

GIETE, Somerset

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ADVANCE INFORMATION SHEET No 1

TITLE Battle Royal
ISBN 9780954726850 **PRICE** £12.99 HB
AUTHOR Wallis Peel
PUBLISHER GIETE, Somerset
PUBLICATION DATE March 26th 2009
CATEGORY Historical saga FGBH, FGMH, set in the sixth century in Gloucestershire

SPECIFICATIONS HB, sewn, 234x 156mm, 208 pages

WHO WILL BUY THIS BOOK? Those interested in historical fiction; Gloucestershire readers

This is another rollicking good read from renowned storyteller Wallis Peel. It is again set around the county of Gloucestershire, an area she has researched thoroughly for local history articles, and is based on true historical events when the Celto-British, Romano-British and Saxons were jostling for supremacy. It is a tale set in the sixth century with family and political infighting at its core. These themes are as relevant today as they were then and this is why Wallis Peel's stories are so gripping.

Ceawlin is King of the Saxons but knows he must take the south west before he can hope to have Middle Britain. He knows he must not fail after the Saxons' defeat by Arthur at Mons Badonis.

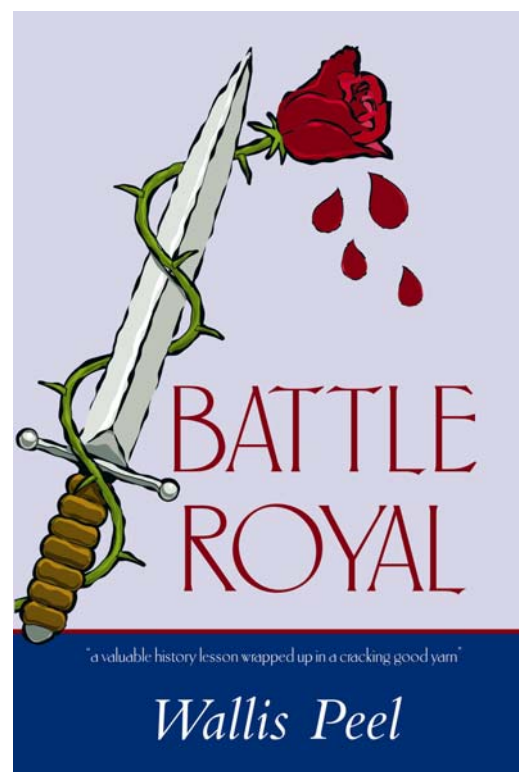
Bracha is the only daughter of Chief Ralf who is given the almost impossible task of uniting three warring kings against Ceawlin's army. Cenberht is Ceawlin's bastard son whom he has ignored for years. He now decides to use him to his brother Cutha's amusement by sending him over the frontier into British tribal territory as a spy.

Cenberht and Bracha meet. It is a thunderbolt. They only have a little time together but know they are made each for the other. Cenberht completes his task and returns to Ceawlin where the king delighted to see him as he has gone to great pains and expense to arrange an advantageous marriage. He is thunderstruck when Cenberht tells him he is in love with an enemy female.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Wallis Peel is the writer of numerous published books, short stories and newspaper features. She is a long-established member of the Society of Authors.

She had the normal working-class education of her era but she hated school and left at fourteen. She spent one miserable year in offices then followed her heart's desire to work with horses. She started at the bottom and worked her way up as she gained experience and knowledge. She started writing in her late twenties then had gaps because of one thing or another but always, at the back of her mind, was the desire to write.

Recent books include *Sea Gem*, set in Guernsey, *Republic* set in Bristol and Yate, *Bold Spirit*, *Glorious Gloucestershire* and *Spirit of Defiance*. *Sea Gem* is also available as an unabridged audiotope published by Isis, and all the novels are available in large print.



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