

# THE OVERLAND LAUNCH

C. Walter Hodges

This is a true story retold in fictional form. In January 1899 the *Forest Hall*, a three-masted full-rigged ship floundered in the Bristol Channel in the worst storms of a lifetime. The lifeboatmen were unable to put to sea at Lynmouth. Their only chance to save the crew of the *Forest Hall* was to tow their boat overland to Porlock, thirteen miles away...

Available again for the first time in decade, C. Walter Hodges' classic book is a tale of human endeavour and bravery, of courage and determination in the face of ferocious weather, set against the background of Exmoor's beautiful coastline, so placid in summertime but so terrifying in winter.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Cyril Walter Hodges** was born in 1909. During the course of his career he illustrated more than a hundred books, writing several of them himself. A considerable Shakespearean scholar, Hodges won the Kate Greenaway Medal for *Shakespeare's Theatre* in 1964, and Shakespearean staging was the subject of his last book, written when he was nearly 90. Nevertheless, his most successful novel was *The Overland Launch*, first published in 1970.

C. Walter Hodges died in Devon in 2004.

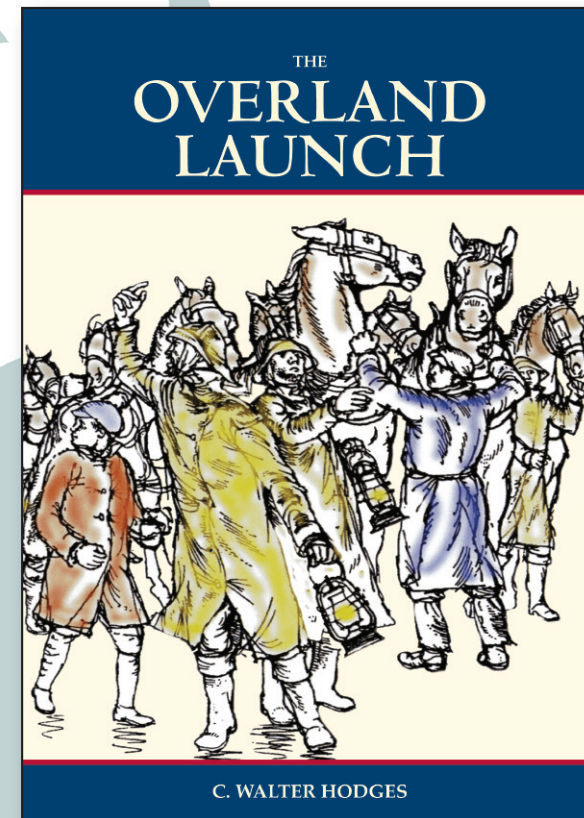
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## HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



**Format:** Hardback, 112 pages, A5, illustrated with black and white line drawings by the author  
**Price:** £9.99  
**ISBN:** 978 086183 408 2  
**Imprint:** Exmoor Books  
**Published:** February 2010



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