**Interview for Wallace Publishing**

**1. Your book, A Fool’s Circle, comes out on March 17th. Can you tell us a little about it please?**

A Fool’s Circle is a dark story that follows Kate Saunders, a woman locked in a loveless and abusive marriage. The treatment and challenges Kate deals with are shocking as she tries desperately to survive the onslaught from her husband Alan and protect her daughter.

Things soon change when Kate comes into a very large sum of money. Desperate for an escape, she turns to her best friend Jill to help her turn her life around. Kate also meets a new man, who she thinks is everything Alan isn’t.

The story soon becomes scarily real and brutal as Kate becomes involved in a web of lies, betrayal and even murder.

**2. Your novel is a crime thriller. What made you write this kind of book?**

Growing up, I always liked thrillers. I liked reading John Grisham books. I was never a chic flick kind of girl. I loved watching thrillers on TV, from Columbo to Sherlock Holmes, where you had to try and work out who was the culprit. I always found this genre more interesting.

**3. Are you a person that has a private writing space or does the kitchen table suffice?**

I live with my daughter Poppy, who is now a teenager. Due to her love of music I have to endure around the house I tend to take myself off to my bedroom and write from there. I’m so happy in this space when I’m writing.

**4. Does writing energize or exhaust you?**

I find writing energizes me. When I was writing A Fool’s Circle, as soon as I opened my laptop, it’s like the characters jumped off the page. It created such a buzz in my head I couldn’t think of anything else. As the adrenalin pumped through my body I was already thinking about where the story was going to go next.

**5. How do you cope with writer’s block?**

I haven’t had writer’s block. Mind you, I don’t want to jinx myself. I knew exactly where I was taking this book. I probably get more of a writer’s block when I have to talk about myself and do Author interviews.

**6. What made you first realise you wanted to be a writer and how old were you when this happened?**

I sort of fell into writing. I wrote A Fool’s Circle at a drama class and performed it as a play. After coming across the script again a few years later in the back of a draw, I thought it had the potential to be a short film. As I started to write, it turned into a full-length feature film.

Being a single mum from Islington, I had no money to make a film trailer so enlisted the help of an actor’s camera and sound operators, even getting my local Sainsbury’s to sponsor my shoots.

The trailer got made but my biggest supporter, my Mother, went into hospital and unexpectedly passed away. She never got to see the finished trailer. My Mother always wanted to write a book. In fact it was her biggest regret. It was through my grief and having no support network that I decided to turn A Fool’s Circle into a book.

**7. Are you a Night Owl writer or an Early Bird writer?**

I’m definitely a Night Owl. Once my daughter is safely tucked up in bed and the house is silent, my laptop is the first thing I reach for. Apart from a few snacks of course!

**8. What is your favourite book by another author and why?**

I can’t really say I have a favourite book. I have read many different books over the years and liked them for all different reasons.

**9. If you could liken your own writing style to another author’s, who would it be?**

I think I have my own style of writing in the way that I’m quite brutal, open and honest. I definitely don’t sugar-coat anything. I did have a reviewer compare my style of writing to Martina Cole in her younger years. Which I thought was an amazing compliment. I think I’ll leave it up to the reader to decide that one.

**10. Can you give any advice for other authors who are trying to make a name for themselves in the world today?**

I think everybody has a good book in them. I think you do need an element of patience thrown in as well. Also, there are going to be times when you will doubt yourself. I always shut my laptop down when I felt like that, left it alone for a day or two, then went back to it with fresh eyes. I found this helped me a lot. But after I nailed the first chapter, I found things got a lot easier and pushed me to finish the next one and so on.