



Who can resist a cracking romance with dishy doctors? “We do seem to have an insatiable thirst for all things medical!” says Kathryn. “It’s quite feasible to figure out someone’s age by whether they are fans of *Dr Finlay’s Casebook*, *Dr Kildare*, *ER*, *Casualty* or *Doctors*.”

It was a pleasure to meet and chat over coffee at Joshua’s Harvest Store in Ottery St. Mary. This is the second of Kathryn’s books in the genre and once again the scene is set in Greenways Hospice where palliative care nurse Melanie Smythe falls for locum GP Luke McGrath, but it’s not all plain sailing. As Kathryn says: “Everyone has a back story.”

Apart from the intricacies of the loves and lives of the literary

Prognosis Guarded by Kathryn Haydon

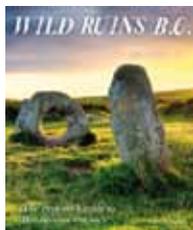


cast in this heart-warming book, I feel that her reasons for writing are interesting. Very much a West Country girl, Kathryn has the red earth of Devon in her bones.

Born in Teignmouth, she was brought up in the village of Starcross and spent all her adult life in Exeter after training as a nurse at the RD&E Hospital. The last 13 years of her working life were in the field of palliative care. “My hope is that in a

gentle, unobtrusive way, I’ve been able to lead my readers to a better understanding of what hospices can offer, dispelling misconceptions about life-limiting illness. That aside, I write feel-good reads with characters that tug at your heart strings, and emotive storylines that grip ‘til you reach the end.”

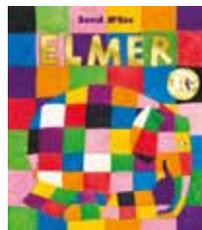
Published by Mezzanotte. Paperback via Amazon £6.98 or Mezzanotte. Also available on Kindle



Wild Ruins BC by **Dave Hamilton**

Dave Hamilton combines exploration with history and a good walk in this new publication about Britain’s ancient sites and prehistory.

With Dartmoor and Exmoor in our county, the section on Devon begins with the Mesolithic era - some 10,000 years ago. From stone circles to Chudleigh’s cave shelters, it’s a book well worth reading. The photographs are stunning and Dave includes sections on where best to go for family appeal, refreshments (Tarr Steps or Withypool), picnics and wild adventure. **Published by Wild Things Publishing. Paperback £16.99**



ELMER by **David McKee**

YAY!! Elmer is 30 years old and to celebrate David has produced a very special edition for children about this loveable patchwork elephant. In fact, as a nursery favourite, over 10 million books have been sold worldwide and translated into 50 languages.

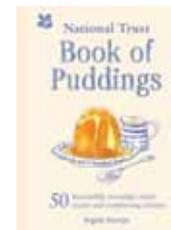
Elmer’s message is gentle but profound. It’s truly OK to be different. And the illustrations throughout are bright and engaging. David was born in Devon and studied at Plymouth Art College. He now lives in the South of France. **Published by Anderson Press. Paperback £6.99**



Pirates and Privateers in the 18th Century by **Mike Rendell**

Mike is a bit of an expert on the Georgians. In this ninth work, Mike takes a very accessible approach to what is known as the Golden Age of Pirates.

He debunks romantic myths of rum, Jack Sparrow (*Pirates of the Caribbean*) and Cornish accents. Piracy has been a popular topic in print, plays and films. This is the truth about swash-bucklers. Heroes they were not! Mike lives on the edge of Dartmoor and divides his time between Devon and Spain. **Published by Pen and Sword Books Ltd. Hardback £19.99**



National Trust Book of Puddings by **Regula Ysewijn**

You always rely on National Trust books for added value. In this book The author has a particular interest in historical recipes and weaves in snippets of interest like the origin of Wet Nelly - a moist bread and butter pudding based on Nelson cake.

The deliciously dotty names are also guaranteed to raise a smile whilst cooking, such as the West Country Apple Dappy - a roly-poly served with clotted cream. Look out for retro with homemade Arctic Roll. **Published by National Trust Books an imprint of Pavilion Books. Hardback £9.99**