



***Putting Pen to Paper: The Writing and Publishing Journey*
by Caroline Webber**

Paperback, 128pp | Green Olive Press, November 2009 | ISBN 9780980701500

Putting Pen to Paper is the first publication of Sydney's newest publishing company, the Green Olive Press. Caroline Webber, the director, set up the Green Olive Press after being inspired by a group of friends at a dinner party, and aims to publish a small number of titles related to English literature, food and words – preferably a combination of all three.

Caroline Webber, who has a doctorate from the University of Liverpool in Eighteenth-century English literature, has spent the past two years working in the publishing industry in Sydney. Caroline wrote *Putting Pen to Paper* after running a series of publishing seminars around NSW.

Caroline explains, 'Sometimes when you go on a journey you know the route, other times you need a map. *Putting Pen to Paper* assists writers to create a map and provides the tools and techniques to help turn aspirations into publications.'

Putting Pen to Paper is currently available from www.greenolivepress.com, and will be in bookshops across Australia later in the year.

'Putting Pen to Paper is a practical handbook, encouraging new writers to ask all the right questions about publication. With this book in hand, you will have a well-informed knowledge of the entire book production process as well as many tips for improving your writing - and improving your chances of being published.' Patti Miller, author of *Writing your life* and *Whatever the Gods do*

Putting Pen to Paper is clear, practical and easy to understand. It's the perfect book to guide writers through the practicality of writing and publishing, and gives them the tools to start.' Nellie Flannery, Shanahan Management

Caroline Webber
Green Olive Press
Caroline.webber@greenolivepress.com
Tel: 0405 304340
PO Box 1417, Woollahra NSW 1350

Excerpt – from the Introduction

'It is my contention – my superstition, if you like – that he who is faithful to his map, and consults it, and draws from it his inspiration, daily and hourly, gains positive support.' Robert Louis Stevenson

There are hundreds of books about publishing. Some claim to teach you how to write a bestseller overnight; others attempt to explain the book production process in a language that is often far too technical for most of us to understand. There are even publications that declare your book will be an instant success if you follow the author's magical marketing plan.

This book does not claim to do any of that. It doesn't proclaim that you will become a millionaire, or that your name will get to the top of the best-seller list. There is no magic formula that guarantees publishing success: if there was we would all be following it already. The truth is what works for one author, may not work for another – every author has a different approach and has achieved their success by different means. Every book is different.

'So what does this book do?' you may ask. 'What is this book all about?' Well, this is a book of questions. It's full of questions. There are questions to ask yourself, your friends, your colleagues and mentors, your publisher, the media, and even total strangers. This book is unique. It guides you to ask questions that will help you make well-informed decisions that are right for you. It encourages and directs you to research and in seeking the answers, you will become more knowledgeable and able to make educated choices. It will give you a map and take you on a journey of discovery.

There are no right or wrong answers. Everyone's answers will be different. All you have to do is to research, consider and answer the questions honestly. You will find some easy to answer; others will pose more of a challenge. You can dip in and out of the book. You can choose to answer all of the questions in one section at a time, or randomly pick them out. Make notes in the margins, gather your own answers, refer back to it over time. Just remember the more thoroughly you do the research, the greater your chance of success!

Each section explains why it is important to consider the topics and includes top tips, as well as directing you to places where you can find the answers. The answers you find will help you to identify your goals and make plans for achieving them. Towards the back of the book you will also find useful information – including some exercises to help improve your writing, a glossary of publishing terms, a select bibliography and contact details of organisations that can provide you with help and guidance.

Sometimes when you go on a journey you know the route, other times you need a map, but on both occasions you know where you want to get to. You may have decisions to make at every crossroad, and you may make a detour (or two!) but you eventually arrive at your destination. It's just the same with writing and publishing.

Here's where your journey begins. *Bon voyage!*