

Dust off that novel and get it published for £700

IT IS a fantasy cherished by all budding authors — becoming a published novelist with a book on display in the high street. The literary dream rarely comes true. About 98 per cent of manuscripts submitted to publishers are returned. Now there is fresh hope: for £700 you can see your book printed, published — and on sale in the flagship Oxford Street branch of Waterstone's.

Its buying manager Scott Pack, insists: "Some of the most exciting books we see are from independent publishers or self-published authors.

"When Chas Griffin sent me his book *Scenes From A Small Holding* last year, which he had financed and printed himself, I was hooked from the first page and was able to put him in touch with an agent." Mr Griffin's work is released by the publishers Ebury next month.

BY LUKE LEITCH Arts Reporter

There are two different self-publishing deals on offer. The first costs £700 and will see partner company AuthorHouse print about 10 copies of each novel, around three of which will go on sale at Waterstone's for at least eight weeks.

For £1,750 you get an extra 15 copies of the book delivered within 45 days. The company will register for copyright protection in Britain and the US, and send press releases to 100 book reviewers.

At the end of the eight-week guaranteed on-sale period, it is up to Waterstone's whether to order more copies.

Waterstone's would not say just how much of the cover price will be given to the author if one of the books ever becomes a runaway best-seller.