



# Broadmoor Revealed: Victorian Crime and the Lunatic Asylum

*Mark Stevens*

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## **Broadmoor Revealed: Victorian Crime and the Lunatic Asylum** Mark Stevens

A fascinating introduction to the history of Broadmoor': Kate Summerscale, author of *The Suspicions of Mr Whicher*.

On 27 May 1863, three coaches pulled up at the gates of a new asylum, built amongst the tall, dense pines of Windsor Forest. Broadmoor's first patients had arrived.

In *Broadmoor Revealed*, Mark Stevens writes about what life was like for the criminally insane, over one hundred years ago. From fresh research into the Broadmoor archives, Mark has uncovered the lost lives of patients whose mental illnesses led them to become involved in crime.

Discover the five women who went on to become mothers in Broadmoor, giving birth to new life when three of them had previously taken it. Find out how several Victorian immigrants ended their hopeful journeys to England in madness and disaster. And follow the numerous escapes, actual and attempted, as the first doctors tried to assert control over the residents.

As well as bringing the lives of forgotten patients to light, this thrilling book reveals new perspectives on some of the hospital's most famous Victorian residents: Edward Oxford, the bar boy who shot at Queen Victoria. Richard Dadd, the brilliant artist and murderer of his own father. William Chester Minor, veteran of the American Civil War who went on to play a key part in the first Oxford English Dictionary. Christiana Edmunds, The Chocolate Cream Poisoner and frustrated lover from Brighton.

*Broadmoor Revealed* became the most popular history e-book of 2011, and now this new expanded and revised edition celebrates the Hospital's 150th anniversary.

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