

Q and A sheet

(and Sample Answers)

What inspired you to write *Our Man In Kuwait*?

Events from my own life.

How do you remember Ian Fleming?

Quiet and introspective.

Do you remember the troops arriving in Kuwait during Operation Vantage?

I remember them filling the swimming pool of The Hubara Club in the summer of 1961

Which elements of the book are true and which are made up?

All of the background is true.

How long did it take you to write the book?

I've been planning it for years. I wrote it in one.

Did you always want to write?

Yes. Since I was a child.

Where were you when the actual Gulf War broke out?

I was living in Australia at the time.

Who Are your Favourite spy writers?

John Le Carre, Graham Greene, Ian Fleming

What's your favourite book which has influenced your writing?

Patricia Highsmith's *The Talented Mr Ripley*. Deceptive characters.

What's your favourite nonfiction book?

The Science of Storytelling by Will Storr. It's about people, who we are and what drives us.

What's the best thing about being a writer?

Using observation of characters and analysing their motives.