

Discovering Places...Sri Lanka

● Royston Ellis biography

Royston Ellis was born in Pinner, Middlesex and became famous at the dawn of the Swinging Sixties as a teenager performing his beat poetry backed by musicians who later became known as the Shadows, the Beatles and Led Zeppelin (Jimmy Page).

He left Britain in 1961, age 20, for a life of travel, eventually settling in Sri Lanka in 1979. There he lives in a century-old colonial cottage overlooking the Indian Ocean, writing about Sri Lanka for international, in-flight and local magazines.

He is the author of 60 novels, biographies and guidebooks, including the *Bradt Guide to Sri Lanka*, the *Insight Step By Step Guide to Sri Lanka*, *Sri Lanka By Rail* and, as Richard Tresillian, a series of historical novels, one of which is set in Sri Lanka and has been translated into Sinhala.

He has also written books published in Sri Lanka, including *The Grand Hotel 100 Years (1891-1991)*; *The Bandarawela Hotel (Since 1893)*; *The Tea Factory Hotel*; *The Sri Lanka Story*; and *The Growing Years, Commemorating 150 Years of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, 1854-2004*.

For two decades he was the editorial consultant for *Explore Sri Lanka* magazine. He now writes a column reviewing hotels in *The Sunday Times* of Sri Lanka and a weekly eNewsletter about Sri Lanka with a readership of 15,000 on www.roystonellis.com/blog

Royston Ellis will be flying from Sri Lanka especially for this presentation.

