



PRESS PACK | SEPTEMBER 2026

Stonecurrent Press

An independent Cumbrian press for history, memory and dissenting thought

Stonecurrent Press publishes books that return to historical texts, public events and remembered lives in order to ask what they mean now. Its list is for readers and writers who value serious argument, lucid prose and perspectives that do not fit comfortably inside received accounts.

EDITORIAL PRINCIPLE

Intellectual hospitality without surrender: reading generously, questioning closely and allowing disagreement to sharpen understanding.

THE PRESS

Stonecurrent Press in brief

Stonecurrent Press is an independent press based in Cumbria and established by writer Ian P. Loftus. It publishes books concerned with history, memory and the ways political ideas and public events enter ordinary lives.

Stonecurrent Press is particularly interested in work that approaches a familiar question, story or writer from an unexpected political, social or philosophical angle. The aim is neither reverence nor easy contrarianism, but writing that opens inherited material to fresh scrutiny.

FOUNDED BY	Ian P. Loftus, writer and editor
BASED IN	Cumbria, United Kingdom
PUBLISHING FOCUS	History, memory, politics, society, philosophy and literary lives
READERS	General readers who want serious ideas presented with clarity
WRITERS SOUGHT	Distinctive, well-argued voices with an original relationship to their subject
WEBSITE	stonecurrentpress.co.uk

Short boilerplate

FOR LISTINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Stonecurrent Press is an independent Cumbrian press publishing books that revisit history, memory and literary lives through distinctive political, social and philosophical perspectives.

EDITORIAL IDENTITY

What we publish

Stonecurrent Press looks for books that begin with a real intellectual or human pressure: an unresolved historical question, a public story remembered too simply, a writer whose work has been narrowed by reputation, or an idea whose consequences are still being lived.

Strong fits

- Narrative non-fiction and history that connects public events with ordinary experience.
- Books about memory, remembrance, grief, place and the afterlife of events.
- Political, social or philosophical essays written for an intelligent general reader.
- Studies of writers and thinkers that combine context, close reading, critique and contemporary response.
- Literary or historical fiction whose formal or ethical purpose is integral to the work.

The editorial test

A proposal does not need to agree with Stonecurrent Press. It does need a clear purpose, an identifiable reader, command of its material and a reason to exist beyond repeating an established account. Stonecurrent Press values intellectual independence, but independence must be supported by evidence, structure and judgment.

FOR PROSPECTIVE AUTHORS

If your book asks readers to look again - at an event, a life, a text, a memory or an accepted idea - Stonecurrent Press would like to understand the argument you are making and why you are the person to make it.

CURRENT LIST

Poets, Politics & Philosophy

Stonecurrent Press's founding series returns to major works without treating them as museum pieces. Each volume places an original or authorised text alongside context, critical examination, philosophical argument and a response to the present.

The method is hospitable but unsentimental: a writer is read in full, their strongest claims are taken seriously, and their omissions and contradictions remain open to challenge.

Volume 1

The Individual Against Authority - Oscar Wilde and The Soul of Man under Socialism. A study of freedom, individuality, culture and the pressure of institutions on the self.

Volume 2

What Is Wealth For? - John Ruskin and Unto This Last. A return to Ruskin's attack on economic abstraction and his insistence that wealth must be judged by the life it makes possible.

Volume 3

Beyond the Room - Virginia Woolf and A Room of One's Own. An examination of material freedom, artistic authority and the limits of the room as both achievement and political symbol.

SERIES PROPOSITION

Classic works, restored to argument: context without enclosure, criticism without dismissal, and contemporary relevance without simplification.

FOUNDER AND SERVICES

Ian P. Loftus

Founder and Editorial Director

Ian P. Loftus

Ian P. Loftus is a Cumbrian writer, editor and the founder of Stonecurrent Press. He holds a PhD in Creative Writing and edits the Poets, Politics & Philosophy series, writing the critical, philosophical and contemporary material that accompanies each text.

His wider work is concerned with grief, remembrance, history, landscape and the meeting point between private experience and public meaning. Stonecurrent Press grows from that same conviction: serious thought becomes most urgent when it is tested against lived life.

Editorial Services

Stonecurrent Press offers paid editorial services, including manuscript assessment, developmental editorial reports and independent-publishing or series-development consultation. This work concentrates on argument, structure, purpose, reader, omissions and revision priorities.

Editorial services are entirely separate from Stonecurrent Press's selective publishing programme. Paying for editorial work gives no preference, advantage or expectation of publication.

CLEAR DISTINCTION

Stonecurrent Press is not a vanity press. It does not charge authors to publish, sell publication packages or require authors to purchase copies.

SUBMISSIONS AND MEDIA

Approaching Stonecurrent Press

For writers

Stonecurrent Press welcomes proposals from writers whose work fits the editorial character described in this pack. Before submitting, writers should read the current guidance and send only the material requested. The press may take up to twelve weeks to respond to work of interest; where a submission is not a fit, Stonecurrent Press may be unable to reply individually.

SUBMISSIONSstonecurrentpress.co.uk/submissions/**EDITORIAL SERVICES**stonecurrentpress.co.uk/editorial-services/**GENERAL CONTACT**stonecurrentpress.co.uk/contact/

For journalists, reviewers and booksellers

Stonecurrent Press can provide review information, founder commentary, catalogue details, cover files and background on the Poets, Politics & Philosophy series. Enquiries should identify the publication, outlet or event, the title or subject of interest and the required deadline.

PRESS INFORMATIONstonecurrentpress.co.uk/press-and-media/**WEBSITE**stonecurrentpress.co.uk**LOCATION**

Cumbria, United Kingdom

Approved one-sentence description

Stonecurrent Press

A small independent Cumbrian press publishing books that bring history and memory into fresh political, social and philosophical argument.