

Our Season's Selection

At Ward Wood we have a few special things to offer you for the festive season.

- There's a competition to win publication of your own short collection with Ward Wood while helping to support the homeless in two London cold weather shelters.
- As a gift there's the alternative Christmas novel *Everything is Free* by Adele Ward, full of dark humour and FREE on Kindle for Christmas from December 1st to December 5th.
- And as an easy last minute Christmas present or easy gift for international giving, we have put most of our fiction and poetry on Kindle. You can even send a present if you miss the Christmas post!

Lumen/Camden Poetry competition

Win publication of your own short collection while helping the homeless in the cold weather.

See our website for our third annual poetry competition and your chance of publication. All profits go to two London cold weather shelters

Or buy last year's winner Bob Cooper and support the cold weather shelters. Your collection could be featured here next year!

www.wardwoodpublishing.co.uk/competitions.htm



Everything is Free Adele Ward

Available free for just 5 days on Amazon Kindle between December 1st and 5th. An alternative Christmas novel, with dark humour. Apt for anyone who doesn't want the usual seasonal sentimentality. Take a walk on the dark side this Christmas, and don't expect chick-lit even if one of the characters is a young woman surrounded by shops!

When homeless 19-year-old Mel steps into the Greenvale Shopping Centre she's only looking for a warm place to spend a cold London December. But behind its glittering displays the Greenvale hides dark corridors and each person who crosses Mel's path is about to be drawn in.

Mel's arrival sets in motion an unstoppable chain of events that will have a life-changing effect on anyone who gets close to her.

There's no privacy in the Greenvale, where technology reveals everything except for the identity of who is watching who.



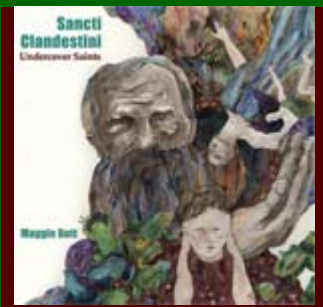
Sancti Clandestini Undercover Saints Maggie Butt

There are official Patron Saints of wax-melters, truss makers, lumberjacks, Florentine cheese merchants and disappointing children. This book proposes some alternative, imaginary saints, including the Patron Saints of liars, looters, rank outsiders, compulsive hoarders, old dogs and infidel girls. These undercover Patron Saints are sumptuously illustrated by the staff and students of Middlesex University's Illustration course, from famous and established artists to emerging talents.

Review:

'If the proof of a poem is in the richness of response it provokes, the illustrations here are that response made visible - a testimony to the subtle layers in this tender but incisive poetry. They are also delights in themselves.' Philip Gross

Not yet available on kindle



Always you, Edina V G Lee

Shortlisted for the Stonewall Award for Writer of the Year. The Stonewall Awards celebrate the outstanding contribution of individuals and groups towards lesbian, gay and bisexual equality, in the past year.

Bonnie Benson is visiting her grandmother in the Three Elms Nursing Home. 'Your dad was very different,' her grandmother tells her, 'not so easy to fathom but he had...well I suppose you'd call it sex appeal. Not only did he have it, but he knew he had it'.

Suddenly a childhood memory is triggered taking Bonnie back over four decades to her ten-year-old self living with her family in Birmingham. It is 1964 and Prince Philip is about to open the newly constructed Bull Ring. Bonnie has three idols in her life; Joanna Bayliss, the most popular girl at her school; glamorous, charismatic Aunt Ed, who 'could light up a room - if there was a man in that room'; and Bonnie's father, Ken. Bonnie observes the close relationship between Ed and Ken without comprehending the tragic repercussions it will have on both families.

Review

'Lee writes with unfailing warmth and wisdom about the comedy and complexity of childhood and family life. A real treat of a novel. I loved it.' Sarah Waters



That Twisted Thing Called truth Joe Stein

Garron is surviving. With regular bodyguarding work and a steady relationship, the ex-boxer is looking forwards for the first time since his fighting days. But when a job gives him the opportunity to find out what happened to an old friend, he finds himself in a place where he's fighting on a different level. Unable to trust his employer, damaging his relationship and running out of friends, Garron is forced to look at what he is, as well as what he does, while trying just to stay alive.

And when you're facing the Russian Mafia, staying alive might be more than you can hope for.



On Cigarette Papers Pam Zinnemann-Hope

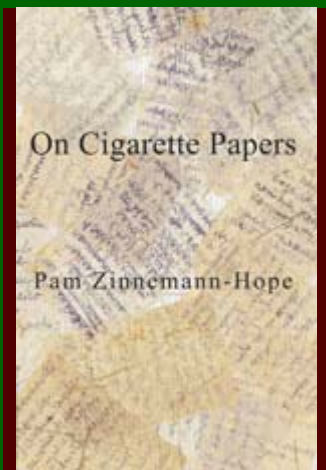
After her mother's death in 1990, Pam finds a tiny pile of cigarette papers with writing pencilled in Russian in her hand. Surely these are recipes? They are the starting point for a journey of discovery, stretching from 1905 to 1995, a story of love and exile, dislocation and survival, and of a daughter's search for identity, through lands physically and politically remote.

Review

'Um uns mach Dir keine Sorgen' – the message is one conveying the most terrifying news but with that one line, written on a tiny triangle of toilet paper, lies the unbelievable strength of character and determined resilience that runs like a seam through this extraordinary and compelling collection of poems. 'Don't worry about us'.

The unbearable poignancy of 'My Mother Tells' is one of the intense memories that were never discussed afterwards, leaving a loving daughter dislocated and unable to understand fully until her mother died and left behind a collection of papers and letters. On the fragile cigarette papers of the title were inscribed recipes in Russian; starving women conversing on food and eating, the universal language of hearth and home.

The same cigarette papers sent Pam Zinnemann-Hope on a voyage of discovery into the history of her family as they travelled the worst paths of repression and discrimination in 20th century Europe; this painfully honest and finely written collection is the result.' Fiona Waters



Happiness Comes From Nowhere Shauna Gilligan

Happiness Comes From Nowhere follows the lives of the Horn family: Mary, Sepp and Dirk. Their paths cross and intertwine with those of extended family, friends and acquaintances as journeys are made through the changing city of Dublin. People also venture further in search of happiness: Mary and Dirk wander the streets of Rome and Ita watches a cargo ship unload in Spain. Expressed in ways as different as suicide, art and sex, the inseparable pangs of loss and happiness – remembered and present – are threaded through the novel.

Reviews

The verdict: Fresh and original. The episodic structure suits the subject. Shauna Gilligan is a name to watch. *The Irish Examiner*

'A refreshingly thoughtful novel, poised and unpredictable. Delicious in its sensuous details and mischievous sense of humour. *Happiness Comes from Nowhere* is a truly impressive debut from a writer of exceptional talent.' Éilís Ní Dhuibhne

'In Shauna Gilligan's unsettling novel-in-stories, Dirk has troubles that his mother Mary may not be able to right, much as she tries. Gilligan writes intimately of one mother's possessiveness, devotion and ambition for her son. Rich with insight, this is a book that informs as much as it haunts. As a début it is a very fine piece of work.' Nuala Ní Chonchúir

Happiness Comes from Nowhere is the sort of book that rewards a single reading; the parts fit together like a jigsaw, and it's nice to keep them fairly close in one's mind so that the narrative thread remains pretty whole. I liked the way that characters were introduced and having bit parts in one story then become the centre of a later story. And yet, although each part can stand alone, there is a narrative development about loss, which comes together towards the end. Anne B Ryan, Author of *Enough is Plenty*

'A daring and truthful book. Gilligan shows us her characters through time and from many angles, charting their troubles and triumphs and changing natures, and those of Dublin itself, with great sensitivity and a deftness of touch. *Happiness Comes From Nowhere* is a poignant, assured first book.' Trevor Byrne



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