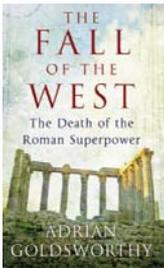


A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

# ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

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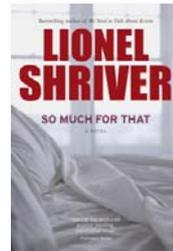


**The Fall of the West**

**The Death of the Roman Superpower**

Adrian GOLDSWORTHY 560pp Tp \$32.99

The fall of the Roman Empire has been a bestselling subject since the 18th century. Hundreds of diverse reasons have been advocated for the collapse of the Western half of the Roman Empire. Until very recently, the academic view downplayed the violence and destruction; barbarian invasions were euphemised as “the movement of peoples”. It was all painfully tame and civilised. In telling the story from start to finish, Goldsworthy rescues the era from the diffident and mealy-mouthed - this is a red-blooded account of aggressive barbarian attacks, palace coups, scheming courtiers and corrupt emperors who set the bar for excess. It is ‘old fashioned history’ in the best sense - an accessible narrative with colourful characters whose story reveals the true reasons for the fall of Rome. *Due Apr*



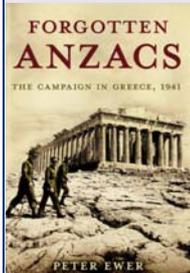
**So Much for That**

Lionel SHRIVER 448pp Tp \$32.99

The author of **We Need to Talk About Kevin** (Pb \$23.95) returns to controversy with her new novel about the worth of life and life's dreams. In America, Shepherd Knacker has saved all his life to escape to a romanticised overseas idyll - the “Afterlife” - with his family. Now that the time has come - and he's determined to go, despite a distance growing in his relationship with Glynis, his wife - he buys the tickets and picks the time to announce their departure. Glynis, however, has her own very bad news from her doctor. And so begins the whittling away of their savings, their freedom and their dignity as her treatment refocuses all the family's energy. Despite what might seem like down notes in this brief summary, this is a powerful and moving story with great energy. Shriver writes with humanity and even humour to make this a truly absorbing novel about the timely issue of the price of health and, in the end, of life. *Adrian*

**ANZAC DAY - 95TH ANNIVERSARY**

This month we have a swag of well-written Anzac histories. Grab this special while stocks last. More titles page 7.

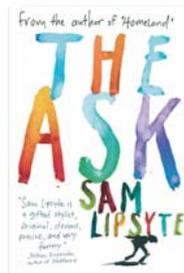


**Forgotten Anzacs**

**The Campaign in Greece, 1941**

Peter EWER 432pp Hb \$59.95 \$25.00

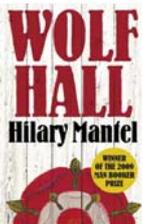
The largely unknown story of another Anzac force which fought not at Gallipoli, but in Greece a generation later during WWII. Desperately outnumbered and fighting in deeply inhospitable conditions, these Anzacs endured a long retreat through Greece, under frequent air attack. Most of the Anzac Corps were evacuated by April 1941, but many only got as far as Crete. Fighting a German paratroop invasion, large numbers were taken captive and spent four long years as prisoners of the Nazis. The campaign in Greece turned out to have uncanny parallels to the original Gallipoli operation: inspired by Winston Churchill, badly planned by the British and ending in defeat and evacuation.



**The Ask**

Sam LIPSYTE 304pp Tp \$29.99

Milo Burke has just lost his job at a New York University after having a verbal spat with a rich undergraduate. Unfortunately for him, this is the most positive thing that occurs to him throughout this book. Taking shots at corporate America and just about everything else the author can think of, this book is an acerbic rollercoaster ride with so much to say about the present day. Sharp pacey dialogue with characters that are all severely morally stained and traumatised by their failings, this novel is one to get very excited about. Comparisons could be made to Eggers, Foster Wallace and Jeffrey Eugenides to name but a few. *Due Apr Greg*



**Wolf Hall**

Hilary MANTEL 652pp Pb \$24.99

Go backstage during the most dramatic period in English history: the reign of Henry VIII. Now in a smaller, more affordable paperback, the 2009 *Man Booker Prize*-winner is a riveting read.

*out now  
smaller Pb*

**EASTER & ANZAC DAY HOURS**

2 Apr	Good Friday	Closed
3 Apr	Saturday	8.30am - 6pm
4 Apr	Sunday	10am - 5pm
5 Apr	Monday	10am - 5pm
26 Apr	Anzac Day Public Holiday (Mon)	10am - 5pm

**50% OFF**

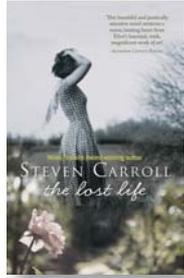
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# FICTION



## The Lost Life

Steven CARROLL 256pp Pb \$24.99

England, September 1934. Two young lovers, Catherine and Daniel, have trespassed into the rose garden of Burnt Norton, an abandoned house in the English countryside. Hearing the sound of footsteps, they hide, and then witness the poet T S (Tom) Eliot and his close friend Emily enter the garden and bury a mysterious tin in the earth. Tom and Emily knew each other in America in their youth; now in their 40s, they have come together again. But Tom is married and his wife

has no intention of letting him go. In the enclosed world of an English village one autumn, their story becomes entwined with that of Catherine and Daniel, who are certain in their newfound love and full of possibility. "This beautiful and poetically attentive novel retrieves a warm, beating heart from Eliot's haunted, stark, magnificent work of art." - *Australian Literary Review*.

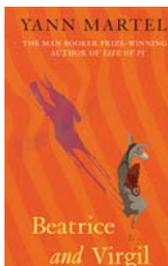


## Dawn of the Dreadfuls Pride and Prejudice and Zombies

Steve HOCKENSMITH 320pp Pb \$24.95

At the opening of the international bestseller **Pride and Prejudice and Zombies** (Pb \$24.95), Elizabeth Bennet is already a seasoned warrior - trained in the martial arts, sceptical of romance and determined to wipe out the deadly dreadfuls. But how did Elizabeth get that way? And where did all of the zombies come from? This swashbuckling prequel is set three years before these

horrific events. As our story opens, the Bennet sisters are enjoying a peaceful life in the English countryside. They idle away the days reading, gardening, practicing instruments and daydreaming about future husbands - until a funeral at the local parish goes strangely and horribly awry. Suddenly corpses are springing from the soft earth - and only one family can stop them. As the bodies pile up, we watch Elizabeth evolve from a naive young teenager into a savage slayer of the undead. We laugh as she begins her first clumsy training with nunchucks and katana swords, and cry when her first blush with romance goes tragically awry. Through it all, of course, we are treated to scene after scene of absurd zombie carnage.

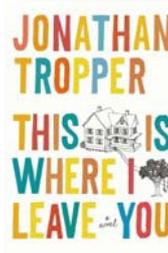


## Beatrice and Virgil

Yann MARTEL 224pp Hb \$32.95

Destiny can take many shapes. For Henry, a writer struggling to finish a book about the Holocaust, it arrives in the form of a puzzling envelope from a stranger. The envelope takes him into a taxidermist's workshop. Filled with lovingly preserved animals from all corners of the globe, this place is unlike anywhere he has ever been. Among the hundreds of stuffed animals are Beatrice and Virgil: a monkey and a donkey, they are also the characters in a play the taxidermist is writing. When the taxidermist

asks Henry for help with the play, he is drawn in. But what is the play actually about? What have the animals suffered at the hands of the author? Who is he? And what does he really want from Henry? With the imaginative reach and spirit that helped *Booker Prize*-winning **Life of Pi** (Pb \$24.95) delight millions of readers around the world, Martel asks profound questions about violence, kindness and the power of stories to change us. *Due Apr*



## This is Where I Leave You

Jonathan TROPPER 352pp Tp \$32.99

Judd Foxman returns home early to find his wife in bed with his boss - in the act. He now faces the twin threats of both divorce and unemployment. His misery is compounded further with the sudden death of his father. He is then asked to come and 'sit Shiva' for his newly deceased parent with his angry, screwed up and somewhat estranged brothers and sisters in his childhood home. It is there he must confront who he really is and - more

importantly - who he can become. This is the fabulous follow-up to **How to Talk to a Widower** (Pb \$22.99) and Tropper at his best. "It's amazing what can happen in the hands of the casually brilliant author. Tropper steadily ratchets up the multigenerational mayhem, often involving unwieldy lust or vociferous inter-sibling squabbling, with the calm authority of someone who knows his characters from deep within his kishkes - that's Yiddish for "guts"... I urge with all my heart and kishkes: Read this one!" - *US Entertainment Weekly*

- *US Entertainment Weekly*

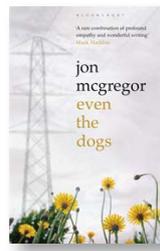


## Alice I Have Been

Melanie BENJAMIN 352pp Tp \$32.99

Have you ever wondered what happened to the little girl who inspired **Alice in Wonderland** (Pb \$14.95)? Yes, there was a real Alice who lived until she was 81 and had three children. In this fictionalised memoir, she at last tells her own extraordinary tale of life beyond the looking glass. As bold and imaginative as

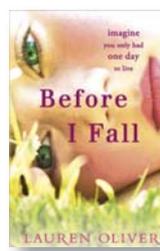
her storybook character, she shares the secrets of a blessed childhood in Oxford, where, as the precocious daughter of the Dean, she is pampered by everyone, including shy, stuttering academic, Charles Dodgson, also known as Lewis Carroll. But in one fateful moment, when she begs her grown-up friend to write down one of his wild and fanciful stories of talking rabbits, mad hatters and a fearless little girl, her life is changed forever. From the unconventional young woman who catches the eyes of a prince, wife and mother of three soldiers to grieving widow, she is, ever and always, thought of as "that Alice". Looking back at the childhood mystery that took a lifetime to solve, Alice at last discovers - and embraces - the woman she became when she outgrew Wonderland.



## Even the Dogs

Jon MCGREGOR 208pp Hb \$29.99

They break down the door at the end of December and carry his body away. On a still and frozen day between Christmas and New Year, a man's body is found lying in his ruined flat. Found, and then taken away, examined, investigated and cremated. As the state begins its detailed, dispassionate inquest, the man embarks on his last journey through a world he has not ventured into, alive, for years. In his wake, a series of fractured narratives emerge from squats and alleys across the city: the short and stark story of the man and of his friends who look on from the shadows, keeping vigil as the hours pass, paying their own particular homage. As they watch, their stories unfurl layer by layer; stories of lives fallen through the cracks, hopes flaring and dying, love overwhelmed by a stronger need and the havoc wrought by drugs, distress and the disregard of the wider world.

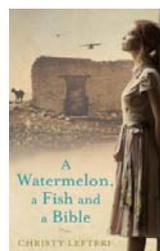


## Before I Fall

Lauren OLIVER 448pp Tp \$29.99

Sam Kingston is dead. Except she isn't. On a rainy February night, Sam is killed in a horrific car crash. But instead of seeing a tunnel of light, she wakes up in her own bed, on the morning of the same day. Forced to live through the same events - the drive to school, skipping class, the fateful party - she struggles to alter the

outcome, but wakes up again on the day of the crash. What follows is the story of a girl who comes of age in a matter of days, who discovers, through heartbreaking insights, the consequences of her every action. Of a girl who dies young, but in the process learns how to live. And who falls in love...a little too late. *Due Apr*



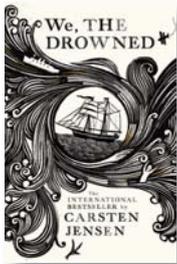
## A Watermelon, a Fish and a Bible

Christy LEFERTI 304pp Tp \$32.95

It is July 1974 and on a bright, sunny morning, the Turkish army has invaded the village of Kyrenia in Cyprus. For many people, this means an end to life as they know it. But for some, it is a chance to begin living again. Koki, a young villager, feared and hated by her neighbours for

her startling red hair, has spent her life in shadow. But held captive in the house to which the women of Kyrenia have been brought, she can at last speak to them as an equal. She can tell them her story of a summer long ago. The young Turkish shoe-maker who came to the village and took her heart away when he left. And how she has longed for him all these years and never known why he left or what took him away. *Due Apr*

## FICTION

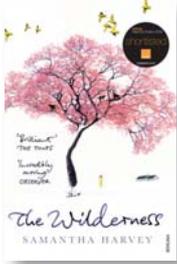


### **We, the Drowned**

Carsten JENSEN 704pp Tp \$34.95

In 1848 a motley crew of Danish sailors sets sail from the small island town of Marstal to fight the Germans. Not all of them return – and those who do will never be the same again. Among them is the daredevil Laurids Madsen, who promptly escapes again into the anonymity of the high seas. As soon as he is old enough, his son Albert sets off in search of his missing father on a voyage that will take him to the furthest reaches of the globe and into the clutches of the most nefarious company.

Bearing a mysterious shrunken head and plagued by premonitions of bloodshed, he returns to a town increasingly run by women – among them a widow intent on liberating all men from the tyranny of the sea. Jensen conjures a wise, humorous story of fathers and sons, of the women they love and leave behind, and of the sea's murderous promise. *Due Apr*

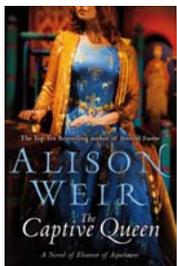


### **The Wilderness**

Samantha HARVEY 336pp Pb \$24.95

It's Jake's birthday. He is sitting in a small plane, being flown over the landscape that has been the backdrop to his life. Now he is in his early 60s and he isn't quite the man he used to be. He has lost his wife, his son is in prison and he is about to lose his past. He has Alzheimer's. As the disease takes hold of him, he struggles to hold on to his personal story, his memories and identity, which become increasingly elusive and

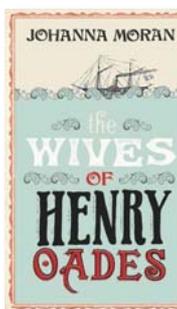
unreliable. What happened to his daughter? Is she alive, or long dead? And why exactly is his son in prison? What went so wrong in his life? There was a cherry tree once, and a yellow dress, but what exactly do they mean? As Jake, assisted by 'poor Eleanor', a childhood friend with whom for some unfathomable reason he seems to be sleeping, fights the inevitable dying of the light, the key events of his life keep changing as he tries to grasp them, and what until recently seemed solid fact is melting into surreal dreams or nightmarish imaginings. Is there anything he'll be able to salvage from the wreckage? This extraordinary first novel is the winner of the *Betty Trask Award* 2009 and was shortlisted for the *Guardian First Book Award* and the *Orange Prize for Fiction*. *Due Apr*



### **The Captive Queen**

Alison WEIR 512pp Tp \$32.95

It is the year 1152 and a beautiful woman of 30, attended by only a small armed escort, is riding like the wind southwards through what is now France, leaving behind her crown, her two young daughters and a shattered marriage to Louis of France, who had been more like a monk than a king and certainly not much of a lover. This woman is Eleanor, Duchess of Aquitaine, and her sole purpose now is to return to her vast duchy and marry the man she loves, Henry Plantagenet, a man destined for greatness as King of England. Theirs is a union founded on lust which will create a great empire stretching from the wilds of Scotland to the Pyrenees. It will also create the devil's brood of Plantagenets, including Richard Cœur de Lion, King John and the most notoriously vicious marriage in history. *Due Apr*



### **The Wives of Henry Oades**

Johanna MORAN 320pp Pb \$27.99

In 1890, Henry Oades decided to undertake the arduous sea voyage from England to New Zealand in order to further his family's fortunes. Here they settled on the lush but wild coast, although it wasn't long before disaster struck in the most unexpected of ways. A local Maori tribe, incensed at their treatment at the hands of the settlers, kidnapped Mrs Oades and her four children and vanished into the rugged hills surrounding the town. Henry searched ceaselessly for his family, but two grief-stricken years later was

forced to conclude that they must be dead. In despair, he shipped out to San Francisco to start over, eventually falling in love with and marrying a young widow. In the meantime, Margaret Oades and her children were leading a miserable existence, enslaved to the local tribe. When they contracted smallpox they were cast out, and, ill and footsore, made their way back to town, five years after they were presumed dead. Discovering that Henry was now half a world away, they were determined to rejoin him.

## CHILDREN'S

REVIEWED BY LINDY JONES



### **The Heart and the Bottle**

Oliver JEFFERS 32pp Hb \$24.99

"Once there was a girl, much like any other," starts this gentle book by the talented and award-winning Jeffers. She was full of curiosity about the world, but one day she discovered she had no-one to share her wonder with, and the world became smaller for her. To keep her heart

safe, she places it in a bottle; but one day she understands that she needs to take it out again, and someone smaller and still open to the world shows her how. A truly lovely book about grief, and grieving, and the possibility and renewal of hope.

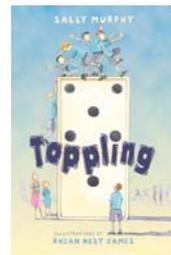


### **Jameela**

Rukhsana KHAN 186pp Pb \$15.99

Set in Afghanistan shortly after the American invasion of 2001, this poignant novel is based on true incidents. Jameela's mother dies and her father remarries a woman in Kabul who takes an instant dislike to her rustic stepdaughter. One day her father takes her to the marketplace and abandons her to her

fate... Jameela is a brave and pious Muslim, and she eventually finds a happier life with people who appreciate her qualities. Simply told, but powerful for all that. Ages 10-13

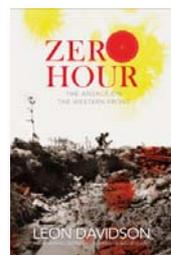


### **Toppling**

Sally MURPHY 128pp Pb \$15.95

Murphy won the *Indie Award for Children's Books* last year with her charming verse-novel *Pearl Verses the World* (Pb \$15.95) and this new verse-novel has all the hallmarks of another award winner. John's best friend Dom becomes very sick, and even 11-year-old

John's favourite pastime of domino-toppling fails to distract him from the awful fact Dom might die. But with the help of his group of friends, and even the class bully, John manages to show support for his friend in the most meaningful of ways. A touching and charming tale of friendship. Ages 9-12



### **Zero Hour**

**The Anzacs on the Western Front**

Leon DAVIDSON 231pp Pb \$19.95

Whilst Gallipoli holds such a large place in our national mythos, the battles of the Western Front, which lasted three years (to Gallipoli's seven months) are vitally important in understanding the role of Australia and New Zealand in WWI. 'Zero hour' was the name given to the

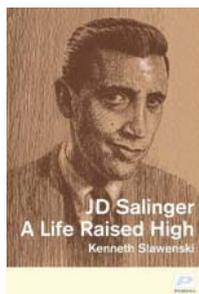
moment of each attack, and this finely written non-fiction account of the Western Front gives a sense of what it was like for the soldiers involved. An excellent book by an award-winning writer, this brings the history of the times alive - very readable, accurate and absorbing. Ages 12+

### **Angel of Kokoda**

Mark WILSON

32pp Hb \$24.99

Kari is a young lad taught in the traditional ways of his people, but schooled by the nuns of a mission close to Kokoda. When he returns one day from his vegetable plot to find the nuns gone and their belongings scattered, he makes his way to Kokoda, where he meets up with Australian troops and finds himself in the thick of battle. When a young soldier is injured and left behind, Kari tries his best to get the man to safety. Illustrated in bright strokes of vivid colour, this is a tribute to the spirit of the PNG villagers who helped the Australians in WWII.

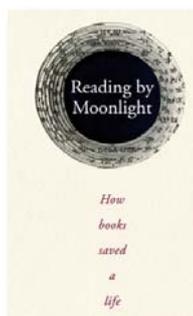


**JD Salinger**  
**A Life Raised High**  
 Kenneth SLAWENSKI  
 480pp Hb \$45.00

Since J D Salinger passed away in January, aged 91, there may be a rush to publish 'authoritative' biographies, but this is an exception. Slawenski, a world-renowned expert on Salinger, has been working on this book for many years. "For the past seven years,

I have devoted myself to researching and respectfully crafting a comprehensive biography of author J D Salinger and a tribute to his writings... After so many years of labour, I had imagined this would be a joyful moment. But it is instead coupled with sadness, a deep feeling of loss for the man I have come to honour and understand - in a way, my constant companion." Painstakingly researched, with over 400 citations and interviews, this is a far richer story than has yet been told. It delivers genuine appreciation of Salinger's works and recognition that his own story is inseparable from the characters and worlds he created.

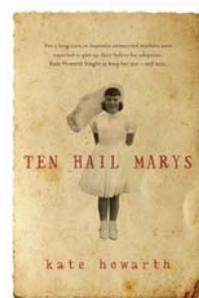
*Due Apr*



**Reading by Moonlight**  
**How Books Saved a Life**  
 Brenda WALKER  
 244pp Hb \$29.95

The first time Brenda Walker packed her bag to go into hospital, she wondered which book to take with her. As a novelist and professor of literature, her life had been built around reading and writing. Now she was also a patient, being treated for breast cancer, fighting for her life and

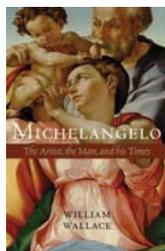
afraid for herself and her family. But turning to medicine didn't mean she turned away from fiction. Books had always been her solace and sustenance, and now choosing the right one was the most important thing she could do for herself. She describes the five stages of her treatment and how different books and authors helped her through the tumultuous process of recovery. As well as offering wonderful introductions and insights into the work of writers like Dante, Tolstoy, Nabokov, Beckett and Dickens, she shows how the very process of reading - surrendering and then regathering yourself - echoes the process of healing.



**Ten Hail Marys**  
**A Memoir**  
 Kate HOWARTH  
 320pp Tp \$34.95

This extraordinary story of courage and survival in the tradition of **Angela's Ashes** (Pb \$24.95) follows the first 17 years of Kate's life in Sydney and country New South Wales. Raised by various Indigenous relatives, she is abandoned by her mother and then her grandmother,

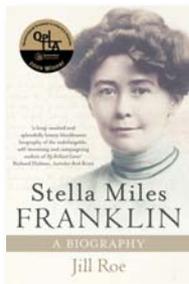
and through it all manages to believe that she will have a better life. In the mid-1960s, at the age of 15, she becomes pregnant and is sent to St Margaret's Home for unwed mothers in Sydney, where she resists intense pressure to give up her baby for adoption. She becomes one of the few women to ever leave the Home with her baby. While at times shocking in her frankness, she is never self-pitying or bitter. Her natural gift for storytelling, her cast of larger-than-life characters, including Mamma (her grandmother), whose presence looms large from the outset, her vivid sense of place and dark understated humour make compelling reading.



**Michelangelo**  
**The Artist, the Man and his Times**  
 William WALLACE  
 428pp Hb \$50.00

Wallace offers a substantially new view of one of the greatest artists of all time. Not only a supremely gifted sculptor, painter, architect and poet, Michelangelo was also an aristocrat who firmly believed in the ancient and noble origins of his family. The belief in his patrician status fuelled his lifelong ambition to improve his family's financial situation and to raise the social standing of artists.

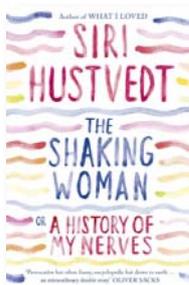
Michelangelo's ambitions are evident in his writing, dress and comportment, as well as in his ability to befriend, influence and occasionally say 'no' to popes, kings and princes. Written from the words of Michelangelo and his contemporaries, this biography not only tells his own stories, but also brings to life the culture and society of Renaissance Florence and Rome.



**Stella Miles Franklin**  
**A Biography**  
 Jill ROE  
 720pp Tp \$35.00

Stella Miles Franklin was born in the Australian bush. At the age of 21, she became an international publishing sensation with **My Brilliant Career** (Pb \$19.95), which more than a century later is still regarded as an Australian classic. Early success gave her access to literary and socialist circles in Sydney and Melbourne. There she met Banjo Paterson, the Goldstein sisters and Joseph Furphy. In 1906, she went to work for the

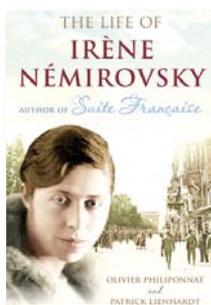
women's labour movement in Chicago. In 1915, she relocated to London and quickly found herself travelling to the Balkans to help nurse wounded Allied soldiers. Returning to London, she campaigned for various feminist and progressive causes, while continuing to write, and often submitting work under pseudonyms that she guarded fiercely all her life. In the 1930s, she returned to Australia, taking up the cause of Australian writers. Novelist, journalist, nationalist, feminist and larrikin - she was all these and more. And her endowment of the *Miles Franklin Literary Award* founded an Australian cultural institution that remains our most prestigious prize for literature.



**The Shaking Woman**  
**Or a History of My Nerves**  
 Siri HUSTVEDT  
 224pp Tp \$35.00

While speaking at a memorial event for her father, Siri Hustvedt suffered a violent seizure from the neck down. She managed to finish her talk and the paroxysms stopped, but not for good. Again and again she found herself a victim of the shudders. What had happened? Chronicling her search for the shaking woman, she unearths stories and theories from the annals of medical history, literature and philosophy, and delves into her own past. In the process, she raises fundamental questions: what is the relationship between mind and body? How do we remember? What is the self? In a seamless synthesis of personal experience and extensive research, she conveys the often frightening mysteries of illness and the complexities of diagnosis. This brilliantly illuminates the age-old dilemma of the mental and the physical, and what it means to be human.

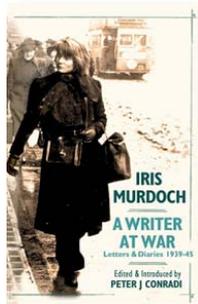
*Due Apr*



**The Life of Irène Némirovsky**  
 Olivier PHILIPPONNAT  
 & Patrick LIENHARDT  
 480pp Tp \$35.00

Némirovsky's own life was as dramatic as any fiction. Dead at 39, author of 16 novels, a biography of Chekhov and many stories, few writers enjoy a posthumous resurgence as astonishing as hers after the international triumph of **Suite Française** (Pb \$24.95). She was born in 1903 in Kiev to a well-off Jewish family. They fled from the Russian Revolution - to Finland, Sweden and finally France in 1919. They settled in Paris, and in 1926 she married another

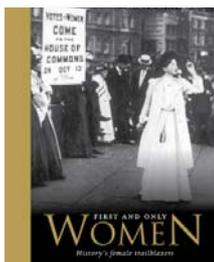
Jewish émigré, Michel Epstein. With the publication of **David Golder** (Pb \$24.95) in 1929 - delivered to a publisher just before the birth of her first daughter - she swiftly became an acclaimed and successful writer. By 1937, with the birth of a second daughter, life was less easy, but the coming of WWII put paid to everything. When France fell to the Nazis, the family took refuge in a small Burgundy village, where she finished **All Our Worldly Goods** and **Fire in the Blood** (both Pb \$24.95), and began **Suite Française**. In July 1942, she was arrested by the French police and deported to Auschwitz, where she died the following month. Meticulously researched and passionately felt, this is a moving portrait of an exceptional writer and 20th century woman, and of her dramatic times. *Due Apr*



## A Writer at War Letters and Diaries of Iris Murdoch 1939-45

Iris MURDOCH Edited by  
Peter CONRADI 256pp Hb \$39.99

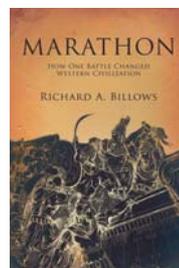
These previously unpublished writings comprise a diary which Murdoch kept in her last summer at Oxford, just before the outbreak of WWII, as well as her wartime correspondence with the poet Frank Thomson and diplomat David Hicks. They reveal the young writer at her sprightly, original best - as gripped by her own affairs, and those of her friends and peers, as by the great affairs of the world; exuberant when in love, and yet remarkably philosophical even when love goes painfully wrong. This is a treasury of one of the great women writers and thinkers of the 20th century, a fascinating private memoir which sheds new light on a brilliant mind in development, but also a remarkable historical document of life behind the scenes during the war. *Due Apr*



## First and Only Women History's Female Trailblazers

Lynn SANTA LUCIA 304pp Tp \$45.00

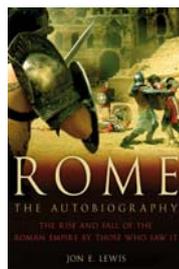
This is a fascinating account of some of history's most inspiring women. Among the female firsts is Pharaoh Hatshepsut, a woman who ruled as king, not as queen; Christine de Pisan, Europe's first professional female writer; and Valentina Tereshkova, Russian astronaut and in 1963 the first woman in space. Adventurers and athletes, politicians and scientists, artists and educators, revolutionaries and criminals - this book celebrates some extraordinary women who have singularly and collectively cleared a path for others to follow. *Due Apr*



## Marathon How One Battle Changed Western Civilization

Richard BILLOWS 304pp Hb \$53.00

The Battle of Marathon in 490 BC is not only understood as the most decisive event in the struggle between the Greeks and the Persians, but can also be seen as perhaps the most significant moment in our collective history. 10,000 Athenian citizens faced a Persian military force of more than 25,000. Greek victory appeared impossible, but the men of Athens were tenacious and the Persians were defeated. Following the battle, the Athenian hoplite army ran 26.5 miles from Marathon to Athens to defend their port from the Persian navy. Although they had just run the great distance in heavy armour, the Athenians won the battle and drove the Persian forces from Attica. Greek freedom ensued, and the achievements of the culture became much of the basis for Western civilisation. Billows captures the drama of that day 2,500 years ago and the ramifications it has had throughout Western history. *Due Apr*

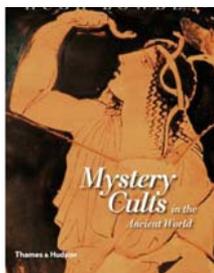


## Rome The Autobiography

Jon LEWIS 544pp Pb \$26.99

The history of Ancient Rome has been passed down to us through official accounts, personal letters, annotated words of great orators and the considered histories of powerful men. It is found on inscriptions, in private memoirs and official reports from every corner of the Empire. Over 150 pieces are collected here, from the written accounts of Caesars and slaves, generals and poets. Amongst these fascinating pieces are: *How to Keep a Slave* by Cato the Elder; *The Life of a Roman Gentleman* by Pliny the Younger; *Gang Warfare in Rome* by Cicero; *A Chariot Fight* by Julius Caesar; *Female Athletes and Gladiators* by Juvenal; *The Eruption of Vesuvius* by Pliny the Younger; *Nero Murders Britannicus* by Tacitus; *On Going to Bed with Cleopatra* by Mark Antony; *Homosexuals in Rome* by Juvenal; *The Great Fire of Rome* by Tacitus; *Gladiatorial Shows* by Seneca and *Two Days in the Life of an Emperor's Son* by Marcus Aurelius. *Due Apr*

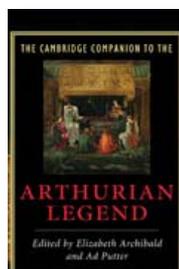
# HISTORY



## Mystery Cults In the Ancient World

Hugh BOWDEN 256pp Hb \$69.95

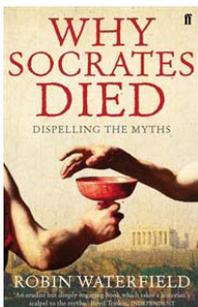
Mystery cults are one of the most intriguing areas of Greek and Roman religion. They were an important part of life in the ancient Mediterranean world, but their actual practices were shrouded in secrecy, and much of what they were about has remained unclear until now. What participants did, and what they actually experienced, should be central to our understanding. This is the first book to describe and explain all the major mystery cults of the ancient world, cult by cult, reconstructing the rituals and exploring their origins. It makes plentiful use of artistic and archaeological evidence, as well as ancient literature and epigraphy. Greek painted pottery, Roman frescoes, inscribed gold tablets from Greek and South Italian tombs and the excavated sites of ancient religious sanctuaries all contribute to our understanding of ancient mystery cults. Making use of the most recent work on these cults, Bowden allows the reader to understand what it was like to participate in these life-transforming religious events.



## The Cambridge Companion to the Arthurian Legend

Elizabeth ARCHIBALD  
& Ad PUTTER (Eds) 288pp Hb \$59.95

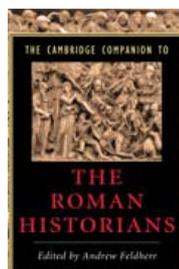
For more than 1,000 years, the adventures of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table have been retold across Europe. They have inspired some of the most important works of European literature, particularly in the medieval period: the romances of Chrétien de Troyes, Wolfram von Eschenbach's Parzival, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and Malory's Le Morte d'Arthur. In the 19th century, interest in the Arthurian legend revived with Tennyson, Wagner and Twain. This Companion outlines the evolution of the legend from the earliest documentary sources to 'Spamalot', and analyses how some of the major motifs of the legend have been passed down in both medieval and modern texts.



## Why Socrates Died Dispelling the Myths

Robin WATERFIELD 304pp Pb \$27.99

Socrates' trial and death together form an iconic moment in Western civilisation. The picture we have of it - created by his immediate followers and perpetuated in countless works of literature and art ever since - is that a noble man was put to death in a fit of folly by the ancient Athenian democracy. But an icon, an image, is not reality. The trial was, in part, a response to troubled times - a catastrophic war and turbulent social changes - and so provides a good lens through which to explore the history of the period. The historical facts allow us to strip away some of the veneer that has for so long denied us glimpses of the real Socrates. Written by a scholar, but not only for scholars, this is an accessible, authoritative account of one of the defining periods of Western civilisation. *Due Apr*

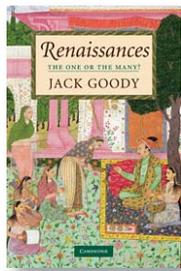


## The Cambridge Companion to the Roman Historians

Edited by Andrew FELDHERR  
484pp Hb \$59.95

No field of Latin literature has been more transformed over the last couple of decades than that of the Roman historians. A rethinking of the relationship between literature and its political contexts has ensured that the works of historians such as Livy, Sallust and Tacitus will be read as texts with the same interest as they are used as sources. Topics central to the entire tradition, such as conceptions of time, characterisation and depictions of politics and the gods, are treated synoptically, while other essays highlight the works of less familiar historians, such as Curtius Rufus and Ammianus Marcellinus. A final section focuses on the rich history of Roman historiography, from the ancient Greek historians of Rome to the 20th century.

# HISTORY



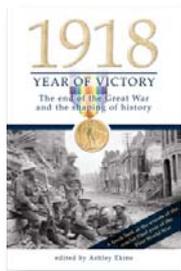
## Renaissances

### The One or the Many?

Jack GOODY 332pp Hb \$51.95

One of the most distinguished social scientists in the world addresses one of the central historical questions of the past millennium: does the European Renaissance deserve its unique status at the very heart of our notions of modernity? Goody scrutinises the European model in relation to parallel renaissances that have

taken place in other cultural areas, primarily Islam and China, emphasising what Europe owed to non-European influences. He continues that strand of historical analysis critical of Eurocentrism that he has developed in recent works like **The East and the West** (Pb \$65.00) and **The Theft of History** (Pb \$46.95) in this wide-ranging, deftly argued history.



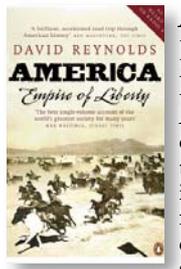
## 1918: Year of Victory

### The End of the Great War and the Shaping of History

Ashley EKINS 312pp Hb \$49.99

The chapters in this book had their origins in an international conference, *1918: Year of Victory*, convened by the Australian War Memorial in Canberra in November 2008 to mark the 90th anniversary of the end of the Great War. WWI scholars from a

number of nations gathered to present their research findings and share their insights into issues surrounding the ending of the Great War, its memory and continuing impact. This highly readable book is a collection of these presentations. *Due Apr*



## America

### Empire of Liberty

David REYNOLDS 720pp Pb \$29.95

Acclaimed as one of the best recent histories of the United States, this is the epic story of the nation that has shaped the world we live in today. Reynolds brings to life presidents from Washington to Obama, but also draws on the voices of settlers and Indians, slaves and immigrants, factory workers and suburban housewives. He vividly portrays the battlefield of Gettysburg, the stockyards of Chicago and the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, and shows the dark side of freedom: from the Indian Trail of Tears to the Red Scare and the War on Terror. Written with verve and insight, this extraordinary history reveals the grandeur and paradoxes of the world's great superpower. "The most outstanding popular history of America written by a non-American." - Richard Aldous, *Irish Times*.



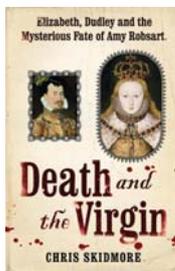
## Goodbye to All That?

### On the Failure of Neo-liberalism and the Urgency of Change

Robert MANNE & David MCKNIGHT (Eds) 272pp Tp \$32.95

This is the first substantial book to explore what the global financial crisis means for Australia. It looks past 'neo-liberalism' and 'economic rationalism' and asks what kind of social democracy we might hope for in the

future. Are the heady days of deregulation and privatisation over? If so, where to from here? This book explains the central tenets of neo-liberalism and discusses their consequences. After the GFC, how might we rethink the challenge of climate change, of care, of quality of life more generally? What is the proper role of the market? What parts of the social fabric need to be mended to create a more sustainable, fairer Australia? Contributions from Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, Robert Manne, Jean Curthoys, John Quiggin, Michael Pusey, Anne Manne, David McKnight, Ian Lowe and Guy Pearse.



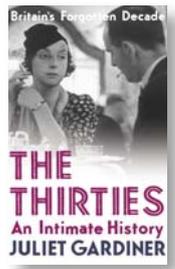
## Death and the Virgin

### Elizabeth, Dudley and the Mysterious Fate of Amy Robsart

Chris SKIDMORE 456pp Hb \$59.99

Elizabeth came to the throne in 1558 a 25-year-old virgin, the most prized catch in Christendom. For the first 10 years of her reign, one matter dominated above all others - the question of who the queen was to marry and when she would produce an heir. Elizabeth's life as England's Virgin Queen is one of the most celebrated

in history. Skidmore takes a fresh look at the familiar story of a queen with the stomach of a man, steadfastly refusing to marry for the sake of her realm. He reveals a very different picture of a vulnerable young woman, in love with her suitor, Robert Dudley. Had it not been for the mysterious and untimely death of his wife, Amy Robsart, Elizabeth might have one day been able to marry Dudley, since Amy was believed to be dying of breast cancer. Instead, the suspicious circumstances surrounding Amy Robsart's death would cast a long shadow over Elizabeth's life, preventing any hope of a union with Dudley and ultimately shaping the course of Tudor history. *Due Apr*



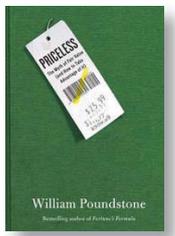
## The Thirties

### An Intimate History

Juliet GARDINER 576pp Hb \$59.99

J B Priestley famously described the "three Englands" he saw in the 1930s; Old England, 19th-century England and the new, post-war England. Britain in the 30s was a world of contrasts - ultimately torn between the image of a nation rendered hopeless by the Depression, unemployment and international tensions - and that of a Britain of complacent suburban home-owners with a

baby Austin in every garage. Gardiner provides a fresh perspective on that restless, uncertain, ambitious decade, bringing the complex experience of 30s Britain alive through newspapers, magazines, memoirs, letters, diaries and interviews. She captures the essence of a people part-mesmerised by modernism in architecture, art, in the proliferation of dream palaces, the insistence on fitness and fresh air, the obsession with speed, the growth and regimentation of leisure, the democratisation of the countryside, the celebration of elegance, glamour and sensation. Yet, at the same time, this was a nation imbued with a pervasive awareness of loss - of Britain's influence in the world, of accepted political, social and cultural signposts and finally, of peace itself. *Due Apr*



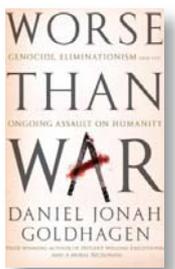
## Priceless

### The Myth of Fair Value (and How to Take Advantage of It)

William POUNDSTONE 352pp Tp \$35.00

Prada stores carry a few obscenely expensive items in order to boost sales for everything else (which look like bargains in comparison). People used to download music for free, then Steve Jobs convinced them to pay.

How? By charging 99 cents. That price has a hypnotic effect: the profit margin of the 99 Cents Only store is twice that of Wal-Mart! Why do text messages cost money, while emails are free? The answer is simple: prices are a collective hallucination. Poundstone reveals the hidden psychology of value. In psychological experiments, people are unable to estimate 'fair' prices accurately and are strongly influenced by the unconscious, irrational and politically incorrect. It hasn't taken long for marketers to apply these findings. 'Price consultants' advise retailers on how to convince consumers to pay more for less and negotiation coaches offer similar advice for businesspeople cutting deals. The new psychology of price dictates the design of price tags, menus, 'sale' ads, cellphone plans, supermarket aisles, real estate offers and corporate buyouts. Prices are the most pervasive hidden persuaders of all.



## Worse Than War

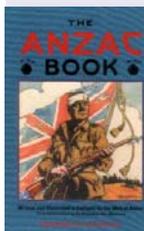
### Genocide, Eliminationism and the Ongoing Assault on Humanity

Daniel GOLDHAGEN 672pp Hb \$60.00

Goldhagen has written an original and important study of genocide that reconceives its very nature. He does so, not by examining a series of genocides, but by exploring the nature of mass killing itself. Through exhaustive research, he lays out the roots and motivations of mass slaughter, exploring such questions as: What

makes people willing to slaughter others? How do cultural beliefs justify genocide among groups of people? Why has the world been so ineffective in reducing the incidence of genocide? He proposes sensible and effective measures to put an end to this scourge of humanity, which is worse than war.

# THE ANZACS - 95 YEARS ON



## The Anzac Book

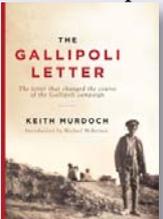
C E W BEAN (Editor)  
240pp Hb \$49.95

Created by soldiers under enemy fire and in extreme hardship, these illustrations, stories, cartoons and poems were intended as a Christmas and New Year diversion

for soldiers facing a harsh winter in the trenches. It was an instant bestseller when first released in 1916. This new third edition includes a reproduction of the original book, a foreword by acclaimed author Les Carlyon, an introduction from Australian War Memorial historian Ashley Ekins and material originally rejected by the editor, official war correspondent Charles Bean. *Due Apr*

## The Gallipoli Letter

The Letter that Changed the Course of the Gallipoli Campaign



Keith MURDOCH  
112pp Hb \$29.99

In September 1915, Keith Murdoch, then a young war journalist, wrote an 8,000-word letter to the Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher. The letter,

protesting against the conduct of the campaign and describing conditions at the front, is both intimate and conversational: "I shall talk to you as if you were by my side." It is also at times angry, passionate, vivid and very moving: "Then in the early hours came the landing, when the life of man is at its lowest." At times, it is simply heartbreaking: "The heroic Fourth Brigade was reduced in three day's fighting to little more than 1,000 strong. You will be glad to know that the men died well." The letter changed the course of the campaign: Hamilton, the general in charge, was sent home, and the Allies were withdrawn in December of the same year. *Due Apr*

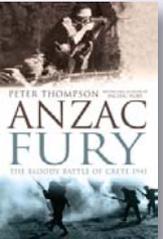
## Anzacs in Arkhangel

The Untold Story of Australia and the Invasion of Russia 1918-1919

Michael CHALLINGER 304pp Tp \$35.00  
In November 1918, as WWI was coming to a close and soldiers were returning home, a small group of Australian men signed up for more fighting. Yet this time, the enemy was Russian Bolsheviks instead of Germans, and the frontline was the wild and frozen wastelands of far north Russia. Challenger tells the story of how this group of 150 Aussies was seconded to help protect the British from a rearguard attack from Russia. Stationed in the small town of Arkhangel, the soldiers became embroiled in what was to become the Russian revolution, as they battled not only the Bolsheviks but also extreme cold, hostility from locals and a 25-km frontline. Two of these soldiers went on to win Victoria Crosses and are perhaps our most neglected war heroes. *Due Apr*

## Anzac Fury

The Bloody Battle of Crete 1941  
Peter THOMPSON 548pp Hb \$49.95



From the author of *Pacific Fury* (Tp \$39.95) comes the riveting story of how the legendary Anzac Corps was reformed in the heat of battle during WWII to fight a powerful and merciless foe. Combining

personal memories with combat action, Thompson gives voice to the experiences of young Australians and New Zealanders who were sent on Churchill's orders from the victorious battlefields of Libya on a disastrous mission to Greece and Crete. He celebrates the Anzac spirit of sacrifice, mateship, courage and endurance that sustained them during the darkest days of the war. *Due Apr*

## What's Wrong with ANZAC?

The Militarisation of Australian History  
Marilyn LAKE & Henry REYNOLDS  
192p Pb \$29.95

Anzac has seemingly become a sacred, untouchable element of the nation. The

commemoration of Anzac Day is bigger than ever, Remembrance Day and other military anniversaries grow in significance each year and pilgrimages to Gallipoli, the Somme and Kokoda are commonplace. Two of Australia's leading historians dare to criticise the Anzac obsession which distorts history. They investigate official sponsorship of Anzac through commemoration and education and show that this has mobilised it as a conservative force, often for political ends. Finally, they ask whether the grief and loss associated with bloodshed on foreign shores was all worth it. *Due Apr*

## Zombie Myths of Australian Military History

The 10 Myths that Will Not Die

Craig STOCKINGS (Ed) 288pp Pb \$34.95

Over the years, many books on Australian

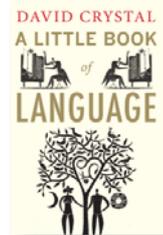
military history have given rise to a host of 'zombie' myths that refuse to die. Many aim to memorialise the gallant deeds of past Australian servicemen. Such accounts are often heavily overlaid by the national mythology of Anzac and imagery of indomitable Australian national character. Leading Australian military historians tackle 10 of the most enduring historical 'zombies' that have staggered their way through the annals of this nation's military history. From the mistaken idea that there was no Aboriginal resistance to occupation, to Gallipoli as a near success, to Japanese designs to invade Australia in WWII, right up to the triumphal success that was East Timor, this book lays these zombies to rest once and for all. *Due Apr*

# WORDS



## A Little Book of Language

David CRYSTAL 272pp Hb \$25.00



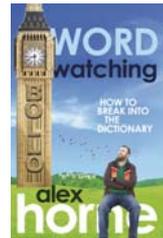
With a language disappearing every two weeks and neologisms springing up almost daily, an understanding of the origins and currency of language has never seemed more relevant. In this charming volume, a narrative history written explicitly for a young audience, Crystal proves why the story of language deserves

retelling. From the first words of an infant to the peculiar modern dialect of text messaging, he reveals language's myriad intricacies and quirks. He sheds light on the development of unique linguistic styles, the origins of obscure accents and the search for the first written word, discussing the plight of endangered languages, as well as successful cases of linguistic revitalisation. Much more than a history, this work looks forward to the future of language, exploring the effect of technology on our day-to-day reading, writing and speech. *Due Apr*

## Wordwatching

How to Break Into the Dictionary

Alex HORNE 336pp Tp \$35.00



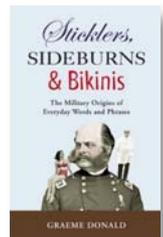
Horne loves words. He loves them so much, in fact, that he's decided to invent his own - and get them into the dictionary. But, as he discovers, gaining entry into the official lexicon takes more than just a gentle word in the ear of the editor. Evidence is required - he needs

proof that his words are being spoken by more people than just him and his mum. He needs what the dictionary authorities call a 'corpus' of examples, hard data showing that his new words are in widespread and long-term usage. So a corpus he resolves to create, no matter what obstacles he might meet on the way. From covert word-dropping on *Countdown* to hijacking TV interviews and wilfully misinforming young schoolchildren, he tries it all in his quest for dictionary-based immortality. Does he succeed? Exactly what is a "mental safari"? And are you already using one of his words without realising it?

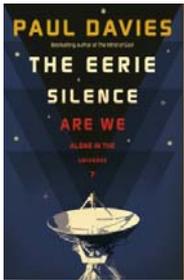
## Sticklers, Sideburns and Bikinis

The Military Origins of Everyday Words and Phrases

Graeme DONALD 280pp Pb \$14.99



Did you know they started "hearing through the grapevine" during the American Civil War, that "ghettos" originated in Venice or that "deadline" has a very sinister origin? Jam-packed with amazing facts, this is a fascinating trip through the words and phrases that came to us from the military, but nowadays are used by soldier and civilian alike, from "duds", "freelancers" and "morris dancing" to "bikini". The sources of many are surprising and their original use is often far removed from that of today.

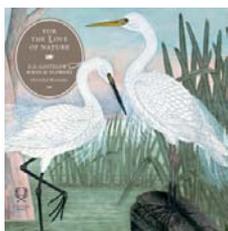


**The Eerie Silence**  
**Are We Alone in the Universe?**  
 Paul DAVIES 242pp Hb \$49.95

In this exhilarating new book, Davies, bestselling author of **The Mind of God** (Pb \$9.95) and **The Goldilocks Enigma** (Pb \$26.95), reveals the very latest findings in our search for alien life in the universe. On 8 April 1960, a young American astronomer, Frank Drake, turned a radio telescope toward the star Tau Ceti and listened for several hours to see if he could detect any artificial radio signals. With this modest start began a worldwide project of potentially momentous significance. Known as SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), it is an amalgam of science, technology, adventure, curiosity and a bold vision of humanity's destiny. Yet with one tantalising exception, SETI has produced only negative results. After millions of hours spent eavesdropping on the cosmos, astronomers have detected only the eerie sound of silence. Is SETI a waste of time and money, or should we press ahead with new and more sensitive antennas? And if a signal were to be received, what then?

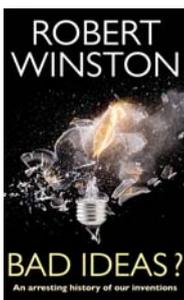
**For the Love of Nature**  
**E E Gostelow's Birds and Flowers**

Christobel MATTINGLY 180pp Hb \$29.95



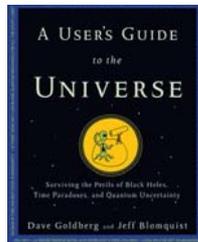
Ebenezer Edward Gostelow (1866–1944) began his 50-year-long teaching career at the age of 15. He was a keen naturalist and took every opportunity to study the local plants and birds. He would liven up his blackboards with captivating chalk drawings of birds and flowers. His watercolours of the local flora are detailed and delicate. Many depict

in minute detail the buds, flowers (often in cross-section), leaves and seeds. On each painting, he recorded common and scientific names, and places and dates of collection. He had an eye for composition, arranging the items in the painting exquisitely. Mattingly presents a short biography, followed by a portfolio section of more than 80 images of birds and flowers. *Due Apr*



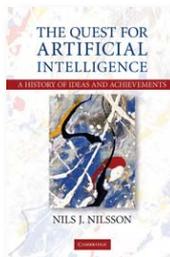
**Bad Ideas?**  
**An Arresting History of Our Inventions**  
 Robert WINSTON 398pp Tp \$35.00

We are born with the instinct to create and invent. Indeed, our ability to do so is what separates humans from the rest of the animal world. The moment man first converted a stone to a useful tool set him on a relentless path toward greater control and power over his environment. But have our creative ideas always produced desirable results in line with their original good intention? How many ill-effects and dangers have they brought about along the way? Winston traces the fascinating history of our attempts at self-improvement, but also questions their value. The dubious consequences of the development of weaponry, for example, is self-evident, from the primitive but lethal sling to the devastating nuclear bomb. But what of apparently more innocuous inventions such as farming, writing or medicine? All were initiated for the greater good, but have nonetheless produced unforeseen fallout that continues to this day. What are their undesirable side-effects, how did they emerge over the years and where will they take us in the future? Written against a huge historical canvas, Winston takes us on an inspiring journey from our earliest days to the present. *Due Apr*



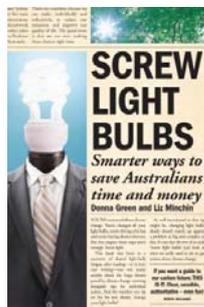
**A User's Guide to the Universe**  
**Surviving the Perils of Black Holes, Time Paradoxes, and Quantum Uncertainty**  
 Dave GOLDBERG & Jeff BLOMQUIST  
 304pp Hb \$37.95

This book provides answers to science's most enduring questions ranging from "Can I build a transporter, like on *Star Trek*?" and "Is there life on other planets?" to "What is empty space made of?" The authors make good on two promises: you'll get answers and you won't have to decipher any equations to understand them (well, maybe just one very short and very familiar equation). This quirky and fun book takes you on a fascinating tour of the universe as we know it by asking (and answering) weird, important and provocative questions. It explains subjects as diverse as special relativity, quantum mechanics, randomness, time travel and the expanding universe. It includes dozens of delightfully groan-worthy cartoons that explain everything from special relativity to dark matter. It ushers you through all of the major discoveries of modern physics, from relativity to the Large Hadron Collider, without frowning your brow. Put your mind at ease and jump into modern physics in a way you never imagined possible. Now is your chance to impress people at cocktail parties with your insights into the world of quantum weirdness, time and space and the expanding universe.



**The Quest for Artificial Intelligence**  
**A History of Ideas and Achievements**  
 Nils NILSSON 578pp Hb \$79.95

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a field within computer science that is attempting to build enhanced intelligence into computer systems. Nilsson traces the history of the subject, from the early dreams of 18th century (and earlier) pioneers to the more successful work of today's AI engineers. AI is becoming more and more a part of everyone's life. The technology is already embedded in face-recognition cameras, speech-recognition software, Internet search engines and health-care robots. The book's many diagrams and easy-to-understand descriptions of AI programs will help the casual reader gain an understanding of how AI systems actually work.



**Screw Light Bulbs**  
**Smarter Ways to Save Australians Time and Money**  
 Donna GREEN & Liz MINCHIN  
 320pp Pb \$32.95

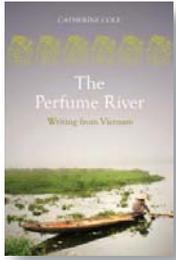
Australia was the first country in the world to officially ban old-fashioned incandescent light bulbs as a solution to climate change – but was it a good idea? In fact, does anything we do in Australia really make any difference? Should we stop eating chocolate for the good of the planet? Why should we think twice about our shopping choices? And what's the real story behind Australia's light bulb ban? This book delivers straight answers to all those questions and more. Rather than lecturing, it uses examples to show how Australia could deliver better-run services that would save us time, money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. *Due Apr*



**13 Things That Don't Make Sense**  
**The Most Intriguing Scientific Mysteries of Our Times**  
 Michael BROOKS 288pp Pb \$24.99

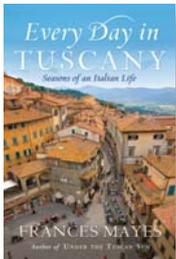
Even today, there are experimental results that the most brilliant scientists can neither explain nor dismiss. In the past, similar anomalies have revolutionised our world: in the 16th century, a set of celestial irregularities led Copernicus to realise that the Earth goes around the sun and not the reverse. Brooks meets 13 modern-day anomalies that may become tomorrow's breakthroughs. Is 96 percent of the universe missing? If no study has ever been able to definitively show that the placebo effect works, why has it become a pillar of medical science? Was the 1977 signal from outer space a transmission from an alien civilisation? Spanning fields from chemistry to cosmology, psychology to physics, this book captures the excitement and controversy of the scientific unknown.

# TRAVEL



## The Perfume River Writing from Vietnam

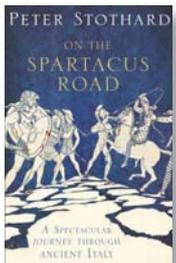
Catherine COLE 320pp Tp \$32.95  
Cole offers the reader perspectives on Vietnam from both inside and outside the country. The diverse array of writers include renowned authors of the Vietnamese literary canon, second generation ex-pats based in Australia and America, as well as non-Vietnamese authors who have special ties with the country and its culture.



## Every Day in Tuscany Seasons of an Italian Life

Frances MAYES 288pp Tp \$34.95  
20 years ago, Mayes, having ended a long marriage and begun a new relationship, was travelling in Italy and happened upon an abandoned, grand, but dilapidated three-storey house called 'Bramasole' just outside the Tuscan hillside of Cortona. She immediately fell in love with the house and eventually bought it,

and began a long and arduous restoration. The process of making Bramasole her home - and simultaneously of establishing a new life in Italy - were the subjects of her bestselling memoirs **Under the Tuscan Sun** and **Bella Tuscany** (both Pb \$24.95). In this third volume of her Tuscan trilogy, she offers another deeply personal account of her present-day life in Tuscany, encompassing both the changes she has experienced and sensuous, evocative reflections on the timeless, unchanging beauty and simple pleasures of Italian life. *Due Apr*



## On the Spartacus Road A Spectacular Journey Through Ancient Italy

Peter STOTHARD 368pp Hb \$39.99  
In the final century of the first Roman Republic, an army of slaves brought a peculiar terror to the people of Italy. Its leaders were gladiators. Its purpose was incomprehensible. Its success was something no one before had ever known. The Spartacus Road is the route along which this rebel

army outfought the Roman legions between 73 and 71BC, bringing both fears and hopes that have never wholly left the modern mind. It is a road that stretches through 2,000 miles of Italian countryside and into 2,000 years of world history. In this inspiring and original memoir, Stothard, former editor of the *Times*, takes us on an extraordinary journey. As he travels along the Spartacus Road - through the ruins of Capua to Vesuvius and the lost Greek cities of the Italian south - his prose illuminates conflicting memories of times ancient and modern, the simultaneously foreign and familiar, and one of the greatest stories of all ages. *Due Apr*



## Otherland A Journey with my Daughter

Maria TUMARKIN Tp \$34.95  
"I left too early, before tanks rolled into Moscow in 1991, and before Gorbachev was put under home arrest in a failed coup. I left before Russia and Ukraine became separate countries, before the KGB archives were opened, before the Russian version of *Wheel of Fortune*, before the word 'Gulag' appeared in textbooks. I left before Chechnya, before the

mass renaming of cities and streets, before you could go into a shop and actually purchase the books of Brodsky, Pasternak and Nabokov. I left too early, I missed the whole point. I was not there when my generation was cornered by history." Maria travels with her Australian-born teenage daughter, Billie, back to Russia and Ukraine to have her experience first-hand the seismic shifts of her family's native country. Before they set off, Maria wistfully imagined her and Billie's hearts beating in unison as they travelled back to a past they could both understand. But the past was not simply another country, it no longer existed. *Due Apr*

# APRIL SPECIALS

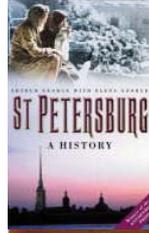
WHILE STOCK LASTS



## The Battle for Spain

The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939

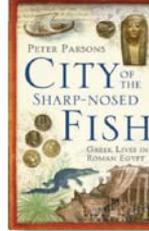
Antony BEEVOR Hb \$69.99 \$25.00  
"It's his most impressive book to date because he coolly makes sense of such a complicated story: the narrative sweep is consummate, the seamless use of so many sources masterful, and the eye for details makes it a superb read." - Simon Sebag Montefiore



## St Petersburg

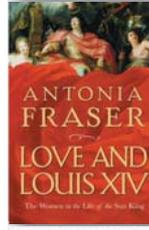
A History

Arthur & Elena GEORGE Tp \$34.95 \$16.95  
This comprehensive, award-winning narrative history chronicles what is perhaps the greatest story of any modern city anywhere, from its foundation in a swampy war zone in 1703 to its leading role in overthrowing Soviet power and bringing Russia into the 21st century.



## City of the Sharp-Nosed Fish Greek Lives in Roman Egypt

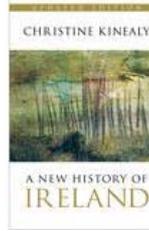
Peter PARSONS Hb \$59.99 \$25.00  
"Parsons has entertainingly revived a noisy, gossiping world of migrant Greeks who lived through the decline of Rome and the rise of Christianity." - *The Times*



## Love and Louis XIV

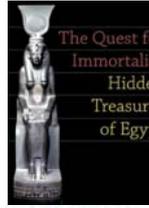
The Women in the Life of the Sun King

Antonia FRASER Hb \$69.99 \$25.00  
"Written with a rare combination of sympathy, erudition and high literary accomplishment, this book is a delight. It leaves no doubt as to why Antonia Fraser, who, in another age, might well have been a star of Louis's court, is, instead, the reigning doyenne of British historians." - John Adamson, *Mail On Sunday*



## A New History of Ireland

Christine KINEALY Tp \$29.95 \$14.95  
Kinealy incorporates some of the most recent scholarship to explore the key developments and personalities that have helped shape Ireland for over 1,500 years. From the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the 12th century to Cromwell's invasion, the Plantation of Ulster, the Great Famine and Nationalism, she challenges the dominant interpretation of events.



## The Quest for Immortality

Hidden Treasures of Egypt

Erik HORNUNG & Betsy BRYAN Hb \$160.00 \$50.00

The essays in this book explore Egyptian art history, customs and worship, with specific focus on the Amduat, a book devoted to the pharaoh's 12-hour journey to the afterlife. Additional writings detail the background of the collection and focus upon the role of art in ancient Egypt.



## Hitler's Children

Guido KNOPP Pb \$24.99 \$12.95  
Following the successful style adopted in **Hitler's Henchmen** (Pb \$27.99), Knopp presents the shocking and personal accounts of former Hitler Youth members.

# FRENCH FILM ON DVD

**Mon Oncle** (1958)  
Jacques Tati (Dir)  
Rated G \$34.95 \$19.95  
**Army of Shadows** (1969)  
Jean Pierre Melville (Dir)  
Rated M \$19.95 \$9.95  
**My Mother's Castle** (1990)  
Yves Robert (Dir)  
Rated G \$24.95 \$14.95  
**My Father's Glory** (1990)  
Yves Robert (Dir)  
Rated G \$24.95 \$14.95  
**Contempt** (1963)  
Jean-Luc Godard (Dir)  
Rated PG \$19.95 \$14.95

**Nouvelle Vague**  
Box Set (5 films)  
Jean-Luc Godard (Dir)  
Rated M \$69.95 \$44.95  
**City of Lost Children** (1994)  
Jean-Pierre Jeunet (Dir)  
Rated M \$19.95 \$14.95  
**Jacques Tati**  
Box Set (4 films)  
Rated G \$99.95 \$69.95

and many more  
upstairs on York St!





**Our Family Table**

Australia's First *MasterChef*

Julie GOODWIN 240pp Hb \$49.95

Since taking out the coveted title of Australia's first *MasterChef*, Goodwin has been cooking, testing and writing away like mad, preparing to publish her first cookbook. She says: "In this book I'm not just presenting recipes but exploring the role of food in families and communities. I want to get

people back into their kitchens and promote the joy of food and family... with a strong focus on good old-fashioned tucker." Some recipes are heirlooms passed down in her family through generations, while others were provided by friends and neighbours. There are lazy weekend breakfasts to enjoy with the family, weekday and special occasion dinners, barbecue and camp cooking, cakes, biscuits and puddings galore. She also includes recipes she created on *MasterChef* - such as her now famous lemon diva cupcakes and her passionfruit 'puddle' pie. The final section of the book is, as promised, a 'blank' chapter with pages for the reader's own photos, clippings and hand-me-down handwritten recipes from family and friends. *Due Apr*

**Nice Work**

Jana WENDT 256pp Tp \$34.99

Jana Wendt, one of Australia's most experienced journalists, sets out to discover what drives us in the work we do. She follows a compelling group of people, from a boxer set for a comeback to a maverick priest to a CEO whose company is mired in scandal to a forensic anthropologist investigating murder. She witnesses the successes and frustrations, the body-blows and moments of joy experienced by people who consider what they do as the great passion of their lives. *Due Apr*

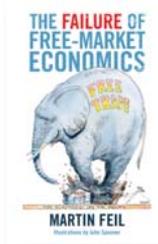


**The Failure of Free-Market Economics**

Martin FEIL 272pp Tp \$35.00

The basic concept behind free-market economics was simple and seductive: the government should not attempt to pick winners by granting assistance to specific industries, and it should only intervene in the market in circumstances where there has been a substantial market failure. The

only trouble with this theory - as the global economic disaster has shown - is that it is based on ideology, not evidence, and that it can't withstand contact with reality. For decades, Australia has been an enthusiastic adopter of this approach. The consequences - such as mass privatisations, tariff reforms and flexible wages and conditions - have been lauded by the booming financial sector and the political class. Unnoticed in the hubbub, though, has been the annihilation of the manufacturing sector. Despite propaganda to the contrary, employment in Australia is now increasingly characterised by low-paid and insecure jobs in service, logistics and retail industries. This book explains how the triumph of a fundamentally flawed economic orthodoxy has weakened the Australian economy and now threatens our future. It also offers a range of practical reforms that the author argues are essential and urgent.

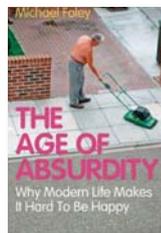
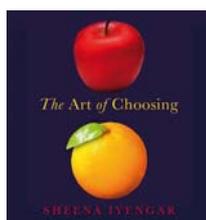


**The Art of Choosing**

Sheena IYENGAR 352pp Tp \$35.00

Every day we make choices. Coke or Pepsi? Save or spend? Stay or go? Whether mundane or life-altering, these choices define us and shape our lives. Iyengar asks the difficult questions about how and why we choose: Is the desire for choice innate or bound by culture? Why do we sometimes choose against our best

interests? How much control do we really have over what we choose? Her award-winning research reveals that the answers are surprising and profound. In our world of shifting political and cultural forces, technological revolution and interconnected commerce, our decisions have far-reaching consequences. *Due Apr*



**The Age of Absurdity**

Why Modern Life Makes it Hard to be Happy

Michael FOLEY 272pp Tp \$35.00

The good news is that the great thinkers from history have proposed the same strategies for happiness and fulfilment. The bad news is that these turn out to be the very things most discouraged by contemporary culture.

This knotty dilemma is the subject of this wry and accessible investigation into how the desirable states of wellbeing and satisfaction are constantly undermined by modern life. The common challenges of earning a living, maintaining a relationship and ageing, are becoming battlegrounds of angst in a culture that demands conspicuous consumption, high-octane partnerships and perpetual youth. Rather than denouncing the age, Foley presents an entertaining strategy of not just accepting, but embracing today's world and finding happiness in its absurdity. *Due Apr*

**Click**

What We Do Online and Why It Matters

Bill TANCER 320pp Pb \$24.99

In one short decade, the internet has become a critical part of our everyday lives. Tancer takes us behind the scenes into the massive database of online intelligence to reveal the naked truth about how we use the web, navigate to sites

and search for information; he describes in unmatched detail explanations about our lives, our interests, our thoughts, our fears and our dreams. As online directories replace the yellow pages, search engines replace traditional research and news sites replace newsprint, we live in an age in which we have come to rely on the internet. Through our usage, we leave behind an amazing trail of information about ourselves - our "clickstream" - and the direction in which we are headed. *Due Apr*



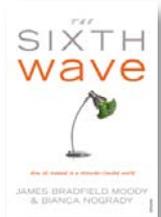
**The Sixth Wave**

How to Succeed in a Resource-limited World

James BRADFELD MOODY & Bianca NOGRADY Tp \$34.95

Throughout modern history, the tide of innovation and progress has ebbed and flowed, but a clear pattern exists - five waves of

innovation, beginning with the Industrial Revolution, have each transformed society, economies and industry. The fifth wave was dominated by information and communications technology, but its peak is beginning to fade and a new, brighter star is emerging. The authors predict that the sixth wave of innovation will be about resources - natural, human and information. Everything, from the smallest light switch to the largest cities and online communities, will have a value that can be measured, so nothing is ever wasted. Driving this will be a spectacular boom in technologies ranging from clean technology to digital mapping. *Due Apr*



**Fun Inc.**

Why Games are the 21st Century's Most Serious Business

Tom CHATFIELD 272pp Tp \$39.95

People make many assumptions about video games; only teenage boys play them, they increase anti-social behaviour and they tend to be violent. This book dispels these misconceptions, revealing that 40 per cent of

all video game players are women, that most of the bestselling console games of all time involve no real-world violence at all, and how *World of Warcraft's* online community of over 12 million players is changing our understanding of what it means to be sociable in the modern world. Games are used to train the US military, to model global pandemics and to campaign against human rights abuses in Africa. Game worlds are creating a new science of mass engagement that is starting to transform our understanding of economics, business and communications.



## FROM EVE ABBEY

I am writing this just before I leave for my cruise around New Zealand. I'll tell you more about that next month, but just now I have more important news.

On 8 April, our treasured Peter Milne will turn seventy! He will reluctantly scale back his indispensable activities here at Abbey's to two days per week, so he will still be here to help take care of his famous Crime section. If you are in town, please call in to say thanks to Peter or send him a card? On 2 February next year, Peter will have been working at Abbey's for forty years! There have been times in the past when Abbey's would have fallen over if it were not for the special efforts of Peter Milne. He is a Life Member of the Australian Booksellers' Association and will continue to attend bookseller meetings and of course continue to spread around his enormous knowledge and experience.



Peter Milne, our living legend!

I was unexpectedly attracted to a book of poetry. It was Milton's **Paradise Lost: An Illustrated Edition** with an introduction by Philip Pullman (\$34.95 Pb 369pp) on good glossy paper and with wonderful illustrations taken from the original edition in 1688. I confess the introduction by Pullman was what attracted me – and rightly so. He talks so admiringly and with great sense and without pretence, so as to arouse an urgent need

to read the poem. This edition was published in paperback in 2008, so it is not new. In his Afterword, he reminds more intellectual readers that once they have read the poem, they can find many annotated editions which will enlarge their understanding and appreciation. He acknowledges his own debt to *Paradise Lost* as he recalls how he came to write the great *His Dark Materials* trilogy - **Northern Lights** (recently filmed as *The Golden Compass*), **The Subtle Knife** and **The Amber Spyglass** (film tie-in editions \$19.99 each). How much more accessible *Paradise Lost* seems without any annotations, but you will also find several noted editions in Poetry, where we have separate sections for Australian poetry and poems on CD.

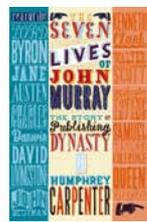
I'd forgotten how much I enjoyed the novels and short stories of Susan Hill – she's been around for a long time and seems to have fallen a bit out of favour. She can do 'gothic' as in **The Woman in Black** (\$22.95 Pb), which was made into a play that has been on in the West End for years and years. She can do beautiful evocative prose and prize-winning short stories.

I've recently read and enjoyed **The Beacon** (\$31.95 small Hb 54pp, \$24.95 Pb), a chilling novella about a north country farming family whose creepy younger brother, Frank, goes off to London to be a crime journalist, then writes a bestselling memoir about his abusive childhood (none of which is true). In recent years, Hill has been writing crime novels featuring

Simon Serrallier as her handsome, sensitive Detective Chief Inspector. The titles are **The Various Haunts of Men**, **The Pure in Heart**, **The Risk of Darkness** and **The Vows of Silence** (all \$24.95 Pb, from 350pp to 560pp). You can tell a real novelist has written these, as there is a subsidiary story, concerning the activities of Serrallier, his sister and her family, as well as other members of his family, along with the solving of the crime. So it is a good idea to read them in order; not essential, but better.



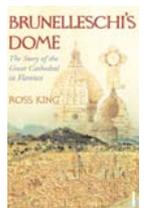
Susan Hill's name came to light again recently when her early novel, **I'm the King of the Castle** (\$24.95 Pb), was nominated for the *Lost Man Booker Prize* for novels which missed out on a chance to win the *Booker Prize* in 1970 when the eligibility period was shifted from "the previous year" to "the current year". The 1970 award-winner will be announced in May. I'd like to see her win this, if only along the lines of the *Patrick White Award* "for a writer who has been highly creative over a long period, but has not necessarily received adequate recognition". In addition to her many novels and collections, she has been a reviewer, BBC *Book Show* presenter and interviewer, Festival participant and Small Press Publisher (with her press, Long Barn Books). All this is evident in her **Howard's End is on the Landing: A Year of Reading from Home** (\$35 small Hb 236pp), which was in our Christmas Catalogue and you will find in Literary Criticism. This is the perfect book for your real reading friends and yourself. It is never pretentious, although many famous writers are mentioned; full of enthusiasm and good advice (she says, for instance, never read more than one short story at a time – I heartily agree); she talks about the memories stored within many books in her library; and she talks about the libraries she has used, and indulges in flights of fancy about how the books feel about their bedfellows. This is written by someone who really does Love the Book, which sounds more intense than the rather easily acquired "booklover". This will go on my regular gift list to special people. And by the way, at the end, she also lists her Forty Favourite Books, rather like our buyers did in our Forty Memories booklet published last year for our fortieth birthday. Worth comparing?



Not everyone will want to read Humphrey Carpenter's **The Seven Lives of John Murray: The Story of a Publishing Dynasty** (\$29.99 Pb 370pp incl index), but those who do will absolutely revel in it. It has all the famous literary anecdotes, as well as gossip galore. Interesting to watch the role of bookseller become publisher and only eventually step out of the shoes of a tradesman! Byron's friends were aghast that he should allow his publisher to address him so informally! The firm was always headed by a John Murray, so you have to pay attention. John Murray Publishers existed from 1768 to 2002, when the firm was sold to Hodder Headline. Apart from the Byron 'industry', there are tales of such authors as Arthur Conan Doyle, John Betjeman, Osbert Lancaster, Patrick Leigh Fermor, Dervla Murphy and Freya Stark (who absolutely wanted Jock Murray and his bowties for herself). A reminder too that financial health was underpinned by Don Mackean's **Introduction to Biology** (Pb \$44.50), which has sold millions of copies worldwide. After the sale, the irreplaceable archives were carefully packed and sent to the National Library of Scotland, but 50 Albermarle Street still holds the library and artefacts, and hosts special parties. A fascinating story.



Another book of special interest, especially to relatives of the soldiers now being buried at Fromelles, is **Over the Top: A Digger's Story of the Western Front** by H G Hartnett (\$35 Pb 326pp) edited by Chris Bryett. Harry Hartnett first wrote these memories in the 1920s but, with encouragement and help, reworked the material in the 1970s. The result is an invaluable account of the daily life of soldiers, filled with information and detail, as well as good stories of good mates. Indispensable for military historians.



I hope you have been enjoying Kevin McCloud's *Grand Tour*. If you want to know more about how Brunelleschi solved the seemingly impossible problem of erecting such a huge dome on the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence, you can find a good little book in Italian History called **Brunelleschi's Dome: The Story of the Great Cathedral in Florence** by Ross King (29.95 Pb 192pp). In Architecture, you can also find the Dover edition of **The Four Books of Architecture** by Andrea Palladio (\$48 Pb 110pp), along with various editions of Vitruvius, such as **The Ten Books on Architecture** (\$25.95 Pb 343pp Dover) or the Cambridge Illustrated Edition with Commentary, **Vitruvius: Ten Books on Architecture** (\$69.95 Pb 352pp). You'll also find Vitruvius in two volumes in the dual language *Loeb Classics* (\$44.95 Hb each).

"Music is Living Art which contributes to the Art of Living" is the motto of Art Song NSW, which holds concerts throughout the year at the Conservatorium of Music, at St John's Uniting Church, Neutral Bay, and at the Independent Theatre. Yvonne Kenny is the Patron. We have programs on our counter or visit [www.artsongnsw.org](http://www.artsongnsw.org).

Keep well. *Eve*

# ABBEY'S BESTSELLERS MARCH 2010

## NON-FICTION

- 1 Requiem for a Species: Why We Resist the Truth About Climate Change** by Clive Hamilton (Pb \$24.95)
- 2 Ad Infinitum: A Biography of Latin** by Nicholas Ostler (Pb \$24.99)
- 3 The History of the Medieval World: From the Conversion of Constantine to the First Crusade** by Susan Wise Bauer (Hb \$47.95)
- 4 Napoleon and Wellington** by Andrew Roberts (Pb \$12.95)
- 5 Travelling Heroes: Greeks and Their Myths in the Epic Age of Homer** by Robin Land Fox (Pb \$26.95)
- 6 Quarterly Essay #37: What's Right on the Future of Conservatism** by Waleed Aly (Tp \$19.95)
- 7 The Greatest Show on Earth: The Evidence for Evolution** by Richard Dawkins (Tp \$35.00)
- 8 Merlin: Knowledge and Power Through the Ages** by Stephen Knight (Hb \$44.95)
- 9 The Inheritance of Rome: A History of Europe from 400 to 1000** by Chris Wickham (Pb \$29.95)
- 10 Thinking of Answers** by A C Grayling (Hb \$35.00)

## FICTION

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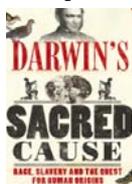
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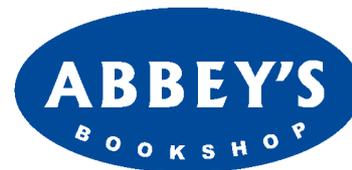
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