

## Coffee Stained Pages:

The latest from 'Writers Plot Readers Read'.

## Quilts:



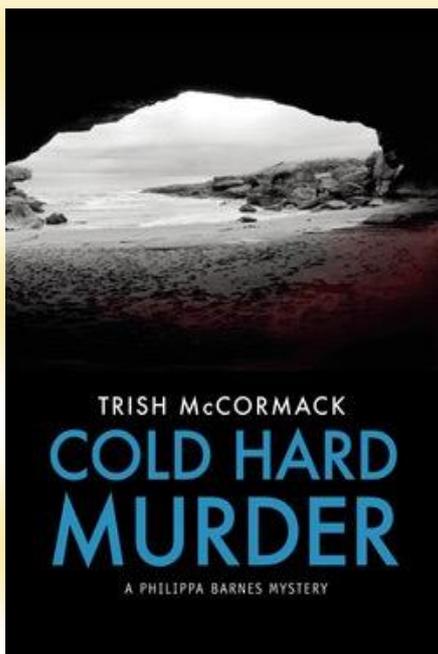
As some of you know, Cat inherited her mum's quilts. Phyllis Illes was a fiber artist, clothing designer, oil painter, writer and quilter (among other things). Phyl's quilts now hang in Writers Plot Readers Read and they are for sale (all except the silk wall hanging that hangs behind the room divider. That seems to want to stay with us).

Currently we have two big quilts on display both are depictions of floor tiles. The first is a replica of the floor tiles in St Pauls Cathedral, Melbourne and the second is from Castlegate, York. Phyl traveled extensively and during her travels photographed many interesting tile



foyers and floors. Among the collection are quilts of the floor of Christchurch Cathedral and the old council buildings.

## Spotlight:

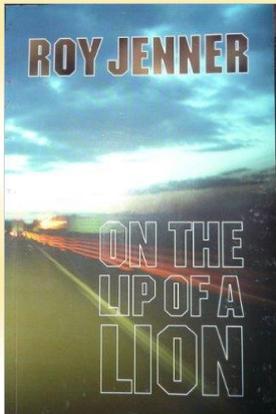


### Cold Hard Murder by Trish McCormack (Our March Author)

The darkness felt tangible. Like it was pressing against my blind eyes ... We were going to die here. Slowly, slowly.

Two people struggle on a ledge high above the surge pool at Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks. One falls to their death, beginning a sequence of violence as Department of Conservation ranger Matt Grey announces plans for a commercial tourism venture bitterly opposed by the local community. More people die, and it seems their murders are motivated by something more personal than a threat to the integrity of the national park. But the trail is as cold and twisted as some of the park's most labyrinthine caves. Philippa Barnes is asked to do some unofficial sleuthing, which is not welcomed by the police. She delves into the lives of some strong-willed individuals, many of whom have secrets, uncovering a dark story that resonates with events in her own life. But caught in a desperate struggle deep underground, has she run out of time to stop a determined killer?

# This Week Specials:

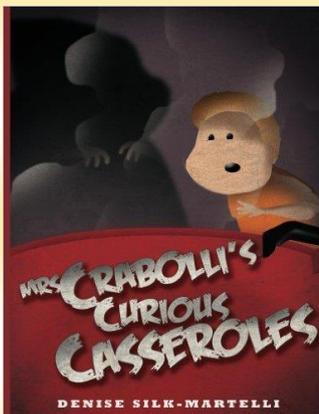


## Fiction

**On the Lip of a Lion** by Roy Jenner \$15

Kidnap and treachery on the streets of Auckland.

UK Reader: A cold-blooded murder story full of suspense with a romantic edge and a marvellously original plot. The novel is unusual in that the Author has managed to portray a hard-as-nails bunch of criminals with a humane side to their character.



## 7-12 Age Group

**Mrs Craboli's Curious Casseroles** by Denise Silk-Martelli \$15

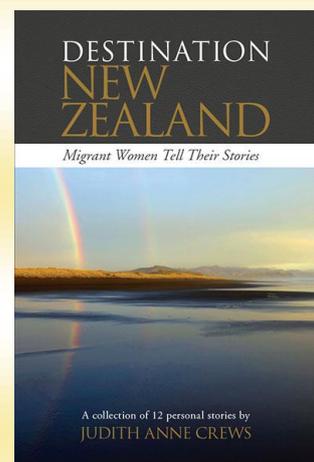
Eleven year old James lives next door to Mrs Craboli, also known as "Old Crabby", a mysterious woman he believes may be up to no good.

Check out Mrs Craboli and her curious casseroles. Just what are they made from?

## Non Fiction

**Destination New Zealand** by Judith Anne Crews \$24

A collection of 12 personal stories of women who have migrated to New Zealand over a time span of 26 years. The stories are accompanied by photographs from their lives in their home country and in New Zealand.



# Ask Aunt Nell:

Feel free to send us your questions and Nell will answer them as best she can.

subject: 'Ask Aunt Nell'

[writersplotreadersread@outlook.com](mailto:writersplotreadersread@outlook.com)

## Dear Aunt Nell,

I'm struggling to get people around me to understand that even though I'm home, I'm writing and don't want to be disturbed. No one seems to grasp that I can't just stop mid sentence and talk to them, make them coffee, listen to their woes or whatever for however long they interrupt me for and then pick up where I left off. When I say I'm busy they make me feel mean.

HELP!

Desperate Susan.

## Dear Desperate Susan,

You are not mean. They are inconsiderate.

Non-writers very often do not understand what it's like to be a writer and how interruptions are detrimental to our work and ability to be in the moment. You need to be clear about your limitations and protect your writing time. Stick a note on the door, clearly saying you are not accepting visitors. Take the phone off the hook (which is trickier these days than in the old days), or put it on silent while you're writing/thinking.

Even those of us who are clear to the point of bluntness still have that one friend who doesn't get it and never will, because their job isn't like that.

Sometimes the only thing to do is to hide and pretend you're not home, ever.

Good luck, lovey.

Aunt Nell

## Dear Aunt Nell,

How do I deal with those people who tell me they have a story idea for me and won't shut up about it. I don't want to write their ideas, I have enough of my own!

Frustrated writer.

## Dear Frustrated Writer,

1. Politely tell them to write it themselves. I'm picking they won't.
2. Smile, nod, and walk away.
3. Tell them you have more than enough ideas, thanks.
4. If the person carries on yapping about their idea and how it'd be great, tell them again to write it themselves.
5. Just say no!
6. Offer to kill them in your next book.
7. Start humming loudly so you can't hear them talking.

Hope that helps, precious.

- Aunt Nell

## Dear Aunt Nell,

The teacher of my child's class has expressed concern over the gruesome stories she writes and the detailed descriptions of weapons and injuries she uses. I'm worried she might call CYPs?

She did say my child has the most extensive vocabulary she ever seen in an 8 year old.

Panicked thriller writer.

## Dear Panicked Thriller Writer,

Might be time to gift a copy of one of your books to the teacher so she understands what you do and perhaps offer to come into the class and talk about writing and so forth. (I'd leave the weapons at home though ...)

My children have survived life with a horror/thriller writer. None of them are serial killers and they all have a love of reading. Our dinner table conversations cover all topics and nothing is forbidden.

Congrats on raising a child with an extensive vocabulary. Well done you!

Don't worry so much, darl.

-Aunt Nell

# Writer's Plot Readers Read

10% discount coupon

Discount applies to 1 book per person per visit.

**Bring this coupon with you from March 14-20th 2016 (inclusive) and get 10% off any book over the value of \$20.**

## What's On:

### Meet the author:

Trish McCormack

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016

1:30pm – 3pm at the shop

Trish is the author of *Assigned to Murder*, *Glacier Murder*, and *Cold Hard Murder* Crime/thrillers set in the West Coast of the South Island.

### Writing group – with Cat Connor

Meets at the bookshop every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 11am - 12:30pm

\$5pp

### Poetry Evenings

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

Next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016

7pm – 8:30pm

Share your favourite poems with others, read your own work, mix with people who love poetry.

### Book clubs

SpecFic

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month

## **Workshops at the shop**

Navigating self-publishing  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016  
1pm – 3:30pm

Workshops \$60 per person.  
Bookings essential as places are limited.  
Register by phone, at the shop, or by email  
ph: 04 5284549 (During business hours)  
email: [writersplotreadersread@outlook.com](mailto:writersplotreadersread@outlook.com)

### A wee note from Cat:

Please don't ring my cell phone! If you want to contact me either email or ring the shop.  
Thank you!

## Competitions:

Our first writing competition is coming up. Stay tuned!  
Announcements will be made via Facebook and posted on our website.

## General:

If there is anything you'd like to see in our newsletter, let us know.  
We'd love to have contributions from you!

Cheers,  
Cat and Caro