

STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 21.45, Thursday 1st February 2018

The Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards Honour Jan Morris, CBE, FRSL for Outstanding Contribution to Travel Writing

Jan Morris CBE, FRSL, ex-soldier, journalist, and novelist, has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to travel writing by [The Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards](#), in association with luxury tailor made travel specialist **Hayes & Jarvis**. Having spent more than half her life travelling, penning more than forty books and countless essays, articles and reviews, Morris has been described as the greatest descriptive writer of her time and has introduced readers to the world through her words. Jan Morris' first ever book of Diaries, *In My Mind's Eye*, will be published by Faber in September 2018.

Accepting her Award, Morris said: *"What I'm writing about is not the journey or the travel or even to some extent the place, but the effect of a place upon a particular individual's sensibility... Thank you so much for my [award]. It is a beautiful thing and very suitable for me as it represents the world I have spent my time looking at and thinking about."*

The Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year, in partnership with The Authors' Club, was awarded to Kapka Kassabova for *Border*, a highly topical portrait of the little-explored borderland between Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece – the latest to receive refugees fleeing conflict further afield. Meeting treasure hunters, entrepreneurs, psychic healers, refugees and smugglers, Kassabova reveals the secrets of the region and its culture through its physical and psychological history.

Sara Wheeler, Chair of Judges for the Stanford Dolman Award said: *"Border stood out for the judges because of the author's old-fashioned gift for storytelling, her beautiful prose, and the topicality of the subject as Europe stands once more on the cusp of change. We think it is an important book."*

Taking home the award for **Hayes & Jarvis Fiction, with a Sense of Place**, was Tristan Hughes, whose latest novel *Hummingbird*, an emotional journey through the Canadian wilderness, shone out against competition from multi-award-winning titles including Nicole Dennis-Benn's *Here Comes the Sun* and Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko*. **The Marco Polo Outstanding General Travel Themed Book of the Year** was awarded to Per. J. Andersson for his part reportage, part travel narrative and part memoir *The Amazing Story of the Man Who Cycled from India to Europe for Love* translated by Anna Holmwood; and the **Wanderlust Adventure Travel Book of the Year** went to *Shark Drunk* by Morten Strøksnes translated by Tiina Nunnally, a tale of two men on a mission to trail the Greenland shark said to hypnotise its prey.

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell and illustrated by Hannah Horn, recent winner of the Costa Children's Book Award, strikes again in the **London Book Fair Children's Travel Book of**

the Year category, introducing children to the art of adventure through the Amazon rainforest. *Londonist Mapped* by AA Publishing was awarded the **Destinations Show Photography & Illustrated Travel Book of the Year**.

Sustainability was championed in the **Food and Travel Magazine Travel Cookery Book of the Year**, recognising Bart van Olphen, the world's most sustainable seafood entrepreneur 2008, for *Bart's Fish Tales*, a cookbook full of the stories behind sustainable fishing sites around the world, complete with photography from world-renowned photographer David Loftus.

Celebrating fresh new voices alongside established writers, the awards include the **Bradt Travel Guides New Travel Writer of the Year** which was this year awarded to Alan Packer for *The Village Sledge Run* which narrates his time in the first annual Kosovo snows, and the **Lonely Planet Pathfinders Travel Blog of the Year** which was won by *Man Vs Globe*.

Tony Maher, Managing Director of Edward Stanford Ltd said: *"We established these awards three years ago to celebrate all genres of travel writing – and specifically the Travel Writer, a group of very special individuals who devote their lives to cataloging their adventures to entertain and enrich the lives of others."*

I do hope that this celebration of Travel Writing makes a difference to all the shortlisted and winning authors by giving their work some much-deserved recognition. Most importantly too, I hope that the raised awareness of their works will result in increased sales of their titles."

The Awards were hosted on 1st February at the Stanfords Travel Writers Festival taking place at Destinations: The Holiday and Travel Show at Olympia. Each winner received an antique globe trophy.

For further information, or for interview and feature opportunities, please contact:

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Notes for Editors

About the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards

Launched in 2015, the **Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards** seek to celebrate the best travel writing, and travel writers, in the world. In its first year it consisted of the **Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year** (in partnership with The Authors' Club) and the **Edward Stanford Award for Outstanding Contribution to Travel Writing**, with the latter being awarded by a panel of high street and independent booksellers. The category list has since expanded to recognize the breadth of print and online travel writing.

About the Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year, in association with the Authors' Club

In 2006, the Rev. Dr. William Dolman and the Authors' Club launched the **Dolman Travel Book Award**. Edward Stanford Limited relaunched the **Dolman Travel Book Award** in 2015, renaming it the **Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year**, in partnership with the Authors' Club, doubling the prize fund to £5k and adding it as a category within the **Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards**. Previous winners include Horatio Clare for *Down to the Sea in Ships* and Julian Sayarer for *Interstate*.

About the sponsors

1. Hayes & Jarvis

Hayes & Jarvis is one of the UK's longest established and most successful long-haul tailor made specialists.

With 65 years' experience creating memorable journeys to over 65 destinations in more than 30 countries worldwide, Hayes & Jarvis is the expert in turning any holiday into an extraordinary experience. Sourcing only the best travel experiences, Hayes & Jarvis still hand-picks its portfolio of exceptional holidays, tours and safaris, encompassing the Indian Ocean, Caribbean, Far East, Africa, the Middle East, and North and South America.

Hayes & Jarvis is part of Travelopia, the world's largest collection of specialist travel brands officially formed in 2016 and is fully ABTA, IATA and ATOL bonded.

2. The Authors' Club

Founded by the novelist and critic Walter Besant in 1891 as a place where writers could meet and talk, the Authors' Club also welcomes publishers, editors, agents, journalists, academics and anyone professionally involved with literature. Early members included Oscar Wilde, George Meredith, Thomas Hardy, Arthur Conan Doyle, JM Barrie, Jerome K Jerome, Ford Madox Ford, HG Wells, Compton Mackenzie, Thornton Wilder and Graham Greene, while guest speakers included Emile Zola, Mark Twain, Rudyard Kipling, Winston Churchill, Bram Stoker, TS Eliot and Clement Attlee. (Recent guests have included Deborah Moggach, Miranda Seymour, Robert MacFarlane, Matthew Sweet, Amanda Craig, Blake Morrison, Susie Boyt, Charles Spencer, Lisa Appignanesi and June Whitfield.) The Club celebrated its 125th anniversary in November 2016.

3. Bradt Travel Guides

When Hilary Bradt set out to explore South America in 1973, little did she realise that the journey would lead to the creation of what is now the largest independent travel-guide publisher in the UK. Bradt Travel Guides has a reputation for 'getting there first' – indeed, over half their guides have no direct competition – but, with more than 200 titles in print, they have the mainstream destinations covered too. Whatever the country, Bradt's expert authors seek out those special spots off the beaten track. It's an approach that makes Bradt the choice of passionate travellers from Kate Humble to Michael Palin, and its books have won a host of awards (including Top Guidebook Series of 2016 in the Wanderlust Travel Awards). After 43 years, Hilary herself is still very much involved, and the company as committed as ever to publishing pioneering guides to exceptional places. www.bradtguides.com

4. Destinations

With a 23-year legacy, Destinations: The Holiday & Travel Show, in association with *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Times Travel Magazine*, has established itself as the World's largest consumer travel event. Over 68,000 passionate travellers flock to our events at Olympia London and Manchester's EventCity to meet with over 640 leading and independent travel brands and tourist boards. The Destinations Show in London also presents the Stanfords Travel Writers Festival; a showcase of the very best travel authors sharing their inspiring stories and experiences over four days of talks, panel sessions and book signings.

5. London Book Fair

The London Book Fair (LBF) is the global marketplace for rights negotiation and the sale and distribution of content across print, audio, TV, film and digital channels. Taking place every spring in the world's premier publishing and cultural capital, it is a unique opportunity to explore, understand and capitalise on the innovations shaping the publishing world of the future. LBF brings you direct access to customers, content and emerging markets. LBF 2018, the 47th Fair, will take place from 10-12 April 2018, Olympia London. LBF's London Book and Screen Week will run for the third year,

with the book fair as the pivotal three-day event within a seven-day programme. London Book and Screen Week will begin on Monday 9 April. For further information, please visit: www.londonbookfair.co.uk

6. Lonely Planet Pathfinders

Lonely Planet live and breathe travel. Inspired by their community's tales from the road, Lonely Planet created Pathfinders to evolve an ever-expanding network of travel experts. Real stories from real people – people with a passion for exploring the world – are an endless source of inspiration for travellers. Blogs and social media play an increasing role in the travel planning process. Lonely Planet wants to nurture this travel documenting talent and share the best content with the global audience.

7. Stanfords

Edward Stanford Limited was founded in 1853 by Edward Stanford in Charing Cross in London. In 1901 the Company moved to its current flagship location in Long Acre, Covent Garden. Famed throughout the World as a publisher of maps, Stanfords expanded into retail following the move to Covent Garden. To this day Stanfords stocks the largest range of maps in the World as well as travel guides, the World's largest selection of globes and other travel related product. It has a further shop in Bristol, a website and a specialist Business Mapping Service based in Manchester. Edward Stanford Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Edward Stanford Group Limited.

8. Wanderlust

The proudly independent, multi-award-winning *Wanderlust* travel magazine launched 23 years ago. It is the UK's leading magazine for people with a passion for travel combining the right mix of wildlife, activities and cultural insight – not to mention inspirational writing and photography. Travel author Bill Bryson said, "There simply isn't a better magazine for the serious traveller."

Co-founder and Editor-in-Chief, Lyn Hughes, was lauded by *The Times*, as one of the "50 Most Influential People in Travel", and it is her passion, specifically for sustainable tourism, that continues to focus the Wanderlust Travel Media business on providing exciting content, about exploring the wonders around throughout the world.

www.wanderlust.co.uk

9. Marco Polo

Marco Polo has never been one to follow the crowd: since they burst onto the scene in 2012 and turned the travel publishing world upside-down, they have been pursuing a quest to create the best travel guide possible ever since! Their latest offer: Marco Polo Pocket Guides come with a brand new Discovery Tours chapter, an accompanying free Touring App, ground-breaking new look covers and their signature Insider Tips.

As the fastest growing travel publisher in the UK, Marco Polo are ever evolving to keep up with current trends. Guidebooks showing the main sights in detail simply aren't enough for modern-day adventurers. Marco Polo specialises in getting travellers off the beaten track. Why follow the crowd when you can make your own path? Their motto for 2018 is simple: Be a traveller, not just a tourist!

www.marcopologuides.com

About Agile Ideas

Launched in Bath in 2004, Agile Ideas is an independent, project management agency specializing in Book-based Prizes, Awards and Promotions. Since helping to create the commercial platform for the original *Richard & Judy Book Club*, Agile Ideas has project managed and helped administer

many properties including; *The Wainwright Golden Beer Literary Prize, The Bord Gais Energy Irish Book Awards, The Specsavers CrimeThriller Awards, The Cross-Sports Book Awards.*