

## Tom Gregory

### Writer

Tom Gregory grew up in Eltham, South-East London. Joining the local swimming club aged seven, he began to dream of swimming the English Channel. Training over the following four years, he swam a length of Lake Windermere aged ten, and began preparing in earnest for the Channel attempt after his eleventh birthday. Setting off from Wissant Bay in France on 6th September 1988, aged eleven, Tom Gregory was the 333<sup>rd</sup> person to swim the distance and became the youngest person ever to complete it.



## Agents

James Gill

jgill@unitedagents.co.uk

Assistant

Amber Garvey

agarvey@unitedagents.co.uk

020 3214 0864

## Publications

### Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
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**A BOY IN THE  
WATER**

2018

Particular

Books

(Penguin)

A moving story of the remarkable friendship between a coach and a boy that resulted in a record-breaking swim across the English Channel Eltham, South London. 1984. The hot fug of the swimming pool and the slow splashing of a boy learning to swim but not yet wanting to take his foot off the bottom. Fast forward four years. Photographers and family wait on the stone beach as a boy in a bright orange hat and grease-smeared goggles swims the last few metres from France to England. He has been in the water for nearly 12 hours, encouraged through all of them by his coach, John Bullet, who he sees as a second father.

A story of endurance, friendship and what we can achieve when others help us get there, A Boy in the Water is a moving reminder of childhood, and a love letter to times and people lost.

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