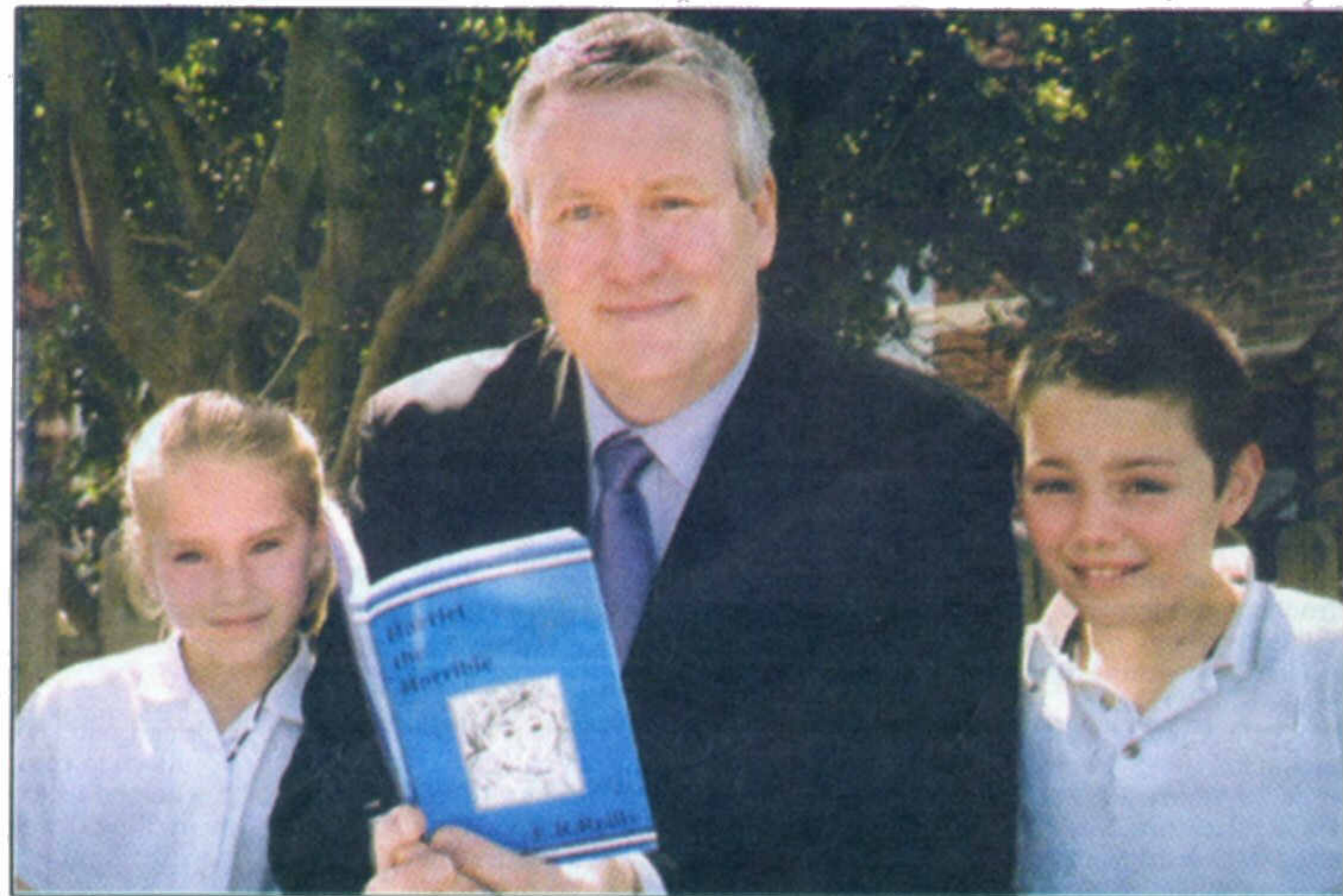


Author puts children on the “write” lines!



Eamonn Reilly reads to Milton Park Junior pupils Darrell Manchip (Year 6) and Brodie Ross (Y4)

CHILDREN encouraged him to be a writer – and now he is encouraging them to be readers.

Midlands based author Eamonn Reilly visited several city schools during a tour to promote his books and love affair with reading.

His visit had young minds buzzing at Milton Park Junior. Eamonn read extracts from *Harriet the Horrible* and teased children with the plot of *One, Boy, One Dream, One Club*, the story of a moral dilemma facing a boy who wanted to become a professional footballer.

He told how it was the interest of children hearing his stories who moved him to write.

Eamonn said: “There is one thing that sets books apart from other art forms. When you read a book, you are being creative. The pictures you see in your mind belong to you. It is not just about recognising a word.”

His favourite children’s book was Roald Dahl’s *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

English manager Jackie Price said: “Eamonn’s visit was part of our plans to promote reading and writing development in the school – particularly for reluctant readers.

“We wanted to provide a strong role model, especially for boys. Eamonn certainly went down a storm with the children.”