



Newsletter

Issue 3

August 2015

This is the third newsletter from The Inca Project. As usual we are appealing to you for input as we want you to feel involved and make it belong to all of us. If you have any ideas for what you would like to see, please contact me at bridgep@incaproject.co.uk as we would value your input. This is our way of staying in touch, introducing new members, their work and bringing us all up to date with the latest goings-on.

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Welcome New Members

Since June we are delighted to welcome:

Gautam Choudhury
Lesley Hayes
Jo Lawson
Maria Mallon
Phillip Smith

If you have recently joined us and you aren't in this list, please let us know and we will include you next time.

New Books Listing

Arabella, a Picture of Beauty – Phil Curwood
Bells on Her Toes – Maria Mallon
Damp Dogs and Rabbit Wee – Colin Jackson
I-Robert - Robert Rankin (*coming soon*)
The Miracle – Orinoco II – Robert Wingfield
Starfire Flight (updated version) – Robert Wingfield
The Sixpenny Tiger – Jeanette Ford (*coming soon*)
Third Time Lucky – Jo Lawson

You will find synopses at the end of the newsletter.

If we have missed your book, we apologise, please let us know and we will include it in the next newsletter.

Round-up

Please let us know when you have new books published and send us a sample and brief summary so that we can add them to the Inca book page: (<http://www.incaproject.co.uk/portfolio.html>) and advertise them on Facebook and Twitter.

Have a look at the author interviews on this link:

http://www.incaproject.co.uk/author_interviews.html#Interviews **Do download the form to fill in for us - publicity for you as we will link on Twitter and Facebook.**

Articles and Columns

Callaghan Grant has let us know about some articles she has written. She recently wrote for the magazine called "The Other Side Press" – have a look at this link: www.theothersidepress.com

Also, check out this link for her column called "Constant Companion":

<http://theothersidepress.com/we-are-cause-2018>

If that has whetted your appetite, here is a link to the books that Callaghan has written

http://www.amazon.com/C-Callaghan-Grant/e/B00OVU62WA/ref=ntt_dp_epwbk_0

Jemahl Evans - There is an excellent little review of *The Last Roundhead* in the Times Supplement - August 15th 2015. It has been picked as one of the UK's top ten books being released in August by Netgalley (<https://www.netgalley.com/>).

"A hero who owes much to the legendary Flashman, is drinking and whoring his way through the English Civil War. Sir Blandford Candy, an aged roué, recounts his youthful adventures in 'The Last Roundhead'. After the unfortunate seduction of his brother's wife, Sir Blandford finds himself embroiled in the violence erupting between King and Parliament. A roundhead by accident, rather than by conviction, he becomes a scout, or spy, in the service of the parliamentary army, uncovering royalist plots and avoiding his irascible, cavalier brothers... the research is impeccable and the writing full of verve.'

Personal Reviews

It would be great if you were to do a review for each of the books you read, but note that personal tastes vary and we would be disappointed if you rated anything less than top marks. We endeavour to make sure each book featured on the site is a good and entertaining read. If you don't like it, please don't give it a low rating; rather say nothing, or feed back suggestions for the writer to take on board and improve the story. You can do this via the Incas if you want to do it anonymously.

This is also on our terms of reference page at:

<http://www.incaproject.co.uk/reference.html>

Also on the 'The Project' drop-down there is a link to testimonials - you could ask people if they have anything nice to say about the Inca Project to submit it to add to that collection.

Some new links on the website:

Pre-Editors and Editors, is a site for all things literary (and other art). It includes details on how to avoid being scammed, and also a list of everything you need to know about finding publishers and agents.

<http://www.pred-ed.com/>

Further information on things to be looked out for when going for agents can be found on the 'Writers Beware' site

<http://www.sfga.org/other-resources/for-authors/writer-beware/>

Here is a worldwide resource for agencies. We can't guarantee that they are all genuine, but it is a starting point.

<http://www.literaryrejections.com/agency-database/>

Publishing and Promoting

Some questions have recently been asked concerning publishing and promoting. Here are a few thoughts - please feel free to contact us and add/amend/violently disagree if you wish.

“I've been advised that I need to set up a website/blog”

Marketing via Website/blog – we think it's a waste of time really - nobody ever reads tweets or blogs unless you are big-time. Best stick with Facebook/Twitter and resist the temptation to put jokes, food and inspirational sayings on there - instead, promote the book and put in stuff useful to your chums/family/followers/stalkers. Let us have anything you'd like to promote on the Inca page and Twitter as we do have a good number of people following and commenting on that medium, as well as a host of 'promoters'.

@twodansmith

@inca_project

<https://www.facebook.com/IncaProject>

“How do I raise my profile without incurring cost? How do I give me and my book a bit of publicity?”

For self-promotion, try the local papers (human interest story), the local library, get some printed copies to hand out in/to the local bookshop. Also, have a look at our new Inca pages with links to agents and publishers - a whole list there, and send copies of the book off to them - try Bloomsbury, the Harry Potter publisher first - they may be after something new since Rowling has gone strange. (Thinks: if you buy the printed copies for yourself, it puts your sales up anyway. You could crank the cost down to a minimum on Createspace, then buy your own samples at the lowest price; once you've got them, you can put the price up again - you don't get royalties, but that keeps the tax man off your back, and improves your book's visibility; profit is not the focus at this stage).

“How can I access ‘About the Author’ on Amazon?”

Author central = <https://authorcentral.amazon.com/gp/home> and

<https://authorcentral.amazon.co.uk/gp/home> - you have to update both - there is no overlap.

Note: it is well worth doing this - new readers often look at the author profile before deciding to buy, so if you can make them laugh/cry/retch in this text then you might get more sales.

New Book Summaries

Arabella, a Picture of Beauty – Phil Curwood

Nathan Rothwell is a renowned crime fiction writer, famous not just for his 'Detective John Ranger' novels, but also for his irresponsible hedonistic lifestyle. At his friend and agent's house he stumbles across a portrait of a beauty from Lytefoot Hall some 200 years ago, the beguiling Lady Arabella. For reasons beyond him, he becomes infatuated with her and when he finds himself house-sitting at the Hall, begins to leave his old world behind and attempts to start writing a romantic novel about her. The Hall has other ideas and the very first night he is drawn into a ghostly mystery by a haunting melody. He seeks help in the form of a psychic, but is she all she seems to be, and is she all part of the horrible scenario? He finds himself dragged down into the lives of the spectres of the past, never forgetting, never forgiving. The mansion carries awful memories, memories that intertwine with Nathan's life in a way to make him fall hopelessly in love with the ghost of Arabella and put his life at risk. His love for her is to come at a terrible price...

Bells On Her Toes – Maria Mallon

DCI Peter Hatherall is called in to investigate a shooting on the Earl of Ditchburn's country estate. The Earl's activities have angered animal rights and environmental groups but subsequent deaths suggest Elmsgrove Racehorse Yard is the target. There is more at stake than a horse race and time is running out for Hatherall to solve the case before the culprit kills again.

Damp Dogs and Rabbit Wee – Colin Jackson

Cast off; ripped off; cheesed off. When redundancy strikes for the second time in two years, an ex-bank manager is thrust into the world of the self-employed through a desire to eat and meet his mortgage payments. A series of animal-related vignettes, present an amusing, charming and compassionate look at the life of a Pet Professional. All right - dog walker. From the scary to the farcical; the tender to the messy and the cute to the psychopaths - you've got to laugh. Smile, at least. Proving there's more to dog walking than simply walking dogs, DAMP DOGS & RABBIT WEE is a humorous, light read that will appeal to all pet owners, animal lovers and yes, dog walkers.

I-Robert - Robert Rankin

The long awaited autobiography of the still living author of the best comedy and steampunk fiction ever written - the late great Terry Pratchett once said "He is the only author who can make me actually laugh out loud."

The Miracle – Orinoco II – Robert Wingfield

The Sequel to Starfire Flight. Swallows and Amazons for the 21st Century. Springtime, and Terry and Paul are looking forward to getting their beloved dinghy, Orinoco, back on the water. Perhaps this year they can concentrate on sailing without running across any criminal gangs or having another adventure searching for treasure. Unfortunately the gang has other ideas. As witnesses, the boys and their older siblings, BJ and Graham, are the main link to putting them behind bars, and anything might happen before the trial in

six months' time. All they have to do is lie low at their new cottage in the Lakes, keep out of trouble and not use Facebook... easier said than done.

Adventures intrigue and treachery, and that's just a normal day's sailing.

The Sixpenny Tiger – Jeanette Ford

When Sally Golding achieves her dream job, to work caring for children in a 'home', she becomes deeply involved with the children. One in particular, Davey, touches her heart. The older brother to John, he is often blamed for John's misdeeds by his housemother Marjorie, who seems to have taken a great dislike to him. Davey's problems become much worse when Marjorie meets and marries his father Tony Adams and the two boys go back home to live with them. Marjorie subjects Davey to violent abuse; Davey dreams of finding Sally and her becoming his mother.

But Sally has problems of her own. Now in an abusive marriage, she needs all her strength to cope. And Joe, who is in love with Sally, is struggling to keep his life together having lost her to Evan, her husband.

However, fate has things in store for all of them. Will Davey manage to escape from his personal hell? Will Joe finally achieve his dream to be with Sally? And what of Marjorie – what is it that happened in her life to make her the way she is with Davey?

Starfire Flight (new version) – Robert Wingfield

Swallows and Amazons meets The Famous Five for the 21st Century. Two boys strike up a friendship when they unexpectedly acquire the same sailing-boat. This vessel turns out to be the first of a series of clues, leading them ever on with the promise of treasure. The boys have to master the craft of sailing in order to follow the trail, and as the quest takes on a life of its own, they get into deep water with a brutal pirate and a ruthless criminal gang. Will they be able to escape with their lives?

Third Time Lucky – Jo Lawson

Three damaged women scarred emotionally and physically from their past.

Three individual battles to fight:

Beth's friends meant everything to her. Unlike all of the others who claimed they cared, she knew differently. Betrayal and pain became her every day life but they were always there, protecting her from the evils which followed her every move. Letting them go would be so incredibly difficult, but Beth knew that despite their pleas, she had to destroy them.

All Lizzie had ever wanted was to be Mummy's little angel but the nightmares continue to haunt her, tormenting her mind and creating the all-familiar rage within the confines of her soul. Would she ever find the strength to confront the cause and lead a normal life once again?

How could Elise live without her fix? Didn't the doctors understand that the drugs hid the horrors of her past? Didn't they realise that they made life bearable? And really, would life be worth living without them?