



# SLEUTHS!

ENGLISH RIVIERA  
FESTIVAL OF  
CRIME & THRILLER WRITING



20th-25th April 2010

**Simon Brett** is best known for his detective novels: the Charles Paris series, the Mrs. Pargeter series and the Fethering series. His latest novel is *Blotto, Twink and the Ex-King's Daughter* (2009) which introduces the brother and sister sleuthing duo, Blotto and Twink.

**Diane Janes** was originally a writer in her spare time and was short-listed twice for the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger. She is now a full member of the association and a full time author of both fiction and investigative non-fiction specialising in crime.

**Michael Jecks**, a resident of Dartmoor, writes the best-selling series of medieval crime novels featuring former Knight Templar, Sir Baldwin Furnhill, and bailiff Simon Puttock. Together with Bernard Knight he is one of the 'medieval murderers' group of crime writers.

**Professor Bernard Knight, C.B.E.** a one-time forensic scientist, returns for his second year of Sleuths. Knight has written various crime novels including *The Crowner John Series* of 12th century historical mysteries.

**M.C. Beaton** is the best-known pen name for the hugely prolific author Marion Chesney. She is the best-selling writer of the *Hamish Macbeth* novels (televised starring Robert Carlisle) and *Agatha Raisin* (which starred Penelope Keith in a BBC Radio production), as well as the regency romances under her own name.

**Mike Holgate** lives in Torquay and is a *Devon Life* feature writer and author of several true life crime books including: *Murder & Mystery on the Great Western Railway*, *Jack The Ripper: The Celebrity Suspects* and *The Man They Could Not Hang*.

**Ann Cleeves** is Harrogate Crime-Writing Festival's reader in residence, and is also a member of the 'Murder Squad', working with other northern writers to promote crime fiction. In 2006 Ann was awarded the Duncan Lawrie Dagger for Best Crime Novel, for *Raven Black*. Ann lives in North Tyneside.

**Andrew Puckett** worked for the NHS for twenty one years, fifteen of them as a microbiologist. The Taunton-based writer and teacher has published eleven novels and will be sharing his expertise in a crime-writing workshop.

**Graham Hurley** is a former award winning ITV documentary producer and director who also penned the television drama *Rules of Engagement*, which launched his writing career. He draws on his home town of Portsmouth for the bestselling crime series featuring DI Joe Faraday and DC Paul Winter.

**Sleuths! is brought to you by:**

- Bijou Theatre Company
- Princess Theatre
- Culture & Environment Partnership
- Toorak Hotel
- English Riviera Tourist Board
- The Torbay Bookshop
- Greenway Ferry
- Torbay Hospitality Association
- Greenway House, National Trust
- Torbay Libraries
- Murder Made To Measure
- Torbay Poetry Society
- Paignton & Dartmouth Steam Railway
- Torquay Museum
- Palace Theatre, Paignton
- Torre Abbey

**Greenway House Sea and River Voyage**

See Wednesday a.m. for full details.

**An Audience with Ann Cleeves**

**12.00 hrs. Paignton Library Learning Centre, Courtland Road, Paignton TQ3 2AB**

**Tickets: £5.00 from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**Meet Graham Hurley**

**13.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton TQ3 3HF**

A chance to talk the the bestselling creator of DI Faraday. Pop into the Palace Theatre bar to hear tales of a life of crime. With book signing session. **Tickets: FREE**

**Poison Pens! Crime Writing Workshop with Andrew Puckett**

**14.30 hrs. The Paignton Club, The Esplanade, Paignton**

An essential workshop for all budding crime writers.

**Tickets: £10.00 from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**CWA Young Crime Writers Competition Area Awards**

**14.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

Young writers from schools and colleges across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay have been setting their creative skills to crafting great crime stories. The shortlist of suspects will be presented, with the regional winner going through to the national awards in June.

**Tickets: FREE from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**Murder in Mind**

**19.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

**Tickets from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

Sunday 25th April

**Greenway House Sea and River Voyage**

See Wednesday a.m. for full details.

**Crime Writers' Book Fair**

**10.00-16.00 hrs. Torquay Museum, 529 Babbacombe Road, Torquay, TQ1 1HG**

Over 15 books stalls - all with crime writing aplenty - and a variety of reading to suit all tastes.

**Entrance: £1.00 on the door, to include entrance to the museum. (01803 293975)**



M. C. Beaton



Simon Brett



Ann Cleeves



Diane Janes



Mike Holgate



Graham Hurley



Michael Jecks



Bernard Knight



Andrew Puckett

- Poison Pens Crime Writing Workshop**
- Murder Mystery Dinners & Steam Train adventures**
- The Young Crime Writers Awards 2010**
- Medieval Mayhem at Torre Abbey**
- Murder at Greenway ...and more!**

**Ticket & information hotline**

**01803 665800**

Open 10:30 to 5:30 Mon-Fri, 10.30 to 4.00 Saturdays

For online information and accommodation visit [www.englishriviera.co.uk/sleuths](http://www.englishriviera.co.uk/sleuths)

Tuesday 20th April

**An Afternoon with Simon Brett and guest Diane Janes**

**14.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

The event will include book signings. **Tickets: £5.00 from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**Murder Mystery Dining Train**

**19.00-23.00 hrs. Paignton and Dartmouth Steam Railway, Torbay Road, Paignton, TQ4 6AF**

Join the Paignton and Dartmouth Steam Railway aboard the Riviera Belle Dining Train for an evening of murder and mystery in conjunction with the Candlelight Theatre Company. Period dress welcome. **Tickets: £49.95 from Paignton & Dartmouth Steam Railway (01803 555872)**

**Murder & Mystery on the English Riviera - the musical!**

**19.00 hrs. Torquay Library, Lymington Road, Torquay, TQ1 3DT**

Mike Holgate presents his popular one-man show featuring songs and stories from the English Riviera's sensational past. Find out about the man they could not hang, the Titanic helmsman jailed for attempted murder in Torquay and the spiritualist who unmasked Jack the Ripper!

**Tickets: Book your free ticket at Torquay Library (01803 208300)**

Wednesday 21st April

**Greenway House Sea and River Voyage**

**10.45 hrs. from Princess Pier, Torquay,**

**11.15 hrs. from Brixham Harbour**

Immerse yourself in a world of Agatha Christie with this fabulous day out. Join us aboard the heritage vessel the Fairmile for your exclusive cruise around the beautiful Devon coastline to the River Dart and then on to Greenway Estate (now owned by the National Trust). Trip includes a full commentary.

**Tickets: NT Members Adult £19, Concession £18, Family (2+2) £60. Non-NT Members (to include cruise and entrance to Greenway House & Garden) Adult £25, Child £15, Concession £24, Family (2+2) £75; from Greenway Quay and Ferry Service (0845 489 0418)**



**Mayhem in the Middle Ages**

**with Michael Jecks and Bernard Knight**

**14.30 hrs. Spanish Barn, Torre Abbey, The Kings Drive, Torquay TQ2 5JE**

The ticket price includes a tour of Torre Abbey, which can be taken throughout the day (but must be pre-booked). **Tickets: £10.00 from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**Murder in the Abbey**

**18.00 hrs. Torre Abbey and the Toorak Hotel, Kings Drive, Torquay, TQ2 5JE**

Not an evening for the faint-hearted! A sudden death in the beautiful and mysterious Torre Abbey! After the shock enjoy a delicious three course meal at the Toorak Hotel and solve the crime with Murder Made To Measure.

**Tickets: £35.00 from the Toorak Hotel (01803 400400) and Torquay Tourist Information Centre (01803 211211)**  
**Tickets must be pre-booked**

**Evening Tour of Greenway House**

**18.30-20.00 hrs. Greenway House, Galmpton, nr Brixham, TQ5 OES**

Evening tour of the holiday home of Agatha Christie, followed by wine and nibbles in the café.

**Tickets: £15 from Greenway Property Office (01803 842382)**

**Murder in Mind - a play by Terence Feely**

**19.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

A play performed by the Bijou Theatre Company revolving around Mary, an international art dealer who arrives home to find three strangers claiming to be her husband, cousin and sister, with knowledge about intimate details of her family life. The situation is further complicated by the sudden appearance of a murdered man.

**Tickets: £10.00 with concessions from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

Thursday 22nd April

**Greenway House Sea and River Voyage**

See Wednesday a.m. for details.

**An Audience with MC Beaton**

**14.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

The event will include a book signing.

**Tickets: £5.00 from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

**Murder at the Princess**

**19.00 hrs. Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay, TQ2 5EZ**

An evening of sophistication and suspense and fun - as you bend your detective skills to solving the mystery of "Who Killed John Wilkie?"

A 'Whodunnit Dinner Date' from Murder Made To Measure.

**Tickets: £32.50 (01803 380842)**

**Pre-booking essential.**

**Murder in Mind**

**19.30 hrs. Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

**Tickets from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**

Friday 23rd April

**Greenway House Sea and River Voyage**

See Wednesday a.m. for details.

**Master Sleuths Team Quiz and Cream Tea**

**14.30 hrs. Breezes Café, Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay, TQ2 5EZ**

It's time to put the detective hats on for this master mind quiz! Teams of four compete.

**Tickets: £5.00 from the Princess Theatre (01803 380842) and The Torbay Bookshop (01803 522011).**

**Crime Rhymes: Saints and Sinners**

**16.30-18.00 hrs. Cockington Court, Cockington, Torquay, TQ2 6XA**

POETSfriday presents Saints and Sinners on Saint George's Day! Listen to poetry readings about chivalry and immorality while enjoying afternoon tea at Cockington Court Tea Rooms.

**Tickets: £6.00 from Cockington Court Tea Rooms, Cockington Court. (01803 607651)**

**Murder at Greenway**

**19.30 hrs. Greenway House, Galmpton, nr Brixham, TQ5 OES**

Murder and mayhem are afoot at Greenway House. Enjoy an exclusive and delicious dinner in Agatha Christie's dining room and experience a fantastic performance by the Candlelight Theatre Company. Throughout the evening take the chance to flex your detective skills and guess who-dunnit, or simply sit back and enjoy the spectacular show.

**Tickets: £50 from Greenway Property Office (01803 842382)**

**Murder in Mind**

**19.30 Palace Theatre, Palace Avenue, Paignton, TQ3 3HF**

**Tickets from the Palace Theatre (01803 665800)**



Look out for the Agatha Christie Festival 12th - 19th September 2010 with 120th anniversary celebrations [www.englishriviera.co.uk/agathachristie](http://www.englishriviera.co.uk/agathachristie)