

JOHN MORRISH

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PROFILE

Highly experienced magazine and book editor and writer, able to work independently or as part of a team, taking projects from initial conception to publication.

SKILLS

- Planning, commissioning and managing authors
- Budgeting
- Flat-planning
- Sub-editing, rewriting and copy-fitting
- Writing lively headlines, standfirsts and captions
- Picture research and editing
- Proof-reading and indexing
- Researching and writing features, news stories, interviews, reviews and columns
- Training and mentoring younger journalists
- Writing, commissioning and copy-editing books
- Expertise in MS Word, QuarkXpress, Windows, Mac OS, Sibelius and Finale
- Working knowledge of HTML and CSS
- Teeline shorthand
- Good French and some German and Spanish

EMPLOYMENT

1993–DATE SELF-EMPLOYED FREELANCE WRITER AND EDITOR

During this time I have taken on numerous assignments and contracts, including editing, writing and training. I am currently a columnist for *Management Today* and *The Tablet*. I am a commissioning editor for Jawbone Press, an independent publisher of music-related titles. I commissioned, edited and co-wrote two multi-author books, *The Classical Guitar Book* and *The Folk Handbook*, and have copy-edited many more, including recent titles on Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and Todd Rundgren. I have also edited numerous instructional music books, including *The Piano Handbook* and *How To Write Songs On Guitar*. I have created several basic websites supporting Jawbone's books.

As a writer, I have contributed features, profiles and news stories to the *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Telegraph*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Independent*, *Independent on Sunday*, *Reader's Digest*, *Campaign*, *Saga*, *Management Today* and the *Western Daily Press*. My interests as a writer include language, books, music, science and business. I have broadcasted on BBC Radio 4 and local radio.

I have written or co-written 10 books, including *Frantic Semantics* and *More Frantic Semantics*, based on my long-running *Telegraph Magazine* column; *The Really Simple Guide To The Internet*; and my textbook *Magazine Editing*, the third edition of which has just been published by Routledge.

Between 1996 and 2006 I trained journalists and post-graduate students with PMA, Europe's biggest publishing training company. They included reporters, feature writers and editors from most of Britain's leading magazine houses, and topics included news-writing, headlines, style, grammar and punctuation, editorship and internet research.

1992 COMMISSIONING EDITOR, TELEGRAPH MAGAZINE

At the *Telegraph Magazine*, I put together complex features, dealing with writers, photographers and designers. I also wrote several features.

1990–1992 EDITOR, TIME OUT

As editor of the London lifestyle and listings magazine, I successfully introduced full television listings and oversaw a major redesign and restructuring. I managed a staff of more than 20 journalists and a freelance budget of more than £250,000 a year.

1988–1990 FEATURES EDITOR, TIME OUT

I began my career with *Time Out* as features editor, writing and editing interviews, profiles and features. I also edited the magazine's diary column and oversaw its consumer coverage.

1985–1988 FREELANCE JOURNALIST

Assignments included 15 months as the sole sub-editor on *Private Eye*, one series as researcher on the Channel Four discussion programme *After Dark*, and research on a projected television series for George Martin, producer of the Beatles.

1983–1985 REPORTER, SOUTH LONDON PRESS

I wrote about entertainment and the arts, before becoming a district reporter covering the London Borough of Southwark. During this time an investigation I did into local government abuses made national news.

1980–1983 TRAINEE JOURNALIST, MORGAN-GRAMPIAN LTD

I was trained in reporting and sub-editing by this publisher of business-to-business magazines. I worked on *Estates Times*, *Building Design* and *Pulse*.

EDUCATION

1968–1974 Bristol Grammar School.

1975–1979 Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge. First Class degree in English.

GENERAL

I am a member of the Society of Authors. I have a clean driving licence. My hobbies include playing piano, guitar and ukulele; cinema; reading fiction, history, biography and popular science; and supporting Cheltenham Town FC.

REFEREES

On application.