

News

Kathryn's tips for the top as a TV presenter

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So you want to be a TV presenter? Then Kathryn Wolfe from the University of Bedfordshire has some vital tips for you.

Kathryn, Senior Lecturer in Media Performance and Course Leader TV Production, has launched a new book on this topic.

So You Want To Be A TV Presenter? has received some high-profile backing with the foreword by Chris Tarrant and a back cover quote by Tony Robinson of *Blackadder* and *Time Team* fame.

The book had a glitzy launch on Thursday night (13 May) at The Actors Centre in London's Covent Garden.

Giving their support on the night were contributors to the book, actors, television presenters trained by Kathryn herself such as Seema Pathan from BBC's *Sportsround* and TV industry producers.

The book includes contributions from about 60 presenters, including two former students at the University, Becky Jago and Gemma Hunt.



Kathryn said: "It's a practical, vocational guide to starting a career on TV as a presenter. Although it's seen as a glamorous job and a step to celebrity, being a TV presenter is also hard work, and demands a varied range of journalistic, technical, performance and personal skills."

Intended for the mainstream market, the book is published by Nick Hern Books, the UK's leading independent publisher of plays, theatre books and screenplays.

Both Nick Hern and Kathryn's literary agent, Julian Friedmann, represent some of the best names in the business.

Also there on the night were Kathryn's famous relatives. Her dad, Ronnie, is a veteran comedy scriptwriter who, with his partner Ronnie Chesney, created and wrote dozens of hit sitcoms in the 1960s, 70s and 80s including *The Rag Trade* and *On the Buses*.

And her cousin is the legendary Warren Mitchell who played Alf Garnett in *Till Death Us Do Part* which later became *Till Death.....* and *In Sickness and in Health*.

Kathryn has worked as a TV director in news, current affairs, children's, magazine and documentary programmes with credits including *Breakfast Time*, *The Clothes Show*, *Crimewatch*, *Record Breakers*, *Tweenies* and *Playschool*.

As well as working with Chris Tarrant, she has worked with the likes of Danny Baker, Emma Freud, Penny Smith, Nick Ross, Selina Scott, Michael Aspel and Paul Ross.

In 2003, Kathryn set up Pukka Presenting to train TV presenters and deliver business presentation skills. Since then she has coached hundreds of TV presenters and launched countless careers.



The top photo shows Kathryn Wolfe signing copies of her book with, left to right: Warren Mitchell's daughter, Rebecca, presenter Nicci Brighten from Radio Wey and TV presenter Charmaine Line (local-news.tv). Nicci and Charmaine both trained with Kathryn.

The middle photo shows a number of presenters who Kathryn has trained, left to right: Nicci Brighten (Radio Wey), Fiona Watkins (Tweenies), Sam Kidd (Gemondo TV, PH Media), Denny Ching (QVC), Louise Houghton (Bid TV) and Seema Pathan (BBC's Sportsround).

The bottom photo shows Kathryn with Warren Mitchell.