From the Bolton School to RAF corporal to school teacher to almost a guarter of century as a manager at IBM, Norman travelled worldwide in pursuit of his passion the development of lifelong learning and learning cities. Not to mention, being professor and advisor at five (5) different universities, President of the European Lifelong Learning Initiative and manager of international education projects linking companies, countries, schools, cities and regional councils and a multi-book author, including poignant, incisive and witty poetry collections, some of which are included in this autobiography.

Reading his book, you'll circumnavigate the globe, from Lymington to London, Paris to Brussels, Mecca to Johannesburg, Moscow to Cork, Florida to San Francisco, Tel Aviv to Canberra (where Longworth has a surprise private meeting with the Australian Minister of Education and 30 of his top colleagues keen to learn about his educational philosophy) and onwards to Thailand, Russia, Hungary, New Zealand, China, the Arctic Circle and other places too many to name.

Sean Hillen, Former Times Journalist

Available from Amazon online books in every country

The Boy from the Back Streets of Bolton

And the Girl from Deane

Norman Longworth

Making a difference for the better





A most readable and highly enjoyable tale of a life (well, 2 lives) well lived. In this 'guided wander' Norman's love for his wife, his family, the beauty of our planet and his joy in and passion for learning shine through in this open telling of the chapters of his life.

Karen, Kent

This is a rags to riches travelogue where the riches are not measured in monetary reward, but in the extent to which people are inspired to learn lifelong in a world of constant change.

Through his books on lifelong learning cities, translated into the main world languages, and his work with UNESCO and the EC in creating a network of learning cities around the world the boy has changed the life of many for the better.

Not bad for an urchin and his wife, both born in the less salubrious parts of Bolton. A great read. Prologue

We have sailed across the sea Horizons new exploring We have flown to lands afar Their diversity adoring We've resolved to never stop Understanding and discerning We've determined to embrace The universe of learning We have tried to open minds
All people educating
We have travelled round the world
Their cities activating
In the fight for education
The battle's always burning
We've endeavoured to create
A world of people learning

A rollercoaster ride round the world to help build cities that bubble with learning and make a real difference for all our futures. An entertaining and well-written book that will please everyone who reads it. Backed up by a website containing Every one of his learning material useful for budding learning cities and downloadable free of charge – longlearn.info