

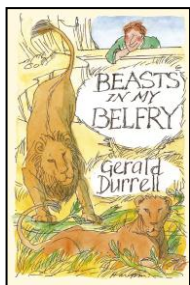
● **SUMMERSDALE PRESS RELEASE** ●

Gerald Durrell's much loved books reissued in beautiful new editions to celebrate the  
**DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

[www.durrell.org](http://www.durrell.org)

**Two more Gerald Durrell titles re-issued this spring ...**

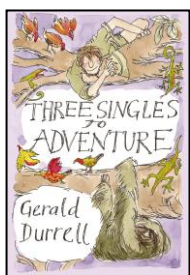
Through a close association with the Durrell Wildlife Trust Summersdale Publishers are delighted to make two more, much-loved Gerald Durrell books available once again for the next generation of readers – and for those existing Durrell fans who wish to reacquaint themselves with the inspiring work and entertaining writing of this extraordinary animal conservationist. Summersdale have now reissued five of Gerald Durrell's titles. Each book begins with a revealing foreword by Lee Durrell, Honorary Director of the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (and widow of Gerald Durrell). **Lee Durrell is available for interview.**



**BEASTS IN MY BELFRY**

In *Beasts in My Belfry* Gerald Durrell describes taking his first steps towards becoming a world-famous animal conservationist. This book is his charming account of his job as a student keeper in Whipsnade Zoo in 1945. The eager young Durrell observes his co-workers and animal charges alike, including Albert, the ventriloquist lion! Whether getting dirty mucking out the buffalo or attempting to cajole a skittish gnu into a transportation crate, life in the zoo is certainly never boring.

**ISBN: 978-1-84024-729-9 Paperback March 2009 £7.99**



**THREE SINGLES TO ADVENTURE**

In 1950 Gerald Durrell travelled to the country then known as British Guiana (now called Guyana). His travels included a small village named Adventure. His mission was to bring back a living collection of the fauna native to that corner of South America. There he met with many kinds of adventure: some amusing, some thrilling and some extremely irritating. He gets into a sticky situation with an angry two-toed sloth and learns how (or how not) to lasso a galloping anteater.

**ISBN: 978-1-84024-718-3 Paperback January 2009 £7.99**



**THE AYE-AYE AND I** Madagascar is home to 5% of the world's plant and animal species, including giant jumping rats, flat-tailed tortoises, gentle lemurs and the extraordinary aye-aye. 90% of Madagascar's wildlife is found nowhere else on earth – but, many of its species are endangered. This book is Gerald Durrell's account of his rescue mission to bring back aye-aye (and other animals) to his breeding centre in Jersey. **978-1-84024-631-5 PB 2008 £7.99**

**GOLDEN BATS AND PINK PIGEONS** In the 1970s Mauritius – once the home of the ill-fated Dodo – still had many unique but seriously endangered species. To rescue some of these creatures from extinction, Gerald Durrell spent uncomfortable nights in the jungle looking for bats and pink pigeons and climbed near-vertical rock faces to find Telfair's skinks and Gunther's geckos. By the end of his expedition he had an extraordinary collection of animals to take to his Jersey sanctuary to parent future generations to repopulate Mauritius. **978-1-84024-635-3 PB 2008 £7.99**

**MENAGERIE MANOR** How it all began .... the hugely entertaining account of how Durrell fulfilled his lifelong ambition to found his own sanctuary for endangered species with the help of an enduring wife, a selfless staff and a reluctant bank manager. The "Jersey Zoo" became the centre of a breeding programme for endangered species and championed a new role for zoos in conservation programmes worldwide. The Jersey Zoo continues his work to this day as the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. **978-1-84024-593-6 PB 2007 £7.99**

**Notes to Editors:** *Beasts in My Belfry*; *Three Singles to Adventure*; *Menagerie Manor*; *The Aye-Aye and I*; and *Golden Bats and Pink Pigeons* are all published by Summersdale and are available through all good bookshops and internet booksellers or by telephoning Mail Order at Summersdale on: +44 (0) 1243 771107. **To request review copies or to request an interview with Lee Durrell** (of the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in Jersey) please contact Elly Donovan 01243 771107 / [elly@summersdale.com](mailto:elly@summersdale.com)



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Press and Media Enquiries: Elly Donovan: [elly@summersdale.com](mailto:elly@summersdale.com)

46 West Street, Chichester PO19 1RP

Tel: 01243 771 107 Fax: 01243 786300 [www.summersdale.com](http://www.summersdale.com)