

One in a MILLION!



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This week, we're praising the inspiring story of Robert Woodhouse, 75, from Holsworthy. His wife Debbie, 63, said...

Throwing the next dart, I waited for my aim to land. It was 1982 and I was playing darts at my local pub with my ladies' team.

'That was a great shot,' a man said, coming over. It was Rob, a local I'd seen in the area since I was a kid.

And the rest was history... Falling in love, we moved to Devon in 1987 to raise our children and Rob, a talented builder, built our dream home.

But, there was a greater passion at play. Rob slipped into the spare room after work, tapping away at the computer keyboard.

'What are you doing?' I asked. 'Just writing,' he replied. He was always very private



Me and Rob



He's a bestseller!

about his writing until I encouraged him to share it.

'Why don't you enter a competition?' I said.

At first, he was reluctant – but I could see his determination and I didn't want him to waste his talents.

In 2000, he gave in and entered himself into the Carlton Broadcasting Prize. And at the awards ceremony in Plymouth, he took home the third-place prize!

After years of attending writing groups and entering short story competitions, it was time for Rob to find an agent.

And in May 2018, Peter Buckman, a literary agent at Ampersand, showed interest in Rob's first novel, *Thursday Nights at The Bluebell Inn* – a tale following a ladies' darts

team, inspired by our meeting.

Reading through his drafts to help him nail the women's perspective, my heart swelled with pride.

And our whole reality shone in gleaming colour when Rob was offered a two-book deal!

Now, Rob writes full-time under the name Kit Fielding. I even helped him edit his gritty second novel, *The Undead Gypsy*.

He now has a third book in the works and we've hit the open road in our motorhome – our adventures across the UK give him so much inspiration.

Who knew my husband could go from a burly builder to a bestseller?

I'm beyond proud of him – but what will he achieve next?

• Buy Kit Fielding's novels at Waterstones or Amazon

Rob nurtured a hidden talent

Bitesize!

1	2	3	4
5			
6			
7			

ACROSS

- 1 Invitation response (inits.)
- 5 Berry-bearing palm (4)
- 6 Meat (4)
- 7 Ocular affliction (4)

DOWN

- 1 Knocks (4)
- 2 Glaswegian, eg (4)
- 3 Differ (4)
- 4 Gymnastics position (4)

Read down the shaded squares for the answer.

Answer on page 47.

JUST FOR FUN

More real life

- 15 The music man
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- 24 Overcome the impossible
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