

# Echo



Clacton: Martin's writing dreams come true.

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A fledgling author will have the best Christmas present of his life when he sees his first book in print.

In Search of an Angel by Martin Penalver of Clacton is released on December 20 by Libros International.

Writing the book was an 18-month labour of love, says the 39-year-old, who lives in Chilburn Road.

He explained that the novel centres on Steve Bidante, who suffers the tragic loss of his parents when still a young boy.

"The book travels through four countries over 60 years, as he tries to find angels on earth," said Martin, who is also player-manager for Castel di Frinton football club.

"His quest from past to present is filled with passion, laughter and happiness, intermingled with tragedy and despair when his beliefs are tested to the limit.

"It's a spiritual love story, which both men and women will be able to relate to."

Martin says it was a "dream" to get his book published.

"I'd done poetry and sports writing for a long time but this is my first novel," said Martin, who is also managing director of Holland Plastics in Clacton.

"The ideas came from what I see in my general life.

"I had a bottle of wine, wrote a few notes and before long I'd written 5,000 words.

"I was very lucky, as I only sent it to four publishers - JK Rowling was rejected 17 times."

Martin is holding a book signing at the Kings Arms in St Osyth on Thursday, December 13 between 8pm and 11pm, while In Search of an Angel can be pre-ordered from Amazon, Waterstones and WH Smith online, priced at £8.49.

For more information, visit [martinpenalver.com](http://martinpenalver.com)

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