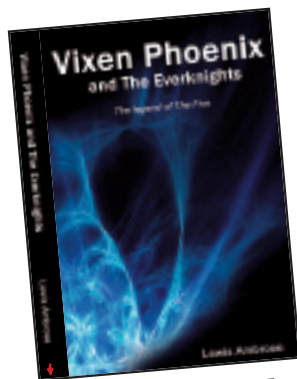


An assassin's story and the changing face of a town



FOUR new books written by Stevenage authors are due to hit the shelves in the coming weeks.

Fantasy writer Lewis Ambrose started writing *Vixen Phoenix and The Everknights: The Legend Of The Five* in 2007.

The novel follows heroine

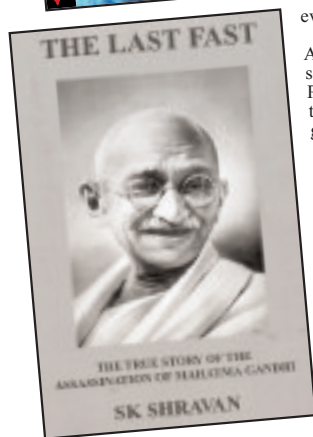
Vixen and her clan The Everknights who embark on a magical adventure in a classic struggle between good and

evil. After completing the book in August 2008, the 24-year-old secured a publishing deal with Pegasus last year and is now in the final design stages before going to print.

Lewis, a former pupil of Marriotts School in Stevenage, has already started writing the sequel and has plans for a further three books in the saga.

SK Shraavan is the author of *The Last Fast: The True Story of the Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi*.

Mr Shraavan has held a keen interest in Gandhi for many years and decided to start researching and writing a book about the man when he retired in 2002.



Authors hit the shelves with new books for a good read

Eight years on and, after contacting the assassin's brother Gopal Godse, the 68-year-old has a book to his name which documents the last 18 days before Gandhi's death.

Mr Shraavan said: "I was trying to find out the truth and that was my main objective."

Author Hugh Madgin's *Stevenage Through Time* follows on from two books he has previously written which trace Stevenage's history.

Mixing historic photographs with contemporary ones, the book documents the changes to Stevenage's landscape over the last century.

Mr Madgin, 46, who has lived in Stevenage all his life, said: "The important thing was to cover the whole of Stevenage in its entirety."

Writer Vrinda Pendred, diagnosed with

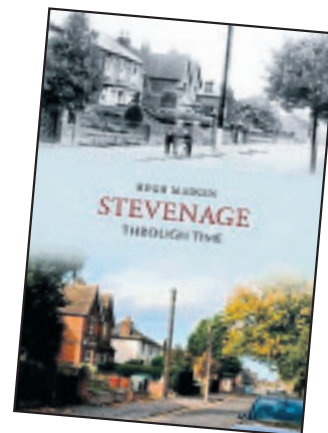
obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and four related conditions, has established a small independent publishing house - Conditional Publications - specifically for writers with nervous disorders.

The first publication, *Check Mates*, combines short fiction, poetry and art and is inspired by OCD and written by people who have the condition.

Mr Pendred hopes to counter false stereotypes surrounding OCD, while reaching out to fellow sufferers by giving them a platform.

The collection is set for release in May, with a portion of the profits going to the charity OCD-UK.

● A cover illustration of *Check Mates* was not available to publish at the time of going to press.



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