

And God Created BURTON



TOM RUBYTHON

Tom Rubythron is a well known journalist and author, previously specialising in the twin worlds of business and sport. And God Created Burton is his debut book in the world of entertainment and the arts. Previously editor of well known business and

sports magazines, he has scored twin success in books with the best selling biographies of racing drivers, Ayrton Senna and latterly James Hunt. The idea for the Richard Burton biography came from his research into Burton's third wife who had previously been married to James Hunt. He believed that there was much more of a story to be told than had been previously.



ROGER MOORE

Sir Roger Moore co-starred with Richard Burton in one of his most successful big screen appearances, The Wild Geese in 1978. Like Burton he is an English actor and best known for three career-defining roles as Simon Templar in the TV series The Saint

in the sixties, as Lord Brett Sinclair in the TV series The Persuaders in the seventies and most famously as James Bond in the 007 films in the eighties. His career mimicked Burton's stretching from 1945 and he is still in demand today at the age of 84 as a character actor. His long career has earned him millions of dollars and made him the best known English actor alive today.



ROBERT HARDY

Robert Hardy was an original contemporary of Richard Burton right from the earliest days of his acting career at Oxford University to wartime service in the Royal Air Force to the earliest forays in London and Stratford-upon-Avon to his death. His big

break came in 1959 appearing opposite Laurence Olivier in 1959 in Coriolanus in Stratford. It won him a major part in the TV series of the day, the BBC's Troubleshooters in the late sixties. From then he didn't look back and was never off television and the stage until he won the lead role in the BBC's classic series All Creatures Great and Small in 1978. The series ran for 12 years. But for many his finest role was as Sir Winston Churchill in the Mini Series The Wilderness Years in 1981.

And God Created Burton is published by The Myrtle Press

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"They say that most men are moulded out of their faults. And, for the most, become much more the better for being a little bad."

William Shakespeare

"In all honesty, had he turned his considerable charms on me early in rehearsals, I do not know what my reaction would have been. He was that attractive."

Julie Andrews

"With Richard Burton I was living my own fabulous and passionate fantasy. Everyone bought tickets to watch Liz and Dick and we gave them what they wanted."

Elizabeth Taylor

"I came to dread the moment before dawn when Richard had to dress and go back to his wife."

Claire Bloom

"If there were twelve elephants on a stage, you would look at Rich."

Richard Harris



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T O M R U B Y T H O N

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FOREWORD BY ROGER MOORE PROLOGUE BY ROBERT HARDY



And God Created BURTON

A sweeping saga spanning 1898 to 1984 stretching from the mining fields of South Wales to the film sets of Hollywood and from the playhouses of Cardiff to the grand theatres of Broadway - this new and far reaching biography rakes over the coals of the life of Britain's greatest ever actor, Richard Burton. And God Created Burton is the first complete biography of the greatest Welshman who ever lived. The man conquered Hollywood in a way that no British actor had before or since. Rising to become the highest earning actor Britain has ever produced. His achievements were considered all the greater as they were accomplished in the era of great British actors such as Laurence Olivier and John Gielgud. All the more so as Burton's prowess uniquely spanned theatre, film and television a way no other actor has before. Burton became a genuine legend in his own lifetime and in the mid sixties for one year he stood at the very pinnacle of Hollywood as the world's most bankable actor. He also loved and lost some of the most beautiful and talented actresses of the era including Elizabeth Taylor, Claire Bloom and Susan Strasberg. But he could have achieved even more but for his addiction to alcohol, a fate was inherited from his father which stayed with him right to the end of his days, eventually killed him and tarnished an otherwise extraordinary career.

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About the Author

And God Created Burton is Tom Rubythyn's first book in the world of art and entertainment. He came upon the idea during the writing of his last book *Shunt – the story of James Hunt*. Hunt's first wife, Suzy Miller, was Richard Burton's third wife. Rubythyn found previous accounts in various Burton biographies woefully inadequate as well as inaccurate. So he resolved to write a proper and definitive biography of the great British actor, and *And God Created Burton* is the result.

Tom Rubythyn is best known as the author of *Life of Senna*, the definitive biography of Brazilian race driver Ayrton Senna. *Life of Senna* has become the biggest-selling third party biography of a racing driver, with 80,000 copies sold. Six years after its publication, it still sells over 8,000 copies a year.

Before beginning as a biographer, Rubythyn was well known in the world of magazine publishing, spanning the worlds of sport and business. Aside from his work in Formula One, he has been a specialist business writer for thirty years. In business, he is the former editor of *BusinessAge*, *EuroBusiness* and *Spectator Business*. In sport, he has edited *F1 Magazine*, *BusinessF1* and *SportsPro*.

Rubythyn now specialises in non-fiction storytelling. He is passionate and methodical about the process of writing and researching the definitive biography. Starting out with a determination to tell the full story of a person's life, he emphasises what is important and de-emphasises what is not; the crucial tools of any biographer.

BOOKS PREVIOUSLY WRITTEN AND EDITED BY TOM RUBYTHYN



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Hardback – perfect binding
- Full colour dust sheet matte laminate embossed
- 4 x separate 16-page colour sections
- Over 270 captioned photographs
- 40 pages of detailed career appendices
- Engraved end papers
- Foreword by Robert Hardy

PUBLICITY

- Nationwide book tour 15th May to 21st May
- Display advertisements in *The Sunday Times*, *Daily Mail*, *The Spectator* and *The Stage*
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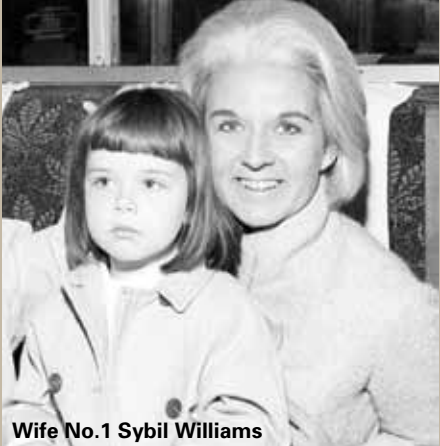
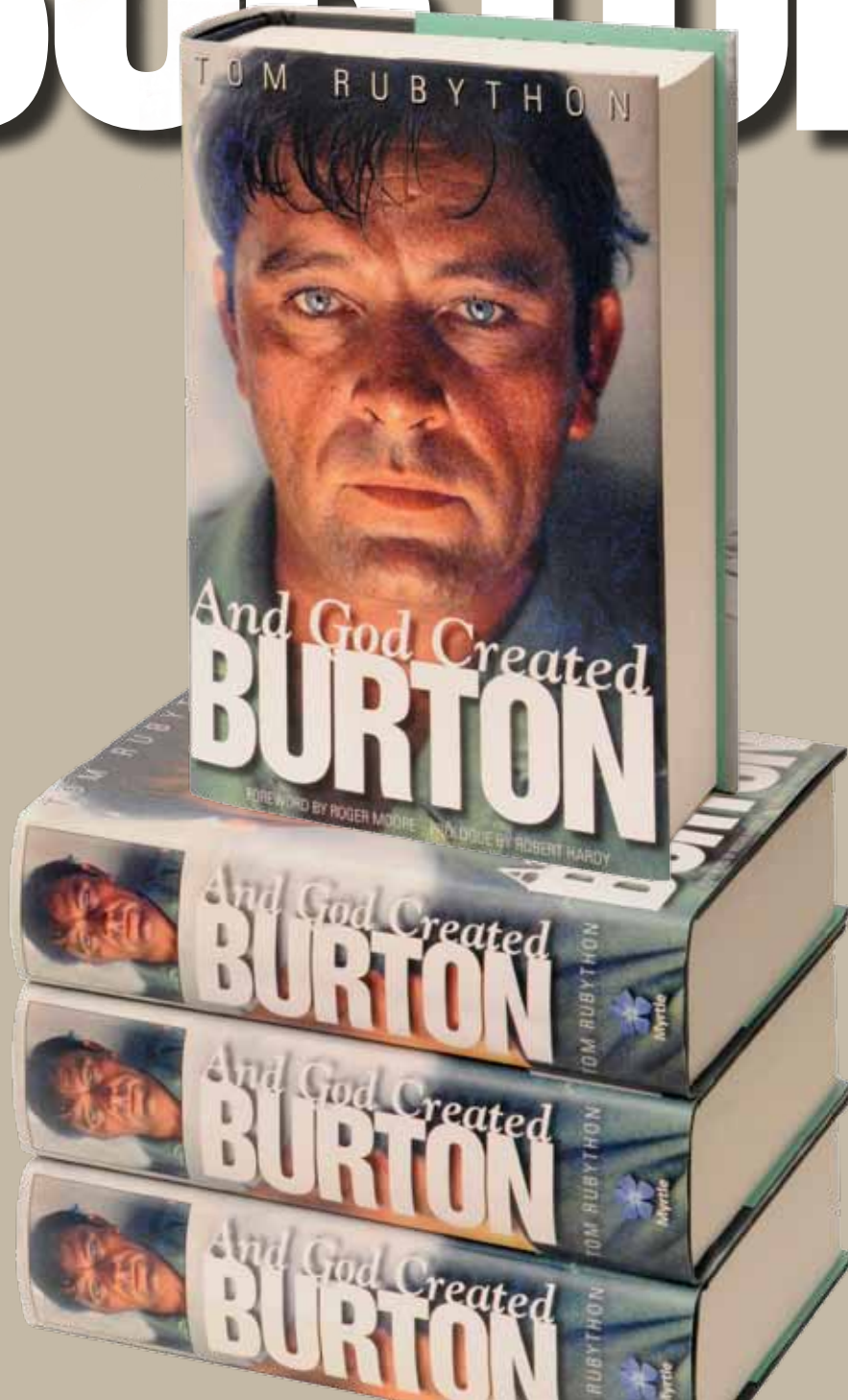
A sweeping family saga spanning 1898 to 1984, stretching from the mining fields of South Wales to the film sets of Hollywood and from the playhouses of Cardiff to the grand theatres of Broadway – this new and far-reaching biography examines every detail and every facet of the life of Britain's greatest ever actor, Richard Burton: how one extraordinary man had three fathers, three mothers, seven brothers, six sisters and four wives, and how he loved them all.

And how that man earned US\$75 million from the start of his career in 1951 to when he died in 1984; the equivalent of US\$1.5 billion in today's money, making him the highest-paid actor in Hollywood history.

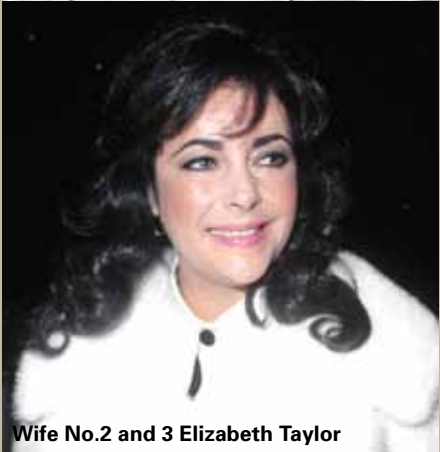
And God Created Burton is the first complete biography of the greatest Welshman ever to have lived. The man conquered Hollywood like no other British actor, before or since. His achievements were considered all the greater as they were accomplished in the era of such great British actors as Laurence Olivier and John Gielgud as well as great American stars such as Humphrey Bogart, Clark Gable and Cary Grant. Burton's achievement was even more pronounced as his prowess uniquely spanned theatre, film and television unlike any other actor before him. In the end, he became a genuine legend in his own lifetime and in the mid-sixties, for one year, he stood at the very pinnacle of Hollywood as the world's most bankable actor. He also loved and lost some the most beautiful and talented actresses of the era, including Elizabeth Taylor, Claire Bloom and Susan Strasberg. But he could have achieved even more if it had not been for his addiction to alcohol, a fate inherited from his father and which stayed with him right to the end of his days, eventually killing him and tarnishing an otherwise extraordinary career.

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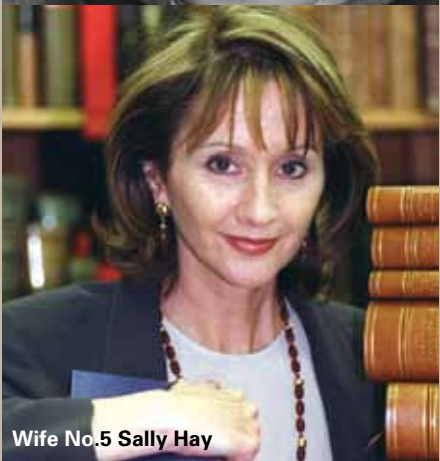
Wife No.1 Sybil Williams



Wife No.2 and 3 Elizabeth Taylor



Wife No.4 Suzy Hunt



Wife No.5 Sally Hay

A Non-Fiction Biography - that reads like a novel

- Chapter 1 Death - the inevitable outcome – 1984
- Chapter 2 Perfect mother, imperfect father – 1899 to 1924
- Chapter 3 One birth, one death – 1925 to 1927
- Chapter 4 My sister, my mother – 1927 to 1931
- Chapter 5 Less than perfect schooldays – 1931
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- Chapter 51 Medical catastrophe as the alcohol extracts its price - 1981
- Chapter 52 Divorce No 4 from Suzy - 1981
- Chapter 53 Sally's arrival sparks a personal revival - 1982
- Chapter 54 Wedding No 5 to Sally – The final recount - 1983
- Chapter 55 The final performance – With Kate on Ellis island - 1984
- Chapter 56 The final curtain – a premature goodbye – 1984
- Chapter 57 Life after Richard – 1984 to 2011