

Newsletter 53



Hi there, Richard Dee here.

Welcome to my September 2026 newsletter.

This month is a pretty auspicious one. It's ten years since the Exeter Authors Association was founded. And that's something to celebrate. We had our anniversary meeting a couple of weeks ago and reminisced about how it all started. There have been many great moments to look back on; we've attended loads of events and an anthology of our work was published, with a second volume to come soon. The venue has changed many times over the years, surprisingly, there are only two of us still here who were there for the first meeting.

In Australia, it's heading into spring on the farm, so Georgina will shortly be busy with Calving, as well as her nursing job on the Renal Unit.

On with the writing news.

In writing news, the wait is over. I have my editor's thoughts on the two novellas I sent her a couple of weeks ago.

"I really enjoyed them – two completely different styles and excellent plots."

Watch out for news of their publication.

I've decided that September is the month for finishing the latest Andorra Pett amateur detective story. This will be her seventh full-length adventure. This one's called *Whatever Happened to Andorra Pett?*

Here's the latest cover idea. The concept harks back to 2016, and the first edition of her debut novel, *Andorra Pett and the Old Cloud Café*. For this cover, I'm using the same background and cover art that was designed for me at the time.

Let me know what you think.



In other writing news, I have a choice between a few new projects and several sequels to work on after that.

The new ideas are all short stories that I can see a lot more potential in.

And All Because is a crime mystery with a delicious twist. *Crime of the Century* features a way of using time travel that nobody seems to have thought of, and the third, *Do You Want to Live?* is my first attempt at writing magical realism. There are also several other short stories that I could expand.

The sequels are something that's been hanging over me for quite a while now. In fact, there's going to be a whole post about them soon. There are currently six, three Steampunk and three Sci-fi.

I'll be deciding in October. Next time, I'll tell you which one I'll be concentrating on in November.

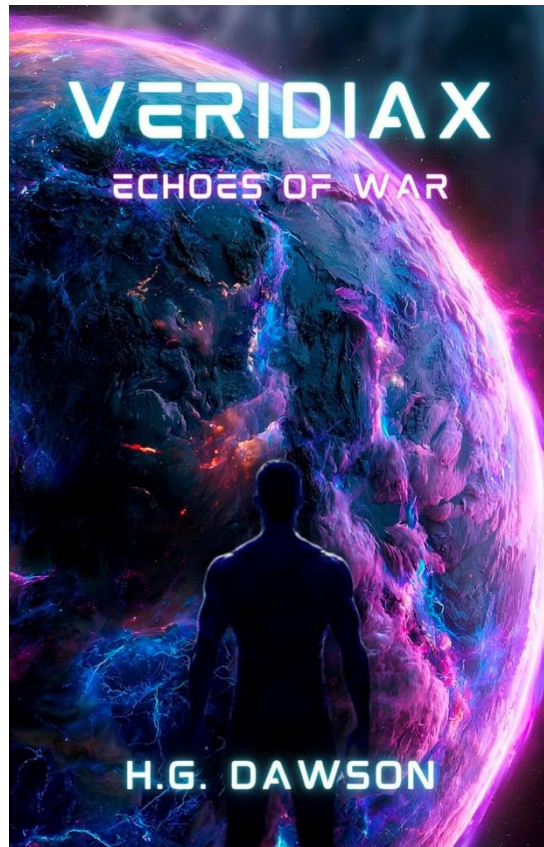


What I've been reading.

I'm currently reading *Veridax* by H G Dawson.

So far, it's really good sci-fi. Look out for my review, probably next month.

Click the picture for a purchase link.



Highlights from my Substack and website.

Here are a couple of posts that you might have missed.

A second season for one of my favourite characters.

Andorra Pett grows up



Meanwhile, in other news.

And what else has been happening, back in reality? I fixed the aftermath of the flood, we've had some rain, and the fields are starting to look a bit greener. The grass is getting slippery, so it will soon be the end of barefoot walking for the year, due to the possibility of my falling over.

At my age, I have to remember that I don't bounce as well as I used to.

I'm also looking at fixing the decking at the back of the house. It's been there since before we moved in, and it's been getting worse and quite rickety. It feels like I'm going to put my foot through it as I climb over the wall. I bought the wood and bits and pieces to replace it a while ago, but on the days I had spare time through the summer, it was too hot to work.

So, I'm waiting for it to cool down a little bit. When I started, I just got all the tools out, and it started raining. So I put them all away. However, I did manage to get the job done in the end.



Before

During

After

I had to put the old wood under the new platform until I can take it to the tip.
I will leave it there over the winter; it'll be a home for insects.

We've had a Dragonfly in the house. We get them around our pond, but they seldom venture inside. This one didn't want to go out again.



Naturally, we've been out for cake.



Despite the dry weather, my pear tree has had a good crop of large fruits this year.
The apples are much smaller.



If you're interested in any of my old newsletters and blogs, you can now find these on my website by clicking the button below.

[Click here for The Archives](#)

If you want to ask me anything about my life or my writing, just hit reply. I'm always happy to chat.

See you next month,

Happy reading.

Richard Dee.

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