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Wenlock Books
Independent Bookseller of the Year 2006

Newsletter – September / October 2009

Reading Groups: please enquire at the shop if you are interested in joining any of the reading groups listed below.

Apologies for long delay since the last newsletter: I have been hard at work on the new Wenlock Poetry Festival <http://www.wenlockpoetryfestival.org/> Plans are going well and it's going to be a fabulous festival!

Please note: I have had various email challenges recently: if you have emailed me and have NOT had a reply, please resend your original message: thanks!

EVENTS

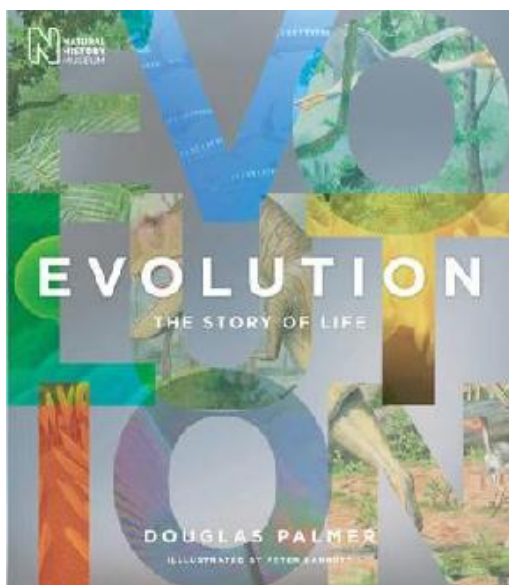
Evolution - September 11th

Wildlife artist Peter Barrett talked about the challenges of illustrating "Evolution" at Shrewsbury School recently - with a power-point screening of 100 double page spreads of water-colour illustrations, all based on fossil evidence found in different parts of the world: Three and a half billion years of evolutionary life in a fabulous book. I have some signed copies of this superb book in stock, do come and take a look. (It's a perfect Christmas present!)

Booker - September 30th

Please note Booker short-list now out! Prize night is October 6th - and we will meet for our (traditional) Booker Supper on Wednesday September 30th to discuss what we have read. See short-list attached. If you would like to join us, please feel free to read any of the books on the short-list OR contact me to see if there are any books on the list that no one has selected yet. If you have read a book on the long-list that hasn't made it through to the short-list - please still come and take part - we can have an interesting discussion about what didn't make it, and why! (The two main surprises are Colm Toibin and William Trevor).

<http://www.themanbookerprize.com/news/stories/1275>



The way the supper works is that we all bring food to share - you can choose starter, main or pud - and there is no real need to co-ordinate - we'll take pot-luck. I just ask that all food should be veggie please. Also a bottle of something to share. Judith Boot very kindly hosts this event for us at her home in Homer - details and directions available from me when you book. We will meet at 6.30pm for a 7pm supper followed by our discussion.

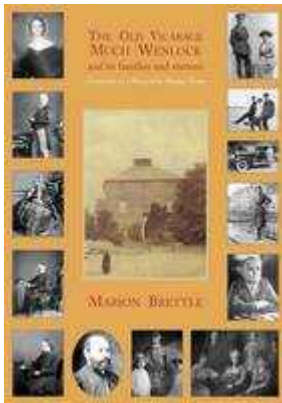
The way the discussion works is that everyone comes prepared to talk about the book or books they have read, and to say whether or not they think they are worthy Booker winners. At the end of the evening we as a group, pick a "winner" and then we sit back and see what happens on October 5-th: it's all good fun! (You can see how right or wrong we got it last year by going to

<http://wenlockbooks.blogspot.com/2008/10/white-tiger-and-portillos-socks.html>)



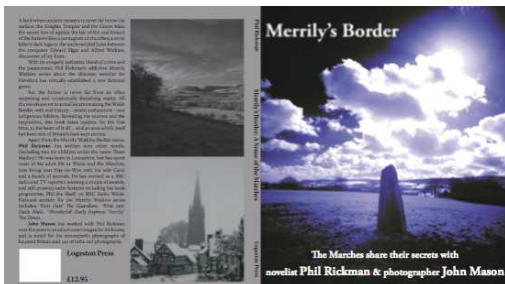
Ruth Padel - October 2nd.

Tickets are now on sale at the bookshop and at the Edge (01952 728509) - don't delay!



The Old Vicarage - October 10th

There will be a chance to have tea at the Old Vicarage in Much Wenlock and to talk to Marion Brettle about her recently published social history of the Old Vicarage. Tickets will be on sale from Wenlock Books.



Phil Rickman - October 17th

Phil will be with us again for tea and talk around the table on Saturday October 17th from 3pm. Phil's new book is Merrily's Border, from Logaston Press, publishers of many books on Welsh border history and folklore, archaeology and topography, in high-quality paperback and hardback.

READING & POETRY GROUPS

8th September: weekly poetry club for children aged 7 to 9. 4.30pm £2.50

9th September: The Secret Scripture by Sebastian Barry 2pm & 7pm £6.50

11th September: Poetry Appreciation at Little Wenlock (strictly pre-booking required)

18th September: monthly reading group for older children 11+ 5.00pm £2.50

25th September: Reading Supper at Little Wenlock - reading Property by Valerie Martin. 6.30pm. £10. Bring a bottle. (strictly pre-booking required)

2nd October: monthly reading group for younger readers aged 9 to 11. 4.30 £2.50

14th October: Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe 2pm & 7pm

16th October: monthly reading group for older children 11+ 5.00pm £2.50

21st October: tea & tittle with Persephone Books - Brook Evans by Susan Glaspell 2pm £6.50

23rd October: Poetry Appreciation at Little Wenlock (strictly pre-booking required).

END OF AN ERA

The lovely Ruth is standing down and Sally (back from New Zealand) is coming into the shop on a three-day week basis. Ruth will be much missed, but has agreed to be "on-call" so I am happy that we shall still see her. Our connection with Ruth also continues through Friends of Conakry Refugee School: with the agreement and blessing of the Deaf Africa Fund which we have supported for over ten years, Wenlock Books is very proud to now be supporting the work of the Friends of Conakry Refugee school: <http://www.fcrs.org.uk>, a charity founded by Ruth and her daughter Tanya. We shall continue to offer our charity books scheme, whereby people donate books to us and we collect donations as people take the books. We will continue to clear out our old stock on a regular basis and donate these books to the charity boxes. We are also happy to take peoples' second hand books and value them, then to give that amount to the charity so that people like you can give your books to charity and know that all money raised from them will go straight to Conakry School. We will support the charity in whatever ways we can and we are very pleased that bookshop customers are already involved with Friends and are working hard on their behalf. If you have any ideas of how the

*bookshop can help Conakry School, just let us know!
Please note we ARE still collecting spectacles and
stamps for the Deaf Africa Fund.*



POETRY FESTIVAL

*We shall be launching the Wenlock Poetry Festival on
Thursday October 8th - National Poetry Day! Watch
the press! Festival dates are 9 - 11 April 2010.*

Best wishes,

Paula