Missing text for Laura Hird

Laura Hird is the award-winning author of the collections, *Nail and Other Stories*(Canongate, 1997) and *Hope and Other Urban Tales* (Canongate, 2006) and novel,*Born Free* (Canongate 2007) which was nominated for the Whitbread and Orange Prizes. Her short stories have been published in numerous magazines and anthologies internationally and her work translated into a number of European languages. A book based around her mother's letters, *Dear Laura* was published by Canongate in March 2007. A regular tutor for the Arvon Foundation and the Scottish Book Trust , she also teaches creative writing in secondary schools and colleges throughout the UK.