



Sally, a typist at NAAFI HQ in Famagusta, is one of 300 volunteers recruited during the 1958 State of Emergency to replace Greek-Cypriot staff after a bomb incident at RAF Nicosia. She meets Edward, a war veteran and Army Schools teacher. Trouble looms when police discover his boat has been 'borrowed' for gun-running. They are told to carry on as normal, but nothing is normal any more. Are the innocent truly innocent and is the primary suspect one of theirs or one of ours?

About the author

Pamela worked for anyone who'd have her before finding fun and immense pleasure in teaching. She then wrote short stories, features and slice-of-life articles for magazines and newspapers ranging from *Woman's Weekly* to *The Times Educational Supplement*, *Your Cat* to *Christian Woman* and *Yachting Monthly*, to *The Sunday Telegraph* and *The Telegraph Magazine*. Among her prize-winning stories *She can't take them* with her was broadcast on Radio Oxford.

She has won poetry prizes, had poems published in *The Lady* and *Wild About Animals*. She died in 2021.

Reviews

Fast-moving and entertaining, it throws light on a little piece of our history
Swallow it down like an oyster and you'll be happy.

This is the fastest thing between covers I've ever read. Pamela Howarth takes us straight into the 1958 State of Emergency in Cyprus among a group of care-free girl volunteers working for NAAFI. Although they are all bent on enjoying life, we see over a period of only five days that beneath the glamour and excitement there is a constant threat from terrorists. Every piece of this intricate plot fits snugly as in a jigsaw. What's more, it's true 'Fifties from speech and code of conduct right down to stocking sizes. I read late into the night, because there was never a convenient place to stop, and next day couldn't get back to normal life till I'd finished it. Swallow it down like an oyster and you'll be happy. Bon appetit! (Beryl Clark)

Category: Fiction

ISBN:

978-1-911070-01-6

978-1-911070-07-8 (ebook)

(146 pages)

Format:

Paperback – 15 Dec 2015

eBook – 4 Mar 2016

Available at tslbooks.uk & through online retailers

Price:

Retail £13.53

TSL £9.94

eBook: £2.66 (only Lulu.com)

Book title: The Hidden Sun

By: Pamela Howarth

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