

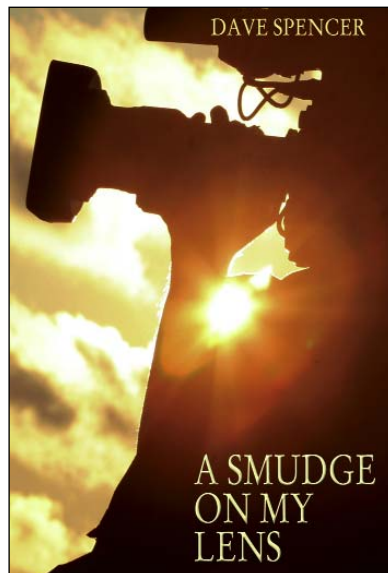
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# A SMUDGE ON MY LENS

DAVE SPENCER

Dave Spencer has always been determined to make the most of life's one ride on the roundabout. From grammar schools to nightclubs, nuclear defence to drugs, his relentless energy has found outlets in travel and transport. *A Smudge on my Lens* is a humorous if wry look at a world where, amongst other things, Dave discovers his father after fifty years, only to lose him a week later.

An adopted post war baby boomer from a Sussex council estate, Dave Spencer was born at a time when reminders of World War II still littered the 50s landscape. Nature was still bountiful, but the landed gentry were selling our heritage before conservation had teeth.

His was the first television generation: weaned on the Flower Pot Men, he grew up in an increasingly commercial and libertarian society, which exploded into the colourful 60s. Ill at ease amongst former public school boys, a lurch to the left saw him taking several unsuitable apprenticeships, before a rude awakening led a confrontation with the law and a taste of life on the road.

Dave took a ferry across the Mersey and a hippy hike from Cornwall to Manchester, then a final fling in Sussex led to an encounter with a long-haired milkman, in a story which mixes religion, drugs, politics and passion.

Dave never lost his passion for travel or transport. He now lives in Cheshire and is one of the world's most travelled transport photographers. He is the author of *Eastbourne Bus Story* (Middleton Press), and reaches a worldwide audience through newsletters and more latterly blogs and YouTube.

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