

**Bourne**  
**toWrite...**  
creative writing  
workshops

## Sports Report

A timed exercise by Richard Wilding

They had to hide Charlotte Green after the horrible stink she caused when she read out “Doncaster one, Yeovil didn’t” on Sports Report. For weeks afterwards the pools coupons people were bombarded with angry letters from slack-jowled old timers (they mistrusted email) who’d been filling in their pools coupons with chewed-top biros for decades to the reassuringly calm tones of James Alexander Arnold. They hadn’t wanted a woman to read the results at all, let alone a woman whose nasal hair trailed down below her shoulders.

They hid her in an upmarket home decoration shop in Eastbourne Old Town, smuggling her in under a powder blue flannel blanket in the dead of a rainy night in late March. They secreted her inside a roll of Designer Guild with a bottle of water, a wind up radio and strict instructions to lay low until the stench blew over.

They didn’t tell the shop owner. To this day he has no idea that the unidentified smell in his shop carries with it the whiff of national scandal.