



## We love...



**Call the Midwife**  
Jennifer Worth

Having being told to read this book by my mum I must admit I wasn't expecting to enjoy it quite as much as I did. An amazing novel that recreates a London that has long gone but remains a pleasure to know existed. You will not forget the characters that you meet within the story and the emotions they invoke will stay with you long after you've read the last page. Two thumbs up from me, and two thumbs up from my mum, and you can't ask for more than that!

**Sean Lewis**  
Waterstone's Scarborough

# The Waterstones Card guide to *Midwifery Memoirs*

If, like us, you're looking forward to the BBC dramatisation of Jennifer Worth's *Call the Midwife*, read our recommendations below to immerse yourself in memories of labour, childbirth and newborns from the 1950s to present day. We've also selected some East End reads to give you a taste of East End life in the post-war era.

## Read me first...



**Call the Midwife**  
Jennifer Worth

Jennifer Worth became a midwife in the Docklands in the 1950s. The conditions in which many women gave birth were horrifying, but while Jennifer witnessed brutality and tragedy, she also met with amazing kindness and understanding, tempered by a great deal of Cockney humour.



## Other tales from the East End



**The Sugar Girls**  
Duncan Barrett & Nuala Calvi  
29th March 2012

Tales of Hardship, Love and Happiness in Tate & Lyle's East End Factories. From young Ethel to love-worn Lillian, irrepressible Gladys to Miss Smith, this is an evocative, moving story of hunger, hardship and happiness.



**My East End**  
Gilda O'Neill

Cockneys, criminals, street markets, pub singalongs, dog racing, jellied eels...the East End is a place at once appealing and unruly, comforting and incomprehensible. Gilda O'Neill, an East Enders herself shows there is more to this fascinating area than a collection of cliched images.

## Then try...



**Midwife on Call**  
Agnes Light



**Catching Babies**  
Sheena Byrom



**Twelve Babies on a Bike**  
Dot May Dunn



**Bread, Jam and a Borrowed Pram**  
Dot May Dunn

## Coming soon...



**Tales of a Midwife**  
Maria Anderson  
1st March 2012

After fainting whilst attending her first three births, Maria went from nervous trainee to assured midwife and in this brilliant memoir she recounts the highs and lows of life inside the maternity unit.



**The Midwife's Here**  
Linda Fairley  
10th May 2012

'Delivering my first baby is a memory that will stay with me forever. Just feeling the warmth of a newborn head in your hands, that new life, there's honestly nothing like it! I've since brought more than 2,200 babies into the world, and I still tingle with excitement every time.'