



ORANGE HERRING
Sisters in Crime  Orange County



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equality in the industry.

MEETING PLACE

Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618

We meet at the Irvine Ranch Water District in the Community Affairs meeting room on the northeast side of the parking lot. For directions, visit: www.ocsistersincrime.org. ([IRWD map](#))

"IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR ENDORSES THE CAUSE NOR ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH USE THE DISTRICT'S MEETING ROOMS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS A PUBLIC SERVICE"

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

To join or renew your membership in our Sisters in Crime Chapter, you must also be a member of National. To renew your national membership, go to: www.sistersincrime.org/. To renew for our chapter, go to: www.ocsistersincrime.org/membership.htm and download the form, or fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and mail it in with your check. You can join national online or send your check to national to us, along with your check for our chapter.

If you have not already done so, please renew your Sisters in Crime membership today!



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Please note our next meeting will be held on May 31st at 1:00 on May 31st.

Meetings for the remainder of the year will be held on June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22. Our holiday meeting will be held at Mystery Ink on Dec. 13th. There will be no meeting in September; instead, we will host our second Ladies of Intrigue program on Oct. 3rd. Please mark your calendars.

Snack duty will be on a rotating basis. The following people have agreed to bring the snack for these meetings:

May: Colleen Dempsey
June: Jack Martin
July: Shawn Nelson
Aug: Jill Amadio
Sept: NO MEETING (LOI the next weekend)
Oct: Gita Fisher
Nov: Theresa Schultz
Dec: Potluck

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 31, 2015 -- Featured Speaker: Colin Cotterill

Please Note: We are beginning our meeting at **1 p.m.** with our Readers' Forum.

At **1:00 p.m.**, our Readers Forum topic will be: "Armchair Travel for Readers: We'll discuss mysteries set in foreign lands and their appeal. Where do our members like to go for a good story?"

At **2:00 p.m.**, our guest speaker, **Colin Cotterill**, will discuss *Six and a Half Deadly Sins*, the ninth and latest title in his popular Dr. Siri Paiboun series. Dr. Paiboun is the retired coroner of Laos; the books are set in the 1970s. This is one of two series by Cotterill, who also writes the Jimm Juree crime novels set in southern Thailand.

Born in London, Cotterill holds dual British and Australian citizenships. He is a former teacher whose work in Southeast Asia led him to take up the cause of combating child prostitution and pornography. (He has written several books about the topic.) Also a cartoonist, he lives with his family on the Gulf of Siam.



MEETING ROUNDUP

By Theresa Schultz

Our featured speaker for April was O.C. writer, **Anne Cleeland**, author of the New Scotland Yard series, featuring Chief Inspector Acton and novice detective Kathleen Doyle. The crime-fighting couple are featured in her books *Murder in Thrall*, *Murder in Retribution* and *Murder in Hindsight*.

Anne gave a brilliant presentation on Creating Memorable Characters. She defined the four types of protagonists in a mystery novel: detective, private investigator, amateur sleuth and forensic specialist. She discussed the characteristics of each, including pros and cons for each choice. She cautioned against using clichés and cited Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot as going against type.

She went into great detail as to how to make a protagonist “rootable,” meaning the reader will root for him even if he is not especially sympathetic, heroic or even likeable. For example, Sam Spade, Scarlett O’Hara and Walter White are tough to like, but all have something that makes them rootable. It helps if the author can include a “save the cat” moment early on.

Anne talked about the various issues that people can relate to in regards to rooting for a character, such as romantic troubles, family problems and office politics. She outlined the importance of secondary characters to support the protagonist, in particular the staunch supporter, e.g. Dr. Watson to Sherlock Holmes. And whatever you do, never kill off your main character’s staunch supporter. Your readers may never forgive you!

MEMBER NEWS

Join **Jan Burke** and **DP Lyle** on Crime & Science Radio for these great upcoming shows:

5-9-15: A Fly for the Prosecution: An Interview with Forensic Entomologist **Dr. Lee Goff**

5-23-15: Investigating the Criminal Mind with Author **Alan Jacobson**

6-6-15: The Anatomy of Innocence: An Interview with Author, Legal Scholar, and Advocate **Laura Caldwell**

6-20-15: My Lying Eyes: Audio-Video-Image Enhancement Expert **Douglas Carner** Discusses Tampered Evidence and Industry Secrets

Details: http://www.dplylemd.com/DPLyleMD/CRIME_%26_SCIENCE_RADIO.html



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SinC member, Orange County Noir/USA noir contributor, and host of Writers on Writing, **Barbara DeMarco-Barrett**, is holding summer writing retreats and getaways in Palm Springs in June. If you'd like more information, email her at penonfire@earthlink.net. 10% discount for SinC members.

MYSTERY INK NEWS

Mystery Ink Bookstore, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, (714) 960-4000
New hours: Wed. – Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sat., 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
www.mysteryink.com. Coffee & Wi-Fi available.

Saturday, May 16th, 3:00 p.m. - Vanessa A. Ryan

Palette for Murder, A Lana Davis Mystery, is framed with details of the culture of Santa Fe and the city's art scene, "...insurance claims agent (Lana) is drafted to play detective, first by her own company and later by the owner of a tony art gallery. . . good fun." *Kirkus Review*

Saturday, May 30th, 3:00 p.m. - Colin Cotterill

Laos, 1979: Dr. Siri Paiboun, the twice retired ex-National Coroner of Laos, receives an unmarked package in the mail. Inside is a hand woven pha sin, a colorful traditional skirt worn in northern Laos. Who sent it to him, and why? And why is there a severed human finger stitched into the sin's lining?
Born in London, Cotterill holds dual British and Australian citizenships.
He lives with his family on the Gulf of Siam.

Outside Events:

Saturday, May 30th, 11:00 a.m. – Brea Library event, Author Visit: D.P. Lyle & Jan Burke

The Brea Library is honored to host authors **D.P. Lyle, MD**, award-winning author of many non-fiction and fiction titles, and **Jan Burke**, national bestselling author of 14 books. They will be conducting a forensic science Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Contact: [1-714-671-1722](tel:1-714-671-1722)



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sisters in Crime  Orange County

Presents

Ladies of Intrigue

A day-long event featuring Remarkable Women Mystery Writers

Saturday, October 3, Hotel Huntington Beach

*With special guest speaker Catriona McPherson, SinC national president
And other soon to be announced authors **

* Interested authors are invited to contact OC SinC president Gayle Carline @ gaylecarline@sbcglobal.net

Details Available Soon @ ocsistersincrime.org



Support your local SinC chapter. Buy a mug at the next meeting, and donate novels for our Sister Share!

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

If you have events coming up or announcements you want to make, let me know. Please send your contributions and suggestions to: ocsinc.newsletter@gmail.com. **The deadline is the 7th of each month!**



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SISTERS IN CRIME ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

Print and complete this form. **NOTE: YOU MUST ALSO JOIN SISTERS IN CRIME NATIONAL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER.**

Send the completed form with both checks, \$40 payable to Sisters in Crime (National) and \$25 payable to Sisters in Crime, OC to:

Membership
Sisters in Crime, Orange County
P.O. Box 53132
Irvine, CA 92619-3132

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please print all information and list your name as you want it listed in the Membership Directory.

New Renewal Name: Address:

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email: I am a (check all that apply):

Mystery Writer Published Unpublished

Writer in other fields Published Unpublished

Screenwriter
--Produced: Features TV/Cable Other

Reviewer Agent Bookseller Librarian Reader

I would like to help with (check all that apply):

Publicity Refreshments Speakers Raffle Other: