*A Right Hand*

*May 2016*

In the old days being on the receiving end of a right hand or right-hander meant a punishment for bad behaviour. Given a nicer context it can mean being helpful to our friends and neighbours. Another dredge down memory lane is my Brownie-guide motto “Lend A Hand!” Well I’m thankful for my right hand at least as without it I wouldn’t have been able to write! Sorry ooooppps!!! I left out the other hand???

Writers’ Circle News:

We are proud of Peter and Barbara who have both turned the grand age of 90 and are still writing and full of ideas. Well done to both of you!!

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| **Crime Writing Short Story Comp 2016** |  |

I need everyone to send me contributions for this newsletter so contact me: by e.mail: [Tinasaround@aol.com](mailto:Tinasaround@aol.com) or hand me your work at our meetings.

**The Small Print**

Find us online at: <http://thurrockwriterscircle.weebly.com/>

[**Flash Fiction Competition**](http://www.flash500.com/index_files/flashfiction.htm) go to [www.flash500.com](http://www.flash500.com)

**Now in its seventh year**, this quarterly open-themed competition for fiction up to 500 words has closing dates of 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December.

**Entry fee:** £5 for one story, £8 for two stories

**Prizes:** £300 plus publication in [***Words with JAM***](javascript:Show('http://www.wordswithjam.co.uk/','newwindow','menubar=yes,toolbar=yes,location=yes,scrollbars=yes,resizable=yes,height=1150,width=1150')), £200, £100

[**Novel Opening Chapter & Synopsis Competition**](http://www.flash500.com/index_files/novel.htm)

This is an **annual** competition, which closes on 31st October each year.  The judges for this competition will be the senior editors at [**Crooked Cat Publishing**](javascript:Show('http://www.crookedcatpublishing.com/','newwindow','menubar=yes,toolbar=yes,location=yes,scrollbars=yes,resizable=yes,height=1150,width=1150')).

**Entry fee:** £10

**Prizes:** £500 first prize, plus a runner’s up prize of £200

**Book Review** – A Tiny Bit Marvelous by Dawn French

I found this book hilariously funny and could relate to the circumstances. It is written giving the points of view of different members of a modern day family in a diary style format. Below reviews from the book sleeve.

To celebrate the life and work of Essex literary legend, crime writer **Margery Allingham** who lived in Tolleshunt D’Arcy, Essex Book Festival is launching its first Crime Writing Short Story Competition in collaboration with BBC Essex. We are inviting entries from published and unpublished writers based in the UK.

Essex has a long tradition of nurturing some of the UK’s best-loved crime writers, including renowned Witham-resident **Dorothy L Sayers**, and more recently, No. 1 bestselling author **Martina Cole**, born in Aveley, Essex.

Contact: (01206) 872739 [**hello@essexbookfestival.org.uk**](mailto:hello@essexbookfestival.org.uk)

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