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| John Hunt Publishing - **Top Hat Books** - announces the new title | | |
| **Karna's Wheel**  Michael Tobert  Secrets present. Secrets past. Secrets in India, where Stephen’s grandfather is a lowly functionary in the engine room of the Raj. Secrets at home, held tightly by Stephen’s half-Indian, half-Scottish mother. And it is only by uncovering what has been hidden that Stephen can win Julia, a woman with secrets of her own which Stephen has to earn the right to hear.  Set in St Andrews, among the jute mills of Dundee (1915-23), in the industrial underbelly of colonial Calcutta (1923-46) and on the epic plains of ancient India, *Karna’s Wheel* is a poignant story of love, inheritance, and the things which make us what we are.  **Endorsements** *Karna's Wheel is compelling, multi-layered and beautifully written. Set in Scotland and India, it interweaves class and colonialism across the generations in a novel which is never less than highly entertaining.* ***Chris Given-Wilson, shortlisted for the Wolfson History Prize 2017***  *Exquisitely written, quirky, remarkably well-paced and wonderfully readable, Karna’s Wheel is touching, humorous, informative and pretty shocking. The research is faultless but never stands in the way of a good story. I hope it gets where it deserves to be – on the bestseller lists.* ***Robin Pilcher, Novelist.***  *Historical fiction at the cutting edge, a bravura performance of style and structure.* ***Gordon T Steward, Professor Emeritus at Michigan State University.***  *Dazzling and inventive ... an enthralling journey into early twentieth century Calcutta and the dark corners of the Raj.* ***Andrew Duff, Author of Sikkim; requiem for a Himalayan Kingdom****.*  **Author Bio:** MICHAEL TOBERT went to Oxford University, started a publishing company of sorts and lives in Scotland where he and his wife have built a Montessori nursery school at the bottom of their garden. She, and others, look after the children while he scythes the nettles and whispers encouragement to the wild flowers. Online: [Author Website](http://michaeltobertbooks.com/).  **Previous Titles:** Cryptogram (9781782796817), Cosmic Egg Books, 2014. Pilgrims in the Rough (9781906817961), Luath Press, 2011. The Mating Call of the Racket-Tailed Drongo (9781906307509), Luath Press, 2008 (Shortlisted for the Dundee International Book Prize 2007).  **USP:** A beautifully crafted, always distinct novel; a story of love and the search for truth set against the industrial backdrop of the Raj, viewed – as it rarely has been in English fiction – from the bottom up. Entered for literary awards.  **Competing Books:** Cloud Atlas 9780340822784, David Mitchell, Sceptre, 2004  **Categories** FICTION (General)(FIC014000) -> Historical(FIC014000) FICTION (General)(FIC051000) -> Cultural Heritage(FIC051000) FICTION (General)(FIC019000) -> Literary(FIC019000) |  | **Publication Date** September 2018  **Paperback** ISBN: 978-1-78535-824-1 $21.95  |  £13.99 8.5x5.5 inches | 216x140 mm 264PP  **e-book** ISBN: 978-1-78535-825-8 $7.99  |  £4.99  **Library of Congress** 2017950185 |
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