


<p><b>NAME:</b></p>	<p><b>JENNY SUTCH</b></p> 
<p><b>Profile:</b> <i>(Tell us about yourself; how long have you been writing? What inspires you to write? how long have you been a member of Watford Writers? What are your favourite reads?)</i></p>	<p>Often unwell as a child with asthma, my Mum used to make up stories on the spot, and these took my mind far away from the moment. I also loved reading and soon announced to anyone who would listen that I was 'going to be a famous author'. I remember writing stories at school and home, and poems soon followed. The writing hasn't often made it beyond the shoeboxes, but recently I am on a renewed mission to realise a publishing ambition. I joined WW December 2023; two years later, I plan 2026 as my competition year!</p>
<p><b>Main writing interests</b> <i>(Novelist, Poet, Playwright, Biographer, Historian, Academic, Researcher, other etc?)</i></p>	<p>It's as a novelist that I always saw myself and one day still hope to fulfil that dream. But after a long hiatus, it's poetry that got me writing again and I am loving it.</p>
<p><b>Do you have a special place in which to write?</b></p>	<p>Since the nest got a bit less crowded, I've been lucky enough to have the smallest room (that's the box bedroom, not what you're thinking!) as an office. I also use it for work though and do have to do swift laptop changes.</p>
<p><b>Do you have a preferred time of day for writing?</b></p>	<p>As I've got older this has changed. I used to feel more inspired late evening. Sometimes this still works but I'm more disciplined now to do more sensible hours; set aside some time and it can work any time I need it to.</p>
<p><b>Have you been published or have self-published?</b></p>	<p>Not yet – slowly working towards, is how I like to view it.</p>
<p><b>Do you have any special techniques for writing? Specialist equipment or writing aids?</b></p>	<p>Having set myself time to write (which I often don't stick to, but it helps!) I often start with a 'notes' document open and it's kind of like a writing diary. I write my thoughts on how it's going, or if writing for a competition or theme, I write my thoughts on it as they come. This often develops things further than thoughts alone. When ready, I'll move to a new document for my draft. Listening to film /TV music is a writing aid for me; it helps form pictures and feelings inside before I write them out. A walk or a jog while I'm mulling things over can also help (often while listening to said music).</p>
<p><b>Have you been involved with any other writing activities?</b></p>	<p>I took a night school writing course years ago which was useful but the children were young enough to keep me over busy. I</p>

<i>(e.g. workshops, organising writing events, attending external workshops, retreats?)</i>	belong to another writing group, which I joined when I couldn't make Watford Writers as I had something else on that night. I now belong to both, as they both have their own unique characteristics and are helpful communities in their own way.
<b>What writing project are you currently working on (or intend to start)?</b>	Years ago I started a novel about a family in which there is a young lad with an as yet undiagnosed illness. As it stands so far, it's written from an unusual point of view but that may change. The novel is partly concerned with how the parents respond to the challenges, and wider themes to do with when we should accept or try to change things, and touches on how, as self-aware beings, we interact with the physical world. Well, that's the plan. For now, I'm building a collection of poetry and shorter pieces and need to decide what to do with them.
<b>Do you have other interests? and/or member of other groups/societies?</b>	I've been a member of a couple of book clubs, but I don't read regularly just now. I am an active member of my church and on the leadership team there. I have a bit of a passion for LGBTQ inclusion in the wider church and do what I can towards this goal.
<b>Do you have a website; Facebook, Twitter; Instagram? or write a blog?</b>	I'm on Facebook but haven't used this for my writing yet. I removed the app from my phone so I could focus on other things, but am considering how this and other platforms could now be put to work for writing purposes.
<b>What message would you like to give to other writers / would-be writers?</b>	Join a writing group! I shrugged off the idea for years and now wish I'd done it a lot earlier (thanks Mum for advising me). When I was young, I was worried that such a group would consist of several-times published professionals who were way out of my league, or the other extreme in some strange way; but joining a group is brilliant because you'll find some people like yourself (strange, that!) The groups I've known have been warm, friendly, encouraging and helpful.
<b>Do you have favourite author or book?</b>	C S Lewis is pretty awesome, and the Narnia books were my favourites as a child. In my student days I loved E.M. Forster's A Passage to India. Other than that, I tend to be a bit fickle and change who/what I'm loving according to what I have just read. Actually I've been on a non-fiction phase for a while (connected with my other interests), though I can't read print for very long at the moment (an eye issue being investigated), but enjoy discovering different fiction audio books while doing other things.