

## Book Review



Most people (if they are really honest) love a good gossip but like everything else in life some people are better at it than others. If you want to improve your gossiping skills then I recommend that you read 'How to Gossip'. This book contains expert advice on ethical gossiping and is published by the British Association of Gossipmongers with a foreword by the President, Nicole Blabbermouth. The British Association of Gossipmongers was founded in 2005 with a mission to:

- Enhance the status of gossip, moving its image from seedy and shameful to positive and proud.
- Create a growing body of expert gossipmongers who can elicit and transmit sensitive and salacious information with passion and panache.
- Uphold the standing of the UK as a nation of gossip-swappers in an international context, representing the UK's interests in the policy formulation bodies of the European Gossip Federation.

After defining gossiping as 'Talking about your own or other people's private lives', the book goes on to determine your gossiping type. There are four types of gossipier:

- Egotists – who talk too much about themselves to be a really expert gossipier
- Moralists – who see themselves as 'counsellors' rather than gossipiers
- Specialists – expert gossipiers
- Dramatists – who love to tell a tale but who are not always too careful about the facts

I am proud to say that I am a Specialist but this doesn't mean that I don't still have a lot to learn about ethical gossip mongering. What do you do if someone overhears you gossiping about them? How do you gossip safely over email?

For £5.99 this book is definitely worth looking at. I bought mine straight from the horse's mouth i.e. Nicole Blabbermouth herself but the book is published by [www.troubador.co.uk/matador](http://www.troubador.co.uk/matador). There's also a British Association of Gossipmongers website – [www.gossipmongers.org.uk](http://www.gossipmongers.org.uk)

Here's to ethical gossip mongering!

**Christeen George**