1. The story is set very firmly in Victorian times, with clear descriptions of daily life at that time. How does the historical setting add to the horror? Would a ‘modern’ version of The Woman in Black be as frightening?

People in Victorian times were mainly illiterate and had little education, therefore they had a few knowledges of ghosts and paranormal concepts. The people were reported to have a strong belief that the “El Marsh” mansion is haunted by ghosts. Beside, the film's setting, which included darkness, villager’s fear in their eyes, a terrible transit system, and no electricity, made it even more horrific Today's society and people are more educated than in the film's Victorian times, and the majority of them do not believe in evil or ghosts. In addition, the communication, transportation and electricity facilities are far better now. In my sense, if this story were filmed in this age rather than Victorian times, it would not be so terrific. So, I do not think the modern version of The Women in Black Would be so frightening as it is.

1. Why do you think the narrator of the ghost story is someone who does not believe in ghosts? Does this affect how we respond to the story?

Because all of the stories were based on other people's experiences rather than his own, I assume the narrator of the ghost storey is someone who does not believe in ghosts because the writer claims to have never experienced any paranormal activity. He was also trying to find out the presence of spirits or ghosts by reading books since he was a child. However, because we do not engage in these types of activities, this has no effect on our response to horror stories. Consequently, it would be the same feeling.

1. The author has chosen a woman as the central ghost figure – how is the concept of gender handled in the novel?

In the novel, the concept of gender handled as the central ghost was very interesting to me as her intention was not to make the children scary. The ghost behaved in a maternal way and treated the children as a grandmother. This was an unexpected twist in a ghost story for me.