

## **Independently & Self- Published Authors Policy V.2**

We are proud to stock a variety of traditional and self-published Authors and are pleased to regularly support indie Authors and publishers. This guidance document sets out our position with regards to stock selection to aid with deciding whether your book is a good fit for our shelves.

Tea Leaves & Reads is a small independent bookshop based in Weyhill, Hampshire, with a large national reach. Shelf space is limited and with thousands of titles published every year, stock selection is carefully planned and considered. This guidance document outlines our criteria for independently published titles and our position on unsolicited copies being delivered to the shop.

### **Stock Criteria**

We stock titles that fall within the current pricing range for paperback books. A children's picture book should be in the range of £6.99 - £7.99. Fiction paperbacks range from £7.99 (Children's) to £10.99 and non-fiction paperbacks are between £10.99 and £12.99.

We prioritise good books on the following criteria:

- Authors who live in Test Valley or the wider Hampshire area
- Books that are directly related to Test Valley
- Books that are signed by the Author or that include a signed book-plate
- Books that have a good visible history of reviews e.g. on Amazon, Goodreads or other reviewing sites
- Books that are available from the national wholesalers, Gardners, at our standard trade terms (standard trade discount and sale or return)
- We do not stock books printed / supplied by Amazon with the exclusion of Lake Union Publishing.

### **What information do we need?**

Once you have read our Independently Published Books Policy and if you feel that your book is the right fit for Tea Leaves & Reads, please contact us with the following information:

- Title, Author Name, ISBN & Publisher
- Distributor information
- The RRP (Recommended Retail Price)
- A copy of the cover image (preferably in JPG format)
- A brief synopsis of the book
- Your social media presence / marketing plan that briefly outlines how you promote your book and how you might advertise that we as a stockist should we agree
- Anything else that you think may be useful!

### **Contact Us**

Please send all initial enquiries to [hello@tealeavesandreads.co.uk](mailto:hello@tealeavesandreads.co.uk). Please do not drop in to discuss your book unless agreed via prior arrangement as we are a small and often busy bookshop and may not have time to give you the full attention that your book deserves.

Please do not send or drop in copies unless agreed prior. Any copies that have been delivered or dropped to the bookshop will be considered unsolicited and may not be retained.

**Policy Published: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Reviewed: January 2026**

**Amendments:**

**January 2026**

- Update to the policy regarding paperback pricing to reflect the national move to paperbacks generally between £9.99 and £10.99 RRP.
- Update to reflect who Tea Leaves & Reads will not stock books from.

**Version: 2**

**Review Date: January 2027**