

# Teacher moves into realms of fantasy

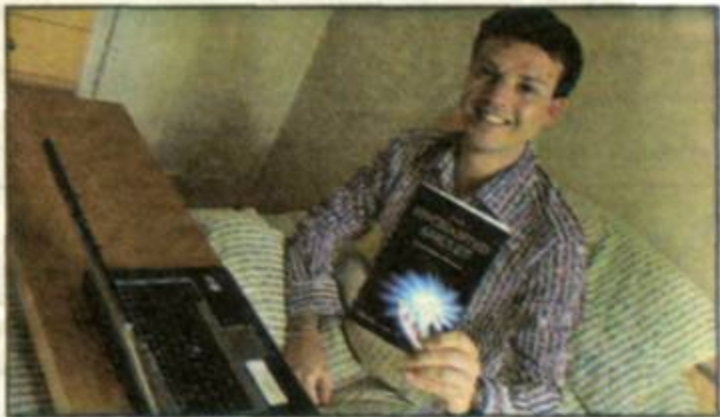
A TEACHER is hoping to gain top marks from young readers with his latest literary offering.

Riddlesdown High School teacher Christian Ainley spent two years writing a fantasy adventure, *The Enchanted Amulet: the Chronicles of Peralucia*, in the spare bedroom of his home in Fawcett Road, Croydon.

The 35-year-old who has taught science, psychology and critical thinking at Riddlesdown High in Honister Heights, Purley, for five years, previously had academic books published on psychology and metaphysics, but hopes his new writing style will prove a big hit with young readers.

The story is about a small boy who struggles to cope with his home and school life.

"His grandfather gives him a magic amulet,



**TEACHER TURNED AUTHOR:** Christian Ainley

*Photo No: CCRbt140709c*

which transports him to another world. At first he thinks it's a fantastic escape, but soon discovers evil lurking in dark places," Mr Ainley said.

He added: "I wrote the book to encourage children to read. My job satisfaction from being a teacher comes from passing on key skills to young people and the ability to read well, in

my opinion, is one of the most important skills a child can acquire."

The second part of the *Chronicles of Peralucia* series is due for release later this year, with a possible third instalment to be released in 2010.

*The Enchanted Amulet* is available now online or can be ordered at Waterstone's and Borders stores.