

## Great Western Books

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### ADVANCE INFORMATION SHEET

TITLE	<i>Mysteries of the Ladybank Woods</i>		
ISBN	978-0-9543711-1-1	PRICE:	£6.99
AUTHOR	C Richard Toye		
PUBLISHER	Great Western Books		
PUBLICATION DATE	March 12th 2009		
CATEGORY	Children's short stories YFH: E3N79		
SPECIFICATIONS	paperback, sewn, 216 x 138mm, 224pp		
WHO WILL BUY THIS BOOK?	Children who like short stories, parents who like reading short stories to their children; local interest, Fife		

This is a story of two children — a brother and sister John and Sandra Brown – who with their widower father live in an old stone-built house in Dunfermline. With the house in need of major renovation, Mr Brown arranges for his children to stay with their aunt at her cottage in Ladybank during their summer school holiday. At the start of the holidays, John and Sandra thought their stay with their aunt would be uneventful. Little did they know that their visit to nearby woods would lead to some exciting adventures.

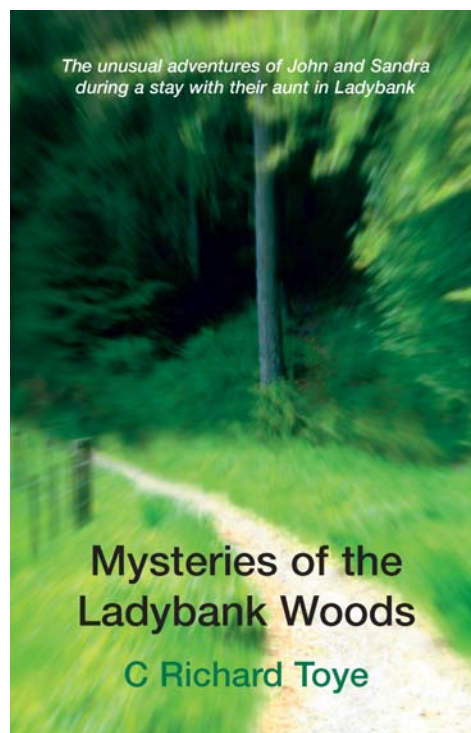
While walking in the woods, John finds a marked slate in a hollow tree. This find leads them to a spot where they unearth stolen jewellery that has been buried there, totally unaware that the thief is watching...

Another visit to the woods leads to the discovery of an ancient cairn containing interesting artefacts. On a stay with their aunt later in the year the children are taken to an old cottage near the woods that has changed little in the last one hundred years. While playing in the cottage Sandra discovers a hidden package under a broken floorboard, which reveals unusual contents...

During the autumn the children stay with their aunt again. This time a visit to the woods results in the discovery of a skeleton whose origin is revealed later in the story.

At the end of the year Sandra and John settle down for the winter in their old house. After a fall of snow John breaks his leg while sledging on a nearby hill. The story ends at Christmas when the aunt who is staying with the Brown family hands the children a surprise gift.

**THE AUTHOR** Born in Plymouth Charles Toye did a shipwright apprenticeship in Devonport and Rosyth Dockyards. He was in numerous managerial posts for the Ministry of Defence, one of which included a tour of duty in Gibraltar. He studied at Strathclyde University and gained a First Class Honours degree in Naval Architecture. After two years as a marine surveyor for the Board of Trade at Belfast he returned to the MOD as a Naval Constructor at Rosyth Dockyard with duty at Swan Hunters Newcastle and finally at Rosyth Dockyard. Previously published: *Sandy: the true story of a boy and his friends growing up in Cornwall in the late 1800s.*



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