


CHARLIE REDMAYNE
HARPERCOLLINS

C.E.O.

Redmayne reappears in the Bookseller 100, but in a different role. After heading Pottermore since its creation in 2009, he returned to his old haunt HarperCollins to take over the top spot from Victoria Barnsley, who unexpectedly left after 13 years in charge.

Redmayne freely acknowledged that he is not “the great book person that Vicky was”, but his reputation as an innovator (at HC he was digital director and before that he worked in tech and TV, creating teen site Mykindaplace, which he sold to BSKyB in 2006) will stand him in good stead.

A recently released HC-branded consumer-facing e-book app is perhaps an indication of how he will look to shape the publisher in the coming years. But he has vowed to put storytelling first, resolving to back editors and “put structures in place to help them do their jobs better” in the shadow of Penguin Random House.

An office move to the “Baby Shard” in London Bridge next year will mark Redmayne’s reign just as the extravagant atrium at Fulham Palace Road marked that of his predecessor.

NIGEL PORTWOOD
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

C.E.O.

Portwood continues to sharpen the centuries-old university press into a modern major publisher. OUP’s annual turnover is still on the rise, increasing 4.4% in 2012/13 to £760m, and the publisher reported a profit of £121m, transferring £50m to the university. This year Portwood announced that digital represented 19% of its sales, and more than half of its sales are in scholarly and professional, securing OUP’s position as a cutting-edge academic publisher.

DAVID PRESCOTT
BLACKWELL'S

M.D.

Prescott’s stewardship of Blackwell’s is moving the bookseller upward; losses were slashed by £3.5m this year and the chain is stepping ever closer to profitability. The company disposed of its Dutch subsidiary Houtschild—which it sold to Bertrams for €1m in June—and received additional funding to the tune of £300,000 during the year from Toby Blackwell Limited. It has also struck a number of digital partnerships over the past 12 months, including with Ingram and CourseSmart to loan digital textbooks and, more recently, with US bookseller Barnes & Noble to sell its Nook devices.

JOANNA PRIOR
PENGUIN GENERAL

M.D.

Aside from heading four of Penguin’s key imprints—Penguin, Hamish Hamilton, Viking and Fig Tree—Prior was last year’s World Book Day chair and is a member of the board for the (now Baileys-sponsored) Women’s Prize for Fiction. This year Penguin General author Sylvia Day shifted more than 250,000 copies of *Entwined with You* in paperback, with Dawn French and John Green close behind, while superstars John le Carré, Jennifer Saunders and Mary Berry have hit the charts in hardback.

EVERGREEN


SIGRID RAUSING
GRANTA

PUBLISHER, OWNER

It has been an eventful year to say the least at Tetra-Pak heiress Rausing’s Granta: a slew of resignations on the publishing and magazine side, then a restructure which led to the departure of more staff, including well-regarded publishing boss Philip Gwyn Jones. Yet in book terms it was the indie’s best year ever, bagging a raft of prizes including the Man Booker (Eleanor Catton’s *The Luminaries*), the Women’s Fiction (A M Homes’ *May We Be Forgiven*), and the Dylan Thomas (Claire Vaye Watkins’ *Battleborn*).

AMANDA RIDOUT
HEAD OF ZEUS

C.E.O. AND PUBLISHER

Ridout’s year began with her departure from Phaidon, but it was only a matter of months before the former Headline and HarperCollins m.d. had taken the helm at HoZ, with founder Anthony Cheetham becoming chairman. The publisher has made a slew of acquisitions in the past year—including a six-figure, three-book deal with MP Nadine Dorries—as it expands its list, and its presence.

ORNA ROSS
ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT AUTHORS

FOUNDER

Self-publishing has continued to become a more prominent part of the trade, with more services and products aimed at indie authors. ALLi founder Ross has become a key voice for self-published writers, increasing their presence at LBF, taking the Alliance global, and producing a handbook for those entering the field—as well as speaking out against ventures she sees as preying on unsuspecting newcomers.

NEW ENTRY

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J K ROWLING

AUTHOR

“Robert Galbraith’s” *The Cuckoo’s Calling* may have been the literary coup of the year, but it was Rowling’s ability to have the two bestselling books in the UK in the same week (*Cuckoo’s* and *The Casual Vacancy*) that really proved that the Harry Potter author has mastered the post-Potter world. Not that she’s left the wizard behind: she’s slated to write a film based on Potter-universe title, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, while Pottermore continues its expansion.

SUSAN SANDON
CORNERSTONE PUBLISHING

M.D.

Matching the *Fifty Shades of Grey*-dominated 2012 was always going to be difficult, but Sandon has ensured Cornerstone continues to hold its own as one the biggest commercial publishers. David Jason’s autobiography has become one of the hits of the season, while publishing mega-brand James Patterson remains unstoppable, with JP’s sights now set on conquering India: *Private India*, the thriller writer’s forthcoming collaboration with Indian author Ashwin Sanghai, will be published by Sandon next year.


GRAHAM SERVANTE
CGP BOOKS

M.D.

Revision guides may not be the most glamorous part of the publishing industry, but Servante has proved it can be a fruitful one, with the CGP m.d. seeing sales through BookScan of £7.8m in 2012—a 169% rise over the previous decade. The publisher has said that syllabus changes are usually beneficial to the business, meaning that the latest Ofqual GCSE shake-up could see another boon for the company’s bottom line.

NEW ENTRY