

Update / Alert for All Interested Parties

Diggory Press / Exposure Publishing / Meadow Books / Mrs Rosalind Miriam Franklin

Hi Folks...

Aug 17th 2009

I thought everyone should be alerted to the fact that a company under the name 'AUTHOR'S CHANCE LTD' is now registered at Companies House under the number 05384346 and is advertising itself online as the parent company of Diggory Press and Exposure Publishing. It currently lists around 700 titles for sale – including several disputed books that Mrs Franklin was instructed to cancel. <http://www.borders.co.uk>

The company number 05384346 comes from a previously dormant company that was recently reactivated by an online agency (The Co Warehouse), and had its name changed in July 2009 to Author's Chance Ltd. The company's trading address is that of another specialist agency who set up offshore businesses and bank accounts. According to an online directory, the sole registered director of Author's Chance Ltd (Mr Michael Thomas Gordon of West Sussex) apparently holds (or has held) directorships in no fewer than 28 other companies. Coincidentally, Mrs Franklin used to live in West Sussex, and some of her family still reside there. Mrs Franklin's name is not listed on the company documents.

In summary; this new company Author's Chance Ltd apparently now owns all Diggory Press and Exposure Publishing titles, and has registered itself as such with Nielsen Bookdata (the ISBN people). It would appear that it has taken on the identity of a previously-dormant company in order to give the impression it has been a properly functioning legitimate business since 2005 – or, perhaps to fulfil legal requirements for the setting-up of offshore accounts..?

Meanwhile, Meadow Books continues to advertise cancelled titles, including some that have been reprinted by other companies. Authors MAS, SK, SPA, VC, GH, EBS please see.. <http://www.pickabook.com> The best way to find out where your book is being advertised is to put the 13-digit ISBN from your book into Google, along with the various business names associated with Mrs Franklin and see what shows up. I have tested eight titles which I know for sure have been cancelled by the authors – and each showed up under at least three different imprints as currently for sale.. Please take screenshots if you intend to take legal action – and/or forward the evidence to me for display on the Rogues Gallery <http://checkpoint.ie/roquesgallery.html>

I am not sure about the legalities here, but it would seem to me that any author who made a contract with Mrs Franklin / Diggory / Exposure etc.. should at least be consulted before having their book transferred to another company for promotion and sale.. Also, I feel it needs to be said that it would be highly unethical for any printers or distributors to work with Author's Chance Ltd in the knowledge that they are trying to sell cancelled or disputed titles from the Diggory / Exposure library.. without the consent of the authors. This link displays several versions of Mrs Franklin's own books listed under various imprints, including Author's Chance Ltd, Meadow Books, and AMS Print-On-Demand..? (another name new to me).. <http://shop.ekkleisia.co.uk>

As always, let me encourage everyone to take some action. The more voices that are heard, the more likely our next Court hearing in November will result in justice being done. Tell the Trading Standards people... call BBC Watchdog.. tell the Newspapers – especially The Guardian, The Times, or Private Eye who have already done articles on Mrs Franklin's colourful business activities.. Call your MP and ask how and why it is so easy for rogue traders to flourish at our expense..? Also contact the booksellers.. and of course, go online and share your experiences with as many people as you can... Meanwhile, I will try to keep the Rogue's Gallery updated with the latest as-and-when I get the time, but in the meantime, anyone with anything relevant to share, please email me at stmphd@mail.com

Kind regards to all – and thanks again for the messages of support and encouragement

Stephen