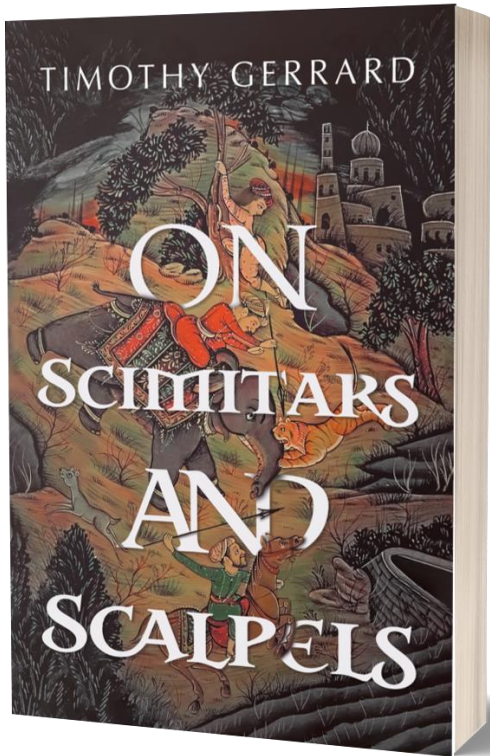


# On Scimitars and Scalpels

Written by Timothy Gerrard



**DURING THE TWELFTH CENTURY CRUSADES A DEADLY JOURNEY MUST BE MADE FOR SALVATION TO HAPPEN...**

When the king of Jerusalem is diagnosed with life-threatening leprosy, his physician and two apprentices – Ippolito and Ruth – will travel to India in search of a cure that has only ever been rumoured to exist.

They face many trials and tribulations along their journey to India and each will be more traumatic and devastating than the last. Against all odds they must continue as they hold the legacy of humanity in their hands alone.

With daring adventures having deadly consequences at each junction of the quest, it is their love and fortitude that drive them forward with nothing but a hope in their hearts of succeeding. To lose would be too devastating to contemplate...

*The only thing for certain is survival is not guaranteed...*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Tim is a retired registered nurse who has always had a passion for history and for writing a novel that combines both his professional knowledge and love of “times and things gone by”.

Until retirement he only had time to write a handful of short stories for magazines but since retiring has begun pursuing his other professional goal of becoming a serious writer.

Tim lives on the far south coast of NSW in what he calls a “fifty cent shack with a million dollar view”.

ISBN	9781922993687
Publication Date	25 AUG 2023
Genre	Historical Adventure
Format	Paperback
Audience	General
Author Location	Batemans Bay, NSW

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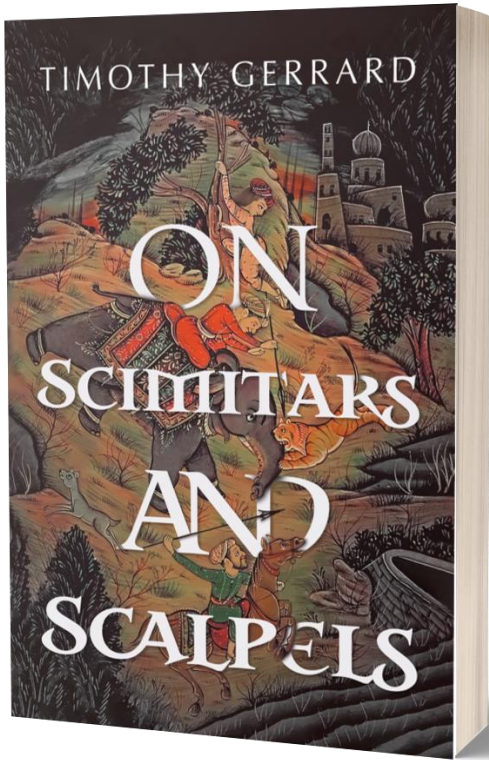
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## A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

### WHAT DREW YOU TO WRITING *ON SCIMITARS AND SCALPELS*?

History is a passion of mine, in particular the Crusades, and healthcare my profession. They say to write about what you know, so that is how the warrior physician notion set during the Crusades came about.

The principal characters were, to me, straightforward “stock in trade” type heroes except for the physician/warrior hybrid aspect which is unusual and, I hope, gives the novel some original appeal to readers.

It was the peripheral characters I had the best fun dreaming up – the tormented Fr Benedict, the mad mystic Abubakhar, Usama ibn Munqidh, the squeamish Kali, the larger-than-life Queen Naiki Devi.

### WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR FUTURE BOOK/S?

I believe that my three central characters would make an excellent trio of warrior physicians (an unusual combination) and that a series of novels around them is a real possibility. The 12th century Mediterranean and its surrounds was full of so much exciting history that there are endless possibilities for story lines.

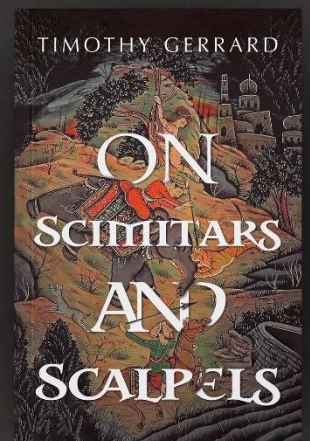


“A mystical tale of human courage and conviction to belief and purpose... A really great book for lovers of well thought out plot and riveting characters...”

*Tom, Indie Book reviewer*

“...a breathtaking adventure, rivalling the stories of Marco Polo, and considerably more fun.”

*Tom Flood, Author & Miles Franklin Award Winner*



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