

## Recent Biographies added to Isle of Wight Libraries

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### **Home : a memoir of my early years / Julie Andrews.**

The heroine of 'Mary Poppins' and 'The Sound of Music' tells her life story, from the music halls of London to Hollywood stardom.

Includes index.

### **A fortunate life : the autobiography of Paddy Ashdown / Paddy Ashdown.**

Paddy Ashdown has been, in turn, an officer in the Royal Marine Commandos, a member of the Special Boat Service, a diplomat, an MP and leader of his party and an international peacemaker in war-torn Bosnia. This is his autobiography.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

### **The other Elizabeth Taylor / Nicola Beauman.**

This is the first biography of one of the outstanding English writers of the last century.

### **Ernie : the autobiography / Ernest Borgnine.**

Ernest Borgnine's career in film and television has spanned more than 60 years. As one of the most recognisable and beloved character actors in Hollywood history, Borgnine has worked with nearly every major star, past and present. In this book he shares his own life story, shedding light on both his private and professional life.

### **Love's Civil War : Elizabeth Bowen and Charles Ritchie - letters and diaries, 1941-1973 / Elizabeth Bowen ; edited by Victoria Glendinning and Judith Robertson.**

The love affair between writer Elizabeth Bowen & Canadian diplomat Charles Ritchie blossomed after their first meeting in 1941 & continued over the next 30 years until Bowen's death in 1973. When Ritchie's diplomatic career took him far afield, the lovers wrote to one another continuously, sharing their longing to be together again.

### **Dawn French [sound recording] : the unauthorised biography / Alison Bowyer; read by Patricia Gallimore.**

Dawn French is one of our best-loved comic actresses and has delighted audiences with her brilliantly observed performances both on television and the West End stage. Alongside her solo career, Dawn is part of the groundbreaking double act, French and Saunders, who went from the comedy club circuit to their own show on the BBC. Dawn married fellow comic Lenny Henry, and they went on to adopt their daughter Billie and combine successful careers with the demands of parenthood. This is the story of a woman with a warm and bubbly personality and a formidable talent.

Story Sound CD Complete and unabridged

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### **Doris Day : reluctant superstar / David Bret.**

From her German immigrant parents to her donation to an airlift of cats and dogs in Louisiana, this book reveals the trials and tribulations behind what seemed to her adoring fans to be the perfect woman.

Includes bibliographical references, discography, filmography and index.

### **Nina Simone : the biography / David Brun-Lambert.**

Nina Simone recorded over 40 albums, wrote some of the best-known popular songs in the canon and gave concerts described as quasi-religious experiences. This is the first biography to tell her whole extraordinary story.

### **She always knew how : Mae West a personal biography / Charlotte Chandler.**

The acclaimed biographer of Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Ingrid Bergman and other stars profiles one of Hollywood's most colourful and celebrated actresses, Mae West.

### **Frances Partridge : the biography / Anne Chisholm.**

Frances Partridge was one of the great British diarists of the 20th century. She was born in 1900, the daughter of a progressive mother and architect father. Her diaries (which she continued to write until her death in 2004) chronicle her life from the 1930s onwards. This is her story.

### **Elephant grass / John Cowell.**

'Elephant Grass' is a heart-warming tale of the author's exploits doing his National Service in West Africa after the Second World War. He writes about the experience that he shared with so many other young, working-class lads whose life experiences and horizons had previously stretched no further than their local towns.

### **The Bard : Robert Burns, a biography / Robert Crawford.**

Published to mark the 250th anniversary of Robert Burns' birth, this biography paints a picture of a man fighting to maintain a sly sense of integrity in the face of overwhelming pressures.

### **Tommy Tynan : the original football idol / Ryan Danes.**

At the age of 16, Tommy Tynan won an apprenticeship at Bill Shankley's famous Liverpool Football Club, and he became a successful goal-scoring player for numerous teams throughout Great Britain and abroad. This is his story.

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### **Dear Tommy / Agnes Docherty and Tom Docherty.**

With stories about George Best, Bobby Charlton, Denis Law and many more, this is the tale of a doomed love and the amazing life of the original footballer's wife.

### **The strangest man : the hidden life of Paul Dirac, quantum genius / Graham Farmelo.**

Paul Dirac was one of the leading pioneers of the greatest revolution in 20th-century science: quantum mechanics. One of the youngest theoreticians ever to win the Nobel Prize for Physics, he was also pathologically reticent, strangely literal-minded and legendarily unable to communicate or empathize. Through his greatest period of productivity, his postcards home contained only remarks about the weather. Based on a previously undiscovered archive of family papers, Graham Farmelo celebrates Dirac's massive scientific achievement while drawing a compassionate portrait of his life and work. Farmelo shows a man who, while hopelessly socially inept, could manage to love and sustain close friendship. 'The Strangest Man' is an extraordinary and moving human story, as well as a study of one of the most exciting times in scientific history.

Hardcover.

### **Tony Hancock : the definitive biography / John Fisher.**

Regarded as the best radio and TV comic of his era, Tony Hancock was a man whose star burned brightly in the eyes and ears of millions before his untimely death in 1968. Now, 40 years on, critically acclaimed biographer John Fisher brings a fully authorised account of his life.

Includes index.

### **Always looking up / Michael J. Fox.**

Struck with Parkinson's at the height of his fame, Michael J. Fox has taken what some people might consider cause for depression and turned it into a beacon of hope for millions. Now, in 'Always Looking Up', he writes about the personal philosophy that carried him through his darkest hours.

### **Because of you : my fight to live / Rebekah Gibbs.**

This isn't just a book about the horror of cancer. It's about facing illness with humour and courage. It's a celebration of the special, unbreakable bond between mothers and daughters. It's about survival.

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### **Butterbabe : the true story of a 40-stone woman living in a size zero world / Rebecca Golden.**

Fusing the themes of body image, abusive family dynamics and the social consequences of being fat, this astonishingly articulate and beautifully written memoir gives a unique and quirky insight into what its like to be an outsider.

### **Not fade away : the life and music of Buddy Holly / John Gribbin.**

Buddy Holly was killed at 22 when the plane he was travelling in crashed on 3rd February 1959. John Gribbin presents this biography as a celebration of Holly's all too brief life, and as an introduction, for all those not around in 1959, to the man and his astonishing musical legacy.

### **Gok Wan : the biography / Emily Herbert.**

Emily Herbert traces the extraordinary life and times of the nation's favourite fashion guru - from his upbringing on a tough council estate in Leicester to becoming the darling of the fashion world and personal stylist to some of our hottest celebrities.

### **Aisleyne : surviving guns, gangs and glamour / Aisleyne Horgan-Wallace.**

Aisleyne Horgan-Wallace is the ultimate Big Brother survivor. Here, she reveals a shocking life story that surpasses any reality-show plotline.

### **Lowside of the road : a life of Tom Waits / Barney Hoskyns.**

The definitive biography of a notoriously private performer - the most up-close, comprehensive and affectionate book on Tom Waits.

### **Love child : a memoir of family lost and found / Allegra Huston.**

This is a moving and enchanting memoir told from within one of America's great Hollywood dynasties by the daughter of two famous men - John Huston and John Julius Norwich.

### **Time to say hello / Katherine Jenkins.**

From singing for Cherie and Tony Blair to performing for the troops, Katherine is much loved both at home and abroad. Now, she opens her heart to reveal how she made her dream a reality as she went from trainee teacher to one of the most famous classical singers in the world.  
Includes index.

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### **Stanley I presume? / Stanley Johnson.**

A rip-roaring and hilarious memoir from Stanley Johnson - father of London mayor Boris Johnson. Stanley's story begins with a loud bang - when his father, an RAF pilot in the Second World War, crash-lands a Wellington bomber on a Devon airfield.

### **Streep / Iain Johnstone.**

Considered by many movie reviewers to be the greatest living actress, Meryl Streep has been nominated for the Academy Award an astonishing 14 times, and has won it twice. Yet there has been no biography of her since 1985. Born Mary Louise Streep in 1949 in Summit, New Jersey, Meryl's early performing ambitions leaned toward the opera. She became interested in acting while a student at Vassar and upon graduation she enrolled in the Yale School of Drama. She gave an outstanding performance in her first film role, "Julia" (1977), and the next year she was nominated for her first Oscar for her role in "The Deer Hunter" (1978). She went on to win the Academy Award for her performances in "Kramer vs. Kramer" (1979) and "Sophie's Choice" (1982), in which she gave a heart-wrenching portrayal of an inmate mother in a Nazi death camp. A perfectionist in her craft and meticulous and painstaking in her preparation for her roles, Meryl turned out a string of highly acclaimed performances. Her latest role is Donna in the film version of the ABBA musical "Mamma Mia!" For this role she won the award of Best Female Performance at the National Movie Awards (UK), and has since received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actress in a Comedy/Musical. Iain Johnstone has interviewed Streep many times, filmed her at work on location in England and France and interviewed her at The National Film Theatre.

Hardcover.

### **Lorraine : the autobiography / Lorraine Kelly.**

TV personality Lorraine Kelly opens up about her eventful life and tells her story in her own words: from her working-class childhood in one of the toughest areas of Glasgow, through her early journalistic career to her current position as star of morning TV.

Includes index.

### **Journey of a thousand miles / Lang Lang.**

'Journey of a Thousand Miles' tells the remarkable story of a boy who sacrificed almost everything: family, financial security, childhood, and his reputation in China's insular classical music world, to fulfil his promise as a classical pianist.

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### **Dean & me / Jerry Lewis.**

Before the Rat Pack, the hit songs and the stellar movie career, Dean Martin spent ten years partnering Jerry Lewis in a successful double act. In this candid memoir, Lewis remembers his relationship with Dean: from their early performances in Mob-owned nightclubs to the giddy days of Hollywood super-stardom. But their high-rolling lifestyle came to an end. On July 24 1956, Dean and Jerry split and the two men didn't speak to one another for twenty years. Jerry Lewis reveals much about Dean Martin's craftsmanship and enigmatic charm. He evokes the glamour of the era - the casinos, the cocktails, the mobsters, and the women. He recalls the thrill of the youthful duo's sudden, startling success, and the slow sad erosion of the fun that followed.

Charnwood series.

### **Glenn McGrath : line and strength, the complete story / Glenn McGrath and Daniel Lane.**

Glenn McGrath is one of the most highly regarded fast-medium pace bowlers in cricketing history, & was a leading contributor to Australia's domination of world cricket from the mid-1990s to 2007. This book tells his story.

### **Bearded tit / Rory McGrath.**

'Bearded Tit' is Rory McGrath's story of life among birds. From a Cornish boyhood wandering gorse-tipped cliffs listening to the song of the yellowhammer with his imaginary girlfriend, or drawing gravity-defying jackdaws in class when he should have been applying himself to physics, Rory recalls his life as a card-carrying birdwatcher.

### **The life in my years / Virginia McKenna.**

Virginia McKenna pushed aside her successful career in film and stage, and she has since spent her life working with the Born Free Foundation and for the plight of orphaned children across the world.

Illustrated. Hardcover.

### **We bought a zoo : the amazing true story of a broken-down zoo, and the 200 animals that changed a family forever / Benjamin Mee.**

Chuck it all in and buy a zoo? Why not thought Benjamin Mee, unaware of the grim living conditions, creditors and escaped big cat that lay in wait. This is his funny, touching and ultimately tragic story of how the Mee family adapted to life in the zoo.

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**From headlines to hard times : I went from presenting the news to sleeping rough : this is the true story of my rise to the top, my demise and my / Ed Mitchell.**

This is the astonishing true story of the newscaster who became known as the white-collar tramp.

**A life of contrasts : the autobiography of Diana Mosley / Diana Mosley.**

This is the autobiography of Diana Mitford, who grew up with the Churchills and married the British Fascist leader, Sir Oswald Mosley. This ed.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

**Paul Scholes : the biography / Simon Moss.**

Paul Scholes is arguably the best midfielder of his generation. A graduate of the legendary 'Class of '92', he has managed to win every major trophy British football has to offer. This revealing biography lifts the lid on the football player and the man, charting the ups and downs of his incredible career.

**Michelle Obama : a biography / Liza Mundy.**

This is a biography of the United States' first African American First Lady. It describes the south side of Chicago where her family grew up, her parents, the hard-working culture of her family, and her experience on the racially-tense campus of Princeton in the early 80s.

Includes bibliographical references.

**Richard Burton : prince of players / Michael Munn.**

Here is the full story of Richard Burton's life and remarkable career, revealed by a writer who knew him from 1968 up to the time they were together on Burton's last film in 1984.

Bibliography. Filmography. Includes index.

**Memoirs of a not so dutiful daughter / Jenni Murray.**

After she began her memoir, Jenni Murray's life took a downward turn. Her mother and father died within six months of each other, and she found that she had breast cancer. This is a diary of that terrible year and an honest and confessional memoir of a universally complex relationship: that of a child and her mother and her father.

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### **Amy Winehouse : the biography / Chas Newkey-Burden.**

Amy Winehouse is the most talked about singer-songwriter of her generation. But who is the real Amy Winehouse? This biography traces her story from her childhood in North London, through her eventful time at Sylvia Young Theatre School and her early steps to fame, to her troubles with alcohol and drugs.

Includes discography.

### **Anne's song / Anne Nolan and Richard Barber.**

As the eldest of the Nolan Sisters, Anne Nolan's life appeared from the outside to be one of boundless excitement and glamour. Yet, behind the fame and glitz lay hidden a dark family secret that has, until now, never been told. Anne's story tells of this other life - one has cast a terrible shadow over her entire life.

### **Upfront and personal / Coleen Nolan.**

Writing with the warmth & humour that have made her so popular, Coleen Nolan describes her eventful life, from joining her sisters' band The Nolans when she was only nine to growing up in the spotlight as they went on to chart-topping success around the world.

### **Clips from a life / Denis Norden.**

This is the story of comic legend Denis Norden, told in momentary snapshots by the master British comedian himself. Containing reminiscences of a career stretching back to the golden age of the radio, through the heyday of cinema and the early pioneering days of TV comedy, this text showcases Norden's creative genius at its best.

Includes index.

### **Byron in love / Edna O'Brien.**

'Byron in Love' - the nobility, arrogance, and sheer theatre of Byron's life. Edna O'Brien focuses on the diverse and colourful women in Byron's life. Its narrative core is the triangular relationship between him, his wife and his half-sister that brought him timeless notoriety.

Includes index.

### **Rafael Nadal : the biography / Tom Oldfield.**

This is the biography of Spanish tennis legend Rafael Nadal, whose achievements include winner of the French Open in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008, 2008 Wimbledon champion and a gold medal winner at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

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### **The Bolter : Idina Sackville, the woman who scandalised 1920s society and became White Mischief's infamous seductress / Frances Osborne.**

Idina Sackville first met scandal when she left her very rich husband and two small children for a penniless army officer in 1918. She went on to marry and divorce a total of five times and be the founder and 'high priestess' of White Mischief's scandalous Happy Valley of Kenyan settlers. Here, her great-granddaughter tells her story.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

### **It's a fine life :My story / Jodie Prenger.**

This is the inspirational autobiography of Jodie Prenger, singer, musical theatre star and winner of the BBC's 'I'd Do Anything' and Living TV's weight-loss programme 'The Biggest Loser'

### **Jordan : pushed to the limit / Katie Price.**

Katie Price has led a rollercoaster life and the excitement, glamour and emotional twists and turns show no signs of slowing down. Picking up where 'Jordan: A Whole New World' left off, this title is a fascinating, up-front and intensely personal account of life in front of, and behind the cameras.

### **Here's one I wrote earlier... : the autobiography / Peter Purves.**

Peter Purves is perhaps best known for his 10 year stint as part of the Blue Peter 'Dream Team' with Valerie Singleton and John Noakes. Following his departure from Blue Peter he famously presented another kids favourite 'Kickstart' and 'Junior Kickstart'. Here he looks back at his career and fascinating life.

### **A tug on the thread : a family memoir / Diana Quick.**

As an actress Diana Quick was forever trying on the mask of other people's lives. 'A Tug On The Thread' is a story of a search for a past, the search for an understanding of exile and denial, and also the story of a very fine actress who has always had a sense of not quite belonging.

Includes bibliographical references.

### **Thank you for the days : a boy's own adventures in radio and beyond / Mark Radcliffe.**

A cracking read and a potted history of both one man's life and his love affair with music, 'Thank You for the Days' is a uniquely entertaining memoir that will appeal not just to music fans but to connoisseurs of British popular culture.

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### **Why do I say these things? / Jonathan Ross.**

Anecdotal and autobiographical, wicked and witty, this is 'Wossy' on himself and all manner of subjects, in his own words and at his best.

### **Chaplin's girl : the life and loves of Virginia Cherrill / Miranda Seymour.**

The enchanting story of 1930s Hollywood darling Virginia Cherrill, who traded international stardom for true love.

### **Up till now : the autobiography / William Shatner and David Fisher.**

William Shatner has been a working actor for more than half a century. Humorous and self-deprecating, 'Up Till Now' reveals the highs and lows of that life, from training as a Shakespearean actor to his time on Broadway, his movie career and his TV series.

Includes index.

### **Mummy doesn't love you : the shocking true story of a mother's campaign to destroy the mind and life of her own child / Alexander Sinclair.**

As a young boy, Alexander Sinclair was the target of his mother's irrational hate. She stopped at nothing in her campaign to tear him to pieces both mentally and physically. Here, Alex describes how he received the most unnecessary and appalling treatment in mental institutions because of her actions.

### **Renegade : the lives and tales of Mark E. Smith / Mark E. Smith and Austin Collings and Tom Sheehan.**

A major influence on bands such as The Smiths and The Happy Mondays, Mark E. Smith's The Fall are still going after over 30 years. In this book, Smith gives his candid take on an often tumultuous - but never bland - career in music.

### **My life with George : What I learned about Joy from one neurotic dog / Judith Summers.**

Having lost her husband and father to cancer, Judith Summers fell into the depths of depression. Yet it was at this point that she fell in love again - with a dog. This is her account of how George brought a joie de vivre back into her life.

Originally published: London: Michael Joseph, 2007.

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### **Clint [text (large print)] : the biography of cinema's greatest ever star / Douglas Thompson.**

One of the most recognisable names in Hollywood, Clint Eastwood has won acclaim on both sides of the camera. This title follows his rise from being a jobbing actor on \$75 a week, to becoming one of the biggest stars in the movie industry.

Originally published: London: John Blake, 2007.

### **How good is that? : the story of a reluctant heroine / Jane Tomlinson and Mike Tomlinson.**

Following a seven-year battle with cancer, Jane Tomlinson died aged 43 in September 2007. News of her death brought tributes flooding in from around the world. Begun by Jane and finished by her husband, Mike, 'How Good Is That?' tells the story of Jane's nine-week cycle ride across America.

### **Coming back to me : the autobiography / Marcus Trescothick and Peter Hayter.**

A true-life sporting memoir of one of the best batsman in the game who stunned the cricket world when he prematurely ended his own England career. Trescothick's brave and soul-baring account of his mental frailties opens the way to a better understanding of the unique pressures experienced by modern-day professional sportsmen.

Includes index.

### **A fortunate life : an autobiography / Robert Vaughn.**

At the height of his fame, Robert Vaughn was one of Hollywood's most eligible bachelors, with countless adoring female fans. His affairs with famous celebrities made front-page news. But Vaughn is not just a handsome face - he is a talented stage, television & film actor. In this autobiography he tells his story.

### **KP cricket genius? : the biography of Kevin Pietersen / Wayne Veysey.**

Once the opinionated, party-going socialite, complete with celebrity girlfriends and ridiculous haircuts, Kevin Pietersen has developed into a crowd pleaser in English cricket. This biography draws on interviews with Pietersen and those who know him best.

### **Pieces of my heart / Robert Wagner.**

In the UK, Robert Wagner is perhaps best known for the light-hearted crime drama 'Hart to Hart', but he has also enjoyed a sustained career on stage and screen since the 1950s. 'Pieces of My Heart' is a Hollywood insider's story told with all the charm, humour and spontaneity that have sustained Wagner's career.

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### **That's another story : the autobiography / Julie Walters.**

Julie Walters has been described as the nation's most popular actress and comedienne. She has been delighting us on screen and on stage for over 25 years and we have taken her to our hearts. Now she tells us her own story, in her own words.

Includes filmography and index.

### **Wark on : the autobiography of John Wark / John Wark.**

John Wark is a legendary footballing icon for all Liverpool and Ipswich fans. During his career he not only picked up domestic and European honours, but he also represented the Scottish national team and memorably starred alongside Michael Caine and Sylvester Stallone in 'Escape to Victory'. This is his entertaining autobiography.

### **Finding my voice : my story / Russell Watson.**

Russell 'The Voice' Watson is a star with a real story to tell. While most stars of today find success early, Russell was still working in a Salford factory at the age of 30. Now, in his own words, Russell tells us the amazing story of his life.