



Press Release

PENGUIN REVEALS BIG NEW READS IN RUN UP TO LONDON BOOK FAIR

London, April 7th 2011... Penguin editors have been busy acquiring new titles ahead of the London Book Fair.

At **Michael Joseph**, Commissioning Editor Daniel Bunyard has bought world rights to a memoir by one of the brightest young talents in modern athletics, diver Tom Daley. Rights were acquired from Luxton Harris & Professional Sports Group.

Tom Daley had hearts in mouths when he dived at the 2010 Commonwealth Games and won two gold medals and he is one of Britain's gleaming hopes for gold at the London 2012 Olympics. This self-titled memoir will feature exclusive photography and will be published simultaneously as a hardback and enhanced eBook. It will offer Tom's fans unprecedented access to the incredible pressures, challenges and fascinating experiences of a world-class Olympian, from his day-to-day schedule, to his hobbies and family life, to sharing his hopes and dreams in the build up to the London Olympics.

The book will be published in May 2012.

Also at **Michael Joseph**, Daniel Bunyard has bought world rights to Rob Brydon's hilarious memoir *Small Man in a Book*. Rob Brydon is one of Britain's best-loved entertainers - a multi-award winning actor, writer, comedian and television presenter. Thanks to his acting roles on TV and film and his hosting of shows such as the hilarious *The Rob Brydon Show* and *Would I Lie to You?* he has become a household name, loved for his warmth and humour. But Rob's route to fame has been anything but straightforward, and this intelligent, witty and heart-warming memoir, full of brilliantly told stories, will have you crying with laughter.

Rights were acquired from United Agents and the book will be published in October of this year.

Michael Joseph Publisher Katy Follain has acquired world rights as well as serial, eBook and audio rights for *Mum's List*.



Press Release

Mum's List is the heart-wrenching memoir of St John 'Singe' Greene, an ordinary man whose wife died in January 2010 of cancer, leaving behind two sons aged four and five. Over the last twenty days of her life, as she lay on her deathbed, Kate focused her energies on creating Mum's List, painstakingly writing her thoughts down on assorted scraps of paper or texting them at all times of day and night to help Singe create a happy life for their boys after her death. The list is both poignant and life-affirming, funny and profound. Her incredible courage, her passion for her children and the huge love between her and Singe makes for a stirring, remarkable and ultimately uplifting book.

The title will be published in February 2012 to tie in with Mother's Day.

Michael Joseph is delighted that the hugely popular Tom Clancy is back this year with a new title - *Against All Enemies* - and his most eclectic character since John Clarke, CIA agent Max Moore. In a story that races from the remote, war-scarred landscapes of the Middle East to the blood-soaked chaos of the US-Mexico border, Tom Clancy once again delivers a heart-stopping thriller that is frighteningly close to reality.

Publisher Alex Clarke has bought UK and Commonwealth rights, excluding Canada, for the title in a co-pub agreement with Penguin US. The much-anticipated title will be published in June this year.

Finally, **Michael Joseph** has secured world rights to a new collection of journalism from Jeremy Clarkson – a follow up to *How Hard can it Be?* – which will be published this autumn.

At **Viking**, Publishing Director Venetia Butterfield has bought rights to *Honour* by Elif Shafak. The book is a gripping family saga set in the UK and Kurdistan from the author of the international bestseller *The Bastard of Istanbul* and *The Forty Rules of Love*. Venetia bought UK and Commonwealth rights from Elizabeth Sheinkman at Curtis Brown and the title will be published in spring 2013.



Press Release

Another title acquired from Elizabeth Sheinkman is *A House in the Sky* by Amanda Lindhout and Sara Corbett – an extraordinary memoir by the Canadian journalist who was kidnapped by Islamists in Somalia in 2008 and held for 15 months in captivity before her release in 2009. The title will be published in spring 2013 and Venetia Butterfield has secured UK and Commonwealth rights.

Viking has also secured rights to *The Fever Tree* by Jennifer McVeigh, a moving and beautifully written debut novel, set in the 1870s, about a young woman forced into marriage and emigration to a mining town in South Africa. Venetia Butterfield bought UK and Commonwealth rights for the title from Araminta Whitley at the LAW agency and the book will be published in spring 2012.

Viking is very excited to be publishing *Milligan's Meaning of Life: An Autobiography of Sorts* by Spike Milligan. Venetia Butterfield secured UK & Commonwealth rights from Norma Farnes Management. The life story of Spike Milligan will be told through selections from his prose, letters, poetry and scripts, edited by Norma Farnes and containing previously unpublished material. It will be published in October 2011.

Viking Editorial Director Mary Mount has bought world rights to *Konstantin* by Tom Bullough from Clare Alexander at Aitken Alexander. This stunning novel set in 19th century Russia and loosely based on the life of the father of Russian rocket science, will be published in spring 2012.

Viking Commissioning Editor Will Hammond has acquired a number of fantastic titles for publication in 2013. The first, *The House at Kreis Pinneberg* by Rhidian Brook, is a novel set in Hamburg in 1946 about a good-hearted British colonel whose wife has an affair with a German, based on a script commissioned by Ridley Scott. Will Hammond bought UK and Commonwealth rights from Caroline Wood at Felicity Bryan Associates. The title will be published in spring 2013.

The second of Will's titles, *Stuff Matters: How Materials Shape our World* by Mark Miodownik is also due to be published in spring 2013. Mark Miodownik is quoted by *The Times* as being one of the 100 Most Influential Scientists in Britain and the book takes the reader on an eye-popping tour



Press Release

of the science of the man-made world. Will Hammond acquired world rights to the title from Peter Tallack at The Science Factory.

Will Hammond has also acquired Hugh Aldersey-Williams' *The Human Empire* from Antony Topping at Greene and Heaton. Will has bought world rights to the book – a follow-up to Sunday Times bestseller *Periodic Tales* – which is a wide-ranging combination of cultural history and the science of the human body.

Will Hammond's final title is *The Most Human Human: A Defence of Humanity in the Age of the Computer* by Brian Christian. Will Hammond bought the title from Doubleday, securing UK and Commonwealth rights. In this book, philosophy and reportage combine to make a brilliantly engaging re-evaluation of what it means to be human in the light of breathtaking advances in artificial intelligence. The book will be published in May this year.

Lastly from **Viking**, comes *First Impressions* by Matthew Parris and Andrew Bryson. The title is a companion volume to the authors' successful 2010 title *Parting Shots*, which sold 17,000 copies in Viking hardcover. The Foreign Office requires its ambassadors to write a piece on their new postings within six months of their arrival. By trawling through Foreign Office archives and using the Freedom of Information Act, Parris and Bryson have discovered the best of these dispatches: frequently hilarious, very unPC and often extremely informative, they paint portraits of countries as various as France and Malawi. Tony Lacey bought UK and Commonwealth rights, including Canada, from Ed Victor.

At **Hamish Hamilton**, Publishing Director Simon Prosser has bought UK and Commonwealth volume rights, excluding Canada and the Subcontinent, from David Godwin for *The Broken Republic*. The book is an essential, polemical and personal reportage from inside India today, by Booker-winning author and activist Arundhati Roy. It will be published in June 2011.

Simon Prosser has also bought UK and Commonwealth volume rights, excluding Canada, from Georgia Garrett at AP Watt for Ben Master's *Noughties*. *Noughties* is a hilarious and satirical but moving literary debut novel tracking the last night of four friends on their final night of university. The book is told in three parts -- PUB, BAR, CLUB. It will be published in February 2012.



Press Release

Lastly, from **Hamish Hamilton**, comes Iain Sinclair's *American Smoke*. In this book, Sinclair, London's greatest contemporary diarist and magus, follows in the steps of the Beat writers and concrete poets, to seek out a new twist on the UK/US 'Special Relationship.' Simon Prosser bought UK and Commonwealth rights, excluding Canada, from John Parker at Zeno Agency and the book will be published in September 2012.

At **Fig Tree**, Publishing Director Juliet Annan has bought two new novels from two long-standing Penguin authors. The first, Julie Otsuka's *The Buddha in the Attic* is a literary novel that chronicles, in breathtaking style, the fate of Japanese American émigrés in the 1900s who struggle to build lives for themselves, only to be interned after Pearl Harbour. Juliet bought UK and Commonwealth rights, excluding Canada, from Arabella Stein. The book will be published in January 2012.

The second title is Penelope Lively's *How it all Began* - a novel built around the premise of chaos theory. The novel shows Penelope at her funniest, and most moving. UK and Commonwealth rights, excluding Canada, were bought from Penelope's new agent at David Higham, Lizzy Kremer. The title will be published in November 2011.

And finally, a new addition to the **Fig Tree** list, is Alex George with *A Good American*. *A Good American* is the multi-generational story of German émigrés making their way in the mid West from the start of the twentieth century. Again, Fig Tree has UK and Commonwealth rights, excluding Canada, for this title. *A Good American* will be published in August 2012.

At **Penguin Press**, Publishing Director Simon Winder has acquired UK and Commonwealth rights from Peter Robinson at Rogers, Coleridge and White for a significant historical title. Daniel Beer's *Before the Gulag: Siberian Exile under the Tsars* is a sweeping social and cultural history of the exile to Siberia in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The book will be published by Allen Lane in 2013.

Simon Winder has also acquired rights to *Tombstone: The Untold Story of Mao's Great Famine* by Yang Jishen. This is a passionate, moving and angry account of one of the twentieth century's most



Press Release

nightmarish events: the killing of an estimated 36 million Chinese people in 1958-1961 through starvation or physical abuse. Simon Winder acquired UK and Commonwealth rights from Devon Mazzone at FSG for publication in 2012. Allen Lane will publish the title.

Penguin Press Editorial Director Helen Conford has lined up a number of exciting acquisitions. The first is *The Fate of Power* by Jaron Lanier. *The Fate of Power* is a digital update to Machiavelli, showing how digital systems change the way power is gained, lost, distributed, and defended in human affairs. Helen Conford acquired UK and Commonwealth rights for the title from Max Brockman at The Brockman Agency and Allen Lane will publish the book in 2013.

Another of Helen's acquisitions is Demetri Martin's *This is a Book*. The Perrier Award Winner and Daily Show regular brings us a bold and original kind of humour book. Helen Conford acquired UK & Commonwealth rights from Caspian Dennis at Abner Stein and the book will be published by Particular Books in October 2011.

Helen has also acquired the extraordinary *Pictures I Never Took: Travels Across the Middle East's Front Lines* by Ghaith Abdul-Ahad. In this book, the award-winning Iraqi reporter gives us a powerful and humane account of three people across the Middle East who find themselves on the wrong side of a front line. Tracing their migration through the fracturing cities of the region towards the supposed better life of Istanbul and the West, Abdul-Ahad explores the connections and differences between their journeys and the countries they travel through. Helen acquired world rights from Natasha Fairweather at AP Watt and the book will be published by Allen Lane in 2014.

Promised You a Miracle by Andy Beckett is another great acquisition by the Penguin Press team. Helen Conford acquired UK & Commonwealth rights from Sarah Chalfant at the Wylie Agency for this book, which is a consideration of that decisive period that shaped - and still shapes - the Britain we live in now: the years of 1981 and 1982. The title will be published in 2014 by Allen Lane.

Helen Conford has also acquired a new title by Naomi Klein – the bestselling author of *The Shock Doctrine* and *No Logo*. With *The Message* comes another ambitious and original idea, challenging the world's current responses - psychological, social and economic - to climate change. Helen



Press Release

Conford acquired UK & Commonwealth rights from Karolina Sutton at Curtis Brown and the book will be published in 2013 by Allen Lane.

Last on Helen's list is *I'm Feeling Lucky: The Confessions of Google Employee Number 59* by Douglas Edwards. This book takes readers inside the Googleplex for the closest look you can get without an ID card, giving us a chance to fully experience the potent mix of camaraderie and competition that makes up the company that changed the world. Helen acquired UK and Commonwealth rights from Arabella Stein at Abner Stein for publication by Allen Lane in July 2011.

Penguin Press Editorial Director William Goodlad has acquired UK and Commonwealth rights to *Compatibility* by Daniel M Davis. This title is a popular-level science book discussing the impact of our immune system, the best studied of all biological systems, in driving our behaviour and it also reveals a new and surprising truth about what defines and drives us. William Goodlad acquired rights from Caroline Hardman at the Christopher Little Literary Agency for publication in Allen Lane in 2013.

William Goodlad has also acquired a new book from international economist Dambisa Moyo - *Winner Take All*. *Winner Take All* is an analysis of the commodity dynamics that all regions of the world will face over the next several decades. In particular, it is about the implications of China's rush for resources, the most aggressive in the history of man. William Goodlad acquired UK and Commonwealth rights from James Pullen at the Wylie Agency and the title will be published by Allen Lane in 2012.

Lastly from **Press**, Publishing Director Stuart Proffitt has acquired world rights for *A Maritime History of the World* by David Abulafia. This is the first history of the world told from the perspective of its seas and oceans. Rights were bought from Bill Hamilton at AM Heath and the title will be published by Allen Lane in 2016.

At **Puffin**, the team has signed up Michelle Paver for a major new five-book series - *Gods & Warriors*. *Gods & Warriors* is set in the turbulent world of the Mediterranean Bronze Age and



Press Release

follows the story of a young boy and girl thrown into battle. With the help of three animal allies – a dolphin, a falcon and a lion cub – they defeat the forces of tyranny and withstand the elemental powers of the gods of land and sea. Famed for her vividly-imagined exploration of the prehistoric past, Michelle Paver has already begun research for the new books, the first of which will be published by Puffin in the autumn of 2012.

Puffin is excited to have acquired world rights, including film and TV, for *Fever* by Dee Shulman, the first book in a dystopian romance series from a brand new British talent. The trilogy will centre around a love affair between a young gladiator from AD 152 and a teenage girl from 2012, who are brought together by a virus that enables them to time travel.

Elv Moody, Editorial Director, **Classic Puffin**, and Alexandra Antscherl, Senior Editor for Puffin, have acquired a brand new novel by bestselling author Jacqueline Wilson from Caroline Walsh at David Higham Associates. Jacqueline will write a contemporary version of E. Nesbitt's *Five Children and It* for the Puffin Classics list.

Puffin has also acquired two wonderful picture books. The first is from the award-winning, internationally renowned illustrator of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and *Alice in Wonderland*, Helen Oxenbury. *King Jack and the Dragon* (written by Peter Bently) is the perfect bedtime tale and a future classic. The second is *Mother Knows Best* by Jill Murphy, author of the hugely popular The Worst Witch series. Jill Murphy's picture book debut for Puffin is a laugh-out-loud, brilliantly observed tale of family life. Murphy wittily portrays the relationship between every mother and child, making it the perfect family picture book. Puffin holds world rights for both titles.

Puffin has also recently acquired film, TV and world rights to a brand new series of hilariously funny books which will have huge appeal to fans of Roald Dahl and Horrid Henry. Steven Butler's *The Wrong Pong: Holiday Hullabaloo* will be published in August 2011 and will have readers aged seven and up laughing out loud.

Puffin is delighted to be publishing a major new series by Eoin Colfer, the bestselling author of *Artemis Fowl*. WARP, an acronym for Witness Anonymous Relocation Program, used by the FBI to hide important witnesses in the past, is a high concept series described by the author as '*Oliver*



Press Release

Twist meets *The Matrix*'. The first book features a Victorian boy, Riley, who goes on the run in 21st century London pursued by a ruthless assassin from his own time. Riley must rely on his wits and the help of a young FBI agent if he is to survive. The first title in the WARP series will be published by Puffin in the summer of 2012.

Puffin's Fiction Publishing Director Sarah Hughes has also acquired the last and final book in Eoin's mega selling and critically acclaimed Artemis Fowl series from Sophie Hicks. The eighth, as yet untitled book, starring the teenage criminal mastermind will be published by Puffin in spring 2012. The plot is being kept strictly under wraps and will not be revealed until publication. Puffin celebrates the 10th anniversary of Artemis Fowl this month.

-Ends-

For further information about any of the titles listed above,
Please visit the **Penguin Group stand (No. H505) at the London International Book Fair.**

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Press Release
