HATTAGIRL, HATTIE

HATTORI HACHI, THE REVENGE OF THE PRAYING MANTIS

by Jane Prowse

(£6.99, Piccadilly Press)

The Rovengo of

IMAGINATIONS run wild in this children's thriller — an action-packed adventure that is like a cross between Sherlock Holmes and Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.

When 15-year-old Hattie Jackson's mum mysteri-

ously goes missing, the youngster discovers she is the last in line to a mystical Ninjutsu legacy spanning almost a thousand years.

Together with her friend Mad Dog, Hattie has the most exciting summer holiday ever — searching for her mum and discovering some pretty interesting things about herself along the way.

She swaps post-GCSE parties for battling evil ninja thugs led by a deadly Praying Mantis. A rip-roaring read for kids this summer holidays, with great potential for several sequels.

Reviews by DOUGLAS WIGHT, PAUL McNAMARA and CAROLINE McGUIRE