

Costa del Sol News

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Real History page 24



Bob Yareham
on Spain and
the Silver
Screen

BOOK REVIEW page 18



Deadly
Secrets
on the
Costa del Sol



Deadly Secrets on the Costa del Sol

Text and photos
by John Peatey

"A STORY of corruption, money laundering and murder in southern Spain." However, there is a lot more to *Deadly Secrets*, a new book that has just been published by the Costa del Sol based author Robert Tenison.

Following the suspicious death of Mike Cameron, an old friend and future business partner, Andy Montalvo arrives in the (fictional!) southern Spanish town of Los Cipreses, returning to his Spanish roots. His father and mother had emigrated to the UK in the '50s, and he had never lived in Spain before.

The town and its surrounding area are still relatively unspoilt compared to many other locations, but all that is about to change. Factors such as the imminent completion of a nearby coastal motorway and the huge growth of cheap flights into a number of airports in the vicinity are all playing their part, but perhaps the biggest player of all is the new urban plan for the area. These are known in Spain as PGOU's.

Reclassifying millions of square metres of land for residential, commercial and leisure use means very serious money is involved, and all of the greed, corruption and money laundering that can go hand in glove with such high stakes play an important part in the plot.

Andy quickly discovers

that, before his untimely death, his friend had been coerced into helping the beautiful Cristina Ibañez of the National Police with her enquiries into the suspicious activities of a number of local individuals. She works for the drugs and organised crime unit UDYCO, but this is not common knowledge by any means, and even the senior officer investigating Mike's death is not aware of her

identity or rôle.

The plot moves quickly on and the body count starts to rise as the action moves between Spain, London and the Cayman Islands as Andy and Cristina begin to unravel the truth behind Mike's death.

It's a rattling good read, and anyone with even the slightest knowledge of this part of Spain will have a great time identifying the places and possibly even some of the

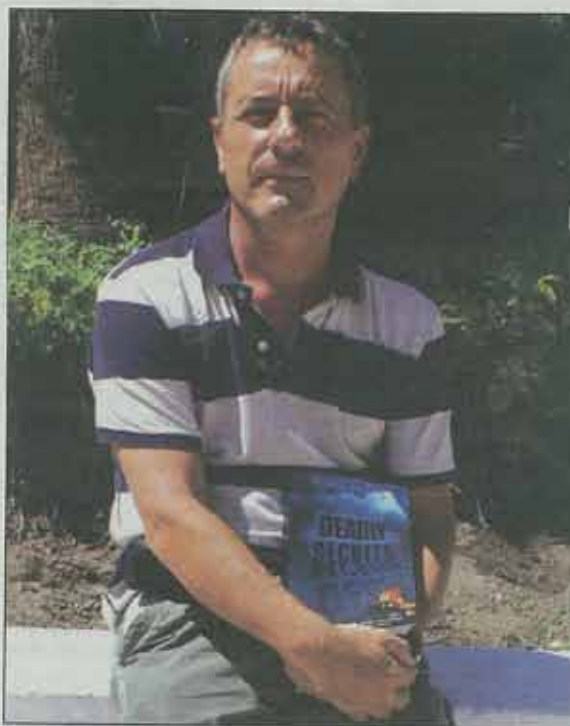
characters involved - despite the author's disclaimers in the acknowledgements section!

Robert Tenison was born of Spanish parents in the UK and spent fifteen years as a commercial and investment banker, including a spell in the Cayman Islands. On leaving banking he worked as a freelance business consultant and authored two Financial Times Management Reports until founding an online recruitment company, which was eventually sold to a leading newspaper publisher.

For the last seven years he has been living in southern Spain, working in the property and financial services sector. As a result he has had numerous dealings with estate agents, property developers and banks, providing him with an in-depth knowledge of the subject matter in *Deadly Secrets*.

He told CDSN that in addition to this he also benefited tremendously from the advice of a number of professionals, such as lawyers and police officers, who gave him a lot of background on some of the technicalities covered in the book.

"In fact," he said, "purely by chance I met a senior Spanish policeman at the airport in Buenos Aires. I was returning to Spain after an intensive four weeks of writing the first 30,000 words of the initial draft (this article is about 700 words, to give his

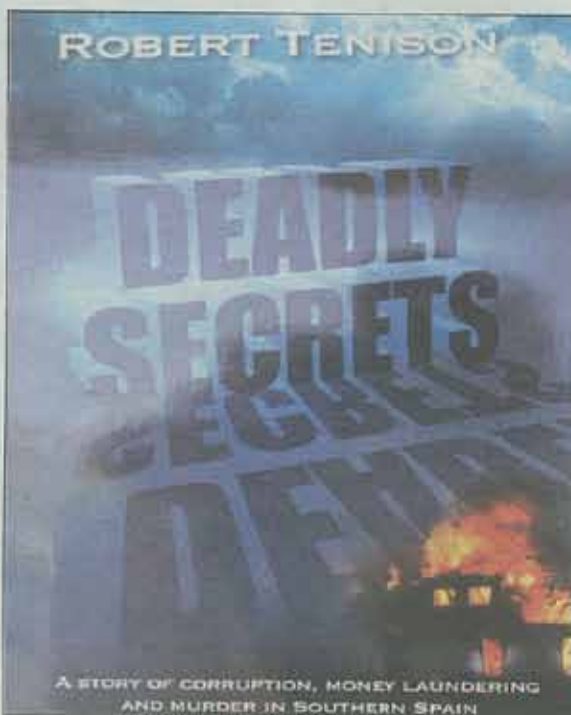


The author with a copy of *Deadly Secrets*

task some perspective) and he asked me what I had done on my holiday. When I told him I was writing a book, and what it was about, he offered to help, and turned out to be a great asset, as did so many people in various ways and means."

The book is available at Bookworld España outlets, (www.bookworldespana.com) Smiffs in Nerja, ([\[aboutspain.es\]\(http://aboutspain.es\)\) on Amazon \(\[www.amazon.com\]\(http://www.amazon.com\)\) and on the author/Publisher's website \[www.readontime.com\]\(http://www.readontime.com\)](http://www.books-</p>
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The ISBN number for the book is 978-0-9583132-1-6 and you can hear the author talking about *Deadly Secrets* to Hannah Murray on the Talk Radio Europe Book Show (104.8 FM or 91.9 FM) between 2 pm and 3 pm on Thursday, September 10.



Deadly Secrets - the cover