tin Ring* is a profoundly uplifting story of great love’. **The Lowry, Salford**

‘Zdenka Fantlová and her story made a lasting impression. She survived six concentration camps, endured horrors the like of which most of us can’t begin to comprehend, yet never lost the will to live or her optimism for a better future. During her time in the camps she kept a little tin ring, made for her by her boyfriend. She risked her life to keep this humble object that meant so much to her. Her boyfriend did not survive the camps. But Zdenka’s love for him and the tin ring did’. **Fiona Bruce, BBC’s Antiques Roadshow**

**Photography:** the successful and critically acclaimed books by the celebrated photographer and former Magnum Photos President Chris Steele-Perkins (*England, My England*) and Simon Wheatley (*Don’t Call Me Urban! The Time of Grime*) with striking covers as well as stunning photographs.
Covering 25 years, *Burmese Shadows* is an unprecedented body of work which highlights, with stunning photographs, the reality of living and fighting for survival for ordinary people in Burma. These harsh realities, however, are juxtaposed against the vibrant and rich traditions and cultures which combine to make the enigmatic country that is Burma. The publication is timely due to the recent elections in Burma after almost 50 years of control by the country’s junta and the release of the democracy icon Aung Sang Su Kyi and her subsequent election to the lower house of the Burmese parliament.

**Thierry Falise** is a Bangkok-based Belgian journalist, award-winning photographer, author and recognised expert on Burma, who has been reporting from within Burma each and every year since 1987.

‘This book is a record not only of Burma’s transition, but every aspect of modern life, up close, in sensational color… stories and phenomenal photographs.’

**Wall Street Journal**

9780857160416, HB, 180pp, Available now, Rights: World, £34.99
Don’t Call Me Urban!: The Time of Grime
Simon Wheatley

Don’t Call Me Urban! seeks to cut through the perceived glamour of ‘urban’ culture and document through photographs and stories what is the social reality of being black (and white) on a London council estate, where ‘urban’ has become a standard means to communicate and express feeling.

Simon Wheatley gained the trust of the key figures in the grime culture who allowed him to capture the harsh elements of the street with its raw violence and drug taking as well as the more intimate and tender moments of their lives. The portraits and commentary from the likes of Dizze Rascal, Wiley and Kano make this book a contemporary and definitive account of this culture.

For several years Simon Wheatley has been working as a photographer on the underground ‘urban’ music scene in London. His work with this sub-culture led to an invitation to join Magnum in 2005, which has brought these photos to international attention.

Picture Book of the Week, New Statesman
‘Wheatley’s searing and sympathetic images achieve a strange beauty for all the emptiness and despair they capture.’ The Metro

‘An honest and bitter-sweet document of our time that should continue to have significance long after the moments of its making.’ Chris Steele-Perkins

‘An incredibly honest account of an inner city underclass and the music they create. This book documents the birth of a new music scene that is unique to London – Grime. If Kidulthood and Adulthood are the fiction then The Time of Grime is the fact.’ DJ Excalibah

9781904794479, HB, 232pp, 115 colour and 10 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £30.00
It was the amazing statistic which got Chris Steele-Perkins’ attention. There are 10,000 people aged over 100 in the UK and that number is growing rapidly. The Office of National Statistics predicts that 5% of the people alive today in the UK will live to be over 100. That is 3 million people.

However, this book is not about statistics and the implications, it is about the people. In Fading Light Chris creates a portrait of this new generation. They are a mixed bunch of people who have seen many changes throughout their lives and have many stories to tell.

Fading Light is a moving book showing the increasing number of centenarians and their miraculous ability to survive until the great age of 100.

Chris Steele-Perkins is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning Magnum photographer whose assignments have taken him around the world.

England, My England is the distillation of many thousands of images taken by the Magnum photographer, Chris Steele-Perkins.

Each image he has selected represents his personal definition and celebration of England and its population. People, time and place are captured by this remarkable photographer in intimate detail. Whether the photographs were taken on an official Magnum assignment or just snapped for his personal pleasure, England, My England forms a powerful visual distillation of the country that he loves.

‘It captures the little triumphs and larger miseries of the lives of ordinary people - the poor and the upwardly mobile, the idle and the abandoned.’ New Statesman

‘These are wonderful images, showing just how revealing the lives of ordinary people, doing day-to-day things can be. They are glimpses of a country in doubt, sometimes in pain, but full of an indomitable spirit’. Michael Palin

‘Documentary approach that shows the English at work and at play over the last four decades. By turns gritty and evocative, it is a book one imagines that Orwell would have liked very much.’ The Guardian, Photobooks of the Year

‘England, My England, consists of photographs taken over 40 years that add up to a portrait of the peculiar nature of Englishness’. The Times

9781904794387, HB, 160pp, 36 colour and 91 b/w images, Available now,
Rights: World, £30.00
Returning to the North East in 2001 to document the Durham Coalfield, at one time the heartland of the British coal industry, Chris Steele-Perkins found himself in that exurban culture that we now associate with Billy Elliot. This world of “lamping” (for rabbits), ferreting, whippet racing, grouse shooting, pigeon fancying and the rearing of birds of prey is a survival of what D. H. Lawrence once described as “a curious cross between industrialism and the old agricultural England of Shakespeare and Milton”.

Chris Steele-Perkins has memorably recorded this landscape of the North East of England with visual wit, and a constant eye for the extraordinary. Nor is he at all sentimental: the harsh realities of blood-stained slaughter-houses and the vandalism of fly-tipping in the open countryside aren’t excluded. His photographs, he says, ‘serve as both eulogy and elegy’.

Chris Steele-Perkins is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning Magnum photographer whose assignments have taken him around the world.


‘A realistic view of modern country living. Each image provides authentic, natural, and sometimes graphic snaps which celebrate northern life.’ Evening Chronicle

Award winner in the Photography category at the British Book Design and Production Awards

9781904794202, PB, 128pp, 96 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £15.00
Finland-born photographer Sirkka-Liisa Konttinen, a member of the Amber collective since the group’s formation in London in 1968 has returned to Byker, the area of Newcastle upon Tyne that was the subject of her first book *Byker* in 1983.

Sirkka eloquently records, through her beautiful photographs and vivid stories, the multi-racial community that lives in Byker – and the changes in the community she has witnessed over the last 40 years.

Sirkka-Liisa Konttinen, originally from Finland, is a fine photographer, social historian and film maker, Sirkka considers herself an unofficial ambassador for the community that is uniquely Byker. Her books include the acclaimed *Byker* (1983).
Laura Knight: A Life
Dr Barbara C. Morden

This much-anticipated and highly readable biography of the painter Dame Laura Knight (1877–1970) – one of the leading British painters of the twentieth century. Laura Knight: A Life covers her long, productive career and probes the myths and fictions that have, and continue to be woven around the artist.

This objective biography covers her relationship with her husband Harold, life in the artist colonies of Staithes and Newlyn, the ballet, the circus, the theatre and her role as Official War Artist during World War II and recorder of the Nuremberg Trials.

Barbara Morden does more than merely draw the solid lines of Dame Laura’s professional and public identity, she fills in the background, expresses the light and colour of Laura Knight’s vibrant personality and by also exploring the darker shades of her character gives this portrait depth and perspective. If you read just one biography of Laura Knight it should be this one.

Dr Barbara C. Morden is an author, cultural historian and freelance lecturer and lectures on literature and art in both the UK and USA. She is also the author of the acclaimed John Martin: Apocalypse Now! (2010).

John Martin’s paintings of apocalyptic destruction and biblical disaster earned him, in his lifetime (1789–1854), national and international fame and recognition. His body of work, which was startling in scope had a real sense of the dramatic; particularly when depicting the fearsome power of God (the ‘Apocalypse Now!’ of the title).

He is credited with influencing a remarkable range of creative people including the Brontës, Jules Verne, HG Wells and generations of movie makers from Cecil B DeMille to George Lucas.

Barbara Morden’s sumptuously illustrated book captures the essence of the man and how the apocalyptic mood in Britain during his lifetime – a period marked by both terrible hardship and outrageous success – influenced his paintings. She reassesses Martin’s legacy and looks at the enduring influence of his apocalyptic paintings on art, cinema and the popular culture of today.

Born and educated in Newcastle upon Tyne, Dr Barbara C. Morden is an author, cultural historian and freelance lecturer. As well as writing she lectures on literature and art in both the UK and USA. She is also the author of the forthcoming Dame Laura Knight: A Life.
This wonderfully illustrated book celebrates the career, work and inspirations that have turned John Coatsworth into one of the north of England’s most popular painters.

His ‘bendy art’ has been greatly copied, but never bettered and although some art critics may dismiss his work with the same disdain that they treat Jack Vettriano, the speed at which his work sells is a good indicator of how popular his work is. Coatsworth’s ‘curvation’ work has been commissioned by many famous North East organisations including Newcastle Airport, and Newcastle Tourist Board. Clients include Peter Kay and Kylie Minogue.

After a successful career as a graphic artist for Newcastle’s Journal and Evening Chronicle, John Coatsworth developed a freedom of style that allowed him to play with shapes of buildings and geographical features and become a full-time artist.
Birds and Flowers of the Castle of Mey and Balmoral
James Alder

The Birds and Flowers of the Castle of Mey and Balmoral is an insightful, unique and beautiful collection of fifty watercolours commissioned and approved by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. Painted by the renowned wildlife artist James Alder the subjects are selected from Their Majesties’ personal favourite birds and flowers. The watercolours were crafted during many journeys to the Castle of Mey and Balmoral. This book brings together, in a single volume, a series of meticulous and fascinating illustrations that will captivate anyone who loves birds and flowers and appreciates the beauty of nature in art.

‘The Queen has asked her thanks to be passed for such a beautiful publication. They will no doubt make a fine addition to the Royal Library.’ Christopher Geidt, Assistant Private Secretary to The Queen.

‘...painted on request from the late Queen Mother...so impressed by a book James did for charity she asked him to capture the beauty of the Castle of Mey and Balmoral for her own private collection.’ Evening Chronicle

Commissioned and approved by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

9781904794011, HB, 128pp, 50 colour plates, 5 colour & 4 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £30.00
Provides an invaluable introduction to modern theatre practice with case studies showing how actors and directors work.

A great stage performance is usually achieved through high practice standards in rehearsal. In a series of engaging case studies exploring how actors and directors work, this authoritative volume, written by some of the world’s leading pioneers in the field, takes the reader into that most sacred of spaces and gives a unique insight into theatre making at its best.

Covering a wide range of practice from the traditions of Commedia de’l Arte to contemporary re-workings of Shakespeare, cutting edge performance and applied theatre, this book examines the work of modern influential figures such as Ferruccio Soleri, Ann Bogart and Malachi Bogdanov.

Invaluable to all drama students and teachers at school, college or university, theatre professionals and anyone with a passionate interest in this most ephemeral of art forms.

If you love drama then you will love this book.

Ronan Paterson has worked in professional theatre for 40 years, as an actor, director, producer and writer. Starting his career in Ireland, he has worked for more than 150 theatre, film and television companies, and his theatre work has been seen all over the world. He is currently Head of Performing Arts at the University of Teesside.

Zdenka Fantlová’s childhood in Czechoslovakia was one of great happiness and love and her life was like that of any other teenager. However, her peaceful existence was soon to be shattered. Seventy years ago this year, in Terezín concentration camp, she was given a home-made tin ring by her first love Arno with ‘Arno 13.6.1942’ engraved on it. When he gave her the ring he said, ‘That’s for our engagement. And to keep you safe. If we are both alive when the war ends I will find you’. Arno was sent East on a penal transport later that same day; she never saw him again. After surviving 6 concentration camps, risking her life for the tin ring and death marches Zdenka found herself, in the last chaotic days of the war, at the hell that was Bergen Belsen. Just skin and bone, crippled by typhoid and unable to walk she crawled to a Red Cross post. There she was saved by an unknown British soldier to whom the book is dedicated.

Now 91, Zdenka Fantlová is one of the few living eye-witnesses to the horror of the Holocaust, to which she lost her entire family. For as long as she lives Zdenka is determined to tell her inspiring story of great love, one as uplifting as it is harrowing, to as many people as possible. Zdenka still keeps the tin ring, the symbol of Arno’s love, close to her to this day. Zdenka has recently appeared on BBC TV and radio, on stage and at the Hay Festival. The book has also been adapted as a play which premiered in September 2012 at The Lowry, Salford.

‘An incredible story’. BBC Breakfast

‘The Tin Ring is a profoundly uplifting story of great love’. The Lowry, Salford

‘Zdenka Fantlová and her story made a lasting impression. She survived six concentration camps, endured horrors the like of which most of us can’t begin to comprehend, yet never lost the will to live or her optimism for a better future. During her time in the camps she kept a little tin ring, made for her by her boyfriend. She risked her life to keep this humble object that meant so much to her. Her boyfriend did not survive the camps. But Zdenka’s love for him and the tin ring did.’ Fiona Bruce, BBC TV
‘A sweet, unforgettable memoir ...’ Publisher’s Weekly

‘The Tin Ring takes us into Dante’s Hell but here is someone who has survived and emerged to give the lie to Hitler’s confident belief that he could act with impunity and never be held to account; someone who is able to speak for the countless mothers, sisters, wives, and lovers whose kith and kin were slaughtered; someone able to channel the suffering, pain, and their shocking loss into a defiant testimony. Zdenka’s story reminds us how great is the power of true humanity; the greatness of the power of love; the triumph of life over the ideology and culture of death. Here is a love story to rebuke the evil hate story of the Shoah. Arno’s tin ring comes to represent love, hope, truth and life itself.’ Lord Alton

9781904794509, HB, 240pp, 17 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World (excluding Germany and the Czech Republic), £15.00
9780857160447, PB, Available now, Rights: World (excluding Germany and the Czech Republic), £8.99 (eBook available £6.99)
With a passionate regard for her subject’s achievements, Henrietta Heald has written a book that guarantees the restoration of Armstrong to his rightful place among the greatest innovators of all time. A hero in his day, both nationally and internationally, and immensely admired by people from all walks of life, Armstrong is now mostly remembered as a man closely aligned to the worldwide armaments trade.

As well as documenting Armstrong’s considerable business successes, Henrietta Heald has brought to life the very essence of the man.

Henrietta Heald has edited books on British history and travel, interior design and architecture, and whose best sellers include the monumental Chronicle of Britain. She has contributed to many publications, including the Spectator and The Times.

‘Armstrong deserves to be recognised as one of the titans of the 19th century… this book should do much to readdress the balance.’

Country Life

‘...a fascinating new book about him demonstrates that he is just as relevant now as he was in Victorian times.’ BBC News

‘William Armstrong … has been shamefully neglected. So hooray for Henrietta Heald, who gives us a thoroughly researched, finely written and helpfully illustrated biography. (And let me add that her publishers are to be congratulated on the peerless quality of this hard-cover edition.) Her book is essential reading for anyone interested in the power and greatness of Victorian England for which Armstrong’s contribution was as great as that of the railway engineers such as Stephenson and Brunel. And do not assume that Henrietta would let us down on the technicalities of Armstrong’s inventions; she merely makes them explicit enough for people such as me to understand.’ Len Deighton

Shortlisted for the 2012 Portico Prize (non-fiction)
The Pitmen’s Requiem
Peter Crookston

*The Pitmen’s Requiem* movingly relates the stories and the hardships of the miners who worked in the Great Northern Coalfield. It tells, through interviews and investigative reporting, how Robert Saint’s famous brass band composition ‘Gresford’ – the Miners’ Hymn – became a requiem for mining communities and their way of life.

**Peter Crookston** is a journalist and author who worked as an editorial executive on both *The Observer* and the *Sunday Times*. His first book was *Villain: The Biography of a Criminal*, published by Jonathan Cape. In 1984 he wrote the script for *Lions Led by Donkeys*, a Channel 4 documentary about men who survived the Battle of the Somme.

‘Peter Crookston has written a book that is at once an elegy and a tribute.’ **Margaret Drabble**, author, biographer and critic

‘The story, ostensibly of one man’s remarkable life, is a tunnel back into a complete world – a rich and complex way of life that is now sealed off and lost, like most of the old mine-workings that lay at the heart of it.’ **Michael Frayn**, playwright and author

‘Crookston has constructed a potent tribute... he makes you feel deeply nostalgic for a way of life that was so dangerous and so brutal.’ **Mail on Sunday**

‘A very readable and enjoyable book.’ **Morning Star**

‘Peter Crookston’s book is very remarkable. He knows the area well, and he’s captured the spirit of the industry and the story of Gresford and has brought it together in a very skilled way. I think it is something that future generations will go back to, to understand the Gresford Hymn but also the industry it speaks about. A very, very remarkable book.’ **Tony Benn**

Millions of young readers over the years have been enthralled by the adventures of the characters created by Ursula Moray Williams.

In a writing career that spanned 70 years, she published 68 children’s books, many becoming much-loved classics remembered by generations. In a most fascinating and revealing life Colin Davison overturns the standard theory about the source for one of her most famous characters The Little Wooden Horse.

With a passionate regard for his subject, Davison has captured the essence of the influences that made this indomitable woman the writer she was. Drawing upon unpublished letters, diaries and the recollections of those who knew her, he vividly describes an extraordinary life that was as inspirational as those of her brave, fictional heroes.

**Colin Davison** was a foreign correspondent, editor and managing director of daily newspapers, then group editors of Daily Mail regional newspapers. He lives in Worcestershire close to the villages where Ursula Moray Williams lived for 60 years.

‘One of the great children’s writers of her generation. In Colin Davison she has a biographer who can do justice to her remarkable talent, and give us a vibrant picture of her life.’ **Shirley Hughes, author and illustrator**

‘The Little Wooden Horse was one of the greatest children’s books ever written and, as this biography shows, it came from the heart of a woman who faced life with the same joy, courage and humour as her most endearing characters.’

**Anne Wood, Teletubbies creator**
For over 40 years, between 1964 and 2006, the BBC’s *Top Of The Pops* was the television pop programme. For every act, from The Beatles to Beyonce, it set the seal that you had arrived! During the programme’s 1970s peak, an estimated 15 million viewers were tuning in to see who was in the charts that week – 25% of the entire population of the UK.

This book, published in collaboration with the BBC, tells that incredible story... ‘It’s Number One... it’s Top Of The Pops’. ‘It’ is not just the story of a long-running television programme. The story of *Top of the Pops* is the story of British popular music. It is a shadow history of British rock & roll, and beyond. It is the story of ‘Auntie’ BBC getting down with the kids. It is the story of how a six-week show turned into a pan-global phenomenon and how for 40 years, *Top of the Pops* was a British institution.

**Patrick Humphries** is the bestselling author of numerous musical biographies including the life stories of Bob Dylan, Nick Drake, Richard Thompson and Bruce Springsteen. **Steve Blacknell** started in the music business as a record plugger/promoter before becoming a presenter on BBC/MTV.

‘While the Top of The Pops itself is now gone, you can still relive those classic moments on the internet and repeats on the BBC. Though, if pressed, my vote would still be to bring Top of the Pops back to our television screens, where it belongs. But if that doesn’t happen, then this 50th anniversary book, will tell you all you need to know about a genuine television institution.’ **Sir Cliff Richard**

Perfectly evoking the atmosphere of the 50’s and 60’s, Mo Foster draws on his own recollections and those of the greatest exponents of the rock guitar, from Hank Marvin to Eric Clapton and Brian May, and the many others who, before they became famous, started out rehearsing in pigeon lofts and their mum’s kitchen.

In *British Rock Guitar* Mo Foster brings together many of their recollections and stories and has written the definitive history of the importance of the guitar in the development of British music over the last 50 years.

Mo Foster’s career as a renowned and prestigious contemporary bass player has spanned over 40 years. He is now established as a top session musician, solo artist, producer, composer, and now author. Among the hundreds of artists with whom he has recorded or toured are Jeff Beck, Phil Collins, Brian May, Ringo Starr, Joan Armatrading, Gerry Rafferty, Annifrid Lyngstad (Frida of ABBA), Gil Evans, Van Morrison, Cliff Richard, Gary Moore, Hank Marvin, Roger Glover, and The London Symphony Orchestra.

‘The definitive, if not the only, book on early British rock guitar – a great read.’

Hank Marvin

‘Hilarious stories of those who dreamed of stardom... but woke up in the van.’

Roger Glover, Deep Purple

‘It’s the bible.’ Ray Stiles, The Hollies

A passionate and humorous look at the life of a musician on the road and a tribute to all working musicians. Graham Forbes is back – this time with a wry look at the world of the busking musician or in the vernacular, the guy who bluffs his way through a song he has never heard of, with a band he wishes he hadn’t heard of.

From the days before the quick rise to fame offered by The X Factor and the like, the music industry was full of musicians slogging away on the circuit, hoping to reach the big-time. The seedy gigs, the clapped out transport, the wretched digs and the vast quantities of alcohol consumed along the way are graphically and humorously recalled by Forbes.

Rock and Roll Busker is a trip down memory lane for all those forgotten musos who never quite made it, but entertained us all and had a good time along the way and for all us who were part of those days and can remember!

Graham Forbes is an author, musician, (playing with all sorts of bands from the Incredible String Band to The Rezillos) and rock climber. With homes in Glasgow and America, he travels the world to catch a gig. Previous books include Rock and Roll Tourist.

‘Here’s Graham’s tale – and a fun one it is – of why we do what we do. Took me back to my days in the garage…’ Paul Barrere (Little Feat)

‘Highly original and very funny. Graham is fast becoming my favourite author.’ Mo Foster, (Gerry Rafferty, Phil Collins)

‘Terrific book about what it is really like to be a musician. Very, very funny and no pish.’ Derek Forbes (Simple Minds, Big Country)
This book is billed as one man’s method of quitting hillbilly heroin (by going on the road with rock ‘n’ roll bands, naturally). Forbes is a bass player, and his book contains some gloriously written tales of excess, sadness and glory (think Bill Bryson or Nick Hornby) that takes the man from Tampa to St Petersburg via Brussels and, naturally, Wrexham. Each chapter is not only ascribed to a town, but also to a particular band/artist (a catholic bunch that includes Anthrax, Franz Ferdinand and BB King) and it is the kind of book you will read aloud to people so they can get the full effect of the text.

Graham Forbes is an author, musician, (playing with all sorts of bands from the Incredible String Band to The Rezillos) and rock climber. With homes in Glasgow and America, he travels the world to catch a gig. Other books include Rock and Roll Busker and Rock and Roll Mountains.

‘If Bill Bryson could play guitar this is how it would sound.’
Tommy Cunningham, Wet Wet Wet

‘Some wonderful descriptive writing. A very funny, occasionally disturbing, sometimes moving book. I heartily recommend it.’ Tom Morton, BBC Radio

‘Excellent. Compelling. A great read. I love the way you portray the band. Its electric.’ Scott Ian, Anthrax
The first in the ‘Playlist’ series, The Ultimate Playlist, showcases the 100 greatest cover versions of some of the greatest songs every written.

Which Blondie Top Five was originally a flop for a West Coast power pop band? Who wrote Alice Cooper’s 1973 hit ‘Hello Hurray’, and which folk singer first recorded it? Who launched their career with a tear and a cover of a little known Prince song? Where was Joe Cocker sitting when he came up with the idea of covering ‘With a Little Help from my Friends’? Everybody likes a good song and a good story. The 100 Greatest Cover Versions traces the histories of some of the great songs you may know only as second-hand recordings and explores some unusual and creative takes on a few of pop’s well-known tracks. Based on the Independent’s popular long-running Story of the Song column, this collection features previously unpublished pieces alongside fully expanded, updated stories. Robert Webb details the background to each song and how it was written, who first recorded it and how it came to be covered and explains how, in some cases, the cover version has become more popular than the original. Artists range from Patti Smith to the Happy Mondays, David Bowie to Florence + the Machine, and Stevie Wonder to Robert Wyatt.

Whether you download, rip from CD or stream your music, the Ultimate Playlist series provides the perfect accompaniment to your personal compilation. The series aims to guide listeners through large and often bewildering back catalogues of the major artists as well as key genres and styles in popular music. If you love music and you enjoy knowing more about the history behind some of pop’s greatest songs, then you will love this book.

Robert Webb combines a career in journalism with publishing. He has contributed music features, columns and interviews to The Independent, Mojo, Time Out and BBC Radio, amongst others.
The second in *The Ultimate Playlist* series, *The 100 Greatest Road Songs* is a compilation of the songs no road trip should be without. *The 100 Greatest Road Songs* captures the spirit, excitement and freedom of travelling on the open road. We will all probably have spent many a long hour, day or week on the road, listening to a great number and range of songs.

Did you listen to the songs travelling by yourself, or with a group of friends or were you on a family holiday? Were some of the songs more suitable for your family outing than others? If you can complete a family trip without the dreaded ‘are we there yet?’ question then the songs will have done their job and everybody should have had a great foot stomping sing-along time.

Whatever type of road trip you plan to do next it will not be complete without this book. To whet your appetite here are a few of the great classic road songs included in the playlist, ‘I Get Around’ by The Beach Boys, ‘Take the Long Way Home’ by Supertramp and ‘I’m Gonna Be (500 Miles)’ by The Proclaimers.

If you love music and travel then you will love this book.

*Robert Webb* combines a career in journalism with publishing. He has contributed music features, columns and interviews to *The Independent, Mojo, Time Out* and BBC Radio, amongst others.
Based on extensive research and up-to-date exclusive interviews with Alex Kapranos, Bob Hardy, Nick McCarthy, Paul Thomson and others, this book is a celebration of Franz Ferdinand and their music. Put together with the cooperation of the band and fans around the world, it is a comprehensive, highly illustrated and entertaining guide to the group who have brought credibility and fun back to pop music.

One of the UK’s most successful pop bands in recent years, Franz Ferdinand formed in Glasgow, Scotland at the beginning of 2002. Since releasing their breakthrough single ‘Take Me Out’ in 2004 to worldwide acclaim, they have gone on to sell more than 6 million albums and have received recognition in many quarters. They were the first band to receive a Mercury Prize, Brit Awards and NME Awards within the space of 12 months. Known for their guitar-driven, disco-influenced, catchy pop melodies and intelligent lyrics Franz Ferdinand oversee every aspect of their creative output believing that the imagery of a band is as important as the sound. The band have a considerable UK and world fan base and appeal to both mainstream and indie types.

This book contains everything you want to know about Franz Ferdinand. If you love Franz Ferdinand then this is the book for you.

Helen Chase is a respected author as well as being a fan of Franz Ferdinand. With unique access to the band she manages to reveal the ‘real’ Franz Ferdinand. Helen is also the author of Magazine – an in-depth look at the band formed by Howard Devoto when he left the Buzzcocks.

‘Helen Chase’s monster encyclopaedia of everything Franz, full of unseen photos, interviews and lyrics, is Franz-tastic’. NME

‘With interviews, plus extensive photos and illustrations…it gets to grips with what fuels and infuses art rockers…’ Q magazine

9781904794226, PB, 181pp, 208 colour & 19 b/w Images, Available now, Rights: World (excluding France and Italy), £15.95
Magazine was formed by Howard Devoto in 1977 when he left the Buzzcocks just as the seminal ep *Spiral Scratch* was being released. Already tired of the thrash and unrelenting nature of punk rock, Devoto wanted to combine the elements of avant garde and pop. This he did with Magazine’s ‘Shot by Both Sides’, ‘the best rock & roll record of 1978, punk or otherwise’ (*Rolling Stone*) followed by their first album *Real Life*. Three more, equally acclaimed albums followed before Magazine disbanded.

With unique access to the band and interviews with the great and the good of the 1980s and iconic musicians of today, Helen Chase presents a riveting insight into the world of punk and beyond. Placing the band in the context of the Manchester music scene she explains why the band is still so influential.

The respected music author Helen Chase presents a fascinating insight into one of the most important bands to emerge from the ashes of punk rock. Helen is also the author of the award-winning *An A-Z of Franz Ferdinand* – an in-depth look at the band Franz Ferdinand.

‘This book sets Magazine in the context of the post-punk music and arts scene in Manchester in the late 1970s. It discusses the prevailing climate of the decentralisation of the music industry, growth of independent labels and the DIY attitude born of arrogance combined with a good record collection.’ *Tony Wilson.*
Don’t Call Me Urban! seeks to cut through the perceived glamour of ‘urban’ culture and document through photographs and stories what is the social reality of being black (and white) on a London council estate, where ‘urban’ has become a standard means to communicate and express feeling.

Simon Wheatley gained the trust of the key figures in the grime culture who allowed him to capture the harsh elements of the street with its raw violence and drug taking as well as the more intimate and tender moments of their lives. The portraits and commentary from the likes of Dizee Rascal, Wiley and Kano make this book a contemporary and definitive account of this culture.

For several years Simon Wheatley has been working as a photographer on the underground ‘urban’ music scene in London. His work with this sub-culture led to an invitation to join Magnum in 2005, which has brought these photos to international attention.

*Picture Book of the Week, New Statesman*

‘Wheatley’s searing and sympathetic images achieve a strange beauty for all the emptiness and despair they capture.’ The Metro

‘An honest and bitter-sweet document of our time that should continue to have significance long after the moments of its making.’ Chris Steele-Perkins

‘An incredibly honest account of an inner city underclass and the music they create. This book documents the birth of a new music scene that is unique to London – Grime. If Kidulthood and Adulthood are the fiction then The Time of Grime is the fact.’ DJ Excalibah

9781904794479, HB, 232pp, 115 colour and 10 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £30.00
This guide to air rifle hunting skills and techniques is a must-have for anyone who wants to get the most from their airgun shooting and stay one step ahead of their quarry. The book covers the vast array of hunting techniques used by one of the country’s leading shooting writers.

Whether controlling pests on the farm or hunting meat for the pot, the airgun shooter has to pit his wits against the finely tuned senses of wild creatures that run the gauntlet of survival on a daily basis. Through this book, Mathew Manning shares his wealth of experience to help you tip the odds in your favour. The book covers in detail the skills of fieldcraft – the hunter’s deadliest weapon.

Join Mathew for a year in the countryside and learn how to read the signs provided by nature and then make the right decisions to enjoy consistent success in the field.

Mathew describes more than thirty hunting scenarios encountered through the year, from decoying crows and magpies and hide shooting for pigeons to long-range rabbiting and woodland squirrel control. He offers easy-to-follow guidance on how to pre-empt the habits of quarry species along with the various techniques and tactics he uses to exploit hunting opportunities throughout the year. There are also helpful notes on game preparation and a selection of favourite recipes, including Pigeon Pasties and Rabbit with Apple and Cider.

Mathew Manning lives in Somerset and has been a keen air rifle shooter for more than 20 years taking his first shot at the age of about ten. As a leading writer on the subject, he contributes monthly features in Air Gunner and Sporting Rifle magazines and has regular features in Countryman’s Weekly and the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) magazine Shooting and Conservation. Mathew’s previous book Hunting with Air Rifles was praised by reviewers and readers as being one of the best on the subject.
Hunting with Air Rifles is a complete guide to the basics of using an air rifle – a gun which is gaining in popularity in the UK. Covering all elements of the sport from the nitty gritty (though not frighteningly technical) workings of the air rifle to how to choose the right gun, using sights, ammunition, accessories, clothing, camouflage, setting up, shooting techniques/stances, the law and acquiring permission to shoot. Manning deals with quarry recognition and the relationship between the hunter, his/her quarry and the countryside. Hunting techniques for various species are included from stalking to hidebuilding, decoying, baiting, lamping and use of calls.

Air rifle hunting is one of the most humane ways of sourcing meat; animal welfare and organic standards can’t get much higher and food miles are minimal, yet proper game preparation is often neglected. Here, readers will find clear instructions on converting shot quarry into meat for the table along with a series of simple and delicious recipes.

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‘This new publication is, without doubt, one of the most authoritative to be made on the subject and now sits... in my personal airgunning book case, where it deservedly takes pride of place for its literary brilliance.’ Airgun Shooter

‘Mathew doesn’t waste words there’s no jargon, no bull, just a huge amount of good sense and years of experience from someone who knows air gunning inside out and can write about it clearly with real insight.’ Shooting and Conservation

9780857160010, HB, 176pp, 37 colour and 106 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £19.95
Berwick Rangers, whose tiny ground lies in the northernmost reaches of Northumberland, have been ploughing a lone English furrow in Scottish football for more than a century. In *The Lone Rangers*, Tom Maxwell explores the confused national identity of Berwick-upon-Tweed and its unique football club and talks to some of its greatest players who have worn the iconic black and gold shirt.

*The Lone Rangers* features interviews with a host of former international stars, including Gary Lineker, Ally McCoist, John Greig, Pat Nevin, Trevor Steven and Gordon McQueen. It tells the story of a tiny club that played a pivotal role in the career of Sir Alex Ferguson and for whom every fixture is an international. You’ll also find out if Berwick-upon-Tweed really is at war with Russia!

*Tom Maxwell* is a journalist and a lifelong Berwick Rangers F.C. fan.

‘Well-written, funny, absorbing and entertaining – all the joy and pain of British football’s true borderline madness!’

**Roddy Forsyth, BBC commentator and The Telegraph**

‘A strong contender for football book of the year’, *Backpass*

‘I never knew I could know so little about my local football team. The Lone Rangers has fixed that, however, in the most entertaining and humorous way.’

**Pat Nevin**, Ex-Chelsea and Everton footballer and 5 Live commentator

9780857160270, HB, 194pp, 3 colour and 18 b/w images, Available now, Rights: World, £17.99
Still recovering from the harrowing case that ended his police career, Doug Michie returns to his boyhood home of Ayr on Scotland’s wind-scarred west coast. He hopes to rebuild his shattered life, get over the recent failure of his marriage and shed his demons, but the years have changed the birthplace of the poet Robert Burns.

When Doug meets his old school-day flame Lyn, however, he feels his past may offer the salvation of a future. But, Lyn’s son has been accused of murder and she begs Doug to find the truth. Soon Doug is tangled in a complicated web of corrupt politicians, frightened journalists and a police force in cahoots with criminals. Only Burns’ philosophical musings offer Doug some shelter as he wanders the streets of Auld Ayr battling The Storm Without.

**Tony Black** is Irvine Welsh’s favourite British crime writer. The author of seven critically-acclaimed crime novels, his works include the Gus Dury PI series, an anthology of short stories called *Last Orders* and the second in the Doug Michie series *The Inglorious Dead*. Before turning to the novel, Black was an award-winning national newspaper journalist covering subjects as diverse as crime and nightclub reviews.

‘Another masterclass in Tartan Noir.’ *Daily Record*

‘This is an elegiac noir for the memory of a place, delivered in a prose as bleakly beautiful as the setting.’ *The Guardian*

Praise for Tony Black

‘Black’s dialogue and atmosphere crackle with authenticity.’ *The Times*

9780857160409, PB, 170pp, Available now, Rights: World, £7.99
Last Orders: An Anthology of Short Stories
Tony Black

Last Orders is an exciting and thrilling anthology of short crime fiction by the critically acclaimed crime writer Tony Black and features the return of reluctant Edinburgh investigator Gus Dury.

In the title story Dury receives a mysterious letter on expensive paper but is hesitant to take the case – but he needs the cash, though there’s something about his well-heeled client that doesn’t sit quite right. Meanwhile a low-life drug-dealer has a sudden change of heart as he takes revenge on his cheating partner in London Calling.

A victim of high school date rape settles the score, the crew of a bank job suspect that one of their number tipped off the police and so take their grisly retribution and a performance-enhanced bodybuilder loses control with bloody consequences in just some of the stories featured in this original collection.

Tony Black is Irvine Welsh’s favourite British crime writer. The author of seven critically-acclaimed crime novels, his works include the Gus Dury PI series, and The Storm Without and The Inglorious Dead in the Doug Michie series. Before turning to the novel, Black was an award-winning national newspaper journalist covering subjects as diverse as crime and nightclub reviews.

‘Ripping, gutsy prose and a witty wreck of a protagonist makes this exceptionally compelling, bright and even original.’ The Mirror

‘This up-and-coming crime writer isn’t portraying the Edinburgh in the Visit Scotland tourism ads.’ The Sun

‘The punk rocker of the Scottish Crime scene.’ Daily Record
The Inglorious Dead
Tony Black

The Inglorious Dead is the long anticipated follow up to The Storm Without by the critically acclaimed crime writer Tony Black and features the return of Burns-quoting Doug Michie.

Doug Michie is still holed up in Burns Country, trying to lick his wounds after the death of his mother and the disaster of his last case, when he finds himself something of a local celebrity in Ayrshire.

His name, it seems, is now synonymous with the eradication of corruption – but, living up to the expectations of others has never been a strong point of his.

After selling off the family home, he finds himself looking for something to fill his long days. What he finds is the case of a murdered member of the Orange Order, who could have been a poster-boy for the sectarian bigotry he despises so much.

His sense of justice is alerted when he hears the facts of the case and he feels compelled to dig deeper.

Uncovering a victim whose lifestyle was anything but wholesome, and with potential killers mounting up by the minute, Doug feels he has taken on an unsolvable case. Knowing the territory, and calling in old favours from contacts in the north of Ireland, Doug endeavours to root out the true reasons behind the Ayrshire killing, and finds a wider conspiracy than he ever imagined possible.

If you love hard boiled crime you’ll love this book.

Tony Black is Irvine Welsh’s favourite British crime writer. The author of seven critically-acclaimed crime novels, his works include the Gus Dury PI series, an anthology of short stories called Last Orders and the first in the Doug Michie series The Storm Without. Before turning to the novel, Black was an award-winning national newspaper journalist covering subjects as diverse as crime and nightclub reviews.

Praise for Tony Black

‘My favourite British Crime Writer.’ Irvine Welsh

‘The punk rocker of the Scottish Crime scene.’ Daily Record

‘Tony Black is the latest of the seemingly unending stream of good Scottish crime writers who have in common the ability to portray vividly the underbelly of Scottish inner-city criminality.’ The Times

Last Nightshift in Savar: The Story of the Spectrum Sweater Factory Collapse

Doug Miller

In April 2005 a factory making sweaters for the European market collapsed like a house of cards during the nightshift in Savar near Dhaka, Bangladesh. The circumstances of this disaster, which caused the deaths of 64 clothing workers and injured a further 84, proved to be a final straw for trade unionists and NGO activists who had long been concerned about the state of factory safety and the inadequacies of social protection in the Ready Made Garment industry in the South East Asian country.

Last Nightshift in Savar presents a detailed account of the national and international campaign efforts to bring the owner and his multinational buyers to book. It is also the story of the efforts of the international trade union, and NGO movement and of two men, in particular, to drive home change in compensation for industrial injury and fatality in the less developed world.

Doug Miller is a respected author and was previously the Inditex/ITGLWF Professor of Worker Rights in Fashion, in the School of Design at the University of Northumbria, Newcastle upon Tyne.

A Dictionary of North East Dialect
(3rd Ed)
Bill Griffiths

Abackabeyont, bait-poke, cracket, drucken, etten, fettle, guissie pigs, hoy, inbye, jowl, kist, lonnin, marra, nyen, plote, queen-cat, reckling, skinch, tew, upcast, vine, willok, yem, zookers! If you enjoy finding out about dialect words, how and where and when they were used and where they came from we think this internationally recognised book is the best guide yet to help you explore the world of North East dialect. Bill Griffiths has made good use of his PhD in Old English to help record, research and explain the special Features of this dialect, which is as old as the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, and as fresh as the stottie-cake in your local bakers.

Bill Griffiths, who died aged just 59 in 2007, was a poet, scholar, translator, radical, accomplished classical pianist, Hells Angel, pamphleteer and publisher.

‘In this dictionary Bill Griffiths provides a vivid guide, not only to the distinctive vocabulary of the North East, but also the ways in which dialect words contain echoes of the long history of the region and its People. By explaining the words he helps us to understand the place.’ Professor Keith Wrightson, Yale University

‘All this research is brought together in the dictionary, which has received international recognition as a serious contribution to modern dialect study.’ Citylife

Praise for Bill Griffiths

‘It will take time before the real significance of his life and work is appreciated, since it so clearly exceeds any of the usual measures of those things.’ Martin Wainwright, The Guardian

‘The poet Bill Griffiths was an extraordinary writer: radical, experimental and scholarly, but also fun. His was the poetry of a biker, a cook, a boat owner and a social historian. He was also a scholar of Old English and dialect who knew how to make his work accessible.’ The Independent

language & culture

Pitmatic: The Talk of the North East Coalfield
Bill Griffiths

‘His new book reveals an exceptionally rich combination of borrowings from Old Norse, Dutch and a score of other languages, with inventive usages dreamed up by the miners themselves.’ The Guardian


Stotty ‘n’ Spice Cake: The Story of North East Cooking (2nd Edition)
Bill Griffiths

‘Recipes remind us of how it used to be.’ The Journal
‘Traditional North East fare and cooking skills, served up with a helping of stories, poems and humour.’ Citylife


Fishing and Folk: Life and Dialect on the North Sea Coast
Bill Griffiths

‘Fishing and Folk is a detailed work that draws together history, etymology and socio-linguistics to produce an original and interesting perspective on communities which have changed almost beyond recognition over the past few decades.’ The Mariner’s Mirror (Journal of the Society for Nautical Research)

An Agenda for Regional History
Bill Lancaster, Diana Newton and Natasha Vall

‘This is a fascinating volume on regional history with many insights into English regional history in particular. Whilst it may not have set a single agenda for regional history, it certainly furnishes material for future agendas which, one hopes, will be as much interdisciplinary as historical.’ Journal of European Studies

Made in Newcastle: Visual Culture
Hilary Fawcett

‘A fascinating analysis of post-war culture through glimpses into everyday life on Tyneside’ HERO

‘An interesting, informative and important contribution to the critical study of changing regional identities.’ Manchester Region History Review

Geordies: Roots of Regionalism
Robert Colls and Bill Lancaster

Comments when first published included:
‘...the hard edged analysis is welcome’. New Statesman
‘...a celebration of North Eastern virtues, from the lovely countryside to the powerful cultural tradition’. The Guardian

9781904794240, PB, 344pp, 8 b/w Images, Available now, Rights: World, £14.95

9781904794264, PB, 198pp, 33 colour and 11 b/w Images, Available now, Rights: World, £11.95

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