



The Life Of A (Single Parent) BRIAN!

Brian Rowlands

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WHAT MAKES 'THE LIFE OF (A SINGLE PARENT) BRIAN!' UNIQUE?

'The Life Of (A Single Parent) Brian!' has never before been written! Oh sure, many people have written autobiographies of their many differing experiences in life but when was the last time you heard of a dad bringing up the children, let alone writing a book about it! Yes single dads exist, (at roughly a 10/1 ratio to single mums), but they are in such a minority that they always get overlooked; think about it, when did you last see a family orientated advert on television that didn't feature mum in the lead role?

Brian Rowlands has produced a book that may well 'throw the cat amongst the pigeons' and overturn the widely held view that bringing up the children is a job best left to mums. He tells his family's story in a frank and honest manner, baring his soul openly and invites the reader into his world as a single father, at the same time exploring his children's reaction to their mum's departure and their subsequent re-adjustment.

From his initial battle back from the deep, dark depths of depression, through his enforced coming to terms with single life and subsequently rearing his children without female input, his tale charts the amazing and often rocky rollercoaster ride that was his family's life over a ten year period. Thirteen homes in seven years, including two stints in bed and breakfast and two in a caravan, disastrous (and sometimes violent) relationship problems, heartbreak medical problems together with a constant battle to overcome and make sense of the chaos brought from his divorce; Brian Rowlands faced all this and more as he battled to bring a sense of normality to his family's lives and tried to give his children what he wanted for them more than anything, that being stability.

A story that absolutely needed telling, it lifts the lid on many long held discriminatory assumptions held against men with regard to paternity and indeed against single parents themselves, whatever sex, highlighting the immense battle they face in raising children without a partner. An invaluable read for any single parent, it is a book that can also be enjoyed by parents belonging in a partnership and indeed a wider public audience in general. A story of embattlement, enjoyment, frustration, love, survival and hope, the book's underlying message is one of never giving up; no matter what life threw at them Brian, his son and his daughter held their heads high and never lay down, fighting on and carving out a new life for themselves. Essential reading for anybody that has lost faith in the human spirit, once started you will not want to put this one down!

Brian Rowlands was born in 1963 in the Nottinghamshire town of Mansfield. On moving to Nottingham itself in 1968 he lived in and around the Nottingham area until 1998. He married in 1991, fathering two children and taking on the responsibilities of a step-parent to his wife's son from her first marriage. His family enjoyed many continuous yearly holidays in Cornwall until in 1998 he, his wife and their children moved to the tiny Cornish village of Mevagissey. After only a year of coastal life his wife left, and the subsequent events told in his book took place.

Brian left school at the age of 16 with average qualifications, going on to train as an apprentice engineer. Unfortunately, on completion of his training he found engineering wasn't for him. Showing no inclination towards writing at that point in life, he went on to enjoy a varied and colourful working history up until the present day, being prepared to turn his hand to anything in order to pay the bills.

Brian enjoyed an exciting and varied youth, playing in a 'glam' rock band in the 1980's and even trying his hand at being a stripper in the 1990's. Say's he, "Best job I ever had, getting paid a lot of money to take off my clothes in front of hundreds of crazy, rowdy women!"

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