

From: Mr. Roderick O'Halloran,
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Member of B.A. Bookseller since 1975.

As with any independent bookseller I feel that the major chains are a threat to our business, but do not believe that they are as threatening as the supermarkets i.e. Tesco Asda etc. or the internet Amazon etc whom all discount heavily and only target best selling titles. In the case of Ottakars they are a good bookseller but whether they can survive on their own is very debatable, as part of Waterstone's they have a better chance of surviving and growing, as independent booksellers dwindle due to unfair competition and just as damaging landlords who think a fair rent rise every three years is 40% plus. Then to give books and authors a good presence on the high street we will need Waterstones and other major bookselling chains i.e. books etc, WH Smith, and I can ensure you it does not please me to make that statement but an extended range of books and authors must be the priority.

Regards

R.J.O'HALLORAN