

## Letters

Several years ago I came across mention of a fugitive Henry Williamson printing in a book catalogue issued by the Brick Row Book Shop in America.

The cover-title was recorded simply as 'Christmas' and it had apparently been privately printed in Springfield, Mass. for Mr and Mrs Frederic Main in an edition of 200 copies, in 12mo. size wrappers.

Frankly I cannot believe in the existence of this piece, because in fifteen years of frantic collecting and dealing in H.W.'s books I have come across no other reference to, or knowledge of it. However, the fact remains that an American bookseller has had a copy propped up by the side of his typewriter while he catalogued it, so he probably believed in it.

I wonder if there is anyone else who believes in it, or who can tell about a copy that they have actually seen or own? I would be delighted to be converted to belief.

*Stephen Francis Clarke*  
*Huntingdon,*  
*Camb.*

I am disappointed that so much of the last issue was taken up with the extremely negative assessment by Colin Wilson. I do not expect the Journal to be over-raising or sycophantic by any means, but such a piece of inaccurate, weak-minded criticism surely did not deserve such space. I imagine Kenneth Allsop would have winced with discomfort had he been alive to hear his *Adventure Lit Their Star* - a good book, but not a great one - compared favourably with the pioneering and beautiful *Tarka the Otter*. This absurd piece of criticism nails Wilson's own coffin. He obviously had scores to settle.

And how can he criticise *A Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight* so harshly while admitting he has not read all of it? Let's keep such blundering and personal attacks out of the H.W. Journal.

*Richard Tibbits*  
*Folkestone,*  
*Kent.*

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THE HENRY WILLIAMSON SOCIETY IS GRATEFUL TO MICHAEL HOSKING, OF THE 'GOLDEN HIND' BOOKSHOP IN DEAL, KENT, FOR SENDING OUT 400 HANDBILLS ADVERTISING THE SOCIETY WITH HIS JANUARY CATALOGUE.

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AGM GEORGEHAM

SAT. 7 NOVEMBER 1981

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