

# Open Book Newsletter

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM PEN COED PUBLISHING



## Book voucher

### Congratulations

Congratulations to this month's winner of the £5 Book Voucher to use against any of our titles (or services).

Carol Marshall - the first to sign up for the new Newsletter!

## What's New

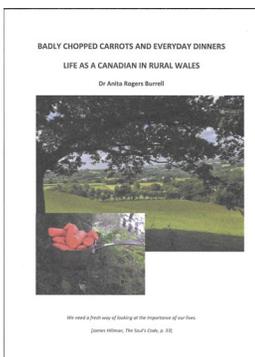
### Welcome to our 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter

Thank you for signing up to our monthly Newsletter. We will try our best to keep it interesting and inspiring!

## Hints & Tips

### 10 Tips about Writing, Editing and Publishing

Each month we will include a list of 10 tips or pointers about writing non-fiction, editing it ready for the printers, and on getting your work published



## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED BOOK

“Badly Chopped Carrots and Everyday Dinners” by Dr Anita Rogers Burrell

Memoir of a Canadian living in rural Wales and her love of food that helped her become closer to the local community

# Badly Chopped Carrots and Everyday Dinners

Our featured book this month is written by a Canadian who relocated to live here in Ceredigion, Wales. It explores how she tackled being a 'newcomer', got used to the rural location, and made friends through her willingness to talk to others and use her love of food to build relationships.

<http://www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk>



## Badly Chopped Carrots for short!

DR ANITA ROGERS- BURRELL

This book considers her true personal feelings, goals, and the things that she enjoys in life in order to look at how you can balance solitude and connection with others. It is an inspiring read that takes a sometimes-whimsical look at real life and leads to her **3 Steps to Survival and Success**.

As well as describing the local area, the beautiful countryside - we love Ceredigion! - and the people she meets, Anita gives you lots of recipes that reflect the different seasons, all of them ideal for feeding guests. And yes, they all work!

It is a great 1<sup>st</sup> edition, heavy quality paper, beautiful full-colour illustrations throughout, and a perfect 'coffee table' book. The link below will take you to the page with more detail about the book and a direct link to order through Amazon UK. Alternatively, you can order at any bookstore using the ISBN and details shown here.

<https://www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk/memoir-self-help-books>

**"Life is like badly chopped carrots. Far from perfect chunks of equal length and breadth, badly chopped carrots are ragged, irregular, lumpy and bumpy. So too is life, with all its ups and downs, its sheer wonkiness."**

ISBN: 978-1-9998352-2-4

£25.00 (RRP £28.00) plus p&p

## 10 Tips on Writing, Editing and Publishing

### WRITING NON-FICTION

As we specialize in non-fiction, rather than poetry or fiction, this is what we love to read. There are lots of courses available on Creative Writing but fewer on non-fiction. So, where to start?

1. **how do you choose a non-fiction topic?** Think of all the magazines or articles you have read where you have thought “well, I could have explained it better than that!”. What sort of topics struck a chord with you, that you already had some experience of?
2. **Work related** - what jobs have you done in the past, or are currently involved in? Are you considered to be an expert? Do you provide training to others, even if just informally, or are you the one they come to for advice?
3. **Leisure activities** - whatever activities you enjoy can be the topic of a short article or a larger piece of writing. Activities might include exercise classes, dancing, learning a new sport whether in classes or by yourself.
4. **Planning** to run a half-marathon or do a long-distance trek for charity at some time? Just the process of planning such an event involves a lot of skills and decision-making. You could be the one to give out clear advice on how to prepare (such as in the Walking the Wye Valley Way book we publish).
5. **Hobbies** such as practical crafts, textiles, photography, fishing or gardening are interesting topics that others are always keen to learn about
6. **Cooking and Baking** topics continue to be as popular as they were in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries when cookery books became more than just scribbled notes by Granny
7. **Art** - you don't have to be a practicing artist but may be keen on studying the history of art, work by your favourite artists, or discovering the work of a more obscure artist. The arts continue to have a wide following of all ages
8. **Travel writing** - unless you never leave the house (OK, the current lock-down might have changed things a bit...) you will always have the potential to write about a journey on foot in secluded woodland areas, on public transport, or in your car. Do you travel in your local area or further afield, overseas perhaps? People love to read about travel experiences
9. **Theatre, entertainment venues, restaurants** - so many options for writing about your experiences, especially if it involves food and wine tasting!
10. **Family life** - this may be at any age, any type of family grouping, living alone, coming to terms with loss. They are all topics that others will recognize and be interested in.

As you can see, everyone has something to say. Your individual experiences will always be seen by others as either very close to their own experiences or completely unknown to them.

Non-fiction writing should engage the reader in seeing the world from a different perspective, to encourage or inspire them, but also to make them reflect on their own environment.

See website of one of our authors: <http://www.jacquelinejeynes.com>

*Next month we will think about identifying what you actually want to say about a topic, what do you want the reader to know and understand that they didn't do before?*