

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

Simon Brett has been appointed as Chairman of the Public Lending Right Advisory Committee. The term of appointment will be for four years with effect from 7 August 2003.

Biographical Details

Mr Simon Brett has been a full time freelance writer since 1979. He has published over sixty books, including the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter and Fethering series of crime novels. His writing for TV includes 'After Henry' (nominated for 1988 and 1989 BAFTA Awards), 'How to be a Little Sod' and 'Rosemary & Thyme'; writing for radio includes 'After Henry' (BPG Award for Outstanding Radio Programme 1987), 'Dear Diary', 'No Commitments', 'Foul Play', 'Smelling of Roses'.

Simon Brett has been the Chairman of Crime Writers' Assoc 1986-87 and Society of Authors 1995-97, and is currently the President of the Detection Club. He has not carried out any significant political activity in the last 5 years.

Notes for Editors

1. The PLR Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of State and the Registrar of Public Lending Right on the operation of the PLR Scheme. The Scheme was established by the Public Lending Right Act (1979) and is administered by the Registrar. Under the Act, authors have a legal right to receive payment for the loan of their books from public libraries. The PLR office is located in Stockton-on-Tees.
2. The Scheme is funded through the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and payments are made annually to eligible authors on the basis of loans data collected by the Registrar from a representative sample of public libraries.