



# Public Libraries' Chart Toppers 2003 - 2004

## At Number One in the UK

- overall top lending author – Jacqueline Wilson
- top lending children's author - Jacqueline Wilson
- overall top lending title – JK Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*
- top lending adult fiction title – John Grisham's *The King of Torts*
- top lending children's fiction title – J K Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*
- top lending classic author - JRR Tolkien  
(ahead of Georgette Heyer, Charles Dickens and AA Milne)
- top lending non-fiction title – Bill Bryson's *A Short History of Nearly Everything*  
(ahead of Kate Adie (*The Kindness of Strangers*), Alan Titchmarsh (*Trowel and Error*) and Pamela Stephenson (*Billy*)).

## Number One Lending Titles by Genre

- Cookery  
Jamie Oliver – *Happy Days with the Naked Chef*
- Sport Biography  
Murray Walker – *My Autobiography: Unless I'm very much mistaken*
- Performing Arts - TV  
Anne Robinson – *Memoirs of an Unfit Mother*
- Film, TV and Music Biography  
Bruce Forsyth – *Bruce: the Autobiography*
- Travel Book  
Pete McCarthy – *McCarthy's Bar: a Journey of Discovery in Ireland*
- Travel/Holiday Guide  
*The Rough Guide to Spain* – Mark Ellingham & John Fisher with Graham Kenyon & Jules Brown
- Historical Biography/Autobiography  
Claire Tomalin – *Samuel Pepys: the Unequaled Self*
- Adult Poetry  
*The Nation's Favourite Comic Poems* – foreword and edited by Griff Rhys Jones

## Public Libraries are as popular as ever with children and young people

2 children's writers\* are among the 6 authors who clocked up over 1 million loans in 2003-2004:

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Jacqueline Wilson * | 4. Mick Inkpen *     |
| 2. Danielle Steel      | 5. Catherine Cookson |
| 3. Josephine Cox       | 6. James Patterson   |

## How much would the UK's top lending 'classic' writers have earned?

Seven (four last year) of our classic authors would have earned the maximum payment of £6,000 if they were still alive:

- J R R Tolkien
- Georgette Heyer
- Charles Dickens
- Jane Austen
- A A Milne
- Beatrix Potter
- William Shakespeare

## About Public Lending Right

- The PLR scheme has distributed over £89 million to authors since its inception. £6.55 million will be paid out in February 2005 for book loans over the period July 2003 - June 2004.
- European authors will qualify for payment from the UK scheme for the fourth time in 2005. The Scheme has been extended beyond the UK to help encourage the spread of the PLR principle and to encourage the development of reciprocal arrangements with other PLR countries. The extended scheme opens PLR to British authors resident everywhere in the EU, as well as to other European writers whose books are borrowed from British libraries. In this fourth year of payments Irish authors are the principal beneficiaries.

## Where does the money go? Geographical Breakdown of PLR Payments February 2005

The following table shows the percentage of payments made by PLR to the different regions

	Percentage
<u>UK</u>	
South East	23.8
London	19.0
South west	13.5
Eastern	11.1
Yorkshire & Humberside	5.6
Scotland	5.4
North West	5.1
East Midlands	3.8
West Midlands	3.4
Wales	2.4
North East	2.1
Northern Ireland	0.7
EUROPE	3.6
OTHER COUNTRIES	.5
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

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