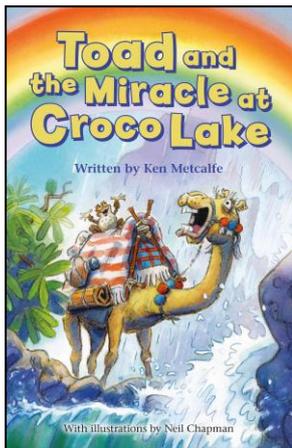


MEREO NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE

Syd Toad returns in a brand new adventure!

Here's the second book in Ken Metcalfe's delightful series set in Africa in the 1930s



TOAD AND THE MIRACLE AT CROCO LAKE

By Ken Metcalfe

With glorious illustrations by Neil Chapman



ISBN: 978 1 86151 502 5 Paperback 64 pages RRP: £9.99 April 2017
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There is a problem at Croco Lake. The exit channel to the river is blocked by a landslide and it only needs more heavy rain for the whole of the surrounding area to be flooded, including the local village. Dynamiting the blockage may endanger the lives of many creatures.

Toad however has a plan but can all the creatures be saved? And will they be in time?

Toad's second African adventure is a heart-warming tale for children – and will amuse adults as well.

By the same author

TOAD'S GETTING MARRIED

Toad is about to get married, but his plans are thrown into disarray when he is snatched from the lake where he lives and taken far away. With the help of his new found camel friends, Toad faces a dangerous journey to get home to Wellybelly Lake and his bride. Can Toad defeat hungry snakes, ferocious crocodiles and cruel humans to return in time to say "I Do"?

ISBN: 978-1-86151-463-9 Paperback 64 pages RRP: £9.99 Mereo Books September 2016



Author, Ken Metcalfe was born in Audenshaw, Manchester. Marrying in 1968, he worked all his life in the family engineering business (Droylsden). Taking early retirement he moved to Cornwall in 2000 where he now enjoys telling stories to his grandchildren and playing the occasional round of golf.

Feature suggestion: **It's never too late to chase your dreams:** With time on his hands – and a growing fund of stories he had made up for his children and grandchildren, Ken decided to pursue a long-held ambition ... So it was that, in his retirement, he became a published author. Ken says, *"I had attempted to write books when I was much younger, but because I was so busy I found it impossible; all my energies went into helping raise four young children and running a business. I have always had stories running around in my head, however I thought the opportunity to write had passed me by. Nonetheless, 'Toad' was a story that continued to develop in my head, so with more time available now, I decided to write it down. I didn't stop writing for three months!"*

More feature suggestions: Does storytelling help children learn to love books? • What stories do your readers remember being told when they were little? • Animals in literature: which animal heroes have captured the hearts of children through the ages? • Should children's stories contain a moral message? • Is 'screen time' (TV, computers, mobile devices etc) taking over from traditional bedtime stories?

UK Local Interest: Ken Metcalfe is based in **Cornwall**. He was born in **Audenshaw, Manchester** and began married life in **Ashton-Under-Lyne**. He also lived for a time in **Hyde, Cheshire**.

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation. Competition prizes. The author is available for interviews.



To request a review copies of Ken Metcalfe's books or to be put in touch with him, please contact:
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