

CHARLCOMBE BOOKS

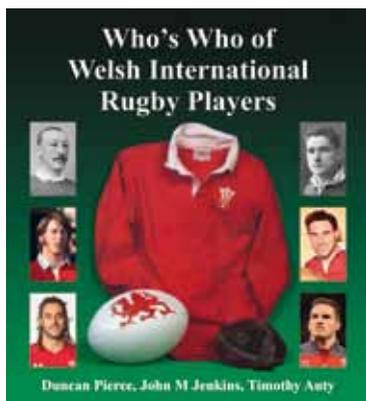
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Charlcombe Books is a side venture of Fairfield Books, a service that we offer occasionally to authors when we have time. We use our experience to design and help books into print but, unlike the titles we publish as Fairfield Books, the main publishing processes – financing, editing and selling – are left in the hands of the authors.

The latest Charlcombe Books titles, available from us here, are:

Who's Who of Welsh International Rugby Players

by Duncan Pierce, John M Jenkins and Timothy Auty



Containing biographies of all the 1,148 men who have represented Wales between 1881 and the summer of 2018. With 161 photographs – portraits, team groups and action shots – and comprehensive appendices.

This is an essential work of reference for anyone with the least interest in Welsh rugby. It is a staggeringly detailed but always human encyclopaedia, meticulously researched and brilliantly excavated. Who would have thought a mere directory could be so enthralling? If you think it might be dull, think again. Take a look and be engrossed, as I was and still am.

Professor Gareth Williams

Welsh rugby historian

244-page large-format hardback, £25

The Memory Detectives *by Julia Amos, with illustrations by Susanna Kendall*

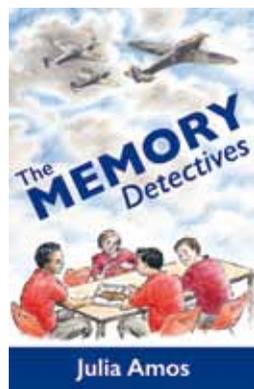
Written for 9-to-12-year-olds, this illustrated children's story introduces the subject of memory loss. A group of three boys, together with a newly arrived Polish girl, discover that an old lady in a care home has flown aeroplanes during the war. Their interest, together with their access to the internet, bring the old lady's memories flooding back – with a delightful outcome.

The book is honest about the challenges that memory loss can pose, with ups and downs in the story, but ultimately this is a tale of developing appreciation and friendship between people of the same and of very different generations.

When dementia strikes an elderly lady, four young friends succeed in unlocking the secrets of her past. An exquisitely touching story about a little known part of World War 2 history.

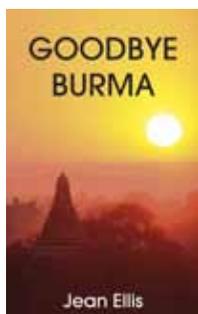
Gill Trueman

Finalist, School Librarian of the Year Award 2012



64-page softback, £6

Goodbye Burma by Jean Ellis



250-page
softback, £9

The dramatic story of a family fleeing Burma as Japanese troops invade the country in 1942. It follows the fortunes of different family members as they join the masses leaving their homes, trekking out on treacherous routes through the mountains to the safety of India. Drawing on her own family's documents and memories, **Jean Ellis** reimagines their experiences: their personal preoccupations, their loves and losses. Candid in its portrayal of the social divisions and administrative failures of the collapsing British raj, **Goodbye Burma** is a warm-hearted, deeply human story of end of empire.

Jean Ellis's elegiac *Goodbye Burma* is a joy to read. She skilfully weaves a seamless robe of fact, fiction, family history and the complex political and military history of Burma. The result is a dynamic, tense and gripping yarn.

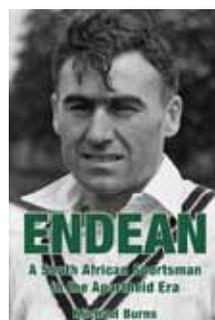
Michael D. Leigh

Author of 'Evacuation of Civilians from Burma'

Endean – A South African Sportsman in the Apartheid Era by Michael Burns

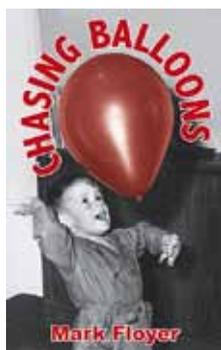
This is not strictly a Charlcombe Books title, as the author has his own Nightwatchman Books, but it has come about in the same way, with us helping him to bring it into print. It is a biography of the late **Russell Endean** who played 28 Tests for South Africa in the 1950s. He then moved to England where he settled in Surrey, playing alongside the author for the Malden Wanderers club.

Michael Burns, who has produced several films for MCC, is the author of the recent biography of the pre-WWI Surrey cricketer Jack Crawford, *A Flick of the Fingers*. Endean's children have given him access to scrapbooks, letters and photographs, which allows him to colour in the sporting story with flavours of the time.



144-page hardback,
well illustrated, £15

Chasing Balloons by Mark Floyer

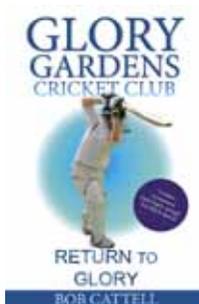


What happens when a man is struck down by a terminal case of Cricket Fever? How does he square this condition with the demands of normal life? The answer might be to become a schoolmaster: gentle mornings of chalk and talk, followed by endless afternoons on the cricket pitch ... **Chasing Balloons** recounts Mark Floyer's journey from boy to geriatric, through the classrooms and cricket grounds of Middle England, in pursuit of the perfect cover drive.

Mark Floyer is a teacher, poet and amateur cricketer. He lives in rural West Devon with his wife Snezzy, four dogs, six cats and a shed full of Wisdens.

96-page softback, £10

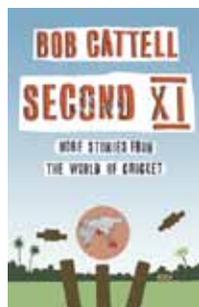
THREE BOOKS BY BOB CATTELL



160-page
softback, £8



144-page
softback, £7



160-page
softback, £8

Return to Glory

After a gap of 15 years, **Bob Cattell** has come back to Glory Gardens with **Return to Glory**, where the boys and girls go off to Australia to play an ‘Ashes’ series. It is a good story, the matches are exciting, and Bob has a lovely way of working in little bits of cricket coaching. There is also a glossary of cricket terms at the back, with brief explanations of the laws. Ideal for nine- to eleven-year-olds.

The Glory Gardens cricketers are back and the series shows no sign of tiring. In my view this is the best yet. Bob Cattell is a master of the hard art of spinning a gripping story from the cricket matches played while quietly educating young readers and old on the finer points of the game ... Excellent, excellent, excellent! I am 24 now and the Glory Gardens series keeps pulling me back for a re-read every year or two. Indescribably happy to hear it was ‘returning’ ... My son just loves these books. They have encouraged him to read like no other books.

Reviews on Amazon

First XI – Eleven Stories of the World of Cricket

Eleven cricket-themed short stories, each one set in a different country. This is the first venture into writing for adults by **Bob Cattell**, whose series of books about the Glory Gardens cricket team were so popular with children in the 1990s.

Second XI – More Stories from the World of Cricket

The mysterious obituary of a woman cricketer in Auckland. A young Australian killer under siege by the police. Sherlock Holmes’s extraordinary day at the Oval. These and other stories (eleven of them plus a sub) comprise Bob Cattell’s second collection of short stories. As with **First XI**, each is set in a different country.

Second XI suffers no drop in standard from its predecessor.

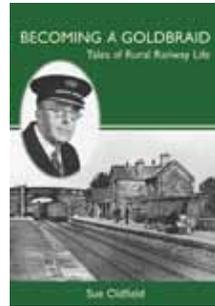
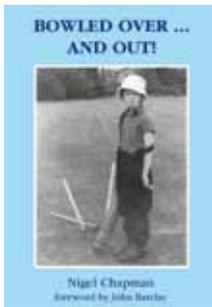
It is a fine piece of cricketing fiction and a thoroughly enjoyable read.

The Cricketer magazine

Written with a lightness of touch that belies some occasionally dark themes.

All Out Cricket magazine

OLDER TITLES STILL IN PRINT



Bowled Over ... and Out! by Nigel Chapman

Cricketing tales from a retired prep school headmaster who played for Felsted School, Essex 2nd XI and Oxfordshire.
Hardback, 128 pages, £10

Watch Out! 'Ere Comes Burfy by Malcolm Johnson

Recollections of a childhood growing up in the Odd Down district of Bath and 46 years of playing cricket for the local Hampset club, written by the retired Head of Modern Languages at Dauntsey's School.
Softback, 128 pages, £10

Becoming A Goldbraid – Tales of Rural Railway Life by Sue Oldfield

A collection of the writings of James Herbert Dodson, Kirbymoorside station master between the wars, with a biographical introduction by his grand-daughter.

Softback, 96 pages, £12