

## **Question and Answer with Rachel Amphlett, author of *The Lost Boy***

### **1. What can you tell us about *The Lost Boy*?**

When a young teenager is stabbed to death at a busy fairground, Detective Mark Turpin is assigned the task of finding the boy's killer.

But this was no random murder.

Mark knows the victim – and the man who ordered his death.

As he sifts through the young victim's final days, he uncovers a powerful crime syndicate that will do anything to protect its interests.

Then tragedy strikes, and suddenly Mark isn't just trying to solve a murder – he's fighting for his own survival.

### **2. Was there anything new you discovered, or that surprised you, as you wrote this book?**

I'm always learning while I'm writing because of the attention to detail I try to convey (without boring my readers of course!). *The Lost Boy* meant doing a lot of research into county lines operations and organised crime here in the UK and was a real eye-opener.

### **3. Without spoilers, are there any genre conventions you wanted to upend or challenge with this book?**

I'm tired of reading about detectives with broken home lives so both the Mark Turpin series and my other detective series featuring Kay Hunter feature main characters with a balanced home/work life – it allows me to pepper the stories with a little lightness between the dark scenes my detectives face.