



# Journal of a Man Unknown

**Gillian Tindall**

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- Gillian Tindall's *Journal of a Man Unknown* is a novel of rare distinction

*"Tindall's voice is richly her own: tender but unsentimental and lit by intimate knowledge of her chosen world."* – Colin Thubron

Culminating a distinguished career spanning more than 60 years, historian Gillian Tindall has written a novel as her final statement. In an astonishing feat of literary imagination, she projects herself back onto one of her forebears to conjure a compelling vision of 17th century England.

By trade, the main character is a metal founder, an occupation that leads him from the villages of Sussex to the bell foundry in Spitalfields.

This is a hymn to those who pass through life not leaving a trace, except in the hearts of those into whose lives they have been cast.

**Gillian Tindall** is the virtuoso of history in microcosm, celebrated for the quality of her writing and scrupulousness of her research. She employs a single location, a dramatic event, a collection of objects or a handful of characters and reveals how they stand for the larger picture, as in her seminal books *The Fields Beneath* on the history of Kentish Town and *The House by the Thames* on the history of the South Bank. Living in the same London house for over 50 years, she has written social history, biography and prizewinning novels.