

Wendy Cope

Author

Wendy Cope was born in Erith, Kent in 1945 and read History at St. Hilda's College, Oxford. She trained as a teacher at Westminster College of Education, Oxford and taught in primary schools in London. She became Arts and Reviews editor for *Contact*, the Inner London Education Authority magazine, and continued to teach part-time before becoming a freelance writer in 1986. She was television critic for *The Spectator* magazine until 1990. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and lives in Winchester.



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Publications

Poetry

Publication Details	Notes
COLLECTED POEMS	
2024	
Faber	
THE ORANGE AND OTHER POEMS	
Selected Poems	
2024	
Faber	

Publication Details	Notes
ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE 2017 Faber	In her first collection of new poetry since 2011's acclaimed Family Values, Wendy Cope celebrates 'the half-forgotten stories of our lives' with compassion, wisdom and wit. Cope continues to be the most generous of authors, sharing her experience of childhood and marriage and writing poignantly about the passing of time. In several of the poems she reimagines Shakespeare in unorthodox fashion; in others she offers heartfelt tributes to friends and to public figures including Eric Morecambe and John Cage.
FAMILY VALUES 2011 Faber	From a motorway service area to her ambivalent relationship with religion.
TWO CURES FOR LOVE Selected Poems 1979-2006 2008 Faber	
GEORGE HERBERT: VERSE AND PROSE (Selector & Introduction) 2003 SPCK	
IF I DON'T KNOW 2001 Faber	Shortlisted for the Whitbread Poetry Award
HEAVEN ON EARTH: 101 HAPPY POEMS (Editor) 2001 Faber	
BIG ORCHARD BOOK OF FUNNY POEMS (Editor) 2000 Orchard	
THE EPIC POISE: A CELEBRATION OF TED HUGHES (Contributor) 1999 Faber	
EVERGREEN VERSE (Contributor) 1997 Dent	

Publication Details	Notes
FOR ALL OCCASIONS (Contributor) 1997 Methuen	
A DRAFT OF XXX CANTOS (Contributor) 1997 Faber	
DEAR FUTURE: A TIME CAPSULE OF POEMS (Contributor) 1997 Faber	
MARIGOLDS GROW WILD ON PATFORMS: An Anthology of Railway Poetry (Contributor) 1996 Ward Lock	
CASTING A SPELL (Contributor) 1996 Faber	
THE SQUIRREL AND THE CROW 1994 Prospero Poets	
THE FABER BOOK OF DRINK, DRINKERS AND DRINKING (Contributor) 1993 Faber	
SERIOUS CONCERNS 1992 Faber	
MEN AND THEIR BORING ARGUMENTS 1988 Wykeham	
DOES SHE LIKE WORD GAMES 1988 Anvil Press Poetry	

Publication Details	Notes
POEM FROM A COLOUR CHART OF HOUSE PAINTS (Limited Edition) 1986 Priapus Press	
MAKING COCOA FOR KINGSLEY AMIS 1986 Faber	
ACROSS THE CITY (Limited Edition) 1980 Priapus Press	

Children's

Publication Details	Notes
POETRY COLLECTION BIG CAT SERIES - GOING FOR A DRIVE 2010 HarperCollins	Poems for Children
IS THAT THE NEW MOON? (Selector) 2002 HarperCollins	
SILLY BONES (Contributor) 1998 Scholastic	
FUNNY BONES (contributor) 1998 Collins Educational	
ANOTHER DAY ON YOUR FOOT AND I WOULD HAVE DIED (Contributor) 1996 Macmillan	
OVER THE MOON: CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL POEMS (Contributor) 1996 Red Fox	
THE ORCHARD BOOK OF FUNNY POEMS (Editor) 1993 Orchard	

Publication Details	Notes
THE RIVER GIRL 1991 Faber	
TWIDDLING YOUR THUMBS 1988 Faber	

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
THE FABER BOOK OF BEDTIME STORIES (Editor) 1999 Faber	

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
LIFE, LOVE AND THE ARCHERS 2014 Two Roads	<p>Wendy Cope has long been one of the nation's best-loved poets, with her sharp eye for human foibles and wry sense of humour. For the first time, Life, Love and the Archers brings together the best of her prose - recollections, reviews and essays from the light-hearted to the serious, taken from a lifetime of published and unpublished work, and all with Cope's lightness of touch.</p> <p>Here readers can meet the Enid-Blyton-obsessed schoolgirl, the ambivalent daughter, the amused teacher, the sensitive journalist, the cynical romantic and the sardonic television critic, as well as touching on books and writers who have informed a lifetime of reading and writing.</p> <p>Wendy Cope is a master of the one-liner as well as the couplet, the telling review as well as the sonnet, and Life, Love and the Archers gives us a wonderfully entertaining and unforgettable portrait of one of England's favourite writers.</p> <p>A book for anyone who's ever fallen in love, tried to give up smoking, or consoled themselves that they'll never be quite as old as Mick Jagger.</p>