

Oversteps Books

Publishing fine poetry

JANUARY 16, 2020 BY AMARRIAGE

Oversteps News 58

Oversteps Books Ltd, 6 Halwell House, South Pool, Nr Kingsbridge, Devon, TQ7 2RX
alwynmarriage@overstepsbooks.com

Oversteps News 58 January 2020

The first Oversteps book of the new year is

Trace by **Mary Robinson** (ISBN 978-1-906856-85-4), price £8 plus p & p.

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/trace-full.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/mary-robinson.jpg>) Mary Robinson has had two previous books and two pamphlets published, but this is her first Oversteps book. She grew up on an off-grid smallholding in Warwickshire, lectured in English Literature in Cumbria and now lives on the Llŷn Peninsular in North Wales.

'Trace' is a rich collection, full of careful observation.

A particularly rewarding section focuses on some of the characters in Shakespeare's plays, which will delight lovers of the Bard

Some recent successes by Oversteps poets

Antony Mair came 2nd in the **Hastings Litfest** competition

Mark Totterdell won the **Happenstance Press** competition for blank verse was highly commended for the **Winchester Poetry Prize**, judged by Helen Mort and received special mention in the **Sentinel Literary Quarterly** poetry competition.

A C Clarke won first prize in the **Beyond Borders competition**
first prize in the **Second Light competition**, long poem category
was shortlisted in the **Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary competition**
and was commended in the **Poets Meet Politics competition**

Robert Stein was shortlisted in the **Winchester Poetry competition**
and shortlisted in the **Bridport Prize**

Ross Cogan was commended in the **Cannon Poets, Sonnet or Not competition**

Coming soon

Ian Royce Chamberlain will be headlining at **the Lamb Inn, Sandford**, near Crediton on Tuesday 21st January

Simon Williams will be performing at Apples and Snakes at a science-themed show at the Barbican Theatre in **Plymouth**, at 8.00pm on Thursday 23rd January

Rebecca Bilkau's poetry is featured in the cantata 'The Blessed Round', which will be performed at **Jesus College, Oxford** at 3.00pm on Saturday 1st February

Mary Robinson and Alwyn Marriage are guest poets at the **Words by the Water Festival** in Keswick, reading at 3.00pm on Wednesday 11th March

Alwyn Marriage will be preaching on the subject of Theology and Poetry at **Corpus Christi College, Cambridge** at 6.00pm on Sunday 16th February

Susan Taylor, Simon Williams and Alwyn Marriage will be part of a group of **Poets for the Planet**, performing 'Interbeings' at the **Lyra Festival, Bristol**, on the afternoon of Sunday 15th March

Ian Royce Chamberlain and Jennie Osborne are leading lights in the organisation of the **Teignmouth Poetry Festival**, which runs from 19-22 March

Jennie Osborne will be reading at a **Grey Hen event** at the Teignmouth Poetry Festival on Sunday 22nd March

Mary Robinson will be reading her work and leading a discussion at **Rosley Hall, Cumbria**, at 1.30pm on Friday 27th March.

In other news

This year's **Oversteps Day** at **Ways with Words**, Dartington will be on Saturday 18th July

Alwyn Marriage has been elected to serve on the **Society of Authors Poetry and Spoken Word Group committee**

In the past, previous Oversteps poets have been listed in chronological order at the back of each book. Starting with 'Trace', this list is now in alphabet order, to make it easier to find particular poets who have been published by Oversteps.

if winter comes, can spring be far behind?

Alwyn

marriages.me.uk/alwyn
marriages.me.uk/alwyn/blog

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Please send copies of <i>Trace</i> by Mary Robinson at £8 each plus p&p	£
Postage and packing per book: £1.80 in UK (£4.50 if ordering from abroad)	£
P&p for 2 books, £2.50 (£5.20 abroad); 3 books £5 (£6.20 abroad)	£
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| Tagged [A C Clarke](#), [Alwyn Marriage](#), [Antony Mair](#), [Apples and Snakes](#), [Barbican Theatre Plymouth](#), [Beyond Borders](#), [Binstead Prize competition](#), [Bridport Poetry Prize](#), [Cannon Poets](#), [Corpus College Cambridge](#), [Dartmoor](#), [Elisabeth Rowe](#), [Grey Hen](#), [Guernsey Literature Festival](#), [Haida Gwaii](#), [Happenstance](#), [Hastings Litfest](#), [Ian Royce Chamberlain](#), [International Rubery Book Award](#), [Jean Atkin](#), [Jennie Osborne](#), [Jesus College Oxford](#), [Littoral Press nature poetry collection competition](#), [Llyn Peninsular](#), [Lord Whisky](#), [Manning's Pit poetry competition](#), [Mar](#), [Mark Totterdell](#), [Mary Robinson](#), [Oversteps Day](#), [Oz Hardwick](#), [Poetry and Spoken Word Group](#), [Poetry on the Lake](#), [Poets Meet Politics](#), [Rebecca Bilkau](#), [Robert Stein](#), [Rose Flint](#), [Rosley Hall Cumbria](#), [Ross Cogan](#), [Second Light competition](#), [Sentinel Literary Quarterly](#), [Simon Richey](#), [Simon Williams](#), [Society of Authors](#), [Susan Taylor Lyra Festival](#), [Teignmouth Poetry Festival](#), [Tony Watts](#), [Totnes](#), [Ways with Words](#), [Winchester Poetry Prize](#), [Wolf poetry competition](#), [Word Circus](#), [Words by the Water](#), [York Literature Festival](#) | [Leave a comment](#) |

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019 BY [AMARRIAGE](#)

Oversteps News 57

Oversteps News 57 September 2019

We are delighted to publish a third collection by Elisabeth Rowe. Her previous Oversteps books were *Thin Ice* and *Taking Shape*.

Timewise by **Elisabeth Rowe** (ISBN 978-1-906856-84-7), price £8 plus p & p.

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/timewise-full.jpg>)

Elisabeth's poems are often humorous, invariably sensitive, and always intelligent. Some of the poems in this collection reflect on the passage of time and the facts of ageing and mortality. Having experienced, and fortunately

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/elisabeth-rowe.jpg>) overcome, the danger imposed by cancer, Elisabeth does not take life for granted. Dartmoor, where Elisabeth has the good fortune to live, figures strongly, but so, also, does British Columbia and the Haida Gwaii, and the colonial India of an earlier age.

In other news

Many thanks to all those who helped to make this year's **Oversteps Day at Ways with Words** in July another great success. we had wonderful readers and warm and appreciative audiences.

Jean Atkin won second prize and joint third prize in the **Wolf Poetry competition**

A C Clarke was runner-up in the **St Petrock competition**

selected for the **Planet in Peril competition** anthology

and highly commended in the **Sangchaw competition** for poetry in Scots

Rose Flint won the **Littoral Press Nature Poetry Collection competition**

Oz Hardwick won the **International Rubery Book Award**

Simon Richey was a prize-winner in the **Poems on the Move** category of the **Guernsey International Poetry competition, 2019**

Mark Totterdell had both a Highly Commended and a Commended in the **YorkMix poetry competition**, run by **York Literature Festival** and won the **Manning's Pit Poetry competition**

Tony Watts had a poem commended in the **Binstead Prize competition**, run by the South Downs Poetry Festival, 2019,

and was one of four shortlisted poets in the **Littoral Press Nature Poetry collection competition**

Jenny Osborne will be performing at **Word Circus** in the Barrel House, Totnes, at 7.30pm on 25th September

Several Oversteps poets will, again, be reading at **Poetry on the Lake** in Italy this autumn, including **Elisabeth Rowe** who will be launching her book in that beautiful venue.

As well as the normal readings, **Alwyn Marriage** will be representing Oversteps Books in a panel discussion on publishing poetry.

None of us has any idea what state our poor country will be in by the time I send out the next Oversteps News. Whatever happens, try to stay sane by reading good poetry.

Alwyn

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Please send copies of <i>Timewise</i> by Elisabeth Rowe at £8 each plus p&p	£
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| Tagged [Alwyn Marriage](#), [Binstead Prize competition](#), [Dartmoor](#), [Elisabeth Rowe](#), [Guernsey Literature Festival](#), [Haida Gwaii](#), [International Rubery Book Award](#), [Jean Atkin](#), [Jennie Osborne](#), [Littoral Press nature poetry collection competition](#), [Manning's Pit poetry competition](#), [Mark Totterdell](#), [Oversteps Day](#), [Oz Hardwick](#), [Poetry on the Lake](#), [Rose Flint](#), [Simon Richey](#), [Tony Watts](#), [Totnes](#), [Ways with Words](#), [Wolf poetry competition](#), [Word Circus](#), [York Literature Festival](#) | [Leave a comment](#) |

APRIL 2, 2019 BY [AMARRIAGE](#)

Oversteps News 56

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Oversteps News 56 April 2019

It's always a pleasure to introduce a new poet, and this month Oversteps has pleasure in publishing a first collection by Patricia Leighton, from Worcestershire.

Hidden by **Patricia Leighton** (ISBN 978-1-906856-83-0), price £8 plus p & p.

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/pat-portrait.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/front-cover.jpeg>)

The collection includes reflections on such subjects as how a blind man describes rain, how dusk creeps in to swallow day, the power of words and the poet's meeting with a six hundred million year-old woodlouse in the form of a trilobite.

In other news

Oversteps poets continue to bring in the prizes in competitions. Here are a few that I've noticed recently:

Christopher North was highly commended in the **Café Writers'** competition 2018

Mark Totterdell was highly commended in the **Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival** poetry competition

Tony Watts was awarded a joint third prize in the **Barnett Open** poetry competition, a commendation in the **Sentinel Literary** quarterly poetry competition, and was one of four shortlisted in the **Littoral Press Nature Poetry Collection** competition

Rose Flint won the **Littoral Press Nature Poetry Collection** competition

Ian Royce Chamberlain had three poems shortlisted in the **Plough** poetry competition

Congratulations to **Teignmouth Poetry Festival** for another splendid weekend of events. The team at Teignmouth, who work so hard and creatively, includes Oversteps poets **Ian Royce Chamberlain** and **Jennie Osborne**.

Coming soon

Carol DeVaughn will be reading from her recent collection, *Life Class*, at Ver Poets in St Albans on 12th April

Graham High has an exhibition of bronze portrait sculptures of modern poets, along with poems on the subject of, and in the style of, each poet. The exhibition will be at the White Box Gallery, Blackheath, 13th-28th April, including Easter.

Carol DeVaughn will be reading at Enfield Poets at the Dugdale Centre on Saturday 4th May

Jenny Hockey will be launching her Oversteps book, *Going to bed with the moon* at the South Yorkshire Poetry Festival on Tuesday 21st May

Jenny Hockey will launch her Oversteps book at the Sheffield's Sheaf Festival on Friday 24th May.

Please put Saturday 6th July in your diaries now, so that you don't miss this year's **Oversteps Day at Ways with Words**.

In these difficult times, keep sane by reading lots of poetry.

Alwyn

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| Tagged [Barnett Open poetry competition](#), [Blackheath](#), [Café Writers](#), [Carol DeVaughn](#), [Christopher North](#), [Graham High](#), [Ian Royce Chamberlain](#), [Jennie Osborne](#), [Jenny Hockey](#), [Littoral Press nature poetry collection competition](#), [Mark Totterdell](#), [Oversteps Day](#), [Patricia Leighton](#), [Plough Poetry Competition](#), [Rose Flint](#), [Sentinel Literary Quarterly](#), [Shepton Mallet Snowdrop](#)

Oversteps News 55

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alwynmarriage@overstepsbooks.com

Oversteps News 55 January 2019

Happy new year to you all. May it be a year filled with good poetry.

We are pleased to publish our first new book of the year.

Going to bed with the moon by **Jenny Hockey** (ISBN 978-1-906856-82-3), price £8 plus p & p.

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/jenny-hockey.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/going-to-bed-with-the-moon-full.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/going-to-bed-with-the-moon-full.jpg>)

This is Jenny Hockey's first full collection, and is a welcome addition to our list.

Jenny received a New Poets Award from New Writing North in 2013, soon after retiring from a Chair in Sociology at the University of Sheffield. Many of the poems in this collection explore experiences of grief and loss, love and remembering, mirroring her academic research and writing in these areas.

The collection moves from the beginning to the end of the day, and from the familiar world of home to unknown travel destinations and their imagined challenges.

Jenny lives in South Yorkshire, and is available for readings.

In other news

Oversteps poets continue to bring in the prizes in competitions. Here are a few that I've noticed recently:

Oz Hardwick is the winner of Hedgehog's Full Fat Collection competition

A C Clarke won first prize in the August Sentinel Literary Quarterly competition and earlier last year was commended in the Sanctuary competition.

Mark Totterdell and **Tony Watts** were both shortlisted for the Bridport Prize

In the Torbay Poetry competition:

Giles Goodland won 1st prize

Wendy Klein won 3rd prize,

Jennie Osborne and **Maggie Butt** were highly commended, and

Rebecca Gethin was commended

Coming soon

Melanie Branton will be reading at The Front Room, Spring Arts Centre, **Havant** on **21st February**, and at

the Poetry Café Refreshed, **Cheltenham** on **20th March**

Alwyn Marriage will be the guest poet at Word Café **Dartington**, on **4th April**.

All the best for the rest of 2019

Alwyn

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Please send copies of *Going to bed with the moon* by Jenny Hockey at **£8 each plus p&p** £

Postage and packing per **book: £1.80 in UK (£4 if ordering from abroad)** £

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NOVEMBER 1, 2018 BY AMARRIAGE

Oversteps News 54

Oversteps News

Oversteps News 54 November 2018

We are pleased to be publishing another collection by a poet who is new to Oversteps.

Life Class by **Carol DeVaughn** (ISBN 978-1-906856-81-6), price £8 plus p&p

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/life-class-full.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/carol-devaughn.jpg>)

Carol DeVaughn, an American-born prize-winning poet, has lived in London for many years, teaching English language and literature, practising T'ai Chi, working as a life-class model and performing her poetry at charity events. *Life Class* is her first collection

Carol has a keen eye for art, which she celebrates with poems about Michelangelo, van Gogh, Rembrandt, Rothco and others; and she has also experienced what it is like to be the focus of an artist's eye, through sitting as a life-class model for several years.

Some of the events coming up in the next few weeks

4th November: **Rebecca Gethin** will be reading at **Aldeburgh** at a Poems around Climate Change event

7th November: **Paul Surman** will be reading at **Wheatley Library**, OX33 1XP, at 10.30am

10th and 17th November: **Jennie Osborne** will be guest poet for South Devon Singers at St Michael's Church Teignmouth on 10th November and again in the Methodist Church in Ivybridge on 17th November.

11th November: **Paul Surman** will be reading at **Peace Poets** for the centenary of WW1 armistice, at Beckley village hall at 2.45pm

17th November: **Richard Skinner** and **Alwyn Marriage** will be reading with Lawrence Sail at **Rhythms of Peace**, a celebration of the **Corrymeela Community** at The Chapel, St Luke's Campus, Heavitree, Exeter

30th November: **Alwyn Marriage** will be guest poet at **Fox's Barn, Godalming**

22nd December: **Alwyn Marriage** will be reading at an Occam Singers Christmas concert in **Guildford**

5th January: **Melanie Branton** will be reading at a **Good On Paper** fundraising event in Stroud

Other news

Most months bring news of more successes by Oversteps poets, and this month it's good to see two of our poets shortlisted for the Bridport Poetry Prize: **Mark Totterdell** and **Tony Watts**.

Then there was a good crop of Oversteps poets among the prizewinners in the Torbay Poetry competition: 1st prize went to **Giles Goodland** and 3rd prize to **Wendy Klein**, and in addition **Rebecca Gethin** was Commended and both **Jennie Osborne** and **Maggie Butt** Highly Commended.

Helen Overell was Highly Commended in the Ver Poets Open competition and was a joint runner-up in the Poetry Stanza competition 2018

At the end of November, Oversteps poets **Simon Williams** and **Susan Taylor** are publishing an anthology entitled **Play** to help raise funds for a children's playground in Totnes.

In the Poetry on the Lake competition, **Maggie Butt** came 3rd in the Short Poem category and **Christopher North** came 3rd in the Silver Wyvern

Keep warm as winter creeps up on us

Alwyn

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Please send copies of *Life Class* by Carol DeVaughn at £8 each plus p&p £
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Oversteps News 53

September 2018

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alwynmarriage@overstepsbooks.com

Let the wounded speak by Antony Mair (ISBN 978-1-906856-80-9), price £8 plus p&p

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/mair-portrait-copy.jpg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/cover.jpeg>)

Antony Mair has enjoyed a varied working life, both in the legal profession and as an estate agent in France. His poetry ranges widely, touching on slavery, gay identity, the trauma of war, Muslim radicalisation and abuse in the Roman Catholic church. Despite his clear-sighted view of this wounded world, he is also hopeful that love brings healing and hope.

Antony will be reading at the Torbay Poetry Festival next month, so I am pleased to publish this book in time for him to present it at the festival.

I am careful not to swamp our readers with too frequent newsletters; but all being well there will be another new Oversteps book next month, before a bit of a break until the New Year. I hope you'll find time to read '*Let the wounded speak*' before I write to announce the next one. Remember that you can click the *Follow* button in the right hand margin, to make sure you don't miss any news.

Some dates coming up soon

22nd September Oversteps Books will be at the **Poetry Book Fair** in Senate House, **University of London**

22nd September **Paul Surman, Melanie Branton, Ian Royce Chamberlain and Hilary Elfick** will be reading at 2.20pm at the Poetry Book Fair, **London**

27th September **Ross Cogan** will be reading with Anna Saunders at Words and Ears in **Bradford on Avon**

28th September **Jennie Osborne** and **Sue Proffitt** will be reading at the Alice Cross Centre in **Teignmouth** with Susan Richardson

1st October **Susan Taylor** and **Simon Williams** will be presenting poets from their forthcoming anthology, 'Play', at the City Gate Hotel, **Exeter**

5th October **Susan Taylor** and **Simon Williams** will be performing their poetry show, 'Weather House' at the **Swindon** Poetry Festival

7th October **Alwyn Marriage** is one of the poets in the launch of 'Domestic Cherry' at the **Swindon** Poetry Festival

19th October **Simon Williams** and **Susan Taylor**, with young poets from Galampton Primary School, will be appearing at the **Torbay** Poetry Festival

19th October **Antony Mair** will be reading at the **Torbay** Poetry Festival

26th October **Alwyn Marriage** and **Susan Taylor** will be the guest poets at Word Café at Cott Inn, **Dartington**

31st October **Ross Cogan** will be reading at Pembroke College, **Oxford** at 6.00pm

17th November **Richard Skinner** and **Alwyn Marriage** will be reading at a special Corrymeela Celebration at 7.00pm in St Luke's Chapel, **Exeter**

best wishes

Alwyn

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Please send copies of *Let the wounded speak* by Antony Mair at £8 each **plus p&p**

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Oversteps News 52

Oversteps News 52

May 2018

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It is always a pleasure to introduce to the wider public a poet who has been writing and publishing for some time, but for whom this is the first collection.

Places by Paul Surman (ISBN 978-1-906856-79-3), price £8 plus p&p.

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/places.jpeg>)

(<https://overstepsbooks.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/paul-surman.jpg>)

In his poetry, Paul is often 'the observer unobserved' as he introduces us to aspects of nature that we might well have otherwise missed. This role is fed by his enjoyment of walking in the Chilterns and his former experience as Reserve Manager of a nature reserve. He helps to organise poetry readings and workshops for Back Room Poets in Oxford.

Some of the events coming up in the next few weeks

- 19th May **Alwyn Marriage** will be reading at The Crypt in **Islington**, with Martyn Crucefix and Will Stone
- 24th May **Melanie Branton** is starring in a Comedy night at the Roxy Cinema, **Axbridge**
- 25th May **Denise McSheehy** is Guest Reader at the **Second Light** Spring Festival
- 30th May **Melanie Branton** is reading at Newcastle Literary Salon, **Newcastle-upon-Tyne**
- 3rd June **Paul Surman** is reading at the Avington Arms in **Beckley**
- 4th June **Paul Surman** will be reading at Pembroke College, **Oxford**
- 7th June **Oversteps at the Poetry Café** will feature **Maggie Butt, Simon Richey, Alwyn Marriage** and **Ian Royce Chamberlain**, with songs by **Zoë Marriage** and shorter readings by **Anne Stewart, David Broadbridge, Jane Spiro, John Daniel** and **Graham High**. 7.00 pm, Betterton Street, **London**
- 28th June-1st July **Melanie Branton** will be appearing at the Barnstable Fringe
- 2nd July **Melanie Branton** will be reading at Wells Fountain Poets, **Wells, Somerset**
- 6th July **Denise McSheehy** will be reading at Penzance Literary Festival, Acorn Barn **Penzance**
- 14th July **Oversteps Day at Ways with Words**. This annual bonanza of readings by Oversteps poets will this year feature **Ian Royce Chamberlain, Melanie Branton, Denise McSheehy, Hilary Elfick, Rebecca Bilkau, Jane Spiro, Sue Proffitt, Christopher North, Paul Surman, Jennie Osborne, Simon Williams, Susan Taylor** and **Alwyn Marriage**. The day will start at 10.00am in the Duke's Room, **Dartington Hall, Devon**
- 18th-22nd July **Melanie Branton** will be appearing at Buddhafield Festival, **Somerset**
- 27th-29th July **Melanie Branton** will be appearing at WOMAD festival

When **Anne Born**, the former Managing Editor of Oversteps, died, she kindly left a legacy to the Poetry Society which has, for the past four years, provided mentoring for a promising poet. This is now coming to an end, and to celebrate the success of the scheme, we are offering copies of Anne's last poetry collection, **Singing Granites** (rrp £12), co-authored by the Australian poet **Glen Phillips** at half-price (£6) with the purchase of any other Oversteps book, while stocks last. Let us know if you would like to receive one, and add £6 to your payment.

warm summer wishes

Alwyn

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