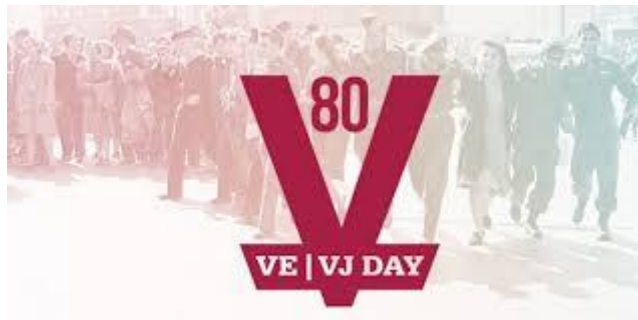
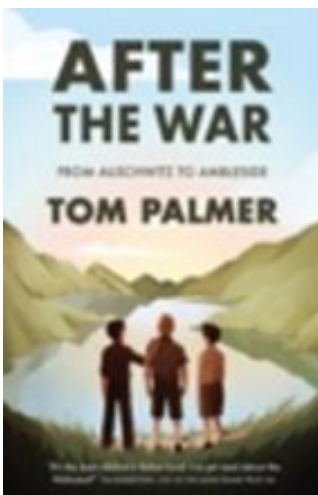


# HGS Book Recommendations

May 2025



Tom Palmer is the author of over sixty children's books. 16 of his books are published by Barrington Stoke including 6 award-winning historical fiction titles.

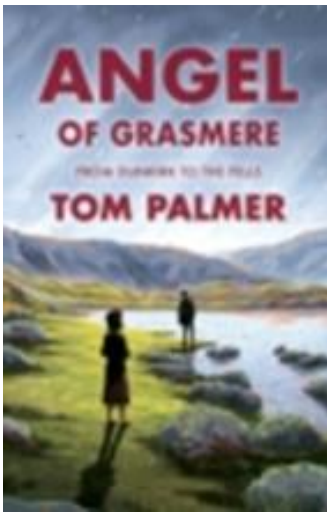


The Second World War is finally over and Yossi, Leo and Mordecai are among three hundred children who arrive in the English Lake District.

Having survived the horrors of the Nazi concentration camps, they've finally reached a place of safety and peace, where they can hopefully begin to recover. But Yossi is haunted by thoughts of his missing father and disturbed by terrible nightmares.

As he waits desperately for news from home, he fears that Mordecai and Leo – the closest thing to family he has left – will move on without him.

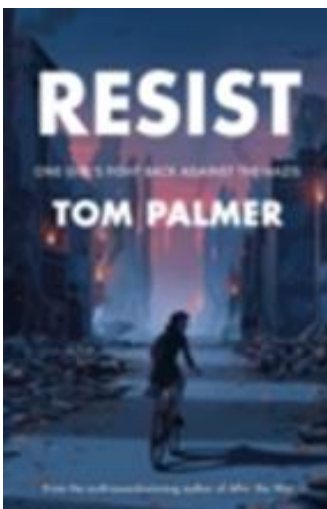
Will life by the beautiful Lake Windermere be enough to bring hope back into all their lives?



July 1940 – as Tarn struggles to come to terms with the loss of her beloved brother in the chaos of the British retreat at Dunkirk, she and her friends scour the hills around their Lake District home, watching for any signs of the long-dreaded Nazi invasion.

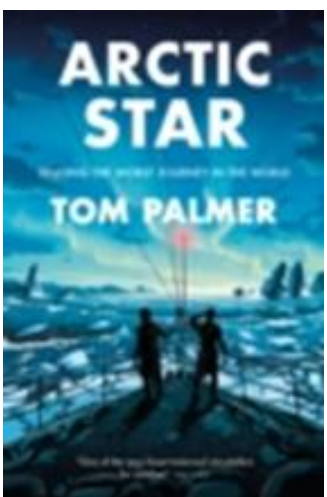
But as the war drags on, with little good news from the front, the locals become aware of someone carrying out anonymous acts of kindness, such as saving a flock of sheep from a snowdrift and getting help for an injured farmer who might otherwise have died.

With no one claiming credit, they come to think of this unidentified stranger as a kind of guardian angel, but when his identity is finally revealed, can Tarn come to terms with the truth...?



Art

But what can a teenage girl do and how much risk is she willing to take?

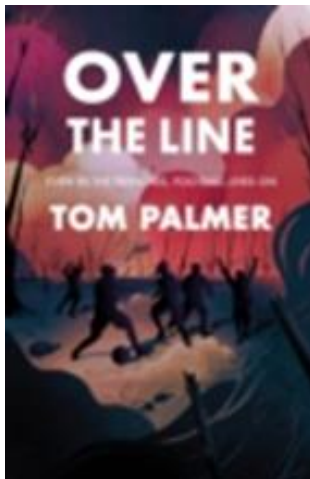


Winter 1943. Teenagers Frank, Joseph and Stephen are Royal Navy recruits on their first mission at sea during the Second World War.

Their ship is part of an Arctic Convoy sailing to Russia to deliver supplies to the Soviets.

The convoys have to navigate treacherous waters, sailing through a narrow channel between the Arctic ice pack and German bases on the Norwegian coast.

Faced with terrifying enemy attacks from both air and sea, as well as life-threatening cold and storms, will all three boys make it home again?

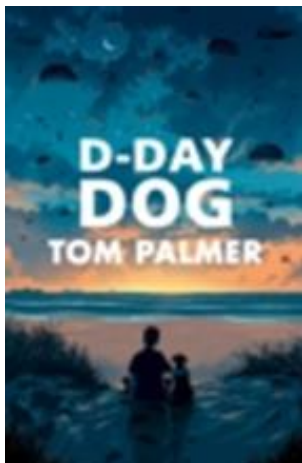


Based on the true story of war hero and footballing legend Jack Cock.

It's the proudest moment of Jack's life. His debut as a professional footballer. Now he has a chance to achieve his dream of playing for his country.

But it's 1914 and the world is at war. Talk of sportsmen's cowardice leads to the formation of a Footballers' Battalion and Jack has little choice but to join up.

The promise of a Cup in Flanders offers a glimmer of hope, but Jack and his teammates will have to survive a waking nightmare if they are ever to play again.



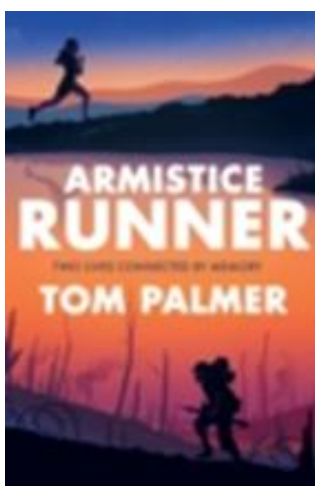
Jack can't wait for the school trip to the D-Day landing beaches.

It's his chance to learn more about the war heroes he has always admired – brave men like his dad, who is a reserve soldier.

But when his dad is called up to action and things at home spiral out of control, everything Jack believes about war is thrown into question.

Finding comfort only in the presence of his loyal dog, Finn, Jack is drawn to the heart-wrenching true story of one particular D-Day paratrooper.

On 6 June 1944, Emile Corteil parachuted into France with his dog, Glen – and Jack is determined to discover their fate



Tom Palmer celebrates the unsung athletic heroes of the Armistice in a powerful tale of the fell-running messengers on the front-line of war.

Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her fell-running races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's.

But then she discovers her great-great-grandfather's diaries from the First World War.

Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through and win?